



Site U1309¹

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Keywords

International Ocean Discovery Program; IODP; *JOIDES Resolution*; Expedition 399; Building Blocks of Life, Atlantis Massif; Biosphere Frontiers; Earth Connections; Earth in Motion; Site U1309; serpentinization; Lost City hydrothermal field; ultramafic; peridotite; mantle; detachment fault; abiotic organic synthesis; geomicrobiology; deep biosphere; carbon budget; wireline logging

Core descriptions

Supplementary material

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1. Background and objectives

Site U1309 is located on the central dome of Atlantis Massif, 14–15 km west of the median valley axis of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge and ~5 km north of the Lost City hydrothermal field. The seafloor is interpreted to be a gently sloping, corrugated detachment fault surface (Figures F1, F2, F3). The site was established by Integrated Ocean Drilling Program Expeditions 304 and 305 in 2004 and 2005, respectively, and two main holes (U1309B and U1309D) were drilled together with five shallow and failed holes (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Blackman et al., 2011). During Expedi-

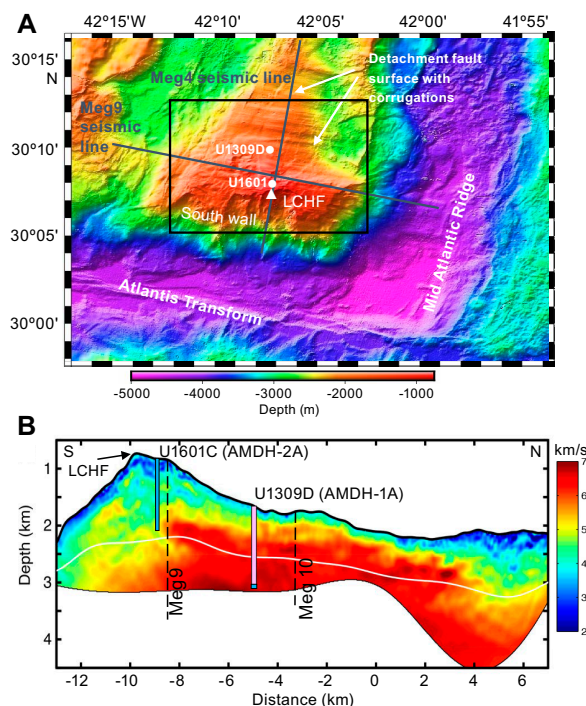


Figure F1. A. Atlantis Massif showing main structural features, location of Lost City hydrothermal field (LCHF), Hole U1309D, and Site U1601 (core recovered in Holes U1601A and U1601C). Bathymetry was collected during IODP Expedition 357 (Früh-Green et al., 2018; Escartin et al., 2022). Box = area of Figure F2. B. Full waveform inversion of Seismic Line Meg 4 and locations of Holes U1309D and U1601C, with proposed site numbers. Blue = Expedition 399 core, pink = Expedition 304/305 core. Modified after Harding et al. (2016).

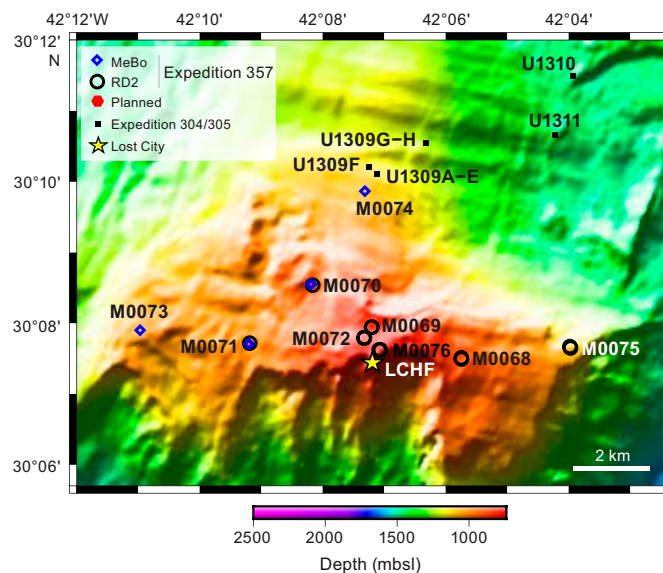


Figure F2. Location of previous drilling during Expeditions 304/305 and 357 (modified after Früh-Green et al., 2016). MeBo = Meeresboden-Bohrgerät 200 drill, RD2 = RockDrill2 drill. Expedition 399 sites are at Site U1309 (Hole U1309D; labeled U1309A–E) and between Sites M0069 and M0072 (Site U1601). LCHF = Lost City hydrothermal field.

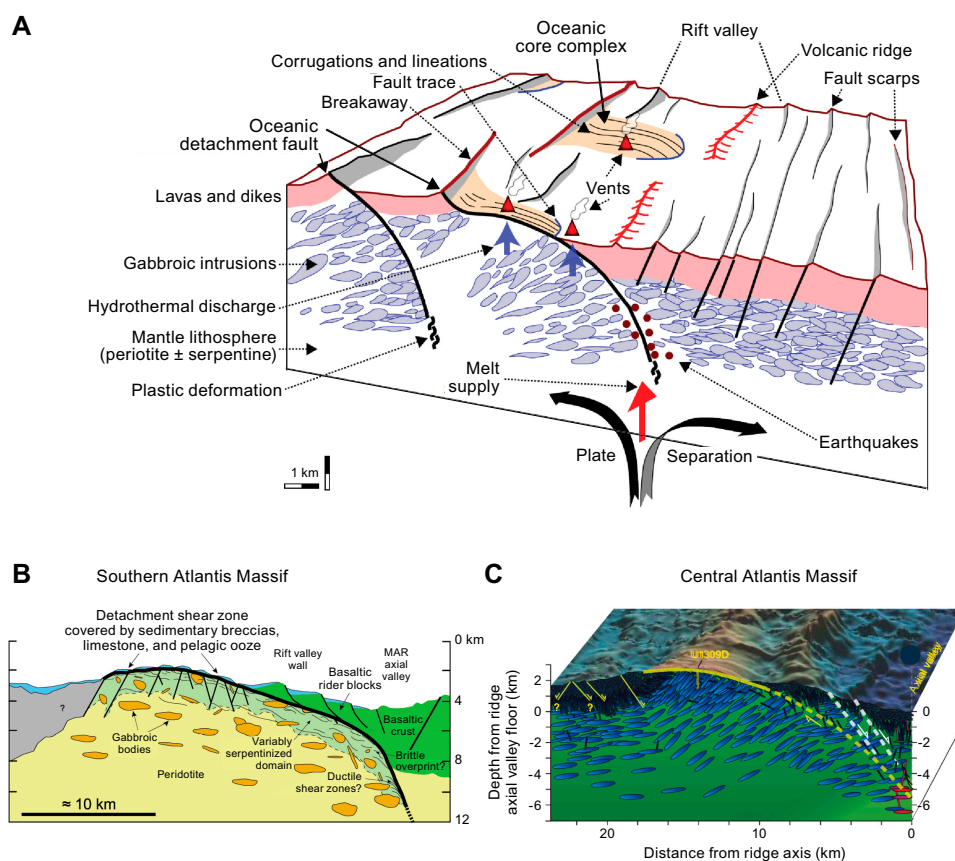


Figure F3. Tectonomagmatic evolution of heterogeneous lithosphere and denudation of mantle rocks as detachment faulting progresses (Früh-Green et al., 2016). A. Generic “detachment mode” seafloor (Escartin and Canales, 2011). B. Southern wall of Atlantis Massif is dominated by variably altered peridotites with gabbroic lenses (Boschi et al., 2006). 100 m thick detachment fault zone containing talc-tremolite-chlorite metasomatic schists is at summit (Karson et al., 2006). MAR = Mid-Atlantic Ridge. C. In contrast, major gabbroic intrusions dominate central dome (Grimes et al., 2008).

tion 304, a hard rock reentry system comprising 25 m of 13% inch casing was established in Hole U1309D using a hammer drill. A total of 4.5 m of casing was left protruding from the seafloor, and a reentry cone was successfully dropped onto the casing. The hole was then deepened to 131 meters below seafloor (mbsf). After carrying out other operations, Hole U1309D was deepened further to 401 mbsf and logged. Expedition 305 followed directly after Expedition 304 and continued to deepen Hole U1309D to 1415 mbsf in two stages with logging runs in the middle and at the end of coring. The hole was reentered and logged during Integrated Ocean Drilling Program Expedition 340T in 2012 and remained undisturbed from 25 February 2012 until operations during Expedition 399.

A continuous sequence of gabbroic rocks, including troctolites and olivine-rich troctolites, olivine gabbros, oxide gabbros, and rare leucocratic intrusions, was sampled in Hole U1309D (Figure F4). Very minor screens (<1 m thick) of harzburgite are present in the uppermost 300 m of the section (Godard et al., 2009; Tamura et al., 2008). Diabase/basalt intrusions with chilled margins form ~40% of the uppermost 120 m of the sequence, with rare occurrences at greater depths. There are many igneous contacts within the section, with units varying from centimeters to tens of meters (John et al., 2009). More evolved units generally (but not always) intrude into more primitive units.

Crystal-plastic deformation is restricted to narrow zones in the section, mainly above 300 mbsf. Cataclasis and fault breccia are present in several strands in the uppermost 80 m of the section, a fault zone at ~160 mbsf, and a prominent 6 m thick fault zone at 744–750 mbsf within a damage zone at 742–761 mbsf (Michibayashi et al., 2008; John et al., 2009). A zone at 1100 mbsf is suggested by temperature logging (below) and has a weak signal in the core.

Alteration is most intense in the uppermost 300 m of the section, where clinopyroxene is usually at least partly altered to amphibole (hornblende and actinolite) in both gabbro and diabase. In olivine-bearing rocks, a corona reaction between olivine and plagioclase to form tremolite and chlorite goes to completion with either olivine or plagioclase completely replaced. Below 300 mbsf, the corona reaction only goes to completion around faults and gabbro contacts (Nozaka and

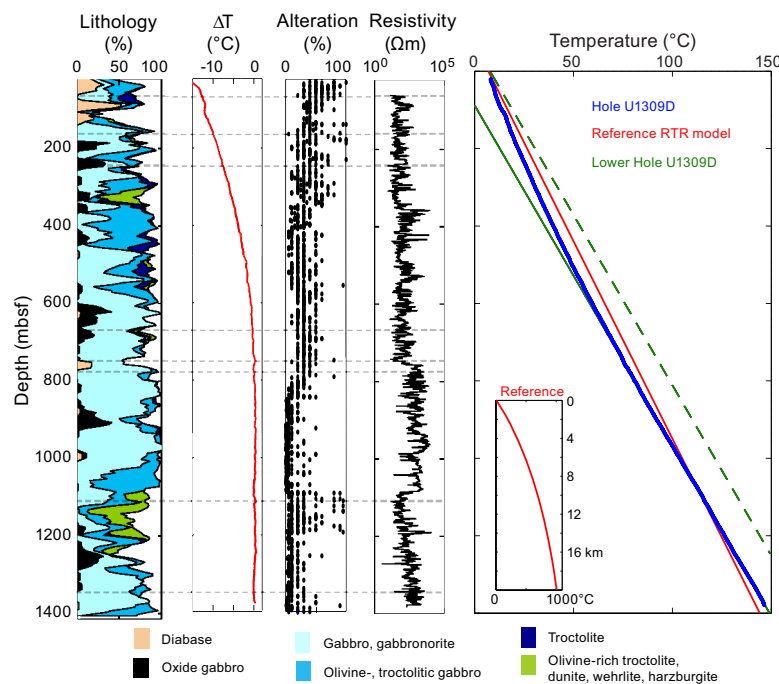


Figure F4. Lithology, temperature, and resistivity logging results, Expeditions 304/305 and 340T and Hole U1309D (after Blackman et al., 2014). Reference curve is shown for hole location within 3D ridge-transform-ridge (RTR) passive mantle flow and lithospheric cooling model (Inset: prediction to 20 km below seafloor). ΔT = difference between observed temperature and an extrapolation of conductive gradient at depth to the surface. Minor excursions in temperature are interpreted to be zones of fluid flow at 746 mbsf, where temperature gradient changes from convective to conductive, and 1107 mbsf, near a zone of olivine-rich troctolite.

Fryer, 2011), and rodingitic reactions where olivine is serpentinized and plagioclase is replaced by prehnite \pm hydrogarnet are seen (Frost et al., 2008). The latest reactions and veins contain saponite and zeolites (Nozaka et al., 2008) and may be forming in near ambient conditions.

Temperature logging (Figure F4) occurred at the end of Expedition 305 and again during Expedition 340T, 7 y later (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Expedition 340T Scientists, 2012). During Expedition 305, the temperature gradient was strongly affected by drilling, with a steep rise in the lowest part of the hole and a maximum temperature of 118.9°C at 1415 mbsf. During Expedition 340T, the temperature profile in the borehole water was assumed to have equilibrated with the rock and reached 146.2°C at 1405 mbsf. Below ~750 mbsf, the temperature gradient is linear, and a conductive regime is inferred. Above 750 mbsf, the temperature profile is curved, suggesting slow downward movement of fluid in the rock mass (Blackman et al., 2014). Small excursions in temperature, seen at ~750 and 1100 mbsf, are inferred to be the result of the influx of colder fluid.

Samples for microbiology were taken from a range of rock types and depths during Expedition 304/305 (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Mason et al., 2010). Cell counts were below the detection limit ($<10^3$ cells/cm³ rock). Microbial diversity was assessed using cloning and sequencing, terminal restriction fragment length polymorphism, and a microarray for metabolic genes (GeoChip). The microbial community consisted of low-diversity lineages closely related to bacteria from hydrocarbon-dominated environments and known hydrocarbon degraders (Mason et al., 2010).

Figure F1B (Harding et al., 2016) shows the most recent processing of the seismic data collected more than 20 y ago and used to select Site U1309. Seismic velocities increase with depth, with velocities of 7 km/s below 1000 mbsf, consistent with the recovered fresh gabbro (Blackman et al., 2011). At shallower depths, lower velocities reflect alteration of gabbro and increased fracturing consistent with slow fluid circulation inferred from the temperature profile (Figure F4). Physical properties measured on the ship and logging data, including vertical seismic profiles collected during Expeditions 305 and 340T, are consistent with the lithologies collected and were used in processing the full waveform inversion model shown in Figure F1B (Harding et al., 2016).

1.1. Objectives of operations at Site U1309

- To sample fluids and obtain temperature data in the undisturbed borehole and study geochemistry and microbiology of fluids at temperatures above and below the current known limit of life;
- To mill out a caliper arm lost during Expedition 340T and believed to be at the bottom of the hole, leaving the hole in good condition for further operations and fluid sampling;
- To deepen the hole by ~650 m to reach temperatures of ~220°C where active serpentinization reactions might be occurring, and an increasing amount of mantle rock might be expected within the gabbroic sequence; and
- To drill an additional single bit hole at Site U1309 with the aim of sampling zones of fault-induced and reaction porosity for microbiology, which were not collected during Expedition 304.

Although our first two objectives were realized, the hole was only deepened by 80 m and a new shallow hole was not drilled. In light of the unexpectedly good results at Site U1601, the science party decided drilling a deep hole in peridotite (the original aim of Expedition 304/305) should be prioritized.

2. Operations

2.1. Hole U1309D (first visit)

After the failure of releasing the reentry system in Hole U1601B on 24 April 2023, the rig crew needed time to assess the situation, identify an alternative method for deploying a reentry system at Site U1601, and build that system. We decided that while this was happening, we would move to

Hole U1309D to conduct the fluid sampling program and, depending on conditions, initialize coring (Table T1; Figure F5).

2.1.1. Bit Run 1: temperature logging and fluid sampling

The ship began its 2 nmi dynamic positioning (DP) move to Hole U1309D at 2353 h on 24 April 2023 and arrived at 0116 h on 25 April. A bottom-hole assembly (BHA) was assembled with a 9¼ inch clean-out bit (4½ inch inside diameter) and without a float valve to deploy the novel Multi-Temperature Fluid Sampler (MTFS), the Kuster Flow-Through Sampler (KFTS), and the Elevated Temperature Borehole Sensor (ETBS) on the coring line. Details of these deployments are given below. The drill string was lowered at 0830 h, and the subsea camera with Niskin water sampling bottles attached to its frame was deployed at 1115 h (Table T2). The ship was offset ~20 m from Hole U1309D to pump the “pig” tool to clean rust from the inside of the newly deployed drill string. The bit reentered Hole U1309D at 1455 h. The reentry cone was partly filled and blocked by a soft particulate deposit that was easily displaced upon bit entry into the cone. The deposit descended to the seafloor after being displaced out of the reentry cone. The Niskin bottles were triggered, and the camera frame with the bottles was returned to the rig floor by 1620 h. The MTFS and ETBS were prepared on the catwalk, rigged up, and lowered down the drill pipe at 1815 h. The MTFS assembly descended in the open hole at a rate of 10 m/min, with 3 min temperature check stops every 100 m. The tool string tagged the bottom at 1389 mbsf, indicating a 26 m thick

Table T1. Core summary, Site U1309. DSF = drilling depth below seafloor, CSF = core depth below seafloor. MTFS = Multi-Temperature Fluid Sampler, ETBS = Elevated Temperature Borehole Sensor, KFTS = Kuster Flow-Through Sampler. Core type: G = ghost, R = rotary core barrel (RCB). [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Hole U1309D

Latitude: 30°10.1195'N
 Longitude: 42°7.1131'W
 Water depth (m): 1644.9
 Date started (UTC): 0715 h; 25 April 2023
 Date finished (UTC): 0430 h; 4 June 2023
 Time on hole (d): 8.08
 Total penetration DSF (m): 82.5
 Cored interval (m): 82.5
 Recovered length (m): 48.93
 Recovery (%): 59
 Drilled interval (m):
 Drilled interval (N): 0
 Total cores (N): 17
 RCB cores (N): 17
 Other cores (N): 1
 Temperature and fluid sampling with MTFS-ETBS: 1 core line run
 Temperature and fluid sampling with dual KFTS-ETBS: 5 core line runs
 Geophysical wireline logging:

Core	Top depth drilled DSF (m)	Bottom depth drilled DSF (m)	Advanced (m)	Recovered length (m)	Curated length (m)	Top depth cored CSF (m)	Bottom depth recovered (m)	Recovery (%)	Core on deck date (2023)	Core on deck time UTC (h)	Sections (N)
399-U1309D-											
296G	1414.0	1415.5	1.5	1.50	1.50	1414.0	1415.50		27 Apr	2300	1
297R	1415.5	1420.4	4.9	2.96	3.57	1415.5	1419.07	60	28 Apr	1650	3
298R	1420.4	1425.2	4.8	3.85	5.11	1420.4	1425.51	80	28 Apr	2050	4
299R	1425.2	1430.1	4.9	4.80	5.49	1425.2	1430.69	98	29 Apr	0130	4
300R	1430.1	1434.9	4.8	4.14	4.94	1430.1	1435.04	86	29 Apr	0530	4
301R	1434.9	1439.8	4.9	4.14	4.64	1434.9	1439.54	84	29 Apr	0850	4
302R	1439.8	1444.6	4.8	3.97	4.72	1439.8	1444.52	83	29 Apr	1210	4
303R	1444.6	1449.5	4.9	1.28	1.50	1444.6	1446.10	26	29 Apr	1655	1
304R	1449.5	1454.6	5.1	1.85	2.28	1449.5	1451.78	36	29 Apr	2240	2
305R	1454.6	1459.2	4.6	1.32	1.39	1454.6	1455.99	29	30 Apr	0420	1
306R	1459.2	1464.3	5.1	1.62	1.87	1459.2	1461.07	32	30 Apr	0840	2
307R	1464.3	1468.9	4.6	2.16	2.83	1464.3	1467.13	47	30 Apr	1245	2
308R	1468.9	1474.0	5.1	1.37	1.50	1468.9	1470.40	27	30 Apr	1725	1
309R	1474.0	1478.6	4.6	3.05	3.68	1474.0	1477.68	66	30 Apr	2110	3
310R	1478.6	1483.5	4.9	3.11	3.59	1478.6	1482.19	63	1 May	0045	3
311R	1483.5	1488.3	4.8	1.82	1.99	1483.5	1485.49	38	1 May	0440	2
312R	1488.3	1493.2	4.9	3.53	4.34	1488.3	1492.64	72	1 May	0755	3
313R	1493.2	1498.0	4.8	3.96	4.665	1493.2	1497.865	83	1 May	1145	4

fill at the bottom of Hole U1309D, and then ascended at a rate of 15 m/min in the borehole and 30 m/min in the water column. The tools arrived back on the rig floor at 0043 h on 26 April.

The tools were rigged down, and the ETBS was removed from the MTFS and connected to the two KFTSs. The two KFTS clocks were set to sample at 411 (0310 h) and 739 mbsf (0330 h). The tool assembly was lowered down the drill pipe at 0207 h and was back on the rig floor at 0500 h. A second run of the KFTS-ETBS assembly was configured to sample at 1111 (0823 h) and 1320 mbsf (0846 h). It was lowered down the drill string at 0706 h and was back on the rig floor at 1225 h. On descent, the tool string traveled at a rate of 20 m/min, slowing to 15 m/min within 40 m of the desired sample depth to minimize hole disturbance. The tool was recovered at a rate of 10 m/min with 3 min stops every 100 m for temperature check measurements. The drill string was retrieved with the bit clearing the rig floor at 1620 h on 26 April, ending BHA Run 1 in Hole U1309D during Expedition 399.

2.1.2. Bit Run 2: milling

Next, we needed to remove a few tens of meters of fill from previous drilling in Hole U1309D during Expedition 304/305, as well as a logging caliper arm presumed to have been left in the hole at the end of Expedition 340T. A BHA was made up with a 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch concave mill and two junk baskets and lowered to the seafloor at 1845 h. At 2120 h, the subsea camera and two Niskin water samplers were deployed. At 0000 h on 27 April 2023, Hole U1309D was reentered for the second time during this expedition. The camera and Niskin water sample bottles were recovered, and the drill string was run deeper into the hole. At 0800 h, the bit tagged the top of the fill at 1379 mbsf (~37 m of fill). Milling and washing downhole proceeded expeditiously, with the first 7–8 m at 8 m/h and the remainder at 30 m/h. At 1007 h, the bit was ~1.5 m above the previously reported bottom of Hole U1309D (1415.5 mbsf). The first 10 min of milling near the bottom indicated erratic torque, presumed to be the result of encountering metal pieces lost during a previous expedition. The subsequent 3.5 h of milling indicated low and steady torque. The pipe was raised and lowered repeatedly for 1 h to fill the junk baskets, and a 30 bbl mud sweep completed cleaning

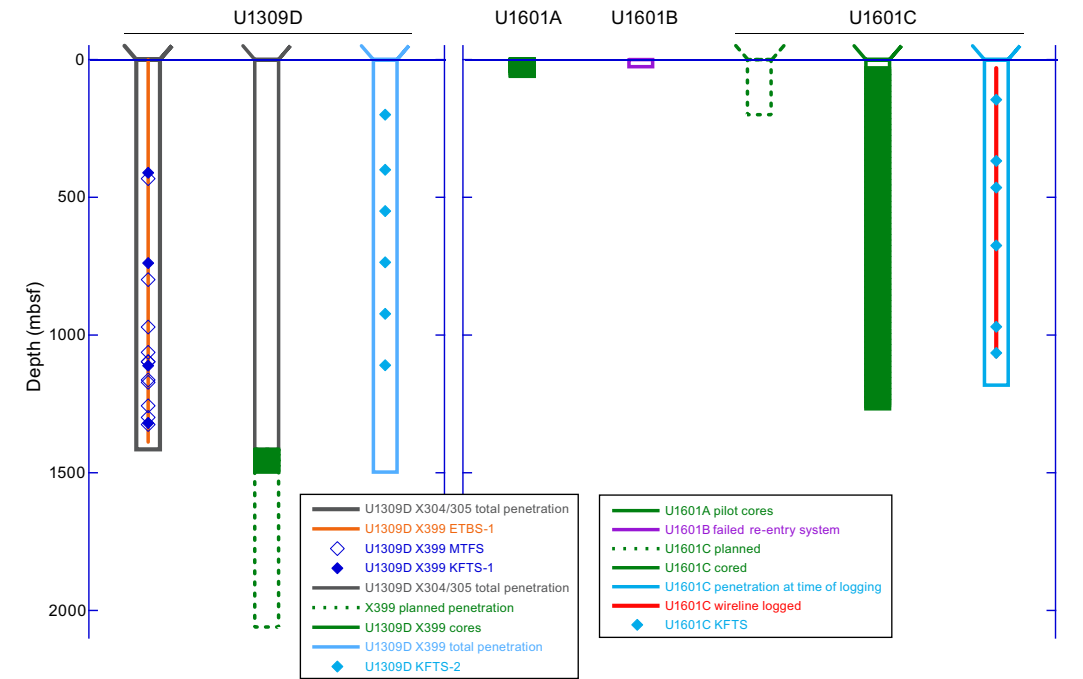


Figure F5. Expedition 399 operations summary. X = expedition. KFTS-1 = first KFTS deployment (26 April 2023), KFTS-2 = second KFTS deployment (3 June).

Table T2. Deployment of Niskin bottles on vibration isolated television (VIT) lowerings, Hole U1309D. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

operations in Hole U1309D. Retrieval of the drill string began at 1515 h, and at 2200 h, the mill bit arrived at the rig floor where the junk baskets were emptied. Amongst dozens of rock pieces and bags of cuttings created during previous drilling during Expedition 304/305, the junk baskets also recovered several metal pieces, including three 5 cm × 5 cm chunks. The metal pieces were identified as parts from the Versatile Seismic Imager (VSI) wireline logging tool that was damaged during Expedition 340T ~11 y previously.

2.1.3. Bit Run 3: coring

At 2315 h, the rig crew began assembling the rotary core barrel (RCB) BHA with a new C-7 bit, which was complete at 0130 h on 28 April 2023. The drill string and subsea camera were deployed, and at 0525 h, Hole U1309D was reentered for the third time during this expedition. The camera was retrieved, and the bit was lowered until it reached a hard tag at 1410.0 mbsf. We dropped a core barrel, washed to 1415.5 mbsf, and began deepening Hole U1309D from where Expedition 305 had ended. Coring proceeded until 1 May, when the bit had accumulated 50 h at the bottom, and we decided to retrieve it. This coring bit run advanced Hole U1309D by 82.5 m from 1415.5 to 1498.0 mbsf. Cores 279R–313R recovered a total of 48.9 m, with core recovery ranging 26%–98% (average recovery of 59%). Every ~5 m 30 bbl mud sweeps were pumped to keep the hole clean. At 1145 h, we began retrieving the drill string, and the bit cleared the seafloor at 1620 h.

This was a good opportunity to test the ETBS, which had malfunctioned during previous runs and had been worked on. With the bit several meters above the seafloor, we installed the top drive again, installed the sinker bars, and deployed the ETBS to the end of the pipe for ~10 min. The test results were negative, and the ETBS required additional repair. At 1900 h, we continued to retrieve the drill string, and the bit cleared the rig floor at 2245 h on 1 May, ending Bit Run 3 in Hole U1309D for this expedition.

During this first period of operations in Hole U1309D, the crew had established a plan and prepared equipment for a second attempt at setting a reentry system at Site U1601. Operations therefore continued in Hole U1601C from 1 May to 2 June.

2.2. Hole U1309D (second visit)

On 2 June 2023, the ship returned to Hole U1309D for the last operations of Expedition 399 to take more borehole fluid samples from Hole U1309D using the KFTS and then flush the hole rigorously. The ship had already moved over to Hole U1309D in DP mode by 1612 h on 2 June while the drill string was being retrieved from Hole U1601C. A BHA was assembled with a clean-out bit, no float valve, and an oversized landing ring (logging configuration). At 1915 h, the drill string was lowered to the seafloor, the subsea camera was deployed at 2130 h, and Hole U1309D was reentered for the fourth time during Expedition 399 at 2317 h. At 0045 h on 3 June, the drill string was positioned at 32 mbsf. Two KFTS bottles were assembled with the ETBS and the Conductivity-Temperature-Depth (CTD) tool. The first run on the coring line was deployed at 0100 h, and it was back on the rig floor at 0315 h. The borehole water samples were taken at 200 and 400 mbsf. The tool string was retrieved and disassembled, the water samples and data were retrieved, and the tools were reassembled for the second run. The CTD was not included on subsequent runs because its temperature rating would have been exceeded at the deeper sampling stations. The second sampling run from 0400 to 0645 h triggered one KFTS at 550 mbsf and the other one at 736 mbsf. Ample time was available to redress the tools and conduct a third run from 0736 to 1100 h. During this final run, the tools were not able to pass an obstruction at 1024 mbsf, so the samples were taken at 923 and 1110 mbsf instead of a deeper planned station. After the conclusion of the sampling runs, the drill string was lowered to 1421 mbsf and washed down to the bottom of the hole at 1498 mbsf. Next, the hole was flushed with seawater seven times the borehole volume to leave behind as clean as possible a hole for potential future water sampling and temperature measurement operations. The final retrieval of the drill string from Hole U1309D began at 1945 h on 3 June and was completed with the bit clearing the rig floor at 0324 h on 4 June. The rig was secured for transit, and the vessel was underway at 0430 h, ending operations at Site U1309 and for Expedition 399. The vessel arrived in Ponta Delgada, Azores (Portugal), on 8 June with the first line ashore at 0748 h.

2.3. Deployment of the MTFS and ETBS

The eleven units of the MTFS were connected in series on the catwalk with multipurpose grease applied to the threads. The target temperatures for tripping the MTFS sample bottles in Hole U1309D are presented in Table T3.

The assembly and temperature tool were lowered into the borehole at a rate of 30 m/min to 1656 meters below rig floor (mbrf) (0 mbsf). Lowering stopped for 3 min and then commenced at 10 m/min, stopping for 3 min every 100 m. The assembly tagged the bottom of the hole, as determined by a drop of 1000 lb on the winch's weight indicator at 3048 mbrf (1382 mbsf). The assembly was retrieved several meters and lowered again twice. Each time weight lessened at 3048 mbrf. The assembly was then retrieved at 15 m/min in the open hole while the pipe was rotating. Once the assembly was in the drill pipe, the rate of recovery increased to 30 m/min.

Upon recovery, the units were detached from each other on deck and then brought into the paleontology laboratory, where they were stored prior to sampling. Sampling commenced by removing the two bolts that hold the spring rod in place to release the tension and provide more control on the fluid output and then removing the intake nut. A cleaned titanium tube and a Kynar valve (methanol and Milli-Q water rinsed) were attached. Because of the mass of particles in the sampler, moving the pistons to expel a sample resulted in the sample cavity leaking. Thus, after the first four samples had been processed, subsampling proceeded by holding the samplers vertically and using gravity to expel samples.

Several issues occurred that resulted in incomplete data and sample collection. First, the ETBS malfunctioned at the bottom of the hole, so no data was collected during the retrieval. Second, two of the MTFS tube-style triggers were set to trigger at approximately 140°C but did not activate because the temperature did not reach 140°C in the samplers. Although the ETBS recorded 141°C, it was situated below the MTFS bottles and therefore encountered warmer conditions than the triggers. The shape memory alloy (SMA) triggers in these two samplers began to respond and return by ~10% to their original length, which was insufficient to break the bolt. Third, the two spring triggers likely did not release the spring and plunger at the target depth. Finally, each MTFS contained more than a centimeter of material (fines, small pieces of rock, rust, and grease) between the piston and the plate that held the trigger. Such material caused additional friction for the pistons, preventing a complete stroke and the collection of the full sample volume. This material also blocked the top valve in the upper KFTS during the second lowering. Most of the collected water drained from the sampler on the rig floor when it was disconnected and horizontal (the bottom valve closed properly).

2.4. Deployments of the KFTS and ETBS

Two KFTSs joined with the ETBS were deployed a total of five times in Hole U1309D (Table T4). The KFTS assemblage was deployed twice on 26 April 2023, immediately after the MTFS sampling, with two bottles triggered at different depths during each lowering. The first lowering targeted shallower borehole depths to minimize disturbance to the hole. During the first lowering, the lower bottle was set to trip at 411 mbsf to correspond with the lowest MTFS target temperature of 38°C. The upper bottle was set to trip at 739 mbsf to correspond to a previously characterized low-velocity zone (Blackman et al., 2014). The second deployment targeted depths associated with a deeper low-velocity zone at 1111 mbsf and one of the hotter target temperatures of the MTFS. The ETBS did not function during these KFTS deployments. Thus, the only reliable temperature data were from the lowering of the MTFS.

The first lowering targeted shallower borehole depths to minimize further disturbance to the hole. The lower bottle was set to trip at 407 mbsf to correspond with the lowest temperature MTFS

Table T3. Target temperatures for tripping MTFS sample bottles, Hole U1309D. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Table T4. Sampling depths for KFTS, Hole U1309D. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

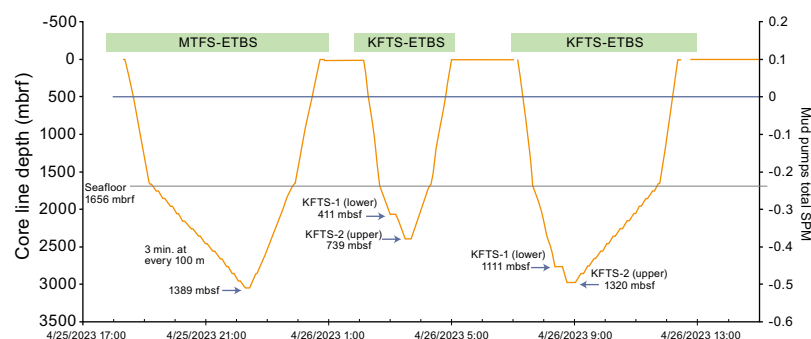


Figure F6. KFTS and ETBS deployments, Hole U1309D.

target temperature of $\sim 38^{\circ}\text{C}$. The upper bottle was set to trip at 732 mbsf to correspond to a previously characterized low-velocity zone (Blackman et al., 2013). The second KFTS tool deployment targeted depths associated with a deeper low-velocity zone at 1107 mbsf and one of the hotter target temperatures of the MTFs. The two target KFTS depths were set to align with the MTFs sample collection at 114° and 137°C .

The package was lowered at 50 m/min in the drill string and 20–25 m/min in the open borehole. Descent rates were slowed to 15 m/min within 40 m of the desired sample depth to minimize disturbance in the borehole. Samplers were at the desired depth approximately 8 min prior to the trigger time because sample triggers are set at 6 min intervals. After the first sampler was activated, the wireline was lowered to the second target depth at a rate of approximately 10 m/min (Figure F6).

After these deployments, Hole U1309D was deepened and extensive operations were carried out in Hole U1601C before further fluid sampling proceeded. Drilling operations in Hole U1309D had ended on 1 May and followed a standard practice of 30 bbl of drilling mud after each 100 m advance. The borehole was not flushed prior to departure. Thus, particle laden surface seawater was expected in the borehole. The KFTS and ETBS were lowered three times into the borehole. The sampling depths for the three runs were chosen to document the potential influx of bottom seawater at the top of the borehole, formation fluid at depths of 400–750 mbsf, and the current status of fluids at the bottom of the borehole. The CTD was added to the assemblage on the first, shallowest lowering but removed for subsequent deployments to prevent exposing it to higher temperatures. The tool assemblies were lowered at 65 m/min in the casing and 20 m/min in the open hole. The KFTS could not reach the full target bottom depth because of a restriction at 1110 mbsf, so it instead sampled at an intermediate depth of 923 mbsf (Table T4).

3. Igneous petrology

The deepening of Hole U1309D recovered a series of predominantly gabbroic rocks, including gabbro (27%), olivine-bearing gabbro (59%), and olivine gabbro (12%), with small proportions of crosscutting diorite and diabase (1% and 2%, respectively) (Figures F7, F8). Ultramafic rocks and troctolite (olivine rich or otherwise) were not observed and neither were leucocratic veins (e.g., tonalite and trondhjemite). The gabbroic rocks were divided into three units, which were designated where significant differences in composition and/or texture were observed. Subunits were defined by differences within individual units (see [Igneous petrology](#) in the Expedition 399 methods chapter [Lang et al., 2025]). Unit numbering was continued from Expedition 305, which ended in a unit of medium- to coarse-grained olivine gabbro (Unit 770).

3.1. Macroscopic observations

3.1.1. Gabbroic rocks

3.1.1.1. Unit 771

Unit 771 (Section 399-U1309D-297R-1; 1415.5–1415.6 mbsf) comprises a short interval of medium-grained olivine gabbro with poikilitic clinopyroxene up to 6 mm in size. The grain size and texture contrast with those of the large gabbroic unit below, and the olivine proportion is significantly higher (40%) than that of Unit 770 above (average = 10%; maximum = 20%) (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b). Hence, this olivine gabbro was designated as a separate unit.

3.1.1.2. Unit 772

Unit 772 (Sections 399-U1309D-297R-1 through 313R-4; 1415.6–1497.9 mbsf) is a 82.3 m thick gabbroic unit with mineralogical, grain size, and textural variation on a range of scales. These variations are gradual where recovered, and the unit is characterized by a similar appearance overall. Definitive intrusive internal contacts were not seen; hence, it was logged as a single gabbroic unit, with intervals characterized by different modal mineralogy, textures, and/or grain sizes designated as subunits.

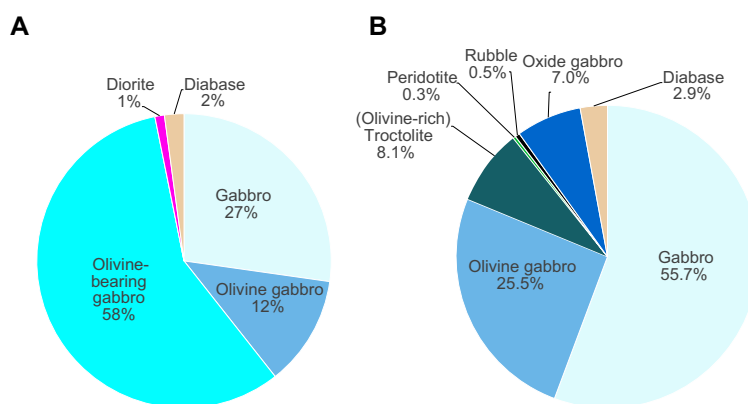


Figure F7. Recovered lithology, Hole U1309D. A. 1415–1498 mbsf (Expedition 399). B. 0–1415 mbsf (Expedition 304/305).

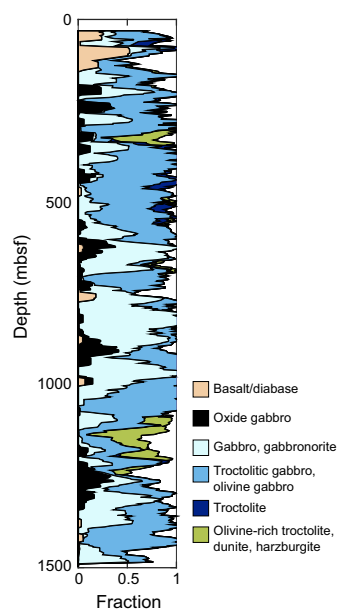


Figure F8. Running average for rocks recovered in Hole U1309D using 20 m bin size 2 m step size between each iteration, Expeditions 304/305 and 399.

Mineralogically, the unit is dominated by plagioclase, clinopyroxene, and olivine, with small proportions of orthopyroxene and Fe-Ti oxides. Plagioclase proportions are typically around 50% and nearly always fall between 45% and 55% (Figure F9). Clinopyroxene proportions are typically between 40% and 50%. Olivine is nearly ubiquitous but averages only 3%, with a maximum of 10% (Figure F9); in gabbros (*sensu stricto*), it is generally present as trace phase. Orthopyroxene was identified in very small amounts in thin sections only (see below). Fe-Ti oxides occur in trace amounts in about half of the samples and never reach more than 0.5% (Figure F9).

The grain size of the unit ranges from medium to coarse, averaging 6 mm. Clinopyroxene is frequently larger than plagioclase, forming large grains (up to 40 mm) surrounding and/or enclosing numerous plagioclase crystals. Grain size varies on a range of scales. On the unit scale, grain size varies over 10–40 m intervals (Figure F9). On the core scale, grain size variations are evident on the meter to the centimeter scale, with locally well-developed grain size layering and patchy grain size variations (e.g., Section 313R-3) (Figure F10).

The textures of the gabbroic rocks are variable (Figures F11, F12). Gabbro is predominantly subophitic (73%) but ranges to ophitic (9%) and poikilitic (1%). Granular textures also occur (17%) (Figures F12D, F13). These different textures frequently occur together over short distances (centimeter to tens of centimeters) (Figures F10, F12C), with contacts generally being gradational and irregular. Planar contacts do occur between lithologies with differing grain sizes, modes, and textures (Figure F10); however, these are rare. Olivine is generally anhedral and ranges from granular to interstitial.

Lithologically, the unit is divided into thirteen subunits (772A–772M). Each of these subunits defines a change in mineralogy and/or grain size downsection. Subunits may recur, being present as layers ranging from a few centimeters to ten or more centimeters in thickness in other subunits and hence appear out of sequence. In order downhole, the subunits are as follows:

- Subunit 772A is a predominantly coarse-grained olivine gabbro with grain size and texture varying on a 10 cm scale. Textures include subophitic, ophitic, poikilitic, and granular.
- Subunit 772C is a medium-grained, granular to subophitic olivine-bearing gabbro. Grain size varies on a 10 cm scale, and the subunit contains some coarse-grained intervals. Where these are significant, they are designated as Subunit 772D.
- Subunit 772E marks a transition to medium-grained olivine gabbro, which is predominantly subophitic but ranges in texture to granular.
- Subunit 772F marks a change in the olivine gabbro to coarse grained, with a large range of textures (granular, subophitic, ophitic, and poikilitic). Olivine proportions vary, and it is olivine-bearing gabbro below 1429.6 mbsf.
- Subunit 772G is marked by a decrease in grain size of the olivine-bearing gabbro to medium grained on average but with some coarse-grained intervals on a small scale. Textures are predominantly subophitic to ophitic.
- Subunit 772I is a predominantly medium-grained gabbro, some with trace amounts ($\ll 1\%$) of olivine and/or of orthopyroxene.
- Subunit 772J is a medium-grained subophitic to granular olivine-bearing gabbro and marks the return of olivine.
- Subunit 772K is defined by a decrease in olivine proportions and concomitant increase in grain size. It is coarse-grained gabbro with predominantly granular and some subophitic textures.
- Subunit 772L comprises two small intervals of medium- to coarse-grained olivine gabbro, marking an overall increase in olivine abundance from Subunit 772K.
- Subunit 772M is medium-grained olivine-bearing gabbro, signifying a decrease in average grain size, and is dominated by subophitic and subordinate ophitic textures.

3.1.1.3. Unit 777

Unit 777 (Section 399-U1309D-303R-1; 1445.4–1445.9 mbsf) is a thin (0.5 m) interval of medium-grained gabbro within Unit 772 that contrasts in grain size (medium grained), mineralogy (clinopyroxene rich, no olivine), and texture (granular) with the surrounding rocks of Subunit 772G (coarse-grained, subophitic olivine-bearing gabbro). On that basis, it was designated as a separate unit. The contact relationships were not recovered.

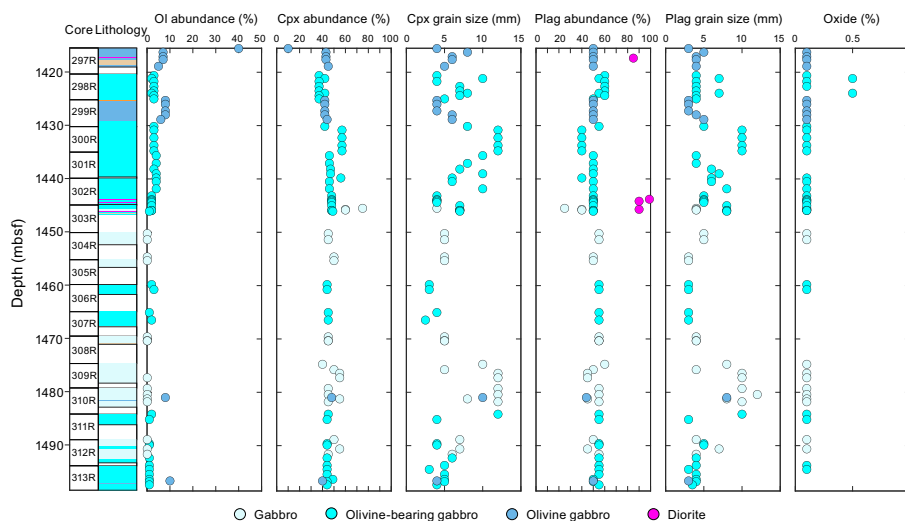


Figure F9. Downhole variation of modal abundance and grain size of olivine, clinopyroxene, plagioclase, and Fe-Ti oxide, Hole U1309D. Ol = olivine, Cpx = clinopyroxene, Plag = plagioclase.

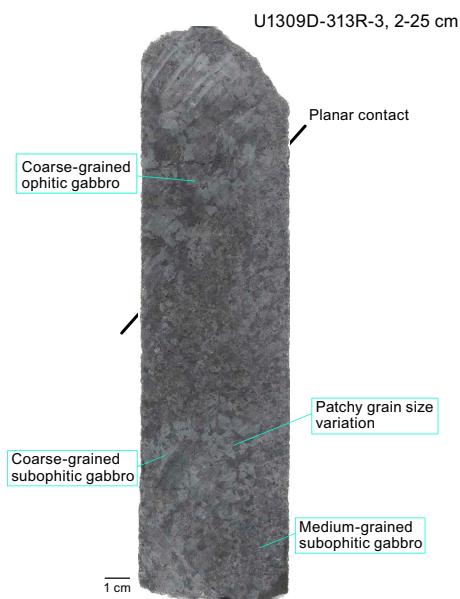


Figure F10. Small scale textural and grain size variation in Hole U1309D olivine-bearing gabbro (Subunit 772M; 313R-3, 2–25 cm). Coarse-grained ophitic gabbro (top) has planar, inclined contact with medium-grained subophitic gabbro (middle). Medium-grained gabbro has irregular, coarse-grained patch at its bottom left.

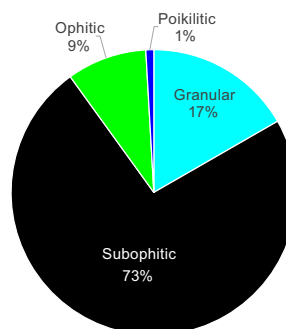


Figure F11. Relative proportions of observed textures in gabbroic rocks, Hole U1309D.

3.1.2. Diorite

Diorite veins crosscut the gabbroic rocks and are treated as domains; their occurrences are listed in Table T5. The veins are centimeter scale, typically medium grained, and have a seriate grain size distribution, although most of them are strongly altered, obscuring primary textures and mineralogy. Where primary features are preserved, diorite veins are plagioclase rich and contain locally acicular black amphiboles (Figure F14). The contacts with their host gabbro is sutured (Figure F14). Partial replacement of some of the gabbro clinopyroxene by amphibole indicates that the diorite veins have a reactive relationship with their host gabbros.

3.1.3. Diabase

Diabase occurs throughout Hole U1309D, forming Units 773–776 and 778 as well as domains in Subunits 772G and 772I (Table T6). Where contact relationships are preserved, the diabase frequently has chilled margins, indicative of an intrusive nature. Diabase units range in size from 1 cm to 0.8 m. Where diabase is relatively thick, it may grade in grain size from cryptocrystalline at

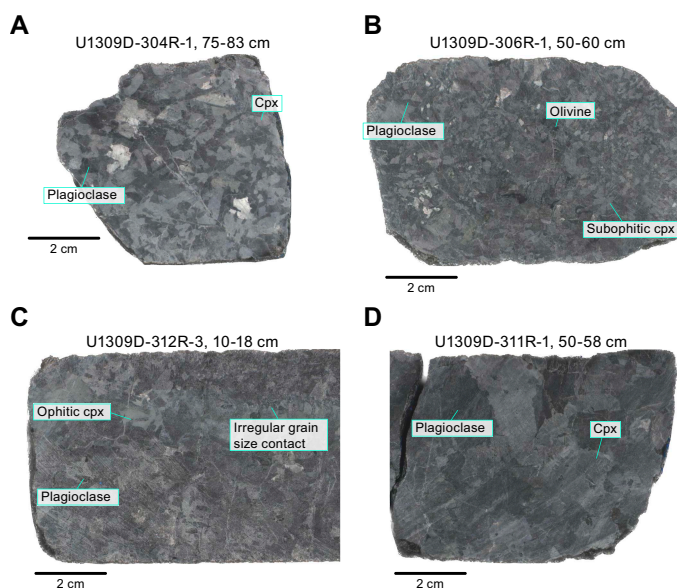


Figure F12. A. Coarse-grained gabbro with subophitic texture (Subunit 772I; 399-U1309D-304R-1, 75–83 cm). B. Medium-grained olivine-bearing gabbro with subophitic texture (Subunit 772J; 306R-1, 50–60 cm). C. Coarse-grained gabbro with ophitic texture, in irregular contact with medium-grained subophitic gabbro (Subunit 772I; 312R-3, 10–18 cm). D. Coarse-grained granular gabbro (Subunit 772M; 311R-1, 50–58 cm). Cpx = clinopyroxene.

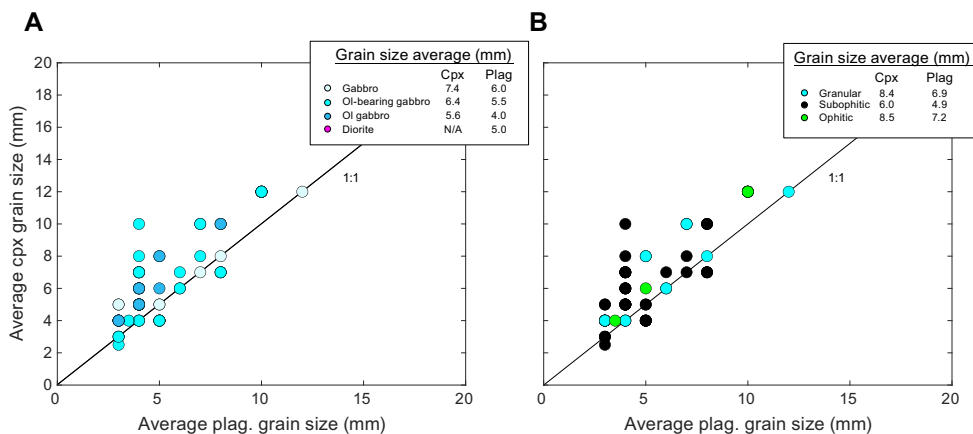


Figure F13. Relationship between grain size of plagioclase and clinopyroxene as a function of (A) different lithologies and (B) different textures, Hole U1309D. Ol = olivine, Cpx = clinopyroxene, Plag = plagioclase.

the margin to fine grained in the core; a good example of this occurs in Section 399-U1309D-297R-2 (Figure F15). Unit 776 diabase is aphyric, but the remaining diabase is olivine or olivine + plagioclase-phyric, with phenocryst proportions ranging from 0.5% in Unit 778 to 5% in Unit 775. None of the units contain vesicles.

Table T5. Diorite occurrences (1415–1489 mbsf), Hole U1309D. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Unit	Core, section, interval (cm)	Description
399-U1309D-		
772B	297R-2, 43–50	Medium-grained to pegmatitic diorite vein with large acicular primary black amphiboles. Sutured contact.
772H	302R-3, 117.5–128	Altered leucodiorite vein with average grain size, grain size distribution, and texture obscured.
772G	302R-4, 17–40.5	Altered leucodiorite vein with average grain size, grain size distribution, and texture obscured. Contact with the surrounding subophitic to ophitic olivine-bearing gabbro is sutured and reactive.
777	303R-1, 101–120.5	Leucodiorite vein with reaction contacts.

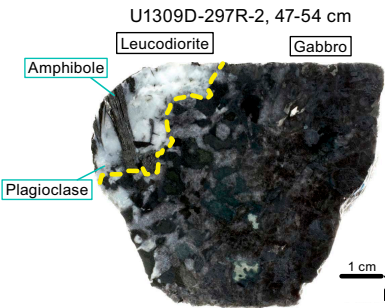


Figure F14. Leucodiorite in contact with gabbro, Hole U1309D.

Table T6. Diabase occurrences (1415–1489 mbsf), Hole U1309D. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Unit	Core, section, interval (cm)	Description
399-U1309D-		
773	297R-2, 36–42	Microcrystalline diabase with microphenocrysts of olivine and plagioclase.
774	297R-2, 97–149	Diabase dike that ranges from a sharp, cryptocrystalline chilled margin to an ophitic fine-grained core.
774	297R-3, 0–31	Diabase dike that ranges from a sharp, cryptocrystalline chilled margin to an ophitic fine-grained core.
775	299R-1, 15–16	1 cm thick cryptocrystalline diabase dikelet with olivine and plagioclase crystals; these may be xenocrysts.
776	302R-1, 4.5–8	Small fine-grained diabase.
772G	303R-1, 125.5–132	Small cryptocrystalline diabase patch in a coarse-grained olivine gabbro.
778	303R-1, 135–143.5	Microcrystalline diabase.
772I	305R-1, 0–5	Small domain of altered diabase.
772I	308R-1, 140–143	Small diabase subunit with xenoliths likely derived from wall rock.

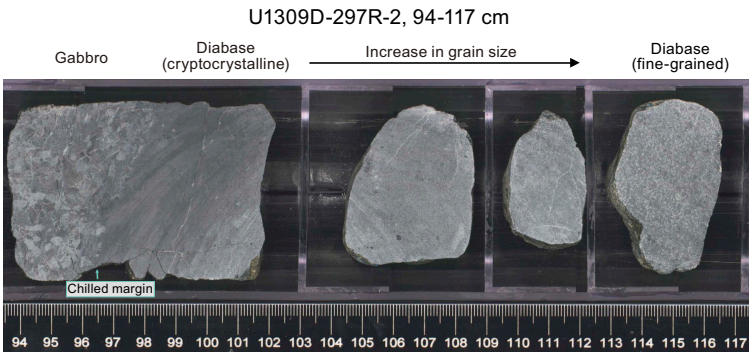


Figure F15. Diabase intrusion in gabbro showing chilled margin at contact and increasing in grain size downsection, Hole U1309D.

3.2. Microscopic observations

Thin sections of cores recovered from Hole U1309D during Expedition 399 have a subset of textures and mineral modes that were described for cores higher up in the hole that were collected during Expedition 304/305 (e.g., Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b). The original igneous lithologies for the shipboard thin sections of gabbroic rocks are gabbro, olivine-bearing gabbro, and olivine gabbro, with two-phase gabbros being more common toward the central portion of the drilled interval and olivine being more common toward the upper and lower portions. Primary magmatic amphibole was not observed in thin section. Fe-Ti oxides were encountered in several thin sections, but they were typically found in interstices with secondary actinolite, and thus they were not considered primary crystallization products from melts.

Clinopyroxene engulfing plagioclase abounds, and thus the textures for most gabbroic rocks range between ophitic and subophitic (Figure F16). Thin sections with granular textures are rare and are typically highly deformed and altered.

Clinopyroxene is anhedral and interstitial, with oikocrysts encompassing large portions of some thin sections. More commonly, clinopyroxene is a few to several millimeters across and contains plagioclase chadacrysts. Most clinopyroxene grains have thin exsolution lamellae of orthopyroxene as a result of slow cooling (Figures F17, F18).

Multiple generations of clinopyroxene crystallization are evident in several thin sections. The most common textural evidence is in the form of disequilibrium textures, such as sutured clinopyroxene-clinopyroxene grain boundaries (Figure F17, F19) and complex clinopyroxene-clinopyroxene intergrowth (e.g., a set of optically continuous clinopyroxene inclusions encompassed by a large clinopyroxene grain with a different optical orientation; Figure F18). This type of complex intergrowth was seen in several gabbro thin sections, and it is thus not particularly unusual for the



Figure F16. Subophitic to ophitic textures between clinopyroxene and plagioclase (399-U1309D-309R-1, 126–129 cm [TS55]; plane-polarized light [PPL]).

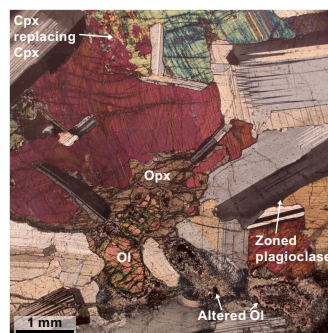


Figure F17. Subophitic texture (399-U1309D-312R-1, 132–136 cm [TS65]; cross-polarized light [XPL]). Also highlighted are interleaved clinopyroxene (Cpx) crystals indicating multiple crystallization stages, orthopyroxene (Opx) replacing olivine (Ol) and nearby clinopyroxene, compositionally zoned plagioclase, and altered olivine that has been pseudomorphically replaced by secondary magnesium-rich minerals (e.g., talc) and magnetite.

section of Hole U1309D drilled during Expedition 399. Similar textures observed in oceanic gabbros from Ocean Drilling Program (ODP) Hole 735B have been attributed to clinopyroxene replacing preexisting minerals as a result of reactive porous flow processes, where crystal mushes are infiltrated by later melts (Lissenberg and MacLeod, 2017).

Plagioclase crystals in the gabbros from Hole U1309D are commonly tabular and subhedral with polygonal to sutured borders. The plagioclase in most samples has variable optical orientations within individual grains. Some of this optical zoning is roughly concentric, likely reflecting compositional zoning. In some samples, this zoning is continuous from core to rim, whereas other samples have more complex patterns because of compositional reversals (Figure F17). Plagioclase in some thin sections has patchy zoning resulting from deformation. Overall, the zoning intensity ranged from 0 (none) to 2 (abundant zoning that can range from weak to strong), with an average of 1.2 (Figure F20). Only three thin sections recorded Rank 0 (no zoning), and none recorded Rank 3 (nearly ubiquitous, generally strong zoning).

Olivine can be identified in thin section even when fully altered (e.g., Figure F17), which allows original percentages to be estimated. Olivine is anhedral, either as discrete grains or as crystal clusters. Kink banding is common. Some crystal clusters have large kink-banded grains and smaller optically homogeneous grains, suggesting crystal fragmentation by deformation followed by annealing (Figure F21).

Orthopyroxene is rare in the shipboard thin sections from Hole U1309D made during Expedition 399. It is most commonly present as thin exsolution lamellae in clinopyroxene (Figure F18). It also is present as late-stage interstitial grains rimming olivine. These rims commonly thicken at boundaries between olivine and clinopyroxene, and orthopyroxene may partially replace clinopyroxene (Figure F17). One or two discrete grains of orthopyroxene are present in gabbroic thin section (TS) Samples 399-U1309D-302R-2, 52–54.5 cm (TS33); 310R-1, 92–95 cm (TS56); and 313R-3, 7–13 cm (TS68).

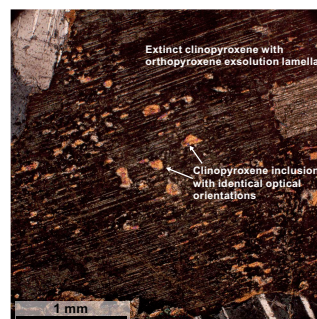


Figure F18. Clinopyroxene with orthopyroxene exsolution lamellae and patchy network of clinopyroxene inclusions with identical optical orientations (399-U1309D-306R-1, 45–48 cm [TS46]; XPL).

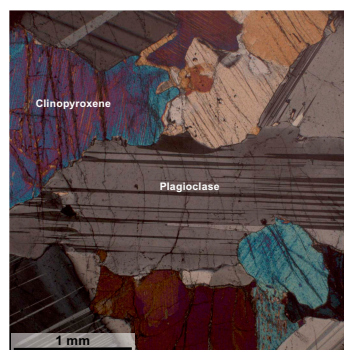


Figure F19. Embayed and sutured contact relationships between plagioclase and clinopyroxene (399-U1309D-299R-2, 7–9 cm [TS26]; XPL).

Thin sections of diabase dikes show contrasting textures. One is coarse grained and has subophitic intergrowths of plagioclase and (partially altered) clinopyroxene (Figure F22). Olivine phenocrysts that have been replaced entirely by secondary minerals also are present in this sample. Chromite inclusions in the altered olivine remain unaltered. Diabase dikes with microcrystalline to cryptocrystalline grain size cut through altered gabbro in Samples 399-U1309D-297R-2, 97–100 cm

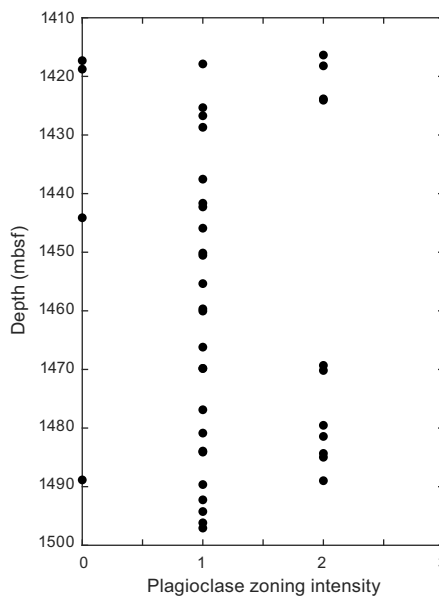


Figure F20. Plagioclase zoning intensity for gabbroic rocks, Expedition 399 Hole U1309D.

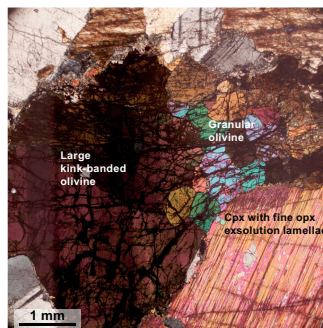


Figure F21. Textural variations in olivine crystals (399-U1309D-302R-2, 52–55 cm [TS33]; XPL). Cpx = clinopyroxene, opx = orthopyroxene.

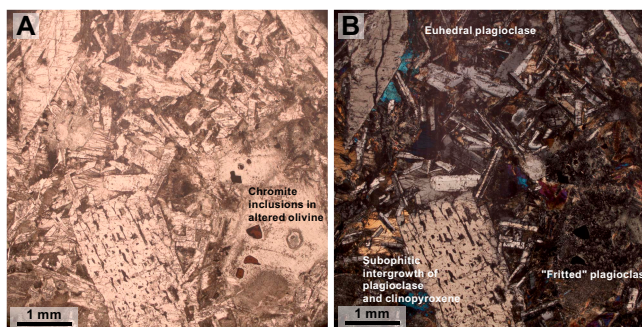


Figure F22. Diabase illustrating igneous features such as subophitic textures, resorbed and euhedral plagioclase, and remnant chromite in altered olivine (399-U1309D-297R-2, 130–132 cm [TS23]). A. PPL. B. XPL.

(TS22), and 299R-1, 12–15 cm (TS25). These fine-grained diabases have chilled margins against highly altered gabbro hosts. In Sample 297R-2, 97–100 cm (TS22), the margin has brecciated gabbroic material (Figure F23). Fresh, euhedral olivine is present in this diabase. In Sample 299R-1, 12–15 cm (TS25), altered olivine phenocrysts have reaction halos of fine secondary materials (Figure F24). This dike has larger crystals concentrated in its center and flow alignment of crystals. Multiple generations of plagioclase are present in all of the diabase dikes in thin section, as evidenced by the presence of partially resorbed, tabular and acicular crystals. Tabular to acicular plagioclase crystals terminate, and were likely nucleated, on altered gabbroic xenolithic material in the finer grained diabase dikes (Figure F23).

3.3. Preliminary interpretations

The lithologies recovered during the deepening of Hole U1309D from 1415 to 1489 mbsf during Expedition 399 show both differences and similarities with those recovered in the 0–1415 mbsf interval during Expedition 304/305 (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b). Both intervals are dominated by gabbro and olivine gabbro (Figure F7). However, the proportion of gabbro is significantly higher and the proportion of olivine gabbro is significantly lower in the deeper interval. Further, no oxide gabbro, troctolite, or peridotite was recovered during Expedition 399, whereas these constitute a combined 15% in the interval drilled during Expedition 304/305 (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b). The distribution of peridotites, troctolites, and oxide gabbros in Hole U1309D is uneven, with significant concentrations at specific depths. Hence, it may be that the difference in lithologies relates to a sampling bias introduced by the relatively short nature of the interval drilled during Expedition 399 relative to that drilled during Expedition 304/305. Support for this contention comes from the fact that the bottom ~80 m of the Expedition 304/305 section recovered exclusively olivine gabbro, gabbro, and diabase, similar to the section recovered during Expedition 399. Hence, we view the rocks described here as a natural continuation from the bottom of the Expedition 304/305 section.

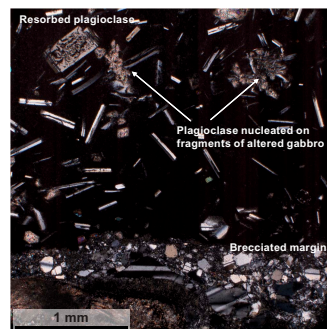


Figure F23. Brecciated border and plagioclase textures (399-U1309D-297R-2, 97–100 cm [TS22]; XPL).

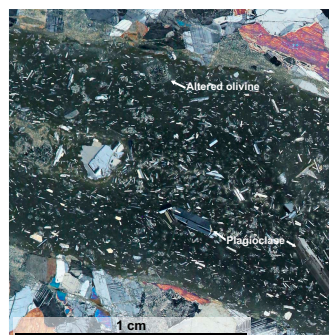


Figure F24. Small dike illustrating crystal size distributions, equant to resorbed to lath-like morphologies of plagioclase, potential flow alignment of plagioclase, central accumulation of large crystals, and altered olivine (399-U1309D-299R-1, 12–15 cm [TS25]; XPL).

The section of Hole U1309D drilled during Expedition 399 contains only three gabbroic units, two of which are thin (Units 771 [0.1 m] and 777 [0.4 m]), with the remaining 82 m making up Unit 772. Whether these three units represent separate plutons is uncertain because no contacts were recovered. Within the Unit 772 gabbros, changes in grain size, modal mineralogy, and texture are typically gradual and irregular in nature. This suggests that the different subunits represent intrusion-crystallization cycles within a single plutonic body, rather than representing discrete intrusions into solid country rock. We interpret the textural continuum of subophitic to ophitic to poikilitic to be recording progressive clinopyroxene crystallization between and around a network of subhedral, tabular to elongate plagioclase crystals. This is consistent with the thin section observations.

After the formation of the initial olivine, plagioclase, and clinopyroxene, crystallization progressed from melts with different (evolving?) compositions. This is evidenced by the presence of zoning in plagioclase in many of the thin sections examined, as well as the microscopic evidence for disequilibrium textures in clinopyroxene. The general lack of the characteristic late-stage assemblage of amphibole + Fe-Ti oxide indicates that the late-stage melt was not generally evolved to the point of oxide saturation, as is common in Hole 735B (Dick et al., 2000; Ferrando et al., 2022). It is unclear to what extent similar late-stage crystallization from evolving melts occurred in the gabbroic rocks recovered during Expedition 304/305 above 1415 mbsf because plagioclase zoning is not described in the *Proceedings* volume (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006a), and the majority of plagioclase zoning observed in Expedition 304/305 shipboard thin sections was in phenocrysts in diabase or basalt. Furthermore, in a detailed study of the interval between 800 and 1300 mbsf, Suhr et al. (2008) found only limited zoning in plagioclase (up to 2 mol%), with many samples lacking in zoning. However, oxide gabbros make up 7% of the gabbroic rocks recovered during Expedition 304/305, occurring as coarse-grained units often associated with ductile deformation, as is the case in Hole 735B (Dick et al., 2000). Furthermore, clinopyroxene compositions in Expedition 304/305 gabbroic rocks show evidence for reactive porous flow in the form of high TiO₂ contents at high Cr₂O₃ contents (Lissenberg and MacLeod, 2016). These observations attest to significant flow, accumulation, and extraction of late-stage melt. Taken together, these observations suggest some degree of late-stage melt flow occurred in the Hole U1309D section. Hence, we interpret the plagioclase zoning in the Expedition 399 gabbros to be the result of melt flow at relatively high temperatures prior to Fe-Ti oxide saturation.

Following the accretion of the gabbroic units, two additional stages of magmatism occurred. First, diorite veins intruded. The sutured and reactive nature of the contacts indicate that intrusion occurred when the gabbroic rocks were still at elevated temperatures. The final igneous activity is marked by the diabase dikes. Their chilled margins attest to intrusion in a relatively cold environment. Furthermore, the thin section observations of entrainment of hydrothermally altered microxenoliths indicate that at least some diabase intrusions occurred after the host gabbroic rocks had already suffered hydrothermal alteration.

4. Alteration petrology

Gabbroic rocks recovered from Hole U1309D during Expedition 399 show low degrees of alteration (<20 vol% secondary replacement) (Figure F25A, F25B). Overall, the degree of alteration tends to slightly decrease downhole. An exceptionally high extent of alteration occurs in intervals where localized alteration associated with cataclastic deformation, prominent hydrothermal or magmatic veining, and patchy bleaching took place. Alteration minerals appear to have formed under static conditions, except for amphibole formation associated with localized ductile deformation in cataclastic zones (Figure F26).

Zeolite, amphibole, chlorite, and composite amphibole-chlorite veins frequently occur throughout cores without systematic downhole distribution. Crosscutting relationships of veins indicate a chronological sequence of generation stages (from older to younger): (1) magmatic vein; (2) amphibole, chlorite, or amphibole + chlorite veins; and (3) prehnite + carbonate and zeolite veins.

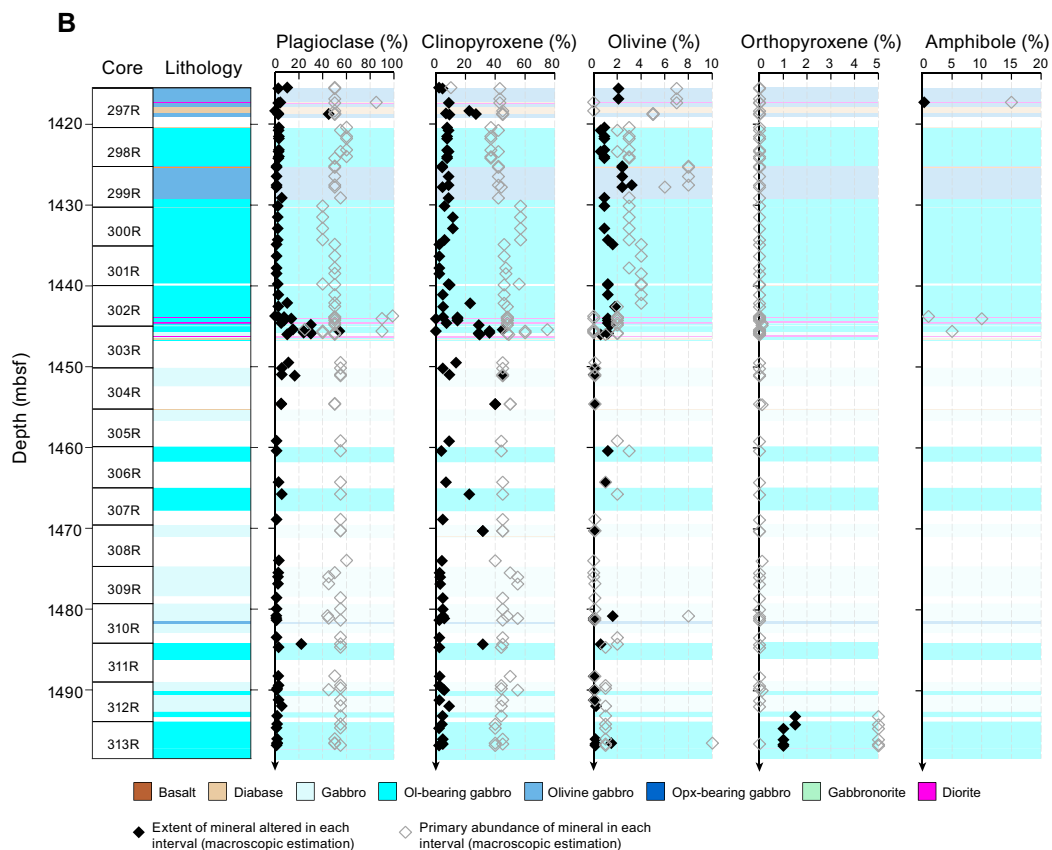
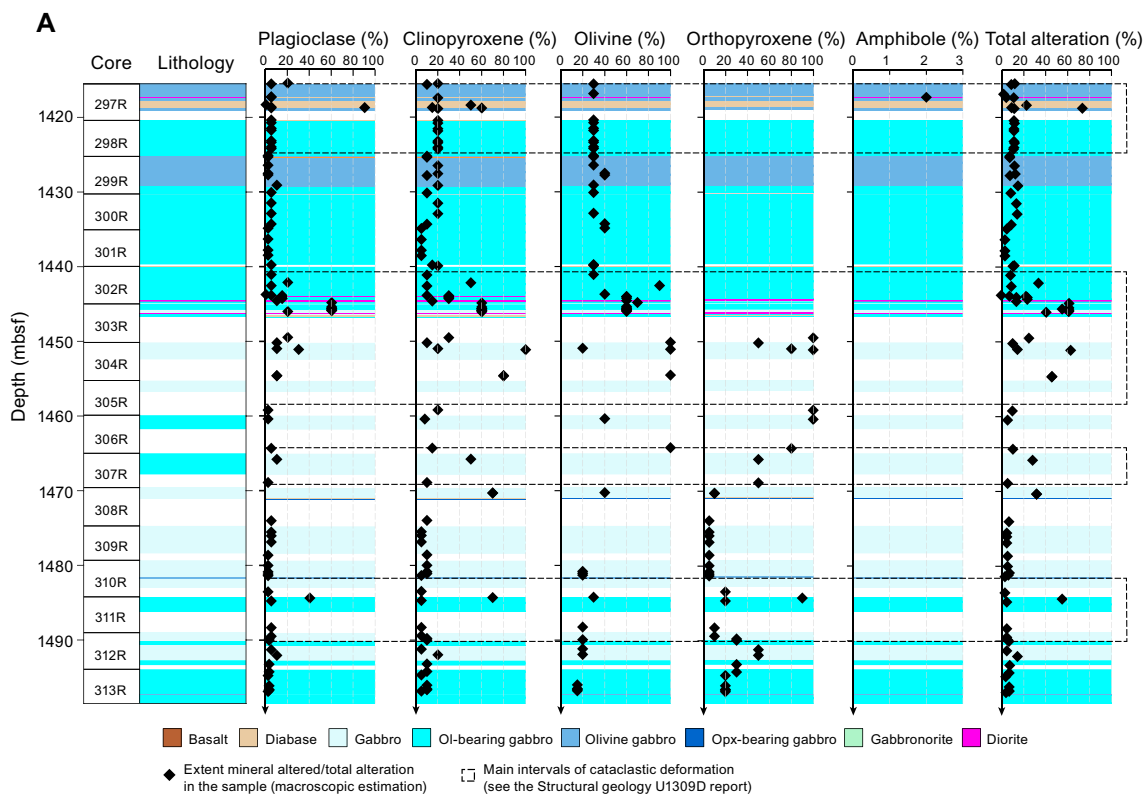


Figure F25. Downhole variation of (A) alteration extent of each mineral and total alteration intensity in gabbroic rocks and (B) primary mineral abundance and proportion of primary minerals altered to secondary minerals in gabbroic rocks, Hole U1309D. Ol = olivine, Opx = orthopyroxene.

The observations of mineral assemblages, microscopic textures, fluid inclusions, and crosscutting relationships between the alteration assemblages and between hydrothermal veins indicate that sequential alteration and deformation took place at conditions ranging from amphibolite through greenschist to subgreenschist facies conditions. Each primary mineral in gabbroic rocks is partially replaced by secondary minerals at grain boundaries, along microcracks, or cleavage surfaces. In some cases, particularly in proximity to hydrothermal veins, complete replacement yields pseudomorphs after primary minerals. Olivine is replaced by distinct mineral assemblages composed of serpentine + oxide/sulfide, talc + sulfide/oxide, clay + oxide/sulfide, amphibole + oxide + chlorite, or a combination of one or more of these assemblages. Fluid inclusions formed during healing of fluid-filled fractures are locally abundant in olivine and plagioclase. Clinopyroxene and orthopyroxene are altered to amphibole, chlorite, and/or talc. Plagioclase is altered to chlorite, amphibole, secondary plagioclase, prehnite, and zeolite. This was confirmed by X-ray diffraction (XRD) analyses, even if it was not always possible to distinguish between talc/prehnite and zeolite in some samples (Table T7).

The interplay among magmatic processes, deformation, and fluid flow is recorded in alteration mineral assemblages of lower crustal lithologies from Hole U1309D. The findings presented here are consistent with those from Expedition 304/305 and provide additional constraints on alteration processes down to 1498 mbsf.

4.1. General aspects of alteration

Gabbroic rocks, including gabbro, olivine gabbro, and olivine-bearing gabbro, show low degrees of alteration except where localized alteration associated with cataclastic deformation, prominent hydrothermal or magmatic veining, and patchy bleaching took place. Diabase is scarce in Hole U1309D cores drilled during Expedition 399, and its green color indicates pervasive alteration. Most alteration minerals appear to have formed under static conditions; however, evidence for alteration during ductile deformation is evident in few samples.

4.2. Downhole variation of background alteration intensity and mineral abundance

Overall, roughly 75% of the lithologic intervals in the recovered sections exhibit slight alteration (here defined as <20 vol% of secondary minerals per interval). Approximately 13% of the intervals

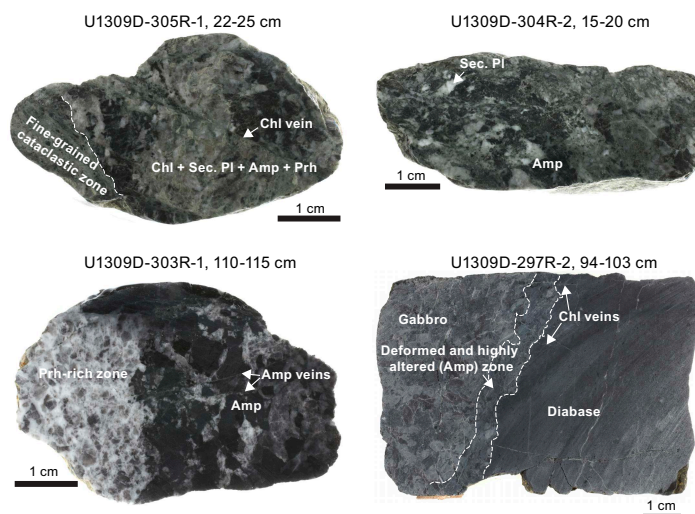


Figure F26. Representative high alteration intensity intervals in gabbroic rocks, Hole U1309D. A. Highly deformed and altered fine-grained cataclastic zone in altered gabbro comprised of chlorite (Chl), secondary plagioclase (Sec. Pl), amphibole (Amp), and prehnite (Prh). Gabbro is cut by chlorite vein. B. Amphibole + secondary plagioclase-rich alteration zone in altered gabbro. C. Bleached prehnite-rich area invading amphibolitized gabbro. D. Altered gabbro-diabase contact. Contact is deformed and amphibole formed. Note that chlorite veins cut contact and propagate both into gabbro and into diabase.

are moderately altered (20–50 vol% secondary minerals). The remaining 11% of the recovered intervals are highly altered (50–99 vol% secondary minerals). The degree of alteration tends to increase in intervals of cataclastic deformation, veining, and bleaching (Figures F25A, F26). In cataclastic zones, the gabbroic rock is generally fine grained, likely due to grain size reduction during deformation. Cataclastic zones either occur within gabbroic intervals or at the contact between diabase and gabbro and between diorite and gabbro. The most prominent cataclastic zones occur at ~1417–1424, ~1441–1459, ~1464–1469, and ~1482–1490 mbsf. Locally within and near these intervals, plagioclase, clinopyroxene, and olivine (i.e., the main constituents of gabbro) show a high degree (>50%) of hydrothermal alteration (Figure F25A).

The total alteration intensity is also variable in response to mineralogy. In gabbro, alteration is more prominent in mafic minerals, particularly olivine, than in plagioclase. In typical cases of olivine gabbro or olivine-bearing gabbro, the alteration extent of olivine and clinopyroxene is >30% and >10% of the original modal amounts, respectively, whereas the alteration extent of plagioclase is <2% (Figure F25A). Deeper than ~1470 mbsf, the extent of alteration of the mafic minerals slightly decreases (i.e., <20% and <10% on average for olivine and clinopyroxene, respectively) and remains fairly constant in plagioclase. This results in an overall slight decrease of the total alteration extent downhole.

The abundances of primary minerals in gabbroic rocks are relatively constant (Figure F25B), except for olivine, which is more abundant at levels shallower than 1446 mbsf. Hence, the down-

Table T7. XRD mineralogical results, Hole U1309D. NA = not analyzed. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Core, section, interval (cm)	Mineralogy
399-U1309D-	
296G-1, 49–52	Amphibole, chlorite, prehnite/zeolite?
296G-1, 52–54	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, chlorite, talc/zeolite?
296G-1, 56–57	Anhydrite + other unidentified phases (junk basket)
297R-1, 10.5–25.5	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, zeolite (possibly laumontite)
297R-1, 75–85	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite
297R-2, 42–44	Amphibole, talc/zeolite?
297R-2, 104–108	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite
298R-2, 134–149	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite
298R-3, 61–71	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, chlorite
299R-2, 8–14	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, olivine
299R-3, 46–56	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, prehnite/zeolite?
299R-4, 40.5–52.5	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite
300R-2, 39–41	Zeolite (laumontite, thomsonite), chlorite and/or vermiculite, Plagioclase, amphibole, (+2 unidentified peaks at 29.27 and 29.97)
300R-2, 96.5–106	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, zeolite (laumontite), clinochrysotile?
300R-3, 107–122	Plagioclase, chlorite, clinopyroxene, amphibole, prehnite/zeolite?
301R-1, 57.5–68.5	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite
301R-2, 130–143	Clinopyroxene, plagioclase, chlorite, amphibole
302R-2, 46–58	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/chlorite?, chlorite
302R-2, 46–58	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite
302R-3, 104–114	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite
302R-3, 126–128	NA
303R-1, 64–67	Richterite, chlorite, amphibole, clinopyroxene, plagioclase
304R-1, 91–101.5	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite
306R-1, 81–87	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite
306R-1, 114–115	Chlorite, talc/zeolite?, clay (vermiculite, nontronite?), amphibole
307R-1, 40.5–52.5	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, chlorite, and one unidentified peak
308R-1, 132–139	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite
308R-1, 141–142	Plagioclase, amphibole, zeolite (analcime?)
309R-1, 133–143	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite, and 1 peak unidentified at 32.1
309R-3, 4–14	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite, and 2 peaks unidentified at 31.08 and 58.8
310R-2, 79–87	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite, olivine
311R-1, 37–58	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite, and 1 peak unidentified at 32.2
311R-1, 67.5–78	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, prehnite/zeolite?, chlorite
311R-2, 19–29	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite
312R-1, 54–56	Amphibole (2 types, presumably), chlorite, clinopyroxene, plagioclase
312R-1, 127–137	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite, chlorite, and 2 peaks unidentified at 31.01 and 32.1
312R-3, 102–112	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite
313R-2, 93–106.5	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite, + 1 peak unidentified (32.2)
313R-4, 21–29	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, talc/zeolite?, chlorite (+1 peak unidentified at 37.16)

hole decrease in the alteration extent of clinopyroxene cannot be simply explained by the variations of modal composition of the gabbro protolith but most likely reflects the decreasing extent of hydrothermal alteration. However, because the modal abundance of olivine in deeper intervals (<2%) is significantly lower than that of clinopyroxene, it cannot be ruled out that uncertainties associated with macroscopic estimates contributed to the apparent decrease of the alteration extent of olivine.

4.3. Veins

Eight vein types can be distinguished in Hole U1309D cores recovered during Expedition 399: veins composed of hydrothermally altered diorite, amphibole, amphibole-chlorite, chlorite, quartz-plagioclase-chlorite-amphibole, talc-chlorite, prehnite-carbonate (only identified in thin section), and zeolite (Figure F27). Among them, the most frequent types are zeolite, amphibole, chlorite, and composite amphibole-chlorite veins (Figure F28). None of these vein types show systematic changes in abundance downhole (Figure F27). However, the proportion of monomineralic chlorite veins is higher at shallower levels and tends to decrease downhole, whereas monomineralic amphibole veins display a reverse relationship. Zeolite veins are abundant in Hole U1309D gabbroic rocks, regardless of the structural position.

All of the logged veins are transgranular (see the [Expedition 399 methods](#) chapter [Lang et al., 2025] for vein classifications). Their shapes are dominantly irregular and curved. Straight veins are less abundant and tend to be thicker than irregular or curved veins. The internal structure of most veins is either polycrystalline or massive. Magmatic amphibole and chlorite veins are typically isolated (i.e., they form single veins that are not branched or connected). Amphibole-chlorite veins are commonly branched, whereas zeolite veins form networks. The width is <0.1–0.2 mm for most zeolite veins, 0.2–5 mm for most amphibole and chlorite veins, and 5–40 mm for magmatic veins. Many of the magmatic amphibole and chlorite veins have green and/or white halos that are 1–15 mm wide. In adjacent halos, clinopyroxene, olivine, and plagioclase are extensively altered to amphibole, chlorite, talc, and/or secondary plagioclase (Figure F28A).

The relationships between veining and brittle deformation are variable. Small faults cut amphibole veins and can be filled by zeolite (Figure F28B). In some areas, textural observations suggest that chlorite veins branch on cataclastic zones pointing to fluid-assisted deformation (Figure F28C).

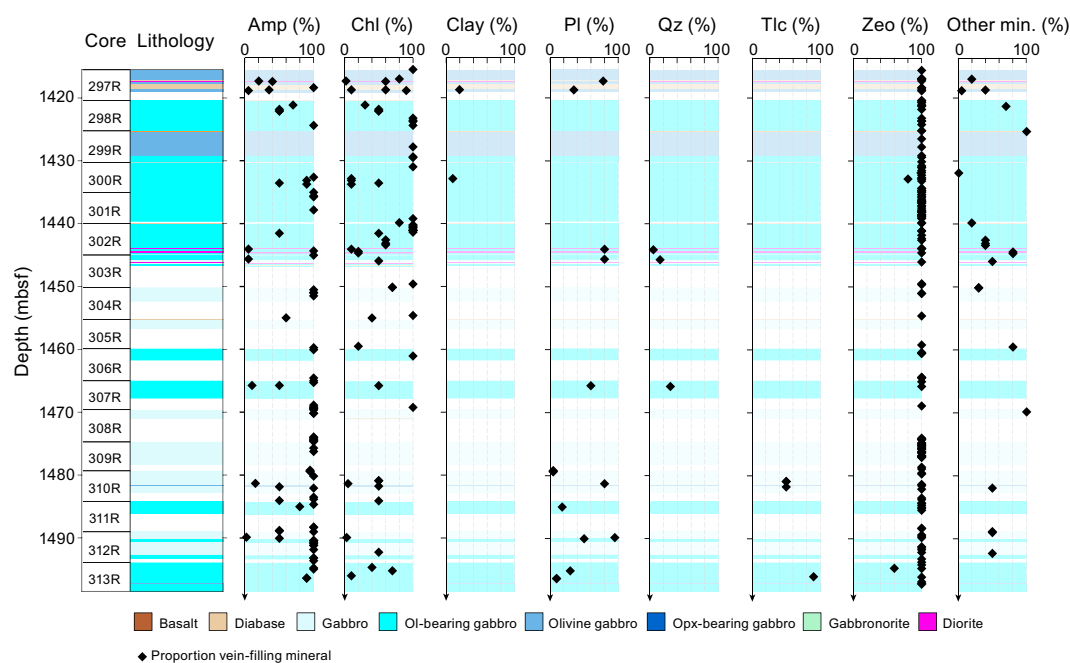


Figure F27. Downhole distribution of hydrothermal veins in gabbroic rocks, Hole U1309D. Amp = amphibole, Chl = chlorite, Pl = plagioclase, Qz = quartz, Tlc = talc, Zeo = zeolite, min. = minerals.

Macroscopic and microscopic crosscutting relationships of veins indicate a chronological sequence of distinct vein generations from older to younger: (1) magmatic veins; (2) amphibole, chlorite, or amphibole-chlorite veins; and (3) zeolite veins. This sequence is further corroborated by brittle displacement of veins where, for instance, millimeter-sized offsets in amphibole veins are occupied by intact zeolite veins (Figure F28B).

4.4. Mineral paragenesis and microscopic textures of statically altered rocks

4.4.1. Gabbroic rocks

Consistent with macroscopic characteristics of the gabbroic rocks, microscopic observations revealed that most primary magmatic minerals are fresh or slightly altered and their alteration degree increases in proximity to hydrothermal veins and cataclastic zones. In order of high to low extent of alteration, olivine is followed by orthopyroxene, clinopyroxene, and plagioclase. For each primary mineral, the alteration paragenesis and texture is described below.

Olivine is replaced by secondary minerals in characteristic textures (Figures F29, F30, F31). These include (in order of decreasing frequency) (1) serpentine + oxide/sulfide forming mesh texture; (2) talc + sulfide/oxide forming partial pseudomorphs, in particular at rims adjacent to pyroxene grains; (3) clay + oxide/sulfide forming pseudomorphs with remnant mesh texture; (4) corona texture with acicular colorless amphibole + oxide altering olivine and chlorite altering plagioclase, and in highly altered cases, aggregates of acicular colorless amphibole with random orientation forming pseudomorphs after olivine; and (5) green amphibole + chlorite forming corona texture replacing olivine and plagioclase.

Olivine in gabbroic rocks features fluid inclusions that can be locally abundant (Figure F32). They form linear trails that cut grain and subgrain boundaries (e.g., in Sample 399-U1309D-299R-2, 7–9 cm [TS26]). Individual fluid inclusions are up to 10 μm in diameter; however, most are smaller than 1 μm . Inclusions appear dark, except for those that were opened during thin section preparation. In some of the micrometer-sized inclusions, daughter minerals can be observed.

Orthopyroxene is altered to green to colorless amphibole at grain rims and to talc or chlorite along fractures and cleavage surfaces (Figure F30). In some cases, chlorite and amphibole pseudomor-

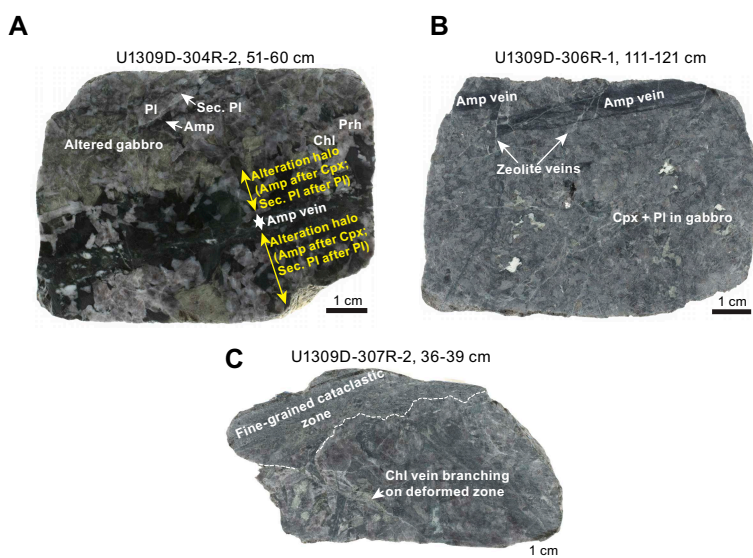


Figure F28. Representative veins in gabbroic rocks, Hole U1309D. A. Haloed amphibole vein cutting through altered gabbro. Halo is locally up to 2 cm wide and made of amphibole (Amp) and secondary plagioclase (Sec. Pl) after clinopyroxene (Cpx) and plagioclase (Pl), respectively. B. Set of amphibole veins cut and offset by late zeolite veins. C. Chlorite (Chl) vein branching off fine-grained cataclastic zone in altered gabbro. Prh = prehnite.

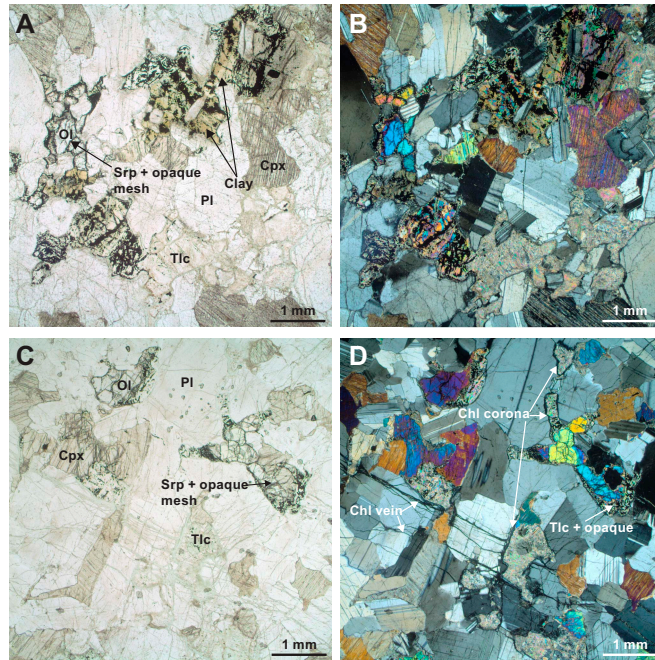


Figure F29. Olivine alteration, Hole U1309D. A, B. Olivine (Ol) replaced by serpentine (Srp) + oxide/sulfide forming mesh texture, talc (Tlc) + sulfide/oxide forming partial pseudomorphs, and clay + oxide/sulfide forming pseudomorphs with remnant mesh texture (306R-1, 82–86 cm [TS47]; A: PPL, B: XPL). C, D. Olivine altered to acicular colorless amphibole + talc + oxide, chlorite (Chl) replacing plagioclase (Pl) forming a corona texture, associated with chlorite veins (313R-1, 103–106 cm [TS67]; C: PPL, D: XPL). Cpx = clinopyroxene.

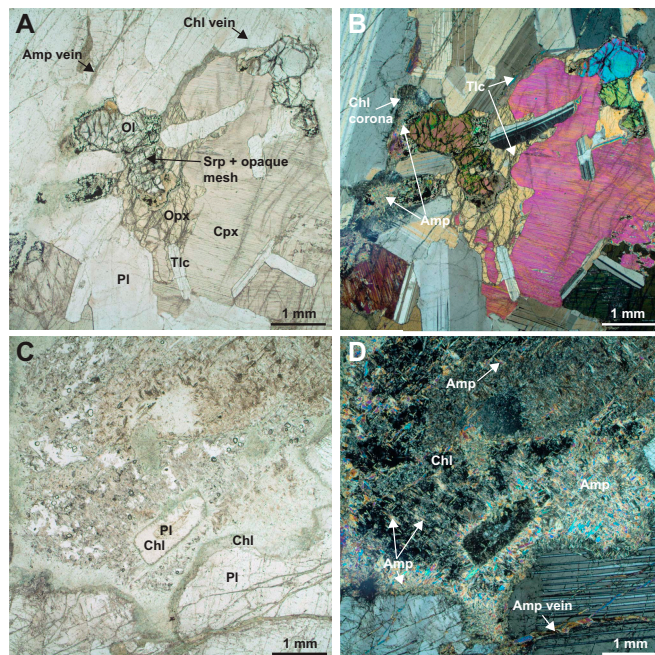


Figure F30. Orthopyroxene alteration, Hole U1309D. A, B. Orthopyroxene (Opx) altered to green to colorless amphibole (Amp) along grain rims and to talc (Tlc) along fractures and cleavage surfaces (312R-1, 132–136 cm [TS65]; A: PPL, B: XPL). C, D. Orthopyroxene altered to chlorite (Chl) pseudomorphs with parallel arrangement of acicular amphibole, which is probably a replacement of clinopyroxene (Cpx) exsolution lamellae (311R-1, 59–62 cm [TS60]; C: PPL, D: XPL). Aggregate of acicular amphibole with random orientation (middle right) is likely pseudomorph after olivine (Ol). Srp = serpentine, Pl = plagioclase.

phically replace orthopyroxene, where parallel arrangement of acicular amphibole indicates it replaces clinopyroxene exsolution lamellae.

Clinopyroxene is altered to green to colorless and locally brown amphibole at grain boundaries or along penetrating amphibole veins and to talc or chlorite along fractures and cleavage surfaces (Figure F31).

Plagioclase is altered to chlorite, which forms coronas surrounding olivine and locally pseudomorphic aggregates. Pseudomorphic replacement of plagioclase by prehnite is locally prominent in proximity to prehnite veins. Microscopic veins of chlorite, amphibole, and zeolite within individual plagioclase grains seem to represent alteration products of plagioclase as well. Secondary plagioclase formed along some of the microscopic veins shows a dusty appearance or patchy extinction using crossed polars (Figure F33).

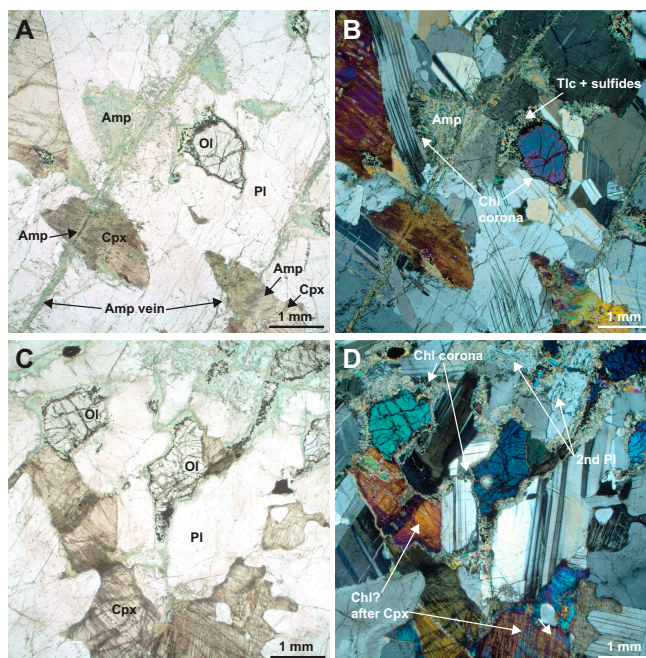


Figure F31. Clinopyroxene alteration, Hole U1309D. A, B. Clinopyroxene (Cpx) altered to green to colorless amphibole (Amp) at grain rims and along penetrating amphibole veins (308R-1, 39–43 cm [TS52]; A: PPL, B: XPL). Olivine (Ol) alteration to amphibole and talc (Tlc) with chlorite (Chl) corona is also conspicuous along amphibole veins. C, D. Clinopyroxene replaced along fractures and cleavage surfaces possibly by chlorite, causing lower interference color and turbid appearance (311R-2, 25–29 cm [TS62]; C: PPL, D: XPL). Olivine alteration to amphibole + talc and plagioclase (Pl) to secondary plagioclase with dusty appearance are also visible.

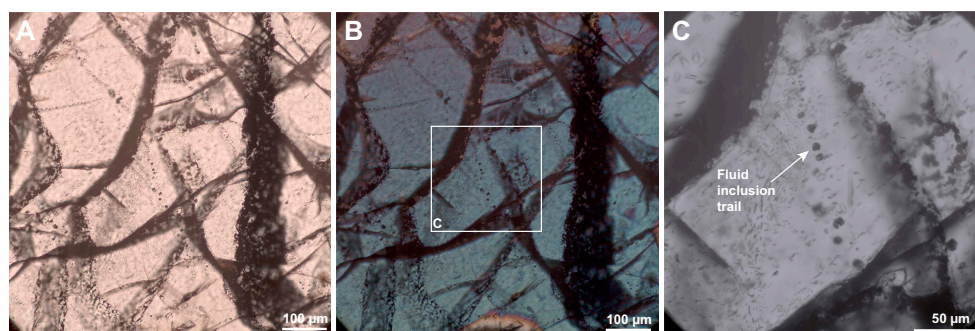


Figure F32. Secondary fluid inclusion trails in olivine, Hole U1309D. A, B. Several inclusion trails (A: XPL, B: PPL). Box = location of C. Some of the fluid inclusions contain visible secondary minerals. Most inclusions have dark appearance suggesting that they have significantly lower refractive index than mineral host (cf. Van den Kerkhof and Hein, 2001).

4.4.2. Diabase

Alteration minerals after phenocrysts in diabase were observed, but the identification of fine-grained alteration minerals in the groundmass was not always possible. Olivine phenocrysts are pseudomorphically replaced by chlorite and subordinate amounts of colorless amphibole (Figure F34). This is in contrast to gabbroic rocks where chlorite forms after plagioclase or pyroxene but not after olivine. Clinopyroxene is replaced by green amphibole. Plagioclase is relatively fresh and partially replaced by secondary plagioclase, prehnite, and/or zeolite (Figure F34). Rare Ti-Fe oxide is surrounded by and possibly replaced by titanite. In a few instances, rare titanite appears to form at the expense of Ti-bearing clinopyroxene. Brown spinel is partially replaced by an opaque mineral, possibly magnetite or ferrichromite.

4.5. Alteration associated with deformation

Extensive alteration of gabbroic rocks is apparent in cataclastic zones (Figure F26). Microscopic observations of cataclastic gabbros revealed that abundant brecciated clasts of green amphibole and plagioclase with variable grain size are set in a much finer grained matrix and cut by green amphibole veinlets (Figure F35). In some cases, relict clinopyroxene exists in green amphibole clasts. Relict clinopyroxene, replacing amphibole, and penetrating amphibole veinlets, as well as amphibole and plagioclase clasts, are bent and show undulose extinction (Figure F35C, F35D). The fine-grained matrix is in many cases associated with slip-fiber veins of green amphibole. These observations indicate that brittle and ductile deformation took place contemporaneously with amphibole formation.

4.6. Reaction porosity

Possible macroscopic reaction porosity has been identified in two thin sections from the deepened sequence in Hole U1309D. Reaction porosity and by inference permeability was described in epidotized dikes in the Troodos ophiolite, Cyprus (Cann et al., 2015), and in the upper part of Holes U1309D and U1309B (McCaig et al., 2022). Vugs are inferred to be formed by complete (local) dissolution of the rock or particular primary minerals by flowing reactive fluids, which then are

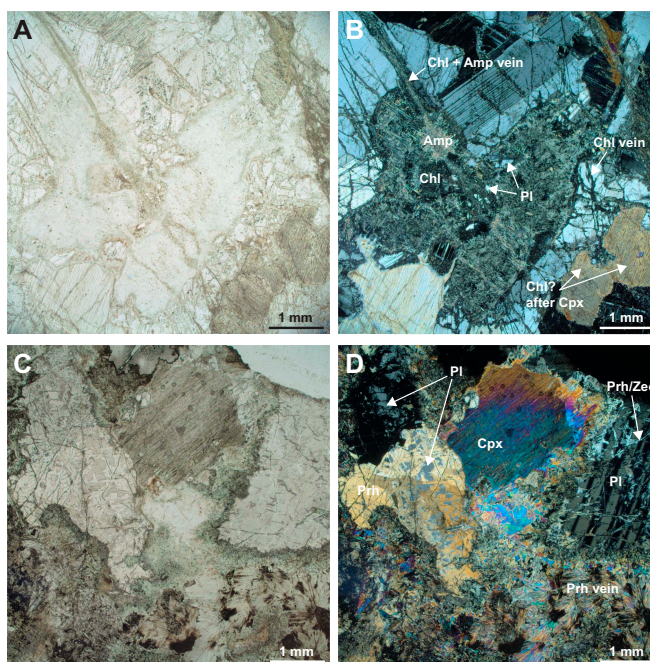


Figure F33. Plagioclase alteration, Hole U1309D. A, B. Plagioclase (Pl) intensely altered to chlorite (Chl) and acicular amphibole (Amp) associated with olivine or orthopyroxene alteration and amphibole + chlorite veins (299R-1, 12–15 cm [TS25]; A: PPL, B: XPL). C, D. Pseudomorphic replacement of plagioclase by prehnite in proximity to prehnite (Prh) veins (302R-4, 22–24 cm [TS35]; C: PPL, D: XPL). Cpx = clinopyroxene, Zeo = zeolite.

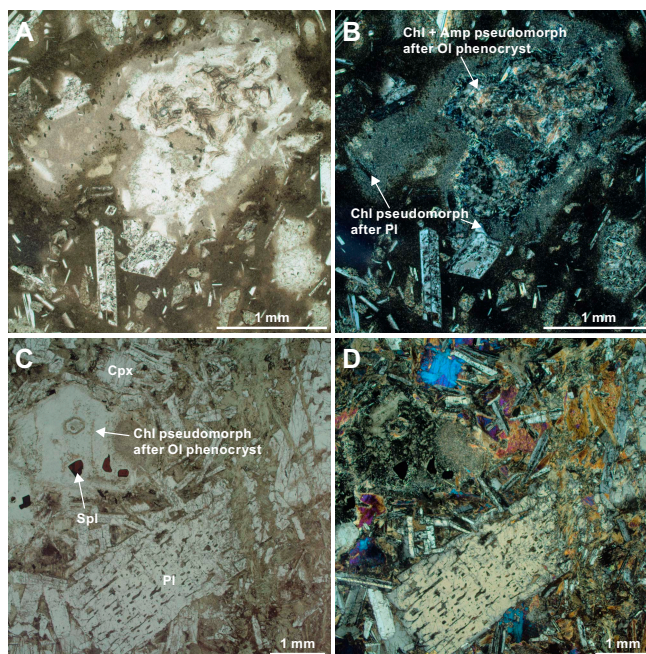


Figure F34. Diabase alteration, Hole U1309D. A, B. Olivine (Ol) phenocrysts pseudomorphically replaced by chlorite (Chl) and subordinate amounts of colorless amphibole (Amp) (299R-1, 12–15 cm [TS25]; A: PPL, B: XPL). Plagioclase (Pl) close to olivine pseudomorphs is also completely altered to form chlorite pseudomorphs. C, D. Olivine phenocrysts completely altered to form chlorite pseudomorphs (297R-2, 130–132 cm [TS23]; C: PPL, D: XPL). Cpx = clinopyroxene, Spl = spinel.

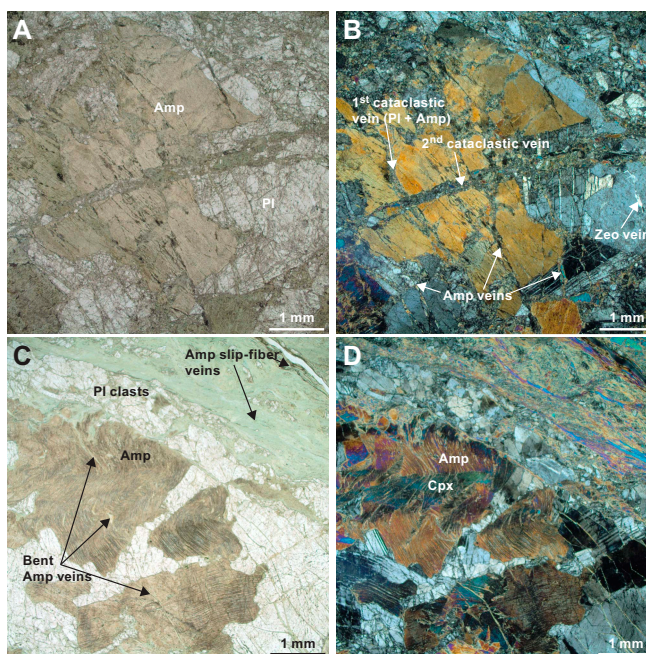


Figure F35. Alteration of deformed gabbro, Hole U1309D. A, B. Abundant brecciated clasts of green amphibole (Amp) and plagioclase (Pl) set in a finer grained matrix and cut by amphibole and cataclastic veinlets of different generation (305R-1, 22–25 cm [TS42]; PPL, XPL). C, D. Relict clinopyroxene (Cpx) replaced by amphibole and penetrating amphibole veinlets, as well as amphibole and plagioclase clasts, are bent and show undulose extinction (306R-1, 114–117 cm [TS48]; PPL, XPL). Fine-grained matrix is associated with slip-fiber veins of green amphibole. Zeo = zeolite.

partly to completely filled by secondary minerals. The identifying features are relict porosity (sometimes filled by late low-temperature phases), typically showing euhedral or spherulitic growth of secondary minerals into what was fluid-filled space, and bleaching and intense alteration of plagioclase in halos around the vug (e.g., Section 399-U1309D-297R-2 and interval 310R-1, 92–95 cm).

4.7. Conditions and sequence of alteration and deformation

Alteration mineral assemblages in the examined gabbroic rocks are comparable to those in oceanic lower crustal gabbroic rocks recovered from drill holes at the Atlantis Massif, Atlantis Bank, and Hess Deep rift. Previous studies documented the formation of amphibole + chlorite after olivine and green amphibole after clinopyroxene, as well as serpentinization of olivine, prehnite formation after plagioclase, and clay replacement of olivine (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006a; Blackman et al., 2011; Shipboard Scientific Party, 1999a; Gillis et al., 2014; Dick et al., 2017; Nozaka and Fryer, 2011; Nozaka et al., 2008, 2016, 2017, 2019). Based on crosscutting relationships of such alteration assemblages and hydrothermal veins, these studies suggest that alteration of the lower oceanic crust is a sequential process that can take place during cooling from amphibolite to greenschist and subgreenschist facies conditions.

Fluid inclusions in olivine can provide additional constraints on the conditions of fluid-rock interaction. Olivine-hosted fluid inclusions in rocks from Hole U1309D that were recovered during Expedition 399 are of secondary origin as they cut through grain and subgrain boundaries. These trails can form when minerals hosting fluid-filled fractures heal (Roedder, 1984; Van den Kerkhof and Hein, 2001). Healing of fluid-filled fractures can take place when the host mineral is super-saturated in the fluid. Thermodynamic equilibrium calculations suggest that the minimum temperature at which olivine can stably coexist with water at pressures relevant to mid-ocean ridge environments is roughly 400°C (Klein et al., 2019). At lower temperatures, olivine is unstable in the presence of water (assuming the activity of water is close to 1) and undergoes serpentinization. Thus, the presence of secondary fluid inclusions in Hole U1309D indicates that fluid-rock interaction must have occurred at 400°C or higher. This temperature estimate is consistent with secondary mineral assemblages that indicate amphibolite to greenschist facies conditions. Previous studies of samples from Holes U1309B (Klein et al., 2019) and U1309D (Andreani et al., 2023) revealed the presence of chrysotile, magnetite, and brucite in addition to gaseous H₂ and CH₄ in fluid inclusions. Although it was not possible to determine the contents of olivine-hosted fluid inclusions during this expedition, the occurrence of daughter minerals and the low refractive index of gaseous fluid inclusions tentatively suggest that the observed inclusions may also contain such compounds.

The overall alteration extent is lower in deeper intervals of Hole U1309D consistent with previous studies (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b). Relatively intense alteration is localized in zones of cataclastic deformation and dense veining, and this is a new zone of such deformation and alteration in the Hole U1309D core, comparable in intensity to the zone at ~750 mbsf (Michibayashi et al., 2008) and the detachment fault deformation in the uppermost 100 m of the core. Hydrothermal fluid infiltration along fractures in zones of brittle deformation likely promoted alteration and further deformation. The observation that amphibole veins are bent along with clinopyroxene-replacing amphibole, whereas amphibole and plagioclase breccias are set in a matrix including amphibole slip-fiber veins, further corroborates the argument by Michibayashi et al. (2008) that brittle deformation took place at high-temperature amphibolite facies conditions in the gabbroic sequences of the Atlantis Massif.

5. Structural geology

Site U1309 is located on the central dome of Atlantis Massif, 14–15 km west of the median valley axis of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, where the seafloor coincides with what is interpreted to be a gently sloping, corrugated detachment fault surface. Hole U1309D was initially drilled during Expedition 304/305 to 1415.5 mbsf into the footwall of the detachment system. Renewed drilling during Expedition 399 deepened the hole 84.5 m to a maximum depth of 1497.86 mbsf, comprising 13 cores

(58% recovery) hosting gabbroic rocks (olivine and olivine-bearing gabbro, gabbro-norite, and gabbro) with thin intervals of diorite and diabase.

The recovered gabbroic cores host structures associated with footwall deformation in an oceanic core complex, including a semibrittle shear zone between 1451 and 1474 mbsf, active at greenschist-facies conditions. Deformation features associated with this shear zone are cut by later, fine-grained diabase indicating magmatism and deformation continued for a significant time.

5.1. Magmatic veins and fabrics

All cores recovered from Hole U1309D (297R–313R) contain gabbroic rocks with rare intervals of diabase. The majority of the recovered gabbroic section is isotropic, with a low degree of deformation and/or alteration, and rare banded intervals, defined by grain size differences, noted in Cores 297R, 298R, 309R–311R, and 313R. The majority of contacts between grain size domains were not recovered, but where observed, domain boundaries are typically diffuse, occurring over centimeter scale with an irregular geometry and a variable dip between subhorizontal to subvertical (Figure F36). A minority of grain size contacts are sharp and relatively planar (Figure F37).

Magmatic foliations (defined by a weak planar alignment shape preferred orientation of plagioclase and/or pyroxene) were recorded in a small number of intervals in Sections 399-U1309D-297R-1 through 304R-1 (1415–1451 mbsf), 306R-1 through 307R-1 (1459–1466 mbsf), and 308R-1 through 313R-4 (1469–1497 mbsf) and have gentle to subvertical dips (Figure F36). Microscopic observations of magmatic fabrics are consistent with macroscopic observations and include simple cumulate textures defined by blocky laths of plagioclase (Figure F38B) and modified cumulate textures with cusped grain boundaries, small dihedral angles formed by interstitial clinopyroxene melt pockets (Figure F38B), grain boundary quadruple junctions, and string-of-beads textures

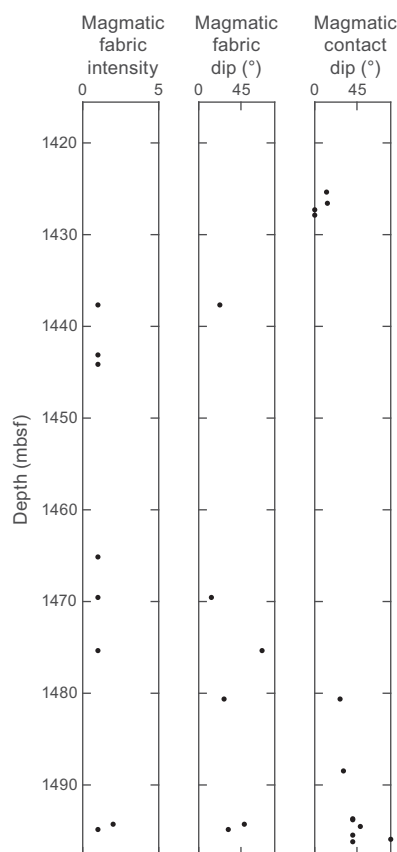


Figure F36. Downhole variation of magmatic fabric plotted with recovered lithology, showing intervals hosting rarely developed magmatic fabrics, including shape preferred orientation of plagioclase or pyroxene, and/or grain size or modal banding, Hole U1309D.

displayed by small grains of plagioclase trapped between larger plagioclase and/or clinopyroxene grains (e.g., Holness et al., 2011), suggesting a more complex and protracted phase or phases of melt-rock interaction.

Thin intervals of diabase (up to 50 cm thick) were recovered in Cores 399-U1309D-297R through 300R, 302R, 303R, 305R, and 308R (1417–1470 mbsf), with a variable timing of emplacement relative to deformation. Where present, diabase is aphanitic and occasionally displays chilled margins against gabbro, only recovered in unoriented pieces. At the micro scale, recovered diabase has isotropic to foliated magmatic fabrics parallel to recovered intrusive contacts. In Sections 297R-2 and 303R-1, undeformed diabase with a chilled margin truncates fault breccia and cataclasite (Figure F39), indicating emplacement of some diabase bodies after brittle deformation of the gabbro.

5.2. Crystal-plastic fabrics

Crystal-plastic deformation is largely absent from the newly recovered sections of Hole U1309D; zones of deformation observed in hand sample and thin section are accommodated by brittle and semibrittle processes. In many cases, gabbroic rocks that appear undeformed at the macro scale host very low strain crystal-plastic deformation features including subgrain development in pyroxene, olivine, and plagioclase, deformation twinning, and rare grain boundary bulging dynamic recrystallization textures in plagioclase. A minority of cataclastic fault rocks contain plagioclase with rare subgrains, similar in size to plagioclase clasts hosted in local cataclastic matrix or fault breccia, and are therefore assumed to have formed as part of the wider semibrittle deformation rather than as an earlier higher temperature deformation fabric.



Figure F37. Moderately dipping (45°) grain size banding (dashed lines) (399-U1309D-313R-3, 3–17 cm).

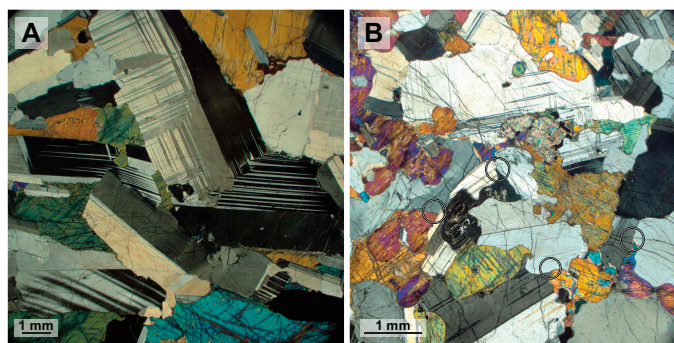


Figure F38. A. Cumulate texture of plagioclase in olivine gabbro, with clinopyroxene pseudomorphs of melt (399-U1309D-299R-3, 56–60 cm [TS29]; XPL). B. Modified cumulate texture in olivine gabbro (313R-3, 7–13 cm [TS68]; XPL). Circles = pyroxene dihedral angles at plagioclase-plagioclase-pyroxene triple junctions, where pyroxene are pseudomorphs of melt pockets between plagioclase. Cuspate grain boundaries suggest original cumulate texture (e.g., in A) has been modified by further melt-rock reaction.

Static recrystallization is generally not observed in Hole U1309D cores recovered during Expedition 399. Undeformed gabbroic rocks retain their original magmatic fabrics with irregular grain boundaries and dihedral triple junctions and quadruple junctions (Figure F38). Most amphibole-chlorite alteration forms mats of fine-grained acicular crystals, with the exception of interval 399-U1309D-308R-1, 92–94 cm, which hosts granoblastic, equant amphibole-after-pyroxene replacement textures, and amphibole veins with coarse (>400 μm) blocky grains. These microstructures indicate a discrete and local episode of grain coarsening occurred after amphibole alteration and veining.

5.3. Schistose fabrics

Schistose fabrics are not observed in Hole U1309D cores recovered during Expedition 399.

5.4. Alteration veins

Alteration veins are found throughout Hole U1309D cores recovered during Expedition 399 (Figure F40). Vein types include monomineralic veins of amphibole, chlorite, calcite, and zeolite. Polymineralic veins of amphibole and chlorite are also common. Calcite, prehnite, and chlorite + prehnite veins are observed at the micro scale (Figure F41).

Vein density in Cores 399-U1309D-297R through 313R (1415–1498 mbsf) varies between 0 veins and 1–5 veins/10 cm. Zones of higher vein density between 1–5 and 6–10 veins/10 cm are recorded in Sections 297R-2 through 298R-2 (1417–1422 mbsf), 306R-1 through 307R-2 (1459–1469 mbsf), and 309R-2 (1476–1477 mbsf). The highest vein density (6–10 and 11–15 veins/10 cm) is recorded in Section 305R-1 (1455–1459 mbsf). Sections 299R-2 (1427–1428 mbsf), 313R-3, and 313R-4 (1496–1497 mbsf) are notable for their lack of alteration veins. Vein orientation irrespective of vein type varies from horizontal to rare vertical dips (Figure F40).

Amphibole veins are reported in all cores except Cores 399-U1309D-299R and 305R (Figure F40). Between Cores 297R and 303R (1415–1450 mbsf), amphibole is frequent in composite chlorite-amphibole veins, whereas monomineralic amphibole veins are more common from Core 304R (1449.4 mbsf) downward, with the highest concentration in Cores 308R (1469–1474 mbsf) and 312R (1488–1493 mbsf). Orientations of amphibole veins are variable throughout Hole U1309D, with a spread of dip from subhorizontal (0° – 10°) to subvertical (80° – 90°) recorded in Cores 308R (1469–1474 mbsf) and 312R (1488–1493 mbsf) and from moderate (30° – 60°) to subvertical (80° – 90°) recorded in Cores 304R–307R (1450–1469 mbsf), 309R–311R (1474–1488 mbsf), and 313R (1493–1498 mbsf). At the micro scale, amphibole and chlorite are present as (1) fine-grained mats of acicular amphibole and chlorite in veins or replacing former pyroxene and (2) sheared amphibole \pm chlorite veins with a well-developed shape preferred orientation fabric (Figure F42). Fine-grained mats of amphibole and chlorite are commonly observed in deformed rocks from Hole U1309D, particularly in zones of high fracture density and low strain. Where present in veins, grain orientation in these chlorite-amphibole mats are typically random but occasionally have a

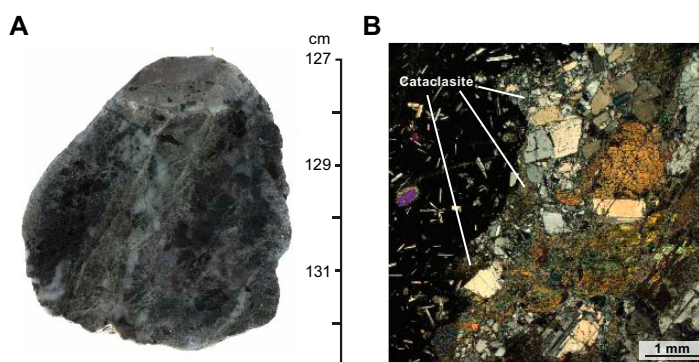


Figure F39. A. Diabase cutting fractured olivine-bearing gabbro (399-U1309D-303R-1, 126–132 cm). Diabase is at 127–128 cm. B. Chilled margin of undeformed diabase against zone of cataclasis in isotropic olivine gabbro (297R-2, 97–100 cm [TS22]; XPL).

strong shape preferred orientation consistent with growth while shearing along the vein (Figure F42B). In contrast, amphibole and chlorite grain orientations in replacement textures are random, suggesting growth under static conditions following fracturing and fluid ingress (Figure F42C).

Deformation of amphibole veins varies. In some samples, amphibole veins are undeformed and truncate fault breccia and zones of cataclasite; in other samples, zones of cataclasite and micro-faults clearly truncate or offset preexisting amphibole veins (Figure F41). Similarly, some amphibole veins have been reactivated as minor slip planes (Figure F42A, F42B), and others formed as static features with no subsequent offset. We note a higher proportion of sheared amphibole veins

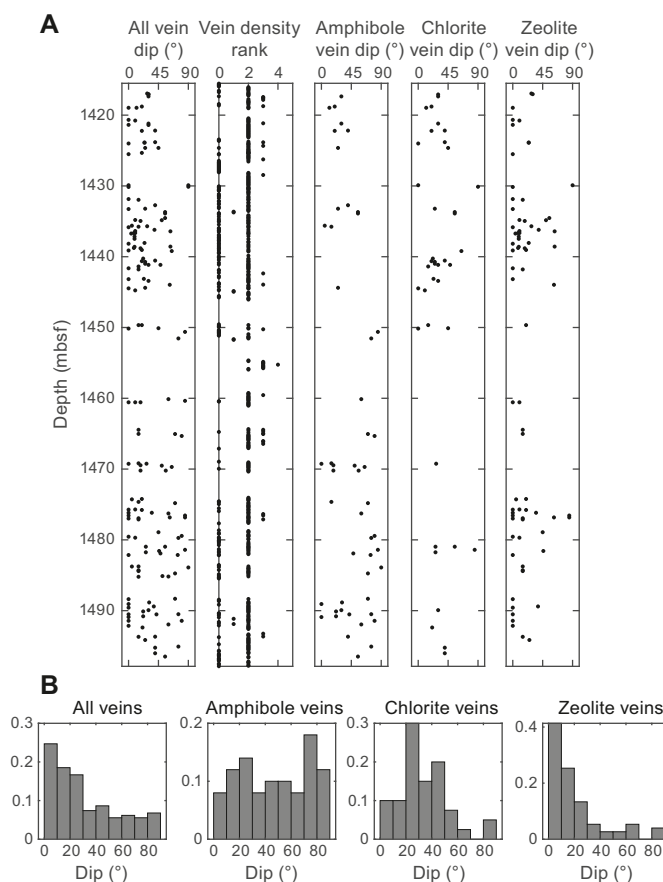


Figure F40. A. Hole U1309D downhole variations of vein density (rank per 10 cm interval), vein type, and dip with depth (mbsf) and recovery (gray bands). B. Histograms showing vein dip (15° bin width) versus normalized vein density for all veins, chlorite, amphibole and zeolite.

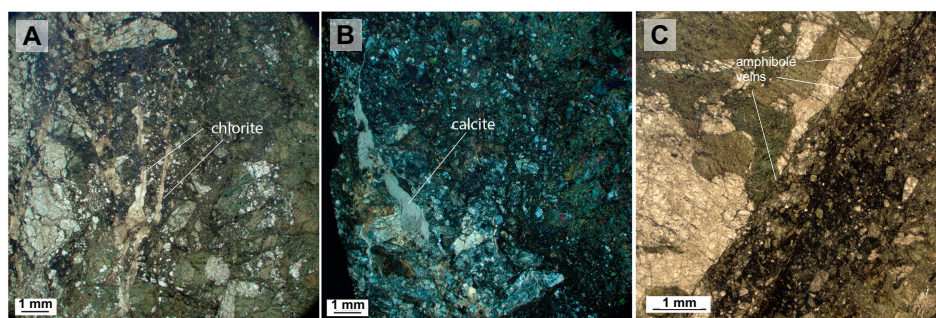


Figure F41. A, B. Undeformed irregular chlorite (± amphibole) veins cutting matrix-supported cataclasite (399-U1309D-307R-2, 24–27 cm [TS50]; A: PPL, B: XPL). C. Cataclastic fault cutting and truncating amphibole-chlorite vein (305R-1, 114–117 cm [TS45]; PPL).

with increasing depth through Hole U1309D, particularly in Sections 399-U1309D-311R-2 through 312R-2.

The highest concentration of chlorite veins are noted in Core 399-U1309D-302R (1440–1445 mbsf), with a lower density in Cores 298R (1420–1425 mbsf), 304R (1450–1455 mbsf), and 310R (1479–1484 mbsf; Figure F40). Chlorite veins typically have gentle (10° – 30°) to moderate (30° – 60°) dips. At the micro scale, the distribution and deformation of chlorite veins is similar to that of amphibole veins. Chlorite veins were recovered in both undeformed and deformed samples, with both reported throughout the 84 m recovered in Hole U1309D. In deformed samples, chlorite vein orientations are formed parallel and oblique to fractures, microfaults, and zones of cataclasis and can cut or be cut by fault breccias and/or cataclastic fabrics (Figure F41A, F41C).

Low-temperature zeolite veins are recognized in most cores, with the highest density in Cores 399-U1309D-301R (1435–1440 mbsf) and 309R (1474–1479 mbsf) (Figure F40). They commonly form a network of irregular veins that cut between grains rather than through veins and therefore have no consistent, measurable orientation. Where zeolite veins can be measured, their dips vary between subhorizontal (0° – 10°) to gently dipping (10° – 30°). The distribution of zeolite and chlorite veins appears to be anticorrelated, in particular between Cores 301R and 302R, which show an abrupt change from a high density of zeolite veins (Core 301R) to a high density of chlorite veins (Core 302R). At the micro scale, zeolite veins are found adjacent to prehnite \pm chlorite veins and calcite veins, which are collectively undeformed (Figure F41B) and cut brittle and semibrittle deformation fabrics in recovered core.

5.5. Brittle and semibrittle deformation

Brittle and semibrittle deformation are observed throughout Hole U1309D. Open or healed fractures (i.e., with no mineralization) in the deepest part of Hole U1309D are observed in Cores 399-U1309D-297R through 303R, with a density distribution ranging from 0 (Rank 0) to 1–5 fractures/10 cm (Rank 2) (Figure F43). Where present, open fractures typically have a planar to curved geometry, with a thickness of 0.1–0.5 mm (rarely ≥ 1 mm). These fractures are most commonly isolated but occasionally have branched or networked relationships with each other. Open fracture dips typically range between subhorizontal (0° – 10°) and shallow (10° – 30°). Below Core 303R (~ 1445 mbsf), open fracture density decreases.

Very low degrees of brittle deformation are displayed by gabbroic rocks that appear undeformed at the macro scale but can display a range of brittle deformation features at the micro scale. These include undulose extinction, bent grains, intragranular microcracks, and transgranular fractures, as well as crosscutting alteration veins. The degree of strain accommodated by this deformation is, however, very low to negligible.

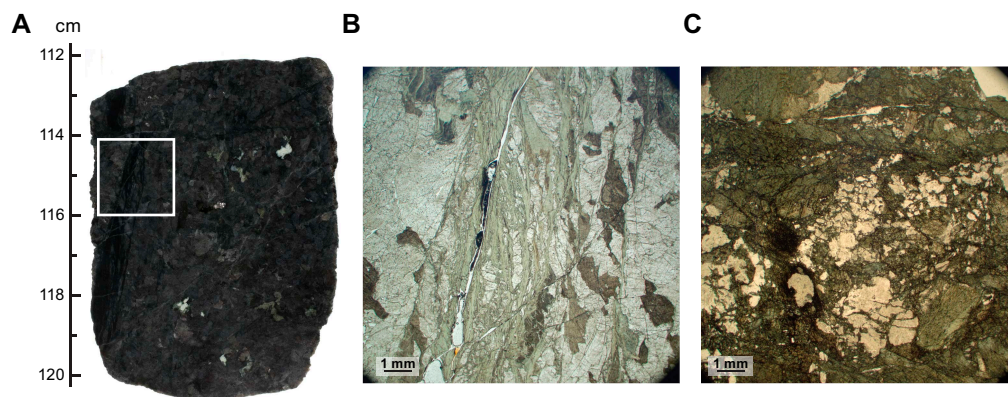


Figure F42. A. Gabbro cut by deformed amphibole vein (399-U1309D-306R-1, 112–120 cm). White box = location of B. B. Vein hosts well-developed amphibole shape preferred orientation fabric with ribbons of plagioclase (306R-1, 114–117 cm [TS48]). C. Amphibole-chlorite alteration. Amphibole and chlorite grain orientations in replacement textures are random, suggesting growth under static conditions following fracturing and fluid ingress (303R-1, 81–84 cm [TS36]; PPL).

Higher intensity brittle to semibrittle deformation is observed in Sections 399-U1309D-297R-2 through 297R-3, 298R-1, and 298R-3 (1416.9–1424 mbsf); 302R-2, 302R-4, 303R-1, and 304R-2 through 306R-1 (1441.1–1459.4 mbsf); 307R-1 through 308R-1 (1464.3–1469 mbsf); 310R-3 (1482.35–1483.19 mbsf); 311R-2 (1484.7–1485.5 mbsf); and 312R-1 (1488.3–1489.8 mbsf) and includes dense networks of cemented/healed fractures, brittle fault surfaces and microfaults, faulted/sheared veins, fault breccia, and cataclasite (Figures F43, F44). The distribution of deformation in these sections is spatially variable and defines two zones of high-intensity brittle to semibrittle deformation (i.e., semibrittle shear zones; Sections 304R-2 through 305R-1 [1451.51–1455.71 mbsf] and 307R-2 [1466.03–1466.57 mbsf]) between relatively undeformed intervals with only thin, isolated zones of deformation. Examples of the isolated deformation between zones of relatively undeformed gabbro are presented first, followed by the presentation of the highly deformed zones.

Sections 399-U1309D-297R-2, 298R-3, 303R-1, 310R-3, 311R-2, and 312R-1 display isolated occurrences of macroscopic brittle to semibrittle deformation in intervals <10 cm thick between relatively undeformed gabbroic rocks. These include thin intervals of microfaulting, fault breccia, and intervals of cataclasite. Fault surfaces exposed at the ends of core pieces (piece-end faults) in these intervals have shallow dips (28°–32°) and slickenfibers that plunge 10°–32° (shear sense undetermined). At the micro scale, brittle to semibrittle deformation in these cores appears to be more widespread based on microstructural deformation observed in Sections 297R-3, 302R-2, and 302R-4, which have no macroscopically reported deformation. In these examples, micro scale deformation is characterized by pervasive fracturing and microfaulting with millimeter scale offsets and to a lesser extent by fault breccia and localized millimeter to submillimeter thick zones of cataclasite to mylonitic shear zones (Figure F44A–F44C). The small scale and isolated spatial distribution of these macro scale and micro scale deformation features indicates that degree of strain localization in these cores is low.

Localized brittle to semibrittle deformation is observed continuously across two ~4–8 m wide zones in Hole U1309D, spanning Sections 304R-2 through 306R-1 (1451–1459 mbsf) and 307R-1 through 308R-1 (1465–1469 mbsf; Figure F43). In Sections 304R-2 through 306R-1, macroscopic

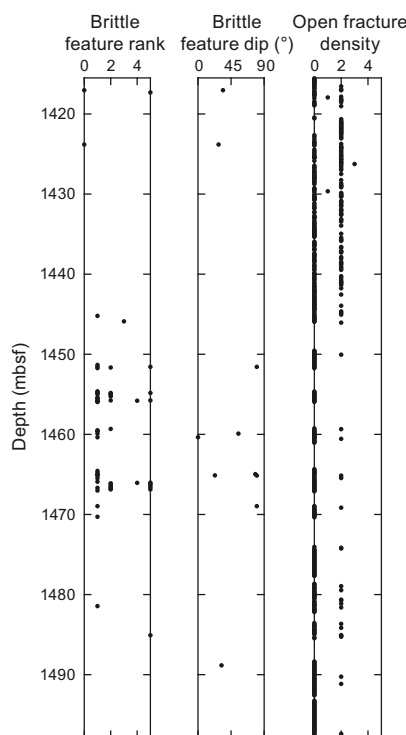


Figure F43. Hole U1309D downhole variations of intensity of brittle deformation, brittle fault/fracture dip, and open fracture density with recovery.

deformation is characterized by widespread microfaulting and minor to moderate fracturing with localized cataclasite and fault breccia. In Sections 307R-1 through 308R-1, the intensity of deformation progresses downhole from microfaulting and minor fracturing in Section 307R-1 to microfaulting and moderate fracturing with a high concentration of cataclasite and fault breccia in Section 307R-2 to microfaulting and minor fracturing in Section 308R-1.

Microstructural observations from the zones of concentrated deformation (Sections 399-U1309D-304R-2 through 306R-1 and 307R-1 through 308R-1) highlight additional characteristics of semibrittle to brittle deformation (Figure F44D–F44F). Samples from these core sections show a pervasive background deformation characterized by microfaults with millimeter scale offsets and intense fracturing and brecciation. Microfaults are observed both localized along amphibole and/or chlorite veins and cutting straight across plagioclase and clinopyroxene grains. Plagioclase, pyroxene, and amphibole after pyroxene show moderate intracrystalline deformation, including undulose extinction, deformation twins, microcracks, subgrains, and bent grain shapes. Within this pervasive background deformation, the cracks, fractures, and subgrains can be observed disaggregating large plagioclase grains into smaller clasts of similar sizes to clasts within local fault breccia or cataclasite (Figure F44D). A common feature of this pervasive background deformation is the close association with alteration. In the absence of fault breccia or cataclasite, most fracture networks are filled with either amphibole or chlorite or both. In some cases, the surrounding grains of plagioclase and pyroxene are also altered to a mix of chlorite, amphibole, and/or prehnite. Typically, these fracture fills and replacement textures are undeformed (Figure F42C).

In addition to the pervasive background deformation associated with microfaulting and fracturing, macroscopic observations in Sections 399-U1309D-304R-2 through 306R-1 and 307R-1 through 308R-1 have visibly higher strain faults and shear zones with centimeter or larger offsets and 5–15 mm wide cataclastic or phyllonitic fault cores (Figure F44E, F44F). Microscopic observations indicate the cataclastic fault cores are typically matrix supported with 30%–40% clasts, a matrix grain size of <20 μm , and variable clast size between ~20 and 200 μm . Matrix compositions

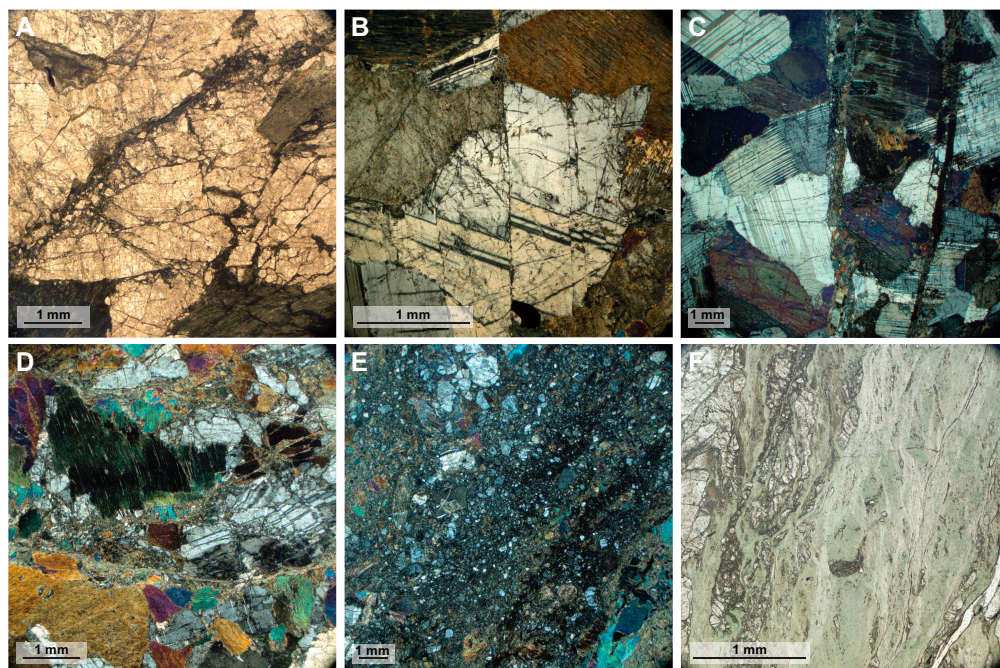


Figure F44. Brittle microstructures characteristic of localized brittle deformation (between 399-U1309D-297R and 313R). A. Fault breccia (302R-2, 115–117 cm [TS34]; PPL). B. Microfaults in plagioclase and clinopyroxene (297R-3, 37–40 cm [TS24]; XPL). C. Narrow zone of plagioclase and clinopyroxene clasts in cataclasite cutting olivine gabbro (297R-3, 37–40 cm [TS24]; XPL). D. Cataclasite and fault breccia typical of the pervasive background deformation in the shear zone between 302R and 308R (305R-1, 74–77 cm [TS44]; XPL). E. Well-developed cataclasite typical of concentrated deformation with shear zone between 304R and 308R (305R-1, 22–25 cm [TS42]; XPL). F. Amphibole-rich shear zone typical of localized deformation in shear zone between 304R and 308R (306R-1, 114–117 cm [TS48]; PPL).

vary and are often segregated into irregular domains of plagioclase, amphibole, or plagioclase and amphibole. Similarly, clasts of plagioclase and amphibole or pyroxene are observed in both monomineralic and polymineralic domains of cataclasite, and the distribution is sometimes correlated with the composition of the fault core walls. In some cases, reworked clasts of preexisting fault breccia are observed within cataclasite. In general, cataclastic fabrics show no static overprint of alteration (Figure F44E). In a minority of thin sections, curvilinear zones of acicular amphibole \pm chlorite with round clasts of amphibole could represent altered cataclasite, but additional evidence of deformation in these samples is lacking. Where present, cataclastic fabrics and fault breccia in Hole U1309D have been observed both cutting and being cut by chlorite veins and amphibole veins (Figure F41). In contrast, zeolite, calcite, and prehnite veins, where observed, are undeformed and always truncate cataclastic fabrics and fault breccia (Figure F41).

Intensely foliated fault cores are observed in sheared amphibole veins in a minority of thin sections from Sections 399-U1309D-304R-2, 305R-1, 306R-1, and 312R-1 (Figures F42, F44F). These cores have a matrix of aligned amphibole with a $<50\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ grain size (where measurable) that may also contain larger clasts of amphibole and plagioclase. In Sample 306R-1, 114–117 cm (TS48), a phyllonitic amphibole vein is observed with aligned amphibole matrix grains and ribbons of cataclastic plagioclase, which form an S-C fabric (Figure F44F).

Because of low recovery and the limited number of oriented pieces of deformed core recovered in Hole U1309D between ~1420 and 1474 mbsf, only three measurements of shear sense were made (subhorizontal to steeply dipping) reverse sense motion. These include a macroscopically identified reverse sense S-C fabric in Section 307R-1 (1465.1 mbsf) and microstructurally identified cataclastic and phyllonitic shear zones in Sections 298R-3 and 306R-1 (1423.8 and 1460.3 mbsf, respectively), which include sheared chlorite and amphibole.

Based on the continuity and intensity of semibrittle to brittle deformation structures in Sections 399-U1309D-304R-2 through 306R-1 (1451–1460 mbsf) and 307R-1 through 308R-1 (1464–1474 mbsf), we interpret these zones to be related strands of a 23 m thick semibrittle shear zone between 1451 and 1474 mbsf (Figure F45). This is consistent with a low core recovery from these depths, typical of brittle to semibrittle shear zones. The conditions and rheology of this shear zone is considered further in our discussion below.

5.6. Discussion

Core recovered from renewed drilling during Expedition 399 in Hole U1309D provides new information on the magmatic construction of slow-spread ocean crust and deformation history of that crust in the footwall to a large-slip oceanic detachment system.

5.6.1. Conditions of brittle and semibrittle deformation in Hole U1309D

The observed semibrittle to brittle deformation clearly occurred well below the crystallization temperatures of gabbroic rocks (*sensu lato*; $\sim 800^{\circ}$ – 1100°C), indicating that magmatic intrusion was followed by a period of cooling without deformation at these structural depths. Brittle fracturing and faulting and semibrittle cataclastic and phyllonitic deformation likely reflects a mix of seismic and aseismic deformation associated with plate spreading. Observations of localized sub-grain development and grain boundary bulging dynamic recrystallization textures in plagioclase in recovered fault rocks from Hole U1309D suggest that deformation conditions straddled the brittle–ductile transition of plagioclase. This is supported by development of phyllonitic and cataclastic shear zones comprising deformed tremolite-actinolite and chlorite and the presence of deformed and undeformed amphibole and chlorite veins, indicative of deformation during greenschist facies conditions.

Deformation fabrics in core from Hole U1309D are cut by undeformed zeolite, prehnite, and calcite veins and locally by unaltered, undeformed diabase intrusions with chilled margins, suggesting that deformation did not continue below greenschist facies conditions. This does not rule out the possibility that lower temperature deformation was recorded by rocks in unrecovered sections, which account for $\sim 70\%$ of the estimated width of the shear zone. However, the undeformed, static

nature of low-temperature zeolite and chlorite-prehnite alteration overprints in the recovered sections does not support this hypothesis.

5.6.2. A subdetachment, semibrittle shear zone in Hole U1309D

The high concentration of deformation reported for Cores 399-U1309D-304R through 308R corresponds to a ≥ 23 m thick semibrittle shear zone between 1451 and 1474 mbsf (Figure F45). Deformation took place at greenschist facies conditions coeval with a phase of amphibole-chlorite veining and alteration. The mix of brittle and semibrittle deformation fabrics recovered near the bottom of Hole U1309D suggests that this shear zone accommodated some degree of seismic and aseismic deformation. Shear sense indicators suggest a reverse sense of shear along what are now gently dipping (10° – 30°) shear planes. Core recovery from this shear zone is low (30%), with 7 m of core collected from the 23 m interval. We suspect that low recovery in this interval is due to the fractured, mechanically weak nature of the shear zone.

Previous reports of deformation in Hole U1309D observed in cores collected during Expedition 304/305 indicate a general absence of both brittle and ductile deformation. Very low strain crystal-plastic deformation without foliation development was reported from macroscopically undeformed gabbroic section with isotropic magmatic fabrics (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b), as reported here. Discrete submeter scale protomylonitic to mylonitic shear zones were rarely observed, accounting for <3% of the cores recovered between 0 and 1415 mbsf (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b). The uppermost 300 m of Hole U1309D displayed cataclastic and ultracataclastic deformation, which may represent the damage zone associated with the detachment fault (e.g., figure F182 in Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b). Concentrated brittle deformation below 300 mbsf in Hole U1309D was rare, with occurrences reported at ~ 695 , 720–780, and 1107 mbsf, where intervals of fault gouge less than a few tens of centimeters thick were recovered (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Blackman et al., 2011; Michibayashi et al., 2008). Conse-

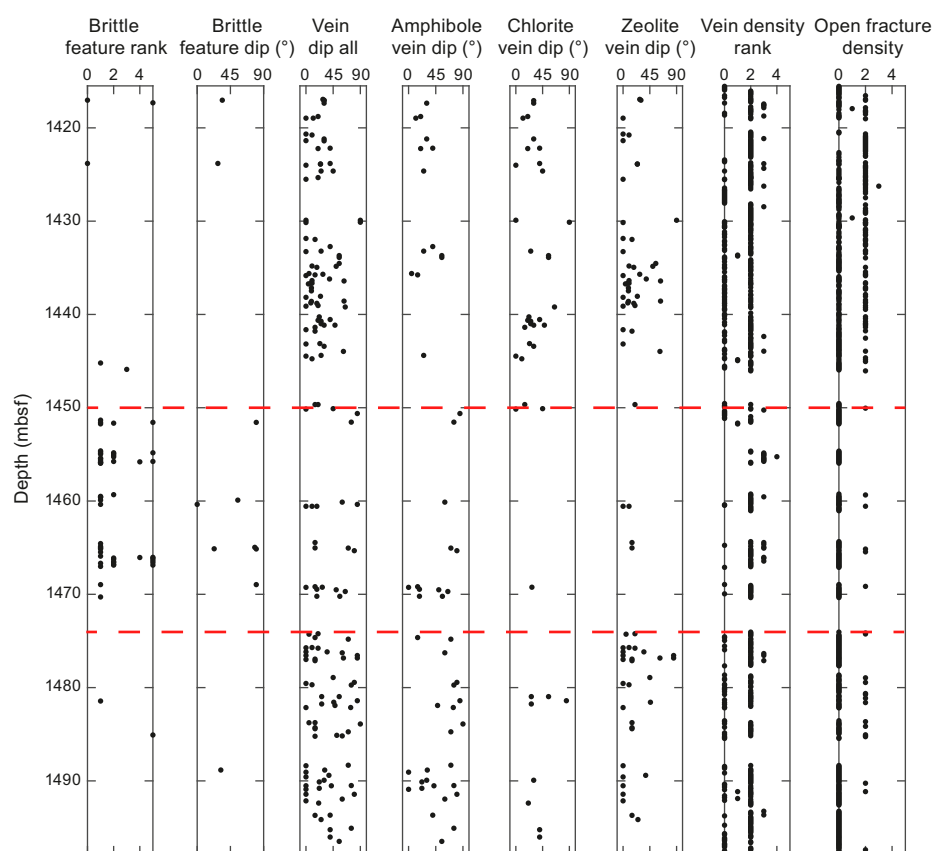


Figure F45. Downhole variation in brittle deformation and veins showing location of semibrittle shear zone (between dashed red lines) (399-U1309D-304R through 308R; 1451–1474 mbsf).

quently, our observation of a concentrated semibrittle shear zone at 1451–1469 mbsf (Figure F45) is unprecedented for Hole U1309D. It is unclear whether the observed semibrittle shear zone is structurally linked to the detachment fault (i.e., a splay) or is structurally distinct from the detachment fault and instead related to internal deformation of the footwall. Given the paucity of deformation between the detachment surface at seafloor and the semibrittle shear zone at ~1450–1475 mbsf, we consider the latter hypothesis more likely. Previous analyses of brittle deformation in Hole U1309D from the detachment fault and at 746–751 mbsf argued that brittle deformation took place at amphibolite facies conditions and is therefore related to the higher temperature structural evolution of Atlantis Massif (e.g., Michibayashi et al., 2008; McCaig and Harris, 2012). In contrast, our observations of semibrittle deformation at 1451–1469 mbsf are clearly restricted to greenschist facies pressure-temperature conditions based on the syntectonic relationships between cataclastic and phyllonitic fabrics with deformed and undeformed amphibole-chlorite veins. The occurrence of diabase intrusions with chilled margins that cut greenschist facies cataclastic fabrics also indicates that magmatism at Atlantis Massif continued after significant cooling and likely denudation of Atlantis Massif. Collectively our observations from Cores 399-U1309D-297R through 313R (1415–1498 mbsf) indicate that the structural and magmatic evolution of the Atlantis Massif oceanic core complex continued through lower temperatures beyond its main phase of deformation, magmatism, and cooling through hypersolidus to amphibolite facies conditions.

6. Geochemistry

Shipboard geochemical analyses were performed on fluids and rocks recovered in Hole U1309D. A total of 2 samples of deep seawater and 10 borehole fluids from Hole U1309D were analyzed for pH, alkalinity, volatile content, and inorganic chemical composition. Analyses of major and trace element concentrations and of total carbon and hydrogen contents were conducted on 29 rock samples selected for geochemical and microbiology studies. The analytical procedures are described in **Geochemistry** in the Expedition 399 methods chapter (Lang et al., 2025).

6.1. Fluid geochemistry

6.1.1. Borehole and Niskin water samples

The last significant operations in the Hole U1309D prior to Expedition 399 occurred during Expedition 305 on 23 February 2005. At that time, the borehole was flushed with fresh, nonpotable water to improve logging results prior to deploying downhole sensors (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b). The borehole was logged a second time during Expedition 340T in 2011, but there is no indication that the borehole was flushed with water as part of those operations (Expedition 340T Scientists, 2012). The fluids collected during Expedition 399 therefore had 18.2 y to equilibrate and be modified prior to sampling.

The MTFS was deployed first, followed by three lowerings of the KFTS. Both samplers returned with substantial solid material (fines, small pieces of rock, rust, and grease) that prevented triggering and/or valve closing, leading to incomplete fluid recovery. The presence of material in borehole samplers was observed previously in multiple lowerings of borehole samplers in Deep Sea Drilling Project (DSDP) Hole 504B. This was a direct result of insufficient flushing of the borehole after drilling operations ceased (Gieskes et al., 1986; Shipboard Scientific Party, 1993). Typically, a mud sweep is undertaken to remove cuttings followed by a surface seawater flush of 1.5 times the volume of the borehole. When ~7 times the hole volume is used to flush the borehole, there are no particles during subsequent sample collections. Material found in Hole 504B included drilling mud, rusty colored iron oxide flakes, amorphous material, shiny steel metal shavings, foraminifera, anhydrite, and diabase and gabbro from above, and the samplers and material from the borehole smelled of petroleum (Shipboard Scientific Party, 1992). Similar material (except for the foraminifera and metal shavings) were found in Hole U1309D in the samplers and in the junk basket that occurred immediately after fluid sampling. Borehole particles and material were collected on the MTFS unions and sample pistons. For the latter, particles entered the opening where the trigger is located and down through the small holes in the trigger platform. Given that many of the samplers had a partial stroke, this suggests that the material entered prior to the depth (tempera-

ture) at activation, but it does not preclude continued deposition during further descent or ascent. Note that this material was not from the fill at the bottom of the hole because the temperature tool is more than 3 m long and at most an additional meter of wire was released after the release of weight on the wireline. Future lowerings of the MTFS will require a screen that will allow water to leave the trigger area in response to plunger movement yet keep particles out.

Solid material collected in the MTFS and KFTS included sepiolite, anhydrite, amorphous minerals, flakes of iron oxide, and materials that were coated with a fine grease. Sepiolite was used as a drilling mud to clear cuttings from the borehole and was not sufficiently displaced after Expedition 304/305. Similar conditions were observed in Hole 504B when the standard 1.5 times the volume of the borehole was used to flush the borehole after drilling (Gieskes et al., 1986; Shipboard Scientific Party, 1993). The junk basket that was deployed immediately after the second KFTS lowering included greater than centimeter-sized pieces of anhydrite and volcanic rock consistent with drilled sections above. In addition, particles from Hole U1309D effervesced the smell of hydrogen sulfide when dilute HCl was applied.

The chemical composition of water samples from the MTFS, KFTS, and Niskin samplers are provided in Tables T8 and T9. A subset of these data was used to highlight collection issues and processes that occurred within the borehole. Sulfate (SO_4^{2-}) and calcium (Ca) concentrations in borehole water are shown for all samples to highlight issues with the samplers (Figure F46). The KFTS samples are considered the highest quality samples even though the top valve did not close on the deepest sample during the second lowering. Of the 11 MTFS sample units, 4 of them collected more than 90 mL and are considered high quality. Four of the MTFS sample units collected <33 mL and are considered unusable, but they highlight two important aspects of the sampling procedure. Lastly, one sample unit was collected with a spring-based SMA trigger; however, this unit triggered somewhere during descent. The only other spring-based trigger collected 179 mL of seawater, probably a result of rattling the trigger system loose while in the drill string, allowing the plunger to be released prematurely. The remaining two MTFS sample units were set to deploy at temperatures of approximately 140°C but did not break the bolt to release the spring (Table T3).

A second issue with the MTFS sample units, especially the low-volume sample units, is the effect of reaction on sampled waters during ascent and prior to filtration and acidification. The reacted material is likely the sepiolite, anhydrite, amorphous minerals, and flakes of iron oxide that formed a layer about 1 cm thick above the piston within the MTFS. This layer was sufficient to provide enough resistance to stop the piston from advancing in all of the sample units. Within the sampler,

Table T8. Chemical composition of water samples, Hole U1309D. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Table T9. Chemical composition of water samples, Sites U1309 and U1601. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

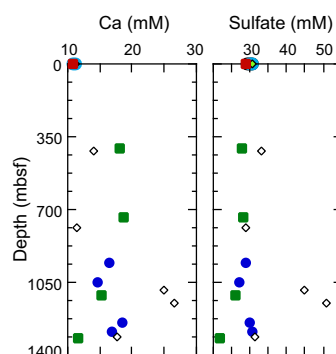


Figure F46. Fluid Ca and sulfate concentrations, Hole U1309D. Samples collected in borehole using MTFS (blue circles = least contaminated, white diamonds = contaminated), KFTS (green squares), and Niskins (red squares) prior to additional drilling operations. Excess Ca and sulfate in MTFS samples is a result of anhydrite dissolution during sample recovery and processing.

reactions occurred as demonstrated by the two low-volume samples that have high Ca and sulfate, consistent with the dissolution of anhydrite during sample recovery (Figure F46). Anhydrite is observed as small rocks (2 cm in width) that were collected in the junk basket and within the fine mud that was interspersed with sepiolite and other materials in the sampler. As a result of these reactions, we consider the four KFTS samples, two MTFS samples (960 and 1060 mbsf), and two reaction-corrected (when possible) MTFS samples (1280 and 1360 mbsf) the best quality samples. This result is consistent with previous success rates of retrieving borehole water samples attempted during DSDP and ODP operations (about 50%) (Shipboard Scientific Party, 1993).

Using the good quality data, concentrations of many of the major cations in seawater increase or decrease with depth to 400 mbsf, remain uniform to 750 mbsf, and then return toward the seawater value (Figure F47). In contrast, concentrations of sulfate are uniform with depth except for the deepest sample, which has a lower concentration. Concentrations of other trace solutes (e.g., lithium [Li] and ammonium [NH_4^+]) generally increase with depth and are indicative of contamination with grease and drilling mud (e.g., Mottl et al., 1983; Shipboard Scientific Party, 1992). The fluids did not smell of hydrogen sulfide.

The shapes of these profiles are consistent with mixing among three end-members (listed as a function of depth): seawater, formation water, and a reacted water from the base of the fill. The latter is consistent with conclusions reached from Hole 504B, where reactions must occur at the base of the borehole and not along borehole walls (Magenheim and Gieskes, 1996). Further, because of convection within the borehole, one typically gets a linear mixing relationship between the composition of this water and seawater. In contrast to Hole 504B, chemical data from borehole waters in Hole U1309D are consistent with these two sources mixing with an additional third source, formation water. This composition of the third fluid is consistent with typical ridge flank fluids in the range of 50°–70°C (Wheat et al., 2022).

During drilling operations, Hole U1309D was flushed with surface seawater and drilling mud to flush cuttings from the borehole. Once drilling operations ceased, there was no additional flushing

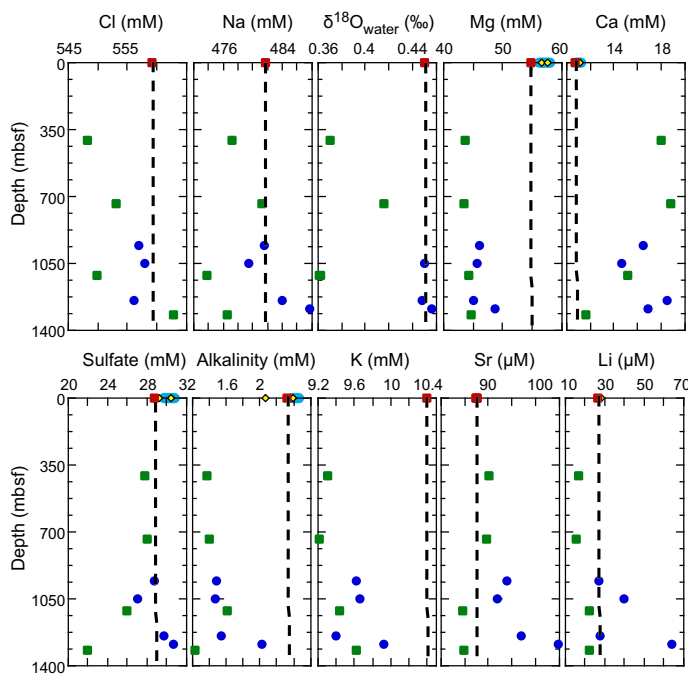


Figure F47. Fluid geochemistry prior to drilling operations, Hole U1309D. Solute concentrations (Cl, Na, Mg, Ca, sulfate, alkalinity, K, Sr, and Li) and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ of water from samples collected in borehole using MTFS (blue circles = higher quality data) and KFTS (green squares) and in water column using Niskin samplers deployed on vibration isolated television (VIT) frame (red squares). Surface seawater (yellow diamonds) are plotted for comparison. Light blue bar at 0 mbsf = range of calculated concentrations based on either measured chloride concentrations of various surface seawater collections or actual concentrations measured. Dashed vertical line = bottom seawater value.

with surface seawater. The hole was reentered 33 days later for three deployments of the KFTS assemblage (Table T8; Figure F48). Solutes that are slow to react in this setting (Cl and Na) show concentrations at the base of the borehole that are similar to surface seawater concentrations. At depths shallower than 600 mbsf, the concentrations of these solutes generally fall along a mixing line with deep seawater, indicating replacement and overturning is occurring at the top of the borehole. Below 600 mbsf, concentrations of Ca increase but Mg and alkalinity decrease. These features could indicate intrusion of formation fluids and/or reactions with rubble at the base of the borehole.

6.2. Igneous and metamorphic rock geochemistry

Whole rock chemical analyses were performed on 29 samples representative of the different lithologic units recovered from Hole U1309D during Expedition 399 for geochemical and microbiological studies (see **Igneous petrology** for unit demarcations). The mineralogy of the rock samples selected for geochemistry was evaluated using XRD, and a thin section was located next to each sample to precisely determine its modal composition and degree of alteration (see **Igneous petrology** and **Alteration petrology**). An aliquot of all rocks samples selected for microbiology was set aside for mineralogical characterization using XRD and geochemical analyses.

Predominantly gabbroic rocks were collected from Hole U1309D (see macroscopic description in **Igneous petrology**). The 20 geochemistry samples comprised 1 diabase, 1 leucodiorite, 3 olivine gabbros, and 15 gabbros (including 10 olivine-bearing gabbros). The 9 microbiology samples comprised 1 olivine gabbro and 8 olivine-bearing gabbros.

The 29 samples were analyzed for major and trace element concentrations using inductively coupled plasma–atomic emission spectroscopy (ICP-AES) and for their volatile element concentrations using gas chromatographic separation (CO₂ and H₂O). The analytical procedures, precision,

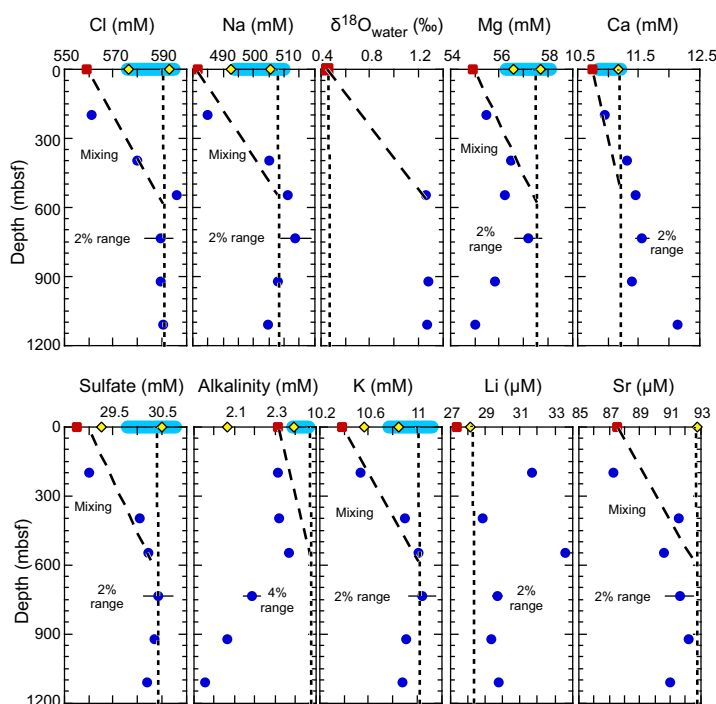


Figure F48. Fluid geochemistry after drilling operations, Hole U1309D. Solute concentrations (Cl, Na, Mg, Ca, sulfate, alkalinity, K, Sr, and Li) and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ of fluids in Hole U1309D at conclusion of drilling operations from KFTS (blue circles). Deep seawater collected with Niskin samplers deployed on vibration isolated television (VIT) frame (red squares) and surface seawater (yellow diamonds) are plotted for comparison. Dashed vertical line = surface seawater value, nonvertical line = potential mixing of borehole fluids with bottom seawater, light blue bar at 0 mbsf = range of calculated concentrations based on measured chloride concentrations of various surface seawater collections. Horizontal line = 2% (or 4%) range in concentration to highlight analytical uncertainty.

and accuracy of the methods are described in detail in [Geochemistry](#) in the Expedition 399 methods chapter (Lang et al., 2025). The chemical compositions of samples collected for geochemistry and microbiology studies are reported in Tables [T10](#) and [T11](#), respectively.

6.2.1. Loss on ignition, H_2O , and CO_2

The total carbon and hydrogen concentrations of geochemistry samples were measured on non-ignited powder splits of ICP-AES samples, except for leucodiorite Sample 399-U1309D-302R-3, 126–128 cm, which was too small to undergo the loss on ignition (LOI) procedure. The total carbon and hydrogen measurements were conducted on powders that were heated for 12 h at 110°C for geochemistry samples and freeze-dried for 24 h for microbiology samples to eliminate pore and surface water from the samples. Thereafter, the total carbon and hydrogen concentrations are recalculated as H_2O and CO_2 to provide direct information on the contribution of the hydrous and carbon-bearing phases to the bulk rock volatile budget.

LOI values were correlated positively to the sum of H_2O and CO_2 concentrations obtained for Hole U1309D geochemistry diabase and gabbroic rocks (Figure [F49](#)), although they were systematically lower ($\text{LOI} = 0.01\text{--}1.08\text{ wt\%}$; $\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{CO}_2 = 0.49\text{--}1.30\text{ wt\%}$). This difference is accounted for by the increase of sample mass due to the oxidation of the ferrous iron during sample ignition (see [Geochemistry](#) in the Expedition 399 methods chapter [Lang et al., 2025]).

The volatile element content of Hole U1309D rocks sampled during Expedition 399 comprised mainly H_2O (Figure [F49](#)) hosted by variable fractions of hydrous minerals (prehnite, zeolite, chlorite, and amphibole) (see XRD measurements in [Alteration petrology](#)). Only two samples had measurable carbon concentrations ($\text{CO}_2 = 0.16$ and 0.09 wt\% in microbiology olivine-bearing gabbro Samples 399-U1309D-300R-2, 96.5–106 cm, and 311R-1, 67.5–78 cm, respectively) suggesting the presence of carbon-bearing minerals, although none were identified by XRD analysis in these samples. It should be noted also that no carbon-bearing phases such as carbonates were identified in Hole U1309D rock samples studied during Expedition 399 (see [Alteration petrology](#)). This low abundance of carbon in Hole U1309D gabbroic rocks and diabases was also documented during Expedition 304/305 (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b).

When compared to Hole U1309D samples of similar lithology collected during Expedition 304/305 (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b), Expedition 399 rock samples have on average low H_2O concentrations. Olivine gabbros have H_2O concentrations ranging $0.49\text{--}0.67\text{ wt\%}$ (geochem-

Table T10. Major and trace element composition of chemistry samples, Hole U1309D. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Table T11. Major and trace element composition of microbiology samples, Hole U1309D. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

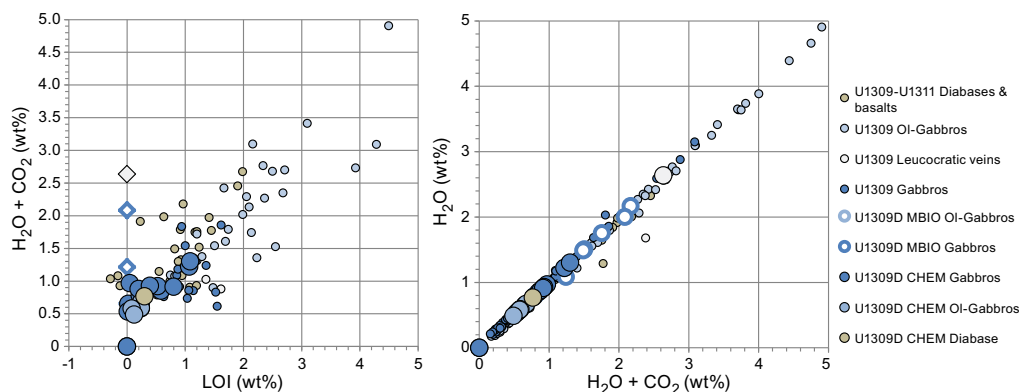


Figure F49. $\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{CO}_2$ versus LOI and H_2O versus $\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{CO}_2$ for diabase, gabbros, olivine (Ol) gabbros, and leucocratic diorite, Expedition 399 Hole U1309D. Compositions of diabases and basalts, gabbros, olivine gabbros, and leucocratic dikes and veins from Expedition 304/305 Hole U1309D (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Godard et al., 2009) are shown for comparison. Larger symbols = Expedition 399, smaller symbols = prior expeditions.

istry) to 0.66 wt% (microbiology). Gabbros have H₂O concentrations ranging 0.53–1.30 wt% (geochemistry) to 0.59–2.17 wt% (microbiology). Geochemistry gabbros and olivine gabbros overlap in composition with the least altered olivine gabbros and gabbros recovered in the deeper parts of the hole (below ~850 mbsf) during Expedition 304/305 (Figure F49) (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Godard et al., 2009). Microbiology olivine gabbros and gabbros have more variable and higher H₂O concentrations, suggesting higher fractions of secondary hydrous minerals.

Diabase Sample 399-U1309D-297R-2, 104–108 cm, has low H₂O contents (0.77 wt%) compared to the diabases recovered during Expedition 304/305 at Site U1309 (0.79–2.66 wt%), suggesting a lower degree of alteration even though amphibole, talc, and chlorite were identified by XRD (see [Alteration petrology](#)).

Leucodiorite Sample 399-U1309D-302R-3, 126–128 cm, displays the highest H₂O concentration (2.64 wt%) of Hole U1309D rocks analyzed during Expedition 399. This concentration is significantly higher than that measured in the leucocratic dikes and veins previously recovered at Site U1309 (0.6–1.7 wt%).

6.2.2. Major and trace element compositions

Analyses of major and trace element compositions were conducted using ICP-AES on ignited and nonignited powders for geochemistry and microbiology rock samples, respectively. The major and trace element composition of microbiology rock samples was recalculated as volatile-free (normalized to the sum of major oxides plus H₂O and CO₂ contents) to be comparable to geochemistry analyses in the text and figures.

6.2.2.1. Diabase

Sample 399-U1309D-297R-2, 104–108 cm, is a fine-grained diabase. It has a basaltic composition according to the classification of Le Maitre (1989) with SiO₂ of 48.6 wt% and alkali contents (Na₂O + K₂O) of 1.83 wt%. It has 9.76 wt% MgO, 8.82 wt% Fe₂O₃, 16.16 wt% Al₂O₃, and 12.48 wt% CaO and overlaps in composition with the most primitive basalts and diabases recovered during Expedition 304/305 at Sites U1309–U1311 (5.7–10.4 wt% MgO, 7.1–15.8 wt% Fe₂O₃, 12.6–16.8 wt% Al₂O₃, and 9.5–12.8 wt% CaO) (Figure F50). When compared to Expedition 304/305 basalts and diabases, diabase Sample 297R-2, 104–108 cm, also has high Cr (435 versus 131–433 ppm) and Ni

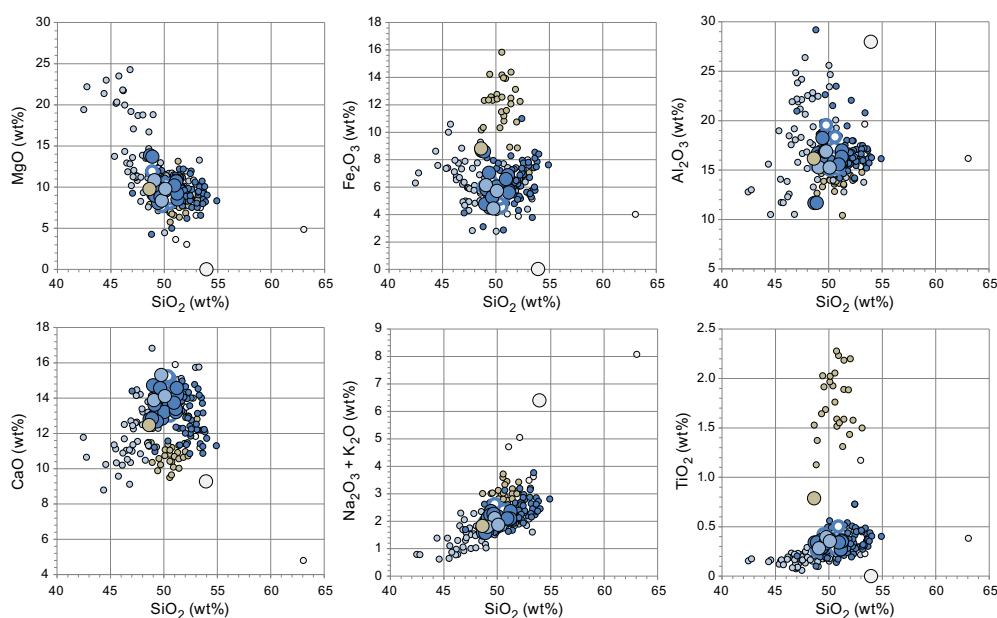


Figure F50. Volatile-free MgO, Fe₂O₃, Al₂O₃, CaO, Na₂O, and TiO₂ contents versus SiO₂ content for diabase, gabbros, olivine gabbros, and leucocratic diorite, Expedition 399 Hole U1309D. Compositions of diabases and basalts, gabbros, olivine gabbros, and leucocratic dikes and veins from Expedition 304/305 Hole U1309D (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Godard et al., 2009) are shown for comparison. See Figure F49 for legend.

(191 versus 82–199 ppm) concentrations and low concentrations of fluid-immobile incompatible elements TiO_2 (0.79 versus 0.6–2.6 wt%), V (226 versus 178–403 ppm), and Y (19.4 versus 22–71 ppm) and fluid-mobile incompatible elements Sr (55 versus 78–126 ppm) and Ba (3.2 versus 7–38 ppm) (Figures F51, F52, F53). The range of chemical compositions for Site U1309 is within the range of mid-ocean-ridge basalts (MORBs) (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Godard et al., 2009). Diabase Sample 297R-2, 104–108 cm, represents one of the most primitive, depleted, and least altered end-members of the MORB suite sampled at this site.

6.2.2.2. Gabbros and olivine gabbros

Hole U1309D olivine gabbros and gabbros recovered during Expedition 399 overlap in major and trace element compositions. The compositions of microbiology samples do not differ from those of the geochemistry samples (Figures F50, F51, F52, F53).

Olivine gabbros have SiO_2 of 49.1–51.2 wt% (geochemistry) to 50.4 wt% (microbiology), Mg\# ($\text{Mg\#} = 100 \times \text{cationic Mg}/[\text{Mg} + \text{Fe}]$) of 77.4–79.0 (geochemistry) to 78.9 (microbiology), Al_2O_3 of 15.3–16.9 wt% (geochemistry) to 16.0 wt% (microbiology), and Ca\# ($\text{Ca\#} = 100 \times \text{cationic Ca}/(\text{Ca} + \text{Na})$) of 80.2–81.1 (geochemistry) to 81.0 (microbiology). Gabbros have SiO_2 of 48.9–51.2 wt% (geochemistry) to 48.9–50.9 wt% (microbiology), Mg\# of 73.9–79.3 (geochemistry) to 74–79.8 (microbiology), Al_2O_3 of 11.7–18.2 wt% (geochemistry) to 15.0–19.5 wt% (microbiology), and Ca\# of 76.0–82.1 (geochemistry) to 73.2–80.5 (microbiology). This overlap in composition suggests that variations in the mode of the main primary phases constituting olivine gabbros and gabbros (plagioclase, clinopyroxene, and olivine) are minor from the gabbros to the olivine gabbros recovered during Expedition 399. These compositions are similar to those of Site U1309 olivine gabbros and gabbros recovered during Expedition 304/305, although they are significantly more clustered (Figure F50) (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Godard et al., 2009).

Overlaps in compositions are observed also for compatible elements Ni and Cr and moderately incompatible elements Ti, V, and Sc (Figures F51, F52, F53). Olivine gabbros have concentrations

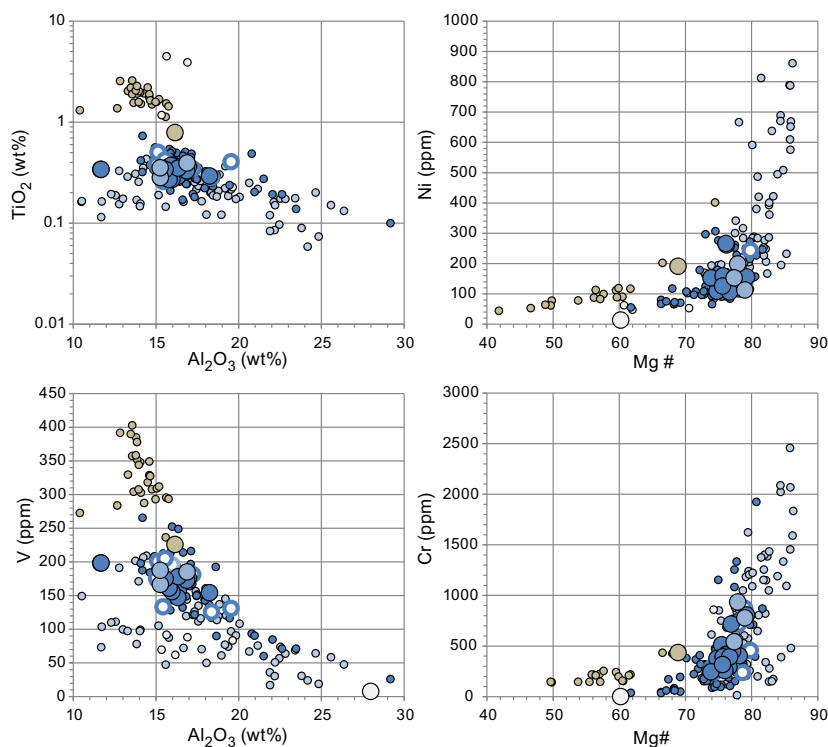


Figure F51. Volatile-free TiO_2 and V versus Al_2O_3 and Ni and Cr versus Mg# for diabase, gabbros, olivine gabbros, and leucocratic diorite, Expedition 399 Hole U1309D. Compositions of diabases and basalts, gabbros, olivine gabbros, and leucocratic dikes and veins from Expedition 304/305 Hole U1309D (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Godard et al., 2009) are shown for comparison. See Figure F49 for legend.

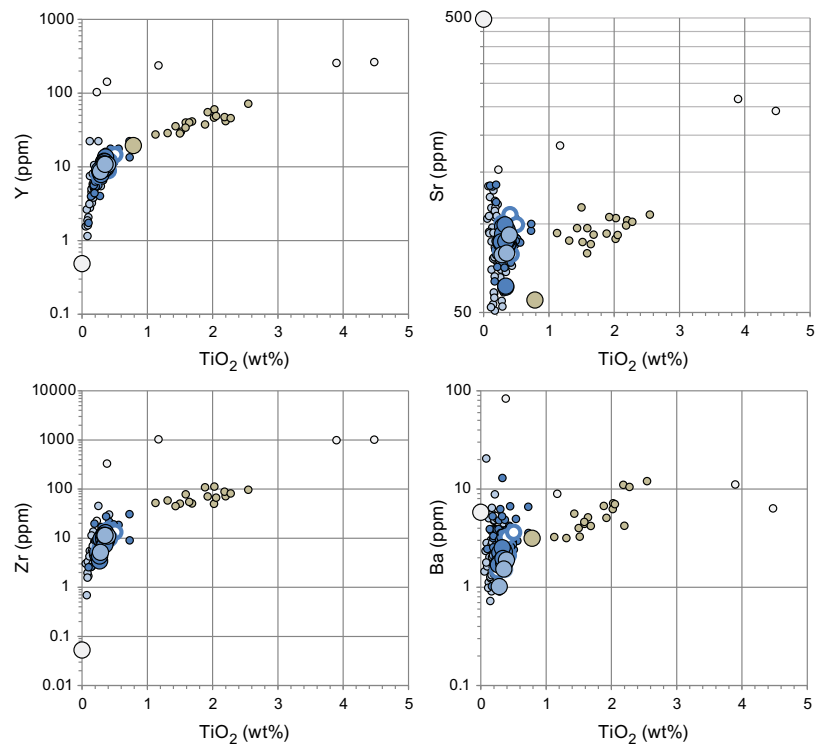


Figure F52. Volatile-free Y, Zr, Sr, and Ba versus TiO_2 (log scale) for diabase, gabbros, olivine gabbros, and leucocratic diorite, Expedition 399 Hole U1309D. Compositions of diabases and basalts, gabbros, olivine gabbros, and leucocratic dikes and veins from Expedition 304/305 Hole U1309D (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Godard et al., 2009) are shown for comparison. See Figure F49 for legend.

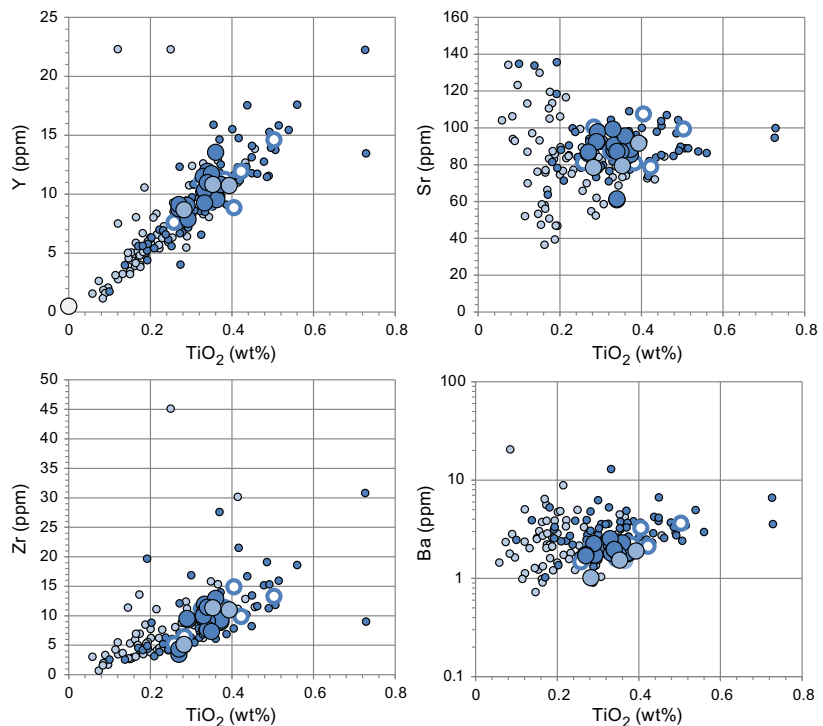


Figure F53. Volatile-free Y, Zr, Sr, and Ba versus TiO_2 (linear scale) for gabbros, and olivine gabbros, and leucocratic diorite, Expedition 399 Hole U1309D. Compositions of gabbros, olivine gabbros, and leucocratic dikes and veins from Expedition 304/305 Hole U1309D (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Godard et al., 2009) are shown for comparison. See Figure F49 for legend.

in Cr of 543–935 ppm (geochemistry) to 771 ppm (microbiology), Ni of 113–199 ppm (geochemistry) to 150 ppm (microbiology), TiO_2 of 0.3–0.4 wt% (geochemistry and microbiology), Sc of 41–45 ppm (geochemistry) to 47 ppm (microbiology), and V of 167–187 ppm (geochemistry) to 196 ppm (microbiology). Gabbros have concentrations in Cr of 245–807 ppm (geochemistry) to 238–874 ppm (microbiology), Ni of 106–266 ppm (geochemistry) to 134–243 ppm (microbiology), TiO_2 of 0.3–0.5 wt% (geochemistry and microbiology), Sc of 34–46 ppm (geochemistry) to 27–46 ppm (microbiology), and V of 147–198 ppm (geochemistry) to 125–205 (microbiology). The bulk rock composition of these elements is mainly controlled by their distribution between the main primary minerals forming olivine gabbros and gabbros, and similar to major elements, these variations from one gabbroic rock sample to the other primarily reflect minor differences in their modal contents. Their relatively high Cr, Ni, Ti, V, and Sc compositions cluster in the narrow compositional field where the compositions of the most primitive gabbros and the most evolved olivine gabbros recovered at Site U1309 during Expedition 304/305 overlap (Figure F51).

Similar to their compositions in major and compatible to moderately incompatible trace elements, Expedition 399 olivine gabbros and gabbros overlap in composition for incompatible trace elements. Olivine gabbros have concentrations in Y of 9–11 ppm (geochemistry and microbiology), Zr of 5–11 ppm (geochemistry) to 9 ppm (microbiology), Sr of 78–92 ppm (geochemistry) to 84 ppm (microbiology), and Ba of 1–2 ppm (geochemistry) to 1.5 ppm (microbiology). Gabbros have concentrations in Y of 8–14 ppm (geochemistry) to 8–15 ppm (microbiology), Zr of 3–13 ppm (geochemistry) to 5–15 ppm (microbiology), Sr of 61–99 ppm (geochemistry) to 78–107 ppm (microbiology), and Ba of 2–3 ppm (geochemistry) to 2–4 ppm (microbiology). There is no evidence of selective Ca and Sr enrichments that would have indicated significant Ca-carbonate precipitation in the two samples in which carbon has been measured (microbiology olivine-bearing gabbro Samples 399-U1309D-300R-2, 96.5–106 cm, and 311R-1, 67.5–78 cm). Also, although microbiology gabbroic rock samples have on average high concentrations in volatile elements compared to geochemistry samples, no significant differences in the compositions of fluid-mobile incompatible elements, such as Ba and Sr, are observed between geochemistry and microbiology samples. This suggests that there were no significant differences in the chemical remobilization associated with the alteration of the studied gabbroic rocks, even for fluid mobile elements. Alternatively, the lack of change of compositions from volatile-rich microbiology to volatile-poor geochemistry samples may simply reflect the differences in the methods in the preparation of the sample (freeze-dried for microbiology samples and oven-dried for geochemistry samples; see **Geochemistry** in the Expedition 399 methods chapter [Lang et al., 2025]). The incompatible trace element compositions of Expedition 399 gabbros and olivine gabbros plot in the compositional fields defined by Site U1309 olivine gabbros and gabbros from Expedition 304/305 (Figures F52, F53) (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Godard et al., 2009). Site U1309 olivine gabbros and gabbros sampled during Expeditions 304/305 and 399 form a coherent magmatic crystallization series.

6.2.2.3. Leucocratic diorite

Sample 399-U1309D-302R-3, 126–128 cm, is the white part of a leucocratic diorite recovered at ~1444 mbsf in Hole U1309D. It is composed of 53.9 wt% SiO_2 , 28 wt% Al_2O_3 , 9.3 wt% CaO, and 6.4 wt% Na_2O . This composition is that of an An_{45} plagioclase.

Except for Sr (495 ppm), an element typically enriched in plagioclase, Sample 399-U1309D-302R-3, 126–128 cm, is depleted in almost all compatible and incompatible trace elements; it has 13 ppm Ni, 7.5 ppm V, 0.2 ppm Sc, 0.5 ppm Y, <0.1 ppm Zr, and 6 ppm Ba, and Ti and Cr concentrations were below the detection limits (Figures F51, F52, F53). These depleted compositions differ significantly from those of previously analyzed Site U1309 leucocratic veins and dikes that typically represent the most enriched end-members of the rocks recovered during Expedition 304/305, with up to 170 ppm Ni, 92 ppm V, 46 ppm Sc, 300 ppm Y, 1180 ppm Zr, 83 ppm Ba, 4.5 wt% TiO_2 , and 859 ppm Cr (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Godard et al., 2009).

6.2.3. Summary

A total of 29 samples from Hole U1309D were analyzed for major and trace element concentrations and volatile element concentrations. These samples comprised (1) 1 diabase, 1 leucodiorite, 3 olivine gabbros, and 15 gabbros (including 10 olivine-bearing gabbros) collected for geochemical

studies and (2) 1 olivine gabbro and 8 olivine-bearing gabbros analyzed as part of an interdisciplinary study of rock samples collected for microbiological studies.

The analyzed samples do not display systematic chemical variations with depth except for those associated to the crosscutting diabase at 1417.93 mbsf and leucocratic diorite at 1443.84 mbsf (Figure F54).

Expedition 399 olivine gabbros and gabbros have major and trace element compositions similar to those of the most primitive gabbros and the most evolved olivine gabbros recovered at Site U1309 during Expedition 304/305 (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Godard et al., 2009). They overlap in composition and are characterized by high Mg# (74–80) and Ca# (73–82) and low TiO₂ concentrations (0.26–0.50 wt%). Except for some microbiology samples that have H₂O up to 2.17 wt%, they have low H₂O contents similar to Hole U1309D gabbroic rocks sampled below 850 mbsf. The presence of H₂O indicates the replacement of primary minerals by hydrous minerals during hydrothermal alteration and weathering. The major and trace element compositions of Expedition 399 olivine gabbros and gabbros provide no evidence of elemental remobilization associated with H₂O concentration variations, even for fluid mobile elements.

The analyzed leucocratic sample is the white part of a leucocratic diorite recovered at ~1444 mbsf in Hole U1309D. Its composition is that of an An₄₅ plagioclase (Ca# 45), and except for Sr, an element typically enriched in plagioclase, it is depleted in almost all trace elements. In that respect, it differs significantly from the previously analyzed Site U1309 leucocratic veins and dikes that represented the most enriched end-members of the rocks recovered during Expedition 304/305 (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Godard et al., 2009).

The fine-grained diabase intruding the gabbroic rocks at 1417.93 mbsf has a basaltic composition characterized by high Mg# (69) and low TiO₂ concentrations (0.79 wt%). It represents one of the most primitive, depleted, and least altered end-members of the MORB magmatic suite at Site U1309 (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Godard et al., 2009).

Based on their major and trace element compositions, Expedition 399 Hole U1309D diabase and gabbroic rocks form a coherent suite with the diabbases, basalts, and gabbroic rocks sampled at the same site during Expedition 304/305, suggesting a cogenetic origin for these mafic rocks.

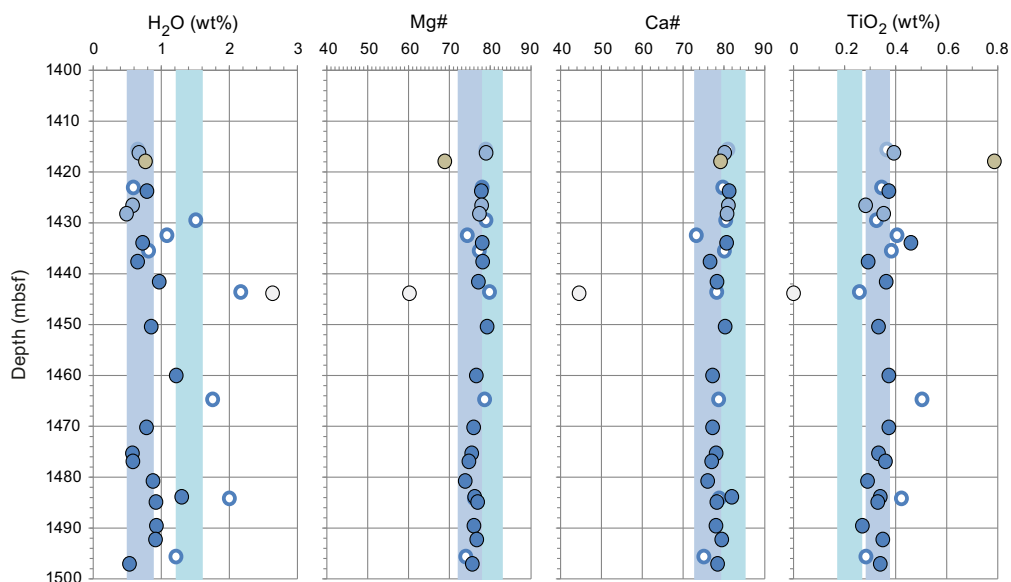


Figure F54. Downhole variations in H₂O, Mg#, Ca#, and TiO₂ between 1400 and 1500 mbsf (Expedition 399), Hole U1309D. See Figure F49 for legend. Average compositions of Expedition 304/305 Site U1309 olivine gabbros (thick light blue line) and gabbros (blue lines) are shown (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; Godard et al., 2009).

7. Microbiology

Microbiological investigations in Hole U1309D were designed to explore potential signs of recent or past life at extreme temperatures, especially the shallowest rocks that may have been exposed to borehole water during the 18 y since Expedition 305. Microbiology samples were collected for conventional analyses such as cell counts, cultivation, and DNA sequencing, as well as organic geochemistry analyses. A total of nine microbiology whole-round samples were collected from Hole U1309D (Cores 297R–313R). Eight of the samples are olivine-bearing gabbro, and one sample is an olivine gabbro (Figure F55).

Each of the nine Hole U1309D samples was rinsed, photographed, and separated into exterior and interior materials according to our standard methodology. Subsamples from each of the nine whole-round samples were collected for cell counts, DNA sequencing, lipid characterization, and organic carbon analyses. Subsamples for single-cell activity assays were collected from six of the nine Hole U1309D samples. Stable isotope tracer experiments were conducted with four of the samples. Subsamples for virus counts, enrichment cultivations, and scanning electron microscope (SEM) imaging were collected from the first five cores. High-pressure cultivation experiments were conducted with subsamples collected from the first two cores (399-U1309D-297R and 298R).

Perfluorocarbon tracer (PFT) levels in the interior sections of all nine Hole U1309D microbiology whole-round samples were below detection or at very low levels (maximum = 0.1 parts per billion [ppb]) (Figure F56). In contrast, PFT was detectable in the exterior shavings of all microbiology whole-round samples except one, ranging from trace levels to 22 ppb. Samples of core rubble were also collected from five of the cores, and these contained the highest levels of PFT, ranging 3–23

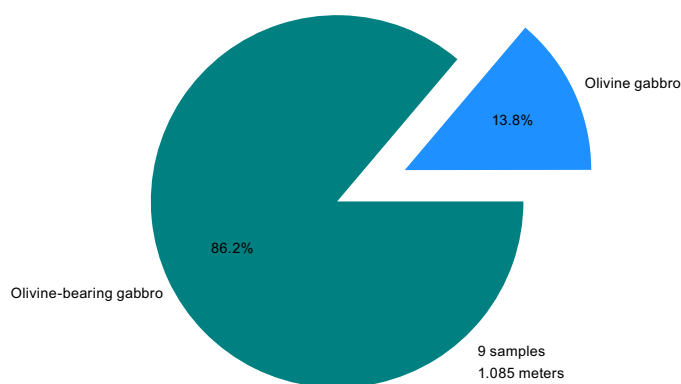


Figure F55. Distribution of general lithologies of microbiology whole-round samples, Hole U1309D. Lithologic descriptions were collected from shipboard igneous petrology descriptions and checked against notes taken during microbiology sample selection process and images of samples taken during microbiology sample processing.

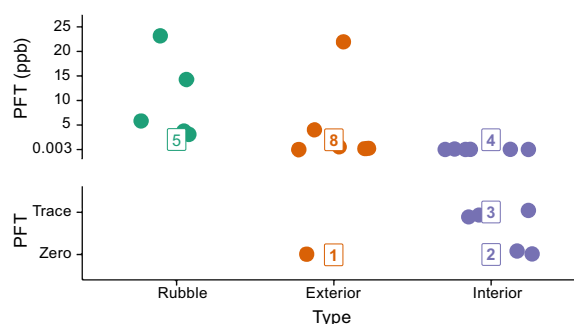


Figure F56. Concentrations of PFT detected in samples, Hole U1309D. Samples for PFT assay were collected from loose rubble during core shakeout, chiseled microbiology whole-round exteriors, and microbiology whole-round interiors. Trace = detectable peak but not quantifiable, zero = no detectable peak. Jittering of data points along x-axis and along y-axis for trace and zero is for aesthetic purposes only.

ppb. PFT levels were generally higher in Hole U1309D samples compared to Hole U1601A samples because of an accidental increase in the rate of PFT delivery while drilling at the site. Nevertheless, the consistent reduction of PFT levels from rubble to exterior zones to interior zones indicates the efficacy of our procedures for limiting contamination into the interior zones of the core samples.

Water samples collected with the Niskin bottles, MTFS, and KFTS were subsampled for microbiological analyses intended to characterize the extent, diversity, and activity of microbial communities within Hole U1309D (see [Geochemistry](#) in the Expedition 399 methods chapter [Lang et al., 2025]). Subsamples for cell counts and single-cell activity assays were collected from all four of the high-volume MTFS samples (Bottles 1, 2, 4, and 5) and all KFTS and Niskin samples. In addition, MTFS Bottle 2 was subsampled for virus counts, enrichment cultivations, high-pressure cultivations, and stable isotope tracer experiments. Water from MTFS Bottle 4 (260 mL), the three KFTS bottles (250 mL each), and all Niskin bottles (3–5 L) were filtered through a 0.2 μm Sterivex filter cartridge intended for DNA sequencing.

The MTFS system also recovered blackened materials (mud, possessing a sulfidic smell) and rock fragments partially coated in iron oxides (Figure F57). Suspending these materials in sterile seawater (399-U1309D-MTFS-#1-04-solids) demonstrated the fine-grained nature of the black materials, which became easily suspended in seawater (Figure F58 inset), as well as the presence of



Figure F57. JOIDES Resolution paleontology laboratory after MTFS was disassembled, producing centimeter scale piles of iron oxide-coated millimeter scale clasts interpreted to have been recovered from walls of Hole U1309D that were encased in fine-grained, black sulfidic material.

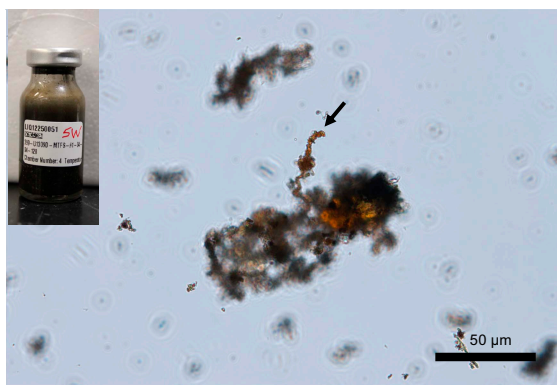


Figure F58. Sample from seawater enrichment culture (transmitted light; see inset). Note filamentous bacterium (arrow) extending outward from iron oxide containing mineral aggregate. Inset: 5 cm^3 serum bottle possessing $\sim 2 \text{ cm}^3$ of 399-U1309D-MTFS-#1-04-solids recovered from MTFS system (Figure F57), topped with 0.45 μm filter-sterilized Niskin seawater, and sealed using oxygen-impermeable butyl rubber stopper and Al-crimp seal.

potentially fossilized filamentous iron-oxidizing bacteria in solution (Figure F58). This fine-grained metal sulfide-containing mud is inconsistent with sampling the wall of the pipe versus the wall of the borehole. Nonetheless, the iron oxide-coated clasts need to be examined using petrology to confirm that they are consistent with the gabbro lithology of Hole U1309D. With this confirmation, the material will be interpreted to have come from the wall of the borehole. Subsamples were collected in 10 mL serum bottles ($\sim 5 \text{ cm}^3$ solids) and topped with sterile seawater for SEM imaging, enrichments, and DNA sequencing analyses.

Washed solids revealed more extensive iron oxide precipitates (Figure F59 inset), possessing filamentous bacterial fossils, observed using secondary electron scanning electron microscopy (Figure F59). The combined occurrences of metal sulfides and ferric oxyhydroxides demonstrate varied redox conditions in the borehole.

After incubation for ~ 5 weeks at 20°C , acridine orange-stained (0.1% wt/vol), rod-shaped, and vibrioid bacteria became readily visible in the enrichment culture (Figure F60A) where they were primarily associated with the iron oxyhydroxide aggregates observed using co-located transmitted light microscopy images (Figure F60B).

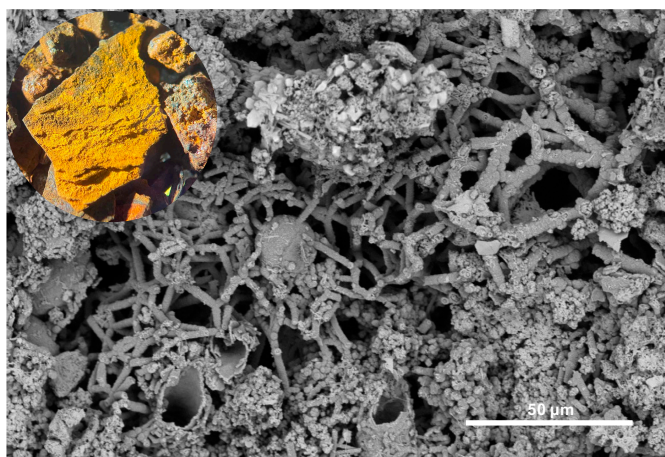


Figure F59. Secondary electron SEM micrograph of iron oxide observed in inset, Expedition 399. Note occurrence of filamentous bacteria, which have undergone varying degrees of mineralization and appear “hollow” in cross section (i.e., where broken). Inset: photograph down eyepiece of dissecting microscope of ~ 5 mm diameter rock fragment coated in secondary ferric oxyhydroxide precipitates.

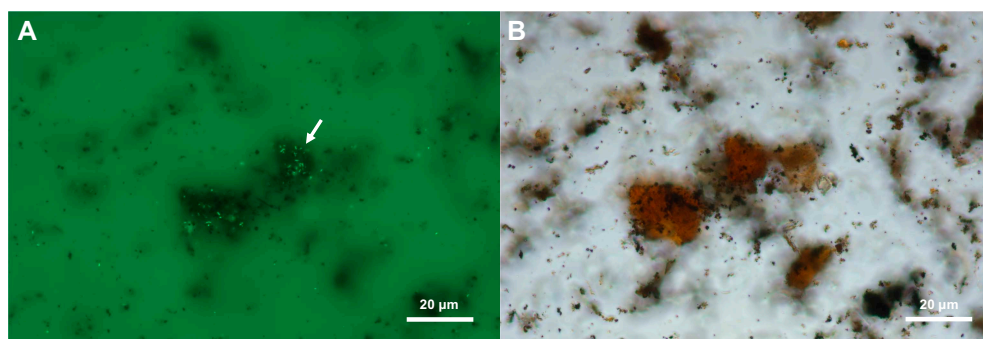


Figure F60. Acridine orange-stained (0.1% wt/vol) sample collected from 399-U1309D-MTFS-#1-04-solids culture system (inset in Figure F58) and incubated at room temperature for ~ 5 weeks. Note occurrence of (A) 490 nm fluorescent green cells primarily associated with iron oxyhydroxide aggregates observed using (B) transmitted light microscopy.

8. Petrophysics

The petrophysical properties of gabbro in Expedition 399 Hole U1309D were characterized with measurements on whole-round sections, section halves, and discrete samples from Cores 399-U1309D-297R through 313R (1415–1498 mbsf). A total of 48 whole-round sections and section halves were measured for natural gamma radiation (NGR), magnetic susceptibility (MS), and gamma ray attenuation (GRA) density. Discrete measurements were completed on rock cubes and included wet mass, dry mass, dry volume, and *P*-wave velocity. Bulk density, grain density, and porosity were calculated from the mass and volume measurements. A total of 31 discrete cube samples were analyzed. Additionally, 17 archive half core pieces >10 cm in length were selected for thermal conductivity measurements. All methods are described in **Petrophysics** in the Expedition 399 methods chapter (Lang et al., 2025). Rock names reported in this section were assigned by the igneous petrology team (see **Igneous petrology**). Data for all measurements are summarized in Table T12 and plotted in Figure F61 as a function of depth. Downhole temperature logs were completed; no wireline logging was attempted in this hole. Downhole fluid sampling results are reported in **Geochemistry**.

Whole-round section measurements required filtering because of spaces between pieces, to some extent fractures, and edge effects on many of the measurements. Filtering was mainly done through a semiautomated MATLAB GUI where data was viewed and clipped section by section (see U1309-H-ST1.xlsx in PETROPHYS in **Supplementary material**; see also **Petrophysics** in the Expedition 399 methods chapter [Lang et al., 2025]).

Table T12. Velocity, density, and porosity measurements, Site U1309. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Core, section, interval (cm)	Top depth CSF-A (m)	Bottom depth CSF-A (m)	<i>P</i> -wave velocity [mean]			Mean <i>V_p</i> (m/s)	Apparent anisotropy (%)	Bulk density (g/cm ³)	Grain density (g/cm ³)	Porosity (vol%)	Principal lithology name	Comment
			X (m/s)	Y (m/s)	Z (m/s)							
399-U1309D-												
297R-2, 6–8	1416.95	1416.97	5497.5	5317.875	5621.5	5478.958	5.542	2.907	2.928	1.095	Olivine gabbro	
297R-2, 143–145	1418.32	1418.34	5924.125	5758.429	6001.375	5894.643	4.121	2.911	2.936	1.321	Diabase	
298R-2, 125–127	1423.15	1423.17	5177.25	5156.25	5245.125	5192.875	1.711	2.922	2.940	0.907	Gabbro	
298R-2, 47–49	1423.86	1423.88	5337.125	5372.75	5477.375	5395.75	2.599	2.969	2.986	0.863	Gabbro	
299R-2, 5–7	1426.69	1426.71	5666.25	5467.5	5569.125	5567.625	3.570	3.000	3.012	0.604	Olivine gabbro	
299R-2, 102–104	1427.66	1427.68	5416.375	5350.75	5303.5	5356.875	2.107	2.987	3.004	0.881	Olivine gabbro	
300R-2, 122–124	1432.78	1432.80	5521	5485.25	5633	5546.417	2.664	2.976	2.992	0.844	Gabbro	
300R-4, 14–16	1434.58	1434.60	5519.125	5481.625	5751	5583.917	4.824	2.954	2.967	0.645	Gabbro	
301R-1, 53–55	1435.43	1435.45	5526.125	5352.625	5382.75	5420.5	3.201	2.861	2.874	0.675	Gabbro	
301R-4, 4–6	1438.55	1438.57	5591.375	5296.125	5535.375	5474.292	5.393	2.972	2.988	0.850	Gabbro	
302R-2, 14–16	1441.25	1441.27	5666.25	5425.125	5627.375	5572.917	4.327	2.927	2.965	1.966	Gabbro	
302R-3, 81–83	1443.39	1443.41	5582.125	5531.333	5412	5508.486	3.088	2.896	2.918	1.176	Gabbro	
302R-3, 126–128	1443.84	1443.86						2.474	2.551	5.027	Diorite	Piece is unoriented
303R-1, 20–22	1444.80	1444.82	5551.375	5359.25	5346.375	5419	3.783	2.847	2.880	1.782	Gabbro	
304R-1, 65–67	1450.15	1450.17	5392.5	5616.25	5435.875	5481.542	4.082	2.906	2.934	1.439	Gabbro	
304R-1, 109–111	1450.59	1450.61	5256	5449.75	5525.125	5410.292	4.974	2.981	3.009	1.367	Gabbro	
305R-1, 42–44	1455.02	1455.04	5843.875	5471.5	5720.5	5678.625	6.557	2.874	2.911	1.952	Gabbro	
306R-1, 91–93	1460.11	1460.13	5629.625	5365.25	5573.25	5522.708	4.787	2.931	2.951	1.037	Gabbro	
306R-2, 18–20	1460.59	1460.61	5430.5	5293.625	5353.625	5359.25	2.554	2.949	2.976	1.355	Gabbro	
307R-1, 130–132	1465.60	1465.62	5411.375	5155.125	5199.875	5255.458	4.876	2.893	2.923	1.581	Gabbro	
308R-1, 61–63	1469.51	1469.53	5217.375	5184.25	5130.5	5177.375	1.678	2.943	2.963	1.019	Gabbro	
309R-1, 131–133	1475.31	1475.33	5456.625	5310.875	5399.75	5389.083	2.705	2.987	2.998	0.554	Gabbro	
309R-3, 15–17	1477.01	1477.03	5522.625	5422.375	5543.125	5515.333	1.140	2.922	2.951	1.518	Gabbro	
310R-1, 112–114	1479.72	1479.74	5619.125	5716.625	5552.75	5629.5	2.911	2.920	2.944	1.267	Gabbro	
310R-2, 47–49	1480.455	1480.475	5728.125	5567.625	5436.125	5577.292	5.236	3.012	3.027	0.752	Gabbro	
311R-1, 22–24	1483.72	1483.74	5836.25	5365.875	5585.25	5595.792	8.406	2.842	2.866	1.348	Gabbro	
311R-2, 12–14	1484.83	1484.85	5502.5	5422.375	5703.25	5542.708	5.067	2.934	2.963	1.544	Gabbro	
312R-1, 125–127	1489.55	1489.57	5699.5	5611.25	5657.375	5656.042	1.560	2.979	3.000	1.061	Gabbro	
312R-3, 86–88	1492.10	1492.12	5392.375	5466.25	5543.25	5467.292	2.760	2.949	2.974	1.303	Gabbro	
313R-1, 108–110	1494.28	1494.30	5498.125	5666	5773.5	5645.875	4.877	2.940	2.949	0.491	Gabbro	
313R-4, 45–47	1497.285	1497.305	4759	5028.5	5106.625	4964.708	7.002	2.969	2.989	0.998	Gabbro	
		Max value:	5924.1	5758.4	6001.4	5894.6	8.4	3.0	3.0	5.0		
		Min value:	4759.0	5028.5	5106.6	4964.7	1.1	2.5	2.6	0.5		
		Average:	5505.7	5417.5	5504.9	5476.0	3.9	2.9	2.9	1.3		
		Standard deviation:	221.5	164.8	195.6	173.3	1.7	0.1	0.1	0.8		

8.1. Hole U1309D

8.1.1. Density and porosity

Bulk density measured on discrete samples ranges 2.5–3.0 g/cm³ with an average and standard deviation of 2.9 ± 0.1 g/cm³ (Table T12). GRA bulk density measured on whole-round sections generally increases with depth, which is not as obvious in bulk density measured on discrete samples (Figure F61; see filtered data in U1309-H-ST1.xlsx in PETROPHYS in [Supplementary material](#)). Some intervals deviate from this trend, including a general decrease in density in Cores 399-U1309D-302R through 303R (1441–1445 mbsf) that is also mirrored in the grain density measured on discrete cube samples. Grain density ranges 2.87–3.03 g/cm³ with an average and standard deviation of 2.94 ± 0.08 g/cm³ (Table T12).

Porosity ranges 0.5%–2% and has an average and standard deviation of $1.27 \pm 0.79\%$ (Table T12). The highest porosity is in Cores 399-U1309D-302R through 305R (1441.2–1455.0 mbsf), which also includes an altered felsic dike that has a grain density of 2.55 g/cm³ and a porosity of 5%. This interval has poor recovery (~30%; hole average = ~60%), reduced torque on the pipe during coring, higher percent of alteration (see [Alteration petrology](#)) and cataclastic zones, likely indicating a fault zone (see [Structural geology](#)).

Bulk density, grain density, and porosity from Expedition 399 fall in line with the main trend in Hole U1309D cored during Expedition 304/305 (Figures F62, F63) (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b). At the base of the interval cored during Expedition 305, bulk density decreases, which is followed by the top of the interval cored during Expedition 399, and then bulk density increases to the bottom of the hole. Grain density follows the general increase with depth.

Gabbro from International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP) Expedition 360 Hole U1473A (Atlantis Bank, Southwest Indian Ridge) has grain densities measured on discrete cubes that range 2.88–3.13 g/cm³ and average 2.97 g/cm³ (MacLeod et al., 2017). This is an almost exact match of

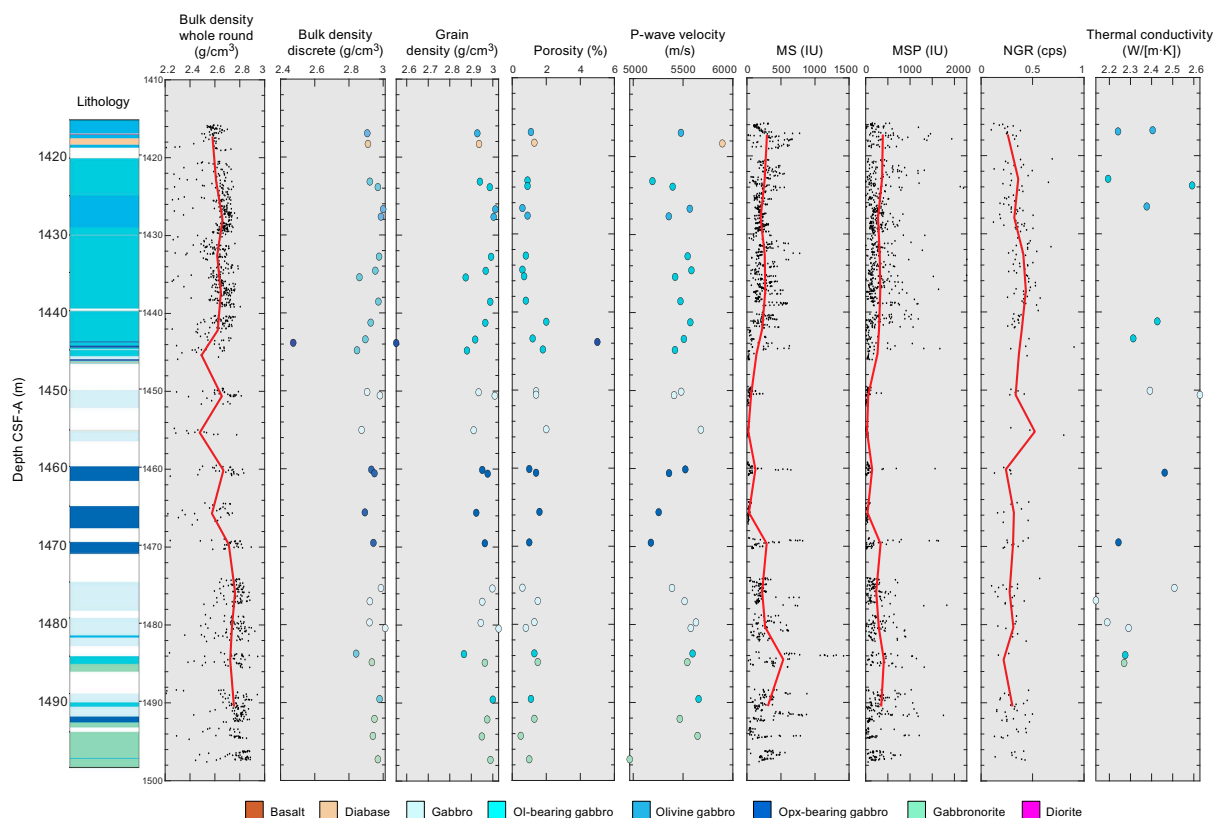


Figure F61. Petrophysical properties, Hole U1309D. Dots = filtered data, red lines = running averages per core. Data from discrete sample measurements are color coded based on lithology, which was determined by igneous team. cps = counts per second. Ol = olivine, Opx = orthopyroxene.

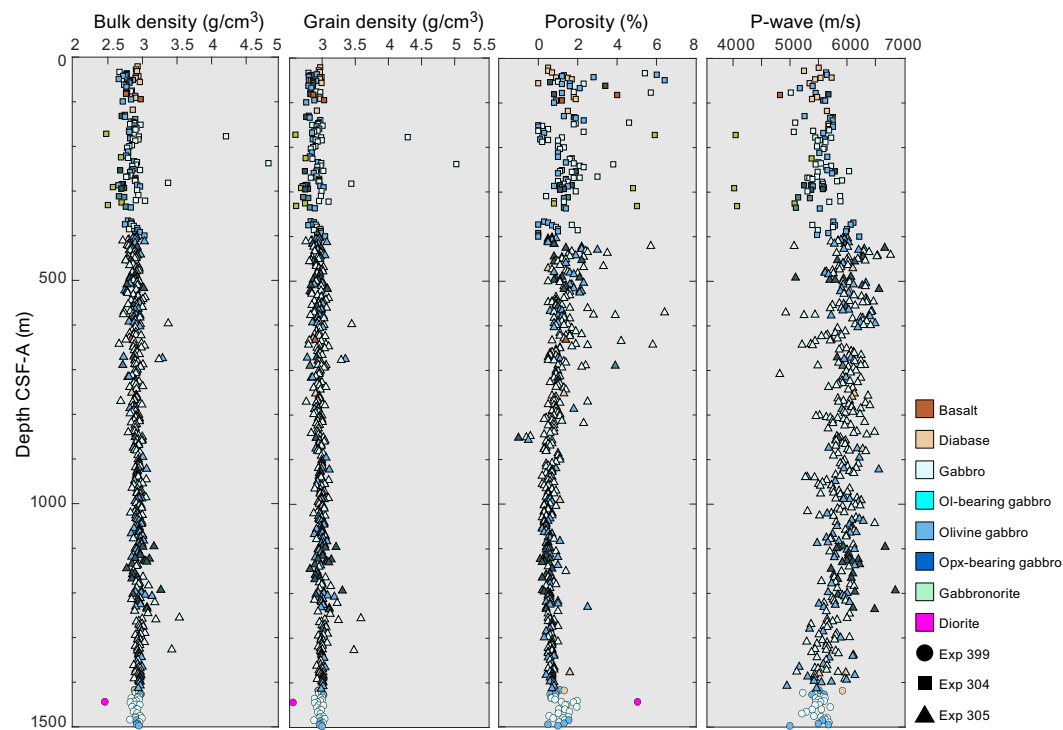


Figure F62. Physical properties measured on discrete samples with depth for entire interval cored during Expeditions 304/305 and 399, Hole U1309D. Ol = olivine, Opx = orthopyroxene.

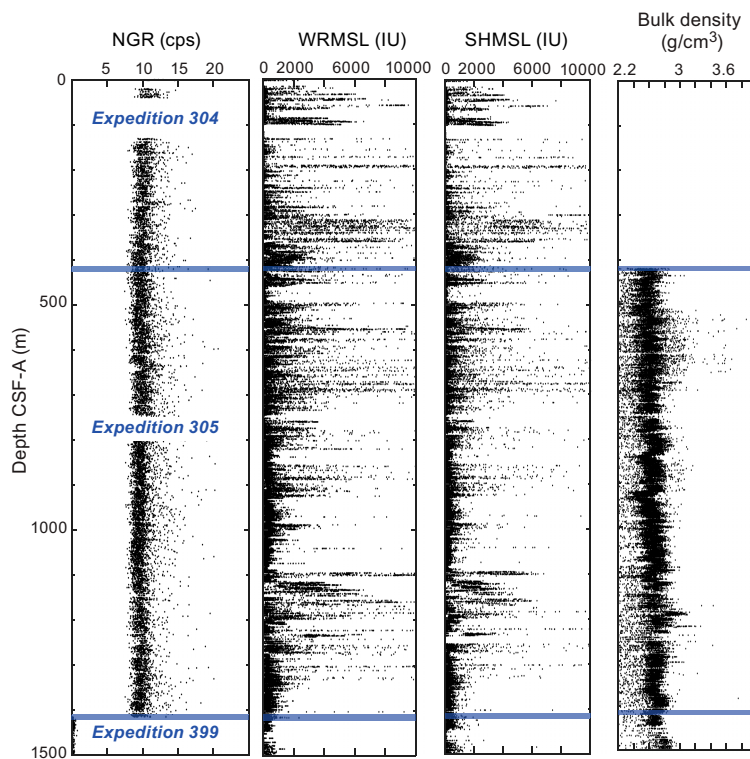


Figure F63. Physical properties measured on whole-round sections with depth for entire interval cored during Expeditions 304/305 and 399, Hole U1309D. cps = counts per second.

the grain density in gabbro from Expedition 399 Hole U1309D (average of 2.94 g/cm³). Porosity measured in Hole U1473A in gabbro ranges 0.1%–4.2% and has an average of 0.6% (MacLeod et al., 2017). This is a larger range but a smaller average in porosity compared to Expedition 399 Hole U1309D.

8.1.2. Sonic velocity

Sonic velocity (*P*-wave velocity) was measured on 30 discrete cube samples (1 diabase, 3 olivine gabbro, and 26 gabbro) along the three principal directions *x*, *y*, and *z* in the core reference frame (see Figure F2 in the Expedition 399 methods chapter [Lang et al., 2025]). Results are listed in Table T12 and plotted in Figures F61, F62, and F64. The average *P*-wave velocity of the three axes on each sample ranges 4965–5895 m/s, the average is 5476 m/s, and the apparent anisotropy of *P*-wave velocity ranges 4.1%–7.0%.

Sonic velocity data from Hole U1309D are plotted against bulk and grain density in Figure F64 together with the data from the shallower part of Hole U1309D measured during Expedition 304/305 (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b), as well as data from Holes 735B (Shipboard Scientific Party, 1989, 1999a) and U1473A (Atlantis Bank, Southwest Indian Ridge) (MacLeod et al., 2017). *V_p* values from Expedition 399 Hole U1309D are consistent with previous measurements on gabbroic rocks at Atlantis Massif, although the average is about 500 m/s slower than the previous data. *P*-wave velocity in Hole 735B is about 900 m/s higher than in Hole U1309D (Figure F64) (Shipboard Scientific Party, 1989, 1999a; Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b; MacLeod et al., 2017), although they have similar bulk density and porosity values. Sonic wireline logging data from Expeditions 304/305 and 340T, compared with those from Expedition 360, indicate that *V_p* also differs downhole for in situ measurements between Atlantis Bank and Atlantis Massif, respectively, with the latter having lower velocities in general.

8.1.3. Magnetic susceptibility

MS on whole-round sections using the pass-through loop (magnetic susceptibility loop [MSL]) and on section halves using the point sensor (point magnetic susceptibility [MSP] on the Section Half Multisensor Logger [SHMSL]) have relatively low values, reflecting a low proportion of magnetite in these rocks (Figure F61). MSL is typically <500 instrument units (IU) and MSP is typically <1000 IU. The highest MS values are in Section 399-U1309D-311R-1, with a MSL value of ~1500 IU and ~6500 IU for MSP, indicating more abundant magnetite. Very low MS values were measured in the middle of the drilled interval including Cores 304R–305R and 307R, with most MSL values <20 IU and MSP values <50 IU.

MS values are less variable in the interval cored during Expedition 399 compared to Expedition 304/305 (Figure F63) but do follow the generally decreasing trend in the deepest part of the inter-

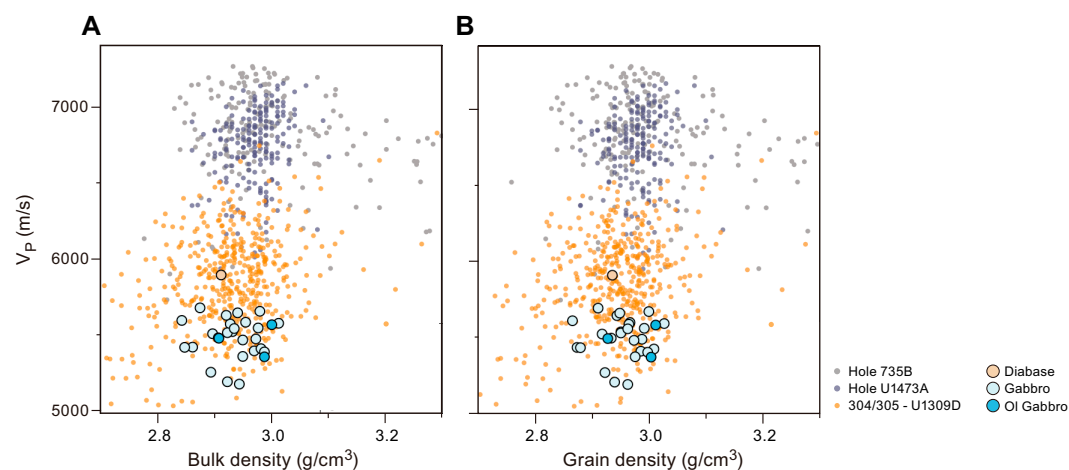


Figure F64. *V_p* versus (A) bulk density and (B) grain density, comparing Hole U1309D results with those from Holes 735B and U1473A from Atlantis Bank, Southwest Indian Ridge. Ol = olivine.

val cored by Expedition 305 (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b). This likely indicates a general decrease in the proportion of magnetic phases with depth.

MS values are less variable and lower compared to gabbro in ODP Holes 735B and 1105A and Hole U1473A at Atlantis Bank (Shipboard Scientific Party, 1989, 1999a, 1999b; MacLeod et al., 2017). However, MS does decrease with depth, consistent with a decreasing proportion of magnetic phases observed in the cores.

8.1.4. Natural gamma radiation

NGR is very low with most values being <0.5 counts/s (Figures F61, F63). Few peaks are up to 2 counts/s, and most of these values are at core section or core piece edges, which likely indicates false values (see **Petrophysics** in the Expedition 399 methods chapter [Lang et al., 2025]).

During Expedition 304/305, NGR was measured with an older device with significantly less precision, which resulted in greater random noise compared with the current instrument (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b). Background counts reported by Expedition 304/305 are upward of 30 counts/s. Background counts were not subtracted from the reported data, which explains the large offset between Expeditions 304/305 and 399 (Figure F63). NGR is extremely low in Hole U1309D, <1 counts/s above background on average. NGR is also extremely low in Hole U1473A (Atlantis Bank, Southwest Indian Ridge), with values typically <2 counts/s.

8.1.5. Thermal conductivity

Samples of representative lithologies, consisting of gabbro, olivine-bearing gabbro, or orthopyroxene-bearing gabbro, were chosen at semiregular intervals, and a total of 17 samples were analyzed. An average of six thermal conductivity measurements were taken for each piece (see **Petrophysics** in the Expedition 399 methods chapter [Lang et al., 2025]). Results from Expedition 399 samples are shown in Figures F61 and F65 and Table T13. Values for all pieces range 2.14–2.63 W/(m·K) with a mean and standard deviation of 2.35 ± 0.14 W/(m·K). No obvious trend with depth or lithology is observed in this gabbroic interval. The exceptions are two gabbro samples with slightly higher thermal conductivity values at ~1450 mbsf, which possibly correlate with a zone of higher alteration.

Thermal conductivity measurements throughout Hole U1309D, including measurements made during Expeditions 399 and 304/305 (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b), are shown in Figure

Table T13. Thermal conductivity, Site U1309. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Core, section, interval (cm)	Depth (mbsf)	Needle ID	Power used	Lithology	Thermal conductivity mean (W/(m·K))	Conductivity standard deviation (W/(m·K))	Comments
399-U1309D-							
297-1, 124–137	1416.75	H11060	3	Olivine gabbro	2.405	0.011	
297-2, 0–14	1416.9	H11060	3	Olivine gabbro	2.241	0.02	
298-2, 121–131	1422.965	H51033	2	Olivine-bearing gabbro	2.194	0.053	Small needle
298-3, 41–52	1423.81	H51033	2	Olivine-bearing gabbro	2.592	0.047	Small needle
299-2, 0–14	1426.503	H11080	2	Olivine gabbro	2.377	0.01	
302-2, 0–21	1441.2	H11080	2	Olivine-bearing gabbro	2.427	0.093	
302-3, 77–89	1443.38	H11080	2	Olivine-bearing gabbro	2.313	0.014	
304-1, 55–69	1450.08	H11080	2	Gabbro	2.392	0.012	
304-1, 106–118	1450.6	H11080	2	Gabbro	2.629	0.048	
306-2, 12–22	1460.56	H11080	2	Orthopyroxene-bearing gabbro	2.462	0.028	
308-1, 55–70	1469.48	H11060	3	Orthopyroxene-bearing gabbro	2.243	0.003	
309-1, 125–142	1475.3	H11060	2	Gabbro	2.508	0.065	
309-3, 0–17	1476.91	H11060	2	Gabbro	2.136	0.038	
310-1, 107–119	1479.7	H11060	2	Gabbro	2.19	0.011	
310-2, 41–55	1480.435	H11060	2	Gabbro	2.291	0.024	
311-1, 35–49	1483.9	H11060	2	Olivine-bearing gabbro	2.275	0.023	
311-2, 19–29	1484.91	H11060	2	Gabbronorite	2.27	0.014	
Max value:					2.63		
Min value:					2.14		
Average:					2.35		
Standard deviation:					0.14		

F65. Values range 1.22–4.34 W/(m·K) with a mean and standard deviation of 2.42 ± 0.45 W/(m·K). Measurements from Expedition 399 show much less scatter than those from the rest of the hole, which could be due to less lithologic variation with depth.

8.1.6. Temperature logging

Borehole fluid temperatures were measured in Hole U1309D prior to coring. The ETBS was attached to the bottom of the MTFS for one run and attached to the bottom of the KFTS for two subsequent runs (see **Operations**; see also **Petrophysics** in the Expedition 399 methods chapter [Lang et al., 2025]). Results shown are from the first run when the ETBS was attached to the MTFS (Figure F66) because the ETBS tool failed during the KFTS runs. Temperatures were recorded while the tool was lowered down the hole and again while it was pulled back up the hole (Figure F66). Values recorded during the down run are the most representative of the system because the borehole was the least disturbed, and therefore the down run is considered the primary temperature profile. Values for the entire borehole during the down run range from 6.7°C at the seafloor to 139.6°C near the bottom of the hole (1340.9 mbsf). To account for the sensors' response time, the run was stopped for 3 min every ~100 m to allow the sensors to partially equilibrate to the borehole fluid temperature. As a result, temperature recordings increased roughly 2°–3°C during each of these stops but never fully equilibrated. The maximum value recorded at each stop is considered the most representative of the formation temperature at the corresponding depth (dotted blue line in Figure F66). The resulting borehole temperature profile shows slight curvature in the upper ~580 mbsf and transitions into a more linear gradient of ~114°C/km below 580 mbsf.

Temperature profiles in Hole U1309D were obtained during two previous expeditions, including Expedition 305 (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b), during which temperature was measured following drilling using the Temperature/Acceleration/Pressure (TAP) tool, and Expedition 340T

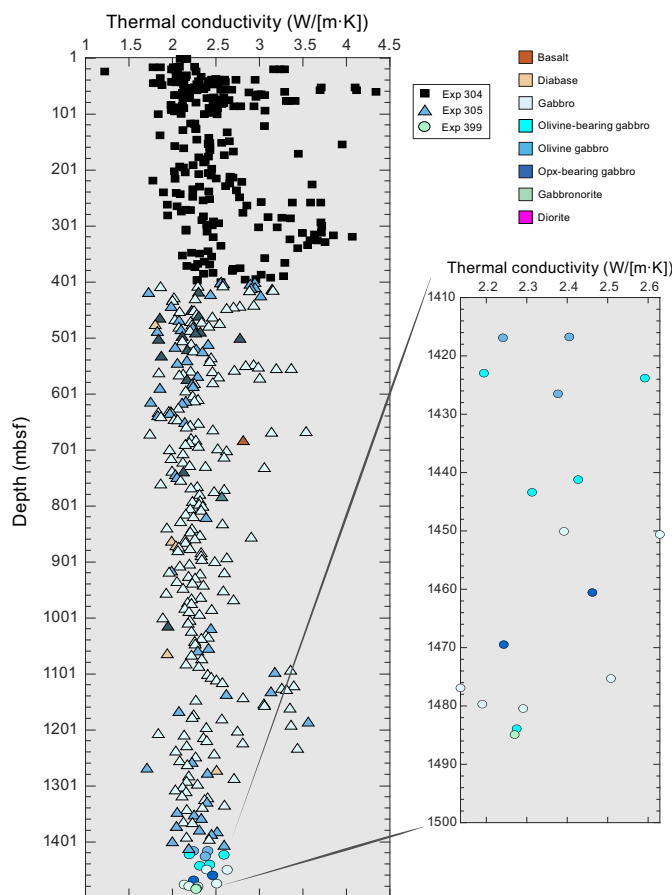


Figure F65. Thermal conductivity for all of Hole U1309D (Expeditions 304/305 and 399). Inset: close-up of thermal conductivity data from Expedition 399. Opx = orthopyroxene.

(Expedition 340T Scientists, 2012), during which the hole was logged and temperature was measured using the Modular Temperature Tool (MTT) and the Schlumberger logging equipment head-mud temperature (LEH-MT) tool. Results from Expedition 305 are highly disturbed from drilling and flushing of the hole with cool seawater. Results from Expedition 340T are $>20^{\circ}\text{C}$ higher than the maximum recorded during Expedition 305 and should be more representative of formation temperatures because the borehole fluids had ~ 7 y to thermally equilibrate with the formation following drilling during Expedition 304/305. The temperature profile obtained in Hole U1309D during Expedition 399 has a similar trend to the profile recorded by Expedition 340T (Figure F66). During Expedition 399, both the raw temperature profile and the profile obtained using the maximum values recorded while stopping every ~ 100 m show curvature in the upper sections of the hole and more linearity in the lower sections of the hole. This trend closely resembles that recorded during Expedition 340T, although the linear gradient in the profile recorded during Expedition 399 appears steeper. The transition from curved to linear gradients appears to also occur at a shallower depth in the Expedition 399 profile compared to the Expedition 340T profile (~ 580 and ~ 750 mbsf, respectively).

8.1.7. Summary

The results from Expedition 399 Hole U1309D match well with the observations from Expedition 304/305 and compare well with other gabbro-dominated holes. Below are the principal conclusions of physical properties in this interval:

- Density generally increases with depth.
- Porosity generally decreases with depth.
- MS is overall low but variable.
- NGR shows very low counts.
- The higher porosity zone occurs at the same depth interval as lower recovery, lower torque on the coring bit, higher alteration intensity, and recovered cataclases, indicating a fault zone.
- Similar trends are shown in all data in comparison with the upper interval cored during Expedition 304/305.
- V_p is similar to the interval cored during Expedition 304/305 but lower compared to V_p of gabbro from Atlantis Bank, Southwest Indian Ridge.

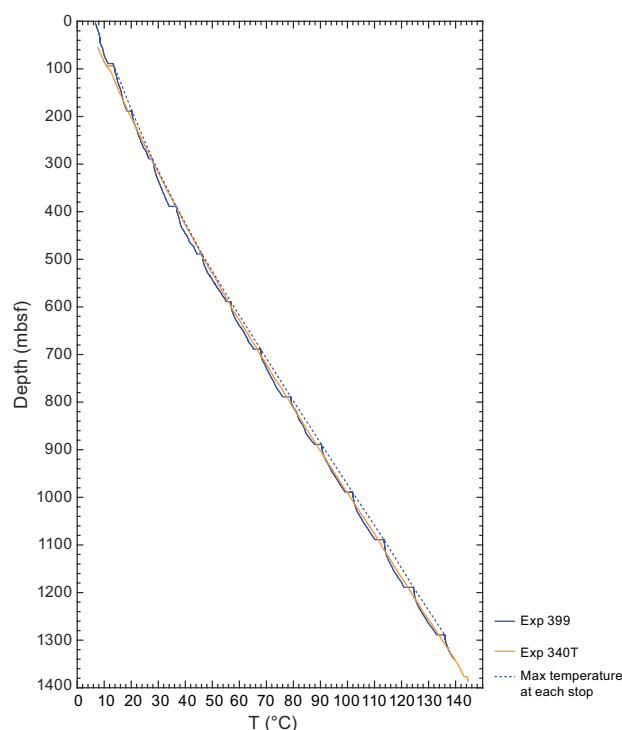


Figure F66. Temperature logs from Expeditions 340T (2012) and 399, Hole U1309D.

9. Paleomagnetism

Site U1309, originally drilled during Expedition 304, was revisited, and Hole U1309D was deepened from 1415 (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b) to 1489 mbsf. Core recovery was sufficient such that both archive and working half section measurements could be made, with sampled lithologies broadly consisting of gabbro and diabase variants (see [Igneous petrology](#)). Paleomagnetic measurements were made on 39 archive core sections and 26 discrete cube samples. Measurements were supplemented by natural remanent magnetization (NRM) and alternating field (AF) demagnetizations of 24 moisture and density (MAD) samples shared with the petrophysics team (refer to [Table T14](#) for all abbreviations; [Table T15](#)). The combined remanence data from archive halves and discrete samples yielded well-defined remanence values used to estimate average inclination and intensity values.

9.1. Remanence sections

All remanence measurements of archive sections were taken on the superconducting rock magnetometer (SRM), with measurements made at 2 cm intervals for pieces longer than ~7 cm. Pieces were subjected to stepwise AF demagnetizations starting from 5 mT and ending at 50 mT. Whole-round MS measurements taken by the petrophysics team provided a foundational basis for comparing SRM magnetization intensity measurements.

Qualitatively, lithology emerged as one of the most meaningful descriptors for correlating with NRM intensity and MS. Diabase samples were characterized by consistently low susceptibilities and natural remanent intensities. In contrast, gabbroic samples exhibited significant variation in intensity, ranging 0.02–3.81 A/m with a mean of 0.90 A/m. No significant correlation with remanence direction was observed for any of the qualitative descriptors.

NRM inclinations were generally clustered at shallower inclinations than the expected inclination value of -49° ([Figure F67](#)), with a mean of -32° ([Figure F68](#)). This value, however, is slightly skewed toward the positive because of isothermal remanent drilling overprints and misoriented pieces. Thorough filtering for high fidelity values will occur postcruise and will present a more in-depth view of the real behavior of the NRM inclinations.

Inclination clustering became narrower and more pronounced with increasing demagnetization steps. By 15 mT, 95% of the inclination values clustered within 5° of the mean inclination value. Inclination values also shifted more toward the expected value with increasing AF demagnetization, suggesting that drilling overprints were generally more positive than the mean inclination value, consistent with the positive polarity of the present-day magnetic field ([Figure F69](#)). However, the extent to which the drilling overprints contributed to the NRM was dependent on the coercivities of the samples' magnetic minerals. AF demagnetizations of the archive half samples proved to be effective in reducing most of their magnetization intensity ([Figure F70](#)). Qualitatively, it was observed that gabbros with high magnetization intensity components tended to have

Table T14. Abbreviations used in paleomagnetism text, Expedition 399. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Abbreviation	Phrase	Meaning
NRM	Natural remanent magnetization	Permanent magnetism recorded by a rock exposed to naturally occurring magnetic fields.
AF	Alternating field	Laboratory high-frequency magnetic field with decreasing amplitude.
MAD	Maximum angular deviation	Constraint on how tight a vector fit is.
SRM	Superconducting rock magnetometer	Instrument used to measure magnetism and apply alternating fields for continuous samples.
PCA	Principal component analysis	Technique for reducing dimensionality while preserving integrity of information.
EA	Equal area	A 2D representation of a hemisphere.
ChRM	Characteristic remanent magnetization	Earliest acquired magnetic component.
AMS	Anisotropy of magnetic susceptibility	Technique for depicting preferred orientation of magnetic minerals in a rock.

Table T15. Discrete samples and demagnetization experiments, Site U1309. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

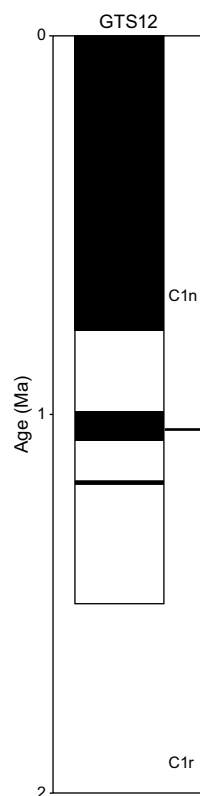


Figure F67. Predicted chrons and subchrons for Site U1309 for the last 1.5 My. Black = present-day polarity, white = reversed. Brunhes–Matuyama reversal occurred approximately 781 ka. Age of Atlantis Massif is ~1.5 Ma (Grimes et al., 2008; Escartin et al., 2022). Therefore, expected polarity of rocks is negative, reversed polarity. Additionally, expected inclinations from a geocentric axial dipole for this site are $\pm 49^\circ$.

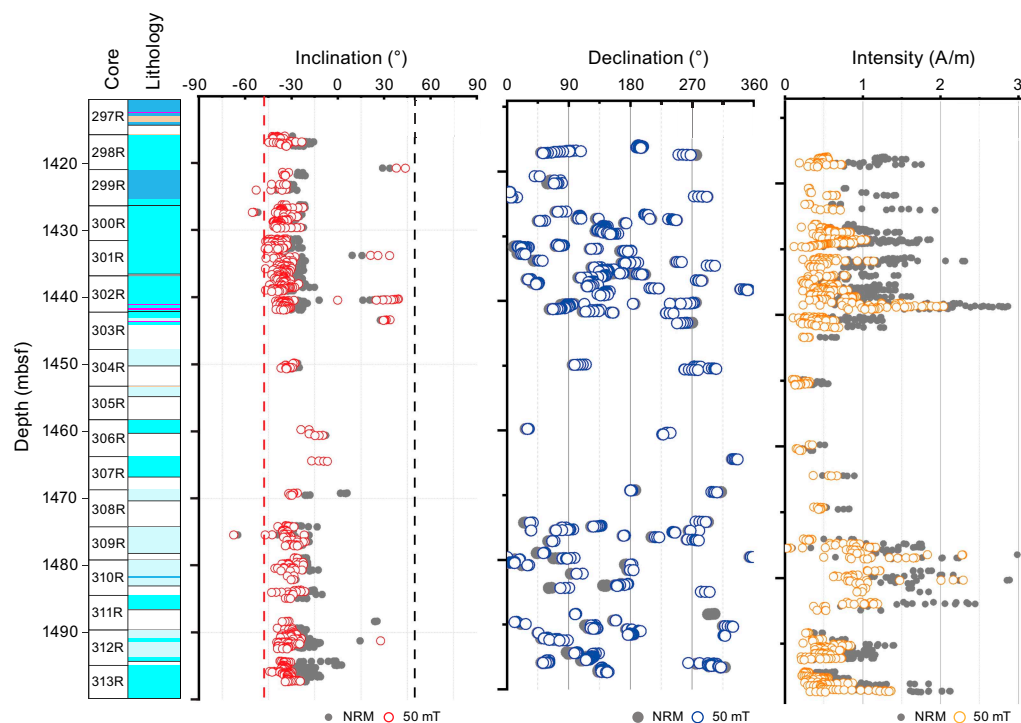


Figure F68. NRM and AF 50 mT inclination, declination, and intensity of remanence values compared with lithology (see Igneous petrology for legend), Hole U1309D. Closed circles = NRM data, open circles = AF 50 mT data. Reference lines are calculated from predicted geocentric axial dipole values. Measurements were taken on archive half pieces using SRM.

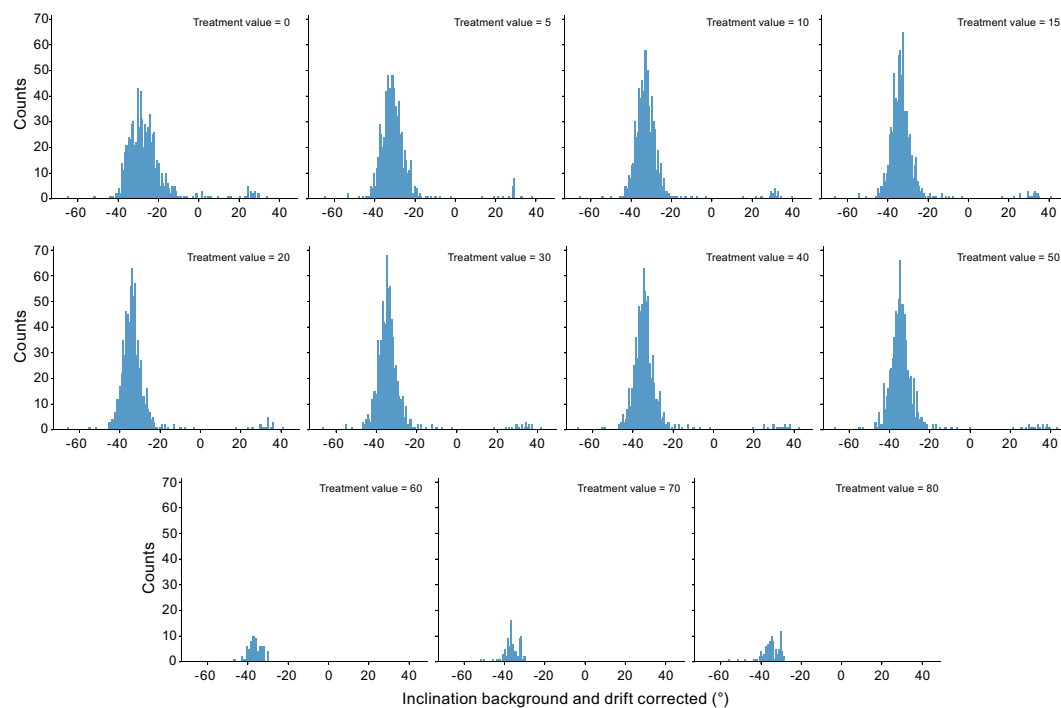


Figure F69. Inclination distributions for each AF demagnetization step, Hole U1309D. Measurements were taken on archive half pieces using SRM. Counts refers to number of SRM measurements recorded. Bin sizes were determined based on Freedman-Diaconis distribution of data.

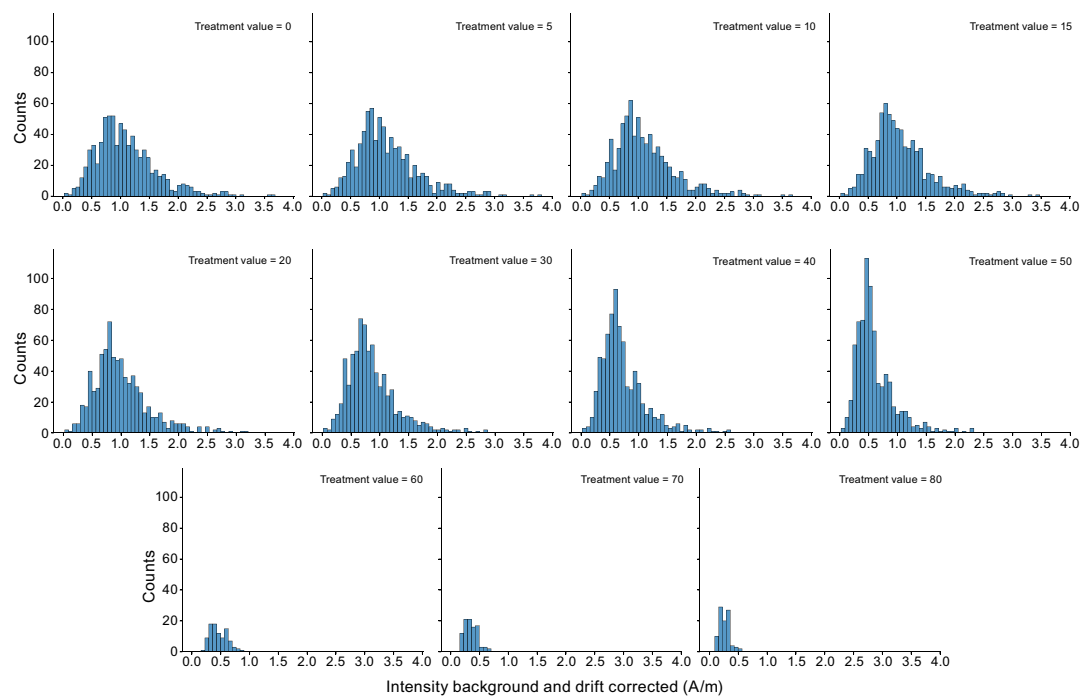


Figure F70. Intensity of remanence distributions for each AF demagnetization step, Hole U1309D. Measurements were taken on archive half pieces using SRM. Magnetization intensity of samples were measured in amperes per meter (A/m). Counts refers to number of SRM measurements recorded. Bin sizes were determined based on Freedman-Diaconis distribution of data.

lower coercivity components than gabbros with lower magnetization intensities; thus, the higher magnetization intensity gabbros had a stronger drilling overprint contribution to their NRM relative to their lower magnetization intensity counterparts. Coercivities and other magnetization properties of the hole were further characterized using discrete samples.

9.2. Discrete samples

In total, 50 discrete cubes were taken from the working halves of Hole U1309D for discrete analysis. Their NRM and demagnetization behaviors were assessed using an AGICO JR-6A spinner magnetometer. All samples shared with petrophysics were solely subjected to AF demagnetization. All other samples underwent low-temperature pretreatments (see [Paleomagnetism](#) in the Expedition 399 methods chapter [Lang et al., 2025]). It is worth noting that the petrophysics samples were measured after the samples were dried for 24 h in an oven at 105°C, likely acquiring a thermoviscous overprint in the process.

A preliminary analysis looking into the characteristic remanent magnetization (ChRM) directions of the discrete samples was calculated by principal component analysis (PCA) (Kirschvink, 1980) using the PmagPy graphical user interface (Tauxe et al., 2016) (see [Paleomagnetism](#) in the Expedition 399 methods chapter [Lang et al., 2025]). All measurement points along the core pieces, where stable vector components were identified on Zijderveld plots (Zijderveld, 1967), underwent this PCA analysis (Tables [T16](#), [T17](#), [T18](#), [T19](#), [T20](#)).

Low-temperature pretreatment proved effective in reducing the drilling overprint and enhancing what is likely the true NRM strength. Samples were measured after each liquid nitrogen bath and compared with their initial strength and direction (Figure [F71](#)). The effects on the first step were typically the most significant, changing by up to 15% (in either direction) of the original magnetic intensity. The second step typically changed intensity by ~5% relative to the original magnetic intensity. After the first dunk, the inclination value would trend toward the expected direction of the least coercive PCA component. After the second dunk, the inclination agreed well with the PCA direction of the least coercive component.

Samples subjected to stepwise AF demagnetizations of up to 200 mT typically revealed two components within the samples (Figure [F72](#)). The inflection point between the different directions usually occurred between 50 and 70 mT. It has been proposed that the origin of the multicomponent system is due to partial thermal resetting of the magnetization from the rotation of the massif over three polarity chrons. However, this interpretation primarily applies for samples taken from near the top of this hole (Morris et al., 2009).

Samples subjected to stepwise thermal demagnetizations of up to 700°C showed characteristic remanence directions that were in good agreement with their AF counterparts, albeit less constrained (Figure [F73](#)). Sample remanence directions were typically isolated just below the Curie temperature, around 500°–550°C. Most samples showed a characteristic drop in magnetization at the Curie temperature, but a few samples had a gradual decrease in magnetization. Bulk suscepti-

Table T16. PCA of discrete samples subjected to two low-temperature pretreatment dunks, Site U1309. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Table T17. PCA of samples subjected to AF demagnetization, Site U1309. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Table T18. PCA of samples subjected to thermal demagnetization, Site U1309. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Table T19. PCA of hybrid samples (thermally demagnetized samples already subjected to AF demagnetization), Site U1309. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Table T20. Incomplete PCA of physical properties samples subjected to AF demagnetization, Site U1309. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

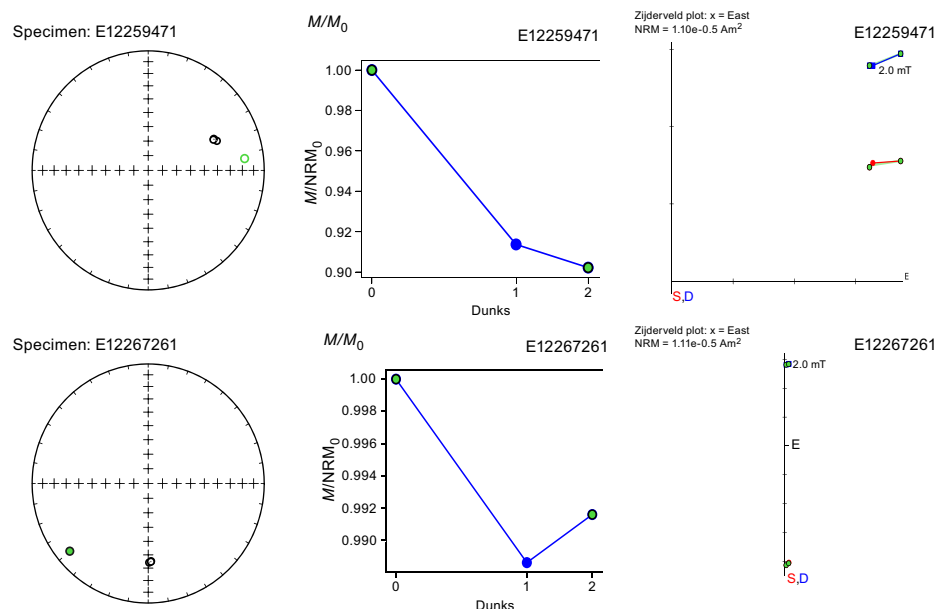


Figure F71. Representative example equal-area plot, relative intensity diagram, and vector endpoint diagram showing progressive low-temperature dunks, Hole U1309D. Open circles in equal-area plots = upper hemisphere projections, solid circles = lower hemisphere projections. Two vectors in Zijderveld diagrams represent orthogonal horizontal (blue) and vertical (red) components of sample remanence directions. Blue dots = measured points, lines = interpolations between them. Blue dots with green interiors = first and last points in data range used for PCA of overprint direction. See Table T15 to relate a sample's cube number to its location.

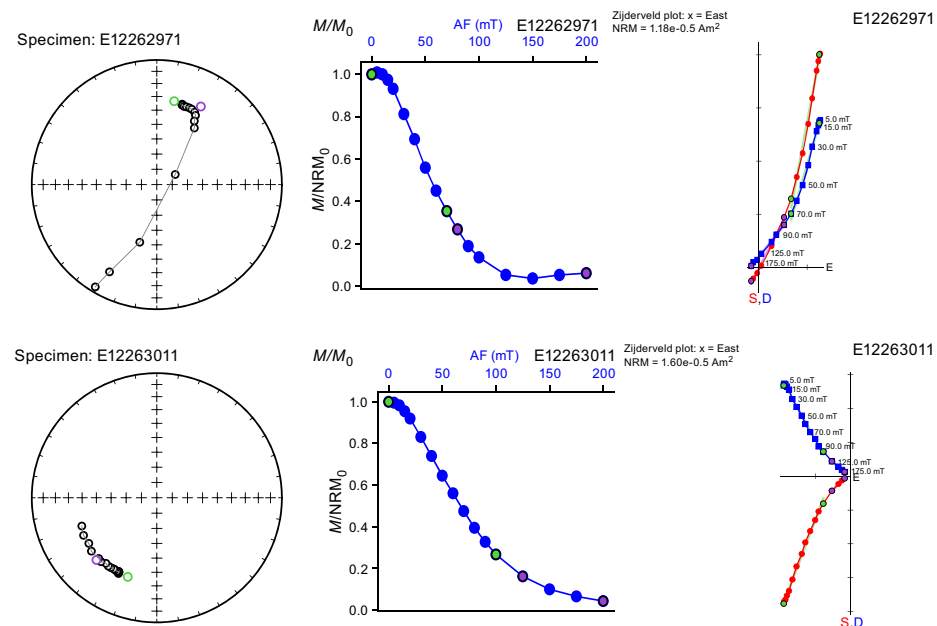


Figure F72. Representative example equal-area plots, relative intensity diagrams, and vector endpoint diagrams showing progressive AF demagnetization from 5 to 200 mT, Hole U1309D. Open circles in equal-area plots = upper hemisphere projections, solid circles = lower hemisphere projections. Blue dots = measured points, lines = interpolations between them. Blue dots with green interiors = first and last points in data range used for PCA of first component, blue dots with purple interiors = first and last points in data range used for PCA of second component. These data are origin trending, an indicator that final vectors of analysis are ChRM directions and that most of the remanence was removed during demagnetization. Two vectors in Zijderveld diagrams represent orthogonal horizontal (blue) and vertical (red) components of sample remanence directions. See Table T15 to relate a sample's cube number to its location.

bility measurements taken after each temperature step began to notably change above 450°C, indicating that some oxidation had occurred (Table T21).

Although a low-stability (presumably drilling related) component was evident in nearly all samples, this drilling component represented a relatively small fraction of the remanence (<20%) for the gabbroic samples. For most samples, the overprint was easily removed around an AF intensity of 10 mT or an unblocking temperature of 150°C. Although samples were not fully demagnetized, the demagnetization data eventually show a smooth decay toward the origin, indicating that the ChRM directions were captured. Comparisons of the petrophysics samples taken near the paleomagnetism samples showed reasonable agreement, supporting the hypothesis that the viscous overprint from heating of the petrophysics samples did not change the characteristic remanence direction.

Results from the hybrid AF and thermal demagnetization suite were rather mixed (Figure F74). The hybrid experiment began with thermal demagnetizations with temperature steps from 450°C under the assumption that lower coercivity magnetic components had already been demagnetized by the AF 200 mT step, potentially leaving behind higher coercivity components that could be thermally unblocked. Most samples exhibited a distinct Curie temperature, as evidenced by sharp drops in magnetization intensity around 570°–580°C, confirming magnetite as the primary magnetic carrier. However, despite providing evidence for magnetite as the dominant magnetic mineral, the signal remained largely unconstrained for the samples, especially after 580°C. This lack of constraint may be due to significant magnetization ($>10^{-3}$ A/m) prior to the thermal treatment. Although some samples showed better constrained ChRM directions, this protocol is not recommended because of both the shipboard timing constraints and the limited, useful, additional information it provided.

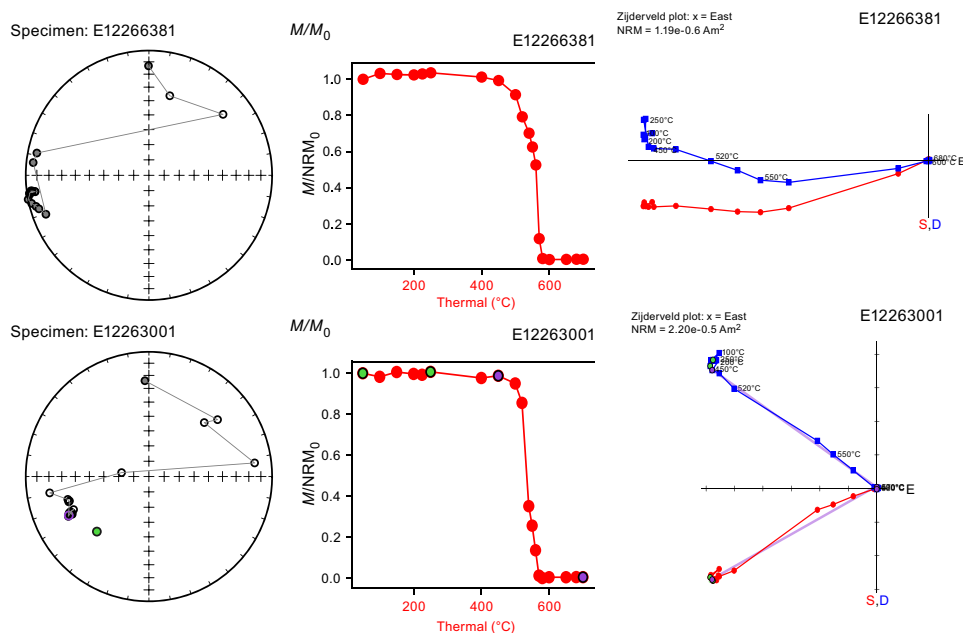


Figure F73. Representative example equal-area plot, relative intensity diagram, and vector endpoint diagram showing progressive thermal demagnetization from 50° to 700°C, Hole U1309D. Open circles in equal-area plots = upper hemisphere projections, solid circles = lower hemisphere projections. Red dots = measured points, lines = interpolations between them. Red dots with green interiors mark = first and last points in = data range used for PCA of first component, red dots with purple interiors = first and last points in data range used for principal component analysis of second component. These data are origin trending, an indicator that final vectors of analysis are ChRM directions and that most of the remanence was removed during demagnetization. Two vectors in Zijdeveld diagrams represent the orthogonal horizontal (blue) and vertical (red) components of the sample remanence directions. See Table T15 to relate a sample's cube number to its location.

Table T21. Bulk susceptibility measurements taken after each step of thermal demagnetization, Site U1309. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Combined together, the ChRM directions of discrete samples were in general agreement with the results from archive halves. Discrete samples reveal a strong clustering of inclinations near -30° to -40° . For this section of the hole, the average inclination values were calculated using the inclination only method of McFadden and Reid (1982), which averaged $-34.4^\circ (\pm 2.2^\circ; n = 50; \alpha_{95} = 0.375)$.

Much like the archive half, the magnetic intensity behavior for the gabbroic samples varied considerably throughout demagnetization. Statistically significant comparisons of magnetic behavior with other lithologic types could not be made because the majority of these discrete samples were gabbroic. Inclinations for the gabbroic samples, however, were quite uniform and consistent with reversed polarity. Discrete samples from the working half data agreed nicely with the continuous archive half data; inclination values were within $\sim 10^\circ$ of each other.

9.3. Rock magnetic characterizations

9.3.1. Königsberger ratio

The Königsberger ratio (Q) is a proxy of magnetic stability used to determine a rock's stable remanence (Koenigsberger, 1938). A Q value of ≥ 1 indicates that a rock is capable of maintaining a stable remanence. The ratio is calculated by taking the NRM intensity over the product of the magnetic susceptibility with the local H field, which for Hole U1309D is predicted to be 32.56 A/m (Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b). In general, the Königsberger ratios throughout the hole were >1.0 (Figure F75), indicating that the remanent magnetization was greater than the induced magnetization.

9.3.2. IRMs

Isothermal remanent magnetization (IRM) experiments, both acquisition and backfield, were carried out following demagnetization experiments (Tables T22, T23). Because of time constraints, only 15 of the 24 samples shared with petrophysics underwent IRM experiments. Samples were subjected to an impulse field along the $+z$ -axis using an ASC impulse magnetizer (model IM-10), with a progressively increasing field from 5 mT to 1.2 T. Afterward, coercivity spectra were

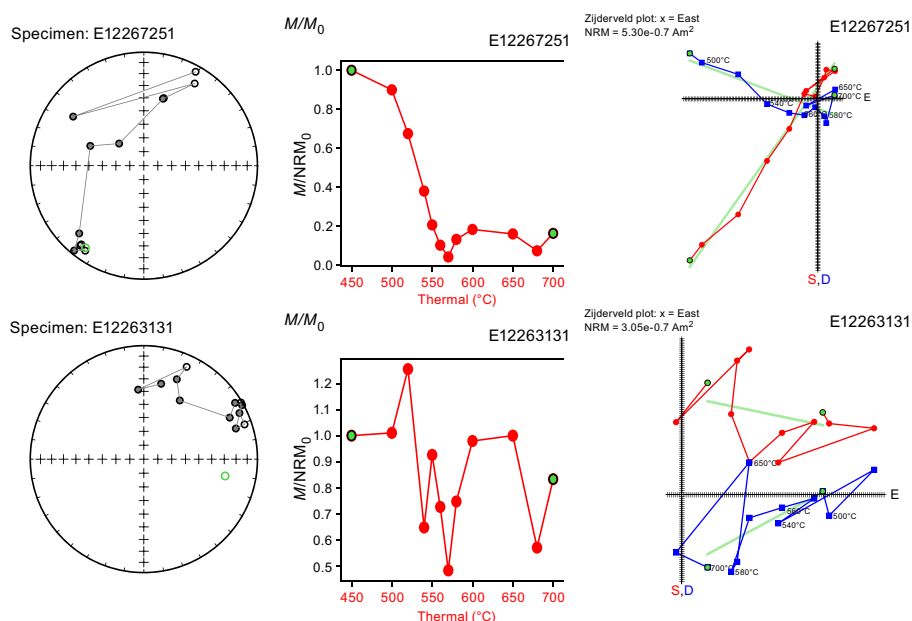


Figure F74. Representative example equal-area plot, relative intensity diagram, and vector endpoint diagram showing progressive thermal demagnetization from 450° to 700°C after 200 mT AF treatment, Hole U1309D. Open circles in equal-area plots = upper hemisphere projections, solid circles = lower hemisphere projections. Red dots = measured points, lines = interpolations between them. Red dots with green interiors = first and last points in data range used for PCA of first component. Two vectors in Zijderveld diagrams represent the orthogonal horizontal (blue) and vertical (red) components of sample remanence directions. Some patterns have been deduced from these data. See Table T15 to relate a sample's cube number to its location.

unmixed using the MAX UnMix program (Maxbauer et al., 2016), which is based off of a Cumulative Log Gaussian Function of magnetic carriers (Robertson and France, 1994):

$$\text{IRM}(B) = \frac{M_r}{\text{DP}(2\pi)^{(1/2)}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left[\frac{(\log(B) - \log(B_h))^2}{2\text{DP}^2}\right] d\log(B),$$

where

B = given field value,
 B_h = mean coercivity of an individual grain population,
 DP = dispersion parameter, and
 M_r = component saturation magnetic remanence.

From the coercivity spectra, one can observe that the magnetic remanence is likely held by two primary magnetic mineral populations, which have slightly different coercivities (Figure F76). These components were interpreted to represent (1) high magnetizing, low coercivity multi-domain magnetite/titanomagnetite and (2) high magnetizing, higher coercivity of pseudo-single domain-like magnetite (Egli, 2004).

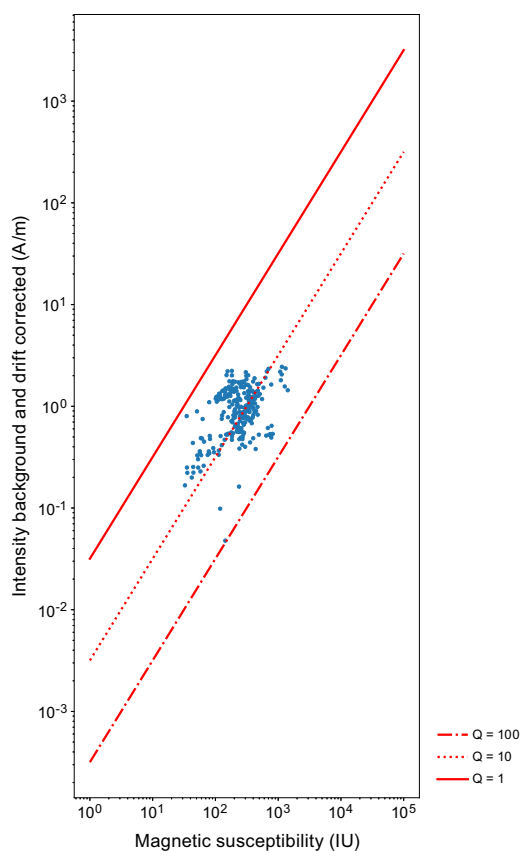


Figure F75. Log-log plot of NRM versus magnetic susceptibility of archive section halves and discrete samples, Hole U1309D. Distribution of values compared to lines of constant Q (Königsberger ratio of remanent to induced magnetization; calculated for field of 32.56 A/m) shows that remanence is substantially greater than induced magnetization in most samples. See Table T15 to relate a sample's cube number to its location.

Table T22. IRM results, Site U1309. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Table T23. Backfield IRM results, Site U1309. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

IRM backfield measurements place further constraints on the most coercive magnetic populations. Samples for both holes have characteristic H values that range 23–72 mT, with the distribution skewing more toward lower values (Table T24). These results provide evidence for predominantly multidomain and pseudo-single domain-like magnetite with minimal single domain grain populations.

9.3.3. Anisotropy of magnetic susceptibility

In total, magnetic anisotropy measurements were carried out on 50 discrete cube samples (26 paleomagnetism and 24 physical properties) from Hole U1309D (Table T25). Rock fabric through magnetic anisotropy is described by the triaxial ellipsoid with principal axes $K_1 \geq K_2 \geq K_3$ referring to maximum (K_{\max}), intermediate (K_{int}), and minimum (K_{\min}) susceptibility axes, respectively (Borradaile, 1991; Tarling and Hrouda, 1993). Identifying relationships between the different susceptibility axes is important for understanding the depth-wise magnetic petrofabric behavior. In this study, the main parameters include the mean magnetic susceptibility (K_m), calculated as $K_m = (K_{\max} + K_{\text{int}} + K_{\min})/3$. The ratios of K_{\max}/K_{int} and K_{int}/K_{\min} are used to infer the degrees of linear and planar magnetic fabric, respectively. The ratios are commonly referred to as the degree of magnetic lineation (L) and foliation (F). The other parameters used are the corrected anisotropy degree (P_j) and the shape parameter (T), which are derived from the relationships among K_m , K_{\max} , K_{int} , and K_{\min} (Hrouda, 1982; Jelinek, 1981; Yang et al., 2019). The parameter P_j is useful in identifying ellipsoid eccentricity for directional alignment, and the parameter T reflects the shape of the anisotropy ellipsoids. The parameter T ranges -1 to $+1$, indicating prolate or oblate shapes, respectively. The average magnetic susceptibility of the measured discrete cube samples is 3.378×10^{-3} SI, ranging 1.95×10^{-2} to 4.03×10^{-4} SI. The interface between minimum susceptibility (olivine gabbro) and maximum susceptibility (gabbro) is identified within a very close interval (Figure F77) between 1432.78 and 1434.8 mbsf, respectively. Additionally, the lowest values for L , F , and P_j were observed at ~ 1432 – 1438 mbsf (Figure F77). Values for the parameters F and L moderately increase between ~ 1440 and 1470 mbsf and are dominated by oblate magnetic fabrics. These data can be integrated into the larger Expedition 304/305 anisotropy of magnetic susceptibility (AMS) data set. The average degree of anisotropy for Hole U1309D is 1.121 ± 0.075 ($n = 50$) with values ranging 1.029–1.424. The average value of the parameter P_j suggests that most susceptibility tensors are moderately anisotropic, yet significantly higher degrees of anisotropy were noted in many coarse-grained gabbroic samples. The Jelinek and Flinn plots demonstrate a fair amount of scatter with a correlation indicating that the shapes are generally oblate. (Figure F78). Values for the

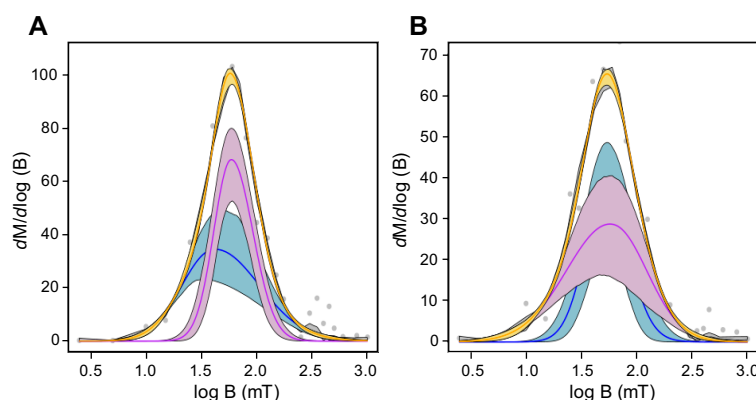


Figure F76. Representative coercivity spectras of sample Cubes (A) 12259461 and (B) 12266331. Black = best fit coercivity spectra line, yellow = 95% confidence interval of convolved components, pink = 95% confidence interval of largest component, blue = 95% confidence interval of smallest component. See Table T15 to relate a sample's cube number to its location.

Table T24. Characteristic H field for discrete samples subjected to backfield IRM experiments, Site U1309. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Table T25. AMS data for discrete samples, Hole U1309D. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

parameter T support this claim, ranging from the positive range of 0.017–0.907 in most of the discrete samples ($n = 30$). Samples from this hole predominantly exhibit an undeformed, slightly oblate magnetic fabric; however, some samples do show indications of localized deformation and compaction (Figure F78).

It was found that the sample K_{\max} axes form a broadly girdle distributed among a horizontal plane, the K_{int} axes are randomly scattered, and the K_{\min} axes are grouped subvertically (Figure F79A). The mean tensor and bootstrap calculated with Anisoft 5.2.02 version indicated that K_{\min} has a near vertical plunge. (Figure F79B). The loose azimuthal clustering of K_{\max} and K_{int} is likely an artifact because the core reference frame has no azimuthal significance. The distribution pattern of principal axes and recorded degrees of anisotropy are consistent with previous reported AMS data for this hole (see figure F249 and table T18 in Expedition 304/305 Scientists, 2006b). It is important to note that like Expedition 305, the directional data from this expedition's AMS work are in the core reference frame and have not been reoriented to the geographic reference frame.

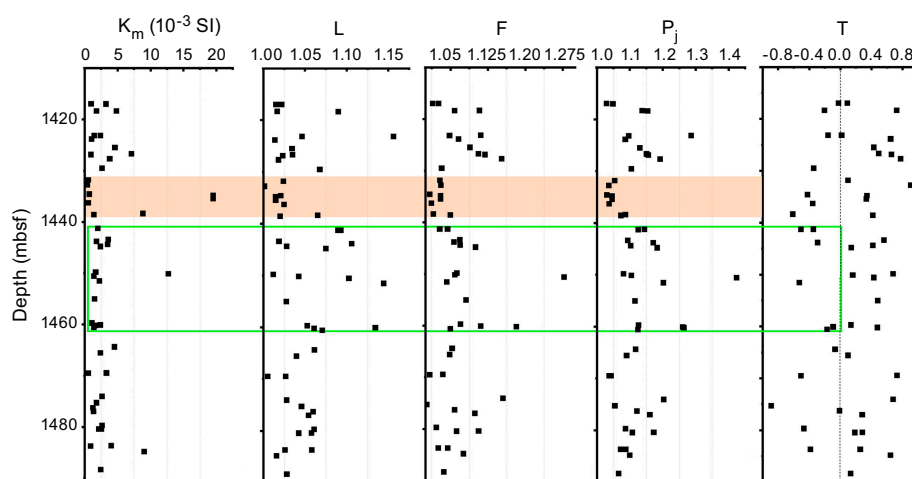


Figure F77. Downhole AMS parameters, Hole U1309D. For details of AMS parameters see main text.

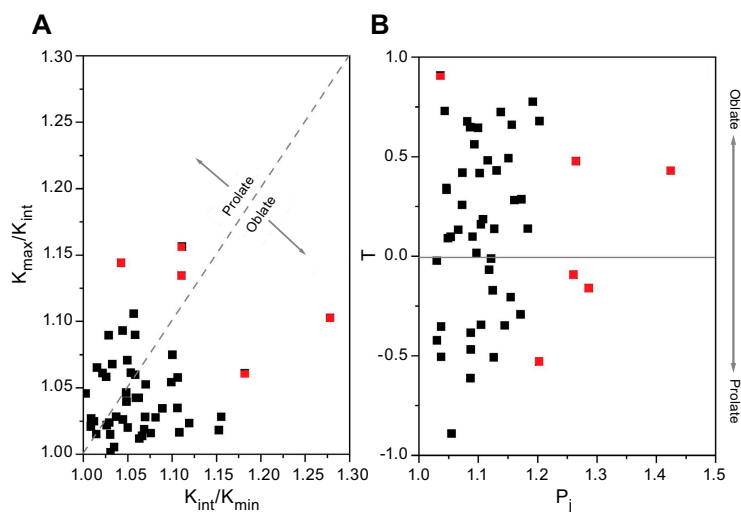


Figure F78. (A) K_{\max}/K_{int} versus K_{int}/K_{\min} in Flinn-type diagram and (B) relationship between P_j and T in Jelinek plot, Hole U1309D. Red = more anisotropic samples.

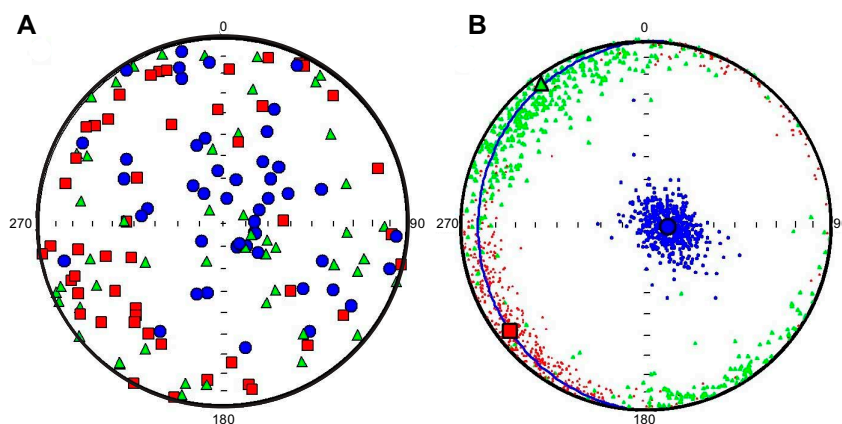


Figure F79. Lower hemisphere, equal-area projections showing (A) distribution of principal susceptibility axes (red squares = K_{\max} , green triangles = K_{int} , and blue circles = K_{\min}) in specimen coordinates system and (B) clustering of principal susceptibility axes with bootstrap extrapolations and foliation plane ($K_{\max} - K_{\text{int}}$), Hole U1309D. Blue curved line = foliation plane, large black circles = its pole.

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