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**Degassing of hydrous trachytic Campi Flegrei and phonolitic Vesuvius melts: Experimental
limitations and chances to study homogeneous bubble nucleation**

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6 **Abstract**

7 Melt degassing by bubble nucleation and growth is a driving mechanism of magma ascent.
8 Therefore, decompression experiments with hydrous silicate melts were used to investigate the
9 onset and the dynamics of H₂O degassing. Nominally H₂O-undersaturated trachytic Campi
10 Flegrei and phonolitic Vesuvius melts representative for the magma compositions of the Campi
11 Flegrei volcanic system were decompressed at a super-liquidus temperature of 1050 °C from 200
12 MPa to final pressures (P_{final}) of 100, 75 and 60 MPa using continuous decompression rates of
13 0.024 and 0.17 MPa·s⁻¹. Experiments started from either massive glass cylinders or glass powder
14 to demonstrate the influence of the starting material on melt degassing. Glass powder can be used
15 to shorten the equilibration time (t_{eq}) prior to decompression for dissolution of H₂O in the melt.
16 The decompressed samples were quenched and compared in terms of bubble number density
17 (N_V), porosity and residual H₂O content in the melt.

18 Decompression of all glass cylinder samples led to homogeneous bubble nucleation with high
19 N_V of $\sim 10^5$ mm⁻³. The supersaturation pressures for homogeneous bubble nucleation were
20 estimated to be <76 MPa for the trachytic and <70 MPa for the phonolitic melt. In contrast to
21 glass cylinders, the usage of glass powder equilibrated for 24 h before decompression prevented
22 homogeneous bubble nucleation during decompression. We suggest that trapped air in the
23 powder pore space resulted in the formation of tiny H₂O-N₂ bubbles throughout the samples prior
24 to decompression. Degassing of these glass powder samples was facilitated by diffusive growth
25 of these pre-existing bubbles and thus did not require significant H₂O supersaturation of the melt.
26 This is evidenced by several orders of magnitude lower N_V and lower residual H₂O contents at
27 correspondingly higher porosities compared to the glass cylinder samples. However, a significant
28 extension of t_{eq} to 96 h in the glass powder experiments led to degassing results comparable to

29 the glass cylinder samples. This effect is probably due to Ostwald ripening, coalescence and the
30 ascent of the pre-existing bubbles during the extended t_{eq} prior to decompression.

31 The N_V of the glass cylinder samples were used to test the applicability of the vesiculation
32 model provided by Toramaru (2006). For the applied decompression rates, the experimental N_V
33 are up to 5 orders of magnitude higher than the values predicted by the model. This may be
34 mainly attributed to the usage of the macroscopic surface tension and the total H₂O diffusivity in
35 the model to describe the molecular process of bubble nucleation. A significant increase in
36 modeled N_V can be achieved by application of a reduced surface tension in combination with the
37 lower diffusivity of network formers as a limiting parameter for the formation of a bubble
38 nucleus.

39 This study demonstrates that the investigation of homogeneous bubble nucleation necessitates
40 an optimized experimental protocol. We strongly recommend to perform experiments with
41 massive glass cylinders as starting material. The timescale of decompression is a limiting
42 parameter and must be short enough to minimize the opportunity for a reduction of N_V by bubble
43 coalescence. Considering our comparably high N_V , the samples of many previous experimental
44 studies that were used to calibrate models for homogeneous bubble nucleation were probably
45 subject to significant N_V reduction. Newly derived data from optimized experiments will require
46 improved models for homogeneous bubble nucleation during magma ascent.

47

48 **Keywords:** Campi Flegrei, magma ascent, decompression experiment, homogeneous bubble
49 nucleation, H₂O degassing, bubble number density

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Introduction

54 The Campi Flegrei (CF) are an active volcanic system in the Campanian plain close to the
55 densely populated area of Naples (Italy). The CF volcanism is characterized by mainly explosive
56 activity with both magmatic and hydromagmatic episodes (e.g. Mastrolorenzo and Pappalardo,
57 2006). The main structural feature is a nested caldera that formed during two main collapses
58 (Orsi et al., 1992) related to catastrophic eruptions: the 39 ka Campanian Ignimbrite (CI) and the
59 14 ka Neapolitan Yellow Tuff events. During the CI super-eruption 150-200 km³ dense rock
60 equivalent of magma were emitted and spread as ignimbrites over 30000 km² (De Vivo et al.,
61 2010; Rolandi et al., 2003). A geophysical anomaly beneath the whole Neapolitan area suggests a
62 huge and long-lived deep magma chamber shared by the CF and the Vesuvius stratovolcano,
63 which is in direct neighborhood to the city of Naples (Pappalardo and Mastrolorenzo, 2012). The
64 present bradyseism in the CF indicates magmatic activity that could lead to potentially
65 catastrophic eruptions that threaten millions of people in this highly populated area (De Vivo et
66 al., 2010). Such eruptions are driven by violent magmatic ‘degassing’. This term is used to
67 describe the exsolution of a supercritical fluid phase from the ascending magma due to
68 decreasing volatile solubility in the silicate melt. The driving degassing process is the exsolution
69 of H₂O from the melt as main volatile component in most magmatic systems (Sparks, 1978).
70 However, these dynamic degassing processes beneath volcanic systems cannot be observed
71 directly in nature. Therefore, the simulation of magma ascent by decompression experiments with
72 volatile-bearing silicate melts is essential to understand these processes.

73 Pressure (*P*) decrease during magma ascent results in volatile supersaturation in the melt that
74 initiates nucleation and growth of fluid bubbles. These processes cause a substantial density
75 decrease and influence the viscosity of the ascending magma (e.g. Gonnermann and Manga,
76 2007). Therefore, melt degassing is the driving force for increased ascent rates. In volatile-

77 saturated magmas, degassing during decompression can be facilitated by growth of pre-existing
78 bubbles. Increasing supersaturation during magma ascent may trigger heterogeneous and/or
79 homogeneous bubble nucleation and growth, depending on the presence of heterogeneous
80 nucleation sites such as crystals. In case of heterogeneous bubble nucleation, the required
81 supersaturation P can be significantly reduced compared to bubble nucleation in a crystal-free
82 homogeneous melt (Hurwitz and Navon, 1994; Toramaru, 1989). Increasing ascent velocities
83 may cause multiple nucleation events due to the change from a diffusion-controlled to a
84 viscosity-controlled regime (Toramaru, 1995). However, the occurrence of multiple nucleation
85 events is also dependent on the bubble number density (N_V) and the size of the pre-existing
86 bubbles (Toramaru, 2014). The bubble nucleation record can also be influenced by Ostwald
87 ripening and coalescence, both reducing N_V (Toramaru, 2006). The complex degassing history of
88 natural volcanic rocks often conceals the record of the onset of degassing. Therefore,
89 homogeneous bubble nucleation has already been investigated in experimental studies (e.g.
90 Gondé et al., 2011; Mangan and Sisson, 2000; Mourtada-Bonnefoi and Laporte, 2002).

91 In many other previous degassing studies glass- or natural volcanic rock powder was used as
92 starting material for decompression experiments (e.g. Gardner et al., 1999; Martel and Iacono-
93 Marziano, 2015; Mastrolorenzo and Pappalardo, 2006; Suzuki et al., 2007). Experiments starting
94 from glass powder and excess H₂O produce numerous small hydration bubbles in the melt prior
95 to decompression. Diffusive growth of such pre-existing hydration bubbles can inhibit nucleation
96 and growth of decompression bubbles in the fluid depleted drainage zone of the hydration
97 bubbles during decompression (Gardner et al., 1999; Larsen and Gardner, 2000). However, pre-
98 existing bubbles in the melt do not exclusively form due to excess H₂O in the capsule. Nominally
99 H₂O-undersaturated starting conditions using glass powder are suggested to produce air (or
100 simplified N₂) bubbles in the melt prior to decompression (Mourtada-Bonnefoi and Laporte,

101 2002; Simakin et al., 1999) due to the air in the pore space of the powder, which is entrapped
102 during capsule preparation. These bubbles in the melt may then have the same effect on
103 degassing as pre-existing hydration bubbles and facilitate equilibrium degassing paths during
104 decompression. Thus, it is important to consider the effects of starting material and volatile
105 contents in the experimental samples on degassing.

106 In this study, the H₂O degassing behavior of two magma compositions (a trachyte from the CI
107 super-eruption and a K-phonolite from the Vesuvius AD 79 plinian eruption) was investigated at
108 constant decompression rates to simulate the degassing scenarios of magma compositions
109 representative for the still active Campi Flegrei volcanic system. Decompression experiments
110 starting from glass powder and massive glass cylinders are compared in terms of the onset and
111 extent of degassing. The experimentally derived bubble number densities are used to test the
112 applicability of the vesiculation model of Toramaru (2006), which was developed for
113 homogeneous bubble nucleation at a constant decompression rate. Experimental limitations are
114 outlined and will contribute to improve the investigation of homogeneous bubble nucleation in
115 silicate melts.

116

117 **Experimental and analytical procedures**

118 **Starting material**

119 The starting glasses for all experiments were synthesized by mixing fired oxide (SiO₂, TiO₂,
120 Al₂O₃, FeO, MnO, MgO), dried carbonate (CaCO₃, Na₂CO₃, K₂CO₃) and (NH₄)₂HPO₄ powders
121 according to the analysis of the CI Triflisco composition (OF17c1-sp) and the Vesuvius “white
122 pumice” composition (VAD79) reported in Civetta et al. (1997) and Iacono Marziano et al.
123 (2007), respectively (Table 1). The powder mixtures were ground and homogenized for 30 min in
124 a zirconia ball mill and fused in a Pt₉₀Rh₁₀ crucible for 6 h at 1600 °C. Afterwards, the crucible

125 was rapidly quenched in water. The final homogenization was carried out by grinding the glass
126 batches for 20 min in the ball mill and fusing the glass powders for 1 h at 1600 °C. This step
127 leads to the formation of N₂-rich bubbles (due to entrapped air in the pore space of the glass
128 powders) during melting. Most of these bubbles ascended to the surface of the melt batch during
129 fusing. However, it is possible that some N₂-rich bubbles remained in the melts due to the limited
130 fusing timescale. The amount of residual bubbles is also influenced by bubble size and viscosity
131 of the melt that affect bubble ascent. Instead of a rapid quench in water, the melts were cooled
132 down moderately by an air-fan in order to inhibit tension cracks in the glass. The cooling rate was
133 fast enough to prevent the melt from partial crystallization. 6 - 7 mm long cylinders with 5 mm in
134 diameter were drilled out of the glasses and ground at the edges. For the applied decompression
135 rates in this study, Marxer et al. (2015) showed that 5 mm cylinders provide sufficient space for
136 homogeneous bubble nucleation and growth in the capsule center that is unaffected by
137 heterogeneous bubble nucleation processes at the capsule-melt interface and the corresponding
138 diffusional loss of H₂O towards the capsule wall.

139 A calibrated 10 ml pycnometer ($\pm 5 \mu\text{l}$) was used to determine the porosity of several glass
140 cylinders. The reference densities of the nominally dry, bubble-free glasses were calculated by
141 the model of Appen (1949) modified by Kloess (2000). The resulting density of the CI glass is
142 $2508 \text{ g}\cdot\text{l}^{-1}$ and $2496 \text{ g}\cdot\text{l}^{-1}$ for the VAD79 glass. The pycnometer density measurements of the CI
143 glass cylinders ($2507 \pm 15 \text{ g}\cdot\text{l}^{-1}$, 4 cylinders measured) matched the calculated density for the CI
144 composition and indicate porosities $< 1 \%$. The derived porosity of the VAD79 glass cylinders
145 ($2403 \pm 48 \text{ g}\cdot\text{l}^{-1}$, 10 cylinders measured) varies between 1 - 6 %. These porosities are confirmed by
146 bubble phase proportions derived from image analysis of halved glass cylinders.

147 After drilling, the residual glasses were crushed and different grain size fractions were
148 separated by sieving. A 1:1 weight fraction mixture of grain sizes from 500 – 200 μm and < 200

149 μm was used as starting material to minimize the porosity during capsule preparation. The
150 porosity of the powder was determined by complete filling and weighing a cylindrical steel
151 container with 5 mm inner diameter and 10 mm height. The loose powder mixture has a porosity
152 of ~46 %. Compaction of the powder with a piston and a hammer in a cylindrical steel container
153 with 5 mm inner diameter resulted in a porosity of ~29 %, which is suggested to be the initial
154 porosity of powder in the filled capsule.

155

156 **Capsule preparation**

157 Gold-Palladium ($\text{Au}_{80}\text{Pd}_{20}$) was chosen as capsule material for all experimental runs because
158 of the temperature (T) range of the experiments (1300 – 1050 °C) and to inhibit iron loss from the
159 melt into the capsule material (e.g. Kawamoto and Hirose, 1994). $\text{Au}_{80}\text{Pd}_{20}$ tubes (inner diameter
160 5 mm, wall thickness 0.2 mm) were cleaned in acetone and annealed at 850 °C under atmospheric
161 conditions over night to soften the material for further processing. All experiments were
162 performed in 13 mm long capsules with a welded lid at the bottom. The capsules were loaded
163 with either glass powder (~220 mg, compacted with a piston) or a glass cylinder (~280 mg) and
164 additional H_2O . The capsule top was crimped with a drill chuck and welded shut. Possible
165 leakage was checked gravimetrically after heating the capsules at 110 °C for at least one hour.
166 Additionally, all capsules were pressurized at room temperature for a few minutes in a cold-seal
167 pressure vessel at 100 MPa with water as pressure medium to ensure the structural integrity of the
168 capsule. A gain of weight due to the infiltration of water into the capsules through microscopic
169 leaks was not observed.

170

171 **Experimental method**

172 All experiments were conducted in a vertically operated internally heated argon pressure
173 vessel (IHPV) at intrinsic oxygen fugacity (fO_2) conditions. At H₂O-saturated conditions, the fO_2
174 was determined to be ~ 3.5 log units above the fO_2 of the quartz-fayalite-magnetite (QFM) solid
175 oxygen buffer (Berndt et al., 2002). The IHPV is equipped with a rapid quench (RQ) device that
176 facilitates a maximum sample cooling rate of approximately $150 \text{ K}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ (Berndt et al., 2002),
177 depending slightly on the mass and the heat conductivity of the capsule. At RQ, the capsule is
178 dropped from the hot spot zone into the cold quench zone of the sample holder. Rapid cooling
179 causes tension cracks in the glassy state. To minimize cracks in the samples, a 55 mm long
180 ceramic filler rod was inserted into the quench zone to slightly reduce the cooling rate during RQ
181 of our experiments. Alternatively, shutting down the furnace while the capsule remains
182 suspended in the hot spot zone quenches a sample with a lower cooling rate of $\sim 150 \text{ K}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$ and
183 is referred to as normal quench (NQ) in this study. Both RQ and NQ were performed isobarically.

184

185 **Isobaric experiments**

186 A set of three isobaric experiments (IB-C-1a, IB-C-b, IB-C-2, Table 2) starting from CI glass
187 cylinders was performed to check the equilibration time (t_{eq}) for a homogeneous dissolution of
188 H₂O within the melt and to characterize the starting conditions just before decompression. The
189 samples with ~ 4.7 wt% H₂O were run at 200 MPa and 1300 °C for a t_{eq} of 96 h. The equilibration
190 temperature (T_{eq}) of 1300 °C was chosen to keep t_{eq} as short as possible, because the total H₂O
191 diffusion in silicate melts increases exponentially with T (e.g. Nowak and Behrens, 1997). After
192 t_{eq} , one sample was quenched rapidly, whereas the T for the other two samples was lowered to the
193 decompression temperature of 1050 °C. After an additional annealing time of 30 min, these two
194 samples were quenched by either RQ or NQ to investigate the influence of the cooling rate on the

195 hydrous melt. Isobaric experiments with the VAD79 composition (REF02-12) are documented in
196 Marxer et al. (2015).

197 A set of four isobaric experiments with CI glass powder as starting material was conducted at
198 200 MPa and 1300 °C with different H₂O contents (Table 2). These powder samples were
199 equilibrated for 24 h and quenched rapidly. The resulting H₂O-bearing glasses (IB-P-1 to 4) were
200 used to verify the near infrared (NIR) absorption coefficients for the trachytic composition (Table
201 2) given in Fanara et al. (2015). The NIR measurements of the isobaric samples showed that t_{eq} 's
202 of 96 h for cylinders (IB-C-1a, IB-C-b, REF12) and 24 h for powder (IB-P-4) are sufficient to
203 dissolve H₂O in the melt homogeneously.

204

205 **Decompression experiments**

206 Four sets of degassing experiments starting from nominally H₂O-undersaturated conditions
207 using both glass powder and massive cylinders were conducted with identical decompression
208 parameters to investigate the influence of the starting material on melt degassing. CI and VAD79
209 samples were equilibrated with about 4.7 wt% H₂O at 200 MPa and 1300 °C. The t_{eq} was always
210 96 h for experiments starting from glass cylinders. The powder samples were equilibrated for
211 either 24 or 96 h (Table 3) to investigate the effect of t_{eq} on melt degassing. After t_{eq} , the T was
212 lowered to 1050 °C and the samples were annealed for 30 min. Starting from these super-liquidus
213 conditions (Fanara et al., 2012; Iacono Marziano et al., 2007; Marxer et al., 2015), isothermal
214 decompression was performed by continuous P release using a high-pressure low-flow metering
215 valve equipped with a piezoelectric nano-positioning system (Marxer et al., 2015; Nowak et al.,
216 2011). The continuous decompression rate was either 0.024 or 0.17 MPa·s⁻¹ down to a final
217 pressure (P_{final}) of 100 MPa. Further glass cylinder samples were decompressed to a lower P_{final}
218 of 75 and 60 MPa (Table 3). At P_{final} , all samples were quenched rapidly at isobaric conditions.

219

220 **Sample preparation**

221 Several pieces of the CI and VAD79 starting glasses from different locations in the melting
222 crucible were embedded in epoxy resin racks for chemical analysis by electron microprobe
223 (EMP). The surfaces of all racks were ground, polished and coated with carbon using a carbon
224 sputterer. After the experiments, the capsules were checked for weight loss due to possible
225 leakage. The capsules were cut longitudinal along the cylinder axis in two halves. One half was
226 directly embedded in epoxy resin racks for examination with a scanning electron microscope
227 (SEM) to generate high-resolution backscattered electron (BSE) images. The other half of a
228 sample was removed from the capsule, embedded and double-sided ground and polished down to
229 a thickness of 150 - 200 μm for Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) measurements and transmitted
230 light microscopy (TLM).

231

232 **EMP analysis**

233 The nominally dry CI and VAD79 starting glasses were analyzed by WDS measurements
234 using a JEOL JXA 8900 R electron microprobe at an accelerating voltage of 15 kV and a beam
235 current of 4 nA. The glasses were analyzed with a defocused beam of 20 μm in diameter to
236 inhibit loss of alkalis (Stelling et al. 2008). The peak counting times were set to 10 s (Na), 16 s
237 (Si, Al, Fe, Mg, Ca, K) and 30 s (Ti, Mn, P). The results of these WDS analyses are presented in
238 Table 1.

239

240 **FTIR spectroscopy**

241 The residual total H₂O concentrations of the glasses were determined by NIR measurements
242 with a Bruker Vertex 80v FTIR-spectrometer. A CaF₂ beam splitter and a halogen light source

243 were used. The spectrometer is coupled to a Hyperion 3000 IR-microscope with a motorized
244 sample stage, enabling sequences of spatially resolved measurements. NIR absorption spectra
245 from 4000 to 6000 cm^{-1} of the glasses were recorded in transmission mode using a 15x IR
246 Cassegrain objective and an In-Sb single element detector. The spectra were collected with 32 -
247 50 scans at a resolution of 4 cm^{-1} . The spectrometer was evacuated and the microscope was
248 flushed continuously with dried air to minimize influence of atmospheric H_2O . The knife-edge
249 aperture was set to 30x30 (VAD79) or 50x50 μm (CI) and reference spectra were taken without a
250 sample in the beam path. The total H_2O content was determined from the peak heights of
251 absorption bands at 5210 cm^{-1} (molecular H_2O) and 4470 cm^{-1} (OH^-) as sum of the species
252 concentrations (e.g. Behrens and Nowak, 2003; Scholze, 1960). Tangential baselines fitting the
253 minima on both sides of each band (Ohlhorst et al., 2001) were used for the trachytic samples. A
254 linear background correction was applied to the phonolitic samples (Iacono Marziano et al.,
255 2007). A Mitutoyo digital micrometer was used to measure the thickness of the samples with an
256 accuracy of 2 - 3 μm . The molar absorption coefficients and the density (ρ) data of the hydrous
257 CI glasses were adopted from Fanara et al. (2015). The absorption coefficients are 0.98(3) and
258 1.19(2) $\text{l}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}\cdot\text{cm}^{-1}$ for the 5210 and 4470 cm^{-1} band, respectively. The density was calculated by
259 the equation ($\rho [\text{g}\cdot\text{l}^{-1}] = 2457-24\cdot\text{wt}\% \text{H}_2\text{O}$) using the gravimetrically determined initial H_2O
260 contents. The corresponding data for the VAD79 composition are provided in Iacono Marziano et
261 al. (2007). The densities of the hydrous VAD79 glasses were calculated by ($\rho [\text{g}\cdot\text{l}^{-1}] = 2470-$
262 $13\cdot\text{wt}\% \text{H}_2\text{O}$) and the molar absorption coefficients are 1.18(11) and 1.14(9) $\text{l}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}\cdot\text{cm}^{-1}$ for the
263 5210 and the 4470 cm^{-1} bands, respectively. Total H_2O concentration distance profiles of the
264 hydrous glasses of isobaric experiments were monitored by at least 10 individual NIR
265 measurements parallel and perpendicular to the cylinder axis and averaged H_2O contents are
266 presented in Table 2.

267

268 **SEM and 2D image analysis**

269 BSE images of polished sample sections were recorded with a LEO 1450 VP SEM. Each
270 sample was mapped by taking 80 - 130 single images with a resolution of 1024x768 pixels at a
271 magnification of 120 - 300x. Additionally for sample CD-C-5, four different excerpt areas were
272 mapped at a higher magnification of 880 - 1100x. The single images were stitched together and
273 used to determine the bubble number density (N_V) in suitable samples. The bubble number
274 density normalized to pure melt or glass volume ($N_V(n)$) provides information about nucleation
275 processes during decompression. The bubble intersections were redrawn in a separate image layer
276 and loaded into the ImageJ 1.47 software (Schneider et al., 2012). The bubble intersections were
277 fit with ellipses to determine 2D porosities of the vitrified samples. The axes lengths of the
278 ellipses were imported into the CSDCorrections software (Higgins, 2000) for the calculation of
279 3D porosities and bubble number densities. A detailed description of this method is provided in
280 Marxer et al. (2015).

281 The intersection probability of bubbles (or other objects) in a 2D cut plane decreases with the
282 3D bubble diameter (e.g. Higgins, 2006). The corresponding decrease in the 2D intersection
283 diameter (and in depth of the bubble pit in a polished sample) may complicate proper
284 identification and distinction from other surface features of the specimen. Bubble number
285 densities based on direct 3D sample information may therefore be more reliable in case of very
286 small bubbles on a μm scale. For this study, the N_V -values of samples or parts of samples that
287 contain such small bubbles were determined using transmitted light microscopy.

288

289 **Transmitted light microscopy**

290 The NIR samples were also examined with a Zeiss Axio Imager M2m microscope to obtain
291 3D information on N_V in samples with bubbles of only several μm diameter. The microscope is
292 equipped with a motorized sample stage. The Fission Track Studio software “Trackworks”
293 (Autoscan Systems) was used to manually count all observable bubbles in selected sample
294 volumes. The analyzed cuboid volume is confined by the field of view and the thickness of the
295 glass section. The field of view was either $87 \times 65 \mu\text{m}$ or $175 \times 132 \mu\text{m}$ depending on the used
296 objective (50x and 100x). The bubble counts were used to calculate the number of bubbles per
297 total unit volume of glass and bubbles per mm^3 ($N_V(t)$). TLM provides the actual 3D diameters of
298 bubbles (e.g. Gardner et al., 1999). The averaged bubble diameters and the bubble counts were
299 used to estimate the porosities and to calculate the $N_V(n)$ of the samples.

300

301

Results

302 Isobaric experiments

303 Concentration distance profiles of the hydrous glasses from isobaric experiments measured by
304 FTIR revealed homogeneous distribution of H_2O (averaged H_2O contents presented in Table 2)
305 throughout the glass cylinders without concentration gradients. Examination of the CI and
306 VAD79 starting materials using TLM and SEM revealed that the nominally dry glasses
307 (quenched by air fan cooling) are free of crystals and only contain some air bubbles that resulted
308 from glass synthesis. In contrast, the samples of the isobaric CI experiments with $\sim 4.7 \text{ wt}\% \text{H}_2\text{O}$
309 starting from glass cylinders and powder (IB-C-1a, IB-C-b, IB-P-4, RQ, Table 2) contain
310 numerous, not clearly recognizable objects $< 1 \mu\text{m}$ in size. Figure 1a shows small objects in the
311 glass of sample IB-C-1b quenched from $1050 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$. The number density of objects in these RQ
312 samples ranges between $1 \cdot 10^5$ and $4.5 \cdot 10^5 \text{ mm}^{-3}$ (Table 3). The CI sample with $\sim 4.7 \text{ wt}\% \text{H}_2\text{O}$
313 quenched from 1050°C with a cooling rate of about $150 \text{ K} \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$ (IB-C-2, NQ) shows needle-

314 shaped and radially aggregated quench crystals of up to 13 μm length (Figs. 1b and 1c) with an
315 aggregate number density of $7 \cdot 10^4 \text{ mm}^{-3}$. The rapidly quenched, hydrous VAD79 cylinder sample
316 (REF12, Table 2) is homogeneous without quench crystals or other small objects. The same
317 observation can be made for the two CI samples (RQ) with the lowest H_2O contents of about 1
318 and 2 wt% (IB-P-1 and IB-P-2, Table 2). The samples IB-P-1 to IB-P-4 with different H_2O
319 contents were used to verify the NIR absorption coefficients for the trachytic composition given
320 in Fanara et al. (2015). The measured H_2O contents match the gravimetrically obtained values
321 within error (Table 2).

322

323 **Decompression Experiments**

324 The BSE images of the samples decompressed to a P_{final} of 100 MPa with both
325 decompression rates reveal significant differences in degassing behavior between samples
326 starting from massive glass cylinders and glass powder equilibrated for 24 h prior to
327 decompression (Figs. 2 and 3). Images of the complete halved capsules are provided in the
328 electronic appendix (eFigs. 1-13). The BSE images suggest that cylinder samples are bubble-free,
329 but the TLM images reveal very small bubbles with diameters $<4 \mu\text{m}$ (Figs. 4a and 4c). In
330 contrast, the powder samples, which were equilibrated for 24 h (CD-P-1 and CD-P-24 at 0.17
331 $\text{MPa} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ and CD-P-2a, CD-P-22 at $0.024 \text{ MPa} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$, Fig. 2), show high porosities up to 14 % and
332 are characterized by low $N_V(n)$ of big bubbles ($87 - 215 \text{ mm}^{-3}$, Table 3). Moreover, CD-P-1 shows
333 a heterogeneous distribution of these big bubbles and a belt of much smaller bubbles in the center
334 of the sample (Fig. 3, eFigs. 5a and 5b). This results in two different $N_V(n)$ -values of 215 mm^{-3}
335 for the big bubbles and $2 \cdot 10^5 \text{ mm}^{-3}$ for the belt of small bubbles. The corresponding glass
336 cylinder samples (CD-C-1, CD-C-23 at $0.17 \text{ MPa} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ and CD-C-2, CD-C-25 at $0.024 \text{ MPa} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$,
337 Fig. 2) reveal very high $N_V(n)$ of $2 \cdot 10^5$ to $6 \cdot 10^5 \text{ mm}^{-3}$ with bubble diameters of 1 - 4 μm that result

338 in porosities <1 %. These small bubbles are not observable in BSE images (Figs. 2 and 3).
339 Transmitted light images of CD-C-1 and CD-C-2 exhibit small objects in the vicinity of bubbles
340 to which the bubble surface is extended by a thin neck (Fig. 5). In contrast to the powder
341 experiments with a t_{eq} of 24 h, the samples CD-P-2b and CD-P-32 that were equilibrated for 96 h
342 (Figs. 2 and 4) show the same degassing texture of small bubbles with high $N_V(n)$ of $2 \cdot 10^5$ to
343 $3 \cdot 10^5 \text{ mm}^{-3}$ as the corresponding glass cylinder samples (CD-C-2 and CD-C-25) (Figs. 2 and 4).

344 The CI glass cylinder samples decompressed to a P_{final} of 75 MPa (CD-C-3 at $0.024 \text{ MPa} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$
345 and CD-C-4 at $0.17 \text{ MPa} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$, Fig. 6) are characterized by higher porosities and bigger bubble
346 sizes. Within error, the $N_V(n)$ -values are similar to those of the cylinder samples quenched at a
347 P_{final} of 100 MPa (Table 3). The BSE image of sample CD-C-4 suggests that bubbles are limited
348 to the lower part of the glass cylinder (Fig. 6 and eFig. 3a). However, both specimens (CD-C-3,
349 CD-C-4) also contain homogeneously distributed small bubbles ($<4 \mu\text{m}$) in the upper part of the
350 cylinder similar to CD-C-2 (Fig. 4a). The bubbles located at the capsule-melt interface in CD-C-3
351 (Fig. 6, eFigs. 2a and 2b) are more numerous and clearly bigger than the corresponding bubbles
352 in CD-C-4 (Fig. 6, eFigs. 3a and 3b), which was decompressed with the higher decompression
353 rate. The capsule lid at the bottom of CD-C-3 is not decorated with bubbles. Instead, this sample
354 features some big bubbles in the center of the glass cylinder. The sample area around each of
355 these big bubbles is free of the small bubbles (excerpt Fig. 6).

356 The CI glass cylinder sample CD-C-5 decompressed to a P_{final} of 60 MPa at $0.17 \text{ MPa} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ was
357 removed from the capsule during sample preparation. The bubbles located at the former capsule-
358 melt interface are therefore only partly visible (Figs. 7a and 7b, eFigs. 1a and 1b). The BSE
359 image suggests a homogeneous distribution of bubbles with an average diameter of $8 \mu\text{m}$ within
360 the sample, but the TLM image of the whole sample (Fig. 7b) reveals convection patterns, which
361 are suggested to be induced by a density gradient due to massive bubble nucleation. The porosity

362 and the $N_V(n)$ -values were obtained from the BSE images using the CSDCorrections software
363 (Higgins, 2000). The mean $N_V(n)$ -value of $\sim 7 \cdot 10^5 \text{ mm}^{-3}$ (average of four different areas
364 containing more than 400 bubble intersections) is comparable to the $N_V(n)$ -of the cylinder
365 samples decompressed to a P_{final} of 75 and 100 MPa (Table 3). The mean porosity of $\sim 10\%$ is the
366 highest of all decompressed cylinder samples. The bubble size distribution (BSD) of sample area
367 4 is characterized by a near-linear trend with a narrow size range from 3 to 13 μm (Fig. 7c).

368 The equilibrium solubility of H_2O at a P_{final} of 100 MPa and 1050 $^\circ\text{C}$ is $\sim 3.5 \text{ wt}\%$ for both the
369 CI and the VAD79 composition (Fanara et al., 2015; Iacono Marziano et al., 2007). The
370 measured H_2O contents of samples originating from glass powder with a t_{eq} of 24 h and a P_{final} of
371 100 MPa are closer to the equilibrium H_2O content than the cylinder samples (Table 3). NIR
372 measurements of the highly vesiculated glass cylinder and powder samples with a t_{eq} of 96 h
373 result in values close to the initial H_2O concentration prior to decompression. This also applies
374 for the CI cylinder samples decompressed to a P_{final} of 75 MPa (Table 3). In the upper part of the
375 sample CD-C-3 (Fig. 6, eFigs. 2a and 2b), where the homogeneously distributed small bubbles
376 are present in the volume measured by NIR, the measured H_2O content ($\sim 4.57 \text{ wt}\%$) is near the
377 initial H_2O content of 4.78 wt%. One exception is the bubble-depleted area around the big
378 bubbles in this sample (excerpt Fig. 6). The residual H_2O content of the pure glass in the bubble-
379 depleted zone ($\sim 3 \text{ wt}\%$, Table 3) is close to the extrapolated solubility of the CI melt at 75 MPa
380 (2.89 wt%) as derived from the solubility data of Fanara et al. (2015). The residual H_2O content
381 of sample CD-C-5 decompressed to a P_{final} of 60 MPa could not be determined by NIR
382 measurements due to high $N_V(n)$ -values of $\sim 7 \cdot 10^5 \text{ mm}^{-3}$. The calculated residual H_2O content of
383 $\sim 3.2 \text{ wt}\%$ derived from the corrected melt porosity is still higher than the extrapolated
384 equilibrium solubility at 60 MPa (2.61 wt%).

385

386

Discussion

387 Quench crystal formation

388 The NQ isobaric experiment resulted in the formation of quench crystal aggregates consisting
389 of ~ 13 μm long needle-shaped crystals in the CI melt containing ~ 4.7 wt% H_2O (Fig. 1b). We
390 suggest that the smaller, unidentified objects in the corresponding RQ isobaric experiments with
391 the CI melt (~ 4.7 wt% H_2O , both powder and cylinder, both quenched from 1050 and 1300 $^\circ\text{C}$)
392 are also crystals that formed during cooling (Fig. 1a). The RQ samples from the two isobaric CI
393 experiments with the lowest H_2O contents in the melt do not contain any objects. Thus, the
394 effectiveness of quench crystal formation is controlled by the cooling rate and the H_2O content of
395 the melt that influences the glass transition temperature (T_g) (Dingwell and Webb, 1990; Morizet
396 et al., 2007). A faster cooling rate leads to a higher T_g , whereas a higher H_2O content in the melt
397 reduces T_g . The quench crystals in the RQ samples of isobaric experiments with 4.7 wt% H_2O are
398 smaller than those in the NQ sample, because the time for crystallization is shorter. Furthermore,
399 diffusivity of components required for crystal formation and growth decreases with decreasing
400 H_2O content of the melt (Koepke and Behrens, 2001). This explains the absence of any detectable
401 quench crystals in the nominally dry starting material and the two isobaric CI experiments with
402 the lowest H_2O contents in the melt. The VAD79 samples do not contain any detectable quench
403 crystals (Table 1). The small differences in CI and VAD79 bulk composition have a negligible
404 influence on T_g but obviously have an impact on crystal nucleation and crystallization kinetics.
405 Both the starting glass and other samples of isobaric experiments (REF02-06 and REF12 from
406 Marxer et al., 2015) do not contain any detectable crystals.

407 The number densities of quench crystal aggregates (N_C) in the samples of the isobaric CI
408 experiments are within the same order of magnitude ($\sim 10^5$ mm^{-3}) as the N_V of the bubbles in the
409 cylinder samples decompressed to 100 MPa (Tables 2 and 3). On a first glance, this could be a

410 hint that the bubbles in the decompressed CI cylinders nucleated heterogeneously on the quench
411 crystals and initiated degassing during cooling. However, crystals can also nucleate
412 heterogeneously on the surface of bubbles (Davis and Ihinger, 1998). Some of the decompressed
413 CI samples contain bubbles that are connected to smaller objects by a thin neck (Fig. 5). These
414 objects are suggested to be quench crystals, probably magnetite which is liquidus-phase at $T \leq$
415 $1000\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ in the CI system (Fanara et al., 2012). Similar bubbles connected by a neck to oxide
416 microlites that were already present in the melt during decompression were observed by Hurwitz
417 and Navon (1994). They presumed that this unstable bubble neck forms due to the shrinkage of
418 the H_2O -filled bubble during isobaric RQ, which has been investigated further by Marxer et al.
419 (2015). A significant volume reduction of a bubble is only expected, if the bubble already existed
420 prior to RQ. Considering the size of the bubble in comparison to the crystal, it would be
421 conceivable that the crystals found in the decompressed CI samples formed at a later stage on the
422 surfaces of existing bubbles and did not affect melt degassing. Quench crystals were not observed
423 in sample CD-C-5 decompressed to a P_{final} of 60 MPa. The absence of quench crystals in this
424 sample is further proof that crystals observed in some samples of isobaric experiments (Table 2)
425 and decompression experiments (Table 3) formed after the nucleation of bubbles during quench.
426 However, small quench crystals $<1\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ might not be visible by TLM due to high $N_V(n)$ in
427 combination with bigger mean bubble diameters. The $N_V(n)$ -values of the decompressed CI
428 cylinders are also comparable to those determined in the corresponding VAD79 samples (Table
429 3), which do not show any evidence of quench crystal formation. Even if heterogeneous bubble
430 nucleation during quench occurred, it does not affect the principle observations and
431 interpretations made for the comparison of the different starting materials glass powder and
432 massive glass cylinders.

433

434 **The powder problem**

435 Previous studies already indicated that glass powder as starting material might not be
436 appropriate to study bubble nucleation processes in silicate melts (e.g. Gardner et al., 1999;
437 Iacono Marziano et al., 2007; Mourtada-Bonnefoi and Laporte, 2002; Simakin et al., 1999). The
438 degassing process can be influenced by the growth of pre-existing bubbles in the capsule prior to
439 decompression. Hydration bubbles (Gardner et al., 1999) in our samples were avoided by starting
440 from nominally H₂O-undersaturated conditions, but the reduction of additional water in the
441 capsule increases the pore volume in powder samples that is filled with air.

442 The amount of entrapped air (assumed as 100 % N₂) in the capsules of our experiments can
443 be calculated considering the capsule dimensions, the pure glass volume and the amount of added
444 water. Once sealed, the capsules have a total free volume of about 157 mm³. The compacted glass
445 powder has a porosity of ~29 %. Assuming that the whole free capsule volume is filled with ~220
446 mg powder and considering ~11 mm³ of added water for samples with 4.7 wt% H₂O, the pore
447 volume is at least ~35 mm³. This corresponds to ~177 ppm N₂ at atmospheric conditions. The
448 calculated amounts of entrapped N₂ are minimum values for optimal powder compaction
449 assuming no free volume in the capsule headspace above the sample. During heating and melting,
450 the H₂O-N₂ fluid mixture (X_{H_2O} near 1) in the pore space will form bubbles throughout the whole
451 sample. After preferential dissolution of H₂O, H₂O-N₂ bubbles with slightly decreased X_{H_2O}
452 (fluid) will remain in the melt. The usage of a more fine-grained powder leads to smaller pores
453 and probably smaller H₂O-N₂ bubbles in the melt after equilibration, but the total porosity will
454 not decrease. If pre-hydrated glass powder is used as starting material this problem is even more
455 severe (e.g. Fiege et al., 2014), because the amount of enclosed N₂ is higher due to lacking water
456 in the powder pore space prior to the decompression experiments.

457 If massive glass cylinders are used, the free volume in the capsule is lower. Cylinders used in
458 this study were 5 mm in diameter and 6.5 mm in height resulting in a volume of $\sim 127 \text{ mm}^3$. To
459 attain H_2O contents of about 4.7 wt% in the melt, $\sim 13 \text{ mm}^3 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$ have to be added considering a
460 cylinder weight of $\sim 280 \text{ mg}$. The remaining free volume of at least 17 mm^3 in our capsules
461 contained $\sim 86 \text{ ppm N}_2$. But in contrast to glass powder, the N_2 is enclosed in the headspace of the
462 capsule or free volumes at the sample-capsule interface that will form one or more bigger
463 bubbles, if the glass cylinder is free of air bubbles. The amount of N_2 in experiments starting
464 from cylinders increases, if the glass contains a residual porosity due to the synthesis from
465 powder at $1600 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$. The amount of entrapped N_2 in porous glass cylinders was estimated from
466 density measurements with the pycnometer. A maximum porosity of 6 % for the VAD79 glass
467 cylinders would result in only $\sim 3 \text{ ppm}$ trapped N_2 under atmospheric conditions. This calculation
468 is based on the assumptions, that the bubbles in the synthesized batch contain 100% N_2 and that
469 the bubble sizes are preserved at T_g of $665 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ during a moderate quench at atmospheric
470 conditions. T_g was calculated for a residue of 0.1 wt% H_2O in the melt using the model of
471 Giordano et al. (2008). Further cooling of the porous glass to ambient T reduces P_{N_2} in the
472 bubbles of the glass batch to $\sim 30 \text{ kPa}$ and the trapped amount of N_2 is correspondingly low. N_2 -
473 filled bubbles in the glass cylinders are therefore far less critical than the powder pore space.
474 However, higher porosities in glass cylinders could still lead to problems, if the entrapped
475 amount N_2 within the cylinder sample does not completely dissolve in the melt prior to
476 decompression.

477 To date only few studies about nitrogen solubility in hydrous silicate melts were performed
478 for the applied P - T and $f\text{O}_2$ range (Carroll and Webster, 1994; Libourel et al., 2003; Miyazaki et
479 al., 2004; Roskosz et al., 2013). N_2 and Ar have comparable atomic/molecular dimensions and
480 comparable solubility (Carroll and Webster, 1994). The similarity in solubility supports the view

481 that nitrogen dissolves physically in silicate melts at QFM+3.5 as non-reactive N₂ molecules
482 (Libourel et al., 2003). The N₂ solubility is reported to be a few ppm at 0.1 MPa (Libourel et al.,
483 2003; Roskosz et al., 2013) and increases up to 150 ppm per 100 MPa (Carroll and Webster,
484 1994). Due to lacking N₂-H₂O solubility data, a solubility model of H₂O-N₂ fluid mixtures (Fig.
485 8) was assumed on the basis of the experimentally determined H₂O-CO₂ solubility reported in
486 Fanara et al. (2015) for the CI composition. These data illustrate that the CO₂ solubility in the CI
487 melt is very low near H₂O-saturated conditions at 200 MPa. Applied to our nominally slightly
488 H₂O-undersaturated starting conditions prior to decompression, it is likely that only about 100
489 ppm of the entrapped N₂ will dissolve in the melt at 200 MPa and 1050 °C (Fig. 8). The few ppm
490 N₂ that are trapped in the bubbles of the glass cylinders should therefore easily dissolve together
491 with H₂O and not interfere significantly with melt degassing during decompression. In case of
492 glass powder as starting material, the calculated amount of entrapped N₂ (~177 ppm) will lead to
493 H₂O-N₂ bubbles with a high X_{H_2O} (fluid) of ~0.9 that are distributed throughout the whole
494 sample. However, bubbles in the TLM images of the isobaric experiments using powder as
495 starting material could not be observed due to possibly small diameters <1 μm. Pre-existing
496 bubbles in the melt of powder samples will grow by volatile diffusion into the bubbles as soon as
497 the melt becomes supersaturated during decompression. At sufficiently high number densities of
498 pre-existing bubbles, this degassing process can inhibit homogeneous nucleation of bubbles in the
499 melt in case of a diffusion-controlled growth regime (Mourtada-Bonnefoi and Laporte, 2002;
500 Toramaru, 1995). It is therefore possible that one of the major controlling factors of previous
501 degassing experiments was the usage of glass powder (e.g. Fiege et al., 2014; Mastrolorenzo and
502 Pappalardo, 2006; Suzuki et al., 2007).

503

504 **Decompression experiments ($P_{final} = 100$ MPa)**

505 Although all experiments were performed at nominally H₂O-undersaturated conditions, the
506 comparison between decompressed cylinder samples of both compositions and their powder
507 equivalents equilibrated for 24 h documents that melt degassing is massively influenced by the
508 starting material due to the probable presence of pre-existing bubbles in the powder samples. In
509 case of the cylinder samples, the melt is bubble-free prior to decompression. Thus, the onset of
510 melt degassing is delayed until the energetic barrier for the formation of the new phase boundary
511 is exceeded by reaching the critical supersaturation P to trigger homogeneous bubble nucleation
512 (ΔP_{HoN}). This energetic barrier can be expressed as the free energy of formation (ΔF_c) of a bubble
513 nucleus with critical radius:

$$\Delta F_c = \frac{16\pi\sigma^3}{3\Delta P_{ss}^2} \quad (1)$$

514 and is strongly dependent on the surface tension (σ) of the melt as well as ΔP_{ss} (difference
515 between vapor P in the melt and exterior P) (Hirth et al., 1970). In case of heterogeneous
516 nucleation on crystals or the capsule-melt interface, this energy is lowered with the result that
517 degassing is initiated at a lower ΔP_{ss} in the melt (Hurwitz and Navon, 1994). After nucleation, the
518 bubbles can grow by volatile diffusion and expansion. Both of these growth processes only
519 increase the bubble volumes and do not affect the $N_V(n)$ of the sample.

520 The equilibrium porosity (using Eqn. 5 in Gardner et al., 1999) is ~14 % in the melts (CI and
521 VAD79 composition) for an initial H₂O content of ~4.7 wt% at a P_{final} of 100 MPa and 1050 °C.
522 The equilibrium solubility of H₂O at 100 MPa in both melts is ~3.5 wt% (Fanara et al., 2015;
523 Iacono Marziano et al., 2007). At this P_{final} , the cylinder samples only contain very small bubbles
524 (Fig. 4) with high $N_V(n)$ -values of $1 \cdot 10^5$ to $5 \cdot 10^5$ mm⁻³ (Table 3). Within error, the measured H₂O
525 contents in the cylinder samples correspond to the initial contents, because numerous small
526 bubbles in the samples have inhibited the NIR measurements of the residual H₂O dissolved in the

527 glass. However, the low corrected porosities of $<2\%$ in the melts (Table 3) corresponding to
528 $<0.15\text{ wt}\%$ degassed H_2O are also proof for high residual total H_2O contents. This documents a
529 high supersaturation in the melt prior to quench and confirms delayed, late-stage bubble
530 nucleation. Porosities close to equilibrium conditions are only reached in the decompression
531 experiments using glass powder that were equilibrated for 24 h (Table 3). The NIR measurements
532 of dissolved H_2O in these glasses also confirm that the melt degassed more efficiently than in
533 experiments with cylinders. Degassing of the powder experiments equilibrated for 24 h was
534 facilitated by growth of tiny pre-existing $\text{H}_2\text{O-N}_2$ bubbles and started with the onset of
535 decompression. These bubbles grew during decompression to 100 MPa by volatile expansion and
536 H_2O diffusion into bubbles resulting in low bubble number densities in these experiments (Table
537 3). In comparison to the cylinder specimens, the low residual H_2O contents of the powder
538 samples suggest a near-equilibrium degassing path for both applied decompression rates. Only
539 sample CD-P-1 (Table 3) shows higher H_2O contents in the narrow belt in the middle of the
540 capsule that is occupied by numerous small bubbles (Fig. 3) which may indicate homogeneous
541 bubble nucleation. This feature may be an artifact from powder compaction and H_2O loading
542 leading to the different degassing textures within the sample. In any case, the contrasting bubble
543 textures in CD-P-1 do not support the usability of glass powder equilibrated for only 24 h.
544 Decompression experiments starting from glass powder with a t_{eq} of 96 h show a degassing
545 behavior of the melt that is comparable to the corresponding glass cylinder samples (Fig. 4). We
546 suggest that this observation is due to growth and ascent of the $\text{H}_2\text{O-N}_2$ bubbles during
547 equilibration, resulting in a bubble-free melt prior to decompression. Bubble ascent in the melt is
548 generally facilitated by buoyancy due to differences in density of the volatile phase and the
549 surrounding melt. Additionally, the viscosity of the melt and the bubble size are the controlling
550 factors of this process. The ascent of a bubble in a melt can be described by Stokes' Law:

$$v_{bubble} = \frac{2r^2(\rho_{melt} - \rho_{fluid}) \cdot g}{9\eta} \quad (2)$$

551 where v_{bubble} is the ascent velocity, r is the bubble radius, ρ_{melt} and ρ_{fluid} are the densities of the
552 melt and the fluid (assumed to be 100 % H₂O), g is 9.81 m·s⁻² and η is the viscosity of the melt
553 (Berlo et al., 2011). Equation 2 was used to calculate the ascent distance of bubbles as a function
554 of bubble diameter for two temperatures (1050 and 1300 °C) and two t_{eq} 's (24 and 96 h) (Fig. 9).
555 For simplification, we assume instant volatile saturation of the melt at the beginning of the
556 equilibration period in the powder experiments due to small grain sizes. The viscosity of the
557 hydrous CI melt with 4.7 wt% H₂O was calculated after Misiti et al. (2011) to be 77 Pa·s at 1050
558 °C and 4 Pa·s at 1300 °C. The viscosities of the hydrous VAD79 melt at these temperatures are
559 slightly lower, respectively. The corresponding densities of H₂O were calculated using the model
560 of Duan and Zhang (2006) to be 311 g·l⁻¹ (1050 °C) and 254 g·l⁻¹ (1300 °C) at 200 MPa. For a
561 calculated melt density of 2255 g·l⁻¹ (Ochs and Lange, 1999), a bubble with 1 μm in diameter
562 would rise only ~2 μm in the hydrous CI melt at 1050 °C in 96 h. At 1300 °C the same bubble
563 would ascent 43 μm in the same time. A pre-existing bubble in our powder experiments has to
564 rise ~6.5 mm from the bottom to the top of the capsule during a t_{eq} of either 24 or 96 h at 1300 °C
565 (Fig. 9). A timescale of 96 h in our low-viscosity melts most likely facilitates growth of the H₂O-
566 N₂ bubbles that results in increased ascent velocities. In situ investigation of vesiculated basaltic
567 melt by Masotta et al. (2014) demonstrates a timescale for Ostwald ripening of about 50 s.
568 Ostwald ripening requires different internal bubble pressures that correspond to different bubble
569 sizes. These P differences increase exponentially with decreasing bubble sizes (Young-Laplace
570 relation). In addition to coalescence, Ostwald ripening may therefore be a conceivable process for
571 growth of the pre-existing tiny bubbles. A diameter of 12 μm is required for a bubble to ascend
572 from the bottom lid to the capsule top. We suggest that a t_{eq} of 24 h in our powder experiments is

573 not sufficient to cause significant bubble growth by ripening and coalescence to accelerate the
574 ascent of the pre-existing bubbles during equilibration. Small H₂O-N₂ bubbles therefore remain in
575 the melt and cause immediate degassing by growth of these bubbles at the onset of
576 decompression. In case of the powder experiments with a t_{eq} of 96 h, the melt is bubble-free prior
577 to decompression and melt degassing is delayed until supersaturation facilitates the nucleation of
578 new H₂O-rich bubbles. This is supported by the NIR measurements and the porosities of the
579 decompression experiments using glass powder equilibrated for 96 h that document a high
580 residual H₂O content in the melt on the level of the cylinder samples (Table 3).

581

582 **Decompression experiments ($P_{final} = 75 - 60$ MPa)**

583 The glass cylinder samples decompressed to a P_{final} of 75 MPa are characterized by higher
584 porosities and slightly lower $N_V(n)$ -values than the cylinder samples quenched at a P_{final} of 100
585 MPa. In consideration of the small differences in bubble size, coalescence is suggested to be the
586 dominant process that reduces bubble number density in our samples during decompression.
587 Figure 10 is suggested to document the onset of coalescence of two bubbles. Decompression to a
588 lower P_{final} increased the available degassing time and therefore enhanced bubble growth by
589 expansion of the fluid phase, diffusion of H₂O into the bubbles and coalescence. The influence of
590 the degassing timescale is also apparent from the size of the bubbles at the capsule-melt interface
591 in the samples decompressed to 75 MPa. The bubbles in sample CD-C-3 (0.024 MPa·s⁻¹, Fig. 6,
592 eFigs. 2a and 2b) are clearly bigger than those in CD-C-4 (0.17 MPa·s⁻¹, Fig. 6, eFigs. 3a and 3b)
593 due to longer time for diffusive growth of heterogeneously nucleated bubbles at the capsule-melt
594 interface during decompression.

595 The big bubbles (up to 400 μm diameter) in the center of sample CD-C-3 are suggested to
596 have formed heterogeneously at low ΔP_{ss} at the capsule-melt interface on the bottom lid. After

597 detachment due to volume-related buoyancy force, these bubbles ascended during decompression
598 (Fig. 6, eFigs. 2a and 2b). Assuming heterogeneous nucleation at H₂O-saturated conditions (176
599 MPa for 4.7 wt% H₂O), it can be calculated from Equation 2 that a bubble with 400 μm diameter
600 already needs ~67 of the 69 minutes decompression time (0.024 MPa·s⁻¹) to ascent 4 mm in the
601 melt. Therefore, the ascent of the detached bubbles must have begun prior to homogeneous
602 nucleation. The ascending detached bubbles grew by volatile expansion and H₂O diffusion from
603 the supersaturated melt into the bubbles. The latter leads to depletion of H₂O in a spherical
604 drainage zone around the bubbles. Due to the ascent, the H₂O-depleted zone covers the whole
605 ascent track. This is evidenced by the absence of small homogeneously nucleated bubbles
606 (excerpt Fig. 6, eFigs. 2a and 2b) and lowered residual H₂O contents in the glass throughout the
607 tracks of the big detached bubbles. Homogeneous nucleation of the small bubbles therefore only
608 occurs in regions with higher H₂O supersaturation. Further ascent of the detached bubbles
609 through the melt might displace small homogeneously nucleated bubbles and can be accelerated
610 by growth due to coalescence and ripening processes. In the latter case, the detached bubbles
611 delete the nucleation history of an existing population by interaction with the smaller bubbles on
612 their ascent tracks and they may initiate the nucleation of a second bubble population during
613 further decompression in the depleted zones.

614 Both, the BSE and the TLM image of sample CD-C-4 (eFigs. 3a and 3b) shows that the lower
615 central part of the capsule contains more numerous and slightly bigger bubbles (~12 μm) than the
616 rest of the sample. In the case of homogeneous bubble nucleation, it is conceivable that the first
617 bubbles preferably nucleated in the lower central part of the sample and had more time to grow.
618 Mangan and Sisson (2000) observed a preferred bubble nucleation close to the upper capsule
619 headspace and attributed this effect to melt displacement during opening of the crimped capsule.

620 However, melt displacement at the bottom lid is unlikely for our capsule geometry. There is no
621 evidence that the shape of the capsule influences nucleation in our experiments.

622 The CI glass cylinder sample CD-C-5 with the lowest P_{final} of 60 MPa ($0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$) is the
623 most degassed cylinder sample with the highest porosity of $\sim 10\%$ in the glass (Figs. 7a and 7b,
624 eFigs. 1a and 1b). Due to the lowest final P and the high $N_V(n)$ with bubble diameters up to 13
625 μm , the corrected porosity ($\sim 25\%$) in the melt is closer to the equilibrium porosity ($\sim 33\%$) than
626 in samples decompressed to higher P_{final} of 75 and 100 MPa (Table 3). The $N_V(n)$ -values of all
627 decompressed cylinder samples range within one order of magnitude ($6\cdot 10^4 - 7\cdot 10^5 \text{ mm}^{-3}$) with a
628 conservatively estimated analytical error of half an order of magnitude based on the differences
629 in BSE and TLM measurements (Table 3). The high $N_V(n)$ -value of the 60 MPa sample is a
630 further hint for homogeneous bubble nucleation in all cylinder samples. It is unlikely that bubbles
631 of up to 13 μm diameter grow during the few seconds of rapid quench. The size distribution (Fig.
632 7c) with a narrow size range of these bubbles documents a single nucleation event within a short
633 time interval as described in Figure 7b in Toramaru (1989). Considering homogeneous bubble
634 nucleation in the cylinder samples with a P_{final} of 100 MPa, we can estimate a ΔP_{HoN} of $<76 \text{ MPa}$
635 for the CI and $<70 \text{ MPa}$ for the VAD79 melt using the solubility data of Fanara et al. (2015) and
636 Iacono Marziano et al. (2007), respectively.

637

638 **Integration of results into the model of Toramaru (2006)**

639 Toramaru (2006) reported a model to describe homogeneous nucleation and growth of
640 bubbles at a constant decompression rate. This formulation relates $N_V(n)$ to physico-chemical
641 parameters such as surface tension, diffusivity and concentration of total H_2O (Eqn. 3).

$$N_V(n) = 34 \cdot C \cdot \left(\frac{16 \cdot \pi \cdot \sigma^3}{3 \cdot kT \cdot P_W^2} \right)^{-2} \cdot \left(\frac{V_m \cdot P_W}{kT} \right)^{-\frac{1}{4}} \cdot \left(\frac{P_W^2 \cdot kT \cdot C \cdot D}{4 \cdot \sigma^2 \cdot (dP/dt)} \right)^{-\frac{3}{2}} \quad (3)$$

642 $N_V(n)$ is the number of bubbles per unit of bubble-free melt volume (m^{-3}), C is the initial total
643 H_2O concentration expressed as molecular number per cubic meters (m^{-3}), σ is the surface
644 tension at the bubble-melt interface ($\text{N}\cdot\text{m}^{-1}$), k is the Boltzmann constant ($1.38\cdot 10^{-23} \text{ J}\cdot\text{K}^{-1}$), T is
645 the temperature (K), P_W is the H_2O saturation pressure (Pa), V_m is the volume of a H_2O molecule
646 in the melt ($3\cdot 10^{-29} \text{ m}^3$; Burnham and Davis, 1971), D is the total H_2O diffusivity in the silicate
647 melt ($\text{m}^2\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$) and dP/dt is the decompression rate in $\text{Pa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$. The conversion of $N_V(t)$ - (e.g. provided
648 by the CSDCorrections software) into $N_V(n)$ is essential, because only $N_V(n)$ -values are
649 independent of diffusive bubble growth and expansion (Proussevitch et al., 2007; Toramaru,
650 1989).

651 This model is valid for homogeneous bubble nucleation in a melt free of pre-existing bubbles
652 during super-liquidus isothermal decompression at a constant rate in the diffusion-controlled
653 regime. The sample size has to be sufficient to guarantee a melt pool that is unaffected by
654 diffusional volatile loss to the capsule-melt interface. The application of this model necessitates a
655 completed single nucleation event as well as the absence of Ostwald ripening and coalescence.
656 The bubble size distribution should display a narrow size range and follow a linear trend in the \ln
657 $n(l)$ vs. l plot, where $n(l)$ is the population density of bubbles with diameter l in a certain size
658 interval (Toramaru, 2006). The diffusion-controlled regime is defined by the parameter $\alpha_4 =$
659 $t_{dec}P_W/4\eta > 2\cdot 10^3$ (Toramaru, 1995), where t_{dec} is the time (s) needed for decompression to P_{final} .
660 For both melt compositions, α_4 is about 10^7 for a decompression rate of $0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ and even
661 higher for lower decompression rates. However, during fast decompression to low P_{final} with
662 large ΔP , high-viscous melts such as rhyolites become viscosity-controlled, because the H_2O
663 content in the melt decreases due to exsolution while the viscosity steadily increases (cf. Fig. 9a
664 in Toramaru, 1995).

665 For exemplary purpose, the $N_V(n)$ of homogeneously nucleated bubbles of CI glass cylinder
666 experiments were applied to the model of Toramaru (2006). A surface tension of $0.133 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}^{-1}$ was
667 derived from Bagdassarov et al. (2000) considering the dependence of total H_2O content and T on
668 σ . It has to be emphasized that the calculated surface tension of $0.133 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}^{-1}$ is valid for rhyolitic
669 melts, not for compositions of samples in this study. In general, surface tension data by direct
670 measurement as described in Bagdassarov et al. (2000) are quite poor and unconstrained material
671 properties for compositions other than synthesized haplogranite. P_W for the H_2O content of 4.7
672 wt% at 1050 °C was extrapolated from the solubility experiments of Fanara et al. (2015) to be
673 $\sim 176 \text{ MPa}$. The initial total H_2O content C of $3.54 \cdot 10^{27} \text{ m}^{-3}$ was calculated using the melt density
674 at P_W and T provided by the model of Ochs and Lange (1999). The total H_2O diffusivity (D) of
675 $1.57 \cdot 10^{-10} \text{ m}^2\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ was calculated for 1050 °C and 4.7 wt% H_2O by the formulation for trachytic
676 compositions given in Fanara et al. (2013). Application of Equation 3 results in calculated $N_V(n)$ -
677 values that are up to five orders of magnitude lower than in the samples of our glass cylinder
678 experiments decompressed at rates of 0.024 and $0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ to 100 - 60 MPa providing $N_V(n)$ of
679 $\sim 10^5 \text{ mm}^{-3}$ (Fig. 11). The same holds for VAD79 composition because the parameters D , C , σ , α_4
680 and P_W of Equation 3 are similar for the CI and the VAD79 melt.

681 The discrepancies between calculated and observed $N_V(n)$ -values may be attributed to H_2O
682 species-related changes in C and D as well as the usage of a macroscopic surface tension. The
683 nucleation of bubbles is a process on a molecular scale, where macroscopic physical descriptions
684 are likely to fail (e.g. Bottinga and Javoy, 1990; Gonnermann and Gardner, 2013; Navon and
685 Lyakhovskiy, 1998; Ruckenstein and Nowakowski, 1990; Sparks, 1978; Toramaru, 1989). Bubble
686 nucleation prerequisites the aggregation of H_2O molecule clusters with a typical critical radius of
687 1 – 10 nm (Gonnermann and Gardner, 2013; Toramaru, 1995) that is attributed to local
688 concentration fluctuations in the melt (Hurwitz and Navon, 1994). It is conceivable to refer the

689 coefficient C in Equation 3 to the actual concentration of H_2O molecules with respect to the
690 species concentrations of molecular H_2O and OH^- in the silicate melt at P - T conditions (Nowak
691 and Behrens, 1995; Nowak and Behrens, 2001). At a total H_2O content of 4.7 wt% and 1050 °C,
692 the molecular H_2O content is in the range of 1 wt%. Considering the H_2O speciation, D should be
693 substituted by the diffusivity of molecular H_2O (e.g. Toramaru, 1995), which is one order of
694 magnitude higher than the total H_2O diffusivity at experimental conditions (e.g. Behrens and
695 Nowak, 1997). Such an increase of D in Equation 3 results in a decrease of predicted $N_I(n)$ by
696 one order of magnitude (Fig. 11). In contrast, the decrease of C due to H_2O speciation barely
697 increases $N_I(n)$ by less than half an order of magnitude. In combination, these opposing effects
698 shift $N_I(n)$ to even lower values than necessary to describe our experimental data. In this model, a
699 significant increase of $N_I(n)$ can be achieved by decreasing the surface tension in Equation 3,
700 while using C and D for total H_2O . The best match of predicted $N_I(n)$ to our CI and VAD79
701 experimental results is achieved for a σ of $\sim 0.003 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}^{-1}$ (Fig. 11). Lowered surface tensions on
702 the molecular scale of bubble nucleation compared to macroscopic values were already suggested
703 in previous studies (e.g. Bottinga and Javoy, 1990; Gonnermann and Gardner, 2013; Hamada et
704 al., 2010; Kashchiev, 2003; Kashchiev, 2004; Ruckenstein and Nowakowski, 1990; Toramaru,
705 1990; Toramaru, 1995). This effect may be attributed to a dependence of surface tension on
706 bubble (nucleus) size (Ruckenstein and Nowakowski, 1990; Tolman, 1949), thermal fluctuations
707 supplying the energy of formation of a new surface (Bottinga and Javoy, 1990) or a diffuse
708 interface between nucleus and surrounding melt (Gonnermann and Gardner, 2013; Kashchiev,
709 2003; Kashchiev, 2004; Kelton and Greer, 2010). Actually, for the instantaneous decompression
710 experiments by Hurvitz and Navon (1994), Toramaru and Miwa (2008) argue that the $N_I(n)$ data
711 can be explained by using a very low effective σ of $0.016 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}^{-1}$ with the number of nucleation
712 sites modifying the pre-exponential factor of the nucleation rate. However, a value of $0.003 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}^{-1}$

713 is significantly lower than any other suggested by bubble nucleation experiments and therefore
714 quite unlikely.

715 Navon and Lyakhovsky (1998) suggested a completely different approach to explain the
716 discrepancy between experimentally determined and modeled $N_V(n)$. They proposed to consider
717 the diffusivity of silicate network components rather than H₂O diffusivity to form a H₂O bubble
718 nucleus in a hydrous supersaturated melt. This idea is based on the similar distances of
719 neighboring H₂O molecules in the fluid and in the melt, even if the species concentration of 1
720 wt% dissolved molecular H₂O is considered. At a P_{final} of 100 MPa, the calculated mean
721 distances are 0.6 nm in the fluid and 1.1 nm in the melt. The formation of a nucleus may
722 therefore be kinetically controlled by the diffusion of silicate network components to enable
723 clustering of H₂O molecules. In this case, the diffusivity of network forming cations linked to
724 melt viscosity becomes a controlling factor (Navon and Lyakhovsky, 1998). This relation can be
725 expressed by the equation of Eyring (1936):

$$D = \frac{kT}{\eta \cdot \lambda} \quad (4)$$

726 where k is the Boltzmann constant, T the temperature in K, λ the jump distance in m and η the
727 viscosity in Pa·s. It is noteworthy that this equation is not exactly correct for silicate melts other
728 than a pure SiO₂ melt (Liang et al., 1996), but in first approximation the diffusivity of network
729 formers can be calculated. A mean jump distance of $3 \cdot 10^{-10}$ m for the chemical diffusivity of high
730 field strength elements like Zr⁴⁺ in both dry and hydrous melts was determined by Koepke and
731 Behrens (2001) and is suggested to be comparable to Si⁴⁺ and Al³⁺ diffusion. At 1050 °C and 4.7
732 wt% total H₂O a viscosity of 77 Pa·s was calculated using the relation of Misiti et al. (2011) for
733 the CI melt. Insertion of the jump distance into Equation 4 provides a network former diffusivity
734 of $8 \cdot 10^{-13}$ m²·s⁻¹ that is more than 2 orders of magnitude lower than the total H₂O diffusivity. The

735 corresponding shift of the $\log N_V(n)/(dP/dt)$ line in Fig. 11 by 3.5 orders of magnitude is still not
736 sufficient to match the experimentally determined $N_V(n)$. However, in combination with a
737 moderate reduction of the macroscopic surface tension from a value of 0.133 to 0.042 N·m⁻¹ the
738 model of Toramaru (2006) can match the experimental data.

739 In addition, Fig. 11 shows a comparison between $N_V(n)$ -values of this study and selected
740 data of previous studies (Gondé et al., 2011; Mangan and Sisson, 2000; Marxer et al., 2015;
741 Mourtada-Bonnefoi and Laporte, 2002). The presented $N_V(n)$ are obtained from pairs of
742 experiments with equal or at least comparable decompression rates that are characterized by low
743 and high ΔP (filled vs. open symbols). Experiments using glass powder as starting material were
744 not considered, because the observed $N_V(n)$ are mainly controlled by the number of hydration or
745 H₂O-N₂ bubbles in the melt prior to decompression. Samples with low ΔP close to the terminus
746 of the homogeneous nucleation event potentially fulfill the criteria for the application of the
747 vesiculation model of Toramaru (2006). A reliable experimentally determined $N_V(n)$ of Gondé et
748 al. (2011) for a haplogranitic melt representing the $N_V(n)$ directly after bubble nucleation (sample
749 #45 in Gondé et al., 2011; filled hexagon in Fig. 11) is three orders of magnitude higher than the
750 modeled value using the macroscopic σ and H₂O diffusivity. It is in the range of our determined
751 $N_V(n)$ and supports (1) the credibility of our results in terms of high $N_V(n)$ produced by
752 homogeneous bubble nucleation well above the liquidus, (2) that $N_V(n)$ is within error
753 independent of composition and (3) the suggestion of a reduced surface tension and/or the effect
754 of silicate network component diffusivity for the bubble nucleation process. This observation is
755 confirmed by high $N_V(n)$ values of decompressed hydrous rhyolitic melts reported in Mangan and
756 Sisson (2000) (sample #37) and Mourtada-Bonnefoi and Laporte (2002) (samples VGD33 and
757 VGD43) not influenced by bubble coalescence presented in Fig. 11 (filled symbols).

758 In contrast to samples quenched subsequently after the nucleation event, samples with higher
759 ΔP and identical/similar dP/dt (open symbols in Fig. 11) are mostly characterized by orders of
760 magnitude lower $N_V(n)$. Marxer et al. (2015) performed decompression experiments with the
761 VAD79 composition from 200 MPa down to a P_{final} of 75 MPa (CD18, CD19, CD21), but with a
762 higher initial H₂O content of ~5.2 wt% and still slightly H₂O-undersaturated at 200 MPa. Higher
763 initial H₂O content in the melt at otherwise identical conditions is equivalent to a higher bubble
764 nucleation P during decompression. In combination with a lower P_{final} , the timescale for bubble
765 coalescence that reduces $N_V(n)$ is extended. This is supported by the $N_V(n)$ of samples from
766 experiments with higher ΔP reported in Gondé et al. (2011) (sample #23), Mangan and Sisson
767 (2000) (sample #69) and Mourtada-Bonnefoi and Laporte (2002) (samples VGD59 and VGD31)
768 that are plotted in Fig. 11 (open symbols). Early bubble coalescence during decompression was
769 already observed by Mourtada-Bonnefoi and Laporte (2002) and in situ in HDAC experiments by
770 Gondé et al. (2011). Recent in situ observation of Masotta et al. (2014) have shown that massive
771 bubble coalescence can occur within minutes in nominally H₂O-free, highly viscous rhyodacitic
772 melts at 1100 °C and ambient P . The time interval for extensive bubble coalescence is expected
773 to be shortened down to a scale of seconds in case of less silicic, hydrous melts. This
774 consideration implies that the observed $N_V(n)$ are strongly dependent on the instant of time at
775 which the samples are quenched. This might be the explanation for the still high values of $N_V(n)$
776 of sample CD-C-5 (~4.7 wt% H₂O, 0.17 MPa·s⁻¹) decompressed to 60 MPa. It is conceivable that
777 this sample was quenched just before the onset of extensive bubble coalescence.

778 The $N_V(n)$ of the 5 mm samples in Marxer et al. (2015) are over the whole range of applied
779 decompression rates close to the values predicted by the model of Toramaru (2006) using the
780 total H₂O diffusivity and the macroscopic surface tension of 0.133 N·m⁻¹ which does not apply to
781 our newly determined data. Among other studies, Toramaru (2006) used some $N_V(n)$ of

782 decompression experiments reported e.g. in Mangan and Sisson (2000) and Mourtada-Bonnefoi
783 and Laporte (2002) to adjust the model parameters. If these parameters are based on experiments
784 that were already subject to $N_V(n)$ reduction, the modeled $N_V(n)$ will also be underestimated. It
785 may therefore be necessary to improve current models for homogeneous bubble nucleation with
786 data from new experiments.

787

788 **Implications and limitations for future studies of homogeneous bubble nucleation in silicate** 789 **melts**

790 The prerequisite to study homogeneous bubble nucleation is a single-phase melt. As
791 documented in this study and in Marxer et al. (2015) this can be ensured by using massive glass
792 cylinders as starting material and sufficient t_{eq} to guarantee a homogeneous volatile content in the
793 melt prior to decompression. Further parameters such as volatile diffusivity, η and σ that are
794 dependent on melt composition and temperature should be considered before conducting
795 degassing experiments, because the investigation of homogeneous nucleation and growth of
796 volatile bubbles during isothermal decompression requires an experimental window, where the
797 experimental result is mainly controlled by the decompression path. An important limiting
798 parameter is the decompression timescale that is defined by the decompression rate and P_{final} . The
799 time-dependent diffusional loss of volatiles into heterogeneously nucleated bubbles at the
800 capsule-melt interface defines the minimum sample diameter needed to retain a sufficiently sized
801 unaffected melt pool in the center of the specimen. Furthermore, the decompression duration is
802 limited by the ascent of heterogeneously formed bubbles at the capsule-melt interface that is
803 dependent on melt viscosity. These two limitations require the largest technically possible
804 capsule dimensions. On the other hand, a bigger capsule volume leads to a decrease in cooling
805 rate and therefore to possible quench crystal formation. In order to study a single homogeneous

806 bubble nucleation event, P_{final} has to be as close to the terminus of the event as possible.
807 Unnecessary low P_{final} increase the degassing timescale and enable bubble growth by coalescence
808 that leads to a reduction of $N_V(n)$. Increasing porosities in the samples decrease the inter-bubble
809 distances and aggravate the interaction of bubbles. Additionally, high porosities cause massive
810 shrinkage of bubbles due to the significant decrease in molar volume of the fluid during isobaric
811 quench. This reduction of bubble volumes necessitates the correction of bubble sizes and
812 porosities that are determined from the vitrified samples in order to match the conditions prior to
813 quench (Marxer et al., 2015).

814 Considering these experimental limitations, future experiments will improve the investigation
815 of homogeneous bubble nucleation in silicate melts. This will contribute to a better understanding
816 of melt degassing triggering volcanic eruptions at the interface of the molecular to the
817 macroscopic world during magma ascent.

818

819

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Figure captions

1026

Figure 1. TLM and BSE images of two CI isobaric experiments starting from glass cylinders with ~4.7 wt% H₂O, equilibrated for 96 h at 200 MPa and 1300 °C. (a) TLM image of IB-C-1b: RQ starting from 1300 °C. The glass section contains objects ≥ 1 μm diameter (black dots in focus plane) that are probably quench crystals. Some objects appear to be bigger in diameter due to the optical halo effect. (b) TLM image of IB-C-2: NQ starting from 1050 °C. The glass section contains quench crystal aggregates with radially arranged, needle-shaped crystals with several μm length. The quench crystals are bigger than in sample IB-C-1b due to the lower cooling rate. (c) BSE image of IB-C-2: Single quench crystal aggregate with needle-shaped crystals that are radially arranged around a central microlite of presumably different chemical composition. The crystals were too small for chemical analysis by EMP. The glass-crystal image contrast suggests an oxide microlite as central crystal in the aggregate.

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Figure 2. Comparison of BSE images of selected samples decompressed to a P_{final} of 100 MPa ($0.024 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$) using massive glass cylinders and powder with the CI and VAD79 composition as starting material. The orientation of the capsules during the runs was realized as displayed. Despite identical and homogeneous initial H₂O content in the melt prior to decompression, the glass powder samples that were equilibrated for a t_{eq} of 24 h (central row) are clearly more degassed than the samples starting from massive glass cylinders (top row) and glass powder with a t_{eq} of 96 h (bottom row). The powder samples with a t_{eq} of 24 h are characterized by bigger bubbles, higher porosities and lower bubble number densities. The bubbles in the samples with a t_{eq} of 96 h are only few μm in diameter, more numerous and homogeneously distributed in the glass. These small bubbles are not visible at this magnification.

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1049

1050 **Figure 3.** Comparison of BSE images of selected samples decompressed to a P_{final} of 100 MPa
1051 ($0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$) using a massive CI glass cylinder ($t_{eq} = 96 \text{ h}$) and powder ($t_{eq} = 24 \text{ h}$) as starting
1052 material. The top and the bottom of the images represent the orientation of the capsules during
1053 the decompression runs. In correspondence to the samples of the experiments with a lower
1054 decompression rate (shown in Fig. 2), the glass powder sample (CD-P-1, bottom image) is more
1055 degassed than the glass cylinder sample (CD-C-1, top image). The glass cylinder sample contains
1056 numerous small bubbles on a μm scale that are not visible at this magnification. The glass
1057 powder sample also features a belt of small bubbles in the central part of the capsule (right image
1058 excerpt).

1059

1060 **Figure 4.** TLM images of CI (two left images) and VAD79 (two right images) samples
1061 decompressed with $0.024 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ to a P_{final} of 100 MPa. All images have the same scale. The
1062 samples CD-C-2 (a) and CD-C-25 (c) started from glass cylinders and samples CD-P-2b (b) and
1063 CD-P-32 (d) from glass powder. All experiments were equilibrated for 96 h prior to
1064 decompression. All samples contain homogeneously distributed bubbles with few μm diameter.
1065 The $N_V(n)$ and porosities of the samples are comparable for corresponding experiments with the
1066 same melt composition (see Table 3). In contrast to decompressed glass powder samples with a
1067 t_{eq} of 24 h, the degassing behavior of samples with a t_{eq} of 96 h is identical to the glass cylinder
1068 samples.

1069

1070 **Figure 5.** TLM images of CD-C-1 decompressed to a P_{final} of 100 MPa ($0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$) using a
1071 massive CI glass cylinder with different magnifications. The sample contains homogeneously
1072 distributed bubbles with several μm in diameter. The image reveals that some of these bubbles

1073 are in close vicinity to small opaque crystals, probably magnetite, and connected by a thin neck
1074 to the crystal surface. The formation of a thin neck towards a microlite is also described in
1075 Hurwitz and Navon (1994) and attributed to bubble shrinkage during quench.

1076

1077 **Figure 6.** BSE images of CI glass cylinder samples (CD-C-3, CD-C-4) decompressed to a P_{final}
1078 of 75 MPa with $0.024 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ (top image) and $0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ (bottom image). The orientation of
1079 the capsules during the decompression runs are represented by the top and the bottom of the
1080 images. The area around each of the big bubbles in sample CD-C-3 is free of the elsewhere
1081 homogeneously distributed small bubbles with several μm in diameter (right image excerpt). For
1082 details see text.

1083

1084 **Figure 7.** BSE (a) and a mapped TLM image (b) of sample CD-C-5 decompressed to a P_{final} of
1085 60 MPa with $0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$. The top and the bottom of the images represent the orientation of the
1086 capsules during the decompression runs. The TLM image reveals extensive convection patterns
1087 within the capsule. The bubbles in the BSE image were big enough to be analyzed with
1088 CSDCorrections software (Higgins, 2000). (c) Exemplary BSD plot derived from sample area 4
1089 in (a) shows the logarithmic population density $\ln n(l)$ as a function of the diameter (l) of the
1090 bubbles in the quenched sample. The diameters correspond to the major axes of the bubble-
1091 ellipsoids. The BSD is characterized by a narrow size range and a near-linear trend.

1092

1093 **Figure 8.** $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{N}_2$ solubility model on the basis of the experimentally determined $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CO}_2$
1094 solubility reported in Fanara et al. (in press) for the CI composition at the decompression T of
1095 $1050 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$. The amounts of dissolved N_2 are maximum values as suggested by Carroll and Webster
1096 (1994). Isobars are adopted from Fanara et al. (in press) and are marked with the corresponding

1097 *P.* The dashed isopleth represents the fluid composition in equilibrium with the melt. At 200 MPa
1098 and an initial H₂O content of 4.7 wt% in the melt prior to decompression, the solubility of N₂ is
1099 correspondingly low. Thus, a significant amount of the N₂ in the capsule of glass powder samples
1100 remains in the H₂O-dominated fluid phase.

1101

1102 **Figure 9.** Ascent distance of H₂O bubbles as a function of bubble diameter for the equilibration
1103 and decompression *T* (1300 and 1050 °C) and two *t_{eq}*'s (24 and 96 h). Instant volatile saturation
1104 of the melt at the beginning of the equilibration period in the glass powder experiments is
1105 assumed. Increasing *T* accelerates bubble ascent due to the lowered viscosity of the melt and
1106 decreased density of the supercritical fluid (see text, Eqn. 2).

1107

1108 **Figure 10.** The TLM image of sample CD-C-4 decompressed to a *P_{final}* of 75 MPa with 0.17
1109 MPa·s⁻¹ shows two neighbored bubbles that extend towards each other by a small bulge. These
1110 bubbles were quenched just at the beginning of coalescence.

1111

1112 **Figure 11.** Logarithmic *N_V(n)*-values of samples of this study (error about ±0.5 log units) and of
1113 selected previous experimental studies as a function of decompression rate in comparison to the
1114 calculated *N_V(n)*-values for the CI melt using the model of Toramaru (2006). The trends were
1115 calculated (1) for a macroscopic surface tension of 0.133 N·m⁻¹ and a total H₂O diffusivity of
1116 1.57·10⁻¹⁰ m²·s⁻¹ (solid line) and (2) a network former diffusivity of 8·10⁻¹³ m²·s⁻¹ in combination
1117 with a moderately lowered surface tension of 0.042 N·m⁻¹ (dashed line). Filled symbols represent
1118 *N_V(n)* of samples from experiments where most likely coalescence did not occur. Empty symbols
1119 represent *N_V(n)* of samples from experiments that are suggested to be influenced by coalescence
1120 reducing *N_V(n)* (indicated by arrows). *Note:* Ma15: CD experiments of Marxer et al. (2015) in 5

1121 mm capsules, VAD79 composition at 1050 °C. Go11: TIHPV experiments of Gondé et al.
1122 (2011), haplogranite at 900°C. ML02: Mourtada-Bonnefoi and Laporte (2002), rhyolite at 800
1123 °C. MS00: Mangan and Sisson (2000), rhyolite at 900 °C.

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Electronic Appendix

1126 **eFigure 1a.** BSE image of the CI glass cylinder sample CD-C-5 with a t_{eq} of 96 h and
1127 decompressed to a P_{final} of 60 MPa with $0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

1128

1129 **eFigure 1b.** Mapped TLM image of the CI glass cylinder sample CD-C-5 with a t_{eq} of 96 h and
1130 decompressed to a P_{final} of 60 MPa with $0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

1131

1132 **eFigure 2a.** BSE image of the CI glass cylinder sample CD-C-3 with a t_{eq} of 96 h and
1133 decompressed to a P_{final} of 75 MPa with $0.024 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

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1135 **eFigure 2b.** Mapped TLM image of the CI glass cylinder sample CD-C-3 with a t_{eq} of 96 h and
1136 decompressed to a P_{final} of 75 MPa with $0.024 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

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1138 **eFigure 3a.** BSE image of the CI glass cylinder sample CD-C-4 with a t_{eq} of 96 h and
1139 decompressed to a P_{final} of 75 MPa with $0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

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1141 **eFigure 3b.** Mapped TLM image of the CI glass cylinder sample CD-C-4 with a t_{eq} of 96 h and
1142 decompressed to a P_{final} of 75 MPa with $0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

1143

1144 **eFigure 4.** BSE image of the CI glass cylinder sample CD-C-1 with a t_{eq} of 96 h and
1145 decompressed to a P_{final} of 100 MPa with $0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

1146

1147 **eFigure 5a.** BSE image of the CI glass powder sample CD-P-1 with a t_{eq} of 24 h and
1148 decompressed to a P_{final} of 100 MPa with $0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

1149

1150 **eFigure 5b.** Mapped TLM image of the CI glass powder sample CD-P-1 with a t_{eq} of 24 h and
1151 decompressed to a P_{final} of 100 MPa with $0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

1152

1153 **eFigure 6.** BSE image of the CI glass cylinder sample CD-C-2 with a t_{eq} of 96 h and
1154 decompressed to a P_{final} of 100 MPa with $0.024 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

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1156 **eFigure 7a.** BSE image of the CI glass powder sample CD-P-2a with a t_{eq} of 24 h and
1157 decompressed to a P_{final} of 100 MPa with $0.024 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

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1159 **eFigure 7b.** Mapped TLM image of the CI glass powder sample CD-P-2a with a t_{eq} of 24 h and
1160 decompressed to a P_{final} of 100 MPa with $0.024 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

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1162 **eFigure 8.** BSE image of the CI glass powder sample CD-P-2b with a t_{eq} of 96 h and
1163 decompressed to a P_{final} of 100 MPa with $0.024 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

1164

1165 **eFigure 9a.** BSE image of the VAD79 glass powder sample CD-P-22 with a t_{eq} of 24 h and
1166 decompressed to a P_{final} of 100 MPa with $0.024 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

1167

1168 **eFigure 9b.** Mapped TLM image of the VAD79 glass powder sample CD-P-22 with a t_{eq} of 24 h
1169 and decompressed to a P_{final} of 100 MPa with $0.024 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

1170

1171 **eFigure 10.** BSE image of the VAD79 glass cylinder sample CD-C-23 with a t_{eq} of 96 h and
1172 decompressed to a P_{final} of 100 MPa with $0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

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1174 **eFigure 11a.** BSE image of the VAD79 glass powder sample CD-P-24 with a t_{eq} of 24 h and
1175 decompressed to a P_{final} of 100 MPa with $0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

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1177 **eFigure 11b.** Mapped TLM image of the VAD79 glass powder sample CD-P-24 with a t_{eq} of 24
1178 h and decompressed to a P_{final} of 100 MPa with $0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

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1180 **eFigure 12.** BSE image of the VAD79 glass cylinder sample CD-C-25 with a t_{eq} of 96 h and
1181 decompressed to a P_{final} of 100 MPa with $0.024 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

1182

1183 **eFigure 13.** BSE image of the VAD79 glass powder sample CD-P-32 with a t_{eq} of 96 h and
1184 decompressed to a P_{final} of 60 MPa with $0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$.

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Table 1. Chemical compositions (wt%, normalized to 100 %) of synthesized starting glasses based on analyses of natural CF Triflisco OP17c1-sp by XRF in Civetta et al. (1997) and natural VAD79 in Iacono Marziano et al. (2007).

	CI Civetta XRF Data	CI this study n = 27	VAD79 Iacono Marziano n = 12	VAD79 this study n = 17
SiO₂	58.52	58.87 (34)	57.15 (39)	57.53 (63)
TiO₂	0.45	0.44 (2)	0.30 (5)	0.29 (2)
Al₂O₃	18.81	18.53 (23)	21.34 (25)	20.52 (18)
FeO^a	4.36	4.41 (25)	2.70 (17)	2.71 (19)
MnO	0.08	0.08 (3)	0.14 (6)	0.14 (3)
MgO	1.48	1.42 (7)	0.39 (5)	0.38 (3)
CaO	4.13	4.09 (15)	3.26 (12)	3.32 (11)
Na₂O	2.92	3.08 (14)	5.16 (15)	5.38 (17)
K₂O	8.98	8.82 (16)	9.46 (15)	9.53 (21)
P₂O₅	0.26	0.25 (4)	0.09 (4)	0.10 (3)

Notes: Errors are provided in parentheses.

Standard deviation (1σ) based on EMPA analysis.

^a: Total Fe concentration in the glass given as FeO.

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Table 2. Run conditions and H₂O contents of isobaric experiments.

exp. #	composition	starting material	t_{eq}	quench method	T prior quench	weighed portion of H ₂ O in capsule	total H ₂ O content in glass by FTIR	number of analyzed objects	average object size	$N_C(t)$ (glass) ^d
			[h]		[°C]	[wt%] ^a	[wt%] ^b		[μm]	[mm ⁻³]
IB-C-1a	CI	cylinder	96	RQ	1050	4.75(0.05)	4.87(0.10)	82	0.3 - 1	1.17E+05
IB-C-1b	CI	cylinder	96	RQ	1300	4.73(0.05)	4.93(0.10)	84	0.7	1.11E+05
IB-C-2	CI	cylinder	96	NQ	1050	4.72(0.05)	4.66(0.10)	267	10 - 13	7.01E+04
REF12^c	VAD79	cylinder	96	RQ	1050	4.86(0.05)	4.89(0.12)			
IB-P-1	CI	powder	24	RQ	1300	0.98(0.05)	1.10(0.05)			
IB-P-2	CI	powder	24	RQ	1300	1.95(0.05)	2.05(0.04)			
IB-P-3	CI	powder	24	RQ	1300	3.87(0.05)	4.01(0.13)			
IB-P-4	CI	powder	24	RQ	1300	4.76(0.05)	4.84(0.17)	280	0.3 - 1	4.42E+05

Equilibration temperature was 1300 °C and equilibration pressure was 200 MPa.

^a: Weighing error in brackets.

^b: Means of at least 10 individual measurements over the whole sample ($\pm 1\sigma$ in brackets), molar absorption coefficients and densities are provided in the text. Thickness of the samples ranges between 120 – 160 μm.

^c: VAD79 composition, equilibrated at 1050°C, for details see Tab. 1 in Marxer et al. (2015).

^d: $N_C(t)$ is the number of quench crystal aggregates per total unit volume derived from TLM.

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Table 3. Synopsis of the decompression experiments and the main results.

exp. #	composition	starting material	t_{eq} [h]	P_{final} [MPa]	dP/dt^d [MPa·s ⁻¹]	total H ₂ O content dissolved in melt at P_{start} [wt%] ^a	residual total H ₂ O content in glass by FTIR [wt%] ^b	counting method	number of analyzed objects	average object size [μm]	2D porosity (glass) ImageJ [area%] ^c	3D porosity (glass) from BSE or TLM [vol%]	equilibrium porosity (melt) [vol%] ^d	expected porosity (melt) [vol%] ^e	corrected porosity (melt) [vol%] ^f	$N_v(t)$ (glass) [mm ⁻³] ^g	$N_v(n)$ (melt) [mm ⁻³] ^h	B_s^i	comments
CD-C-5	CI	cylinder	96	60	0.17	4.78(5)	n.d.	BSE	430	7 - 9	8.59	8.88	33.6	n.d.	22.6	5.68E+05	6.23E+05	3.00	area 1
								BSE	453	7 - 9	10.36	10.5	33.6	n.d.	26.0	7.51E+05	8.39E+05	3.00	area 2
								BSE	441	7 - 9	8.66	9.09	33.6	n.d.	23.1	7.06E+05	7.77E+05	3.00	area 3
								BSE	438	7 - 9	10.9	10.9	33.6	n.d.	26.8	6.09E+05	6.84E+05	3.00	area 4
CD-C-3	CI	cylinder	96	75	0.024	4.78 (5)	4.57 (6) ^j	BSE	440	7 - 9	9.63	9.84	33.6	n.d.	24.7	6.59E+05	7.30E+05	3.00	average
								BSE	645	-	4.8	5.4	26.5	3.8	15.2	1.87E+05	1.98E+05	3.15	
								TLM	143	11.5 (2.0)	1.61	1.61	26.5	3.8	4.9	5.53E+04	5.62E+04	3.15	
CD-C-4	CI	cylinder	96	75	0.17	4.75 (5)	4.88 (13) ^j	BSE	507	-	3.3	3.6 (4)	26.2	0.0	10.5	6.12E+04	6.35E+04	3.15	
								TLM	182	~ 4	0.27	0.27	26.2	0.0	0.9	8.11E+04	7.55E+04	3.15	
CD-C-1	CI	cylinder	96	100	0.17	4.62 (5)	4.64 (10) ^j	TLM	529	4 - 5	0.54	0.54	14.0	0.0	1.6	1.52E+05	1.53E+05	2.98	
CD-P-1	CI	powder	24	100	0.17	4.67 (5)	4.06 (10)	BSE	123	-	4.8	4.9	14.5	8.0	13.3	204	215	2.98	area of big bubbles
CD-C-2	CI	cylinder	96	100	0.024	4.68 (5)	4.58 (6) ^j	TLM	213	5 - 7	2.9	2.9	14.5	1.8	8.2	2.58E+05	2.64E+05	2.98	area of small bubbles
								BSE	901	4 - 5	0.26	0.26	14.6	1.4	0.8	4.68E+05	4.69E+05	2.98	
CD-P-2a	CI	powder	24	100	0.024	4.74 (5)	3.81(8)	BSE	84	130	5.6	5.4 (1.5)	15.4	11.9	14.5	73	87	2.98	
CD-P-2b	CI	powder	96	100	0.024	4.64 (5)	4.73 (14)	TLM	218	1 - 2	-	0.1	14.2	0.0	0.3	2.73E+05	3.24E+05	2.98	
CD-P-22	VAD79	powder	24	100	0.024	4.73 (5)	3.71 (9)	BSE	229	-	4.5	6.1 (1.2)	15.1	12.9	13.6	508	541	2.51	
CD-C-23	VAD79	cylinder	96	100	0.17	4.76 (5)	4.83 (6) ^j	TLM	362	1 - 2	-	0.0	15.4	0.0	0.1	1.01E+05	1.01E+05	2.51	
CD-P-24	VAD79	powder	24	100	0.17	4.73 (5)	3.86 (4)	BSE	134	-	5.6	5.6 (8)	15.1	11.2	12.6	319	338	2.51	
CD-C-25	VAD79	cylinder	96	100	0.024	4.66 (5)	4.68 (5) ^j	TLM	493	1 - 2	-	0.05	14.4	0.0	0.1	1.29E+05	1.30E+05	2.51	
CD-P-32	VAD79	powder	96	100	0.024	4.73 (5)	4.60 (8)	TLM	156	1 - 2	-	0.07	15.1	1.8	0.2	1.77E+05	1.77E+05	2.51	

Starting pressure (P_{start}) was 200 MPa for all experiments.

^a Weighed portions of H₂O (weighing error in brackets).

^b Means of individual measurements in the center area of the sample ($\pm 1\sigma$ in brackets).

^c Porosity displayed as 2D phase proportion of bubbles determined from a representative excerpt in the sample center acquired by BSE imaging.

^d Calculated from Eq. 5 in Gardner et al. (1999) using solubility data of Fanara et al. (in press) and Iacono-Marziano et al. (2007).

^e Calculated from Eq. 5 in Gardner et al. (1999) using the residual H₂O contents.

^f Calculated from Eq. 3 in Marxer et al. (2015) using the corresponding shrinkage factor B_s and the 3D porosity.

^g $N_v(t)$ is the number of bubbles per total unit volume ($V_{glass} + V_{bubbles}$).

^h $N_v(n)$ is the number of bubbles normalized to the bubble-free volume.

ⁱ Shrinkage factor calculated from Eq. 2 in Marxer et al. (2015).

^j Numerous small objects in the measuring volume.

Table 1 Chemical compositions (wt%, normalized to 100 %) of synthesized starting glasses based on analyses of natural CF Triflisco OP17c1-sp by XRF in Civetta et al. (1997) and natural VAD79 in Iacono Marziano et al. (2007).

	CI Civetta XRF Data	CI this study n = 27	VAD79 Iacono Marziano n = 12	VAD79 this study n = 17
SiO₂	58.52	58.87 (34)	57.15 (39)	57.53 (63)
TiO₂	0.45	0.44 (2)	0.30 (5)	0.29 (2)
Al₂O₃	18.81	18.53 (23)	21.34 (25)	20.52 (18)
FeO^a	4.36	4.41 (25)	2.70 (17)	2.71 (19)
MnO	0.08	0.08 (3)	0.14 (6)	0.14 (3)
MgO	1.48	1.42 (7)	0.39 (5)	0.38 (3)
CaO	4.13	4.09 (15)	3.26 (12)	3.32 (11)
Na₂O	2.92	3.08 (14)	5.16 (15)	5.38 (17)
K₂O	8.98	8.82 (16)	9.46 (15)	9.53 (21)
P₂O₅	0.26	0.25 (4)	0.09 (4)	0.10 (3)

Notes: Errors are provided in parentheses.

Standard deviation (1σ) based on EMPA analysis.

^a: Total Fe concentration in the glass given as FeO.

Table 2 – Run conditions and H₂O contents of isobaric experiments.

exp. #	composition	starting material	t_{eq} [h]	quench method	T prior quench [°C]	weighed portion of H ₂ O in capsule [wt%] ^a	total H ₂ O content in glass by FTIR [wt%] ^b	number of analyzed objects	average object size [μm]
IB-C-1a	CI	cylinder	96	RQ	1050	4.75(0.05)	4.87(0.10)	82	0.3 - 1
IB-C-1b	CI	cylinder	96	RQ	1300	4.73(0.05)	4.93(0.10)	84	0.7
IB-C-2	CI	cylinder	96	NQ	1050	4.72(0.05)	4.66(0.10)	267	10 - 13
REF12^c	VAD79	cylinder	96	RQ	1050	4.86(0.05)	4.89(0.12)		
IB-P-1	CI	powder	24	RQ	1300	0.98(0.05)	1.10(0.05)		
IB-P-2	CI	powder	24	RQ	1300	1.95(0.05)	2.05(0.04)		
IB-P-3	CI	powder	24	RQ	1300	3.87(0.05)	4.01(0.13)		
IB-P-4	CI	powder	24	RQ	1300	4.76(0.05)	4.84(0.17)	280	0.3 - 1

Equilibration temperature was 1300 °C and equilibration pressure was 200 MPa.

^a: Weighing error in brackets.

^b: Means of at least 10 individual measurements over the whole sample ($\pm 1\sigma$ in brackets), molar absorption coefficients and densities are provided. Thickness of the samples ranges between 120 – 160 μm.

^c: VAD79 composition, equilibrated at 1050°C, for details see Tab. 1 in Marxer et al. (2015).

^d: $N_C(t)$ is the number of quench crystal aggregates per total unit volume derived from TLM.

$N_c(t)$
(glass)^d

[mm⁻³]

1.17E+05

1.11E+05

7.01E+04

4.42E+05

led in the text.

Table 3 – Synopsis of the decompression experiments and the main results.

exp. #	composition	starting material	t_{eq} [h]	P_{final} [MPa]	$dP \cdot dt^{-1}$ [MPa·s ⁻¹]	total H ₂ O content dissolved in melt at P_{start} [wt%] ^a	residual total H ₂ O content in glass by FTIR [wt%] ^b	counting method	number of analyzed objects
CD-C-5	CI	cylinder	96	60	0.17	4.78(5)	n.d.	BSE	430
								BSE	453
								BSE	441
								BSE	438
								BSE	440
CD-C-3	CI	cylinder	96	75	0.024	4.78 (5)	4.57 (6) ^j	BSE	645
								TLM	143
CD-C-4	CI	cylinder	96	75	0.17	4.75 (5)	4.88 (13) ^j	BSE	507
								TLM	182
CD-C-1	CI	cylinder	96	100	0.17	4.62 (5)	4.64 (10) ^j	TLM	529
CD-P-1	CI	powder	24	100	0.17	4.67 (5)	4.06 (10)	BSE	123
								TLM	213
CD-C-2	CI	cylinder	96	100	0.024	4.68 (5)	4.58 (6) ^j	TLM	901
CD-P-2a	CI	powder	24	100	0.024	4.74 (5)	3.81(8)	BSE	84
CD-P-2b	CI	powder	96	100	0.024	4.64 (5)	4.73 (14)	TLM	218
CD-P-22	VAD79	powder	24	100	0.024	4.73 (5)	3.71 (9)	BSE	229
CD-C-23	VAD79	cylinder	96	100	0.17	4.76 (5)	4.83 (6) ^j	TLM	362
CD-P-24	VAD79	powder	24	100	0.17	4.73 (5)	3.86 (4)	BSE	134

CD-C-25	VAD79	cylinder	96	100	0.024	4.66 (5)	4.68 (5) ^j	TLM	493
CD-P-32	VAD79	powder	96	100	0.024	4.73 (5)	4.60 (8)	TLM	156

Starting pressure (P_{start}) was 200 MPa for all experiments.

^a: Weighed portions of H₂O (weighing error in brackets).

^b: Means of individual measurements in the center area of the sample ($\pm 1\sigma$ in brackets).

^c: Porosity displayed as 2D phase proportion of bubbles determined from a representative excerpt in the sample center acquired by BSE imaging.

^d: Calculated from Eq. 5 in Gardner et al. (1999) using solubility data of Fanara et al. (in press) and Iacono-Marziano et al. (2007).

^e: Calculated from Eq. 5 in Gardner et al. (1999) using the residual H₂O contents.

^f: Calculated from Eq. 3 in Marxer et al. (2015) using the corresponding shrinkage factor B_S and the 3D porosity.

^g: $N_V(t)$ is the number of bubbles per total unit volume ($V_{glass} + V_{bubbles}$).

^h: $N_V(n)$ is the number of bubbles normalized to the bubble-free volume.

ⁱ: Shrinkage factor calculated from Eq. 2 in Marxer et al. (2015).

^j: Numerous small objects in the measuring volume.

average object size [μm]	2D porosity (glass) ImageJ [area%] ^c	3D porosity (glass) from BSE or TLM [vol%]	equilibrium porosity (melt) [vol%] ^d	expected porosity (melt) [vol%] ^e	corrected porosity (melt) [vol%] ^f	$N_V(t)$ (glass) [mm ⁻³] ^g	$N_V(n)$ (melt) [mm ⁻³] ^h	B_s^i	comments
7-9	8.59	8.88	33.6	n.d.	22.6	5.68E+05	6.23E+05	3.00	area 1
7-9	10.36	10.5	33.6	n.d.	26.0	7.51E+05	8.39E+05	3.00	area 2
7-9	8.66	9.09	33.6	n.d.	23.1	7.06E+05	7.77E+05	3.00	area 3
7-9	10.9	10.9	33.6	n.d.	26.8	6.09E+05	6.84E+05	3.00	area 4
7-9	9.63	9.84	33.6	n.d.	24.7	6.59E+05	7.30E+05	3.00	average
-	4.8	5.4	26.5	3.8	15.2	1.87E+05	1.98E+05	3.15	
11.5 (2.0)		1.61	26.5	3.8	4.9	5.53E+04	5.62E+04	3.15	
-	3.3	3.6 (4)	26.2	0.0	10.5	6.12E+04	6.35E+04	3.15	
~4		0.27	26.2	0.0	0.9	8.11E+04	7.55E+04	3.15	
4-5		0.54	14.0	0.0	1.6	1.52E+05	1.53E+05	2.98	
-	4.8	4.9	14.5	8.0	13.3	204	215	2.98	area of big bubbles
5-7		2.9	14.5	1.8	8.2	2.58E+05	2.64E+05	2.98	area of small bubbles
4-5		0.26	14.6	1.4	0.8	4.68E+05	4.69E+05	2.98	
130	5.6	5.4 (1.5)	15.4	11.9	14.5	73	87	2.98	
1-2		0.1	14.2	0.0	0.3	2.73E+05	3.24E+05	2.98	
-	4.5	6.1 (1.2)	15.1	12.9	13.6	508	541	2.51	
1-2		0.0	15.4	0.0	0.1	1.01E+05	1.01E+05	2.51	
-	5.6	5.6 (8)	15.1	11.2	12.6	319	338	2.51	

1 - 2	0.05	14.4	0.0	0.1	1.29E+05	1.30E+05	2.51
1 - 2	0.07	15.1	1.8	0.2	1.77E+05	1.77E+05	2.51

Figure 1

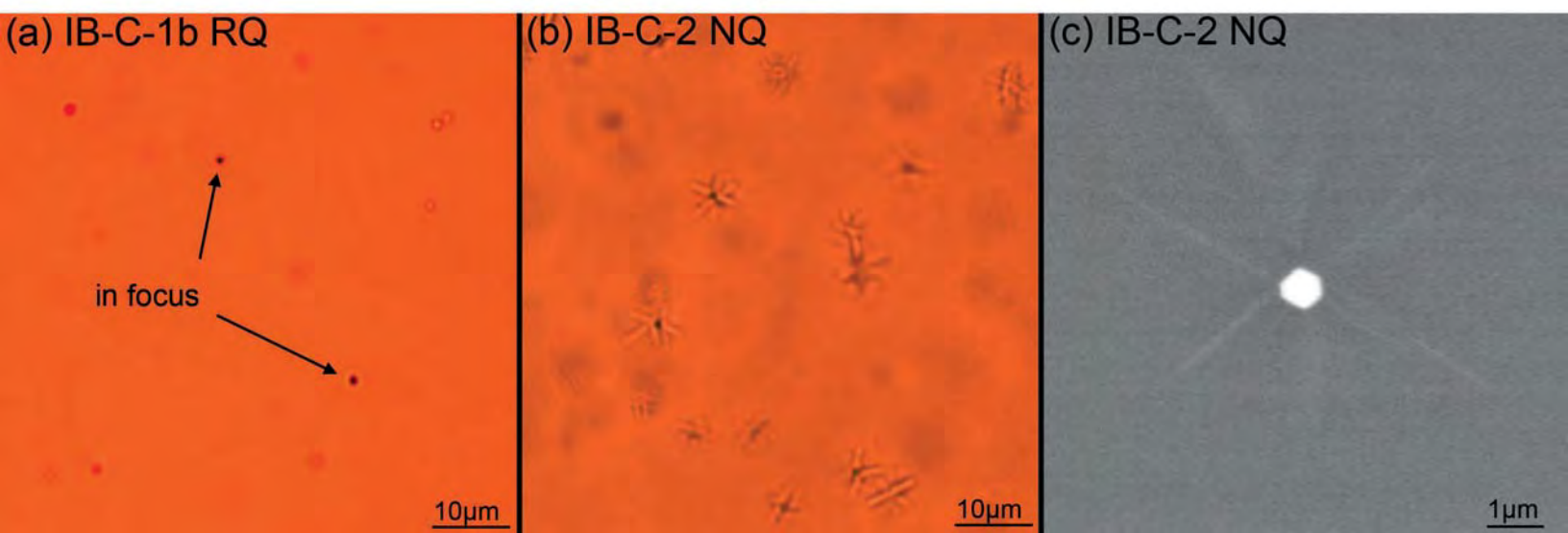
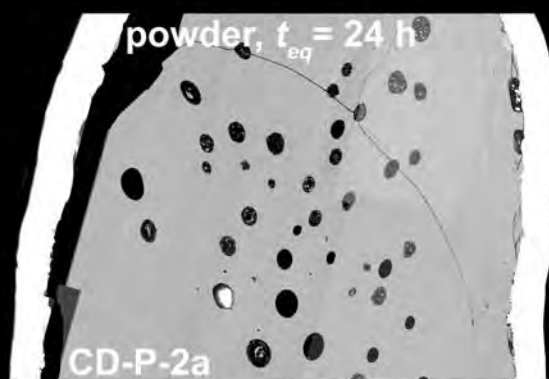
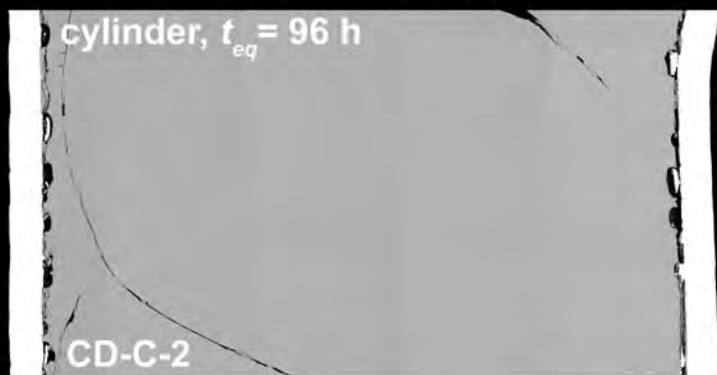


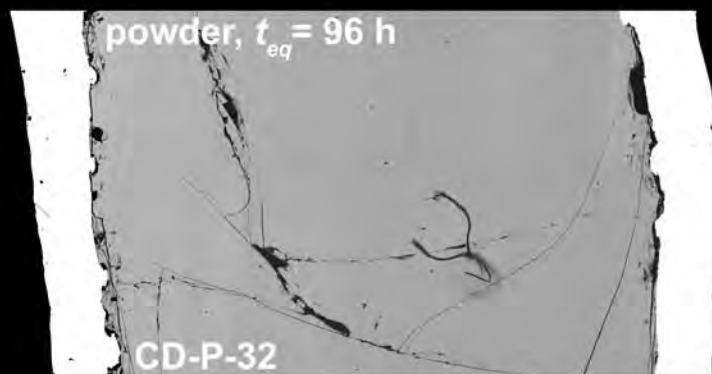
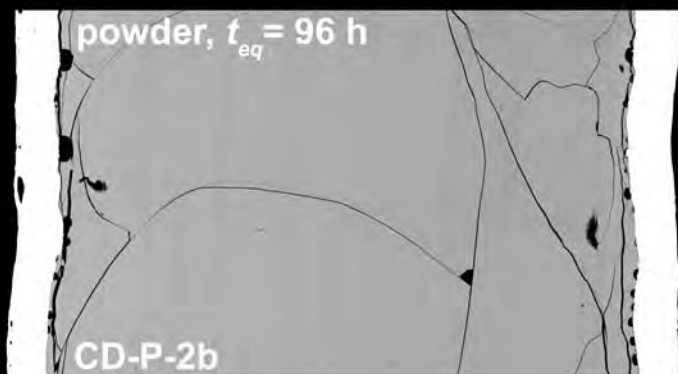
Figure 2

Campanian Ignimbrite (CI)

Vesuvius AD79



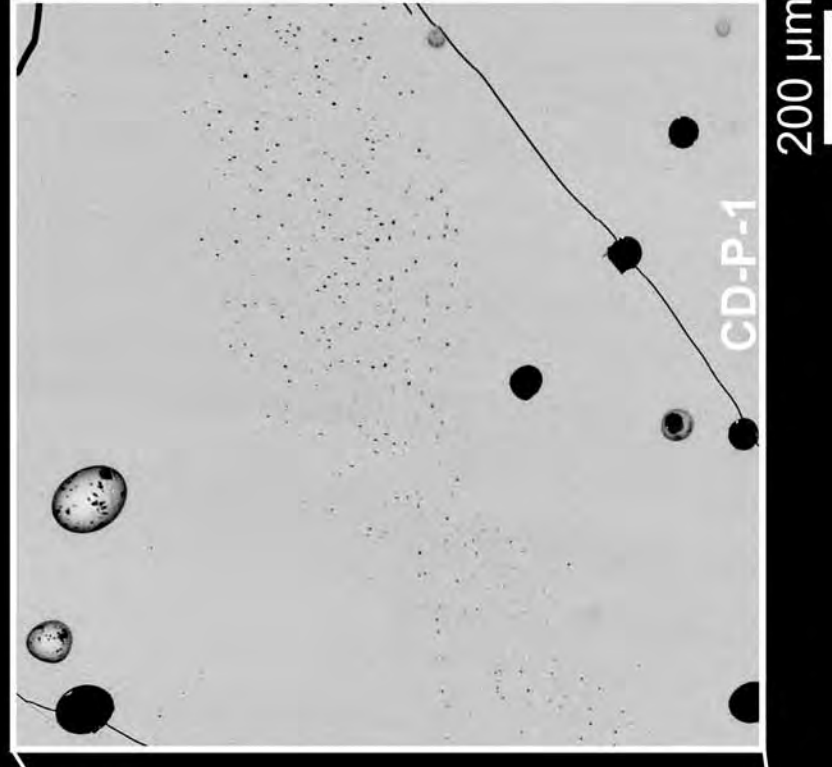
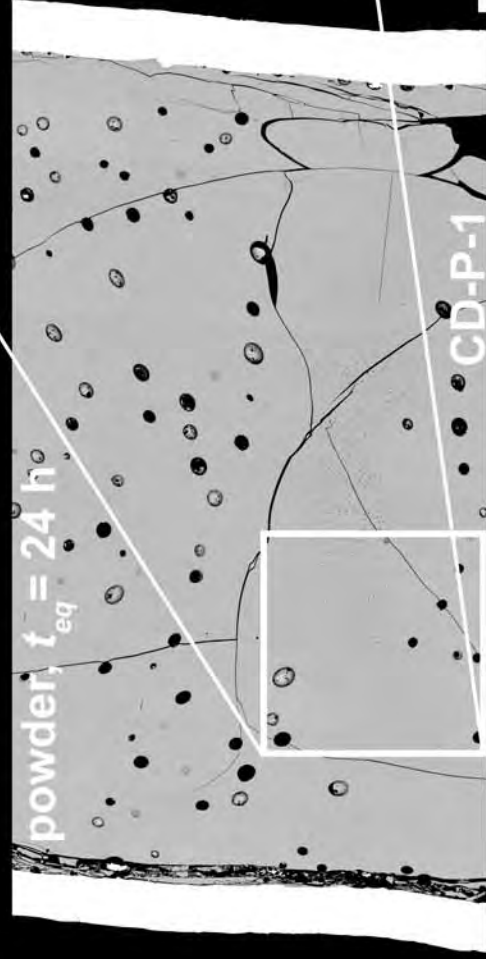
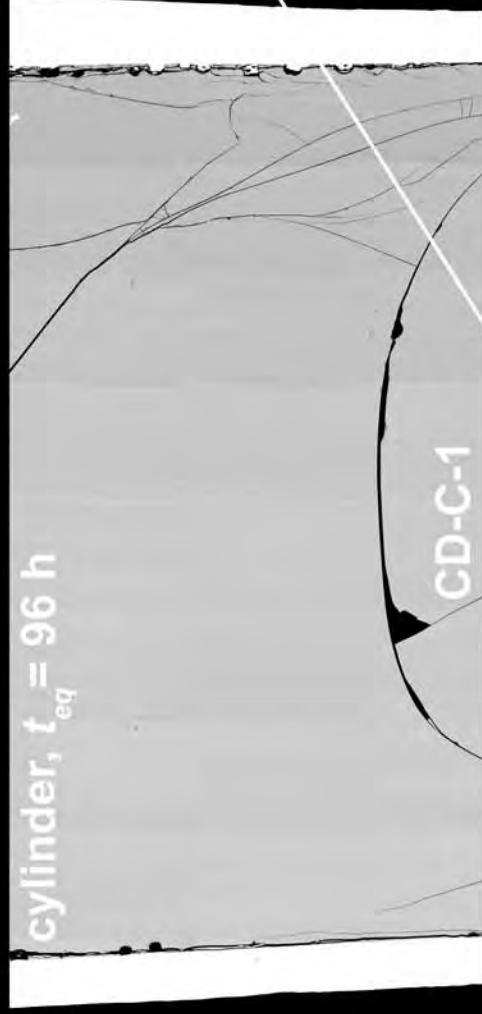
$P_{final} = 100$ MPa
 0.024 MPa·s⁻¹



1mm

Figure 3

$P_{\text{final}} = 100 \text{ MPa}, 0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$



200 μm

1mm

Figure 4

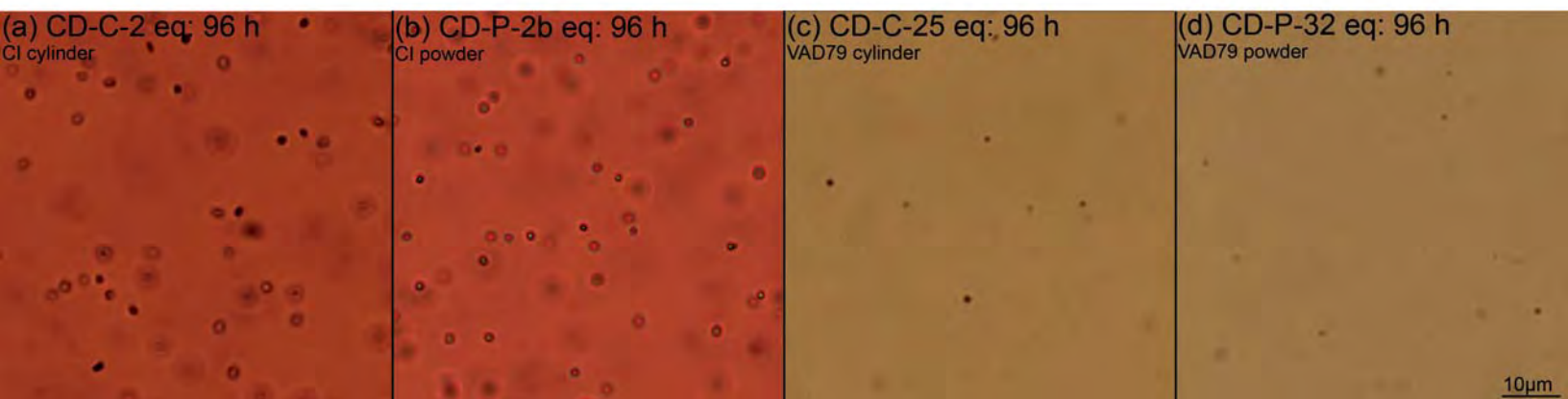


Figure 5

CD-C-1

$P_{\text{final}} = 100 \text{ MPa}$

$0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$

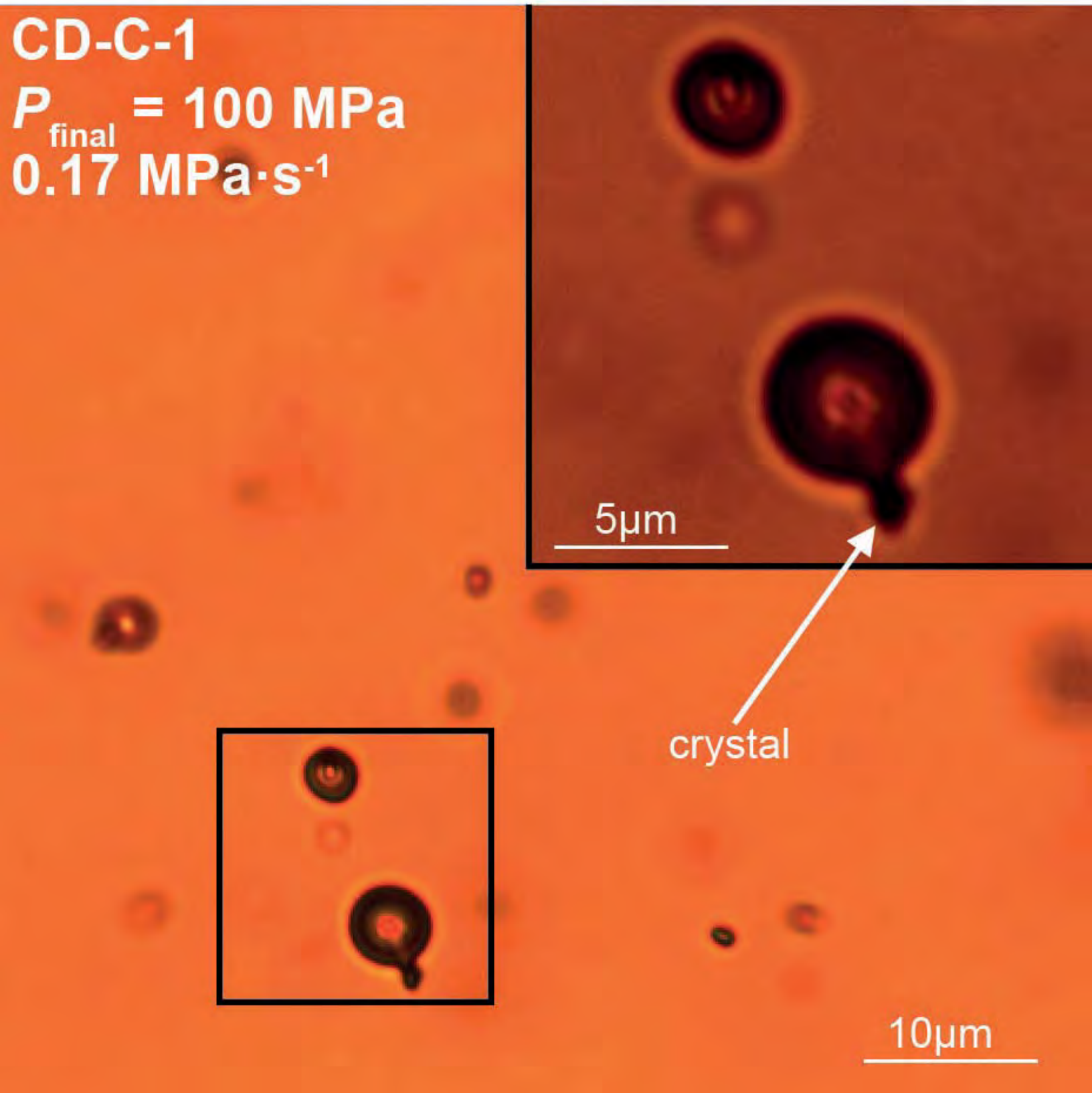
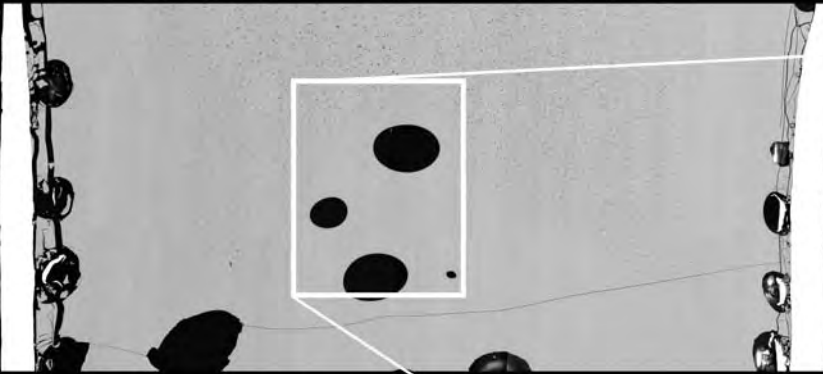
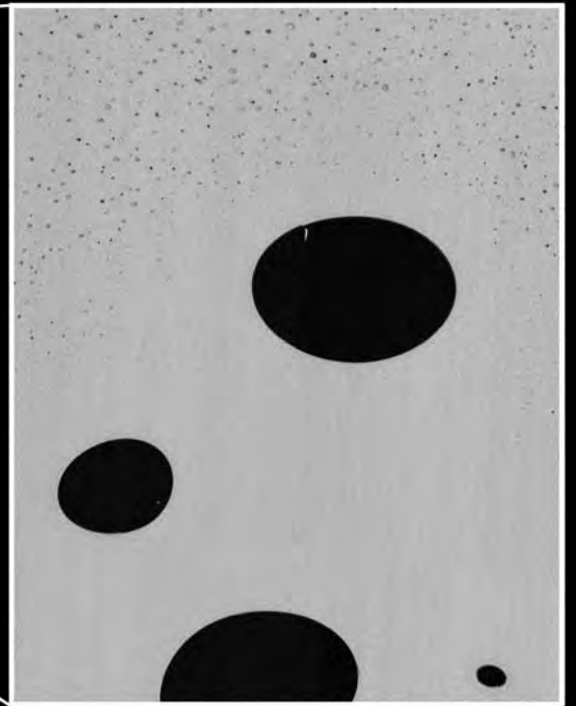
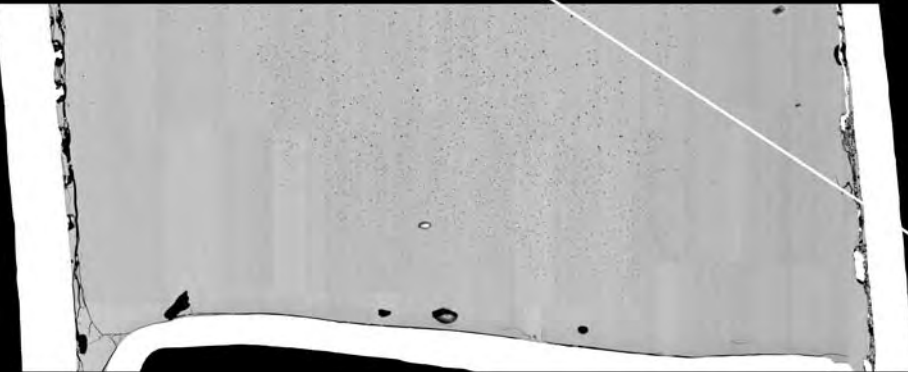


Figure 6

CD-C-3 - $P_{\text{final}} = 75 \text{ MPa}$, $0.024 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$



CD-C-4 - $P_{\text{final}} = 75 \text{ MPa}$, $0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$



200 μm

1mm

Figure 7

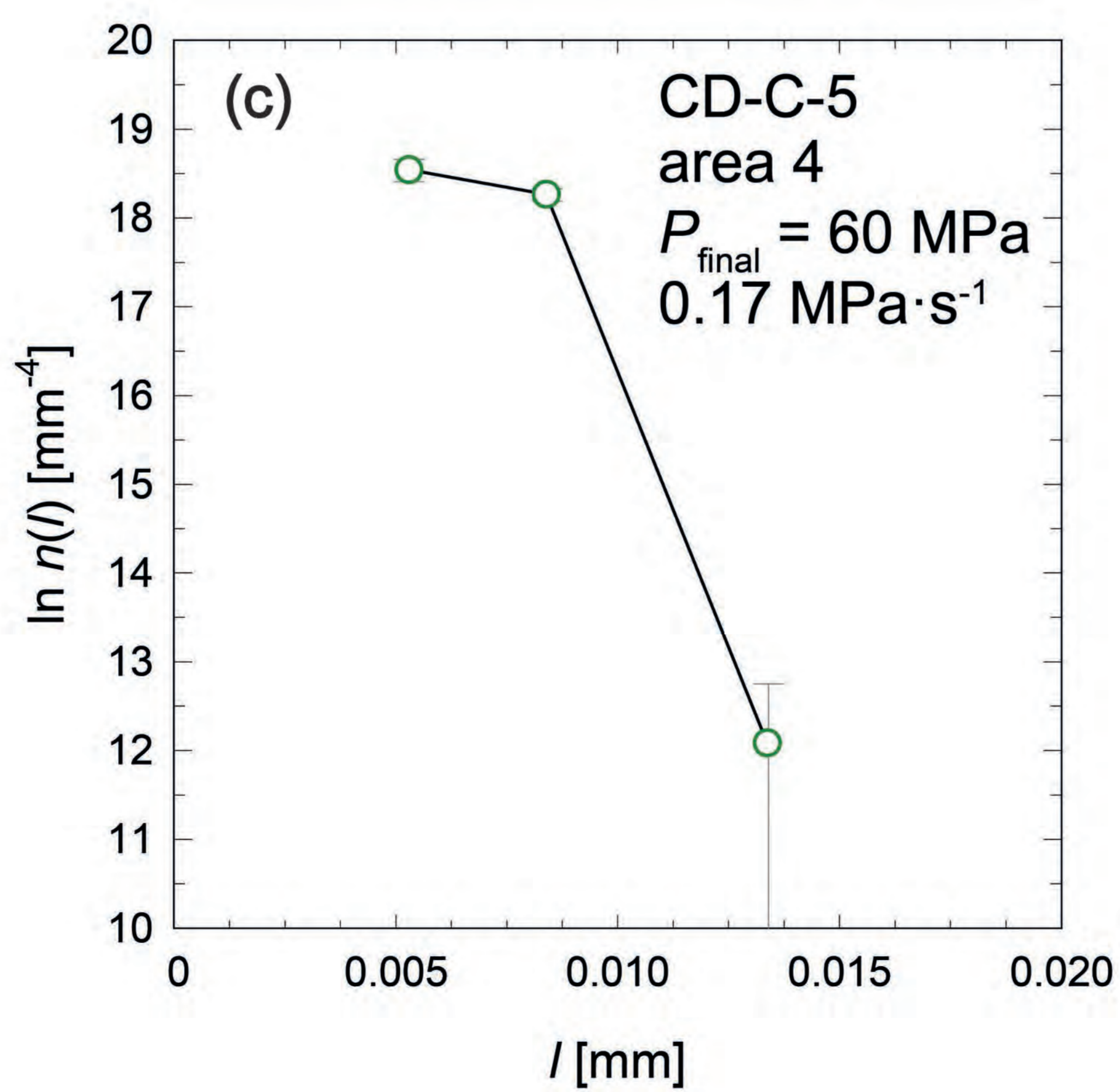
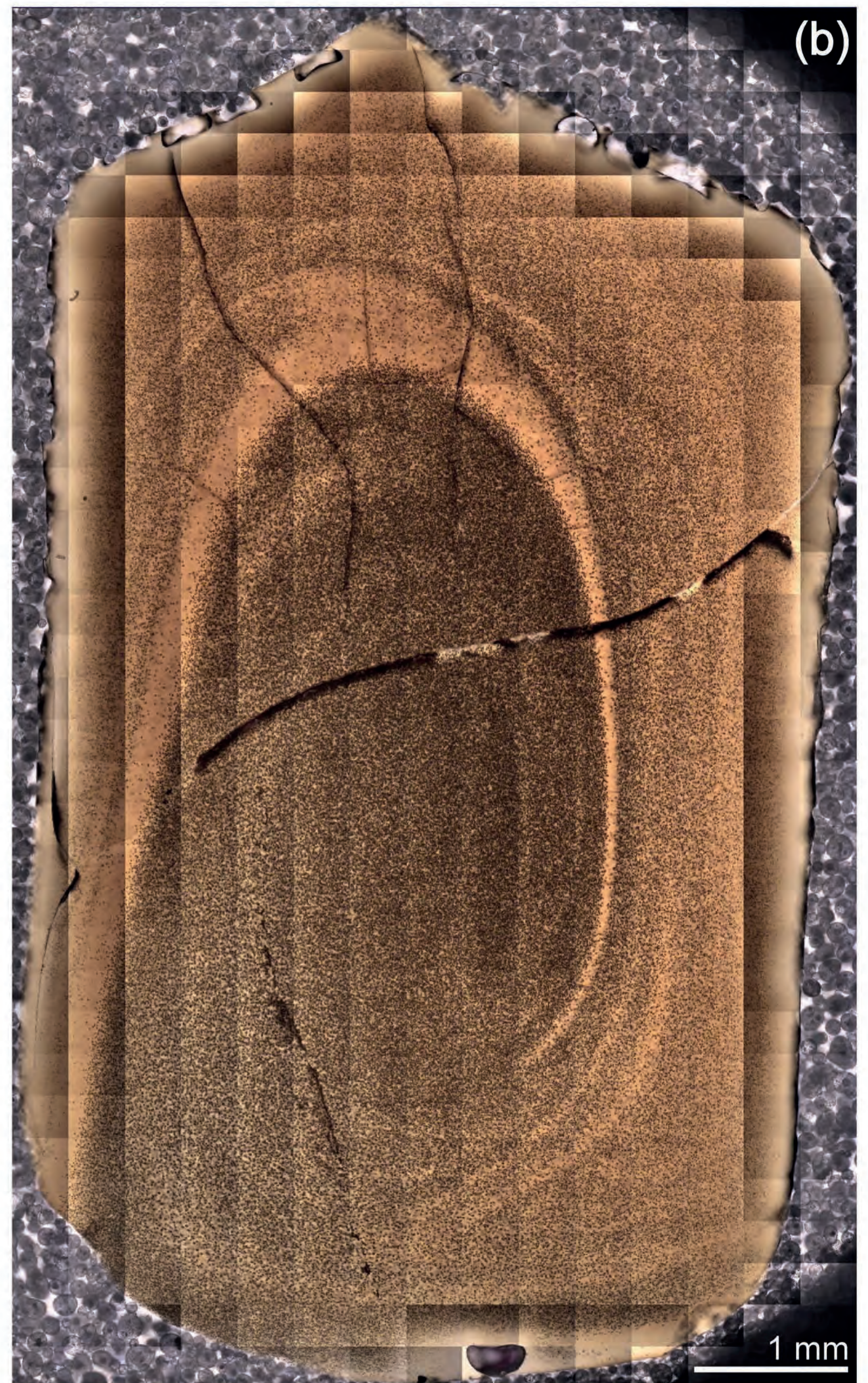
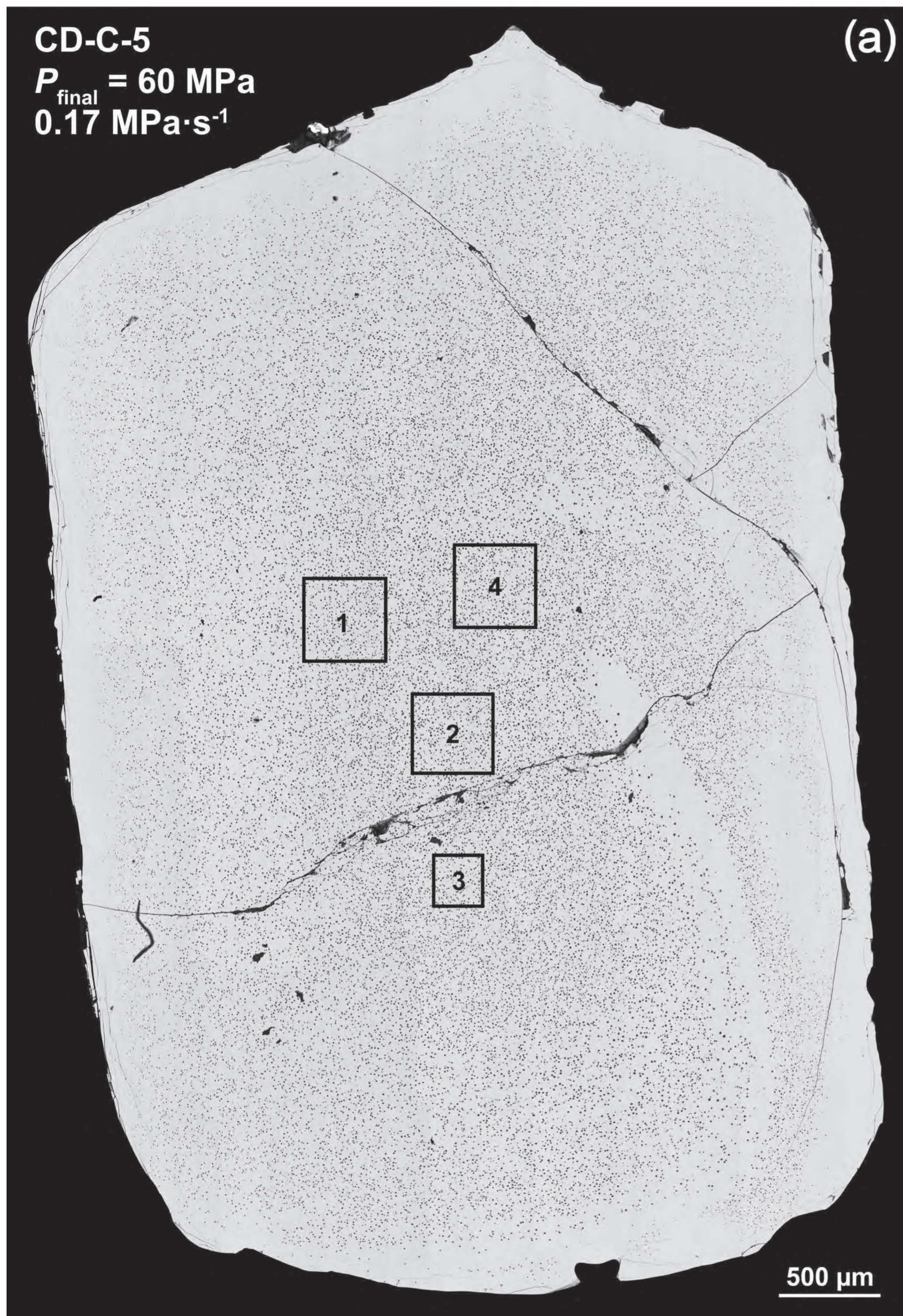


Figure 8

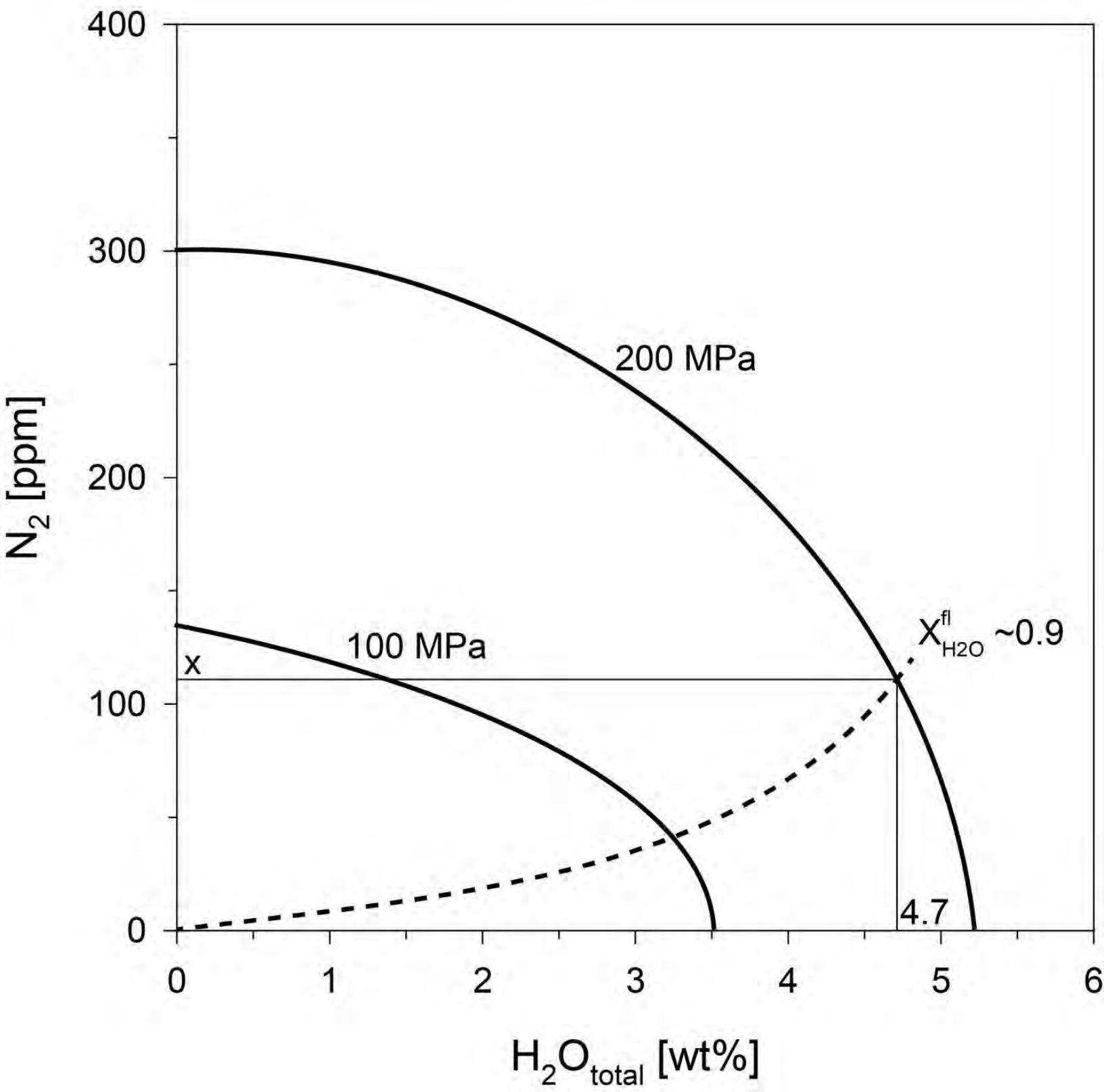


Figure 9

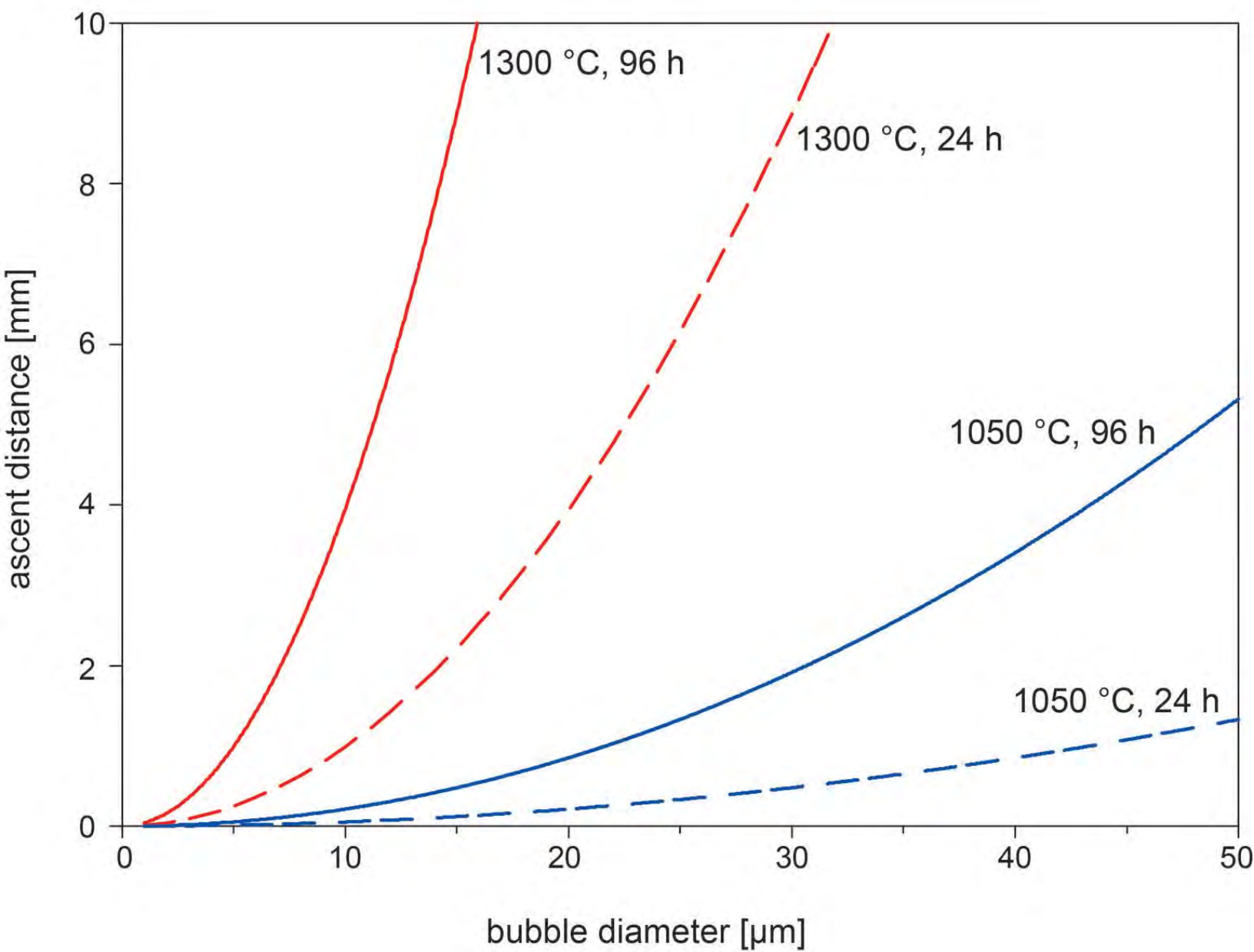
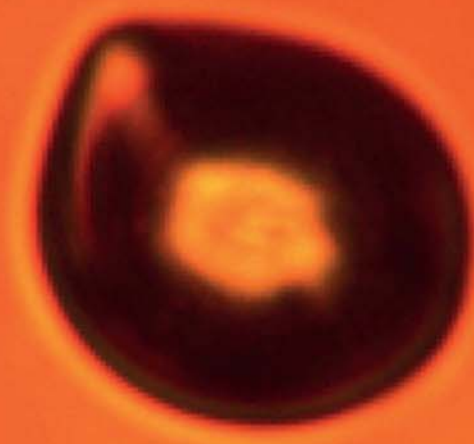
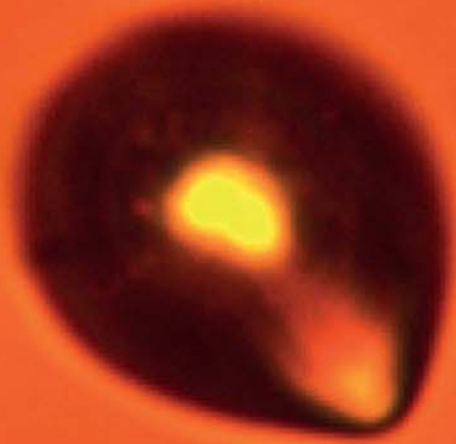


Figure 10

CD-C-4

$P_{\text{final}} = 75 \text{ MPa}$
 $0.17 \text{ MPa}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$



10 μm



Figure 11

