

1 **Deep submarine infiltration of altered geothermal groundwater on the south**
2 **Chilean Margin (EarthArXiv PREPRINT)**

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19 **Deep submarine infiltration of altered geothermal groundwater on the south**
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32 **Abstract**

33 Submarine groundwater discharge is increasingly recognized as an important component of the
34 oceanic geochemical budget, but knowledge of the distribution of this phenomenon is limited. To
35 date, reports of meteoric inputs to marine sediments are typically limited to shallow shelf and
36 coastal environments, whereas contributions of freshwater along deeper sections of tectonically
37 active margins like the Chilean Margin have generally been attributed to silicate diagenesis,
38 mineral dehydration, or methane hydrate dissociation. Here we report that substantial pore water
39 freshening on the south Chilean Margin reflects deep and focused contributions of meteorically
40 modified geothermal groundwater, which has infiltrated marine sediments through regional fault
41 systems. Geochemical fingerprinting of pore water data from Site J1003, recovered during D/V
42 *JOIDES Resolution* Expedition 379T, highlights mixing between this fresh groundwater
43 endmember and seawater, and provides the first constraints on the depth of geothermal
44 groundwater reservoirs in the Aysén region of Patagonia. Collectively, our results identify an
45 unappreciated locus of deep submarine groundwater and geothermal discharge along active
46 margins, with potential implications for coastal biogeochemical processes and tectonic instability.

47 **Introduction**

48 A full account of the sources and sinks of solutes in the ocean is needed to constrain past and
49 present biogeochemical cycles in the ocean. In recent decades, submarine groundwater discharge
50 (SGD) has been shown to account for ≥ 5 -50 percent of riverine input for several important oceanic
51 constituents¹⁻³. However, geochemical observations of SGD (≥ 200 mM reductions in pore water
52 Cl^- concentration) have largely been limited to shallow shelf settings on passive margins, with
53 scarce evidence for SGD along deeper sections of continental slopes, on active margins, or in some
54 of the most hydrologically dynamic regions on Earth^{4,5}. These data gaps intersect in Chile where
55 despite model indications of high discharge rates ($\geq 1000 \text{ m}^2 \text{ yr}^{-1}$)^{6,7}, particularly in the southern
56 sector of the country between 40-55°S, no observational evidence for SGD exists.

57 Chilean groundwaters range from glacially- or meteorically-recharged aquifers⁸ to geothermal
58 aquifers⁹. Rainfall exceeding $7,500 \text{ mm yr}^{-1}$ in southern Chile¹⁰ promotes substantial recharge to
59 kilometers depth through faulting in the bedrock. As a result, geothermal groundwaters in southern
60 Chile can contain up to 50 percent meteoric fluid¹¹ and attain a chemical overprint, with dilute
61 elemental concentrations (e.g., Cl^- near zero) and $^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O}$ and $^2\text{H}/^1\text{H}$ isotope ratios ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and δD ,
62 respectively) that fall along the regional meteoric water line (MWL)^{12,13}. Widespread offshore
63 freshening of pore waters on the Chilean Margin, as indicated by 20-200 mM reductions in Cl^-
64 compared to seawater, have been attributed to methane hydrate dissociation or mineral
65 dehydration^{14,15}. However, these prior studies lack the isotopic constraints needed to diagnostically
66 identify source fluids¹⁶, particularly to test for the infiltration of meteoric fluids¹⁷⁻¹⁹.

67 In this study, we investigate the cause of substantial pore water freshening at Site J1003
68 ($45^\circ 28.5008' \text{ S}, 75^\circ 33.5020' \text{ W}$, 670 meters below sea level (mbsl)), which was drilled during D/V
69 *JOIDES Resolution* Expedition 379T²⁰. Site J1003 is located 50 kilometers offshore of the Taitao
70 Peninsula at the southern terminus of the Chilean Coastal Range (CCR) and upslope from the Chile
71 Triple Junction (Fig. 1). The North Patagonia Ice Field is ~ 200 km SE of J1003, though it likely
72 extended to the shelf break during the last glacial period²¹. The Andean and Coastal mountain
73 ranges are separated by the Liquiñe-Ofqui fault zone (LOFZ), a 1000-kilometer north-south
74 complex of NNE lineaments²². The LOFZ and similar fault systems elsewhere act as a conduit for
75 groundwater migration^{9,23}. Fjord waters landward of J1003 in the Aysén region of Patagonia have
76 geochemical signatures indicative of partial mixing with meteoric and geothermal sources,
77 reflecting the transport of meteorically altered geothermal groundwater through the LOFZ to
78 surface locations¹². Using elemental and isotopic fingerprinting in high-resolution sediment pore
79 water samples from J1003, we reveal that the meteorically altered geothermal waters that supply
80 thermal springs at surface locations in Patagonia have also infiltrated marine sediments on the
81 Chilean Margin, accounting for a large degree of the observed pore water freshening.

82 **Results and Discussion**

83 **A geothermal groundwater source of freshened pore water.** Pore water Cl⁻ at J1003 decreases
84 from seawater values (~550 mM) at the sediment-seawater interface to ~360 mM at the base of
85 the recovered sediment column (Fig. 2). The reduction in Cl⁻ is paired with strong depletions in
86 both δ¹⁸O and δD, though their largest decreases occur below 20 meters below sea floor (mbsf).
87 Likewise, Na⁺ and K⁺ mirror Cl⁻, linearly decreasing by 28 and 25 percent from seawater
88 concentrations with depth, respectively. Ca²⁺, Mg²⁺, and Sr²⁺ concentrations also decrease with
89 depth, but most of the reduction occurs within the upper 40 mbsf. ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr becomes slightly less
90 radiogenic (decreases) with depth, tracking many of the other profiles. In contrast, dissolved silica
91 (DSi) concentrations increase downcore.

92 The depth profiles suggest that pore water at J1003 receives contributions from a freshened
93 endmember depleted in most solutes and isotopes. Low pore water Cl⁻ concentrations observed in
94 convergent margin settings have typically been attributed to methane hydrate dissociation and
95 mineral dehydration, though anaerobic oxidation of methane, low temperature ocean-basalt
96 interactions, clay membrane ion filtration, and SGD could also yield Cl⁻ substantially lower than
97 seawater¹⁶. However, downcore decreases in Cl⁻, δ¹⁸O, δD are not consistent with methane hydrate
98 dissociation, mineral dehydration, anaerobic oxidation of methane, or fluid interactions with basalt
99 as the primary controls on J1003 pore water chemistry, all of which increase δ¹⁸O and/or δD with
100 depth^{16,24}.

101 Remaining processes that lower Cl⁻, δ¹⁸O, and δD include clay membrane ion filtration and SGD.
102 Ion filtration depletes expelled pore water in ions and heavy isotopes²⁵. Although Cl⁻, Na⁺, K⁺,
103 Ca²⁺, Mg²⁺, and Sr²⁺ concentrations all decrease with depth at J1003, DSi increases. Furthermore,
104 ion filtration fractionates hydrogen more than oxygen, yielding a slope less than the MWL²⁶. In
105 contrast, δ¹⁸O and δD at J1003 fall on the MWL for Chile²⁷ (Fig. 3). Taken together, we rule out
106 ion filtration, leaving deep SGD as the likely dominant source of low-Cl⁻ pore water at J1003.

107 To identify the groundwater source influencing J1003 sediments, we compared δ¹⁸O and δD to Cl⁻
108 (Fig. 3). Previous studies highlight linear relationships between pore water O/H isotopes and Cl⁻,
109 which when extrapolated to the freshwater source (Cl⁻=0) can constrain the isotopic composition
110 of the groundwater endmember^{17,18}. Instead, non-linearity between O/H isotopes and Cl⁻ is
111 observed, suggesting secondary influences from an additional endmember that shifts downcore
112 δ¹⁸O and δD towards slightly enriched values while also contributing to marked freshening (Fig.
113 3).

114 Subsurface enrichment of δ¹⁸O and δD has often been interpreted as the downward diffusion of
115 the change in isotopic composition of seawater during the last glacial period, which also increased
116 Cl⁻ by ~3 percent²⁸. However, the slight enrichment of δ¹⁸O and δD at J1003 occurs without an
117 increase in Cl⁻ (Fig. 2). Instead, a likely candidate for the observed non-linearity is methane hydrate

118 dissociation, which increases $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and δD and reduces Cl^- in pore water²⁹. Lower-than-expected
119 methane hydrate concentrations have been observed in accreted sediments downslope of J1003
120 owing to high heat flow from subduction at the Chile Triple Junction^{30,31}. Our results now provide
121 geochemical evidence that active methane hydrate dissociation appears to be occurring off the
122 Taitao Peninsula.

123 Projected endmember values for $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ($-9.8\pm 1.71\text{‰}$) and δD ($-70.6\pm 17.5\text{‰}$) fall on the MWL and
124 are in excellent agreement with modern precipitation data from southern Chile²⁷ and reported
125 values from terrestrial sites in the Aysén region of Patagonia¹² (Fig. 3c). The particularly strong
126 agreement with geothermal groundwater and meteoric endmembers ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$: $-9.17\pm 0.87\text{‰}$ and -
127 $10.5\pm 4.95\text{‰}$; δD : $-65.9\pm 7.01\text{‰}$ and $-78.9\pm 44.8\text{‰}$, respectively) is attributable to the meteoric
128 overprint of geothermal groundwaters in the region and points to the deep submarine infiltration
129 of these meteorically altered geothermal groundwaters on the Chilean Margin as the dominant
130 source of freshening at J1003. Convergence on this endmember is substantiated by linear
131 extrapolation of deuterium excess to Cl^- equal to zero (Supplemental Fig. 1).

132 The (near-)linear relationships between Cl^- and Na^+ , K^+ , and DSi are best explained by binary
133 mixing between seawater and the same geothermal groundwaters that supply thermal springs in
134 the Aysén region of Patagonia¹² (Fig. 4; Supplemental Fig. 2). These mixing models indicate a
135 geothermal groundwater contribution of ~ 30 percent at the base of J1003. Pore water $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ at
136 J1003 is less radiogenic than seawater and can also be attributed to mixing with regional
137 geothermal groundwaters, which are in isotopic equilibrium with the plutonic host rock¹¹. Using
138 geothermal groundwater endmember (0.7043) from the Villarrica region just north of J1003, which
139 has a similar bedrock lithology as the Aysén region³², a binary mixing model for $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$
140 yields a lower contribution of ~ 10 percent (Supplemental Fig. 2). Nonetheless, meteorically altered
141 geothermal groundwater contributions of 10-30 percent are sufficient to substantially modify the
142 chemistry of sedimentary pore waters on the Chilean Margin.

143 Importantly, the strong agreement between pore fluid and modern meteoric isotopic data appear
144 to rule out the emplacement of paleo-meteoric fluids at the depths of J1003 despite a more
145 expansive Patagonian Ice Sheet during the last glacial period²¹. This contrasts with other study
146 sites proximal to ancient ice sheets in North America and Europe, where fossil meteoric freshwater
147 infiltrated marine sediments at the last glacial termination^{19,33}.

148 **Occurrence of dolomite.** The binary mixing model fails to explain non-linear reductions in Ca^{2+} ,
149 Mg^{2+} , and Sr^{2+} (Fig. 4). Instead, these trends can be attributed to the precipitation of dolomite at
150 depth, which was documented between 15-40 mbsf²⁰. At high-sedimentation sites like J1003²⁰,
151 dolomitization occurs when sulfate is depleted and there is a sufficient Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} supply³⁴.
152 Elevated methane concentrations in the upper sections of J1003 suggest that sulfate reduction is
153 driven by biogenic degradation of organic matter, whereas decreasing C_1/C_2 ratios towards the

154 base (attributable to high ethane concentrations) highlight a potential thermogenic influence at
155 depth (Supplemental Fig. 3). Both mechanisms consume sulfate while also generating the requisite
156 alkalinity. Furthermore, detrital silicates (high in adsorbed Mg^{2+}) readily undergo ion exchange
157 with NH_4^+ generated during sulfate reduction³⁵, which potentially liberates the Mg^{2+} needed for
158 dolomitization.

159 The dolomite-rich interval at J1003 coincides with sharp decreases in Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , and Sr^{2+} (Fig.
160 2) and increased pore water Mg^{2+}/Ca^{2+} and Sr^{2+}/Ca^{2+} ratios (Supplemental Fig. 4). Such changes
161 are consistent with dolomitization and have been observed in dolomite-rich intervals on the nearby
162 Peru Margin³⁶. In releasing H_2O , dolomitization may also contribute to observed freshening at
163 J1003³⁷.

164 Decreases in pore water $^{87}Sr/^{86}Sr$ are attributable to binary mixing between geothermal
165 groundwaters and seawater (Supplemental Fig 2), but the slight decrease in $^{87}Sr/^{86}Sr$ could also (in
166 part) reflect alteration of volcanogenic material, which was invoked to explain non-radiogenic
167 $^{87}Sr/^{86}Sr$ at Ocean Drilling Program (ODP) Site 860, located 46 km downslope of J1003³⁸.
168 Volcanogenic material comprises 0-10 percent of the bulk sediment composition at J1003²⁰, but
169 its alteration would raise pore water Cl^- , Ca^{2+} , and Sr^{2+} concentrations, none of which are reported
170 at J1003. It is plausible that Ca^{2+} and Sr^{2+} released by ash alteration are quickly consumed during
171 dolomitization, and that any increase in Cl^- is overwhelmed by combined freshening effects from
172 SGD, methane hydrate dissociation, and dolomite precipitation. Nonetheless, the robust binary
173 mixing signal between $^{87}Sr/^{86}Sr$ and $\delta^{18}O$ suggests that infiltration of altered geothermal
174 groundwater is the more likely primary control on strontium systematics at J1003 (Supplemental
175 Figure 2).

176 **Constraints on the geothermal groundwater reservoir and fluid migration.** The ratio of Na^+
177 and K^+ in thermal fluids reflects temperature-dependent ion exchange between geothermal
178 groundwater and alkali feldspars (K^+ -feldspar, Na^+ -feldspar)³⁹, and this geothermometer has been
179 employed to characterize geothermal groundwaters in southern Chile^{12,40}. If we assume that this
180 method is also applicable in marine sediments that are influenced by geothermal groundwater, then
181 pore water Na^+/K^+ can be used to estimate the reservoir temperature of geothermal groundwaters
182 influencing J1003. Pore water-derived temperatures using four different equations are in excellent
183 agreement with estimates from the Aysén thermal springs¹² (e.g., J1003: $173.68 \pm 2.06^\circ C$; Aysén:
184 $175 \pm 14.3^\circ C$; Supplemental Table 1), and further support a geothermal groundwater connection
185 linking the Aysén region of Patagonia and the Chilean Margin.

186 With ~10-30 percent of pore water influenced by meteorically altered geothermal groundwater,
187 we infer that freshwater delivery to J1003 must be sourced from a geothermal reservoir that is
188 substantially deeper than the penetration depth of J1003. Applying our Na^+/K^+ temperature
189 estimates to the geothermal gradient at J1003 ($53^\circ C km^{-1}$), a reservoir depth of 2.82 ± 0.293 kmbsf

190 is established (Supplemental Fig. 5). Although characterization of the geothermal reservoir in the
191 Aysén region has not yet been conducted, this estimate agrees with those for the Tinguiririca
192 geothermal reservoir in central Chile (2-6 kmbsl)⁴⁰⁻⁴² and now provides a benchmark for future
193 studies to test.

194 Despite considerable evidence for deep submarine discharge of meteorically altered geothermal
195 groundwater at J1003, a fundamental question remains: How is this hydrogeologic connection
196 established? Lateral migration of geothermal groundwater through the LOFZ controls the
197 distribution of thermal springs in the Aysén region, which are often clustered near faults where
198 buoyant hot water reaches the surface^{40,42}. We now propose that this geothermal groundwater also
199 migrates into the marine realm on the Chilean Margin. Whether fluid migration is lateral or is
200 directly sourced from the deep reservoir cannot yet be determined. Nonetheless, our results
201 indicate that migration of regional geothermal groundwaters not only feed thermal springs at the
202 surface but also simultaneously delivers freshened geothermal groundwater to offshore sediments.

203 The absence of similar pore water features at nearby ODP Sites 859 (2760 mbsl) and 860 (2157
204 mbsl)³⁸ provide first-order depth and spatial constraints on this mechanism and suggest that
205 infiltration of groundwater to the Chilean Margin may be focused, potentially aided by faulting
206 within the accretionary prism⁴³. This constitutes one of the deeper examples of SGD globally, but
207 is not without precedent (e.g., ODP Leg 122 Site 760, 1970 mbsl, NW Australia⁴⁴) and adds to a
208 growing body of geochemical evidence for the SGD along active and passive margins^{17-19,33}.
209 Locally, our depth estimates for the Aysén geothermal reservoir may be of particular interest for
210 efforts to harness geothermal energy for societal consumption. Globally, freshening in over
211 pressurized accreted sediments on active margins can influence the mechanics of shallow-slip
212 tectonism and potentially contribute to mega-thrust earthquakes that are commonly experienced in
213 Chile and elsewhere⁴⁵. Indeed, similar links between meteoric freshening and tectonism may
214 operate on the Cascadia, Nankai, and Okhotsk margins, where meteorically altered geothermal
215 groundwaters^{46,47} and pore water trends similar to J1003^{48,49} have been reported.

216 **Materials and Methods**

217 **Sample collection.** Pore water samples were taken from whole round samples that were
218 immediately collected from the bottom 5-10 cm of each core section upon recovery to the catwalk,
219 yielding a sampling resolution of ~1.5 m. In addition, one mudline sample was collected from
220 Holes A and B in J1003. Retrieved whole rounds were capped and transferred to the shipboard
221 geochemistry laboratory for immediate processing. In total, 40 samples were taken from J1003,
222 with 18 samples analyzed onboard. The remainder of the pore water samples were split (~4-10 mL
223 each), sealed in airtight glass vacuoles, and archived for shore-based analysis.

224 For samples that underwent shipboard analysis, the following measures were taken. First, the
225 sediment surface of each whole round was carefully scraped to mitigate possible contamination.

226 Next, the whole round sample was placed in a titanium hydraulic press and subjected to 35,000 lb
227 force for interstitial water extraction. Upon extraction, pore water was filtered through a Whatman
228 No. 1 filter (11 μm) and 0.5 mL was discarded to avoid contamination. The remainder of fluid was
229 filtered into a sterile syringe and filtered again through a 0.45 μm polysulfone filter.

230 **Shipboard pore water elemental and ion analysis.** Shipboard analysis of J1003 pore waters
231 followed protocols outlined in Gieskes et al. (ref. 50), Murray et al. (ref. 51), and the International
232 Ocean Discovery Program user manual for shipboard instrumentation. Major cations (Na^+ , Ca^{2+} ,
233 Mg^{2+} , K^+) and anions (Cl^- , SO_4^{2-}) were measured on pore water samples ($n=18$) using a shipboard
234 Metrohm 850 ion chromatographer (IC). Dissolved ammonium (NH_4^+) concentrations were
235 determined using an Agilent Cary Series 100 UV-visible spectrophotometer fitted with an Agilent
236 SPS3 autosampler. Alkalinity was determined immediately after squeezing by Gran titration with
237 an autotitrator (Metrohm 794 basic Titrino) using 0.1M HCl at 25°C. Certain trace elements (Sr^{2+} ,
238 DSi) were measured using a shipboard Agilent 5110 SVDV ICP-AES ($n=8$). Precision (1σ) based
239 on repeated measurements on IAPSO and internal standards were $<3.5\%$ for IC measurements,
240 $<3.4\%$ for NH_4^+ , and $<2\%$ for alkalinity. Reproducibility for ICP-AES measurements was $\sim 1\%$
241 for all reported elements. We refer the reader to the Expedition 379T Preliminary Report²⁰ for
242 additional details on shipboard inorganic geochemical analysis of interstitial water samples.

243 **Shipboard hydrocarbon gas analysis.** Sediment gas composition was determined at a resolution
244 of 1 sample per core for J1003 ($n=9$). A 3 cm^3 bulk sediment sample was collected from freshly
245 exposed top end of a core section using a brass boring tool immediately after core recovery on the
246 catwalk. The sediment plug was placed in a glass vial and sealed with an aluminum cap fitted with
247 a PTFE/silicon septa for transfer to the shipboard geochemistry laboratory. The vial was heated to
248 70°C for 30 minutes to evolve hydrocarbon gases from the sediment. A 5 cm^3 volume of headspace
249 gas was extracted from the sealed vial using a gas-tight 5 mL PTFE Luer lock glass syringe and
250 injected into an Agilent/HP 6890 Series II Gas Chromatograph fitted with a flame ionization
251 detector for analysis. Concentrations of methane (CH_4) and higher molecular weight hydrocarbons
252 were determined and reported as parts per million by volume (ppmv) of the injected sample.

253 **Shore-based pore water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, δD , and $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ analyses.** Pore water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and δD were
254 determined ($n=23$) using a Picarro L2130-*i* cavity ringdown laser spectrometer light isotope
255 instrument in triplicates at the University at Buffalo following methods in van Geldern and Barth⁵².
256 Samples were injected four times and each injection was corrected for memory and drift, and were
257 then normalized to Vienna Standard Mean Ocean Water (VSMOW). The first injection was
258 discarded for each sample and the remaining three analyses were aggregated into an average value
259 with associated replicate uncertainty. Average replicate standard deviation (1 SD) was 0.02‰ for
260 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ measurements and 0.08‰ for δD measurements.

261 Additional pore water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ measurements (n=26) were made at the Rutgers University Stable
262 Isotope Laboratory using a FISIONS OPTIMA Mass Spectrometer equipped with a MicroMass
263 Multiprep automatic sample processing system after water equilibration with CO_2 using standard
264 methods^{53,54}. All samples were run in duplicate. Reproducibility is estimated to be $\pm 0.04\text{‰}$ (1 SD)
265 as determined by multiple (n=12) daily analyses of laboratory standards. Accuracy is estimated to
266 be within 0.03‰ by comparison of North Atlantic Bottom Water with VSMOW. $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ determined
267 on the Picarro show excellent agreement with a higher resolution record determined with IR-MS
268 (Supplemental Fig. 6).

269 Pore water $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ analysis (n=8) followed the Sr separation protocol of Horwitz et al.⁵⁵. Sample
270 volumes were calculated from shipboard elemental concentrations, targeting at least $1\ \mu\text{g}$ Sr for
271 each sample. Sample fluid was acidified to 2N using 7N HNO_3 prior to separation. Strontium was
272 chromatographically separated from the pore water matrix using Eichrom 50-100 μm Sr Resin and
273 different concentrations of HNO_3 . Strontium was collected in 0.5N HNO_3 in acid cleaned 3 mL
274 Savillex vials, dried down, and then dissolved in 2% by volume HNO_3 for analysis. Samples were
275 analyzed in a wet plasma using a ThermoScientific Neptune Plus MC-ICP-MS at Rutgers
276 University. Sr isotopes were corrected for fractionation using the measured $^{88}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratio of
277 8.3752. NIST SRM 987, which was analyzed multiple times during sample analyses, yielded an
278 $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratio of 0.710274 ± 0.000007 (2 SD, n=33).

279 **Binary mixing model.** By assuming that pore waters at J1003 are not altered by diagenetic
280 reactions or other mixing processes, the elemental and isotopic composition of two pore fluid
281 constituents in a two-endmember mixed fluid was linearly correlated following Kastner et al.³⁶.
282 Briefly,

$$283 \quad Y_{IW} = X_{IW} \frac{Y_{GT} - Y_{SW}}{X_{GT} - X_{SW}} + \frac{Y_{SW}X_{GT} - Y_{GT}X_{SW}}{X_{GT} - X_{SW}}$$

284 where X and Y correspond to the elemental concentration or isotopic ratio of pore water
285 constituents (e.g., Cl^- and Na^+ , $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$). Subscripts refer to interstitial water (IW),
286 geothermal groundwater (GT), and seawater (SW). In Fig. 4, X refers to Cl^- concentrations and X_{IW}
287 is treated as a single step range of Cl^- from 18.5-540 mM.

288 The following table provides endmember values for seawater and geothermal groundwater, with
289 the latter derived as the average of geothermal spring data from Negri et al. (ref. 12). For these,
290 the error represents the 95% confidence interval based on the range of reported values, which are
291 used to estimate the window of possible mixing lines shown in Fig. 4 and Supplemental Fig. 2.
292 The geothermal groundwater $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ and Sr^{2+} endmembers are from Held et al. (ref. 11). The
293 mudline elemental and isotopic composition is assumed to represent the seawater endmember.

	Cl ⁻	Na ⁺	K ⁺	DSi	Ca ²⁺	Mg ²⁺	δ ¹⁸ O	δD	⁸⁷ Sr/ ⁸⁶ Sr
SW	544 mM	470 mM	10 mM	24 μM	10 mM	54 mM	-0.159 ‰	-1.7 ‰	0.7092
GT	18.5±12.4 mM	16±8.23 mM	0.523±0.311 mM	1420±276 μM	2.96±1.78 mM	0.23±0.229 mM	-9.17±0.87 ‰	-65.9±7.01 ‰	0.7043

294 **Data Availability**

295 The source data for J1003 shown in Fig. 2 is provided in the supplementary material. All
296 correspondence and data requests should be addressed to V.J.C.

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305 **Author Contributions**

306 V.J.C. and Y.R. designed the experiment. V.J.C. carried out shore-based geochemical analyses
307 (with contributions from E.K.T., J.D.W., R.A.M., O.C.C., and L.V.G.), prepared figures, and wrote
308 the initial manuscript. S.C.B., Y.R., and L.B.C. organized and managed the expedition. The
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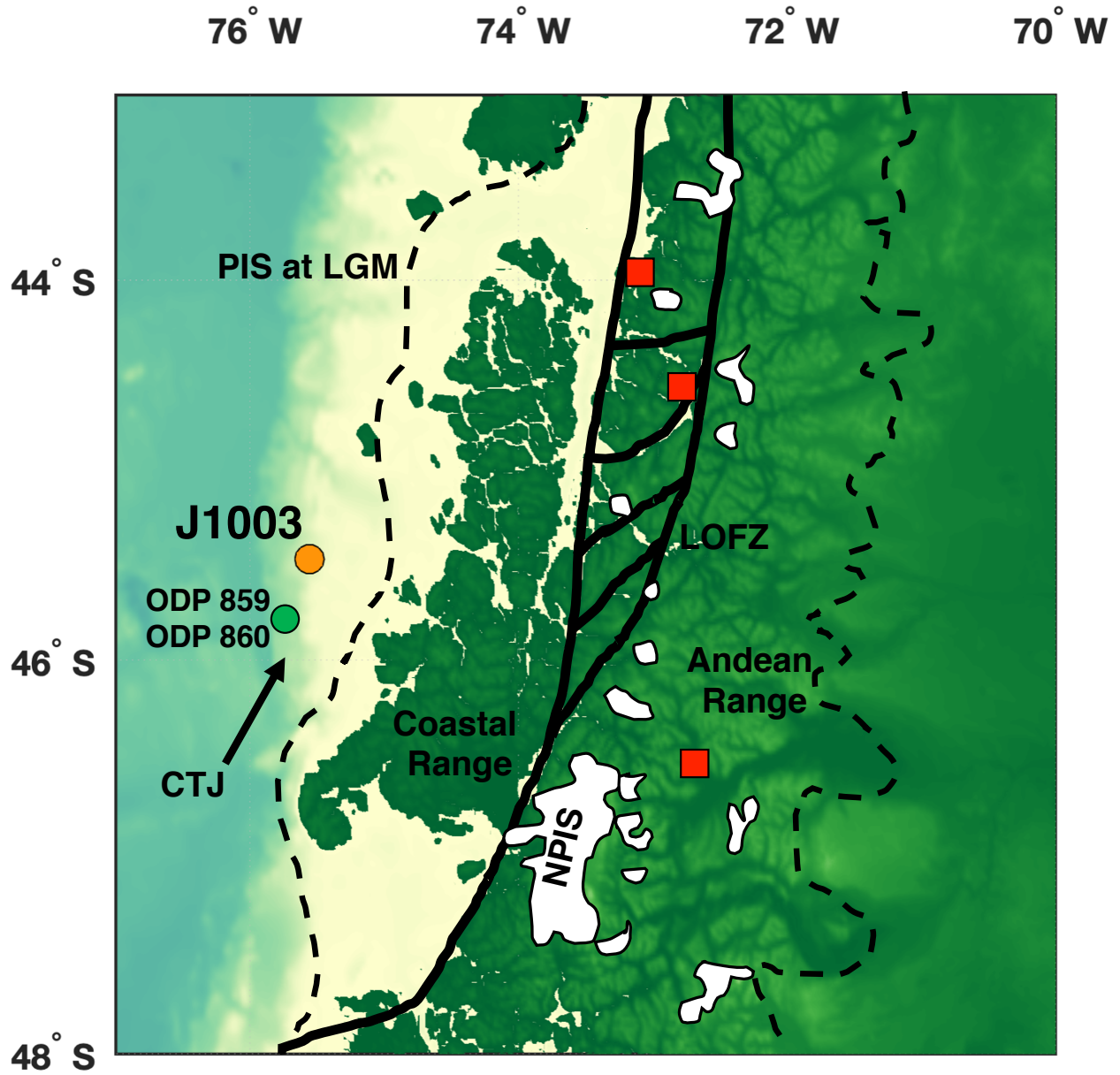
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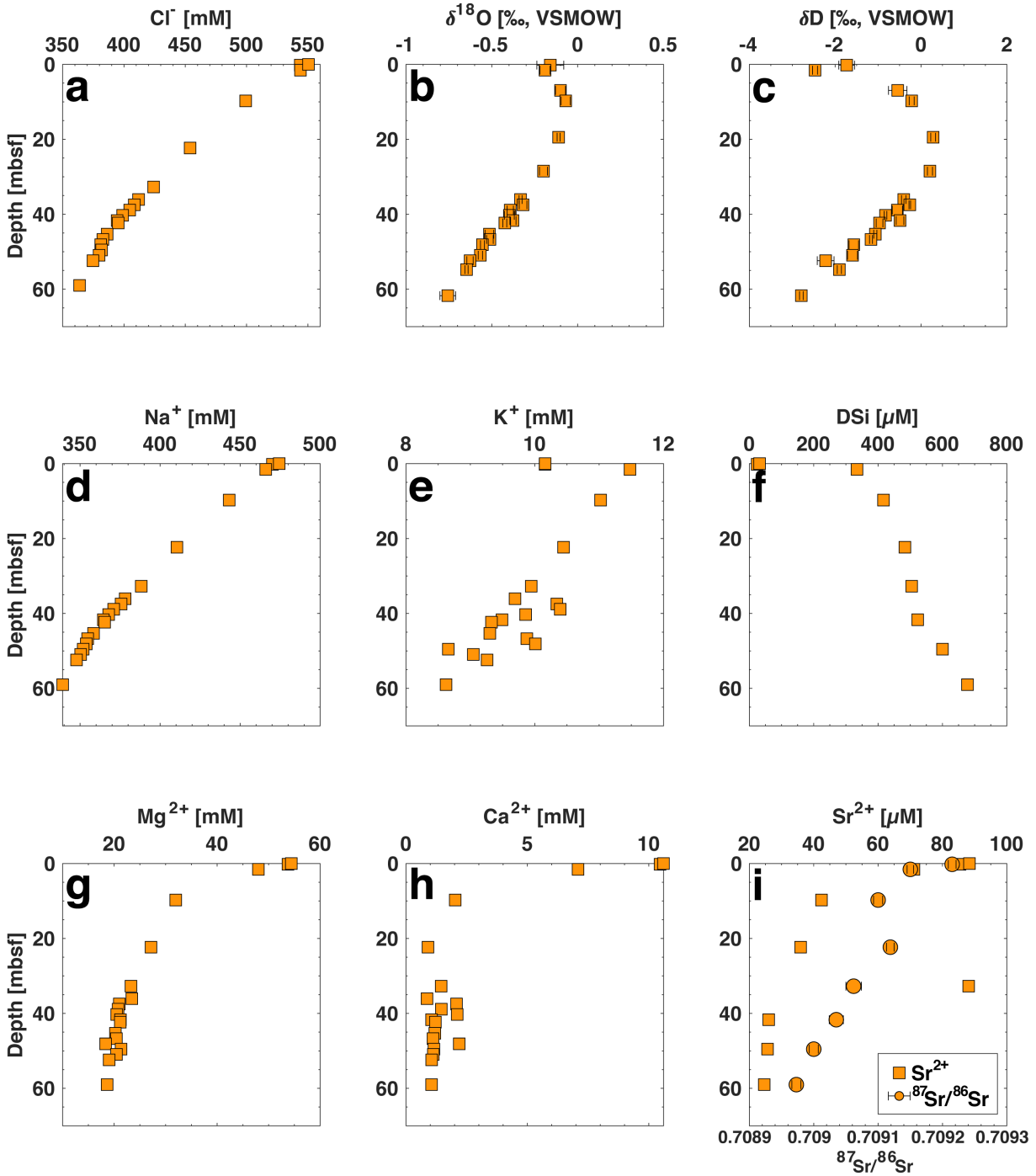
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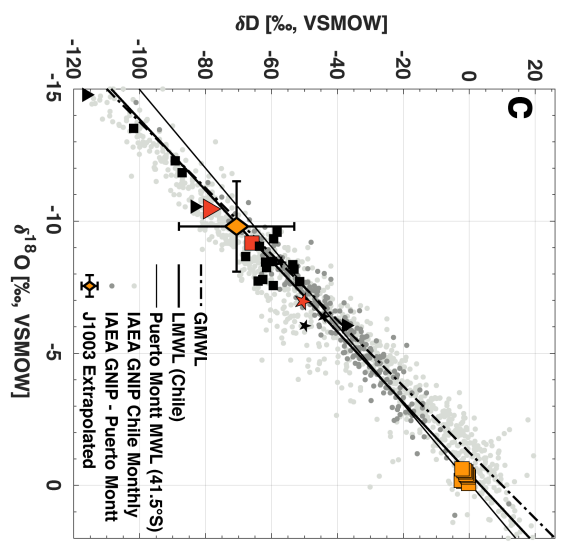
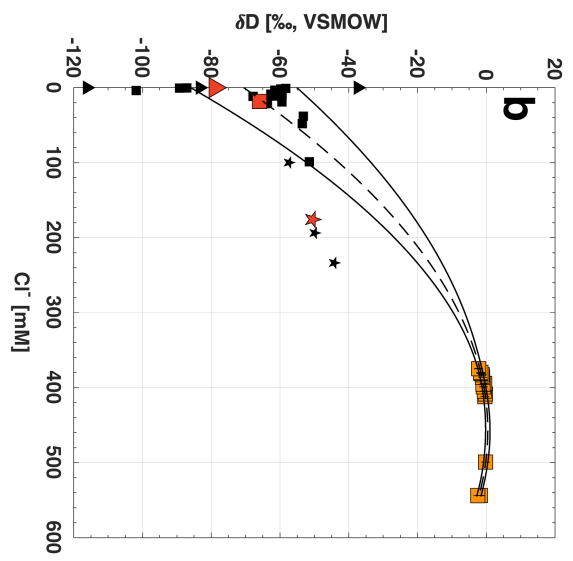
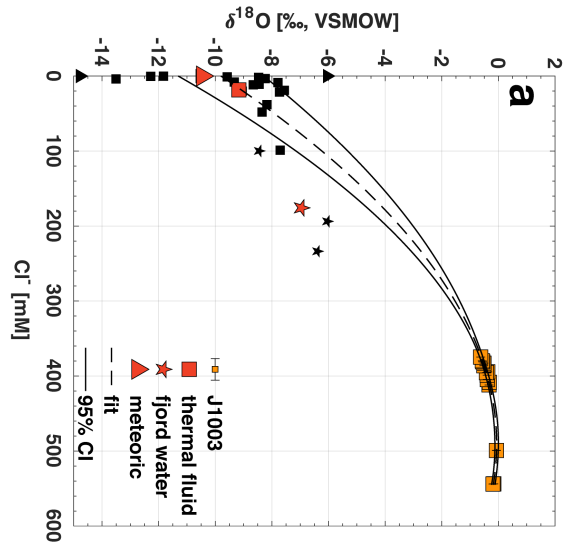
504

505 **Fig. 1: Study setting.** Map of the Chilean Margin showing the location of Expedition 379T Site
 506 J1003 (orange). The modern extent of the North Patagonia Ice Sheet (white patches) and during
 507 the last glacial period (dotted black line) are shown²¹. Also shown are the NNE fractures that
 508 characterize the LOFZ (thick black lines; modified after Cembrano et al. (ref. 22) and the Chile
 509 Triple Junction (CTJ). Nearby ODP Sites 859 and 860 are marked in green. The Coastal Range and
 510 Andes are labeled. Red squares denote terrestrial hydrological study sites in Negri et al. (ref. 12).

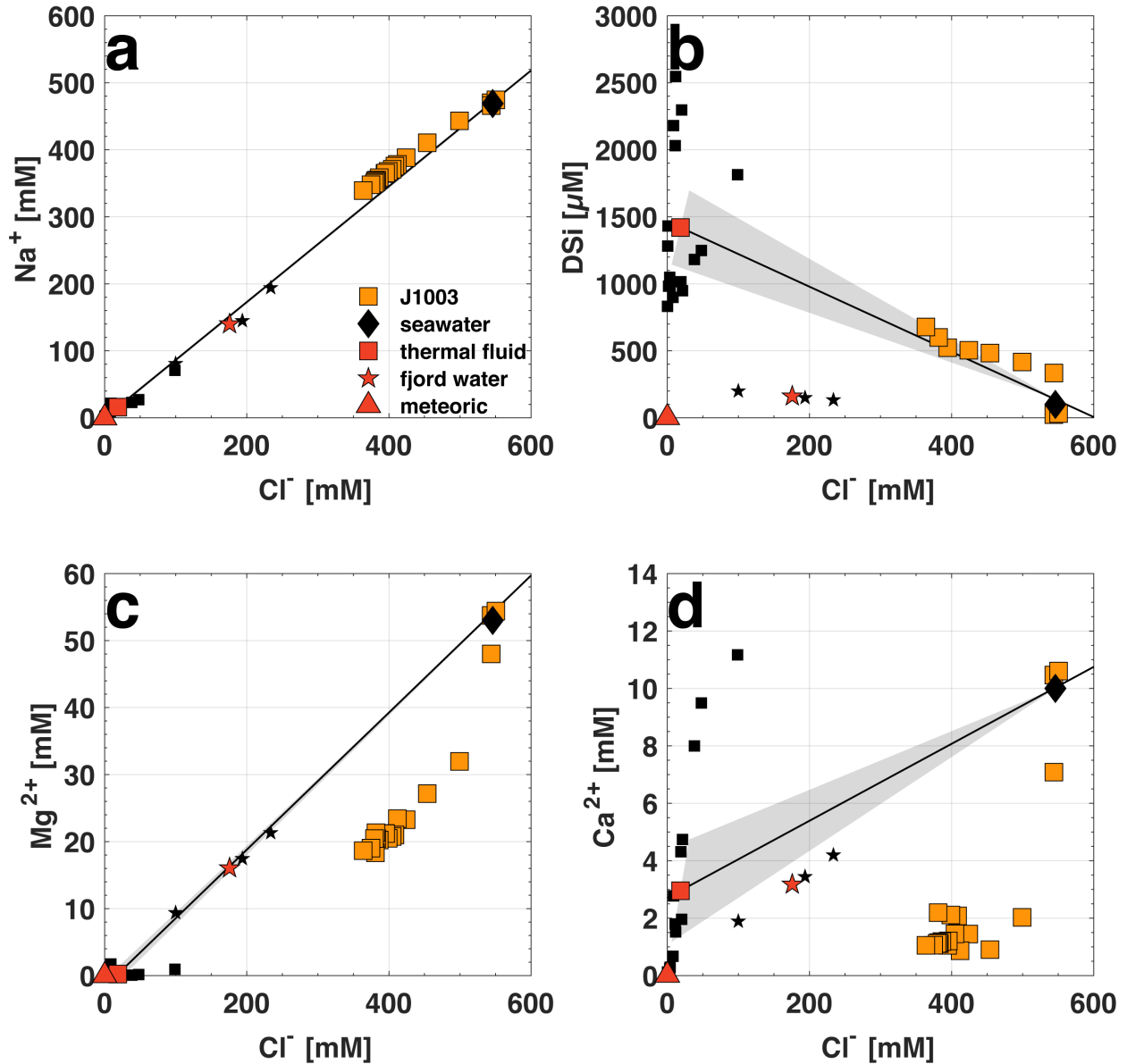


511

512 **Fig. 2: Pore water geochemical profiles for J1003.** A) Chloride (Cl^-). B) Oxygen isotope ratios
 513 ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$). C) Deuterium isotope ratios (δD). D) Sodium (Na^+). E) Potassium (K^+). F) Dissolved silica
 514 (DSi). G) Magnesium (Mg^{2+}). H) Calcium (Ca^{2+}). I) Strontium (Sr^{2+}) in squares, strontium isotope
 515 ratios ($^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$) in circles. Error bars in A, B, and I represent 1 standard deviation (1 SD) for each
 516 sample's analysis. Depth is plotted on the vertical axis in meters below sea floor (mbsf).



518 **Fig. 3: Determining the groundwater origin.** A) $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ plotted against Cl^- . B) δD plotted against
519 Cl^- . For A and B, the quadratic fit of pore water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and δD values, respectively, is shown by the
520 black dotted line, with 95% confidence intervals in solid black. C) Comparison of $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and δD
521 with a compilation of meteoric values (grey) from Sanchez-Murillo et al. (ref. 27); data from
522 Puerto Montt station are highlighted (dark grey). The global meteoric water line (GMWL, dotted)
523 and those for Chile (solid), and Puerto Montt (thin) are shown. Measured and extrapolated data for
524 J1003 are shown by the orange squares and diamond, respectively. In all plots, data for thermal
525 fluid (square), fjord water (star), and meteoric water (triangle) from the Aysén region reported by
526 Negri et al. (ref. 12) are shown in black, averages for each subgroup are shown in red.



527

528 **Fig. 4: Mixing between seawater and geothermal groundwater.** A) Cl^- against Na^+ . B) Cl^-
 529 against DSi. C) Cl^- against Mg^{2+} . D) Cl^- against Ca^{2+} . Data for thermal fluid (square), fjord water
 530 (star), and meteoric water (triangle) from the Aysén region reported by Negri et al. (ref. 12) are
 531 shown in black; averages for each subgroup are shown in red. In all plots, mixing lines between
 532 geothermal groundwater and seawater (black diamonds) are shown, with grey windows
 533 highlighting the range of potential mixing lines derived from the minimum and maximum (95%
 534 confidence interval) endmember estimates.

535 **Supplemental Information:** Deep submarine infiltration of altered geothermal groundwater on
536 the south Chilean Margin

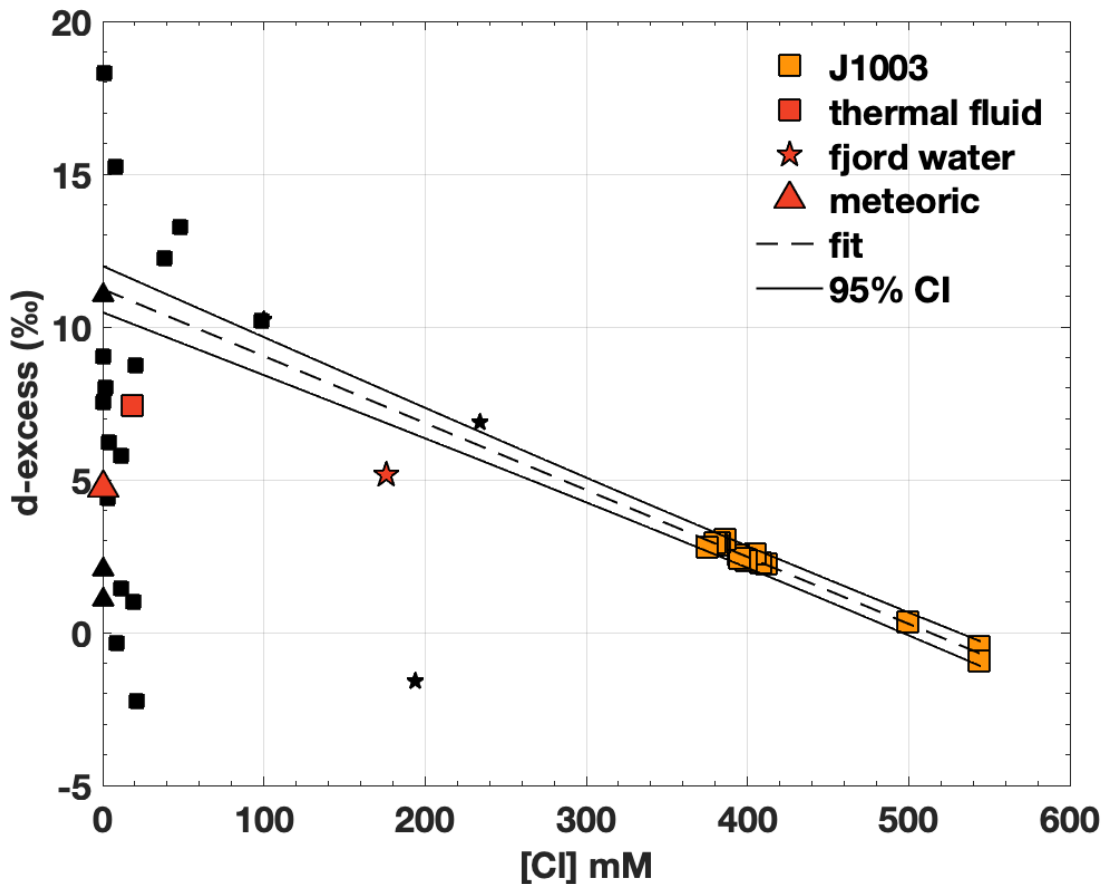
537 **Contents:**

538 1) Supplemental Figures 1-6

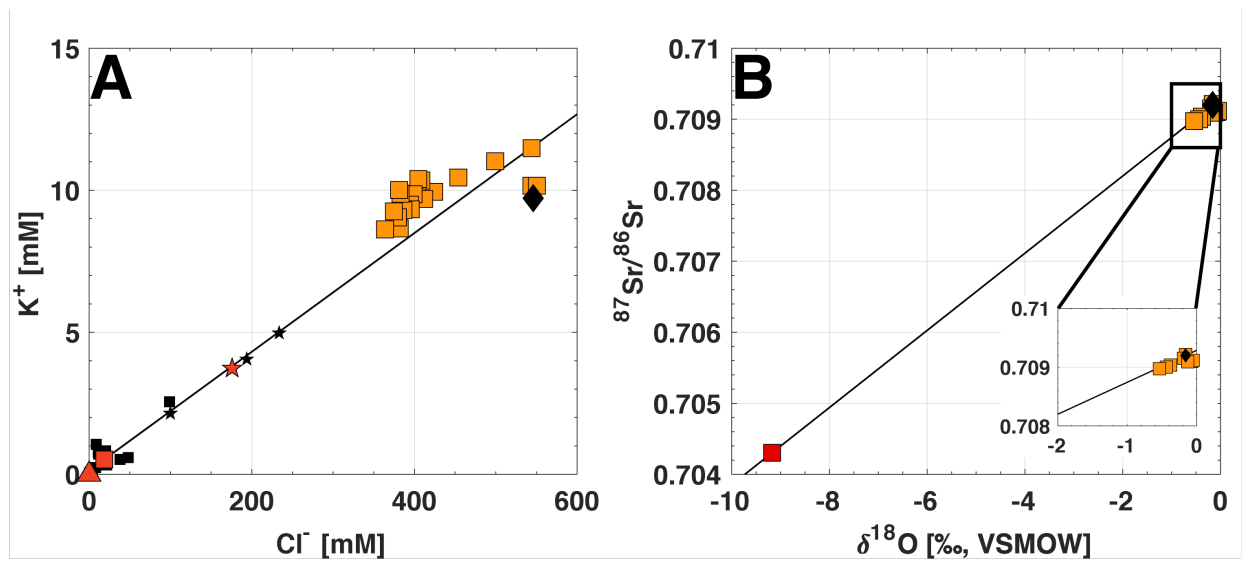
539 2) Supplemental Table 1

540 **References**

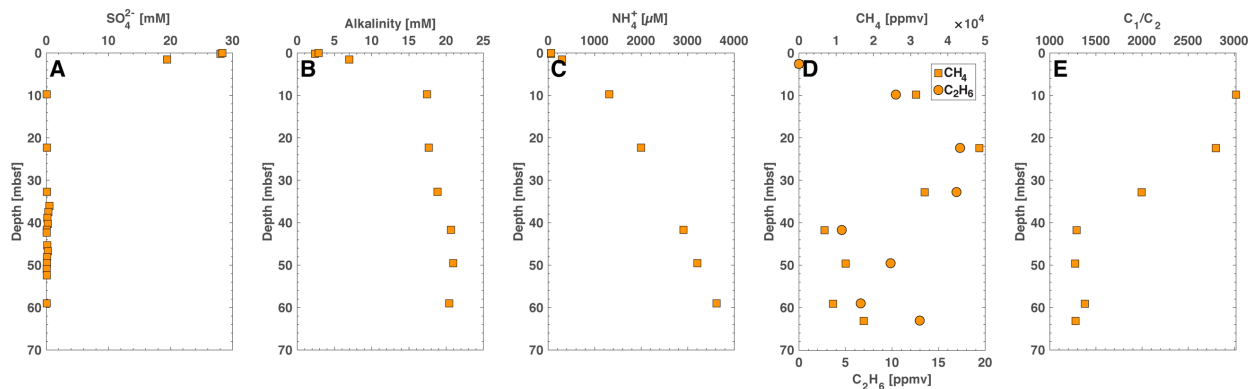
541 **1. Supplemental Figures**



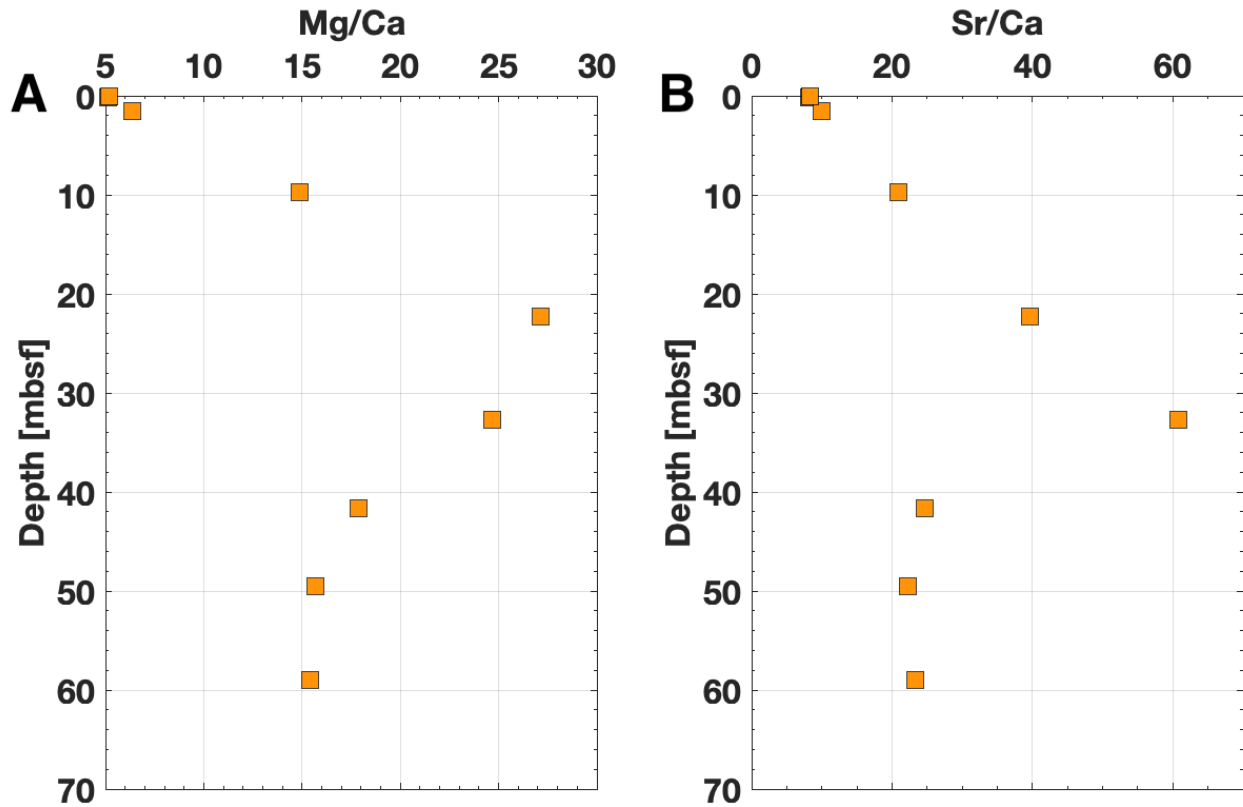
542 **Supplemental Fig. 1.** Extrapolation of deuterium excess (d-excess), which can identify source
543 fluids¹, to Cl⁻ concentration equal to zero falls within the cluster of meteorically-altered geothermal
544 groundwater values. The linear fit of Cl⁻ against d-excess is shown by the black dotted line, with
545 95% confidence intervals in solid black. Data for J1003 are shown in orange. Raw data for thermal
546 fluid (square), fjord water (star), and meteoric water (triangle) from the Aysén region reported by
547 Negri et al. (ref. 2) are shown in black; averages for each subgroup are shown in red.



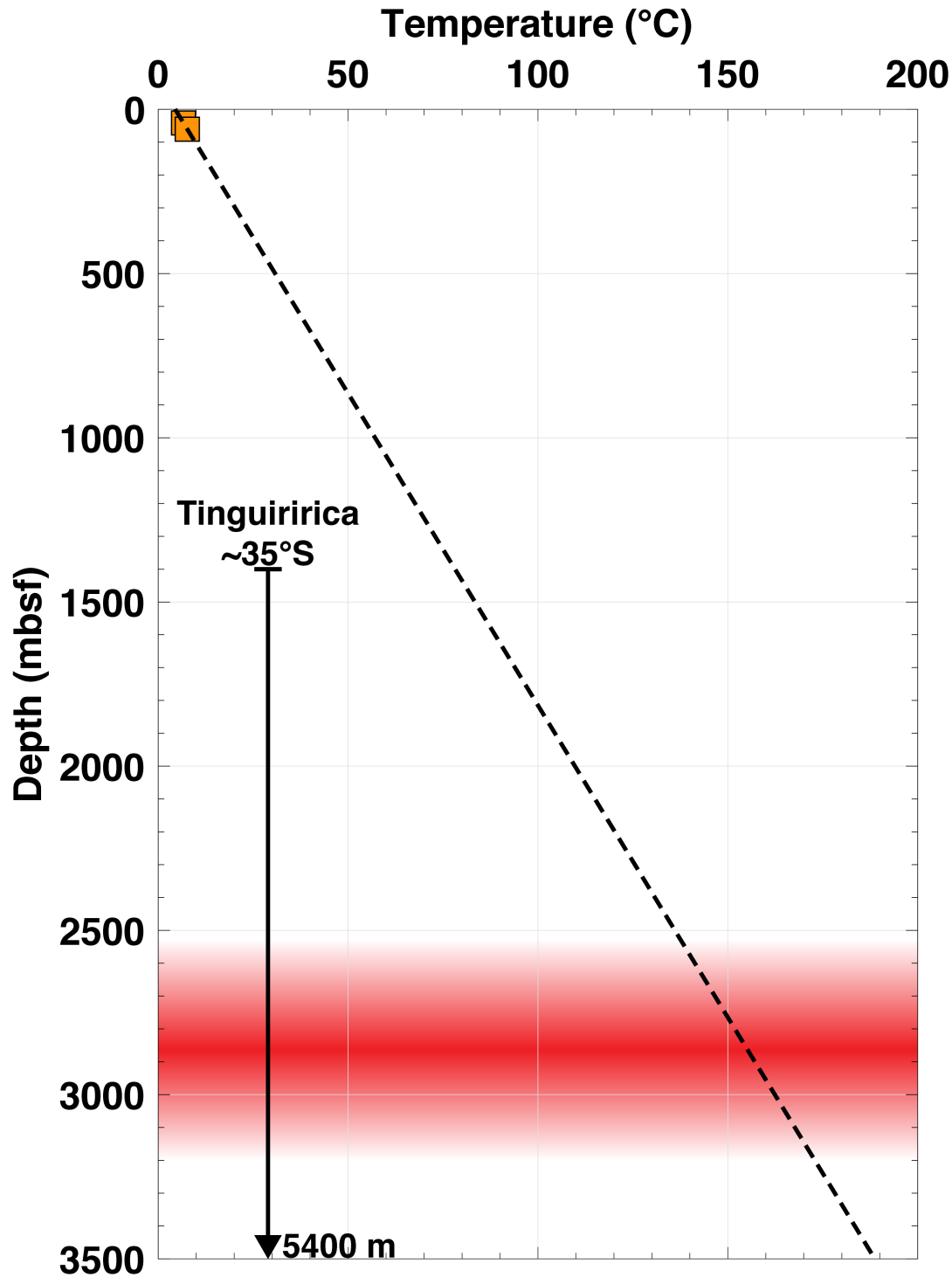
549
 550 **Supplemental Fig. 2. Additional mixing models.** A) Cl^- against K^+ B) $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ against $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$. In
 551 A, data for thermal fluid (square), fjord water (star), and meteoric water (triangle) from the Aysén
 552 region reported by Negri et al. (ref. 2) are shown in black; averages for each subgroup are shown
 553 in red (see legend in Supplemental Fig. 1). In A, the mixing line is between geothermal
 554 groundwater and the first subsurface interstitial water sample (1.547 mbsf). For B, the mixing line
 555 is between geothermal groundwater and seawater. Seawater is denoted by the black diamond in
 556 both plots. The $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ geothermal endmember is from Held et al. (ref. 3).



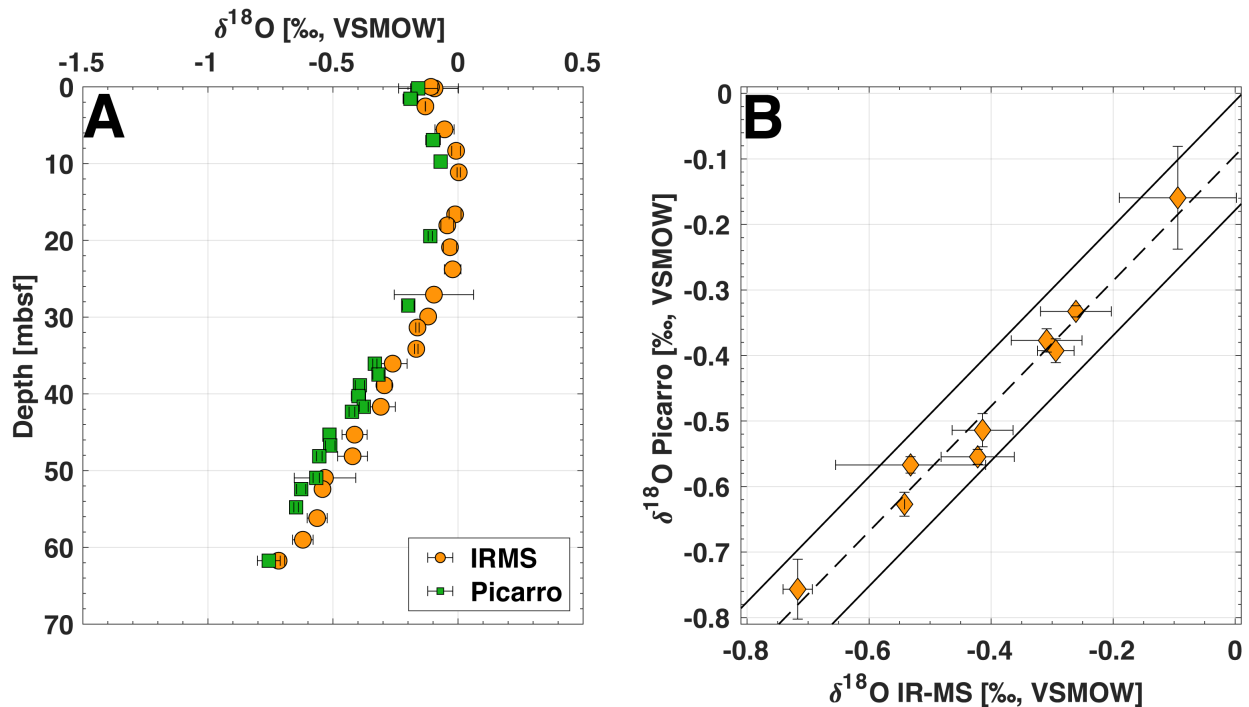
557
 558 **Supplemental Fig. 3. J1003 pore water profiles** for A) sulfate (SO_4^{2-}), B) alkalinity, and C)
 559 ammonium (NH_4^+), D) headspace methane (CH_4 , square) and ethane (C_2H_6 , circle) concentrations,
 560 and E) downcore C_1/C_2 ratios. Depth is plotted on the vertical axis in meters below sea floor
 561 (mbsf). The source data for this figure are provided in the supplementary material.



562
 563 **Supplemental Fig. 4. Evidence for dolomitization.** Pore water ratios for A) Mg^{2+}/Ca^{2+} , and B)
 564 Sr^{2+}/Ca^{2+} . The dolomite-rich interval at J1003 occupies the sediment column between 15-40 mbsf⁴,
 565 where increases in Mg^{2+}/Ca^{2+} and Sr^{2+}/Ca^{2+} are documented. Depth is plotted on the vertical axis
 566 in meters below sea floor (mbsf).



567
 568 **Supplemental Fig. 5. Depth estimates for the Aysén geothermal groundwater reservoir.**
 569 J1003 temperature measurements from the advanced piston corer temperature tool (APCT-3) are
 570 shown in orange. The geothermal gradient for J1003 ($53\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C km}^{-1}$) is indicated by the dotted black
 571 line. The range of Aysén geothermal groundwater temperature estimates is shown in red; the darker
 572 hue indicates average, whereas the lighter hue marks the bounds of the 95% C.I. Depth estimates
 573 from the nearby Tinguiririca geothermal reservoir (35°S) are marked by the black arrow^{5,6}. Depth
 574 is plotted on the vertical axis in meters below sea floor (mbsf).



575
 576 **Supplemental Fig. 6. Comparing pore water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ determination between Picarro and IR-**
 577 **MS methodology.** A) Downcore records for IR-MS (orange) and Picarro (green) generated data.
 578 Error bars for Picarro measurements represent 1 standard deviation (1 SD) for each sample's
 579 analysis. Error bars for IR-MS measurements represent the difference between duplicate analyses
 580 for each sample. Depth is plotted on the vertical axis in meters below sea floor (mbsf). B) Cross
 581 plot comparing data from the two instruments. The dotted black line is a linear fit of the data ($r^2 =$
 582 0.97 , $n=9$) with solid lines representing upper and lower bounds of the 95% confidence interval.
 583 Data fall close to the 1:1 line, with a near constant offset ($0.077 \pm 0.02\%$) towards lower values
 584 determined using the Picarro.

585 **2. Supplemental Table 1**

Na^+/K^+ estimates of the Aysén geothermal groundwater reservoir temperature (GRT).				
	GRT ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) ^a	GRT ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) ^b	GRT ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) ^c	GRT ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) ^d
This Study	173.68 ± 2.06	154.80 ± 2.16	139.34 ± 2.75	142.99 ± 2.11
Negri et al. ²	175 ± 14.3	156 ± 15.1	142 ± 19.7	144.17 ± 14.8
^a Giggenbach [ref. 7]: $T^{\circ}\text{C} = 1390/(\log \text{Na}/\text{K} + 1.750) - 273.15$ ^b Fournier [ref. 8]: $T^{\circ}\text{C} = 1217/(\log \text{Na}/\text{K} + 1.483) - 273.15$ ^c Tonani [ref. 9]: $T^{\circ}\text{C} = 883/(\log \text{Na}/\text{K} + 0.780) - 273.15$ ^d Nieva & Nieva [ref. 10]: $T^{\circ}\text{C} = 1178/(\log \text{Na}/\text{K} + 1.470) - 273.15$ <i>Notes: Concentration of Na and K in mg/L. Reported error is the 95% C.I.</i>				

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