# **Data report: microanalytical and geothermometric investigations on granoblastic dikes from the gabbro–dike transition from Hole 1256D (IODP Expedition 335, East Pacific Rise)[1](#page-0-1)**

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#### **Chapter contents**



**Abstract**

<span id="page-0-2"></span>In this data report we present detailed microanalytical results obtained with electron microprobe on 6 granoblastic dikes recovered during Integrated Ocean Discovery Program Expedition 335 from the gabbro–dike transition in Hole 1256D (Eastern Equatorial Pacific). The data set includes 79 compositions of plagioclases, clinopyroxenes, orthopyroxenes, amphiboles, and Fe-Ti oxides based on 1150 single analyses.

All samples except one display phenocrysts of plagioclase in a granoblastic matrix equilibrated in the pyroxene hornfels facies. The analytical results reveal that the plagioclase phenocrysts are much higher in anorthite component than those of the granoblastic matrix, with compositions typical of plagioclases from fresh pillow basalts and dikes from the upper part of the drill core, implying that these phenocrysts correspond to relics inherited from the primary magmatic stage.

Four samples display domains where clinopyroxene and orthopyroxene are arranged in vein- or bandlike structures, or in coarser grained monomineralic clusters. Clinopyroxenes and orthopyroxene from these domains show compositions overlapping widely with those of the matrix pyroxenes. This supports the hypothesis that these domains are derived from precursor structures generated by pervasive hydrothermal alteration, like hydrothermal veins and patches in the basalts. They were subsequently transformed by the contact metamorphic overprint into parageneses typical for the pyroxene hornfels facies, showing textural domains like bands and clusters inherited from the hydrothermal alteration stage, but with mineral compositions identical to those of the granoblastic matrix.

Two-pyroxene geothermometry reveals equilibrium temperatures for the peak metamorphism of the granoblastic overprint ranging from 930°C to 990°C, characteristic of an equilibration within the pyroxene hornfels facies. The estimated temperatures are very similar to equilibrium temperatures estimated by the same method for granoblastic dikes drilled during Expedition 312. These temperatures, together with the geological setting of the granoblastic dikes within the gabbro–dike transition in fastspread crust, imply that the granoblastic hornfels can be regarded as preserved fragments of a conductive thermal boundary layer.

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# **Introduction**

<span id="page-1-0"></span>Oceanic crust formed at fast-spreading rates exhibits relatively uniform seismic stratigraphy (e.g., Canales et al., 2003) and is regarded as layered and relatively homogeneous. This contrasts with the oceanic crust generated at slow-spreading ridges that is characterized by considerable heterogeneity, and where crustal accretion is partly controlled by tectonic rather than solely by magmatic processes (e.g., Cannat et al., 1995; Dick et al., 2008). In spite of the global importance of fast-spreading oceanic crust, up to now only one penetration of intact fast-spreading oceanic crust from the pillow basalts down to the plutonic layer exists: it was established by the IODP (Integrated Ocean Drilling Program) multiexpedition mission "Superfast Crust" at Site 1256. It is located in the eastern equatorial Pacific on 15 Ma oceanic crust of the Cocos plate formed at the East Pacific Rise (EPR) under superfast spreading conditions (220 mm/y, full spreading rate; Wilson, 1996). Hole 1256D, initiated during Ocean Drilling Program (ODP) Leg 206 and continued during IODP Expeditions 309, 312, and 335, penetrated the entire upper oceanic crust, passing through a ~250 m thick sediment sequence, a ~800 m thick lava series, and a relatively thin ~350 m thick sheeted dike complex before finally extending  $~100$  m into the uppermost gabbros, which consist of two apparently intrusive bodies (e.g., Teagle, Alt, Umino, Miyashita, Banerjee, Wilson, and the Expedition 309/312 Scientists, 2006; Teagle, Ildefonse, Blum, and the Expedition 335 Scientists, 2012). Hole 1256D penetrated for the first time the sheeted dike rooting zone, thus representing our only reference section for the important dike–gabbro transition of typical fast-spreading oceanic crust. This transition is a very complex zone, where magmatic, metamorphic, and hydrothermal processes all occur in close proximity: below, the axial melt lens (AML; e.g., Detrick et al., 1987) filled with a basaltic magma at a temperature of  $\sim$ 1200 $^{\circ}$ C, and above, the seawater hydrothermal cells operate at temperatures of ~400°C (based on the measured exit temperatures at EPR vents; e.g., Von Damm et al., 2003). Theoretical models predict that the heat of the AML is exchanged across a thin (<100 m), hot (>650°C), impermeable conductive boundary layer (CBL) sandwiched between the AML and the sheeted dikes (e.g., Lister, 1974).

Thanks to IODP Expeditions 312 and 335, now the first in situ samples from such a CBL zone are available: a  $\sim$ 70 m thick zone of "granoblastic dikes," representing high-grade metamorphosed, previously hydrothermally altered basalts of the sheeted dike complex, in which gabbros were intruded, showing a marked heterogeneity in lithofacies. These gabbros are interpreted as frozen remnants of a deeper AML, not yet reached by drilling (e.g., France et al., 2009; Koepke et al., 2011). The recovered samples document a wide spectrum of magmatic/metamorphic rocks ranging from basaltic to evolved compositions and the intimate coupling between temporally and spatially intercalated magmatic, hydrothermal and (prograde and retrograde) metamorphic processes. Here we present detailed microanalytical results obtained with electron microprobe on six granoblastic dike samples recovered during Expedition 335. Four of them are identical to samples from which shipboard thin sections were prepared (Table **[T1](#page-13-0)**), which are petrographically characterized in Teagle, Ildefonse, Blum, and the Expedition 335 Scientists (2012). Special focus of this investigation was to estimate the temperature of the granoblastic overprint by applying geothermometers based on pyroxene and amphibole compositions and to characterize the composition of plagioclase phenocrysts observed in the granoblastic dikes and interpreted as relics from the primary magmatic stage that survived the granoblastic overprint (Teagle, Ildefonse, Blum, and the Expedition 335 Scientists, 2012). Detailed reports on the geology and characterization of Site 1256 including maps are given in Teagle, Alt, Umino, Miyashita, Banerjee, Wilson, and the Expedition 309/312 Scientists (2006) and Teagle, Ildefonse, Blum, and the Expedition 335 Scientists (2012).

# <span id="page-1-1"></span>**Methods and materials**

## **Electron microprobe analysis**

Major element concentrations of minerals were determined using a Cameca SX100 equipped with five spectrometers and the operating software "Peak Sight" at the Institut für Mineralogie (University of Hannover, Germany). All data were obtained using a 15 kV acceleration potential, Kα or Kβ emission for all elements, and the matrix correction "PAP" according to Pouchou and Pichoir (1991). Calibration material includes natural wollastonite (Si and Ca), albite (Na), orthoclase (K), halite (Cl), strontium fluoride (F), and synthetic  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ , Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, MgO, TiO<sub>2</sub>,  $Mn_3O_4$ ,  $V_2O_3$ , and  $Cr_2O_3$ . Thallium acid phthalate (TAP) single crystal was used as the diffracting crystal for Na, Mg, Si, Al, and F; pentanerythritol (PET) single crystal for Ca, Cr, K, Ti, V, and Cl; and lithium fluoride (LIF) single crystal for Fe and Mn. Most of the data were obtained using a 15 nA beam current and static (focused) beam. Counting times were 10 s for major elements, 40 s for Ca in olivine, 30 s for Cr in pyroxenes, and 60 s for F and Cl in hydrous minerals. Core and rim analyses were obtained using a focused beam.



#### **Samples**

Microanalytical data were collected from six thin sections of granoblastic dikes recovered during Expedition 335 in Hole 1256D, covering 1507–1521 meters below seafloor (mbsf). The samples were drilled in situ (one sample) or collected from reverse circulation junk baskets (RCJB; 4 samples) and from external junk baskets (EXJB; one sample). An overview of sample information is presented in Table **[T1.](#page-13-0)** Further details about the samples and about the hole cleaning tools, including the junk baskets, can be found in Teagle, Ildefonse, Blum, and the Expedition 335 Scientists (2012).

# **Results**

#### **Petrographic results**

<span id="page-2-0"></span>Petrographic details of the samples are shown in Table **[T2.](#page-14-0)** They represent granoblastic hornfels with a groundmass composed of microgranular plagioclase, clinopyroxene, orthopyroxene, and Fe-Ti oxides. In some samples, secondary amphibole was identified, always in small amounts  $\langle$  <5 vol%). The goal of this study was to characterize the compositions of those minerals in typical granoblastic dikes, showing specific petrographic features observed on board during Expedition 335 (Teagle, Ildefonse, Blum, and the Expedition 335 Scientists, 2012):

- 1. All samples except one (Sample 335-U1256D-Run12-RCJB-Q) contain phenocrysts of plagioclase integrated into the granoblastic matrix (Figs. **[F1,](#page-6-0) [F2,](#page-7-0) [F3,](#page-8-0) [F4](#page-9-0)**). These structures were previously interpreted as relict phenocrysts from the primary magmatic stage that survived the granoblastic overprint (Teagle, Ildefonse, Blum, and the Expedition 335 Scientists, 2012).
- 2. Two samples (Run12-RCJB-B and Run15-EXJB) contain plagioclases that display very patchy zoning as a result of the presence of dusty ghost cores (Fig. **[F5](#page-10-0)**).
- 3. Four samples (Run12-RCJB-B, Run12-RCJB-Q, Run12-RCJB-S, and Run15-EXJB) display domains where clinopyroxene and orthopyroxene are arranged in vein- or bandlike structures or in monomineralic clusters with much larger grain size than the granoblastic matrix (Fig. **[F6](#page-11-0)**). Some of these samples are foliated, whereas the majority of the samples are not.

## **Microanalytical results**

Compositions of the analyzed phases (plagioclase, clinopyroxene, orthopyroxene, amphibole, and Fe-Ti oxides) in the investigated granoblastic dikes are shown in Table **[T3.](#page-15-0)** To obtain a general overview of the mineral compositions, several measurements were collected from all minerals present in individual granoblastic dikes. Whenever possible, individual phases were analyzed in core and rim areas to detect zonation. If an individual sample contained specific domains like veins, bands, or clusters, analyses of these domains were obtained separately and listed in Table **[T3.](#page-15-0)** In the following, we focus on those features highlighted in the previous section.

#### **Plagioclase**

#### *Composition of matrix and phenocrysts*

The cores of matrix plagioclases show anorthite (An) contents varying in a small interval between 50.1 and 54.7 mol% (Fig. **[F7](#page-12-0)**). Only one sample, 335- 1256D-235R-1W-19, contains matrix plagioclase with core compositions significantly higher in An (68.5 mol%; Table **[T3](#page-15-0)**), due to relics of primary Anrich plagioclase. Rim compositions are very similar to those of the cores, varying between 47.5 and 56.4 mol%, and confirming the petrographic result that most granoblastic dikes bear matrix plagioclases without significant zoning. Only a few samples contain matrix plagioclases with characteristic patchy zoning due to the presence of ghost cores (see below). In general, the compositions of the matrix plagioclase overlap with those from granoblastic dikes recovered during Expedition 312 (Koepke et al., 2008) (Fig. **[F7](#page-12-0)**).

In contrast to the matrix plagioclases, the plagioclase phenocrysts have much higher An contents between 65.5 and 72.7 mol% (core analyses). They show compositions typical of plagioclases from the fresh pillow basalts and dikes from the upper part of Hole 1256D (Fig. **[F7;](#page-12-0)** data from Dziony et al., 2008), implying that these phenocrysts correspond to relics inherited from the primary magmatic stage. The inherited magmatic cores can be clearly identified in backscattered electron (BSE) images by their euhedral shapes showing zoning with very a sharp boundary against the granoblastic matrix (Figs. **[F1,](#page-6-0) [F2,](#page-7-0) [F3,](#page-8-0) [F4](#page-9-0)**). To determine the variation in An content throughout the phenocryst zonation, analytic profiles were measured through the phenocrysts including the adjacent matrix for four samples. The results are presented in Figures **[F1,](#page-6-0) [F2,](#page-7-0) [F3,](#page-8-0)** and **[F4](#page-9-0)**. By obtaining very accurate CaAl-NaSi concentration profiles at the rims of such phenocrysts, Zhang et al. (2014) applied diffusion modeling techniques and extracted cooling rates for the magma chamber roof rocks at Site 1256. Their results show that cooling from the peak thermal overprint at 1000°C–1050°C to 600°C are yielded within ~10–30 y as a result of very effective hydrothermal circulation above the melt lens during a phase of magma starvation.



#### *Composition of the ghost cores*

Matrix plagioclases with typical patchy zoning were analyzed in two samples (Table **[T3](#page-15-0)**). The BSE images reveal the presence of cores enriched in An content with a sharp boundary against an interstitial network composed of plagioclase lower in An (Fig. **[F5](#page-10-0)**). The dusty appearance of these cores is due to millions of micrometer-sized oxide inclusions. A microprobe profile of An content through a typical core is also shown in Figure **[F5.](#page-10-0)** The plagioclase cores show An contents varying between 49.4 and 53.9 mol%, corresponding to the composition of matrix plagioclases in granoblastic dikes (see above). The composition of the interstitial network is strongly enriched in albite component (~30 mol% on average), implying that these compositions are due to a secondary hydrothermal overprint at lower temperatures. This hypothesis is supported by a relatively high amount of secondary amphibole in one sample (335-U1256D-Run12-RCJB-B).

#### **Pyroxenes**

#### *Composition of matrix and bands/clusters*

Clinopyroxenes of the granoblastic matrix show relatively low TiO<sub>2</sub> and  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  contents (0.3–0.6 and 0.8–1.4 wt% for core analyses, respectively) and correspond to compositions typical of granoblastic dikes recovered during Expedition 312 (Fig. **[F7](#page-12-0)**). They strongly contrast with compositions from the primary magmatic stage analyzed in fresh lavas and dike of Hole 1256D, which show high  $Al_2O_3$  contents (Fig. **[F7;](#page-12-0)** data from Dziony et al., 2008), and also high  $Cr_2O_3$  contents, whereas the  $Cr_2O_3$  concentrations in clinopyroxenes from the granoblastic dikes are always below the detection limit. All analyzed orthopyroxenes vary only over a small range, with relatively low TiO<sub>2</sub> and  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  contents (0.2–0.4) and 0.6–0.9 wt%, respectively) that are very similar to orthopyroxenes analyzed in granoblastic dikes recovered during Expedition 312 (Fig. **[F7](#page-12-0)**).

Clinopyroxenes and orthopyroxenes analyzed in special domains like veins, bands, and clusters (Fig. **[F6](#page-11-0)**), or as inclusions in other minerals, show compositions overlapping widely with those of the matrix pyroxenes (Fig. **[F7](#page-12-0)**), implying that a high degree of chemical equilibrium has been achieved in these samples during the metamorphism. This supports the hypothesis, based on microscopic observation, that these special domains are derived from precursor structures generated by pervasive hydrothermal alteration, such as hydrothermal veins and patches in the basalts. These were subsequently transformed by the contact metamorphic overprint into the granoblastic paragenesis, occurring as textural domains such as bands and clusters, but with mineral compositions identical to the granoblastic matrix, as a consequence of achieving a global chemical equilibrium in these rocks.

#### **Amphiboles**

All analyzed amphiboles show compositions with Na + K on A position below 0.5 corresponding to magnesiohornblendes and actinolites, which is typical for an equilibration within the amphibolite facies. Thus, the conditions of formation do not correspond to those of the peak metamorphism in the pyroxene hornfels facies (see below), implying that the amphiboles were formed during a later hydrothermal overprint after the high-temperature metamorphism. This in agreement with the observation that most of the amphiboles correspond to overgrowth or late veins, and that the amphibole-bearing samples show a relatively high amount of secondary, albite-rich plagioclases, as well as coexisting titanite.

#### **Geothermometry**

To calculate equilibrium temperatures, two different geothermometry techniques were used. We applied the two-pyroxene geothermometer using QUILF (Andersen et al., 1993) and equation 36 of Putirka (2008), as well as the semiquantitative Ti-in-amphibole geothermometer of Ernst and Liu (1998). The application of the latter is possible due to the general presence of a Ti phase coexisting with the amphibole (mostly Fe-Ti oxide and/or titanite).

The results of these calculations are presented in Table **[T4.](#page-19-0)** Both two-pyroxene geothermometers revealed nearly identical results in the six samples for the peak metamorphism equilibrium temperatures of the granoblastic overprint, varying only within a relatively small temperature range of 930°C–990°C for QUILF and 930°C–980°C for the Putirka (2008) method. These temperatures are characteristic of the pyroxene hornfels metamorphic facies, and are very similar to equilibrium temperatures estimated by QUILF for the granoblastic dikes recovered during Expedition 312 ranging from 930°C to 1050°C (Koepke et al., 2008). These temperatures, together with the specific geological setting of these rocks within the gabbro–dike transition of fast-spreading crust, imply that the granoblastic hornfels can be regarded as preserved fragments of the CBL.

Alt et al. (2010) presented slightly lower equilibrium temperatures in granoblastic dikes recovered during Expedition 312, ranging from 800°C to 920°C. However, they used the Brey and Köhler (1990) geother-



mometer, which results in systematically lower temperatures compared to the QUILF two-pyroxene thermometer (see discussion in Alt et al., 2010). Our estimated temperature range is also in agreement with temperature estimations for hornfels from the gabbro–dike transitions for the EPR crust at Pito and Hess Deeps and in the Oman and Troodos ophiolites, where estimated peak temperatures vary from 700°C to 1000°C (Gillis, 2008).

Distinctly lower equilibrium temperatures were derived from the Ti-in-amphibole geothermometer of Ernst and Liu (1998), ranging between 510°C and 630°C for hornblende and actinolite veins or overgrowth within the granoblastic dike. We interpret this as the record of a secondary metamorphic overprint under hydrous conditions in the amphibolite facies, probably related to hydrothermal alteration caused by seawater ingress. One hornblende forming blebs in orthopyroxene in Sample 335-U1256D-Run12-RCJB-Q revealed a distinctly higher equilibrium temperature of 853°C (Table **[T4](#page-19-0)**). We attribute this temperature to a retrograde cooling stage under hydrous conditions within the hornblende hornfels facies.

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<span id="page-4-0"></span>This study used samples provided by the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program. The Project was funded by the Deutsch Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG; Project KO 1723/12-1,2).

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<span id="page-6-0"></span>**Figure F1.** Back-scattered electron (BSE) image of relict plagioclase phenocrysts and related electron microprobe profile for anorthite (An) content in a granoblastic hornfels recovered during Expedition 335 (Sample 335- 1256D-235R-1W-19). Yellow line = position of profile. Pl = plagioclase, Cpx = clinopyroxene, Opx = orthopyroxene,  $Ox = 0$  oxide.





<span id="page-7-0"></span>**Figure F2.** Backscattered electron (BSE) images of three relict plagioclase phenocrysts and related electron microprobe profiles for anorthite (An) content in a granoblastic hornfels recovered during Expedition 335 (Sample 335‐U1256D‐Run12‐RCJB‐S). Yellow lines = position of profiles. Pl = plagioclase, Cpx = clinopyroxene,  $Opx = orthopyroxene, Ox = oxide.$ 





<span id="page-8-0"></span>**Figure F3.** Backscattered electron (BSE) images of two relict plagioclase phenocrysts and related electron microprobe profiles for anorthite (An) content in a granoblastic hornfels recovered during Expedition 335 (Sample 335‐U1256D‐Run15‐EXJB). Yellow lines = position of profiles. Pl = plagioclase, Cpx = clinopyroxene, Opx = orthopyroxene,  $Ox = 0$  oxide.





<span id="page-9-0"></span>**Figure F4.** Backscattered electron (BSE) images of two relict plagioclase phenocrysts and related electron microprobe profiles for anorthite (An) content in a granoblastic hornfels recovered during Expedition 335 (Sample 335‐U1256D‐Run19‐RCJB‐D). Yellow lines = position of profiles. Pl = plagioclase, Cpx = clinopyroxene, Opx = orthopyroxene,  $Ox = 0$  oxide.





<span id="page-10-0"></span>**Figure F5.** Backscattered electron (BSE) image of a typical "plagioclase ghost core" and related electron microprobe profiles for anorthite (An) content in a granoblastic hornfels recovered during Expedition 335 (Sample 335‐U1256D‐Run12‐RCJB‐B). Yellow line = position of profile.





<span id="page-11-0"></span>**Figure F6.** Backscattered electron (BSE) images of pyroxene bands and clusters in granoblastic hornfels recovered during Expedition 335. **A.** Typical parallel bands consisting of clino- and orthopyroxene (Sample 335- U1256D-Run12-RCJB-Q). Analyses of pyroxene in Table **[T3](#page-15-0)** show very similar compositions as the matrix orthopyroxene. **B.** Cluster of pyroxene mainly consisting of orthopyroxene Sample 335-U1256D-Run12-RCJB-S). Compositions of the minerals in the cluster are nearly identical with those of the matrix.





<span id="page-12-0"></span>**Figure F7.** Selected compositional parameters for plagioclase (Plag) and pyroxene from granoblastic hornfels recovered from Hole 1256D. Data points correspond to averages presented in Table **[T3.](#page-15-0)** Included are also fields for primary clinopyroxene (Cpx) and Plag from fresh basalts from Leg 206 and Expedition 309 published by Dziony et al. (2008), as well as compositions from Plag, Cpx, and orthopyroxene (Opx) from granoblastic hornfels drilled during Expedition 312 published by Koepke et al. (2008). All data correspond to averages of core compositions. **A.** FeO vs. anorthite (An) content in Plag for both relict phenocrysts and matrix grains (only core analyses). Data for matrix Plag from Sample 335-1256D-235R-1W-19 were excluded due to relics of primary An-rich Plag (see text for detail). Note that the phenocryst compositions are distinctly higher in An content compared to the compositions of the matrix Plag overlapping with those compositions characteristic for primary Plag in fresh basalts and dikes recovered from the upper part of the Hole 1256D drill core. **B.** Pyroxene quadrilateral enstatite (En), ferrosilite (Fs), and wollastonite (Wo). Only core analyses were used. Note the good correspondence with pyroxenes from granoblastic hornfels drilled during Expedition 312 and the marked difference in compositions between Cpx of the granoblastic hornfels and that of the fresh basalts and dikes drilled in the upper part of the hole. C. TiO<sub>2</sub> vs. Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> in Cpx. Note the good correspondence between core, rim, and other analyses (miscellaneous [misc] in veins, clusters, and bands and as inclusions in other minerals) implying that a high grade of global chemical equilibrium in these samples has been achieved. **D.** TiO<sub>2</sub> vs.  $Al_2O_3$  in Opx. Note the good correspondence between core, rim, and other analyses (miscellaneous [misc] in veins, clusters, and bands) varying only in a small interval.





### <span id="page-13-0"></span>**Table T1.** Overview of analyzed samples in this study, Hole 1256D.



RCJB = reverse circulation junk baskets, EXJB = external junk basket. For details on sampling, see Teagle, Ildefonse, Blum, and the Expedition 335 Scientists, 2012.





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Data report: geothermometric investigations on granoblastic dikes



# **J. Kioepke and N. Goetze Data report: geothermometric investigations on granoblastic dikes** Data report: geothermometric investigations on granoblastic dikes





J. Kioepke and N. Goetze



#### <span id="page-19-0"></span>**Table T4.** Equilibrium temperatures calculated by three different geothermometers, Hole 1256D.



\* = overgrowth, † = average of different veins and clusters, ‡ = blebs in orthopyroxene. QUILF calculated according to Andersen et al. (1993) based on the two-pyroxene equilibrium. Putirka calculated according to Putirka (2008) based on the two-pyroxene equilibrium. Ti-in-amphibole temperature calculated according to Ernst and Liu (1998).

