## **Revision 1**

# Solfataric Alteration at the South Sulfur Bank, Kilauea, Hawaii, as a Mechanism for Formation of Sulfates, Phyllosilicates, and Silica on Mars

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Note: co-author E. Murad has unfortunately passed since we started work on this paper.

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Kilauea, hydrothermal, solfataric alteration, sulfates, smectites, reflectance spectroscopy, Mars

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#### 1 Abstract

2 Solfataric alteration at the South Sulfur Bank of the former Kilauea caldera produced opal, 3 Mg- and Fe-rich smectites, gypsum, and jarosite through silica replacement of pyroclastic 4 Keanakako'i ash and leaching of basaltic lavas. This site on the island of Hawaii serves as an 5 analog for formation of several minerals found in altered deposits on Mars. Two distinct alteration 6 environments were characterized in this study including a light-toned, high-silica, friable outcrop 7 adjacent to the vents, and a bedded outcrop containing alternating orange/tan layers composed of 8 smectite, gypsum, jarosite, hydrated silica, and poorly crystalline ferric oxide phases. This banded 9 unit likely represents deposition of pyroclastic material with variations in chemistry over time that 10 was subsequently altered via moderate hydrothermal and pedogenic processes and leaching of 11 basaltic caprock to enhance the Si, Al, Mg, Fe, and Ca in the altered layers. In the light-toned, 12 friable materials closest to the vents along the base of the outcrop glassy fragments were 13 extensively altered to opal-A plus anatase.

Lab measurements of samples returned from the field were conducted to replicate recent instruments at Mars and provide further characterization of the samples. These include elemental analyses, sample texture, XRD, SEM, VNIR/mid-IR reflectance spectroscopy, TIR emittance spectroscopy, and Mössbauer spectroscopy. Variations in the chemistry and mineralogy of these samples are consistent with alteration through hydrothermal processes as well as brines that may have formed through rain interacting with sulfuric fumes. Silica is present in all altered samples and the friable pyroclastic ash material with the strongest alteration contains up to 80 wt.% SiO<sub>2</sub>.

21 Sulfate mineralization occurred at the South Sulfur Bank through fumarolic action from vents 22 and likely included solfataric alteration from sulfuric gases and steam, as well as oxidation of 23 sulfides in the basaltic caprock. Gypsum and jarosite are typically present in different layers of the 24 altered wall, likely because they require different cations and pH regimes. The presence of both 25 jarosite and gypsum in some samples implies high sulfate concentrations and the availability of both  $Ca^{2+}$  and  $Fe^{3+}$  cations in a brine percolating through the altered ash. Pedogenic conditions are 26 27 more consistent with the observed Mg-smectites and gypsum in the tan layers, while jarosite and 28 nontronite likely formed under more acidic conditions in the darker orange layers. Assemblages 29 of smectite, Ca-sulfates, and jarosite similar to the banded orange/tan unit in our study are observed 30 on Mars at Gale crater, Noctis Labyrinthus, and Mawrth Vallis, while high-silica outcrops have 31 been identified in parts of Gusev crater, Gale crater, and Nili Patera on Mars.

#### 32

#### Introduction

33 The surface of Mars is shaped by volcanism and impacts, many of which created hydrothermal 34 environments and sulfate brine alteration. The minerals formed under hydrothermal conditions or 35 through sulfate brine activity on Mars can help us trace back the ancient geochemical history of 36 surface and near-surface environments. Investigating terrestrial hydrothermal environments 37 provides geochemical context for better understanding martian processes that may have supported 38 warmer settings with liquid water and habitable conditions (e.g., Walter and Des Marais 1993; 39 Schulze-Makuch et al. 2007; Black and Hynek 2018) on an otherwise arid and cold planet. 40 Evidence collected by the Mars Exploration Rover (MER) Spirit suggests the actions of 41 hydrothermal processes contributed to the unusual sulfates at Paso Robles class outcrops (Johnson 42 et al. 2007; Lane et al. 2008; Yen et al. 2008; Parente et al. 2009) and the high silica environments 43 at Home Plate (Squyres et al. 2007; Ruff et al. 2011; Ruff and Farmer 2016). Numerous outcrops 44 of sulfates in the greater Valles Marineris region are products of sulfate brines, especially where 45 gypsum and jarosite are observed (Bishop et al. 2009; Murchie et al. 2009; Roach et al. 2010; 46 Weitz et al. 2011; Thollot et al. 2012; Bishop et al. 2021a). Smaller patches of Ca sulfates and 47 jarosite/alunite are associated with phyllosilicates at Mawrth Vallis (Bishop et al. 2020; 2023), 48 Noctis Labyrinthus (Weitz et al. 2011; 2013), and Cross crater (Ehlmann et al. 2016), indicating 49 alteration with sulfate brines or hydrothermal processes.

50 Burns (1988; 1993) proposed clay-sulfate-iron oxide/oxyhydroxide assemblages on the surface 51 of Mars that could be derived from aqueous alteration of volatile- and iron-rich basaltic rocks 52 containing fayalitic olivine, iron-rich pyroxenes, and accessory sulfides. Burns (1988) emphasized 53 the importance of these materials for understanding martian geochemistry by paraphrasing Jensen 54 and Bateman (1979): These minerals "arrest attention and incite interest as to what they may mask 55 ....The finding of one may herald the discovery of buried wealth." Acidic groundwater was 56 proposed to react with igneous silicate minerals and iron sulfides to yield jarosite, alunite, and 57 other minerals (Burns 1987; Burns and Fisher 1993). Iron sulfides and igneous silicate minerals 58 are plentiful in martian meteorites (e.g., Bunch and Reid 1975; McSween 1994; McCubbin et al. 59 2009) and have been inferred as martian surface components since Vikings' measurements (e.g., 60 Toulmin et al. 1977; Clark and Baird 1979; McSween 2002), and dissolved volcanic gases on Mars 61 would have produced acidic groundwaters (Gooding 1978). More recently, Moore & Szynkiewicz 62 (2023) built upon this idea to describe a sulfur cycle whereby volcanism contributes sulfur to the

63 groundwater and low-temperature chemical alteration produces sulfates in aqueous surface64 environments.

65 Elwood Madden et al. (2004; 2009; 2012) extended this early work by Burns through modeling 66 the conditions supporting formation of jarosite. These studies support formation of jarosite 67 together with iron oxides/hydroxides and clays on Mars as predicted by Burns (1988). Black & 68 Hynek (2018) summarize a host of sulfates including jarosite and gypsum that form together with 69 phyllosilicates and iron oxides/hydroxides in terrestrial analog environments. Recent brine 70 experiments demonstrate that gypsum forms readily through the action of sulfate brines on 71 smectites (Geyer et al. 2023). Coordinating field observations with lab investigations using 72 instruments at Mars furthers our ability to connect the geochemical environments governing 73 mineral formation with specific sites on Mars. Trace amounts of jarosite are observed in the 74 Murray formation along the lower region of Mount Sharp in Gale crater (Rampe et al. 2020), while 75 gypsum and Ca sulfates (anhydrite, bassanite, gypsum) are more commonly observed at higher 76 elevations on Mount Sharp (Vaniman et al. 2018). CheMin XRD analyses of the lacustrine 77 Marimba and Sebina samples indicate combinations of jarosite, gypsum, smectite, and amorphous 78 phases (Achilles et al. 2020). Marimba contains 1.7 wt.% jarosite, 3.5 wt.% gypsum, 19 wt.% 79 smectite, and ~50 wt.% amorphous phases, while Sebina includes 2.5 wt.% jarosite, 6.6 wt.% 80 gypsum, 28 wt.% smectite, and ~40 wt.% amorphous phases (Achilles et al. 2020).

81 Solfataric alteration of basalts and volcanic ash may have played a role in sulfate mineralization 82 on Mars through fumarolic action from vents (e.g., Morris et al. 2000; Schiffman et al. 2006; 83 Bishop et al. 2007). Solfataric processes are defined here as alteration through fumarolic activity 84 and/or "acid-fog" deposition occurring as the sulfuric fumes emanating from vents react with the 85 ash and tephra (Schiffman et al., 2006). Solfataric alteration promotes silicification of basalt and 86 also the formation of sulfates, amorphous silica, and layer silicates, resulting in partial 87 consolidation of ash/tephra particles and/or crust formation on ash surfaces (Schiffman et al., 88 2006). Fumaroles in the Kilauea caldera, HI, have created a solfataric bank on the south wall of 89 the crater through alteration of the Keanakako'i ash that was previously deposited there. This study 90 focuses on field observations of the "South Sulfur Bank" Kilauea solfatara site, lab measurements 91 of samples collected there, and implications for hydrothermal alteration and the action of sulfate 92 brines at solfatara sites on Mars.

#### 94

#### **Field Site**

#### 95 Location of study site

The solfatara site studied here was located in a light-toned pyroclastic ash bed underneath the 1982 flow along the southern rim of Kilauea caldera at an elevation of 1104 m at 19°24'12.9"N and 155°16'28.7"W (Figure 1). Lava flows in 1974 and 1982 near the Kilauea caldera are dominated by Pahoehoe lava and extend southwest to Mauna Iki and southeast to Mauna Ulu. These flows are rich in olivine and calcic feldspar and typically contain only small amounts of pyroxene (Wolfe and Morris 1996).

## 102 Character of study site

103 Our study site was termed South Sulfur Bank to differentiate it from the Sulfur Banks site at 104 the north side of Kilauea inside Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. Both sites contain vents exuding 105 sulfuric gases. The South Sulfur Bank outcrop formed east of the Halema'uma'u crater and west of the Keanakako'i crater and was part of the Keanakako'i Ash Member from the 1790 flow 106 107 (Figure 2). The solfatara outcrop was composed of thin layers of basaltic pumice and was present 108 in some localities as 10-m thick pyroclastic deposits (Wolfe and Morris 1996; Schiffman et al. 109 2000). The sequence contained bedded vitric ash with cross-bedded deposits of lapilli and blocks 110 that were coarser than the ash. At the base of the solfatara outcrop several small vents were present 111 that periodically exhibited wisps of gases and/or steam. The Halema'uma'u crater became active 112 again in 2008, forming a lava lake and steam. In 2018 seismic activity increased, fissures formed, 113 and the wall southeast of Halema'uma'u crater containing this South Sulfur Bank site collapsed 114 (https://www.usgs.gov/volcanoes/kilauea/2018-lower-east-rift-zone-eruption-and-summit-

115 <u>collapse</u>; latest revision Nov. 24, 2023).

Members of our team visited the site in 2003, 2004, and 2006 with assistance from the Hawaiian Volcanoes National Park (HAVO) staff and permits issued to Schiffman (2003) and Bishop (2004, 2006). We accessed the site by hiking northeast across the 1982 flow from the rim road down towards the caldera. Our study site focused on the thick pyroclastic deposit of the South Sulfur Bank site (Figure 2-3). Alteration of the basaltic flow above the South Sulfur Bank produced orange- to tan-colored fine-particulate material that seeped downhill in some places and pigmented portions of the solfatara unit (Figure 2e, 3a).



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Figure 1 Location of study site at Kilauea, HI. a) View of the island of Hawaii (credit: Digital Globe, Google Earth view retrieved 07/11/2008) with the region in b labeled by a white box, b) Portion of volcanic flow map (Wolfe and Morris, 1996) with a black box indicating the site of c, and c) View of the Kilauea caldera with the solfatara site marked by a red arrow (credit: Digital Globe, Google Earth view retrieved 07/11/2008).

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131 The solfatara outcrop is composed of orange/tan-colored altered material below the brown 132 basalt and wide expanses of white/beige material extending for ~20 meters at the thickest location 133 with a height of  $\sim$ 3 meters. The brownish-orange altered basalt from the 1974 flow above our field 134 site was investigated recently and contains silica, iron oxides, and sulfates in addition to basalt (Yant et al., 2018). The black 1982 flow covered the 1974 flow (altered to brownish color) above 135 136 our field site and at the base of the field site including portions of the white/beige material. A slight 137 smell of sulfur at the site was noted at each visit to the site (2003, 2004, 2006) near several small 138 weakly active hydrothermal vents in the direction of the floor of the Halema'uma'u crater. Thin

- 139 columns of steam and/or gases emanated periodically from a few small vents consistent with low
- 140 activity levels in the caldera.
- 141



142

143 Figure 2 Location of the solfatara outcrop along the southern rim of the Kilauea caldera.

144 a) View of 1982 flow covering Keanakako'i Ash Member with red arrow marking field site (credit: 145 Digital Globe, Google Earth view retrieved 02/02/2007), b) Photo of site taken in 2006 from the rim road across the Kilauea caldera with locations marked for panels d and e, c) Ash bed covered 146 and surrounded by 1974 and 1982 lava flows along the floor of the caldera (photo from 2006; 147 148 height of light-toned ash exposure ~5 meters), d) LG in 2004 with field spectrometer showing 149 altered ash outcrop on right, brownish alteration from the 1974 lava, and the black/gray 1982 flow in the background, and e) Altered, bedded outcrops below the basaltic caprock, and friable altered 150 151 ash ranging in color from white to yellow to beige (photo from 2006).

#### 153

#### Methods

## 154 Samples

155 Samples were collected from the bedded pyroclastic deposit and the powdery friable deposit of 156 the South Sulfur Bank site during three field seasons in 2003, 2004, and 2006 and are summarized 157 in Table 1. The locations of these samples are shown in Figure 3. Layers of alternating white/light 158 and orange/gray material were collected in 2003 (Figure 3a) to investigate changes in chemistry 159 and mineralogy of the layers. An ASD FieldSpecPro spectrometer (described below) was used at 160 the field site in 2004 and 2006 to select samples from the layered pyroclastic deposits 161 (tan/gray/orange materials), as well as the white/beige friable unit. These additional materials were 162 collected in 2004 and 2006 to characterize the altered solfatara from multiple regions of the 163 outcrop.

164

## 165 Table 1. Description of Solfatara Samples from South Sulfur Bank inside Kilauea Caldera

166	Sample	Sample	Collection	XRD	Description and Notes
167	Category	ID	Date	Minerals	
168 169	Type 1	JB629	2003	opal anatase	PS# 9120301-A, white/beige friable material adjacent to layered outcrop
170 171 172 173		JB632	2004	opal anatase cristobalite, tr tridymite, tr	white/beige friable material ~2 meters to the right of layered outcrop
174 175 176 177		JB776	2006	opal anatase quartz, tr feldspar, tr	white/beige/yellow friable material ~1 meter to right of JB632
178	Type 2	JB630	2003		PS# 9120301-B, layered outcrop, orange material
179 180 181 182		JB633	2004	gypsum jarosite Mg-smectite nontronite	layered outcrop, thick orange unit (insufficient material for chemical analyses)
183 184		JB643	2004		portions of sample JB633 crushed again and re-sieved <45 µm
185 186 187 188		JB777	2006	gypsum jarosite Mg-smectite Nontronite	layered outcrop, thick orange unit ~10 cm to the right of JB633 (surface eroded, site of JB633 no longer visible)

189 190	Type 3	JB631	2003		PS# 9120301-C, layered outcrop, gray and orange material
191 192	Type 4	JB775	2006	sulfur	base of slump of friable material yellow crumbles from white and yellow rock

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Notes: Major minerals identified by XRD listed where run; tr indicates trace amounts.

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197 Figure 3. Sample Collection Sites. a) Samples collected by PS in 2003 from banded orange/white 198 ash units and friable white/yellow material. b) Sample of friable white/yellow material collected in 2004 by JLB and LG with expanded view in turquoise box. c) Sample of orange banded crust 199 200 material collected in 2004 by JLB and LG with expanded view of orange layers in pink box. 201 d) White rocks containing consolidated silica/ash with yellow native S underneath, collected in 202 2006 by JLB, with expanded view in yellow box. e) Sample of friable white/yellow material 203 collected in 2006 by JLB (similar to 2004 sample but different location) with expanded view in 204 green box. f) Sample of orange banded crust material collected in 2006 by JLB (from same orange 205 unit as 2004 sample, but outer surface was eroded) with expanded view in orange box.

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## 207 Visible-near infrared (VNIR) reflectance spectra of whole samples

VNIR reflectance spectra were acquired both in the field and in the lab using an Analytical
Spectral Devices (ASD) FieldSpecPro spectrometer with Spectralon as the white standard.
Spectral sampling is 1.4 nm from 0.35 to 1.05 μm and 2 nm from 1.05 to 2.5 μm with a spectral

resolution of 3 nm in the visible region and 10 nm in the near-infrared (NIR) region. Spectra were

212 measured in the field using the 1° optics and the contact probe. The contact probe configuration

213 collects spectra for a circular region ~1 cm in diameter and provided sufficiently clean spectra for

214 mineral identification in the field. Additional spectra were measured in the lab of samples from

215 multiple sites along the surface of whole rock samples in order to guide sampling of the rocks for

216 further analyses.

## 217 Thermal infrared (TIR) emissivity spectra

Emission spectra were measured of rock samples at the Mars Space Flight Facility at Arizona State University (ASU) using a Nicolet Nexus 670 E.S.P. FT-IR interferometric spectrometer, as in previous studies (Christensen et al. 2000). This spectrometer was modified for emission measurements and used a thermoelectrically stabilized DTGS detector and a CsI beam splitter for measurement of emitted radiation over the mid-infrared range of 4000 to 200 cm<sup>-1</sup> where thermal infrared (TIR) provides a strong signal for rocks and coarse-grained samples (Lane and Bishop 2019).

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## 226 Preparation of particulate samples

The soil and rock samples were divided by color and spectral properties and gently crushed and dry sieved to  $<125 \mu m$  for further study in the lab. These particulate materials were used for elemental analyses, XRD, SEM, Mössbauer spectroscopy, and additional reflectance spectroscopy measurements at the Reflectance Experiment Laboratory (RELAB) at Brown University.

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# 232 Bulk major element chemistry

Samples with sufficient material were sent to the Bureau Veritas labs (https://www.bvna.com/)
for X-ray Fluorescence (XRF) determination of the major elements as oxides. Total C, total S, and
sulfate abundance were also determined using a LECO elemental analyzer. These include JB629,
JB631, JB632, JB775, JB776, and JB777. Lost on ignition (LOI) values were determined by
heating to 1000 °C.

238

## 239 Microprobe analyses

240 Wavelength dispersive scanning electron microprobe (SEM) analyses were performed on 241 epoxide-impregnated, polished sections or particles smear-mounted on double-sided sticky carbon

tape coated with carbon for samples JB629, JB630, and JB631 at UC Davis as in previous studies
(Schiffman et al. 2000; Bishop et al. 2002; Schiffman et al. 2002; 2006). Back-scattered electron
(BSE) images were acquired and evaluated for petrographic features and degree of consolidation
of the textures. Quantitative, wavelength dispersive analyses by electron microprobe analysis
(EMPA) were conducted using a Cameca SX-100 microprobe operated at 15 KeV, 5 or 10 nÅ
beam current, and variable spot size in order to map out changes in elemental composition across
the samples.

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#### 250 XRD

251 X-ray diffraction (XRD) analyses were performed at UC Davis on oriented aggregates of the 252 particulate material from samples JB629, JB632, JB775, JB776, and JB777 mounted on glass 253 slides with a Diano 8000 diffractometer (Cu K $\alpha$  radiation) as in previous studies (Schiffman et al. 254 2002; 2006). Additional XRD analyses were performed on powdered aliquots of samples JB632 255 and JB633 at the Bavarian Geologic Survey using Cu K $\alpha$  radiation on a Bruker D8 instrument 256 equipped with a sample spinner and a diffracted-beam graphite monochromator as in previous 257 studies (e.g., Murad and Rojik 2003; Bishop et al. 2004).

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## 259 Visible-infrared reflectance spectra of particulate samples

260 VNIR to mid-IR reflectance spectra were measured for the particulate samples at RELAB as 261 described in previous experiments (Bishop et al. 2007). Bidirectional VNIR spectra were measured 262 relative to Halon under ambient conditions from 0.3 to 2.5 µm. Biconical reflectance spectra were 263 measured from  $\sim 1$  to 25 µm relative to a rough gold surface using a Nicolet 740 Fourier transform 264 infrared interferometer (FTIR) in a H<sub>2</sub>O- and CO<sub>2</sub>-purged environment in order to remove 265 adsorbed water from the samples. Composite, absolute reflectance spectra were prepared by 266 scaling the FTIR data to the bidirectional data near 1.2 µm. The spectral resolution is 5 nm for the 267 bidirectional data and 4 cm<sup>-1</sup> for the FTIR data.

268

## 269 Mössbauer spectra of particulate samples

270 Mössbauer measurements were taken at 295K, on a Web Research Co. W100 spectrometer on

samples JB632 and JB633 mixed with sucrose using a ~10 mCi 57Co source in rhodium from -4

to +4 mm/s velocity. Run times ranged from 24-48 hours. Spectra were collected in 2048 channels

273 and then all spectral baselines were corrected for the Compton scattering of 122 keV gamma rays 274 by electrons inside the detector. The corrected data are equal to A/(1-b), where A is the counts of 275 the uncorrected absorption and b is the Compton fraction determined through recording the counts 276 with and without a 14.4 keV stop filter (~2 mm Al foil) in the gamma ray beam. While this 277 correction does not change the results of the fits, it does allow for accurate determination of the % 278 absorption in each spectrum. Each spectrum was then folded and corrected for nonlinearity in 279 WMOSS. Interpolation to a linear-velocity scale was accomplished using the room temperature 280 spectrum of 25  $\mu$ m  $\alpha$ -Fe foil as a calibration standard.

The Mössbauer spectra were fit using the Dist3e program as in Dyar et al. (2008). The widths of quadrupole doublets or magnetic sextets were constrained to vary together, while doublets were constrained to have two equal peaks and sextets to have peaks in the ratio 3:2:1:1:2:3. Quadrupole splitting (QS) values of doublets and magnetic fields of sextets were varied over a range, and isomer shift (IS) values and peak widths were either fixed or left unconstrained. These IS and QS values can be used to identify or constrain the presence of Febearing minerals in samples (Dyar and Sklute 2019).

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- 289

#### Results

## 290 Geochemistry and mineralogy of samples

291 Elemental trends and XRD analyses for samples of the white/beige friable materials and the 292 orange/tan bedded units were similar for samples collected on different field trips. Bulk elemental 293 analyses are provided in Table 2 for samples with sufficient material (JB629, JB630, JB631, 294 JB632, JB775, JB776, and JB777) and two samples were measured twice to check for consistency 295 among different sample alliquots. The white/light samples (Type 1) include primarily  $SiO_2$  (~74-296 81 wt.%), TiO<sub>2</sub> (3-11 wt.%), and SO<sub>3</sub> (0-2 wt.%) as sulfate and elemental S with additional 297 minor/trace amounts of Al, Fe, Mg, Ca, and C (Table 1). These samples also include loss on 298 ignition (LOI) values ranging from ~12-15 wt.% (includes C and S values) that are consistent with 299 the presence of opal in these samples. The layered orange materials (Type 2) have lower  $SiO_2$ 300 (~44-51 wt.%) and TiO<sub>2</sub> (3-11 wt.%) levels and higher amounts of the major geologic elements, 301 consistent with the altered portions of Keanakako'i ash from Schiffman et al. (2000). The Type 3 302 gray and orange sample has lower SiO<sub>2</sub> (~42-43 wt.%) and higher MgO (10-13 wt.%) levels 303 compared to the layered orange Type 2 samples and is more similar to the glassy grains of the

Keanakako'i\_ash (Schiffman et al., 2000). Type 4 contains primarily elemental S with ~16 wt.%
SiO<sub>2</sub>.

306 Microprobe analyses of several regions of samples JB629, JB630, and JB631 are reported in 307 Table S1 and average values for each type of composition are presented in Table 3 for comparison 308 with the bulk chemistry for those samples. SEM analyses of ash and tephra from the Kilauea region 309 show replacement of glass and formation of rinds in the ash material (Schiffman et al. 2000). Much 310 of the material in the glassy grains and rinds in the friable white/light material (Type 1 samples 311 JB629, JB632, JB776) was replaced by silica and the SiO<sub>2</sub> abundance is significantly elevated for 312 these samples compared with that of the fresh glass and orange/tan samples JB630 and JB777 313 (Type 2), and JB631 (Type 3) (Tables 2-3). XRD shows these bright, friable samples to be 314 primarily opal (Table 1, Figure 4), which is consistent with the ~80 wt.% SiO<sub>2</sub> observed. 315 Microprobe analyses of an aliquot of sample JB629 displays these glassy grains and rinds that 316 were replaced by silica (Figure 5a). A portion of sample JB629 containing yellow grains reveals 317 the presence of native sulfur (Figure 5b). This is consistent with the  $\sim 66$  wt.% S and  $\sim 16$  wt.% 318 SiO<sub>2</sub> for JB775 that is mostly yellow crumbles separated from the friable white/light material. XRD 319 also identified anatase in samples JB629 and JB776, which is consistent with the elevated TiO<sub>2</sub> 320 levels (Table 2). Limited C is observed in all samples ( $\leq 0.5$  wt.%), constraining the amount of 321 organics or carbonates that can be present (Table 2).

322 XRD measured gypsum, jarosite, saponite, and nontronite in the layered light gray and orange 323 materials (Table 1, Figure 4). Microprobe analyses of Type 3 sample JB631 (Figure 5c) found 324 glassy grains and rinds as for Type 1 JB629 (white/light) and Type 2 JB630 (layered orange) as 325 well as smectite rich in Mg and Fe, and bright phases extremely high in Fe, and also high in S, P, 326 and Al. These bright materials include jarosite, as well as poorly crystalline iron oxide phases not 327 detected by XRD and likely also amorphous phases containing P. The abundance of these bright 328 Fe-sulfate grains is much higher in the microprobe analyses of Type 3 sample JB631 enabling 329 determination of their chemistry, including ~55-60% Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, ~7-12% Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, ~12-13% SO<sub>3</sub> and 330 ~3% P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>. Elemental variations across these bright spots indicate nonlinear Fe/S correlations, 331 indicating that S is present in other materials besides jarosite, or that some of the jarosite contains 332 high Al levels, similar to alunite. Gypsum is also observed in selected Type 2 bedded orange 333 materials through XRD (Figure 4), microprobe analyses (Figure 5), and VNIR reflectance spectra 334 (Figure 6) and is likely present in the lighter-colored grains in these primarily orange/tan samples.

335 Sample JB777 has elevated SO<sub>3</sub> levels and also higher Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and CaO, consistent with Ca sulfates

- in addition to jarosite in that sample.
- The XRD results for Type 2 orange layered samples JB633 and JB777 show stronger peaks 337 consistent with saponite and hectorite than with nontronite (Figure 4), which is consistent with 338 roughly three times more MgO than FeO<sup>T</sup>. Interestingly, a combination of hectorite, saponite, and 339 340 nontronite is needed to account for the smectite peaks in these samples. All three smectites include XRD peaks near 19.4-19.8, 34.5-35, and 53 °2 $\Theta$ , while only saponite and nontronite have a peak 341 near 5.7-6 °20, only hectorite and nontronite have a peak near 29 °20, and only saponite and 342 hectorite have a peak near 61 °20. Microprobe analyses of Mg-rich smectite in sample JB631 343 indicate 50.4% SiO<sub>2</sub>, 17.3% Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 14.4% MgO, 4.5% Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (as Fe<sup>3+</sup> and/or Fe<sup>2+</sup>), 0.1% CaO, 344 0.9% MnO, 0.7% P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and <0.1% of other oxides (Table 3, S1). Additionally, the glassy grains 345 346 examined in microprobe analyses of JB630 and JB631 (Table 3, S1) contain ~13 wt.% Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, ~11 wt.% FeO<sup>T</sup> (where the total Fe is expressed as FeO, but both  $Fe^{2+}$  and  $Fe^{3+}$  are likely present), ~8 347 wt.% MgO, and ~10 wt.% CaO that are almost entirely lost through alteration to form the altered 348 349 glassy grains and rinds of JB629. Ti is present in nearly all of the samples and is likely present in 350 the basaltic glass for the orange/gray layered samples (Table 1).

#### Table 2a Major elements in weight percent

Sample	Sample	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Al <sub>2</sub> 0 <sub>3</sub>	$Fe_2O_3^T$	MgO	CaO	Na₂O	K₂O	TiO <sub>2</sub>	LOI	Sum	C <sub>tot</sub>	Stot	SO₃	<b>S</b> <sub>sulfate</sub>	Selem
Туре	ID	wt.%	wt.%	wt.%	wt.%	wt.%	wt.%	wt.%	wt.%	wt.%	wt.%	wt.%	wt.%	wt.%	wt.%	wt.%
Type 1	JB629-1	80.6	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.6	14.6	100.0	0.1	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.8
	JB629-2	80.5	0.4	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	3.4	14.7	100.0	0.5	1.1	1.3	0.5	0.6
	JB632	73.8	0.5	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	10.5	13.8	100.0	0.1	3.1	1.8	0.7	2.4
	JB776	78.3	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.0	<0.01	7.5	12.3	100.0	0.1	2.2	1.4	0.6	1.7
Type 2	JB630	50.6	10.2	12.0	6.3	7.0	1.4	0.3	2.5	8.9	100.3	0.1	0.7			
	JB777	44.2	6.4	13.1	5.0	3.8	0.4	0.1	2.3	24.2	99.8	0.2	2.6	6.0	2.4	0.1
Type 3	JB631-1	43.3	10.6	11.8	13.0	4.3	0.7	0.1	1.7	13.5	99.9	0.0	0.3			
	JB631-2	42.4	12.3	11.2	10.1	3.0	0.5	0.1	1.7	17.7	99.8	0.1	0.4	1.1	0.4	0.0
Type 4	JB775	15.9	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	<0.01	1.4	82.1	100.0	0.1	66.3	1.2	0.5	65.8

Table 2b Minor elements in parts per million (ppm)

Sample	Sample	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	MnO	Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Cu	Ва	Zn	Ni	Со	Sr	Zr	Ce	Y	Nb	Sc
Туре	ID	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm
	JB629-1	300	100	290		163		5		7	173		5	21	1
	JB629-2	600	<100	380	<5	125	<5	<20	<20	7	169	<30	<3	19	<1
	JB632	800	<100	1180	<5	372	6	<20	<20	8	247	<30	<3	56	<1
	JB776	400	<100	960	<5	253	<5	<20	<20	6	173	<30	<3	43	1
Type 2	JB630	2200	1100	770		129		146		243	139		17	11	25
	JB777	2000	800	700	94	88	58	105	23	105	130	<30	7	11	18
Type 3	JB631-1	3800	1800	890		85		647		119	91		14	6	37
	JB631-2	3800	1600	870	248	59	131	376	72	75	103	<30	10	8	42
Type 4	JB775	100	<100	190	<5	9	<5	<20	<20	6	56	<30	<3	14	<1

Data are given in wt.%; Fe2O3T is total Fe and includes both Fe2+ and Fe3+; LOI is Loss on ignition at 1000 °C and includes C and S.

Table 3	Microprobe analyses of sample regions													
Sample Averages	SiO <sub>2</sub> wt.%	Al <sub>2</sub> 0 <sub>3</sub> wt.%	Fe0 <sup>T</sup> wt.%	MgO wt.%	CaO wt.%	Na <sub>2</sub> O wt.%	K <sub>2</sub> O wt.%	TiO <sub>2</sub> wt.%	SO₃ wt.%	P₂O₅ wt.%	MnO wt.%	Sum wt.%		
JB629 silica glass	79.9	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	1.5	0.2	0.0	85.1		
JB629 silica rinds	70.2	0.6	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	1.8	0.6	0.0	0.0	73.9		
JB629 bulk XRF	80.5	0.4	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	3.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	85.1		
JB630 glass	49.6	13.0	11.2	8.3	10.5	2.2	0.4	2.4	0.1	0.3	0.2	98.2		
JB630 rinds	57.5	19.6	9.8	2.0	0.8	0.1	0.1	2.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	92.5		
JB631 glass	49.5	13.0	11.1	8.5	10.3	2.3	0.4	2.4	0.1	0.3	0.1	98.1		
JB631 rind	46.0	11.0	20.2	3.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	4.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	86.0		
JB631 Mg-smectite	50.2	17.3	4.5	14.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.7	0.7	89.3		
JB631 bright spots	1.7	10.1	48.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	9.2	4.1	0.0	73.7		
JB631 ave all types	36.8	12.8	21.0	6.8	2.7	0.6	0.1	1.7	2.7	1.3	0.2	86.8		
JB631 weighted ave	43.3	14.0	14.4	9.2	3.9	0.9	0.1	1.5	1.6	0.9	0.3	90.2		
JB631 bulk XRF	42.4	12.3	10.1	10.1	3.0	0.5	0.1	1.7	0.0	0.4	0.2	80.8		
Keanakako'i Glass	50.1	12.8	11.2	9.2	10.3	2.2	0.4	2.2		0.3	0.2	98.9		

Data are given in wt.%, FeOT is total Fe and includes both Fe2+ and Fe3+; Sum includes only elements listed Keanakako'i Glass data are an average of 23 measurements (Schiffman et al. (2000)



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**Figure 4 XRD of <125 \mum portions of selected samples from the light and orange materials.** Sample JB632-B (Type 1, white/light material) contains the broad peak near 20-25 °2 $\Theta$ characteristic of opal A, as well as strong peaks due to anatase (A), and weak peaks due to cristobalite (C) and tridymite (T). Samples JB633-B and JB633-D (Type 2, layered orange material) are separate aliquots of JB633, each sieved to <125  $\mu$ m. Both contain multiple, broad peaks due to Mg-smectite and Fe-smectite (S), several strong peaks due to gypsum, and several weaker peaks due to jarosite (J).



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**Figure 5 SEM images showing altered phases in selected light and orange materials.** a) View of glassy grains and rinds replaced by silica in EMPA map of sample JB629 (Type 1, white/beige material). b) Sulfur globules, platy aluminosilicate, and relict primary dendrites in a yellow portion of sample JB629 under high magnification in a BSE image. c) EMPA view of altered phases in orange layers of sample JB631 (Type 3, gray/orange material) including Mg-smectite (saponite or hectorite) and Fe-sulfate (jarosite). d) Gypsum in lighter layers in BSE image of sample JB630 (Type 2, orange material).

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## 349 VNIR and TIR spectra of bulk samples

VNIR reflectance spectra of rock samples measured under ambient conditions demonstrate compositional variations among the samples investigated, although the water bands are rather strong due to adsorbed H<sub>2</sub>O molecules on the surfaces (Figure 6). The lighter colored samples contain broad bands centered near 1.41-1.47, 1.91-1.95, and 2.21-2.27  $\mu$ m due to abundant opal and some montmorillonite, jarosite, and gypsum, but no alunite was observed (e.g., Bishop 2019). The spectral features near 1.4  $\mu$ m include the Si/Al-OH stretching overtone at 1.41  $\mu$ m, the bound H<sub>2</sub>O stretching overtone at 1.41  $\mu$ m, and the lower energy adsorbed H<sub>2</sub>O stretching overtone near

357 1.44-1.45 µm (Bishop et al. 1994). A shoulder on the short-wavelength side of this band near 1.37 358 µm is attributed to the Si-OH stretching overtone for dehydrated opal (Anderson and Wickersheim 359 1964). The band at 1.91  $\mu$ m is due to a combination of H<sub>2</sub>O stretching and bending vibrations for tightly bound water molecules in opal and smectites, while the shoulder near 1.94-1.95 µm is due 360 361 to the H<sub>2</sub>O combination band for adsorbed or more loosely bound water molecules (Bishop et al. 362 1994). Additional H<sub>2</sub>O overtones occur as weaker bands near 0.96 and 1.15 µm. The band near 363 2.21-2.27 µm is due to a combination of structural OH stretching and bending vibrations and 364 occurs near 2.21 µm for Si/ Al-OH and at longer wavelengths for Fe/Mg-OH (e.g., Bishop et al. 365 2008a). The VNIR spectra are also consistent with the presence of Fe-bearing opal (Baker et al. 366 2014) that exhibits a broader band near 2.2 µm extending out towards 2.26 µm. Both jarosite 367 (Bishop and Murad 2005) and gypsum (Bishop et al. 2014) also have features at 2.22 and 2.26 µm 368 that contribute towards the broadening of this band. Jarosite spectra also include a sharp band at 369 1.47 µm that is likely contributing to the doublet-like shape at 1.41 and 1.47 µm for coarse material 370 of samples JB629 and JB776 (Figure 6b). The VNIR spectra of the light-toned solfatara rocks 371 resemble the spectra of solfatara rocks measured in the Ka'u Desert as well as aerial spectra of 372 solfatara regions collected by AVIRIS (Seelos et al. 2010).

373 The orange and darker colored samples are more variable in the VNIR region and include bands 374 near 0.44 and 0.9-1  $\mu$ m due to Fe, as well as the H<sub>2</sub>O and OH bands described for the lighter 375 colored samples (Figure 6a,c,d). The reflectance minimum near 0.91 µm and maximum near 0.73-376 0.74 µm is consistent with jarosite as well as akaganéite and schwertmannite (Bishop and Murad 1996), but only jarosite was observed by XRD. Ferrihydrite is also consistent with a band near 377 378 0.91 µm and is X-ray amorphous so it could also be present. The weak dip in reflectance near 0.63-379 0.64 µm and shoulder near 0.88 µm likely indicates that some nanophase hematite is present (e.g., 380 Morris et al. 1985; 1989; Bishop and Murad 1996) that is too fine-grained or poorly crystalline to 381 be observed with XRD. Fe in nontronite also produces bands near 0.64-0.65 and 0.95 µm (Bishop 382 et al. 2008b) that could be contributing to these features in spectra of the orange samples. A triplet 383 near 1.44, 1.49-, and 1.53, and bands near 1.75, and 1.94 µm are characteristic of gypsum (Bishop 384 et al. 2014) and these features are much more apparent in some of the orange-colored samples than 385 the friable, light-toned ones. Weak bands due to jarosite are observed at 1.47 and 2.26  $\mu$ m, but the 386 jarosite band near 1.86 µm is not observed, indicating that jarosite abundance is less than 50 wt.% 387 (Perrin et al. 2018; Usabal and Bishop 2018). Spectra of orange soils from the sulfate hill at the

- Painted Desert include jarosite (52 wt.%) and gypsum (26 wt.%) that exhibit jarosite bands at 0.44,
- 0.91, 1.47, 1.86, and 2.26 μm (Perrin et al. 2018) and lab spectra of jarosite/gypsum mixtures
- 390 (Perrin et al. 2018) and jarosite/nontronite mixtures (Usabal and Bishop 2018) with 50 wt.%
- 391 jarosite include a shoulder at 1.86 μm.
- 392



Figure 6. VNIR reflectance spectra (0.35-2.5 μm) of rock samples collected with ASD spectrometer. a) Spectra of light and dark materials where white/beige rocks have brighter reflectance than orange/dark rocks. Open arrows mark features due to opal near 1.41,1.91, 2.21 μm, black arrows mark features due to jarosite near 0.44, 0.91, 1.47, and 2.26 μm, and gray arrows mark features due to gypsum near 1.45, 1.75, 1.94, 2.22, and 2.26 μm. b) Spectra of lighter rock pieces compared with spectra of minerals: opal, Fe-opal, montmorillonite, jarosite, and gypsum.

401 Open arrows mark features due to opal and solid arrow marks feature near 2.26 µm that could be 402 due to Fe substitution in the opal or to jarosite. c) Spectra of orange rock pieces compared with 403 spectra of minerals: opal, ferrihydrite, nontronite, jarosite, gypsum, and a jarosite/gypsum mixture. Open arrows mark features due to gypsum and filled arrows mark features due to jarosite. 404 c) Spectra of orange rock layers containing stronger jarosite spectral signatures compared with 405 406 spectra of jarosite, gypsum, a jarosite/gypsum mixture, and ferrihydrite. Open arrows and light 407 blue lines mark features due to gypsum, while filled arrows and light pink dashed lines mark 408 features due to jarosite.

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411 TIR emissivity spectra measured in the mid-IR region of the orange side of sample JB633 412 include features due to gypsum and jarosite (Figure 7). The emissivity spectrum of jarosite includes features near 1110, 1020, 630, 525, 475, and 250 cm<sup>-1</sup> (or ~9, 10, 16, 19.6, 21, and 40 µm), while 413 that of gypsum has features at ~1154, 673, 604, and 470 cm<sup>-1</sup> (or ~8.7, 15, 17, and 21  $\mu$ m). These 414 415 are similar to jarosite and gypsum bands observed in previous studies (Lane and Christensen 1998; 416 Bishop and Murad 2005; Bishop et al. 2014). Sulfates exhibit strong SO<sub>4</sub> stretching and bending 417 vibrations in this region (Lane and Bishop 2019) that often dominate the spectral features of 418 phyllosilicates and opal. These strong bands in the emissivity spectrum are why the emissivity 419 spectrum of the orange layered rock is primarily characterized by gypsum and jarosite, rather than 420 poorly crystalline phases.

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Figure 7. Emissivity spectra of orange rock (JB633) and sulfate minerals. Blue lines indicate gypsum features near 1154, 673, 604, and 470 cm<sup>-1</sup> and dashed pink lines mark jarosite features near 1645, 1110, 1020, 525, and 475 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

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#### 430 VNIR and mid-IR reflectance spectra of particulate samples

431 Reflectance spectra of fine-grained portions of the samples measured under controlled, dry 432 conditions exhibit weaker water bands that are more characteristic of specific minerals in many 433 cases (Figure 8) compared to spectra of rocks measured under ambient conditions (Figure 6). 434 VNIR and mid-IR reflectance spectra of the white/light samples JB629-B and JB632-B are 435 compared with spectra of opal, montmorillonite, and bytownite (Figures 8a,b). Although opal is 436 the most abundant component in these samples due to hydration of the silica replacing the glass 437 and rinds, some features characteristic of montmorillonite and feldspar are also present. These 438 spectra illustrate the NIR features due to opal and montmorillonite near 1.41, 1.91, and 3  $\mu$ m

(Bishop 2019), as well as mid-IR features due to opal near 1875, 1260, 1105 and 475 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Bishop
and Rampe 2016), the montmorillonite water band near 1630 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and the feldspar Si-O stretching
band as a reflectance peak near 1000 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

442 Spectra of fine-particulate portions of the darker orange and tan samples are compared to 443 spectra of the minerals nontronite, saponite, opal, gypsum, and jarosite in Figures 8c and d. The 444 spectra of these samples differ from the spectra of the light-toned samples in that phyllosilicates 445 and sulfates contribute more to the spectral character than opal. A band near 0.91-0.95 µm is due 446 to Fe-bearing minerals in these samples and varies from sample to sample with variations in 447 nontronite, jarosite, and iron oxide minerals that are likely present as short-range ordered species 448 that are not sufficiently crystalline to be detected by XRD. Bands near 1.41 and 1.91 µm are 449 characteristic of water overtones and combinations in opal and smectites, while the band near 2.21 450 µm is due to an OH combination band in spectra of opal or montmorillonite, the band near 2.29 451 μm is due to nontronite, and the band near 2.31 μm is due to saponite or hectorite (Mg-rich 452 smectites). Gypsum and jarosite also have features near 2.22 and 2.27 µm that overlap with these 453 smectite bands. Gypsum also has bands near 4.5 and 4.7 µm observed for some of these samples. 454 The mid-IR region for these samples is most consistent with spectra of Mg-smectite with some 455 features due to gypsum. Expanded NIR views of samples JB633-B and JB643-A include several 456 features due to nontronite, opal, and gypsum (Figure 8e). The water combination band occurs near 457 1.95  $\mu$ m in these samples, similar to that of gypsum, with a shoulder near 1.91  $\mu$ m due to nontronite 458 or opal. NIR spectra of samples JB631-B and JB631-D are consistent with Mg-smectite and opal, 459 while NIR spectra of JB630-B includes weak features due to jarosite at 1.47, 2.22 and 2.27 µm, in 460 addition to bands characteristic of opal near 1.37, 1.41, 1.91, and 2.21 µm (Figure 8f).





463 **Figure 8. VNIR and mid-IR reflectance spectra of fine-grained solfataric samples.** a-b) 464 Spectra of lighter-colored fines compared to spectra of opal, bytownite, and montmorillonite. Solid 465 gray lines mark features due to H<sub>2</sub>O in opal and montmorillonite near 1.41,1.91, and 3 μm, plus 466 near 1630 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Features due to OH in opal and montmorillonite are observed near 1.41, 2.2, and 467 2.7 μm. Additional opal bands near 1875, 1260, 1105 and 475 cm<sup>-1</sup> and a feldspar band near 1000 468 cm<sup>-1</sup> are also found in spectra of the light-colored samples. c-d) Spectra of darker-colored fines

469 compared to spectra of nontronite, saponite, opal, gypsum, and jarosite. Opal is less abundant in 470 these samples and contributes to features near 1.4, 1.9, and 2.2 µm, marked by solid gray lines. 471 Light gray dotted lines mark features due to jarosite at 0.44, 0.91, 1.47, and 2.26 um, as well as near 1105 and 540 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Gray dashed lines mark features due to gypsum at 1.45, 1.75, 1.94, 2.22, 472 473 2.26, 4.5, and 4.7 µm, as well as near 1680, 1635, 1200, 680, 600, and 220 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Black broken 474 lines mark features due to nontronite at 0.95, 1.43, and 2.29  $\mu$ m and near 500 and 420 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and due to saponite at 1.39, 2.31 µm and near 525 cm<sup>-1</sup>. e) Expanded view of JB633-B and JB643-A 475 476 spectra that include features due to gypsum, opal, and nontronite. f) Expanded view of JB630-B, 477 JB631-B, and JB631-D spectra that include features due to opal, nontronite, saponite, and jarosite. 478

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#### 480 Mössbauer spectroscopy

481 Mössbauer spectra of samples of the white/light (JB632) and orange (JB633) materials are 482 shown in Figure 9 together with spectra of selected minerals. The white/light and orange/tan 483 materials are subtly different, but both have contributions from ferrihydrite, which has parameters 484 of isomer shift (IS) = 0.35 mm/s and quadrupole splitting (QS) = 0.71 mm/s for single doublet fits 485 (Murad and Schwertmann 1980). The spectrum of JB632 has a doublet with IS of 0.37 mm/s and 486 QS of 0.55 mm/s, consistent with a poorly crystalline ferric oxide-bearing phase similar to 487 ferrihydrite. The VNIR spectra of sample JB632 are consistent with the presence of Fe-bearing 488 opal and that could also explain the ferrihydrite-like component of the Mössbauer spectrum. 489 Another contribution to the Mössbauer spectrum of sample JB632 is from saponite, which also 490 observed in the VNIR spectra and microprobe analyses.

The spectrum of JB633 has a well-formed doublet with isomer shift of 0.39 mm/s and quadrupole splitting of IS of 0.65 mm/s that is more similar to ferrihydrite than nontronite or jarosite, but may again include a contribution from saponite or alternatively a ferrous sulfate (Dyar et al. 2013).





**Figure 9. Mössbauer spectra of solfatara samples compared with minerals.** Spectra of the white/light (JB632) and orange (JB633) samples are composed of doublets consistent with primarily  $Fe^{3+}$  and some  $Fe^{2+}$  in minerals. Mineral spectra are presented for saponite (103), nontronite (JB175), ferrihydrite (JB499), and jarosite (132066). The vertical lines mark the doublet observed for ferrihydrite and related poorly crystalline ferric oxide species that are similar to the doublets observed in spectra of both the white/light and orange samples.

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## Discussion

#### 506 **Comparison with other terrestrial analog sites**

507 Investigation of hydrothermally altered volcanic material at other field sites in Hawaii, Iceland, 508 LaSolfatara, Yellowstone, Southwestern Australia, and the Atacama has identified similar mineral 509 assemblages in some cases, although the presence of jarosite, gypsum, and smectite is uncommon. 510 Silica was observed as the primary alteration product through hydrothermal alteration of basaltic 511 lavas from the Kilauea 1974 flow (Yant et al. 2017) near our field site. Yant et al. (2017) also 512 observed small amounts of jarosite, gypsum, phyllosilicates, and iron oxide phases in some samples from their study. Assemblages of jarosite, silica, and hydrated ferric oxides were 513 514 identified in crusted material in the Kilauea region where plumes bearing sulfuric acid likely

515 altered the volcanic ash in an acid-fog type mechanism (Schiffman et al. 2006). Hydrothermal 516 alteration at Haleakala volcano on Maui produced jarosite and alunite near some of the cinder 517 cones inside the caldera, along with poorly crystalline Al-Si phases, silica, smectites, and iron 518 oxides/hydroxides (Bishop et al. 2007). Assemblages containing jarosite, alunite, and silica were 519 observed near fumaroles at the Italian Solfatara, but this site was too acidic for formation of 520 smectite or gypsum (Flahaut et al. 2019). Another acid hydrothermal site at Yellowstone National 521 Park produced jarosite, other low-pH sulfates, and kaolinite, but not gypsum or smectite (Hinman 522 et al. 2021). The abundance of jarosite at the Italian Solfatara and Yellowstone sites could be due 523 to the elevated temperatures and low acidity at these sites. Gypsum has been found in a variety of 524 environments on Earth, but is more commonly observed in evaporite or high saline environments 525 (e.g., Benison and Bowen 2006; Bowen et al. 2013; Flahaut et al. 2017; Bishop et al. 2021b; Burton 526 et al. 2023; Warren-Rhodes et al. 2023). Gypsum can also form in hydrothermal environments and 527 is then often accompanied by carbonates (Burisch et al. 2018). Gypsum, jarosite, and smectite have 528 been observed together at the Sulfate Hill in the Painted Desert region of the Petrified Forest 529 (Perrin et al. 2018), although the genesis of this site is not yet well understood. Gypsum and jarosite 530 have been detected together in saline lakes, where halite, silica or kaolin minerals are frequently 531 observed as well, but smectite is less common in these areas (e.g., Benison and Bowen 2006; 532 Bowen et al. 2013).

533 Solfataric alteration at other fumarole sites has produced similar alteration trends to our 534 observations at the Kilauea South Sulfur Banks site. Pyroclastic basalts altered by the Cerro Negro 535 fumaroles in Nicaragua resulted in amorphous silica, gypsum, alunite/jarosite, and iron oxides/oxyhydroxides (McCollom et al. 2013). The Námafjall geothermal area in Iceland harbors 536 537 a range of alteration environments and products including amorphous silica, anatase, elemental S, smectite, kaolinite, goethite, sulfides, and multiple  $Fe^{2+}$  and  $Fe^{3+}$  sulfates, formed under acidic 538 539 conditions near hot springs (Carson et al. 2023b). Pyrite and other sulfides were only found at 540 depth in that study and not near the surface. A second study at the Námafjall geothermal area 541 investigated changes in alteration with distance from the Hverir fumarole (Carson et al. 2023a) 542 and found native S closest to the vent in soils enriched in silica and anatase, similar to the 543 white/light-colored silica-bearing apron in our study that included yellow native S near the vent 544 (Figures 2,3,10). Cristobalite was abundant in the light-toned soils close to the Hverir vent site, 545 whereas opal-A was most abundant and only trace cristobalite was observed in our study, likely

546 indicating lower temperatures at the Kilauea South Sulfur Bank site. Further from the Hverir 547 fumarole vent jarosite and alunite were observed together with kaolinite and hematite, and still 548 further out from the vent smectite was observed (Carson et al. 2023a). Temperatures ranged from 549 ~14 to 97 °C where samples were collected near the Hverir fumarole. Temperature was not 550 recorded during sampling at the Kilauea South Sulfur Bank site, but elevated temperatures were 551 not noticed while working at the Kilauea South Sulfur Bank site. During our visits to the South 552 Sulfur Bank site in 2003-2006, small vents with periodic wisps of gases and/or steam emanating 553 from one or more vents was observed, rather than a continuous outpouring of steam observed at 554 other more active fumarole sites. Historic activity at the South Sulfur Bank site could have been 555 different. The moderate temperatures of the vents observed during our field work are consistent 556 with formation of the assemblages of opal-A, gypsum, smectite, poorly crystalline ferric oxide 557 phases, and minor jarosite, based on comparison with these other hydrothermal alteration studies. 558 It is possible that the jarosite, trace cristobalite, and trace tridymite at the South Sulfur Bank site 559 formed during past episodes of greater steam activity at higher temperatures. If this were the case, the jarosite, cristobalite, and tridymite would have been little altered by the mild steam activity 560 561 observed at the time of sampling. Hydrothermal alteration at other sites at elevated temperatures 562 produced higher quantities of jarosite and/or alunite together with cristobalite, kaolinite, and 563 hematite, instead of smectite and poorly crystalline ferric oxide phases.

564 Alteration at the South Sulfur Bank site includes oxidation and leaching of the basaltic lava 565 covering the pyroclastic deposit, alteration of the orange/tan banded outcrop, and alteration of the 566 white/light soil (Figure 10). The four different alteration types observed are highlighted in a 567 schematic diagram of the site in Figure 11. The friable white/light material is closest to the vents 568 at the floor of the South Sulfur Bank and the glass and rinds are both replaced by  $\sim 80$  wt.% silica. 569 Hydrated silica, anatase, and native S are the primary components of this friable unit, similar to 570 the highly altered material observed closest to the Hverir fumarole in Iceland (Carson et al. 2023a). 571 The opal-A measured in our study likely results from lower temperature hydrothermal alteration 572 compared to the Hverir fumarole where temperatures close to 100 °C were observed and 573 cristobalite formed rather than opal-A, indicating much higher temperatures at that site.



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**Figure 10. Solfatarically altered Keanakakoi ash deposit at Kilauea South Sulfur Bank.** a) View in 2006 of the bedded orange/beige pyroclastic units and friable white/yellow material underneath the altered basaltic flow, b) bedded orange/beige layers (note change since 2004 in Figure 3 such that layered material has been eroded and previous sample collection site is not observed), c) same view as b after collecting sample; pH indicator stick in fresh hole below the surface of the banded orange material shows pH ~3-4.



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**Figure 11. Schematic diagram of study site.** Approximate relationships of the four types of alteration documented in this study. Type 1 is the white/beige friable material descending from the altered, blocky lava and primarily composed of opal and anatase. Type 2 is the layered orange and grey unit that contains gypsum, jarosite, nontronite, and Mg-smectite. Type 3 is the banded gray unit that is positioned above the Type 2 unit and could be similar but less altered. Type 4 contains the yellowish crumbles and rocks that include native sulfur (at the base of the Type 1 unit).

590 The orange/tan bedded units are further from the vents than the white/light/yellow friable 591 material and are much more consolidated. This banded region contains a combination of alteration 592 minerals in addition to some hydrated silica. Smectites include saponite, hectorite, and nontronite, 593 and the type of smectite present is likely governed by the cations that were available – nontronite 594 where Fe was readily available, hectorite where Mg and Li were available, and saponite where Mg 595 and Al were available. Feldspar and gypsum are observed with Mg-rich smectite in the tan/lighter 596 layers, whereas jarosite and poorly crystalline iron oxide phases are found with nontronite in the 597 orange layers. However, gypsum and Mg-smectites are also observed in some of the orange 598 material. Horizons of orange-colored beds are visible in several places, but patches of orange 599 material are also evident (Figure 10). This spatial relationship would suggest that there could have 600 been variations in the chemistry of the pyroclastic material as it was deposited, with elevated Fe 601 in some areas. Another possibility is that periodic episodes of greater leaching and alteration of 602 the basalt above this unit occurred and that altered material rich in ferric iron percolated down

from the altered basalt and was collected in layers and patches at the banded pyroclastic unit below.

Possibly, boundaries at the beds in this unit could have helped retain the  $Fe^{3+}$  to form a layer of increased concentration of  $Fe^{3+}$  to react with sulfates during alteration. The orange layers are not just a thin surface coating, but extend at least 2 cm deep into the banded unit at the sampling

607 location (Figure 10c).

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#### 610 Implications for Mars

611 Characterization of analog sites with multiple mineralogy, chemistry, and spectroscopy 612 techniques provides data for interpretation of orbital and rover data at Mars. This study of high-613 silica and smectite-sulfate outcrops near low-temperature vents at the South Sulfur Bank at Kilauea 614 provides an opportunity to investigate the minerals formed under moderate hydrothermal 615 conditions. These two types of hydrothermal outcrops are observed on Mars in ancient outcrops and could have formed on Mars in the past under environmental conditions similar to the moderate 616 617 solfataric alteration that occurred at the Kilauea South Sulfur Bank region. The presence of high-618 silica outcrops and smectite- gypsum- jarosite mixtures are still observed today in some regions of 619 Mars after billions of years. This indicates that limited liquid water has altered the surface since 620 the emplacement of these samples.

621 Martian outcrops with extremely high silica, similar to the friable, white material observed near 622 vents in the South Sulfur Banks region of Kilauea and near the Hverir fumaroles in Iceland are 623 found at the Home Plate hydrothermal system in Gusev crater (e.g., Rice et al. 2010; Ruff et al. 624 2011), at the Nili Patera caldera associated with Syrtis Major (Skok et al. 2010; Fawdon et al. 625 2015), and within the Murray and Stimson formations at Gale crater (Rapin et al. 2018). Siliceous 626 hot spring deposits are widespread on Earth (e.g., Campbell et al. 2015; Jones 2021) and have long 627 been considered potential ecosystems for life on Mars (e.g., Walter and Des Marais 1993; Farmer 628 1996; Schulze-Makuch et al. 2007; Cady et al. 2018). Opaline silica formed near low temperature 629 vents similar to the Kilauea South Sulfur Banks region could also have provided a niche for 630 potential microbes on Mars. An advantage in searching for life in ancient silica-rich outcrops on 631 Mars is the high preservation potential in such environments (Walter and Des Marais 1993; Farmer 632 and Des Marais 1999).

633 Jarosite has been detected at Mars by rovers and from orbit by the Compact Reconnaissance 634 Imaging Spectrometer for Mars (CRISM) and could play a critical role in understanding the 635 aqueous geochemical history of Mars. Jarosite and its Al form alunite are common hydroxysulfate 636 minerals with wide-spread occurrence on Earth (e.g., Van Breemen 1982; Desborough et al. 2010). 637 These OH-bearing sulfates serve as indicators for salty and low pH environments, and their 638 dissolution products provide a record of temperature, pH, and longevity of liquid water on the 639 surface of Mars (e.g., Elwood Madden et al., 2012), where they have been observed in multiple 640 locations (e.g., Klingelhöfer et al. 2004; Farrand et al. 2009; Weitz et al. 2011; Ehlmann et al. 641 2016). These minerals can form in acidic waters associated with sulfide oxidation (e.g., Burns 642 1987; 1988; Alpers et al. 1989; 1992; Burns 1993; Burns and Fisher 1993; Bigham et al. 1996; 643 Herbert 1997; Crowley et al. 2003; Murad and Rojik 2003), acid sulfate soils near volcanic vents 644 (e.g., Zimbelman et al. 2005; Schiffman et al. 2006; Bishop et al. 2007; McCollom et al. 2013; 645 Carson et al. 2023a; 2023b) and in acidic saline lake environments (e.g., Alpers et al. 1992; 646 Risacher et al. 2002; Benison and Laclair 2003; Baldridge et al. 2009; Story et al. 2010; Flahaut et al. 2017). Jarosite and Ca sulfates can co-exist in some environments (e.g., Elwood Madden et al. 647 648 2012; Dixon et al. 2015; Perrin et al. 2018) and a variety of iron oxides/oxyhydroxides and clays 649 can form through jarosite dissolution (e.g., Gasharova et al. 2005; Navrotsky et al. 2005; Elwood 650 Madden et al. 2009; 2012). Recent lab studies also demonstrate smectite formation in acidic 651 environments (Peretyazhko et al. 2018) that supports co-formation of smectite and jarosite in our 652 study. The presence of these accessory minerals assists in defining the geochemical history 653 governing the formation and reaction of jarosite and alunite on Mars. A combination of jarosite 654 and gypsum in a smectite and hydrated silica matrix is observed at the South Sulfur Bank in the 655 banded orange/tan units and indicates low temperature hydrothermal alteration has taken place in 656 the vicinity of volcanic vents, but not directly proximal to the vents. Similar processes may have 657 occurred on Mars near volcanic features. The mineralogy of these banded outcrops is most similar 658 to parts of the Noctis Labyrinthus system (Weitz et al. 2011), Gale crater (Rampe et al. 2020), and 659 Mawrth Vallis region (Bishop et al. 2023) on Mars, where both jarosite and gypsum group minerals 660 are observed together with smectites. Additionally, both jarosite and gypsum were identified by 661 instruments on Opportunity at Meridiani (Squyres et al. 2006). Jarosite and a nanophase iron oxide 662 phase were identified by the Miniature Mössbauer instrument on Opportunity (Klingelhöfer et al. 663 2004; Morris et al. 2004; Morris et al. 2019) and could represent altered volcanic material there.

These low-temperature hydrothermal products at the Kilauea South Sulfur Bank contain a high abundance of opal in the friable white/light colored unit and a mixture of smectites and sulfates in the orange layered outcrops. This site provides an example of the minerals formed under moderate hydrothermal conditions similar to habitable environments on Mars where biosignatures could have been preserved.

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- 676 spectra were measured at Mt. Holyoke College.
- 677

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