Contrasting timescales of crystallization and magma storage beneath the Aleutian Island arc

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Abstract

Geologic, chronologic, and U–Th isotope data from Pleistocene–Recent basaltic to rhyolitic lavas and their phenocrysts constrain the long-term evolution of magmatic processes at Seguam Island, Aleutian Island arc, and suggest a model in which erupted magmas were derived from a single, deep seated reservoir for ~130 kyrs of its eruptive history. The monotonic evolution in (230Th/232Th)₀ ratios is consistent with radiogenic ingrowth of 230Th in a long-lived magma reservoir between 142 and 9 ka. Internal U–Th mineral isochrons from seven lavas and one ignimbrite are indistinguishable from their eruption ages as constrained by ⁴⁰Ar/³⁹Ar dating, which implies a short period (i.e., 10³ yrs or less) of crystal residence in the magma prior to eruption. These results can be reconciled if small batches of magma are repeatedly extracted from a deep, thermally buffered, basaltic reservoir, followed by decompression-driven crystallization and differentiation in small chambers or conduits in the upper crust immediately prior to eruption. Stratovolcano collapse at 9 ka produced a 4 km diameter caldera and a 70 m thick dacitic ignimbrite covering ~12 km². The ignimbrite, as well as subsequent rhyolitic and basaltic lava flows, signal a decrease in (230Th/232Th)₀ and ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratios. The abrupt change in magma composition at 9 ka most likely reflects disruption of the long-lived reservoir by rapid ascent of basaltic magma with low (230Th/232Th) and ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratios and excess ²²⁶Ra. While the physiochemical connection between cone collapse and rise of new magma into the shallow crust remains to be explored, the shift in isotopic composition and evidence for a protracted >100 kyr period of magma storage, would have been missed had the focus been on only the most recent historical eruptions. Our results suggest that: not all arc basalt produced in the mantle wedge separates and ascends rapidly, magma ascent rates and storage times may vary significantly over periods of 10⁴ to 10⁵ yrs at a single arc volcano, and U–Th isotopes offer a means of better understanding relationships between explosive eruptions and changes in magma reservoir dynamics in island arcs, provided a sufficiently long period of volcanic activity is examined. © 2005 Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved.

Keywords: Aleutian island arc; U–Th isotopes; ⁴⁰Ar/³⁹Ar dating; magma residence; crystallization

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1. Introduction

The rate at which magma ascends and the duration of storage, cooling, and crystallization govern the extent of chemical and volatile evolution, mechanisms of emplacement, and its occasional eruption at active arc volcanoes. In turn, appreciating the tempo of volcano construction, and how and when magmatic processes promote an explosive eruption or edifice collapse is one part of better predicting hazards that are concentrated in subduction zones. The evidence concerning kinetics of arc magmatic processes is sparse, mostly gleaned from but a few volcanoes, and has led to considerable controversy over ascent rates and crustal storage and differentiation times that typify subduction zones [1]. A central question is whether basaltic melt, once liberated at ~75 km depth, ascends, crystallizes, differentiates, and erupts rapidly, within on the order of $10^3$ yr, thereby rising at ~$10^2$ m/yr [2–4], or alternatively, if it is plausible that a significant volume of ascending magma stalls in the crust, where it may reside undisturbed, or differentiate for perhaps $>10^5$ yr prior to erupting [5,6].

Timescales of magmatic processes have been addressed using: crystal size distributions [7], major and trace element diffusion profiles in phenocrysts [8–10], and correlation between short-lived U-series isotopes and indices of differentiation [11]. The vast majority of U-series data are either from historical lavas, or large individual caldera-forming eruptions, thereby concentrating on a relatively narrow slice of time. This is because little time has elapsed since eruption thereby obviating a correction for in situ $^{230}$Th ingrowth. However, a suite of young lavas and ash may fail to capture the full extent of erupted compositions, magmatic processes and growth rates that characterize large arc volcanoes. Where geochronologic control is good, it is clear that monotonous chemical evolution is rare, and that many abrupt or gradual shifts in composition, processes (e.g., crystalization vs. mixing vs. assimilation), and growth rate are expected to occur over periods of $10^4$ to $10^5$ yrs at arc volcanoes (e.g., Mt Adams, [12]; Tatara San Pedro, [13]; and Seguam, [14]). Variations of Th isotope composition over these relatively long time periods offer a potentially powerful means of distinguishing shifts between open-and closed-system magmatic processes and constraining changes in magma ascent and crystallization rates [6,15–17]. The paucity of U-series data spanning the last several hundred thousand years mainly reflects the difficulty in establishing a precise chronology for latest Pleistocene to Holocene lavas [11].

The only study of a subduction zone volcano comparable to that of Etna was done 30 years ago on Irazu volcano, Costa Rica [6]. Mineral-glass U–Th internal isochrons from five lavas at Irazu span $>100$ kyrs and show a progressive increase in $(^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th})_0$ ratios that was inferred to reflect $140$ kyrs of relatively undisturbed ingrowth of $^{230}$Th in a crustal reservoir [6]. A few young, 0–4 ka, island arc lavas and their phenocrysts have yielded U–Th isochrons with crystallization ages ranging from several that are indistinguishable from their eruption ages [18], to a few as much as 77 kyrs older than the eruptive age [19]. The older U–Th isochrons were initially interpreted to reflect long storage times for evolved and partly crystallized magma in crustal reservoirs [19], however, discrepancies between the U–Th isochron ages and those determined from $^{226}$Ra–$^{230}$Th disequilibria and Sr diffusion profiles in plagioclase phenocrysts, suggest that there has been some mixing between magmas and cumulate crystals [10,20]. Moreover, $^{226}$Ra–$^{230}$Th disequilibria in some whole rock samples constitute one of the more vivid arguments that arc magma ascends rapidly, i.e., within 5 half-lives of $^{226}$Ra or $<8$ kyrs [2–4]. However, incomplete knowledge about the degree of $^{226}$Ra–$^{230}$Th disequilibrium that persists in sub-arc mantle or crustal rocks comprising small amounts of hydrous minerals including phlogopite, has led to controversy [21–23]. Rapid diffusion of $^{226}$Ra from these minerals, if confirmed, would relax the constraint that magma must ascend rapidly and experience minimal storage times in hydrous, subduction-zone settings [21].
Advances in both the measurement of Th isotopes in small samples [24] and precise dating of late Pleistocene lava flows [25], prompted us to address the debate over rates of magmatic processes and explore temporal relationships between magmatism and volcanism over an extended, ~150 kyr period, in an otherwise well-characterized oceanic island arc setting. Here we present U–Th isotope data and \(^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}\) age determinations from a basalt–rhyolite volcanic complex in the central Aleutian Island arc that provide evidence for vastly different timescales of crystallization and magma residence in a single crustal plumbing system.

2. Geological setting and sample selection

Seguam Island is a ~200 km\(^2\) volcanic complex in the central Aleutian Island arc that comprises Pleistocene–Recent tholeiitic lavas and tephras (Fig. 1) [14]. Seguam was chosen for this study for the following reasons: 1) Compositions span a continuous range from 50 to 71 wt.% SiO\(_2\), with an unusually large proportion, about 30%, of the island comprising evolved dacitic and rhyolitic compositions [14], 2) the petrologic, geochemical, radiogenic (Sr–Nd–Hf–Pb) isotope and O isotope characteristics of the erupted products are well-known [14,26–28], 3) the entire eruptive history of the island has been mapped and is now exceptionally well-documented [29], 4) models of surface deformation based on pre-, syn-, and post-eruptive magma and fluid migration through an upper crustal plumbing system have been developed from 10 years of interferometric synthetic aperture radar (InSAR) imagery [30,31], 5) geochemical data indicate that Seguam lavas reflect greater fluid and U-enrichments than other Aleutian volcanoes [32,33], and 6) the crustal structure is known from nearby seismic reflection and refraction profiles which indicate that the volcanic complex sits atop 25–30 km of arc crust [34]. An overall mafic composition for the crust, which comprises: porous or fractured intrusive and extrusive igneous rocks and volcaniclastic sediments in the upper 7 km, a MORB-like layer in the middle...
crust, and ~19 km of gabbroic residua at the base, is inferred from the P-wave velocity structures [34].

Mapping, stratigraphy, and sixty $^{40}$Ar/$^{39}$Ar age determinations indicate a 320 kyr history of subaerial volcanism on Seguam Island [[29]; unpublished data]. This study focuses only on the eruptive history from 142 ka to present, which includes: 1) rhyodacitic dome formation at 142 ka; 2) basaltic–rhyolitic cone building from 100 to 9 ka; 3) collapse of a stratocone on the eastern half of the island and caldera formation at ~9 ka, accompanied by emplacement of a dacitic ignimbrite, 4) resurgent rhyolitic dome growth in the eastern caldera, and 5) subsequent formation of a western caldera accompanied by mafic tuffs and basaltic effusions from within this caldera (Fig. 1, Table 1). Whole rock Sr isotope and $^{87}/^{86}$Sr data from Seguam lavas combined with a comparison of the modal mineralogy to published low pressure coticects suggest that basaltic parental magmas crystallized at 3–5 kb, or about 10–15 km depth, followed by closed-system differentiation to dacite and rhyolite between 1–2 kb (i.e., cristal depths of ~3–6 km) [14,28].

Two of the basaltic lavas studied erupted in 1977 and 1993 A.D.; the eruptive ages of twelve additional lavas are known precisely from $^{40}$Ar/$^{39}$Ar geochronology. The ages of two late Holocene rhyolitic domes are not known precisely, but on the basis of their surface morphologies, degree of weathering, and inferred stratigraphic positions, we are confident that they erupted after the rhyolite dome that we have $^{40}$Ar/$^{39}$Ar dated at 7.5 ± 2.0 ka (Fig. 1, Table 1).

3. Analytical methods

3.1. $^{40}$Ar/$^{39}$Ar geochronology

Holocrystalline groundmass separates were prepared from porphyritic lava samples by crushing, sieving to 250–500 μm, magnetic sorting, and hand picking under a binocular microscope to remove olivine, pyroxene, and plagioclase phenocrysts and minimize the potential for xenocrystic contamination. Whole rock mini-cores, 5 mm in diameter ranging from 200–450 mg, were drilled from nearly aphyric lava flows. Groundmass separates (~200–300 mg) were wrapped in 99.99% copper foil packets and, along with the mini-cores, were placed into Al disks with 1.194 Ma sanidine from the Alder Creek rhyolite as a neutron fluence monitor. The Al disks were irradiated for 20–90 min at the Oregon State University Triga reactor in the Cadmium-Lined In-Core Irradiation Tube (CLICIT) where they received fast neutrons for 2–10 kyr.

Table 1: Summary of $^{40}$Ar/$^{39}$Ar incremental heating experiments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th># Total fusion N</th>
<th>Isochron analysis</th>
<th>Age spectrum</th>
<th>MSWD Increments</th>
<th>$^{39}$Ar%</th>
<th>MSWD Plateau age (ka) ± 2σ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEG 03 32 gm</td>
<td>Rhyolite dome</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$^{40}$Ar/$^{39}$Ar (± 2σ)</td>
<td>6.1 ± 3.5</td>
<td>725–1450</td>
<td>99.8 ± 0.04</td>
<td>7.5 ± 2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEG 03 44 wr</td>
<td>Dacitic ash flow</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$^{40}$Ar/$^{39}$Ar (± 2σ)</td>
<td>7.2 ± 3.2</td>
<td>725–1275</td>
<td>100.0 ± 0.14</td>
<td>8.4 ± 1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEG 03 66 wr</td>
<td>Andesitic lava flow</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$^{40}$Ar/$^{39}$Ar (± 2σ)</td>
<td>3.7 ± 3.3</td>
<td>875–1230</td>
<td>100.0 ± 0.32</td>
<td>23.5 ± 5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEG 03 03 wr</td>
<td>Dacitic lava flow</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$^{40}$Ar/$^{39}$Ar (± 2σ)</td>
<td>3.1 ± 2.1</td>
<td>900–1375</td>
<td>100.0 ± 0.72</td>
<td>31.7 ± 1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEG 03 35 gm</td>
<td>Basaltic lava flow</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$^{40}$Ar/$^{39}$Ar (± 2σ)</td>
<td>3.0 ± 1.9</td>
<td>900–1300</td>
<td>96.6 ± 0.34</td>
<td>33.2 ± 0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEG 03 45 gm</td>
<td>Andesitic lava flow</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$^{40}$Ar/$^{39}$Ar (± 2σ)</td>
<td>3.5 ± 2.3</td>
<td>850–1300</td>
<td>100.0 ± 1.15</td>
<td>53.0 ± 1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEG 03 48 gm</td>
<td>Basaltic lava flow</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$^{40}$Ar/$^{39}$Ar (± 2σ)</td>
<td>4.0 ± 2.0</td>
<td>850–1275</td>
<td>100.0 ± 0.06</td>
<td>65.6 ± 13.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEG 03 01 wr</td>
<td>Rhyolitic lava flow</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$^{40}$Ar/$^{39}$Ar (± 2σ)</td>
<td>3.6 ± 2.1</td>
<td>875–1375</td>
<td>100.0 ± 1.20</td>
<td>76.8 ± 1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEG 03 49 gm</td>
<td>Basaltic lava flow</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$^{40}$Ar/$^{39}$Ar (± 2σ)</td>
<td>8.0 ± 5.0</td>
<td>875–1250</td>
<td>92.6 ± 0.35</td>
<td>84.6 ± 14.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEG 03 50 gm</td>
<td>Basaltic lava flow</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$^{40}$Ar/$^{39}$Ar (± 2σ)</td>
<td>8.4 ± 7.0</td>
<td>940–1250</td>
<td>100.0 ± 0.24</td>
<td>98.1 ± 18.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEG 03 35 gm</td>
<td>Bas. andesitic lava flow</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$^{40}$Ar/$^{39}$Ar (± 2σ)</td>
<td>11.1 ± 6.3</td>
<td>875–1325</td>
<td>100.0 ± 0.26</td>
<td>116.5 ± 13.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEG 03 43 wr</td>
<td>Rhyodacitic dome</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$^{40}$Ar/$^{39}$Ar (± 2σ)</td>
<td>14.3 ± 6.2</td>
<td>950–1250</td>
<td>96.2 ± 0.00</td>
<td>141.9 ± 2.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Abbreviations: gm, groundmass; wr, whole rock.

# = number of experiments.

a N = number of plateau/isochron steps used in regression.

b $^{39}$Ar% = percentage of $^{39}$Ar released which comprises the plateau.

c Ages calculated relative to 1.194 Ma Alder Creek Rhyolite sanidine; uncertainties reported at 2σ precision.
neutron doses of 1.2 to $5.4 \times 10^{15}$ n/cm$^2$. At the University of Wisconsin Rare Gas Geochronology Laboratory, the groundmass packets and mini-cores were incrementally heated in a double-vacuum resistance furnace attached to a 300 cm$^3$ gas clean-up line. Prior to each incremental heating experiment, samples were degassed at 550–700 °C to potentially remove large amounts of atmospheric argon. Fully automated experiments consisted of 4–13 steps from 725–1450 °C with isotopic measurements and data reduction following the procedures in [25,26]. These measurements are critically dependent on characterizing the blank levels in the analytical system and the mass discrimination of the mass spectrometer. Blanks were measured over a range of temperature between 800 and 1350 °C prior to, and following, each sample and at 7.0 $\times$ 10$^{-18}$ and 2.1 $\times$ 10$^{-16}$ moles of $^{36}$Ar and $^{40}$Ar, respectively, were atmospheric in composition and one to two orders of magnitude smaller than the sample signals, thus their impact on the age uncertainty has been minimized. Mass discrimination was measured 44 times during the analytical periods via an automated air pipette and varied between 1.0022 ± 0.002 and 1.0043 ± 0.002 per amu. Precise ages commonly require replicate experiments on several different subsamples from each lava or tuff. Basalts (50–53 wt.% SiO$_2$) and rhyolites (69–71 wt.% SiO$_2$) yielded subsamples from each lava or tuff. Basalts (50–53 wt.% SiO$_2$) and rhyolites (69–71 wt.% SiO$_2$) yielded subsamples from each lava or tuff. Basalts (50–53 wt.% SiO$_2$) and rhyolites (69–71 wt.% SiO$_2$) yielded subsamples from each lava or tuff. Basalts (50–53 wt.% SiO$_2$) and rhyolites (69–71 wt.% SiO$_2$) yielded subsamples from each lava or tuff.

### 3.2. U–Th isotopes

Approximately 15–1500 mg of mineral separates were prepared from fresh, porphyritic lava samples by crushing, sieving to 250–500 μm, magnetic and density sorting, and hand picking under a binocular microscope to remove crystals or glass fragments containing inclusions. These highly purified separates and whole rock powders were spiked with a $^{235}$U/$^{239}$Th tracer and dissolved using HF–HNO$_3$–HCl in Teflon beakers. Plagioclase separates required additional fuming in a HF–HClO$_4$ mixture. Silicate mineral separates and whole rock powders from andesitic to rhyolitic samples were pre-concentrated with 200–400 μl of a 10,000 ppm Fe solution. U and Th were co-precipitated with Fe(OH)$_3$ using NH$_4$OH, and separated into clean Th and U fractions using BioRad AG 1X8 200–400 mesh anion exchange resin in 1.2 ml Teflon columns [35]. Isotopic measurements were done at the UW-Madison Isotope Laboratory using a GV Instruments Isoprobe MC-ICP-MS. Samples and standards were aspirated using a 50 μl/min low flow nebulizer tip and an Aridus$^®$ desolvating nebulizer. Ions extracted from the ICP source were measured on a combination of Faraday and Daly detectors. The Th and U fractions were measured separately on the mass spectrometer. Natural U ($^{238}$U/$^{235}$U = 137.88) standard solutions were analyzed to determine instrumental mass fractionation. All measured U and Th isotope ratios from spiked samples were corrected for mass bias based on the standard analyses. $^{229}$Th/$^{230}$Th and $^{230}$Th/$^{232}$Th ratios were also corrected for variations in the Daly–Faraday gain, which was determined by measuring $^{235}$U on the Daly and $^{238}$U in a Faraday collector. The tail of the $^{232}$Th peak on $^{230}$Th was minimized by using the Wide Aperture Retarding Potential (WARP) filter [24]. External precision, reproducibility, and accuracy of U and Th isotope measurements were evaluated via repeated analyses of the Table Mountain Latite (TML) (n = 7) and ATHO Icelandic rhyolite (n = 5) standards, which yielded weighted mean ($^{230}$Th/$^{232}$Th) activity ratios of 1.068 ± 0.001 (2σ), and 1.018 ± 0.002 (2σ), respectively (see complete results in electronic appendix). The ($^{230}$Th/$^{232}$Th) results of the rock standards are in agreement with those reported by ten other laboratories. Throughout the analytical period, nineteen measurements of a thorium reference solution, IRMM-035, yielded a $^{232}$Th/$^{230}$Th ratio of 87,223 ± 170 (2σ), well within error of the certified value of 87,100 ± 592. Total procedural blanks were typically < 70 pg for U and < 90 pg for Th. Because the sample to blank ratios were typically > 500, no blank corrections were made.

### 3.3. Sr Isotopes

Sr isotopes were measured on 16 whole rock samples and mineral separates by thermal ionization mass spectrometry (TIMS) on a GV Instruments Sector 54 instrument at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Sample dissolution and cation exchange procedures
are the same as those described in [26]. Measurements used a dynamic multi-collector analysis routine, with exponential normalization to \( \frac{\text{Sr}^{86}}{\text{Sr}^{88}} = 0.1194 \). Fourteen measurements of NIST SRM-987 yielded an \( \frac{\text{Sr}^{87}}{\text{Sr}^{86}} \) ratio of 0.710267 ± 0.000011 (2 SD). Procedural blanks averaged 217 pg for Sr, which are negligible compared to the 2–10 ug of sample analyzed.

Three of the samples have a reddish, glassy groundmass, elevated loss on ignition (1.3–1.5 wt.%) and total alkali contents (3.7–3.9 wt.%) compared to other lavas of similar composition, which suggest that the matrices of these otherwise petrographically fresh rocks may have been slightly weathered. To circumvent potential secondary Sr additions, 100 mg aliquots of fresh pyroxene or plagioclase from these and other samples were measured to constrain magmatic compositions.

4. Results

4.1. \( ^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar} \) geochronology

Thirty-three incremental heating experiments on 12 samples yielded largely concordant spectra with well-defined age plateaus comprising 93–100% of the \( ^{39}\text{Ar} \) released (Table 1). The 12 new age determinations, from previously undated samples, gave plateau ages between 141.9 ± 2.2 and 7.5 ± 2.0 ka and agree with relative stratigraphic position. The large \( ^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar} \) age uncertainties of samples SEG-03–35, -48, -49, and -50 are mainly due to the low K2O contents of these lavas (0.6–0.8 wt.%).

4.2. U–Th isotopes

All but one of the Seguam samples exhibit present-day U excesses ranging from 14 to 40%, which are among the highest yet measured in the Aleutians [32,33]. The dacitic ash flow tuff (sample SEG 03 44) that was associated with caldera collapse at ~9 ka has 23% Th excess. U–Th fractionation between the major igneous minerals was sufficiently large to yield meaningful isochrons, where low U/Th ratios characterize plagioclase and high U/Th ratios are found in magnetite. The relative precision of the U–Th mineral isochron ages is equal to or exceeds that of most published U–Th mineral ages, which are rarely constrained to better than ±15% for lavas that are <100 kyrs old (see [1], for a review). We suspect that the improved precision is due to the relative simplicity of the system (i.e., very few cumulates or xenocrysts), high purity of the mineral separates, and the limited scatter about the isochron.

Fig. 2. U–Th mineral isochrons for four post-caldera collapse lavas from Seguam Island. All four mineral isochron ages are statistically indistinguishable from the eruptive ages. Data from Table 2. The ordinate of the intercept between the mineral isochron and the equiline gives the \( \frac{\text{Th}^{230}}{\text{Th}^{232}} \) ratio, which is that of the magma body at the time of crystallization. Abbreviations: plag, plagioclase; wr, whole rock; cpx, clinopyroxene; opx, orthopyroxene; mt, magnetite; gmass, groundmass.
Fig. 3. U–Th mineral isochrons and ⁴⁰Ar/³⁹Ar age spectrum diagrams for the dacitic ignimbrite associated with the caldera collapse at ~9 ka and four pre-caldera lavas. Abbreviations are the same as those in Fig. 2.
Table 2
U–Th and Sr isotope data from Seguam Island lavas and mineral separates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>SiO₂ (wt.%)</th>
<th>Sr isotope age (ka)</th>
<th>Mineral</th>
<th>²³⁸U/²³⁵Th</th>
<th>²³⁵Th/²³²Th</th>
<th>Th (ppm)</th>
<th>U (ppm)</th>
<th>U–Th age (ka)</th>
<th>²³⁰Th/²³²Th</th>
<th>⁹⁰Sr/⁸⁶Sr (± 2 SE)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEG 03 19</td>
<td>53.5</td>
<td>A.D. 1993</td>
<td>wr</td>
<td>1.773 ± 0.017</td>
<td>1.262 ± 0.012</td>
<td>1.025</td>
<td>0.599</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.253 ± 0.070</td>
<td>0.703726 ± 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>cpx</td>
<td>2.042 ± 0.046</td>
<td>1.247 ± 0.037</td>
<td>0.029</td>
<td>0.020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>plag</td>
<td>1.588 ± 0.063</td>
<td>1.232 ± 0.071</td>
<td>0.009</td>
<td>0.005</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>gm</td>
<td>1.872 ± 0.015</td>
<td>1.270 ± 0.010</td>
<td>1.138</td>
<td>0.702</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEG 03 08</td>
<td>51.2</td>
<td>A.D. 1977</td>
<td>wr</td>
<td>1.752 ± 0.014</td>
<td>1.264 ± 0.010</td>
<td>0.783</td>
<td>0.452</td>
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<td>0.703700 ± 9</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>gm</td>
<td>1.813 ± 0.012</td>
<td>1.260 ± 0.008</td>
<td>0.926</td>
<td>0.553</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>mt</td>
<td>2.162 ± 0.026</td>
<td>1.262 ± 0.015</td>
<td>0.937</td>
<td>0.668</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>cpx</td>
<td>1.628 ± 0.009</td>
<td>1.264 ± 0.007</td>
<td>0.062</td>
<td>0.033</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 87 40</td>
<td>69.8</td>
<td>&lt;7.5</td>
<td>wr</td>
<td>1.639 ± 0.004</td>
<td>1.300 ± 0.003</td>
<td>4.556</td>
<td>2.460</td>
<td>1.71 ± 0.48</td>
<td>1.294 ± 0.004</td>
<td>0.703571 ± 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>gm</td>
<td>1.648 ± 0.004</td>
<td>1.300 ± 0.003</td>
<td>4.859</td>
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<td>opx</td>
<td>2.360 ± 0.004</td>
<td>1.311 ± 0.002</td>
<td>0.563</td>
<td>0.438</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>plag</td>
<td>1.866 ± 0.009</td>
<td>1.301 ± 0.006</td>
<td>1.212</td>
<td>0.745</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEG 03 31</td>
<td>71.4</td>
<td>&lt;7.5</td>
<td>wr</td>
<td>1.796 ± 0.011</td>
<td>1.305 ± 0.008</td>
<td>4.116</td>
<td>2.437</td>
<td>6.0 ± 4.0</td>
<td>1.278 ± 0.035</td>
<td>0.703612 ± 10</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>gm</td>
<td>1.766 ± 0.010</td>
<td>1.304 ± 0.007</td>
<td>4.088</td>
<td>2.379</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>mt</td>
<td>1.978 ± 0.019</td>
<td>1.313 ± 0.012</td>
<td>0.722</td>
<td>0.471</td>
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<td>cpx</td>
<td>2.193 ± 0.028</td>
<td>1.324 ± 0.017</td>
<td>0.384</td>
<td>0.278</td>
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<td>SEG 03 32</td>
<td>70.8</td>
<td>7.5 ± 2.0</td>
<td>wr</td>
<td>1.712 ± 0.018</td>
<td>1.333 ± 0.007</td>
<td>4.461</td>
<td>2.517</td>
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<td>0.703601 ± 7</td>
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<td>gm</td>
<td>1.666 ± 0.006</td>
<td>1.309 ± 0.010</td>
<td>2.151</td>
<td>0.756</td>
<td>10.1 ± 1.3</td>
<td>1.327 ± 0.010</td>
<td>0.703627 ± 7</td>
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<td>gl</td>
<td>1.106 ± 0.007</td>
<td>1.303 ± 0.011</td>
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<td></td>
<td>cpx</td>
<td>1.668 ± 0.012</td>
<td>1.351 ± 0.014</td>
<td>0.95</td>
<td>0.052</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEG 03 33</td>
<td>62.8</td>
<td>23.5 ± 5.8</td>
<td>wr</td>
<td>1.733 ± 0.012</td>
<td>1.411 ± 0.010</td>
<td>3.546</td>
<td>2.026</td>
<td>35.0 ± 1.0</td>
<td>1.286 ± 0.007</td>
<td>0.703676 ± 8</td>
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<td>gm</td>
<td>1.777 ± 0.014</td>
<td>1.421 ± 0.010</td>
<td>3.734</td>
<td>2.187</td>
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<td></td>
<td>opx</td>
<td>1.975 ± 0.016</td>
<td>1.413 ± 0.013</td>
<td>0.309</td>
<td>0.179</td>
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<td>plag</td>
<td>1.161 ± 0.078</td>
<td>1.373 ± 0.139</td>
<td>0.059</td>
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<td>SEG 87 56</td>
<td>69.5</td>
<td>33.2 ± 0.9</td>
<td>wr</td>
<td>1.798 ± 0.011</td>
<td>1.425 ± 0.008</td>
<td>4.074</td>
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<td>0.703680 ± 10</td>
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<td>62.4</td>
<td>53.0 ± 1.3</td>
<td>wr</td>
<td>1.806 ± 0.015</td>
<td>1.453 ± 0.012</td>
<td>3.235</td>
<td>1.980</td>
<td>55.6 ± 2.7</td>
<td>1.210 ± 0.015</td>
<td>0.703674 ± 8</td>
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<td>mt</td>
<td>3.142 ± 0.050</td>
<td>1.960 ± 0.038</td>
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<td>0.373</td>
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<td>plag</td>
<td>0.505 ± 0.011</td>
<td>0.923 ± 0.020</td>
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<td>SEG 03 48</td>
<td>52.2</td>
<td>65.6 ± 13.7</td>
<td>wr</td>
<td>1.576 ± 0.011</td>
<td>1.366 ± 0.010</td>
<td>1.414</td>
<td>0.734</td>
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<td>0.703694 ± 10</td>
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<td>cpx</td>
<td>1.691 ± 0.005</td>
<td>1.415 ± 0.004</td>
<td>4.438</td>
<td>2.473</td>
<td>75.6 ± 5.4</td>
<td>1.138 ± 0.025</td>
<td>0.703664 ± 10</td>
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<td>1.715 ± 0.006</td>
<td>1.426 ± 0.005</td>
<td>4.428</td>
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<td>SEG 03 49</td>
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<td>84.6 ± 14.2</td>
<td>wr</td>
<td>1.600 ± 0.015</td>
<td>1.381 ± 0.013</td>
<td>1.376</td>
<td>0.726</td>
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<td></td>
<td>0.703690 ± 10</td>
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<td>SEG 03 50</td>
<td>52.5</td>
<td>98.1 ± 18.5</td>
<td>wr</td>
<td>1.619 ± 0.011</td>
<td>1.386 ± 0.010</td>
<td>1.063</td>
<td>0.567</td>
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<td>0.703628 ± 8</td>
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<td>cpx</td>
<td>1.693 ± 0.018</td>
<td>1.435 ± 0.015</td>
<td>1.562</td>
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<td>SEG 03 43</td>
<td>68.7</td>
<td>141.9 ± 2.2</td>
<td>wr</td>
<td>1.607 ± 0.007</td>
<td>1.415 ± 0.010</td>
<td>4.171</td>
<td>2.209</td>
<td>159.0 ± 22.0</td>
<td>0.784 ± 0.046</td>
<td>0.703747 ± 10</td>
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<td>1.454 ± 0.056</td>
<td>1.328 ± 0.052</td>
<td>0.034</td>
<td>0.016</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>opx</td>
<td>2.019 ± 0.012</td>
<td>1.734 ± 0.014</td>
<td>0.443</td>
<td>0.295</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>gm</td>
<td>1.813 ± 0.014</td>
<td>1.573 ± 0.012</td>
<td>4.087</td>
<td>2.443</td>
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</table>

Abbreviations: wr, whole rock; gm, ground mass; cpx, clinopyroxene; opx, orthopyroxene; gl, glass; mt, magnetite; plag, plagioclase.
All analytical U and Th isotope uncertainties are reported at 2σ precision. Sr isotope uncertainties reported at 2 standard error (2 SE). Parentheses around nuclides denote activity.
Decay constants used for activity calculations: ²³⁸U, 1.5513 × 10⁻¹⁰/yr; ²³⁰Th, 9.217 × 10⁻⁹/yr; ²³²Th, 4.948 × 10⁻¹¹/yr.

a (²³⁰Th/²³²Th) ratios determined from intersection of isochron and equiline.

b Data from Jicha et al. [26].
Minerals and glass from basalts erupted in 1977 and 1993 define zero-age isochrons, and those from two 7.5 ka rhyolites, an 8.4 ka dacitic ash flow tuff, 53 ka andesite, 76.8 ka rhyolite, and a 142 ka rhyodacite gave isochrons that are all in agreement with their eruption ages as determined by 40Ar/39Ar plateau ages (Table 2; Figs. 2 and 3). A rhyolite that has an 40Ar/39Ar age of 31.7 ± 1.2 ka yielded a U–Th isochron age of 35.0 ± 1.0 ka, which is 2–5 kyrs older than the eruptive age. (230Th/232Th)0 ratios for each of the mineral isochrons were determined from the intersection of the isochrons with the equiline (Figs. 2 and 3). Because most mineral isochrons ages are within error of the eruptive ages (Figs. 3 and 4), “age-corrected” initial (230Th/232Th)0 ratios were calculated for the seven prehistoric samples for which no U–Th isochron data are available. Given the measured whole rock (230Th/232-Th) and (238 U/232-Th) ratios of these seven samples, the initial (230Th/232-Th)0 ratios were calculated using:

\[
\frac{230\text{Th}}{232\text{Th}}\text{measured} = \frac{230\text{Th}}{232\text{Th}}\text{initial} e^{-\lambda_{230}t} + \left(\frac{238\text{U}}{232\text{Th}}\right) \left(1 - e^{-\lambda_{230}t}\right)
\]

where \(t\) is the eruptive age as determined by 40Ar/39Ar dating, and \(\lambda_{230}\) is the decay constant for 230Th, which

![Graph showing U-Th mineral ages (yrs) plotted against independently determined Eruptive age (yrs) for arc lavas. Dashed lines represent 0, 50, and 100 kyr crystal residence times. Published data from [1] and references therein.](image)

![Graph showing Evolution of (230Th/232Th)0 measured in Seguam Island lavas as a function of eruptive age (expressed as e^\(\lambda t\)). (230Th/232-Th)0 ratios are plotted as whole rock 40Ar/39Ar Ar age-corrected ratios (filled symbols), or as those determined from the isochron diagrams (open symbols) in Figs. 2 and 3. Uncertainties in the (230Th/232-Th)0 ratios are discussed in the text. Errors in e^\(\lambda t\) represent 40Ar/39Ar or U–Th mineral isochron age uncertainties (2\(\sigma\)). Dashed line represents 130 kyrs of undisturbed 230Th ingrowth modeled from the (230Th/232-Th)0 and whole rock (238U/232Th) of the 142 ka lava. (230Th/232-Th)0 variations in Seguam Island lavas from 142–9 ka closely match those of the 230Th ingrowth model until caldera collapse at 9 ka.](image)
is $9.217 \times 10^{-6}$/yr. The errors reported for the “age-corrected” $^{230}\text{Th}^{232}\text{Th}_0$ ratios are equal to the analytical uncertainties, whereas errors of the $^{230}\text{Th}^{232}\text{Th}_0$ ratios determined from the isochrons are proportional to the uncertainty in the slope of the isochron.

Initial $^{230}\text{Th}^{232}\text{Th}_0$ ratios of ten lavas linearly increase from 0.78 to 1.33 between 142 and 9 ka when plotted versus $e^{2t}$ as initially proposed in [6], whereas basalts and rhyolites that post-date caldera collapse abruptly decrease from 1.31 to 1.25 during the Holocene (Fig. 5). Prior to this study, only one Th isotope composition had been determined from Seguam on a Holocene basaltic lava flow ~5 km southwest of Pyre Peak [32] (Fig. 1), but the $^{230}\text{Th}^{232}\text{Th}_0$ ratio of this lava, like other Holocene–historic lavas, is lower than those that erupted immediately prior to caldera collapse. The 142–53 ka Seguam lavas have $^{230}\text{Th}^{232}\text{Th}_0$ ratios of 0.78 to 1.21, which are distinctively lower than those of most Aleutian Island arc lavas which range from 1.3–1.4) [32,33].

4.3. Sr Isotopes

The $^{87}\text{Sr}^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios of 16 whole rock and phenocryst samples lie between 0.70360 and 0.70374, well within the narrow range of ratios (0.70357–0.70375) reported earlier [14,26,27] from 28 Seguam lavas of Latest Pleistocene–historic age (Fig. 6). $^{87}\text{Sr}^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios of minerals measured in samples suspected to be slightly weathered are indistinguishable from those of fresh whole rocks or minerals separated from other samples. Notably, dacitic to rhyolitic lavas that erupted after the caldera collapsed at 9 ka are lower in $^{87}\text{Sr}^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios than the pre-collapse lavas (Fig. 6). The shift to less radiogenic $^{87}\text{Sr}^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios after collapse of the caldera is mirrored by the drop in $^{230}\text{Th}^{232}\text{Th}$ ratios (Fig. 5), although $^{87}\text{Sr}^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios of the basaltic lavas erupted in 1977 and 1993 are among the most radiogenic on the island. There is no correlation between $\text{SiO}_2$, $^{87}\text{Sr}^{86}\text{Sr}$, or $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ which we take as evidence that open-system processes had minimal influence on the magmas erupted at Seguam [14,28].

5. Discussion

The observation that U–Th isochrons defined by minerals + whole rock + groundmass give ages identical to the $^{40}\text{Ar}^{39}\text{Ar}$ eruptive ages for eight of the nine lavas and tephras indicates that Th isotope homogeneity prevailed in each magma at the time of crystallization. Moreover, this implies that post-crystallization residence times for the various mineral phases in the magma must have been very brief (i.e., less than a few thousand years). Rapid decompression and devolatilization may be an effective mechanism that promotes crystallization of Aleutian basalt [36]. Moreover, growth of phenocrysts in a rapidly ascending magma provides a scenario conductive to fractionation of buoyant melt from crystals and strong differentiation en route to the surface. The isochronous relationship between erupted phenocrysts and glass (Figs. 2 and 3) suggests that these crystals grew after differentiation, and perhaps immediately prior to eruption in most cases. In one case, however, the $^{238}\text{U}^{230}\text{Th}$ isochron age of 35.0 $\pm$ 1.0 ka obtained from a 31.7 $\pm$ 1.2 ka rhyolite likely represents a brief ~2–5 kyr period of crystal residence in the magma prior to eruption. Alternatively, the difference between the U–Th isochron and eruptive ages of this particular rhyolite could reflect the presence of older cores, or perhaps mixing of phenocrysts with older crystals derived from either wall rocks or early-formed [20,37]. Both explanations seem improbable because the groundmass and
phenocryst phases are isochronous (Fig. 3), suggesting that bulk crystal–liquid chemical equilibrium prevailed. Furthermore, electron probe microanalyses of numerous magnetite crystals separated from this sample indicate that this phase, which anchors the isochron, is not compositionally zoned.

The only ignimbrite studied (sample SEG 03 44, formed during stratocone collapse) is unusual in three ways: 1) it has a much lower U/Th ratio than any of the lava flows measured, such that its whole-rock composition plots to the left of the equiline (Fig. 3), 2) it contains trace amounts of anhedral, strongly resorbed biotite, suggesting that this magma may have assimilated small amounts of hydrous crust before the caldera-forming eruption, and 3) apatite is a relatively abundant phenocryst in the moderately welded glass shards and occurs as inclusions within the plagioclase and clinopyroxene phenocrysts. If assimilation of crust modified the U/Th ratio of this magma body, it must have occurred before crystallization of the clinopyroxene and magnetite that together with the glass define an isochron. Because the partition coefficient for Th ($D_{\text{Th}}$) in apatite is much greater than that of U ($D_{\text{U}}$) and because the U and Th contents in apatite are much higher than other major igneous minerals [38], apatite fractionation may also partly explain the Th excess found in this ignimbrite.

Magmatic evolution from 142 to 9 ka cannot be the result of fractionation in a single, slowly cooling chamber because the composition of the eruptive products during this period alternated in a non-systematic way over time between basaltic and rhyolitic (Table 2), and the crystal residence times are two orders of magnitude shorter than the 130 kyr period of volcanic activity. We also find it highly unlikely that the monotonic increase in ($^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th}$)$_0$ ratios seen in magmas which share a narrow range of U/Th ratios between 1.6 and 1.8 reflects either the repeated melting of single, aging, U-enriched mantle source, or modification of this source by successive additions of slab fluid (Fig. 7). The former scenario would require melting previously modified mantle on several occasions such that: 1) U was not further fractionated from Th during melting, 2) each melt had the same U/Th ratio, and 3) these melts ascended through >75 km of mantle and crust without modification to the U/Th or ($^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th}$)$_0$ ratios. The latter case would require many discrete additions of slab fluid to the mantle,
such that the melt produced via fluid–rock interaction repeatedly achieved the same U/Th ratio, but at progressively higher \((^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th})_0\) ratios; again each successive partial melt would have to ascend through >75 km of mantle and crust without modification of these ratios, which is unlikely. Instead, it is more plausible to explain the near constant U/Th ratio of the spectrum of erupted magmas and the progressive change in \((^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th})_0\) via intra-crustal processes.

We interpret the monotonic increase in \((^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th})_0\) ratios with time prior to caldera collapse to reflect \(^{230}\text{Th}\) ingrowth in a body of basaltic magma that remained closed with respect to Th and U addition or loss for over 130 kyrs (Fig. 5). Allègre and Condamine [6] proposed a similar model of closed system evolution for Irazu volcano in Costa Rica over a period of 140 kyrs. Based on the data from the 142 ka sample, which has a \((^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th})_0\) ratio of 0.784 (determined from the mineral isochron) and a whole rock \((^{238}\text{U}/^{232}\text{Th})\) ratio of 1.607, 132 kyrs of closed-system \(^{230}\text{Th}\) ingrowth would produce a magma that had a \((^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th})_0\) ratio of 1.36, which is similar to the ratio of 1.33 that was determined for the 9 ka dacitic ignimbrite. Therefore, the hypothesis of radiogenic ingrowth is supported by the \((^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th})_0\) ratios measured for the lavas erupted between 142 and 9 ka (Fig. 5). The abrupt shift in magmatic evolution toward successively lower \((^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th})_0\) ratios beginning immediately after stratocone collapse at ~9 ka seems likely to reflect the influx of magma into the system, which had lower \((^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th})_0\) and \(^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}\) ratios (Figs. 5 and 6), or the mixing of this newly arrived magma with melt that remained in the deep reservoir following caldera formation.

Existence of a deep, closed basaltic reservoir for >100 kyrs that has undergone negligible crystallization would require minimal heat loss to the surrounding rocks during this protracted period of magma storage. Crystallization and cooling of a closed magma chamber can also be inhibited due to heating from successive injections of basaltic sills emplaced beneath the base of the magma reservoir [39], although the Th isotope data would not allow these to mix. The trend in \((^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th})_0\) ratios of Seguam lavas erupted between 142 and 9 ka precludes partial melting of the surrounding crust or mixing between the long-lived reservoir and other batches of magma because these processes would deflect the \((^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th})_0\) ratios off the linear trend. Furthermore, it has been suggested that melting of old lower crust occurs after ~1 myr of sustained basaltic magma input and only then if the crust is hydrous [39]. Thus, assimilation of old crust may be suppressed for basaltic magmas percolating through or residing in the middle to lower crust.

The \((^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th})_0\) ratio of 0.784 for the rhyodacite erupted at 142 ka is lower than \((^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th})_0\) ratios previously measured on historically erupted lavas from this arc [32,33], suggesting that this magma was derived from a compositionally different mantle source than the historic lavas and domes prior to becoming isolated for 130 kyrs. Sigmansson et al. [40] proposed that low \((^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th})_0\) ratios in SVZ lavas were characteristic of an origin from a mantle wedge modified by pelagic and terrigenous sediments. In addition to lowering the \((^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th})_0\) ratio of the sub-arc mantle, sediment input will increase its \(^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}\) composition. The \(^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}\) ratios of Seguam lavas are elevated relative to those of other Aleutian arc volcanoes and are thought to reflect modification of the mantle wedge via enhanced subduction of sediments in the Amlia Fracture Zone [26,41]. The 142 ka rhyodacite has the highest \(^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}\) ratio measured on Seguam (Fig. 6) thereby supporting an origin of the earlier erupted magmas from a strongly sediment-modified mantle wedge.

The post-collapse lavas, which likely bypassed the basaltic melt lens, have \((^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th})_0\) ratios (1.25–1.31) that are similar to other Holocene–historic Aleutian arc lavas [32,33], but much higher than the pre-collapse lavas. If the post-collapse magmas rose directly from the mantle and bypassed the basaltic reservoir as we have suggested, and if the source to surface transit occurred in less than 8000 years, they should exhibit Ra excesses. The Holocene basalt flow analyzed by [32] has a 12% Ra excess, which supports the idea that the post-collapse magmas rose rapidly from a mantle source that has a \((^{230}\text{Th}/^{232}\text{Th})_0\) ratio that is significantly different than the one that produced magma 142 kyrs ago.

We envision that each erupted magma illustrated in Fig. 5 represents a small volume tapped from a stagnant lens of basaltic melt perched within a hot, mainly crystalline mush zone that comprises an interconnected network of sills and dikes that were partly solidified from mantle-derived basalt within the lower to middle
crust (Fig. 8) [39]. Given sufficient flux of mantle-derived magma from below, a deep crustal hot zone can build over periods of $10^3$ to $10^6$ years and take equally long to decay to background geothermal gradients once magma supply has diminished [39]. The longevity of a crystal-poor, thermally-buffered melt lens in the crust is related to the time it takes a magma body to cool ($t_{\text{cool}}$) from its injection temperature to below the liquidus: $t_{\text{cool}} = V \rho C \Delta T / P$ where $V$ is the volume of the magma body, $\rho$ the magma density, $C$ the specific heat capacity, $\Delta T$ the temperature drop, and $P$ is the power output to the surrounding rocks. As an example (Fig. 8), 120 km$^3$ of relatively dry, hot (1300 °C) basalt, ($\rho = 2800$ kg/m$^3$; $C = 1390$ J/kg per K; $P = 15$ MW) immersed within a ~1000 °C crustal mush zone as a ~1 km thick sill that has a 6–7 km radius would require 140 kyrs to cool to a liquidus temperature of 1160 °C.

In addition to the petrologic, isotopic, and thermal constraints on the plumbing system beneath Seguam [14,26–28], InSAR imagery was used to reconstruct surface deformation of the island from 1992 to 2000 [30,31]. The complex syn- and post-eruptive inflation and deflation pattern associated with the 1993 basalt eruption is best explained as a result of transient magma and vapor fluxes into and through a shallow (<7 km deep) plexus of dikes, driven from below by input of basaltic magma residing below 7 km [30]. Although the depth of the basaltic melt lens within the lower crust cannot be precisely determined from the InSAR data [30], it is likely to be perched between 12 and 15 km based on the interpretations of [14] and because it is thermodynamically less feasible at shallower depths. The proposed long-lived basaltic melt lens could be located at the base of the crust, where the temperature contrast between the magma chamber and

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**Fig. 8.** Schematic southwest to northeast cross-section of the plumbing system beneath Seguam Island before caldera collapse at ~9 ka. The bulk composition, thickness, and P-wave velocities of the subvolcanic crust are based on Holbrook et al. [34]. Crustal densities from [14]. Thermodynamic characteristics of the crustal mush zone and basaltic melt described in the text. Depth of the long-lived melt lens is constrained by InSAR and petrologic observations. Crystal fractionation to more evolved magma compositions is likely occurring rapidly in small chambers or conduits in the highly fractured upper crust. After caldera collapse, partial draining of the stagnant melt lens has likely allowed deeper magma to percolate upward throughout the mush column and some may be mixing with residual magma of the melt lens or directly feeding the post-caldera eruptions of basalt and rhyolite.
the surrounding rocks would be much lower, but it is unlikely that the island wide inflation deduced from the InSAR imagery could be caused by a source that is 25 to 30 km below the surface (Fig. 8). Closed-system crystallization and differentiation of the basalt to andesite and rhyolite likely occurs in a nexus of shallow chambers or conduits in the upper crust as a response to rapid decompression, degassing and cooling of parental basalt [14,36] (Fig. 8). The InSAR data suggest the presence of a 5 km³ storage region in the upper crust under the eastern half of the island, which may be where the dacitic ignimbrite-forming magma associated with stratocone collapse and the younger rhyolites were stored briefly prior to eruption. Finally, we would like to note that the U-series results by themselves, do not imply rapid differentiation of magma following isolated storage as melt for tens of kyr. However, our model suggests that once a batch of magma becomes separated from the melt lens and crystal mush zone, it should begin to cool rapidly and differentiate because it is no longer thermally buffered.

6. Conclusions

U–Th isotope data from minerals, glass, and whole-rocks, interpreted in light of 40Ar/39Ar ages, geochemical variations and Sr isotope compositions, indicate that phenocryst assemblages crystallized shortly, ca. 10⁵ yrs, before the eruption of a variety of basaltic to rhyolitic lavas and tuffs during the past 142 ka at Seguam. We infer that this mainly reflects decompression-driven crystallization and differentiation as magmas ascended through the upper crust. Volcano collapse and eruption of a dacitic ignimbrite culminated a 130 kyr period during which the (230Th/232Th)₀ ratios of successively erupted magmas increased in a manner consistent with 230Th ingrowth and while ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr remained constant in an otherwise undisturbed magma reservoir. Suppression of crystallization for 10⁵ years implies minimal heat loss, suggesting either storage in hot wall rocks [39], or heating from deeper magma ponded below, but not in contact with, the stagnant melt. The (230Th/232Th)₀ and ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratios dropped abruptly in the ignimbrite at 9 ka and in subsequent eruptions signaling the ascent of basaltic magma from a source different from that which fed magmas erupted over the preceding 130 kyr.

A >100 kyr period of magma storage is at odds with the widely held view that magma residence times in island arcs are short (~10⁵ years) and that most variation in the transit time between partial melting and eruption originates in the mantle wedge [2–4,18]. The evidence for rapid ascent rates comes mainly from the U–Th–Ra series disequilibria in historical lavas erupted over the brief period encompassing the last few millennia [[1] and references therein, [2,3,10,18,32,33]]. Not all arc lavas exhibit significant ²²⁶Ra excesses [42], thus although magma erupted recently at some volcanoes may have separated and ascended from its source over short time periods, the evidence for rapid ascent at other volcanoes is far less clear. The lone historical lava from Seguam that has been measured indicates a 12% excess of ²²⁶Ra [32]. Thus, were we to have concentrated our investigation on only the most recent eruptions of the last 8 ka, as many U–Th–Ra studies have done, a far different conclusion that all magma ascent at Seguam was rapid may have been reached. Perhaps many of the eruptions in which excess ²²⁶Ra have been found comprise magma that has indeed risen rapidly to replenish crustal reservoir systems as we have suggested for Seguam. Further work is needed to determine whether collapse of the stratocone and ignimbrite formation at 9 ka reflects the influx and mixing of new ²³⁰Th- and ⁸⁷Sr-poor basalt into the base of the long-lived melt lens, an often cited trigger for explosive eruptions [43], or if the eruption itself simply drained away the uppermost portion of the melt lens, permitting upward percolation of new basaltic melt from the mantle during the Holocene. Our results, alongside those from Irazu [6], should encourage further investigation of U–Th isotope disequilibrium at arc volcanoes over the ~200 kyr time period as a means of assessing magma ascent rates, storage times and the mechanisms that promote explosive eruptions.

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Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found in the online version.

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