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# Research Article

# Geodynamic evolution of a forearc rift in the southernmost Mariana Arc

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**Abstract** The southernmost Mariana forearc stretched to accommodate opening of the Mariana Trough backarc basin in late Neogene time, erupting basalts at 3.7–2.7 Ma that are now exposed in the Southeast Mariana Forearc Rift (SEMFR). Today, SEMFR is a broad zone of extension that formed on hydrated, forearc lithosphere and overlies the shallow subducting slab (slab depth  $\leq$  30–50 km). It comprises NW–SE trending subparallel deeps, 3–16 km wide, that can be traced  $\geq -30$  km from the trench almost to the backarc spreading center, the Malaguana-Gadao Ridge (MGR). While forearcs are usually underlain by serpentinized harzburgites too cold to melt, SEMFR crust is mostly composed of Pliocene, low-K basaltic to basaltic andesite lavas that are compositionally similar to arc lavas and backarc basin (BAB) lavas, and thus defines a forearc region that recently witnessed abundant igneous activity in the form of seafloor spreading. SEMFR igneous rocks have low Na<sub>8</sub>, Ti<sub>8</sub>, and Fe<sub>8</sub>, consistent with extensive melting, at  $-23 \pm 6.6$  km depth and  $1239 \pm 40^{\circ}$ C, by adiabatic decompression of depleted asthenospheric mantle metasomatized by slab-derived fluids. Stretching of pre-existing forearc lithosphere allowed BABlike mantle to flow along the SEMFR and melt, forming new oceanic crust. Melts interacted with pre-existing forearc lithosphere during ascent. The SEMFR is no longer magmatically active and post-magmatic tectonic activity dominates the rift.

Key words: forearc rift, Mariana arc, seafloor spreading, subduction zone.

#### INTRODUCTION

Forearcs are cold regions above subduction zones that lie between the trench and the magmatic arc. They can be accretionary or non-accretionary depending on the amount of sediment carried into the trench (Lallemand 2001; Stern 2002).

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Non-accretionary forearcs, such as that of the Marianas, are of special interest as they preserve a record of the first lavas that erupted in association with subduction initiation (Stern & Bloomer 1992; Reagan *et al.* 2010; Ishizuka *et al.* 2011). Forearc lithosphere is underlain by the cold, subducting plate that releases its hydrous fluids into the upper mantle wedge, resulting in exceptionally cold (<400°C; Hulme *et al.* 2010) and serpentinized

mantle lithosphere that rarely melts (Van Keken et al. 2002; Hyndman & Peacock 2003; Wada et al. 2011). The occurrence of cold, serpentinized forearc mantle beneath the Mariana forearc is demonstrated by eruption of serpentinite mud volcanoes (Mottl et al. 2004; Savov et al. 2005, 2007; Wheat et al. 2008; Hulme et al. 2010) and serpentinized peridotite outcrops on the inner trench slope (Bloomer & Hawkins 1983; Ohara & Ishii 1998). Serpentinized mantle beneath the forearc has also been imaged by geophysical surveys (Tibi et al. 2008). Ultramafic rocks from the upper mantle wedge found as clasts in mud volcanoes and on the inner trench slope mostly consist of harzburgite, residues of mantle melting (Parkinson & Pearce 1998; Savov et al. 2005, 2007) that are chemically distinct from the more fertile, backarc basin (BAB) peridotites (Ohara et al. 2002). Such highly depleted, forearc mantle can melt in association with early-arc volcanism to generate boninites (Stern & Bloomer 1992; Reagan et al. 2010). Decompression melting of more fertile mantle to form tholeiitic basalts near the trench also has been documented during the first stage of subduction initiation. These lavas have mid ocean ridge basalt (MORB)-like compositions and have been termed forearc basalts (FABs) reflecting their subduction-related origin and location in modern forearcs (Reagan et al. 2010).

In the Izu-Bonin-Mariana (IBM) intraoceanic system, most forearc lavas are Eocene–Oligocene in age, and younger forearc lavas are unusual (Stern & Bloomer 1992; Reagan et al. 2010; Ishizuka et al. 2011). Here, we document the first record of Pliocene forearc lavas from the southernmost Mariana convergent margin, indicating that the mantle can melt beneath forearcs long after subduction initiation. These low-K lavas are tholeiitic basalts generated from BAB-like asthenospheric mantle during seafloor spreading in the Southeast Mariana Forearc Rift (SEMFR), which is a broad zone of deformation (~40 km wide and ~60 km long), extending from the trench to the Fina-Nagu arc Volcanic Chain (FNVC). The SEMFR today overlies a shallow subducting Pacific slab ( $\leq$ 50–100 km deep; Becker 2005).

This paper presents a first report on the geology and tectonic evolution of the SEMFR. We present bathymetry, summarize the results of bottom traverses, and provide petrologic, major element geochemical data, and <sup>40</sup>Ar/<sup>39</sup>Ar ages of igneous rocks sampled during two JAMSTEC research cruises. These data are used to characterize SEMFR lavas, to address when, where, and how

SEMFR lavas were generated, and to determine sources of the magmas, and conditions of melting. Addressing these issues helps us better understand how such melts were produced in a cold forearc, and allows us to develop a geodynamic model to constrain the geodynamic evolution of the S. Mariana forearc. In this manuscript, we show that SEMFR lavas have BAB-like geochemical and petrographic features, and opening of the Southernmost Mariana Trough allowed adiabatic decompression melting of BAB-like asthenospheric mantle in the forearc to produce SEMFR lavas at 3.7–2.7 Ma.

# **GEODYNAMIC SETTING**

The Mariana intraoceanic arc system is the southern third of the IBM convergent margin. It is generally associated with a sediment-starved forearc ~200 km wide (Fryer *et al.* 2003; Kato *et al.* 2003), submarine and subaerial volcanoes of the active magmatic arc (Baker *et al.* 2008), and a BAB with a spreading axis that generally lies ~250–300 km from the trench (Stern *et al.* 2003). Mariana geodynamic evolution was influenced by collisions with buoyant oceanic plateaus (Ogasawara Plateau in the north and Caroline Ridge in the south). These resisted subduction, stimulating backarc extension to open the Mariana Trough between the collisions (Wallace *et al.* 2005).

The IBM mostly trends N–S but the southernmost Mariana convergent margin (13°10'N–11°N) bends to E–W (Fig. 1a; Bird 2003). This region is deforming rapidly (Martinez et al. 2000; Kato et al. 2003), accompanied by abundant igneous activity. Here, the Mariana Trench reaches the deepest point on Earth at the Challenger Deep (10994 m; Gardner & Armstrong 2011), and the Pacific-Philippine Sea plate convergence is approximately orthogonal to the trench (Fig. 1a.b; Bird 2003). The tectonic evolution of the southernmost Mariana arc began with the Late Miocene collision of the Caroline Ridge, which pinned the Yap arc and allowed the southern Mariana Trough to open, sculpting the southern termination of the arc (Miller et al. 2006b). The southernmost Mariana magmatic arc is poorly developed and entirely submarine, contrasting with the large, often subaerial, arc volcanoes to the north. The arc magmatic front almost intersects the southern end of the BAB spreading center south of 13°N (Fig. 1b; Fryer et al. 2003). These features are about 100–150 km from the trench, whereas to the north the BAB





spreading axis lies ~250-300 km from the trench and is separated from the magmatic arc by 50–100 km (Fryer et al. 1998; Stern et al. 2003). The magmatic arc appears to have been reorganized recently, as evidenced by a complex bathymetric high with multiple nested calderas - an inferred paleo-arc (the Fina-Nagu Volcanic Chain in Fig. 1b) where no hydrothermal activity was observed (Baker et al. 2008) and calderas are covered with sediments (Fig. 1c) - SE of and parallel to the modern magmatic arc (e.g. Toto caldera). The southern Mariana Trough has a welldefined spreading ridge, the Malaguana-Gadao Ridge (MGR), with a well-developed magma chamber and several hydrothermal vents (Baker et al. 2008; Kakegawa et al. 2008; Becker et al. 2010). Because the subducted Pacific plate lies ~100 km beneath it, the MGR melt source region captures hydrous fluids usually released beneath arc volcanoes, enhancing mantle melting and resulting in an inflated ridge morphology that is unusually robust for the Mariana Trough backarc basin, in spite of an intermediate spreading rate (<65 mm/yr; Fryer et al. 1998; Martinez et al. 2000; Becker et al. 2010). More rapid extension along the MGR might also enhance decompression melting (Becker et al. 2010).

The southernmost Mariana convergent margin is underthrust by a narrow slab of Pacific plate (traceable to ~250 km depth; Gvirtzman & Stern 2004), torn N-S at ~144°15'E (Fryer et al. 1998; Gvirtzman & Stern 2004). Analogue experiments show that short, narrow subducted slabs trigger toroidal (around the slab edge) and poloidal (underneath the slab tip) asthenospheric mantle flows that generate rapid slab rollback and trench retreat relative to the upper plate (Funiciello et al. 2003, 2006; Schellart et al. 2007). These conditions lead to weak coupling of the subducting plate with the overriding plate, stimulating rapid deformation of the overriding plate (i.e., the southern Mariana Trough) and may be responsible for the very narrow forearc that defines the southern Mariana margin west of the W. Santa Rosa Bank Fault (Fig. 1b, Gvirtzman & Stern 2004). The unusual tectonic situation of the southernmost Mariana convergent margin has also affected magmagenesis. Sub-forearc mantle usually is too cold to melt (Van Keken et al. 2002; Wada et al. 2011), so that slab-derived fluids only lead to serpentinization (Hyndman & Peacock 2003). Instead, the dynamic tectonic setting of the southern Marianas results in mantle melting much closer to the trench than is normally observed.

# GEOLOGY AND MORPHOLOGY OF THE SOUTHEAST MARIANA FOREARC RIFT

Most of the IBM convergent margin is underlain by lithosphere that formed after subduction began ~52 Ma (Reagan et al. 2010; Ishizuka et al. 2011). In the southernmost Marianas, Eocene forearc lithosphere was stretched in late Neogene time to accommodate the opening of the Mariana Trough BAB; part of this extension is localized along the SEMFR (Martinez & Stern 2009). The morphological expression of the SEMFR is apparent over a region ~40 km wide and at least 60 km long (Supporting Information Table S1.2). The SEMFR is composed of broad southeast-trending deeps and ridges (Fig. 1b), each 50 to 60 km long and 3 to 16 km wide, which opened nearly parallel to the trench axis. These rifts can be traced from the Mariana Trench almost to the FNVC (Fig. S1.1 in Supporting Information S1). Eastward, the SEMFR is bounded by a N-S fault, the W. Santa Rosa Bank Fault (WSRBF, Fig. 1b; Fryer et al. 2003), which separates thick crust of the broad Eocene forearc to the north and east (including that beneath Santa Rosa Bank) from the deeper and narrower forearc of the S. Marianas - including the SEMFR - to the west. The WSRBF also appears to overlie a tear in the subducted slab (Fryer et al. 2003; Gvirtzman & Stern 2004). The WSRBF is taken to be the eastern boundary of the SEMFR because it does not have the same NNE-SSW trend as the three SEMFR deeps (Fig. 1b), and the forearc is significantly older to the east (Reagan et al. 2010). The SEMFR overlies the shallow part of the slab  $(\leq 30-100 \text{ km deep, Becker 2005})$  and is situated in a region with numerous shallow (crustal) earthquakes, (Martinez & Stern 2009) signifying active deformation.

We studied the SEMFR by interpreting swathmapped bathymetry and previously published HMR-1 sonar backscatter imagery (Martinez *et al.* 2000). The region is characterized by high sonar backscatter, indicating little sedimentary cover (Fig. 1c). This was confirmed by Shinkai 6500 manned submersible and YKDT deep-tow camera/dredge seafloor studies. Table S1.1 in Supporting Information S1 summarizes the position and lithologies encountered during these dives (Fig. 1b). Most dives recovered basalt. In addition, deeper crustal and upper mantle lithologies, e.g. diabase, fine-grained gabbros and deformed peridotites, were recovered near the WSRBF (Supporting Information Figs S1.7 and

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Fig. 2 Typical bottom profiles of SEMFR encountered during seafloor traverses. (a) near the trench axis (Shinkai 6500 dive 1230) and (b) near the Fina–Nagu Volcanic Chain (FNVC; YKDT-87). Near the trench, SEMFR flanks are dominated by steep talus slopes of lava fragments with few exposures of tilted and faulted lava flows. Talus and outcrops are covered by thin pelagic sediment. Near the FNVC, SEMFR relief is smoother with better-preserved pillow lava outcrops covered by thin sediment. Photographs of the typical seafloor observed near the trench (c, d) and near the FNVC (e). Black star in (b) shows the beginning of YKDT deep-tow camera dredging.

S1.8). Similar lithologies are also reported by previous studies of the area (Bloomer & Hawkins 1983, Fryer, 1993, Michibayashi et al. 2009; Sato & Ishii 2011). Based on relief, the SEMFR can be subdivided along strike into NW, central, and SE sectors. The SEMFR relief is most rugged in the SE sector near the trench, where it is intensely faulted and affected by landsliding, with abundant talus slopes of fragmented basaltic lavas (Fig. 2a,c,d and Figs S1.5 to S1.8 in Supporting Information). The central SEMFR is less faulted, with more outcrops and less talus, but still has many steep talus slopes and faulted lava flows (Figs S1.9-S1.10 in Supporting Information). The NW SEMFR, nearest the MGR, has gentler relief, with better-preserved pillow lava outcrops (Fig. 2b,e and Figs S1.11-S1.13 in Supporting Information). We did not recover samples of Paleogene forearc crust in the SEMFR, although this is common to the NE and west, indicating that SEMFR is floored by young, tectonized oceanic crust. Our bottom observations along with the absence of parallel magnetic fabrics in the SEMFR (Martinez *et al.* 2000) suggest that the SEMFR is no longer a site of active volcanism.

Toto caldera and part of the MGR near the NW limit of the SEMFR were studied during ROV Kaiko Dives 163 and 164 (R/V Kairei cruise KR00-03 Leg 2, Fig. 1b). Toto caldera, which may be part of the immature magmatic arc, is mostly covered by talus of fresh lava fragments with a whitish coating, perhaps bacteria or sulfur-rich precipitate (Supporting Information Fig. S1.14), derived from the active Nakayama hydrothermal site (Gamo *et al.* 2004; Kakegawa *et al.* 2008). The MGR seafloor is mostly composed of fresh, wellpreserved pillow lavas alternating with aa and

solidified lava lake (Becker *et al.* 2010), along with active hydrothermal vents (Supporting Information Fig. S1.15) indicating ongoing magmatic activity. Figure 1c shows high sonar backscatter for Toto caldera and around the MGR, indicating hard rock (fresh lava) exposures and thin sediments, consistent with seafloor seen in dive videos.

# METHODS

Igneous rock samples were collected during two cruises YK08-08 Leg 2 (Shinkai 6500 manned submersible dive 1096) in 2008 and YK10-12 (Shinkai 6500 dives 1230, 1235 and Yokosuka deep-tow camera dredge (YKDT) 85, 86, and 88) in 2010. Representative, fresh samples were selected onboard for petrographic and geochemical studies. Information from Kaiko ROV dives 163 and 164(R/V Kairei cruise KR00-03 Leg 2 in 2000) is also included. High-resolution videos of the seafloor generated during dives were reviewed during and after the cruises (see Supporting Information S1 for more details). GMT (Smith & Wessel 1990; Wessel & Smith 1995a,b, 1998) was used to compile SEMFR bathymetric data, including swathmapping results from these cruises and those of Gardner (2006), Gardner (2007), and Gardner (2010). Maps were imported into ArcGIS to generate bathymetric cross sections perpendicular to the strike of the SEMFR (Fig. S1.1 in Supporting Information).

Igneous rock samples were analyzed, using the procedures reported in Supporting Information S2. For major element analyses, fresh sample chips containing as few phenocrysts as possible were hand-picked and powdered in an alumina ball mill. Whole rock chemical analyses for Shinkai dive 1096 samples were carried out on Philips PW1404 X-ray fluorescence (XRF) spectrometer at the Geological Survey of Japan/AIST. External errors and accuracy are < 2%. Whole rock chemical analyses for other samples were performed at the University of Rhode Island by fusiondissolution of glass beads; and analyses were conducted using an Ultima-C Jobin Yvon Horiba Inductively Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectroscopy (ICP-AES) at Boston University. Glass beads were generated by melting  $400 \pm 5 \text{ mg}$  of lithium metaborate (LiBO<sub>4</sub>) flux with  $100 \pm 5 \,\mathrm{mg}$  of ignited sample powder at 1050°C for 10 min. Molten beads were dissolved in

5% nitric acid to achieve a final dilution factor of ~4000 (Kelley *et al.* 2003). Calibration curves for ICP–AES data yield  $r^2 \ge 0.999$ , reproducibility of replicate analyses are  $\le 3\%$  rsd for each element, and major element oxides sum to  $99 \pm 1$  wt%. Replicates of samples analyzed by ICP–AES and XRF yield averaged reproducibility < 4% rsd for each element. Results are reported in Table 1.

For mineralogical chemistry analyses, polished thin sections were prepared for 16 samples. These were analyzed using the Cameca SX-50 electron microprobe at University of Texas at El Paso. Multiple point analyses give a mean value with  $1\sigma$ precision  $\leq 1 \text{ wt\%}$  for each selected mineral.

Four samples were dated by step-heating <sup>40</sup>Ar– <sup>39</sup>Ar at the Geological Survey of Japan/AIST on a VG Isotech VG3600 noble gas mass spectrometer fitted with a BALZERS electron multiplier. Further details of procedures are reported in Supporting Information S2.

# RESULTS

## ROCK DESCRIPTION

Here we outline the principal petrographic and mineralogical features of igneous rocks sampled from the SEMFR, Toto caldera, and MGR. The method for sample description is reported in Supporting Information S3 and detailed sample descriptions are provided in Supporting Information S4. The SEMFR lavas are mostly aphyric (<1% phenocrysts) and sparsely phyric (1–5%) phenocrysts) basalts and basaltic andesites, indicating eruption at near-liquidus temperatures. These are microporphyritic pillows or massive flows, with thin, microcrystallite-rich glassy rims (1-11 mm of fresh, translucent to dark brown glass), thin ( $\leq 1$  mm) Mn coat, and negligible alteration (Fig. 3). Pillow lavas are vesicular despite being collected at ~6000-3000 m, indicating that these magmas contained significant volatiles. In contrast, basaltic massive lava flows are more crystalline and less vesicular. Embayed phenocrysts indicate disequilibrium, perhaps due to magma mixing. Pillowed lavas sampled in the NW (YKDT-88) contain larger crystals ( $\geq 0.5$  mm) of clinopyroxene and olivine set in a finely microcrystalline olivine-rich groundmass (Fig. 3c). Similar olivine-rich lavas were not sampled elsewhere in the SEMFR. Diabase and fine-grained gabbros were also recovered near the WSRB fault (Shinkai

Sample No. IGSN	1096-R2* SEMFR JMR000011	1096-R3 SEMFR JMR000012	1096-R4 SEMFR JMR000013	1096-R7 SEMFR JMR000016	1096-R8 SEMFR JMR000017	1096-R11 SEMFR JMR00001A	1096-R12 SEMFR JMR00001B	1096-R15 SEMFR JMR00001D	1096-R16 SEMFR JMR00001E	1096-R17 SEMFR JMR00001F	1096-R19 SEMFR JMR00001H	1096-R20 SEMFR JMR00001I	1096-R21 SEMFR JMR00001J
Method Sample description	- Pillow	XRF pillow	XRF pillow	XRF pillow	XRF pillow	XRF pillow	XRF Pillow	XRF pillowed	XRF Pillowed	XRF pillowed	XRF pillowed	XRF pillowed	XRF pillowed
	Lava	basalt	basalt	basalt	basalt	basalt	basalt	ol basalt	ol basalt	ol basalt	ol basalt	ol basalt	ol basalt
Si02		52.50	52.73	52.60	52.58	52.57	52.45	50.56	50.52	50.69	50.04	50.77	50.64
Ti02	I	0.97	0.98	0.97	0.96	1.01	0.96	0.69	0.67	0.66	0.65	0.69	0.67
Al203	I	16.34	16.64	16.55	16.36	16.31	16.60	16.28	15.94	16.29	16.12	16.35	16.01
FeO	I	8.73	8.38	8.44	8.64	8.75	8.65	7.47	7.47	7.25	7.29	7.19	7.51
MnO	I	0.16	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.13
MgO	I	5.00	4.78	4.74	4.95	4.92	4.88	7.35	8.08	7.79	8.14	7.19	8.00
CaO	I	9.60	9.69	9.71	9.56	9.36	9.76	12.81	13.09	13.36	13.45	13.06	12.95
Na20	I	3.31	3.33	3.30	3.28	3.30	3.33	2.27	2.14	2.14	2.14	2.29	2.18
K20	I	0.53	0.56	0.57	0.55	0.57	0.52	0.36	0.25	0.27	0.20	0.23	0.26
P205	I	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.12	0.11	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.07
total	I	98.22	98.27	98.06	98.09	98.04	98.37	98.82	99.20	99.46	99.03	98.77	99.26
%L0I													
Mg#	I	50.52	50.42	50.05	50.56	50.04	50.14	63.68	65.85	65.70	66.55	64.06	65.50
Na8								2.09	2.16	2.09	2.16	2.05	2.20
Ti8								0.62	0.67	0.64	0.66	0.60	0.67
Fe8								6.62	7.53	7.00	7.37	6.09	7.56
40Ar-39Ar ages (Ma)	$3.5\pm0.4$								$3.7\pm0.3$				
T(°C)								1246	1245	1236	1240	1235	1246
P(GPa)								0.77	0.73	0.69	0.73	0.68	0.74
Sample No.	1096-R22	1096-R23 GEMED	1096-R28 STATED	1096-R8	1096-R21	1230-R2 GEMED	1230-R8 GEMED	1230-R10	1230-R11 SEATED	1230-R14 STMED	1230-R21 STATED	1230-R22 GENED	1230-R25 GENTED
IGSN	JMR00001K	JMR00001L	JMR00001N	JMR000017	JMR00001J	JMR000010	JMR00001T	JMR00001U	JMR00001V	JMR00001W	JMR00020	JMR000021	JMR00023
Method Sample description	XRF pillowed	XRF pillowed	XRF pillowed	ICP-AES pillow	ICP-AES pillowed	ICP-AES pillowed	ICP-AES vesicular	ICP-AES subaphyric	ICP-AES aphyric	ICP-AES aphyric	ICP-AES basaltic	ICP-AES basaltic	ICP-AES pillowed
	ol basalt	ol basalt	ol basalt	basalt	ol basalt	ol basalt	basalt	basalt	basalt	basalt	lava flow	lava flow	pl basalt
Si02	50.74	50.74	50.62	53.57	51.26	51.53	52.78	52.55	52.65	52.81	51.56	54.13	51.93
Ti02	0.67	0.74	0.65	0.94	0.65	0.85	1.40	1.12	0.99	0.94	0.86	1.03	1.04
Al203	16.20	16.35	15.86	16.84	16.57	17.06	16.53	16.74	17.31	17.32	17.08	16.88	17.11
FeO	7.43	8.10	7.40	8.67	7.16	8.01	9.92	8.92	8.71	7.96	7.55	8.10	8.17
MnO	0.12	0.16	0.13	0.15	0.13	0.14	0.14	0.12	0.15	0.14	0.10	0.12	0.14
MgO	7.21	7.23	8.36	5.06	8.08	6.34	3.87	5.46	5.73	6.00	6.27	5.28	5.82
CaO	13.24	12.43	13.04	9.30 ? ? ?	12.96	11.21	88.83 1	$9.86_{}$	10.12	11.23	11.74	9.86	10.84
Na20	2.19	2.33	2.12	3.07	2.17	2.56	3.79	3.02	3.12	2.92	3.06	3.33	3.20

Table 1Major (wt%) element compositions of SE Mariana Forearc Rift (SEMFR) lavas

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	2										
Sample No.	86-R20 SEMFR	86-R21 SEMFR	88-R1 SEMFR	88-R2 SEMFR	MEAN SEMFR	STD. DEV.	163-1-3R Toto caldera	163-3-4R Toto caldera	164-1R MGR	164-3R MGR	164-4R MGR
IGSN	JMR00002Z	JMR000030	JMR000032	JMR000033			JMR000038	JMR00003B	JMR000034	JMR000036	JMR000037
Method Sample description	ICP-AES cobble /	ICP-AES cobble /	ICP-AES pillowed	ICP-AES pillowed			ICP-AES pillow	ICP-AES pillow	ICP-AES pillow	ICP-AES pillow	ICP-AES pillow
	pl basalt	pl basalt	ol-cpx basalt	ol-cpx basalt			lava	lava	lava	lava	lava
Si02	51.84	52.77	50.21	50.58	51.73	1.30	54.23	54.02	60.68	57.92	57.19
Ti02	0.86	1.09	0.36	0.36	0.88	0.22	0.96	0.97	1.14	1.31	1.30
Al203	17.32	16.92	16.16	15.92	16.66	0.57	16.16	16.60	15.42	15.84	16.13
FeO	7.81	9.24	6.96	6.81	8.04	0.78	8.78	8.62	7.97	9.12	8.90
MnO	0.14	0.16	0.13	0.13	0.14	0.01	0.14	0.15	0.17	0.17	0.17
MgO	6.55	5.17	9.90	10.17	6.53	1.46	5.39	5.42	2.17	3.27	3.20
CaO	11.62	9.86	14.19	14.22	11.17	1.84	9.58	9.49	5.48	6.77	6.72
Na20	2.74	3.22	1.17	1.10	2.93	0.87	2.83	2.50	4.64	3.99	3.99
K20	0.44	0.67	0.13	0.15	0.36	0.18	0.27	0.40	0.41	0.34	0.33
P205	0.10	0.14	0.03	0.03	0.10	0.03	0.12	0.13	0.28	0.24	0.23
total	99.41	99.23	99.24	99.46	98.84	0.54	98.46	98.30	98.36	98.97	98.18
%L0I	0.56%	1.42%	0.59%	0.51%	1.42%	0.95%	0.09%	0.81%	1.66%	1.72%	1.69%
Mg#	59.94	49.95	71.74	72.73	58.50	7.42	52.27	52.92	32.68	38.98	39.10
Na8			1.18	1.10	1.99	0.40					
Tis			0.36	0.36	0.60	0.11					
Fe8			7.01	6.84	6.91	0.54					
40Ar-39Ar ages (Ma)				$2.7\pm0.3$							
T(°C)			1225	1217	1238.76	14.01					
P(GPa)			0.51	0.45	0.70	0.11					
Mg# [=atomic (Mg <sup>2+ *</sup> 1 (1987) for Na <sub>8</sub> and Fe <sub>8</sub> , and	00)/(Mg <sup>2+</sup> + Fe <sup>2+</sup> )] wa Taylor and Martinez	as calculated assumi z (2003) for Ti <sub>8</sub> . See	ng all the iron is Fe <sup>2+</sup> text for details. SamJ	<sup>+</sup> on anhydrous basis. ple numbers with * h	Primitive sample nave no major ele	ss with 7 wt% ≤ ment data repo	MgO < 8 wt% were rted; minor element	corrected on anhydr data will be reporte	ous basis by using t d elsewhere. Fg, fin	he equations of Kleii grained; ol, olivine	1 and Langmuir 7 pl, plagioclase;
cpx, cunopyroxene											

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**Fig. 3** Photomicrographs of SEMFR lavas and fine gabbro. (a) Typical microporphyritic olivine – clinopyroxene basalt (sample 1230-R2) with microlitic groundmass and microphenocrysts of plagioclase (pl) and clinopyroxene (cpx). (b) Fine-grained diabase xenolith (sample 1235-R12) hosted by microcrystalline basalt (finer grained part to left). The diabase contains Mg-rich olivine ( $F_{0.89}$ ), Mg-rich clinopyroxene (Mg#  $\ge$  80) and normally zoned Ca-rich plagioclase ( $\ge$ 0.1 mm). In contrast, the basaltic host is more fractionated, with Fe-rich olivine ( $F_{0.85-86}$ ) and Mg-rich clinopyroxene microphenocrysts ( $\ge$ 0.1 mm). Clinopyroxene in the groundmass (< 0.1 mm) are Mg-poor and coexist with Ca-poor plagioclase microlites. Clinopyroxenes in the diabase exhibit oscillatory and reverse zoning. The boundary between the two textural realms is straight, suggesting that basalt magma picked up solidified diabase. See Supporting Information S4 for more details. (c) Olivine–clinopyroxene basalt from YKDT-88 containing large olivine xenocrysts surrounded by olivine-rich groundmass. (d) Photomicrograph of cryptocrystalline plagioclase basalt from Shinkai dive 1235 (sample 1235-R8) hosting an amphibole gabbro xenolith (chl, chlorite; amph, amphibole). The contact between gabbro and basalt is an irregular chilled margin, suggesting that the basalt, ice) Photomicrograph of plagioclase (pl) xenocryst observed in the Shinkai dive 1230 (sample 1230-R17). The core of the plagioclase is well-preserved and exhibits An<sub>91-92</sub> content. The mantle exhibits An<sub>90-89</sub> and is mostly resorbed (sieve-texture) due to the interaction plagioclase-melt. The rim is well-preserved and is An<sub>83-88</sub>. Plagioclase microlites have lower An content (An < 80%). Larger, Mg-rich clinopyroxenes (cpx) occur near the An-rich plagioclase xenocrysts (Mg# = 86–88), while the clinopyroxenes microlites exhibit higher range in Mg# (74–88). Such An-rich plagioclases are observed in the arc crust. See Supporting Information S4 for details.

6500 dive 1235; Fig. 3b,d). These might represent the lower crust of the SEMFR (dike complex and gabbro layer).

Pillow lavas from the MGR are very fresh, with translucent glassy rinds. Lavas are vesicular,

cryptocrystalline andesites with a glassy groundmass and <1% plagioclase microlites. Lava flows from the Toto caldera are vesicular, sparsely phyric to aphyric, fine-grained to cryptocrystalline basaltic andesites.

#### MAJOR ELEMENT AND MINERAL COMPOSITIONS

The SEMFR lavas are fresh basalts and basaltic and esites, with 50.4 to 57.0 wt%  $SiO_2$  (data reported are adjusted to 100% total on an anhydrous basis, Fig. 4a). In terms of normative compositions, all lavas are quartz tholeiites. These define a low-K to medium-K suite, with  $K_2O < 1$  wt%. Lava compositions cluster along the tholeiitic-calc-alkaline boundary on a plot of FeO\*/ MgO vs. SiO<sub>2</sub> (Fig. 4b; Miyashiro 1974), or along the medium-Fe/low-Fe boundary (Arculus 2003). Lavas recovered during Shinkai 6500 dive 1096 and 1230 and YKDT-86 and -88 are relatively primitive, with whole rock Mg# (= atomic Mg \* 100/(Mg + Fe)) > 60, Fig. 4c). Other SEMFR samples are significantly more fractionated, with Mg# = 41-60. Composition of SEMFR lavas is reported in Table 1. The MGR and Toto caldera lavas are mostly and esites (SiO<sub>2</sub> = 55.1-61.7 wt%, with  $K_2O < 0.5$  wt% and Mg# = 33-53). None of the studied lavas are boninitic (MgO > 8 wt%),  $SiO_2 > 52$  wt%,  $TiO_2 < 0.5$  wt%; Le Bas 2000). Toto caldera lavas plot within the compositional field of southernmost Mariana volcanic arc lavas (SMA: 13°10'N-11°N, Kakegawa et al. 2008; Stern et al. 2013), suggesting that the Toto caldera belongs to the S. Mariana arc volcanoes (SMA). Toto caldera samples also cluster along the tholeiiticcalc-alkaline boundary. In contrast, MGR lavas are tholeiitic (medium-Fe to high-Fe) basaltic andesites and andesites (Kakegawa et al. 2008; Pearce et al. 2005; Fig. 4a,b). The Fe enrichment of the MGR lavas (Fig. 4b) suggests that their parental magmas contain less water, inhibiting early crystallization of Fe-oxides. In Figure 4a, MGR lavas do not plot along the SEMFR fractionation trend, and their similar  $K_2O$  content suggests that MGR and SEMFR lavas interacted with similar arc-like slab-derived fluids. FABs (Reagan et al. 2010) are low-K to medium-K basalt to basaltic andesites that plot within the tholeiitic and calc-alkaline fields (Fig. 4b,c); and the SEMFR plots along the FAB fractional trend (Fig. 4c,d). All lavas from the southernmost Marianas suggest fractionation controlled by plagioclase, clinopyroxene  $\pm$  olivine crystallization trend (Fig. 4c.f).

The SEMFR basalts and basaltic andesites contain olivine, clinopyroxene, and plagioclase. Results for representative mineral composition are listed in Supporting Information Tables S4.1 to S4.4 and summarized in Table 2. Mineral compositions correlate with whole rock chemical compositions (Fig. 5a,b and Supporting Information S5). Near-primitive (Mg# > 60), olivine-rich SEMFR lavas (Shinkai dive 1096, upper series and YKDT-88) contain Mg-rich olivines (Fo<sub>86-88</sub>) in equilibrium with Mg-rich clinopyroxene (Mg# = 83-91) and anorthitic plagioclase (An  $\geq 80$ ). In contrast, fractionated (Mg#  $\leq 60$ ) lavas have Fe-rich olivine (Fo<sub>75-84</sub>) coexisting with two kinds of clinopyroxene (endiopside–diopside with  $Mg# \ge 80$  and augite with Mg# < 80) and plagioclase (An  $\ge 80$  and An < 80). Reverse and oscillatory zoning is only observed in more fractionated plagioclase (An < 80 in the core), suggesting magma mixing perhaps in a magmatic reservoir. Fine-grained gabbro and diabase have Mg-rich clinopyroxenes (Mg $\# \ge 60$ ) coexisting with more albitic plagioclase (An  $\leq$  70). The mineral composition of the Toto caldera lavas and MGR lavas are within the compositional range of SEMFR lavas. Occurrence of two mineral compositional groups in Toto and MGR lavas, without significant compositional overlap, strongly suggests magma mixing (Supporting Information S4.2 and Fig. S4.1).

Olivine xenocrysts ( $\geq 0.5$  mm) enclosing chromium spinel are common in primitive lavas (Figs 3c,5e). Olivine xenocrysts have higher Fo contents (Fo<sub>89-92</sub> core and Fo<sub>87-97</sub> rim) than do the olivine phenocrysts (Fo<sub>86-88</sub>, Table S4.3 and Fig. S4.1 in Supporting Information) in their host basalts. Olivine xenocrysts host chromium spinel with Cr# (= 100 × Cr/(Cr + Al)) = 47–73. The olivine–spinel assemblages plot in the mantle array of Arai (1994) and they are similar to those of the SE Mariana forearc mantle peridotite (Cr# > 50 and Fo<sub>90-92</sub>, Ohara & Ishii 1998), suggesting that these xenocrysts are samples of forearc mantle (Fig. 5c).

#### 40AR-39AR AGES

Four SEMFR samples (two samples from Shinkai 6500 dive 1096, one sample each from Shinkai 6500 dive 1230 and YKDT-88) were dated by step-heating  ${}^{40}\text{Ar}-{}^{39}\text{Ar}$  (Fig. 6 and Table 1). Initial  ${}^{40}\text{Ar}-{}^{36}\text{Ar}$  for these samples (290–295) is nearly atmospheric ( ${}^{40}\text{Ar}-{}^{36}\text{Ar}$  atmosphere = 298.6), indicating that negligible radiogenic  ${}^{40}\text{Ar}$  was inherited. Dated samples from dive 1096 samples include one from each of the lower (1096-R2) and upper series (1096-R16) lavas. These gave indistinguishable plateau ages of  $3.5 \pm 0.4$  Ma (lower series 1096-R2) and  $3.7 \pm 0.3$  Ma (upper series 1096-R16). Shinkai dive 1230 and YKDT-88 gave slightly younger ages, respectively of  $2.8 \pm 0.5$  Ma and



**Fig. 4** Major element compositional characteristics of SEMFR, MGR, Eocene forearc basalts (FABs; Reagan *et al.* 2010), S. Mariana Arc lavas (SMArc: 13°10'N–11°N) which include Toto caldera lavas. All data recalculated to 100% anhydrous. (a) Potash-silica diagram (Peccerillo & Taylor 1976), showing that SEMFR lavas are low-K basalts to medium-K basaltic andesites. The grey field represents Mariana Trough BAB lavas (Hawkins *et al.* 1990; Gribble *et al.* 1996; Pearce *et al.* 2005; Kelley & Cottrell 2009) and the hatched field represents Mariana Arc lavas (Pearce *et al.* 2005; Wade *et al.* 2005; Stern *et al.* 2006; Shaw *et al.* 2008; Kelley & Cottrell 2009) and the hatched field represents Mariana Arc lavas (Pearce *et al.* 2005; Wade *et al.* 2005; Stern *et al.* 2006; Shaw *et al.* 2008; Kelley & Cottrell 2009; Kelley *et al.* 2010). The small grey triangles are Malaguana–Gadao Ridge (MGR) data from Kakegawa *et al.* (2008) and Pearce *et al.* (2005). The small black triangles are data from SMA volcanoes (Kakegawa *et al.* 2008; Stern *et al.* 2013). Larger grey triangles denote MGR and larger black triangles denote Toto samples reported in this manuscript. The field for boninites is from Reagan *et al.* (2010). Note that SEMFR lavas mostly plot in field of Mariana Trough BAB lavas. (b) Fe0\*/Mg0 vs Si0<sub>2</sub> diagram for medium-Fe, medium-Fe, high-Fe discrimination (Arculus 2003); green line discriminates between tholeiitic and calk-alkaline lavas (Miyashiro 1974). (c) Mg# vs SiO<sub>2</sub> and (d) CaO, (e) Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, (f) FeO\* plotted against MgO for SEMFR, MGR, and Toto caldera. When plagioclase starts crystallizing, it produces a hinge in the liquid line of descent (LLD) of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>. The hinge in Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> is observed at MgO = 6 wt%; and the kink in CaO and FeO\* is observed at MgO ~7 wt%. Therefore, primitive lavas are identified with MgO  $\geq$  7 wt%, following the method of Kelley *et al.* (2010). Arrows represent fractionation trends. OI: olivine, pl: plagioclase, cpx: clinopyroxene. We used the same method as f

1096-R21 upper ser primitive 1096-R15 upper ser primitive 1096-R8 lower ser		- invite	0000000000	0 400 400		o livino					foldmanona						c	o accreation of			
1096-R21 upper ser primitive 1096-R15 upper ser primitive 1096-R8 lower ser andesitic		uvuo n/s	Fo≥ 90	stdev	s/u	опуше Fo	stdev	r s/u	An > 80	stdev	n/s = 80 > An > 60	0 Stde	v n/s An	< 60 s	tdev	n/s N	o Ig#≥80	unopyroxene stdev	n/s Mg#	< 80 st	dev
1096-R15 upper ser primitive 1096-R8 lower ser andesitic	ies SEMFR	30/4 6/4	c: 92.6 r. 92.3	0.5	22/7 10/5	c: 87.2 r: 86.5	0.5	17/5	c: 81.7 r: 81.0	1.1					0	6/12 13/8	c: 86.5 r: 86.9	1.9			
1096-R15 upper ser primitive 1096-R8 lower ser andesitic	Dasatu	0/4 3/2	r: 87.6	1.7	e/nt	1. 00.0	<b>7</b>	1 <del>1</del>	1. 01.0	1.0						0/01	1. 00.7	0.0			
1096-R8 lower seri andesitic	ies SEMFR				11/4 5/6	c: 86.8	1.1	19/8	c: 80.7	1.3					C1	5/12	c: 87.6	0.9			
andesitic	oasau es SEMFR				0/0 23/8	r: 89.7 c: 76.9	2.1	2/1 2/1	r: 01.2 c: 84.7	0.9	18/7 c: 67.9	3.3				13/4	r: 01.0 c: 81.2	6.0	22/5 c: 76.	00	2.4
	basalt				14/7	r: 76.5	1.0	2/1	r: 87.7	0.1	11/6 r: 68.4	1.6				9/4	r: 79.2	1.3	9/5 r: 76.		3.0
1030-K4 IOWET SET.	les SEMFR				15/7	c: 77.5	1.6		c: 80.6	2.0	<b>13/6</b> c: 67.3	2.1				3/1	c: 81.5	0.6	26/8 c: 76.	6	1.7
andesitic	basalt				8/4	r: 76.6	0.4	8/3 4/2	n: 86.8 r: 83.4	0.4 0.4	7/4 r: 67.4	1.9				2/1	r: 82.8	0.4	13/8 r: 77.	6	1.4
1230-R14 lower ser	ies SEMFR										12/8 c: 73.5	3.2				16/8	c: 82.8	1.2	3/3 с: 78.	55	0.8
Dasalt Darg Dasalt	CENTED					NA		52	o 10	•	0,67 6/0	6				2/1	r: 83.7	0.3	0/0 2010		-
1230-141 / mudue se basalt	TIES DEMITIN					NA		1/4 1/4 1 1/4	c: 91.5 m: 84.5 st: 85.7	0.4 2.9 2.9	0/3 C: 14.0	1.2				3/1	c:	2.2 0.9	0/0 C: 10.		<b>1</b> .4
1230-R26 unner ser	ies SEMFR				7/3	c: 82.5	1.0	5/1 20/7	r: 86.9 c: 86.9	3.1	5/2 c: 75.0	0.2				8/5	c: 83.3	1.9	8/5 c: 74.	or	2.1
basalt					2/1	r: 83.3	0.1	12/4	n: 82.4	4.5						4/2	r: 83.6	0.8	3/2 m: 81	~	3.1
								13/6	r: 77.7	3.7									5/2 r: 85.	9	7.4
1235-R11 Diabase	SEMFR												3/3 5/5 C:	20.5	2.3	4/4	c: 88.0	1.1			
													3/3 1/1 C:	47.9 97.0	0.0	0/0 0/0	r: 70.0	1.4 0 r			
													-1 T/T	00.7	I	10 10 10	c. 02.4 r: 85.9	13 G			
1235-R12 diabasic b	asalt SEMFR				3/1	c: 89.0	0.2	8/4	c: 80.8	2.9						5/3	c: 84.6	1.1			
					1/1	r: 86.0	I	8/4	r: 73.1	6.6						4/3	r: 86.1	0.6			
	,															5/3	r: 74.7	2.9			
basaltic e	nclave				3/1	c:* 85.2	1.4				6/5 c: *63.1	4.7				5/2 4/2	c*: 85.5 r*: 81.9	2.4	2/2 gr*:	4.9	20
1925_B13 diahasie a	abbro SEMFR										9/9 or 6/6	7 7	8/A	936	9.0	14/1	6 V 8	- 0 U	9/9 6.76	10	0X
												2	2/1 m: 2/1 m:	57.7 40.4	1.5 5.9	6/4	r: 83.7	2.0	4/3 r: 73.	) বা	1.6
85-R7 basalt	SEMFR				7/4	c: 83.4	0.8	2/1	c: 82.1	2.4	13/5 c: 74.7	1.4	1/T	8.6I	I	8/5	c: 85.6	0.6			
								2/1	r: 75.8	2.4	6/3 r: 75.4	3.7				8/4	r: 83.5	0.3			
86-R20 basalt	SEMFR				3/2	c: 76.0	1.1	6/4	c: 84.4	1.7	3/3 c: 79.9	0.2				14/4 6.6	c: 82.2	1.5			
88-R1 basalt	SEMFR	26/7 11/7	c: 89.9 r: 89.5	$0.9 \\ 0.6$	11/5	gr: 86.9	0.5	$\frac{4/2}{4/2}$	r. 00.0 c: 89.7 r: 89.2	$0.7 \\ 0.3 \\ 0.3$	D 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1	0'T				0,3 17/7 6/3	r. 00.0 c: 89.7 r: 88.7	0.7 1.5 2.3			
164-3R Andesite	MGR							5/2	c: 86.4	0.1	2/1 gr: 52.3	2.7				4/2	c: 87.4	0.1			
12919D Andreate	Toto coldom							11/10	2 00 2	0.6	0 02 00 111					3/2	r: 85.0	1.5	0/1 0. 70		20
ausanda Maelle	TOLO CALGEL	La						14/0 5/12	c: 00.9 r: 88.6	0.6	1/1 C: /2.0 2/2 r: 74.0	5.5							2/1 C: 10. 2/1 r: 77. 9/1 on: 73	1994	0.9
163-3-4R Andesite	Toto calder:	r.a				NA					18/6 c: 76.4	2.1				6/2	c: 81.1	0.3	1/1 gr: 78	2.2	2.0
						NA					10/5 r: 72.9	2.7				4/2	r: 81.8	0.4			

Geodynamic evolution of SEMFR 13



**Fig. 5** Variation of (a) olivine Fo and (b) clinopyroxene Mg# composition with whole rock Mg#. (c) Variation of An content of plagioclase core with whole rock CaO (wt%) content. Olivine, clinopyroxene and plagioclase are mostly in equilibrium with their host rock. Fractional crystallization (grey arrow) removes Mg-rich minerals from the residual melt which precipitates increasingly Fe-rich minerals. The olivine-liquid equilibrium line is calculated from experimental data of Roeder and Emslie (1970) with K<sub>D</sub> olivine – melt = 0.3 and Fe<sup>3+</sup>/Fe<sub>T</sub> = 0.17 (Kelley & Cottrell 2009). (d) Olivine–Spinel Mantle Array (OSMA) diagram of Arai (1994). Cr# of spinel inclusions and Fo content of host olivine xenocrysts in Shinkai dive 1096 upper series (blue star) and in YKDT-88 lavas (pink stars) plot within OSMA. Cr# are means for each spinel inclusion and reported with the Fo content of their olivine host. Their Cr#  $\geq$  50 is similar to that of the southern Mariana forearc peridotite (Ohara & Ishii 1998); whereas BAB peridotites have Cr# < 30 (Ohara *et al.* 2002). SEMFR peridotites (Michibayashi *et al.* 2009; Sato & Ishii 2011) have Cr# and Fo contents intermediate between southern Mariana forearc peridotites and Mariana Trough BAB peridotites (Ohara *et al.* 2002). (e) Large xenocryst of anhedral olivine (ol) with Fo<sub>90-92</sub> hosting chromium spinel (sp) from sample YKDT88-R2.

 $2.7 \pm 0.3$  Ma. The SEMFR <sup>40</sup>Ar-<sup>39</sup>Ar ages indicate that seafloor spreading occurred in Pliocene time (Fig. 1b), and suggest that the SEMFR seafloor youngs toward the MGR.

#### DISCUSSION

#### GENESIS OF SEMFR LAVAS

Compositions of lavas and their minerals record the conditions of magma genesis and evolution; and from this, important tectonic information can be gleaned (e.g. Klein & Langmuir 1987). Incompatible elements such as  $K_2O$ ,  $Na_2O$  and  $TiO_2$  are concentrated in the melt as mantle melting or crystal fractionation proceeds. The first melt fraction is enriched in these elements and so concentrations anti-corrrelate with fraction of melting, or 'F' (Klein & Langmuir 1987; Taylor & Martinez

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2003; Kelley et al. 2006, 2010). In addition, K<sub>2</sub>O contents in convergent margin magma sources are strongly affected by subduction-related metasomatism (e.g. K-h relationship, Dickinson 1975; Kimura & Stern 2008), therefore this element is generally not used to monitor F. FeO contents in basalts also contain petrogenetic information. In basaltic systems, deeper melts are progressively enriched in iron (Klein & Langmuir 1987). Therefore, the Na<sub>2</sub>O, TiO<sub>2</sub> and FeO contents of lavas are good proxies for the degree and depth of melting. However, estimating the extent and depth of partial melting requires primitive lavas with compositions in equilibrium with their mantle source. Consequently, Na<sub>2</sub>O, TiO<sub>2</sub> and FeO contents are commonly corrected for olivine fractionation in order to infer their  $Na_8$ ,  $Ti_8$  and  $Fe_8$ contents (Na<sub>2</sub>O, TiO<sub>2</sub>, and FeO contents calculated at MgO = 8 wt%). The Na<sub>8</sub> of N-MORBs anticorrelates with  $Fe_8$ , indicating that melting is



Fig. 6 The <sup>40</sup>Ar-<sup>39</sup>Ar age spectra with <sup>36</sup>Ar-<sup>40</sup>Ar vs <sup>39</sup>Ar-<sup>40</sup>Ar plot for samples from the SEMFR. Percentage of <sup>39</sup>Ar released during analysis is also reported.

greater if it begins deeper (Fig. 7a; Klein & Langmuir 1987; Arevalo Jr. & McDonough 2010). Subduction-related melting is somewhat different because melting extents are enhanced by water (Gribble *et al.* 1996; Taylor & Martinez 2003; Kelley *et al.* 2006). BAB magma sources often are affected by subducted water and are characterized by more melting at shallower depth than MORBs, so that Na<sub>8</sub> increases with Fe<sub>8</sub> (Fig. 7a; Taylor & Martinez 2003; Kelley *et al.* 2003; Kelley *et al.* 2006). BAB and arc lavas have distinct geochemical signatures (Fig. 7),

resulting from elements dissolved in fluids derived from the subducting slab that are involved in magma genesis. Arc lavas have lower Na<sub>8</sub> and Ti<sub>8</sub> contents at higher  $K_2O/TiO_2$  and Fe<sub>8</sub> content because they formed by high degrees of melting at greater depths in the presence of slab-derived fluids. In contrast, BAB lavas have higher Na<sub>8</sub> and Ti<sub>8</sub> contents at lower  $K_2O/TiO_2$  and Fe<sub>8</sub> content, as they were generated at shallower depth by adiabatic mantle decompression, with less involvement of slab-derived fluids.



**Fig. 7** Diagrams showing variations in (a) Na<sub>8</sub>, (b) Ti<sub>8</sub>, (d) K<sub>2</sub>O/TiO<sub>2</sub> versus Fe<sub>8</sub> and (c) K<sub>2</sub>O/TiO<sub>2</sub> versus Ti<sub>8</sub>. Na<sub>8</sub> and Ti<sub>8</sub> are proxies for the fraction of mantle that is melted, Fe<sub>8</sub> is a proxy for the depth of mantle melting (Klein & Langmuir 1987), and K<sub>2</sub>O/TiO<sub>2</sub> is a proxy for the subduction input. The grey field represents Mariana Trough BAB lavas (Hawkins *et al.* 1990; Gribble *et al.* 1996; Pearce *et al.* 2005; Kelley & Cottrell 2009) and the hatched field represents Mariana arc lavas (Pearce *et al.* 2005; Stern *et al.* 2006; Shaw *et al.* 2008; Kelley & Cottrell 2009) Kelley *et al.* 2010). Primitive lavas from the Mariana Trough and the Mariana arc were filtered as SEMFR lavas (MgO  $\geq$  7 wt%) for consistency. The FABs field is from Reagan *et al.* (2010). The negative correlation of Na<sub>8</sub> with Fe<sub>8</sub> of N-MORBs (grey arrow; Arevalo Jr. & McDonough 2010) shows that more magma is produced when melting begins deeper; while in subduction-related lavas, more melting is produced shallower. SEMFR lavas have Na<sub>8</sub> and Ti<sub>8</sub> contents slightly varying with Fe<sub>8</sub> content, indicating homogeneous degree of mantle melting.

To investigate SEMFR magmagenesis (i.e. whether SEMFR lavas were produced in BABlike and/or in arc-like magmagenetic settings), we calculated Na<sub>8</sub>, Ti<sub>8</sub> and Fe<sub>8</sub> contents for these lavas. Plots of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, CaO and FeO\* against MgO (Fig. 4d-f) show that the kinks in  $Al_2O_3$ and CaO, indicating the beginning of plagioclase and clinopyroxene crystallization, are respectively observed at MgO = 6 wt% and at MgO  $\sim$ 7 wt%. Therefore, data were filtered to exclude highly fractionated samples with MgO < 7 wt% that crystallized olivine, clinopyroxene, and plagioclase on their LLD (Fig. 4d-f), following the method described in Kelley et al. (2006) and Kelley et al. (2010). The least fractionated samples with 7-8 wt% MgO, which fractionated olivine only (Fig. 4df), were then corrected to MgO = 8 wt% using the equations of Klein and Langmuir (1987) for  $Na_8$  and  $Fe_8$ , and Taylor and Martinez (2003) for Ti<sub>8.</sub> These are listed in Table 1 (mean SEMFR  $Na_8 = 1.99 \pm 0.40$  wt% (1 std. dev.); mean  $Ti_8 = 0.60$  $\pm 0.11$  wt%; mean Fe<sub>8</sub> = 6.91  $\pm 0.54$  wt%). The

Na<sub>8</sub>, Fe<sub>8</sub> and Ti<sub>8</sub> contents of SEMFR lavas are slightly lower than those observed for N-MORBs (Arevalo Jr. & McDonough, 2010), indicating that higher degrees of mantle melting were produced at shallower depths. The SEMFR lavas have similar Ti<sub>8</sub> and Na<sub>8</sub> contents at lower Fe<sub>8</sub> than FABs; and they plot in the compositional overlap between Mariana arc lavas and the Mariana BAB lavas, with homogeneous, low Na<sub>8</sub> and Ti<sub>8</sub> contents varying little with Fe<sub>8</sub> content (Fig. 7a-b), suggesting a roughly constant degree and depth of mantle melting. These lavas were produced by extensive melting ( $\geq 15\%$ ) of shallow mantle ( $\sim 25 \pm 6.6$  km, see the section entitled Pressure and Temperature of Mantle Melting). The K<sub>2</sub>O/TiO<sub>2</sub> (proxy for the total subduction input; Shen & Forsyth 1995) of SEMFR lavas is higher that of FABs and plot between the arc-BAB compositional fields (Fig. 7c-d), well above N-MORBs, further demonstrating a subduction component in SEMFR magma genesis. Only lavas from YKDT-88, collected closest to the FNVC (Fig. 1b), do not plot on



**Fig. 8** (a) Composition ranges for coexisting olivine Fo-plagioclase An in intraoceanic arc lavas (blue field) and BABB (red outline) after Stern *et al.* (2006). Arc basalts have more calcic plagioclase in equilibrium with more Fe-rich olivine compared to MORB (short dashed outline), OIB (long dashed outline), and BABB. The plagioclase-olivine relationships of SEMFR lavas generally plot in the overlap between the BABB and the arc composition fields. The black triangle denotes a Toto caldera sample. (b) P–T conditions of mantle-melt equilibration estimated by using the procedure of Lee *et al.* (2009) for SEMFR primitive lavas with Mg0  $\geq$  7 wt%. Also shown are Mariana Trough basaltic glasses (Gribble *et al.* 1996; Kelley & Cottrell 2009), and the Mariana arc melt inclusions with analyzed water contents (Shaw *et al.* 2008; Kelley *et al.* 2010). The solidus is from Katz *et al.* (2003). We used Fe<sup>3+</sup>/Fet = 0.17 for SEMFR and Mariana Trough BABBs, Fe<sup>3+</sup>/Fet = 0.25 for Mariana arc and Mariana Trough glass for consistency. The pink field represents the slab depth beneath SEMFR [ $\leq$ 30 km-100 km depth; Becker 2005).

the SEMFR compositional field (Fig. 7a-c), with lower  $Na_8$  and  $Ti_8$  at similar  $Fe_8$  contents. Their  $Ti_8$  and  $Na_8$  values are lower than those of Mariana arc lavas (Fig. 7a-c), suggesting that YKDT-88 lavas were produced by more mantle melting and/or melting of a more depleted mantle source at similar depth compared to other SEMFR magmas. The above inference that SEMFR lavas are similar to backarc basin basalts (BABB) can be checked by examining mineral compositions, because arc basalts and BABBs have distinct An-Fo relationships (Stern 2010). Arc basalts contain more Fe-rich olivine with more An-rich plagioclase compared to BABB, MORB, and OIB (Ocean Island Basalt, Fig. 8a) because higher

water contents in arc magmas delay plagioclase but not olivine crystallization (Kelley et al. 2010; Stern 2010), resulting in higher CaO and FeO contents in the melt when plagioclase starts crystallizing. In contrast, BABBs, formed largely by adiabatic decompression mantle melting, have Fo-An relationships essentially indistinguishable from those of MORB and OIB (Fig. 8a). Accordingly, we can discriminate arc basalts from BABBs based on An and Fo contents of the plagioclaseolivine assemblages. Figure 8a shows that most SEMFR lavas plot within the BABB compositional field, consistent with observations from Na<sub>8</sub>, Ti<sub>8</sub>, and Fe<sub>8</sub> discussed in the previous section. Some samples also plot within the arc compositional field, strongly suggesting that BAB-like (i.e. adiabatic decompression melting) and arc-like (i.e. wet mantle melting) conditions of magmagenesis coexisted beneath SEMFR. We propose that SEMFR magmas formed by adiabatic decompression of fertile asthenospheric mantle (BAB-like mantle) metasomatized by slab-derived fluids, enriching the melt in water and sometimes delaying plagioclase fractionation.

#### PRESSURE AND TEMPERATURE OF MANTLE MELTING

The P–T conditions of mantle melting, recorded by primary melts in equilibrium with the mantle beneath SEMFR, were calculated from major element compositions of primitive basalts with  $MgO \ge 7$  wt% (Kelley *et al.* 2010; Fig. 4d-f) by using the geothermobarometer of Lee et al. (2009), based on Si, Mg and water contents of primitive magmas. The estimated P-T conditions are those of the last melt in equilibrium with the mantle or a mean value of the P-T conditions of polybaric, fractional pooled melts recorded along a melting column (Kelley et al. 2010). SEMFR lavas are compositionally similar to BABBs, we therefore used BAB-like oxidation state ( $Fe^{3+}/Fe_T = 0.17$ ) and averaged Mariana BAB water content (1.31 wt%; Gribble et al. 1996; Kelley & Cottrell 2009) for SEMFR lavas,  $Fe^{3+}/Fe_T = 0.17$  for Mariana Trough lavas and  $Fe^{3+}/Fe^{T} = 0.25$  for Mariana arc magmas (Kelley & Cottrell 2009). We also used lherzolitic BAB-like mantle source (Fo<sub>90</sub>; Kelley et al. 2006) to estimate the P-T conditions of SEMFR mantle melting. Primitive lavas of the Mariana Trough and the Mariana arc with analyzed water were filtered for  $MgO \ge 7$  wt% as SEMFR lavas for consistency. SEMFR whole rock compositions indicate melting pressures of 0.5-0.9 GPa ( $\pm$  0.2 GPa) and temperatures of 1217–1269°C

 $(\pm 40^{\circ}\text{C})$ , with a mean of  $0.7 \pm 0.2$  GPa (~23 ± 6.6 km) and  $1239 \pm 40^{\circ}$ C (Fig. 8b). This is consistent with melting just above the present subducting slab ( $\leq$ 30–100 km depth), although we do not know the position of the subducting slab at 2.7–3.7 Ma, when SEMFR melts were generated. Mariana Trough BABBs (Gribble *et al.* 1996; Kelley & Cottrell 2009) have similar P-T conditions of mantle melting (0.7–1.5  $\pm$  0.2 GPa, 1214–1359  $\pm$ 40°C; mean melting depth  $\sim$ 33 ± 6.6 km). In contrast, Mariana arc lavas (Shaw et al. 2008; Kelley et al. 2010) show higher P-T conditions of mantle melting  $(1.1 - 3.0 \pm 0.2 \text{ GPa}, 1240 - 1522 \pm 40^{\circ}\text{C})$ . These results suggest that SEMFR lavas and Mariana Trough BABBs were similarly generated by adiabatic decompression of shallow asthenospheric mantle ( $\sim 25-30 \pm 6.6$  km). In contrast, arc lavas (Shaw et al. 2008; Kelley & Cottrell 2009; Kelley et al. 2010) recorded deeper (mean melting depth  $\sim 51 \pm 6.6$  km) and hotter mantle melting conditions (Kelley *et al.* 2010). This leads to the further deduction that SEMFR lavas formed by BABB-like seafloor spreading at 2.7 to 3.7 Ma.

# GEODYNAMIC EVOLUTION OF THE SOUTHEASTERN MARIANA FOREARC RIFT

Investigations of the petrography and geochemistry of SEMFR lavas reveal that: (i) SEMFR lavas are petrographically and compositionally similar to Mariana Trough BABBs; (ii) SEMFR melts interacted with the pre-existing forearc lithosphere and picked up some forearc mantle olivines, indicating rapid ascent; (iii) magmatic activity (2.7–3.7 Ma) formed SEMFR oceanic crust by seafloor spreading (no Eocene forearc basement has been recovered from the SEMFR); (iv) SEMFR primitive basalts formed by decompression melting at ~23 km depth and 1239°C, like that associated with the Mariana Trough backarc basin, suggesting similar formation; and (v) lack of evidence for recent igneous and hydrothermal activity, except near MGR and the Toto caldera, indicates that the presently-observed NNW-SSE trending relief formed during post-magmatic rifting (<2.7 Ma).

The SEMFR is a rift with no morphological expression of large arc-like volcanoes, like those of the Mariana arc. SEMFR lavas are vesicular with  $K_2O$  contents (Fig. 4a) and  $K_2O/TiO_2$  ratios that are similar to MGR and other Mariana Trough BAB lavas (Fig. 7c,d). They also have similar P–T conditions of magma genesis, demonstrating that they formed by adiabatic decompression of BAB-like



Fig. 9 Geodynamic evolution of SEMFR. (a) The Mariana Trough is opening ~5 Ma. (b) Spreading of the Mariana Trough rifts the arc lithosphere (in orange) and forms SEMFR by stretching the forearc crust (in yellow) ~2.7–3.7 Ma. We speculate that SEMFR is a spreading center with intense magmatic activity. (c) Post-magmatic deformation of SEMFR occurred < 2.7 Ma, and intensely deformed the Eocene forearc crust. (d) Today, SEMFR is no longer magmatically active and amagmatic extension dominates the rift. Eocene forearc is eroded with opening of the S. Mariana Trough. Actual position of the forearc is based on R/V Yokosuka YK08-08 Leg 2 and YK10-12 cruise reports (Ohara *et al.* 2008, 2010). The red box highlights the area of Figure 10.

mantle metasomatized by slab-derived fluids. These observations raise a fundamental question: were SEMFR lavas produced by seafloor spreading in the backarc basin or in the forearc? The southernmost Mariana convergent margin has reorganized rapidly since its collision with the Caroline Ridge, suggesting that SEMFR lavas were produced by different geological settings from those that exist today. From the location of the SEMFR adjacent to the trench, it is clear that these lavas formed in the forearc. We propose a geodynamic model for the southernmost Mariana arc, in which SEMFR formed to accommodate opening of the southernmost Mariana Trough (Fig. 9a,b and Fig. 10a-c). Rupturing the forearc lithosphere allowed asthenospheric mantle to flow into the forearc and to melt by adiabatic decompression under hydrous conditions at 2.7–3.7 Ma; and origin of the SEMFR mantle (i.e. from the backarc basin, the arc, or a slab window) is still under investigation. Some SEMFR melts picked up fragments of pre-existing forearc mantle during ascent, demonstrating that SEMFR lavas formed long after subduction initiation. Post-magmatic activity (<2.7 Ma) shapes the S. Mariana forearc lithosphere (Fig. 9c) and formed the NNW–SSE trending rifts of the SEMFR, as we know it today (Figs 9d,10d).

## CONCLUSIONS

Two important conclusions can be drawn from this study: (i) SEMFR magmas formed by adiabatic decompression in the southernmost IBM forearc, usually underlain by cold, serpentinized harzburgitic mantle that rarely melts (Reagan *et al.* 2010); and (ii) SEMFR lavas were produced by melting of fertile asthenospheric mantle metasomatized by slab-derived fluids, long after subduction initiation, allowing development of a forearc lithosphere. Our results show that the southernmost Mariana forearc stretched to accommodate opening of the Mariana Trough to form the SEMFR, allowing



**Fig. 10** 3D model of geodynamic evolution of the SEMFR drawn after the SE Mariana lithospheric section of Gvirtzman and Stern (2004) and the tomographic images of Miller *et al.* (2006a). The cross section is drawn from the area highlighted by a red box in Figure 9. BAB lithos., backarc basin lithosphere. (a) Opening of the S. MarianaTrough, the Malaguana–Gadao Ridge (MGR), stretches the pre-existing Eocene forearc lithosphere ~5 Ma ago. (b) Rupturing of the forearc allows mantle melting, creating new SEMFR oceanic crust ~2.7–3.7 Ma. The red line shows the location of the cross section of SEMFR shown in c. (c) Continuous dehydration of the shallow downgoing slab controlled SEMFR magmatic activity, and SEMFR had ridge morphology ~2.7–3.7 Ma. (d) Today, post-magmatic rifting dominates SEMFR.

hydrated, asthenospheric mantle to flow into the forearc and to produce new oceanic crust at ~2.7–3.7 Ma. SEMFR lavas formed by adiabatic decompression of depleted backarc mantle at ~23  $\pm$  6.6 km depth and 1239  $\pm$  40°C. The SEMFR at 2.7–3.7 Ma was likely a ridge-like spreading center, where the slab-derived fluids enhanced mantle melting beneath the forearc. Today, the SEMFR is no longer magmatically active and amagmatic extension shapes its morphology.

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## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Additional Supporting Information may be found in the online version of this article at the publisher's web-site:

**Supporting Information S1:** Description of the dives.

**Fig. S1.1** Cross sections of SEMFR rifts 1, 2 and 3 from the trench.

Fig. S1.2 Dive tracks of Shinkai dives 1096, 1230 and 1235 and deep-tow camera 82.

Fig. S1.3 Dive tracks of YKDT 85, 86, 87 and 88.

**Fig. S1.4** Dive tracks of Shinkai dive 973 from YK06-12 cruise report and Kaiko dive 163 from KR00-03 Leg 2 cruise report.

Fig. S1.5 Interpreted bathymetric profile of the eastern flank of rift 1 traversed during Shinkai dive 1096.

Fig. S1.6 Interpreted bathymetric profile of the eastern flank of rift 2 traversed during Shinkai dive 1230.

Fig. S1.7 Interpreted bathymetric profile of the eastern flank of rift 3 traversed during Shinkai dive 1235.

Fig. S1.8 Interpreted bathymetric profile of the eastern flank of rift 1 traversed during Shinkai dive 973.

Fig. S1.9 Interpreted bathymetric profile of the summit of ridge on the eastern side of rift 3 traversed during YKDT-85.

**Fig. S1.10** Interpreted bathymetric profile of the eastern flank of ridge of rift 3 (central part of SEMFR) traversed during YKDT-86.

**Fig. S1.11** Interpreted bathymetric profile of YKDT-82, performed on the summit of a ridge between rifts 2 and 3

**Fig. S1.12** Interpreted bathymetric profile of the axial valley of rift 3 traversed during YKDT-87.

**Fig. S1.13** Interpreted bathymetric profile of the eastern flank of ridge of rift 2 performed during YKDT-88.

**Fig. S1.14** Interpreted bathymetric profile of Toto caldera performed during Kaiko dive 163.

Fig. S1.15 Interpreted bathymetric profile along the Malaguana–Gadao Ridge (MGR) performed

during Kaiko dive 164, near the 13°N magmatic chamber.

**Table S1.1** Longitude and latitude of the dives in the SEMFR, MGR and Toto caldera with their depth and trench distance.

**Table S1.2** Variation of the width and depth (km) of the three SEMFR rifts along axis.

**Supporting Information S2** Sample selection and analytical techniques.

**Fig. S2.1** Location of the analyzed samples, for major elements during this study, on the bathymetric profiles of the Shinkai dives 1096, 1230 and 1235. **Supporting Information S3** Method for describ-

ing the samples. **Supporting Information S4** Petrographic description and mineralogy of the samples.

Fig. S4.1 SEMFR mineral compositions in clinopyroxene, plagioclase and olivine.

**Table S4.1** Representative mean clinopyroxenecomposition.

**Table S4.2** Representative mean plagioclase composition.

**Table S4.3** Representative mean olivine composition.

**Table S4.4** Representative mean spinel composition.

**Supporting Information S5** Correlation between mineral abundances and whole rock chemistry.

Fig. S5.1 Plot showing the correlation between mineral abundances and whole rock composition. A) The olivine proportions are positively correlated to the whole rock Mg#.

**Supporting Information S6** Effects of the variations of the Fo content on the P–T conditions of SEMFR mantle melting.