



**In situ S-isotope compositions of sulfate and sulfide from the 3.2 Ga Moodies Group, South Africa: A record of oxidative sulfur cycling.**

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3 1 **In situ S-isotope compositions of sulfate and sulfide from the 3.2 Ga Moodies Group, South**  
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5 2 **Africa: A record of oxidative sulfur cycling.**  
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9 3 **Abstract**  
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11 4 Sulfate minerals are rare in the Archean rock record and largely restricted to the occurrence of barite  
12 (BaSO<sub>4</sub>). The origin of this barite remains controversially debated. The mass-independent fractionation  
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14 5 of sulfur isotopes in these and other Archean sedimentary rocks suggests that photolysis of volcanic  
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16 6 aerosols in an oxygen-poor atmosphere played an important role in their formation. Here we report  
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18 7 on the multiple sulfur-isotopic composition of sedimentary anhydrite in the ca. 3.22 Ga Moodies Group  
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20 8 of the Barberton Greenstone Belt, southern Africa. Anhydrite occurs, together with barite and pyrite,  
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22 9 in regionally traceable beds that formed in fluvial settings. Variable abundances of barite vs. anhydrite  
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24 10 reflect changes in sulfate enrichment by evaporitic concentration across orders of magnitude in an  
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26 11 arid, nearshore terrestrial environment, periodically replenished by influxes of seawater. The multiple  
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28 12 S-isotope compositions of anhydrite and pyrite are consistent with microbial sulfate reduction. S-  
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30 13 isotope signatures in barite suggest an additional, oxidative sulfate source probably derived from  
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32 14 continental weathering of sulfide possibly enhanced by microbial sulfur oxidation. Although  
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34 15 depositional environments of Moodies sulfate minerals differ strongly from marine barite deposits,  
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36 16 their sulfur-isotopic composition is similar and most likely reflects a primary isotopic signature. The  
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38 17 data indicate that a constant input of small portions of oxidized sulfur from the continents into the  
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40 18 ocean may have contributed to the observed long-term increase of  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$  values through the  
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42 19 Paleoproterozoic.  
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53 22 **Summary statement:** The ca. 3.22 Ga old Moodies nodule bearing beds contain both evaporitic sulfate  
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55 23 (anhydrite and barite) and early diagenetic sulfide (pyrite) phases. The exceptional occurrence of  
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57 24 preserved anhydrite of this age provides a rare glimpse into the Archean sulfur cycle. The analyzed  
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59 25 anhydrite is about 500 Ma older than any other Archean occurrences. The data presented here suggest

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3 26 a contribution to the Archean sulfate pool by oxidative weathering possibly caused by microbial  
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5 27 activity. This implies the activity of two sulfur-based metabolic pathways during the formation of early  
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7 28 diagenetic sulfate nodules and pyrite overgrowth with implications for microbial evolution. These data  
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9 29 contribute to the broader understanding of the Archean sulfur cycle and help to explain previously  
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11 30 observed temporal changes in the MIF ( $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$ ) signal. Furthermore, the similarity in the S-isotopic  
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13 31 composition of the anhydrite and barite to other Paleoproterozoic barite deposits indicates that the  
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15 32 controversially discussed isotopic signature of these barite deposits is most likely primary.  
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### 23 34 **Key words**

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25 35 Archean anhydrite, Archean sulfur cycle, Microbial sulfate reduction, (Microbial) pyrite oxidation,  
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## 37 38 **1. Introduction**

34 38 The abundance of detrital pyrite and uraninite in the Archean sedimentary record has been interpreted  
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36 39 to indicate very low atmospheric oxygen levels (England et al., 2002; Hofmann et al., 2009; Koglin et  
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38 40 al., 2010; Guy et al., 2012; Burron et al., 2018). Moreover, the mass-independent fractionation (MIF)  
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40 41 of sulfur isotopes (expressed as  $\Delta^{33}\text{S} = \delta^{33}\text{S} - 1000 \times [1 + \delta^{34}\text{S}/1000]^{0.515}$ ; Farquhar et al., 2000) in sulfide  
42  
43 42 and sulfate has been interpreted to reflect photochemical reactions in a very-low-oxygen atmosphere  
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45 43 (Farquhar et al., 2000; Farquhar et al., 2001; Kasting et al., 2001; Pavlov and Kasting, 2002; Farquhar  
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47 44 and Wing, 2003; Mojzsis et al., 2003). The conventional view is that photochemical reactions produce  
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49 45 two isotopically different sulfur reservoirs: sulfate aerosols with negative  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  and elemental sulfur  
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51 46 with positive  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  (Farquhar et al., 2000; Farquhar et al., 2001; Farquhar and Wing, 2003; Mojzsis et  
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53 47 al., 2003). Prerequisites for the preservation of these isotopically distinct reservoirs are the absence of  
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55 48 an ozone layer, which enables deep penetration of UV radiation into the atmosphere, and the  
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57 49 prevention of oxidative mixing between the two reservoirs (Farquhar et al., 2000; Farquhar et al., 2001;  
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59 50 Farquhar and Wing, 2003; Mojzsis et al., 2003), which implies an atmospheric oxygen level below  $10^{-5}$   
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3 51 PAL (Pavlov and Kasting, 2002; Mojzsis et al., 2003). Low atmospheric oxygen levels result in the  
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5 52 suppression or absence of sulfide weathering and are thus an explanation for low estimated seawater  
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7 53 sulfate concentrations prior to the great oxidation event (<200  $\mu\text{M}$  to <2.5  $\mu\text{M}$ ; Canfield et al., 2000;  
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9 54 Habicht et al., 2002; Crowe et al., 2014).  
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12 55 Because oceanic sulfate was low during the Archean, sulfate deposits are relatively uncommon.  
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14 56 Examples of preserved Archean sulfate deposits are known from the Indian Dharwar Craton (Hoering,  
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16 57 1989; Muller et al., 2017), the southern African Barberton Greenstone Belt (BGB; Heinrichs and Reimer,  
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18 58 1977; Bao et al., 2007; Roerdink et al., 2012; Muller et al., 2016), and the western Australian  
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20 59 Warrawoona Group of the Pilbara Block (Farquhar et al., 2000; Mojzsis et al., 2003; Ueno et al., 2008;  
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22 60 Shen et al., 2009; Roerdink et al., 2012). These deposits contain sulfate exclusively as barite, which  
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24 61 formed by hydrothermal or diagenetic processes or by redeposition of older barite deposits as detrital  
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26 62 material (Reimer, 1980; Reimer, 1990; Bao et al., 2007; Ueno et al., 2008; Shen et al., 2009; Roerdink  
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28 63 et al., 2012; Muller et al., 2016; Roerdink et al., 2016; Lowe et al., 2019). A possible evaporative gypsum  
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30 64 precursor for some of these beds has been debated but is generally discounted (Reimer 1980, Buick  
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32 65 and Dunlop, 1990; Shen et al., 2009; Lowe et al., 2019). The barite shows consistently negative  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$   
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34 66 values that increase over time, with average  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  of approximately -1.3‰ in ca. 3.5 Ga deposits and  
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36 67 closer to -0.5‰ in ca. 3.26 Ga deposits (Bao et al., 2007; Ueno et al., 2008; Shen et al., 2009; Roerdink  
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38 68 et al., 2012; Muller et al., 2016; Roerdink et al., 2016).  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values indicate that the sulfate involved in  
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40 69 their formation was partly derived from photolysis and atmospheric deposition in the Archean ocean.  
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42 70 Therefore, these barite deposits record the complex interplay of atmosphere, seawater, hydrothermal  
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44 71 sources and sediment chemistry at the time of their formation (Bao et al., 2007; Farquhar et al., 2007;  
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46 72 Ueno et al., 2008; Shen et al., 2009; Philippot et al., 2012; Roerdink et al., 2012; Muller et al., 2016;  
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48 73 Roerdink et al., 2016; Muller et al., 2017).  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values in diagenetic pyrite within the barite beds are  
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50 74 similarly negative to those of the barite, which is consistent with the involvement of microbial sulfate  
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52 75 reduction (MSR) in the Archean sulfur cycle and its propensity to preserve preexisting MIF signatures  
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54 76 while executing mass-dependent sulfur isotope fractionation (MDF) (Farquhar et al., 2001; Bao et al.,

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3 77 2007; Ueno et al., 2008; Hofmann et al., 2009; Shen et al., 2009; Roerdink et al., 2012; Muller et al.,  
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5 78 2016). Despite the occurrence of both pyrite and barite with negative  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  signatures, the Archean  
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7 79 rock record as a whole seems to show a surplus of positive values, resulting in an unbalanced archive  
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10 80 (Farquhar et al., 2007; Philippot et al., 2012; Strauss et al., 2013). However, bulk analyses of sulfur from  
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12 81 modern drainages of Archean crustal blocks (Superior and Kaapvaal Craton) indicate that Archean crust  
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14 82 as a whole shows a balanced  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  signature (Torres et al., 2018). Therefore, the apparent imbalance  
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16 83 may reflect the low preservation potential of gypsum and anhydrite, resulting in only rare occurrences  
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18 84 of these minerals and their pseudomorphs (Golding and Walter, 1979; Buick and Dunlop, 1990; Lowe  
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20 85 and Worrell, 1999). Anhydrite is preserved in highly metamorphosed strata at 2.7 Ga (Golding and  
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22 86 Walter, 1979; Sighinolfi et al., 1980) but, along with gypsum, does not become abundant in the rock  
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24 87 record until after 2.4 Ga (Cameron and Hattori, 1980; Cameron, 1983; Huston and Logan, 2004).

28 88 Here we present Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometry (SIMS) in-situ sulfur (S) isotopic compositions ( $\delta^{34}\text{S}$   
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30 89 and  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$ ) of anhydrite, barite and pyrite from ca. 3.22 Ga old paleosols of the Moodies Group of the  
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32 90 BGB (Fig. 1). These regionally traceable beds contain silicified nodules (Fig. 2) with quartz  
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34 91 pseudomorphs after gypsum and numerous anhydrite inclusions representing remnants of  
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36 92 sedimentary gypsum (Heubeck et al., 2016; Nabhan et al., 2016a). These occurrences represent, to  
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38 93 date, the oldest preserved sedimentary anhydrite and the only Paleoarchean anhydrite yet analyzed  
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40 94 for its multiple S-isotopic composition. Here we investigate the mechanisms in an Archean terrestrial  
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42 95 and dominantly anoxic environment that could have enriched sulfate to the levels necessary for  
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44 96 anhydrite and gypsum precipitation. We also assess the potential role of microbiological metabolisms  
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46 97 in processing sulfur through different redox states in these environments.  
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## 54 99 **2. Geological background**

57 100 The Barberton Greenstone Belt (BGB) in northeastern South Africa and Eswatini is part of the Archean  
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59 101 Kaapvaal Craton. Its stratigraphic fill, the up to 16 km thick Barberton Supergroup, is subdivided from

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3 102 base to top into the 8 – 10 km thick, 3.57 – 3.3 Ga old Onverwacht Group; the 2 – 3 km thick, 3.26 –  
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5 103 3.225 Ga old Fig Tree Group; and the up to 3.7 km thick, 3.225 – 3.214 Ga old Moodies Group (Lowe  
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7 104 et al., 1999; Lowe and Byerly, 2007; Byerly et al., 2018; Fig. 1a). Moodies Group rocks occupy large  
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9 105 synclines throughout the greenstone belt (Fig. 1a) and are mainly composed of polymict conglomerate,  
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11 106 quartz-rich sandstone and argillaceous siltstone deposited in terrestrial to shallow-marine  
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13 107 environments (Heubeck and Lowe, 1999; Heubeck, 2019). Braided fluvial and braid-plain facies occur  
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15 108 at several stratigraphic levels of the Moodies Group, and can be tens to hundreds of meters thick (Fig.  
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17 109 1b). Braided fluvial facies are stacked in wide and shallow channels with erosive bases composed of  
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19 110 pebble strings, fining upward into cross-bedded granular to medium-grained sandstone overlain by  
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21 111 rippled fine-grained sandstone and in places topped by mm-thin argillaceous siltstone showing  
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23 112 desiccation cracks (Heubeck et al., 2016; Nabhan et al., 2016a; Heubeck, 2019). Braided fluvial strata  
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25 113 are best preserved in the lower Moodies Group (MdQ1) of the Stolzberg Syncline (Supplementary  
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27 114 Fig.1). They contain regionally traceable beds with abundant, silicified gypsum nodules (Nabhan et al.,  
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29 115 2016a; Fig. 2 and 3). To date, nodules have been recorded at four stratigraphic levels in five locations  
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31 116 throughout the BGB (Fig. 1).

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37 117 Nodules appear in up to 50 cm thick beds and increase in number, size and structural complexity  
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39 118 towards the top of these beds (Fig. 3). The beds are organized into 5 to 20 cm thick upper horizons  
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41 119 that largely lack relict sedimentary structures and are mainly composed of coalesced, broadly  
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43 120 stratiform nodules (Fig. 2b) within a matrix that contains high proportions of shale and reworked  
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45 121 volcanic ash. Underlying sandier, up to 40 cm thick horizons contain nodules that follow primary  
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47 122 sedimentary structures such as horizontal stratification or foresets. Cross-cutting relations between  
48  
49 123 overlying and adjacent channels show that nodules formed prior to lithification in presumably moist  
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51 124 sediment. Superimposed channels that cut into nodule-bearing beds erode and subsequently  
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53 125 redeposit nodules as clasts in coarse-grained channel bases. Nodular textures and inclusion mineralogy  
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55 126 vary laterally and vertically among nodule-bearing beds that have previously been interpreted as  
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57 127 potential paleosols (Nabhan et al., 2016a). Commonly, nodules are composed of mega-quartz  
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3 128 pseudomorphs after gypsum, calcite and potentially barite. Abundant inclusions of anhydrite, barite  
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5 129 and calcite are 5 - 50  $\mu\text{m}$  in size and appear only within the pseudomorphs (Fig. 4). The inclusions and  
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7 130 pseudomorphs are in places aligned along or resemble radial crystal fans (Fig. 4). The observed  
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10 131 inclusion mineralogy presumably resembles an original sulfate and carbonate mineralogy for the  
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12 132 nodules. However, the anhydrite inclusions possibly result from a gypsum precursor and the high  
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14 133 strontium content of some calcite inclusions implies an aragonite precursor (Nabhan et al., 2016a).  
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16 134 Nodule-bearing beds also contain, in places, mm-scale heavy-mineral laminations mainly composed of  
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18 135 rounded detrital pyrite overgrown by euhedral early diagenetic pyrite (Nabhan et al., 2016b;  
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20 136 Supplementary Fig. 2). Most beds with heavy mineral laminations have been affected by modern  
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22 137 weathering with oxidation of the sulfides, although many grains still show the typical zoning seen  
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24 138 elsewhere in unaltered pyrite grains (Fig. 5c). Bending of lamination around nodules and the inclusion  
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26 139 of pyrite with overgrowth rims indicates contemporaneous formation of nodules and pyrite  
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28 140 overgrowths (Figs. 2c and 5).  
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### 33 141 **3. Samples**

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36 142 The in-situ S-isotopic composition of anhydrite, barite and pyrite was measured from three  
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38 143 representative samples (12-003-4, 13-004-3 and 13-004-4) of the lower Moodies Group from the  
39  
40 144 eastern Stolzberg Syncline (Fig. 1; Supplementary Fig. 1). Sampled materials occur over >100m  
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42 145 stratigraphic thickness and ca. 1 km horizontal distance. Nodules in these beds differ texturally and  
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44 146 vary in size (3 mm to 3.5 cm). Nabhan et al. (2016a) distinguished four types of nodules and showed  
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46 147 that their spatial distribution depended on their stratigraphic position above channel base: The  
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48 148 smallest nodules with the simplest textural composition occur at a stratigraphically lower position  
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50 149 within a bed while stratigraphically higher positioned nodules are larger and texturally more complex.  
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52 150 Additionally, texturally simple nodules near the channel base contain mainly anhydrite inclusions while  
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54 151 nodules in a stratigraphically higher position within the same bed contain more barite and fewer  
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56 152 anhydrite inclusions. The complex and coalesced nodules topping nodule-bearing beds form cm-thick  
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58 153 bedding-parallel horizons which contain numerous calcite and barite inclusions but lack anhydrite  
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3 154 inclusions. Because of the highly energetic floodplain setting with mainly erosional channel bases most  
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5 155 nodule-bearing beds are not fully preserved. The beds sampled for this study are from three different  
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7 156 incomplete beds and could therefore not be assigned to specific heights above channel base. However,  
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10 157 they show distinct textural and mineralogical features (Fig. 6). Microscopic evaluation of thin sections  
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12 158 and mounts shows quartz pseudomorphs after both gypsum and carbonate that correspond to  
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14 159 variation in the inclusion mineralogy (Figs. 4 and 6). Raman spectroscopy was used to characterize  
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16 160 numerous mineral inclusions on and below the thin section surface, including a number of fluid and  
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18 161 gas inclusions within quartz that are commonly aligned along the edges of pseudomorphs. Sample 12-  
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20 162 003-4 is from a ca. 30 cm thick bed of medium-grained litharenite. It contains up to 1 cm diameter  
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22 163 nodules and mm-thick heavy mineral laminae mainly composed of 50-300  $\mu\text{m}$  sized pyrite grains (Fig.  
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24 164 2c). The nodules are composed of poikilotopic quartz and commonly contain a central zone composed  
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26 165 of muscovite (Figs. 2d and 6a). Inward growing crystals in the nodules' core contain quartz  
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28 166 pseudomorphs after gypsum with numerous anhydrite inclusions, while barite inclusions are rare (Figs.  
29  
30 167 2e, 4c and d; and 6b). Sample 13-004-4 is from a ca. 40 cm thick medium- to coarse-grained cross-  
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32 168 bedded litharenite with large nodules up to 2 cm in diameter. The edges of the nodules are composed  
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34 169 of poikilotopic quartz with inward pointing crystals that contain numerous small pseudomorphs (Fig.  
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36 170 4e, f and 6c) with anhydrite and barite inclusions (Fig. 6d). The core of these nodules is commonly filled  
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38 171 by inclusion free clear quartz (Fig. 6c). Pseudomorphs are typically anhedral and cannot clearly be  
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40 172 assigned to a primary mineralogy (Fig. 6d). The number of anhydrite and barite inclusions preserved in  
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42 173 the nodules of this sample is approximately equal. Sample 13-004-3 is from a ca. 35 cm thick bed of  
43  
44 174 cross-bedded to planar laminated medium-grained litharenite. The nodules are aligned along the  
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46 175 cross-bedding and lamination and reach up to 3 cm in size. They show a ca. 3-5 mm thick outer edge  
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48 176 of poikilotopic quartz followed by an up to 1 cm thick zone of inward pointing inclusion rich quartz  
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50 177 crystals and up to 5 mm large muscovite-filled central zones (Fig. 6e). All sulfate inclusions in sample  
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52 178 13-004-3 are composed of barite (Fig. 6f), while numerous calcite inclusions are present within  
53  
54 179 acicular, well-preserved quartz pseudomorphs (Fig. 4a, b). From all mounts and thin sections  
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56 180 characterized by optical microscopy and Raman spectroscopy two from sample 12-003-4 were selected



181 for S-isotopic analysis of pyrite and one thin section or mount from each sample was selected for S-  
 182 isotopic analysis of sulfate inclusions.

## 183 4. Methods

### 184 4.1. SIMS analysis

185 Sulfur isotope ratios were measured on the Cameca ims 1280 HR2 (CRPG-CNRS, Nancy, France) during  
 186 two analytical sessions by simultaneous measurements of  $^{32}\text{S}^-$ ,  $^{33}\text{S}^-$  and  $^{34}\text{S}^-$  in multicollection mode  
 187 with three off-axis Faraday cups. The sulfur isotopic ratios of pyrite, anhydrite and barite of sample 12-  
 188 003-4 were measured during the first session and the sulfur isotopic ratios of barite of sample 13-004-3  
 189 and sample 13-004-4 were measured during a second session. The analytical method is described in  
 190 more detail in Thomassot et al. (2009) and Marin-Carbonne et al. (2014). A  $\text{Cs}^+$  primary beam of 5 nA  
 191 intensity was focused to a spot of about 15-20  $\mu\text{m}$  to measure sulfides. Due to the lower S- emissivity  
 192 of sulfate, a  $\text{Cs}^+$  primary beam of 8nA was used for measuring sulfate. Typical  $^{32}\text{S}^-$  intensity was  
 193 between 6 and  $10 \times 10^8$  counts per second (cps) for sulfide and between 4 and  $6 \times 10^8$  for sulfate. Several  
 194 pyrite (Maine:  $\delta^{34}\text{S} = -20.61\text{‰}$ ,  $\delta^{33}\text{S} = -10.63\text{‰}$ ; Spain:  $\delta^{34}\text{S} = -1.56\text{‰}$ ,  $\delta^{33}\text{S} = -0.78\text{‰}$  and Balmat:  $\delta^{34}\text{S} =$   
 195  $+15.84\text{‰}$ ,  $\delta^{33}\text{S} = +8.12\text{‰}$ ; Supplementary Tab. 1a; Supplementary Fig. 3) and sulfate standards (Cuney:  
 196  $\delta^{34}\text{S} = +13.8\text{‰}$ , Taxco:  $\delta^{34}\text{S} = +15.3\text{‰}$ ,  $\text{BaSO}_4$ :  $\delta^{34}\text{S} = +22.8\text{‰}$  and Maiza:  $\delta^{34}\text{S} = +27.7\text{‰}$ ,  $\delta^{33}\text{S} = +14.2\text{‰}$ ;  
 197 Supplementary Tab. 1b; Supplementary Figs. 4 and 5) were used to determine (i) the instrumental  
 198 mass fractionation, and (ii) the reference mass discrimination line, from which  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values were  
 199 calculated. Sulfur isotope compositions are expressed using delta notation ( $\delta^{33}\text{S}$  and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ ) relative to  
 200 the international standard V-CDT based on the following equation:

$$201 \quad \delta^2\text{S} = \left[ \frac{(^2\text{S}/^1\text{S})_{\text{sample}}}{(^2\text{S}/^1\text{S})_{\text{standard}}} - 1 \right] \times 1000$$

202 where 1 and 2 represent the heavy and light isotopes, respectively (34 or 33 and 32 for S). Mass-  
 203 independent fractionation has been calculated as the deviation from the Terrestrial Fractionation Line  
 204 (TFL), using the mass-discrimination law (Farquhar et al., 2000):

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$$\Delta^{33}S = \left( \ln\left(\frac{\delta^{33}S}{1000} + 1\right) - 0.515 \times \ln\left(\frac{\delta^{34}S}{1000} + 1\right) \right)$$
, where the factor 0.515 defines the slope of the TFL.  
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8 206 A typical analysis consists of 2 minutes of pre-sputtering in raster mode followed by data acquisition  
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10 207 in 40 cycles of 5 s each. The background of the detectors was measured during the pre-sputtering and  
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12 208 was then corrected for each analysis. The internal precision achieved under these conditions was  
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14 209 better than 0.05‰ for  $\delta^{34}S$  and better than 0.03‰ for  $\delta^{33}S$  values ( $2\sigma$ ). The reproducibility was better  
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16 210 than  $\pm 0.40\%$  ( $2\sigma$ ) for  $\delta^{34}S$  and  $\pm 0.1\%$  ( $2\sigma$ ) for  $\Delta^{33}S$  values for both sulfates and sulfide. The analytical  
17  
18 211 uncertainty for pyrite was better than 0.23‰ for  $\delta^{34}S$  values and 0.15‰ for  $\delta^{33}S$  values. Analytical  
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20 212 uncertainties for anhydrite were 0.17‰ for  $\delta^{34}S$  values and 0.19‰ for  $\delta^{33}S$  values. The analytical  
21  
22 213 uncertainties for barite measured during the first session were 1.22‰ for  $\delta^{34}S$  values and 0.64‰ for  
23  
24 214  $\delta^{33}S$  values. For barite measured during the second session, the analytical uncertainties were 0.60‰  
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26 215 for  $\delta^{34}S$  values and 0.38‰ for  $\delta^{33}S$  values. The high analytical uncertainty of the barite measured during  
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28 216 the first session resulted from isotopic inhomogeneity of the barite standard  $BaSO_4$  and was  
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30 217 compensated by adding Maiza as barite standard in the second session. Errors of the mean values in  
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32 218 the results section are given as standard deviations ( $1\sigma$ ) of the described populations.  
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#### 38 219 **4.2. Raman spectroscopy**

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40 220 Pyrite zoning was determined using reflected-light microscopy (Supplementary Fig. 2). Some pyrite  
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42 221 grains contain up to 50  $\mu m$  inclusions of carbonaceous material (CM) that are either concentrated in  
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44 222 the detrital cores or along the core-rim boundary (Fig. 7). We used a Horiba LabRAM HR Evolution  
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46 223 Confocal Raman instrument with a focal length of 800 mm (Department of Geosciences, Friedrich-  
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48 224 Schiller-University Jena) to characterize 20 inclusions of carbonaceous material within 3 pyrite grains  
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50 225 to subsequently evaluate the thermal overprint of the analyzed samples by metamorphic or  
51  
52 226 hydrothermal alteration. All Raman spectra were calibrated using an internal calibration objective with  
53  
54 227 an imbedded polymer. For all measurements a 532 nm laser was used combined with a 600 gr/mm  
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56 228 grating and a 100X-VIS objective. We used an exposure time of 30 to 60 s with two accumulations.  
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59 229 Laser power was reduced to ca. 250  $\mu W$  to avoid oxidation of any adjacent pyrite and destruction of  
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3 230 the CM. CM spectra were evaluated to calculate a maximum metamorphic temperature. The position,  
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5 231 intensity and area of the G, D1 and D2 peaks was extracted using the peak-characterization tool of  
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7 232 LabSpec 6 by fitting them with a Voigt function (Fig. 7c). Temperatures were calculated using the area  
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9 233 ratio of  $D1/(G+D1+D2) = R2$ . The calculated temperatures are based on the geothermometers of  
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11 234 Beyssac et al. (2002) and Aoya et al. (2010) for regional and contact-metamorphic rocks  
12  
13 235 (Supplementary Tab. 2). These thermometers can be used for a temperature range of approximately  
14  
15 236 300 to 650 °C. Both have an estimated error of  $\pm 50$  °C. Calculated R1 values for CM range between  
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17 237 1.62 and 1.92 while R2 values range from 0.65 to 0.70. Temperatures calculated from these values vary  
18  
19 238 between 331°C and 352°C with an average of 340°C (Supplementary Tab. 2).  
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23  
24 239

## 27 240 **5. Sulfur isotopic compositions**

### 30 241 **5.1. S-isotopes of anhydrite and barite**

32  
33 242 S-isotopes ( $^{32}\text{S}$ ,  $^{33}\text{S}$  and  $^{34}\text{S}$ ) were measured in 46 sulfate inclusions from the three samples. Of the  
34  
35 243 inclusions, eleven were anhydrite (sample 12-003-4) and 35 barite (all samples). The  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  composition  
36  
37 244 of the anhydrite ranges from +10.45‰ to +2.82‰ with a mean of  $+5.33\text{‰} \pm 2.34\text{‰}$  (Tab. 1; Fig. 8).  
38  
39 245 Anhydrite  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values range from -0.14‰ to -0.50‰; the mean is  $-0.28\text{‰} \pm 0.13\text{‰}$ . The  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$   
40  
41 246 composition of barite ranges from +9.79‰ to -0.43‰ with a mean of  $+3.11\text{‰} \pm 1.97\text{‰}$ . Barite  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$   
42  
43 247 values range from +0.19‰ to -0.39‰, with a mean of  $-0.18\text{‰} \pm 0.13\text{‰}$ . Barite inclusions show  
44  
45 248 corresponding variations between the three samples. Barite inclusions from sample 12-003-4 (n=4)  
46  
47 249 show the heaviest  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values from +9.79‰ to +3.24‰ with a mean of  $+6.65\text{‰} \pm 2.80\text{‰}$ . The  
48  
49 250 respective  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values range from -0.05‰ to -0.34‰, the mean is  $-0.23\text{‰} \pm 0.13\text{‰}$ .  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of  
50  
51 251 barite from sample 13-004-4 (n=13) range from +4.73‰ to +2.21‰ with a mean of  $+3.65\text{‰} \pm 0.64\text{‰}$ .  
52  
53 252  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values range from 0.09‰ to -0.39‰; the mean is  $-0.24\text{‰} \pm 0.09\text{‰}$ .  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of barite from  
54  
55 253 sample 13-004-3 (n=18) range from +3.70‰ to -0.43‰, with a mean of  $+1.93\text{‰} \pm 1.19\text{‰}$ . The  
56  
57 254 respective  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values range from +0.19‰ to -0.35‰, the mean is  $0.12\text{‰} \pm 0.14\text{‰}$  (Fig. 8; Tab. 1;  
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1  
2  
3 255 Supplementary Tab. 1c). While the  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  composition of the sulfates is highly variable, most  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values  
4  
5 256 are close to  $-0.25\text{‰}$  and overlap partly but are mainly more positive than those of previously  
6  
7 257 investigated Paleoproterozoic barite deposits (Fig. 8b).  
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## 10 258 **5.2. S-isotopes of pyrite**

11  
12  
13 259 S-isotopes were measured in 24 pyrite grains from two mounts of sample 12-003-4, including detrital  
14  
15 260 cores and secondary overgrowths. Samples that include material from both zones in their analysis  
16  
17 261 volume are referred to as transitional pyrite (Supplementary Tab. 1d).  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of detrital cores  
18  
19 262 ( $n=35$ ) range from  $+4.91\text{‰}$  to  $-1.96\text{‰}$  with a mean of  $+1.07\text{‰} \pm 1.89\text{‰}$ .  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values vary between  
20  
21 263  $+0.38\text{‰}$  and  $-0.25\text{‰}$  with a mean of  $+0.03\text{‰} \pm 0.11\text{‰}$ . Overgrowths ( $n=16$ ) show  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values from -  
22  
23 264  $10.62\text{‰}$  to  $-24.05\text{‰}$  with a mean of  $-19.68 \pm 3.76\text{‰}$ . Corresponding  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values range from  $-0.10\text{‰}$  to  
24  
25 265  $-0.33\text{‰}$ ; the mean is  $-0.25 \pm 0.06\text{‰}$ .  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of the transitional pyrite ( $n= 24$ ) range from  $+0.74\text{‰}$   
26  
27 266 to  $-14.84\text{‰}$  with a mean of  $-7.65\text{‰} \pm 5.19\text{‰}$ . The respective  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values range from  $+0.21\text{‰}$  to  $-0.31\text{‰}$   
28  
29 267 with a mean of  $-0.10\text{‰} \pm 0.12\text{‰}$  (Fig. 8; Tab. 1; Supplementary Tab. 1d).  
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32  
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## 34 268 **5.3. Comparison of isotopic values**

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36  
37 269 The  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of detrital pyrite cores and secondary pyrite overgrowths largely overlap with the  
38  
39 270 values presented by Nabhan et al. (2016b). A correlation between the S-isotopic composition and the  
40  
41 271 texture (e.g. porous or non-porous) to the provenance of the detrital pyrite as previously suggested  
42  
43 272 (England et al., 2002; Nabhan et al., 2016b) could not be found. A frequency distribution diagram (Fig.  
44  
45 273 9) of all  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values shows that the largest group (about 32%) of detrital pyrite shows values around  
46  
47 274  $3\text{‰}$ . A similar distribution can be seen in the  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of the barite from sample 13-004-3 that have  
48  
49 275 a similarly high maximum (ca. 39%) at  $3\text{‰}$  and almost as many values around  $2\text{‰}$  (ca. 22%). The  
50  
51 276 distribution of  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of anhydrite and barite from sample 12-003-4 is slightly shifted towards  
52  
53 277 heavier values with the largest number of analysis at  $4\text{‰}$  and heavier (Fig. 9a) but the relatively low  
54  
55 278 number of analyses ( $n=15$ ) might have biased the distribution. The overlap of the maxima of detrital  
56  
57 279 pyrite and barite of sample 13-004-3 might imply a connection between this two groups, however, the  
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1  
2  
3 280 frequency distribution (Fig. 9b) of their  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values shows only a minor overlap. A strong overlap in the  
4  
5 281  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values is observed between the sulfate inclusions and the pyrite overgrowths of sample 12-003-  
6  
7 282 4. Both have the most  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values in the range between -0.15‰ and -0.3‰. The similarity of the  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$   
8  
9 283 values of sulfate inclusions and pyrite overgrowths in combination with the large difference in their  
10  
11 284  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values suggests that their isotopic values may result from the mass-dependent fractionation of  
12  
13  
14 285 single sulfur source that resulted in a  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}} - \delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfide}}$  fractionation of up to 34‰.  
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## 20 287 **6. Discussion**

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23 288 The sulfate and carbonate nodules of the Moodies Group occur in strata of a braided fluvial to  
24  
25 289 supratidal depositional setting throughout the BGB. The nodules have previously been interpreted as  
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27 290 syn-sedimentary to early diagenetic in origin, based mainly on the stratification of nodule-bearing  
28  
29 291 beds, cross-cutting relations with adjacent fluvial channels and the reworking and redeposition of  
30  
31 292 nodules in fluvial channels superimposed on nodule-bearing beds (Nabhan et al., 2016a; Heubeck et  
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33 293 al., 2016; Heubeck, 2019). The origin of the sulfate required to form these nodules remains unclear,  
34  
35 294 especially considering the generally low estimates for sulfate concentrations in Archean ocean and  
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37 295 surface water (< 200  $\mu\text{M}$ ; Canfield et al., 2000; Habicht et al., 2002; Crowe et al., 2014). High levels of  
38  
39 296 seawater sulfate as a consequence of oxidative sulfur cycling are responsible for the relative  
40  
41 297 abundance of sulfate minerals in modern environments. However, the Archean atmosphere was low  
42  
43 298 in oxygen as evidenced by the MIF-S record and the widespread transport and deposition of detrital  
44  
45 299 pyrite and uraninite (England et al., 2002; Hofmann et al., 2009; Koglin et al., 2010; Guy et al., 2012;  
46  
47 300 Burron et al., 2018). This would have significantly inhibited or eliminated oxidative sulfide weathering  
48  
49 301 as a sulfate source. In the following discussion we explore how the necessary sulfate enrichment for  
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51 302 anhydrite and gypsum nodule formation could have been possible, and whether or not this was  
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53 303 facilitated by biological processes.  
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### 304 **6.1. Nodule formation**

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3 305 The formation of stratified nodule beds predating compaction and the high proportion of unstable  
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5 306 detrital feldspar and lithic grains preserved within the nodules characterizes these beds as primitive  
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7 307 Aridisols (Mack et al., 1993; Retallack, 1993; Nabhan et al., 2016a) with calcareous upper and  
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9 308 gypsiferous lower horizons (Fig. 3). The formation of gypsum or anhydrite nodules in an Archean  
10  
11 309 surface environment requires sulfate levels to be locally and temporarily two to four orders of  
12  
13 310 magnitude higher than typically estimated for the Archean ocean that vary between  $<200 \mu\text{M}$  and  $2.5$   
14  
15 311  $\mu\text{M}$  (Fig. 10; Canfield et al., 2000; Habicht et al., 2002; Crowe et al., 2014). This necessitates a sulfate  
16  
17 312 enrichment process such as evaporative brine formation or oxidative sulfide weathering. However, the  
18  
19 313 presence of preserved detrital and early-diagenetic pyrite in the same rocks is a strong argument  
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21 314 against extensive oxidative weathering in this depositional environment. The Moodies floodplains  
22  
23 315 were characterized by recurring phases of desiccation, indicated by the abundance of mud-cracked  
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25 316 shales (Heubeck et al., 2016; Nabhan et al., 2016a; Heubeck 2019). Desiccation could have increased  
26  
27 317 sulfate concentrations in brines sufficiently to precipitate gypsum. Overlying coastal, tidal and deltaic  
28  
29 318 strata (Heubeck et al., 2016; Heubeck 2019) show the proximity of the floodplains to the ocean. In this  
30  
31 319 environment sea-spray and frequent groundwater incursions of Archean seawater with subsequent  
32  
33 320 repetitive evaporative periods in semi-arid braid plains could have been plausible sulfate accumulation  
34  
35 321 mechanisms. Drying-wetting periods in the vadose zone caused by variable precipitation and combined  
36  
37 322 with reduced or interrupted sediment supply would have provided favorable conditions for a  
38  
39 323 fluctuating ground water table. This, in turn, could have created favorable conditions for pedogenic  
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41 324 and early diagenetic growth of evaporative nodules during dry periods associated with rising ground  
42  
43 325 water (Retallack, 1991). The formation of nodules in such a system could have resulted in the different  
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45 326 nodule types that correlate with vertical height above channel-fill base (Chowns and Elkins 1974;  
46  
47 327 Chandler, 1988; Retallack, 1991). Due to the lack of typical pedogenic weathering products such as clay  
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49 328 minerals, and the largely evaporative nature of the nodules, we argue that nodule bearing horizons  
50  
51 329 are closely related to sabkha-type surfaces. Nevertheless, their formation at, or close to the surface,  
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53 330 places these beds at the intersection of the lithosphere and the atmosphere with the involvement of  
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55 331 the hydrosphere via groundwater fluctuations and evaporation.  
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### 6.1.1. Silicification

Most nodules show two distinctly different zones of quartz (Figs. 4e and f, 5a, 6c and e and 11a). All nodules have an outer zone of poikilotopic mega-quartz and inward pointing crystals with numerous pseudomorphs, in part forming radial crystal fans. Sulfate and carbonate inclusions are almost exclusively restricted to this zone and to the pseudomorphs therein. This zone resembles the part of the nodules that was initially composed of evaporitic minerals (sulfates and carbonates); its formation was interpreted as early diagenetic replacive silicification of evaporitic minerals (Nabhan et al., 2016a; Heubeck et al., 2016; Heubeck, 2019). Such an early diagenetic silicification is a prerequisite for stabilizing the nodules and preventing them from possible dissolution, especially in the case of their redeposition. However, some nodules interpreted as redeposited show irregular shapes indicating partial dissolution (Fig. 5a). This implies that redeposition of nodules was possible even before silicification. Nonetheless, silicification must have taken place prior to compaction because the nodules show no sign of compaction-related deformation. The preservation of delicate textures such as radial crystal fans (Fig. 4a-d) even with the supposed former gaps between crystals still visible as color change in CL (white vs. purple in Fig. 4b) is a strong argument for the early diagenetic silicification of the outer zone. Fluid inclusions aligned along the edges of pseudomorphs are composed of water in places with a central gas bubble of H<sub>2</sub>S (Fig. 11). The H<sub>2</sub>S gas in these inclusions may represent the product of sulfate reduction that took place during the silicification of the nodules.

The inner quartz zone is a result of a later phase of silicification and is free of sulfate or carbonate inclusions. This quartz commonly overgrows the pseudomorphous inward-growing crystals of the first silicification event (Figs. 4e and f, 6e and 11a) and fills former central cavities within the nodules (Figs. 5a and 6c). The quartz of this zone is commonly intergrown with muscovite (Figs. 4c and d, 6e and 11a) which is also widespread as fill of central cavities (Figs. 2d, 6a and 6e). The intergrowth of the quartz with muscovite and their common appearance is similar to the metamorphic quartz-sericite of the Moodies sandstone matrix throughout the BGB (Heubeck and Lowe, 1999; Heubeck, 2019). We argue

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2  
3 357 therefore that this second phase of silicification took place during greenschist-facies alteration of the  
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5 358 BGB.

#### 8 359 6.1.2. Potential metasomatic alteration

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11 360 Syn-depositional and early post-depositional hydrothermal and metasomatic alteration of Moodies  
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13 361 Group strata is known from the Saddleback Syncline and other areas adjacent to the Lomati River Sill  
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15 362 in the center of the BGB (Heubeck, 2019). There, Moodies sandstone is intensely silicified within a ca.  
16  
17 363 1 km thick halo around the sill and is crosscut in places by shallow subvolcanic dikes (Heubeck, 2019).  
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19 364 Unit MdQ1 in the Stolzberg Syncline shows no cross-cutting dikes; and the fabric of the nodules that  
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21 365 are composed of mega-quartz is distinctly different from the microcrystalline texture resulting from  
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23 366 hydrothermal silicification. A juvenile sulfate source due to syn-depositional hydrothermal activity is  
24  
25 367 unlikely throughout unit MdQ1 of the Stolzberg Syncline because of the lack of any accompanying  
26  
27 368 mappable structures. Hydrothermally introduced sulfate would presumably result in the formation of  
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29 369 barite specifically along fluid pathways due to the extremely low solubility of barite (Davis and Collins,  
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31 370 1971; Babel and Schreiber, 2007), which is inconsistent with the limitation of barite strictly to the  
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33 371 nodules. A bedding-parallel formation of carbonate or anhydrite nodules that contain barite (Fig. 2 and  
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35 372 3) is more readily explained by interactions between a diagenetic sulfate-bearing pore fluid with a  
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37 373 diagenetic Ba-containing pore fluid in unconsolidated sediment. The barium in these fluids was likely  
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39 374 provided by the decomposition of detrital Ba-feldspars (Nabhan et al., 2016a). Furthermore, the  
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41 375 frequent occurrence of former carbonate-dominated nodules would require such a hydrothermal fluid  
42  
43 376 to be variably enriched in both sulfate and carbonate. These substantial variations are more readily  
44  
45 377 explained by evaporation-driven formation from a seawater source. However, it remains possible that  
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47 378 hydrothermal fluids were mixed with seawater sulfate prior to the accumulation of this sulfate in the  
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49 379 Moodies sediments as proposed for the Fig Tree barite (Bao et al., 2007; Roerdink et al., 2012; Muller  
50  
51 380 et al., 2016).

#### 58 381 6.2. Pyrite origin and formation



### 6.2.1. Detrital pyrite

The S-isotopic composition of pyrite in Moodies nodule bearing-beds is highly variable (Fig. 7, 8 and 9; Supplementary Tab. 1d) and reflects the two populations of cores and overgrowths. Detrital pyrite is difficult to relate to sulfur processing within the nodule-bearing beds because its age and origin mirrors the provenance of the sedimentary rocks. The scatter of the values with  $\delta^{34}\text{S} = -1.96$  to  $+4.91\text{‰}$  and  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values close to  $\pm 0\text{‰}$  largely overlaps with those of pyrites from the underlying Fig Tree and the Onverwacht Groups (Ohmoto et al., 1993; Farquhar et al., 2007; Philippot et al., 2012; Grosch and McLaughlin, 2013; Roerdink et al., 2013; Roerdink et al., 2016) and largely resembles previously measured values of massive detrital pyrite in the same strata. However, a correlation between the S-isotopic composition and the texture or provenance of the detrital pyrite, as previously suggested (England et al., 2002; Nabhan et al., 2016b), could not be reproduced.

### 6.2.2. Pyrite overgrowth

Pyrite overgrowths are typically euhedral and fully enclose detrital cores (Fig. 6a; Supplementary Fig. 2). Their incorporation into gypsum nodules (Fig. 5) indicates their penecontemporaneous formation with sulfate mineral precipitation. Late hydrothermal sulfide mineralization is common in the northern part of the BGB (e.g., the Eureka Syncline; Fig. 1a). It affected the Moodies Group at approximately 3.1 to 3.0 Ga and led to the formation of paragenetic arseno- and chalcopyrite, with a distinct absence of sulfate (Otto et al., 2007; Agangi et al., 2014; Agangi et al., 2016). In contrast, the analyzed samples are free from paragenetic sulfides and contain only pyrite. Furthermore, the overgrowths are mostly free of arsenic, the most common trace element of the late hydrothermal pyrite (Agangi et al., 2016) and show substantially higher nickel concentrations while cobalt concentrations are commonly low, resulting in Co/Ni ratios of the overgrowths below 0.4 (Nabhan et al., 2016b). These ratios are substantially lower than ratios reported from hydrothermal pyrite in the northern BGB (Agangi et al., 2014) and consistent with an authigenic or diagenetic origin (Gregory et al., 2015) while hydrothermal pyrite commonly shows Co/Ni ratios around 2 or higher (Large et al., 2009). Raman-spectroscopic analysis of inclusions of carbonaceous material within pyrites from the nodule-bearing beds yield a

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3 408 metamorphic temperature of  $340^{\circ}\text{C}\pm 50^{\circ}\text{C}$  (Fig. 6 and Supplementary Tab. 3). Postulated maximum  
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5 409 temperatures for the hydrothermal event reach up to  $680\pm 25^{\circ}\text{C}$  (Otto et al., 2007), but the majority of  
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7 410 the hydrothermal sulfides in the northern BGB formed at temperatures around  $300^{\circ}\text{C}$  (de Ronde et al.,  
8  
9 411 1992) and show mainly positive  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values (Agangi et al., 2016). It is thus highly unlikely that the  
10 412 negative  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of the pyrite overgrowth resulted from thermochemical sulfate reduction (TSR)  
11  
12 413 during the hydrothermal mineralization in the BGB. At approximately  $300^{\circ}\text{C}$  the  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  fractionation  
13  
14 414 between the resulting sulfide and the sulfate source would be below 20‰ (Rye, 2005). The observed  
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16 415  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  fractionation between anhydrite and pyrite overgrowths of up to 34‰ requires a low-  
17  
18 416 temperature regime ( $< 150^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), close to the minimum temperature for TSR of ca.  $130^{\circ}\text{C}$  (Worden et al.,  
19  
20 417 1995; Machel, 2001) if the pyrite formed from the observed anhydrite (Rye, 2005). A formation of the  
21  
22 418 anhydrite and the pyrite by TSR from a common sulfate source would still require temperatures below  
23  
24 419  $180^{\circ}\text{C}$  (Rye et al., 2005). We therefore argue that the pyrite overgrowths are not related to this pulse  
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26 420 of mineralization but are early diagenetic and substantially older.  
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### 33 421 **6.3. Implications for sulfate concentration**

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35  
36 422 The formation of barite requires sulfate levels to be at least  $10\ \mu\text{M}$  (Davis and Collins, 1971; Babel and  
37  
38 423 Schreiber, 2007). The formation of Ca-sulfate (gypsum or anhydrite) would require  $\text{SO}_4$  concentrations  
39  
40 424 to be several orders of magnitude higher since the lowest possible saturation of sulfate in solution to  
41  
42 425 form these minerals at  $25^{\circ}\text{C}$  and 1bar is approximately 16 mM (Fig. 10; Bock, 1961; Babel and  
43  
44 426 Schreiber, 2007). With increasing temperature the saturation of sulfate to form both minerals drops  
45  
46 427 towards ca. 6 mM at  $100^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Gypsum remains the dominant and stable phase below  $40^{\circ}\text{C}$  while  
47  
48 428 anhydrite starts to form at higher temperatures and becomes the dominant phase at temperatures  
49  
50 429 around  $90^{\circ}\text{C}$  (Fig. 10; Partridge and White, 1929; Babel and Schreiber, 2007). The solubility of anhydrite  
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52 430 and gypsum at  $25^{\circ}\text{C}$  and 1 bar in freshwater is 2.75 g/l and 2.07 g/l respectively. An increasing  
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54 431 concentration of other phases in solution such as NaCl can increase the solubility of calcium-sulfate up  
55  
56 432 to ca. 8.3 g/l but cannot lead to a reduction (Bock, 1961). In turn, with increasing salinity the  
57  
58 433 concentration of sulfate in solution to reach saturation with respect to calcium-sulfate also increases  
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1  
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3 434 to about 60 mM. In modern environments, the concentration of  $\text{SO}_4$  needs to be approximately 110  
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5 435 mM to form gypsum from seawater (Babel and Schreiber, 2007). This concentration appears to be  
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7 436 implausible to reach from Archean seawater before reaching the saturation point to form halite.  
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9  
10 437 However, the overall salinity of the Archean ocean remains poorly constrained with estimates ranging  
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12 438 from comparable to, or lower than, modern seawater (Marty et al., 2018) to 1.2 to twice as high as  
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14 439 modern seawater (Knauth et al., 2005). Estimates for the salinity of Archean seawater based on fluid  
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16 440 inclusions in quartz are strongly dependent on assumed paleotemperature of the Archean ocean, with  
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18 441 higher temperatures resulting in a lower salinity (Marty et al., 2018). Archean seawater of presumably  
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20 442 low salinity and high temperature could therefore reach saturation to precipitate Ca- already at a  
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22 443 sulfate concentration of ca. 20 mM (Figs. 10 and 12). High daytime temperatures in sabkhas are known  
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24 444 from modern examples and would help to push the sulfate concentration needed to form Ca-sulfate  
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26 445 minerals down to ca. 10 mM. They may even allow for a scenario with a generally temperate climate.  
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29  
30 446 The varying proportion of anhydrite to barite among the three analyzed beds indicate that the sulfate  
31  
32 447 levels experienced fluctuations, implying high (>20 mM) sulfate levels where anhydrite is the dominant  
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34 448 phase (sample 12-003-4; Fig. 4c,d and 6a, b), possibly moderate sulfate (around 10 - 20 mM) where  
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36 449 anhydrite and barite are both present (13-004-4; Fig. 6c, d and 12) and low sulfate (<<10 mM) where  
37  
38 450 anhydrite is absent (13-004-3; Fig. 6e, f and 12). The dominance of calcite inclusions in nodules that  
39  
40 451 lack anhydrite implies that brines were here not enriched enough in sulfate to form anhydrite or  
41  
42 452 gypsum. The precipitation of Ca-carbonate, however, shows that a low  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  concentration is unlikely  
43  
44 453 to be the reason for the observed changes in mineralogy. A high concentration of  $\text{Ba}^{2+}$  could potentially  
45  
46 454 reduce sulfate accumulation; this is, however, unlikely since  $\text{Ba}^{2+}$  availability by silicate weathering  
47  
48 455 alone is limited compared to that of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . The presence of both ions with sulfate levels ~20 mM would  
49  
50 456 still lead to the co-precipitation of Ba- and Ca-sulfate.  
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#### 56 457 6.3.1. Potential sulfate sources

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59 458 It appears clear that seawater is the most likely sulfate source in a supratidal floodplain. Archean  
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459 seawater sulfate was mainly derived from rainout of atmospheric sulfate aerosols that incorporated a

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3 460 negative  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  signal, as demonstrated by Archean marine barite (Bao et al., 2007; Ueno et al., 2008;  
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5 461 Shen et al., 2009; Roerdink et al., 2012; Muller et al., 2016; Muller et al., 2017). Its  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  composition  
6  
7 462 has been estimated to be ca. -2‰ and values have been suggested to have been shifted by microbial  
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9  
10 463 processing such as MSR and mixing with juvenile, hydrothermal sulfate in restricted basins to reach  
11  
12 464 the  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of the Paleoarchean barite between +3‰ and +6‰ (Ohmoto et al., 1993; Bao et al.,  
13  
14 465 2007; Ueno et al., 2008; Shen et al., 2009; Roerdink et al., 2012; Muller et al., 2016). However, the  
15  
16 466 Moodies sulfate and sulfide multiple S-isotope data plot over a larger area than the field estimated for  
17  
18 467 Archean seawater, extending towards more juvenile isotopic values (Fig. 8b). The anhydrite inclusions  
19  
20 468 from the Moodies nodules show a similar S-isotopic “fingerprint” that overlaps with that of the marine  
21  
22 469 barite deposits from the Fig Tree Group (Fig. 8b and 12; Bao et al., 2007; Shen et al., 2009; Roerdink et  
23  
24 470 al., 2012; Muller et al., 2016), while the barite inclusions of sample 13-004-3 are more variable with  
25  
26 471 the lowest  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  and highest  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values (Tab. 1, Fig. 8 and Supplementary Tab. 1c). The shift in the S-  
27  
28 472 isotopic composition of the Moodies barite suggests the contribution of a second, possibly minor  
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30 473 sulfate source that appeared when the supply of seawater sulfate was limited.

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35 474 Potential sources are (1) juvenile sulfate from hydrothermal activity, (2)  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$ -positive sulfate  
36  
37 475 introduced by microbial sulfur disproportionation (MSD) or (3) sulfate produced by continental  
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39 476 oxidative pyrite weathering, with an average S-isotopic composition similar or equivalent to juvenile  
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41 477 sulfur. As argued before, it is highly unlikely that a syn-depositional hydrothermal source was  
42  
43 478 contributing to the formation of the Moodies sulfates. MSD is equally unlikely because it should have  
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45 479 processed predominantly  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$ -positive  $\text{S}_0$  aerosols (Farquhar and Wing, 2003; Philippot et al., 2007;  
46  
47 480 Grosch and McLaughlin 2013). Mixing of seawater sulfate with estimates for MSD-derived sulfate  
48  
49 481 would produce higher  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values than those of the anhydrite inclusions (Fig. 8). Lastly, oxidative pyrite  
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51 482 weathering as additional sulfate source is inconsistent with a nearly oxygen-free Archean atmosphere  
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53 483 as further backed up by the mainly negative  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values of the anhydrite. It is also unlikely because of  
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55 484 the occurrence of detrital pyrite that is mostly well-rounded as typical for mechanical weathering  
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57 485 (Supplementary Fig. 2). However, some pyrite grains show irregular shapes indicative of chemical

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3 486 alteration (Supplementary Fig. 2b). Additionally, the S-isotopic composition of the barite in sample 13-  
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5 487 004-3 overlaps largely with that of the detrital pyrite from 12-003-4 (Fig. 8a and 9) thus implying a  
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7 488 connection between the two populations. In addition, detrital pyrite can repeatedly be found forming  
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9 489 the majority of heavy mineral laminae in nodule bearing beds (Supplementary Fig. 1). This indicates  
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11 490 that oxidative pyrite weathering might have locally contributed a large proportion of sulfate to form  
12  
13 491 the barite in sample 13-004-3 but only a minor fraction of sulfate delivered to the Moodies floodplains  
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15 492 (Fig. 12). Local production of free oxygen in so-called 'whiffs' would not affect global MIF signals or the  
16  
17 493 detrital mineral record if efficient consumption through reaction with sulfide or other reduced  
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19 494 compounds prevented the flux to the atmosphere. Local and limited oxidative pyrite weathering might  
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21 495 thus be possible despite the Archean geochemical record that argues for widespread anoxia in the  
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23 496 atmosphere and oceans.

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28 497 The barite inclusions from sample 13-004-4 show a homogeneous isotopic composition and an overlap  
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30 498 of their  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values with the lightest values from sample 12-003-4 and the heaviest  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of  
31  
32 499 sample 13-004-3 (Fig. 8). Their  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values are less negative than those recorded in barite deposits  
33  
34 500 from the underlying Fig Tree Group that are approximately 20 to 40 million years older (Fig. 8b). Also,  
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36 501 the lightest  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of this sample show a slight deviation from the mean composition similar to  
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38 502 that observed in sample 13-004-3 that might point towards the involvement of the same sulfate source  
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40 503 for both samples. The presence of anhydrite and barite in this sample in approximately equal  
41  
42 504 proportions suggests that the sulfate concentrations during its formation were between the two end-  
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44 505 members represented by the other samples. Thus, the barite inclusions of sample 13-004-4 most likely  
45  
46 506 represent a S-isotopic composition resulting from mixing of Archean seawater sulfate potentially  
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48 507 influenced by oxidative pyrite weathering (Fig. 12).

#### 52 53 508 **6.4. Implications for the Archean sulfur cycle**

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56 509 The negative MIF signal of the Paleoarchean sulfates shows an apparent evolution over time with  
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58 510 average  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values clustering around -1.3‰ at ca. 3.5 Ga and less negative  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values of  
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60 511 approximately -0.5‰ at ca. 3.26 Ga (Fig. 8b; Hoering 1989; Farquhar et al., 2001; Bao et al., 2007; Ueno

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3 512 et al., 2008; Shen et al., 2009; Roerdink et al., 2012; Muller et al., 2017). The  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  isotopic signature of  
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5 513 the anhydrite inclusions measured here (ca. -0.28‰), which likely represents seawater sulfate at the  
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7 514 time of the Moodies deposition (ca. 3.22 Ga), is consistent with this trend and extends it to slightly  
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9  
10 515 younger ages. These observed differences in the Paleoproterozoic MIF signature are controversially  
11  
12 516 debated and suggested to result from variations in volcanic activity (Philippot et al., 2012), changes in  
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14 517 atmospheric composition (Halevy et al., 2010; Whitehill et al., 2013; Claire et al., 2016) or a  
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16 518 combination of both linked to differences in the depositional setting (Muller et al., 2016). Our data are  
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18  
19 519 unable to resolve processes responsible for this temporal trend, but appear to be consistent with input  
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21 520 from a seawater sulfate source where they show similarity to the barite record. However, the Moodies  
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23 521 nodules are in the most proximal position to a continental source of all the Paleoproterozoic sulfates  
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25 522 analyzed to date, and occur in fluvially dominated environments with high depositional rates. As a  
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28 523 result, the Moodies sulfates should be more susceptible to short-term temporal and local spatial  
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30 524 isotopic variability than the marine record. The Moodies Group may thus offer valuable locations for  
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32 525 tracing the possible influence of atmospheric sulfur contribution and microbial sulfur cycling.

### 35 526 **6.5. Implications for microbial activity**

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38 527 The  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}} - \delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfide}}$  fractionation of up to 34‰ between the pyrite overgrowths and corresponding  
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40 528 anhydrite, and the constantly negative and strongly overlapping  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values of both minerals, show a  
41  
42 529 clear MDF effect recorded in the overgrowths (Fig. 7 and 8). This isotope effect is consistent with  
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44  
45 530 biological processing, such as microbial sulfate reduction, as previously suggested based on their  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$   
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47 531 composition (Nabhan et al., 2016b). The occurrence of pyrite overgrowths only in the presence of  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ -  
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49 532 heavy anhydrite and barite (up to +10.45‰) agrees with an early diagenetic formation pathway. Such  
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51 533 a large fractionation in this setting, if reflective of a single reduction step, is also consistent with sulfate  
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54 534 concentrations < 5  $\mu\text{M}$  proposed for the Archean ocean (Crowe et al., 2014; Wing and Halevy, 2014;  
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56 535 Bradley et al., 2016; Eickmann et al., 2018) but more easily achievable with the high sulfate  
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58 536 concentrations that we infer for the Moodies floodplains.

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3 537 The potential supply of additional sulfate by oxidative pyrite weathering that we argue here conflicts  
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5 538 with the occurrence of well-rounded detrital pyrite in the same depositional system. The detrital pyrite  
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7 539 lacks iron-oxide layers as previously recorded in the ca. 3.4 Ga old basal sandstone of the Strelley Pool  
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9 540 Fm., Pilbara Craton, Western Australia (Wacey et al., 2011) that are indicative of oxidative weathering.  
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11 541 However, some pyrite grains show irregular shapes indicative of chemical alteration (Supplementary  
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13 542 Fig. 2b) and inclusions of carbonaceous matter close to their core-rim boundaries (Fig. 7) that indicate  
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15 543 a possible biogenic involvement. These inclusions of carbonaceous matter are exclusively within the  
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17 544 detrital part but mostly in contact to the overgrowths and must therefore have formed prior to the  
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19 545 overgrowths. They could either be inherited from the source rock or result from microbial mediation  
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21 546 of pyrite in the Moodies sediment. A weak contribution of sulfate by microbial sulfur oxidation (MSO)  
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23 547 using  $\text{NO}_3$  as electron acceptor could be possible in this fluvially dominated environment. Based on  
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25 548 geological evidence MSO could be as old as ca. 3.5 Ga (Wacey et al., 2011; Havig et al., 2017) while  
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27 549 estimates based on molecular clock calculations remain inconclusive (Havig et al., 2017). Sufficient  
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29 550 availability of fixed nitrogen in nearby fluvial environments of the Moodies Group has been  
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31 551 demonstrated based on bulk N-isotopic compositions between 2‰ and 5‰ of terrestrial microbial  
32  
33 552 mats (Homann et al., 2018) and biological nitrogen fixation has been proposed to occur at least since  
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35 553 the end of the Paleoproterozoic (ca. 3.2 Ga; Stüeken et al., 2015; Thomazo et al., 2018). The shallow  
36  
37 554 Archean ocean around 3.25 Ga to 2.95 Ga has also been shown to be locally mildly oxidizing based on  
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39 555 the U-content and Fe-isotopic composition of Banded Iron Formations from the Fig Tree group  
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41 556 (Satkoski et al., 2015) and on the Fe- and S-isotopic composition of pyrite in stromatolites within tidal  
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43 557 deposits of the Nsuze Group, Pongola Supergroup (Eickmann et al., 2018). Such mildly oxidizing  
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45 558 seawater could also contribute to the oxidation of detrital pyrite. Solely abiotic oxidation would most  
46  
47 559 likely be too slow to produce sufficient sulfate to explain the formation of barite with an almost identical  
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49 560 S-isotopic signature as the detrital pyrite. Microbial sulfur oxidation can oxidize small proportions of  
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51 561 pyrite and even introduce small portions of  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$ -positive sulfate by oxidizing available  $\text{S}_0$  aerosols. The  
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53 562 metabolic effect on the  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values is minor (Zerkle et al., 2009); the observed higher S-isotopic values  
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55 563 of the barite would be a result of mixing  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$ -negative seawater sulfate with the MSO-processed pyrite.  
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3 564  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  variations caused by MSO are less than 5‰ but result generally in slightly  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ -depleted sulfate  
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5 565 compared to the oxidized species ( $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  or  $\text{S}_0$ ; Zerkle et al., 2009; Brabec et al., 2012). Therefore, MSO  
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7 566 may have been the provider for the proposed additional sulfate source although its activity is mostly  
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10 567 masked by the dominating evaporative-enriched seawater sulfate.  
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## 15 569 **7. Conclusions**

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19 570 The presence of anhydrite inclusions and quartz pseudomorphs after gypsum in ca. 3.22 Ga old  
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21 571 Moodies nodules shows that sulfate concentrations were locally highly elevated with respect to  
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23 572 Archean seawater. The fluvial to supratidal depositional environment and S-isotopic composition of  
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25 573 anhydrite, similar to marine barite of the Fig Tree Group, indicate that seawater was the likely sulfate  
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27 574 source. Textural and mineralogical variations reflect changes in sulfate availability within the supratidal  
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29 575 Moodies floodplains and are accompanied by variations in the S-isotopic composition of the sulfates.  
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31 576 The shift towards a juvenile isotopic signal of barite in former carbonate-dominated nodules that  
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33 577 formed under low sulfate concentration shows the involvement of a secondary but minor sulfate  
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35 578 source decoupled from seawater. The overlap and similarity in distribution of barite S-isotopic values to  
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37 579 those of detrital pyrite indicates minor pyrite weathering under weakly oxidizing conditions. This  
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39 580 oxidation might have been related to MSO using  $\text{NO}_3$  as electron acceptor. The co-appearance of  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$   
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41 581 heavy anhydrite and pyrite overgrowth with light  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values and similar  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values strongly indicates  
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43 582 the involvement of MSR in the formation of the early diagenetic pyrite overgrowths.  
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55 800 **Figure Captions**

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58 801 **Figure 1: Geology of the Barberton Greenstone Belt (BGB) and the Moodies Group. (a)** Generalized  
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60 802 geological map of the BGB. Localities in blue mark sites of strata with silicified gypsum nodules. **(b)**

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3 803 Generalized stratigraphy of the Moodies Group. Grey bars show stratigraphic positions of the localities  
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5 804 in a. Locations 4 and 5 (not shown) could not be stratigraphically assigned because Moodies  
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7 805 stratigraphy south of the Inyoka Fault is poorly known. Stratigraphic terminology follows Anhaeusser  
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10 806 (1976). Black asterisks mark the approximate stratigraphic positions of the investigated beds  
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12 807 (Supplementary Fig. 1).  
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18 809 **Figure 2: Sedimentary structures and textures of Moodies nodule-bearing beds and nodules.** (a) Top  
19  
20 810 view on a bedding plane of a sandstone bed rich in silicified nodules. (b) Cross-sectional view of a  
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22 811 sandstone bed with silicified and in part hollow rock-forming nodules. (c) Thin-section image of sample  
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24 812 12-003-4 showing several silicified nodules in medium-grained sandstone. The opaque grains defining  
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26 813 a lamina are mainly composed of pyrite with accessory zircon, chromite and apatite. (d) Thin-section  
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28 814 image of a silicified nodule with a mica-filled central cavity and inward-pointing crystals, shown  
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30 815 enlarged in e (black rectangle to the right). (e) Polarized-light image of an inward-pointing quartz  
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32 816 crystal with bright and colorful anhydrite inclusions (black arrows) and silicified crystal “ghosts” with  
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34 817 dark edges (white arrows).  
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42 819 **Figure 3: Structural composition of nodule-bearing beds.** (a) Cross-sectional outcrop photograph of a  
43  
44 820 ca. 30 cm thick, nodule-bearing bed of medium- to coarse-grained sandstone bed with individual  
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46 821 nodules at the base and a topping unit ca. 5 cm thick of coalesced nodules containing little detrital  
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48 822 material. The nodule-bearing bed is overlain by nodule-free, low-angle cross-bedded, medium- to  
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50 823 coarse-grained sandstone (b) Line drawing of typical nodule-bearing beds, showing possible Acy and  
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52 824 Ack soil horizon subdivisions. Fluvial channels commonly erode deeply into these beds, reworking  
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54 825 nodules as clasts.  
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3 827 **Figure 4: Photomicrographs of silicified crystal fans from nodules.** (a) Silicified crystal fan (sample 13-  
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5 828 004-3) with acicular crystal outlines and aligned inclusions of calcite and barite. (b)  
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7 829 Cathodoluminescence (CL) image of the same area. Quartz appears purple while a calcite inclusion in  
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9 830 the place of a crystal outline appears in bright orange, suggesting that the crystal fan was initially  
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11 831 composed of carbonate. (c and d) Plane-light and polarized-light images, respectively, of a former  
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13 832 crystal fan without “ghost” crystals (sample 12-003-4; black rectangle to the left in Fig. 2d). The  
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15 833 abundance of radially aligned anhydrite inclusions in the quartz crystal suggests its original  
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17 834 composition as a Ca-sulfate crystal fan. (e) Translucent-light image of replacive mega-quartz crystals  
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19 835 from sample 13-004-4 with few very small inclusions lacking ghost crystal outlines. (f) CL image of the  
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21 836 same area. The replacive nature of the quartz crystals is apparent by numerous crystal outlines. The  
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23 837 original mineralogy of the replaced crystals remains uncertain due to the lack of inclusions.  
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30 839 **Figure 5: Microscopic images of redeposited nodule with inclusions of detrital pyrite and pyrite**  
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32 840 **overgrowths (Sample 11-164 from Dycedale Syncline; location 2 in Fig. 1).** (a) Plane-light  
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34 841 photomicrograph of a nodule (left) with irregular margins in a coarse-grained to granular sandstone  
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36 842 adjacent to a chert granule (right). The nodule contains several pyrite and altered pyrite grains (black  
37  
38 843 arrows). (b) Reflected-light image of a pyrite grain in the nodule showing typical shape of idiomorphic  
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40 844 overgrowth. (c) Reflected-light image of a pyrite crystal altered by modern weathering and now  
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42 845 composed of hematite and goethite. Despite its oxidation, the grain still shows a rounded core outline  
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44 846 and euhedral overgrowth as the unaltered pyrite grains in Fig. 7 and in Supplementary Fig. 2.  
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51 848 **Figure 6: Microphotographs of nodules with sulfate inclusions.** (a) Silicified nodule (sample 12-003-4)  
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53 849 showing muscovite-filled central cavity. An inward-facing crystal marked by the white rectangle is  
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55 850 shown in b. (b) Inward-growing quartz crystal with numerous inclusions. Circled inclusions were  
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57 851 identified by Raman spectroscopy as anhydrite, and those large enough were analyzed for their  
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59 852 multiple sulfur isotopic composition (Supplementary Tab. 1c). (c) Thin-section image of a silicified  
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3 853 nodule (sample 13-004-4) composed of inclusion rich quartz (outer areas) and inclusion-free quartz  
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5 854 (inner, bright areas). The area marked by the black rectangle is shown in d. (d) Numerous small former  
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7 855 sulfate crystals, largely but not completely replaced by quartz within a larger quartz crystal. The original  
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9 856 mineralogy of the larger crystal outlined by dark anhedral margins is unknown but numerous barite  
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11 857 (red circles; Raman spectrogram below) and anhydrite (blue circles; Raman spectrogram above)  
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13 858 inclusions are present in approximately equal proportions. (e) Thin-section image of a silicified nodule  
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15 859 (sample 13-004-3); medium-grey area shows the central nodule cavity, filled by muscovite. Note  
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17 860 numerous inward-facing quartz pseudomorphs. Area outlined by black rectangle is shown in f. (f)  
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19 861 Replacive quartz crystal incorporating numerous silicified, radial acicular crystals. Dark outlines are  
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21 862 defined by numerous very small ( $\mu\text{m}$ -sized) sulfate and carbonate inclusions. Barite inclusions are  
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23 863 marked by red circles.  
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31 865 **Figure 7: Pyrite morphology, S-isotope and inclusion composition.** (a) Reflected-light image of pyrite  
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33 866 grain A (Supplementary Table 2) showing a porous detrital core (marked by dashed line) and a  
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35 867 homogenous secondary rim. Results of S-isotope analyses are shown next to the SIMS pits (white  
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37 868 circles). The white rectangle marks the area shown in b. (b) Raman map of opaque inclusions in pyrite,  
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39 869 mainly composed of carbonaceous material but also of carbonate and rutile. White arrow marks the  
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41 870 position of the Raman spectrum shown in c. (c) Raman spectrum of carbonaceous material. The area  
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43 871 ratio (R2; Beyssac et al., 2002) of the peaks indicates a maximum temperature of ca. 340°C  
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45 872 (Supplementary Table 2).  
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53 874 **Figure 8: Sulfur-isotopic composition ( $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  vs  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$ ) of anhydrite, barite and pyrite from Moodies**  
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55 875 **Group nodule-bearing beds.** (a) Analyzed anhydrite and pyrite are from sample 12-003-4. Pyrite  
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57 876 overgrowths and anhydrite show similar mean  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values of -0.28‰ and -0.52‰ but an up to 34‰  
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59 877 fractionation in their  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  composition, indicating MDF by MSR (dashed arrows). The S-isotopic  
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3 878 composition of the detrital pyrite reflects a juvenile source but also contribution by some MIF sulfur.  
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5 879 Variations in the S-isotopic composition of anhydrite and barite are shown in detail in b. ARA: Archean  
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7 880 Reference Array. **(b)**  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  vs  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  composition of Paleoproterozoic sulfates. Moodies sulfates show higher  
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9 881  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values and larger  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  variations than other documented Paleoproterozoic barite deposits (for details  
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11 882 see Hoering 1989; Farquhar et al., 2001; Bao et al., 2007; Ueno et al., 2008; Shen et al., 2009; Roerdink  
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13 883 et al., 2012; Muller et al., 2017). The heavy  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of barite and anhydrite in sample 12-003-4 are  
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15 884 possibly due to MSR. The light  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  and partly positive  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values from barite of sample 13-004-4  
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17 885 possibly resulted from pyrite oxidation. The homogeneous S-isotopic composition of the barite of  
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19 886 sample 13-004-4 is interpreted as representing the mixing of ocean-water sulfate with sulfate from  
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21 887 pyrite oxidation.  
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29 889 **Figure 9: Frequency distribution of S-isotopes of Moodies sulfates and pyrite.** (a) Frequency  
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31 890 distribution diagram of  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values calculated in 1‰ steps. (b) Frequency distribution diagram of  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$   
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33 891 values calculated in 0.05‰ steps. The legend in b applies to both graphs.  
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39 893 **Figure 10: Estimated sulfate concentrations.** Estimates of sulfate concentration in Archean seawater  
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41 894 vary between 2.5 and 200  $\mu\text{M}$  (Canfield et al., 2000; Habicht et al., 2002; Crowe et al., 2014). Sulfate  
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43 895 saturation values to form Ca- and Ba-sulfates are well known from thermodynamic modeling and  
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45 896 experiments. They may vary according to temperature, salinity or pressure (Partridge and White, 1929;  
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47 897 Bock, 1961; Babel and Schreiber, 2007). Sulfate concentrations leading to the precipitation of Ca-  
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49 898 sulfate in the supratidal environment of Moodies floodplains are approximations because salinity and  
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51 899 temperature of the Archean ocean are poorly constrained.  
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58 901 **Figure 11: Fluid and gas inclusions in silicified nodules.** (a) Inward-facing inclusion-rich quartz  
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60 902 pseudomorph overgrown by a second quartz phase, intergrown with sericitic muscovite. The second

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3 903 overgrowth is free of sulfate or carbonate inclusions (sample 13-004-3). **(b)** Fluid and gas inclusions  
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5 904 from the silicified quartz pseudomorph in a. The inclusions contain water as fluid and a gas bubble  
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7 905 composed of H<sub>2</sub>S. **(c)** Contact zone of a silicified nodule (sample 12-003-4) with a euhedral pyrite  
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9 906 overgrowth. The fluid and gas inclusions of this sample commonly show a strong H<sub>2</sub>S-Raman signal (see  
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11 907 d). **(d)** Raman spectra of the two inclusions shown in b and c. The spectrum of the inclusion in b (plotted  
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13 908 in black) shows a very strong water signal and a weak but clear H<sub>2</sub>S signal. The spectrum of the inclusion  
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15 909 in c (plotted in red) shows a weak water and a strong H<sub>2</sub>S signal. Both spectra show also an extremely  
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17 910 weak N<sub>2</sub> signal, likely an atmospheric contribution during the measurement.  
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25 912 **Figure 12: Schematic sketch showing origin of nodules with different mineralogy and S-isotopic**  
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27 913 **composition in Moodies floodplain settings.** Most sulfate accumulating in Moodies floodplains (ca.  
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29 914 3.22 Ga) was probably delivered by seawater that presumably had a similar S-isotopic signature as in  
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31 915 Fig Tree times (ca. 3.26 Ga). The S-isotopic composition of anhydrite inclusions represents this  
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33 916 contribution best; they likely formed by processes concentrating Archean seawater. Nodules  
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35 917 composed of carbonate and barite, in contrast, formed at low sulfate concentrations and show a S-  
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37 918 isotopic signature akin to that of detrital pyrite, indicating that oxidative pyrite weathering was an  
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39 919 important, albeit minor, source of sulfate. Nodules composed of barite and anhydrite that formed at  
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41 920 intermediate and possibly fluctuating sulfate concentrations show a S-isotopic signature indicative of  
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43 921 mixing between seawater sulfate and sulfate produced by oxidative pyrite weathering.  
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**Table 1: Range of S-isotopic composition of S-minerals in analyzed beds; n = number of analysis.**

Sample	Mineral	n	$\delta^{34}\text{S}$ (‰)			$\Delta^{33}\text{S}$ (‰)		
			min	max	mean	min	max	mean
12-003-4	anhydrite	11	2.82	10.45	$5.33 \pm 2.34$	-0.50	-0.14	$-0.28 \pm 0.13$
	barite	4	3.24	9.79	$6.65 \pm 2.80$	-0.34	-0.05	$-0.23 \pm 0.13$
	detrital pyrite	35	-1.96	4.91	$1.07 \pm 1.89$	-0.25	0.38	$-0.03 \pm 0.11$
	transitional pyrite	24	-14.84	0.74	$-7.65 \pm 5.19$	-0.31	0.21	$-0.10 \pm 0.12$
	pyrite overgrowth	16	-24.05	-10.62	$-19.68 \pm 3.76$	-0.33	-0.10	$-0.25 \pm 0.06$
13-004-4	barite	13	2.21	4.73	$3.65 \pm 0.64$	-0.39	-0.09	$-0.24 \pm 0.09$
13-004-3	barite	18	-0.43	3.70	$1.93 \pm 1.19$	-0.35	0.19	$-0.12 \pm 0.14$

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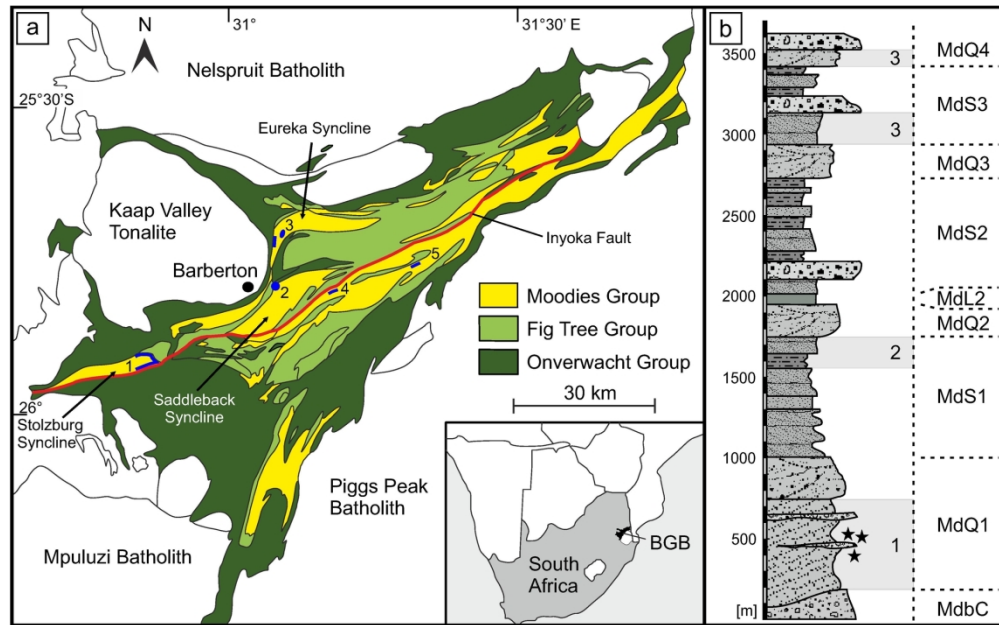


Figure 1: Geology of the Barberton Greenstone Belt (BGB) and the Moodies Group. (a) Generalized geological map of the BGB. Localities in blue mark sites of strata with silicified gypsum nodules. (b) Generalized stratigraphy of the Moodies Group. Grey bars show stratigraphic positions of the localities in a. Locations 4 and 5 (not shown) could not be stratigraphically assigned because Moodies stratigraphy south of the Inyoka Fault is poorly known. Stratigraphic terminology follows Anhaeusser (1976). Black asterisks mark the approximate stratigraphic positions of the investigated beds (Supplementary Fig. 1).

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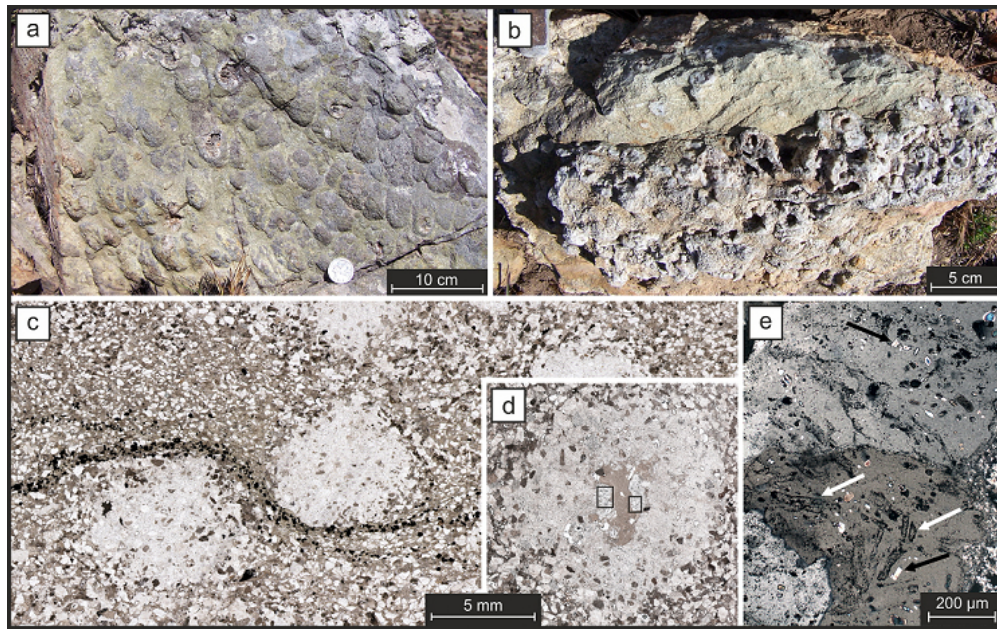


Figure 2: Sedimentary structures and textures of Moodies nodule-bearing beds and nodules. (a) Top view on a bedding plane of a sandstone bed rich in silicified nodules. (b) Cross-sectional view of a sandstone bed with silicified and in part hollow rock-forming nodules. (c) Thin-section image of sample 12-003-4 showing several silicified nodules in medium-grained sandstone. The opaque grains defining a lamina are mainly composed of pyrite with accessory zircon, chromite and apatite. (d) Thin-section image of a silicified nodule with a mica-filled central cavity and inward-pointing crystals, shown enlarged in e (black rectangle to the right). (e) Polarized-light image of an inward-pointing quartz crystal with bright and colorful anhydrite inclusions (black arrows) and silicified crystal "ghosts" with dark edges (white arrows).

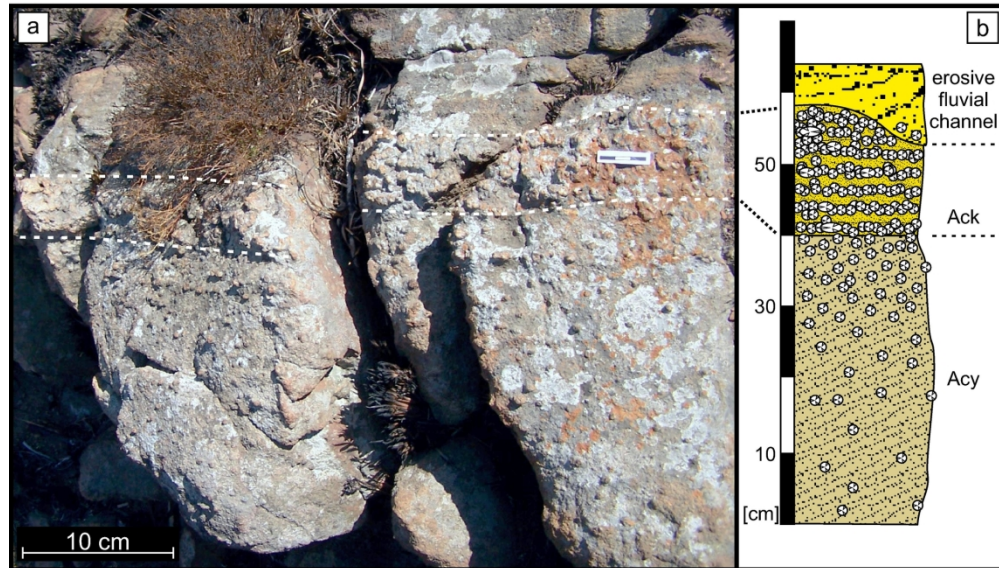


Figure 3: Structural composition of nodule-bearing beds. (a) Cross-sectional outcrop photograph of a ca. 30 cm thick, nodule-bearing bed of medium- to coarse-grained sandstone bed with individual nodules at the base and a topping unit ca. 5 cm thick of coalesced nodules containing little detrital material. The nodule-bearing bed is overlain by nodule-free, low-angle cross-bedded, medium- to coarse-grained sandstone (b) Line drawing of typical nodule-bearing beds, showing possible Acy and Ack soil horizon subdivisions. Fluvial channels commonly erode deeply into these beds, reworking nodules as clasts.

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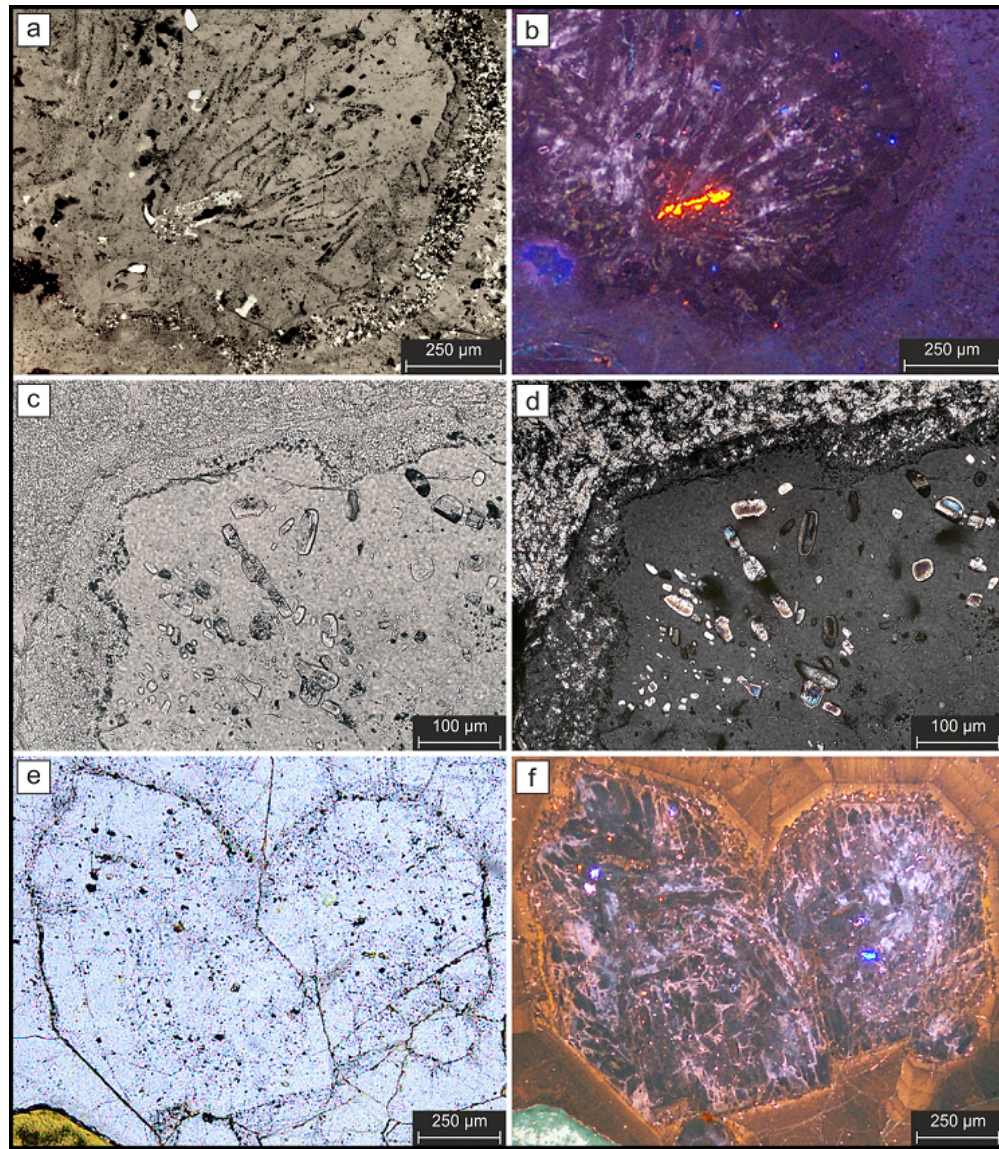


Figure 4: Photomicrographs of silicified crystal fans from nodules. (a) Silicified crystal fan (sample 13-004-3) with acicular crystal outlines and aligned inclusions of calcite and barite. (b) Cathodoluminescence (CL) image of the same area. Quartz appears purple while a calcite inclusion in the place of a crystal outline appears in bright orange, suggesting that the crystal fan was initially composed of carbonate. (c and d) Plane-light and polarized-light images, respectively, of a former crystal fan without "ghost" crystals (sample 12-003-4; black rectangle to the left in Fig. 2d). The abundance of radially aligned anhydrite inclusions in the quartz crystal suggests its original composition as a Ca-sulfate crystal fan. (e) Translucent-light image of replacive mega-quartz crystals from sample 13-004-4 with few very small inclusions lacking ghost crystal outlines. (f) CL image of the same area. The replacive nature of the quartz crystals is apparent by numerous crystal outlines. The original mineralogy of the replaced crystals remains uncertain due to the lack of inclusions.

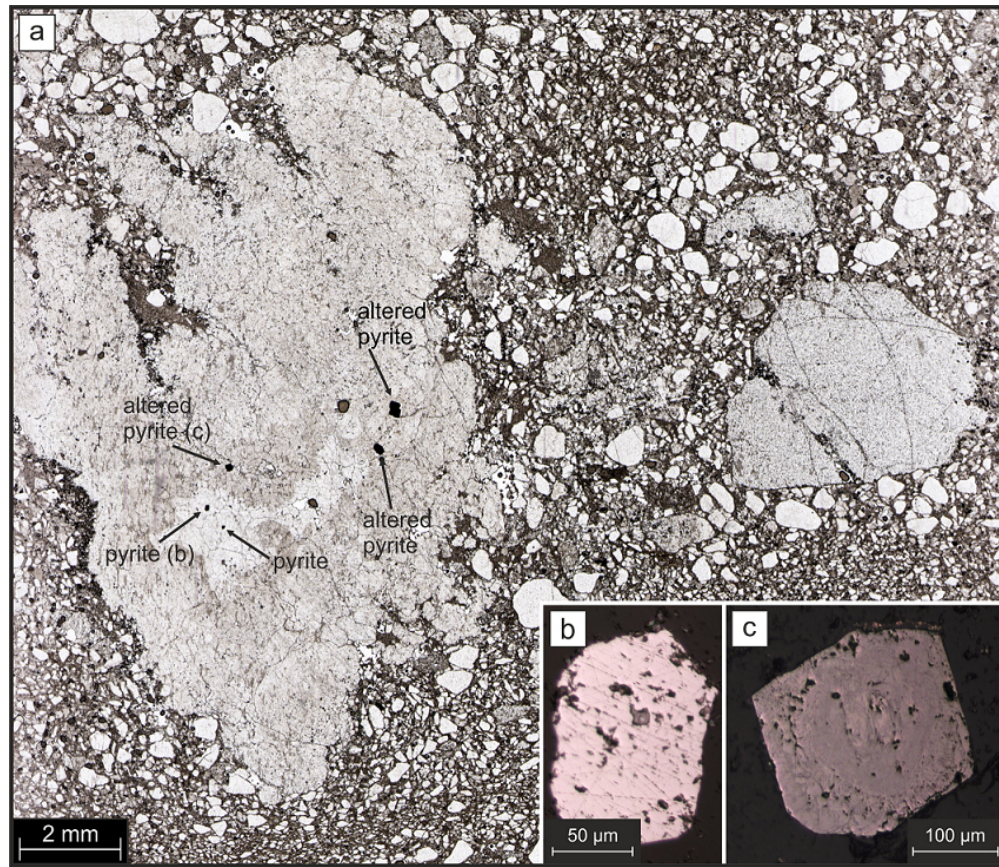


Figure 5: Microscopic images of redeposited nodule with inclusions of detrital pyrite and pyrite overgrowths (Sample 11-164 from Dycedale Syncline; location 2 in Fig. 1). (a) Plane-light photomicrograph of a nodule (left) with irregular margins in a coarse-grained to granular sandstone adjacent to a chert granule (right). The nodule contains several pyrite and altered pyrite grains (black arrows). (b) Reflected-light image of a pyrite grain in the nodule showing typical shape of idiomorphic overgrowth. (c) Reflected-light image of a pyrite crystal altered by modern weathering and now composed of hematite and goethite. Despite its oxidation, the grain still shows a rounded core outline and euhedral overgrowth as the unaltered pyrite grains in Fig. 7 and in Supplementary Fig. 2.

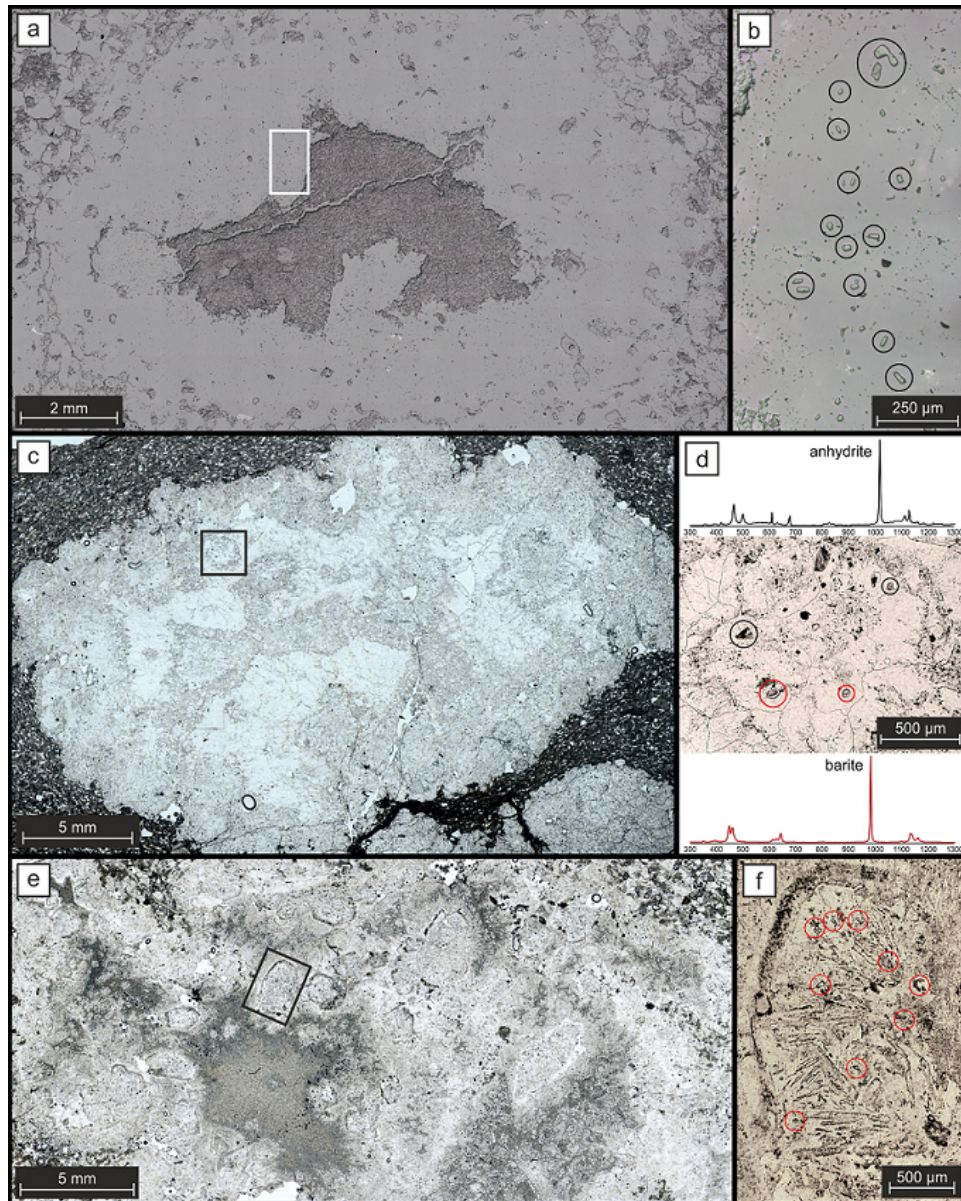


Figure 6: Microphotographs of nodules with sulfate inclusions. (a) Silicified nodule (sample 12-003-4) showing muscovite-filled central cavity. An inward-facing crystal marked by the white rectangle is shown in b. (b) Inward-growing quartz crystal with numerous inclusions. Circled inclusions were identified by Raman spectroscopy as anhydrite, and those large enough were analyzed for their multiple sulfur isotopic composition (Supplementary Tab. 1c). (c) Thin-section image of a silicified nodule (sample 13-004-4) composed of inclusion rich quartz (outer areas) and inclusion-free quartz (inner, bright areas). The area marked by the black rectangle is shown in d. (d) Numerous small former sulfate crystals, largely but not completely replaced by quartz within a larger quartz crystal. The original mineralogy of the larger crystal outlined by dark anhedral margins is unknown but numerous barite (red circles; Raman spectrogram below) and anhydrite (blue circles; Raman spectrogram above) inclusions are present in approximately equal proportions. (e) Thin-section image of a silicified nodule (sample 13-004-3); medium-grey area shows the central nodule cavity, filled by muscovite. Note numerous inward-facing quartz pseudomorphs. Area outlined by black rectangle is shown in f. (f) Replacive quartz crystal incorporating numerous silicified, radial acicular crystals. Dark outlines are defined by numerous very small ( $\mu\text{m}$ -sized) sulfate and carbonate inclusions.

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Barite inclusions are marked by red circles.

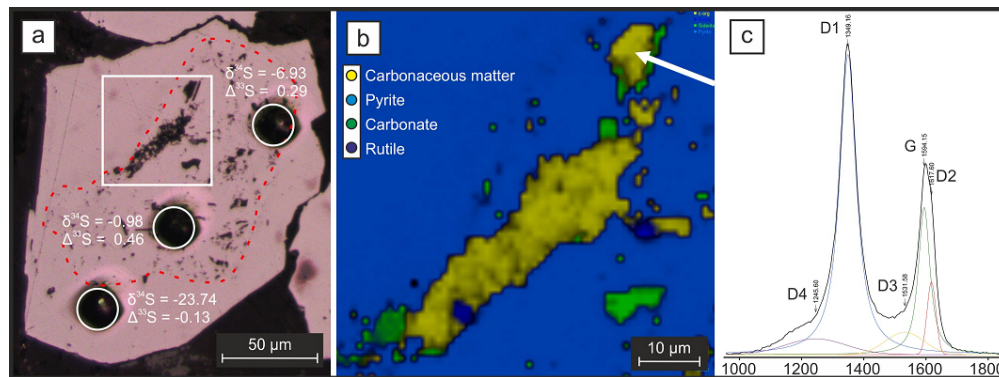


Figure 7: Pyrite morphology, S-isotope and inclusion composition. (a) Reflected-light image of pyrite grain A (Supplementary Table 2) showing a porous detrital core (marked by dashed line) and a homogeneous secondary rim. Results of S-isotope analyses are shown next to the SIMS pits (white circles). The white rectangle marks the area shown in b. (b) Raman map of opaque inclusions in pyrite, mainly composed of carbonaceous material but also of carbonate and rutile. White arrow marks the position of the Raman spectrum shown in c. (c) Raman spectrum of carbonaceous material. The area ratio (R<sub>2</sub>; Beyssac et al., 2002) of the peaks indicates a maximum temperature of ca. 340°C (Supplementary Table 2).

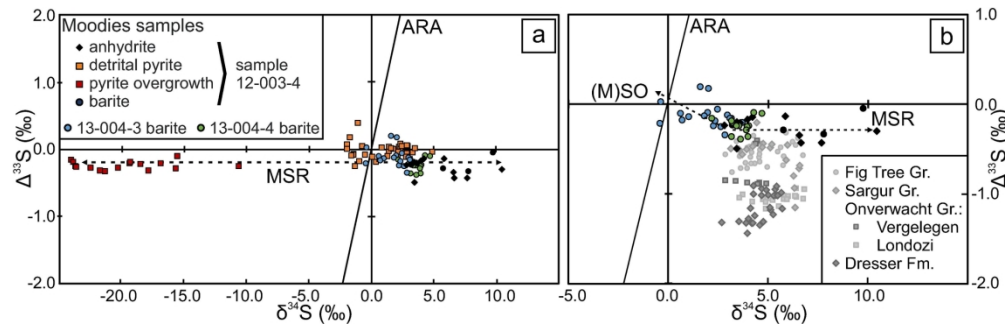


Figure 8: Sulfur-isotopic composition ( $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  vs  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$ ) of anhydrite, barite and pyrite from Moodies Group nodule-bearing beds. (a) Analyzed anhydrite and pyrite are from sample 12-003-4. Pyrite overgrowths and anhydrite show similar mean  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values of  $-0.28\text{‰}$  and  $-0.52\text{‰}$  but an up to  $34\text{‰}$  fractionation in their  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  composition, indicating MDF by MSR (dashed arrows). The S-isotopic composition of the detrital pyrite reflects a juvenile source but also contribution by some MIF sulfur. Variations in the S-isotopic composition of anhydrite and barite are shown in detail in b. ARA: Archean Reference Array. (b)  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  vs  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  composition of Paleoproterozoic sulfates. Moodies sulfates show higher  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values and larger  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  variations than other documented Paleoproterozoic barite deposits (for details see Hoering 1989; Farquhar et al., 2001; Bao et al., 2007; Ueno et al., 2008; Shen et al., 2009; Roerdink et al., 2012; Muller et al., 2017). The heavy  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of barite and anhydrite in sample 12-003-4 are possibly due to MSR. The light  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  and partly positive  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values from barite of sample 13-004-4 possibly resulted from pyrite oxidation. The homogeneous S-isotopic composition of the barite of sample 13-004-4 is interpreted as representing the mixing of ocean-water sulfate with sulfate from pyrite oxidation.

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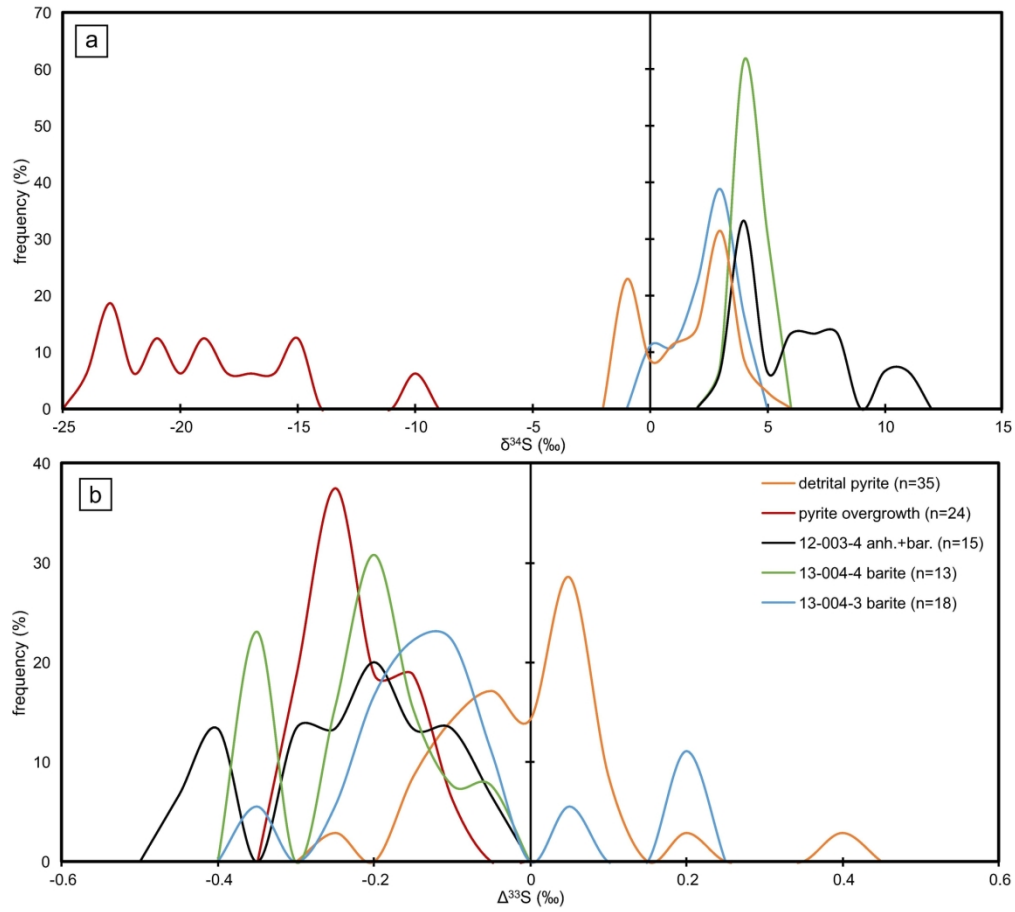


Figure 9: Frequency distribution of S-isotopes of Moodies sulfates and pyrite. (a) Frequency distribution diagram of  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values calculated in 1‰ steps. (b) Frequency distribution diagram of  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values calculated in 0.05‰ steps. The legend in b applies to both graphs.

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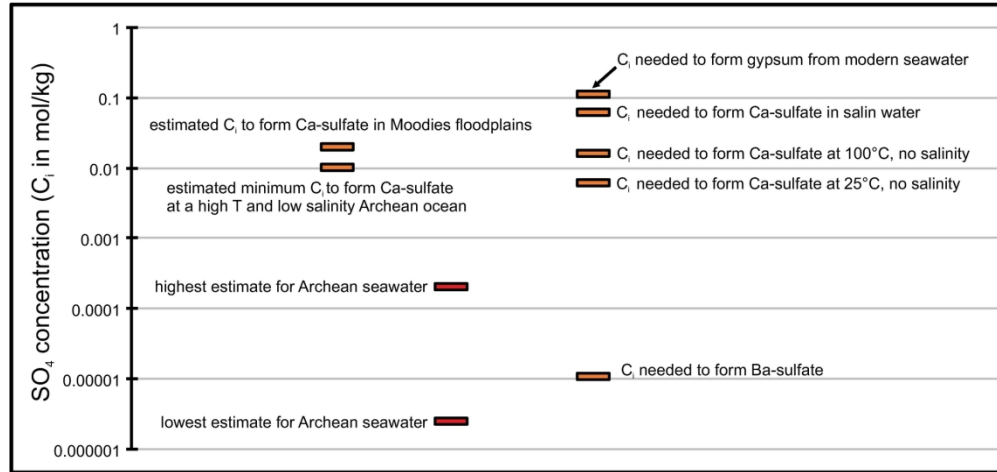


Figure 10: Estimated sulfate concentrations. Estimates of sulfate concentration in Archean seawater vary between 2.5 and 200  $\mu\text{M}$  (Canfield et al., 2000; Habicht et al., 2002; Crowe et al., 2014). Sulfate saturation values to form Ca- and Ba-sulfates are well known from thermodynamic modeling and experiments. They may vary according to temperature, salinity or pressure (Partridge and White, 1929; Bock, 1961; Babel and Schreiber, 2007). Sulfate concentrations leading to the precipitation of Ca-sulfate in the supratidal environment of Moodies floodplains are approximations because salinity and temperature of the Archean ocean are poorly constrained.

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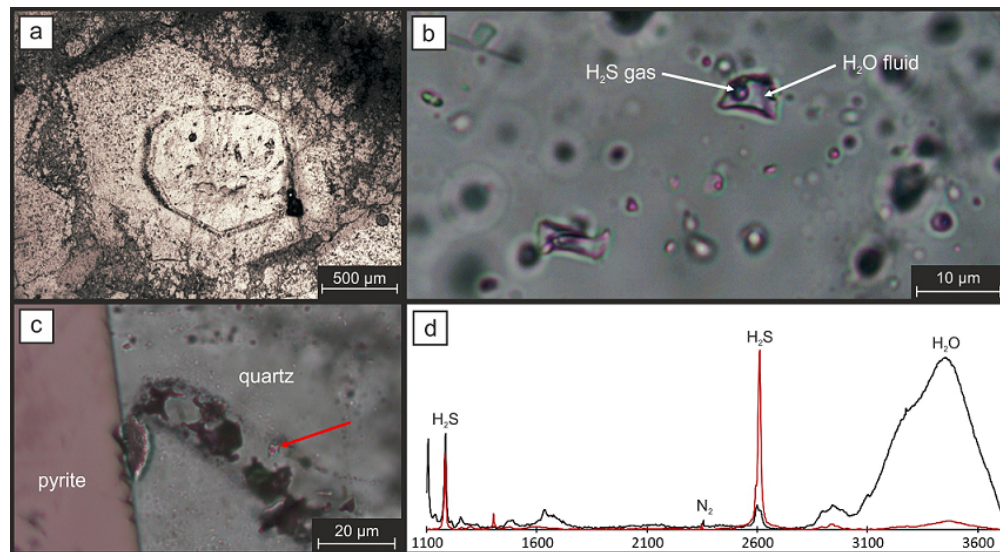


Figure 11: Fluid and gas inclusions in silicified nodules. (a) Inward-facing inclusion-rich quartz pseudomorph overgrown by a second quartz phase, intergrown with sericitic muscovite. The second overgrowth is free of sulfate or carbonate inclusions (sample 13-004-3). (b) Fluid and gas inclusions from the silicified quartz pseudomorph in a. The inclusions contain water as fluid and a gas bubble composed of H<sub>2</sub>S. (c) Contact zone of a silicified nodule (sample 12-003-4) with a euhedral pyrite overgrowth. The fluid and gas inclusions of this sample commonly show a strong H<sub>2</sub>S-Raman signal (see d). (d) Raman spectra of the two inclusions shown in b and c. The spectrum of the inclusion in b (plotted in black) shows a very strong water signal and a weak but clear H<sub>2</sub>S signal. The spectrum of the inclusion in c (plotted in red) shows a weak water and a strong H<sub>2</sub>S signal. Both spectra show also an extremely weak N<sub>2</sub> signal, likely an atmospheric contribution during the measurement.

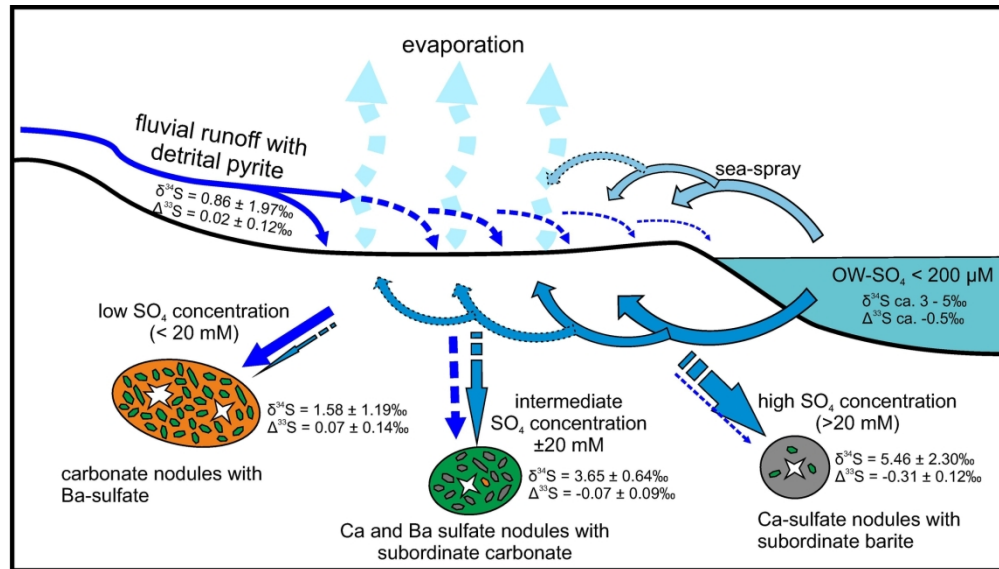


Figure 12: Schematic sketch showing origin of nodules with different mineralogy and S-isotopic composition in Moodies floodplain settings. Most sulfate accumulating in Moodies floodplains (ca. 3.22 Ga) was probably delivered by seawater that presumably had a similar S-isotopic signature as in Fig Tree times (ca. 3.26 Ga). The S-isotopic composition of anhydrite inclusions represents this contribution best; they likely formed by processes concentrating Archean seawater. Nodules composed of carbonate and barite, in contrast, formed at low sulfate concentrations and show a S-isotopic signature akin to that of detrital pyrite, indicating that oxidative pyrite weathering was an important, albeit minor, source of sulfate. Nodules composed of barite and anhydrite that formed at intermediate and possibly fluctuating sulfate concentrations show a S-isotopic signature indicative of mixing between seawater sulfate and sulfate produced by oxidative pyrite weathering.

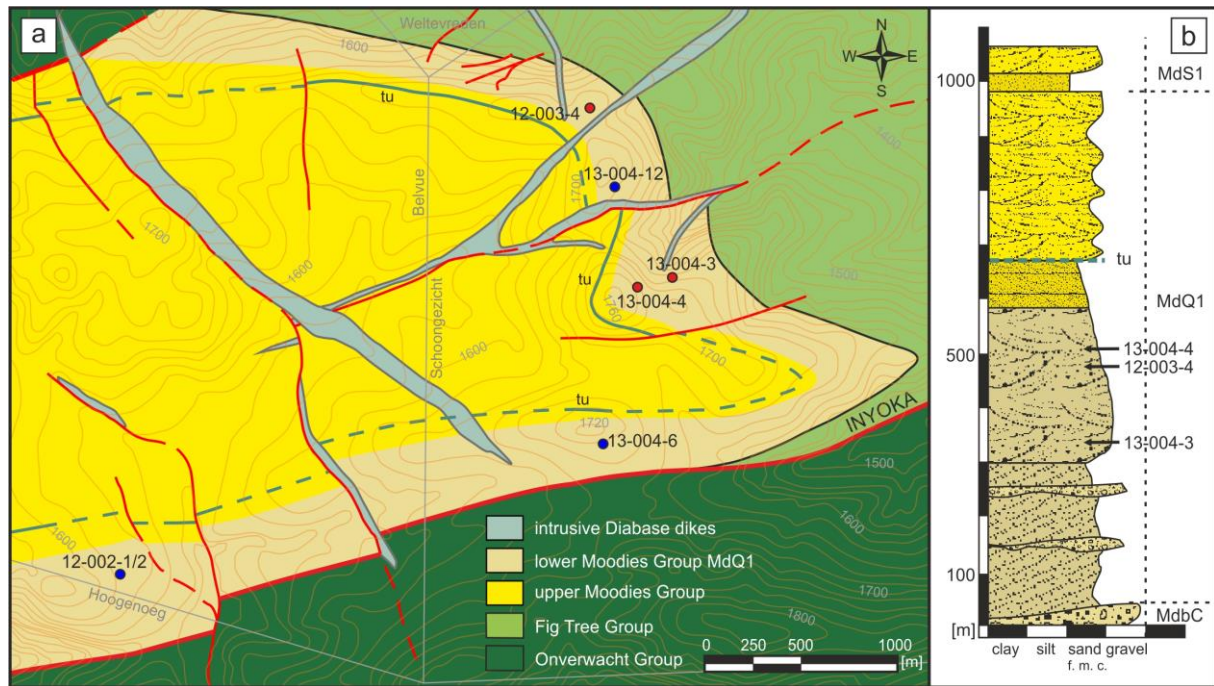
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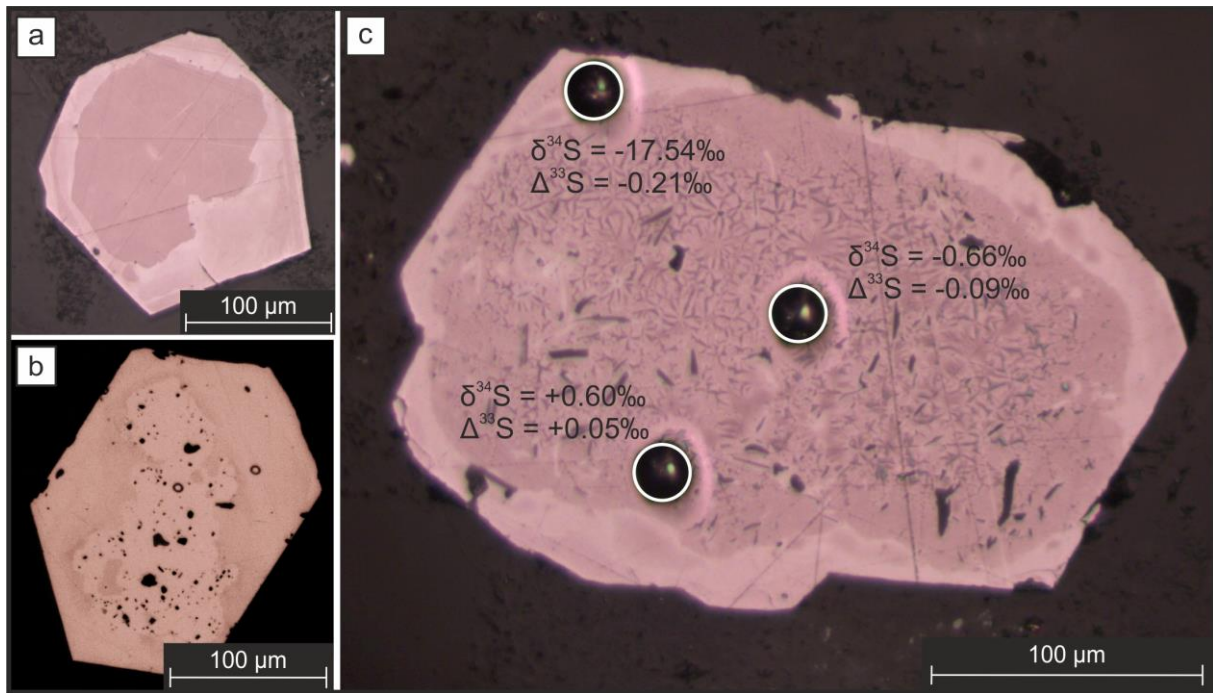
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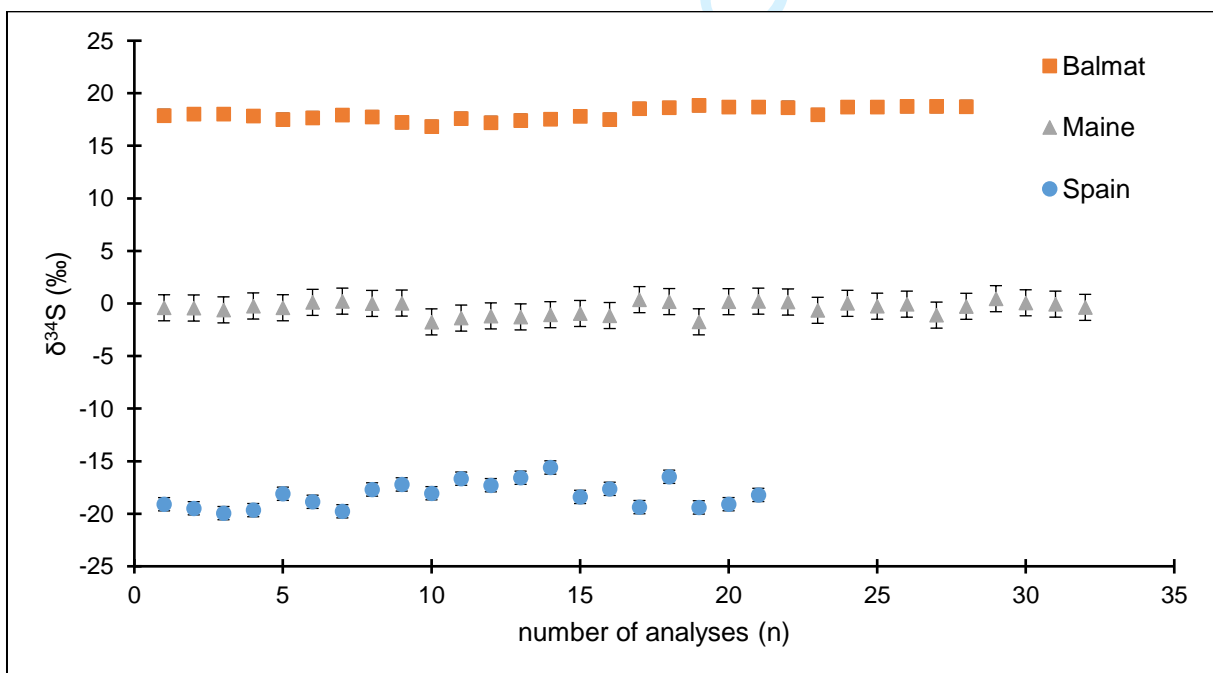
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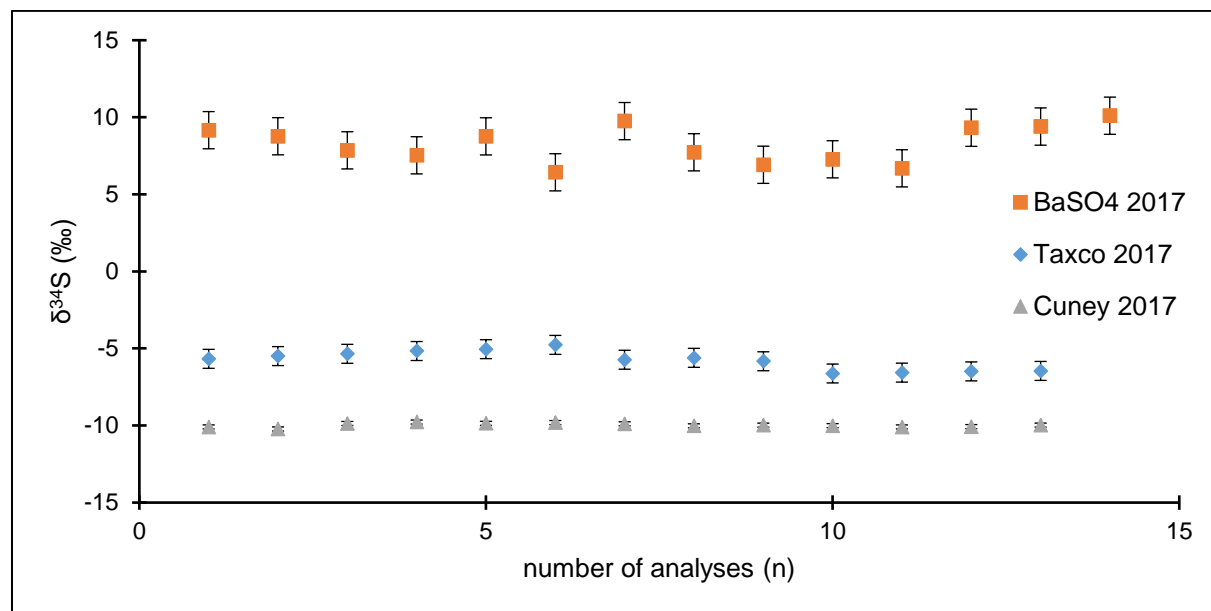
**Supplementary Figure 1: General geology of the eastern Stolzberg Syncline** (a) Generalized geological map of the eastern Stolzberg Syncline. The lower Moodies Group MdQ1 is a fluvial succession with numerous nodule-bearing beds. A continuous bed of reworked tuff (tu; green line) approximately marks the transition from fluvial to shoreline facies. Samples marked with red dots are included in the study, blue dots mark samples that contain nodules and pyrite dominated heavy mineral laminations but are not included in the study because of modern weathering (b) Generalized stratigraphy of unit MdQ1 in the Stolzberg Syncline with approximate stratigraphic positions of samples analyzed in this study. The location of sample 12-003-4 is: 25°53.910' S; 30°51.438'E, of sample 13-004-3: 25°54.418' S; 30°51.674'E and of sample 13-004-4: 25°54.577' S; 30°51.577'E.



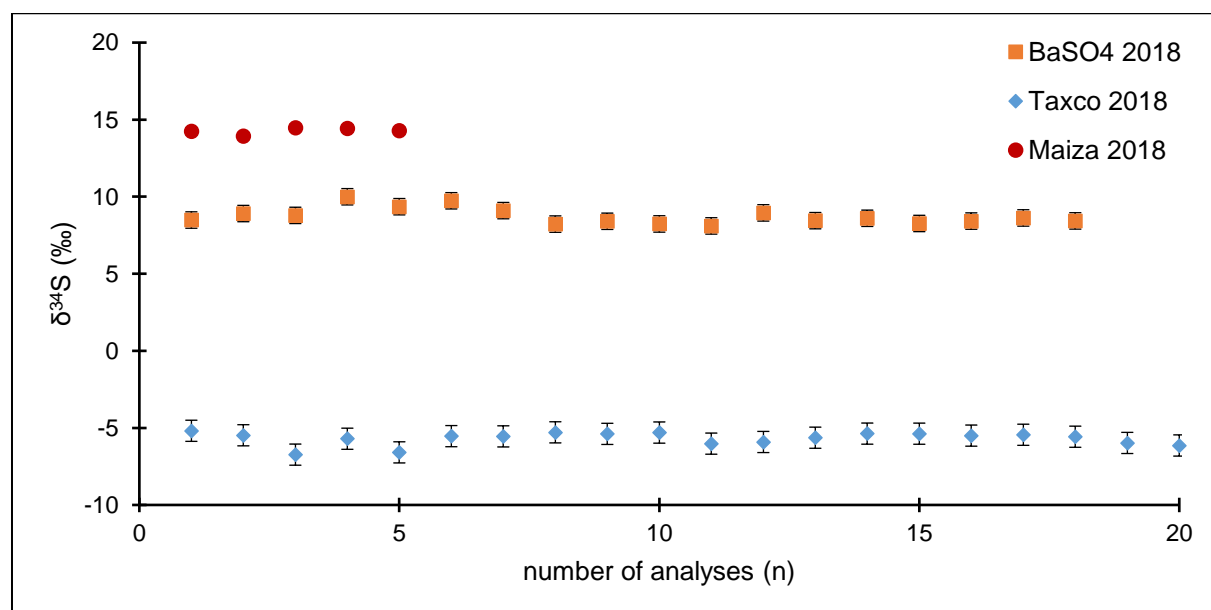
**Supplementary Figure 2: Reflected-light images of pyrite zoning.** (a) Most pyrite grains show rounded detrital cores (dark shaded) typical for mechanical weathering with euhedral overgrowth (bright). (b) Some grains show detrital cores (bright) with irregular shapes that might indicate occasional chemical weathering. (c) The detrital cores have mostly  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  and  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values near 0‰. Overgrowth rims show light  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values around -20‰ and negative  $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$  values around -0.2‰ (Supplementary Tab. 2).



**Supplementary Figure 3:**  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  Variation of standards balmat, maine and spain used for the calculation of the mass fractionation line and the internal mass fractionation to calculate  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of pyrite unknowns from sample 12-003-4. Error-bars show the standard deviation ( $1\sigma$ ) of each standard (balmat: 0.59‰; maine: 1.24‰; spain: 0.63‰).



**Supplementary Figure 4:**  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  Variation of standards BaSO<sub>4</sub>, taxco and cuney used for the calculation of the mass fractionation line and the internal mass fractionation to calculate  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of anhydrite and barite unknowns from sample 12-003-4. Error-bars show the standard deviation ( $1\sigma$ ) of each standard (BaSO<sub>4</sub>: 1.21‰; taxco: 0.62‰; cuney: 0.13‰).



**Supplementary Figure 5:**  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  Variation of standards BaSO<sub>4</sub>, taxco and maiza used for the calculation of the mass fractionation line and the internal mass fractionation to calculate  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of barite unknowns from samples 13-004-3 and 13-004-4. Error-bars show the standard deviation ( $1\sigma$ ) of each standard (BaSO<sub>4</sub>: 0.53‰; taxco: 0.69‰; maiza: 0.21‰).

**Supplementary Table 2:** R-values and maximum metamorphic temperatures obtained from CM inclusions in pyrite grains of sample 12-003-4. The external error of this method is approx.  $\pm 50^\circ\text{C}$ . The given  $1\sigma$  error shows the thermal homogeneity on sample-scale. B. Temp. = Calculated temperature after Beyssac et al. (2002); A. Temp. = Calculated temperature after Aoya et al. (2010).

Grain	R1	R2	B. Temp. [ $^\circ\text{C}$ ]	A. Temp. [ $^\circ\text{C}$ ]
A	1.796	0.658	348.30	349.94
	1.823	0.654	349.84	351.45
	1.719	0.659	347.70	349.35
	1.671	0.676	340.19	342.02
	1.871	0.674	341.16	342.96
B	1.641	0.662	346.27	347.95
	1.906	0.693	332.79	334.84
	1.876	0.696	331.42	333.53
	1.874	0.661	346.67	348.34
	1.776	0.693	332.48	334.55
C	1.684	0.696	331.17	333.28
	1.663	0.675	340.42	342.24
	1.898	0.670	342.90	344.66
	1.870	0.689	334.47	336.48
	1.616	0.654	350.18	351.78
	1.916	0.696	331.22	333.33
	1.826	0.683	336.95	338.87
	1.799	0.695	331.92	334.01
	1.634	0.692	333.12	335.16
1.711	0.694	332.07	334.15	
mean:	1.779	0.679	339.06	340.94
$1\sigma$ :	0.102	0.016	7.10	6.90

**Supplementary Data Table S1a**  
**Sulfur isotopic composition of analyzed sulfate standards**

Sample ID	Date	counts			Measured isotope ratios	
		<sup>32</sup> S	<sup>33</sup> S	<sup>34</sup> S	<sup>34</sup> S/ <sup>32</sup> S	Error
balmat@1	2/20/2017	1.32E+09	1.06E+07	6.05E+07	4.50E-02	1.45E-06
balmat@2	2/20/2017	1.33E+09	1.06E+07	6.09E+07	4.50E-02	1.30E-06
balmat@3	2/20/2017	1.33E+09	1.07E+07	6.11E+07	4.50E-02	1.40E-06
balmat@4	2/20/2017	1.33E+09	1.06E+07	6.08E+07	4.50E-02	1.44E-06
balmat@5	2/21/2017	1.20E+09	9.61E+06	5.51E+07	4.49E-02	1.25E-06
balmat@6	2/21/2017	1.21E+09	9.67E+06	5.54E+07	4.50E-02	1.31E-06
balmat@7	2/21/2017	1.22E+09	9.78E+06	5.61E+07	4.50E-02	1.35E-06
balmat@8	2/21/2017	1.20E+09	9.64E+06	5.52E+07	4.50E-02	1.31E-06
balmat@10	2/21/2017	1.04E+09	8.30E+06	4.76E+07	4.49E-02	7.83E-07
balmat@11	2/21/2017	1.02E+09	8.17E+06	4.68E+07	4.49E-02	1.66E-06
balmat@12	2/21/2017	1.05E+09	8.38E+06	4.80E+07	4.49E-02	1.01E-06
balmat@13	2/21/2017	1.02E+09	8.17E+06	4.68E+07	4.49E-02	7.88E-07
balmat@14	2/21/2017	1.04E+09	8.31E+06	4.76E+07	4.49E-02	9.48E-07
balmat@15	2/21/2017	1.05E+09	8.41E+06	4.82E+07	4.49E-02	8.46E-07
balmat@16	2/21/2017	1.07E+09	8.56E+06	4.91E+07	4.50E-02	8.10E-07
balmat@17	2/21/2017	1.05E+09	8.42E+06	4.83E+07	4.49E-02	8.76E-07
balmat@18	2/21/2017	1.01E+09	8.11E+06	4.65E+07	4.50E-02	1.34E-06
balmat@19	2/23/2017	1.03E+09	8.21E+06	4.71E+07	4.50E-02	1.29E-06
balmat@20	2/23/2017	1.03E+09	8.28E+06	4.75E+07	4.50E-02	1.34E-06
balmat@21	2/23/2017	1.03E+09	8.24E+06	4.73E+07	4.50E-02	1.30E-06
balmat@22	2/23/2017	1.03E+09	8.23E+06	4.72E+07	4.50E-02	1.35E-06
balmat@23	2/23/2017	1.01E+09	8.07E+06	4.63E+07	4.50E-02	1.36E-06
balmat@24	2/23/2017	9.40E+08	7.52E+06	4.31E+07	4.50E-02	1.35E-06
balmat@25	2/23/2017	1.01E+09	8.09E+06	4.64E+07	4.50E-02	1.32E-06
balmat@26	2/24/2017	1.01E+09	8.10E+06	4.65E+07	4.50E-02	1.55E-06
balmat@27	2/24/2017	1.01E+09	8.05E+06	4.62E+07	4.50E-02	1.32E-06
balmat@28	2/24/2017	1.01E+09	8.12E+06	4.66E+07	4.50E-02	1.25E-06
balmat@29	2/24/2017	1.01E+09	8.04E+06	4.61E+07	4.50E-02	1.25E-06
spain@1	2/20/2017	1.28E+09	1.02E+07	5.78E+07	4.41E-02	1.26E-06
spain@2	2/20/2017	1.29E+09	1.02E+07	5.79E+07	4.41E-02	1.33E-06
spain@3	2/20/2017	1.27E+09	1.00E+07	5.70E+07	4.41E-02	1.17E-06
spain@4	2/21/2017	1.17E+09	9.30E+06	5.28E+07	4.42E-02	1.16E-06
spain@5	2/21/2017	1.15E+09	9.11E+06	5.18E+07	4.41E-02	1.02E-06
spain@6	2/21/2017	1.16E+09	9.20E+06	5.23E+07	4.42E-02	1.16E-06
spain@7	2/21/2017	1.16E+09	9.20E+06	5.23E+07	4.42E-02	1.03E-06
spain@8	2/21/2017	1.16E+09	9.21E+06	5.23E+07	4.42E-02	1.10E-06
spain@10	2/21/2017	1.10E+09	8.70E+06	4.94E+07	4.42E-02	7.18E-07
spain@11	2/21/2017	1.06E+09	8.38E+06	4.76E+07	4.41E-02	9.34E-07
spain@12	2/21/2017	1.04E+09	8.25E+06	4.69E+07	4.41E-02	1.12E-06
spain@13	2/21/2017	1.01E+09	8.01E+06	4.55E+07	4.41E-02	9.47E-07
spain@14	2/21/2017	1.03E+09	8.17E+06	4.64E+07	4.41E-02	1.01E-06
spain@15	2/21/2017	9.69E+08	7.67E+06	4.36E+07	4.41E-02	9.01E-07
spain@16	2/21/2017	1.02E+09	8.10E+06	4.60E+07	4.41E-02	1.06E-06
spain@17	2/21/2017	9.86E+08	7.81E+06	4.44E+07	4.41E-02	7.94E-07
spain@19	2/21/2017	9.47E+08	7.51E+06	4.27E+07	4.42E-02	1.08E-06
spain@20	2/23/2017	9.69E+08	7.68E+06	4.37E+07	4.42E-02	1.33E-06
spain@21	2/23/2017	9.68E+08	7.66E+06	4.35E+07	4.41E-02	2.67E-06
spain@22	2/23/2017	9.77E+08	7.74E+06	4.40E+07	4.42E-02	1.04E-06
spain@23	2/23/2017	9.83E+08	7.79E+06	4.43E+07	4.42E-02	1.31E-06
spain@24	2/23/2017	9.81E+08	7.77E+06	4.42E+07	4.42E-02	1.13E-06
spain@25	2/23/2017	1.01E+09	8.03E+06	4.56E+07	4.41E-02	1.71E-06
spain@26	2/23/2017	1.00E+09	7.96E+06	4.52E+07	4.42E-02	1.23E-06



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2	spain@27	2/23/2017	1.00E+09	7.92E+06	4.50E+07	4.42E-02	1.35E-06
3	spain@28	2/23/2017	9.91E+08	7.86E+06	4.47E+07	4.42E-02	1.40E-06
4	spain@29	2/23/2017	9.97E+08	7.89E+06	4.49E+07	4.41E-02	2.06E-06
5	spain@30	2/23/2017	9.91E+08	7.85E+06	4.46E+07	4.42E-02	1.44E-06
6	spain@31	2/24/2017	9.86E+08	7.82E+06	4.44E+07	4.42E-02	1.13E-06
7	spain@32	2/24/2017	9.93E+08	7.87E+06	4.47E+07	4.42E-02	1.42E-06
8	spain@33	2/24/2017	1.00E+09	7.93E+06	4.51E+07	4.42E-02	1.52E-06
9	spain@34	2/24/2017	1.01E+09	7.98E+06	4.53E+07	4.41E-02	1.39E-06
10							
11	maine@1	2/20/2017	1.36E+09	1.07E+07	5.99E+07	4.33E-02	1.28E-06
12	maine@2	2/20/2017	1.31E+09	1.03E+07	5.77E+07	4.33E-02	9.80E-07
13	maine@3	2/20/2017	1.31E+09	1.03E+07	5.78E+07	4.33E-02	2.18E-06
14	maine@4	2/20/2017	1.29E+09	1.01E+07	5.70E+07	4.33E-02	1.29E-06
15	maine@6	2/21/2017	1.18E+09	9.30E+06	5.24E+07	4.34E-02	1.28E-06
16	maine@7	2/21/2017	1.15E+09	9.06E+06	5.10E+07	4.33E-02	1.85E-06
17	maine@8	2/21/2017	1.16E+09	9.10E+06	5.12E+07	4.33E-02	1.24E-06
18	maine@10	2/21/2017	1.03E+09	8.07E+06	4.55E+07	4.34E-02	1.17E-06
19	maine@11	2/21/2017	1.00E+09	7.86E+06	4.43E+07	4.34E-02	9.28E-07
20	maine@14	2/21/2017	1.03E+09	8.06E+06	4.54E+07	4.34E-02	8.63E-07
21	maine@15	2/21/2017	9.77E+08	7.68E+06	4.33E+07	4.34E-02	1.30E-06
22	maine@16	2/21/2017	9.99E+08	7.85E+06	4.42E+07	4.34E-02	1.15E-06
23	maine@17	2/21/2017	9.80E+08	7.70E+06	4.34E+07	4.34E-02	1.46E-06
24	maine@18	2/21/2017	9.41E+08	7.39E+06	4.17E+07	4.35E-02	1.67E-06
25	maine@20	2/21/2017	9.90E+08	7.77E+06	4.38E+07	4.34E-02	2.22E-06
26	maine@21	2/21/2017	9.87E+08	7.75E+06	4.37E+07	4.34E-02	9.74E-07
27	maine@22	2/23/2017	1.06E+09	8.28E+06	4.66E+07	4.33E-02	1.38E-06
28	maine@23	2/23/2017	9.76E+08	7.66E+06	4.32E+07	4.34E-02	1.28E-06
29	maine@24	2/24/2017	1.02E+09	8.00E+06	4.50E+07	4.33E-02	2.88E-06
30	maine@26	2/24/2017	9.84E+08	7.72E+06	4.35E+07	4.33E-02	2.09E-06
31	maine@27	2/24/2017	9.96E+08	7.82E+06	4.41E+07	4.34E-02	2.38E-06
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	otopic ratios		Calculated $\delta$ values in ‰				Inte
	$^{33}\text{S}/^{32}\text{S}$	Error	$\delta^{34}\text{S}$	$1\sigma$	$\delta^{33}\text{S}$	$1\sigma$	IMF $^{34}\text{S}$
6	7.95E-03	2.66E-07	17.88	0.03	7.80	0.03	2.04
7	7.96E-03	2.29E-07	18.02	0.03	7.86	0.03	2.18
8	7.96E-03	3.11E-07	18.03	0.03	7.88	0.04	2.19
9	7.96E-03	2.83E-07	17.85	0.03	7.90	0.04	2.01
10	7.95E-03	2.43E-07	17.52	0.03	7.69	0.03	1.68
11	7.95E-03	3.02E-07	17.68	0.03	7.76	0.04	1.84
12	7.96E-03	3.27E-07	17.93	0.03	8.01	0.04	2.09
13	7.95E-03	2.60E-07	17.76	0.03	7.66	0.03	1.92
14	7.95E-03	2.76E-07	17.23	0.02	7.46	0.03	1.39
15	7.95E-03	2.85E-07	16.84	0.04	7.43	0.04	1.00
16	7.95E-03	3.01E-07	17.60	0.02	7.79	0.04	1.76
17	7.95E-03	2.07E-07	17.21	0.02	7.61	0.03	1.37
18	7.95E-03	3.66E-07	17.43	0.02	7.60	0.05	1.59
19	7.95E-03	2.59E-07	17.54	0.02	7.72	0.03	1.70
20	7.96E-03	2.41E-07	17.83	0.02	7.92	0.03	1.99
21	7.95E-03	2.52E-07	17.51	0.02	7.63	0.03	1.67
22	7.96E-03	2.74E-07	18.53	0.03	8.27	0.03	2.69
23	7.96E-03	3.35E-07	18.62	0.03	8.25	0.04	2.78
24	7.96E-03	3.64E-07	18.84	0.03	8.45	0.05	3.00
25	7.96E-03	3.65E-07	18.70	0.03	8.28	0.05	2.86
26	7.96E-03	2.86E-07	18.70	0.03	8.34	0.04	2.86
27	7.96E-03	2.35E-07	18.65	0.03	8.36	0.03	2.81
28	7.96E-03	2.56E-07	17.96	0.03	7.95	0.03	2.12
29	7.96E-03	3.04E-07	18.70	0.03	8.31	0.04	2.86
30	7.96E-03	2.93E-07	18.71	0.03	8.14	0.04	2.87
31	7.96E-03	2.69E-07	18.75	0.03	8.33	0.03	2.91
32	7.96E-03	2.72E-07	18.75	0.03	8.36	0.03	2.91
33	7.96E-03	3.43E-07	18.73	0.03	8.41	0.04	2.89
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37	7.88E-03	2.17E-07	-0.41	0.03	-1.54	0.03	1.15
38	7.88E-03	2.33E-07	-0.43	0.03	-1.53	0.03	1.13
39	7.88E-03	2.61E-07	-0.61	0.03	-1.54	0.03	0.95
40	7.88E-03	2.60E-07	-0.23	0.03	-1.37	0.03	1.33
41	7.88E-03	3.16E-07	-0.40	0.02	-1.55	0.04	1.16
42	7.88E-03	2.96E-07	0.11	0.03	-1.31	0.04	1.67
43	7.88E-03	3.00E-07	0.23	0.02	-1.15	0.04	1.79
44	7.88E-03	2.50E-07	0.01	0.02	-1.25	0.03	1.57
45	7.88E-03	3.32E-07	0.05	0.02	-1.26	0.04	1.61
46	7.87E-03	2.64E-07	-1.75	0.02	-2.30	0.03	-0.19
47	7.88E-03	2.94E-07	-1.38	0.03	-2.06	0.04	0.18
48	7.88E-03	2.54E-07	-1.18	0.02	-1.89	0.03	0.38
49	7.88E-03	2.05E-07	-1.28	0.02	-1.90	0.03	0.28
50	7.88E-03	2.00E-07	-1.07	0.02	-1.84	0.03	0.49
51	7.88E-03	2.87E-07	-0.95	0.02	-1.73	0.04	0.61
52	7.88E-03	2.12E-07	-1.14	0.02	-1.92	0.03	0.42
53	7.88E-03	3.30E-07	0.37	0.02	-1.04	0.04	1.93
54	7.88E-03	3.22E-07	0.18	0.03	-1.42	0.04	1.74
55	7.88E-03	3.21E-07	-1.74	0.06	-2.14	0.04	-0.18
56	7.88E-03	3.46E-07	0.17	0.02	-1.18	0.04	1.73
57	7.88E-03	2.98E-07	0.23	0.03	-1.23	0.04	1.79
58	7.88E-03	3.00E-07	0.14	0.03	-1.23	0.04	1.70
59	7.88E-03	3.33E-07	-0.65	0.04	-1.66	0.04	0.91
60	7.88E-03	3.34E-07	0.02	0.03	-1.20	0.04	1.58

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2	7.88E-03	2.80E-07	-0.25	0.03	-1.42	0.04	1.31
3	7.88E-03	2.91E-07	-0.06	0.03	-1.24	0.04	1.50
4	7.88E-03	3.51E-07	-1.10	0.05	-1.92	0.04	0.46
5	7.88E-03	3.46E-07	-0.27	0.03	-1.42	0.04	1.29
6	7.89E-03	2.60E-07	0.46	0.03	-0.96	0.03	2.02
7	7.88E-03	3.01E-07	0.07	0.03	-1.21	0.04	1.63
8	7.88E-03	3.13E-07	-0.06	0.03	-1.32	0.04	1.50
9	7.88E-03	3.43E-07	-0.37	0.03	-1.56	0.04	1.19
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11	7.80E-03	2.69E-07	-19.10	0.03	-11.19	0.03	1.52
12	7.80E-03	2.64E-07	-19.48	0.02	-11.34	0.03	1.14
13	7.80E-03	3.36E-07	-19.94	0.05	-11.62	0.04	0.68
14	7.80E-03	2.57E-07	-19.66	0.03	-11.41	0.03	0.96
15	7.81E-03	2.56E-07	-18.10	0.03	-10.67	0.03	2.52
16	7.81E-03	3.04E-07	-18.86	0.04	-11.10	0.04	1.76
17	7.80E-03	3.02E-07	-19.77	0.03	-11.49	0.04	0.85
18	7.81E-03	2.65E-07	-17.69	0.03	-10.35	0.03	2.93
19	7.81E-03	2.97E-07	-17.21	0.02	-10.13	0.04	3.41
20	7.81E-03	3.24E-07	-18.05	0.02	-10.53	0.04	2.57
21	7.81E-03	3.06E-07	-16.66	0.03	-9.98	0.04	3.96
22	7.81E-03	2.80E-07	-17.29	0.03	-10.15	0.04	3.33
23	7.82E-03	4.21E-07	-16.57	0.03	-9.82	0.05	4.05
24	7.82E-03	3.45E-07	-15.60	0.04	-9.29	0.04	5.02
25	7.81E-03	4.13E-07	-18.40	0.05	-10.80	0.05	2.22
26	7.81E-03	3.66E-07	-17.63	0.02	-10.30	0.05	2.99
27	7.80E-03	3.20E-07	-19.37	0.03	-11.39	0.04	1.25
28	7.82E-03	3.27E-07	-16.48	0.03	-9.64	0.04	4.14
29	7.80E-03	4.03E-07	-19.40	0.07	-11.40	0.05	1.22
30	7.80E-03	3.15E-07	-19.09	0.05	-11.27	0.04	1.53
31	7.81E-03	3.92E-07	-18.21	0.05	-10.63	0.05	2.41
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 Internal mass fractionation in ‰
 

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mean/SD	IMF <sup>33</sup> S	mean/SD
2.21	-0.32	-0.15
0.59	-0.26	0.32
	-0.24	
	-0.22	
	-0.43	
	-0.36	
	-0.11	
	-0.46	
	-0.66	
	-0.69	
	-0.33	
	-0.51	
	-0.52	
	-0.40	
	-0.20	
	-0.49	
	0.15	
	0.13	
	0.33	
	0.16	
	0.22	
	0.24	
	-0.17	
	0.19	
	0.02	
	0.21	
	0.24	
	0.29	
1.14	-0.76	-0.73
0.63	-0.75	0.34
	-0.76	
	-0.59	
	-0.77	
	-0.53	
	-0.37	
	-0.47	
	-0.48	
	-1.52	
	-1.28	
	-1.11	
	-1.12	
	-1.06	
	-0.95	
	-1.14	
	-0.26	
	-0.64	
	-1.36	
	-0.40	
	-0.45	
	-0.45	
	-0.88	
	-0.42	

For Review Only

1			
2		-0.64	
3		-0.46	
4		-1.14	
5		-0.64	
6		-0.18	
7		-0.43	
8		-0.54	
9		-0.78	
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11	2.40	-0.56	-0.06
12	1.24	-0.71	0.69
13		-0.99	
14		-0.78	
15		-0.04	
16		-0.47	
17		-0.86	
18		0.28	
19		0.50	
20		0.10	
21		0.65	
22		0.48	
23		0.81	
24		1.34	
25		-0.17	
26		0.33	
27		-0.76	
28		0.99	
29		-0.77	
30		-0.64	
31		0.00	
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For Review Only

**Supplementary Data Table S1b**  
**Sulfur isotopic composition of analyzed sulfate standards**

Sample ID	Date	Session	counts			<sup>34</sup> S/ <sup>32</sup> S
			32S	33S	34S	
BaSO4@1	2/22/2017	1	5.50E+08	4.36E+06	2.50E+07	4.46E-02
BaSO4@2	2/22/2017	1	5.25E+08	4.16E+06	2.38E+07	4.46E-02
BaSO4@3	2/22/2017	1	5.28E+08	4.18E+06	2.39E+07	4.45E-02
BaSO4@4	2/22/2017	1	5.26E+08	4.16E+06	2.38E+07	4.45E-02
BaSO4@5	2/22/2017	1	5.21E+08	4.13E+06	2.36E+07	4.46E-02
BaSO4@6	2/22/2017	1	5.22E+08	4.13E+06	2.37E+07	4.44E-02
BaSO4@7	2/22/2017	1	4.93E+08	3.91E+06	2.24E+07	4.46E-02
BaSO4@8	2/22/2017	1	4.93E+08	3.90E+06	2.24E+07	4.45E-02
BaSO4@9	2/22/2017	1	4.85E+08	3.84E+06	2.20E+07	4.45E-02
BaSO4@10	2/22/2017	1	4.59E+08	3.63E+06	2.08E+07	4.45E-02
BaSO4@11	2/22/2017	1	4.87E+08	3.86E+06	2.21E+07	4.45E-02
BaSO4@12	2/22/2017	1	4.88E+08	3.87E+06	2.22E+07	4.46E-02
BaSO4@13	2/22/2017	1	4.89E+08	3.87E+06	2.22E+07	4.46E-02
BaSO4@14	2/22/2017	1	4.84E+08	3.84E+06	2.20E+07	4.46E-02
cuney@1	2/22/2017	1	4.75E+08	3.73E+06	2.12E+07	4.37E-02
cuney@2	2/22/2017	1	4.80E+08	3.76E+06	2.14E+07	4.37E-02
cuney@3	2/22/2017	1	4.75E+08	3.72E+06	2.11E+07	4.37E-02
cuney@4	2/22/2017	1	4.71E+08	3.70E+06	2.10E+07	4.37E-02
cuney@5	2/22/2017	1	4.68E+08	3.67E+06	2.09E+07	4.37E-02
cuney@6	2/22/2017	1	4.58E+08	3.59E+06	2.04E+07	4.37E-02
cuney@7	2/22/2017	1	4.71E+08	3.70E+06	2.10E+07	4.37E-02
cuney@8	2/22/2017	1	4.69E+08	3.68E+06	2.09E+07	4.37E-02
cuney@9	2/22/2017	1	4.68E+08	3.67E+06	2.09E+07	4.37E-02
cuney@11	2/22/2017	1	4.49E+08	3.52E+06	2.00E+07	4.37E-02
cuney@12	2/22/2017	1	4.61E+08	3.61E+06	2.05E+07	4.37E-02
cuney@13	2/22/2017	1	4.64E+08	3.64E+06	2.07E+07	4.37E-02
cuney@14	2/22/2017	1	4.69E+08	3.68E+06	2.09E+07	4.37E-02
taxco@1	2/22/2017	1	5.24E+08	4.12E+06	2.34E+07	4.39E-02
taxco@2	2/22/2017	1	5.11E+08	4.02E+06	2.29E+07	4.39E-02
taxco@3	2/22/2017	1	5.09E+08	4.01E+06	2.28E+07	4.39E-02
taxco@4	2/22/2017	1	5.15E+08	4.05E+06	2.30E+07	4.39E-02
taxco@5	2/22/2017	1	5.26E+08	4.14E+06	2.36E+07	4.39E-02
taxco@6	2/22/2017	1	5.11E+08	4.02E+06	2.29E+07	4.40E-02
taxco@7	2/22/2017	1	4.95E+08	3.89E+06	2.22E+07	4.39E-02
taxco@8	2/22/2017	1	4.92E+08	3.87E+06	2.20E+07	4.39E-02
taxco@9	2/22/2017	1	4.87E+08	3.83E+06	2.18E+07	4.39E-02
taxco@10	2/22/2017	1	4.91E+08	3.86E+06	2.20E+07	4.39E-02
taxco@11	2/22/2017	1	4.87E+08	3.83E+06	2.18E+07	4.39E-02
taxco@12	2/22/2017	1	4.83E+08	3.79E+06	2.16E+07	4.39E-02
taxco@13	2/22/2017	1	4.90E+08	3.85E+06	2.19E+07	4.39E-02
BaSO4@1	1/18/2018	2	5.93E+08	4.70E+06	2.69E+07	4.45E-02
BaSO4@4	1/18/2018	2	5.86E+08	4.65E+06	2.66E+07	4.46E-02
BaSO4@5	1/18/2018	2	5.75E+08	4.56E+06	2.61E+07	4.46E-02
BaSO4@6	1/19/2018	2	5.71E+08	4.54E+06	2.60E+07	4.46E-02
BaSO4@7	1/19/2018	2	5.67E+08	4.50E+06	2.58E+07	4.46E-02
BaSO4@8	1/19/2018	2	5.64E+08	4.48E+06	2.56E+07	4.46E-02
BaSO4@9	1/19/2018	2	5.67E+08	4.50E+06	2.58E+07	4.46E-02

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2	BaSO4@10	1/19/2018	2	5.64E+08	4.47E+06	2.56E+07	4.45E-02
3	BaSO4@11	1/19/2018	2	5.81E+08	4.61E+06	2.64E+07	4.45E-02
4	BaSO4@12	1/19/2018	2	5.86E+08	4.65E+06	2.66E+07	4.45E-02
5	BaSO4@13	1/19/2018	2	5.77E+08	4.58E+06	2.62E+07	4.45E-02
6	BaSO4@14	1/19/2018	2	5.77E+08	4.58E+06	2.62E+07	4.46E-02
7	BaSO4@15	1/19/2018	2	5.78E+08	4.58E+06	2.62E+07	4.45E-02
8	BaSO4@16	1/19/2018	2	5.70E+08	4.52E+06	2.59E+07	4.45E-02
9	BaSO4@17	1/19/2018	2	5.67E+08	4.50E+06	2.58E+07	4.45E-02
10	BaSO4@18	1/19/2018	2	5.67E+08	4.50E+06	2.58E+07	4.45E-02
11	BaSO4@19	1/19/2018	2	5.71E+08	4.53E+06	2.59E+07	4.45E-02
12	BaSO4@20	1/19/2018	2	5.69E+08	4.51E+06	2.58E+07	4.45E-02
13							
14							
15	Maiza@1	1/18/2018	2	5.78E+08	4.60E+06	2.64E+07	4.48E-02
16	Maiza@2	1/18/2018	2	5.91E+08	4.71E+06	2.70E+07	4.48E-02
17	Maiza@3	1/18/2018	2	5.89E+08	4.69E+06	2.69E+07	4.48E-02
18	Maiza@4	1/18/2018	2	5.82E+08	4.63E+06	2.66E+07	4.48E-02
19	Maiza@5	1/18/2018	2	5.84E+08	4.65E+06	2.67E+07	4.48E-02
20							
21	Taxco@1	1/18/2018	2	4.02E+08	3.16E+06	1.80E+07	4.39E-02
22	Taxco@2	1/18/2018	2	6.06E+08	4.78E+06	2.72E+07	4.39E-02
23	Taxco@3	1/18/2018	2	5.90E+08	4.65E+06	2.64E+07	4.39E-02
24	Taxco@4	1/18/2018	2	5.94E+08	4.68E+06	2.66E+07	4.39E-02
25	Taxco@5	1/18/2018	2	5.89E+08	4.64E+06	2.63E+07	4.39E-02
26	Taxco@6	1/19/2018	2	5.54E+08	4.36E+06	2.48E+07	4.39E-02
27	Taxco@7	1/19/2018	2	5.57E+08	4.38E+06	2.49E+07	4.39E-02
28	Taxco@8	1/19/2018	2	5.54E+08	4.37E+06	2.48E+07	4.39E-02
29	Taxco@9	1/19/2018	2	5.53E+08	4.36E+06	2.48E+07	4.39E-02
30	Taxco@10	1/19/2018	2	5.56E+08	4.38E+06	2.49E+07	4.39E-02
31	Taxco@11	1/19/2018	2	5.72E+08	4.50E+06	2.56E+07	4.39E-02
32	Taxco@12	1/19/2018	2	5.74E+08	4.52E+06	2.57E+07	4.39E-02
33	Taxco@13	1/19/2018	2	5.72E+08	4.51E+06	2.56E+07	4.39E-02
34	Taxco@14	1/19/2018	2	5.74E+08	4.52E+06	2.57E+07	4.39E-02
35	Taxco@15	1/19/2018	2	5.73E+08	4.51E+06	2.57E+07	4.39E-02
36	Taxco@16	1/19/2018	2	5.75E+08	4.53E+06	2.58E+07	4.39E-02
37	Taxco@17	1/19/2018	2	5.69E+08	4.48E+06	2.55E+07	4.39E-02
38	Taxco@18	1/19/2018	2	5.69E+08	4.48E+06	2.55E+07	4.39E-02
39	Taxco@19	1/19/2018	2	5.67E+08	4.46E+06	2.54E+07	4.39E-02
40	Taxco@20	1/19/2018	2	5.65E+08	4.45E+06	2.53E+07	4.39E-02
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Measured isotopic ratios			Calculated $\delta$ values in ‰			
Error	$^{33}\text{S}/^{32}\text{S}$	Error	$\delta^{34}\text{S}$	$1\sigma$	$\delta^{33}\text{S}$	$1\sigma$
4.27E-06	7.92E-03	5.81E-07	9.16	0.07	5.79	0.07
5.05E-06	7.92E-03	7.81E-07	8.77	0.10	5.44	0.10
5.51E-06	7.91E-03	4.94E-07	7.85	0.06	4.72	0.06
4.37E-06	7.92E-03	5.45E-07	7.53	0.07	4.93	0.07
4.46E-06	7.92E-03	6.23E-07	8.76	0.08	5.26	0.08
2.37E-06	7.91E-03	4.73E-07	6.43	0.06	4.18	0.06
3.19E-06	7.92E-03	6.18E-07	9.75	0.08	5.76	0.08
5.40E-06	7.92E-03	7.35E-07	7.73	0.09	5.01	0.09
4.31E-06	7.91E-03	6.66E-07	6.92	0.08	4.27	0.08
4.26E-06	7.91E-03	7.55E-07	7.27	0.10	4.55	0.10
3.15E-06	7.91E-03	5.67E-07	6.69	0.07	4.29	0.07
3.14E-06	7.92E-03	4.87E-07	9.32	0.06	5.73	0.06
4.95E-06	7.92E-03	6.05E-07	9.40	0.08	5.43	0.08
3.04E-06	7.93E-03	7.42E-07	10.10	0.09	6.07	0.09
4.43E-06	7.84E-03	7.60E-07	-10.09	0.10	-4.28	0.10
4.17E-06	7.84E-03	6.18E-07	-10.23	0.08	-4.11	0.08
4.33E-06	7.85E-03	5.68E-07	-9.87	0.07	-3.99	0.07
4.24E-06	7.85E-03	6.33E-07	-9.77	0.08	-3.91	0.08
4.32E-06	7.85E-03	6.28E-07	-9.86	0.08	-4.09	0.08
4.12E-06	7.85E-03	6.37E-07	-9.81	0.08	-3.90	0.08
4.20E-06	7.85E-03	5.43E-07	-9.89	0.07	-3.89	0.07
3.88E-06	7.85E-03	4.76E-07	-10.02	0.06	-3.96	0.06
3.84E-06	7.84E-03	6.14E-07	-9.97	0.08	-4.10	0.08
2.60E-06	7.85E-03	6.06E-07	-10.01	0.08	-3.84	0.08
3.27E-06	7.85E-03	6.30E-07	-10.09	0.08	-3.97	0.08
3.79E-06	7.84E-03	5.88E-07	-10.07	0.07	-4.21	0.07
3.90E-06	7.85E-03	7.44E-07	-9.97	0.09	-4.05	0.09
3.65E-06	7.86E-03	4.51E-07	-5.67	0.06	-2.02	0.06
3.78E-06	7.86E-03	6.71E-07	-5.49	0.09	-1.97	0.09
3.59E-06	7.86E-03	5.19E-07	-5.35	0.07	-2.05	0.07
3.72E-06	7.86E-03	5.99E-07	-5.17	0.08	-1.89	0.08
3.35E-06	7.86E-03	5.15E-07	-5.05	0.07	-1.60	0.07
3.41E-06	7.87E-03	5.56E-07	-4.77	0.07	-1.45	0.07
3.36E-06	7.86E-03	5.82E-07	-5.73	0.07	-2.10	0.07
3.28E-06	7.86E-03	6.45E-07	-5.61	0.08	-2.04	0.08
3.26E-06	7.86E-03	4.90E-07	-5.83	0.06	-2.30	0.06
3.35E-06	7.86E-03	5.40E-07	-6.62	0.07	-2.58	0.07
3.43E-06	7.86E-03	5.23E-07	-6.57	0.07	-2.59	0.07
3.40E-06	7.86E-03	4.10E-07	-6.49	0.05	-2.67	0.05
3.40E-06	7.86E-03	5.33E-07	-6.46	0.07	-2.19	0.07
2.16E-06	7.92E-03	4.84E-07	8.49	0.05	3.24	0.06
1.25E-06	7.92E-03	3.30E-07	8.91	0.03	3.47	0.04
1.28E-06	7.92E-03	4.62E-07	8.79	0.03	3.35	0.06
1.12E-06	7.93E-03	5.02E-07	10.00	0.03	4.08	0.06
1.11E-06	7.92E-03	3.49E-07	9.35	0.02	3.73	0.04
1.63E-06	7.92E-03	4.46E-07	9.73	0.04	3.94	0.06
1.09E-06	7.92E-03	4.45E-07	9.10	0.02	3.45	0.06



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2	1.22E-06	7.92E-03	4.06E-07	8.22	0.03	2.95	0.05
3	9.98E-07	7.92E-03	4.31E-07	8.41	0.02	3.17	0.05
4	8.89E-07	7.92E-03	4.58E-07	8.24	0.02	3.08	0.06
5	1.13E-06	7.92E-03	3.42E-07	8.11	0.03	3.09	0.04
6	1.13E-06	7.92E-03	4.25E-07	8.95	0.03	3.42	0.05
7	9.90E-07	7.92E-03	5.13E-07	8.45	0.02	3.17	0.06
8	1.06E-06	7.92E-03	3.83E-07	8.60	0.02	3.33	0.05
9	1.67E-06	7.92E-03	4.87E-07	8.26	0.04	3.08	0.06
10	1.32E-06	7.92E-03	4.67E-07	8.42	0.03	3.30	0.06
11	1.35E-06	7.92E-03	3.95E-07	8.62	0.03	3.29	0.05
12	1.44E-06	7.92E-03	4.26E-07	8.43	0.03	3.22	0.05
13							
14							
15	2.91E-06	7.94E-03	4.81E-07	14.25	0.06	6.38	0.06
16	2.04E-06	7.94E-03	3.61E-07	13.94	0.05	6.18	0.05
17	2.52E-06	7.94E-03	4.09E-07	14.47	0.06	6.29	0.05
18	2.90E-06	7.94E-03	4.98E-07	14.43	0.06	6.20	0.06
19	2.55E-06	7.94E-03	4.52E-07	14.28	0.06	6.34	0.06
20							
21	1.47E-06	7.86E-03	4.69E-07	-5.19	0.03	-3.80	0.06
22	8.14E-07	7.86E-03	3.80E-07	-5.48	0.02	-3.90	0.05
23	8.65E-07	7.86E-03	4.40E-07	-6.73	0.02	-4.57	0.06
24	6.41E-07	7.86E-03	4.32E-07	-5.70	0.01	-4.14	0.05
25	7.75E-07	7.86E-03	3.41E-07	-6.59	0.02	-4.54	0.04
26	7.91E-07	7.86E-03	3.96E-07	-5.53	0.02	-3.92	0.05
27	9.91E-07	7.86E-03	4.40E-07	-5.55	0.02	-4.13	0.06
28	1.14E-06	7.86E-03	3.34E-07	-5.29	0.03	-3.98	0.04
29	8.44E-07	7.86E-03	4.22E-07	-5.39	0.02	-3.94	0.05
30	1.06E-06	7.86E-03	4.76E-07	-5.30	0.02	-3.69	0.06
31	1.30E-06	7.86E-03	4.69E-07	-6.02	0.03	-4.29	0.06
32	1.21E-06	7.86E-03	5.14E-07	-5.91	0.03	-4.02	0.07
33	1.07E-06	7.86E-03	3.54E-07	-5.63	0.02	-4.05	0.05
34	1.24E-06	7.86E-03	4.39E-07	-5.37	0.03	-3.96	0.06
35	1.30E-06	7.86E-03	4.28E-07	-5.37	0.03	-3.76	0.05
36	1.18E-06	7.86E-03	4.50E-07	-5.50	0.03	-4.04	0.06
37	1.30E-06	7.86E-03	4.38E-07	-5.44	0.03	-3.84	0.06
38	1.47E-06	7.86E-03	5.02E-07	-5.57	0.03	-4.10	0.06
39	1.63E-06	7.86E-03	4.31E-07	-5.98	0.04	-4.29	0.05
40	1.46E-06	7.86E-03	3.88E-07	-6.14	0.03	-4.13	0.05
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## Internal mass fractionation in ‰

IMF <sup>34</sup> S	mean/SD	IMF <sup>33</sup> S	mean/SD
-13.64	-14.54	-5.95	-6.64
-14.03	1.21	-6.30	0.63
-14.95		-7.02	
-15.27		-6.81	
-14.04		-6.48	
-16.37		-7.56	
-13.05		-5.98	
-15.07		-6.73	
-15.88		-7.47	
-15.53		-7.19	
-16.11		-7.46	
-13.48		-6.02	
-13.40		-6.31	
-12.70		-5.67	
-23.89	-23.77	-11.39	-11.13
-24.03	0.13	-11.22	0.13
-23.67		-11.10	
-23.57		-11.02	
-23.66		-11.20	
-23.61		-11.01	
-23.69		-10.99	
-23.82		-11.06	
-23.77		-11.21	
-23.81		-10.95	
-23.89		-11.08	
-23.87		-11.32	
-23.77		-11.16	
-20.97	-21.05	-9.90	-9.99
-20.79	0.62	-9.85	0.36
-20.65		-9.93	
-20.47		-9.77	
-20.35		-9.47	
-20.07		-9.33	
-21.03		-9.98	
-20.91		-9.92	
-21.13		-10.18	
-21.92		-10.46	
-21.87		-10.47	
-21.79		-10.55	
-21.76		-10.07	
-14.31	-14.07	-8.51	-8.39
-13.89	0.53	-8.28	0.30
-14.01		-8.40	
-12.80		-7.66	
-13.45		-8.02	
-13.07		-7.80	
-13.70		-8.29	

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2	-14.58		-8.80	
3	-14.39		-8.58	
4	-14.56		-8.67	
5	-14.69		-8.65	
6	-13.85		-8.32	
7	-14.35		-8.57	
8	-14.20		-8.41	
9	-14.54		-8.67	
10	-14.38		-8.45	
11	-14.18		-8.46	
12	-14.37		-8.52	
13				
14				
15	-13.45	-13.43	-7.82	-7.92
16	-13.76	0.21	-8.02	0.09
17	-13.23		-7.91	
18	-13.27		-8.00	
19	-13.42		-7.86	
20				
21	-20.49	-21.24	-11.68	-12.07
22	-20.78	0.69	-11.78	0.36
23	-22.03		-12.45	
24	-21.00		-12.02	
25	-21.89		-12.42	
26	-20.83		-11.79	
27	-20.85		-12.01	
28	-20.59		-11.85	
29	-20.69		-11.82	
30	-20.60		-11.57	
31	-21.32		-12.17	
32	-21.21		-11.90	
33	-20.93		-11.93	
34	-20.67		-11.83	
35	-20.67		-11.63	
36	-20.80		-11.92	
37	-20.74		-11.72	
38	-20.87		-11.98	
39	-21.28		-12.17	
40	-21.44		-12.01	
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## Supplementary Data Table S1c

Sulfur isotopic composition of Archean anhydrite and barite from the eastern Stolzberg Syncline, Mc

Sample ID	Date	mineralogy	<sup>32</sup> S cps	<sup>32</sup> S cps (un/std)	Measured isotope ratios	
					<sup>34</sup> S/ <sup>32</sup> S	SE
12003-4b@1	2/22/2017	anhydrite	4.87E+08	1.04	4.33E-02	4.26E-06
12003-4b@4	2/22/2017	anhydrite	3.61E+08	0.77	4.33E-02	2.79E-06
12003-4b@5	2/22/2017	anhydrite	4.47E+08	0.96	4.32E-02	4.96E-06
12003-4c@1	2/22/2017	anhydrite	5.09E+08	1.09	4.33E-02	4.29E-06
12003-4c@3	2/22/2017	anhydrite	4.44E+08	0.95	4.33E-02	4.37E-06
12003-4c@4	2/22/2017	barite	5.05E+08	1.01	4.37E-02	4.94E-06
12003-4c@5	2/22/2017	barite	4.93E+08	0.98	4.40E-02	9.32E-06
12003-4c@6	2/22/2017	barite	4.94E+08	0.98	4.39E-02	4.57E-06
12003-4c@7	2/22/2017	anhydrite	4.48E+08	0.96	4.33E-02	4.36E-06
12003-4c@9	2/22/2017	anhydrite	4.48E+08	0.96	4.35E-02	1.05E-05
12003-4c@10	2/22/2017	anhydrite	3.94E+08	0.84	4.34E-02	2.03E-05
12003-4c@13	2/22/2017	anhydrite	3.36E+08	0.72	4.36E-02	3.05E-05
12003-4c@16	2/22/2017	anhydrite	3.50E+08	0.75	4.34E-02	8.55E-06
12003-4c@17	2/22/2017	anhydrite	3.74E+08	0.80	4.34E-02	1.77E-06
12003-4c@19	2/22/2017	barite	4.91E+08	0.98	4.38E-02	3.39E-06
13-004-3@02	1/18/2018	barite	5.66E+08	0.99	4.36E-02	6.22E-07
13-004-3@03	1/18/2018	barite	5.21E+08	0.91	4.35E-02	2.80E-06
13-004-3@04	1/18/2018	barite	4.79E+08	0.84	4.35E-02	3.50E-06
13-004-3@07	1/18/2018	barite	4.44E+08	0.78	4.37E-02	5.10E-06
13-004-3@09	1/18/2018	barite	4.73E+08	0.83	4.36E-02	1.88E-06
13-004-3@10	1/18/2018	barite	4.54E+08	0.79	4.37E-02	4.79E-06
13-004-3@11	1/18/2018	barite	3.58E+08	0.63	4.36E-02	5.38E-06
13-004-3@12	1/18/2018	barite	3.64E+08	0.64	4.37E-02	6.27E-06
13-004-3@13	1/18/2018	barite	4.86E+08	0.85	4.36E-02	2.76E-06
13-004-3@14	1/18/2018	barite	4.78E+08	0.84	4.36E-02	3.79E-06
13-004-3@15	1/18/2018	barite	5.00E+08	0.88	4.36E-02	1.12E-06
13-004-3@16	1/18/2018	barite	4.02E+08	0.70	4.36E-02	6.35E-06
13-004-3@17	1/18/2018	barite	3.66E+08	0.64	4.37E-02	6.14E-06
13-004-3@18	1/18/2018	barite	5.26E+08	0.92	4.36E-02	2.37E-06
13-004-3@19	1/18/2018	barite	4.20E+08	0.73	4.37E-02	3.03E-06
13-004-3@20	1/18/2018	barite	4.60E+08	0.80	4.37E-02	1.47E-06
13-004-3@21	1/18/2018	barite	5.83E+08	1.02	4.36E-02	8.01E-07
13-004-3@22	1/18/2018	barite	4.13E+08	0.72	4.37E-02	4.94E-06
13-004-4b@1	1/19/2018	barite	4.88E+08	0.85	4.37E-02	1.77E-06
13-004-4b@02	1/19/2018	barite	5.74E+08	1.00	4.37E-02	7.02E-07
13-004-4b@03	1/19/2018	barite	4.57E+08	0.80	4.37E-02	1.29E-06
13-004-4b@04	1/19/2018	barite	4.13E+08	0.72	4.37E-02	2.74E-06
13-004-4b@05	1/19/2018	barite	3.98E+08	0.70	4.37E-02	9.35E-07
13-004-4b@06	1/19/2018	barite	5.64E+08	0.99	4.37E-02	1.19E-06
13-004-4b@07	1/19/2018	barite	3.83E+08	0.67	4.38E-02	5.85E-06
13-004-4b@08	1/19/2018	barite	5.83E+08	1.02	4.37E-02	1.97E-06
13-004-4b@09	1/19/2018	barite	3.99E+08	0.70	4.37E-02	1.09E-06
13-004-4b@10	1/19/2018	barite	3.90E+08	0.68	4.37E-02	9.90E-07
13-004-4b@11	1/19/2018	barite	5.13E+08	0.90	4.36E-02	1.24E-06
13-004-4b@12	1/19/2018	barite	5.24E+08	0.92	4.37E-02	1.04E-06

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2	13-004-4b@13	1/19/2018	barite	4.18E+08	0.73	4.37E-02	1.01E-06
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Isotopic ratios		Calibrated $\delta$ and $\Delta$ values relative to V-CDT in ‰						
$^{33}\text{S}/^{32}\text{S}$	SE	$\delta^{34}\text{S}$	1 $\sigma$	$\delta^{33}\text{S}$	1 $\sigma$	$\Delta^{33}\text{S}$	1 $\sigma$	
7.80E-03	6.73E-07	3.44	0.16	1.57	0.16	-0.20	0.19	
7.80E-03	7.72E-07	3.96	0.15	1.87	0.17	-0.17	0.19	
7.80E-03	8.15E-07	2.82	0.17	1.22	0.17	-0.23	0.19	
7.80E-03	5.87E-07	3.45	0.16	1.28	0.15	-0.50	0.19	
7.80E-03	6.13E-07	3.61	0.17	1.65	0.15	-0.21	0.19	
7.84E-03	6.84E-07	3.24	1.21	1.44	0.64	-0.23	1.36	
7.86E-03	1.10E-06	9.79	1.23	4.99	0.65	-0.05	1.36	
7.85E-03	6.14E-07	7.80	1.21	3.68	0.64	-0.34	1.36	
7.81E-03	6.36E-07	4.20	0.16	2.02	0.16	-0.14	0.19	
7.82E-03	1.08E-06	7.66	0.28	3.51	0.19	-0.43	0.19	
7.81E-03	1.93E-06	6.65	0.49	2.99	0.28	-0.43	0.19	
7.83E-03	2.67E-06	10.45	0.71	5.08	0.37	-0.30	0.19	
7.81E-03	1.10E-06	6.58	0.24	3.05	0.19	-0.34	0.19	
7.81E-03	5.41E-07	5.86	0.14	2.88	0.15	-0.14	0.19	
7.85E-03	5.78E-07	5.77	1.21	2.68	0.64	-0.29	1.36	
7.83E-03	4.29E-07	0.64	0.53	0.28	0.30	-0.11	0.61	
7.82E-03	5.15E-07	-0.43	0.53	-0.37	0.31	-0.22	0.62	
7.83E-03	7.19E-07	-0.36	0.54	-0.09	0.31	0.02	0.62	
7.84E-03	6.92E-07	2.63	0.54	1.16	0.31	-0.26	0.63	
7.83E-03	5.24E-07	1.99	0.53	0.99	0.31	-0.10	0.61	
7.84E-03	6.98E-07	2.87	0.54	1.18	0.31	-0.35	0.63	
7.84E-03	9.35E-07	1.60	0.54	1.08	0.32	0.19	0.63	
7.84E-03	8.79E-07	2.98	0.55	1.47	0.32	-0.12	0.64	
7.83E-03	6.16E-07	2.26	0.53	0.98	0.31	-0.24	0.62	
7.84E-03	6.80E-07	2.36	0.54	1.09	0.31	-0.19	0.62	
7.83E-03	5.40E-07	1.04	0.53	0.46	0.31	-0.14	0.61	
7.84E-03	9.14E-07	2.04	0.55	1.29	0.32	0.18	0.64	
7.84E-03	8.73E-07	3.70	0.55	1.75	0.32	-0.21	0.64	
7.83E-03	5.27E-07	1.83	0.53	0.87	0.31	-0.13	0.62	
7.84E-03	6.55E-07	2.50	0.54	1.28	0.31	-0.06	0.62	
7.84E-03	4.07E-07	3.19	0.53	1.54	0.30	-0.16	0.61	
7.83E-03	3.81E-07	0.72	0.53	0.26	0.30	-0.18	0.61	
7.84E-03	7.13E-07	3.09	0.54	1.49	0.31	-0.16	0.63	
7.84E-03	4.99E-07	3.20	0.53	1.34	0.31	-0.36	0.61	
7.84E-03	5.11E-07	4.07	0.53	1.91	0.31	-0.24	0.61	
7.84E-03	5.18E-07	3.96	0.53	1.84	0.31	-0.26	0.61	
7.84E-03	6.70E-07	3.56	0.53	1.64	0.31	-0.24	0.62	
7.84E-03	6.48E-07	4.01	0.53	1.75	0.31	-0.37	0.62	
7.84E-03	3.75E-07	3.21	0.53	1.50	0.30	-0.21	0.61	
7.85E-03	8.51E-07	4.73	0.55	2.38	0.32	-0.11	0.63	
7.84E-03	5.13E-07	3.41	0.53	1.56	0.31	-0.25	0.61	
7.84E-03	5.24E-07	3.65	0.53	1.54	0.31	-0.39	0.61	
7.84E-03	5.82E-07	4.31	0.53	2.18	0.31	-0.09	0.61	
7.83E-03	4.17E-07	2.21	0.53	1.03	0.30	-0.16	0.61	
7.84E-03	3.88E-07	3.18	0.53	1.51	0.30	-0.18	0.61	

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2	7.84E-03	6.31E-07	3.91	0.53	1.77	0.31	-0.30	0.62
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**Supplementary Data Table S1d***Sulfur isotopic composition of Archean pyrite from the eastern Stolzberg Syncline, Moodies Group,*

Sample ID	Date	spot position	<sup>32</sup> S cps	<sup>32</sup> S cps (un/std)	Measured isotope	
					<sup>34</sup> S/ <sup>32</sup> S	SE
12003-4-37@1	2/20/2017	transitional	1.16E+09	1.10	4.40E-02	1.82E-06
12003-4-37@2	2/20/2017	detrital	1.04E+09	0.98	4.42E-02	1.15E-06
12003-4-37@3	2/20/2017	overgrowth	1.22E+09	1.15	4.32E-02	9.01E-07
12003-4-43@1	2/20/2017	overgrowth	1.20E+09	1.13	4.32E-02	7.78E-07
12003-4-43@2	2/20/2017	overgrowth	1.22E+09	1.15	4.32E-02	9.45E-07
12003-4-43@3	2/20/2017	transitional	1.22E+09	1.15	4.36E-02	5.40E-07
12003-4-43@4	2/20/2017	detrital	1.21E+09	1.14	4.42E-02	2.32E-06
12003-4-43@5	2/20/2017	detrital	1.22E+09	1.15	4.42E-02	1.41E-06
12003-4-44@1	2/20/2017	transitional	1.19E+09	1.13	4.41E-02	2.11E-06
12003-4-44@4	2/20/2017	transitional	1.15E+09	1.09	4.40E-02	3.12E-06
12003-4-45@1	2/20/2017	transitional	1.17E+09	1.10	4.41E-02	1.31E-06
12003-4-49@1	2/20/2017	detrital	1.18E+09	1.11	4.44E-02	9.44E-07
12003-4-49@2	2/20/2017	detrital	1.15E+09	1.08	4.44E-02	9.78E-07
12003-4-49@3	2/20/2017	detrital	1.17E+09	1.10	4.44E-02	9.39E-07
12003-4-49@4	2/20/2017	overgrowth	1.14E+09	1.08	4.33E-02	1.05E-06
12003-4-49@5	2/20/2017	transitional	1.11E+09	1.05	4.37E-02	2.62E-06
12003-4-55@2	2/21/2017	detrital	1.09E+09	1.03	4.38E-02	2.87E-06
12003-4-55@3	2/21/2017	detrital	1.18E+09	1.11	4.43E-02	2.10E-06
12003-4-55@4	2/21/2017	overgrowth	1.13E+09	1.06	4.32E-02	9.56E-07
12003-4-53@1	2/21/2017	transitional	1.06E+09	1.00	4.37E-02	8.67E-06
12003-4-53@2	2/21/2017	transitional	1.09E+09	1.03	4.39E-02	2.21E-06
12003-4-53@3	2/21/2017	transitional	1.12E+09	1.06	4.37E-02	6.92E-07
12003-4-65@1	2/21/2017	transitional	1.14E+09	1.07	4.38E-02	9.63E-07
12003-4-65@2	2/21/2017	transitional	9.80E+08	0.93	4.37E-02	1.21E-06
12003-4-65@3	2/21/2017	detrital	1.10E+09	1.04	4.42E-02	6.33E-07
12003-4-65@4	2/21/2017	detrital	1.11E+09	1.05	4.42E-02	5.34E-07
12003-4-65@5	2/21/2017	transitional	1.07E+09	1.01	4.41E-02	1.37E-06
12003-4-65@6	2/21/2017	detrital	1.14E+09	1.07	4.43E-02	1.69E-06
12003-4-65@7	2/21/2017	overgrowth	1.11E+09	1.05	4.33E-02	6.67E-07
12003-4-65@8	2/21/2017	overgrowth	1.07E+09	1.01	4.33E-02	9.33E-07
12003-4-65@9	2/21/2017	transitional	1.10E+09	1.04	4.37E-02	8.90E-07
12003-4-65@12	2/21/2017	transitional	1.07E+09	1.01	4.38E-02	6.03E-07
12003-4-66@1	2/21/2017	overgrowth	8.05E+08	0.76	4.34E-02	2.16E-06
12003-4-66@2	2/21/2017	detrital	1.02E+09	0.97	4.44E-02	7.51E-07
12003-4-66@3	2/21/2017	detrital	1.06E+09	1.00	4.43E-02	5.04E-07
12003-4-66@4	2/21/2017	overgrowth	1.03E+09	0.97	4.35E-02	1.42E-06
12003-4-66@5	2/21/2017	transitional	8.51E+08	0.80	4.36E-02	6.97E-07
12003-4-66@6	2/21/2017	detrital	1.05E+09	0.99	4.43E-02	8.44E-07
12003-4-66@7	2/21/2017	detrital	1.07E+09	1.01	4.43E-02	9.43E-07
12003-4-66@8	2/21/2017	overgrowth	1.04E+09	0.98	4.36E-02	1.82E-06
12003-4-66@9	2/21/2017	transitional	1.07E+09	1.01	4.43E-02	9.51E-07



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2	12003-4-68@2	2/21/2017	detrital	1.04E+09	0.99	4.44E-02	6.89E-07
3	12003-4-68@3	2/21/2017	detrital	9.74E+08	0.92	4.44E-02	9.21E-07
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5	12003-4-71@2	2/21/2017	detrital	1.05E+09	0.99	4.44E-02	6.35E-07
6	12003-4-71@3	2/21/2017	detrital	1.05E+09	0.99	4.44E-02	7.23E-07
7	12003-4-71@4	2/21/2017	detrital	1.04E+09	0.98	4.44E-02	7.42E-07
8	12003-4-71@5	2/21/2017	overgrowth	1.03E+09	0.97	4.34E-02	5.74E-07
9	12003-4-71@6	2/21/2017	detrital	1.04E+09	0.98	4.44E-02	7.28E-07
10	12003-4-71@7	2/21/2017	detrital	1.04E+09	0.98	4.44E-02	7.87E-07
11	12003-4-71@8	2/21/2017	detrital	1.03E+09	0.97	4.44E-02	7.23E-07
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15	12003-4b-38@1	2/24/2017	detrital	1.15E+09	1.08	4.42E-02	1.02E-06
16	12003-4b-38@2	2/24/2017	detrital	1.14E+09	1.08	4.42E-02	1.04E-06
17	12003-4b-38@3	2/24/2017	detrital	1.14E+09	1.08	4.42E-02	8.14E-07
18	12003-4b-38@4	2/24/2017	detrital	1.13E+09	1.07	4.42E-02	1.99E-06
19	12003-4b-38@5	2/24/2017	detrital	1.12E+09	1.06	4.42E-02	1.72E-06
20							
21	12003-4b-41@2	2/24/2017	detrital	1.08E+09	1.02	4.44E-02	1.62E-06
22	12003-4b-41@3	2/24/2017	transitional	1.00E+09	0.95	4.43E-02	1.83E-06
23							
24	12003-4b-42@1	2/24/2017	detrital	1.11E+09	1.05	4.43E-02	1.02E-06
25	12003-4b-42@2	2/24/2017	overgrowth	1.07E+09	1.01	4.35E-02	1.89E-06
26	12003-4b-42@3	2/24/2017	detrital	1.11E+09	1.05	4.43E-02	8.64E-07
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28	12003-4b-42b@1	2/24/2017	transitional	1.07E+09	1.01	4.41E-02	2.89E-06
29							
30	12003-4b-46@1	2/24/2017	overgrowth	9.58E+08	0.90	4.38E-02	1.64E-06
31	12003-4b-46@5	2/24/2017	detrital	1.07E+09	1.01	4.44E-02	1.17E-06
32							
33	12003-4b-43@1	2/24/2017	transitional	1.03E+09	0.97	4.37E-02	5.23E-06
34	12003-4b-43@2	2/24/2017	overgrowth	1.03E+09	0.98	4.35E-02	8.29E-07
35	12003-4b-43@3	2/24/2017	overgrowth	9.67E+08	0.91	4.34E-02	7.85E-07
36	12003-4b-43@4	2/24/2017	transitional	1.04E+09	0.98	4.43E-02	8.29E-07
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38	12003-4b-16@1	2/24/2017	detrital	1.04E+09	0.98	4.43E-02	3.58E-06
39	12003-4b-16@2	2/24/2017	detrital	1.06E+09	1.00	4.43E-02	2.96E-06
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41	12003-4b-15@3	2/24/2017	transitional	1.02E+09	0.96	4.38E-02	3.06E-06
42	12003-4b-15@4	2/24/2017	transitional	1.05E+09	0.99	4.39E-02	1.13E-06
43	12003-4b-15@5	2/24/2017	overgrowth	1.01E+09	0.95	4.36E-02	5.43E-07
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45	12003-4b-14@1	2/24/2017	transitional	9.75E+08	0.92	4.43E-02	6.46E-07
46	12003-4b-14@2	2/24/2017	detrital	1.05E+09	1.00	4.45E-02	8.23E-07
47	12003-4b-14@3	2/24/2017	transitional	9.24E+08	0.87	4.41E-02	7.56E-07
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$^{33}\text{S}/^{32}\text{S}$	SE	$\delta^{34}\text{S}$	1 $\sigma$	$\delta^{33}\text{S}$	1 $\sigma$	$\Delta^{33}\text{S}$	1 $\sigma$	
7.86E-03	2.90E-07	-7.02	0.59	-3.41	0.32	0.21	0.67	
7.89E-03	3.31E-07	-1.05	0.59	-0.17	0.32	0.38	0.67	
7.79E-03	2.21E-07	-24.05	0.59	-12.53	0.32	-0.16	0.67	
7.79E-03	3.31E-07	-23.88	0.59	-12.47	0.32	-0.19	0.67	
7.79E-03	2.93E-07	-23.72	0.59	-12.46	0.32	-0.26	0.67	
7.83E-03	2.15E-07	-14.84	0.59	-7.84	0.32	-0.21	0.67	
7.88E-03	2.96E-07	-1.96	0.59	-0.95	0.32	0.07	0.67	
7.89E-03	2.21E-07	-1.68	0.59	-0.70	0.32	0.17	0.67	
7.88E-03	3.21E-07	-2.55	0.59	-1.47	0.32	-0.15	0.67	
7.87E-03	3.70E-07	-6.01	0.59	-3.25	0.32	-0.16	0.67	
7.87E-03	3.22E-07	-4.47	0.59	-2.45	0.32	-0.14	0.67	
7.90E-03	3.11E-07	3.13	0.59	1.44	0.32	-0.16	0.67	
7.90E-03	2.13E-07	2.90	0.59	1.41	0.32	-0.07	0.67	
7.90E-03	2.71E-07	2.85	0.59	1.33	0.32	-0.12	0.67	
7.80E-03	2.36E-07	-22.52	0.59	-11.86	0.32	-0.28	0.67	
7.84E-03	3.43E-07	-11.99	0.59	-6.45	0.32	-0.28	0.67	
7.85E-03	2.93E-07	-0.46	0.59	-0.34	0.32	-0.09	0.67	
7.90E-03	3.12E-07	1.42	0.59	0.68	0.32	-0.03	0.67	
7.79E-03	2.57E-07	-23.63	0.59	-12.41	0.32	-0.26	0.67	
7.84E-03	8.75E-07	-13.67	0.62	-7.05	0.34	-0.02	0.71	
7.86E-03	2.92E-07	-8.46	0.59	-4.43	0.32	-0.07	0.67	
7.84E-03	2.85E-07	-12.53	0.59	-6.40	0.32	0.04	0.67	
7.85E-03	2.95E-07	-11.46	0.59	-5.91	0.32	-0.02	0.67	
7.84E-03	3.32E-07	-12.12	0.59	-6.14	0.32	0.09	0.67	
7.88E-03	2.95E-07	-1.95	0.59	-1.02	0.32	0.00	0.67	
7.89E-03	2.56E-07	-0.71	0.59	-0.33	0.32	0.04	0.67	
7.87E-03	2.59E-07	-3.84	0.59	-2.11	0.32	-0.13	0.67	
7.90E-03	2.41E-07	0.87	0.59	0.46	0.32	0.03	0.67	
7.80E-03	2.88E-07	-21.72	0.59	-11.49	0.32	-0.32	0.67	
7.80E-03	3.16E-07	-21.33	0.59	-11.30	0.32	-0.33	0.67	
7.84E-03	2.69E-07	-11.77	0.59	-6.04	0.32	0.02	0.67	
7.85E-03	2.93E-07	-9.50	0.59	-5.18	0.32	-0.29	0.67	
7.81E-03	3.08E-07	-19.37	0.59	-10.18	0.32	-0.21	0.67	
7.90E-03	2.70E-07	2.11	0.59	0.98	0.32	-0.10	0.67	
7.90E-03	1.65E-07	1.34	0.59	0.57	0.32	-0.11	0.67	
7.82E-03	3.12E-07	-17.89	0.59	-9.53	0.32	-0.33	0.67	
7.83E-03	2.76E-07	-14.53	0.59	-7.53	0.32	-0.06	0.67	
7.89E-03	2.51E-07	0.39	0.59	0.00	0.32	-0.19	0.67	
7.89E-03	3.28E-07	0.67	0.59	0.19	0.32	-0.15	0.67	
7.83E-03	3.23E-07	-15.66	0.59	-8.35	0.32	-0.30	0.67	
7.89E-03	2.65E-07	0.42	0.59	0.09	0.32	-0.11	0.67	

