

1 Ore genesis of the Fule Pb-Zn deposit and its relationship with the Emeishan  
2 Large Igneous Province: Evidence from mineralogy, bulk C-O-S and in situ S-  
3 Pb isotopes

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26 **ABSTRACT**

27 Magmatic activity plays an important role in mineralization, but little is  
28 understood of its role with respect to carbonate-hosted stratabound epigenetic  
29 Pb-Zn deposits. The Fule Pb-Zn deposit (~10 Mt of sulfide ore with mean  
30 grades of 15-20 wt. % Zn + Pb), is stratigraphically placed in middle Permian  
31 strata and spatially (~1 m) associated with late Permian continental flood  
32 basalts of the Emeishan Large Igneous Province (ELIP). It thus provides an  
33 ideal case to investigate its genetic relationship with the ELIP. In addition, the  
34 Fule deposit is characterized by high concentrations of Ag, Cd, Ge and Ga, and  
35 contains a variety of Cu and Ni sulfide minerals. Syn-ore calcite ( $\delta^{13}\text{C} = +2.57-$   
36  $+3.01\text{‰}$ ) and associated fluids ( $\delta^{13}\text{C} = +2.96-+3.40\text{‰}$ ) have  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values similar  
37 to those of fresh limestone ( $\delta^{13}\text{C} = +1.58-+2.63\text{‰}$ ), but the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values of  
38 calcite ( $+16.83-+19.92\text{‰}$ ) and associated fluids ( $+7.80-+10.89\text{‰}$ ) are distinctly  
39 lower than those of limestone ( $\delta^{18}\text{O} = +21.85-+23.61\text{‰}$ ). This means that C is  
40 mainly derived from limestone, whereas the O isotope signature may be related  
41 to water/rock (W/R) interaction between mantle and/or metamorphic fluids and  
42 limestone.  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of sulfide minerals obtained by in situ NanoSIMS and  
43 conventional bulk techniques record a range of  $+9.8-+23.1\text{‰}$  and  $+10.04-$   
44  $+16.43\text{‰}$ , respectively, reflecting the enrichment of heavy S isotopes in the ore-  
45 forming fluids and thermochemical sulfate reduction (TSR) is the principal  
46 mechanism for the formation of  $\text{S}^{2-}$ . Cores of sulfide crystals have much higher  
47  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values than their rims, indicating a probable mixture of multiple S  
48 reservoirs and/or a dynamic fractionation of S isotopes occurred during sulfide  
49 precipitation. The uniform femtosecond (fs) LA-MC-ICPMS in situ Pb isotopic  
50 data for galena plot in the field that differs from any of the three potential

51 sources in the region. Such signatures demonstrate that metal Pb was most  
52 likely derived from a well-mixed source of basalts, sedimentary rocks and  
53 basement rocks. We propose that (a) the enrichment in Ag, Cu, Ni, Cd, Ge and  
54 Ga, and the isotope signatures of hydrothermal minerals in the Fule region are  
55 related to fluids derived from or flowed through multiple reservoirs; (b)  
56 Emeishan magmatism provided heat, elements and associated fluids, and its  
57 basalts acted as an impermeable and protective layer; and (c) fluid mixing  
58 caused TSR, and then resulted in W/R interaction and CO<sub>2</sub> degassing, all of  
59 which played a key role in the precipitation of hydrothermal minerals.

60 **Key words** NanoSIMS in situ S isotopes; Fs LA-MC-ICPMS in situ Pb  
61 isotopes; Role of Emeishan magmatism; Carbonate-hosted Pb-Zn deposits in  
62 the ELIP, South China

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## 65 **1. Introduction**

66 Carbonate-hosted stratabound epigenetic Pb-Zn deposits, traditionally named  
67 as Mississippi Valley-type (MVT), are an important source of base metal ores  
68 that form in sediments some time during the lifetime of a sedimentary basin  
69 ([Anderson and Macqueen, 1982](#)). MVT deposits predominantly form in platform  
70 carbonate sequences and are typically located within extensional zones  
71 inboard of orogenic belts ([Leach et al., 2005](#)). As such type of deposits is  
72 characterized by the absence of temporally or spatially associated magmatic  
73 activity, the classical thinking about the origin of MVT deposits is that it was  
74 related to the low temperature (50-200 °C) and high salinity (10-30 wt. % NaCl  
75 equiv.) basin brines ([Leach et al., 2010](#)). However, many carbonate-hosted Pb-

76 Zn deposits are spatially associated with igneous rocks, but whether they are  
77 related to the igneous activity is unclear and needs to be carefully investigated.  
78 In the western Yangtze Block (Fig. 1a), South China, there are more than 400  
79 carbonate-hosted Pb-Zn deposits and many basalt-hosted native Cu deposits  
80 within the Emeishan Large Igneous Province (ELIP) (Fig. 1b) (Liu and Lin, 1999;  
81 Zhu et al., 2007; Zhou et al., 2014a). These Pb-Zn deposits form the giant  
82 Sichuan-Yunnan-Guizhou (SYG) Pb-Zn metallogenic province (Fig. 1a-b),  
83 representing ~27% of the total Zn + Pb resources in China, and are an important  
84 part of the South China low-temperature metallogenic domain (Zhou et al.,  
85 2013a; Wang et al., 2014; Zhang et al., 2015; Hu et al., 2017). The SYG  
86 province is structurally bounded by the N-S-trending Anninghe-Lvzhijiang, the  
87 NE-SW-trending Mile-Shizong-Shuicheng and the NW-SE-trending Kangding-  
88 Yiliang-Shuicheng (Fig. 1a) faults. The Pb-Zn deposits in the SYG province are  
89 characterized by (a) ore bodies that are hosted by late Ediacaran to middle  
90 Permian carbonate rocks that are spatially associated with late Permian  
91 Emeishan continental flood basalts (Figs. 1b, 2-3); (b) ore bodies that have  
92 stratiform or lentiform shape within bedding-planes and/or steeply-dipping veins  
93 along fault dip planes (Zheng and Wang, 1991; Li et al., 2007; Zhou et al., 2013b;  
94 Wei et al., 2015; Jin et al., 2016; Zhu et al., 2016); (c) sulfide ore that has high  
95 mean grades of 10-35 wt. % Zn + Pb, and high contents of Ag, Cu, Cd, Ge and  
96 Ga (Si et al., 2006; Ye et al., 2011; Zhou et al., 2011, 2014b; Zhu et al., 2017);  
97 and (d) ore-forming fluids of low-medium temperatures (<300 °C) and salinities  
98 (<15 wt. % NaCl equiv.) (Bai et al., 2013; Li et al., 2015; Zhang et al., 2015; Liu  
99 et al., 2017). These features are significantly different from those of typical MVT  
100 deposits (Leach et al., 2005, 2010). As the only large-scale igneous event

101 between the Ediacaran and Triassic in the SYG province was eruption of the  
102 Emeishan flood basalts, the above mineralization features were generally  
103 considered to be related to the ELIP (Huang et al., 2010; Xu et al., 2014; Zhou  
104 et al., 2013a, 2014a; Li et al., 2016).

105 The Fule Pb-Zn deposit, hosted by carbonate rocks of the middle Permian  
106 Yangxin Formation (Si et al., 2006), is stratigraphically and spatially (~1 m)  
107 close to the late Permian Emeishan basalts (Figs. 1b, 2-3). This deposit  
108 contains very high ore grades (up to 60 wt. % Zn + Pb, mean 15-20 wt. %) and  
109 is rich in multiple elements (4567 t Cd, 329 t Ge, and 177 t Ga at mean grades  
110 of 0.127 wt. % Cd, 0.012 wt. % Ge, and 0.007 wt. % Ga) (Si et al., 2011, 2013;  
111 Ye et al., 2011). These features are similar to those of the adjacent world-class  
112 Huize Pb-Zn deposit (hosted in Carboniferous strata with >30 Mt of sulfide ore  
113 with average grades of 25-35 wt. % Zn + Pb) (Fig. 1b) (Zhou et al., 2001; Li et  
114 al., 2006; Huang et al., 2010; Bao et al., 2017), which is considered to be a  
115 typical representative of the unique SYG-type deposits (related to the ELIP) in  
116 the western Yangtze Block (Huang et al., 2010). In spite of this, there is still  
117 debate on the ore genesis type, including whether it is a distal magmatic  
118 hydrothermal-type (based on geological evidence: Liu and Lin, 1999),  
119 stratabound-type (based on trace element data: Si et al., 2006, 2011) or MVT  
120 (based on Cd isotopic data: Zhu et al., 2017). Hence, the Fule deposit provides  
121 an ideal case for understanding the role of magmatism during the formation of  
122 carbonate-hosted Pb-Zn deposits.

123 Micro-scale variation of elements and isotopes in hydrothermal minerals,  
124 obtained by micro-beam analysis, can provide crucial clues for revealing the  
125 source and evolution of ore-forming elements and associated fluids, and the

126 cause of hydrothermal mineral precipitation (Barker et al., 2009; Nishizawa et  
127 al., 2010; Ye et al., 2011; Jin et al., 2016; Deng et al., 2017). Laser-ablation  
128 multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectroscopy (LA-MC-ICPMS)  
129 and secondary ion mass spectroscopy (SIMS) can accurately analyze isotopic  
130 compositions of hydrothermal minerals in situ (Ikehata et al., 2008; Zhang et al.,  
131 2014; Yuan et al., 2015; Bao et al., 2016). Here we use the Fule deposit as a  
132 case study, utilizing NanoSIMS in situ S, femtosecond (fs) LA-MC-ICPMS in  
133 situ Pb, and bulk C-O-S isotope analyses, together with a detailed dataset of  
134 the ore deposit geology and mineralogy, aimed at revealing the ore genesis of  
135 the Fule deposit and its relationship with the ELIP. The outcomes will have wide  
136 significance for further exploration of carbonate-hosted Pb-Zn deposits in the  
137 ELIP and can open the door to similar situations in other Large Igneous  
138 Provinces where they interact with carbonate rocks.

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## 140 **2. Geological setting**

### 141 ***2.1 Geology of the western Yangtze Block***

142 The Yangtze Block is bounded by the Cathaysia Block to the southeast, the  
143 Sanjiang Orogenic Belt to the southwest and the Songpan-Ganzê Orogenic Belt  
144 to the northwest (Fig. 1a). In the western Yangtze Block, the basement is  
145 comprised of late Paleoproterozoic to early Neoproterozoic metamorphic rocks,  
146 which were intruded by late Neoproterozoic and Mesozoic igneous rocks (Fig.  
147 1b) (Gao et al., 2011; Zhou et al., 2014c; Hu et al., 2017). The cover sequence  
148 in the western Yangtze Block is late Ediacaran to Triassic marine, and Jurassic  
149 to Cenozoic continental sedimentary rocks (Liu and Lin, 1999; Yan et al., 2003;

150 [Zhou et al., 2013a](#)). The platform carbonate sequences constitute an important  
151 part of the late Ediacaran to Triassic marine strata, which are rich in salt-gypsum  
152 and organic matters ([Huang et al., 2004](#); [Jin, 2008](#); [Zhou et al., 2014a](#)). The  
153 western margin of the Yangtze Block is characterized by multiple processes of  
154 tectonic activity, which strictly controlled sedimentation, magmatism and  
155 mineralization ([Figs. 1b, 2](#)).

156 The late Permian ELIP (263-259 Ma) covers  $\sim 0.3 \times 10^6$  km<sup>2</sup> of the western  
157 Yangtze Block and eastern Songpan-Ganzê Orogenic Belt ([Fig. 1a-b](#)), with  
158 displaced correlative units in northern Vietnam (Song Da zone). It hosts many  
159 economically important Fe-Ti-V oxide deposits, Ni-Cu-(PGE) sulfide deposits  
160 and native Cu deposits ([Zhou et al., 2002](#); [Ali et al., 2005](#); [Zhu et al., 2007](#); [Jian  
161 et al., 2009](#); [Shellnutt, 2014](#); [Tran et al., 2016](#)). The Emeishan flood basalts  
162 constitute a significant part of the ELIP, and are up to  $\sim 5$  km maximum thickness  
163 in the western part of the ELIP (i.e. Yunnan), whereas the maximum thickness  
164 is only a few hundred meters in the eastern part (i.e. Guizhou) ([Xu et al., 2001](#);  
165 [Pirajno, 2013](#); [Shellnutt, 2014](#)). After eruption of the Emeishan basalts, the  
166 Indosinian Orogeny (257-200 Ma) resulted from closure of Paleotethys ([Carter  
167 et al., 2001](#); [Lepvrier et al., 2004](#); [Enkelmann et al., 2007](#); [Reid et al., 2007](#);  
168 [Pullen et al., 2008](#); [Qiu et al., 2016](#)), resulting in faulting and folding that  
169 structurally controlled the occurrence of hydrothermal deposits in the western  
170 Yangtze Block ([Fig. 1b](#)) ([Liu and Lin, 1999](#); [Zaw et al., 2007](#); [Zhu et al., 2007](#);  
171 [Hu and Zhou, 2012](#); [Chen et al., 2015](#)).

172 The SYG Pb-Zn metallogenic province covers  $\sim 0.2 \times 10^6$  km<sup>2</sup> of SW Sichuan,  
173 NE Yunnan and NW Guizhou provinces (Fig. 1a), and hosts 408 carbonate-  
174 hosted Pb-Zn deposits in late Mesoproterozoic to late Paleozoic, all of which  
175 are spatially associated with the late Permian Emeishan basalts (Fig. 1b) (Liu  
176 and Lin, 1999; Zhou et al., 2013a; Wang et al., 2014; Zhang et al., 2015; Hu et  
177 al., 2017). These deposits were formed between 245 Ma and  $192 \pm 7$  Ma as  
178 constrained by Pb model ages, and hydrothermal calcite/fluorite Sm-Nd and  
179 sphalerite/pyrite Rb-Sr isochron dating (Guan and Li, 1999; Si et al., 2006; Li et  
180 al., 2007; Lin et al., 2010; Mao et al., 2012; Zhou et al., 2013a, 2013b, 2015;  
181 Zhang et al., 2015). These dates broadly match the ages of basalt-hosted native  
182 Cu deposits in the ELIP ( $231 \pm 3$ - $225 \pm 2$  Ma: Zhu et al., 2007), Carlin-like Au  
183 deposits in the Youjiang Basin ( $235 \pm 33$ - $204 \pm 19$  Ma: Chen et al., 2015) and  
184 detritus ( $\sim 230$ - $206$  Ma) in the Songpan-Ganzê Orogenic Belt that resulted from  
185 collision with the western Yangtze Block during the late Triassic (Enkelmann et  
186 al., 2007).

## 187 **2.2 Regional geology of the Fule district**

188 The Fule carbonate-hosted Pb-Zn deposit is located 110 km NE of Luoping City,  
189 NE Yunnan Province (Fig. 1b). The exposed rocks include the Mesoproterozoic  
190 Kunyang Group basement rocks, and late Paleozoic (middle Devonian,  
191 Carboniferous and Permian) and early Mesozoic (early-middle Triassic) cover  
192 sequences (Si et al., 2006; Lu et al., 2015). The Kunyang Group is composed  
193 mainly of mudstone and metasandstone, which are unconformably overlain by



194 the middle Devonian Haikou Formation that consists mainly of limestone and  
195 sandstone. The Haikou Formation sedimentary rocks are unconformably  
196 overlain by early Carboniferous coal-bearing clastic rocks and late  
197 Carboniferous carbonate rocks. Sedimentary rocks of Carboniferous age are  
198 conformably overlain by early Permian limestone, shale and sandstone, which  
199 are in turn conformably overlain by limestone and dolostone of middle Permian  
200 Yangxin Formation. Carbonate rocks of the Yangxin Formation are  
201 disconformably overlain by late Permian, which consists mainly of Emeishan  
202 basalts, and coal-bearing clastic rocks. Late Permian clastic rocks are  
203 conformably overlain by early Triassic sandstone, mudstone and carbonates,  
204 which are in turn overlain conformably by middle Triassic carbonates.

205 The Mile-Shizong-Shuicheng fault ([Fig. 1a](#)) and Faben anticline ([Si et al., 2011](#);  
206 [Lu et al., 2015](#)) form major structural features in the studied district. The Mile-  
207 Shizong-Shuicheng regional fault strikes NE-SW, with a slight bend in the Fule  
208 district ([Fig. 1b](#)). It consists of a series of secondary fractures that controlled the  
209 distribution of Pb-Zn deposits ([Figs. 2-3](#)) ([Liu and Lin, 1999](#); [Zhou et al., 2013b](#);  
210 [Qiu et al., 2016](#)). The Faben anticline is 20 km in length and 10 km wide, and  
211 is a gentle fold structure whose axis strikes 030-040° ([Si et al., 2006](#)).  
212 Carboniferous rocks in the central part of the anticline have a horizontal dip  
213 angle, whereas Permian rocks dip at 5°-10°. The Emeishan flood basalts are  
214 widely distributed in the Fule district, but their thickness is relatively thin, as they  
215 form the southeastern margin of the ELIP ([Liu and Lin, 1999](#); [Xu et al., 2001](#);

216 Pirajno, 2013; Shellnutt, 2014).

217 More than 10 Pb-Zn ore deposits have been discovered over ~60 km<sup>2</sup> in the

218 Fule district (Fig. 2), including the Fule (~10 Mt of sulfide ore with mean grades

219 of 15-20 wt. % Zn + Pb), Fusheng (~3 Mt of sulfide ore with average grades of

220 15-25 wt. % Zn + Pb) and Fuli (~1 Mt of sulfide ore with mean grades of 10-15

221 wt. % Zn + Pb) deposits (Si et al., 2006; Lu et al., 2015). All the Pb-Zn deposits

222 are hosted by carbonate rocks of the middle Permian Yangxin Formation (Figs.

223 2-3). Ore bodies occur as stratiform or lentiform shapes along bedding-planes

224 (Fig. 3), and are structurally controlled by the regional fault-fold system (Figs.

225 1b, 2-3). A principal feature of these deposits is that they are rich in Ag, Cu, Cd,

226 Ge and Ga (Si et al., 2006; Ye et al., 2011; Zhu et al., 2017).

227

### 228 **3. Geology of the Fule ore deposit**

#### 229 **3.1 Stratigraphy and lithology**

230 In the Fule mining area, the exposed lithologies include Permian, early-middle

231 Triassic and Quaternary rocks (Figs. 2-3). The late Carboniferous Maping

232 Formation was exposed by underground mining tunnels (Fig. 3), and consists

233 mainly of dolomitic bioclastic limestone. The Maping Formation limestone is

234 conformably overlain by the early Permian Liangshan Formation that is mainly

235 composed of limestone, shale and sandstone. Sedimentary rocks of the

236 Liangshan Formation are conformably overlain by carbonate rocks of the

237 middle Permian Yangxin Formation, which are in turn disconformably overlain

238 by late Permian Emeishan flood basalts. The basalts are disconformably  
239 overlain by the terrestrial coal-bearing clastic sequence of the late Permian  
240 Xuanwei Formation. Clastic rocks of the Xuanwei Formation are conformably  
241 overlain by the early Triassic Feixianguan Formation, which consists mainly of  
242 sandstone, shale and argillaceous limestone. The Feixianguan Formation  
243 sedimentary rocks are conformably overlain by the early Triassic Yongzhenning  
244 Formation that is composed mainly of carbonate rocks, which are in turn  
245 conformably overlain by oolitic dolostone and limestone of the middle Triassic  
246 Guanling Formation. Quaternary sediments locally overlie the Permian and  
247 Triassic rocks (Figs. 2-3).

### 248 **3.2 Structural Geology**

249 The major structures in the Fule mining area include secondary structures of  
250 the Mile-Shizong-Shuicheng regional fault and the right limb of the Faben  
251 anticline (Figs. 1b, and see Figs. 2-3 for the details). The F<sub>4</sub> fault is a normal  
252 structure and strikes 000°-030° with a length of 43 km (Figs. 2-3). The F<sub>5</sub> fault  
253 is a reverse fault and trends 000-045° and is 17 km long (Figs. 2-3). Another  
254 important fault, the F<sub>6</sub> reverse fault (Fig. 4a), is 20 km in length and strikes 000-  
255 050° (Figs. 2-3). The F<sub>5</sub> and F<sub>6</sub> reverse faults controlled the occurrence of the  
256 Pb-Zn ore bodies in the Fule mining area (Figs. 2-3).

### 257 **3.3 Magmatic rocks**

258 The Emeishan flood basalts are the only igneous rocks exposed in the Fule  
259 mining area, and have a close spatial association with all the known Pb-Zn

260 deposits (Figs. 2-3). The distance between the basalts and Pb-Zn ores is less  
261 than 1 m locally (Fig. 3).

### 262 **3.4 Ore bodies**

263 Twenty-ore bodies have been discovered in the Fule deposit, all of which are  
264 buried, and these have a total NW-SE length of 3000 m and NE-SW width of  
265 1500 m. They have been divided into the Laojuntai and Xinjuntai sections, with  
266 the Laojuntai section having been completely mined-out (Si et al., 2011). Ore  
267 bodies in the Xinjuntai section occur as stratiform to lentiform shapes or as  
268 veins along bedding-planes within the Yangxin Formation; they trend SE with a  
269 dip of 10° (Fig. 3). The Erdong stratiform ore body is the largest one in the  
270 Xinjuntai section, and is 1000 m in length, 300-500 m in width and 0-20 m in  
271 thickness. The next largest is the Danaotang ore body, which is lenticular and  
272 500 m long, 400 m wide and 0-20m thick. These large ore bodies have also  
273 been completely mined-out. The total mined-out sulfide ore in the two sections  
274 are more than 7 Mt (Si et al., 2013). Some medium-scale ore bodies have been  
275 found recently, for example, the No. 108 stratiform ore body, which is 400 m  
276 long, 200m wide and 2-12 m thick; the No. 904 lentiform ore body, which is 340  
277 m in length, 200m in width and 1.5-15m in thickness; and the No.74 veined ore  
278 body, which is 200 m long, 150 m wide and 3-15 m thick. Sulfide ore in these  
279 newly-discovered ore bodies contains Zn + Pb grades up to 60 wt. %, averaging  
280 15-20 wt. %, and 256-8171 µg/g Cd, 1.77-239 µg/g Ge, 0.74-182 µg/g Ga, 23.5-  
281 107 µg/g Se, and 0.98-122.1 g/t Ag. The total metal reserves of Cd, Ge and Ga

282 are more than 4567 t, 329 t and 177 t, respectively (Si et al., 2006, 2011, 2013;  
283 Zhu et al., 2017).

### 284 **3.5 Structure and texture of the sulfide ores**

285 Previous studies showed that sulfide ore in the Fule deposit is composed mainly  
286 of sphalerite, galena and pyrite, with calcite and dolomite as gangue minerals  
287 (Figs. 4-7). In this study, Cu and Ni sulfide minerals, together with apatite (Fig.  
288 7f), have been identified, including tetrahedrite (Figs. 6g, k, m, t and 7g-h, j, l-  
289 s), chalcopyrite (Fig. 6i, r-t), millerite, polydymite, and pentlandite (Fig. 7s).

290 The main sulfide minerals occur as either massive (Figs. 4c-f, h-o, q-s and 5a,  
291 e, k-q), veined (Figs. 4h, 5b-d, i-j, r-t and 6a-c), disseminated (Figs. 4p and 5g-  
292 h, n, r-s) or brecciated (Figs. 4g, 5f and 6d) structure. Aggregations of sulfide  
293 minerals in the wall rocks form massive ore (Figs. 4c-e, i-j, n-o and 5a, k); sulfide  
294 veins between millimeter-scale veinlets (Figs. 4h, 5b-d and 6a) or centimeter-  
295 scale veins of calcite/dolomite (Figs. 5i-j, r-t and 6b-c) constitute the veined ore,  
296 whereas in the disseminated ore, sulfide minerals occur as speckles or single  
297 crystals irregularly distributed in the wall rocks (Fig. 4p) or in calcite/dolomite  
298 veins (Fig. 5g-i, n, r-s). In the brecciated ore, fragments of sulfides and  
299 carbonate rocks are enclosed in calcite/dolomite cements (Figs. 4g and 5f).

300 The hydrothermal minerals occur in a variety of forms and may be granular  
301 (Figs. 6e-t and 7a-t), form replacement minerals (Fig. 6r), have embayments  
302 (Figs. 6f, l, s and 7b, d, j, m), occur in solid-solution (Figs. 6i, s and 7a-b, d, k,  
303 o, s), show stress deformation (Figs. 6e-f, l-m and 7g-h) or have cataclastic

304 textures (Fig. 6n). Granular form is common and sphalerite occurs as euhedral  
305 to anhedral fine- (< 0.5 mm, Figs. 6e-f, h, j-m, o-r, t and 7a, c, h-i, p), medium-  
306 (0.5-5 mm, Fig. 6g, k-l and 7a-d, q) to coarse-grained minerals (> 5 mm, Figs.  
307 5i, n, r-s, 6b-d, i, s and 7t); Galena is euhedral to anhedral, fine- to coarse-  
308 grained with grain sizes of 0.01-15 mm (Figs. 5k, 6c, e-f, l-m and 7a-h, j, i-t).  
309 Stress deformation is a common feature in galena (Figs. 6e-f, l-m and 7g-h).  
310 Chalcopyrite has a solid-solution texture within sphalerite (Fig. 6i, s) or else  
311 replaces pyrite (Fig. 6r). The contacts between sphalerite and galena (Fig. 6f, l)  
312 or calcite/dolomite (Fig. 6s and 7b, d, j, m) commonly show embayment. Pyrite  
313 has commonly has a cataclastic texture (Figs. 6h, n and 12). In contrast,  
314 millerite and pentlandite occur as a solid-solution in polydymite (Fig. 7s),  
315 whereas calcite and dolomite often form solid-solutions (Fig. 7a-b, d, k, o, s).

### 316 **3.6 Mineral paragenesis**

317 Based on macro-scale geological observations, microscope identification and  
318 scanning electron microscopy (SEM) analysis, together with previously  
319 published geological data (Si et al., 2006, 2011), the ore-forming process of the  
320 Fule deposit can be divided into diagenetic, hydrothermal and supergene  
321 periods (Fig. 8). The hydrothermal period can be further divided into sulfide +  
322 carbonate (including two generations, i.e. I and II) and barren carbonate  
323 (includes one generation, namely III) stages (Fig. 8). There are two principal  
324 sulfide ore types: sphalerite-dominated (Figs. 4h, q, 5a-j, p-t and 6a-c) and  
325 sphalerite + galena-dominated (Figs. 4c-f, i-p, r-s, 5k-o and 6d). These two ore

326 types have the following spatial distribution from bottom to top as follows:  
327 massive sphalerite-dominated ore often occurs at the bottom of the ore body  
328 (Fig. 4j, m, o, q), followed by massive sphalerite + galena-dominated (Figs. 4c-  
329 f, i-p, r-s and 5n) or sphalerite-dominated interbedded veins (Figs. 4h, 5b-d, i-j,  
330 r-t and 6a-c), with disseminated sphalerite + galena-dominated ore commonly  
331 at the top (Figs. 4p and 5g-j, n, r-s).

332 Overall, there are at least two generations of hydrothermal minerals formed in  
333 the two types of sulfide ore. Sphalerite-I is euhedral (Figs. 5e, h, j, o, r and 6i)  
334 to anhedral (Figs. 5f-g, k-n and 6a-e) fine- to medium-grained (0.01-0.5 mm),  
335 coexisting with galena-I (Figs. 6a-c and 7a, q), pyrite-I (Figs. 6k, 7e and 10),  
336 tetrahedrite (Figs. 6m and 7h, q) or calcite/dolomite-I (Figs. 6a-c and 7a-b), and  
337 is enclosed by galena-II (Figs. 6f, l-m and 7h, l), as well as being filled by galena-  
338 II (Fig. 6g, q and 7g, t), tetrahedrite (Figs. 6h and 7g), pyrite-II (Fig. 6n),  
339 calcite/dolomite-II (Figs. 6g, k, n, q and 7a, e) or replaced by chalcopryrite (Fig.  
340 6i). Sphalerite-II occurs as subhedral to anhedral medium- to coarse-grained  
341 crystals (0.5-10 mm) that coexist with galena-II (Figs. 6e-f, l, p, r and 7h, j, l, p,  
342 r), pyrite-II (Figs. 6h, r and 7c-d), tetrahedrite (Fig. 6t and 7l, p, r), chalcopryrite  
343 (Fig. 6r) or calcite/dolomite-II (Fig. 6e-f, p, s-t), and are enclosed by  
344 calcite/dolomite-II (Figs. 6h, j, o, r and 7i). Galena-I is euhedral to anhedral fine-  
345 to medium-grained (0.01-0.1 mm), and coexists with sphalerite-I (Figs. 6a-c and  
346 7a, q), pyrite-I (Fig. 7e) or calcite/dolomite-I (Figs. 6a-c and 7a), and is enclosed  
347 by pyrite-II (Fig. 7c-d) or calcite/dolomite-II (Fig. 7e, m, o). Galena-II forms

348 subhedral to anhedral medium- to coarse-grained crystals (0.1-15 mm) that  
349 coexist with sphalerite-II (Figs. 6e-f, l, p, r and 7h, j, l, p, r), tetrahedrite (Figs.  
350 6g and 7l-m, o-p), or calcite/dolomite-II (Figs. 6e-g, p-r and 7m-o), and enclose  
351 sphalerite-I (Figs. 6f, l-m and 7h, l), pyrite-I (Figs. 6r and 7n) or tetrahedrite (Figs.  
352 6m and 7h, j, n, r), as well as filling sphalerite-I (Figs. 6g, q and 7g, t). Pyrite-I  
353 coexists with sphalerite-I (Figs. 6k, 7e and 11) or galena-I (Fig. 7e), and is  
354 enclosed by galena-II (Figs. 6r, and 7n) or calcite/dolomite-II (Fig. 7e). Pyrite-II  
355 coexists with sphalerite-II (Figs. 6h, r and 7c-d) or calcite/dolomite-II (Figs. 6h,  
356 n, r and 7c-d), and encloses galena-I (Fig. 7c-d), as well as being replaced by  
357 chalcopyrite (Fig. 6r). Syn-ore calcite/dolomite-I occurs as crumbs or millimeter-  
358 scale discrete veinlets that enclose or coexist with sphalerite-I and galena-I  
359 (Figs. 6a-c and 7a-b). Syn-ore calcite/dolomite-II forms centimeter-scale veins  
360 (Figs. 5i-j, r-t and 6b-d) that fill, cement or coexist with two generations of sulfide  
361 minerals (Figs. 6-7). Post-ore calcite/dolomite-III occurs as veinlets or  
362 stockworks that fill fractures in the sulfide ores (Figs. 4e-g and 6a) or cement  
363 carbonate breccias (Fig. 4b, t). In addition, millerite and pentlandite coexists  
364 with galena-I and all are enclosed by polydymite (Fig. 7s). Apatite occurs as  
365 euhedral crystal and is enclosed by dolomite-III that fills fractures in galena-II  
366 (Fig. 7f).

### 367 **3.7 Wall rock alteration**

368 Wall rock alteration includes chloritization and carbonatization, which can be  
369 divided into pre- and post-ore stages. The pre-ore stage of chloritization



370 generated chlorite along fault planes within the basalts (Fig. 4a), and  
371 carbonatization recrystallized coarse-granular dolostone (Fig. 4b-c). The post-  
372 ore stage is of carbonatization forming barren carbonate (dolomite and calcite)  
373 veins or veinlets, which cement/fill fractures within sulfide ore (Figs. 4e-g and  
374 6a) or wall rocks (Fig. 4b, t). The pre-ore chloritization/carbonatization, resulted  
375 from water/rock interaction between fluids and basalts/carbonates, usually  
376 occur along fluid migration pathways. The post-ore alteration is always close to  
377 sulfide ore, and thus can be used as a clue in mineral exploration.

378

## 379 **4. Samples and analytical methods**

### 380 **4.1 Samples**

381 Sulfide ore samples were collected mainly from the newly-discovered ore  
382 bodies, because the other main ore bodies had been mined-out completely (Si  
383 et al., 2011). Seven calcite and ten sulfide mineral separates were handpicked  
384 from seventeen sulfide ore samples, which were used for bulk C-O and S  
385 isotope analyses, respectively. Four fresh limestone samples were also used  
386 for bulk C-O isotope analysis. Twelve polished thin sections of sulfide ores were  
387 used for NanoSIMS in situ S and Fs-LA-MC-ICPMS in situ Pb isotope analyses.  
388 In situ  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values for galena were not obtained, because no galena standard  
389 was available (Tang et al., 2014; Zhang et al., 2014). Also, no in situ Pb isotopic  
390 ratios of pyrite and sphalerite were obtained as their high Hg contents could  
391 markedly affect the quality of the data (Chen et al., 2014; Bao et al., 2016, 2017;

392 [Tan et al., 2017](#)).

## 393 **4.2 Analytical methods**

### 394 *4.2.1 Bulk C-O isotope analysis*

395 Bulk C-O isotope analysis was performed at the State Key Laboratory of Ore  
396 Deposit Geochemistry (SKLOGD), Institute of Geochemistry (IG), Chinese  
397 Academy Sciences (CAS), using a Finnigan MAT-253 mass spectrometer.  
398 Calcite separates and limestone whole-rock reacted with 100% H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> to  
399 produce CO<sub>2</sub>. The analytical precisions calculated from replicate analyses of  
400 unknown samples were better than 0.2‰ (2σ) and 1‰ (2σ) for δ<sup>13</sup>C and δ<sup>18</sup>O,  
401 respectively. The δ<sup>13</sup>C and δ<sup>18</sup>O values were reported relative to the Vienna  
402 Pee Dee Belemnite (V-PDB) standard and Standard Mean Ocean Water  
403 (SMOW), respectively.

### 404 *4.2.2 In situ S isotope analysis*

405 In situ S isotope analysis was undertaken at the Key Laboratory of Earth and  
406 Planetary Physics, Institute of Geology and Geophysics, CAS, using a  
407 CAMECA NanoSIMS. The measurements were made using 3 different settings  
408 of the Faraday cups/electron multiplier (EM) detectors, in order to meet the  
409 diverse requirements for spatial resolution. The standard-sample-standard  
410 bracketing method was applied to correct for instrumental mass fractionation.  
411 Target spots of the most homogeneous isotopes (such as <sup>32</sup>S, <sup>34</sup>S and <sup>75</sup>As in  
412 [Fig. 9](#)) were selected for in situ S isotope analysis in order to obtain the most  
413 credible data. Internal standards included PY-1117 (pyrite), CS01 (pyrite), JC-

414 14 (sphalerite) and MY09-12 (sphalerite), and international standards included  
415 Balmat (pyrite and sphalerite) and CAR 123 (pyrite). The analytical precision  
416 calculated from replicate analyses of the unknown samples was better than 0.2‰  
417 ( $1\sigma$ ). The in situ S isotopic compositions were reported relative to the Vienna  
418 Canyon Diablo Troilite (V-CDT) standard. Details of instrument parameters and  
419 NanoSIMS in situ S isotope analysis techniques were described in [Zhang et al.](#)  
420 [\(2014\)](#).

#### 421 *4.2.3 Bulk S isotope analysis*

422 Bulk S isotope analysis was undertaken at the SKLOGG, IGCAS, using a  
423 Finnigan MAT-253 mass spectrometer. Sulfide mineral powders (200 mesh)  
424 were mixed with CuO powder, and then were heated to extract SO<sub>2</sub>. The  
425 analytical uncertainty was better than 0.1‰ ( $1\sigma$ ) calculated from replicate  
426 analyses of the IAEA international standards: IAEA S1 (-0.3‰), IAEA S2  
427 (+22.62‰) and IAEA S3 (-32.49‰). The analytical precision calculated from  
428 replicate analyses of the unknown samples is better than 0.2‰ ( $2\sigma$ ). The bulk  
429  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values are reported relative to the Vienna Canyon Diablo Troilite (V-CDT)  
430 standard.

#### 431 *4.2.4 In situ Pb isotope analysis*

432 In situ Pb isotopes were analyzed at the State Key Laboratory of Continental  
433 Dynamics, Northwest University, using a Nu II MC-ICPMS instrument combined  
434 with a 266 nm femtosecond (fs) laser ablation system. The surface of the  
435 polished thin sections was cleaned with milli-Q water (18.2 M $\Omega$ ·cm). Line scan

436 ablation consisted of background collection for 20 s followed by 50 s of laser  
437 ablation for signal collection. Laser ablation parameters were: 15  $\mu\text{m}$  spot size  
438 for galena; 100% output energy,  $>600 \mu\text{J}$ ; 100% energy density,  $6 \text{ J/cm}^2$ ; laser  
439 frequency, 5-50 Hz; and ablation way, line  $3 \mu\text{m/s}$ . These ensured a strong  
440 enough Pb signal for the in situ analysis of galena samples. The TI (20 ppb),  
441 NIST SRM 997 ( $^{205}\text{TI}/^{203}\text{TI} = 2.38890$ ) and NIST SRM 610 glass served as  
442 internal and external standards. The repeated analyses of NIST SRM 610 glass  
443 yielded highly reliable and reproducible results during the whole analytical  
444 process with mean  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 17.052 \pm 0.003$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 15.515 \pm 0.003$   
445 and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 36.980 \pm 0.007$  (1 s,  $n = 183$ ). Details of instrument  
446 parameters and fs LA-MC-ICP-MS in situ Pb isotope analyses were described  
447 in [Bao et al. \(2016\)](#).

448

## 449 **5. Analytical results**

### 450 **5.1 Bulk C-O isotopic compositions**

451 Bulk  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values of syn-ore calcite separates and fresh limestone  
452 whole-rock samples are listed in [Table 1](#) and are shown in [Figure 10](#). Syn-ore  
453 calcite (generation II) separates have  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values ranging from +2.57  
454 to +3.01‰ and +16.83 to +19.92‰, respectively.  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values of fresh  
455 limestone whole-rock samples range from +1.58 to +2.63‰ and +21.85 to  
456 +24.01‰, respectively. The  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values of syn-ore calcite can be compared  
457 with those of fresh limestone, but the former has slightly lower  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values than

458 those of the latter (Fig. 10).

### 459 **5.2 In situ and bulk $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ values**

460 In situ and bulk  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values are presented in Table 2 and are shown in Figures  
461 11-12. The NanoSIMS in situ  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of sulfide minerals range from +9.8 to  
462 +23.1‰, of which pyrite and sphalerite crystals have  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values ranging from  
463 +10.3 to +19.4‰ and +9.8 to +23.1‰, respectively. In situ  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of pyrite-  
464 I and pyrite-II crystals range from +12.8 to +19.4‰ and +10.3 to +10.4‰,  
465 respectively. Sphalerite-I and sphalerite-II crystals have in situ  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values  
466 ranging from +12.5 to +23.1‰ and +9.8 to +16.9‰, respectively. A principal  
467 feature of both pyrite and sphalerite crystals is that their  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values decrease  
468 gradually from core to rim (pyrite: decreasing from +19.4 to +10.3‰; sphalerite:  
469 decreasing from +23.1 to +9.8‰; Figs. 11 and 12a). Sulfide minerals have bulk  
470  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values ranging from +10.04 to +16.43‰, of which sphalerite has  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$   
471 values (+14.16-+16.43‰) higher than those of galena (generation II: +10.04-  
472 +11.86‰). Sphalerite-I has bulk  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values (+14.16-+16.43‰) similar to those  
473 of sphalerite-II (+14.21-+15.10‰). Another major feature is that bulk S isotopic  
474 data of sphalerite have a much narrower range than in situ S isotopic data (Fig.  
475 11a-b).

### 476 **5.3 In situ Pb isotopic compositions**

477 In situ Pb isotopic ratios of galena are listed in Table 3 and are shown in Figures  
478 13-14. Galena (generation I and II) crystals have in situ  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios of  
479 18.572-18.617,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios of 15.711-15.728 and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios of

480 38.592-38.727. In situ Pb isotopic ratios of galena-I are as follows:  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$   
481 = 18.572-18.598,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  = 15.711-15.728 and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  = 38.592-38.695  
482 and in situ Pb isotopic ratios of galena-II are:  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  = 18.580-18.617,  
483  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  = 15.712-15.727, and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  = 38.597-38.727. The main  
484 feature is that  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios of galena-I are lower than  
485 those of galena-II (Fig. 14a-b).

486

## 487 **6. Discussion**

### 488 **6.1 Sources of ore-forming elements and associated fluids**

#### 489 *6.1.1 New insights from C-O isotopes*

490 Mineralogical records reveal that calcite and dolomite are the two main C-  
491 bearing minerals in the sulfide ores (Figs. 4-8). Thus,  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$   
492 [occurring as  $\text{CO}_2$  (aqueous)] are two dominant C species in the hydrothermal  
493 fluid, as supported by the analysis of fluid inclusions in sphalerite (Li ZL  
494 unpublished data). Therefore, the calculated  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{CO}_2}$  value is approximate to  
495 the theoretical  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{fluid}}$  value, namely  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{CO}_2} \approx \delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{fluid}}$ , if the fractionation of C  
496 isotopes between  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  (liquid) or  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$  and  $\text{CO}_2$  (gas) is negligible (Ohmoto,  
497 1972; Hoefs, 2009). The  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{CO}_2}$  values were calculated using the temperature  
498 function of  $1000 \ln \alpha_{(\text{CO}_2\text{-Calcite})} = -2.4612 + 7.663 \times 10^3 / (t + 273.15) - 2.988 \times$   
499  $10^6 / (t + 273.15)^2$  (Bottinga, 1968; “t” [200 °C] is an average homogenization  
500 temperature of fluid inclusions in sphalerite, Li ZL unpublished data). Similarly,  
501 the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  values were calculated using the temperature function of  $1000 \ln \alpha$

502  $(\text{Calcite-H}_2\text{O}) = 2.78 \times 10^6 / (t + 273.15)^2 - 3.39$  (O'Neil et al., 1969). We obtained  
503  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{fluid}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{fluid}}$  values having a range of +2.96-+3.40‰ and +7.80-  
504 +10.89‰, respectively (Table 2; Fig. 10).

505 It has been well-documented that  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values of different geological  
506 reservoirs are distinct (Fig. 10). For instance, typical marine carbonate rocks  
507 have  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values of -4-+4‰ and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values of +20-+30‰ (Veizer and Hoefs,  
508 1976), the  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values of mantle-derived  $\text{CO}_2$  range from -8 to -4‰  
509 and +6 to +10‰, respectively (Taylor et al., 1967; Demény et al., 1998),  
510 whereas sedimentary organic matters have  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values mainly  
511 ranging from -30 to -15‰ and +24 to +30‰, respectively (Kump and Arthur,  
512 1999; Hoefs, 2009). Therefore, C-O isotopes can provide an important  
513 constraint on the source of ore-forming fluids.

514 Compared with the above three main reservoirs of  $\text{CO}_2$ , the calculated  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{fluid}}$   
515 values (+2.96-+3.40‰) are higher than those of organic matters and the mantle,  
516 but are similar to those of carbonate rocks and limestone (Fig. 10). However,  
517 the calculated  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{fluid}}$  values (+7.80-+10.89‰) are lower than those of organic  
518 matters, carbonate rocks and limestone (Fig. 10), but are similar to those of  
519 mantle or metamorphic fluids (+2-+25‰: Hoefs, 2009). This means that C is  
520 mainly derived from limestone, whereas the O isotope signature may be related  
521 to water/rock (W/R) interaction between mantle and/or metamorphic fluids and  
522 limestone.

523 Geologically, the mantle-derived basalts of the ELIP and the metamorphic rocks

524 of the Mesoproterozoic Kunyang Group are spatially associated with Pb-Zn  
525 deposits in the Fule region (Figs. 1b, 2-3), suggesting that both mantle  
526 magmatism and metamorphism have the potential to provide elements and  
527 associated fluids to the hydrothermal system, as suggested in other places  
528 (Pirajno, 2000; Davidheiser-Kroll et al., 2014). In addition, the occurrence of  
529 abundant Cu and Ni sulfide minerals (Figs. 6-8) indicates a genetic relationship  
530 between Emeishan magmatism and Pb-Zn mineralization. Furthermore,  
531 evidence from in situ Pb isotopic data suggests that the metal Pb was derived  
532 from a well-mixed source involving the basalts, sedimentary rocks and  
533 metamorphic rocks (see below). Therefore, we propose that the O isotope  
534 signature was generated by W/R interaction between mixed (mantle and  
535 metamorphic) fluids and limestone.

#### 536 6.1.2 Constraints from in situ and bulk S isotopes

537 Primary ore in the Fule deposit is composed of sphalerite, galena, pyrite, and  
538 Cu and Ni sulfide minerals, but lacks sulfate minerals (Figs. 4-8). Hence, the  
539  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of sulfide minerals approximate those of the corresponding fluids,  
540 namely  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfide}} \approx \delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{fluid}}$  (Ohmoto, 1972; Seal, 2006). The  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of  
541 sulfide minerals obtained by NanoSIMS in situ analyses compared with bulk  
542 techniques range from +9.8 to +23.1‰ (average +15.5‰) and +10.04 to +16.43‰  
543 (average +13.3‰), respectively (Figs. 11-12), reflecting the enrichment of  
544 heavy S isotopes in the hydrothermal fluids. The mean  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  value of sulfide  
545 minerals is +14.8‰, which approximates that of the ore-forming fluids. Such S



546 isotope signatures differ from mantle-derived S ( $0 \pm 3\%$ : [Chaussidon et al.,](#)  
547 [1989](#)), and are similar to Permian seawater ( $+11\text{--}+15\%$ : [Claypool et al., 1980;](#)  
548 [Seal, 2006](#)). Given that the S was completely sourced from Permian seawater,  
549 as the thermochemical sulfide reduction (see below) can form up to  $+15\%$  of  
550 the  $\Delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate-sulfide}}$  value ([Ohmoto et al., 1990; Machel et al., 1995; Worden et](#)  
551 [al., 1995; Ohmoto and Goldhaber, 1997](#)), so the theoretical  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfide}}$  value  
552 could drop to  $-4\%$ . The theoretically predicted  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfide}}$  values ( $-7\text{--}+15\%$ ) do  
553 not match well with the observed  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values ( $+9.8\text{--}+23.1\%$ ). Hence, Permian  
554 seawater was not the only S source for the Fule deposit.

555 Previous studies suggested that the sulfate-bearing evaporites (salt-gypsum  
556 rocks) that are common in the late Ediacaran to Triassic marine strata in the  
557 region, with  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values ranging from  $+22$  to  $+28\%$  ([Fig. 11c; Zhou et al., 2013c](#)),  
558 overlap with those of the Ediacaran to Triassic seawater ( $+10\text{--}+35\%$ : [Claypool](#)  
559 [et al., 1980; Seal, 2006](#)). If the S was totally derived from the above evaporites  
560 or seawater, the theoretical  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfide}}$  values ( $+7\text{--}+28\%$  or  $-5\text{--}+35\%$ ) can match  
561 reasonably well with the observed  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values ( $+9.8\text{--}+23.1\%$ ). Evidence from  
562 S isotopes for the nearby Pb-Zn deposits ([Fig. 12c](#)), including the Shaojiwan  
563 (hosted in early Permian) ([Zhou et al., 2013c](#)), Huize (hosted in early  
564 Carboniferous) ([Li et al., 2006, 2007](#)), Nayongzhi (hosted in early Cambrian and  
565 late Ediacaran) ([Jin et al., 2016](#)) and Maozu (hosted in late Ediacaran) ([Zhou](#)  
566 [et al., 2013b](#)), also suggests that the S in the hydrothermal fluids was derived  
567 from multiple S reservoirs. Hence, we conclude that the S in the Fule deposit

568 had multiple sources.

569 Thermochemical sulfate reduction (TSR) and bacterial sulfate reduction (BSR)

570 are two crucial processes for the formation of  $S^{2-}$  from  $SO_4^{2-}$ , and they are

571 temperature-dependent (Ohmoto et al., 1990; Machel et al., 1995; Hoefs, 2009;

572 Zhou et al., 2013c). TSR occurs at a relatively high temperature (higher than

573 100-140°C: Machel et al., 1995; Worden et al., 1995) and can generate a large

574 amount of  $S^{2-}$  with relatively stable  $\delta^{34}S$  values (Ohmoto et al., 1990; Seal, 2006;

575 Zhou et al., 2013c). BSR occurs at a relatively low temperature (lower than

576 110°C: e.g. Jørgenson et al., 1992; Worden et al., 1995; Basuki et al., 2008).

577 As the metallogenic temperature (180-210°C, based on fluid inclusions in

578 sphalerite-II: Li ZL unpublished data) is too high for bacteria to survive, hence

579 BSR played an insignificant role in the formation of  $S^{2-}$ . In addition, the sulfide

580 ore reserves of the Fule deposit are more than 10 Mt, which suggests a

581 significant requirement of  $S^{2-}$ . This means that TSR has played a crucial role in

582 the formation of  $S^{2-}$  from  $SO_4^{2-}$  in the Fule deposit.

583 The  $\delta^{34}S$  values of pyrite-I crystals (rims: +12.8-+13.4‰) are higher than those

584 of paragenetic sphalerite-I crystals (rims: +12.5‰) in sample Fl<sub>14-95</sub> (Fig. 11).

585 Similarly, in sample Fl<sub>14-65</sub> (Fig. 11), pyrite-II crystals have  $\delta^{34}S$  values (rims:

586 +10.3-+10.4‰) higher than those of paragenetic sphalerite-II crystals (rims:

587 +9.8-+10.1‰). Such S isotope signatures suggest that the fractionation of S

588 isotopes between pyrite and paragenetic sphalerite reached equilibrium

589 (Ohmoto, 1972; Seal, 2006). In addition, sphalerite-II has  $\delta^{34}S$  values (+14.21-

590 +15.10‰) higher than those of galena-II (+10.04--11.86‰) (Fig. 12a), which  
591 indicates that S isotope fractionation between sphalerite and galena had also  
592 reached equilibrium (Seal, 2006; Hoefs, 2009). Hence, equilibrium fractionation  
593 played an important role in the variation of  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values for the sulfide minerals  
594 in the Fule deposit. On the other hand, the  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values decrease gradually from  
595 core to rim in both sphalerite and pyrite crystals (Fig. 11), which suggests that  
596 other factors may have controlled the S isotope signatures, such as changes in  
597 the physico-chemical conditions (T, pH,  $f_{\text{O}_2}$ ,  $f_{\text{S}}$ , etc.), Rayleigh fractionation, or  
598 mixing of multiple S reservoirs (Ohmoto, 1972; Hoefs, 2009). Previous studies  
599 suggested that physical and chemical conditions are crucial factors that can  
600 cause large variations in S isotopes (Seal, 2006; Hoefs, 2009). However, the  
601 circulating process (dissolution and re-precipitation) of local carbonate rocks  
602 that was caused by water/rock (W/R) interaction (O'Neil et al., 1969; Zheng and  
603 Hoefs, 1993; Warren, 2000) can help keep a metastable metallogenic  
604 environment (see below). Hence, changes in physical-chemical conditions can  
605 be ruled out. In contrast, as a consequence of dynamic fractionation, heavy S  
606 isotopes are expected to be more enriched in the cores of sulfide minerals than  
607 their rims (Figs. 11-12) during precipitation, due to the fact that light S isotopes  
608 are more enriched in the gas phase ( $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ ) (Seal, 2006; Zhou et al., 2013c).  
609 Alternatively, a mixing process of multiple reservoirs and associated fluids can  
610 cause distinct variation of S isotopes (Basuki et al., 2008; Zhou et al., 2013c),  
611 and our isotopic data imply that multiple reservoirs were involved (Figs. 11-12),

612 providing the S source for the formation of the Fule sulfide ore. Therefore, both  
613 equilibrium and dynamic fractionation of S isotopes occurred during sulfide  
614 precipitation.

### 615 *6.1.3 Evidence from in situ Pb isotopes*

616 The extremely low U and Th contents in sulfide minerals (Carr et al., 1995;  
617 Muchez et al., 2005; Zhou et al., 2013a; Pass et al., 2014) enables us to use  
618 the Pb isotopic ratios of galena formed at different paragenetic stages in the  
619 Fule deposit to investigate the nature of the hydrothermal fluids. Uniform in situ  
620 Pb isotopic ratios of galena suggest a single or a well-mixed source of Pb (Fig.  
621 13). The Pb isotopic data plot above the Pb evolution curve of the average  
622 upper continental crust in the diagram of  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  vs.  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  (Fig. 13)  
623 (Zartman and Doe, 1981).

624 Previous studies suggested that there are three potential metal sources in the  
625 SYG province, namely the late Permian Emeishan basalts, ore-hosting late  
626 Ediacaran to middle Permian sedimentary rocks and Meso- to Neo-proterozoic  
627 metamorphic rocks (Zheng and Wang, 1991; Zhou et al., 2001, 2013a; Huang  
628 et al., 2004; Li et al., 2007, 2015, 2016; Zhang et al., 2015; Jin et al., 2016; Zhu  
629 et al., 2017). Compared with the basalts, sedimentary rocks and basement  
630 rocks, galena has Pb isotopic ratios that differ from all of them in the diagram  
631 of  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  vs.  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  (Fig. 13). This means that there was not a single  
632 source for the Pb. In addition, galena displays higher  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  than those of  
633 the basalts and basement rocks at a given  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratio (Fig. 13), but both

634 the galena and the basalts, sedimentary rocks and basement rocks have the  
635 same  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratio at a given  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratio (Fig. 13). It should be noted  
636 that many of the ELIP basalts show evidence of crustal contamination and that  
637 it is possible the contamination originated from carbonate rocks (possibly their  
638 fluids) (Xu et al., 2001; Pirajno, 2013; Shellnutt, 2014). Hence, we cannot rule  
639 out contribution from the ELIP basalts (6-323  $\mu\text{g/g}$  Cu, 66-156  $\mu\text{g/g}$  Zn and 3-  
640 30  $\mu\text{g/g}$  Pb: Huang et al., 2004; Xu et al., 2001, 2007) and we consider a well-  
641 mixed metal source is a reasonable postulate (Fig. 13).

642 There is a gradual increase in the  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios from  
643 galena-I to galena-II (Fig. 14a-b), which can be explained by: (a) a high  
644  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ -enriched source provided more Pb for galena-II  
645 than galena-I, or (b) galena-I had lower  $^{238}\text{U}$  and  $^{232}\text{Th}$  contents than galena-II.  
646 Because of the low U and Th contents in galena, and the lack of any distinct  
647 difference between the two generations of galena (Zhou et al., 2011; Ye et al.,  
648 2011 and unpublished data), so a highly radiogenic Pb-enriched source (such  
649 as basalts or basements), which may have provided more Pb to the  
650 hydrothermal fluids in the late phase is possible. This explanation is further  
651 supported by the occurrence of abundant Cu and Ni sulfide minerals in the late  
652 phase (Figs. 6-8).

## 653 **6.2 Precipitation mechanisms of hydrothermal minerals**

### 654 *6.2.1 Mechanisms of calcite precipitation*

655 As the solubility of calcite decreases with increase in temperature, so cooling

656 of the fluid itself could not cause calcite precipitation (Zheng, 1990; Barnes,  
657 1997; Hoefs, 2009). There are three main processes that can lead to calcite  
658 precipitation in an open hydrothermal system, i.e. fluid mixing, water/rock (W/R)  
659 interaction and CO<sub>2</sub> degassing (Zheng and Hoefs, 1993; Huang et al., 2010; Du  
660 et al., 2017). Our C isotopic data suggest that C is sourced mainly from the  
661 limestone (Fig. 10). This means that the process of fluid mixing played an  
662 insignificant role in calcite precipitation. As a consequence of W/R interaction,  
663 the circulating process between dissolution and re-precipitation in carbonate  
664 rocks can cause calcite precipitation, at least locally (Warren, 2000). Moreover,  
665 such circulating processes of precipitation → dissolution → re-precipitation can  
666 generate metastable conditions that are beneficial to the continuous formation  
667 of sulfide ore (Zhou et al., 2018). In addition, the C-O isotopic evolution curve  
668 of W/R interaction between fluids (initial  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{fluid}} = +2\text{‰}$ ,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{fluid}} = +6\text{‰}$ ) and  
669 limestone (Fig. 15) was simulated, using the fractionation factor and equation  
670 of C-O isotopes (O'Neil et al., 1969; Zheng and Hoefs 1993). The simulation  
671 results suggest that our C-O isotopic data match well with the evolution curves  
672 of both HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (Fig. 15) as the dominant C species (Zheng and  
673 Hoefs, 1993). Similarly, the C-O isotopic evolution curve of CO<sub>2</sub> degassing (with  
674 0.1, 0.2, 0.3 and 0.4 mol fraction of total C and O; initial  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{fluid}} = +2\text{‰}$ ,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{fluid}}$   
675 = +6‰) was also simulated (Fig. 16a-b). The results show that our C-O isotopic  
676 data still match well with the evolution curve of both H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (Fig. 16a) and HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>  
677 (Fig. 16b) as the dominant C species. Hence, calcite precipitation was

678 controlled by both W/R interaction and CO<sub>2</sub> degassing.

### 679 *6.2.2 Mechanisms of sulfide precipitation*

680 Previous studies suggested that there are three main models (reduced S, local  
681 sulfate reduction, and mixing of metal and reduced S) that can account for  
682 sulfide precipitation in hydrothermal systems (Anderson, 1975; Corbella et al.,  
683 2004; Leach et al., 2005). The reduced S model requires metal and reduced S  
684 to be transported together to the depositional site; the local sulfate reduction  
685 model calls upon increasing the concentration of reduced S at the depositional  
686 site through sulfate reduction; and the mixing of metal and reduced S demands  
687 a metal-rich, but reduced S-poor brine, mixed with a fluid rich in hydrogen  
688 sulfide at the depositional site (Heijlen et al., 2003; Leach et al., 2005). Our S  
689 isotopic data suggest that S was derived from multiple reservoirs and TSR  
690 played a dominant role in the formation of S<sup>2-</sup> from SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> (Figs. 11-12). However,  
691 our Pb isotopic data indicate that a well-mixed source of the basalts,  
692 sedimentary rocks and basement rocks provided the main metal source (Figs.  
693 13-14). As the normal SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>-bearing basin brines are of low temperature  
694 (usually < 100 °C) (Corbella et al., 2004; Leach et al., 2005), which is lower than  
695 the required temperature for activating TSR, so the aforementioned three  
696 models cannot reasonably explain the formation of sulfide ore in the Fule  
697 deposit. Therefore, an alternative model is proposed here, namely fluid mixing  
698 caused by TSR, which then resulted in sulfide precipitation.

### 699 **6.3 Possible mineralizing age and related geological events**

700 In the Fule mining area, the ore-bearing strata are the middle Permian Yangxin  
701 Formation (Figs. 2-3), which implies that the ore formation time was not older  
702 than middle Permian age. In addition, the evidence from mineralogy (Cu and Ni  
703 sulfide minerals) (Figs. 6g, i, k, m, r-t and 7g-h, j, l-s), and O (Fig. 10) and Pb  
704 isotopes (Figs. 13-14) reveals a genetic association with Emeishan magmatism.  
705 This reflects that mineralization may have occurred at the same time as the  
706 ELIP. The most reliable radiometric dates indicate generation of the ELIP at  
707 263-259 Ma (Xu et al., 2001; Zhou et al., 2002; Ali et al., 2005; Shellnutt et al.,  
708 2012). On the other hand, sulfide ore in the Fule deposit occurs as stratiform to  
709 lenticular shapes or as veins along the bedding-planes, locally associated with  
710 the Mile-Shizong-Shuicheng regional fault system and the Faben anticline (Figs.  
711 1b, 2-3). These structures were activated during the Indosinian Orogeny (Lu et  
712 al., 2015), which suggests that the Fule deposit was most likely formed during  
713 the Indosinian period (257-200 Ma: Carter et al., 2001; Enkelmann et al., 2007;  
714 Reid et al., 2007; Lepvrier et al., 2008; Pullen et al., 2008). Furthermore,  
715 according to the Pb model ages, Si et al. (2006) considered that the Fule  
716 deposit was probably formed during late Triassic to early Jurassic (~225-198  
717 Ma). This age broadly matches the dates of the nearby Pb-Zn deposits (245-  
718 192 Ma) (Guan and Li, 1999; Li et al., 2007; Lin et al., 2010; Mao et al., 2012;  
719 Zhou et al., 2013a, 2013b, 2015; Zhang et al., 2015), native Cu deposits (230-  
720 225 Ma) (Zhu et al., 2007) and Carlin-like Au deposits (235-204 Ma) (Chen et  
721 al., 2015). Hence, the Fule and nearby deposits were formed between 250-200



722 Ma, and were most likely related to the ELIP and the Indosinian Orogeny that  
723 occurred after eruption of the Emeishan basalts.

#### 724 **6.4 Ore genesis**

725 Sulfide ore in the Fule deposit has a spatial association with the Emeishan  
726 basalts (Figs. 1b, 2-3), which led some researchers to classify it as a distal  
727 magmatic-hydrothermal type (Xie, 1963). Other geological evidence linking  
728 mineralization to Emeishan magmatism includes the occurrence of hidden Pb-  
729 Zn veins in the basalts at Xuanwei County, NE Yunnan Province (Liu and Lin,  
730 1999). On the other hand, sulfide ore in the Fule deposit occurs in stratiform to  
731 lenticular shapes or veins (Figs. 3-4) that are clearly stratabound. This led other  
732 researchers to classify it as a Sedimentary Exhalative-type (SEDEX) or a  
733 stratabound-type of deposit (Si et al., 2006). However, the Fule sulfide ore is  
734 hosted by middle Permian carbonate rocks, which are different from clastic  
735 rocks that host sulfide ore of SEDEX-type (Leach et al., 2005). In addition,  
736 based on the evidence of Cd isotopes, the Fule deposit was considered to be  
737 a Mississippi Valley-type (MVT) deposit (Zhu et al., 2017). Traditionally, typical  
738 MVT deposits are related to basin fluids that are characterized by low  
739 temperatures (50-200 °C) and high salinities (10-30 wt. % NaCl equiv.) and  
740 have no genetic association with magmatic activity (Leach et al., 2005, 2010).  
741 However, the study of fluid inclusions in sphalerite suggests that the ore-forming  
742 fluids in the Fule deposit are characterized by low-medium temperatures (120-  
743 260 °C) and low salinities (4-10 wt. % NaCl equiv.) (Si et al., 2006; Li ZL,

744 unpublished data). In addition, the occurrence of abundant Cu and Ni sulfide  
745 minerals (Figs. 6g, i, k, m, r-t and 7g-h, j, l-s), and the evidence of O (Fig. 10)  
746 and Pb isotopes (Figs. 13-14) imply that the formation of sulfide ore in the Fule  
747 deposit was associated with the ELIP. Furthermore, these features are similar  
748 to those of the unique SYG-type Huize Pb-Zn deposit (Zhou et al., 2001; Huang  
749 et al., 2004; Li et al., 2007) (Table 4). Moreover, the sulfide ore in the Fule  
750 deposit is of higher grades (up to 60 wt. % Zn + Pb, av. 15-20 wt. %) than those  
751 of MVT deposits (usually < 10. Wt. % Zn + Pb). Hence, we propose that the  
752 Fule deposit is not a typical MVT deposit and represents a new unique SYG-  
753 type of deposit that is between MVT and magmatic hydrothermal deposits.

#### 754 **6.5 Ore formation process and relationship with the ELIP**

755 Pirajno (2000) established indirect links with sediment-hosted deposits (such  
756 as MVT and SEDEX-type) and mantle plumes. The thermal simulation indicates  
757 that the basalts of the ELIP begin to release metal-bearing fluids at ~5-10 Ma  
758 after it erupting and this process can last over ~50 Ma (Xu et al., 2014). On the  
759 other hand, if we consider that the Pb-Zn deposits in the ELIP formed as a  
760 consequence of Indosinian tectonism (~257-200 Ma: Carter et al., 2001;  
761 Lepvrier et al., 2004; Enkelmann et al., 2007; Reid et al., 2007; Pullen et al.,  
762 2008), then it makes sense that magmatic fluids related to the Emeishan event  
763 could pass through the carbonate rocks and be involved in the mineralization.  
764 Furthermore, metal-bearing fluids (including thermal flux and volatiles)  
765 generated by Emeishan magmatism have been shown to be involved in the

766 formation of the Fule deposit, as evidenced by field data (Figs. 1-8), fluids  
767 compositions (Figs. 10, 12, 15-16), and in situ S (Figs. 9, 11-12) and Pb (Figs.  
768 13-14) isotopes. In addition, hydrothermal fluids responsible for carbonate-  
769 hosted base metal deposits in the Irish Pb-Zn ore district was considered to be  
770 driven by mantle heat (Davidheiser-Kroll et al., 2014). Hence, sulfide ore in the  
771 Fule deposit has a genetic relationship with Emeishan magmatism.

772 Between 263-259 Ma, during the eruption of the Emeishan basalts (Shellnutt,  
773 2014), fluids were provided (thermal flux + volatiles) and there was an elevated  
774 background geothermal gradient, both of which facilitated and enhanced the  
775 mobilization and extraction of ore-forming elements from Proterozoic  
776 metamorphic rocks in the basement and Paleozoic sedimentary rocks (Fig.  
777 17a). Following eruption of the Emeishan basalts, these metal-bearing mixed  
778 (mantle and metamorphic) fluids (initial  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{fluid}} = +2\text{‰}$ ,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{fluid}} = +6\text{‰}$ ) were  
779 driven upward along regional faults (including the Mile-Shizong-Shuicheng fault  
780 and its subsidiaries; Fig. 1a) during the early Indosinian Orogeny (257-250 Ma)  
781 (Fig. 17b). These fluids were then released into structural units (such as the  
782 Faben anticline) when the overall tectonic regime changed from compression  
783 to extension between 250-200 Ma (Fig. 17c) (Carter et al., 2001; Reid et al.,  
784 2007; Lepvrier et al., 2008; Lu et al., 2015; Qiu et al., 2016). The fluids were  
785 then trapped by evaporitic salt and sedimentary organic-bearing units within the  
786 platform carbonate sequences at the structurally-controlled depositional sites  
787 (Fig. 17c). This process resulted in the formation of  $\text{S}^{2-}$  from multiple S

788 reservoirs via TSR and the extraction of some metals from ore-hosting strata  
789 through W/R interaction (as evidenced by C-O-S and Pb isotopes), and then  
790 resulted in the precipitation of hydrothermal minerals (Fig. 17c). Importantly  
791 during ore formation, the Emeishan basalts also acted as an impermeable and  
792 protective layer (Figs. 1b, 2-3, 17) and even acted as ore-hosting rocks, which  
793 enabled the massive accumulation of Cu, Pb-Zn, and even Au ores in the  
794 western Yangtze Block (Fig. 1b).

795

## 796 **7. Conclusions**

797 (a) Bulk C-O isotopic data suggest that the source of C in the Fule Pb-Zn  
798 deposit was limestone, whereas the O isotope signature is related to W/R  
799 interaction between mixed (mantle and metamorphic) fluids and limestone. W/R  
800 interaction and CO<sub>2</sub> degassing are two crucial processes for calcite  
801 precipitation.

802 (b) Both in situ and bulk S isotopic data indicate a mixed S source from multiple  
803 reservoirs and that TSR played a crucial role in the formation of S<sup>2-</sup>. Both  
804 equilibrium and dynamic fractionation controlled the variation in S isotopes.

805 (c) In situ Pb isotopic data imply a well-mixed Pb source that includes basalts,  
806 sedimentary rocks and Proterozoic basement rocks.

807 (d) The Fule Pb-Zn deposit thus represents a new unique SYG-type of deposit  
808 that is between MVT and magmatic hydrothermal deposits.

809

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1171

1172 Figure captions

1173 Fig. 1 a: Regional geological setting of SW China, highlighting the general study  
1174 area; b: Geological sketch map of the Sichuan-Yunnan-Guizhou (SYG) Pb-Zn  
1175 metallogenic province (modified from [Liu and Lin, 1999](#)), which shows the  
1176 distribution of Pb-Zn deposits, native Cu deposits, strata, faults and igneous  
1177 rocks.

1178

1179 Fig. 2 Geological sketch map of the Fule district (modified from [Liu and Lin,](#)  
1180 [1999](#)), showing the distribution of Pb-Zn deposits, strata, faults and Emeishan  
1181 basalts.

1182

1183 Fig. 3 A-B cross-section through the Fule district (modified from [Liu and Lin,](#)

1184 1999), revealing the distribution of ore bodies, faults and strata, and the spatial  
1185 relationship between sulfide ores and basalts.

1186

1187 Fig. 4. Field photographs of the Fule deposit; a: F<sub>6</sub> reverse fault plane with  
1188 chloritization; b: post-ore dolomite/calcite (Dol/Cal) veins fill fractures in  
1189 dolostone; c: sphalerite (Sp) and galena (Gn) occur as massive aggregates that  
1190 are filled by Dol/Cal crumbs, and carbonate breccias are cemented by Dol/Cal  
1191 veins; d: Dol/Cal occur as crumbs and fill fractures in massive Sp and Gn  
1192 aggregates; e: massive Sp and Gn aggregates are filled/cemented by Dol/Cal  
1193 veins; f: massive Sp and Gn, and carbonate breccias are filled/cemented by  
1194 Dol/Cal veins; g: breccias of sulfide ore and carbonate are cemented by Dol/Cal  
1195 crumb aggregates; h: interbedded sulfide veins are filled/cemented by Dol/Cal  
1196 veins or veinlets; h-n: massive Sp and Gn are filled/cemented by Dol/Cal veins;  
1197 o: massive Sp and Gn; p: Dol/Cal veins fill fractures in the wall rocks or cement  
1198 carbonate breccias, and Sp and Gn occur as speckles or single crystals that  
1199 are irregularly distributed in the wall rocks; q-r: massive Sp and/or Gn are  
1200 filled/cemented by Dol/Cal veins; t: post-ore Dol/Cal veins fill fractures in the  
1201 wall rocks or cement the carbonate breccias.

1202

1203 Fig. 5 Photographs of hand specimens from the Fule deposit; a: dense massive  
1204 sulfide ore, sphalerite (Sp) coexists with galena (Gn); b-d: interbedded sulfide  
1205 veins between calcite/dolomite (Cal/Dol) millimeter-scale veinlets; e: massive

1206 Sp and Gn are filled/cemented by Cal/Dol crumbs, veinlets or veins; f: sulfide  
1207 ore breccias are cemented by Cal/Dol aggregates; g-h: Sp and Gn occur as  
1208 speckles or single crystals that are either densely or sparsely distributed in  
1209 dolostone, which is filled by Cal/Dol veins; i-j: Sp and Gn occur as speckles or  
1210 single crystals that are distributed in Cal/Dol aggregates, which are filled by  
1211 barren Cal/Dol veins; these barren veins and sulfide veins together form veined  
1212 ore; k: Gn occurs as massive aggregates; l-m: massive Sp and Gn are filled by  
1213 Cal/Dol fragments or veinlets; n: Cal/Dol fragments fill fractures in the massive  
1214 Sp and Gn ores or host disseminated Sp; o-q: massive Sp and Gn are filled by  
1215 Cal/Dol fragments or veinlets; r-t: barren Cal/Dol, speckles or single crystals of  
1216 Sp and/or Gn-bearing Cal/Dol and sulfide veins form veined ore.

1217

1218 Fig. 6 The textural and structural features of sulfide minerals in the Fule deposit  
1219 under the microscope; a: sphalerite-I (Sp-I) coexists with galena-I (Gn-I), and  
1220 forms veined aggregates; calcite/dolomite-I (Cal/Dol-I) forms veined  
1221 aggregates and is interbedded with sulfide veins; post-ore Cal/Dol-III fills  
1222 fractures in the sulfide veins; b-c: barren Cal/Dol-II, disseminated sulfide-  
1223 bearing Dol-I, and Sp-I and Gn-I veins form veined ore; d: massive Sp-II and  
1224 Gn-II are filled by Cal/Dol veins; e: Sp-II occurs as euhedral to anhedral fine-  
1225 grained crystals and coexist with Gn-II; f: Gn-II forms subhedral medium-  
1226 grained crystals that enclose Sp-I and coexist with Sp-II; g: Sp-I forms granular  
1227 crystals that are filled by Cal/Dol-II, Gn-II, and tetrahedrite (Ttr); h: granular Sp-

1228 II coexists with granular Py-II, both of which are enclosed by Dol-II; i:  
1229 Chalcopyrite (Ccp) occurs as within Sp-I; j: Sp-II forms a euhedral fine-grained  
1230 crystal that is enclosed by Dol-II and Cal-II; k: anhedral Sp-I coexists with Py-I  
1231 and Ttr, all of which are cemented by Cal/Dol-II; i: Gn-II forms a subhedral fine-  
1232 grained crystal that encloses Sp-I and coexists with Sp-II; m: fine-grained Sp-I  
1233 crystal coexists with Ttr and is enclosed by coarse-grained Gn-II crystal; n: fine-  
1234 grain cataclastic Py-II crystals coexist with Cal/Dol-II, both of which fill fractures  
1235 in the Sp-I; o: Sp-II forms a subhedral fine-grained crystal and is enclosed by  
1236 Dol-II; p: Sp-II coexists with Gn-II and Cal/Dol-II; q: Sp-I is filled by Gn-II and  
1237 Cal/Dol-II; r: Gn-II encloses Py-I and coexists with Sp-II, and Py-II replaces Ccp,  
1238 all of which are filled/cemented by Cal/Dol-II; s: Ccp occurs within Sp-II that  
1239 forms an embayment texture with Cal/Dol-II; t: Ccp coexists with Ttr and Sp-II,  
1240 all of which are filled or enclosed by Cal/Dol-II.

1241

1242 Fig. 7 The texture and structure of hydrothermal minerals in the Fule deposit  
1243 under the scanning electron microscope (SEM); a: Sphalerite-I (Sp-I) present  
1244 as euhedral-subhedral fine- to medium-grained crystals that coexist with  
1245 galena-I (GnI), all of which are filled or enclosed by dolomite-I (Dol-I) that forms  
1246 a solid-solution with calcite-I (Cal-I); b: Sp-I occurs as a medium-grained crystal  
1247 and forms embayment texture with Dol-I that encloses Cal-I solid-solution; c:  
1248 Py-II encloses Gn-I and coexists with Sp-II, both of which form embayment  
1249 texture with Cal-II; e: Py-I and Gn-I are enclosed by Dol-II that fills a fracture in



1250 the Sp-I; f: apatite is enclosed by Dol-III that fills a fracture in Gn-II; g: Gn-II and  
1251 Ttr fill a fracture in Sp-I; h: Ttr occurs as a fine-grained crystal that coexists with  
1252 fine-grained Sp-I, all of which are enclosed by coarse-grained Gn-II that  
1253 coexists with Sp-II; i: Sp-II occurs as a euhedral fine-grained crystal that is  
1254 cemented or enclosed by Dol-II; j: Gn-II encloses Ttr and coexists with Sp-II; k:  
1255 solid-solution texture of Dol-II and Cal-II; l: Gn-II encloses Sp-I and coexists with  
1256 Ttr and Sp-II; m: Gn-II coexists with Ttr and Dol-II, of which the latter encloses  
1257 Gn-I; n: Dol-II coexists with Gn-II that encloses Py-I and Ttr; o: Ttr encloses Gn-  
1258 I and coexists with Gn-II and Dol-II, of which the latter forms a solid-solution  
1259 texture with Cal-II; p: Gn-II coexists with Ttr and Sp-II; q: Sp-I coexists with Gn-  
1260 I and Ttr; r: Gn-II forms embayment texture with Sp-II and coexists with Ttr; s:  
1261 Ttr occurs as aggregate veinlets along the rim of polydymite (Pld); millerite (Mil)  
1262 occurs as a micro-vein aggregate within Pld; pentlandite (Ptl) is a euhedral fine-  
1263 grained crystal within Pld; Gn-I coexists with Ptl; all of them are enclosed by  
1264 Dol-II that encloses Cal-II solid-solution; t: Gn-II forms fine veinlets and fills  
1265 fractures in Sp-I.

1266

1267 Fig. 8 Mineral paragenesis in the Fule Pb-Zn deposit (data are sourced from [Si](#)  
1268 [et al., 2006](#) and this paper)

1269

1270 Fig. 9 The area selected for in situ S isotope analysis that has homogeneous  
1271 isotopic compositions (including  $^{32}\text{S}$ ,  $^{34}\text{S}$ ,  $^{75}\text{As}$  and  $^{63}\text{Cu}^{32}\text{S}$ ).

1272

1273 Fig. 10 Plot of  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  vs.  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ; C-O isotopic data for mantle, marine carbonate  
1274 rocks and sedimentary organic matters are sourced from [Taylor et al. \(1967\)](#),  
1275 [Demény et al. \(1998\)](#), [Veizer and Hoefs \(1976\)](#) and [Hoefs \(2009\)](#).

1276

1277 Fig. 11 In situ  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values in sphalerite and paragenetic pyrite, showing the in  
1278 situ  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values for sphalerite and pyrite crystals, and their cores and rims.

1279

1280 Fig. 12 a: A comparison of in situ and bulk S isotopic compositions for sulfide  
1281 minerals formed at generations I and II; b: Histogram of in situ and bulk S  
1282 isotopic data; c: A comparison between mantle-derived S, seawater, evaporates  
1283 and data from nearby Pb-Zn deposits.

1284

1285 Fig. 13 Plot of  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  vs.  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  that shows the field of late Permian  
1286 Emeishan basalts, late Ediacaran-middle Permian sedimentary rocks and  
1287 Proterozoic metamorphic rocks, and the Pb evolution curves of U, O, M and L  
1288 (after [Zartman and Doe, 1981](#)); Upper Crust (U), Orogen Belt (O), Mantle (M)  
1289 and Lower Crust (L). Whole-rock Pb isotopic data are taken from [Huang et al.](#)  
1290 [\(2004\)](#), [Li et al. \(2007\)](#), [Yan et al. \(2007\)](#), [Zhou et al. \(2013a, 2014a\)](#) and [Bao](#)  
1291 [et al. \(2017\)](#).

1292

1293 Fig. 14 Plots of  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  vs.  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  (a) and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  vs.  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$

1294 (b) that display the gradually incremental increase in Pb isotopic ratios from  
1295 galena-I (early phase) to galena-II (late phase).

1296

1297 Fig. 15 Diagram of  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  vs.  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  for calcite precipitated by W/R interaction with  
1298 different R/W ratios and temperatures (400-50°C) for either  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  or  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$  as  
1299 the dominant C species (after [Zheng and Hoefs, 1993](#)), showing the position of  
1300 calcite-II. Initial fluids:  $\delta^{13}\text{C} = +2\text{‰}$ ,  $\delta^{18}\text{O} = +6\text{‰}$ .  $\Delta = \delta_{\text{rock}}^i - \delta_{\text{rock}}^f$ ; I:  $\Delta^{13}\text{C} = +0.2\text{‰}$ ,  
1301  $\Delta^{18}\text{O} = +2\text{‰}$ ; II:  $\Delta^{13}\text{C} = +1\text{‰}$ ,  $\Delta^{18}\text{O} = +6\text{‰}$ ; III:  $\Delta^{13}\text{C} = +2\text{‰}$ ,  $\Delta^{18}\text{O} = +10\text{‰}$ .

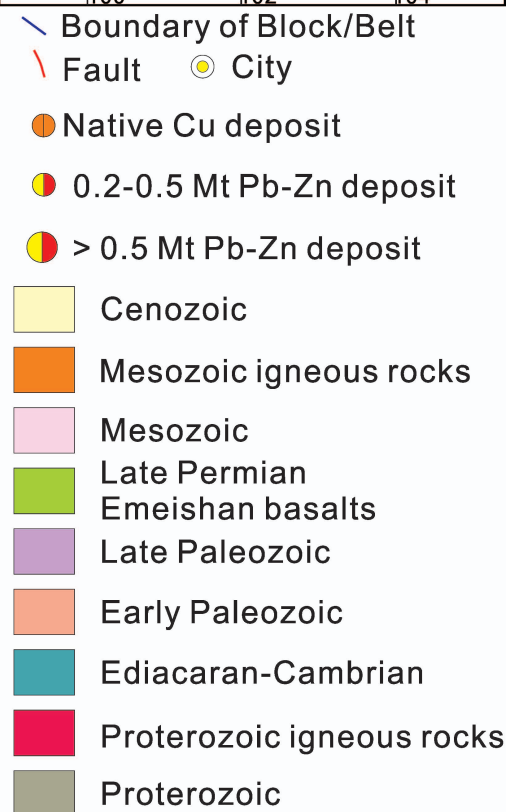
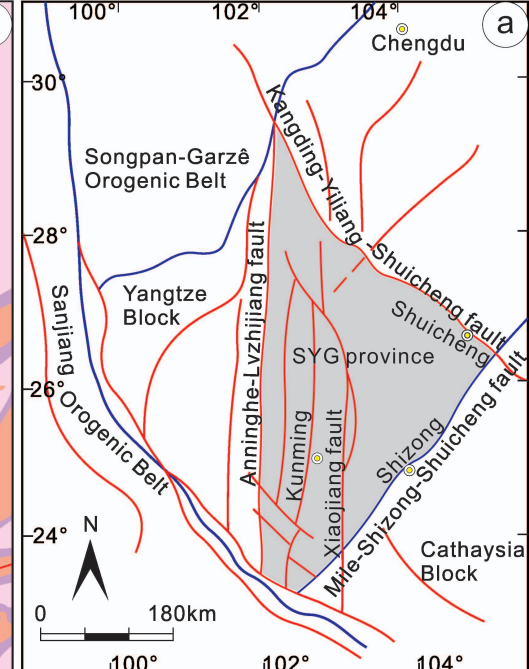
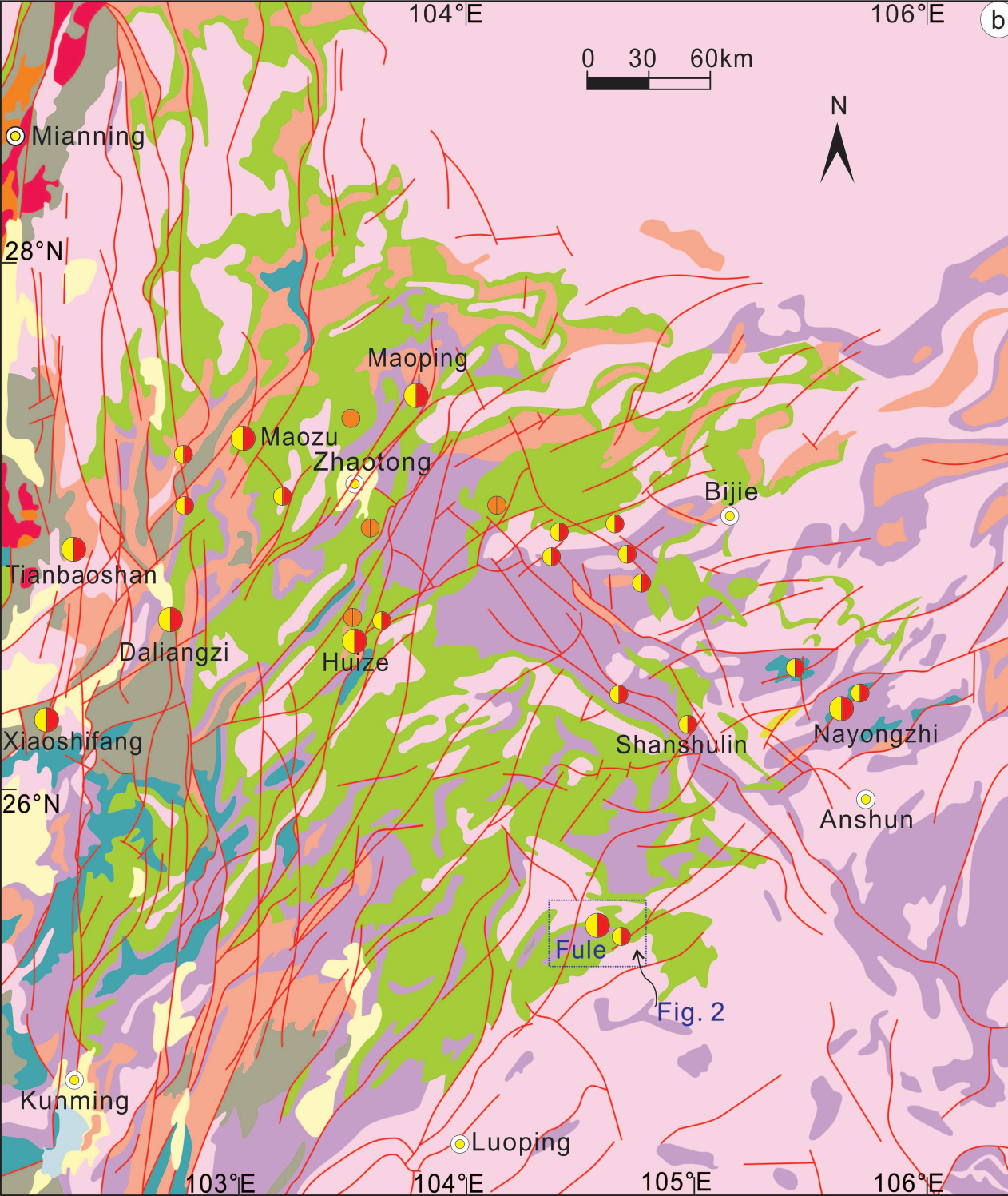
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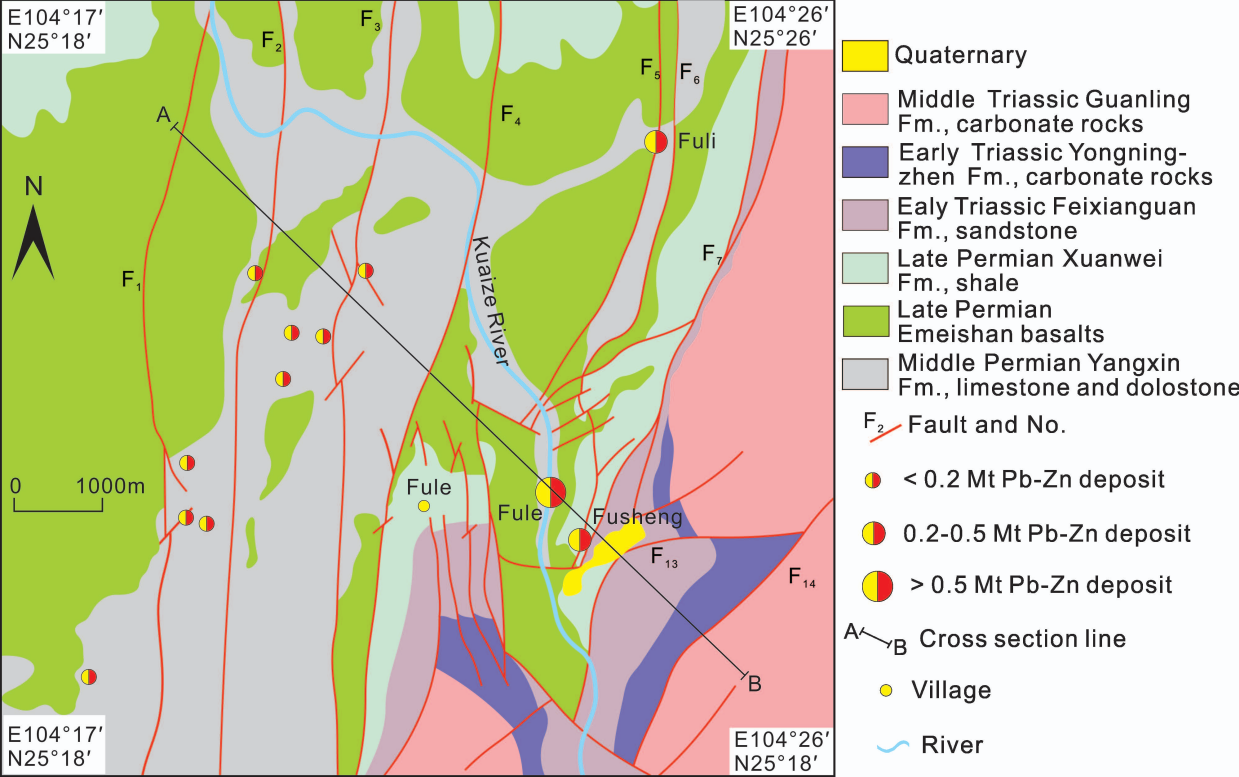
1303 Fig. 16 Plots of  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  vs.  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  for calcite precipitated by  $\text{CO}_2$  degassing with  
1304  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$  (a) or  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  (b) as the dominant C species (after [Zheng, 1990](#)), showing  
1305 the position of calcite-II. The batch (solid line) and Rayleigh (dashed line)  
1306 degassing precipitation models change with temperature (400-50°C) and mol  
1307 fraction of C in the degassed  $\text{CO}_2$  (0.1 to 0.4) (after [Zheng, 1990](#)). The initial  
1308  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{fluid}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{fluid}}$  values were taken as  $+2\text{‰}$  and  $+6\text{‰}$ , respectively.

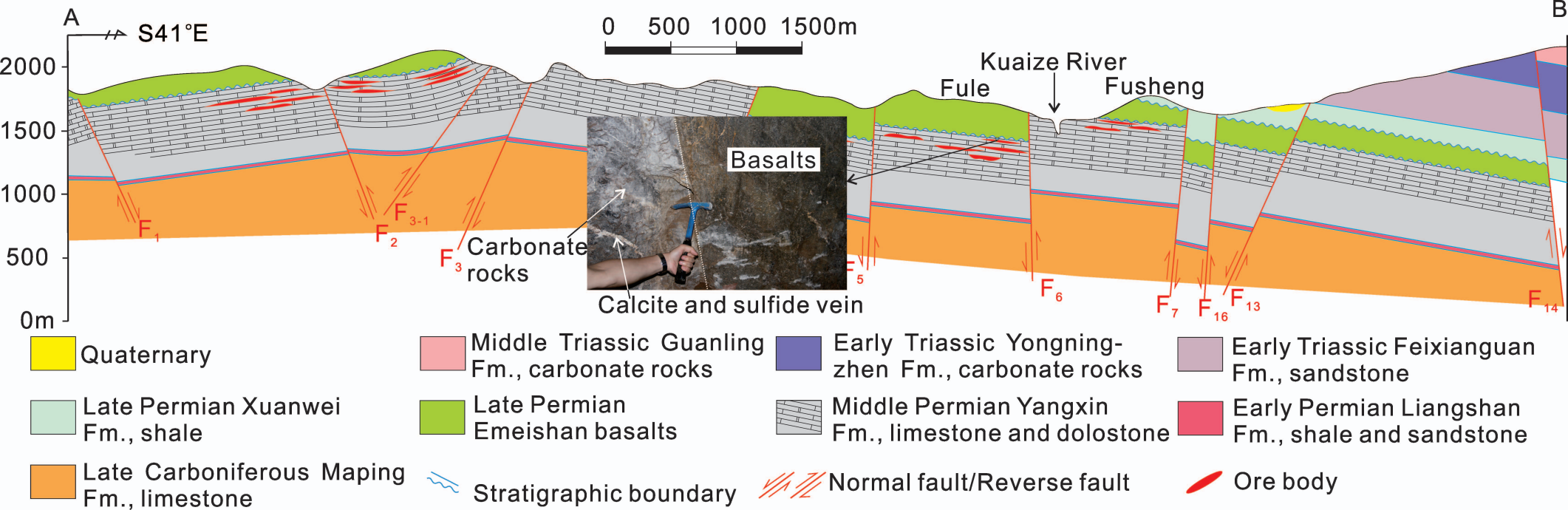
1309

1310 Fig. 17 A sketch of the metallogenic model favoured for the carbonate-hosted  
1311 Pb-Zn deposits in the ELIP; a: 263-259 Ma, the eruption of the Emeishan  
1312 basalts ([Shellnutt, 2014](#)) provided fluids and elevated background geothermal  
1313 gradient, which facilitated and enhanced the mobilization and extraction of ore-  
1314 forming elements from Proterozoic metamorphic rocks and Paleozoic  
1315 sedimentary rocks; b: 257-250 Ma, metal-bearing mantle and metamorphic

1316 fluids were driven upward along regional faults during the early Indosinian  
1317 Orogeny ([Carter et al., 2001](#); [Reid et al., 2007](#); [Hu et al., 2017](#)); c: 250-200 (-  
1318 156 Ma), the ore-forming fluids were released into structural units when the  
1319 overall tectonic regime changed from compression to extension between 250-  
1320 200 Ma ([Carter et al., 2001](#); [Lepvrier et al., 2008](#); [Zhou et al., 2013b](#)), where  
1321 they were trapped by the evaporitic salt and sedimentary organic-bearing units  
1322 within the platform carbonate sequence at structurally-controlled depositional  
1323 sites. This process resulted in the formation of S<sup>2-</sup> from multiple S reservoirs via  
1324 TSR and the extraction of some metals from ore-hosting rocks through W/R  
1325 interaction, which then caused the precipitation of hydrothermal minerals.



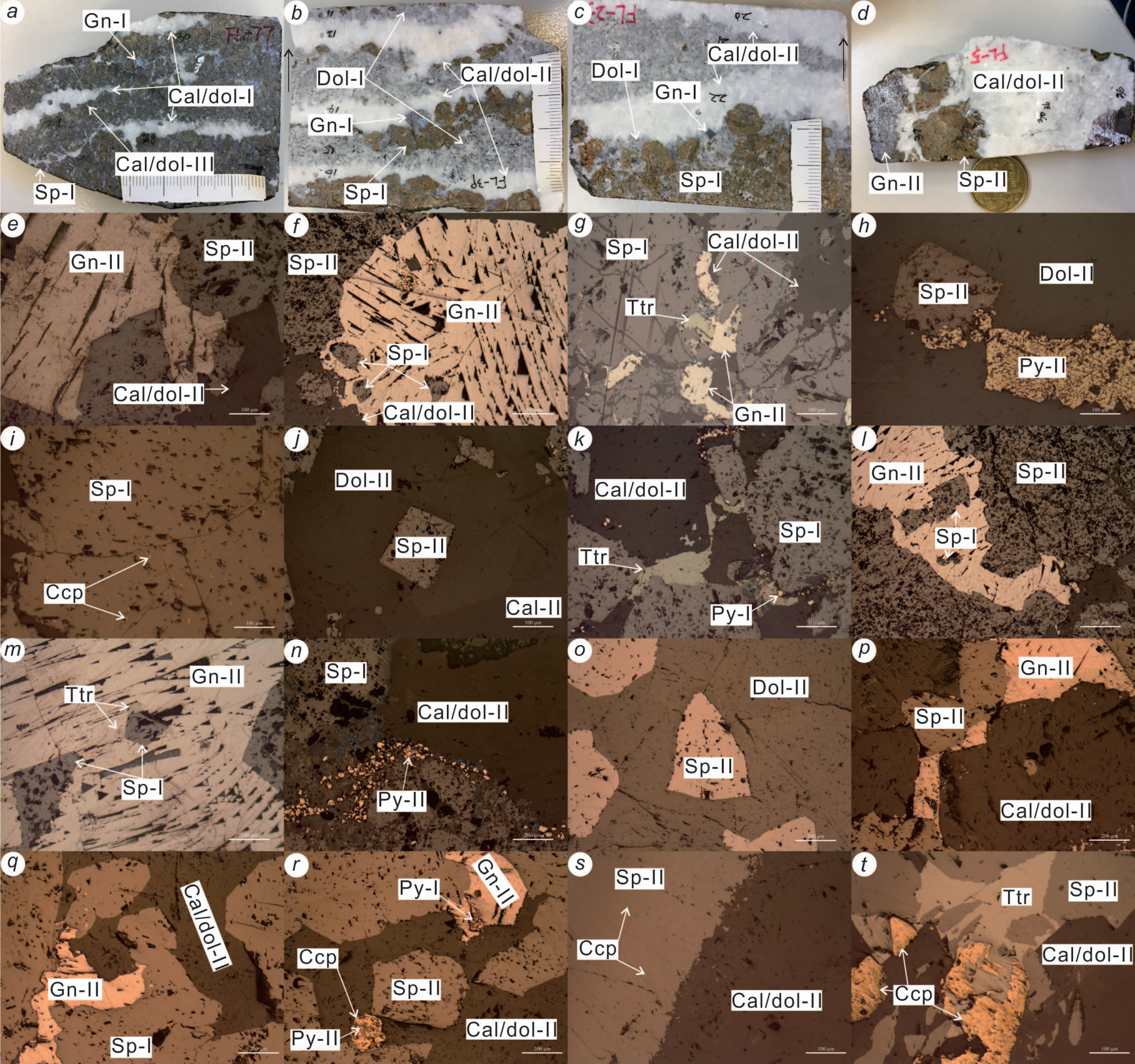


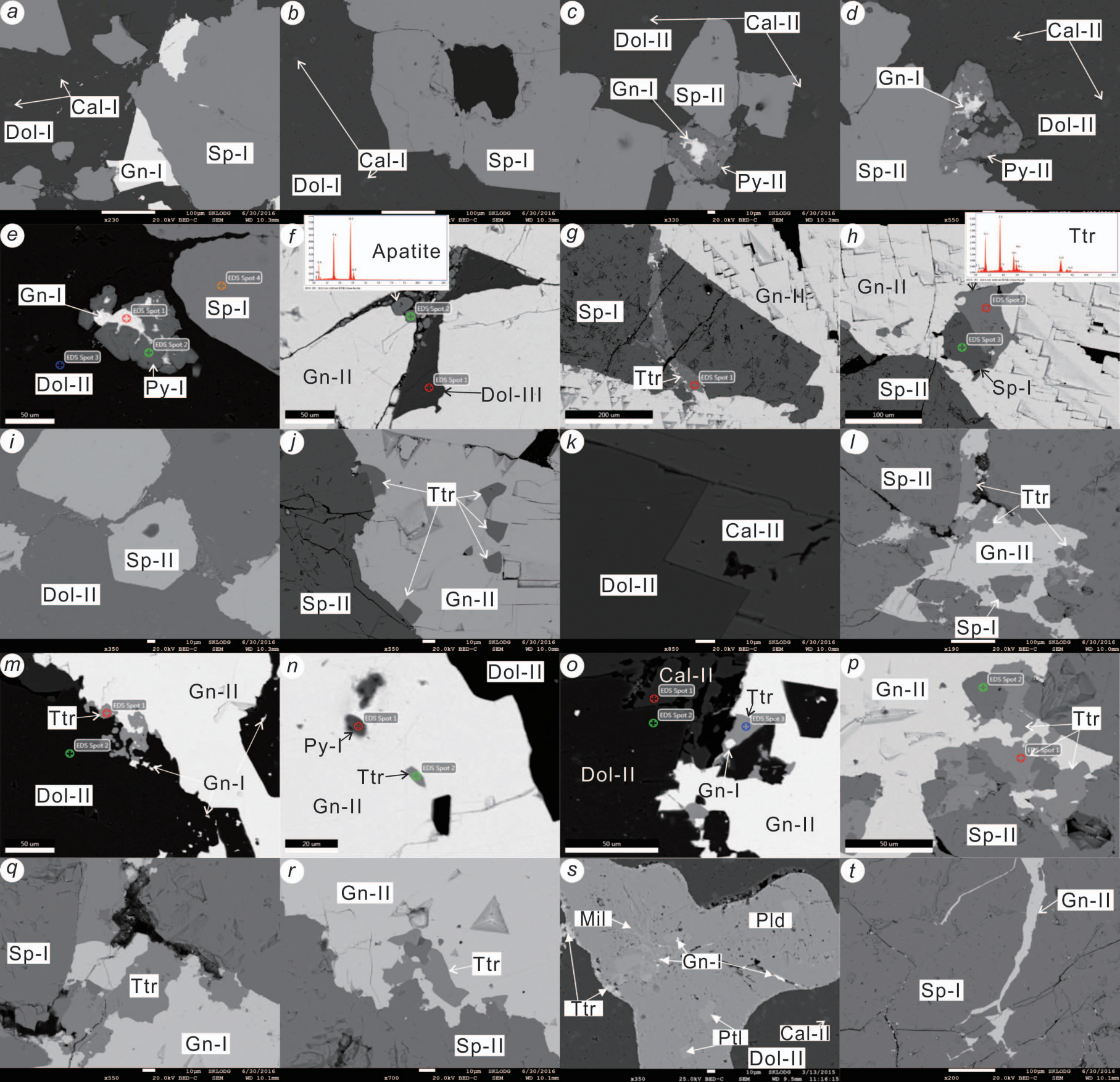






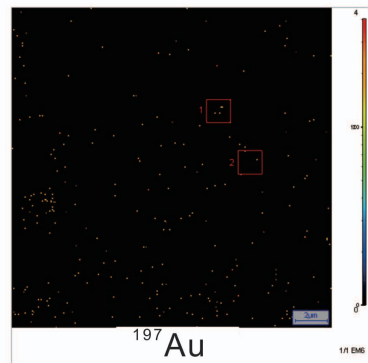
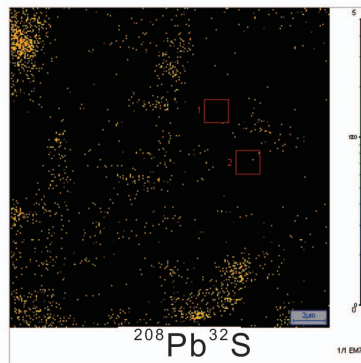
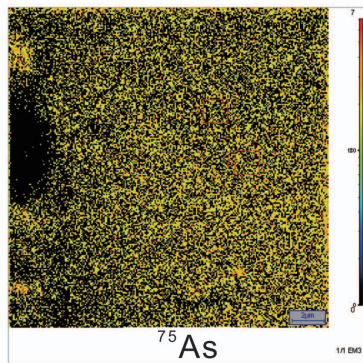
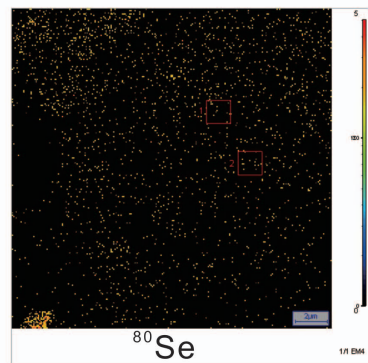
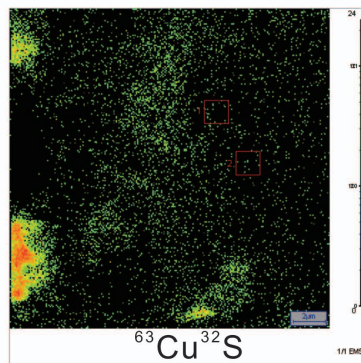
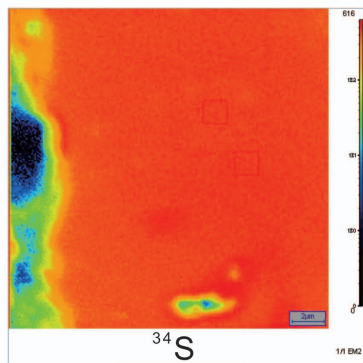


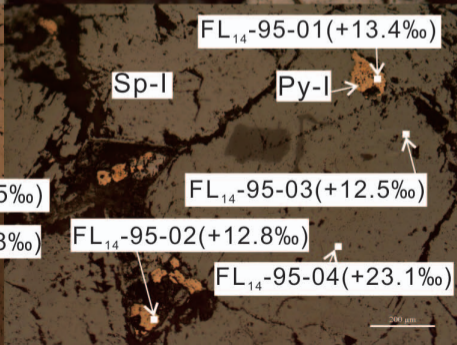
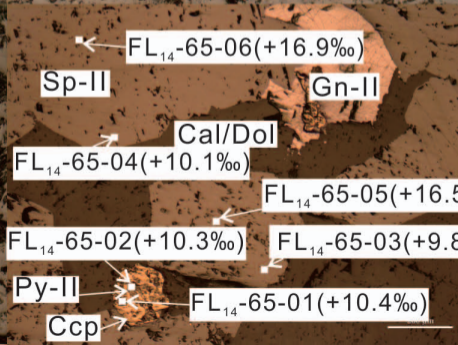
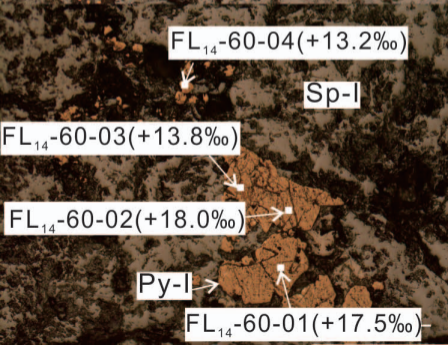
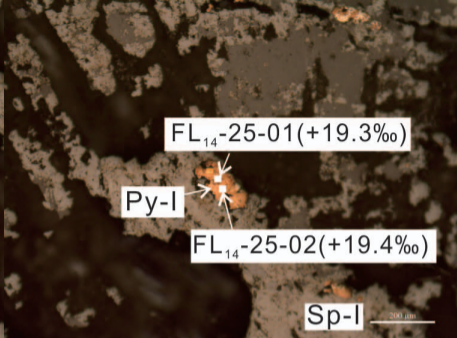
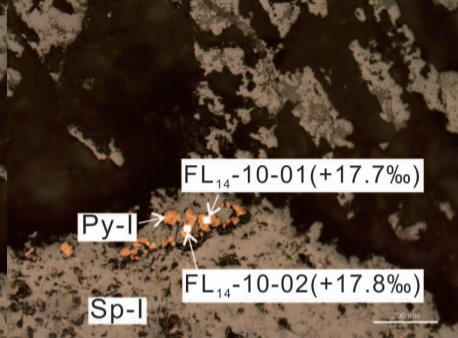
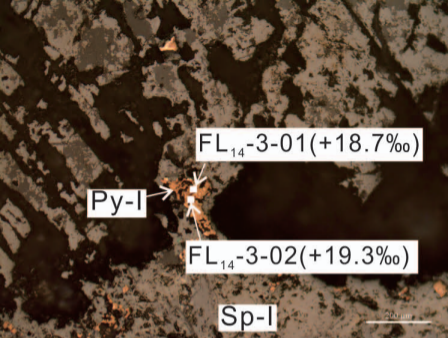


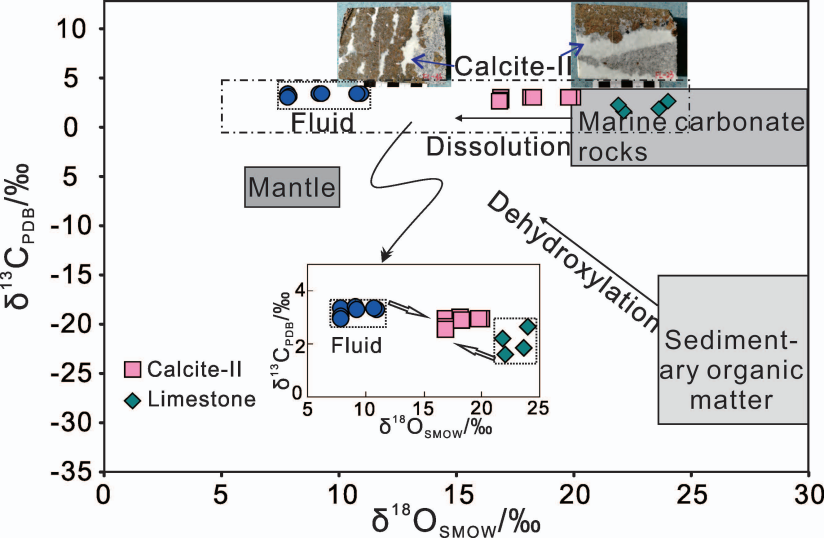


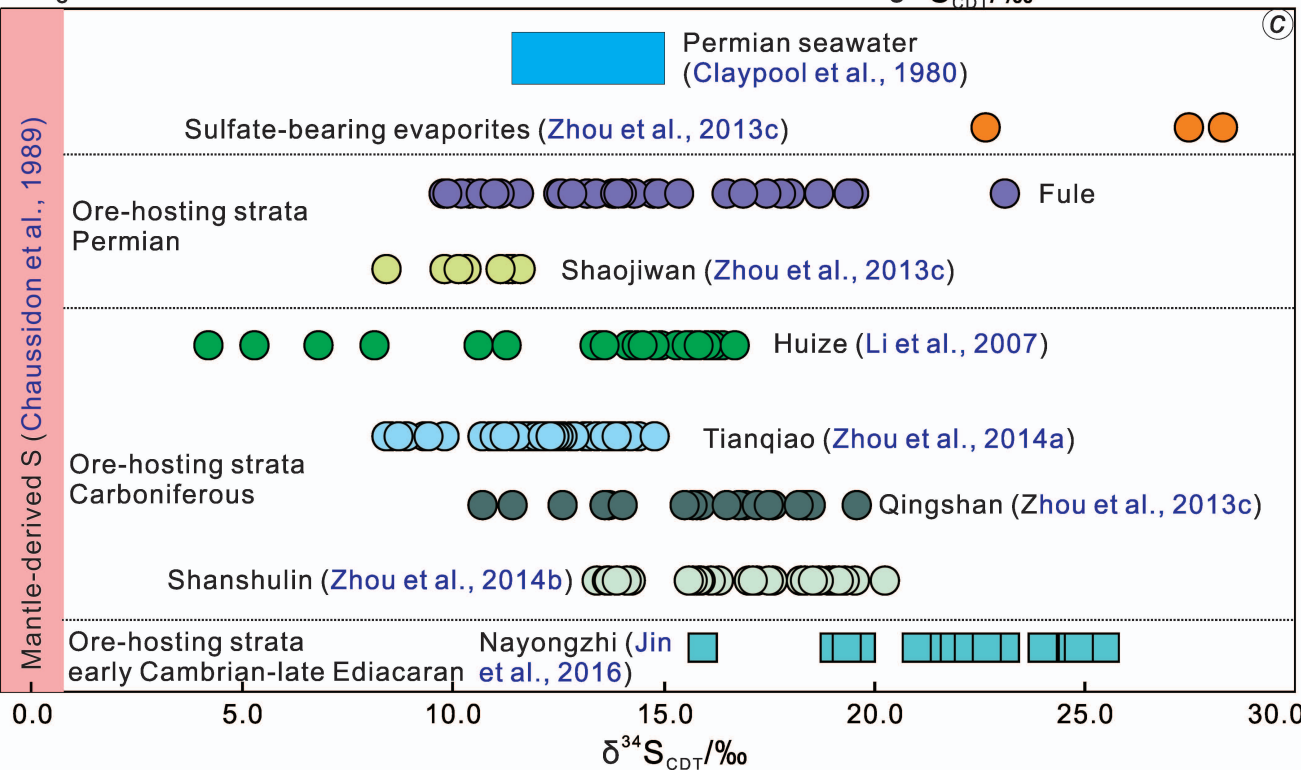
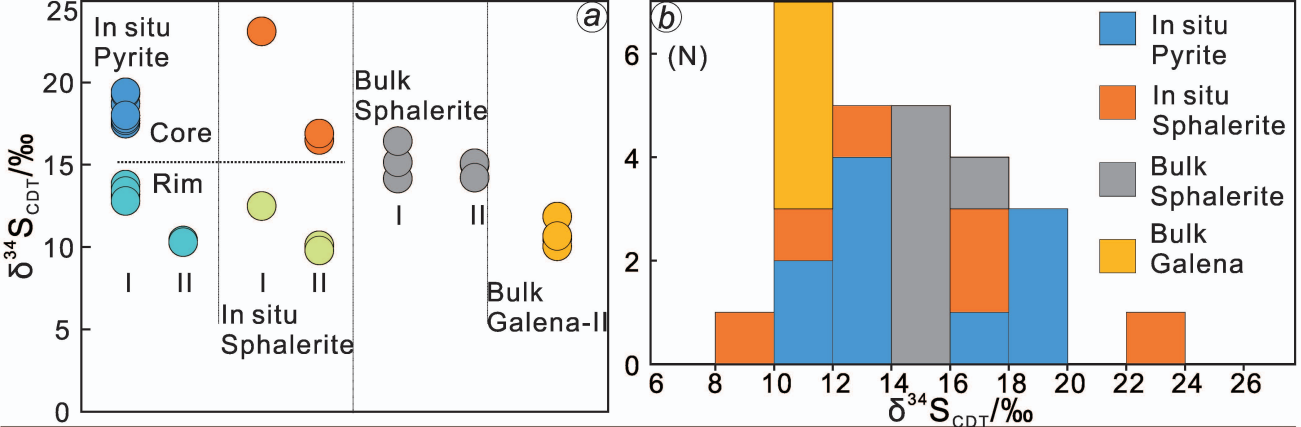
Period	Diagenesis	Hydrothermal		Supergene
Stage		Sulfide + carbonate		Carbonate
Mineral assemblage	Py + Dol	Sp + Gn + (Py + Ccp + Ttr + Pld + Ptl+ Mil) + Dol + Cal		Dol + Cal
Generation		I	II	III
Sphalerite (Sp)		██████████	██████████	
Galena (Gn)		—————	██████████	
Pyrite (Py)	—————	—————	—————	
Chalcopyrite (Ccp)			—————	
Tetrahedrite (Ttr)		—————	—————	
Polydymite (Pld)			—————	
Pentlandite (Ptl)			—————	
Millerite (Mil)			—————	
Calcite (Cal)		—————	██████████	██████████
Dolomite (Dol)	—————	—————	██████████	██████████
Limonite				██████████
Smithsonite				██████████
Cerussite				██████████
Hemimorphite				██████████
Malachite				—————

— Less; █ More.

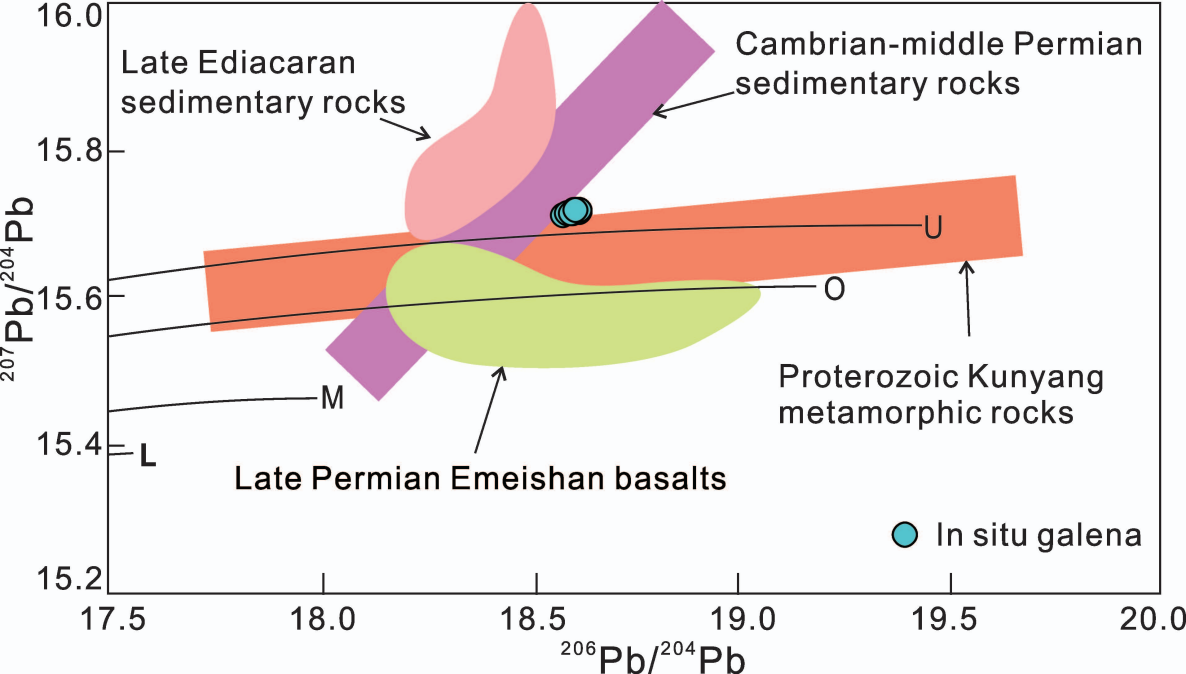


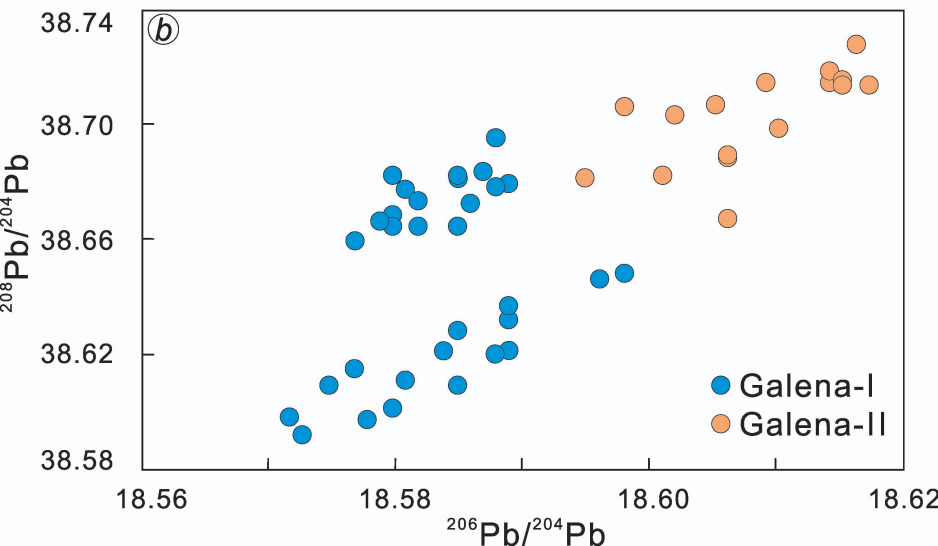
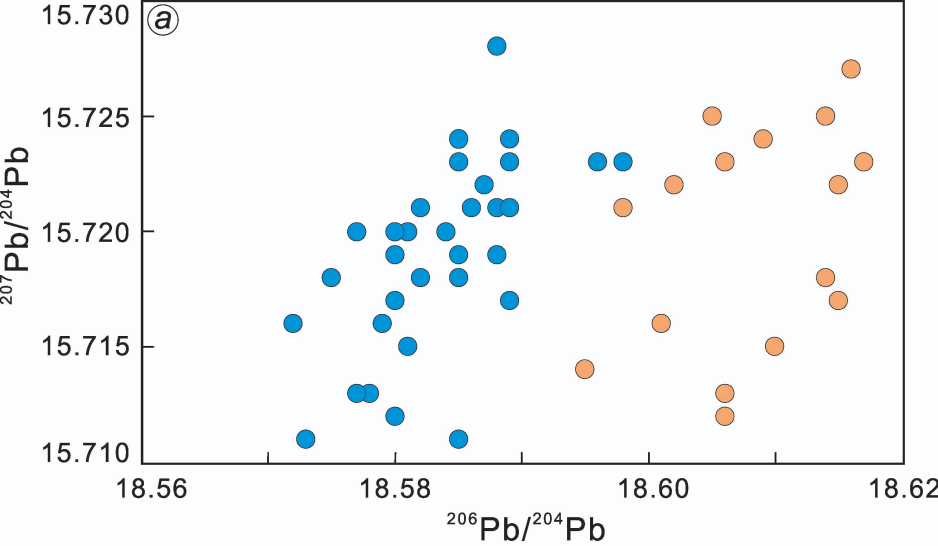


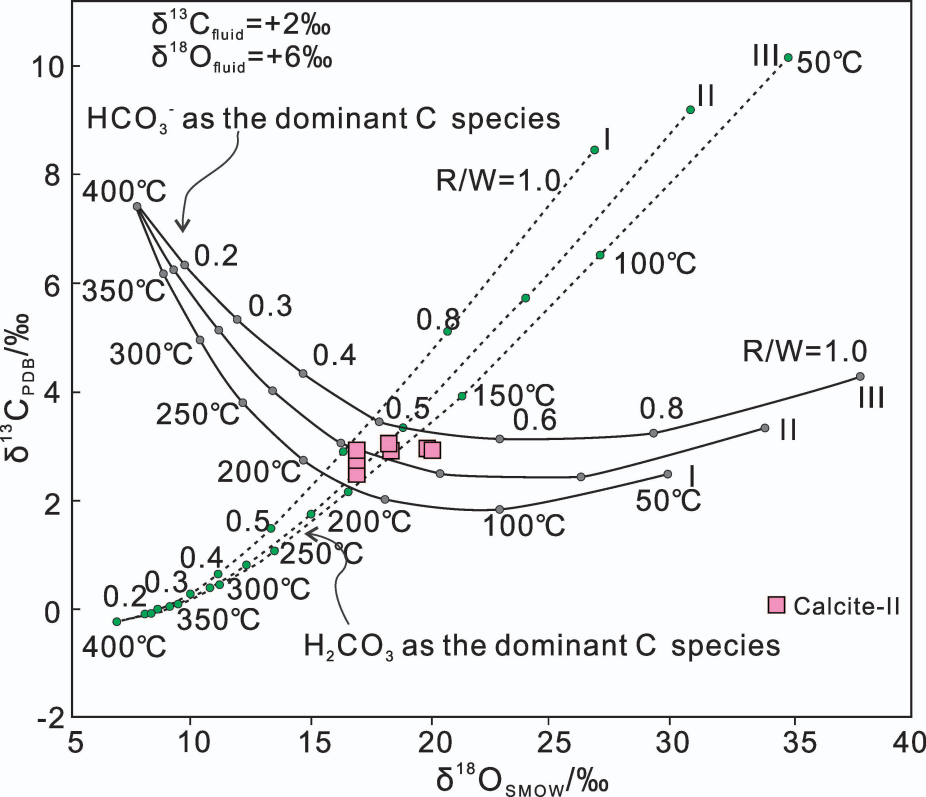


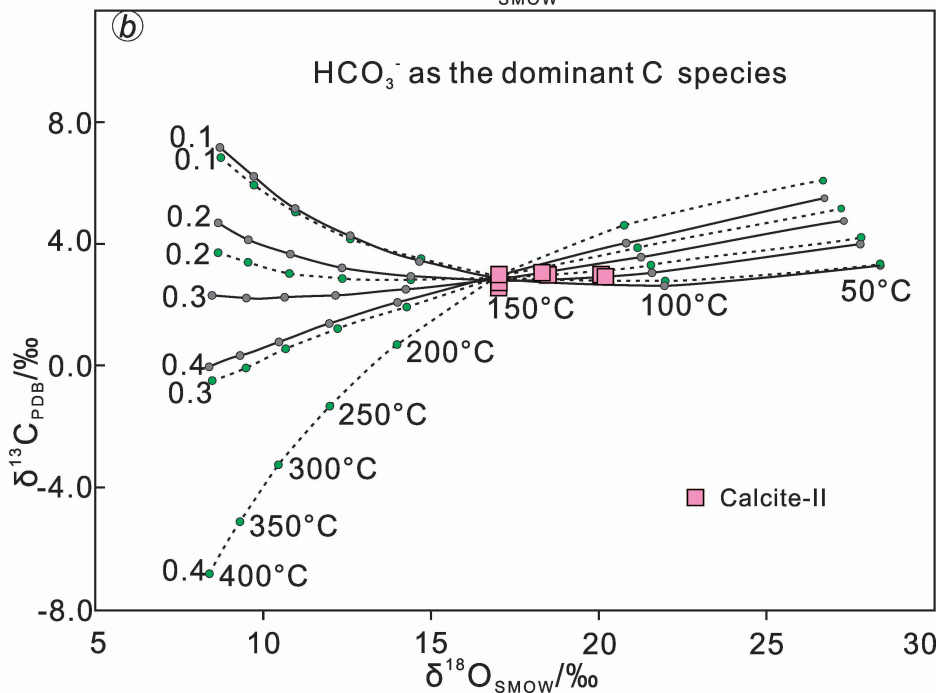
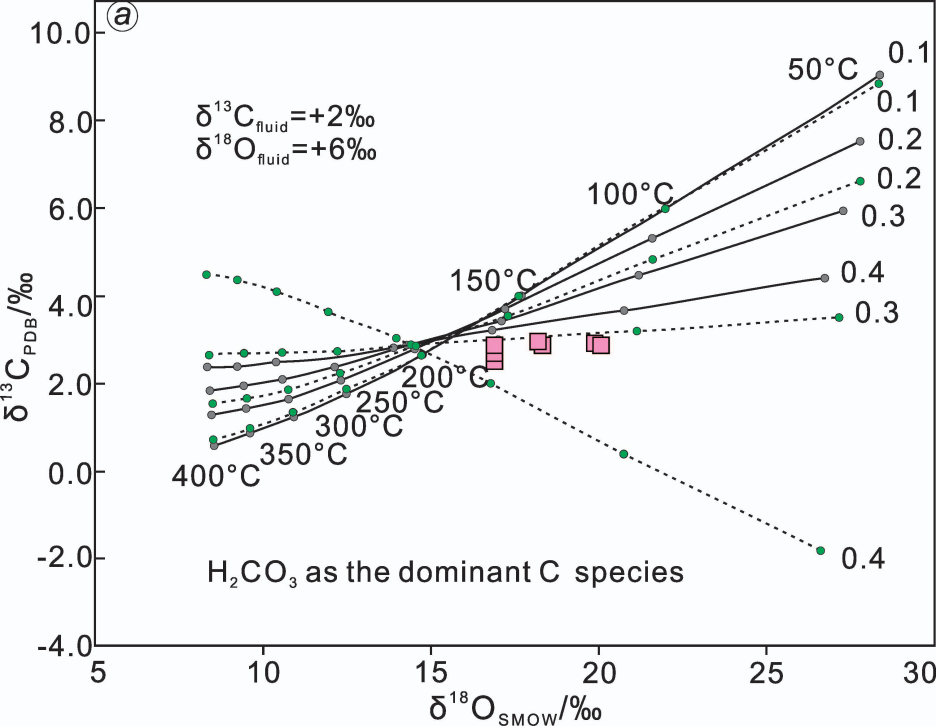


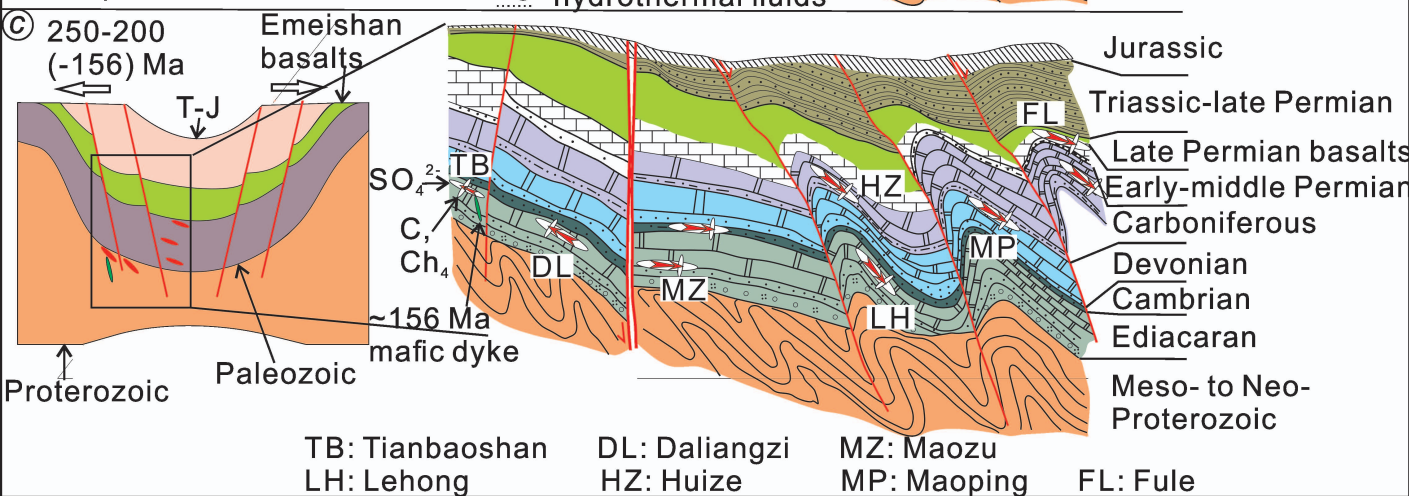
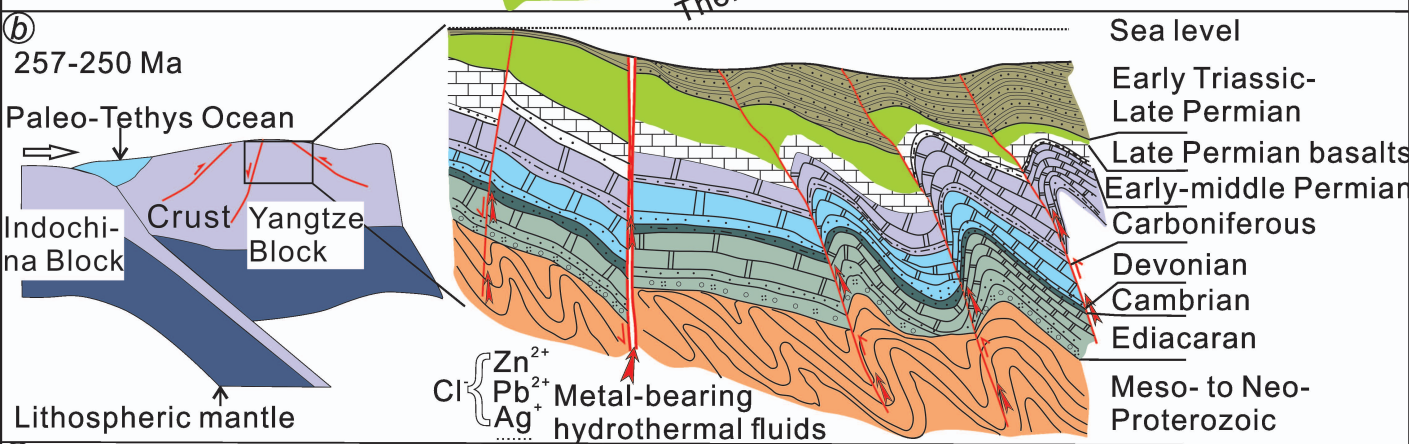
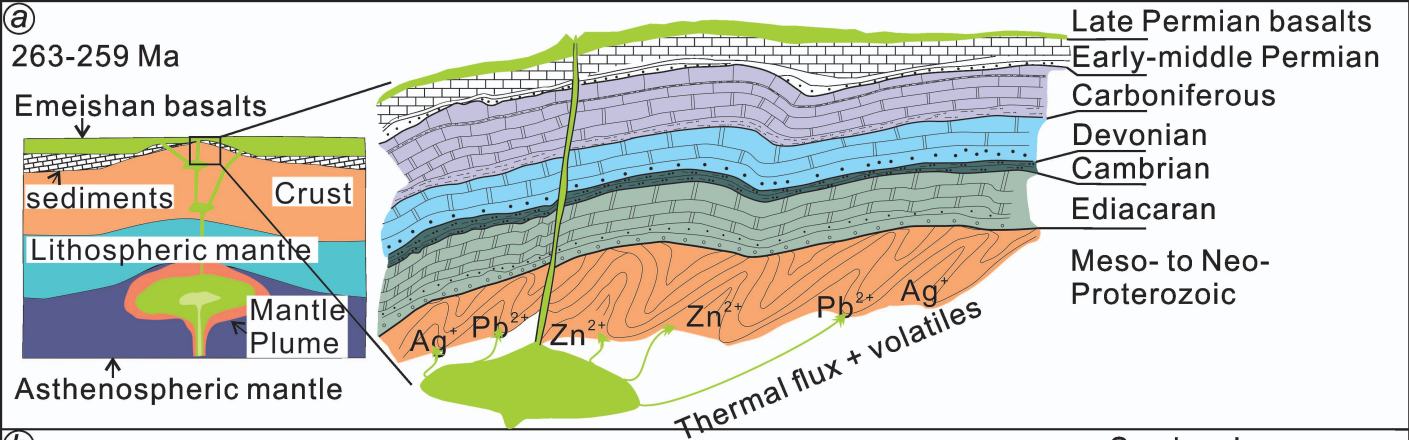












**Table 1****C-O isotopic compositions of calcite and limestone in the Fule deposit**

No.	Locations	Mineral	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{PDB}}/\text{‰}$	$\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SMOW}}/\text{‰}$	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{CO}_2}/\text{‰}^{\text{a}}$	$\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}/\text{‰}^{\text{b}}$
FL <sub>14</sub> -2		Calcite-II	+2.94	+16.84	+3.33	+7.81
FL <sub>14</sub> -23		Calcite-II	+2.93	+19.92	+3.32	+10.89
FL <sub>14</sub> -44	Nos.108, 904 and 74 ore bodies	Calcite-II	+3.01	+18.15	+3.40	+9.12
FL <sub>14</sub> -64		Calcite-II	+2.96	+19.77	+3.35	+10.74
FL <sub>14</sub> -8		Calcite-II	+2.67	+16.86	+3.06	+7.83
FL <sub>14</sub> -68		Calcite-II	+2.57	+16.83	+2.96	+7.80
FL <sub>14</sub> -36		Calcite-II	+2.92	+18.25	+3.31	+9.22
FL <sub>14</sub> -D1		Limestone	+1.85	+23.61		
FL <sub>14</sub> -D2	The mining area periphery	Limestone	+1.58	+22.08		
FL <sub>14</sub> -D3		Limestone	+2.18	+21.85		
FL <sub>14</sub> -D4		Limestone	+2.63	+24.01		

<sup>a</sup>  $1000\ln\alpha_{(\text{CO}_2 - \text{Calcite})} = -2.4612 + 7.663 \times 10^3 / (t + 273.15) - 2.988 \times 10^6 / (t + 273.15)^2$  (Bottinga, 1968);

<sup>b</sup>  $1000\ln\alpha_{(\text{Calcite} - \text{H}_2\text{O})} = 2.78 \times 10^6 / (t + 273.15)^2 - 3.39$  (O'Neil et al., 1969)

t = 180-210 °C (average 200 °C), based on temperature analysis of fluid inclusion in sphalerite-II (Li ZL unpublished data).

**Table 2****In situ and bulk S isotopic compositions of sulfide minerals in the Fule deposit**

No.	Locations	Mineral	$\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CDT}}/\text{‰}$	Method
FL <sub>14</sub> -3-01	Core	Pyrite-I	+18.7	
FL <sub>14</sub> -3-02	Core	Pyrite-I	+19.3	
FL <sub>14</sub> -10-01	Core	Pyrite-I	+17.7	
FL <sub>14</sub> -10-02	Core	Pyrite-I	+17.8	
FL <sub>14</sub> -25-01	Core	Pyrite-I	+19.3	
FL <sub>14</sub> -25-02	Core	Pyrite-I	+19.4	
FL <sub>14</sub> -60-01	Core	Pyrite-I	+17.5	
FL <sub>14</sub> -60-02	Core	Pyrite-I	+18.0	
FL <sub>14</sub> -60-03	Rim	Pyrite-I	+13.8	
FL <sub>14</sub> -60-04	Rim	Pyrite-I	+13.2	In situ
FL <sub>14</sub> -65-01	Rim	Pyrite-II	+10.4	analysis
FL <sub>14</sub> -65-02	Rim	Pyrite-II	+10.3	
FL <sub>14</sub> -65-03	Rim	Sphalerite-II	+9.8	
FL <sub>14</sub> -65-04	Rim	Sphalerite-II	+10.1	
FL <sub>14</sub> -65-05	Core	Sphalerite-II	+16.5	
FL <sub>14</sub> -65-06	Core	Sphalerite-II	+16.9	
FL <sub>14</sub> -95-01	Rim	Pyrite-I	+13.4	
FL <sub>14</sub> -95-02	Rim	Pyrite-I	+12.8	
FL <sub>14</sub> -95-03	Rim	Sphalerite-I	+12.5	
FL <sub>14</sub> -95-04	Core	Sphalerite-I	+23.1	
FL <sub>14</sub> -13		Galena-II	+11.86	
FL <sub>14</sub> -24		Galena-II	+10.49	
FL <sub>14</sub> -58		Galena-II	+10.04	
FL <sub>14</sub> -75		Galena-II	+10.66	
FLC-0-1		Sphalerite-II	+15.02	Bulk
FLC-0-3		Sphalerite-II	+15.10	analysis
FLC-0-5		Sphalerite-II	+14.21	
FLC-0-8		Sphalerite-I	+14.16	
FLC-0-9		Sphalerite-I	+15.16	
FLC-0-16		Sphalerite-I	+16.43	

**Table 3****In situ Pb isotopic compositions of galena in the Fule deposit**

No.	Mineral	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$	1s	$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$	1s	$^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$	1s
FL <sub>14</sub> -17-01	Galena-I	18.588	0.003	15.721	0.003	38.678	0.01
FL <sub>14</sub> -17-02	Galena-I	18.589	0.003	15.724	0.003	38.679	0.007
FL <sub>14</sub> -17-03	Galena-I	18.585	0.002	15.718	0.002	38.664	0.007
FL <sub>14</sub> -17-04	Galena-I	18.580	0.002	15.717	0.002	38.664	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -17-05	Galena-I	18.577	0.002	15.713	0.002	38.659	0.008
FL <sub>14</sub> -17-06	Galena-I	18.581	0.003	15.720	0.003	38.677	0.008
FL <sub>14</sub> -17-07	Galena-I	18.585	0.002	15.723	0.002	38.682	0.005
FL <sub>14</sub> -17-08	Galena-I	18.586	0.002	15.721	0.002	38.672	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -25-01	Galena-I	18.582	0.002	15.718	0.002	38.664	0.005
FL <sub>14</sub> -25-02	Galena-I	18.585	0.002	15.724	0.002	38.681	0.005
FL <sub>14</sub> -25-03	Galena-I	18.580	0.002	15.719	0.002	38.668	0.005
FL <sub>14</sub> -25-04	Galena-I	18.582	0.002	15.721	0.002	38.673	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -25-05	Galena-I	18.580	0.002	15.720	0.002	38.682	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -25-06	Galena-I	18.579	0.002	15.716	0.002	38.666	0.007
FL <sub>14</sub> -25-07	Galena-I	18.588	0.003	15.728	0.003	38.695	0.009
FL <sub>14</sub> -25-08	Galena-I	18.587	0.002	15.722	0.002	38.683	0.007
FL <sub>14</sub> -40-01	Galena-I	18.581	0.003	15.715	0.003	38.611	0.008
FL <sub>14</sub> -40-02	Galena-I	18.584	0.003	15.720	0.003	38.621	0.007
FL <sub>14</sub> -40-03	Galena-I	18.589	0.002	15.723	0.002	38.637	0.007
FL <sub>14</sub> -40-04	Galena-I	18.585	0.002	15.719	0.002	38.628	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -40-05	Galena-I	18.573	0.002	15.711	0.002	38.592	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -40-06	Galena-I	18.577	0.003	15.720	0.003	38.615	0.007
FL <sub>14</sub> -40-07	Galena-I	18.589	0.002	15.721	0.002	38.632	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -40-08	Galena-I	18.596	0.002	15.723	0.003	38.646	0.007
FL <sub>14</sub> -59-01	Galena-I	18.598	0.002	15.723	0.003	38.648	0.007
FL <sub>14</sub> -59-02	Galena-I	18.585	0.002	15.711	0.002	38.609	0.007
FL <sub>14</sub> -59-03	Galena-I	18.589	0.002	15.717	0.002	38.621	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -59-04	Galena-I	18.588	0.002	15.719	0.002	38.620	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -59-05	Galena-I	18.575	0.002	15.718	0.002	38.609	0.005
FL <sub>14</sub> -59-06	Galena-I	18.572	0.002	15.716	0.002	38.598	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -59-07	Galena-I	18.578	0.003	15.713	0.003	38.597	0.008
FL <sub>14</sub> -59-08	Galena-I	18.580	0.002	15.712	0.002	38.601	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -75-01	Galena-II	18.606	0.003	15.723	0.003	38.667	0.008
FL <sub>14</sub> -75-02	Galena-II	18.614	0.002	15.718	0.002	38.718	0.007
FL <sub>14</sub> -75-03	Galena-II	18.615	0.002	15.717	0.002	38.713	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -75-04	Galena-II	18.610	0.002	15.715	0.002	38.698	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -75-05	Galena-II	18.615	0.002	15.722	0.002	38.715	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -75-06	Galena-II	18.616	0.002	15.727	0.002	38.727	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -75-07	Galena-II	18.609	0.003	15.724	0.003	38.714	0.007
FL <sub>14</sub> -75-08	Galena-II	18.606	0.002	15.713	0.002	38.689	0.006



FL <sub>14</sub> -95-01	Galena-II	18.606	0.002	15.712	0.002	38.688	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -95-02	Galena-II	18.617	0.002	15.723	0.002	38.713	0.007
FL <sub>14</sub> -95-03	Galena-II	18.614	0.002	15.725	0.002	38.714	0.005
FL <sub>14</sub> -95-04	Galena-II	18.602	0.002	15.722	0.002	38.703	0.005
FL <sub>14</sub> -95-05	Galena-II	18.598	0.002	15.721	0.002	38.706	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -95-06	Galena-II	18.605	0.002	15.725	0.002	38.706	0.006
FL <sub>14</sub> -95-07	Galena-II	18.601	0.002	15.716	0.002	38.682	0.007
FL <sub>14</sub> -95-08	Galena-II	18.595	0.002	15.714	0.002	38.681	0.006

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**Table 4****A comparison between the Fule, Huize and typical MVT deposits**

Characteristics	Huize (typical SYG-type)	MVT	Fule
Grade	Pb + Zn: 25-35 wt. %, Zn/(Zn + Pb): 0.9±	Pb + Zn: av. <10 wt. %, Zn/(Zn + Pb): 0.8±	Pb + Zn: av. 15-20 wt. %, Zn/(Zn + Pb): 0.9±
Tonnage	Pb + Zn metal reserves: single ore body ~1 Mt, total > 7 Mt	Pb + Zn metal reserves: single ore body < 1 Mt	Pb + Zn metal reserves: single ore body ~0.5 Mt, total > 1 Mt
Acreage	The SYG province covers 170, 000 km <sup>2</sup>	Hundreds of square kilometers	The SYG province covers 170, 000 km <sup>2</sup>
Host rocks	Early Carboniferous coarse-grained dolostone	Cambrian to Carboniferous carbonate rocks	Middle Permian dolostone
Depth of Mineralization	>2000 m	<1500 m	<400 m
Tectonic setting	Western Yangtze Block, controlled by NE reverse fault-fold tectonic system	Typically located within extensional zones inboard of orogenic belts	Western Yangtze Block, controlled by NE reverse fault-fold tectonic system
Relation with magmatic activity	Genetically associated with late Permian Emeishan basalts	Generally has no genetic association with magmatic activity	Genetically associated with late Permian Emeishan basalts
Ore-controlled factors	Controlled by thrust fault-fold structure and lithology	Mainly controlled by structure and lithology	Controlled by fault-fold structure and lithology
Age	~225 Ma	From Proterozoic to Cretaceous	250-200 Ma
Ore texture and structure	Mainly exhibiting massive structures, and fine-, medium- and coarse-grained textures	Exhibiting disseminated, fine granular, branched, colloidal and massive structures and colloidal, skeleton coarse-crystalline textures	Mainly exhibiting massive structures, and fine-, medium- and coarse-grained textures
Mineral compositions	Sphalerite, galena, pyrite and calcite	Sphalerite, galena, pyrite, barite, fluorite, calcite and dolomite.	Sphalerite, galena, pyrite, chalcocopyrite, tetrahedrite, millerite, polydymite, pentlandite, calcite and dolomite
Fluid inclusions	<10 wt. % NaCl equiv.; Cl <sup>-</sup> -Na <sup>+</sup> -Ca <sup>2+</sup> -Mg <sup>2+</sup> -SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> ; 150-300°C	10-30wt. % NaCl equiv.; Cl <sup>-</sup> -Na <sup>+</sup> -Ca <sup>2+</sup> -K <sup>+</sup> -Mg <sup>2+</sup> ; 50-200°C	4-10 wt. % NaCl equiv.; Cl <sup>-</sup> -Na <sup>+</sup> -Ca <sup>2+</sup> -Mg <sup>2+</sup> -SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> ; 120-260°C
Associated metals	Ag, Cu, Ge, Ga, Cd and In	Ag	Ag, Cu, Ni, Cd, Ge, Ga and In
O isotopes	Generated from W/R interaction between mantle/metamorphic fluids and carbonate rocks	Sourced from carbonate rocks	Generated from W/R interaction between /metamorphic fluids and carbonate rocks
S isotopes	+11-+17‰, sourced from multiple S reservoirs	+10-+25‰, sourced from evaporates within sedimentary strata	+9-+23‰, sourced from multiple S reservoirs
Pb isotopes	Normal and uniform Pb isotopes, sourced from a well-mixed source	Complicated Pb isotopic ratios and regional zonation	Normal and uniform Pb isotopes, sourced from a well-mixed source
Precipitation of sulfide	Fluid mixing + sulfate reduction	Reduced S, local sulfate reduction, or metal and reduced S-mixing	Fluid mixing + sulfate reduction
Tectonic setting	Changed from compression to extension	Extensional basin	Changed from compression to extension
References	<a href="#">Zhou et al., 2001</a> ; <a href="#">Li et al., 2007</a> ; <a href="#">Huang et al., 2010</a>	<a href="#">Leach et al., 2005, 2010</a>	<a href="#">Zhu et al., 2017</a> ; <a href="#">This paper</a>