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1 Manuscript for Earth and Planetary Science Letters

2

3 **Title: Evaluating a primary carbonate pathway for manganese enrichments in**
4 **reducing environments**

5

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22

23

24 **Abstract**

25

26 Most manganese (Mn) enrichments in the sedimentary rock record are hosted in
27 carbonate minerals, which are assumed to have formed by diagenetic reduction of
28 precursor Mn-oxides, and are considered diagnostic of strongly oxidizing conditions.
29 Here we explore an alternative model where Mn-carbonates form in redox-stratified
30 water columns linked to calcium carbonate dissolution. In ferruginous Brownie Lake in
31 Minnesota, USA, we document Mn-carbonates as an HCl-extractable phase present in
32 sediment traps and in reducing portions of the water column. Mn-carbonate become
33 supersaturated in the Brownie Lake chemocline where dissolved oxygen concentrations
34 fall below 5 μM , and Mn-oxide reduction increases the dissolved Mn concentration.
35 Supersaturation is enhanced when calcite originating from surface waters dissolves in
36 more acidic waters at the chemocline. In the same zone, sulfate reduction and
37 microaerobic methane oxidation add dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC) with negative
38 $\delta^{13}\text{C}$. These observations demonstrate that sedimentary Mn enrichments may 1) develop
39 from primary carbonate phases, and 2) can occur in environments with dissolved oxygen
40 concentrations $<5 \mu\text{M}$. Primary Mn-carbonates are likely to originate in environments
41 with high concentrations of dissolved Mn ($>200 \mu\text{M}$), and where Mn and Fe are
42 partitioned by S cycling, photoferrotrophy, or microaerophilic Fe-oxidation. A shallow
43 lysocline enhances Mn-carbonate production by providing additional DIC and nucleation
44 sites for crystal growth. This carbonate model for Mn-enrichments is expected to be
45 viable in both euxinic and ferruginous environments, and provides a more nuanced view

46 of the relationships between Mn and carbon cycling, with applications throughout the
47 rock record.

48

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51

52 **1. Introduction**

53

54 The strong oxidizing potential ($E = 1.228 \text{ V}$) required to form insoluble Mn(IV) oxides
55 (e.g. MnO_2 , pyrolusite) from reduced and dissolved Mn(II) make sedimentary Mn
56 enrichments (SMEs) a proxy for the accumulation of oxygen in Earth's early atmosphere
57 and oceans (Kirschvink et al., 2000; Planavsky et al., 2014). The world's largest SMEs
58 occur in association with the Great Oxidation Event (GOE, 2.42-2.31 Ga; Gumsley et al.,
59 2017), but large SMEs persist throughout the geologic record and are broadly correlated
60 with known fluctuations in Earth's redox balance (Figure 1; Maynard, 2010).

61 Manganese (II)-carbonates are the most common minerals in SMEs, occurring
62 primarily as rhodochrosite (MnCO_3), with lesser amounts of the dolomite group mineral
63 kutnohorite ($\text{CaMn}[\text{CO}_3]_2$) and Mn-enriched calcite (Maynard, 2010; Johnson et al.,
64 2016). These carbonates consistently bear negative carbon isotope signatures (e.g. Tsikos
65 et al., 2010; Johnson et al., 2013), which are conventionally viewed to indicate diagenetic
66 reduction (via microbial dissimilatory respiration) of precursor Mn(III/IV)-oxides in
67 sediment porewater (Calvert and Pederson, 1996).

68 While this diagenetic pathway for Mn-carbonate genesis is favored by most recent
69 investigators, the implication of precursor Mn-oxides can be controversial. Johnson et al.
70 (2013) proposed that a 2.42 Ga SME originated from Mn-oxides formed by a
71 hypothetical Mn-oxidizing photoautotroph. However, these SMEs have alternatively been
72 viewed as evidence for O₂ accumulation prior to, or at the onset, of the GOE (e.g. Ossa
73 Ossa et al., 2018), or direct deposition of Mn-carbonates from a stratified water column
74 (Herndon et al., 2018). Archean SMEs are particularly problematic to explain, but may
75 represent the emergence of oxygen oases prior to the GOE (e.g. Planavsky et al., 2014),
76 direct precipitation of Mn-carbonates from seawater (Farquhar et al., 2014), or Mn-
77 oxidation by a consortia of anoxygenic phototrophs (Daye et al., 2019)

78 Although less commonly invoked in recent interpretations of SMEs, alternative
79 pathways for Mn-carbonate genesis are feasible in the low-O₂ settings observed in
80 modern redox-stratified environments (Force and Cannon, 1988). These include
81 anaerobic metabolisms that generate dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC), increases in pH
82 that favor carbonate saturation (Rincon-Tomas et al., 2016), or nucleation on Ca-
83 carbonates (Herndon et al., 2018). Consistent with this view, Mn-carbonates have been
84 observed in association with reducing conditions in redox-stratified lakes (Nuhfer et al.,
85 1993; Stevens et al., 2000; Jones et al., 2011).

86 While many lines of evidence converge on the necessity for direct Mn-carbonate
87 precipitation from redox-stratified water columns, few detailed evaluations of the
88 processes governing this pathway are available, particularly from ferruginous analogs for
89 Archean and Proterozoic marine settings (e.g. Crowe et al., 2011). This is exacerbated by

90 the weak carbonate saturation of modern ferruginous lakes (the main analogs for ancient
91 ferruginous oceans) relative to marine environments.

92 In this work we investigate a recently described ferruginous meromictic lake
93 (Brownie Lake in Minnesota USA), which hosts both high dissolved Mn concentrations
94 (up to 130 μM) and supersaturation of key carbonate phases, to assess Mn-mineralization
95 pathways of relevance to anoxic environments across geologic time. We utilize this
96 setting to evaluate the hypothesis—most recently advanced by Herndon et al. (2018)—
97 that Mn carbonates may nucleate in the water column of redox stratified lakes. Here we
98 describe the biogeochemical reactions occurring under ferruginous conditions that drive
99 Mn-carbonate precipitation, and constrain the oxygen concentrations under which these
100 processes occur. We then use this framework to assess the potential for anoxic Mn-
101 carbonate genesis in the rock record, and evaluate the range of processes which may
102 contribute to the carbonate carbon isotope signatures of these deposits.

103

104

105 **2. Study site and methods**

106

107 Brownie Lake (BL) is a small ferruginous lake located in Minnesota, USA. The general
108 biogeochemistry of the site is described in Lambrecht et al. (2018), and Lambrecht et al.
109 (2020) presented a detailed study of its methane (CH_4) cycle. Water column profiling,
110 water sampling and analysis, and geochemical modeling were performed using routine
111 techniques detailed these publications and in our Supplementary Materials.

112 To assess Mn-phases in the water column, we analyzed particulate material from
113 water column filtration and sediment traps from intervals representing a transition from
114 oxic (shallower) to anoxic (deeper) conditions. Particulates were collected on 0.2 μM
115 filters in August 2018 from 4.5, 7, and 10 m depth. Water column sediment traps (at 3.5,
116 5, and 11 m depth) were deployed from June through October 2018. Surface sediment
117 samples were also collected in August 2018. Particulate and sediment samples were
118 processed anaerobically as detailed in Supplementary Materials.

119 Particulate and sediment samples were freeze-dried and Mn was extracted from
120 50-100 mg of material using 10 mL of 0.5 M HCl for 1 hour, which targets reactive Mn^{2+}
121 and some Fe (Thamdrup et al., 1994; Supplementary Materials). Manganese in the
122 extractants, as well as total Mn and Al from sediment traps and surface sediments, were
123 quantified by Atomic Absorption Spectrometry (Thermo Scientific iCE3000 series), with
124 an RSD of less than 2.1% for all measurements. Sediment trap and surface sediment
125 samples were further analyzed by X-ray diffraction (XRD), as detailed in Supplementary
126 Materials.

127 To assess the relationships between carbonate phases and water column
128 conditions, we developed scenarios in Geochemist's Workbench (GWB) utilizing BL
129 water chemistry from the depths that displayed the greatest degree of Mn-carbonate
130 saturation (May 2017 at 6 m; July 2017 at 5.5 and 6 m). At these intervals we considered
131 a range of inorganic and biological processes that have previously been suggested to
132 occur at a ferruginous chemocline, including phototrophy, methanotrophy, sulfate (SO_4^{2-})
133 reduction, and Ca-carbonate dissolution. A full description of our modeling approach can
134 be found in Supplementary Materials.

135

136

137 **3. Results**

138

139 *3.1 Manganese and carbon cycling in ferruginous Brownie Lake*

140

141 Multi-year water column monitoring of BL demonstrates a stable, redox-stratified,
142 ferruginous water column, with a chemocline depth (steep concentration gradient of
143 water column solutes) of 4.5 m and a maximum depth of 14 m (Lambrecht et al., 2018;
144 Figure 2). Dissolved O₂ concentrations were as high as 402 μM at 1 m depth in April
145 2017, while values below detection (~3 μM) were reached at depths of 3.5 m in July 2017
146 and 5 m in October 2015 (Figure 2 a). Concentrations of dissolved Fe, Mn, and SO₄²⁻
147 follow trends observed in many redox stratified environments (Figure 2 b-d), with
148 dissolved Mn (interpreted as Mn²⁺) first increasing at the chemocline to a maximum
149 concentration of 134 μM at 4.5 m in October 2015. Sulfate was present above the
150 chemocline, with a maximum concentration of 377 μM at 4 m in October 2015 (not
151 plotted); samples collected in later visits reached a maximum of 122 μM at 2 m in April
152 2017, but were more typically between 20-40 μM above the chemocline in 2017. Sulfide
153 concentrations were more variable, with a maximum value of 74 μM recorded at 5 m in
154 September 2017. Dissolved Fe (interpreted as Fe²⁺) consistently accumulated below the
155 zones of dissolved Mn maxima and SO₄²⁻ drawdown, and rapidly increased below 6 m,
156 with a maximum value of 1430 μM at 13 m recorded in July 2017.

157 The concentration of DIC ranged from 1.62 mM in surface waters to 14.05 mM at
158 depth, and generally followed the same pattern of increasing concentration with depth
159 regardless of the date measured (Figure 2 e). The $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{DIC}}$ ranged from -12.87‰ (5 m
160 depth, September 2017) to a maximum of -1.97‰ at 12 m depth in May 2017. Regardless
161 of the date visited, the lowest $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{DIC}}$ values were found near the chemocline, with
162 highest values at depth, and intermediate values in surface water (Figure 2 f).

163 Dissolved CH_4 concentrations were low near the surface (minimum 2.4 μM at 1 m
164 depth April 2017) and increased to 1555 μM at depth (12 m, September 2017). Dissolved
165 $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{CH}_4}$ ranged from -64.81‰ (5 m depth, September 2017) to values as high as -21.32‰
166 (4.5 m in May 2017; Figure 2 h inset). The $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{CH}_4}$ remained between -60 and -64‰
167 below the chemocline, and increased as dissolved CH_4 concentrations decreased
168 (Lambrecht et al., 2020).

169

170 *3.2 Brownie Lake pH and mineral solubility*

171

172 Profiles for pH in 2017 (Figure 3 a) demonstrate features consistent with stratification, as
173 well as seasonal changes. Surface water pH was generally higher than in deep water,
174 rising as high as 8.85 in May 2017. Lowest pH values were observed below the
175 chemocline late in the summer, with values as low as 6.26 observed in September 2017.
176 The pH decrease across the chemocline was smaller in summer months, as demonstrated
177 by the nearly identical pH profiles in May and July.

178 Surface water samples showed slight calcite supersaturation (Figure 3 b,
179 maximum SI = 0.69 in April 2017; SI = saturation index or Q/K where Q = ion activity

180 product, and K = given mineral solubility constant), with undersaturation observed in
181 deeper waters (SI = -1.12 at 9 m depth in September 2017). Below the chemocline the
182 Mn-carbonate phases pseudokutnahorite (max SI = 3.48 at 6 m depth, July 2017) and
183 rhodochrosite (max SI = 0.46 at 6 m depth, July 2017) became supersaturated (Figure 3
184 c). As DIC and Fe^{2+} accumulated in the deepest waters, siderite (FeCO_3) also became
185 supersaturated, with a maximum SI of 1.58 observed at 13 m in July 2017 (Figure 3 b). A
186 closer examination of the key carbonate phases across the 2017 sampling dates (Figure 3
187 c) suggests that Mn-carbonate saturation varied throughout the summer, while calcite and
188 siderite remained saturated in surface and deep waters, respectively.

189 Major Fe and Mn oxide phases were supersaturated in surface waters but became
190 strongly undersaturated in anoxic waters (Lambrecht et al., 2018). The solubility of
191 phosphate phases in BL is discussed in Supplementary Materials.

192

193 *3.3 Particulate and sediment geochemistry*

194

195 Figure 4 displays solid phase Mn data and carbonate mineralogy from three sources in
196 BL: filtered particulates, sediment traps, and surface sediments. The HCl-extractable Mn
197 fraction ranged from 862 ppm from the 3.5 m sediment trap, to 189 ppm from a
198 particulate sample filtered from 10 m depth. The ratio of HCl-extractable Mn to total Mn
199 in sediment trap and surface sediment samples ranged from 0.070 to 0.085, while total
200 Mn/Al in these samples ranged from 0.021 to 0.032, with the highest values in both
201 measures deriving from the 3.5 m sediment trap sample (Figure 4). Sediment trap

202 materials from 5 m displayed more intense XRD peaks for calcite than did surface
203 sediments.

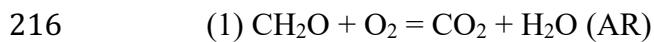
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205 *3.4 Geochemical modeling*

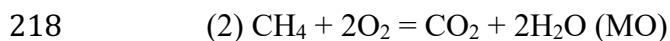
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207 A process sensitivity analysis and results of simulations for three Mn-carbonate saturated
208 BL intervals are shown in Figure 5, with model inputs shown in Table 1. After
209 considering a broader range of potential processes that might influence carbonate
210 saturation at a ferruginous chemocline (Supplementary Materials), we identified key
211 relationships in the sensitivity analysis for the July 2017 5.5 m interval (the most strongly
212 Mn-carbonate supersaturated in our study) that governed the carbonate saturation
213 behavior of all of our simulations. The first two simulations assessed the role of aerobic
214 organic carbon respiration (AR) versus aerobic CH₄ oxidation (MO):

215



217



219

220 The key difference between the two processes is the molar ratio of O₂ consumed
221 to CO₂ produced: 1:1 for AR, and 2:1 for MO. Both scenarios had the same impact on
222 carbonate saturation. The greater impact of these processes was the removal of O₂, which
223 even at the very low concentrations observed in the upper chemocline of BL appears to
224 inhibit Fe²⁺ activity in the model. Complete O₂ removal enhanced Fe²⁺ activity and

225 created a subtle boost in siderite saturation (+0.4 Q/K) in both scenarios, with no other
226 observable differences.

227 Next we considered sulfate reduction (SR), which adds 2 moles of HCO_3^- for each
228 mole of SO_4^{2-} consumed.

229



231

232 Sulfate reduction had a subtle impact on carbonate saturation, with siderite showing the
233 greatest increase (~ 0.6 Q/K), followed by rhodochrosite (~ 0.2 Q/K) then calcite; the
234 greatest changes occurred in the first two days of the simulation.

235 Next we assessed the addition of calcite at a rate consistent with surface water
236 calcite saturation from July 2017 (Supplementary Materials). Calcite addition had the
237 greatest impact on rhodochrosite solubility during the simulation, increasing it by 1.5
238 Q/K. Calcite solubility had a more subtle response, increasing by only 0.5 Q/K, while
239 siderite solubility experienced no change in this scenario.

240 The remaining panels in Figure 5 display the impact of the combined processes
241 (MO, SR, and calcite addition) with varying temperature and pH. Increasing temperature
242 in the system to 25°C resulted in modest increases in mineral saturation, though the
243 relative changes are the same for each mineral. Increasing the system pH from 7 to 8.5
244 resulted in significant increases in mineral saturation, particularly between pH 7.5 and 8.
245 At the highest pH (8.5), siderite experienced nearly the same increase in Q/K as
246 rhodochrosite.

247 A final series of scenarios (Figure 5 i-l) considered a solution based on BL
248 dissolved Fe, Mn, O₂, and SO₄ values, and adopting modern seawater concentrations for
249 the remaining ions at pH 8 and a temperature of 25°C. In the first scenario with dissolved
250 Mn concentration from the BL July 5.5 m interval (Figure 5 i), calcite saturation
251 increased more than rhodochrosite. However, increasing dissolved Mn concentration in
252 subsequent seawater scenarios led to significant increases in rhodochrosite Q/K (~+15),
253 with the maximum observed increase corresponding to a Ca:Mn of 18, which was the
254 highest observed in BL.

255 Figure 6 shows the impacts of combined SR, MO, and calcite addition on
256 carbonate mineral saturation from three BL intervals: May 2017 at 6 m, and July 2017 at
257 5.5 and 6 m, as detailed in Table 1. The results are shown for both mineral precipitation
258 suppressed (as delta Q/K) and unsuppressed (μmol precipitated) scenarios, as well as the
259 response in system pH through the course of each simulation.

260 In each suppressed scenario (Figure 6 a-c) rhodochrosite saturation increased the
261 most, followed by siderite, while calcite saturation increased linearly throughout the
262 simulation. Siderite saturation displayed a similar pattern in each scenario, with an initial
263 sharp increase followed by a more gradual climb, and siderite saturation increased nearly
264 as much as rhodochrosite in the July 2017 6 m scenario (Figure 6 b). In these scenarios
265 pH gradually increased in each case (Figure 6 d-f)

266 Unsuppressed scenarios demonstrated key differences in the proportions of
267 minerals produced by these simulations (Figure 6 g-i). One scenario created more calcite
268 than rhodochrosite, the second created a mixture of the three minerals, and the last

269 precipitated only rhodochrosite. In unsuppressed scenarios, pH changes were generally
270 more muted (Figure 6 j-i), and system pH was lower overall.

271

272

273 **4. Discussion**

274

275 *4.1 Manganese and carbonate cycling in Brownie Lake*

276

277 Reactive particulate (HCl-extractable) Mn, representative of carbonate-associated Mn,
278 was present in BL only below the seasonal oxycline (~3.5 m), and represented a
279 consistent fraction of total anoxic sediment Mn (Figure 4 c.). Coupled with XRD
280 evidence for calcite dissolution below the BL chemocline (Figure 4 d.), we suggest this
281 phase most likely consists of calcite crystals precipitated in surface waters, which became
282 encrusted with Mn-enriched rims during water column settling, resulting in crystals
283 similar to those previously documented in lake sediments (Stevens et al., 2000; Herndon
284 et al., 2018).

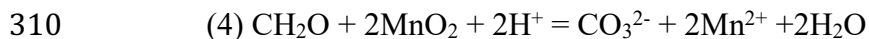
285 Although we cannot eliminate the possibility that some HCl-extractable Mn in BL
286 was associated with a non-carbonate phase, such as a poorly crystalline sulfide or
287 phosphate (see discussion in Supplementary Materials), it is unlikely to represent Mn-
288 oxides. Mn-oxides are thermodynamically unstable in ferruginous BL as their reduction
289 is rapidly coupled to the oxidation of Fe(II), sulfide, ammonium and CH₄ (e.g. Jones et
290 al., 2011), all of which are present in BL waters (Lambrecht et al. 2018; Figure 2).
291 Furthermore, while HCl-extractable Mn was associated with Mn-oxide phases in

292 ferruginous Lake Matano, this was for samples containing nm-scale oxide filaments
293 above the chemocline. By contrast, below the Matano chemocline Mn-oxides were
294 rapidly reduced and replaced by a phase with a XANES spectrum consistent with
295 rhodochrosite (Jones et al., 2011).

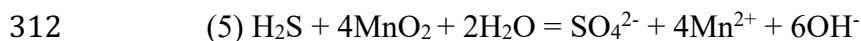
296 The dissolved Mn accumulation in the BL chemocline is among the most
297 concentrated reported in redox-stratified lakes (up to 134 μM), indicating the presence of
298 a vigorous Mn redox cycle (e.g. Jones et al., 2011; Herndon et al. 2018). Microbial Mn^{2+}
299 oxidation may contribute to Mn cycling within the BL chemocline, where it is known to
300 operate efficiently within the O_2 concentration gradients ($\sim 3\text{-}30 \mu\text{M}$) observed there
301 (Clement et al., 2009). Seasonal dynamics of the BL Fe and S cycles may also contribute
302 to the dissolved Mn pool, as late season sulfide generation by SR drives removal of
303 dissolved Fe, increasing dissolved Mn:Fe at the top of the chemocline.

304 Water column pH decreased with depth but stabilized at the chemocline before
305 reaching its lowest values in the deepest waters (Figure 3). This zone of pH stability at
306 the chemocline was likely driven by a number of processes buffering the overall decline
307 in pH with depth. For example, Mn-oxide reduction raises pH when coupled to organic
308 carbon, sulfide, or CH_4 oxidation (Jones et al., 2011; Johnson et al., 2013):

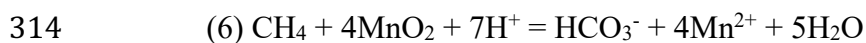
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311



313



315

316 Of these processes, we consider reactions 4 and 5 most likely to be active at the
317 BL chemocline, based on the concentrations of species present and the eutrophic nature
318 of the lake (Lambrecht et al., 2020), which provides a large reservoir of organic carbon to
319 the system. Similar to reaction 4, iron reduction coupled to organic carbon oxidation is
320 also capable of decreasing acidity (Walter et al., 2014). While experiments confirm that
321 reaction 6 can be microbially mediated (Ettwig et al., 2016), organisms putatively
322 capable of such a reaction were in very low abundance (Lambrecht et al., 2020), and
323 reaction thermodynamics seem unlikely to support such organisms in BL.

324 Pelagic calcite dissolution, a well-known processes in seasonally stratified lakes
325 (e.g. Myrbo and Shapley, 2006), may further serve to influence pH and DIC changes at
326 the chemocline, via:

327



329

330 or by uptake of CO_2 released through reactions 1 and 2:

331



333

334 Our solubility calculations (Figure 3), the reduction in intensity of the calcite
335 XRD peaks between the sediment trap and surface sediments (Figure 4), and the
336 enrichment in dissolved Ca in the deep waters of BL (Lambrecht et al., 2018), are all
337 consistent with calcite dissolution occurring near the chemocline.

338 Surface levels of BL carbonate saturation and changes across the chemocline are
339 similar to those recently documented in euxinic Green Lake, NY (Herndon et al., 2018),
340 but key differences emerge in the deep ferruginous waters of BL. In Green Lake,
341 rhodochrosite was only supersaturated in a narrow zone around the chemocline. In BL,
342 rhodochrosite was supersaturated at and below the chemocline, and siderite became
343 supersaturated in deep ferruginous waters. This would enable continued Mn-carbonate
344 crystal growth in deep water, with potential for incorporating Fe into carbonates where
345 bottom waters are saturated in siderite.

346 Carbonate crystals likely spend sufficient time in Mn-enriched waters to
347 incorporate significant Mn^{2+} . Stokes settling times (at 25° C) for 5 μm crystals through a
348 non-turbulent, 1.5 m chemocline are on the order of several hours, and increase
349 exponentially for smaller crystals. Experimental studies (e.g. Pingitore et al., 1988)
350 suggest Mn^{2+} uptake by calcite is favored at slower precipitation rates that would
351 nonetheless generate significant amounts of Mn-carbonates at these settling velocities
352 (e.g. 200 $\mu g \text{ min}^{-1} \text{ m}^{-2}$). Hence Mn-carbonate precipitation would be favored in an
353 environment where μm -scale crystals settle for several hours or more, and remain in
354 contact with rhodochrosite supersaturated waters at the sediment-water interface, as is
355 observed in BL (Figure 3).

356

357 *4.2 Controls on carbonate solubility in Brownie Lake*

358 Our sensitivity analysis demonstrates that calcite addition has the greatest impact on
359 rhodochrosite saturation in BL (Figure 5). This is likely driven by the relative solubilities
360 of the two minerals, with more soluble calcite ($pK = 8.48$ vs. rhodochrosite $pK = 10.08$,

361 Morse et al., 2007) dissolving at the chemocline and contributing bicarbonate to the
362 system (eq. 8). The sensitivity of the system to increases in rhodochrosite saturation
363 appears to be further governed by increasing dissolved Mn concentration (up to 400 μM),
364 pH, and temperature. As Fe concentrations increase, such as below the chemocline,
365 siderite becomes an significant component of the system.

366 Sulfate reduction at the BL chemocline also holds the potential to influence
367 carbonate saturation. Despite generally low SO_4^{2-} concentrations, SR is active in BL
368 waters, consistent with other ferruginous lakes where vigorous sulfur cycling occurs
369 (Walter et al., 2014). Because SR generates two mol of HCO_3^- for each mol of SO_4^{2-}
370 reduced (eg. 3), this process drove an initial spike in Fe-Mn carbonate saturation in our
371 modeled intervals (e.g. Figure 5 c).

372 Unsuppressed scenarios (Figure 6) show that subtle variations in water Mn:Fe and
373 pH can produce carbonate assemblages with highly variable proportions of Ca-Mn-Fe,
374 consistent with many ancient examples of Mn enrichments where both Mn-Ca and Mn-Fe
375 carbonates are reported (Tsikos et al., 2010; Johnson et al., 2016; Planavsky et al. 2018).
376 Although the assumption of siderite precipitation at 1-fold saturation may be unrealistic
377 in these scenarios, nucleation on existing crystals may lower the kinetic barriers to
378 precipitation relative to homogeneous phases (Jiang and Tosca, 2019). Experimental
379 work previously implicated calcite as a catalyst in Mn-carbonate precipitation. Mucci
380 (2004) suggested Mn-carbonate minerals could nucleate on small calcite crystals, or
381 manifest as manganoan rims on calcite if concentrations of Ca^{2+} were much greater than
382 Mn^{2+} .

383 These scenarios translated well to manganiferous seawater with minor
384 adjustments. Increasing temperature and pH favored carbonate production (Figure 5 e-h),
385 but an initial seawater scenario (Figure 5 i) illuminated a challenge to the model:
386 competition between calcite and rhodochrosite at marine concentrations of Ca. The molar
387 Ca:Mn of BL water in our sensitivity scenarios derives from a measured value of 25.6,
388 but scaling to marine Ca increases this ratio to 138 (Table 1). Adjusting the dissolved Mn
389 concentration of the seawater scenarios to include the highest measured concentration
390 observed in this study (134 μM) led to greater increases in rhodochrosite saturation,
391 consistent with BL scenarios. Subsequent seawater scenarios with 200 μM dissolved Mn,
392 and a Ca:Mn ratio adjusted to the lowest observed in BL (~ 18 or a dissolved Mn
393 concentration of 571 μM) generated considerable increases in rhodochrosite saturation
394 relative to calcite, demonstrating the viability of this mechanism in marine settings.
395 Although the final scenario had a dissolved Mn concentration over 4-fold larger than we
396 observed in BL, it is not an unreasonably high concentration for a marine system given
397 the dissolved Mn concentrations of >400 μM reported in the modern Orca Basin (Van
398 Cappellen et al., 1998).

399

400 *4.3 Dissolved inorganic carbon isotopes in redox-stratified waters*

401

402 Differences in $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{DIC}}$ behavior between euxinic versus ferruginous waters largely derive
403 from the prominence of the CH_4 cycle in ferruginous systems. Although modern
404 ferruginous lakes occur in a variety of hydroclimatic settings, data presented here (Figure
405 2) reinforce the observation that these systems display stratification in $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{DIC}}$.

406 Ferruginous chemoclines host lower $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{DIC}}$ relative to deep waters that are influenced by
407 fermentation or methanogenic CO_2 reduction (Assayag et al., 2008; Crowe et al., 2011;
408 Lambrecht et al. 2020; Figure 2). Calcite dissolution also holds potential to contribute
409 heavier DIC to deep waters (Myrbo and Shapley, 2006). In contrast, euxinic lakes also
410 demonstrate a more common mode of $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{DIC}}$ stratification, wherein waters from the
411 chemocline and below reflect light $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{DIC}}$ release from AR and SR of organic carbon
412 (Myrbo and Shapley, 2006; Havig et al., 2017; Figure 7).

413

414 *4.3.1 Impact of methane oxidation on Brownie Lake DIC*

415

416 A pronounced depletion in $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{DIC}}$ at the chemocline and progressive enrichment through
417 deep anoxic waters reflect active CH_4 cycling in the BL water column, with oxidation at
418 the chemocline, and methanogenesis in deep anoxic waters (Lambrecht et al., 2020;
419 Figure 2 e & f). The increase towards positive $\delta^{13}\text{C}\text{-CH}_4$ consistent with methanotrophy
420 occurs at the base of the oxycline, at O_2 concentrations between 4-5 μM . While SO_4 -
421 dependent anaerobic oxidation of CH_4 (AOM) is marginally thermodynamically
422 permissible in this context, BL 16S rRNA sequencing recovered negligible sequences of
423 putative AOM archaea (Lambrecht et al., 2020). This is consistent with recent work
424 demonstrating that aerobic methanotrophy remains favored in ferruginous systems even
425 at oxygen levels below the detection limit of most sensors (~ 20 nmol; Oswald et al.,
426 2016).

427 Both SR and MO are thermodynamically favored in BL (Supplementary
428 Materials), and capable of influencing $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{DIC}}$. It is therefore necessary to consider which

429 process may be exerting a greater influence on BL DIC. Employing the reaction-diffusion
430 approach developed by Crowe et al. (2011), and adopting the vertical eddy diffusivity
431 value around the chemocline of BL on the order of $5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$ (Lambrecht et al., 2018),
432 we calculate that an MO rate of $160 \text{ } \mu\text{mol/L/day}$ is required to maintain the negative DIC
433 carbon isotope excursion observed at 4.5 m depth in September 2017. This is within the
434 range of known lacustrine MO rates, and slightly higher than the maximum rate recently
435 determined in ferruginous Lake Matano (Sturm et al., 2019). Although dissolved oxygen
436 concentrations at this interval ($\sim 4.7 \text{ } \mu\text{M}$) were just above the detection limit of our sonde
437 ($2\text{-}3 \text{ } \mu\text{M}$), they would be sufficient to maintain aerobic CH_4 oxidation. This rate is also
438 similar to the upward flux of CH_4 towards the chemocline, as calculated from the CH_4
439 concentration profile ($90 \text{ } \mu\text{mol/L/day}$, assuming oxidation occurs over a 0.5 m interval),
440 suggesting that the BL carbon isotope excursion could be maintained primarily by MO,
441 though contributions to the pool of isotopically light DIC from other pathways is further
442 evaluated below.

443 A mass balance of BL DIC data suggests MO has a stronger influence on the DIC
444 excursion at the chemocline, with a ratio of $\sim 3:1$ MO:SR, consistent with its
445 thermodynamic favorability (Supplementary Materials). Nitrate- and Fe-Mn-coupled
446 AOM (Ettwig et al., 2016; Oswald et al., 2016) are intriguing but remote possibilities,
447 considering such organisms were not significant in BL (Lambrecht et al. 2020).
448 Concentrations of NO_3^- observed at Brownie Lake are generally $< 2 \text{ } \mu\text{M}$ (Lambrecht et al.,
449 2018) and are not likely to significantly impact the CH_4 budget. And although it has been
450 demonstrated in experiments (Ettwig et al., 2016), a clear example of pelagic MO
451 coupled to Fe/Mn oxide reduction has yet to be produced. Thus, this analysis suggests

452 that aerobic CH₄ oxidation may exert a major influence on δ¹³C_{DIC} in Brownie Lake,
453 consistent with the suggestion that methanotrophy is a major influence on δ¹³C_{DIC} in
454 ferruginous waters (Crowe et al., 2011).

455

456 *4.3.2 Methane oxidation and carbonate C isotopes*

457

458 The widespread observation of low δ¹³C in Mn-carbonates is traditionally interpreted as
459 evidence of diagenetic oxide reduction coupled to organic carbon respiration within
460 sediments (e.g. Calvert and Pederson, 1996; Planavsky et al., 2018). While this
461 interpretation is viable in many geological examples, the influence of MO and SR on
462 δ¹³C_{DIC} in ferruginous lakes demonstrates the potential for embedding signatures of these
463 processes in primary carbonate minerals.

464 Carbonates derived from CH₄ oxidation have long been recognized (Michaelis et
465 al., 2002) and are widely described in modern lacustrine and marine environments. In
466 marine settings, SO₄-AOM triggers precipitation of carbonates and sulfides (Michaelis et
467 al., 2002). In completely anoxic and ferruginous settings where SO₄²⁻ is below 10s of μM,
468 benthic archaea have been shown to couple both Fe and Mn-oxide reduction to CH₄
469 oxidation (Ettwig et al., 2016), a reaction that similarly favors carbonate precipitation
470 (Crowe et al., 2011).

471 Aerobic oxidation of CH₄ to CO₂ has a substantially lower redox potential relative
472 to Mn²⁺ oxidation, permitting CH₄ oxidation in suboxic environments where Mn²⁺ would
473 remain reduced (Supplementary Materials). Such a nuanced separation of these processes

474 is possible in a redox-stratified water column, but would be less likely to overlap in
475 sediments where oxygen would be unlikely to penetrate to a zone of methane production.

476 Earlier interpretations of $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ from iron formation carbonates suggested greater
477 variability in the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of marine DIC sources (e.g. Winter and Knauth, 1992), consistent
478 with the recent suggestion that signatures of hydrothermal DIC may be recorded by some
479 ancient Fe-carbonates (Jiang and Tosca, 2019). Although the interpretation of primary
480 versus diagenetic signatures of ancient carbonates remains subject to much debate, it is
481 clear that a number of primary processes operating in redox-stratified water columns may
482 generate substantial variability in $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{DIC}}$.

483

484 *4.4 Mn-carbonates in anoxic environments*

485

486 Recent literature largely assumes that Mn burial in permanently anoxic basins is not
487 permissible due to the instability of Mn-oxides and high solubility of Mn-sulfides
488 (Calvert and Pederson, 1996). In the prevailing view, Mn-carbonates form in sediment
489 porewater after diagenetic reduction of Mn-oxides precipitated from water columns that
490 are at least episodically oxidized (e.g. Johnson et al., 2013). Our findings, however, are
491 consistent with work in both ferruginous (Jones et al., 2011) and euxinic lakes (Herndon
492 et al., 2018), supporting the hypothesis that primary precipitation of Mn-carbonates is
493 favorable in redox-stratified water columns containing 5 μM of oxygen or less.

494 Observations of Mn-carbonates in sediment traps (Nuhfer et al., 1993), water
495 column particulates (Jones et al., 2011), and Holocene sediments (Wittkop et al., 2014)
496 from redox-stratified lakes further support the existence of a primary precipitation

497 pathway. The Mn-carbonate phase documented in Elk Lake, Minnesota was not found in
498 sediment traps sterilized with formalin (Nuhfer et al., 1993), implicating microbial
499 processes in its precipitation (Stevens et al., 2000). Consistent with marine examples, the
500 lacustrine Mn-carbonate overgrowths on calcite crystals documented by Stevens et al.
501 (2000) corresponded to lighter bulk carbonate $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ than in intervals without Mn-
502 carbonates, consistent with a potential role for AR or MO in their origin.

503 This evidence also points to a relatively rapid precipitation of Mn-carbonates
504 within redox-stratified water columns. Rhodochrosite was identified by XRD in sediment
505 traps by Nuhfer et al. (1993), and in particulate samples by XANES in Lake Matano
506 (Jones et al., 2011). Pseudokutnohorite is thermodynamically favored to precipitate
507 before rhodochrosite (Mucci 2004), but to our knowledge this XRD-amorphous mineral
508 has not been reported in lacustrine settings, though Stevens et al. (2000) reported
509 kutnohorite in Holocene sediments.

510

511 *4.5 Application to ancient SMEs*

512

513 In light of the evidence presented here, we advance a primary carbonate model for the
514 genesis of SMEs (Figure 7 a). The key elements of the carbonate model are, 1) a redox
515 stratified basin hosting Mn-enriched waters near a redoxcline, 2) Ca-carbonate
516 precipitation in shallow waters, and 3) a lysocline poised near the basin redoxcline. While
517 our work demonstrates that this model may be especially viable in ferruginous
518 environments, it is also consistent with suggestions that Mn-carbonates may represent an
519 primary precipitate in euxinic settings (Force and Cannon, 1988; Herndon et al., 2018).

520 Most SMEs occur in shallow water facies (Force and Cannon, 1988), and
521 secondary enrichment is precluded in key examples (e.g. Johnson et al., 2013), thus their
522 genesis requires the presence of Mn-enriched waters in shallow marine environments,
523 and hence a shallow chemocline. Substantial deposits require proximity to hydrothermal
524 Mn sources (Maynard, 2010), which may dictate the Mn:Fe of basin waters, but
525 additional Fe and Mn segregation may occur at a chemocline as observed in BL. Fe can
526 be oxidized by anoxygenic photoferrotrophy in the photic zone (e.g. Lliros et al., 2015),
527 or by microaerophilic Fe(II)-oxidizing bacteria (Berg et al., 2019). Both of these
528 processes would increase dissolved Mn:Fe. A cryptic sulfur cycle may similarly proceed
529 under weakly oxidizing conditions (e.g. Walter et al., 2014), leading to an increase in
530 Mn:Fe via Fe-sulfide precipitation (Force and Cannon, 1988).

531 In contrast to the episodic mixing observed in seasonally-stratified lakes, a more
532 stable marine environment would offer the advantage of maintaining the redox
533 relationships observed in BL for longer periods of time, enhancing the potential for large-
534 scale Mn mineralization. Basin upwelling events may introduce Mn-enriched waters to
535 depositional sites, but many SMEs are also linked to marine transgressions (Roy, 2006).
536 A transgression could lead to migration of a chemocline over previously deposited Ca-
537 carbonates, where Mn-enriched waters would have the opportunity to act as a
538 “mineralizing fluid” on surface sediments (Force and Cannon, 1988). Changes in sea
539 level may also lead to interbedding of primary carbonates alongside Mn-oxides, which
540 could later be diagenetically reduced, accounting for the complex mineral associations
541 observed in major Mn enrichments (e.g. Johnson et al., 2016). Independent of eustatic sea

542 level, the chemocline may shift position in response to the relative supply of oxidants
543 versus reductants in seawater (e.g. Lantink et al. 2018).

544 Capture of Mn by carbonate phases may preclude large-scale oxide precipitation
545 if the rate of carbonate capture and burial equals or exceeds the rate of Mn supply to the
546 basin. In contrast, a large Mn-oxide deposit would indicate a rate of Mn upwelling and
547 oxidation exceeding the rate of capture by carbonates, or a transition to an environment
548 unfavorable for carbonate production or preservation.

549

550 *4.5.3 The carbonate pathway in Precambrian SMEs*

551

552 Sharp facies gradients between Ca-carbonates and ferruginous or manganiferous
553 sediments are present in many examples SMEs occurring both before and after the GOE
554 (e.g. Johnson et al., 2013; Lantink et al., 2018; Ossa Ossa et al., 2018b), implying the
555 presence of a basin lysocline. The lysocline in small temperate lakes such as BL is driven
556 primarily by temperature and rates of OM remineralization (e.g. Myrbo and Shapley,
557 2006). In ancient ferruginous basins, a shallow lysocline may have been further supported
558 by the presence of metal-enriched hydrothermal waters with a lower pH relative to
559 surface waters.

560 Recent estimates of dissolved O₂ concentrations derived from Archean SMEs are
561 higher than the 3-4 μM we considered in our BL simulations, but are generally consistent
562 with the 3-30 μM range we observe in manganiferous BL waters. The concentrations of
563 dissolved O₂ represented by Archean SME may have locally exceeded 10 μM (Ossa Ossa

564 et al., 2018), within a range that could support rapid microbial Mn^{2+} oxidation and further
565 concentrate dissolved Mn at a local chemocline (Clement et al., 2009).

566 Although Mn-oxides may be generated in some low- O_2 settings (e.g. Daye et al.
567 2019), the relationships between O_2 and manganiferous waters in BL imply that efficient
568 Mn-oxide burial would require O_2 concentrations at the sediment water interface to
569 remain significantly above 5 μM . We observed O_2 concentrations ranging between ~ 5 -50
570 μM at the top of the BL chemocline where tens of μM of dissolved Mn began to
571 accumulate, indicating Mn-oxide reduction was occurring in these waters. Hence Mn
572 would remain dissolved in environments where O_2 may be present at $< 5 \mu M$ —
573 concentrations that could nonetheless support Fe^{2+} and CH_4 oxidation. Here a carbonate
574 burial pathway for Mn^{2+} would remain viable, with the production of various Mn-
575 minerals dependent on reaction kinetics and the stability of redox gradients.

576 These interpretations are consistent with Fe-isotope evidence from the Hotazel
577 Formation of the Transvaal Supergroup, deposited near the onset of the GOE. Hotazel
578 records suggest SME genesis from a redox-stratified basin possessing a large reservoir of
579 dissolved Fe, and evolving Fe-Mn ratios (Lantink et al. 2018). A primary carbonate
580 model also accounts for the co-occurrence of Mn(II-III) and Fe(III) phases in Mn-
581 enrichments interpreted to represent a limited role for diagenetic reduction in the genesis
582 of Hotazel SMEs (Tsikos et al., 2010).

583 Manganese enrichments in deep water facies of the Proterozoic Animikie Basin
584 were recently interpreted as evidence of complete water column oxidation (Planavsky et
585 al. 2018), who invoked a Baltic Sea analog (e.g. Hausler et al., 2018). While the Baltic
586 Sea SMEs are consistent with deep water oxygenation and genesis from Mn-oxide

587 precursors, they also occur in an environment of very low Fe:Mn, which is not consistent
588 with the high Fe:Mn of the manganosiderite phases preserved in the Animikie examples
589 (Planavsky et al, 2018). A primary carbonate genesis of the Animikie examples followed
590 by continued Fe-carbonate growth on the seafloor (e.g. Figure 7 a.) is more consistent
591 with both previous work on the Animikie Basin (Poulton et al., 2010), and examples of
592 highly Mn-enriched Fe-carbonates preserved in ferruginous Holocene sediments
593 (Wittkop et al., 2014).

594 Although Mo isotope depletions are frequently interpreted as indicators of Mn-
595 oxide burial (e.g. Planavsky et al., 2018), they may also occur at a euxinic chemocline in
596 association with changes in Mo-S speciation (Neubert et al., 2008). The co-occurrence of
597 pyrite with Proterozoic SMEs (Johnson et al., 2013; Planavsky et al., 2018) supports this
598 view, and opens the possibility that some Precambrian SMEs contain records of cryptic S
599 cycling as opposed to complete water column oxidation.

600

601 *4.5.4 The carbonate pathway in Phanerozoic SMEs*

602

603 Manganese enrichments from the Neoproterozoic and younger are generally consistent
604 with more diverse mineralization pathways relative to older examples (Maynard, 2010).
605 Phanerozoic SMEs are frequently associated with black shales, whose sulfides represent
606 an effective Fe-sink, allowing for accumulation of dissolved Mn in the water column
607 (Force and Cannon, 1988). These younger SMEs may remain associated with large-scale
608 changes in marine redox balance, including ocean anoxic events, and the occurrence of
609 marine red-beds, which have recently been interpreted as evidence for transient

610 ferruginous episodes in the Phanerozoic (Figure 1; Song et al., 2017). Localized tectonic
611 influences may overprint this global signal, which is the likely case for the Oligocene
612 deposits associated with the Black Sea (Force and Cannon, 1988).

613 The Jurassic Molgano deposit of Mexico is the largest Phanerozoic SME,
614 occurring at the base of a Ca-carbonate facies (Okita, 1992), where it is tellingly not
615 associated with primary oxides (Force and Cannon, 1988). Instead, detailed mapping of
616 Mn-phases in Molgano samples suggests manganoan calcite may have represented the
617 earliest precipitate (Johnson et al., 2016). Other Phanerozoic examples including the
618 Oligocene Nikopol deposit of Ukraine and Cretaceous Groote Eylandt deposit of
619 Australia contain Mn-carbonates associated with primary oxides. This co-occurrence of
620 adjacent oxide and carbonate SMEs within the same sedimentary basin likely represents
621 the preservation of a water column redox boundary (Force and Cannon, 1988). Careful
622 re-assessment of such Phanerozoic SMEs utilizing new paleoredox tools is likely to
623 provide insight into their relationships with global versus localized drivers of their
624 genesis.

625

626

627 **5. Conclusions**

628

629 We document the production and burial of an HCl-extractable particulate Mn phase,
630 interpreted as a Ca-Mn-carbonate, from a ferruginous Brownie Lake. Geochemical
631 models of carbonate production in the lake suggest introduction of calcite to Mn-rich
632 waters at the chemocline triggers substantial increases in rhodochrosite saturation. These

633 models translate to ferruginous marine conditions, implying a significantly less oxidizing
634 environment is required to develop carbonate-hosted sedimentary Mn enrichments than
635 previously recognized. Specifically, our findings suggest primary Mn-carbonates may
636 originate from waters containing 5 μM dissolved O_2 or less, and do not require the burial
637 of precursor Mn-oxides in sediments.

638 Instead of representing diagenetic organic carbon respiration, the negative carbon
639 isotope composition commonly observed in Mn-carbonates might also be imparted by
640 organic carbon remineralization or CH_4 oxidation occurring in the water column. Hence
641 some sedimentary Mn enrichments may develop where processes operating in low O_2
642 environments including sulfur cycling, microaerophilic Fe-oxidation, or anoxygenic
643 photosynthesis co-occur with a basin lysocline. This interpretation may reconcile
644 inconsistencies among paleoredox proxies in environments where Mn-enriched sediments
645 are encountered.

646

647

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662 **Figure and Table Captions**

663

664 Figure 1: Sedimentary manganese enrichments (SMEs) through geologic time in
665 comparison with redox indicators. Manganese data replotted from Maynard (2010),
666 expressed as metric tons Mn metal, including sub-economic and iron-formation hosted
667 deposits. a. Atmospheric O₂ from Lyons et al., 2014. b. All SMEs binned in 200 Myr
668 increments. c. Post-Neoproterozoic marine redox indicators including ocean anoxic
669 events (OAEs; stars) from Jenkyns (2010), and cumulative thickness of marine red beds
670 (MRBs), replotted from Song et al. (2017). d. Post-Neoproterozoic SMEs binned in 25
671 Myr increments.

672

673 Figure 2: Brownie Lake 2015-2017 water column profiles of (a) O₂, (b) dissolved iron
674 (Fe²⁺), (c) dissolved manganese (Mn²⁺), (d) SO₄²⁻ and total dissolved sulfide (Σ S²⁻), (e)
675 dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC), (f) the carbon isotopic composition of DIC, (g)
676 dissolved methane (CH₄), and (h) the carbon isotopic composition of dissolved CH₄

677 (inset shows high values observed near the chemocline). Replotted from Lambrecht et al.
678 (2020).

679

680 Figure 3: (a) pH, (b) calcite solubility, and (c) rhodochrosite (rhod.), and siderite (sid.).
681 solubility in the Brownie Lake water column in 2017. (d) Detail of July 2017 phases
682 including pseudokutnohorite (pseudokut.). Saturation index (SI) = $\log(\text{IAP}/K_{\text{sp}})$ where
683 IAP is the solution ion activity product and K_{sp} is the solubility constant of the given
684 mineral.

685

686 Figure 4: Brownie Lake particulate and water column data from 2018. (a) Brownie Lake
687 water column dissolved O_2 and Mn. (b) Concentrations of HCl-extractable Mn from
688 filtered particulates, sediment trap materials, and surface sediments. (c) Sediment trap
689 and surface sediment HCl-extractable Mn normalized to total Mn (Mn_T), and Mn/Al. (d)
690 X-ray diffraction patterns from 5 m sediment trap sample versus surface sediments. Note
691 the prominence of the calcite peak in the sediment trap at 5 m relative to surface
692 sediments, interpreted as evidence of water column calcite dissolution. XRD peak labels:
693 C = calcite, D = dolomite, F = feldspars, M = 2M muscovite, Q = quartz.

694

695 Figure 5: Sensitivity of BL carbonate mineral saturation. Cal = calcite (blue), Rhod =
696 rhodochrosite (black), and Sid = siderite (red). All changes expressed in terms of delta
697 Q/K where $Q = \text{IAP}$ and $K = \text{given mineral solubility constant}$. All scenarios are plotted
698 in terms of a 15-day simulation and based on BL water chemistry as measured in July
699 2017 at 5.5 m (Table 1). See main text for example reactions. (a.) Scenario considering

700 aerobic respiration where O₂ and CO₂ are reacted in a 1:1 molar ratio. (b.) Methane
701 oxidation scenario where 2 moles of O₂ are consumed for every CO₂ produced. (c.)
702 Sulfate reduction scenario. (d.) Addition of calcite at 7 μmol/day scenario. (e-h.) The
703 combination of scenarios b-d. with varying temperature and pH. Note change in scale of
704 delta Q/K for g. and h. (i-l.) Scenarios combining b-d. adopting Brownie Lake dissolved
705 Fe, Mn, SO₄, and O₂ concentrations and assuming seawater composition and pH and
706 temperature of 25 C. (i.) Seawater with Brownie Lake July 2107 5.5 m concentrations of
707 Fe, Mn, SO₄ and O₂. (j.) Scenario as described in (i.) with dissolved Mn concentration
708 increased to 134 μM, the highest observed in our study. (k.) Scenario as described in (i.)
709 with dissolved Mn concentration increased to 200 μM. (l.) Scenario as described in (i.)
710 with Ca:Mn ratio set to 18, the lowest observed in our study.

711

712 Figure 6. Combined scenarios for methane oxidation, sulfate reduction, and calcite
713 addition (i.e. Figure 5 b-d) applied to rhodochrosite-saturated intervals in BL. Mineral
714 abbreviations and Q/K relationships as in Figure 5. Panels a-c with mineral precipitation
715 suppressed to assess changes in solubility. (a) May 2017 6 m, (b) July 2017 5.5 m, (c)
716 July 2017 6 m. Panels d-f display pH changes from each of the scenarios above. Panels g-
717 i display results from unsuppressed simulations where minerals are allowed to precipitate
718 at Q/K = 1 and accumulate in the system, with mineral concentrations shown in μmoles.
719 Panels j-l display pH evolution of unsuppressed scenarios g-i.

720

721 Figure 7: Models for the genesis of sediment manganese enrichments (SMEs). Relative
722 water column composition of δ¹³C_{DIC} and concentrations of O₂, Mn, Fe, and H₂S (if

723 applicable) shown to right. Each model assumes the presence of a basin lysocline
724 coincident with a chemocline. Sources of Fe and Mn may include hydrothermal vents,
725 springs (in lakes), or sediment porewater release. See main text for example reactions. (a)
726 Carbonate model, based on the ferruginous setting described in this work. Manganese
727 oxides may not be present if Mn-carbonate genesis rate exceeds rate of supply, and
728 oxygenic photosynthesis may not have been active in earliest Archean examples. Calcite
729 introduced to water column via littoral precipitation dissolves as it settles into the
730 lysocline, where Mn-carbonates nucleate. Fe-rich overgrowths may precipitate (ppt) in
731 deep waters if siderite saturation is exceeded. Fe-silicates such as greenalite may also co-
732 precipitate in deep facies of Precambrian oceans (Jiang and Tosca, 2019). The
733 composition of $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{DIC}}$ is adopted from trends observed in Brownie Lake, but
734 Precambrian oceans (pC) may not have hosted enriched $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{DIC}}$ in deepest waters.
735 Transgression is capable of shifting facies relationships to the left, creating contrasting
736 sediment compositions. (b) Euxinic model, similar to the zoned model of Force and
737 Cannon (1988) and a mechanism proposed by Herndon et al. (2018). Instead of
738 carbonates, iron-sulfides dominate in deeper settings, but Mn-carbonates may still
739 precipitate near the chemocline or if rates of CaCO_3 accumulation are high throughout
740 the basin (e.g. Green Lake; Herndon et al., 2018). The $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{DIC}}$ of deep water is shifted
741 negative due to the predominance of sulfate reduction (Myrbo and Shapley, 2006). (c)
742 The prevailing oxide model assumes that Mn-carbonates precipitate from a precursor
743 oxide mineral (e.g. Calvert and Pederson, 1996). A deep water source of dissolved Mn is
744 still implied. In Precambrian settings ferruginous conditions were likely dominant, but
745 anoxic basins in the Phanerozoic are often interpreted as euxinic (H_2S rich). Both the

746 carbonate and euxinic model may produce SMEs in suboxic environments, but low
747 carbonate saturation or high rates of dissolved Mn upwelling may favor the oxide model.

748

749 Table 1: Inputs and reaction rates for carbonate modeling. Species concentrations (Conc.)
750 were measured from the BL water column except the seawater scenario, which adopted
751 values of major dissolved ion concentrations from seawater with the exception of Fe, Mn,
752 SO₄, and O₂. The Mn concentration in the seawater scenario is based on the lowest
753 observed BL Ca:Mn, with results shown in Figure 5 1. Reaction rates were determined by
754 dividing the measured concentrations by 15 days, the length of the scenario.

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Figure 1

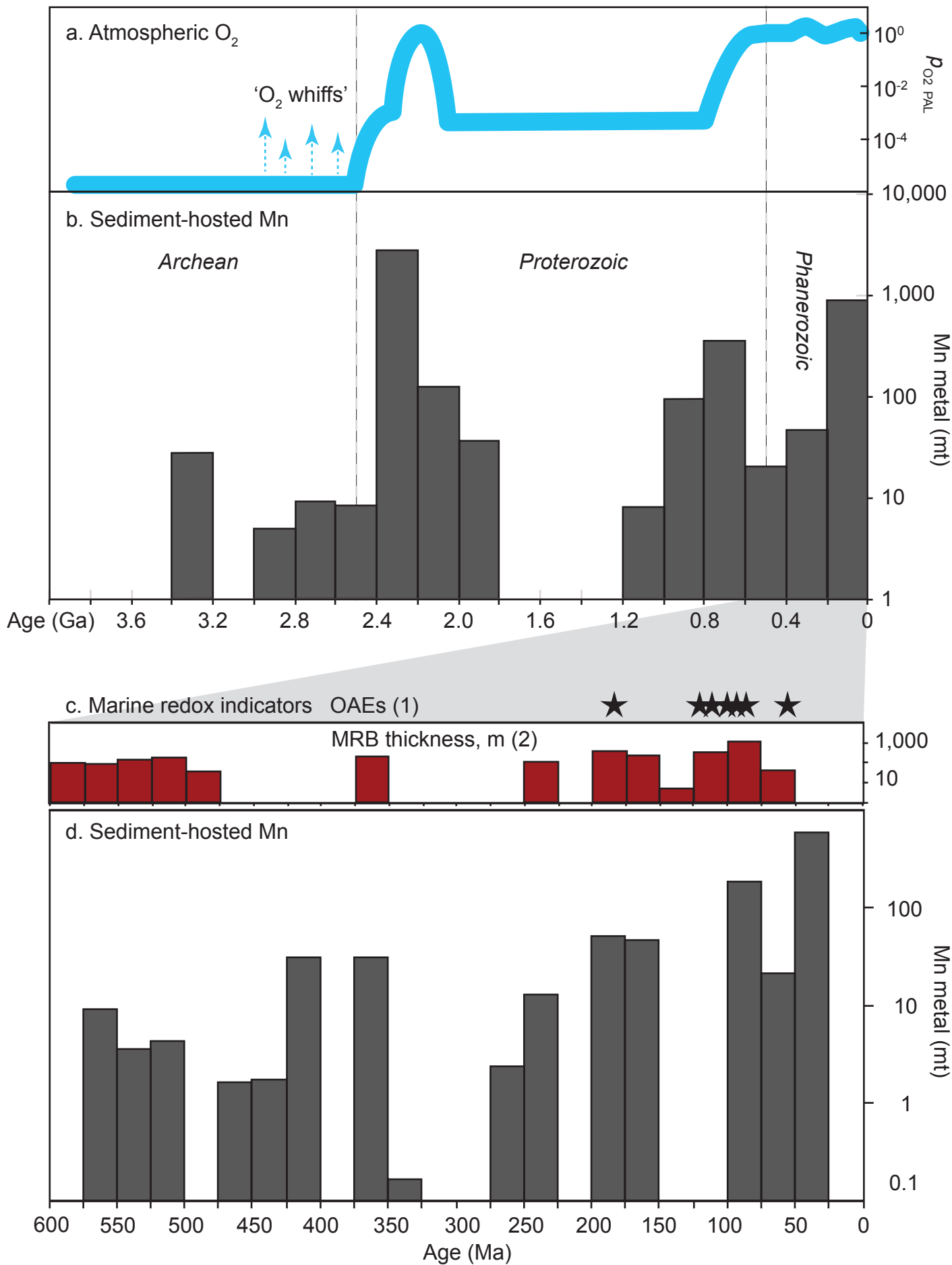


Figure 2

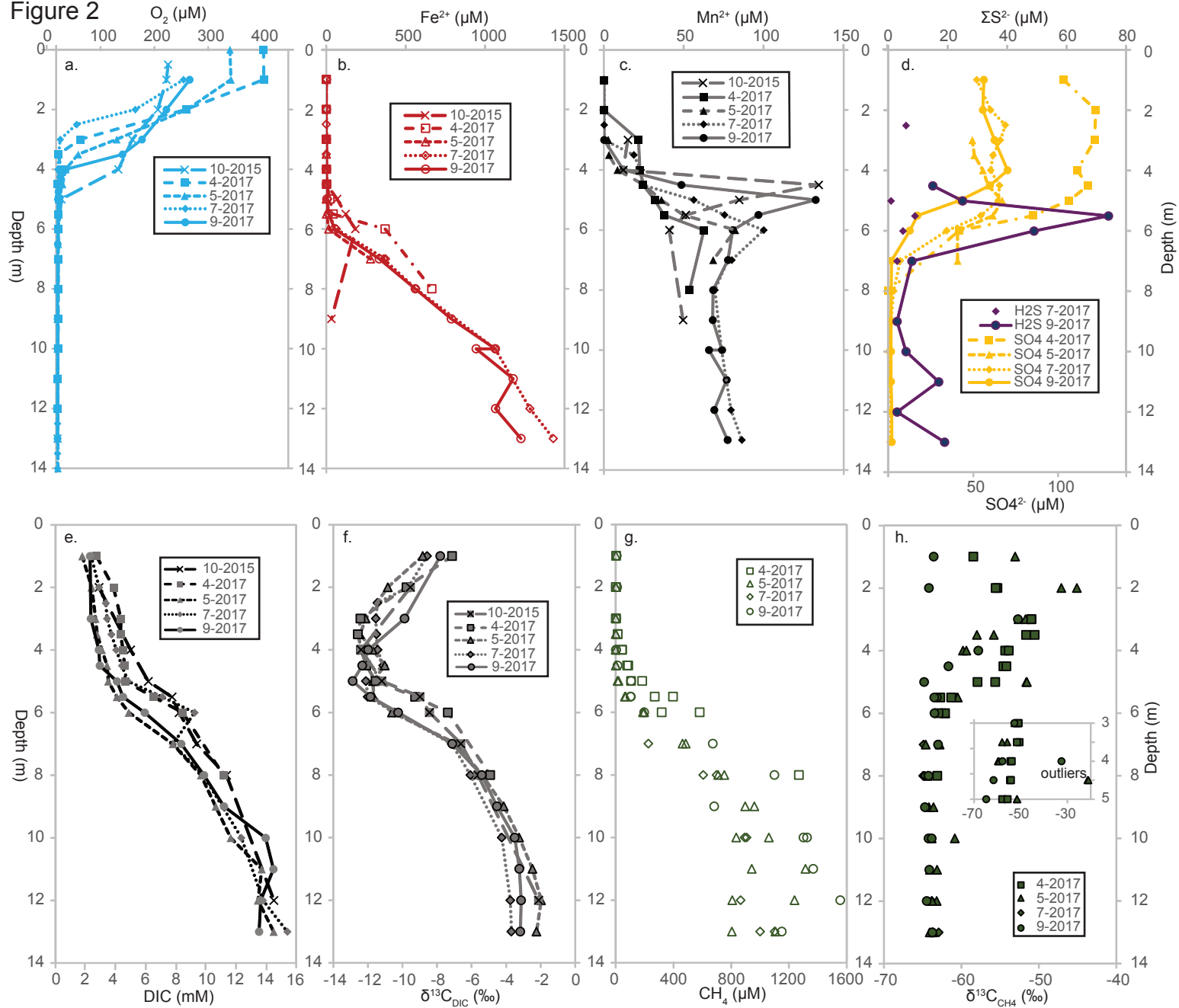
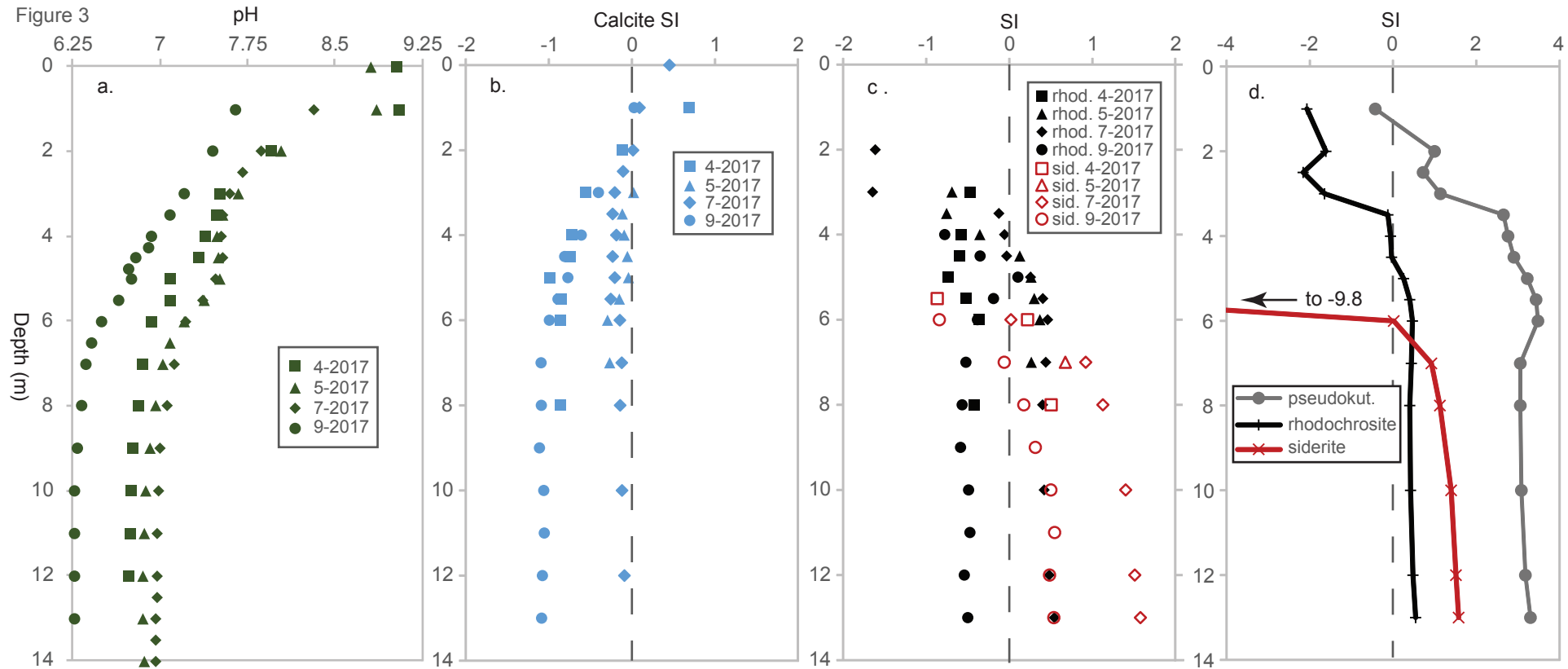


Figure 3



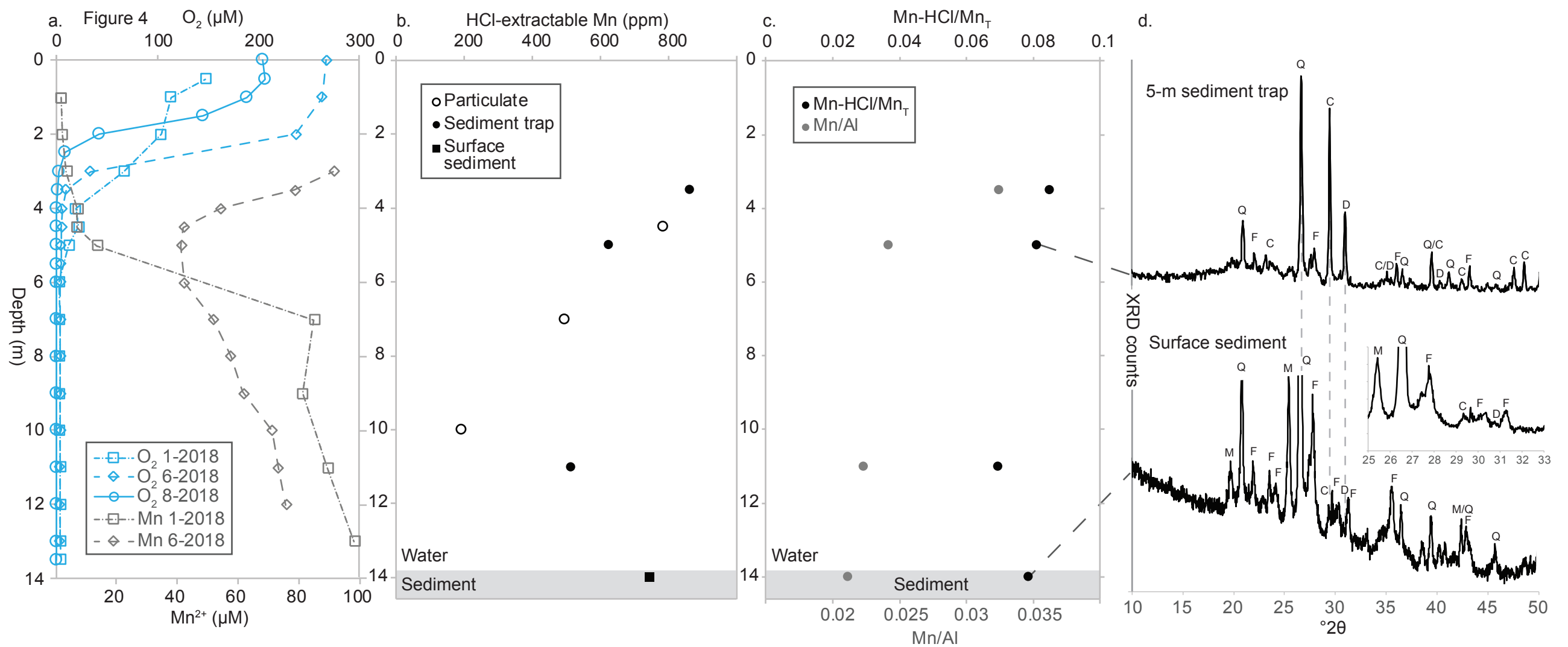


Figure 5

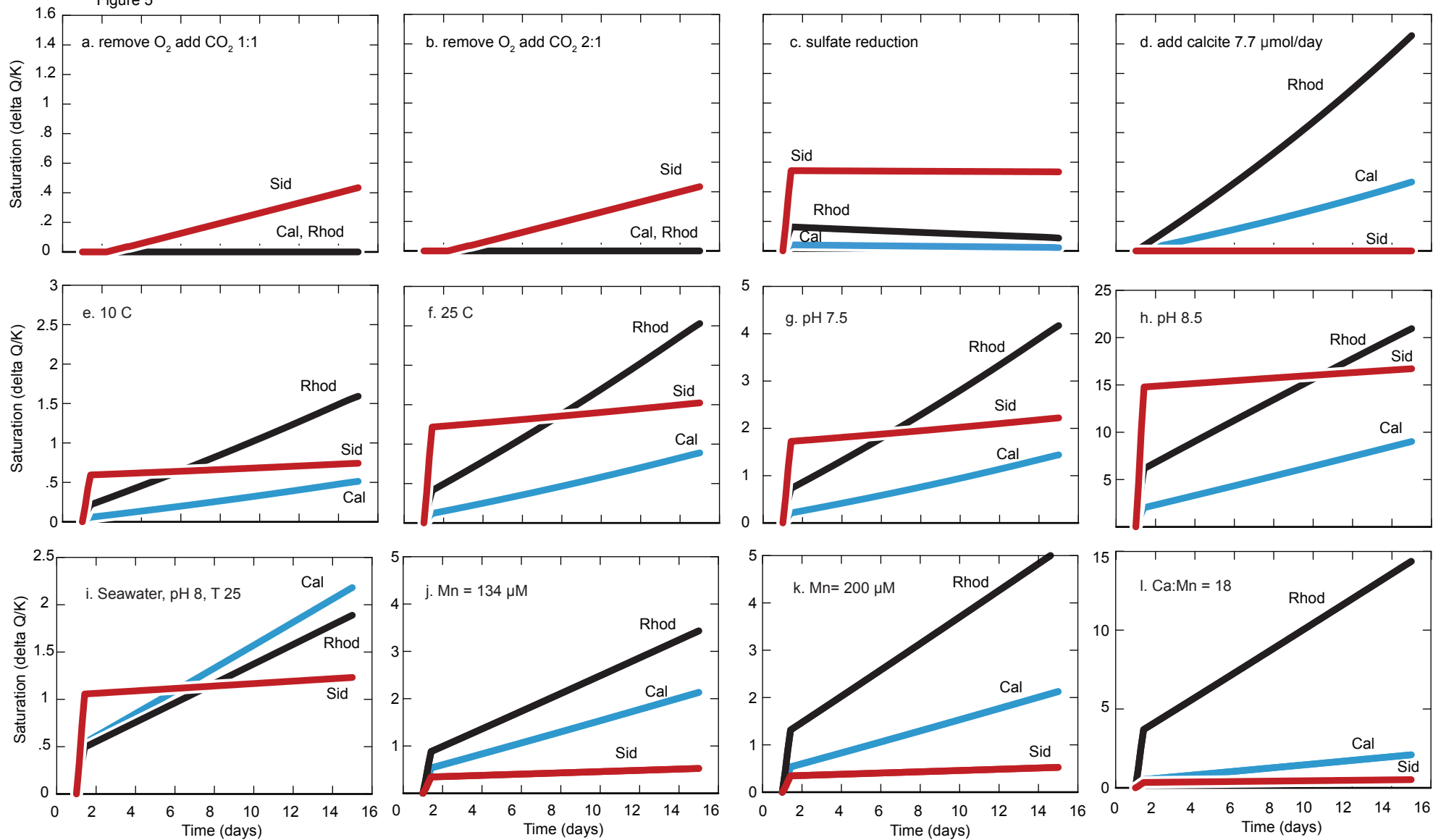
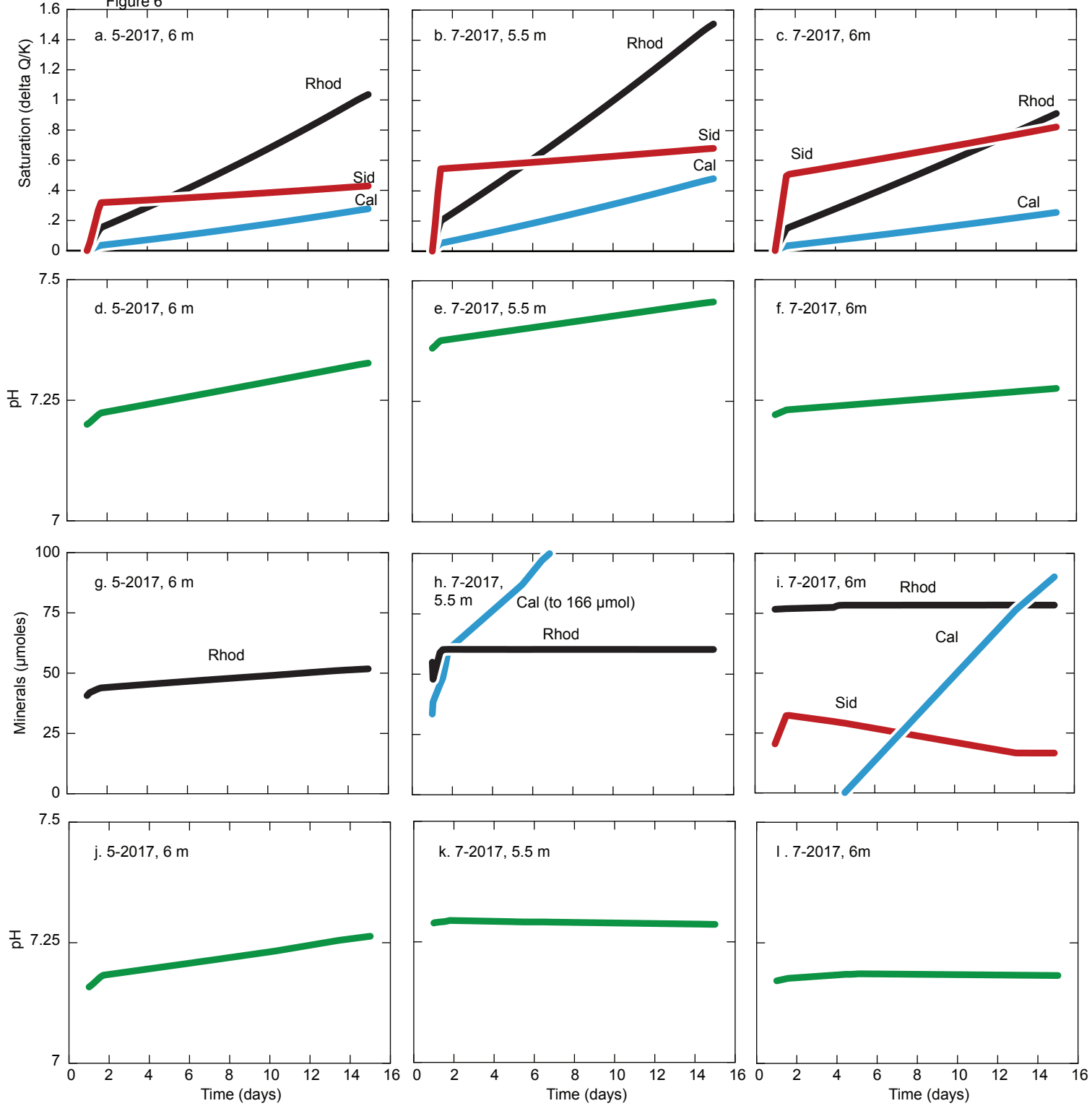
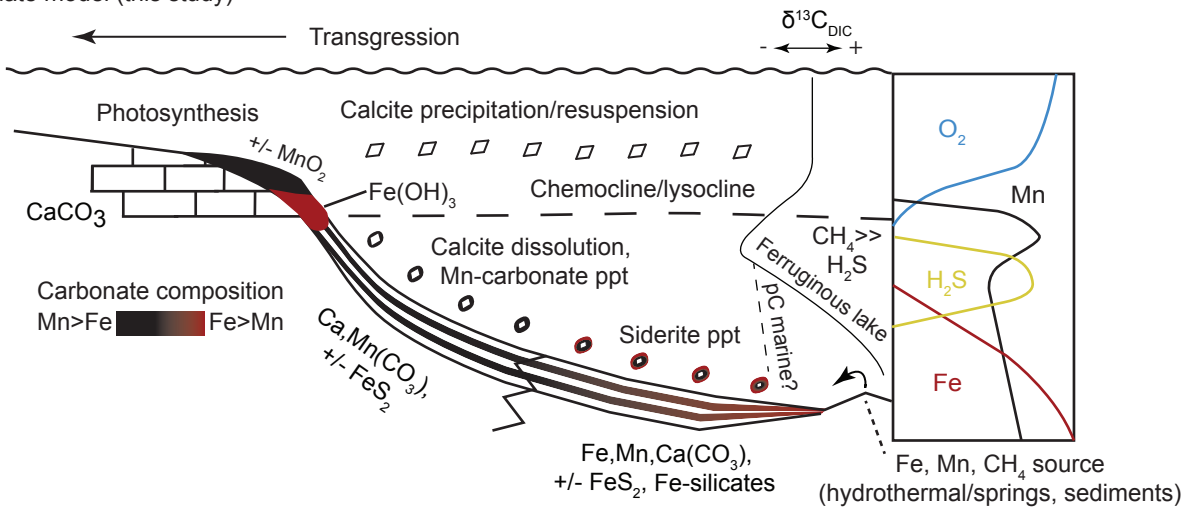


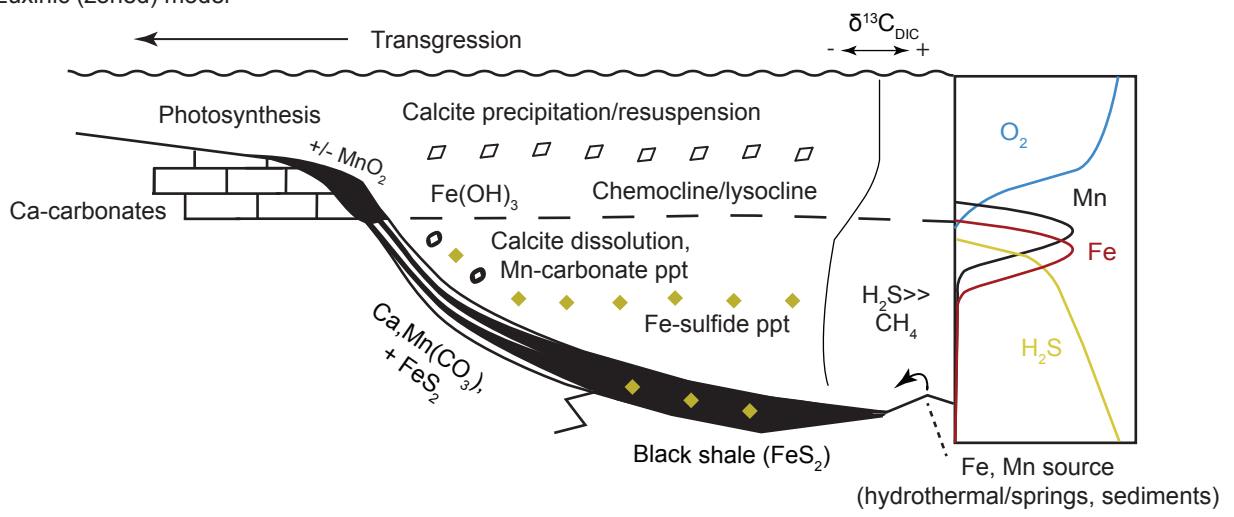
Figure 6



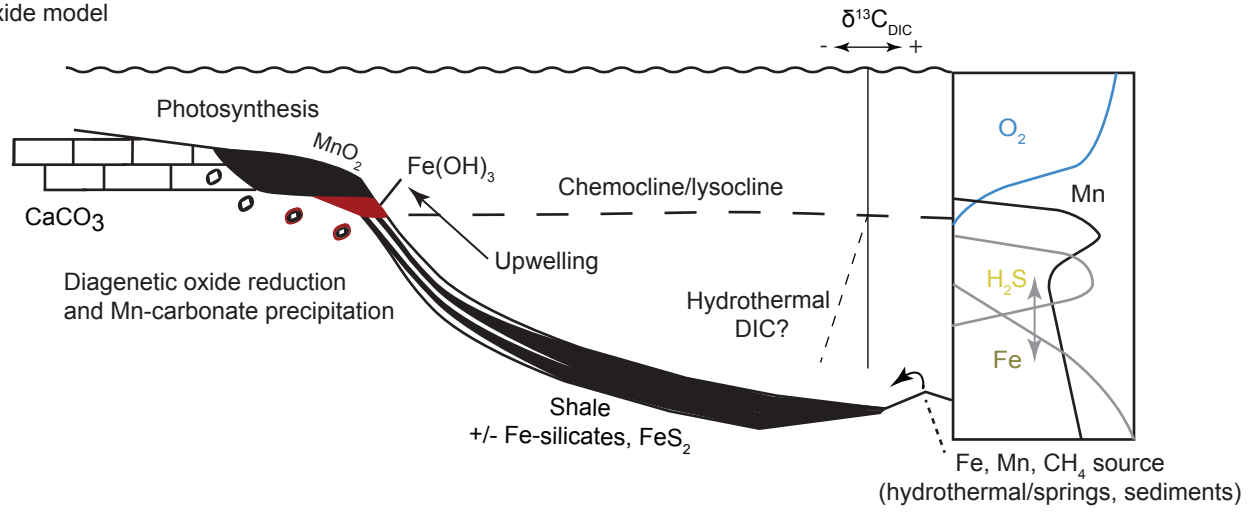
A. Carbonate model (this study) Figure 7



B. Euxinic (zoned) model



C. Oxide model



Wittkop et al., in press. Table 1.

Interval	May 2017 6m		July 2017 5.5m		July 2017 6m		Seawater / July 2017 5.5m	
Species	Conc.	Units	Conc.	Units	Conc.	Units	Conc.	Units
Al ³⁺	-	-	0.371	μmol/L	0.408	μmol/L	0.371	μmol/L
B(OH) ₄ ⁻	2.868	μmol/L	6.753	μmol/L	6.660	μmol/L	6.753	μmol/L
Ca ²⁺	1906	μmol/L	1933	μmol/L	2008	μmol/L	10.28	mmol/kg
Cr ³⁺	0.019	μmol/L	0.019	μmol/L	0.038	μmol/L	0.019	μmol/L
Fe ²⁺	15.40	μmol/L	11.76	μmol/L	63.57	μmol/L	11.76	μmol/L
K ⁺	206.20	μmol/L	192.16	μmol/L	220.52	μmol/L	10.2	mmol/kg
Mg ²⁺	720.6	μmol/L	749.3	μmol/L	795.8	μmol/L	52.8	mmol/kg
Mn ²⁺	82.15	μmol/L	75.45	μmol/L	99.99	μmol/L	571	μmolar
Na ⁺	15046	μmol/L	14720	μmol/L	16666	μmol/L	469	mmol/kg
Cl ⁻	20164	μmol/L	16931	μmol/L	18482	μmol/L	546	mmol/kg
Br ⁻	33.79	μmol/L	3.755	μmol/L	5.006	μmol/L	0.84	mmol/kg
SO ₄ ²⁻	40.60	μmol/L	54.13	μmol/L	34.35	μmol/L	54.13	μmol/L
HPO ₄ ²⁻	0.293	μmol/L	0.592	μmol/L	0.907	μmol/L	0.592	μmol/L
O ₂	4.1	μmol/L	3.13	μmol/L	2.8	μmol/L	3.1	μmol/L
H ⁺	7.2	pH	7.36	pH	7.22	pH	8	pH
HCO ₃ ⁻	4.4	mM	6.5	mM	8.4	mM	1.77	mmol/kg
NO ₃ ⁻	-	-	-	-	0.1290	μmol/L	-	-
T	7.58	°C	8.33	°C	7.58	°C	25	°C
Ca/Mn	23		26		20		18	
Mn/Fe	5.3		6.4		1.6		49	
Reactant	Rate		Rate		Rate		Rate	
	(μM/day)		(μM/day)		(μM/day)		(μM/day)	
O ₂	-0.27		-0.21		-0.19		-0.21	
CO ₂	0.14		0.10		0.09		0.10	
Calcite	7.70		7.70		7.70		7.70	
SO ₄ ²⁻	-2.71		-3.61		-2.29		-3.61	
H ₂ S	2.71		3.61		2.29		3.61	
HCO ₃ ⁻	5.41		7.22		4.58		7.22	