

# GEOLOGY OF THE WORLD'S MAJOR GOLD DEPOSITS AND PROVINCES

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A Webinar on SEG Special Publication, No. 23

February 18, 2021



SEG Publication Webinar Series



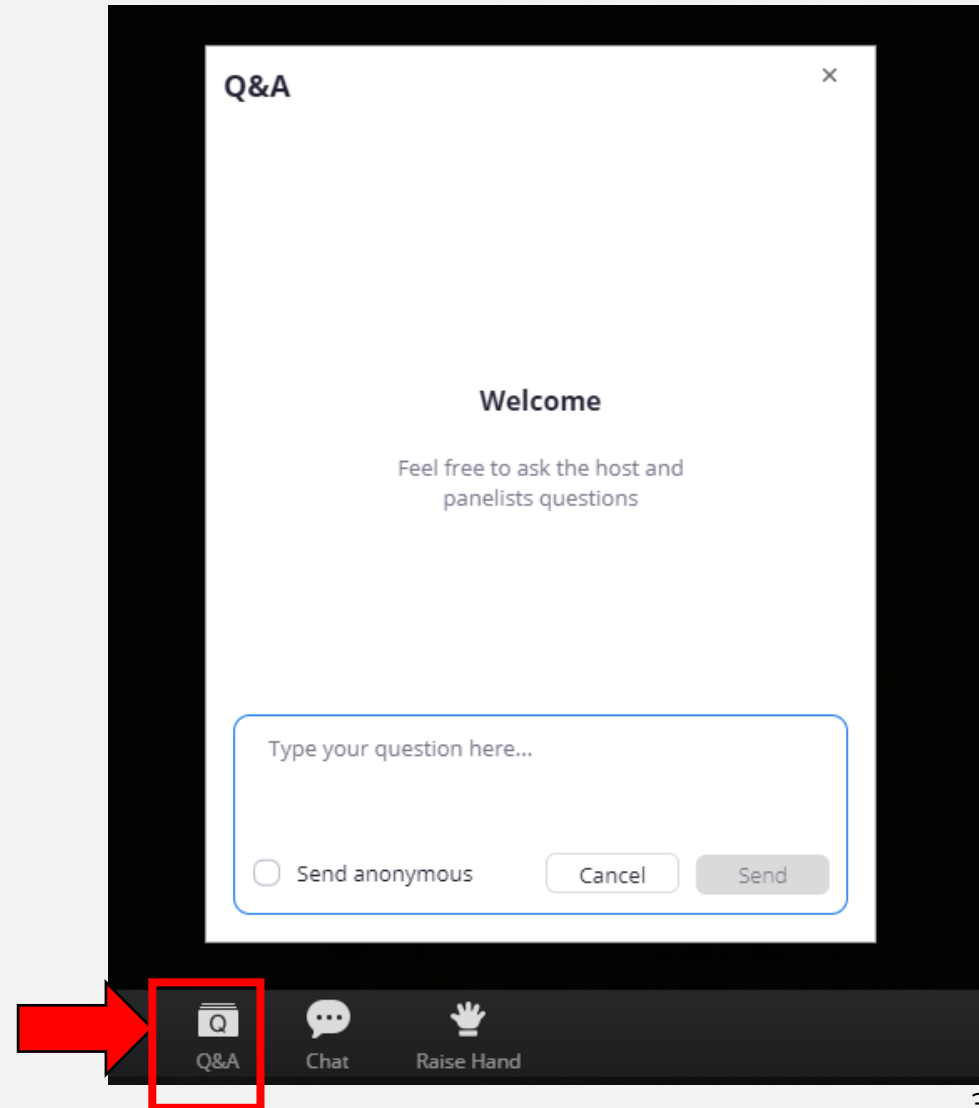
Halley Keevil  
Webinar Moderator

**WELCOME**



# SUBMIT A QUESTION

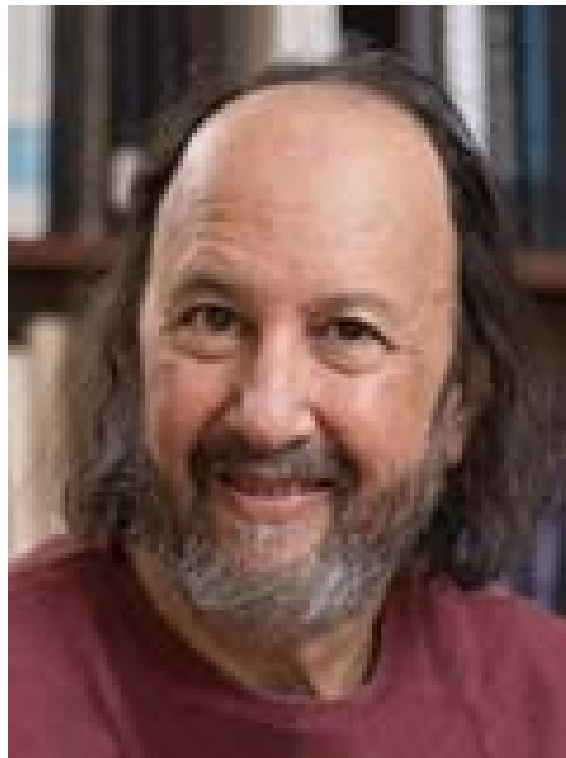
- Find the Q&A button on the control bar and type a question
- Logistical questions will be answered in Zoom
- Questions on the presentation will be answered during the Q&A Session following the presentation (time permitting)



# Speakers



**Richard H. Sillitoe**



**Richard J. Goldfarb**



**François Robert**



**Stuart F. Simmons**

# AGENDA

Richard H. Sillitoe – *Introduction*

Stuart F. Simmons - *Porphyry-Epithermal*

Francois Robert - *Carlin & Archean Orogenic*

Richard J. Goldfarb - *Young Orogenic & Others*

Stuart Simmons - *Gold Deposition*

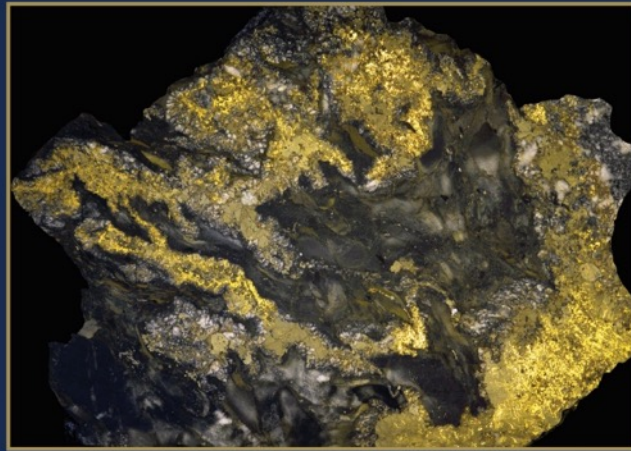
Q & A Panel Discussion





**BARRICK**

## **Geology of the World's Major Gold Deposits and Provinces**

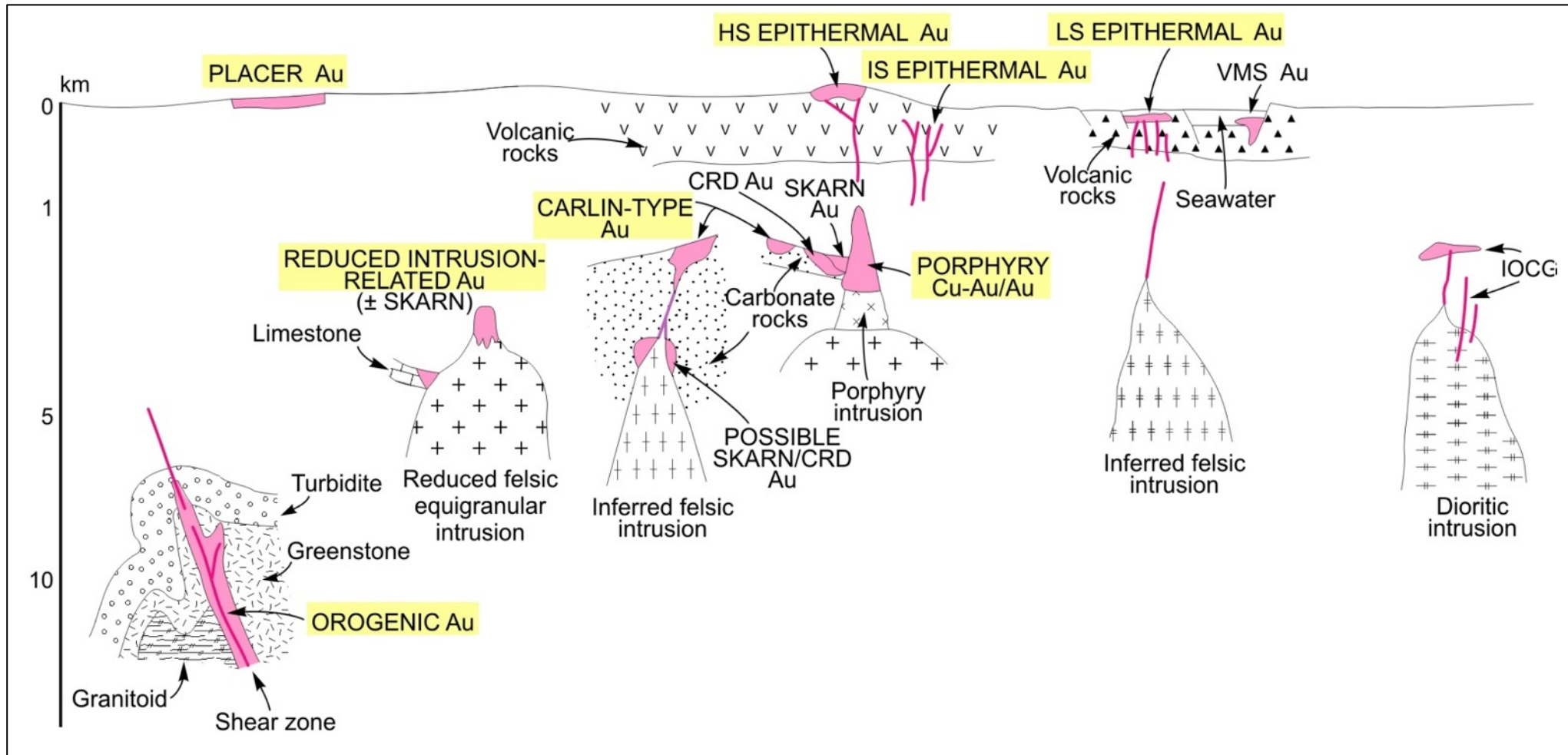


**Richard H. Sillitoe, Richard J. Goldfarb,  
François Robert, and Stuart F. Simmons, Editors**

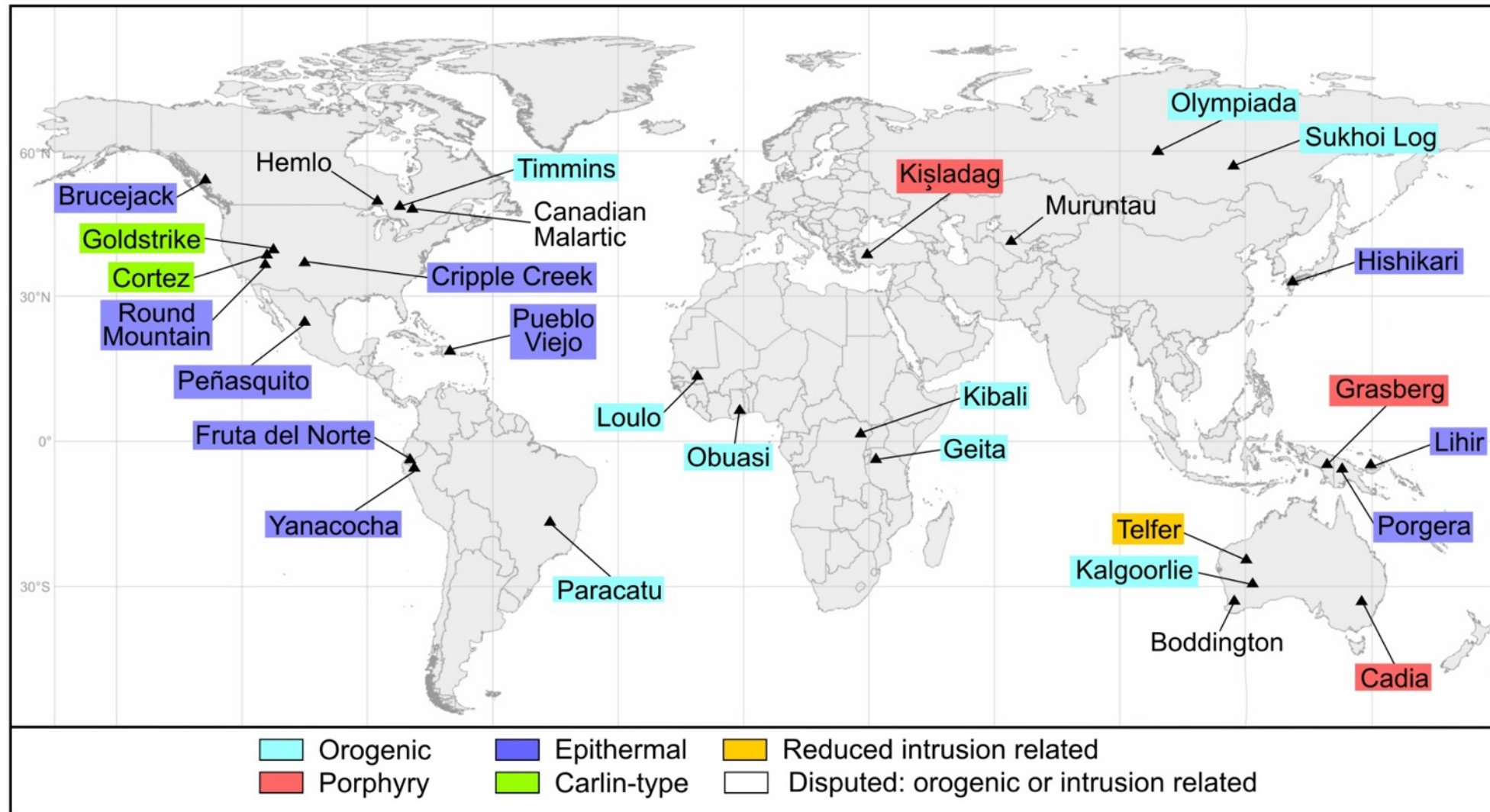
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# Gold deposit types



# Gold deposits





# Gold provinces



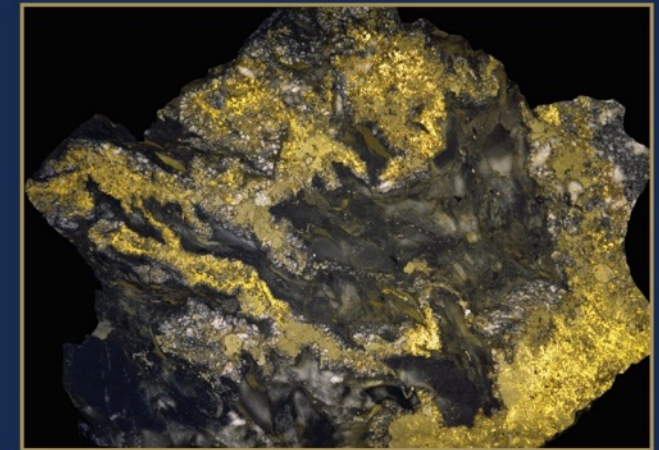


**BARRICK**

**Geology of the World's Major Gold  
Deposits and Provinces**

# Porphyry-Epithermal

*Stuart Simmons*



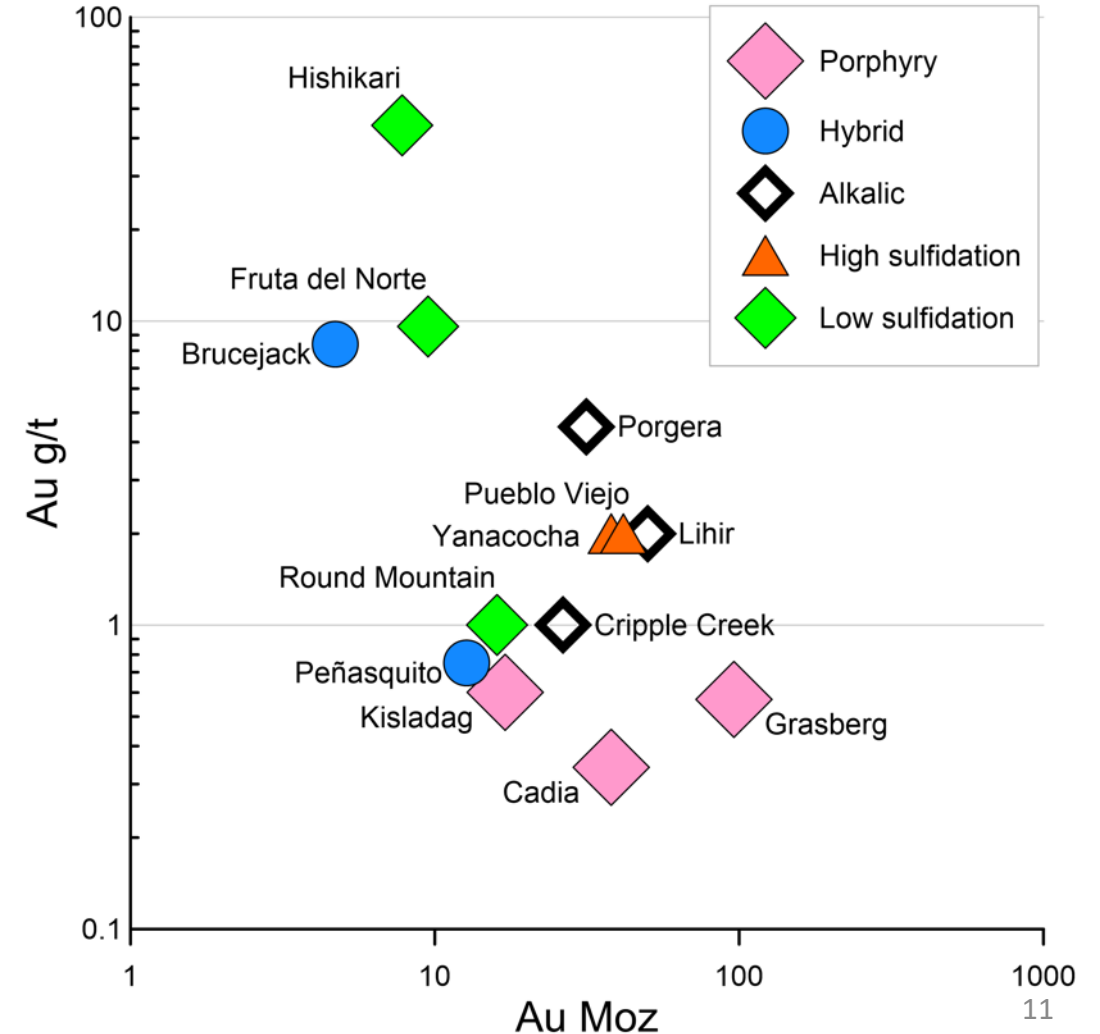
**Richard H. Sillitoe, Richard J. Goldfarb,  
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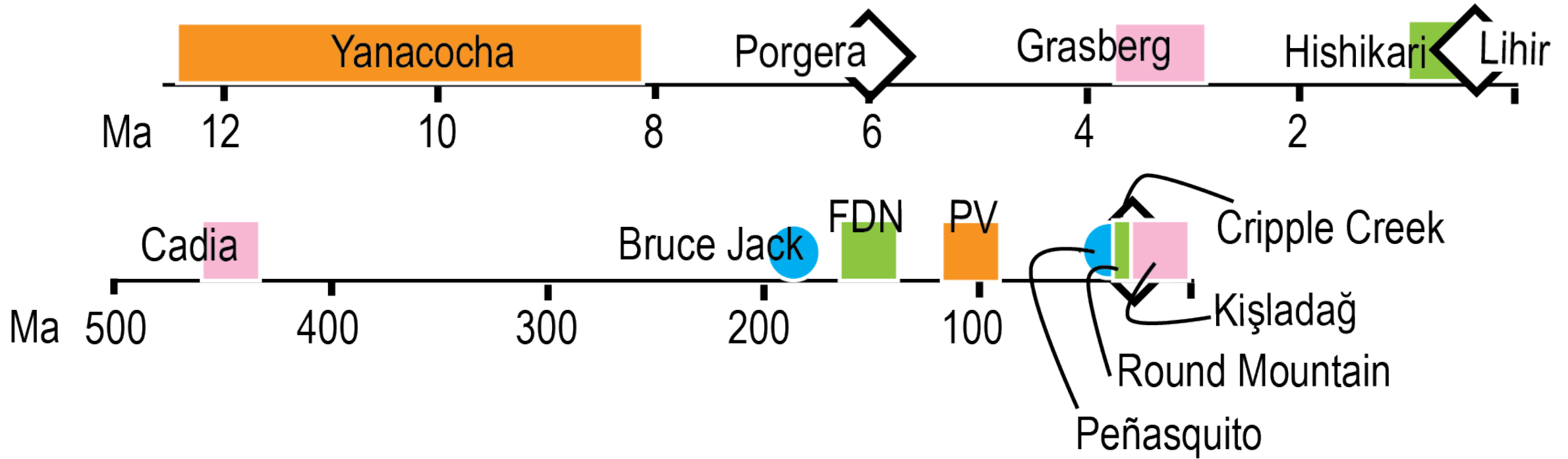
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## Intrusion-related: Porphyry to Epithermal Deposits

Kışladağ	West Tethyan Magmatic Belt
Grasberg	Irian Fold & Thrust Belt
Cadia	Macquarie Arc
Brucejack	Canadian Cordillera-Golden Triangle
Peñasquito	Sierra Madre Occidental
Cripple Creek	Front Range Rocky Mtns
Porgera	Papuan Fold Belt
Lihir	Tabar-Feni Island Chain
Yanacocha	Peruvian Andes
Pueblo Viejo	Greater Antilles Arc
Round Mtn	Southern Great Basin Ignimbrite Province
Fruta del Norte	Cordillera del Cóndor
Hishikari	Ryukyu Arc



## Porphyry to Epithermal Deposits: Age & Period



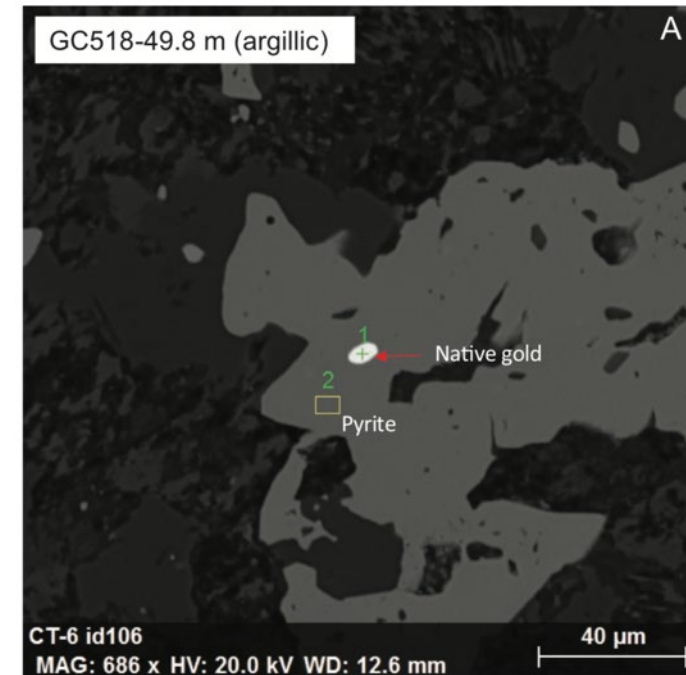
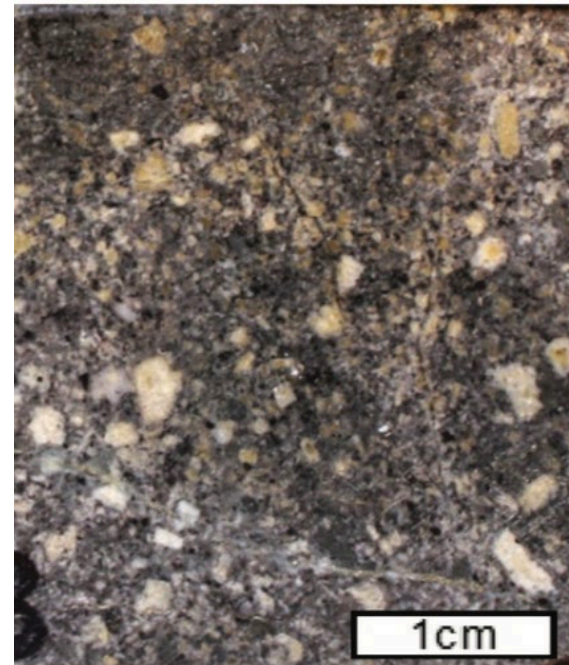
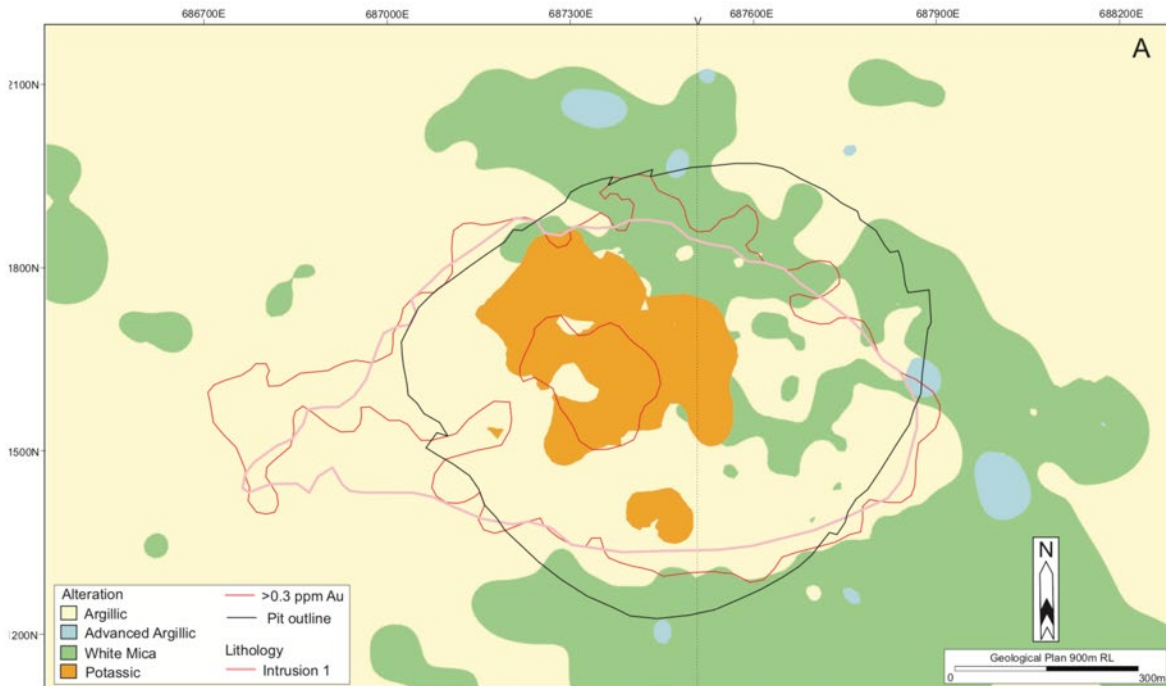
# Alteration, Mineralization, and Age Relationships at the Kışladağ Porphyry Gold Deposit, Turkey

T. Baker,<sup>1†</sup> S. Mckinley,<sup>1</sup> S. Juras,<sup>1</sup> Y. Oztas,<sup>2</sup> J. Hunt,<sup>3</sup> L. Paolillo,<sup>4</sup> S. Pontual,<sup>5</sup> M. Chiaradia,<sup>4</sup> A. Ulianov,<sup>6</sup> and D. Selby<sup>7,8</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Eldorado Gold Corporation, 1188-550 Burrard Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V6C 2B5, Canada*

<sup>2</sup>*Tüprag Metal Madencilik San. Ve Tic A.S., Kışladağ, Turkey*

<sup>3</sup>*Mineral Deposit Research Unit, Department of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences, 2020–2207 Main Mall, Vancouver, British Columbia V6T 1Z4, Canada*



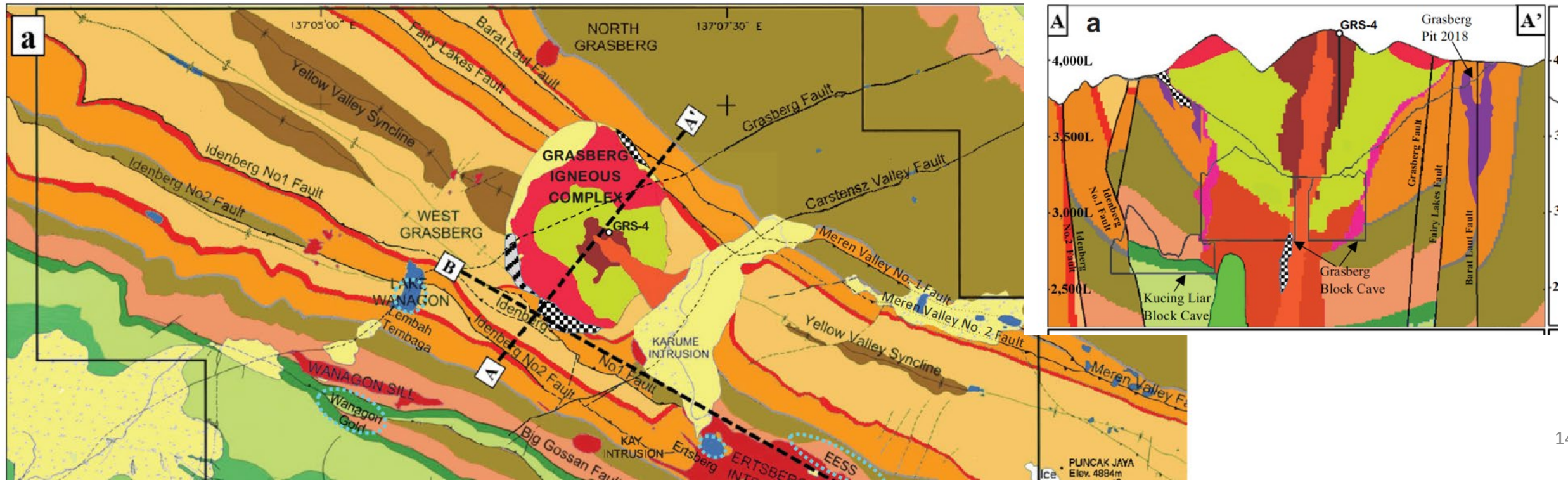
# Grasberg Copper-Gold-(Molybdenum) Deposit: Product of Two Overlapping Porphyry Systems

Clyde Leys,<sup>1,†</sup> Adam Schwarz,<sup>2,\*</sup> Mark Cloos,<sup>3</sup> Sugeng Widodo,<sup>2</sup> J. Richard Kyle,<sup>3</sup> and Julius Sirait<sup>1</sup>

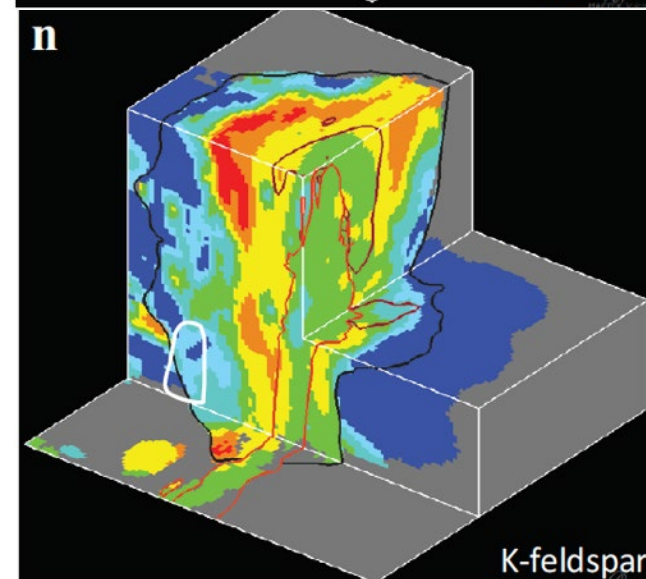
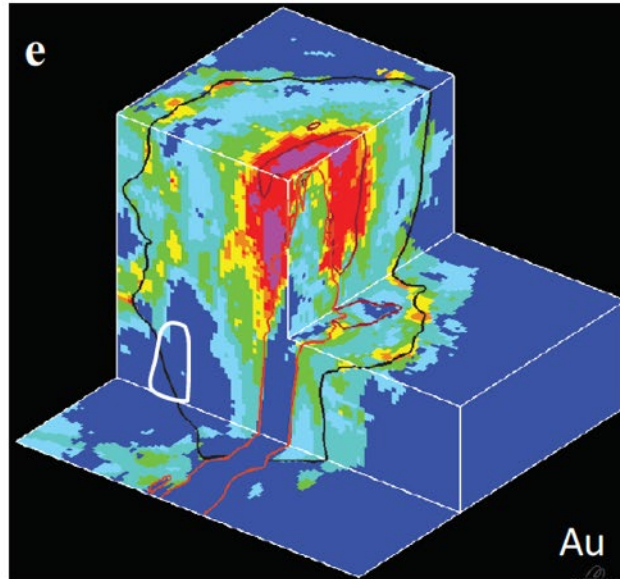
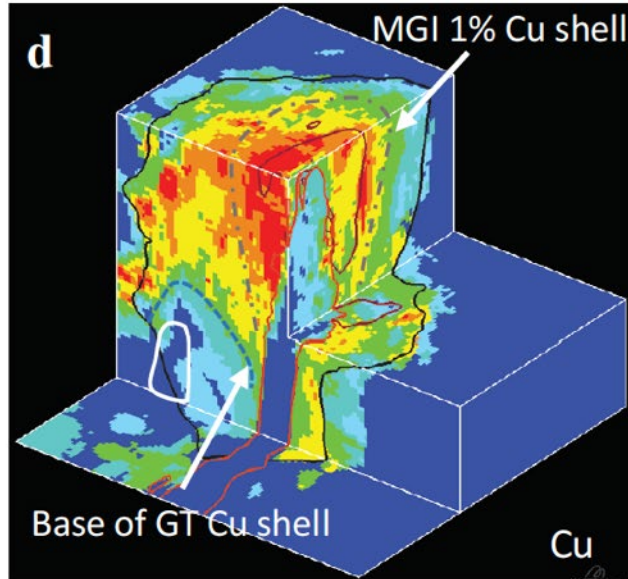
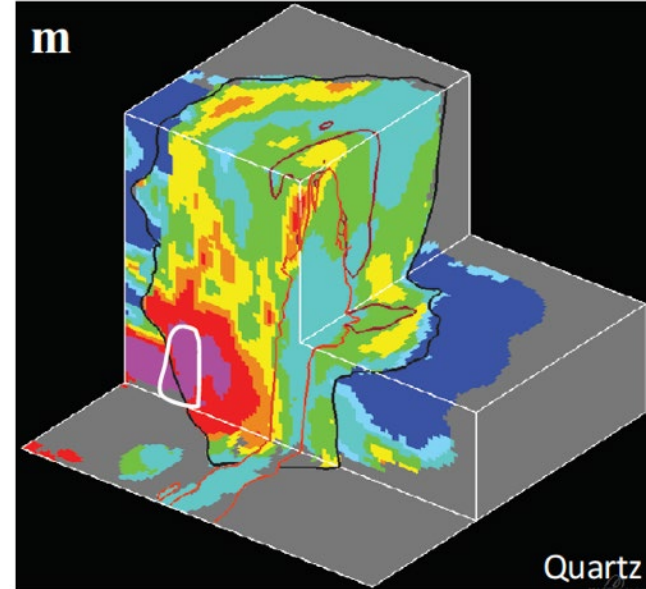
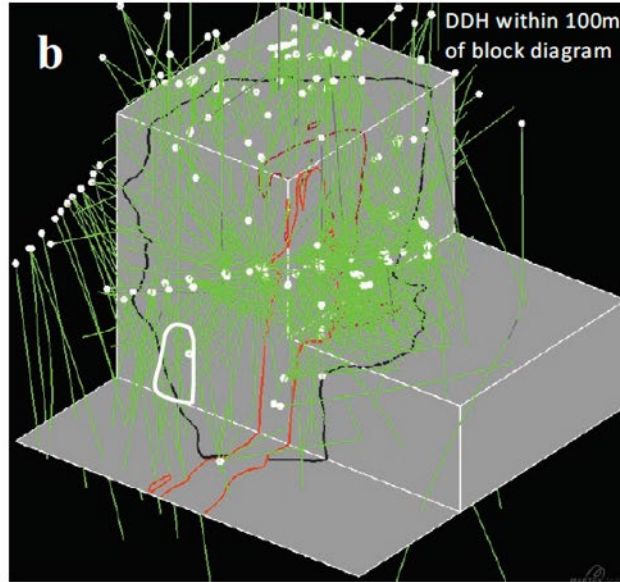
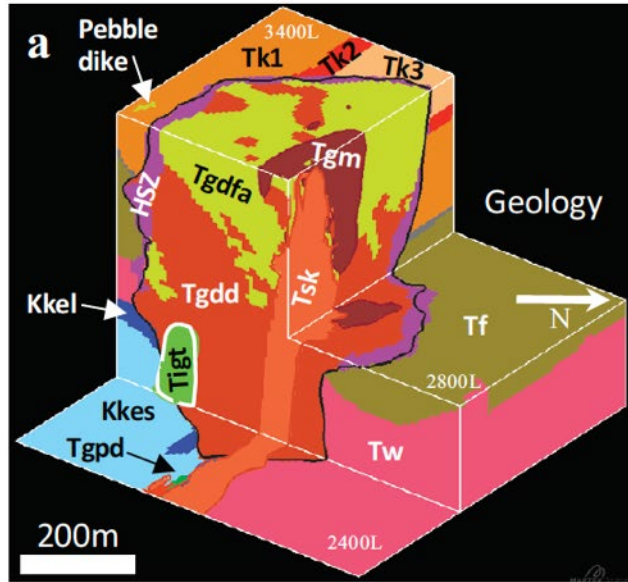
<sup>1</sup>*P.T. Freeport Indonesia, Tembagapura, Papua, Indonesia*

<sup>2</sup>*Freeport-McMoRan Inc., Phoenix, Arizona 85004*

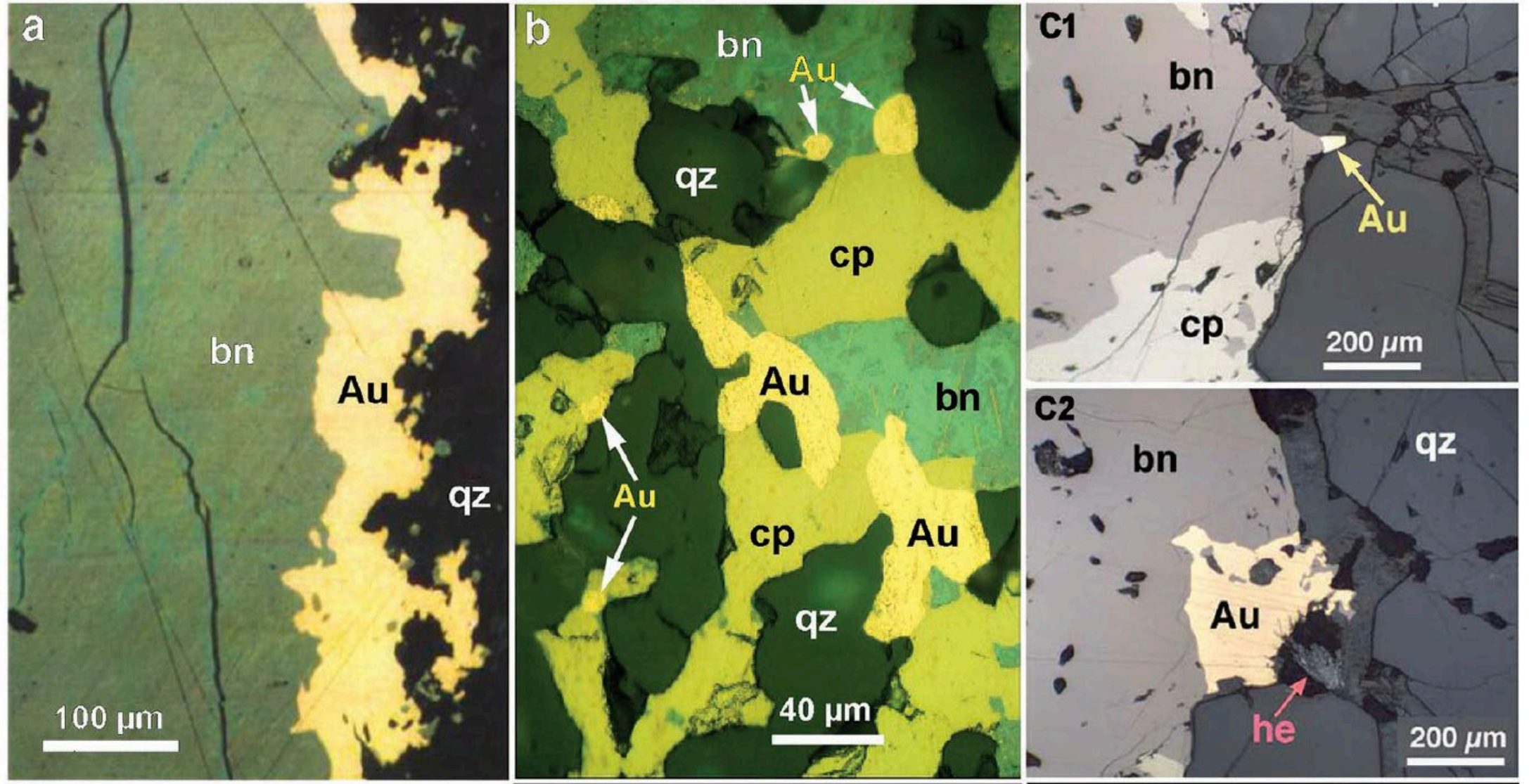
<sup>3</sup>*Department of Geological Sciences, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas 78712*



# Grasberg Copper-Gold-(Molybdenum) Deposit: Product of Two Overlapping Porphyry Systems



# Grasberg Copper-Gold-(Molybdenum) Deposit: Product of Two Overlapping Porphyry Systems



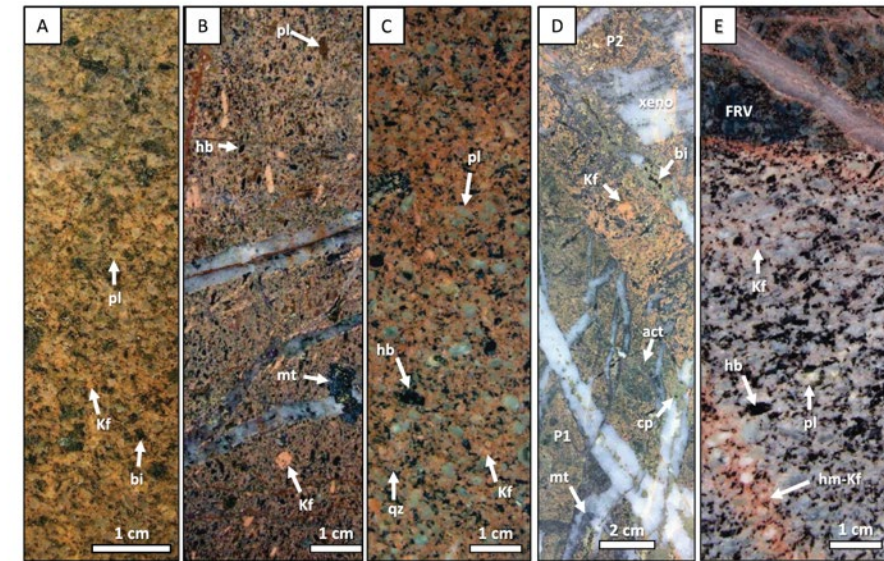
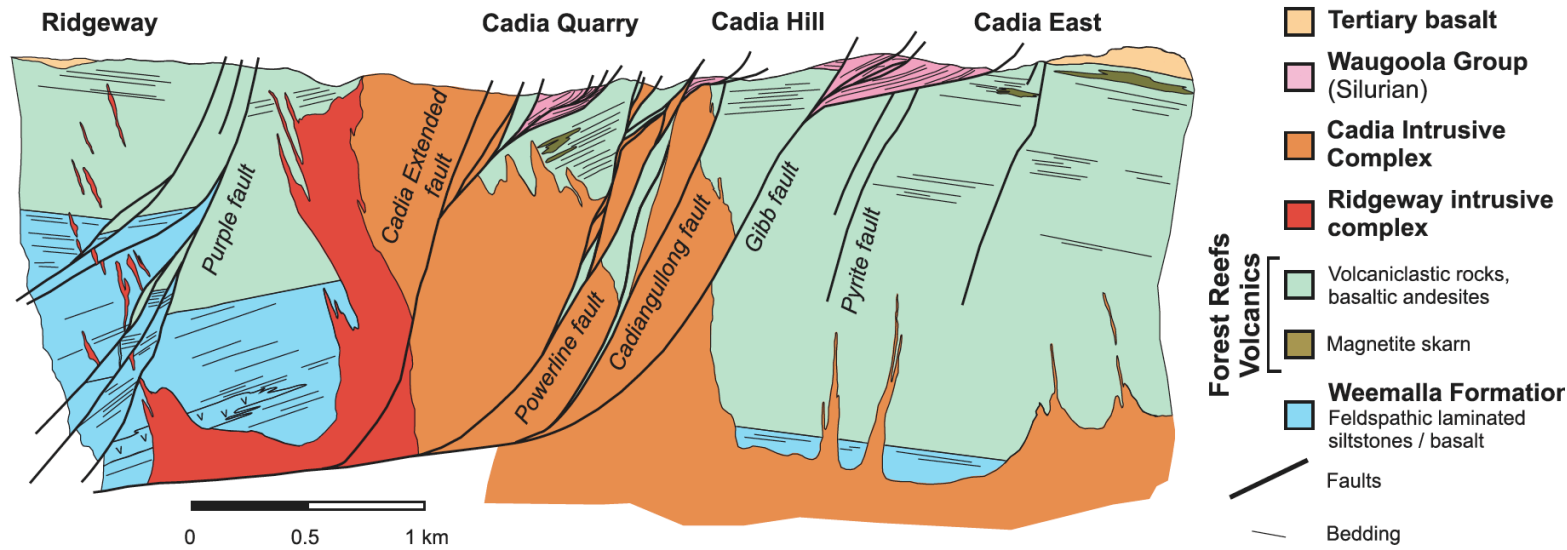


# Geologic Evolution of Late Ordovician to Early Silurian Alkalic Porphyry Au-Cu Deposits at Cadia, New South Wales, Australia

Anthony C. Harris,<sup>1,2</sup> David R. Cooke,<sup>2,3,†</sup> Ana Liza Garcia Cuison,<sup>2</sup> Malissa Groome,<sup>4</sup> Alan J. Wilson,<sup>5</sup> Nathan Fox,<sup>2</sup> John Holliday,<sup>5</sup> and Richard Tosdal<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Newcrest Mining Ltd., 600 St. Kilda Rd, Melbourne, Victoria 3004, Australia

<sup>2</sup>CODES, Centre for Ore Deposit and Earth Sciences, University of Tasmania, Private Bag 79, Hobart, Tasmania 7001, Australia

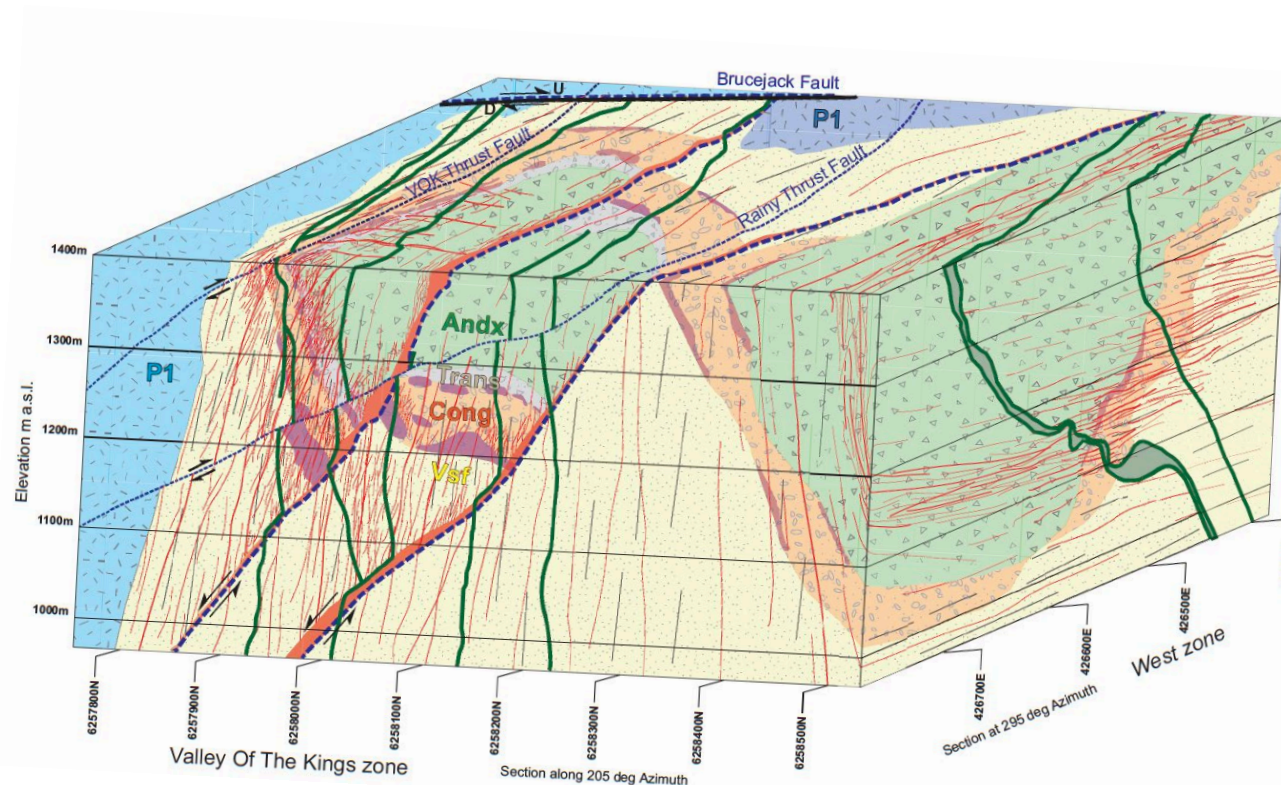


# The Brucejack Au-Ag Deposit, Northwest British Columbia, Canada: Multistage Porphyry to Epithermal Alteration, Mineralization, and Deposit Formation in an Island-Arc Setting

Warwick S. Board,<sup>1</sup> Duncan F. McLeish,<sup>2</sup> Charles J. Greig,<sup>3</sup> Octavia E. Bath,<sup>1</sup> Joel E. Ashburner,<sup>1</sup>  
Travis Murphy,<sup>1</sup> and Richard M. Friedman<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Pretium Resources Inc., 2300-1055 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V7X 1L4*

<sup>2</sup>*Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3A 0E8*

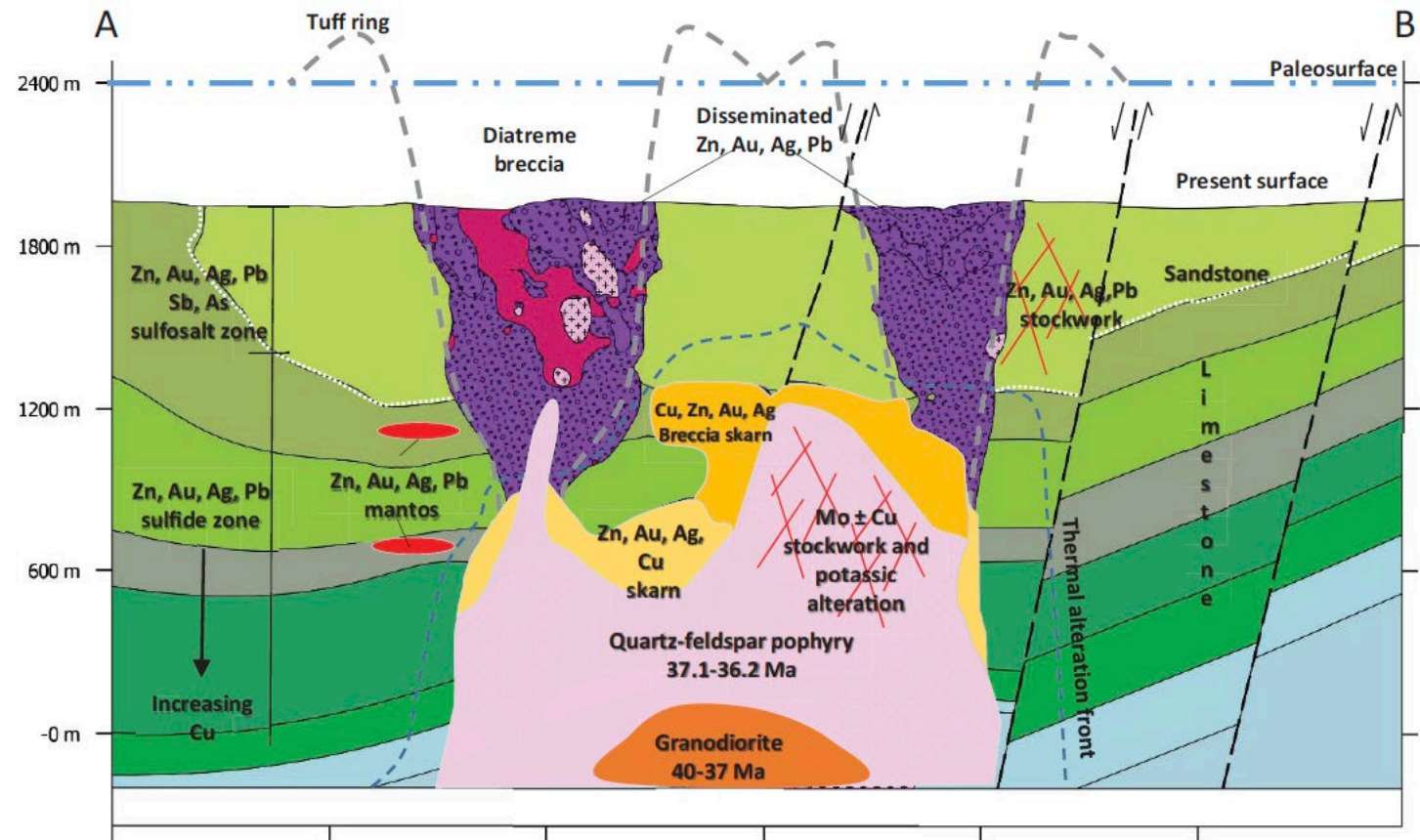
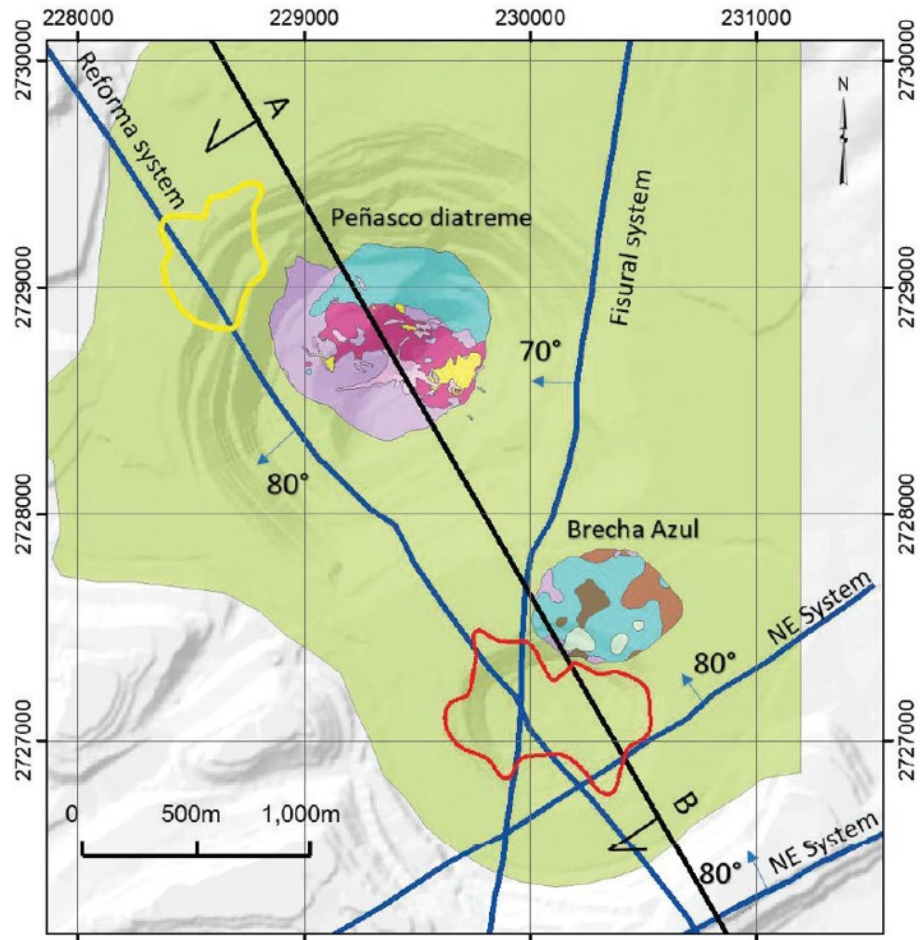


# The Peñasquito Gold-(Silver-Lead-Zinc) Deposit, Zacatecas, Mexico

Omar Dromundo,<sup>1,†</sup> Sigfrido Robles,<sup>1</sup> Thomas Bissig,<sup>2</sup> Claudio Flores,<sup>1</sup> Maria del Carmen Alfaro,<sup>1</sup> and Lorenzo Cardona<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Minera Peñasquito, Prolongación 5 de mayo S/N, Mazapil, Zacatecas, Mexico

<sup>2</sup>Bissig Geoscience Consulting, Vancouver, British Columbia V6J 3S6, Canada



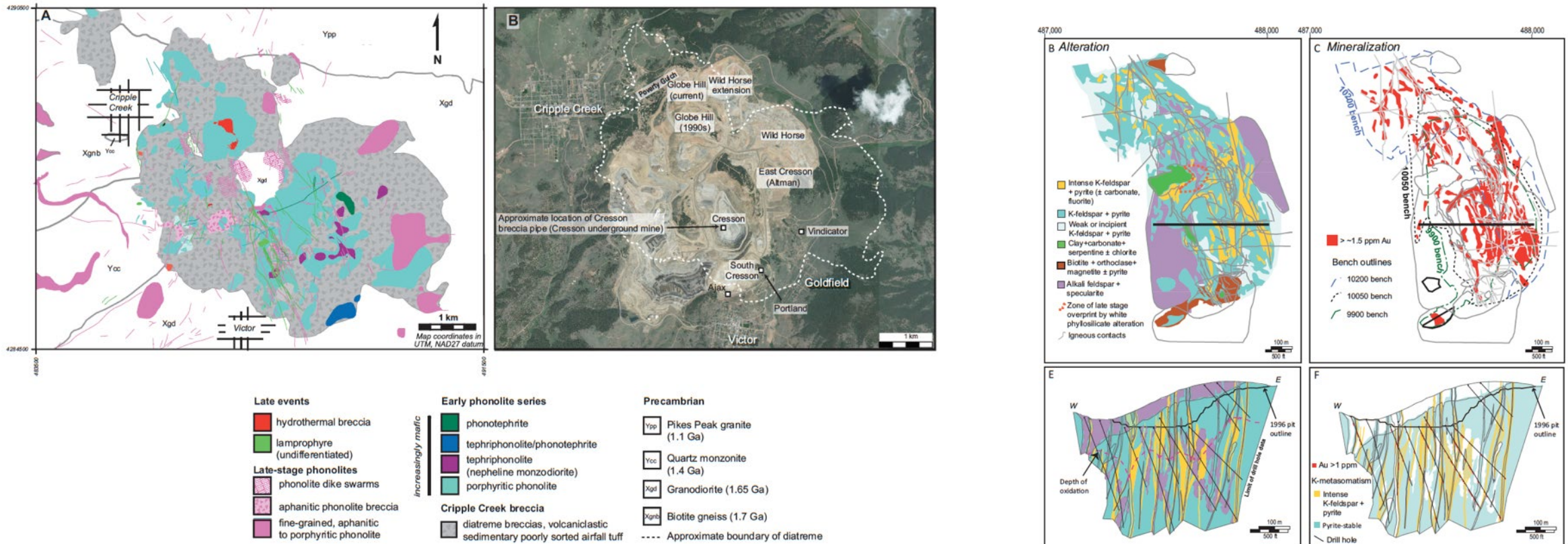
# Epithermal Gold Deposits Related to Alkaline Igneous Rocks in the Cripple Creek District, Colorado, United States

Karen D. Kelley,<sup>1,†</sup> Eric P. Jensen,<sup>2</sup> Jason S. Rampe,<sup>3</sup> and Doug White<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Geological Survey, Mail Stop 973, Denver, Colorado 80225

<sup>2</sup>EMX Royalty Corporation, 10001 W. Titan Road, Littleton, Colorado 80125

<sup>3</sup>Newmont Mining, 100 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Victor, Colorado 80860



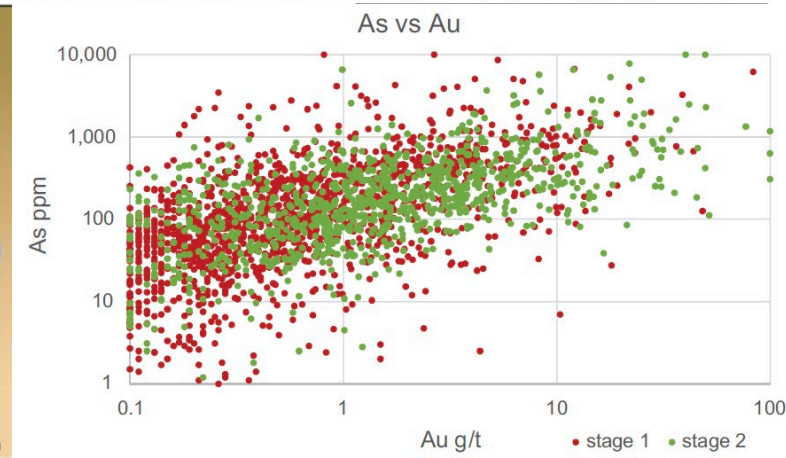
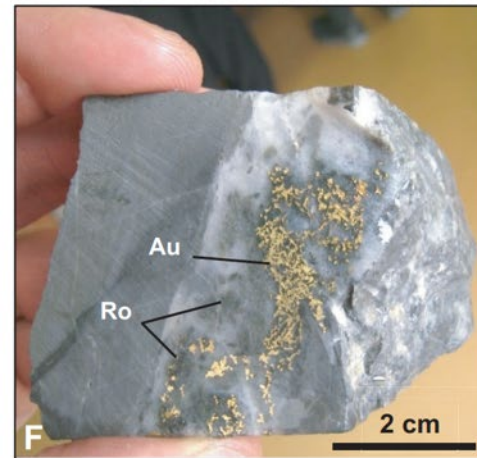
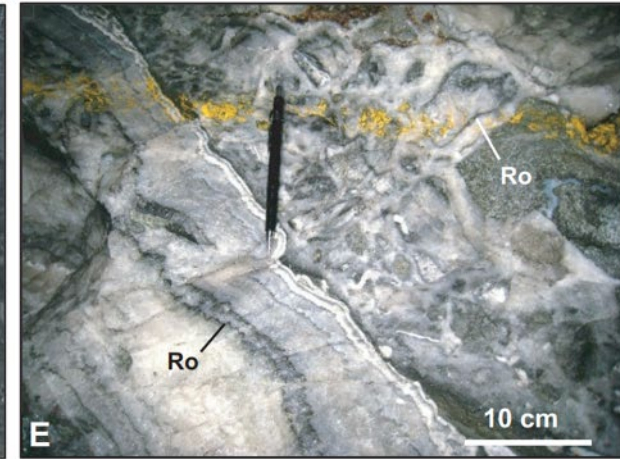
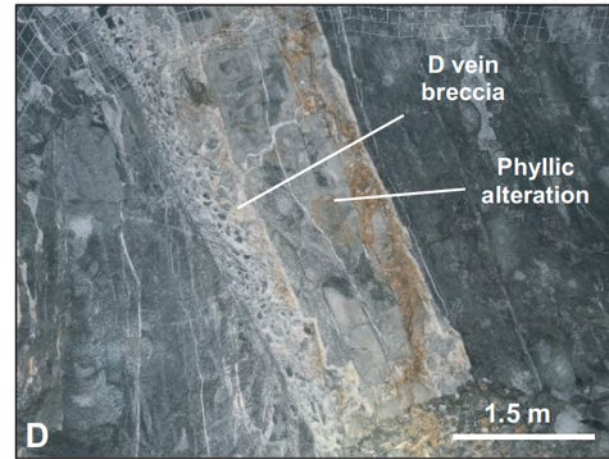
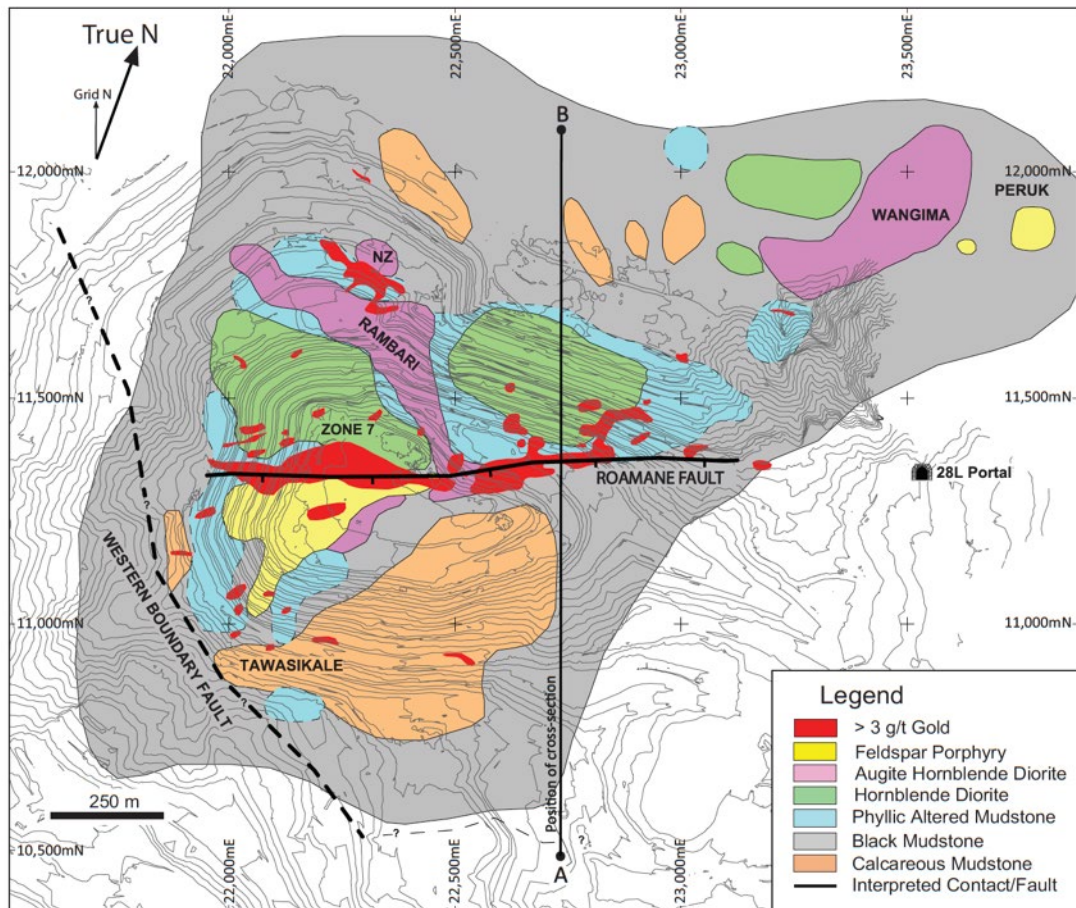
# Geology of the Porgera Gold Deposit, Papua New Guinea

Jonathan P. Hay,<sup>1</sup> Mark M. Haydon,<sup>2,†</sup> and François Robert<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>OZ Minerals, Prominent Hill Mine, South Australia

<sup>2</sup>Barrick (Niugini) Ltd, Porgera Joint Venture, Enga Province, Papua New Guinea

<sup>3</sup>Consulting Geologist, 7257 Dunver, Montreal, QC, Canada H4H 2H6



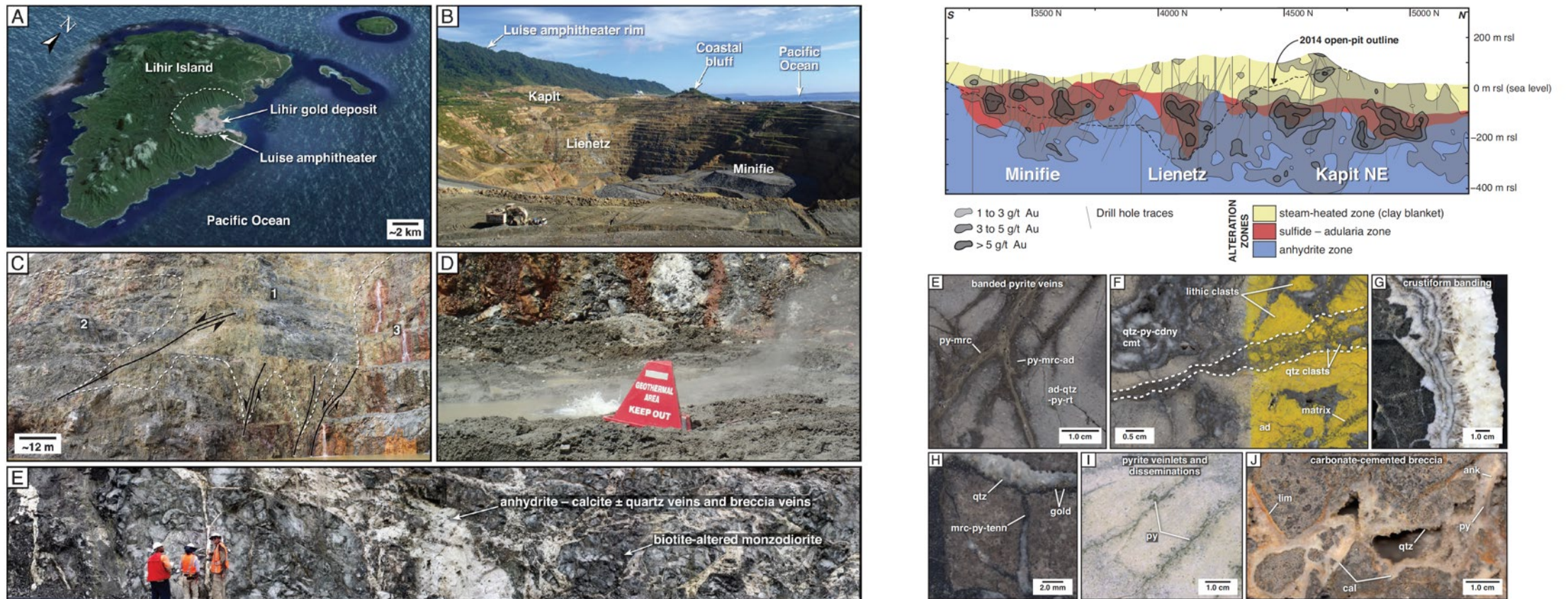
# Lihir Alkalic Epithermal Gold Deposit, Papua New Guinea

David R. Cooke,<sup>1,2</sup> Stephanie Sykora,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Erin Lawlis,<sup>1</sup> Jacqueline L. Blackwell,<sup>1,\*\*</sup> Mathieu Ageneau,<sup>1,3</sup>  
 Nicholas H. Jansen,<sup>1,\*\*\*</sup> Anthony C. Harris,<sup>3</sup> and David Selley<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>CODES, Centre for Ore Deposit and Earth Sciences, University of Tasmania, Private Bag 79, Hobart, Tasmania 7001, Australia

<sup>2</sup>Transforming the Mining Value Chain, an Australian Research Council Industrial Transformation Research Hub, University of Tasmania, Private Bag 79, Hobart, Tasmania, 7001, Australia

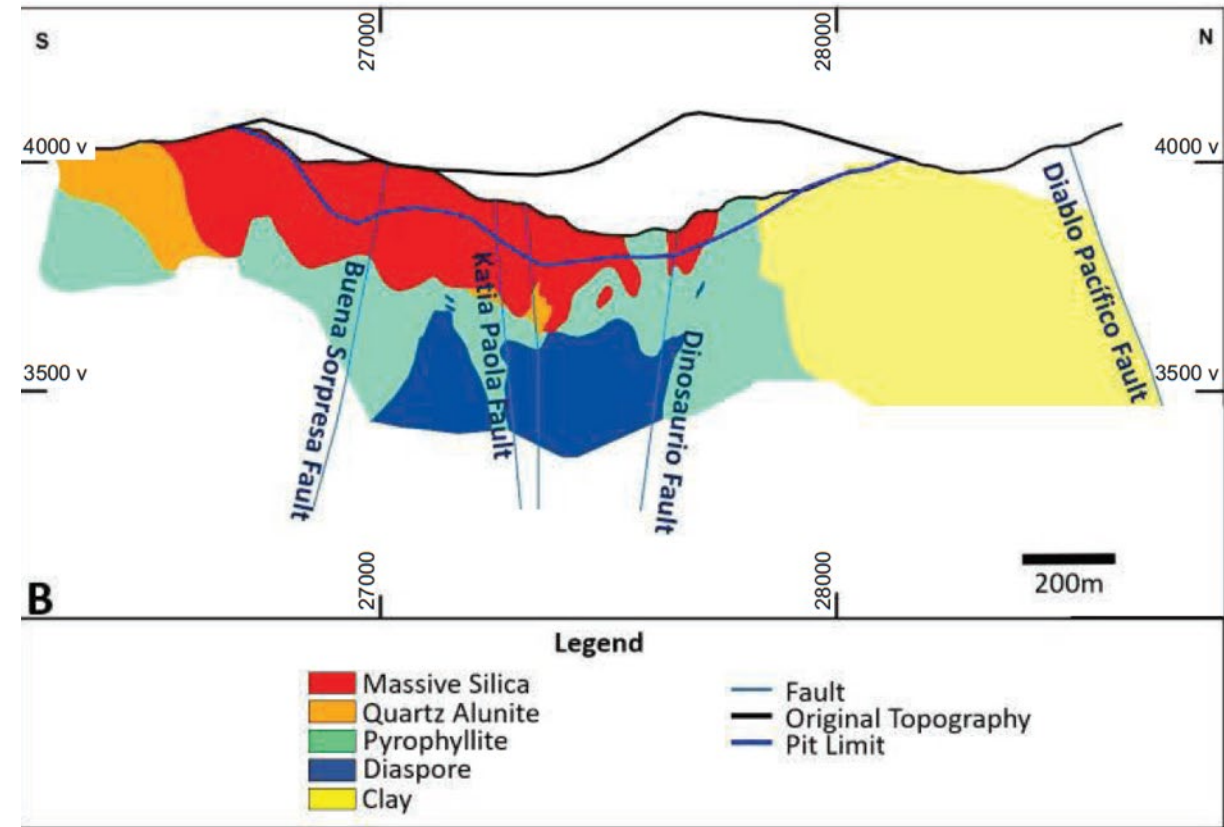
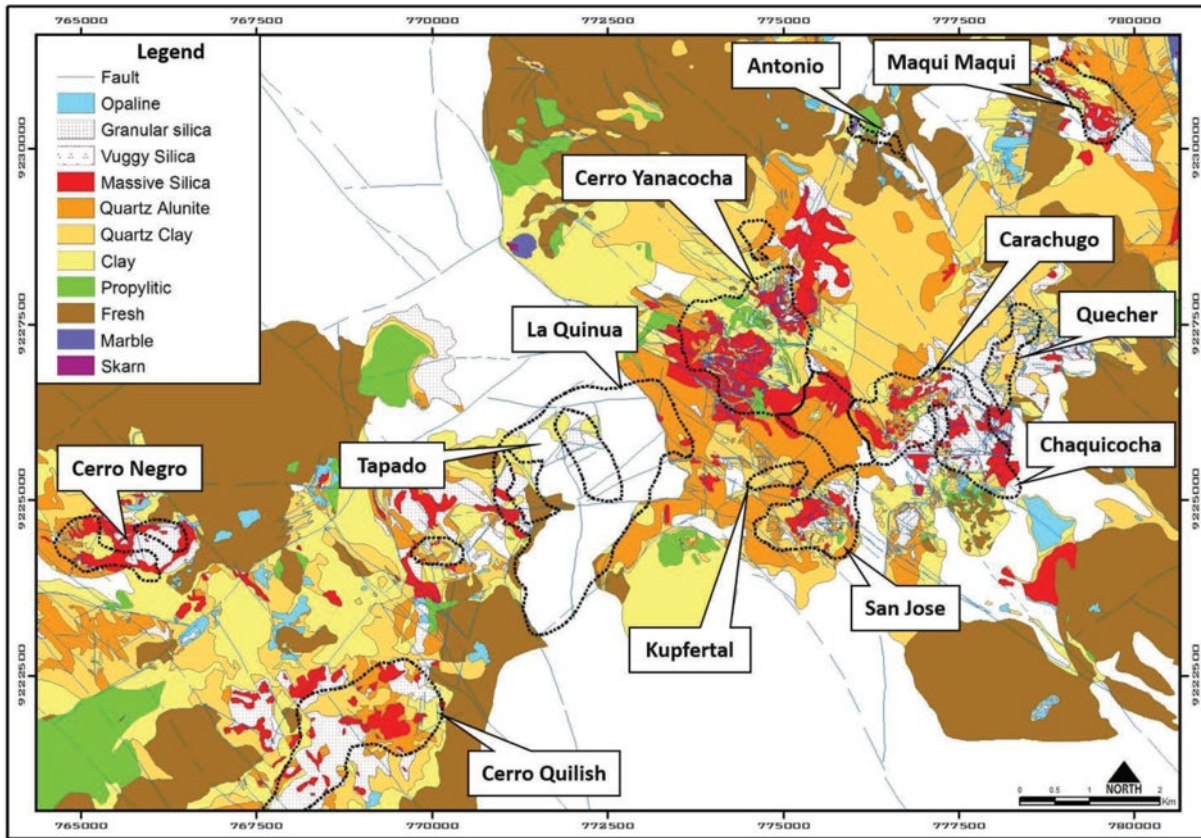
<sup>3</sup>Newcrest Mining Ltd., 600 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne, Victoria 3004, Australia



# Gold Deposits of the Yanacocha District, Cajamarca, Peru

Richard Pilco† and Sean McCann

*Newmont Perú Ltd., La Paz Av. No.1049, Urb. Miraflores, Lima, Peru*



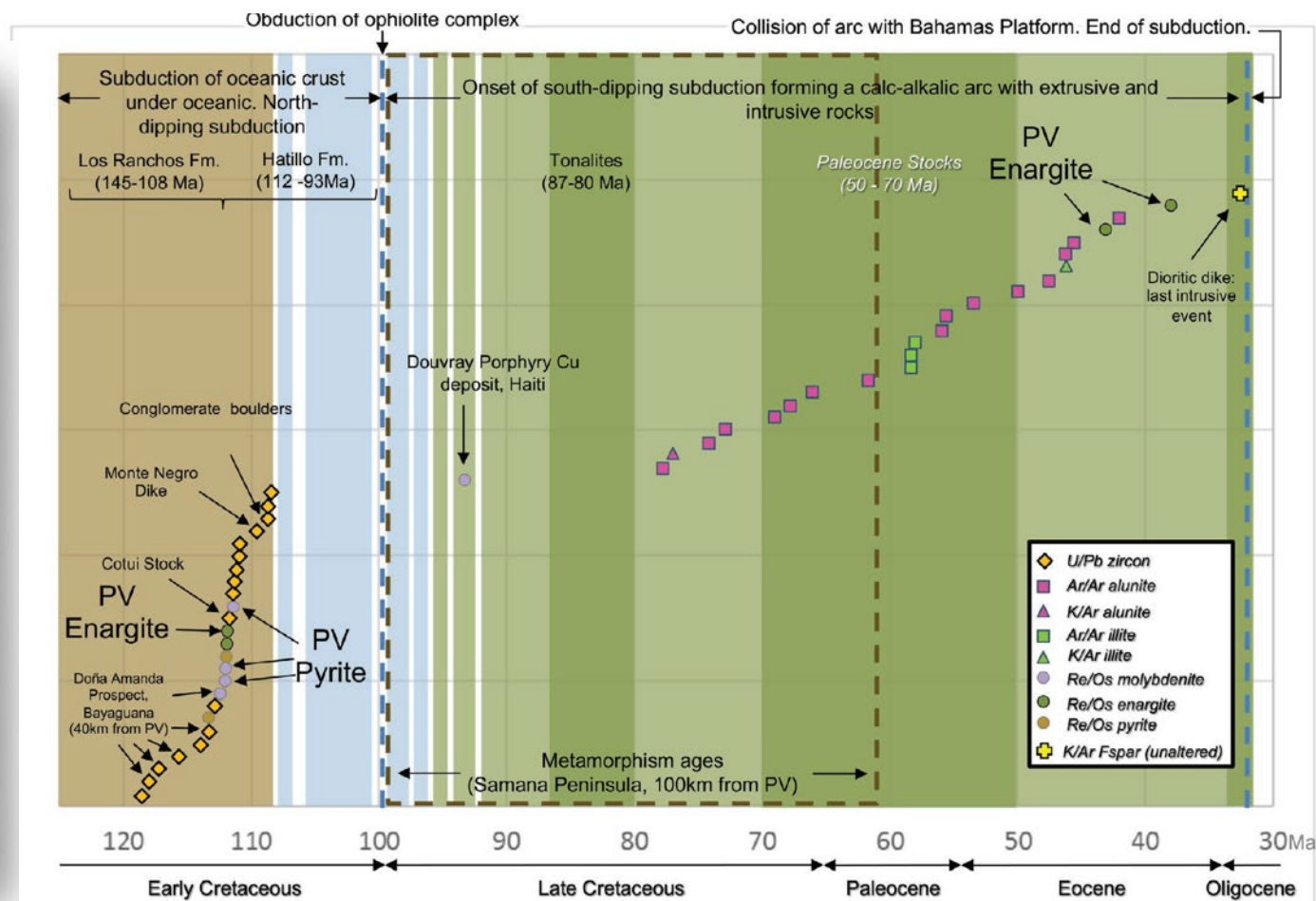
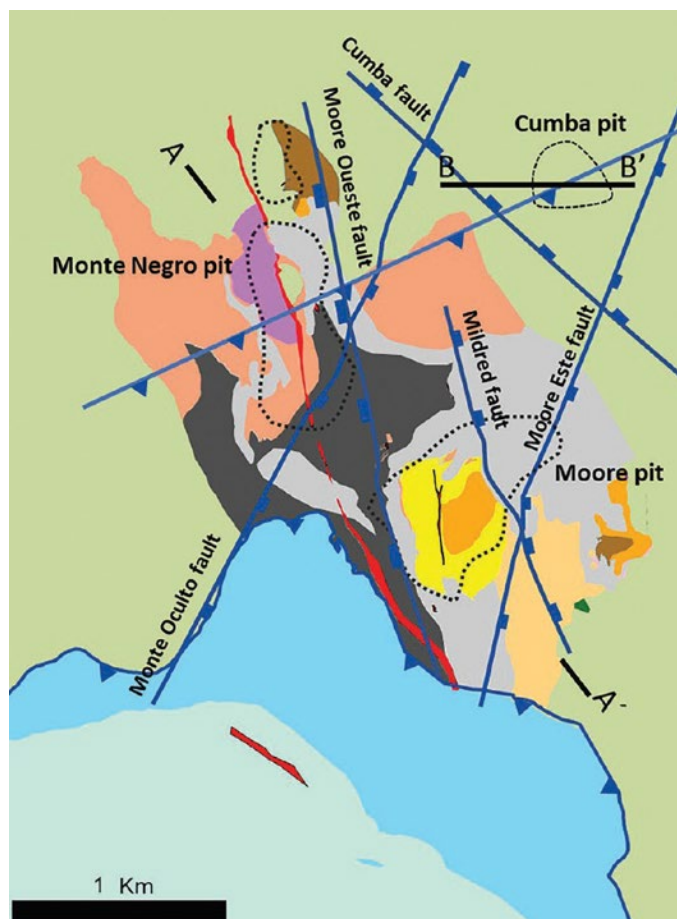
# The Pueblo Viejo Au-Ag-Cu-(Zn) Deposit, Dominican Republic

Jeremy Vaughan,<sup>1,†</sup> Carl E. Nelson,<sup>2</sup> Guillermo Garrido,<sup>1</sup> Jose Polanco,<sup>3</sup> Valery Garcia,<sup>3</sup> and Arturo Macassi<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Inversiones Barrick Conosur Ltda., Avda. Ricardo Lyon 222, piso 9, Providencia, Santiago, Chile 7510125*

<sup>2</sup>*Recursos del Caribe, S.A., 2360 23rd Street, Boulder, Colorado 80304*

<sup>3</sup>*Pueblo Viejo Dominicana, Torre Novo Centro, Piso 16, Av. Lope de Vega 29, Ensanche Naco, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic*



<sup>†</sup>Other K/Ar ages in feldspar and WR were not included in this diagram



# Geology of Round Mountain, Nevada: A Giant Low-Sulfidation Epithermal Gold Deposit

David A. Rhys,<sup>1</sup> Nadia St. Jean,<sup>2</sup> Rodolfo Lagos,<sup>2</sup> David Emmons,<sup>3</sup> George A. Schroer,<sup>4</sup> and Richard Friedman<sup>5</sup>

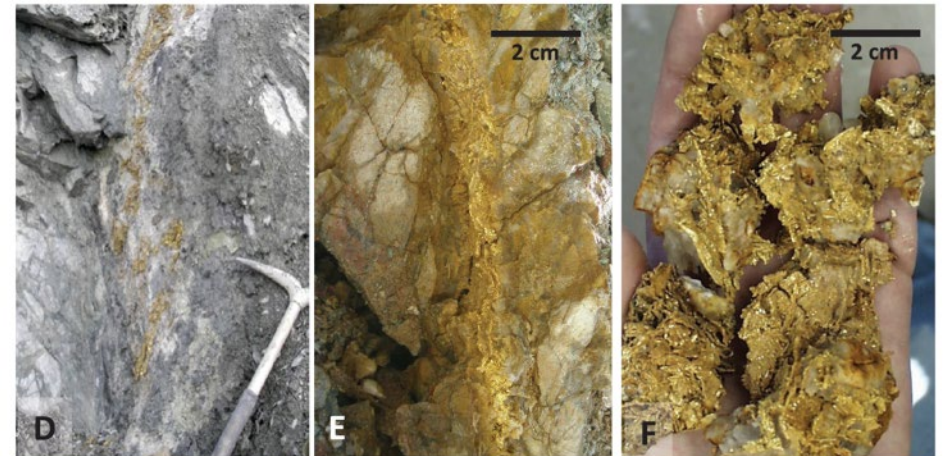
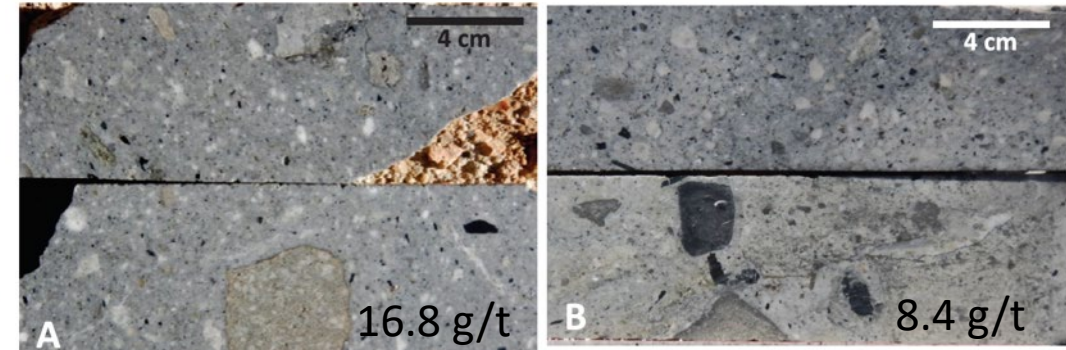
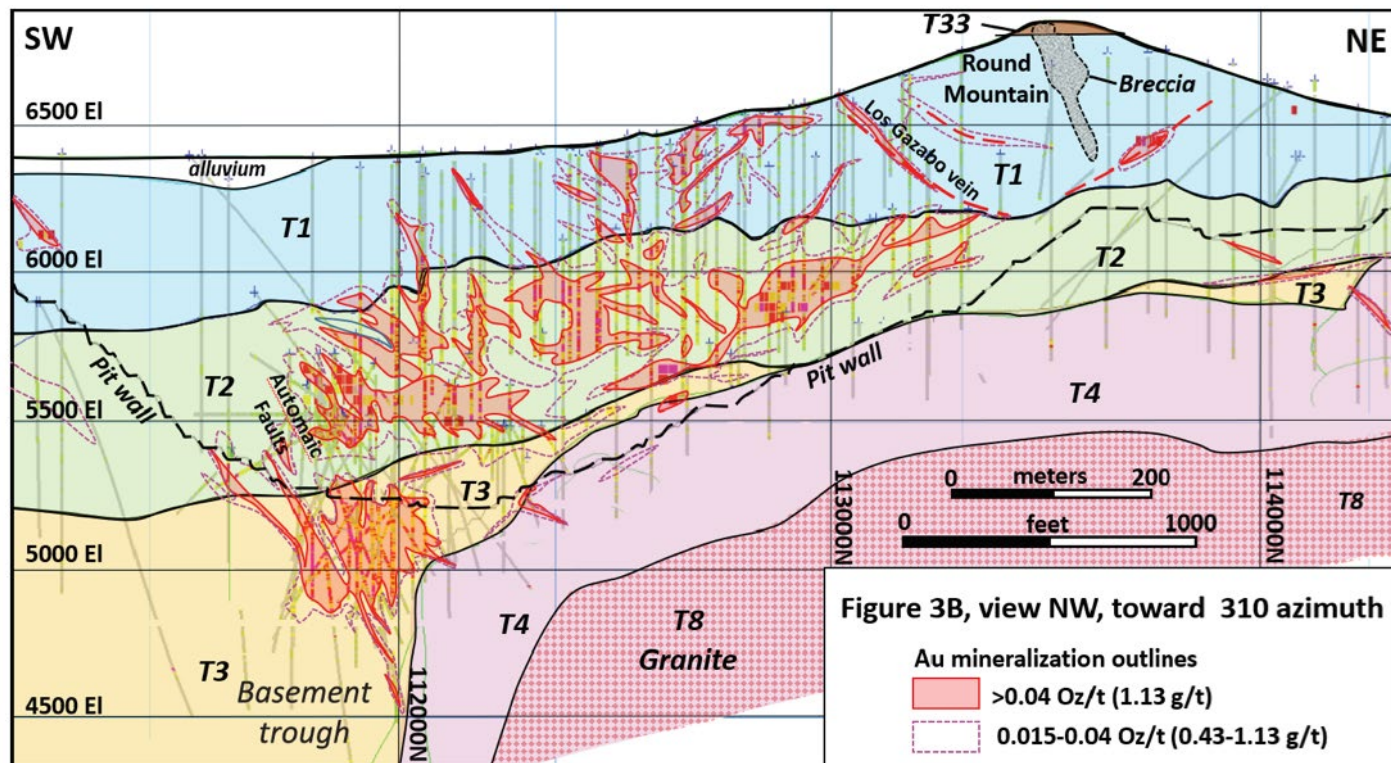
<sup>1</sup>*Panterra Geoservices Inc., 14180 Greencrest Drive, Surrey, British Columbia, Canada V4P 1L9*

<sup>2</sup>*Round Mountain Gold Corporation, P.O. Box 480, Round Mountain, Nevada 89045*

<sup>3</sup>*3113 Golden Butterfly Drive, Leander, Texas 78641*

<sup>4</sup>*Kinross Gold USA, 1150 Financial Blvd., Reno, Nevada 89502*

<sup>5</sup>*Pacific Center for Isotopic and Geochemical Research, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada V6T 1Z4*



# Geology of the Fruta del Norte Epithermal Gold-Silver Deposit, Ecuador

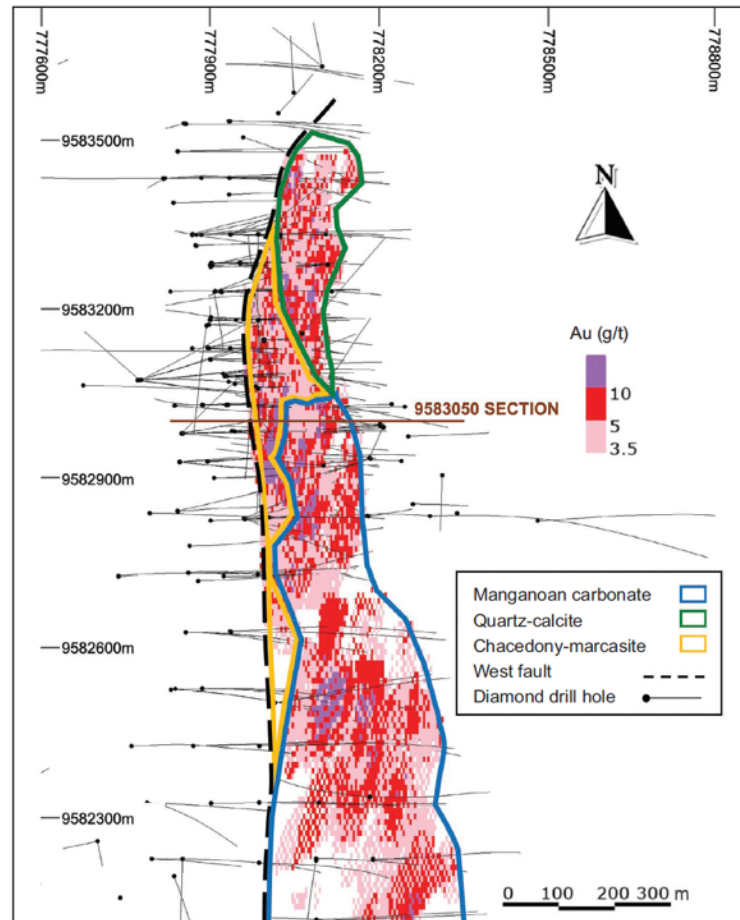
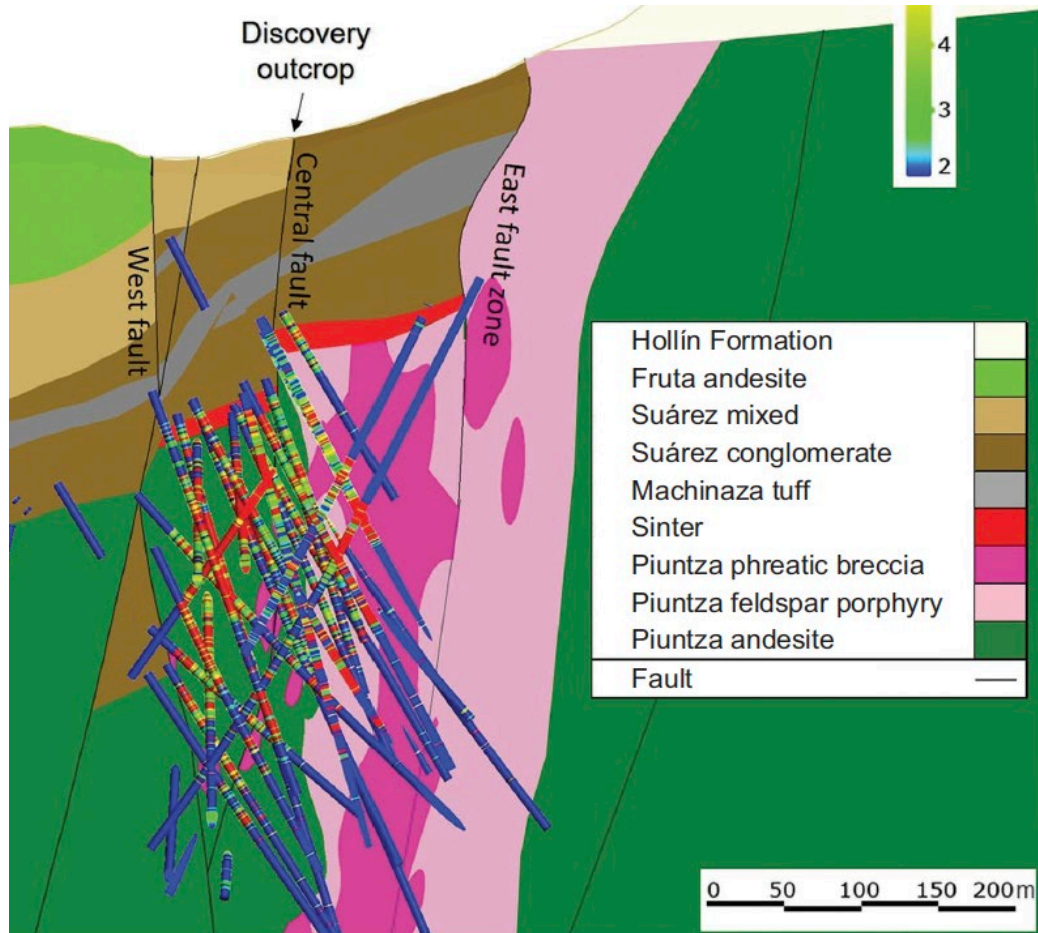
Stephen Leary,<sup>1,†</sup> Richard H. Sillitoe,<sup>2</sup> Jorge Lema,<sup>3</sup> Fernando Téliz,<sup>4</sup> and Diego Mena<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>219a Mt. Aspiring Road, Wanaka, 9305 New Zealand

<sup>2</sup>27 West Hill Park, Highgate Village, London N6 6ND, United Kingdom

<sup>3</sup>Lundin Gold Inc., Av. Amazonas N37-29 y UNP Edificio, Eurocenter, Piso 5, Quito, Ecuador

<sup>4</sup>44 Alambique, Real de Valdepeñas, Zapopan, Jalisco, México C.P. 45130



# Geology of the Hishikari Gold Deposit, Kagoshima, Japan

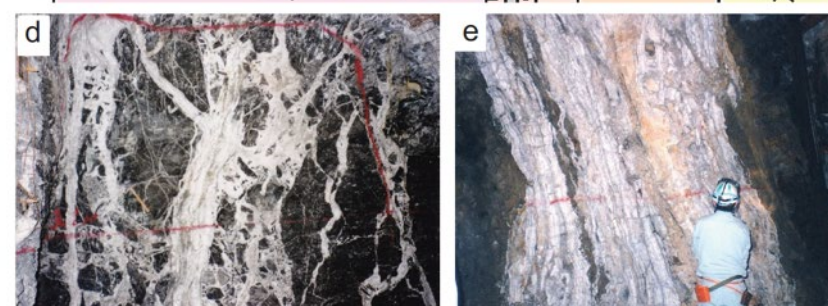
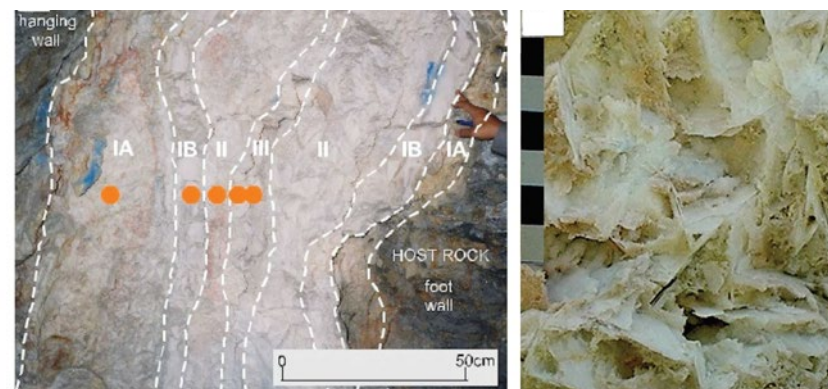
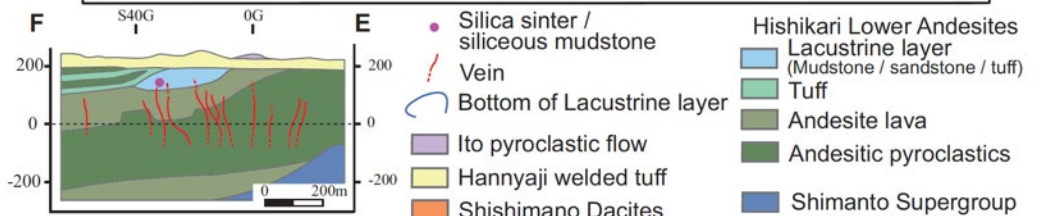
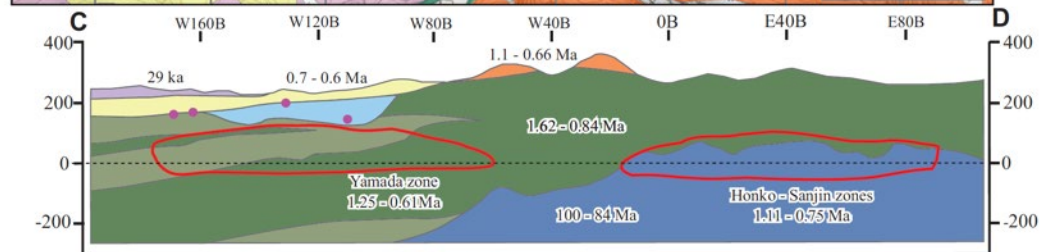
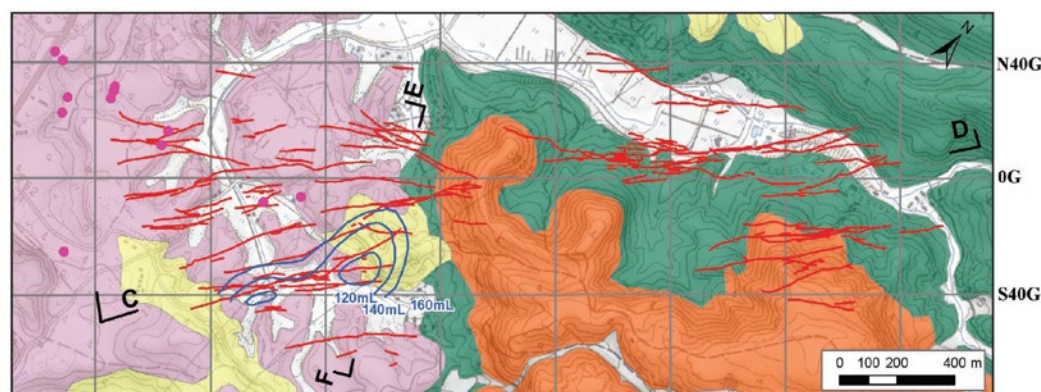
Takayuki Seto,<sup>1</sup> Yu Yamato,<sup>2</sup> Ryota Sekine,<sup>3</sup> and Eiji Izawa<sup>4,†</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd., Hishikari Mine, 3844, Hishikarimaeme, Isa, Kagoshima, 895-2701 Japan

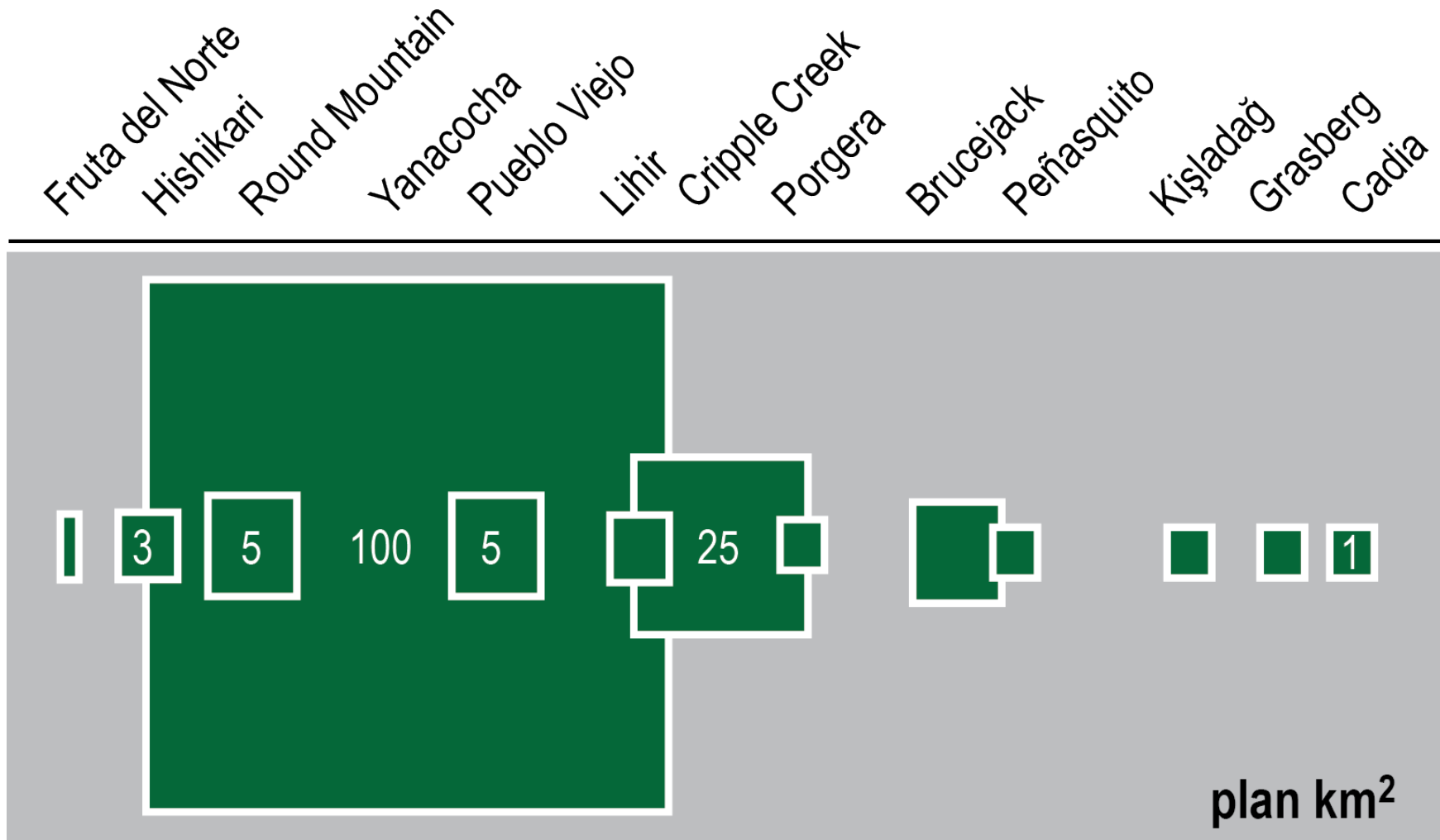
<sup>2</sup>Sumiko Resources Exploration and Development Co., Ltd., 8-21,3-Chome, Toranomom Minato, Tokyo, 105-0001 Japan

<sup>3</sup>Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd., 11-3 Shimbashi 5-Chome, Minato, Tokyo, 105-8716 Japan

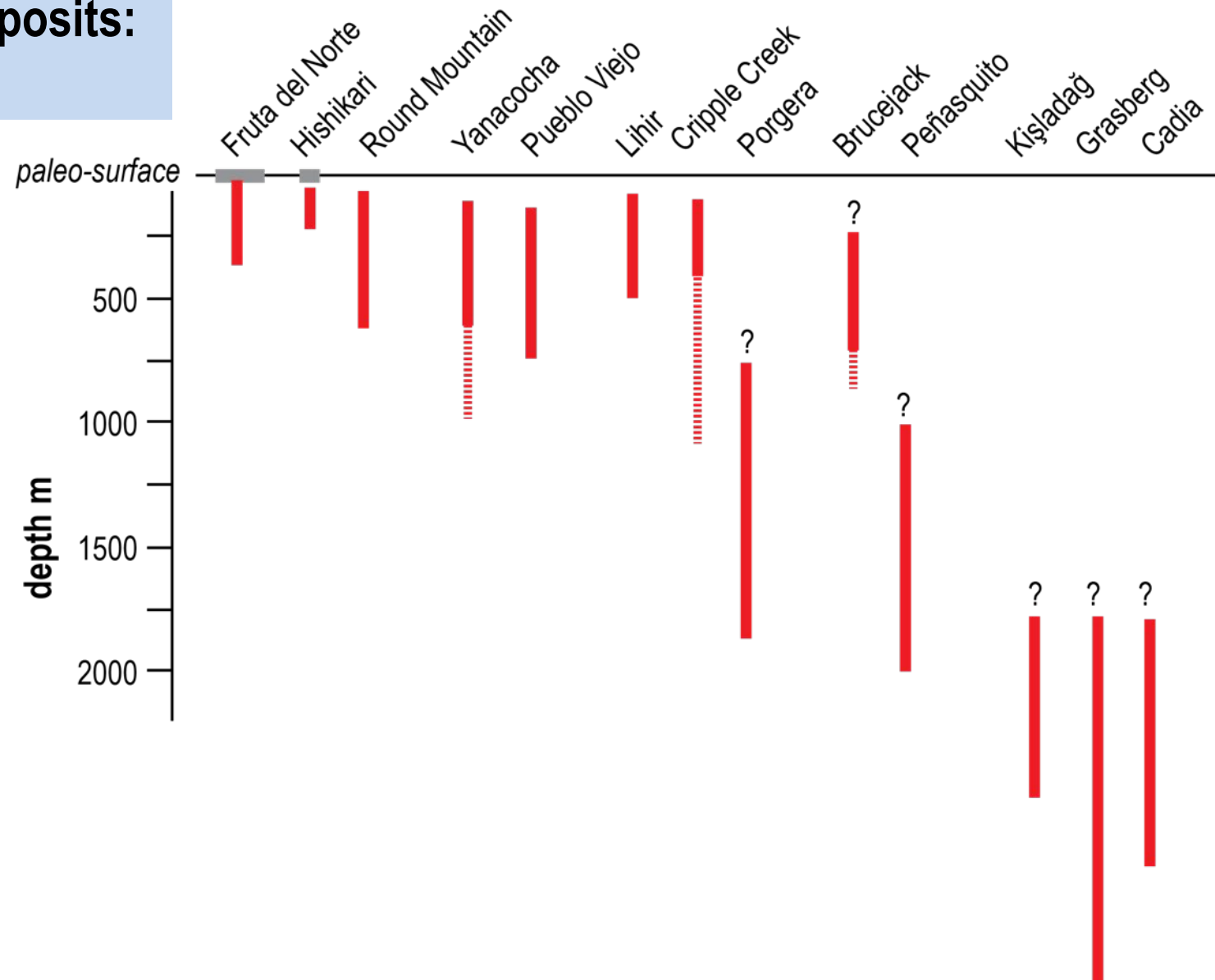
<sup>4</sup>2-15-4 Sakurayamate, Shingu, Fukuoka 811-0113 Japan



## Porphyry to Epithermal Deposits: *Footprints of Ore Bodies*



## Porphyry to Epithermal Deposits: Depth & Interval

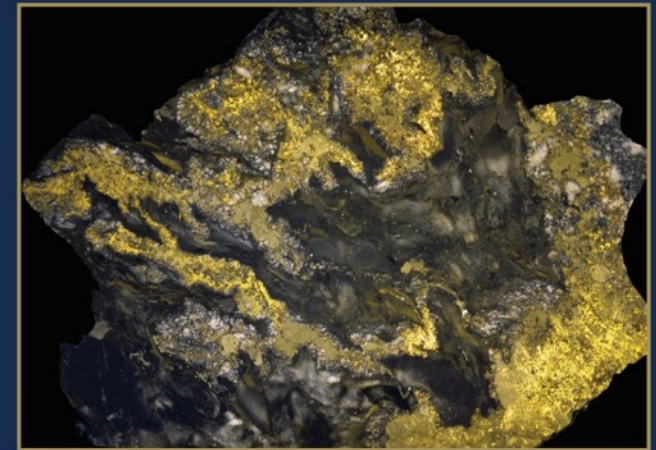




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# Carlin & Archean Orogenic

**Geology of the World's Major Gold  
Deposits and Provinces**



*Francois Robert*

Richard H. Sillitoe, Richard J. Goldfarb,  
François Robert, and Stuart F. Simmons, Editors

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Special Publication Number 23  
Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of  
The Society of Economic Geologists, Inc.

## Carlin deposits in Nevada (Muntean)

Prolific N Central Nevada

- **250 Moz** in 250 x 300 km
- Major production center: **~4.5 Moz/y**

Well-known characteristics

- Replacements & breccias in silty carbonate
- Au in As-pyrite rims; As-Hg-Sb-Tl-Ba
- Eocene, low-T and shallow crustal depth

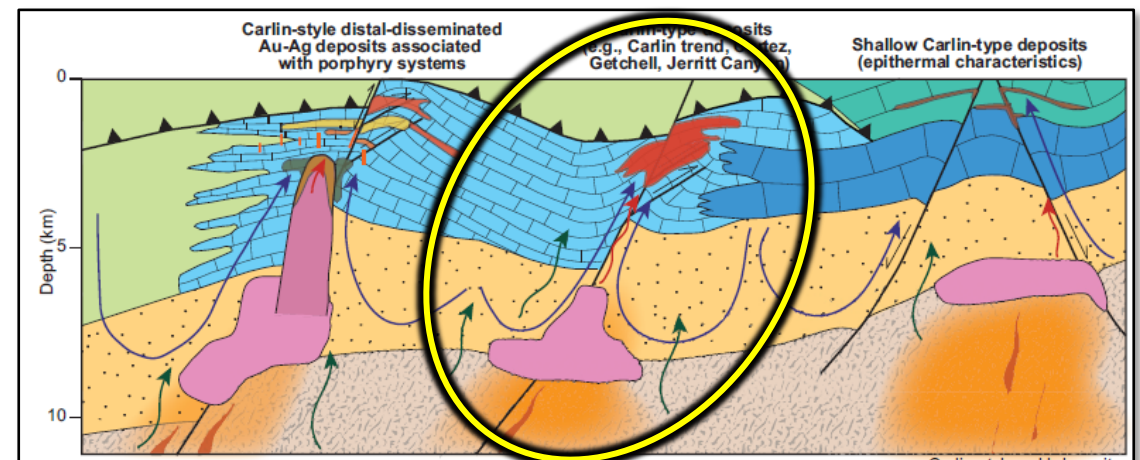
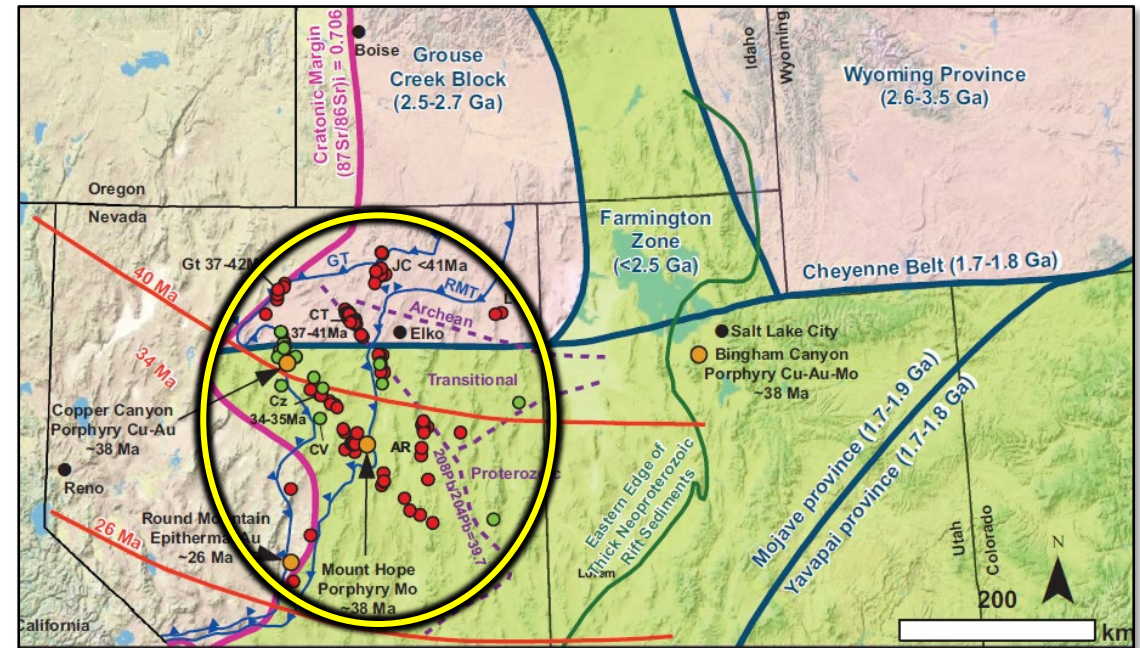
Unique regional setting

- Precambrian deep crustal architecture
- Favorable Eocene tectonics

Large deposits along 4 Trends

- Deep structures and magma conduits in J, K, E
- Eocene Carlin and Miocene epithermal

Link with deep processes, heat source and gold source?



## Goldstrike (Dobak et al.)

58 Moz @ 6 g/t Au

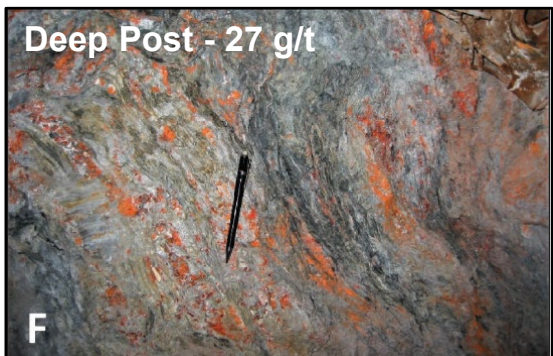
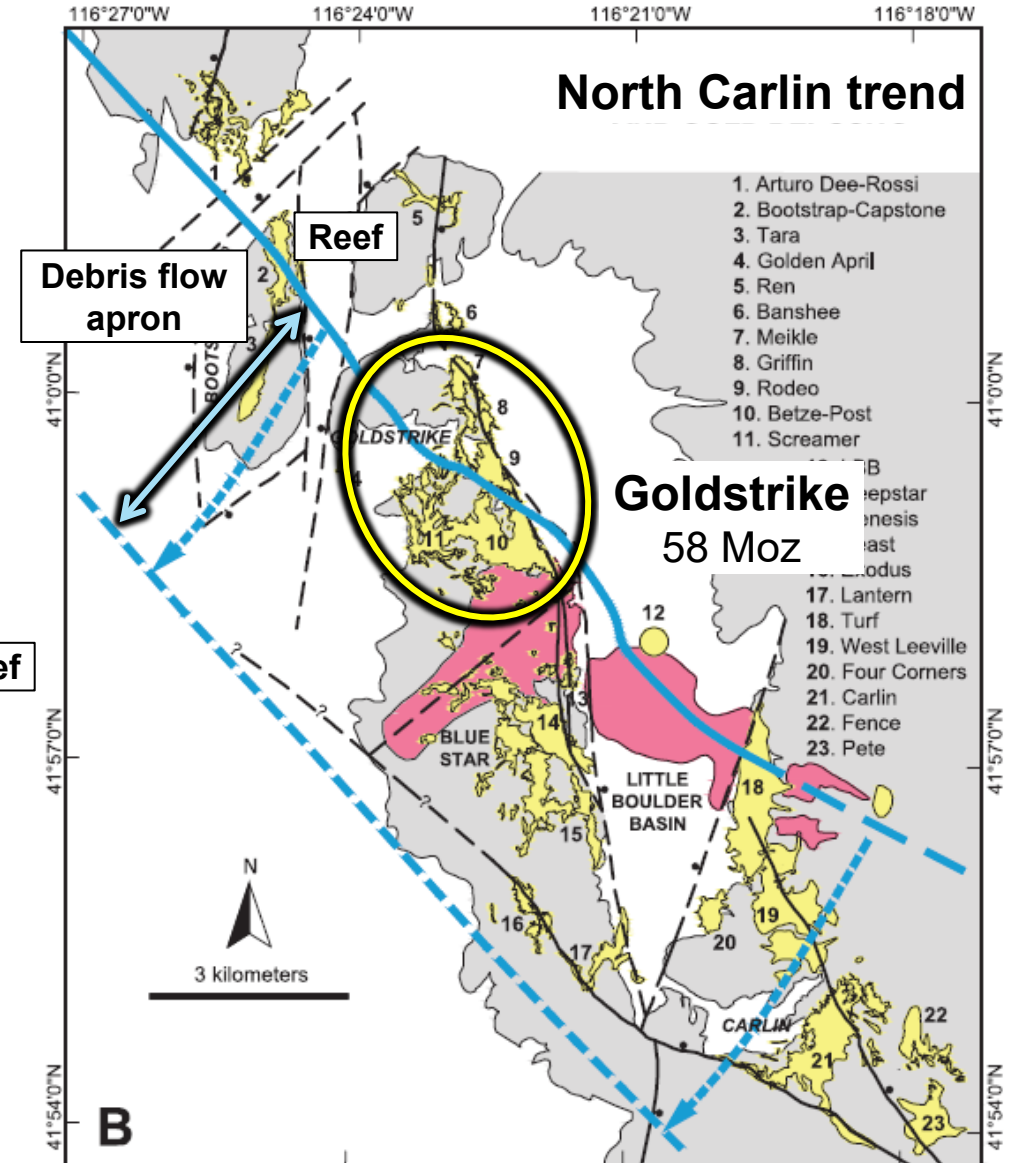
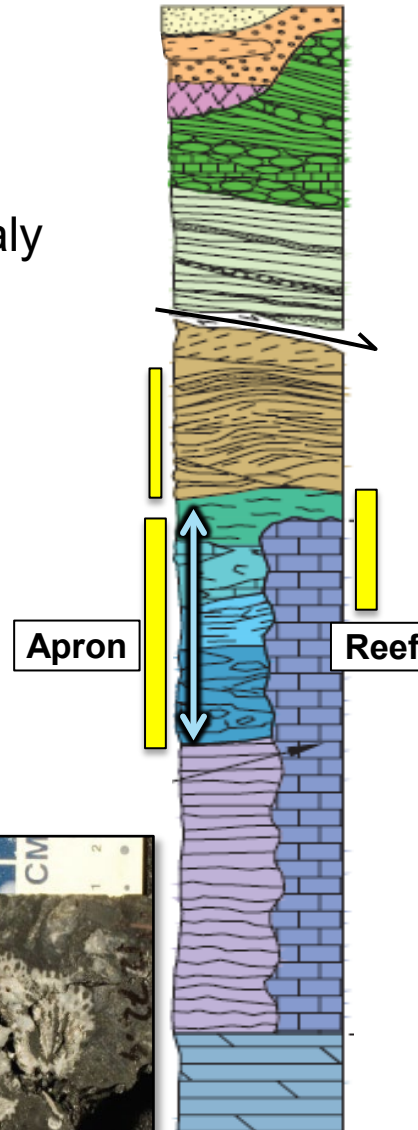
- Largest and type example
- 4.5 x 2 km within 20 x 40 km thermal anomaly

Unique pre-mineral structural confluence

- Trend-parallel J lamprophyre dike swarm
- Intersection of swarm with reef
- J stocks at intersection

Favorable sedimentary units

- Debris flows shedding from exposed reef
- Reactive rocks with elevated available Fe





## Cortez district (Bradley et al.)

District = 47 Moz

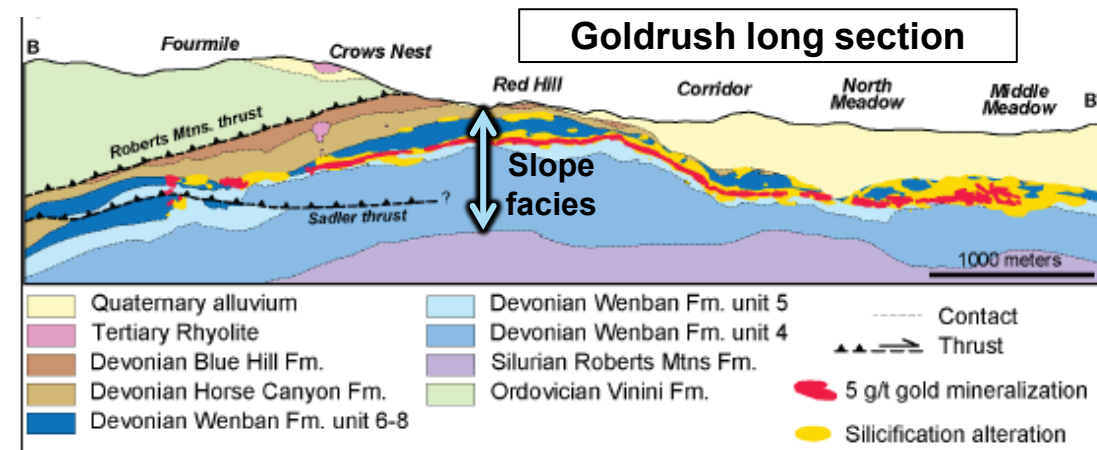
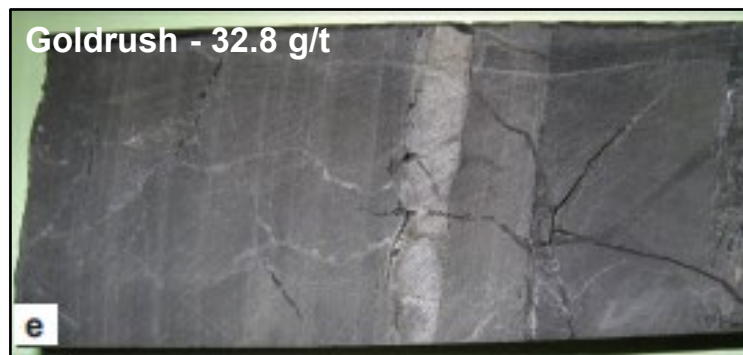
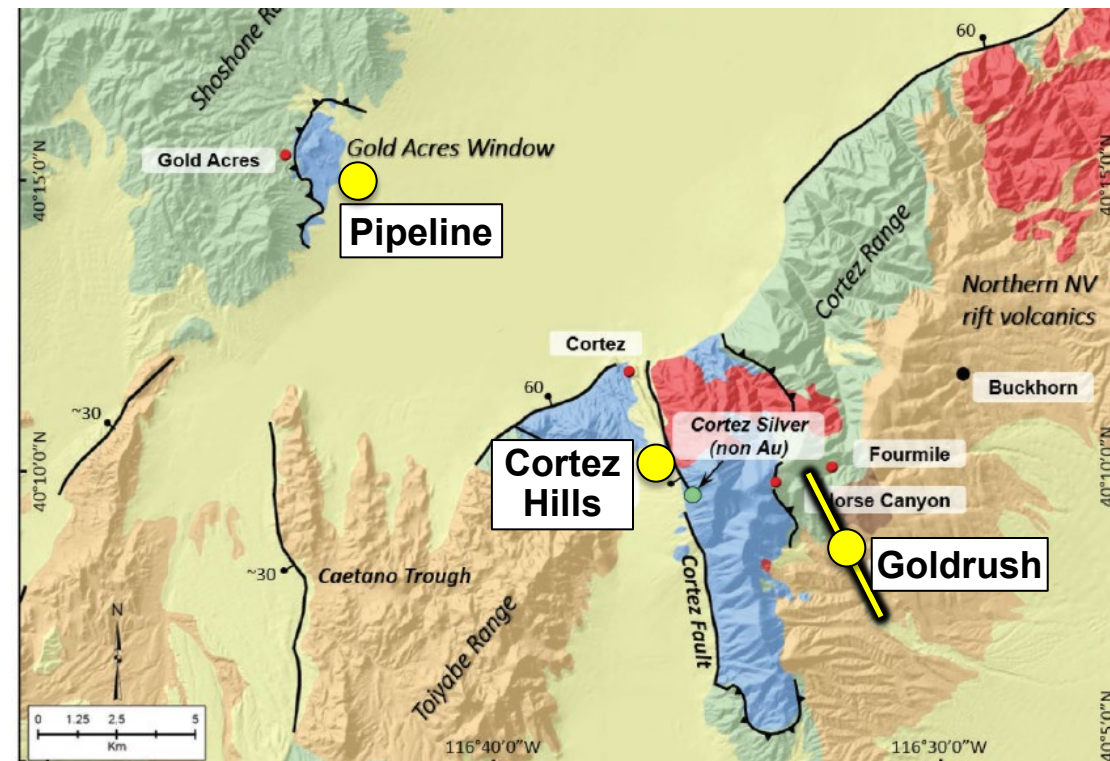
- 3 deposits >10 Moz
- Goldrush: 11.3 Moz @ 9.5 g/t; >5 km x ~400m

Typical Carlin characteristics

- Collapse bx to passive replacements
- From compact bx pipe to long linear zones

Controls

- EQ strata to Goldstrike: units with debris flow
- Open anticlines and thrusts
- K and J stocks and metamorphic haloes



## Archean deposits: paleoplacer and greenstone gold

### Provinces

- Witwatersrand, Abitibi, Eastern Goldfields

### Camps

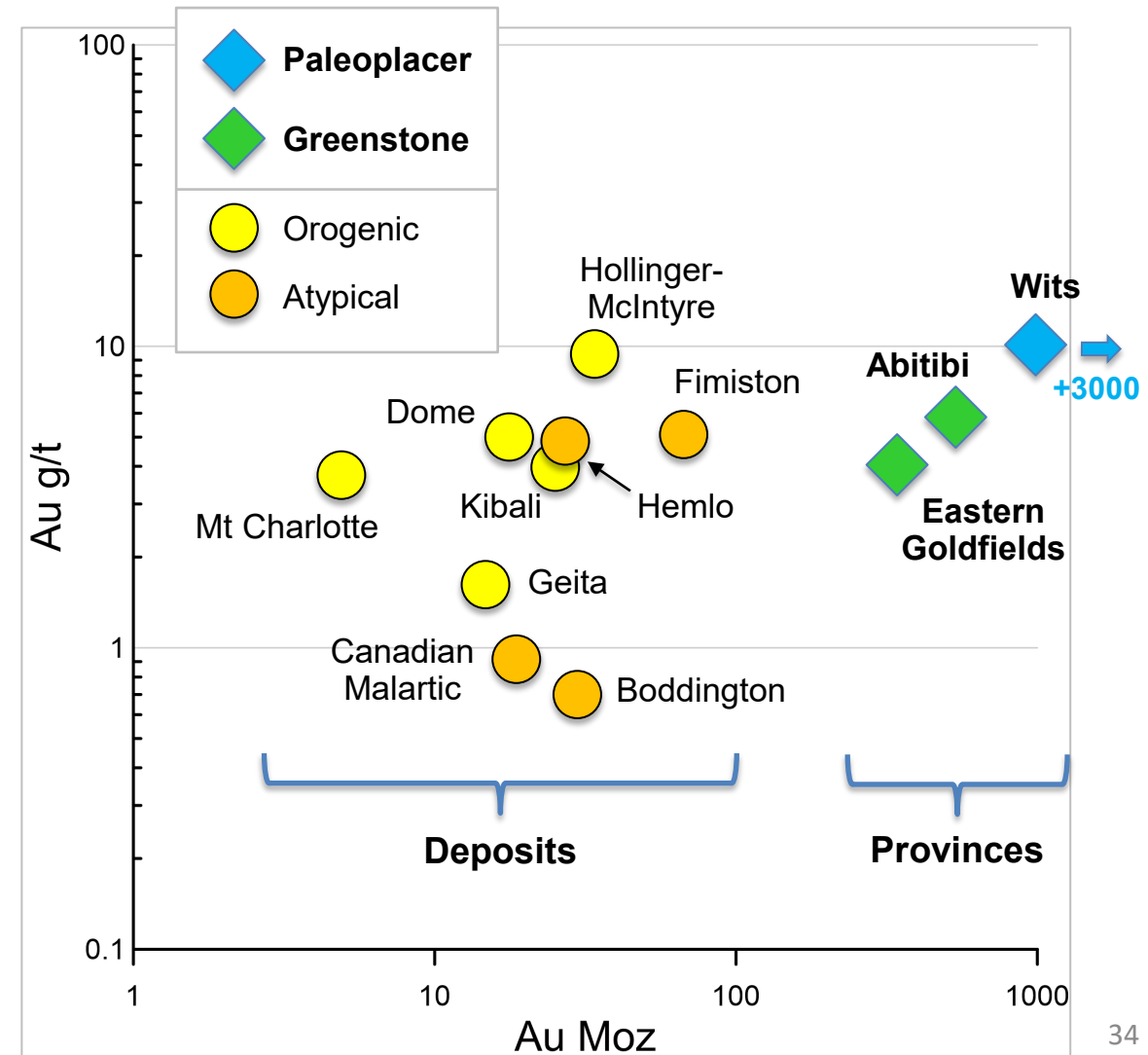
- Timmins (Hollinger-McIntyre, Dome)
- Malartic (Canadian Malartic)
- Golden Mile (Mt Charlotte, Fimiston)

### Deposits

- Orogenic: Hollinger-McIntyre, Dome, Geita, Kibali, Mt. Charlotte
- Atypical: Boddington, Canadian Malartic, Fimiston, Hemlo

### Greenstone gold highlights

- Atypical deposits remain enigmatic
- Diversity and multiple ages recognized
- Overprinting of types in many deposits



## Witwatersrand Goldfields (Frimmel and Nwaila)

### Syngenetic origin proposed

- Initial fixation on microbial mats
- Reworking in fluvial channels & eolian deflation surfaces
- Subsequent local hydrothermal modification

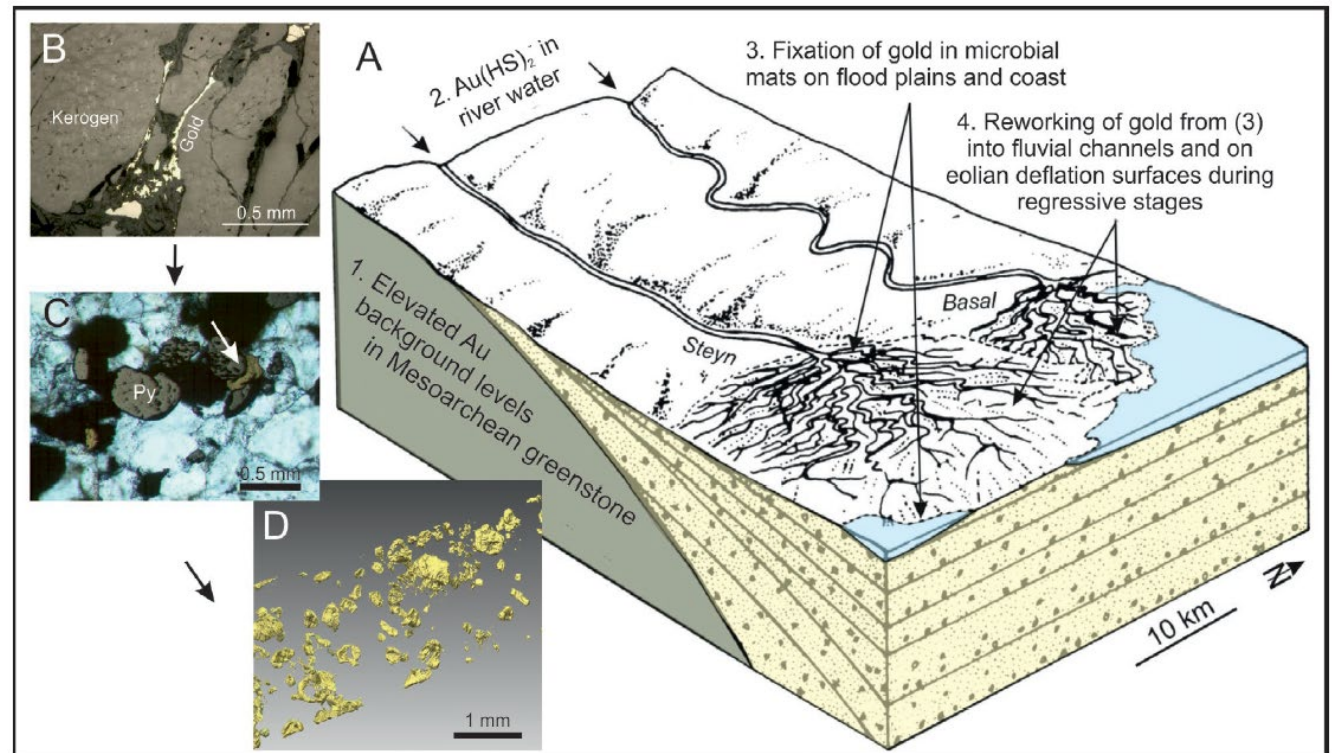
### Supporting evidence

- Sedimentologic controls across scales
- Grade vs clast size correlation
- Mechanically deformed Au micro-nuggets with secondary Au overgrowths

### Uniqueness

- Exceptional preservation of possibly more widespread Mesoarchean process

### Schematic syngenetic model



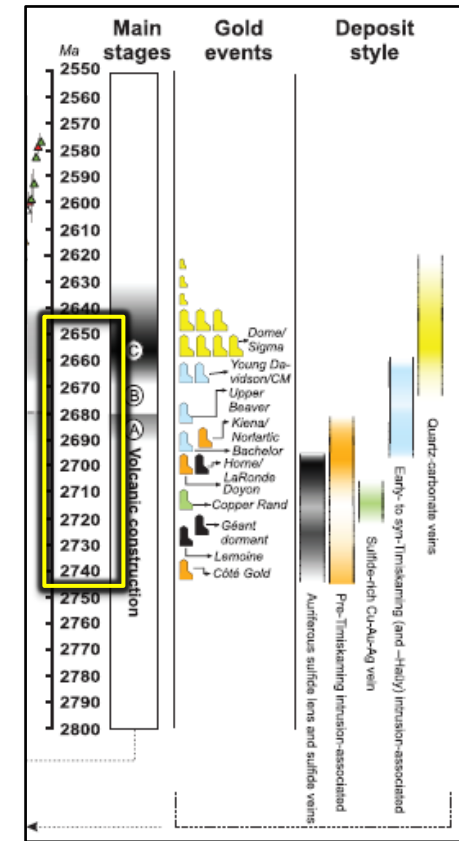
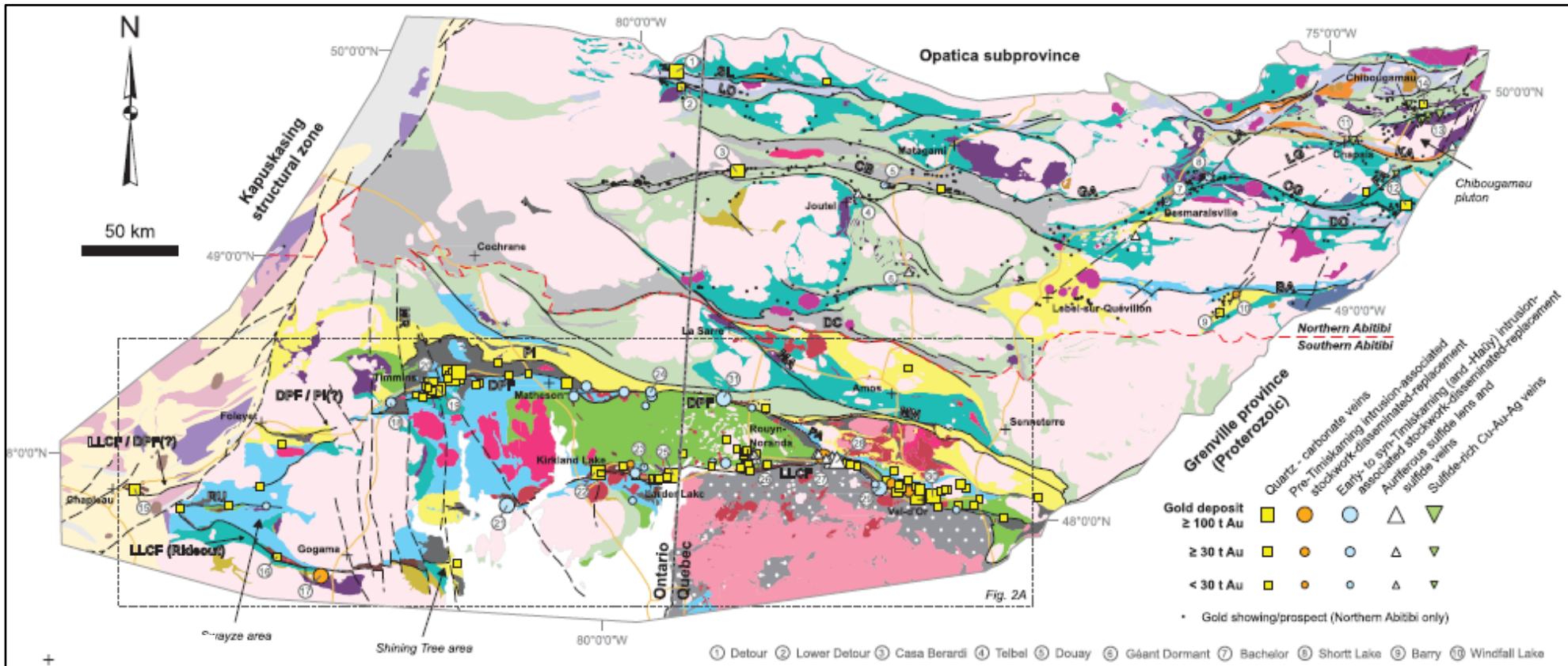
## Abitibi Province (Dubé and Mercier-Langevin)

New synthesis of geology, evolution and gold

- Chronostratigraphic map
- Well-constrained evolution

Documents range of deposit types and ages

- Sulfidic (Au-VMS), intrusion-associated, orogenic
- Formed over ~90 my of Abitibi evolution



## Timmins-Porcupine camp (Dubé et al.)

70.5 Moz; mainly orogenic qz-cb veins

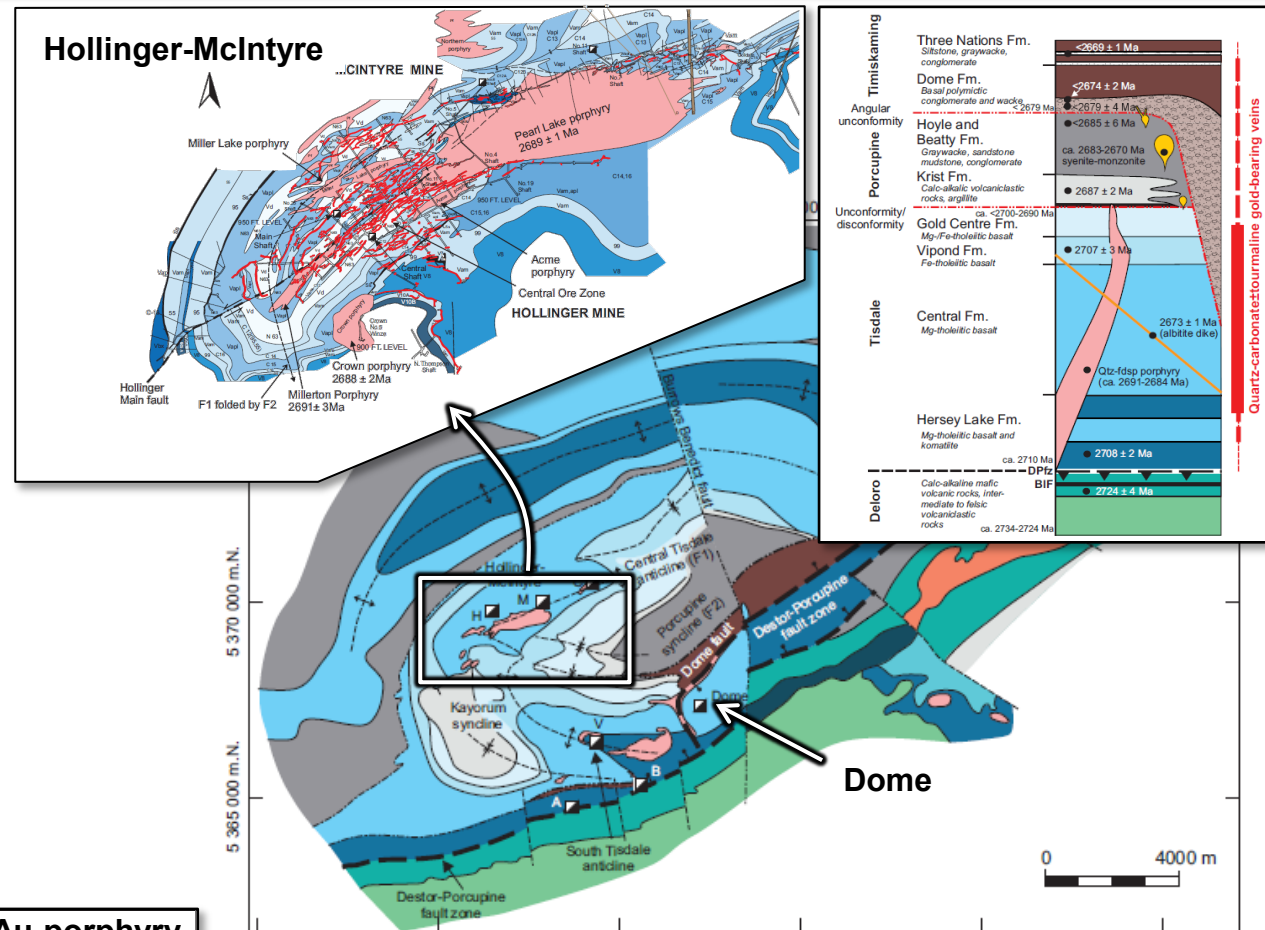
- Hollinger-McIntyre = 33 Moz @ 9.5 g/t
- Dome = 17 Moz @ 4.8 g/t

Multiple Au styles and ages

- Dominant syn-shortening orogenic qz-cb veins
- Pre-unconformity ankerite veins (low Au)
- Pre-shortening Cu-Mo-Au porphyry

Updated stratigraphic / structural framework

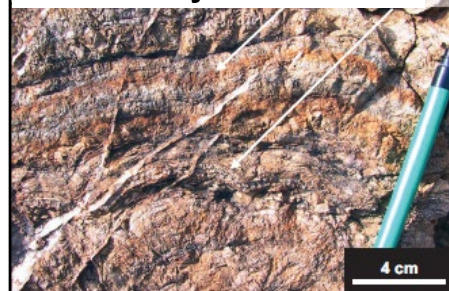
- Folds, competency contrasts, anisotropy
- Unconformities marking favorable erosional depth



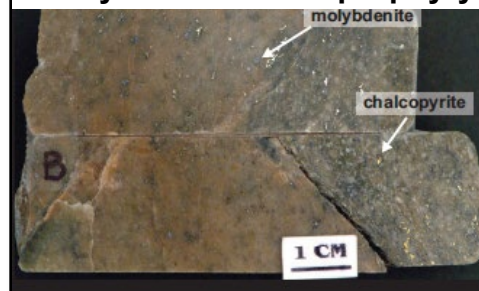
Dome - orogenic qz-cb veins



Dome - early ankerite vein



McIntyre - Cu-Mo-Au porphyry



## Malartic camp (De Souza et al.)

32.5 Moz; mainly disseminated-stockwork

- Canadian Malartic = ~18 Moz @ 1 g/t

### Canadian Malartic characteristics

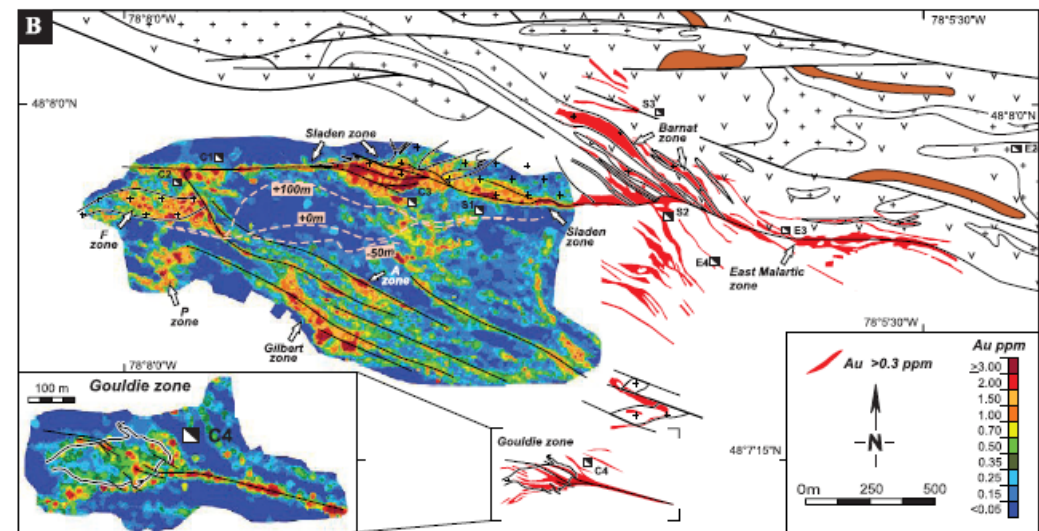
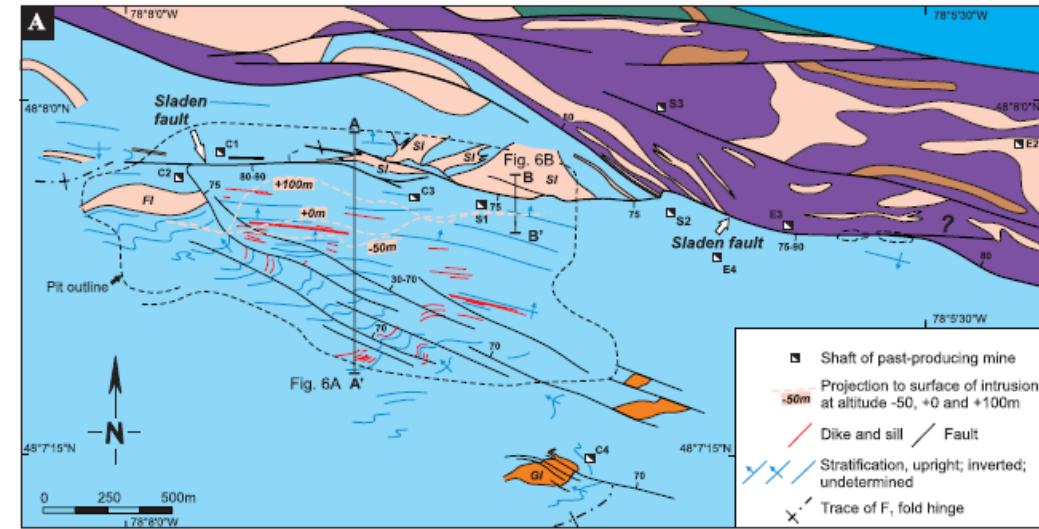
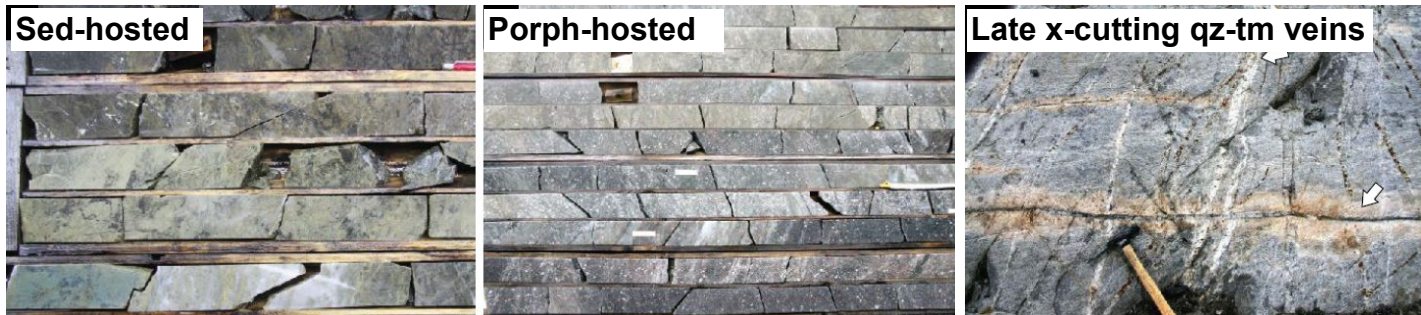
- Sediment-hosted, monzonite-associated
- Disseminated-stockwork/sheeted
- K-spar-carbonate alt'n
- Au-Ag (+/-Te, W, Bi, Mo, Pb)

### Timing constraints

- Controlled by D<sub>2</sub> structures, cut by orogenic qz-cb-tm veins

### Interpretation

- Syn- orogenic (D<sub>2</sub>) deposit stockwork-disseminated



## Hemlo (Poulsen et al.)

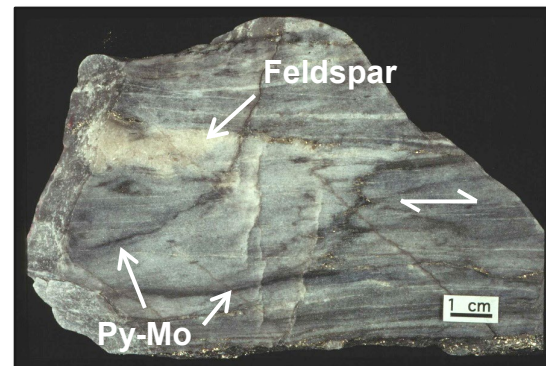
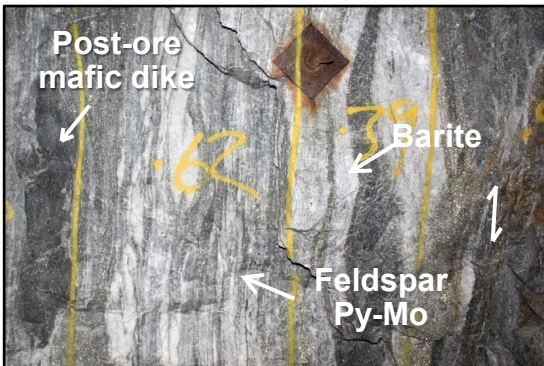
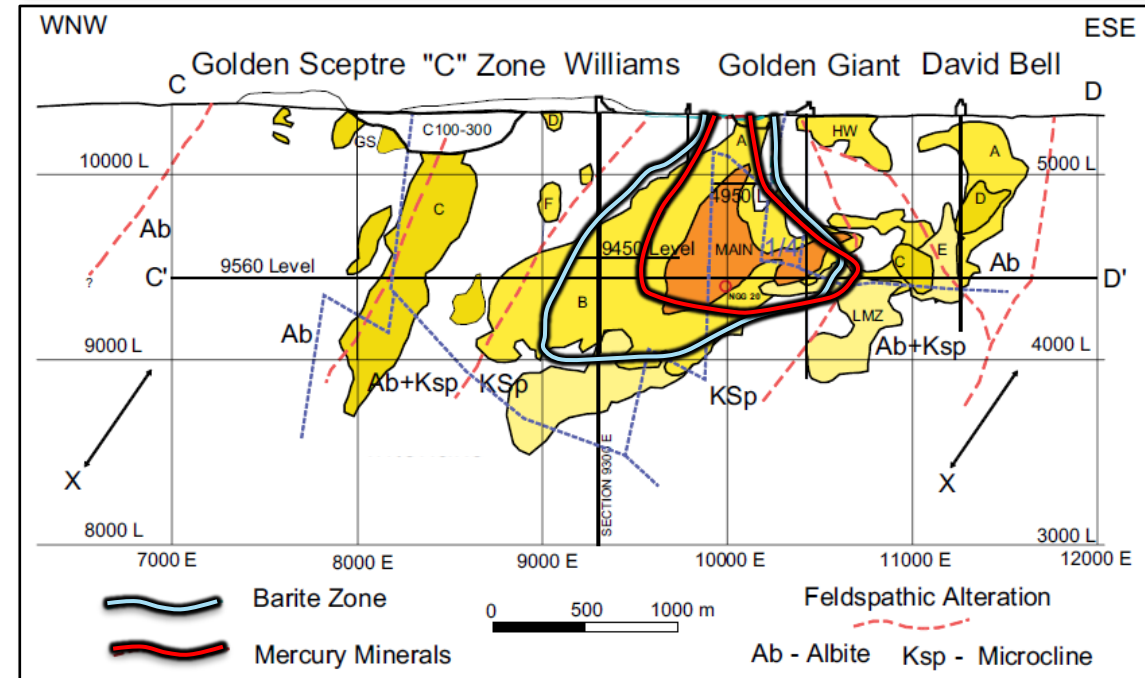
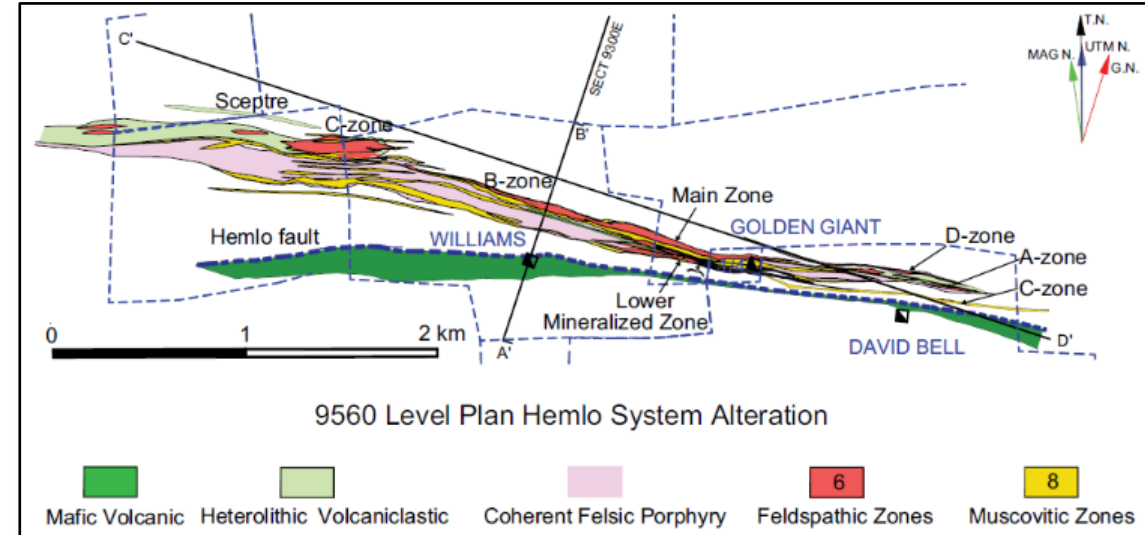
26 Moz @ 4.74 g/t

### Characteristics

- Marginal to felsic porphyry in clastic rocks
- Disseminated-stockwork mineralization
- Au-Mo (V, Ba, Hg, Sb, Te)
- Feldspar (K, Na) + sericite alteration
- Highly strained with deformed post-ore dikes
- Overprinted by minor orogenic qz-cb veins

### Interpretation

- Deformed/metamorphosed high-level system
- From oxidized hydrothermal fluid



## Kibali district (Allibone et al.)

23 Moz; ironstone replacement

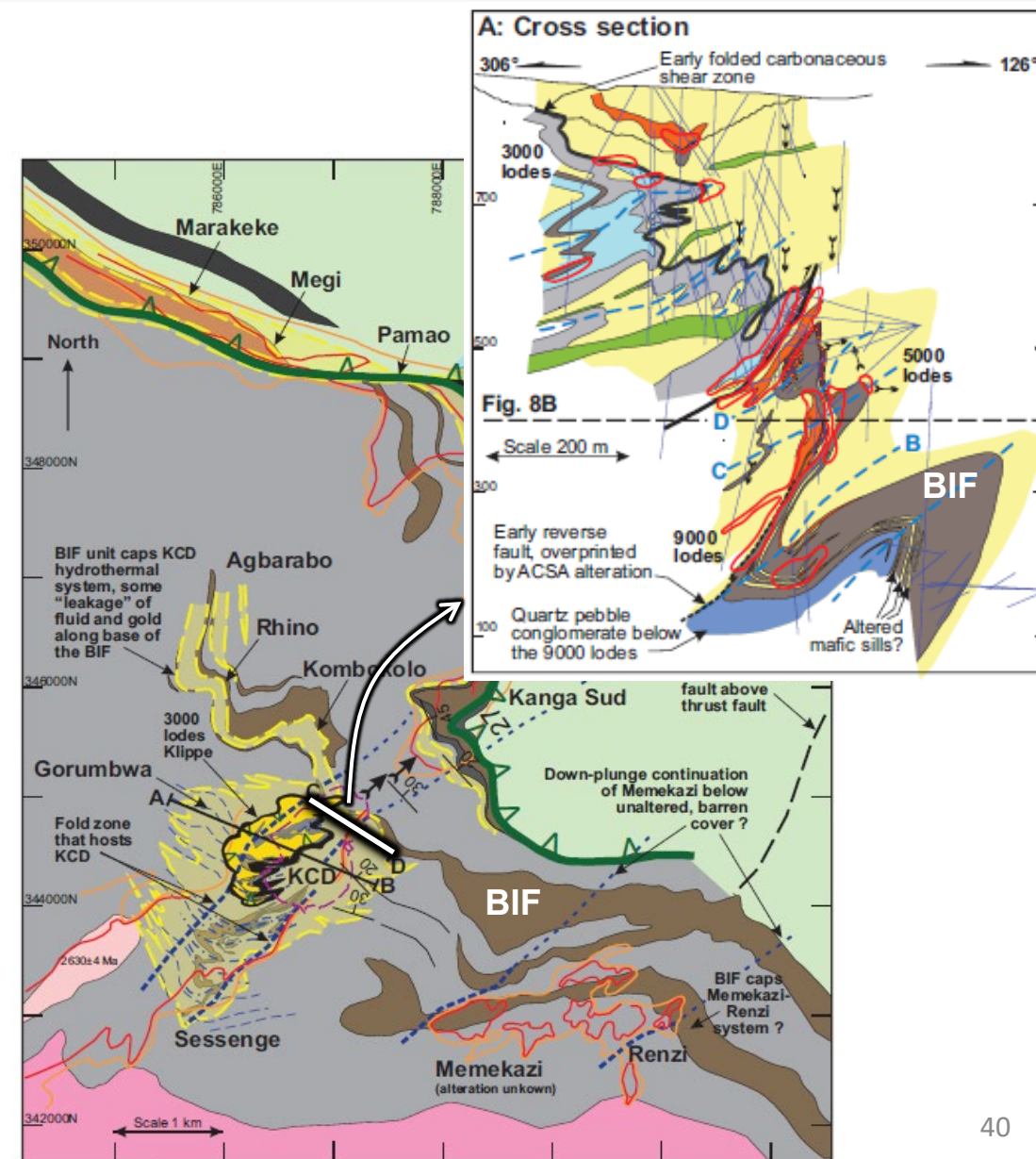
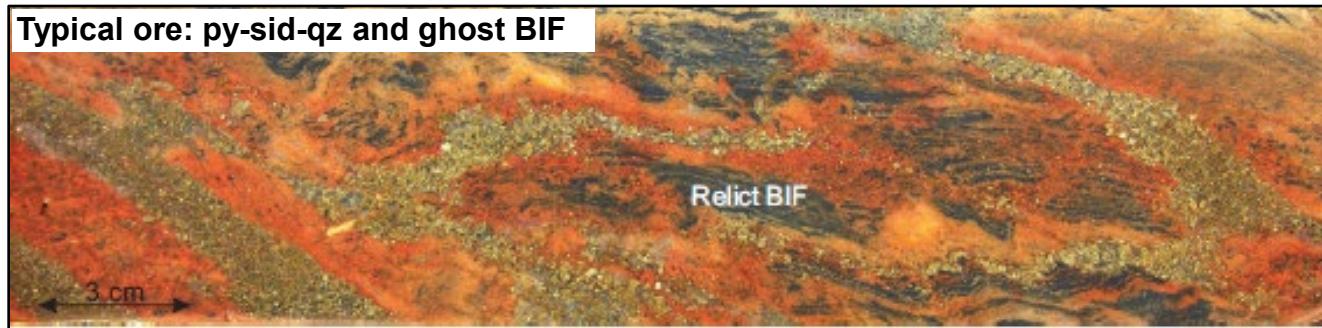
- KCD = ~20 Moz @ 4.1 g/t

### Characteristics

- In chert-magnetite BIF within clastic sequence
- Veinlet and replacement pyrite in BIF
- Proximal siderite-py-silica in BIF
- Broad halo of sericite-carbonate in host rocks
- Ore in hinges of stacked shallow-plunging folds
- Ore shoots +750 m down-plunge

### Interpretation

- Typical BIF/Ironstone-hosted orogenic deposit





## Geita district (Dirks et al.)

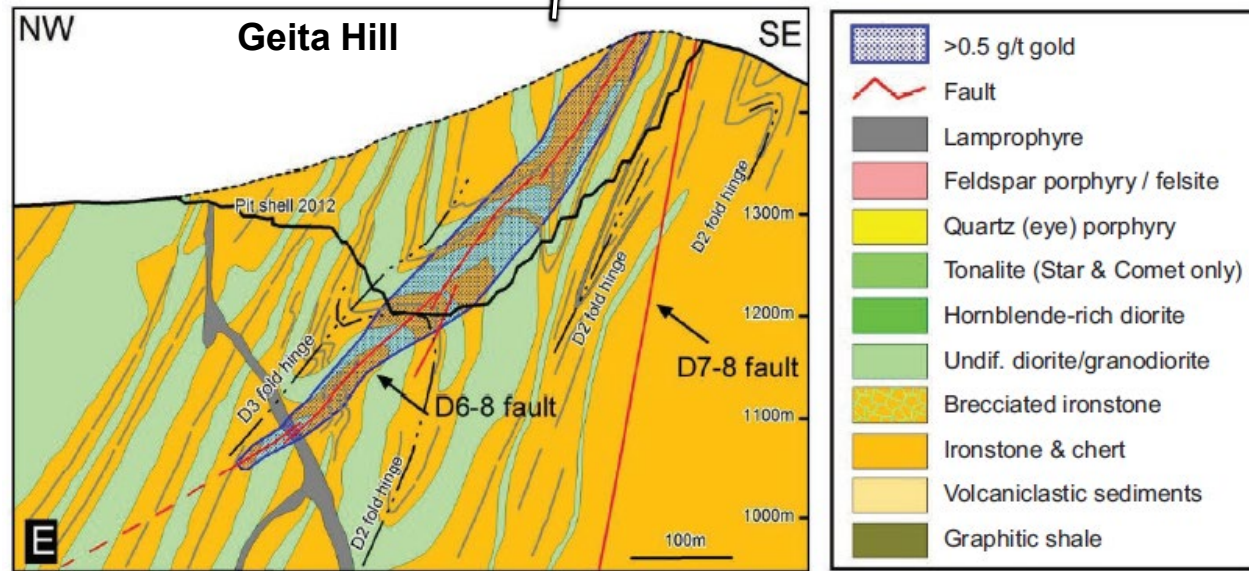
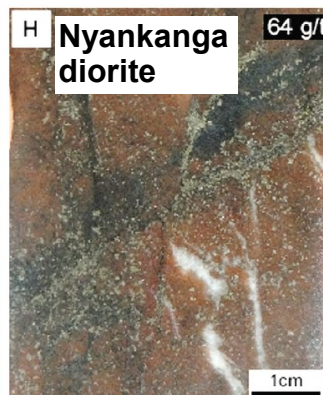
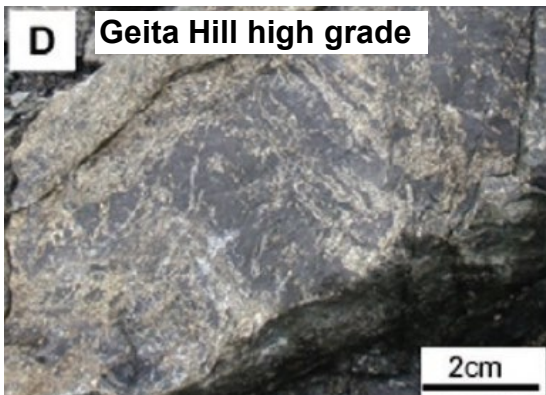
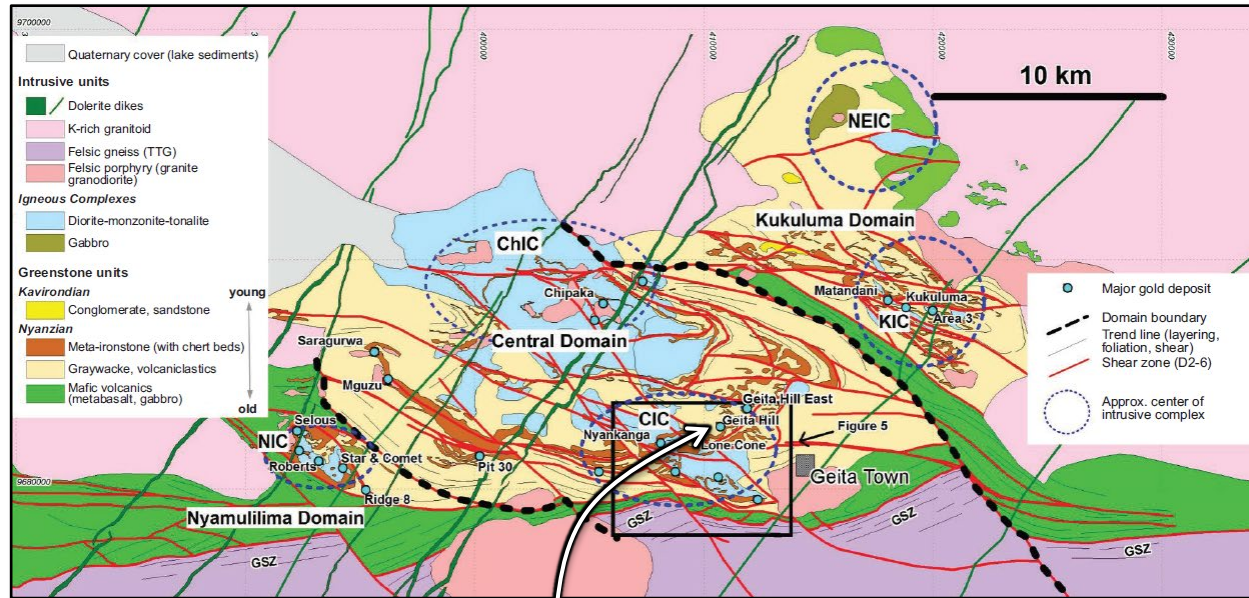
District = 15 Moz; ironstone replacement

### Characteristics

- In chert-ironstone units & intruding diorite complex
- Py-qz veinlets/replacements in ironstone & diorite
- Biot-carb alteration in clastics; K-spar-Fe carbonate in diorite
- Controls: shear-BIF intersections, fold hinges

### Interpretation

- Classic ironstone-hosted (late) orogenic deposit



## Eastern Goldfields Province (Tripp et al.)

Updated synthesis - Kalgoorlie district as example

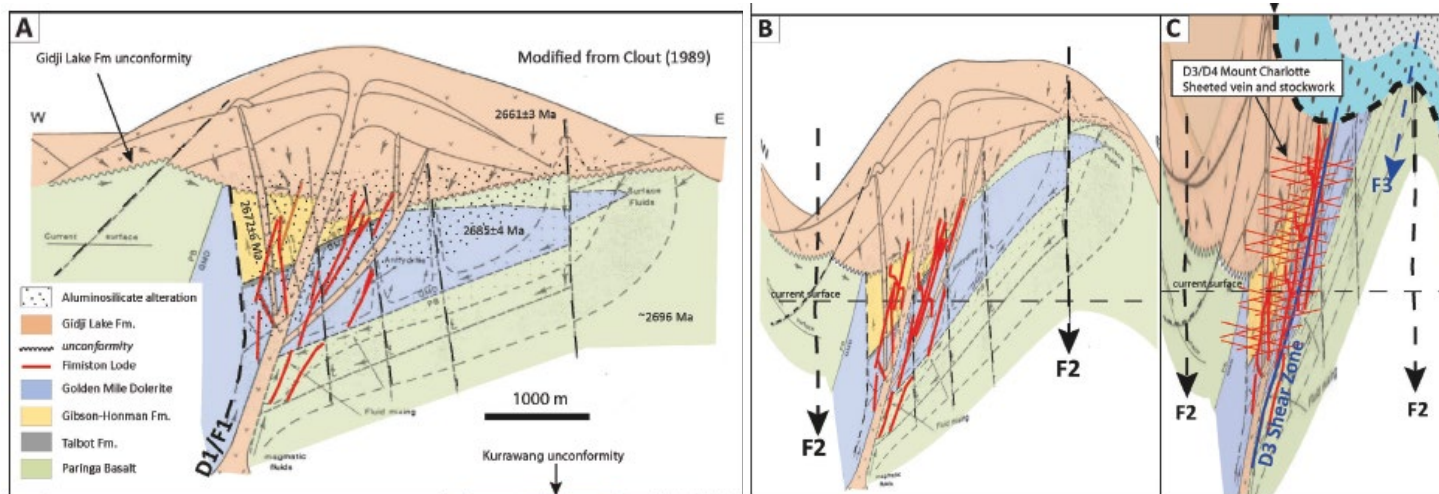
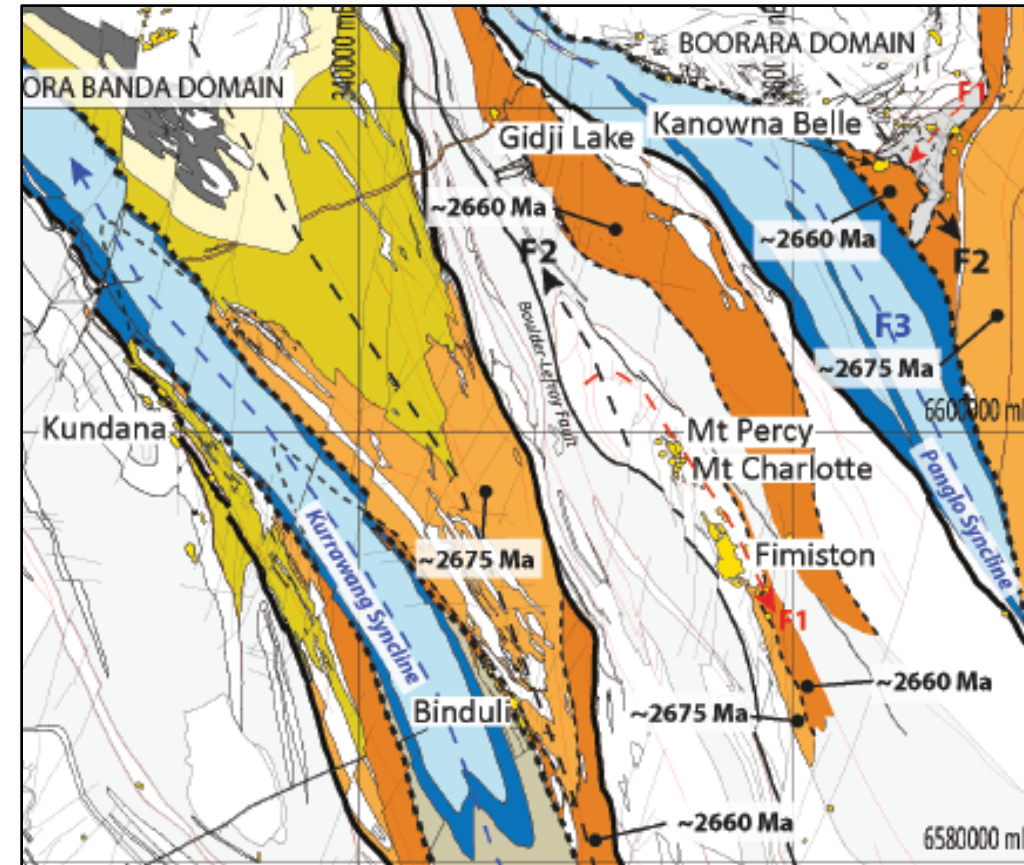
- 2 unconformities separating 3 sets of folds
- Improved framework for gold setting

Diversity of deposit styles and ages

- “Early” high-level: Kanowna Belle, Binduli, Golden Mile
- “Late” orogenic veins: Kundana, Mt Charlotte

Importance of unconformities

- Depth and time markers for gold



## Kalgoorlie gold camp (McDivitt et al.)

~75 Moz; Golden Mile = 57 Moz produced

Fimiston / Oroya lodes:

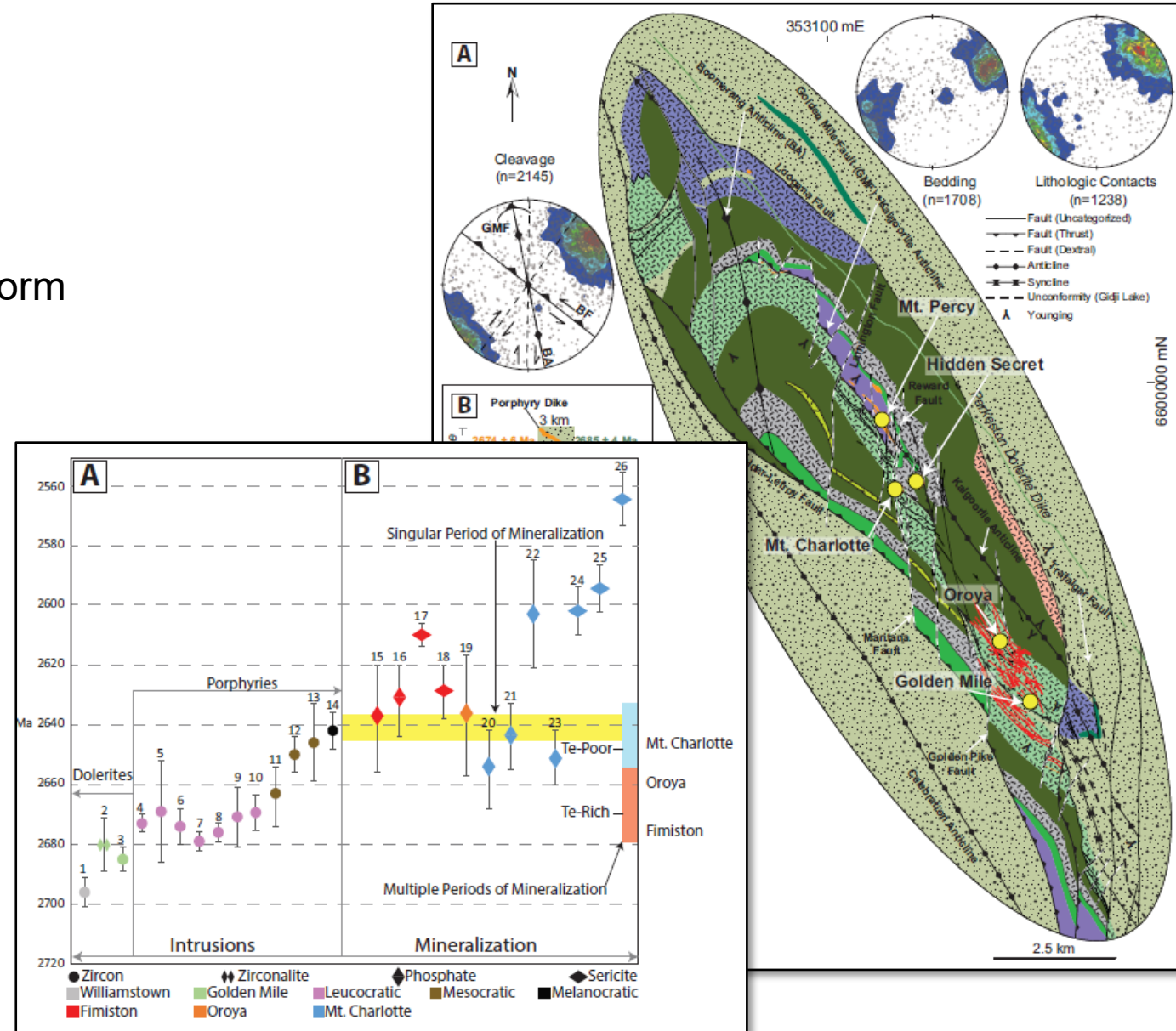
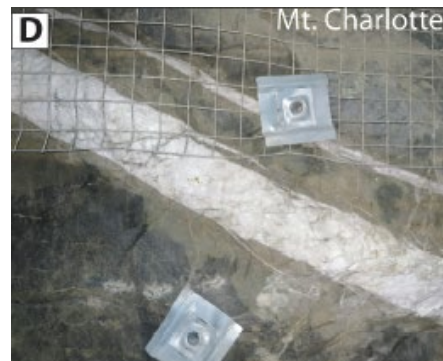
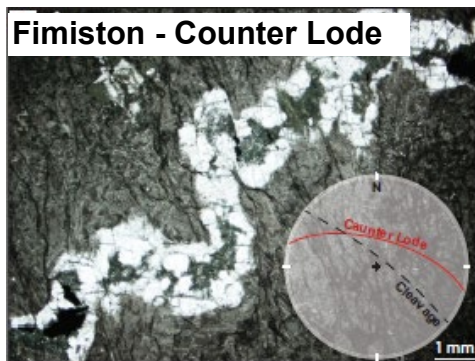
- Carb-qz-py veins & breccias; crustiform-colloform
- Accessory sulfosalts, anh, mt, hm
- Au-Te-Ag (Hg, Mo, Sb, As), +V in Oroya

Mt Charlotte

- Late quartz-carbonate veins; Au-Ag only

Interpretation

- Fimiston/Oroya: oxidized magmatic-hydroth
- Mt Charlotte: typical late-stage orogenic



## Boddington Au-Cu deposit (Turner et al.)

30.4 Moz @ 0.74 g/t (~0.10% Cu)

### Characteristics

- Mainly diorite-hosted
- Fracture/veinlet stockworks – multiple stages
- Cu-Ag-Mo +/- Bi, W, Te
- Orogenic veins also present

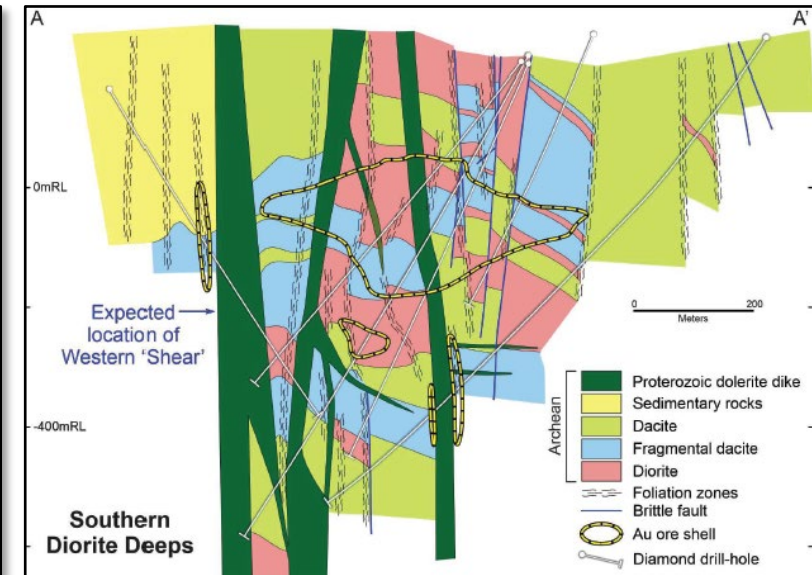
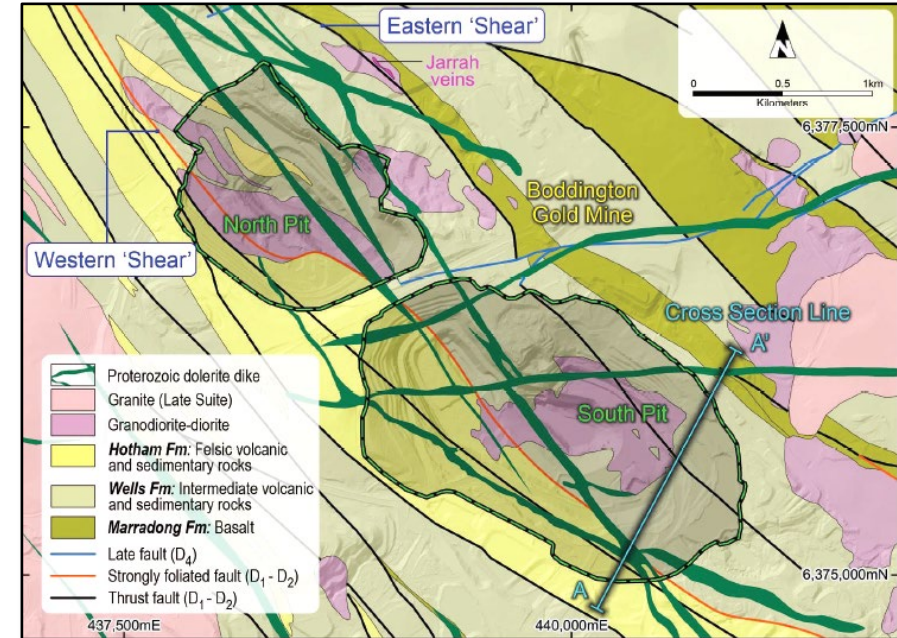
### Interpretation

- Protore of early Mo-Cu “dioritic” porphyry
- Orogenic veins
- Bulk of Au-Cu: late-orogenic high-T, magmatic-hydrothermal

Early qz-moly in bio-alb alteration



Late clino-chl-sulf – bulk of Au-Cu



## Archean greenstone gold summary

### Orogenic deposits

- Coherent group of deposits
- Well-defined characteristics
- Localization controls well understood

### Atypical deposits

- Disparate group but...many show
  - Stockwork-disseminated ore & proximal feldspar alteration
  - Te, Mo, Cu, V, Hg, Sb; +/-sulphates, mt, he
  - Multiple hydrothermal stages
  - Overprinting strain and orogenic veins
- Formed early and preserved?  
“oxidized” Associated with pre-shortening intrusions
- Recurring “oxidized” flavor

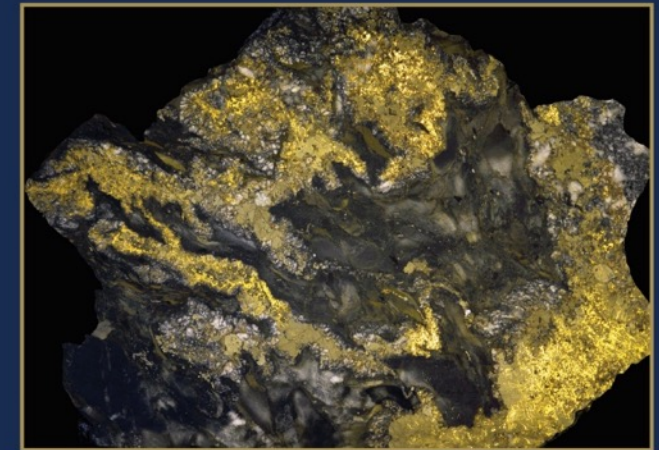
### Exploration considerations

- Camp-scale framework critical for targeting
- Unconformities important markers
- Range ore styles, signatures and controls
- Hydrothermal overprinting & complexity
- Supergiants can be unique and freaks



**BARRICK**

**Geology of the World's Major Gold  
Deposits and Provinces**



**Richard H. Sillitoe, Richard J. Goldfarb,  
François Robert, and Stuart F. Simmons, Editors**

# Young Orogenic & Others

*Rich Goldfarb*

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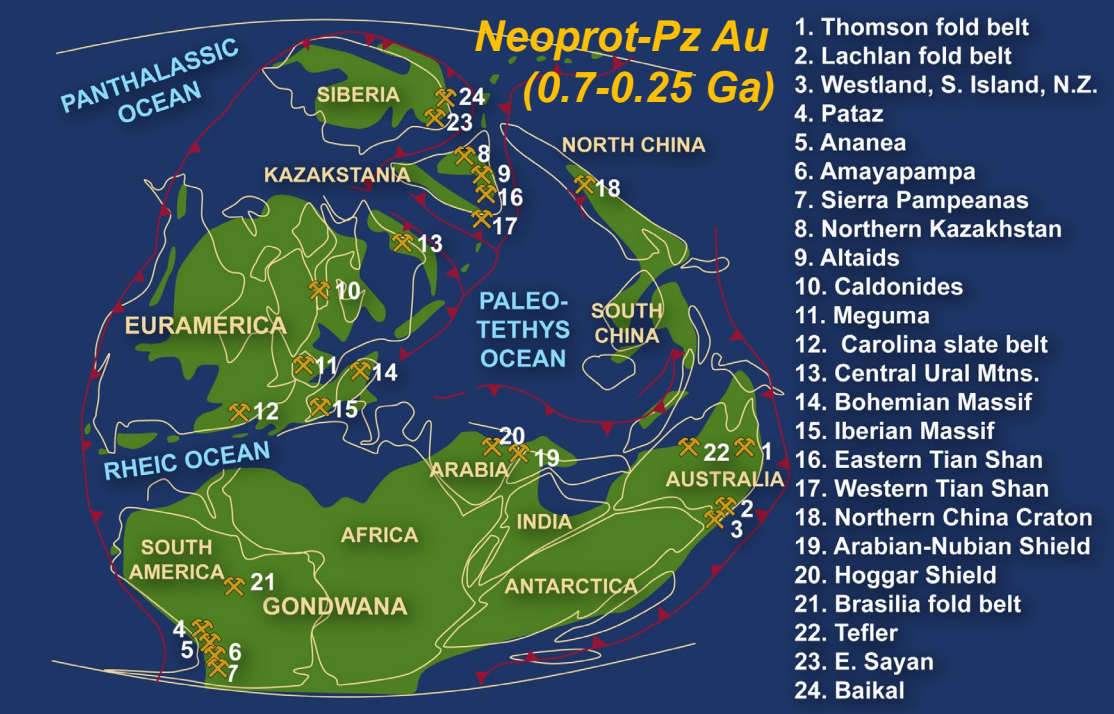
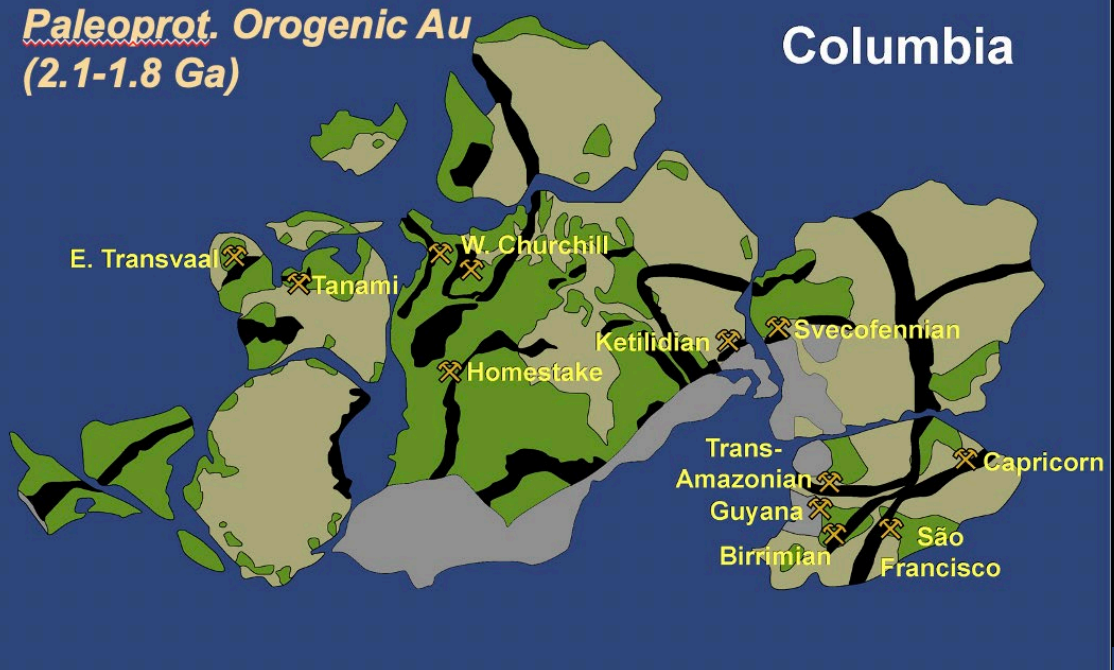
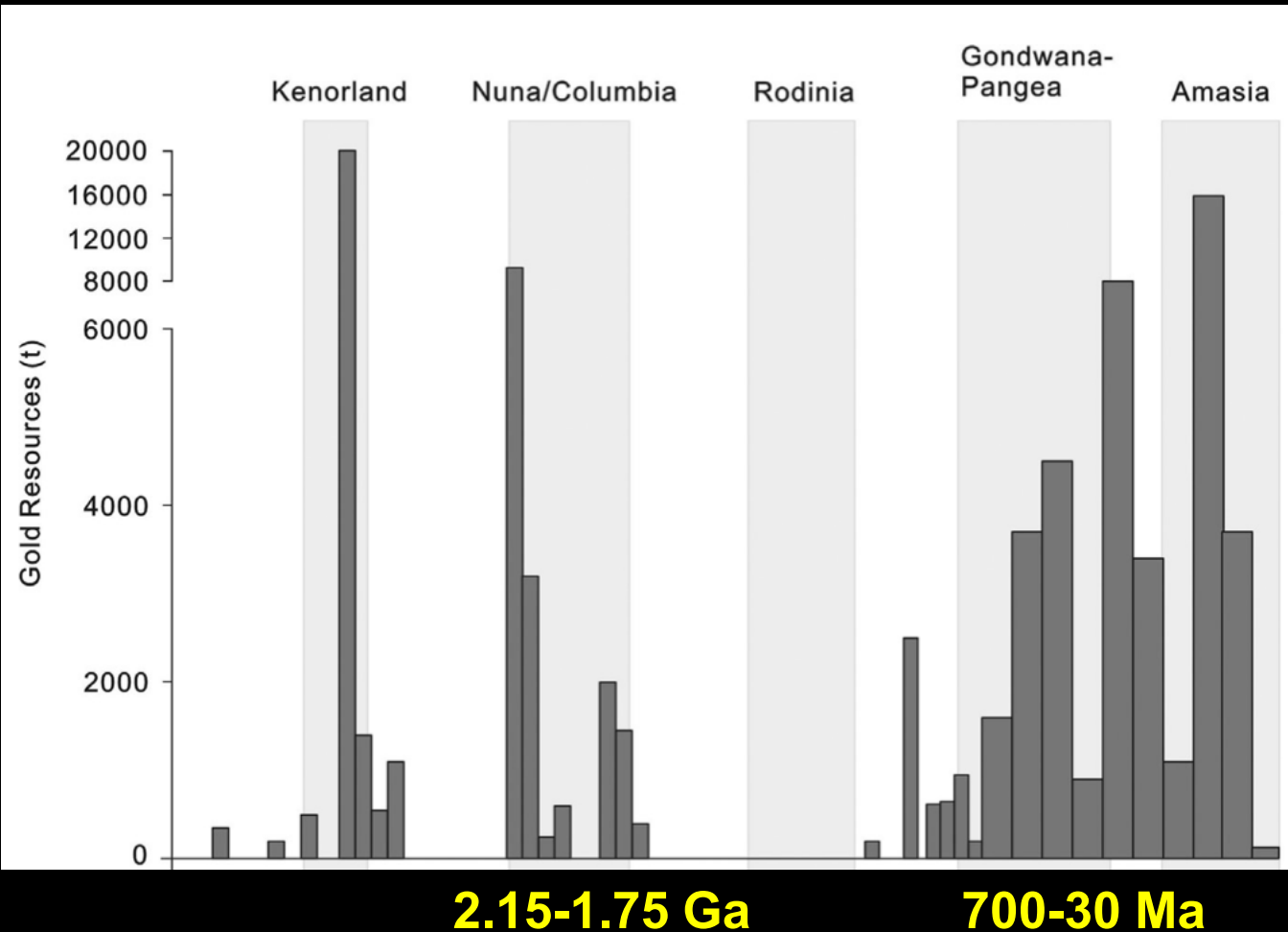
Special Publication Number 23  
Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of  
The Society of Economic Geologists, Inc.

# GOLD DEPOSITS IN METASED TERRANES: PROTEROZOIC & PHANEROZOIC

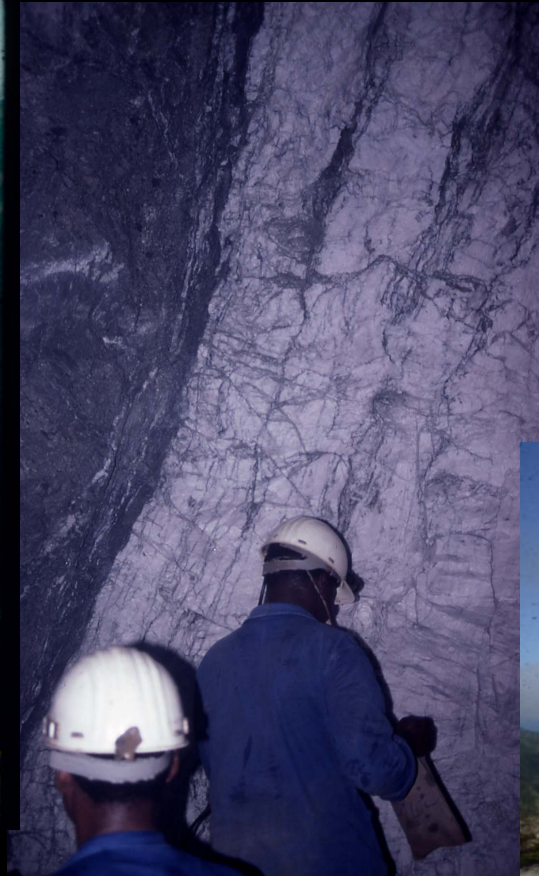


# GOLD IN METASED. TERRANES

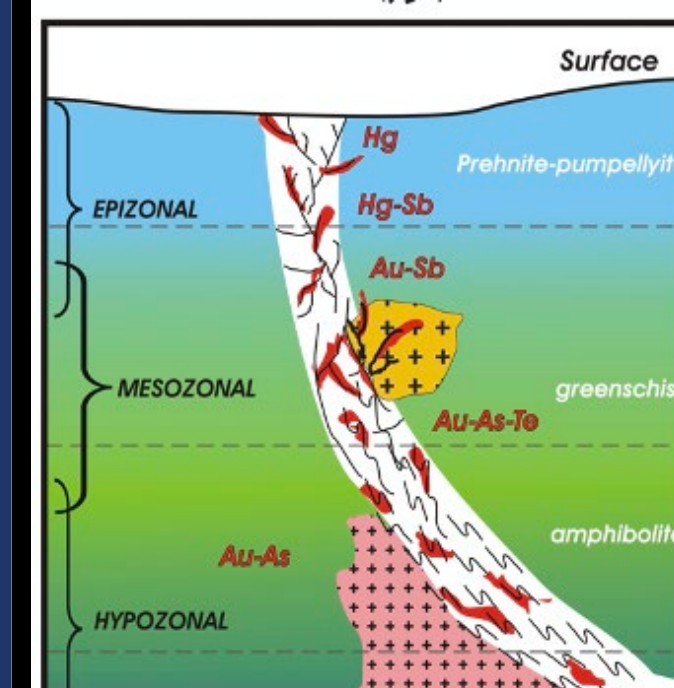
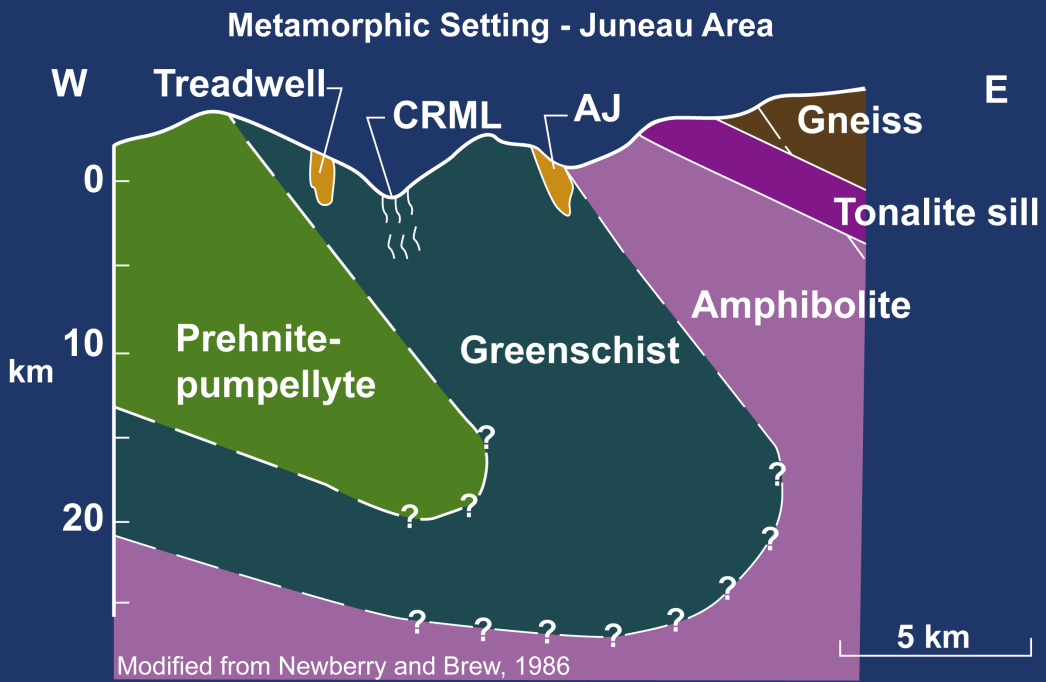
(extroverted & introverted oceans)







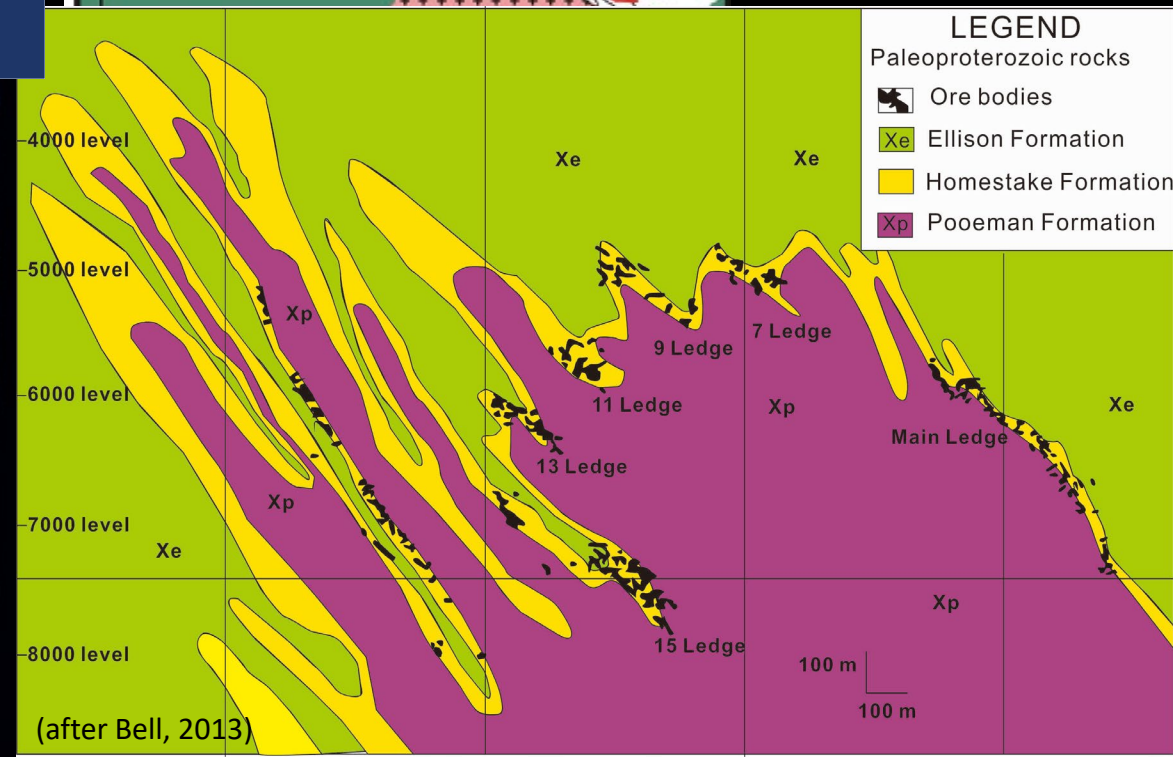
**KEY  
FEATURES  
OF  
METASED.  
GOLD**



## METAMORPHIC SETTING (Rarely Metamorphosed)

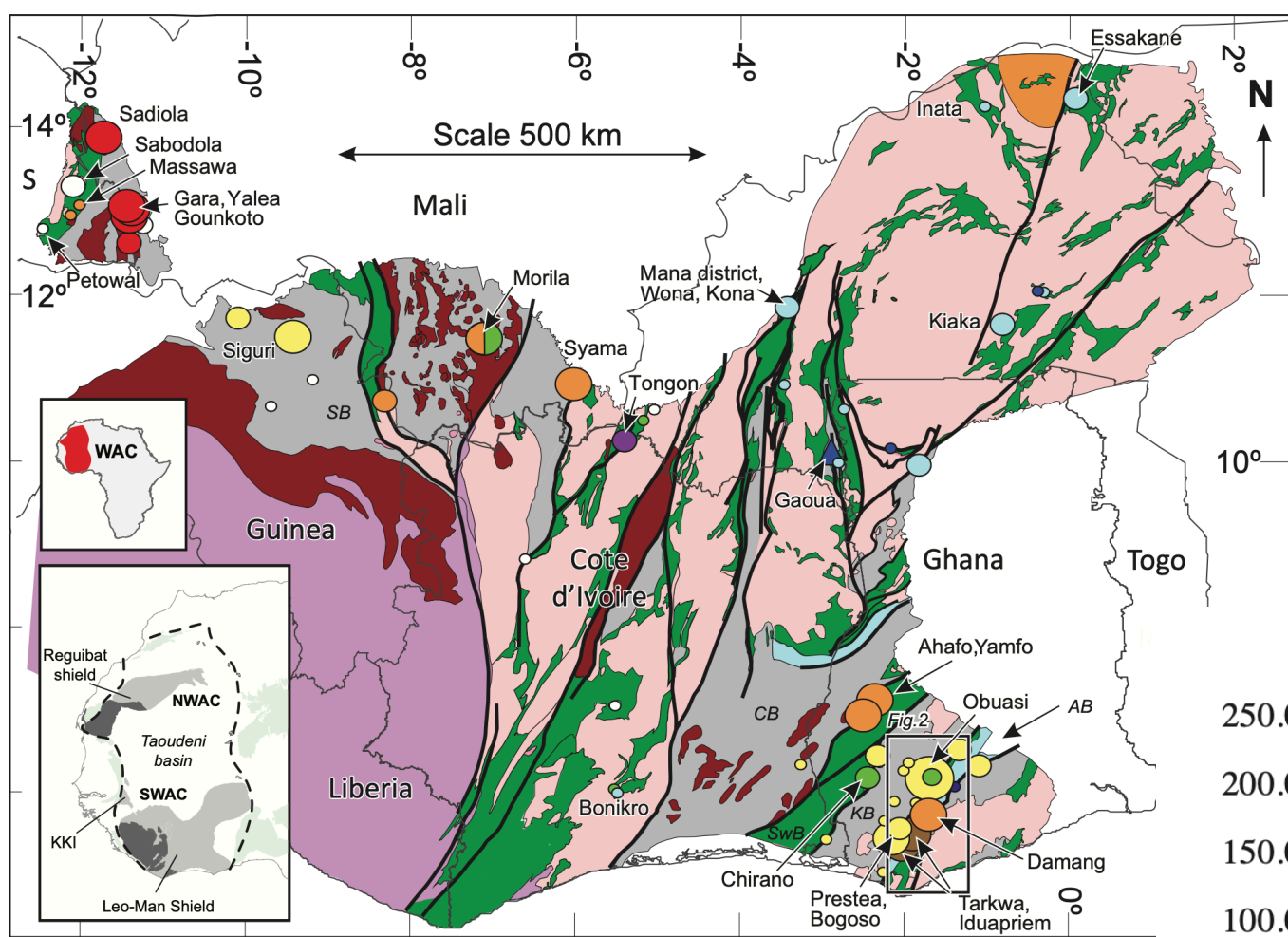
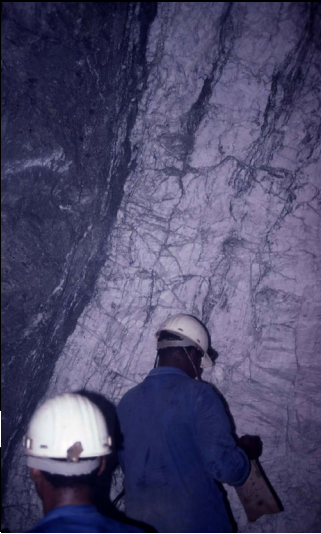
Greenschist facies  
 $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  rich  
 3-15 km, 220-450°C

## PHYSICAL & CHEMICAL TRAPS

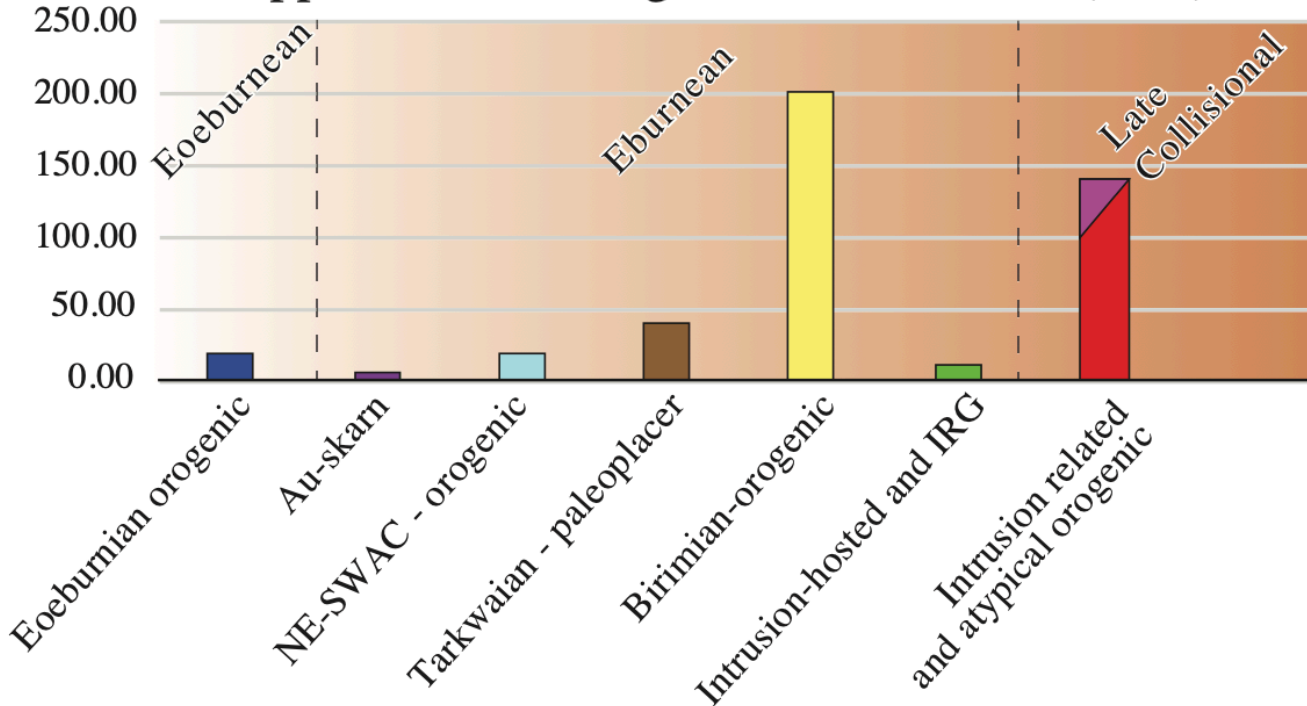


# WEST AFRICA (Thebaud et al)

- Ca. 2160 Ma; Tarkwa source?
- Jogs, intersections, contacts (2110-2095 Ma)
- **Tectonic switch**: Contraction, basin inversion, mm & fault reactivation; then transpression (SW Ghana)
- Post collision K-magmatism, thermal aureole Au (Morila, Loulo; 2060 Ma)

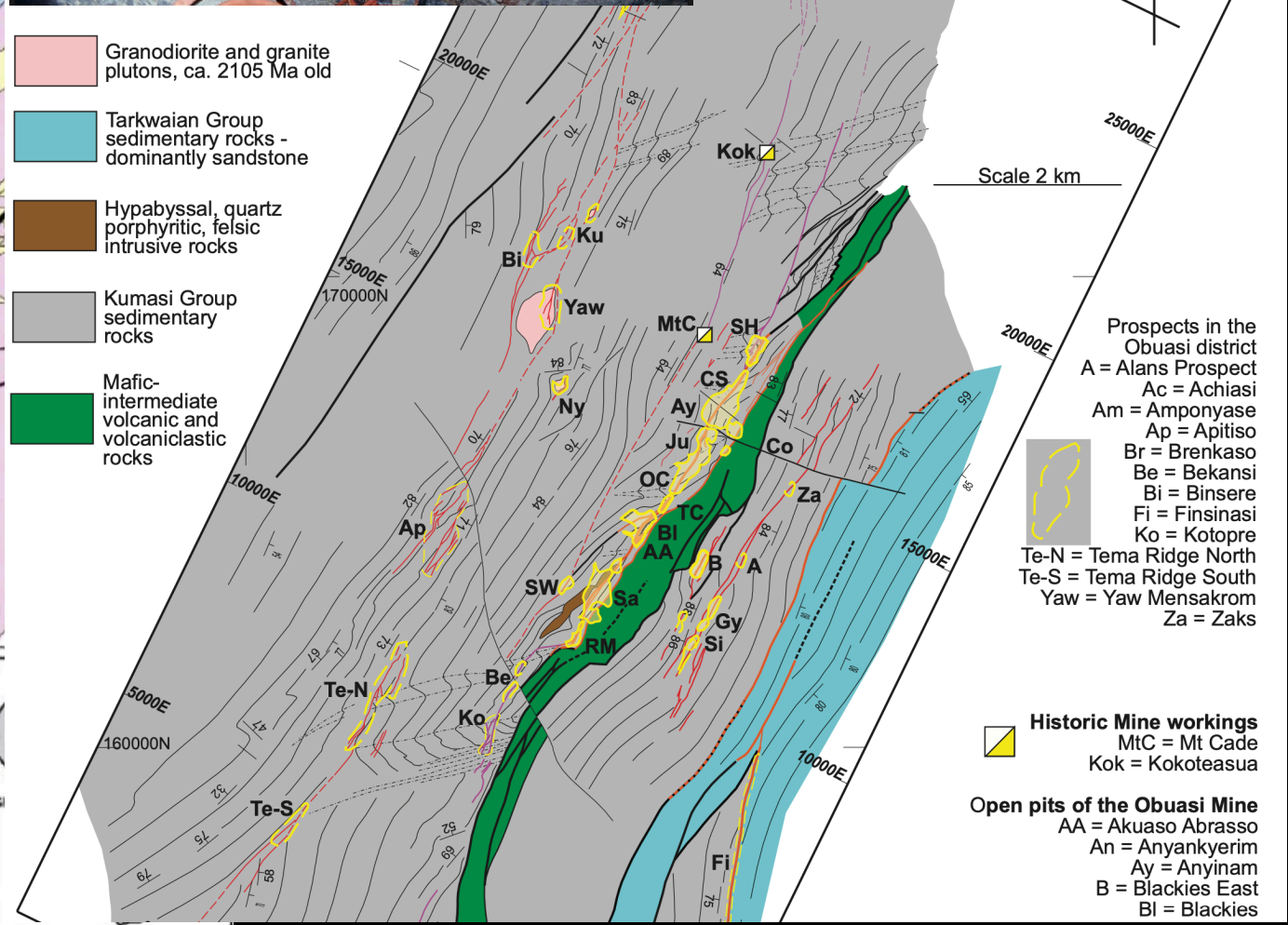
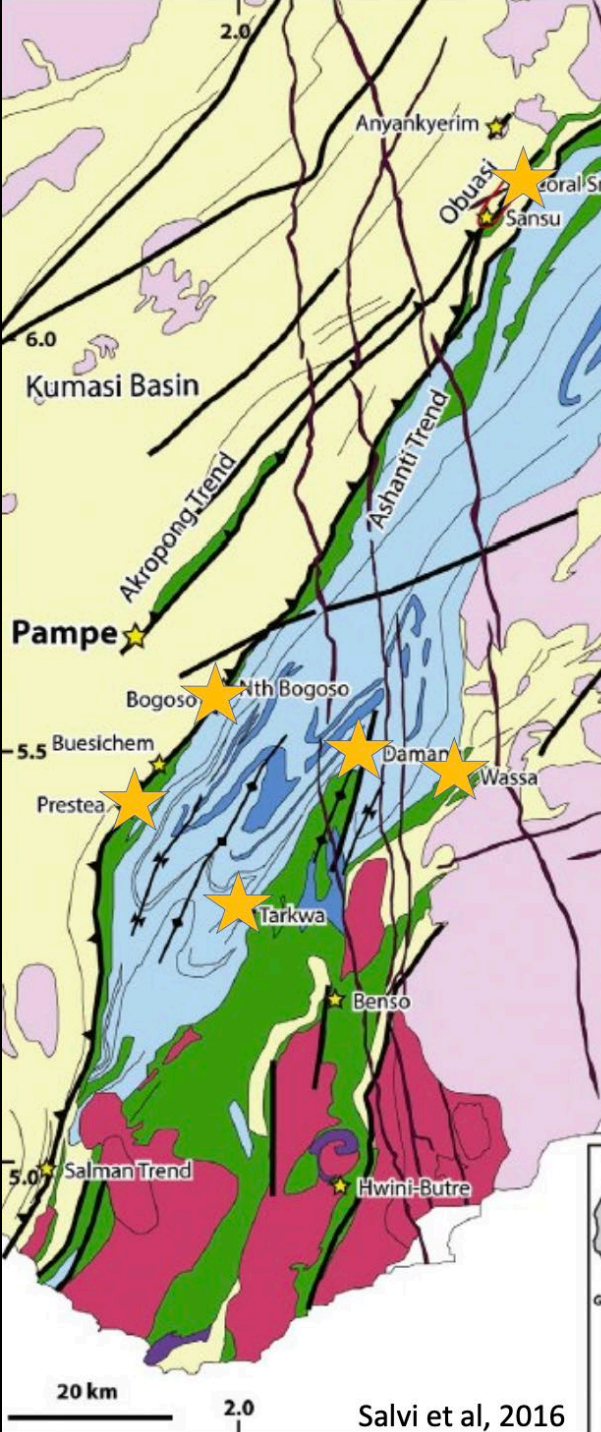


Approximate averaged Au endowment (Moz)



# OBUASI (Oliver et al)

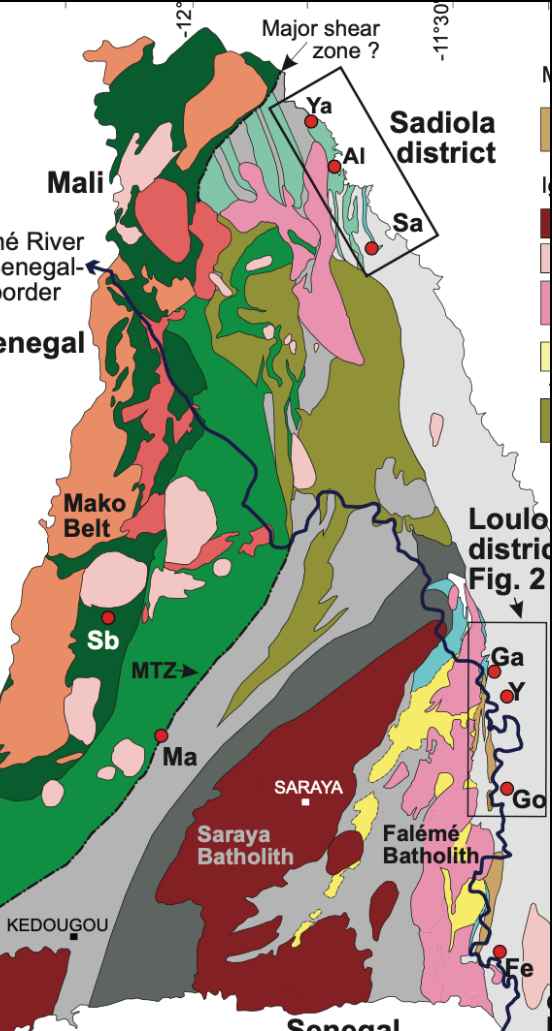
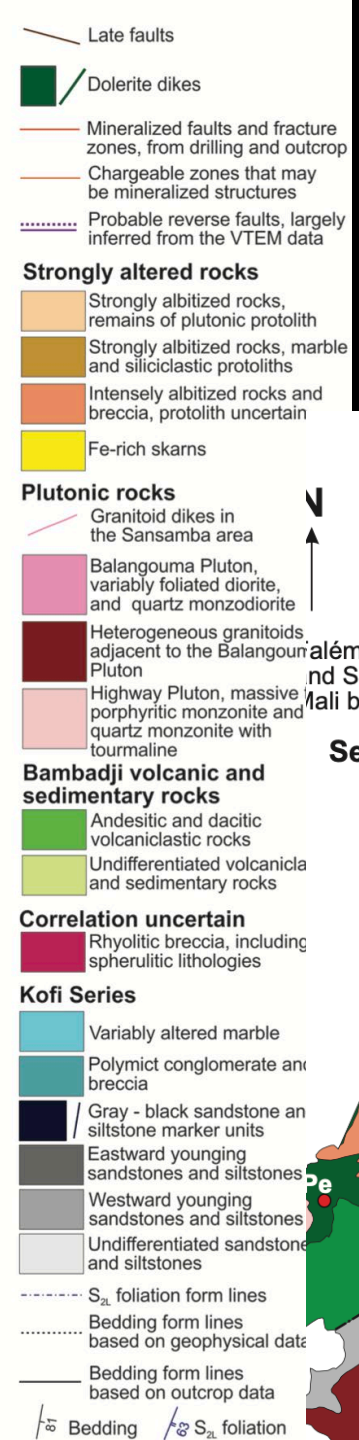
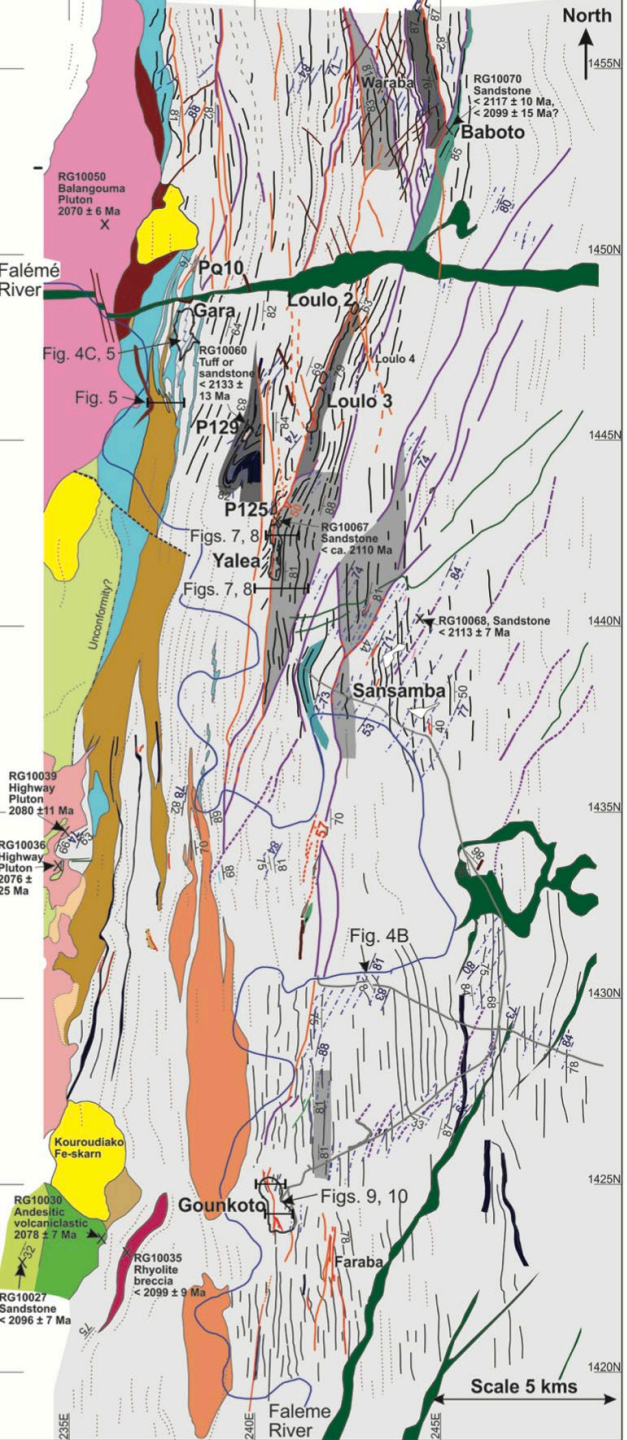
- 70 Moz; 8 km long, >2.5 km depth
- 2135-2115 Ma gwk & carb. phyll
- Inverted basin margin faults (**plumbing**)
- 2095 Ma Au & mm
- Early deformation & Au
- Mm model (but strange flincs)
- Carbonaceous material (**fertility**)--S, As, Au source
- Multiple Au events: D2, D4, D5 (and/or remobilization from early aspy)



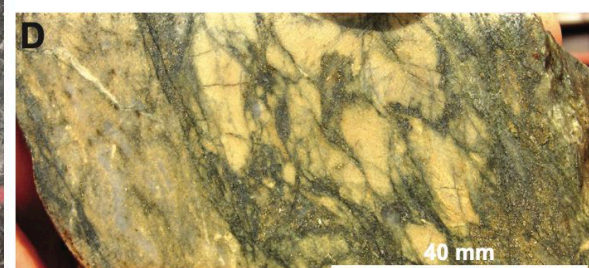
Salvi et al, 2016

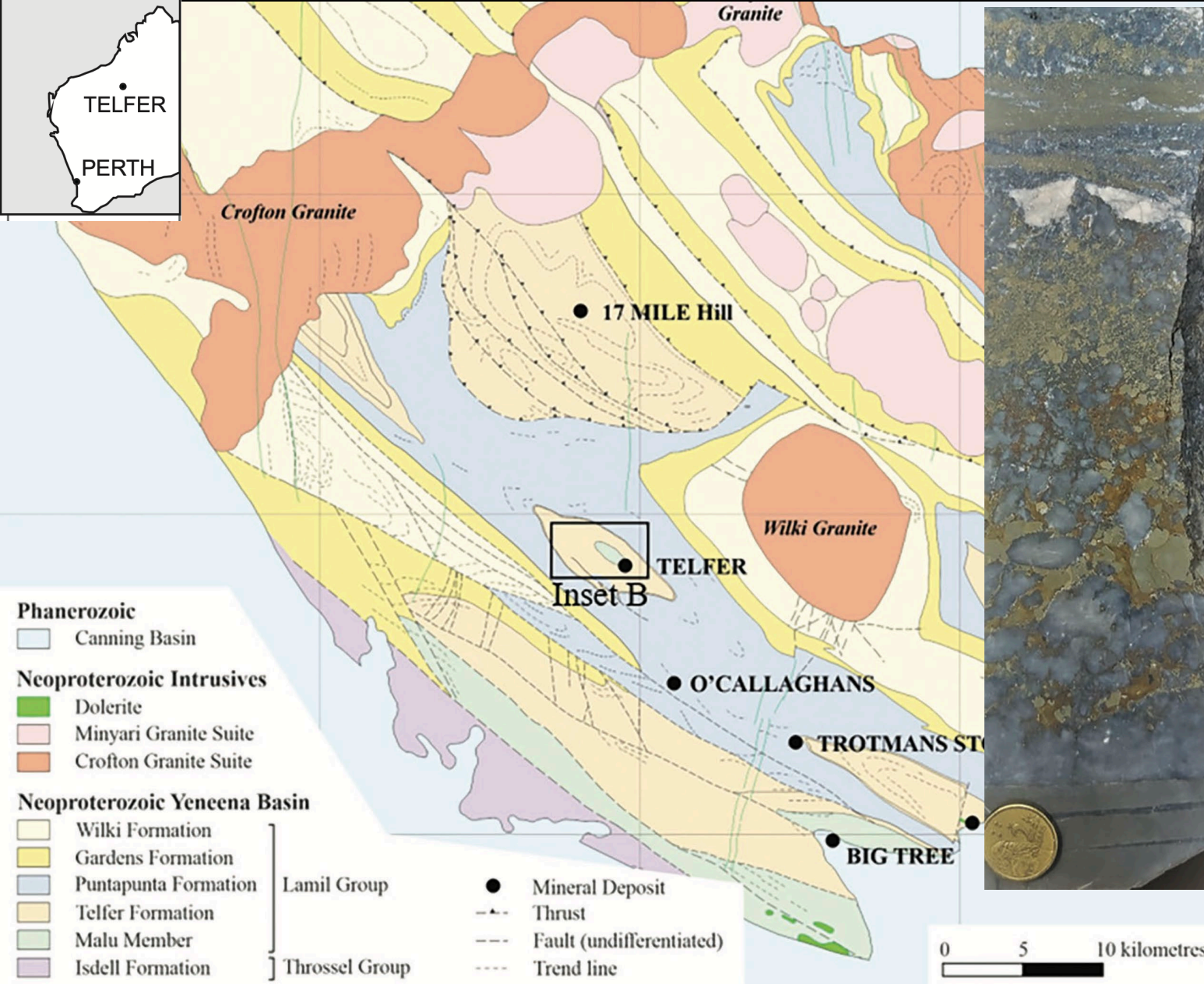
# LOULO DISTRICT (Allibone et al)

- 250-km-long belt, 2<sup>nd</sup> most endowed area of W. Africa
- Loulo District => 17Moz in 2120-2110 Ma clastics ± carb, evap
- D1 folding/reverse faulting; D2 transpression
- 2120-2070 Ma albite, carbonate, tourmaline **pre-Au alteration**



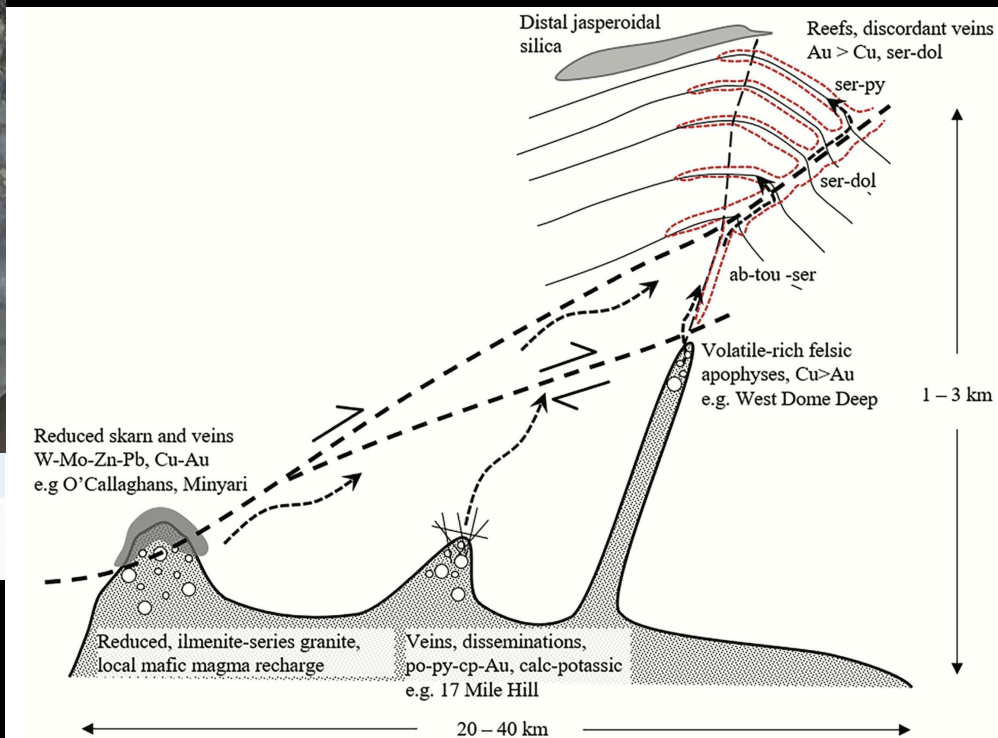
- 2090-2060 Ma batholith & Fe skarns
- Gold is late D2 (2070-2060 Ma)
- No regional Mali-Senegal shear zone
- Mm devol model BUT mixing of two fluids (contact mm Au?)
- Shoots where local shears intersect gentle folds in areas of early alteration



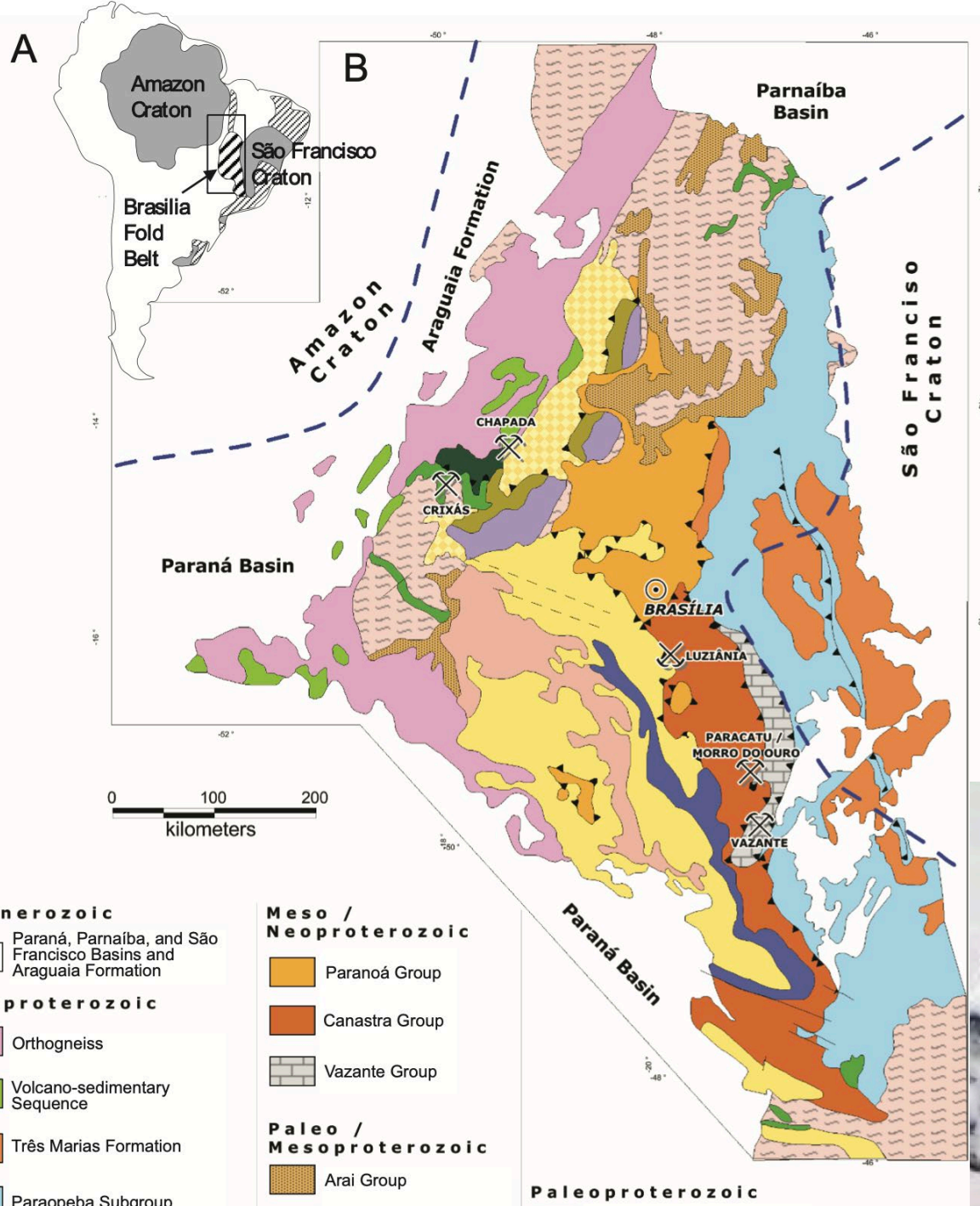


# TELFER (Wilson et al)

- >20 Moz Au (0.75 g/t); 0.7 Mt Cu (0.12%)
- Pre-650 Ma folds (D1-D3) & doming
- 650-600 Ma transpression (D4-D6)
- 645-605 I & S reg magmatism; cp-bearing dike in deep core
- Qtz-dolo-py-cp veins and stockworks in >20 stacked reefs in dome fold hinges
- Mx in silty units between thick quartzites
- Pyrite±cp as matrix to brecciated quartz
- **High salinity, 85% CO<sub>2</sub> fluids**

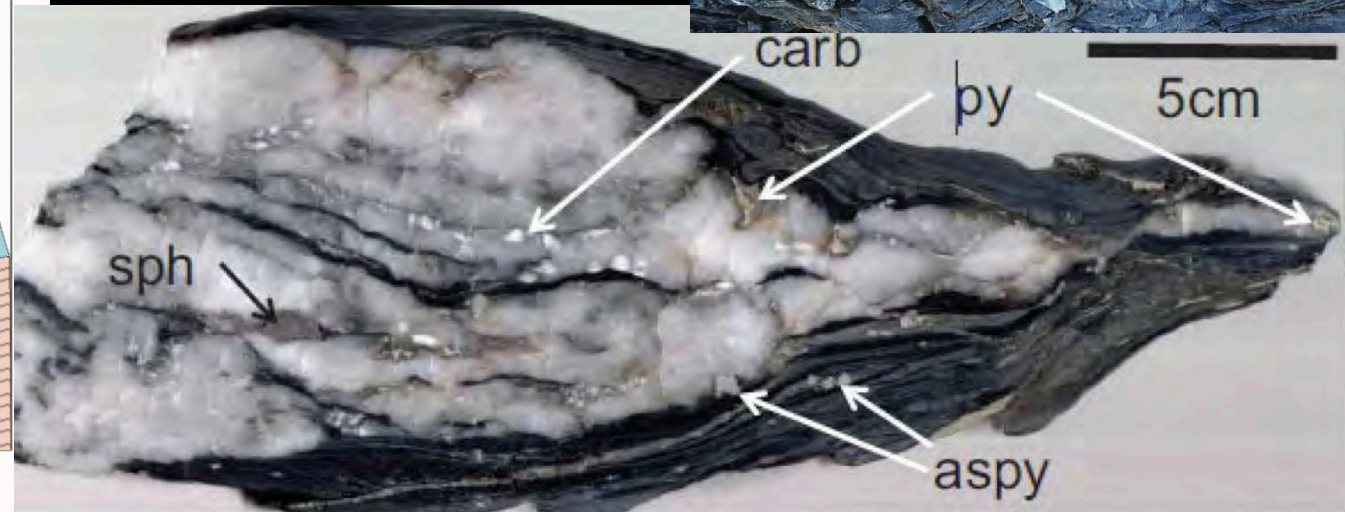


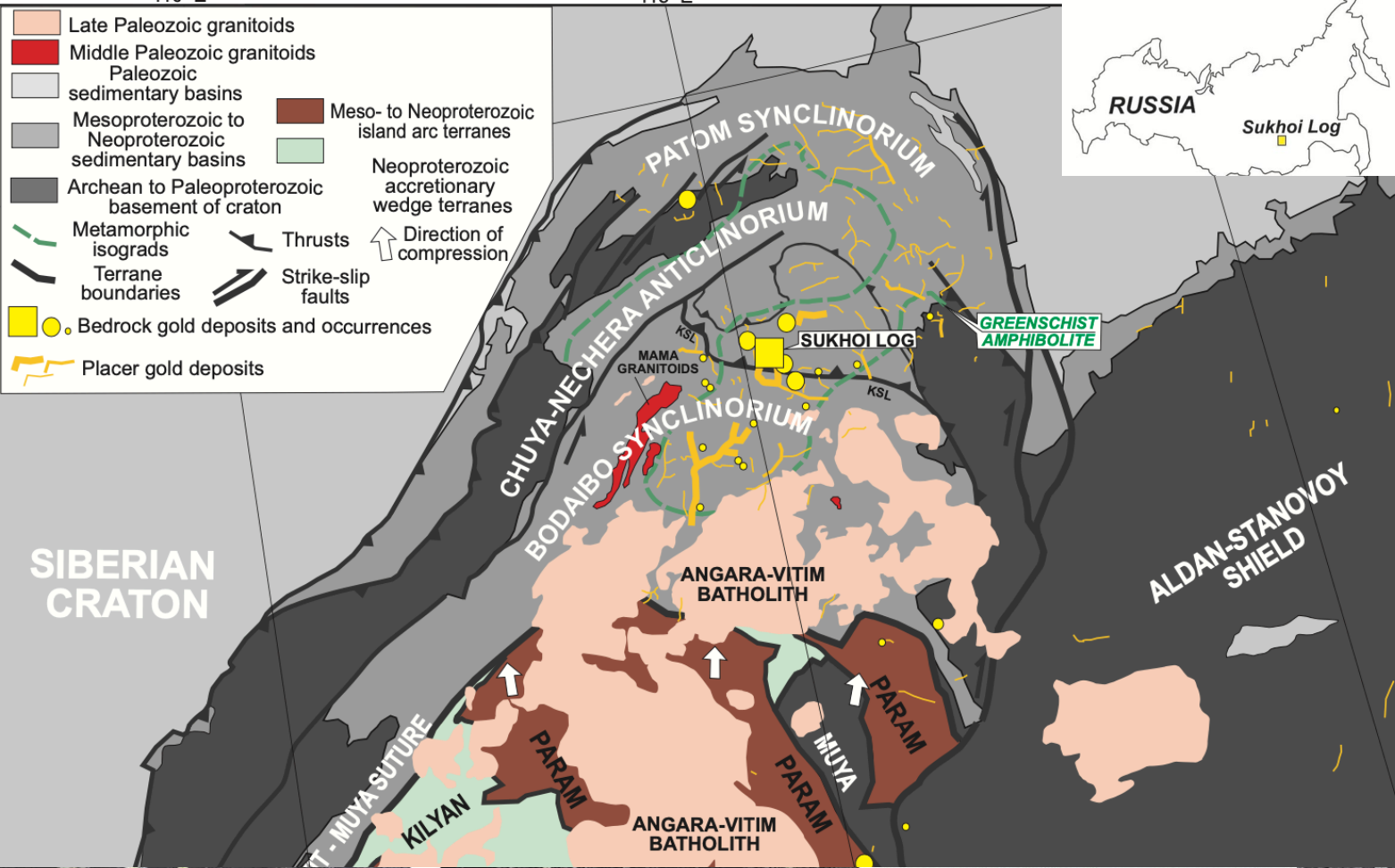
- High Cu, Cu:Au **zonation**, jasperoid, large footprint=unusual RIRGD
- Fluids exsolved over 40 m.y. from large buried batholith



# PARACATU (Oliver et al)

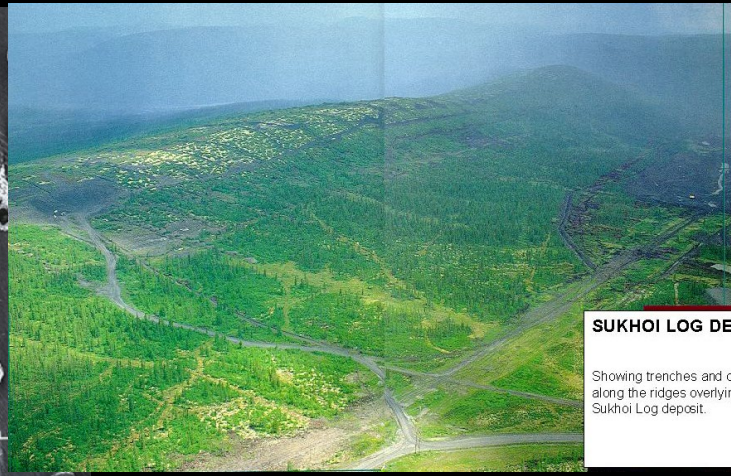
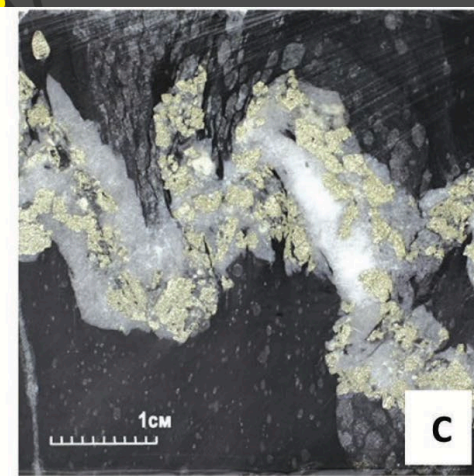
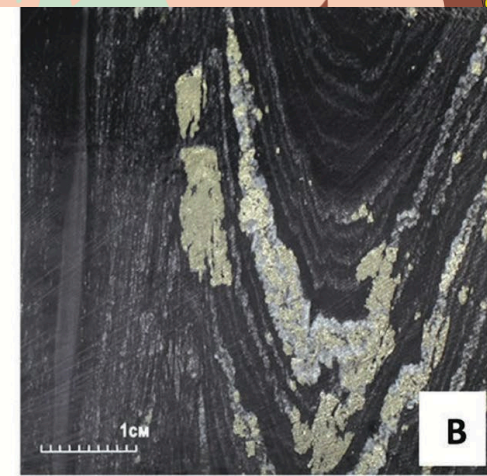
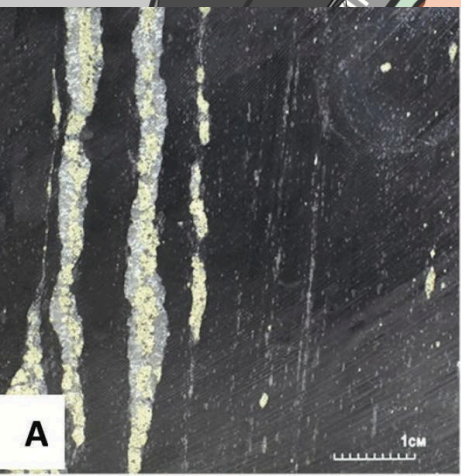
- Brasília fold belt; 1.0 Ga carbonaceous phyllite (gs facies) thrust over **passive margin** carbonates
- Ca. 630 Ma Au; predates much of ductile deformation
- **Subhorizontal orebody** with 15 Moz @0.4 g/t
- **No igneous rocks**
- “Half-way house” of elements:  
  - Si, Ca, & Sr are local
  - H-O-S-C-Au-As are far-traveled



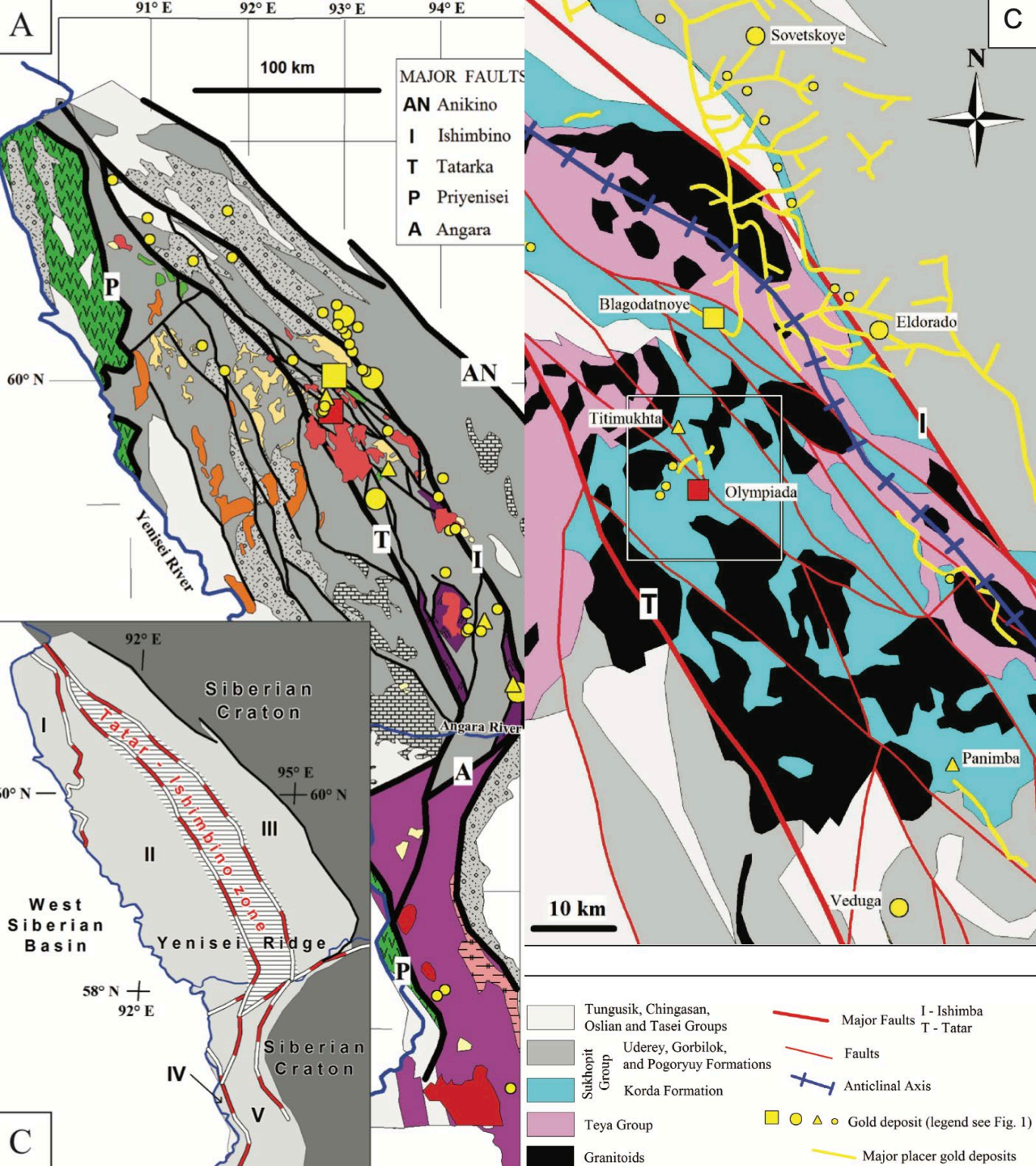


# SUKHOI LOG (Vursiy et al)

- 63 Moz (>120 Moz Lena prov)
- Neoprot-Cambrian passive margin sed; E Pz terranes accrete
- 1960s=first metamorphic models
- Anticlinal dome in regional syncline
- Ores in **highly carbonaceous clastics** between competent carbonate along shears in axis for 5 km strike
- Many generations of **auriferous pyrite with qtz rims**; unique textures
- Complex genesis; **ages spread** from >600 Ma to 300 Ma for mm, mag, and Au; multiple events





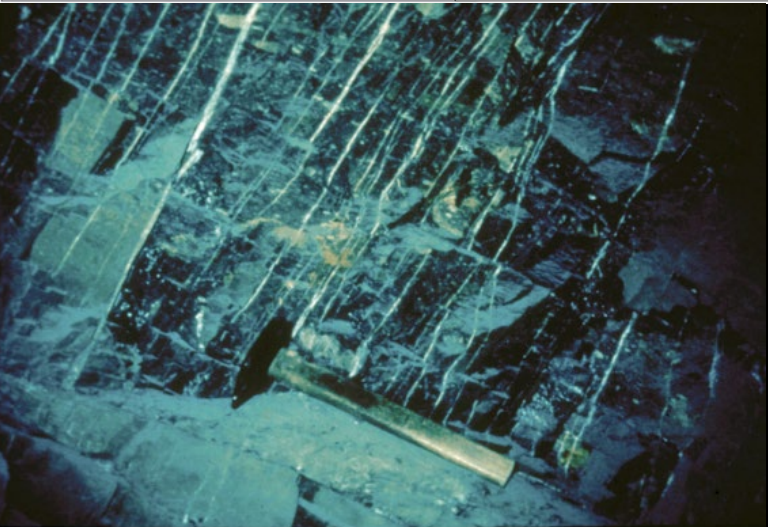
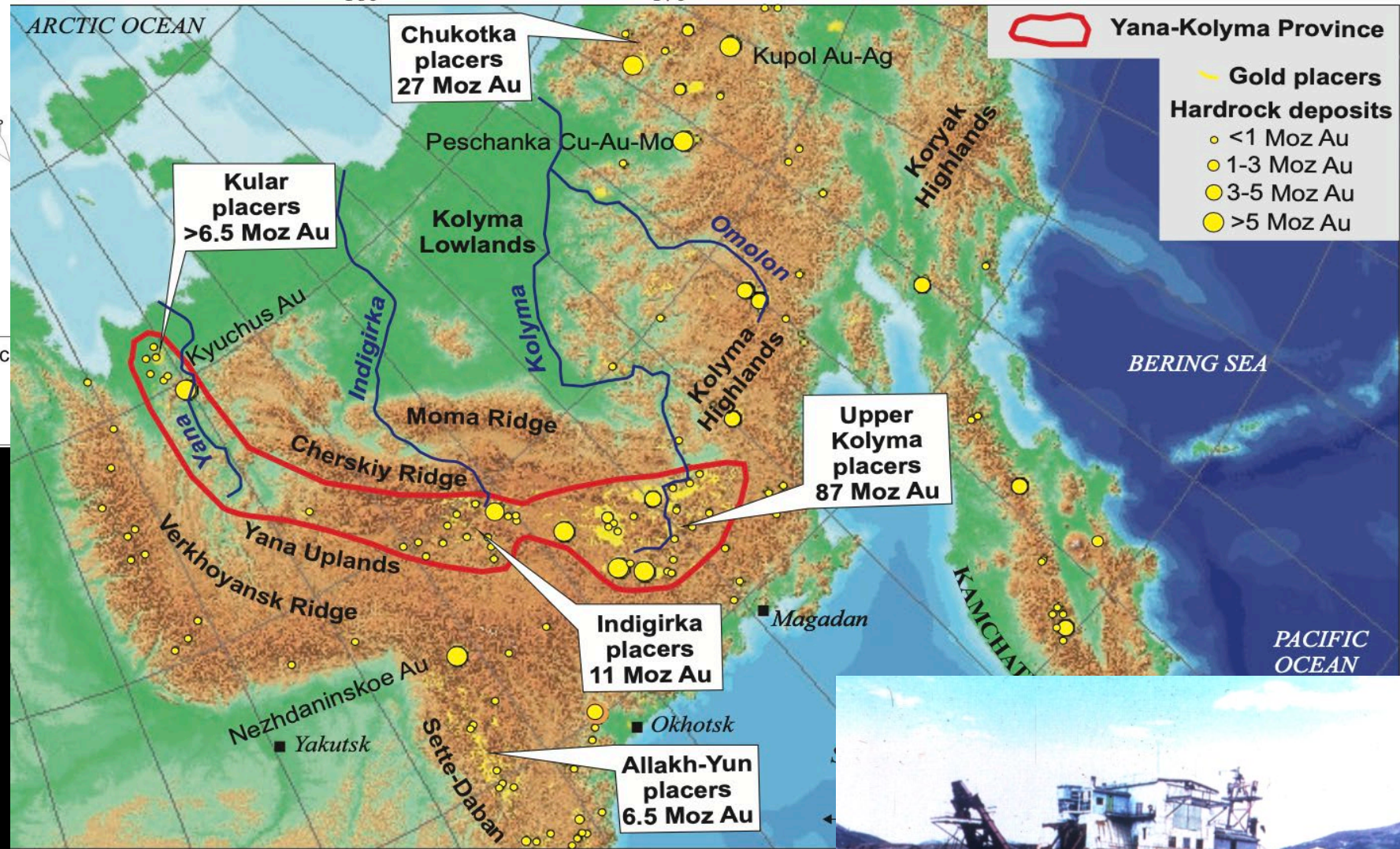
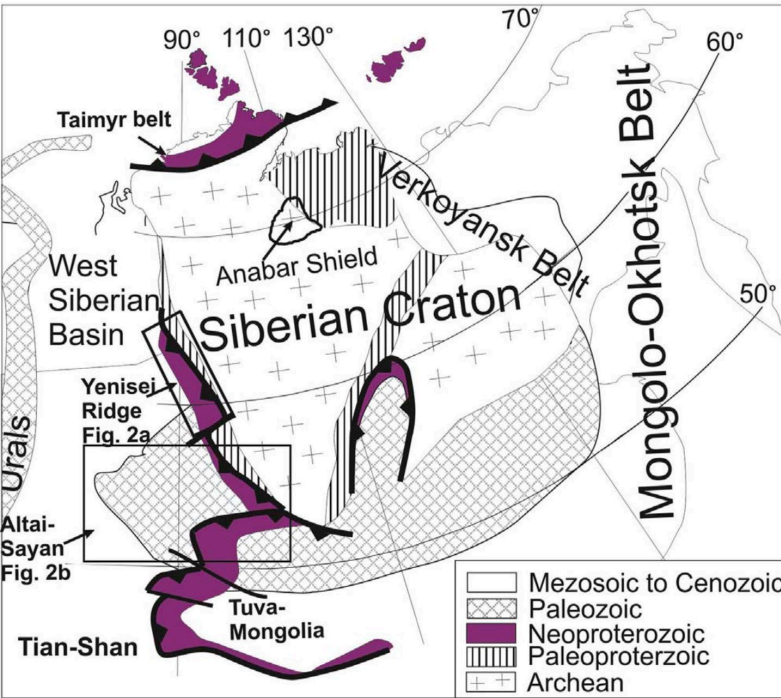


# OLYMPIADA (Sazonov et al)

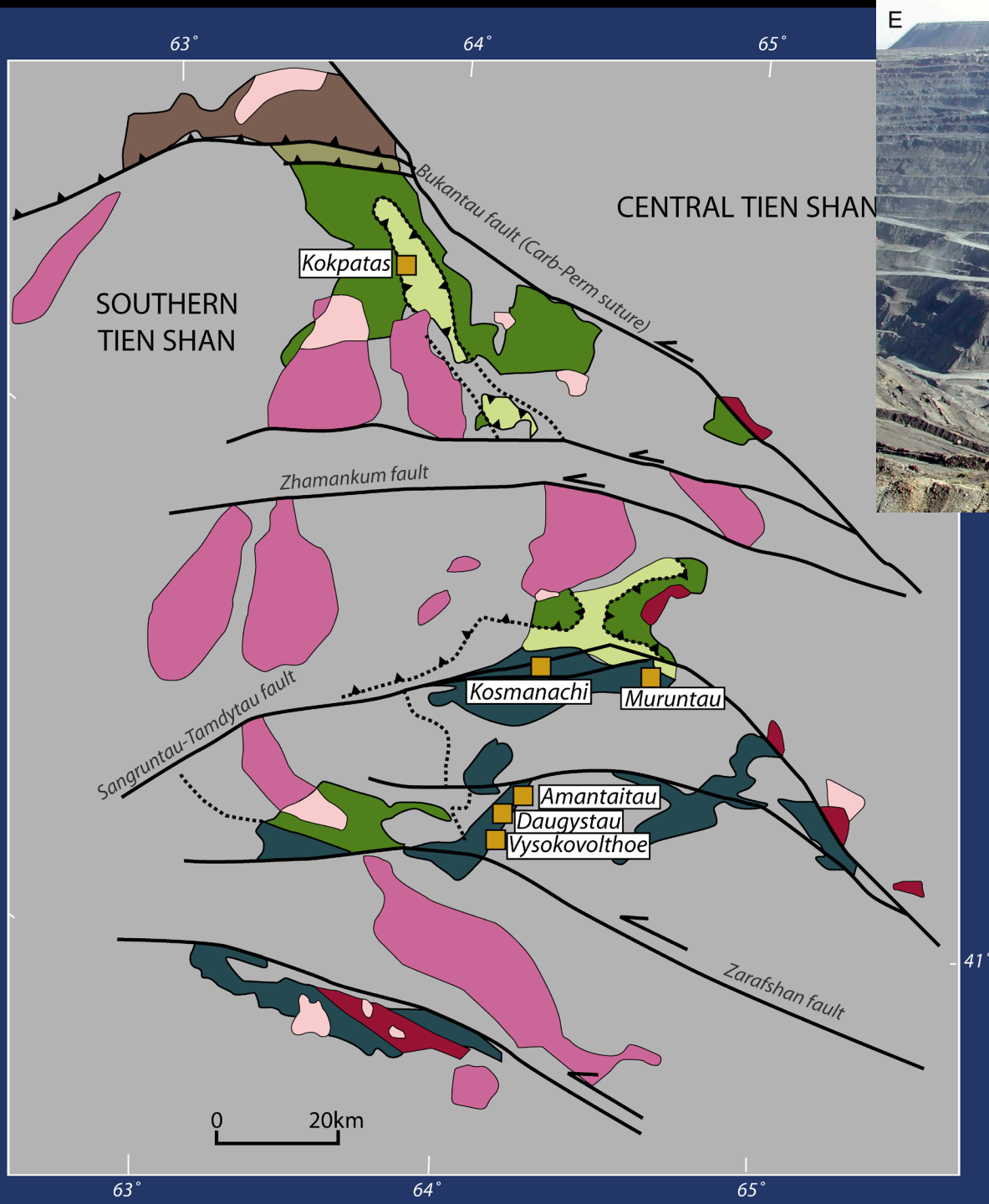
- 50 Moz@4-4.5 g/t
- Province=100s Moz
- 700 x 200 km
- Neoprot orogen
- Sheared anticlinal closure near major suture
- In amphib facies carbonaceous schist near carbonate contacts
- Aspy>po>>>py
- Late sulfosalts, stibnite, native Sb, aurostibite, tellurides
- 817-660 Ma mx events (150 my)?
- Mantle association?



# GIANT PLACERS, NE RUSSIA (Goryachev et al)

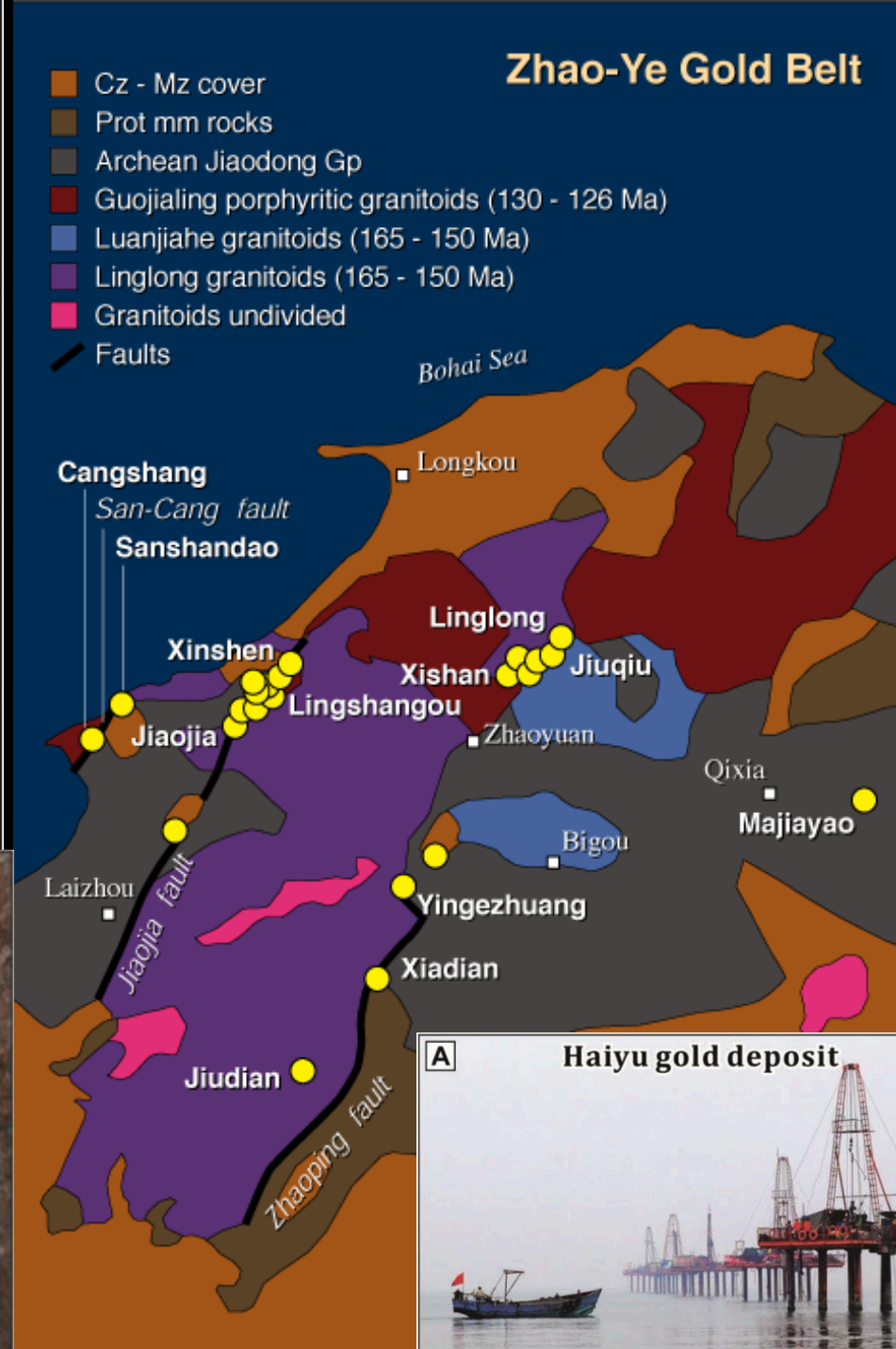
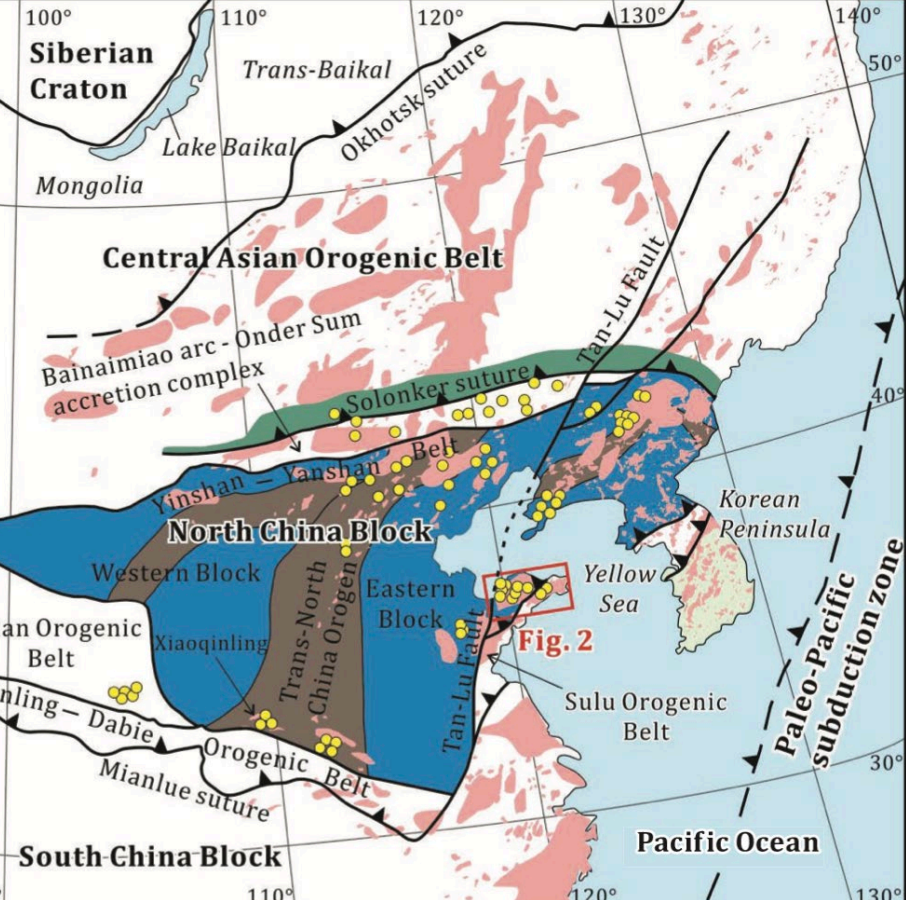


- Upper Kolyma watershed with huge lode potential (>200Moz lode+placer)
- 136-125 Ma strike-slip and lode Au in Kular-Nera flysch of Kolyma & Allakh-Yun of S. Verkhoyansk craton margin; reactivated Jurassic thrusts



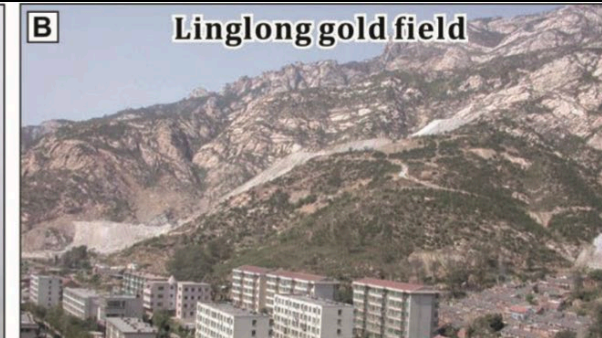
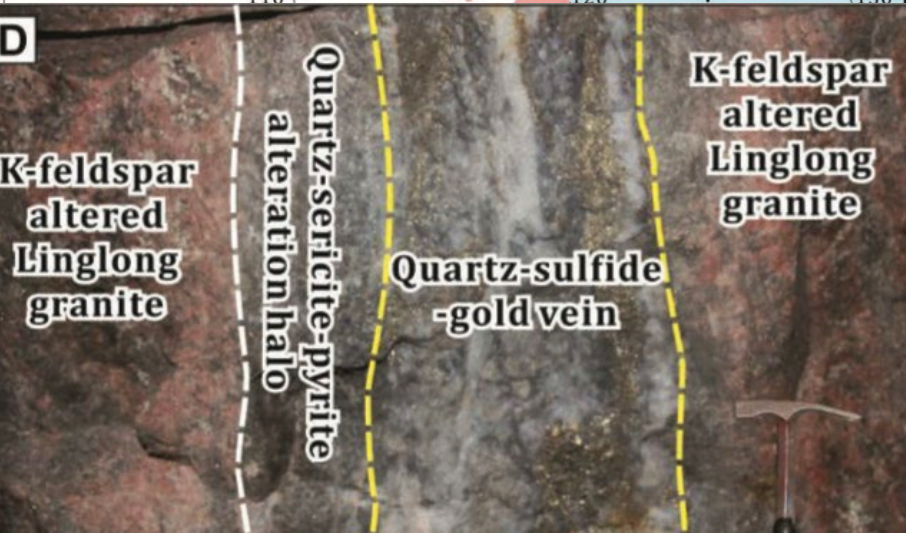
# MURUNTAU (Seltmann et al)

- 170 Moz Au (3.5-4 g/t)
- Camb-Ord flysch deformed pre-300 Ma
- Left-lateral movement on splays and magmatism in large jog (300-275 Ma)
- Qtz-KF stockworks in large hornfels zone
- Fault intersections along plunging anticlinorium nose
- Carbonate seal?
- Bt, KF or albite, dolomite, aspy, py, po scheelite; late Sb, Te
- Ages of mx 370-220 Ma,; likely ca. 288 Ma—late defm
- MM vs TAG vs Mantle genetic models



## JIAODONG (Qiu et al)

- 150 Moz (2 Moz/yr)
- Archean & Pprot blocks
- 165-145 Ma batholiths; scattered 130-122, 119-110 Ma plutons
- Gold=ca. 120 Ma along margins of Jurassic batholiths exposed as MCC
- Young Au in old terranes & Au in extensional setting
- Mm model (subduction) or magmatic model or unique decratonization model?
- Classification?



## EXPLORATION CONSIDERATIONS IN METASEDIMENTARY PROVINCES

- Unlikely isolated deposit (e.g., West Africa, Lena, Baikal, So. Tien Shan, Yensei Ridge); Large h-g oxide zone (Olympiada) or favorably oriented very l-g ore body (Paracatu) may be critical for a project's success
- Fault reactivations, basin inversions, changing stresses needed for fluid focusing
- Carbonaceous sedimentary sequences associated with giants (source?, trap?)
- Early timing (Paracatu, Obuasi) to late timing (Loulo, Kolyma) or perhaps just many tens of millions of years (Sukhoi Log? Olympiada? Muruntau?)
- Structures=jogs, fold noses, fault intersections, complex settings (Muruntau, Sukhoi Log, Jiaodong)
- Competency contrasts: Stratigraphy (Telfer), Hornfels (Muruntau), Pre-ore KF (Jiaodong), Pre-ore albite (Loulo)
- Magmatism: Almost always syn-Au but none at Paracatu
- Metamorphism: Consistent greenschist but not at Jiaodong
- Genetic model: Metamorphic? Magmatic? **Maybe a local model on observed geology is always best**

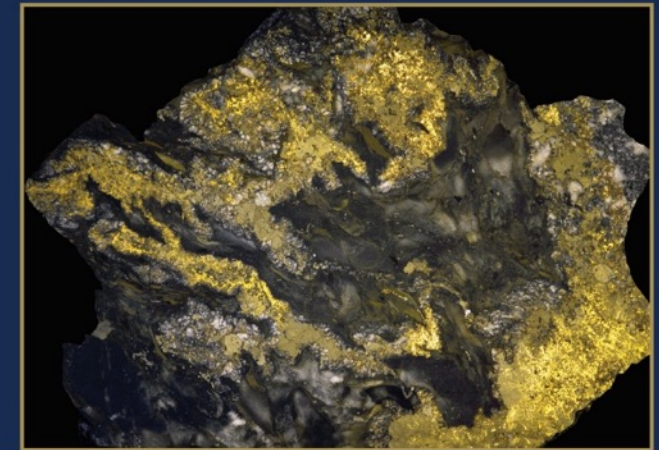


**BARRICK**

**Geology of the World's Major Gold  
Deposits and Provinces**

# Gold Deposition

*Stuart Simmons*



**Richard H. Sillitoe, Richard J. Goldfarb,  
François Robert, and Stuart F. Simmons, Editors**

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Special Publication Number 23  
Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of  
The Society of Economic Geologists, Inc.

# Hydrothermal Gold Deposition in Epithermal, Carlin, and Orogenic Deposits

Stuart F. Simmons,<sup>1,2,3,†</sup> Benjamin M. Tutolo,<sup>4</sup> Shaun L.L. Barker,<sup>5</sup> Richard J. Goldfarb,<sup>6,7</sup> and François Robert<sup>8</sup>

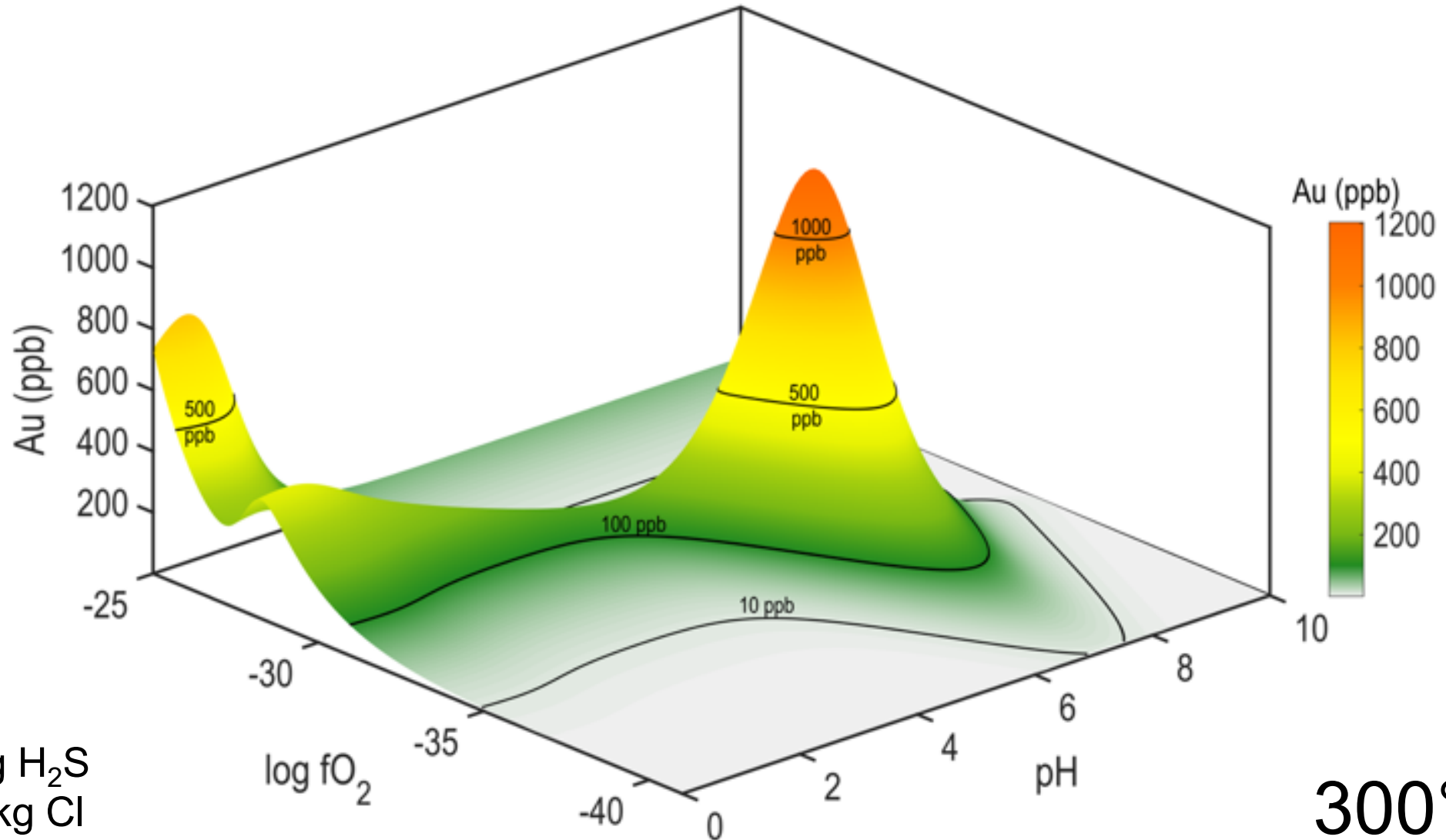
Metal precipitation is the ultimate & most important event, producing ores & geochemical anomalies.

Similar thermal & chemical characteristics permit comparison of Au depositing processes across all three deposit types.

## Analysis

- experimental data
- metal transport-deposition in modern hydrothermal systems
- mineralogical-geochemical-geological context of gold orebodies.

# Gold solubility in sulfidic hydrothermal solutions



320 mg/kg  $H_2S$   
7000 mg/kg Cl

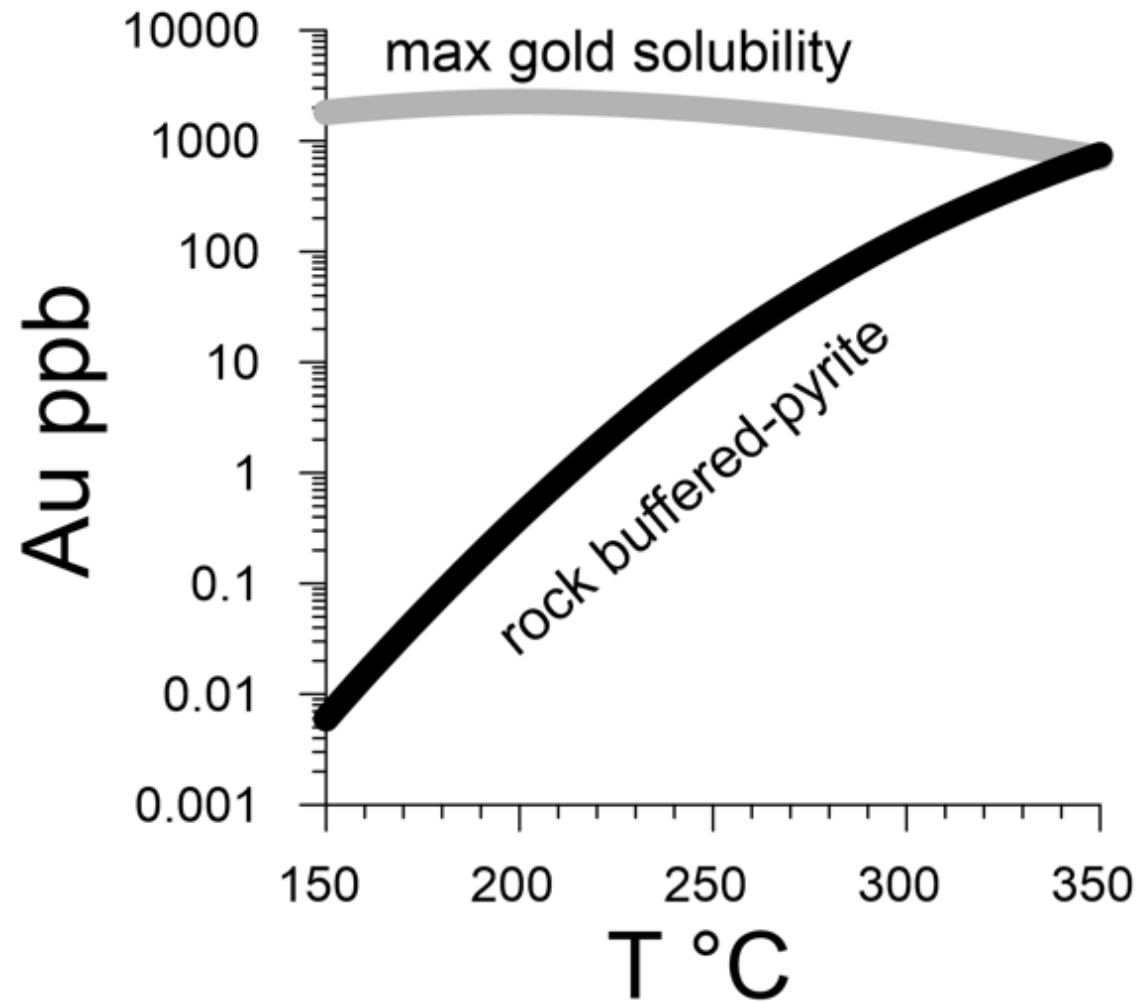
300°C



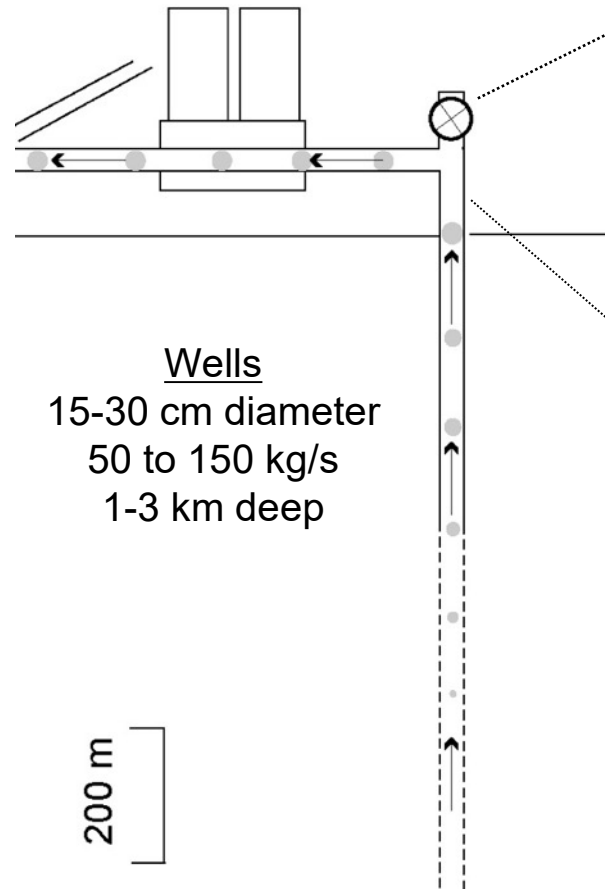
# Gold solubility in sulfidic hydrothermal solutions

Optimal pH (near neutral)  
Redox State (reduced S)

320 mg/kg H<sub>2</sub>S  
7000 mg/kg Cl



# Gold deposition from sulfidic hydrothermal solutions

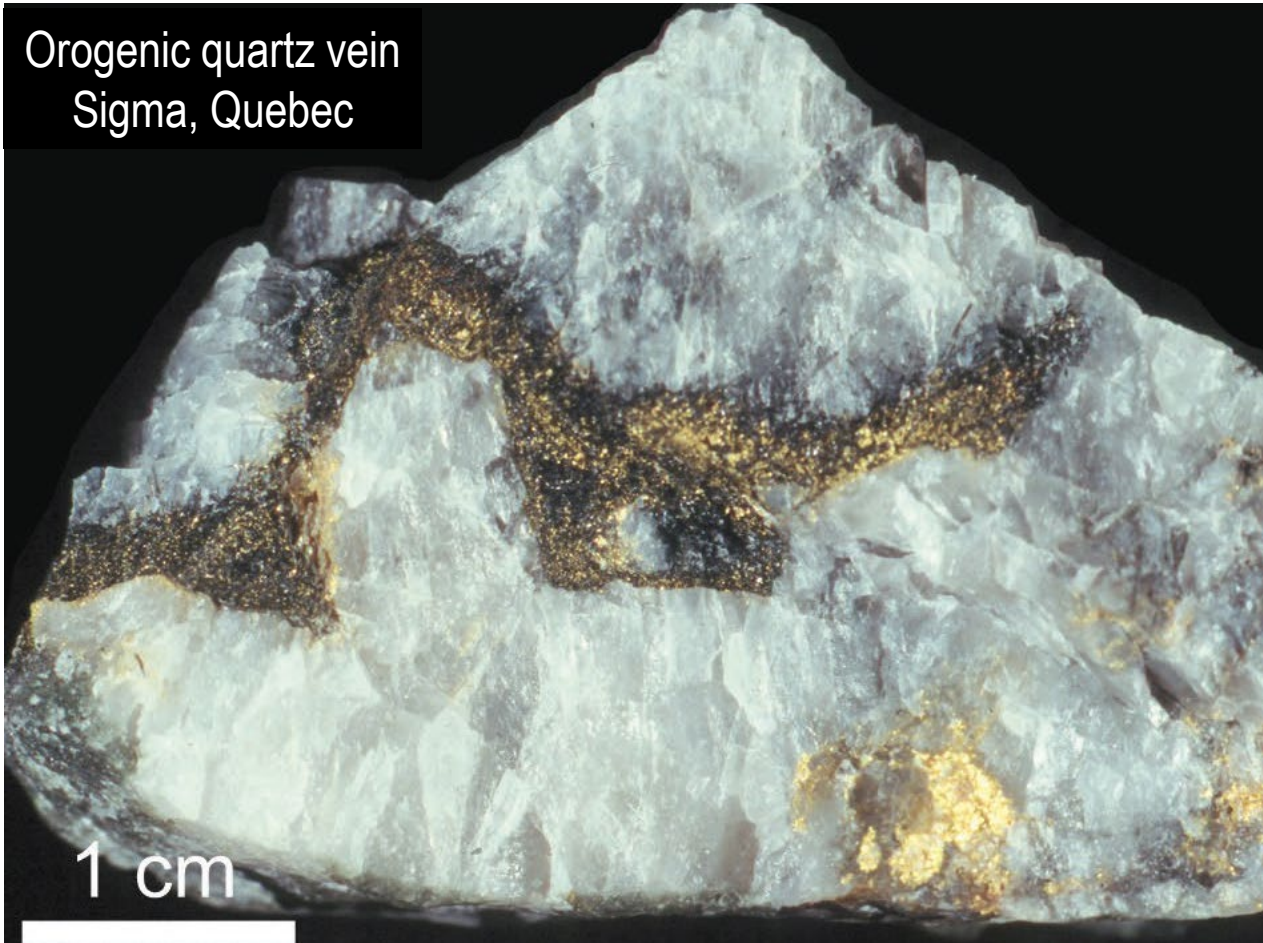


<i>chalcopyrite scale</i>	<i>solution</i>
60,000 ppm Au	1 ppb Au
>100,000 ppm Ag	8 ppb Ag

Brown, 1986 Economic Geology

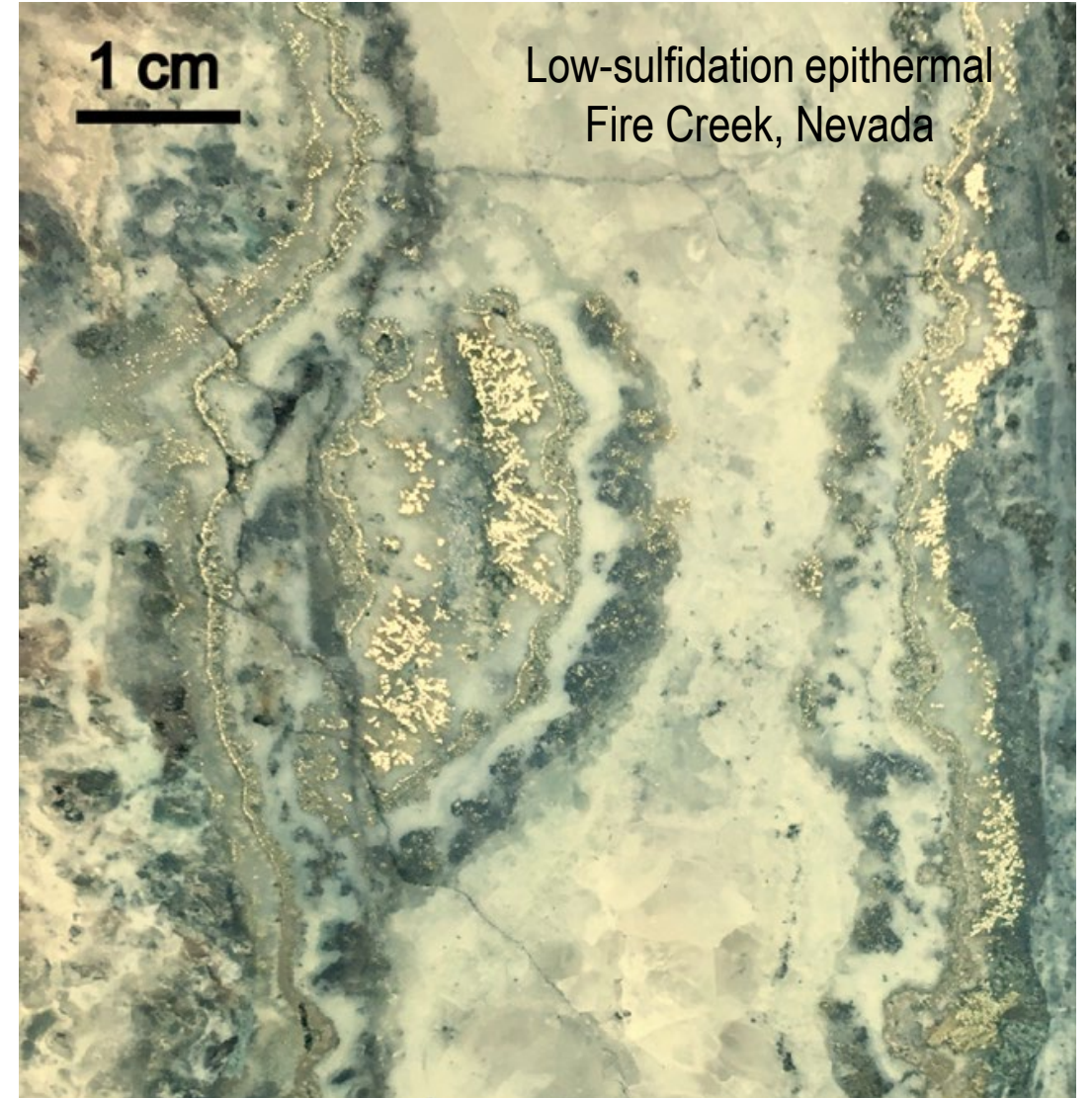
# Gold deposition from sulfidic hydrothermal solutions

Orogenic quartz vein  
Sigma, Quebec



1 cm

Low-sulfidation epithermal  
Fire Creek, Nevada



# Gold deposition from sulfidic hydrothermal solutions



Champagne Pool, Waiotapu

Au deposition via chemisorption

Chloride water: 74° C  
pH ~5  
2000 ppm Cl  
3 ppm H<sub>2</sub>S

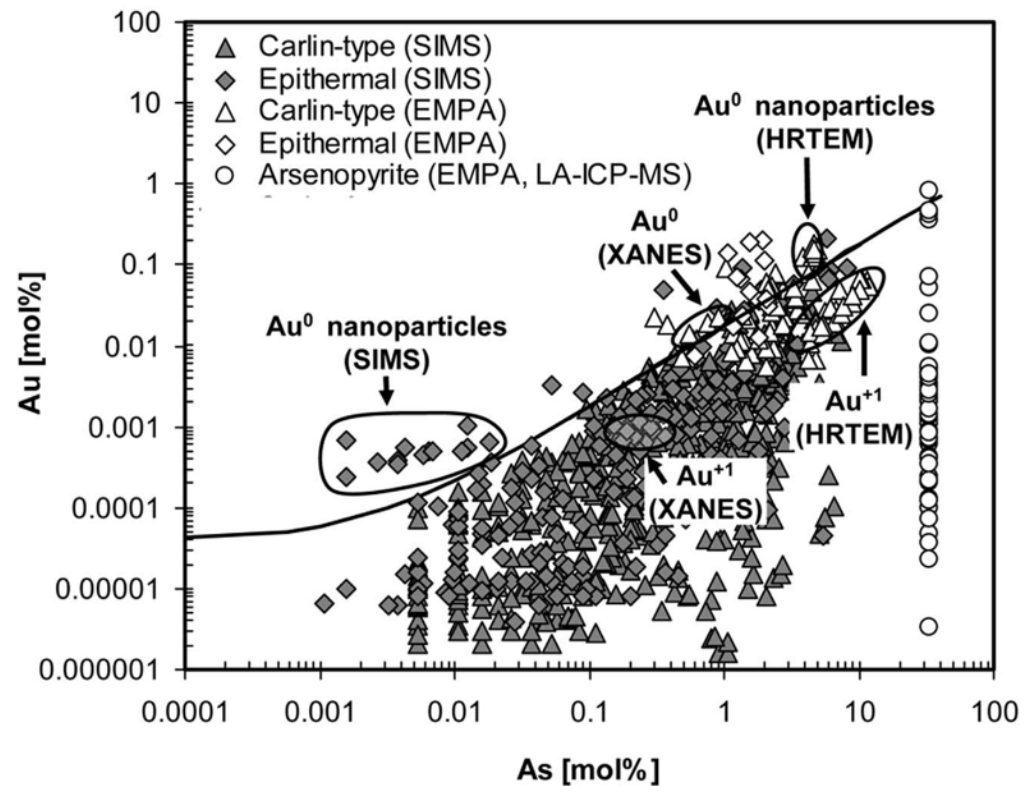
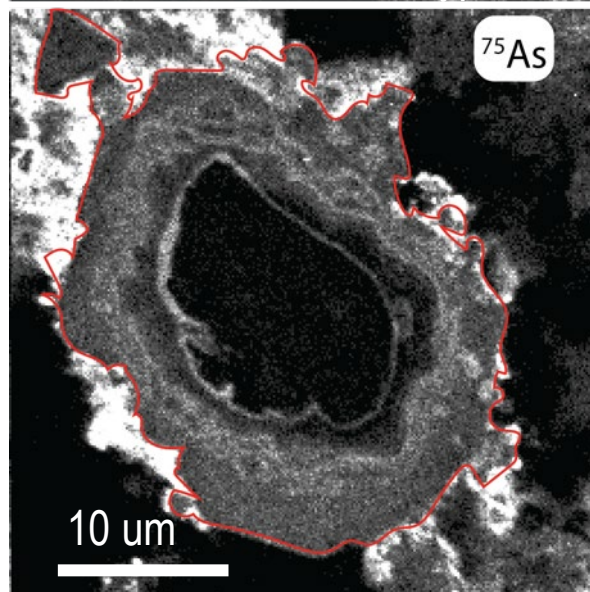
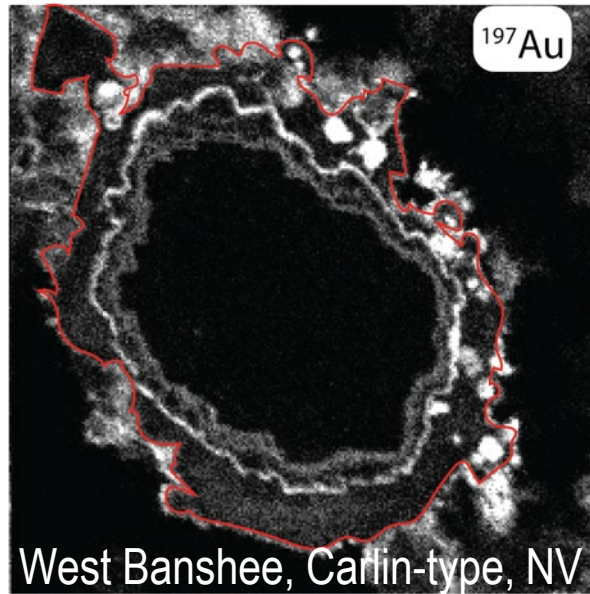
0.10 ppb Au  
0.02 ppb Ag

Au & Ag deposit on As-Sb-S rich  
colloids

540 ppm Au  
750 ppm Ag

Pope et al, 2005 Economic Geology

# Gold deposition from sulfidic hydrothermal solutions



For Carlin ores, Au deposits on to As-rich pyrite rims due to chemisorption.

The evidence is supported by high magnification elemental maps & microbeam analyses.

Simon et al., 1999; Reich et al., 2005; Barker et al. 2009; Deditius et al., 2014.

# Predominant Mechanisms of Au Deposition

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## Epithermal Ores

- phase separation (boiling)
- mixing

## Carlin Ores

- sorption of ionic Au on to the surfaces of *As*-pyrite

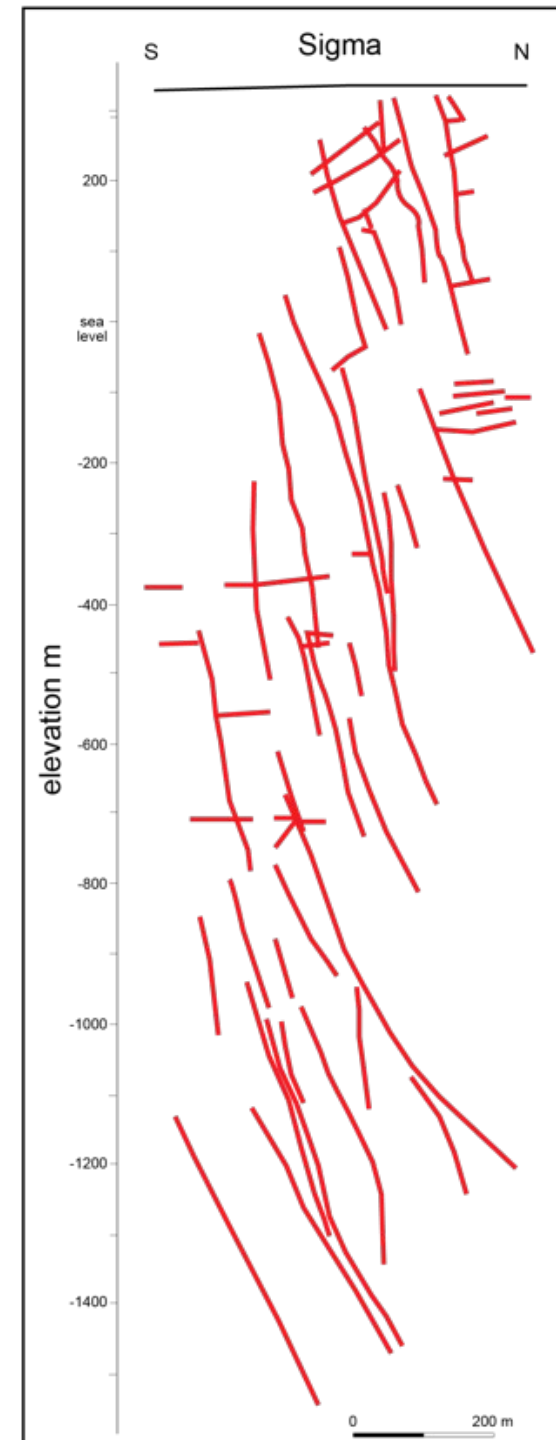
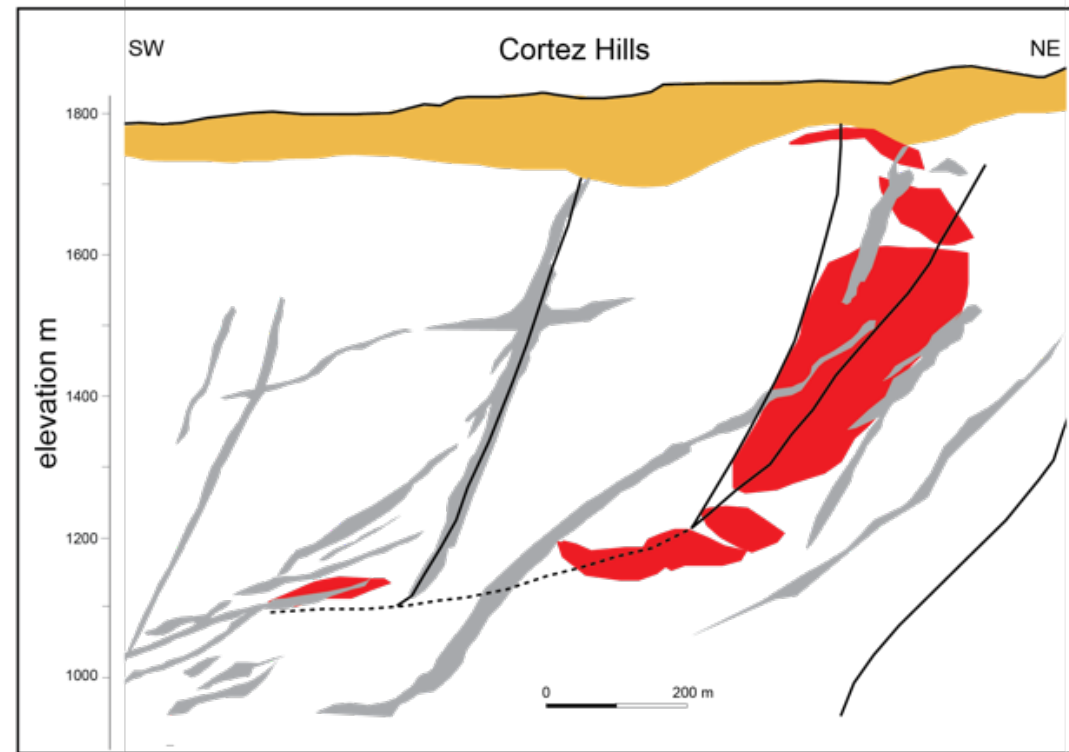
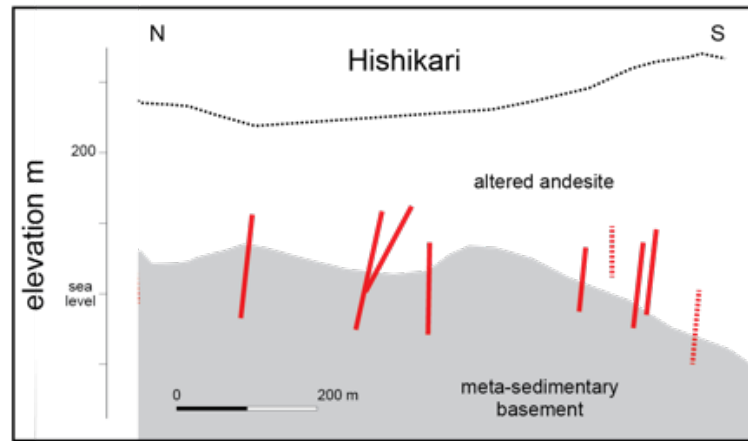
## Orogenic Ores

- phase separation
- pyritization (sulfidation) via water-rock interaction
- reduction via interaction with graphitic rocks
- co-precipitation *As*-pyrite & arsenopyrite

Ore body geometries/dimensions

Fluid flow rates/directions


Duration of mineralization (repeated/long lived mineralization)



- Descriptive papers on 29 important deposits & 7 major provinces
- Manuscripts authored by industry & research geologists
- Mature mining districts to recent discoveries
- Exploration histories
- Geological context
- Ore body geometries
- Structural & Lithological controls
- Mineralogical & geochemical associations
- Maps, sections & field/rock/mineral photos
- Comprehensive list of references

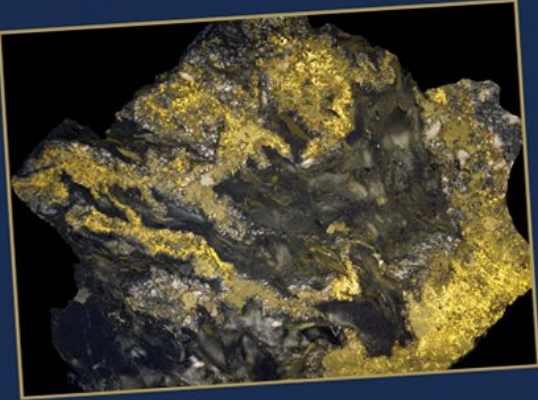


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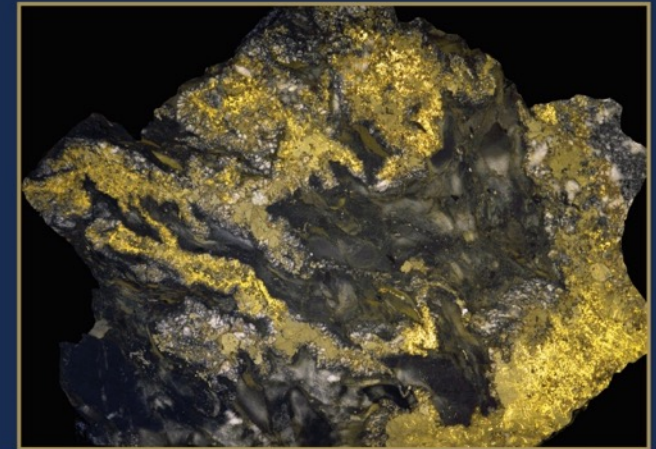




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## Geology of the World's Major Gold Deposits and Provinces

# Q & A



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