

1 **Effects of early marine diagenesis and site-specific depositional controls on carbonate-**  
2 **associated sulfate: insights from paired S and O isotopic analyses**

3  
4 Jocelyn A. Richardson<sup>1\*</sup>, Aivo Lepland<sup>2,3</sup>, Olle Hints<sup>3</sup>, Anthony R. Prave<sup>4</sup>, William P. Gilhooly III<sup>5</sup>,  
5 Alexander S. Bradley<sup>1</sup> and David A. Fike<sup>1\*</sup>

6 <sup>1</sup>Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, Washington University, St. Louis, MO 63130 USA

7 <sup>2</sup>Geological Survey of Norway, 7491 Trondheim, Norway

8 <sup>3</sup>Department of Geology, Tallinn University of Technology, Ehitajate 5, 19086 Tallinn, Estonia

9 <sup>4</sup>School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9AL, Scotland

10 <sup>5</sup> Department of Earth Sciences, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN,  
11 USA

12  
13 \*Corresponding authors:

14 E-mail: [jocelynr@slac.stanford.edu](mailto:jocelynr@slac.stanford.edu). Phone: +1 (650) 926-5145

15 E-mail: [dfike@levee.wustl.edu](mailto:dfike@levee.wustl.edu). Phone: +1 (314) 935-6607

16  
17 Keywords: carbonate-associated sulfate, CAS, sulfur isotopes, sulfate oxygen isotopes, Ireviken  
18 bioevent, Silurian

---

This is the author's manuscript of the article published in final edited form as:

Richardson, J. A., Lepland, A., Hints, O., Prave, A. R., Gilhooly, W. P., Bradley, A. S., & Fike, D. A. (2021). Effects of early marine diagenesis and site-specific depositional controls on carbonate-associated sulfate: Insights from paired S and O isotopic analyses. *Chemical Geology*, 584, 120525. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemgeo.2021.120525>

19 **Abstract**

20 Carbon, sulfur and oxygen isotope profiles in Silurian strata of the Baltoscandian Basin (Estonia),  
21 coincident with the Ireviken Bioevent, provide insights into basin-scale and platform-specific  
22 depositional processes. Paired carbon isotope records preserve a positive isotope excursion during  
23 the early Wenlock, coincident with faunal turnover, yet  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  variability of this excursion compared  
24 to other locations within the paleobasin reflects local depositional influences superimposed on a  
25 global signal. In comparison, sulfur isotope records do not preserve a systematic isotopic excursion  
26 over the same interval. Instead, sulfur isotope records have high sample-to-sample stratigraphic  
27 variability, particularly in shallow-water carbonate rocks (scatter up to  $\sim 10\%$  for  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  
28  $\sim 25\%$  for  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$ ). This pattern of isotopic variability is also found between sites from the same  
29 carbonate platform, where the magnitude and isotopic variability in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  differ  
30 depending on relative local sea level (and therefore facies). Such facies-dependent variability  
31 reflects more closed- versus more open-system diagenetic conditions where pulses of increased  
32 sedimentation rate in the shallow water environments generates greater isotopic variability in both  
33  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$ . Increased reworking and proximity to the shoreline results in local sulfide  
34 oxidation, seen as a decrease in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  in the most proximal settings. Platform-scale evolution of  
35 isotopically distilled pore-fluids associated with dolomitization results in increased  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  in deep  
36 water settings. Correlations in paired  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}-\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  data support these conclusions,  
37 demonstrating the local alteration of CAS during deposition and early marine diagenesis. We  
38 present a framework to assess the sequence of diagenetic and depositional environmental processes  
39 that have altered  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and find that  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  of  $\sim 27\text{-}28\%$  approximates Silurian seawater sulfate.  
40 Our findings provide a mechanism to understand the elevated variability in many deep-time  
41  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  records that cannot otherwise be reconciled with behavior of the marine sulfate reservoir.

42

## 43 **1.0 Introduction**

44 The evolution of global biogeochemical cycles over Earth history is recorded in the chemical  
45 abundances and isotopic ratios of elements in marine sedimentary rocks (e.g. Bartley and Kah,  
46 2004; Garrels and Lerman, 1981). The isotopic ratios of carbon and sulfur are particularly  
47 informative because values from both oxidized and reduced phases (carbonate, organic carbon,  
48 sulfate, sulfide) are preserved, and can be measured, in carbonate rocks. Changes in these isotopic  
49 ratios over time are typically inferred to represent perturbations to the carbon and sulfur cycles;  
50 efforts to understand the source of these perturbations have recognized the importance of  
51 deconvolving global versus local processes (Fike et al., 2015; Jones et al., 2019; Pasquier et al.,  
52 2017; Rose et al., 2019).

53 Variations in carbon isotope values ( $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ ) of carbonate and organic carbon through time  
54 can be attributed to global carbon cycle perturbations (Kump and Arthur, 1999) and/or local  
55 processes, such as: facies changes (e.g. Rose et al., 2019), variations in productivity between deep-  
56 and shallow-marine settings and its effect on the dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC) pool (e.g. Jones  
57 et al., 2019; Swart and Eberli, 2005), changes in carbonate mineralogy, and sediment- versus fluid-  
58 buffered diagenesis (Higgins et al., 2018). Moreover, the stratigraphic expression of carbon isotope  
59 excursions can be variable in magnitude and duration between time-correlative sections (Jones et  
60 al., 2019; Samtleben et al., 2000), complicating efforts to understand the mechanism generating  
61 the  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  signals.

62 Sulfur archives in the sedimentary record include oxidized sulfur in gypsum, anhydrite,  
63 barite (Paytan, 1998; Strauss, 1997) and carbonate-associated sulfate (CAS) (Burdett et al., 1989),  
64 as well as reduced sulfur sinks in pyrite and organic S compounds (Canfield, 2001). Microbial

65 sulfate reduction (MSR) can impart an isotopic fractionation that leaves the resultant product  
66 sulfide depleted in  $^{34}\text{S}$  relative to the sulfate pool by as much as 70‰ (Eldridge et al., 2016; Sim  
67 et al., 2011). Due to the spatial and temporal extent of carbonate strata and their ability to preserve  
68 sulfur isotope ( $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ ) records of both CAS and pyrite, carbonate rocks have been investigated to  
69 constrain the evolution of the global sulfur cycle.

70         Stratigraphic datasets of coeval pyrite and CAS  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  have traditionally been interpreted to  
71 record changes to the global sulfur cycle, reflecting one or a combination of: changes to the burial  
72 and weathering fluxes of pyrite and/or sulfate minerals, the size of the marine sulfate reservoir,  
73 and/or the dominant microbial metabolic community and the associated biological fractionation  
74 (Canfield, 2001; Garrels and Lerman, 1981). Recent studies aiming to reconstruct the ancient  
75 sulfur cycle have generated highly variable, both regionally and stratigraphically, sulfur isotope  
76 datasets in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  (Jones and Fike, 2013; Thompson and Kah, 2012; Young et al.,  
77 2016). Such large, commonly facies-dependent, variability in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  (e.g. Richardson et al., 2019a;  
78 Rose et al., 2019), is not unexpected as pyrite typically forms within sediments under evolving  
79 diagenetic conditions. Moreover, there is a good framework in place to understand such variability  
80 in terms of local environmental parameters, such as sedimentation rate and/or organic carbon  
81 loading (Aller et al., 2010; Bryant et al., 2019; Claypool, 2004; Fike et al., 2015; Liu et al., 2019;  
82 Pasquier et al., 2017). Yet the origin and environmental significance of variability in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$ , often  
83 interpreted to record global marine sulfate, remains poorly understood. Typical sample-to-sample  
84 bulk rock  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  can vary as much as 10-12‰ within an individual stratigraphic section, which  
85 is difficult to reconcile with the behavior of the marine sulfate reservoir unless the concentration  
86 of seawater sulfate was very low (Fike et al., 2015). Interpretations of the source of this ‘noise’  
87 include basin- to global-scale sulfur cycle perturbations (Adams et al., 2010; Gill et al., 2007;

88 Kozik et al., 2019; Stebbins et al., 2018; Thompson and Kah, 2012) and locally variable  
89 depositional and early diagenetic environments (Present et al., 2019; Richardson et al., 2019a;  
90 Rose et al., 2019). To better understand the origin of this variability in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$ , we seek additional  
91 information by measuring the oxygen isotopic composition in CAS.

92 Oxygen isotope values of sulfate ( $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SO}_4}$ ) are a supplementary proxy to interrogate the  
93 operation of the sulfur cycle. At normal seawater temperatures and pH, oxygen isotopes between  
94 sulfate and seawater require  $10^{6-7}$  years to abiotically equilibrate (Chiba and Sakai, 1985). In the  
95 absence of diagenetic alteration and overprinting,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SO}_4}$  variability over longer geologic  
96 timescales will reflect changes in the major fluxes involving sulfate in the sulfur cycle, and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SO}_4}$   
97 variability over shorter geologic timescales ( $< 10^6$  years) reflects the dominant metabolisms within  
98 local microbial sulfur cycling (MSR, sulfide oxidation, sulfur disproportionation) and/or abiotic  
99 sulfide and pyrite oxidation (Bottrell and Newton, 2006; Turchyn and Schrag, 2006). Holding all  
100 other variables constant, MSR will result in an increase in paired  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{SO}_4}$ - $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SO}_4}$  values, while  
101 sulfide oxidation will be tracked as a coeval decrease in paired  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{SO}_4}$ - $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SO}_4}$  data (Goldberg et  
102 al., 2005). A decoupling of  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{SO}_4}$ - $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SO}_4}$  is generally understood to reflect differences in global  
103 vs. local influence on these isotope systems (Turchyn and Schrag, 2006). Consequently, paired  
104  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{SO}_4}$ - $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SO}_4}$  and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{SO}_4}$ - $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  can be powerful tools for reconstructing the global and local  
105 sulfur cycles in ancient carbonate successions (Rennie and Turchyn, 2014).

106 We used the well-characterized Silurian stratigraphy of the East Baltic portion of the  
107 Baltoscandian Basin (e.g. Cramer et al., 2010; Hints et al., 2006; Kaljo and Martma, 2000; Kiipli  
108 et al., 2006, 2008; Loydell et al., 2010; Rose et al., 2019; Samtleben et al., 2000; Young et al.,  
109 2020) and  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$ ,  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$ ,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$ ,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  data for reconstructing the potential  
110 controls on these proxies during a period of rapid environmental change (Munnecke et al., 2010,

111 2003). The Baltoscandian Basin preserves an abundance of relatively continuous outcrop and drill  
112 core sections spanning the late Ordovician through Silurian, providing a platform to assess the  
113 causes and consequences of some of the earliest extinction events in the Phanerozoic. One such  
114 extinction event, known as the Ireviken bioevent (IBE; Calner, 2008; Jeppsson, 1997; Munnecke  
115 et al., 2003; Tonarová et al., 2014) occurs at the Llandovery-Wenlock boundary, associated with  
116 a globally documented carbon isotope excursion and paleoclimate perturbations (Lehnert et al.,  
117 2010; Trotter et al., 2016). Additionally, the short duration of the stages in the Silurian (e.g. Cramer  
118 et al., 2010), combined with the number of time-correlative stratigraphic sections in the  
119 Baltoscandian Basin, serves as a framework to evaluate whether the observed geochemical  
120 perturbations result from global environmental phenomena. We present new  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$ ,  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$ ,  
121  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$ ,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  data from the Silurian strata in the upper 112 m of the Paatsalu drill  
122 core, Estonia. This interval is temporally correlative with strata in the Viki core, Estonia  
123 (Richardson et al., 2019a), and in Gotland, Sweden (Rose et al., 2019), which together provide a  
124 basin-wide transect of early Silurian sedimentary strata.

125

## 126 **2.0 Geological Setting**

127 The studied Paatsalu drill core from western Estonia (Fig. 1; 58°5' N 23°7'E) spans from the mid-  
128 Llandovery to the mid-Wenlock (ca 440 to 432 Ma). The section represents the northern margin  
129 of the Baltoscandian Basin, an early Paleozoic epicontinental sea on Baltica and then Laurussia  
130 (Baarli et al., 2003; Cocks and Torsvik, 2005; Nestor and Einasto, 1997). During the early Silurian,  
131 the region was located at tropical southern latitudes (Torsvik and Cocks, 2013). Various warm-  
132 water carbonates and marly deposits accumulated in the shallow part of the basin, such as in central  
133 Estonia. Deeper shelf facies, characterized by the deposition of organic-rich muds, were located

134 towards the south and west from the study site (Fig. 1; Nestor & Einasto, 1997; Baarli et al., 2003).  
135 The stratigraphic framework of the Silurian of the Paatsalu core is based largely on chitinozoan  
136 and conodont biostratigraphy (Hints et al., 2006; Rubel et al., 2007) and K-bentonites (Kiipli et  
137 al., 2006, 2008). Additionally, carbon isotope chemostratigraphy can be applied and numerous  
138 reference sections from the region can be used for comparison (Kaljo and Martma, 2006, 2000).  
139 Five formations are identified through this interval in the Paatsalu drill core: the Nurmekund,  
140 Rumba, Velise, Jaani and Muhu formations.

141         The lowermost Nurmekund Formation (111.8 m depth), which correlates to the late-  
142 Rhuddanian and Aeronian (Kaljo and Martma, 2000), consists of interbedded carbonate mudstone  
143 and grainstone with varying abundances of bioclastic material deposited within lagoonal  
144 (mudstone) and shoreline (grainstone) environments. The base of the Rumba Formation (102–83  
145 m) is marked by a 2-m-thick, sharp-based, low-angle cross-bedded grainstone overlain by  
146 interbedded wackestones and packstones with echinoderms, brachiopods and bryozoans, with a  
147 small abundance of interbedded mudstone. These facies indicate deposition within inner-shelf, reef  
148 and shoal settings. A 20-cm-thick bentonite bed at 88 m depth is correlative with one at 185.1 m  
149 depth in the Viki core (Kiipli et al., 2006). The overlying Velise Formation (83–70 m depth) is  
150 composed of grey-green siliciclastic mudstone and marlstone with abundant pyrite in the form of  
151 small aggregates, large euhedral crystals and pyritized burrows and echinoderm fragments; these  
152 facies represent a mid- to outer-shelf setting. Partial dolomitization of the carbonates begins in the  
153 middle of the Velise Formation through to the top of the core. An erosive-based 1-m-thick oolitic  
154 packstone at 70.5 m marks the base of the Jaani Formation (70–34 m depth), defining a sequence  
155 boundary placing inner-shelf facies (the oolite) on top of mid-outer shelf marlstones (Velise  
156 Formation). Above this, the Jaani Formation consists of dolomitized grey-green mud-marlstones

157 like those in the Velise Formation. Macroscopic pyrite is visible within the first meter of the  
158 marlstone, but size and abundance decrease upwards. The marlstone grades into bioclastic, nodular  
159 micritic limestone, reflecting a progressive shallowing into mid-shelf settings. The Muhu  
160 Formation (34 m depth to top of the core) consists of interbedded bioclastic (echinoderms,  
161 brachiopods, bryozoans) wackestone and packstone in the lower 11 m, with an increasing  
162 abundance of mud drapes upward into thinly interbedded dolomitic arenite with dolomitized  
163 mudstone and wackestone at the top of the core. Overall, the succession records two large-scale  
164 depositional cycles. The Nurmekund formation represents the upper part of the "Early-Middle  
165 Llandovery macrocycle" (Nestor & Einasto, 1997); it is followed by a regional hiatus and  
166 denudation during the late Aeronian. The "Late Llandovery - Middle Wenlock macrocycle" is  
167 represented by a full transgressive-regressive cycle in the Paatsalu core: a gradual deepening to  
168 inner-mid shelf settings (Rumba Formation) and even deeper mid-outer shelf facies (Velise  
169 Formation) during the Telychian; then a sequence boundary that coincides with a gap (Männik et  
170 al., 2014) and marks a return to inner-mid shelf settings (oolite at the base of the Jaani Formation)  
171 with a subsequent flooding surface to outer-shelf facies (Jaani Formation) and then shallowing into  
172 peritidal environments (Muhu Formation). As a result of the early-mid Wenlock regression the  
173 basin transformed into a more restricted gulf-like pericratonic sea (Nestor & Einasto, 1997).

174

### 175 **3.0 Methods**

176 The Paatsalu drill core material is housed at the Särghaua core repository, Tallinn University of  
177 Technology (<https://geocollections.info/drillcore/128>). A total of 62 samples from the Paatsalu  
178 core were collected, cut, crushed and powdered in a Spex 8515 Shatterbox. Homogenized powders  
179 were divided for each type of analysis. Carbon and sulfur isotope analyses, together with elemental



180 abundance analyses, were carried out at Washington University in St. Louis, USA. Analyses for  
181 oxygen isotopes of CAS were performed in the analytical facilities at Indiana University-Purdue  
182 University Indianapolis, USA.

183 For carbonate carbon and carbonate oxygen isotope analyses, ~100  $\mu\text{g}$  of sample powder  
184 was dissolved in 100% phosphoric acid ( $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$ ) for at least 4 hours at  $70^\circ\text{C}$  (accounting for  
185 differences in acid digestion of calcite-dolomite mixtures; Xi Liu et al., 2019). Sample vials were  
186 flushed with He and the evolved  $\text{CO}_2$  was measured on a Thermo Finnigan Gasbench II coupled  
187 to a Delta V Advantage Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometer. Organic carbon isotope analyses were  
188 performed on the organic residue left after decarbonating 4–5 g of sample powder with 6M HCl.  
189 Acidifications were left for up to 20 minutes and were repeated until there was no visible reaction  
190 when HCl was added. Insoluble residues were analyzed for organic carbon isotope composition  
191 on a Flash 2000 Organic Elemental Analyzer coupled via a ConFlo IV to a Delta V Plus Isotope  
192 Ratio Mass Spectrometer. Carbon and oxygen isotopes are expressed in standard delta notation  
193 ( $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ ,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ) in permil (‰) relative to the Vienna Pee Dee Belemnite (VPDB) standard with 1  $\sigma$   
194 error on  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$ ,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carb}}$  and  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$  of 0.15‰ based on standard and replicate samples.

195 Preparation of samples for analysis of sulfur and oxygen isotopic ratios in CAS and for  
196 analysis of sulfur isotopic ratios of pyrite followed Richardson et al. (2019a). Sample powder (30–  
197 50 g) was soaked in a 10% brine ( $\text{NaCl}$ ) solution for 30 minutes and then decanted. This step aimed  
198 to remove any free sulfur species that might be adsorbed onto the carbonate. After a total of three  
199 brine rinses, the supernatant was checked for sulfate by adding 1 ml of saturated  $\text{BaCl}_2$  solution  
200 and additional brine rinses were performed if any precipitate formed in the supernatant. This was  
201 followed by 3 rinses with deionized  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . Samples were acidified with 6M HCl and stirred for up  
202 to 3 hours (or until there was no visible reaction) to release CAS. The acidic supernatant was

203 filtered and reacted with an excess of BaCl<sub>2</sub> to precipitate BaSO<sub>4</sub> which was rinsed, weighed and  
204 dried for analyses. To extract pyrite as chromium-reducible sulfur (Canfield et al., 1986), insoluble  
205 residues from the CAS extraction were reacted with a 6M HCl and 2M chromium (II) chloride  
206 solution under constant N<sub>2</sub> gas and were left stirring for 4 hours just below the boiling point. The  
207 evolved gas from the sample reaction was passed through a water trap and bubbled into a test tube  
208 containing silver nitrate solution in deionized H<sub>2</sub>O in order to precipitate silver sulfide.

209 Sulfur isotope analyses were performed by combining ~350 µg of silver sulfide or barium  
210 sulfate with 1–3 mg of vanadium pentoxide and converted to SO<sub>2</sub> using a Costech ECS 4010  
211 elemental analyzer coupled to a Thermo Finnigan Delta V Plus mass spectrometer. Separate  
212 aliquots of 150 µg barium sulfate (from both the Paatsalu and Viki core) were combined with an  
213 equal amount of graphite in a silver capsule then loaded into a nitrogen-purged Costech Zero-blank  
214 autosampler and analyzed for oxygen isotopes by pyrolysis (at 1450°C) using a Thermo TC/EA  
215 coupled to a Thermo Delta V Plus mass spectrometer. Sulfur isotope values are expressed in  
216 standard delta notation ( $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ ) in permil (‰) as a deviation from the Vienna Canyon Diablo Troilite  
217 (VCDT) standard and have a 1 $\sigma$  error of 0.3‰ and 0.2‰ for  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  respectively. The  
218 oxygen isotope composition of sulfate is reported in delta notation ( $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ) relative to Vienna  
219 Standard Mean Ocean Water (VSMOW), where the 1 $\sigma$  error on  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  is 0.2‰, based on  
220 standards and replicate samples.

221 Elemental abundance within the carbonate fraction of rock powders were prepared  
222 following the protocol of Husson et al., (2015). Data were collected using a PerkinElmer Optima  
223 7300DV ICP-OES and standardized to the Sigma Multi-element Standard Solution 5. Abundances  
224 are given in ppm.

225

## 226 4.0 Results

### 227 4.1 Carbon Isotopes

228 The strata from the Paatsalu core preserve a smoothly varying  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  record (Fig. 2). In the  
229 Nurmekund Formation,  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  increases from 0‰ to 1.3‰ between 111.8 and 108.5 m depth  
230 before declining to -1.3‰ at 98.2 m depth in the lower Rumba Formation ('Rumba low'; Kaljo  
231 and Martma, 2000). Values increase to 0.4‰ at 86.2 m depth and jump to 2‰ at 83.4 m depth  
232 (over a discontinuity in sampling) near the top of the Rumba Formation and remain near 2‰  
233 through the Velise Formation. Between 70 and 66 m depth, in the oolitic packstone at the base of  
234 the Jaani Formation,  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  values increase to 4‰, reaching a maximum of 4.8‰ at 51 m depth  
235 and from there decrease steadily through the Muhu Formation to around -0.4‰ at the top of the  
236 core. The positive  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  excursion to 4.8‰ is approximately time-correlative to the IBE recorded  
237 in numerous sections worldwide (Hints et al., 2006; Munnecke et al., 2003; Richardson et al.,  
238 2019a; Rose et al., 2019).

239 The base of the Nurmekund Formation is marked by  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$  values of -29‰ that decrease  
240 to -31.2‰ in the lower part of the formation (Fig. 2).  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$  then increases through the Rumba  
241 and Velise formations to -27.2‰ at 70 m depth and continues to increase to -24.7‰ at 68.6 m  
242 depth across the base of the Jaani Formation. Above this, there is a small decline to -26.9‰ at 38  
243 m depth, but values increase to -25.7‰ at the top of the Formation. Notably, from c. 60 to 35 m  
244 depth  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$  and  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  show opposite trends. From 36 to 16.5 m depths  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$  varies, between  
245 -26‰ and -24‰ before decreasing to -30‰ toward the top of the core.

246

### 247 4.2 Sulfur Isotopes

248 The Paatsalu  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  data have typical sample-to-sample variability of 1–4‰ and maximal  
249 sample-to-sample variability of 7–10‰ (Fig. 2; Table 1). The lowermost samples in the  
250 Nurmekund Formation decrease from 33‰ to 23.4‰ into the basal Rumba Formation. Values  
251 become more variable, ranging between 29.7‰ and 17.5‰, through to the top of the Rumba  
252 Formation at 84.3 m depth. In the Velise Formation,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values are more positive and less  
253 variable between 25.4‰ and 32‰. In the Jaani Formation,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values are tightly clustered  
254 around 27.5‰ (except one sample, 15‰, at 67.2 m depth) up to 46.2 m depth. Above this, values  
255 decrease into the Muhu Formation, reaching 15.6‰ at 20 m depth. From 20 m depth to the top of  
256 the core,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values vary between 3.3‰ and 14‰ to the top of the core. Overall, three main  
257 trends are observed: (i) variable  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  (sample-to-sample variability as much as 5.5‰) in the  
258 Nurmekund and Rumba formations; (ii) relatively invariant  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  between 25 and 30‰ in the  
259 Velise and Jaani formations; and (iii) declining  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  in the Muhu Formation, becoming  
260 increasingly variable toward the top of the core.

261 Sulfur isotope values in pyrite range from 1‰ to 15.4‰ in the lower 10 m of the studied  
262 section (Fig. 2; Table 1). Above 102.5 m depth,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  decreases from 10.9‰ to -21.8‰ over 4  
263 m. Between 98.2 m and 80.3 m depth (the Rumba Formation),  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  varies between -20‰ and -  
264 30‰ with one outlier (2.8‰) at 83.4 m depth. At 78 m,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  increases to 4.6‰ and continues to  
265 increase through the Velise Formation up to 15.4‰, except for one sample (-32.3‰) at 74.24 m.  
266 At the base of the Jaani Formation values decrease to -14.3‰ and continue to decrease to -21.1‰  
267 at 62.9 m depth. Above that,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  increases to c. -2‰ at 35 m depth, stabilizes around -9‰ from  
268 32.5 to 16.5 m depth and then decreases to -14.5‰ to the top of the core. In summary, the  
269 Nurmekund and Velise formations have highly variable  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  values, while the Jaani and Muhu

270 Formations exhibit intermediate and moderately variable  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  (with increasing variability in  
 271  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  up-section), and the Rumba Formation has the least  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  variability.

<b>Table 1. Sulfur isotope variability for the Paatsalu core</b>					
<b>Formation (n = samples)</b>	<b>Facies</b>	<b>average <math>\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}</math></b>	<b>avg sample-to-sample <math>\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}</math> difference</b>	<b>average <math>\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}</math></b>	<b>avg sample-to-sample <math>\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}</math> difference</b>
<b>Nurmekund (4)</b>	shoreline- lagoon	28.9	3.2	8.5	8.9
<b>Rumba (14)</b>	inner-mid shelf	24.8	3.3	-19.9	4.5
<b>Velise (9)</b>	mid- outer shelf	29.3	2.6	-7.6	16.4 (8.3)
<b>Jaani (30)</b>	outer shelf	27.2	2.4	-9.6	7.0 (4.2)
<b>Muhu (12)</b>	shoreline	14.5	5.1	-9.8	5.7

272 *4.3 Oxygen Isotopes*

273 The  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carb}}$  values in the Nurmekund Formation decrease from -5.2‰ to -6.7‰ at 102.6  
 274 m. In the Rumba and lower Velise formations, values remain around -6‰ to ~71.5 m depth and  
 275 become increasingly variable up to 59 m depth in the lower Jaani Formation. Values converge  
 276 around -6‰ at 39.3 m depth and variability decreases. There is a step increase in  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carb}}$  values  
 277 from -5.5‰ to -2‰ around 39 m depth, with values stabilizing around -4‰ through to the top of  
 278 the core. In general,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carb}}$  values are relatively invariant, between -5‰ and -7‰, in the  
 279 Nurmekund Formation through the base of the Muhu Formation (111.8 to 39.3 m depth; Fig. 2).  
 280  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carb}}$  values are higher and more variable between -2‰ and -4.5‰ from 39 m to the top of the  
 281 core.

282 The oxygen isotope values of CAS have similar stratigraphic variability and trends as  
 283  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  (Fig. 2). At the base of the Paatsalu section,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  is 12.4‰ and decreases to 10.6‰ at  
 284 105.3 m depth. Values increase variably from 10‰ to 15.6‰ at the top of the Velise Formation at

285 71.5 m depth. In the Jaani Formation (67.2 m depth),  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  decreases to 8.3‰ before increasing  
286 to 14.5‰ at 63 m depth and then remains relatively invariant. From 42 to 26.9 m depth,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$   
287 becomes increasingly variable (between 11.5‰ and 15‰ with one outlier of 20.3‰ at 36 m depth),  
288 and then decreases through the Muhu Formation, reaching the lowest  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  value in the core (-  
289 1.2‰ at 9.6 m depth).

290 To complement these data from the Paatsalu core, we also present new  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  data from  
291 the previously studied Viki core (Fig. 3). The base of the Viki core begins in the Varbola Formation  
292 (see Richardson et al., 2019a) at 240.6 m depth with  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  of 17.9‰, which decreases  
293 throughout the Varbola Formation to approximately 15‰ at 228.5 m depth.  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  is variable  
294 between 11.5 and 17.4‰ through the upper Varbola and lower Nurmekund formations. At 208.4  
295 m,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  increases from 12.4 to 16.5‰ at 180 m depth in the lowermost Velise Formation. From  
296 168.3 – 107.4 m depth, values are variable around 15‰ throughout the Velise and lower Jaani  
297 formations. Above this,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  increases to 20‰ at 97.7 m depth before returning to 15‰ at 87.6  
298 m depth in the upper Jaani Formation. From 87.6 m to the top of the section,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  values  
299 increase to 17.4‰.

300

## 301 **5.0 Discussion**

302 Carbon, sulfur and oxygen isotopic ratios in carbonate successions have been used to track the  
303 operation and evolution of global biogeochemical cycles through geologic time (Canfield, 2001;  
304 Kump and Arthur, 1999). However, frequency, magnitude and duration of isotopic changes can  
305 also result from basin-specific processes, depositional controls, diagenesis, or combinations of  
306 these processes. Therefore, the nature of isotope excursions must be independently assessed in any  
307 given succession. Within the Paatsalu core, carbon isotopic ratios in carbonate and organic matter

308 generally co-vary, whereas sulfur isotopic records of  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  do not. Additionally, the  
309 variability in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$ ,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  (Table 1) commonly occurs too rapidly (with respect to  
310 the residence time of seawater sulfate) for this variability to reflect global perturbations to the  
311 seawater sulfate reservoir via canonical, global-scale mechanisms. Fluid inclusion data from the  
312 Silurian shows seawater sulfate concentrations from 5-12 mM (Lowenstein et al., 2003),  
313 approximately 17-43% of the modern ocean value. The residence time of a reservoir is the ratio of  
314 the size of the reservoir to the input or output flux; estimates for modern seawater sulfate residence  
315 times range from 13-20 Ma (Canfield 2004; Bottrell and Newton, 2006). Based on conodont  
316 biostratigraphy, this 112 m section of the Paatsalu core records < 15 Myr (Figs. 2 and 3), and the  
317 carbon isotope excursion (coincident with the IBE) lasts ~1 Myr (Cramer et al., 2011). In addition,  
318 the size of the modern ocean sulfate reservoir buffers  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{SO}_4}$  to a maximum rate of change of  
319 0.5‰ per Myr (Kah et al., 2004). Here, an average rate of change for  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  of 1.3‰ per Myr  
320 would require seawater sulfate concentrations to be < 4.5 mM for this rate of change to be  
321 consistent with the size of the expected marine sulfate reservoir (Kah et al., 2004). Thus, marine  
322 sulfate should have relatively invariant  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{SO}_4}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SO}_4}$  values over the timescale of the  
323 individual formations recovered in the Paatsalu core. As noted above, variability in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$ ,  
324  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  show high sample-to-sample variability, which we consider to be far too rapid  
325 to reflect worldwide perturbations to the global sulfur cycle.

326

### 327 *5.1 Diagenesis*

328 For reliable interpretation of the evolution of local or global biogeochemical cycles as recorded by  
329 geochemical signatures, it is essential to assess diagenetic alteration of carbonate proxies by fluid  
330 migration, carbonate recrystallization, or dolomitization during early or late marine diagenesis, or

331 by non-marine fluids during burial or meteoric diagenesis (e.g. Banner and Hanson, 1990;  
332 Halverson et al., 2007; Marenco et al., 2008b). Carbonate diagenesis is complex and can impact  
333 mineralogy, lithofacies and different portions of carbonate platforms heterogeneously.  
334 Consequently, there are a number screening tools used to interpret the extent of diagenetic  
335 alteration of the geochemical signals that are of interest to our understanding of past Earth  
336 environments (Swart, 2015). To assess the *most likely* alteration mechanisms influencing sulfur  
337 isotope signals (values and variability) and to determine the *least altered*  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values we used:  
338 (1) elemental analyses and isotope relationships as a coarse indicator for determining the type of  
339 fluid-rock interaction; (2)  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and abundance relationships to assess direct influences on  
340  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$ ; (3) evaluation of geochemical data within a lithologic context; and (4) assessment of  
341  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  relationships to understand inherent early marine diagenetic processes.

342

#### 343 *5.1.1 Post-depositional fluid-rock interactions*

344 Common indicators of diagenesis, such as Sr abundance and correlations between Mn vs.  
345 Sr, Fe vs. Sr and  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  vs.  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carb}}$ , are generally used to screen samples for evidence of meteoric,  
346 burial, brine and marine diagenesis (Banner and Hanson, 1990; Bartley et al., 2001; Erhardt et al.,  
347 2020; Halverson et al., 2007; Turchyn et al., 2009). Sr abundance is considered an approximate  
348 indication of the degree of carbonate recrystallization, as most fluids distinct from seawater will  
349 remove Sr from carbonate minerals with progressive recrystallization. In this study all samples  
350 have Sr abundance < 200 ppm (Fig. 4) which is much lower than typical ‘primary’ carbonate (often  
351 > 1000 ppm). Thus the entire succession has likely experienced some degree of alteration and we  
352 do not consider stratigraphic changes in Sr abundance a clear indicator for the type of fluid  
353 interaction in these samples (Ahm et al., 2018; Halverson et al., 2007).



354           Although Mn, Sr and Fe relationships were initially understood to reflect varying degrees  
355 of meteoric diagenesis (Brand and Veizer, 1980), Mn, Sr and Fe correlations can also help evaluate  
356 the degree of fluid interactions under anoxic conditions (e.g. Turchyn et al., 2009). Our data show  
357 increases in Mn and Fe with concurrent decreases in Sr, possibly indicating meteoric diagenesis  
358 or progressive carbonate recrystallization under anoxic conditions (Figs 4A-B). Lime mudstone,  
359 wackestone, and packstone facies from the Nurmekund and Rumba Formations have the highest  
360 Sr and lowest Mn and Fe abundances, suggesting that these facies are the least diagenetically  
361 altered, though not necessarily primary (Fig. 4A). In contrast,  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  vs.  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carb}}$  do not covary  
362 (Fig. 4C), even those samples from outside the positive  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  excursion, in a manner consistent  
363 with alteration by meteoric or burial (brine) fluids (Banner and Hanson, 1990), where meteoric  
364 fluids are depleted in both  $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{18}\text{O}$  while brine fluids are commonly depleted in  $^{18}\text{O}$  relative to  
365 seawater (Swart, 2015). In addition, the small offset between  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carb}}$  presented here and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carb}}$   
366 values from similarly aged, well-preserved brachiopods (-4.5 to -5.5‰; Azmy et al., 1998),  
367 suggests that  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carb}}$  in the Paatsalu section has been affected by seawater-like diagenetic fluids,  
368 perhaps under anoxic conditions. Despite this, we find no correlation between  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carb}}$  and any  
369 other geochemical parameter measured. Together, this indicates correlations between Mn, Fe and  
370 Sr are most likely due to fluid interactions under anoxic conditions.

371           To assess alteration associated with dolomitization, lithology-specific  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  is plotted  
372 against Mg/Ca ratio (Fig. 5A) (Marenco et al., 2008b). Samples with Mg/Ca ratio < 0.125 have  
373  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values between 21‰ and 33‰, which is not uncommon for unaltered marine carbonates  
374 of this age (Present et al., 2020) and is similar to those in the nearby Viki core (Richardson et al.,  
375 2019a). At higher Mg/Ca ratios (> 0.35),  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values span the entire range observed in the  
376 Paatsalu core. The large range of  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  in the dolomitized samples could indicate distinct

377 dolomitizing processes that give rise to both increased and decreased  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values. Partial  
378 dolomitization is present from 75 m to the top of the Paatsalu core (from the top of the Velise  
379 through the Muhu Formation). The  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  of dolomitized samples from the upper Velise and  
380 Jaani Formation are relatively stable (varying between  $\sim 25\%$  and  $30\%$ ) and are similar to the  
381  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values from unaltered marlstone of the lower Velise Formation (Fig. 5). This implies that  
382 the dolomitizing fluids did not overprint  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  from the upper Velise and Jaani Formation, such  
383 that the composition of the dolomitizing fluid was not appreciably offset from seawater.  
384 Comparatively, the Muhu Formation has the least variable and highest Mg/Ca ratios and also  
385 records the lowest  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values (3-25%). In this case, the composition of the dolomitizing fluid  
386 progressively evolved with sulfate sourced from sulfide oxidation, decreasing  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values in  
387 the recrystallizing carbonate. The dolomitizing fluid was the most evolved during dolomitization  
388 of the uppermost Muhu Formation, where  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values are particularly low (3-15%). It has been  
389 shown that enhanced evaporation and MSR can encourage dolomitization (Baldermann et al.,  
390 2015; Fichtner et al., 2017), and such dolomitization has been shown to incorporate isotopically  
391 light  $^{34}\text{S}$ -sulfate, particularly in near shore environments (e.g. Fichtner et al., 2017; Marenco et al.,  
392 2008b; Present et al., 2015). This process may have had an additional impact on the  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values  
393 of the upper Muhu Formation. The lower but more variable  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values with elevated Mg/Ca  
394 from the higher energy peritidal environments is the inverse facies relationship observed in Present  
395 et al., (2019). This suggests that dolomitization influences more local controls on  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  evolution  
396 in this basin and highlights the importance of assessing which facies best preserve  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  in a  
397 given carbonate succession. Overall this information suggests that late-stage post-depositional  
398 fluids (meteoric or burial) did not reset the isotope proxies throughout the Paatsalu core, and that  
399 variability in the isotopic compositions must result from smaller scale, more localized processes.

400

401 *5.1.2 Sulfide oxidation: decreased  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$*

402 Early marine diagenetic processes can generate correlated local increases and decreases in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{SO}_4}$   
403 and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SO}_4}$  of porewater, which can then be retained in the (re)precipitating carbonate  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$   
404 and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  values (e.g. Goldberg et al., 2005; Rennie and Turchyn, 2014). Sulfide (and pyrite) is  
405  $^{34}\text{S}$ -depleted relative to sulfate due to MSR, and when it is oxidized the product sulfate will inherit  
406 these lower  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values. The same sulfide that is oxidized will incorporate oxygen from the  
407 ambient fluid which lowers the resultant  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SO}_4}$  (Goldberg et al., 2005; Newton et al., 2004).  
408 Negative correlations in plots of  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  vs. CAS and/or pyrite abundance can indicate the  
409 influence of pyrite oxidation, particularly during laboratory extractions (Marenco et al., 2008a). In  
410 the Paatsalu data, there are no general correlations between  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and CAS or pyrite abundance  
411 (Fig. 5B and C) meaning that influence of pyrite oxidation during laboratory extraction on sulfur,  
412 and therefore oxygen isotopes, in CAS can be excluded. However, samples with the lowest  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$   
413 values (< 15‰; much lower than what is observed during laboratory extraction, Marenco et al.,  
414 2008a) also contain the greatest, yet also most variable, abundance of CAS (Fig. 5B). This  
415 correlation is not systematic but most likely reflects variable sulfide/pyrite oxidation and  
416 subsequent incorporation of sulfate as CAS under oxic conditions, a process known to impact  
417 modern sediments (Percak-Dennett et al., 2017). The correlation of anomalously low  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$   
418 values (3-15‰), compared to Ordovician-Silurian seawater from evaporite minerals (25.5‰;  
419 Kampschulte and Strauss, 2004), with similarly low  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  values (-1.7-10‰; Fig. 6A) is further  
420 evidence to support that these samples have been the most influenced by sulfide oxidation (e.g.  
421 Goldberg et al., 2005). Samples with  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values 20-25‰ may also have incorporated sulfur  
422 isotope values from locally oxidized sulfide, although to a lesser extent.

423 Depositional environmental conditions give rise to localized decreases in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  of  
424 ambient seawater (porewater) sulfate. In shallow water environments, the frequency of  
425 sedimentary reworking increases (e.g. by bioturbation, tides and storms), resulting in punctuated  
426 oxidation of the pore fluid as well as frequent exposure to air. This is likely to have influenced  
427 samples with moderately low  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  (20-25‰) which are predominantly observed within  
428 wackestone and packstone facies (Fig. 5D). Additionally, tidal environments are influenced by  
429 continental freshwater, where weathering of pyrite on land causes low  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of riverine  
430 sulfate. However, freshwater typically has lower concentrations of sulfate compared to seawater  
431 and would result in a decrease of CAS abundance (Gill et al., 2008). Although continental-derived  
432 fluids may interact with carbonates at any time, we suspect that the influence of continental fluids  
433 is minor and may only be preserved in a small number of samples from the Muhu Formation (Fig.  
434 2 at 4.5 and 22.7 m) with those samples containing low CAS abundance, low Sr, and high Fe and  
435 Mn. Although these geochemical parameters are consistent with possible meteoric influence,  
436  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{Carb}}$  values do not support a clear meteoric influence on these samples. Thus an alternate  
437 explanation for very low  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values (down to 3‰) is required, such as dolomitization coupled  
438 with sulfide oxidation as discussed above.

439

#### 440 *5.1.3 Microbial Sulfate Reduction: increased $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$*

441 Microbial sulfate reduction, considered an early marine diagenetic process, results in correlated  
442 increases in sulfur and oxygen isotopic compositions in residual porewater sulfate, particularly  
443 under closed system conditions where the rate of sulfate consumption in porewater is greater than  
444 the rate sulfate is replenished by the diffusion of seawater (Goldberg et al., 2005). MSR increases  
445 alkalinity, promoting carbonate precipitation in pore spaces (Baumgartner et al., 2006; Berner et

446 al., 1970). Thus, newly precipitating and/or recrystallizing carbonate has the potential to  
447 incorporate these evolved porewater sulfate signals into CAS, elevating  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$   
448 values (Antler et al., 2013; Goldberg et al., 2005; Rennie and Turchyn, 2014).

449 In addition to porewater sulfate isotopes evolving with increasing depth beneath the sediment  
450 surface, platform-scale progressive evolution of pore fluids can also occur, associated with  
451 basinward migration of platform-top brines (Al-Helal et al., 2012) or shoreward migration of  
452 seawater (e.g. Jones et al., 2019). These processes would also result in progressively increasing  
453 porewater  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{SO}_4}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SO}_4}$  along the direction of the flow path (vertical and lateral), as  
454 continued MSR will progressively remove  $^{32}\text{S}$ . Evidence for platform-scale evolution of pore-  
455 fluids is observed in the stratal geometry of the dolomite between the Paatsalu and Viki cores; all  
456 samples from the Jaani and Muhu Formations show partial dolomitization in the Paatsalu core, yet  
457 only samples from the upper Jaani and lower Jaagarahu Formation (time correlative to the Muhu  
458 Formation) in the Viki core are partially dolomitized (Richardson et al., 2019a). In this case, the  
459 chemical evolution of local pore-fluids during basinward migration from the shallow-water facies  
460 (e.g. upper Jaani Formation, Viki core), would result in increased  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{SO}_4}$  in deeper water facies  
461 (e.g. Jaani Formation, Paatsalu core). We speculate that the evolution of  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{SO}_4}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SO}_4}$  in  
462 pore spaces in shallow-water environments (due to MSR), and the migration of these fluids to  
463 deeper environments might best explain the increase in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values ( $\sim 30\%$ ) in the middle of  
464 the deep-water facies of the Jaani Formation in the Paatsalu core. This hypothesized migration of  
465 pore fluids associated with dolomitizing fluids may be recorded in other isotope systems such as  
466  $\delta^{44}\text{Ca}$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ , where paired  $\delta^{44}\text{Ca}$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  data could differentiate between fluid- and  
467 sediment-buffered conditions during dolomitization. An examination of cross-plots of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  vs.  
468  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  can help assess closed-system behavior associated with parallel positive shifts in oxygen

469 and sulfur isotopic compositions (Fig. 6). Values of  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  are positively correlated  
470 (Fig. 6A), even when removing the subset of samples most influenced by sulfide oxidation (Fig.  
471 6B). Similar correlations of  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  relationships are observed in the Viki core (Fig.  
472 7A and 7B). Wackestone, packstone, and partially dolomitic marlstone facies show the strongest  
473  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}-\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  correlation (Fig. 6C). Additionally,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  shows greater variability in  
474 wackestone and packstone facies compared to the dolomitic marlstone (Fig. 5D and 6C),  
475 potentially attributable to the increased, yet pulsed, nature of shallow-water sedimentation (e.g.  
476 Aller et al., 2004; Aller et al., 2010; Richardson et al., 2019a).

477 In the absence of any correlations between late-stage diagenetic indicators (e.g.  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  vs.  
478  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carb}}$ , see 5.1.1), Mn/Sr can be used as an indication of precipitation or recrystallization in  
479 anoxic pore fluid during early marine diagenesis (e.g. Turchyn et al., 2009b). This tool is based on  
480 low Mn/Sr ratios in modern seawater (i.e.  $< 4 \times 10^{-7}$ , see Chester, 1990) and high Mn/Sr in evolved  
481 waters (Brand and Veizer, 1980), suggesting that anoxic pore fluids that evolved from seawater  
482 will concentrate Mn. As such, Mn/Sr ratios are used as a screening tool, typically assigning a  
483 threshold above which samples are excluded from primary geochemical interpretation of  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ,  
484  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{SO}_4}$  (Bartley et al., 2001; Fölling and Frimmel, 2002; Gómez Peral et al., 2007;  
485 Tostevin et al., 2017; Turchyn et al., 2009). However, Mn/Sr values  $< 1$  have been found in modern  
486 carbonates substantially affected by early marine diagenesis (Higgins et al., 2018), calling into  
487 question the usefulness of a Mn/Sr threshold in ancient carbonates that have likely experienced  
488 more diagenesis than modern carbonate platforms. We use Mn/Sr as an additional assessment of  
489  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values that have been most impacted by MSR (i.e. carbonate precipitating or  
490 recrystallizing in anoxic conditions associated with sulfate reduction). In this context, a majority  
491 of Paatsalu samples have a recrystallized signature (Fig. 6D). However, these samples fall into two

492 groups, samples with Mn/Sr < 3.5 from the shallow-water facies in the Nurmekund and Rumba  
493 Formations, and samples Mn/Sr > 3.5 from the base of the Velise to the top of the core. Based on  
494 the grouping of samples,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  vs.  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  is replotted in these groups and a positive correlation  
495 between these proxies is only observed for samples with Mn/Sr > 3.5 (Fig. 6E). Similar  
496 correlations are present in the Viki samples, yet with a slightly lower Mn/Sr grouping of 3. In the  
497 Viki core, a majority of samples with Mn/Sr > 3 are from the Muhu and Jaani Formations, with a  
498 lesser contribution from the Velise Formation (Fig. 7C and 7D). A majority of the samples with  
499 Mn/Sr > 3.5 also have higher Mg/Ca ratios and are partially dolomitized, yet this is not always the  
500 case, even for the Viki core. These observations suggest that the enrichment in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$   
501 tracks newly precipitating carbonate or recrystallization in a marine diagenetic realm under  
502 isotopically evolving anoxic pore fluids.

503 We infer that correlated increases in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  in Paatsalu strata record evolving  
504 porewater sulfate associated with varying amounts of MSR and varying rates of carbonate  
505 recrystallization in the different paleoenvironments. In this framework, the most evolved  
506 porewater sulfate values plot in the upper-right and the least evolved (and therefore most  
507 representative of seawater  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{SO}_4}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SO}_4}$ ) samples are in the bottom-left quadrant in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$   
508 vs.  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  (Fig. 6B; excluding samples clearly affected by sulfide oxidation). We suggest that  
509 seawater  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{SO}_4}$  was approximately 27-28‰ and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SO}_4}$  was 14-15‰ during deposition of  
510 Paatsalu strata based on visual clustering of samples (Fig 6C) and the frequency of samples with  
511 these values in the dolomitized marlstone (i.e. deep-water facies). This deep-water facies likely  
512 formed in more open connectivity with seawater with respect to the shallow-water settings. This  
513  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{SO}_4}$  range agrees with time-equivalent  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values from brachiopods from Gotland (Present,  
514 2018) although is somewhat heavier than time-equivalent evaporite data (Kampschulte and

515 Strauss, 2004). Progressive MSR and sulfide oxidation can increase and decrease porewater  
516  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{SO}_4}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SO}_4}$ , respectively, relative to coeval seawater (Goldberg et al., 2005). We observe  
517 here that these signals can be preserved in recrystallized carbonates as CAS. This observation can,  
518 in part, explain the elevated variability in many deep-time  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  records that cannot otherwise  
519 be reconciled with behavior of the relatively invariant marine sulfate reservoir.

520

#### 521 *5.1.4 Relative timing of carbonate diagenesis*

522 As discussed, many factors can contribute to the measured isotope signal in carbonate sediments.  
523 Disentangling these processes can help to identify the *most primary* values in a given section. We  
524 suggest the following diagenetic sequence of early marine and late marine diagenesis, followed by  
525 dolomitization, for the evolution of sulfur isotope proxies in the Paatsalu core. First, early marine  
526 diagenetic MSR increases pore fluid  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values where carbonate cement and pyrite form. In  
527 shallow-water environments, bioturbation, tidal activity, and wave action disturb the isotope  
528 stratification in the sediment (e.g. Aller, 2004; Aller et al., 2010) by introducing seawater sulfate  
529 into the sediment, and by potentially oxidizing pore water sulfide. Ultimately, this generates  
530 isotopic variability between precipitating components. Proximity to the paleoshoreline (e.g.  
531 interbedded arenite, Muhu Formation, Paatsalu core) influences the frequency of tidal reworking,  
532 aerial exposure and interaction with continental water, which can result in localized sulfide  
533 oxidation and subsequent incorporation of non-marine  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values during carbonate formation  
534 or recrystallization. These processes are dependent on depositional environment conditions and  
535 can be considered syndepositional. Second, post-depositional marine diagenesis is common to  
536 carbonate platforms, resulting in carbonate recrystallization (Christ et al., 2015). In this case,  
537 platform-scale evolution of pore fluids from shallow-water environments (with distilled isotope



538 ratios) in the eastern portion of the basin migrated to deeper environments resulting in an increase  
539 of  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  of precipitating/recrystallizing carbonate in distal settings. Dolomitizing fluids in the  
540 Baltoscandian basin were associated with different styles of diagenesis and occurred  
541 synchronously and/or post-dated late marine diagenetic processes. In the nearshore environments,  
542 these dolomitizing fluids, with sulfate sourced in part by sulfide oxidation, may have had a greater  
543 impact, decreasing  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values in the newly formed dolomite (although this requires additional  
544 detailed petrographic investigations to elucidate). Importantly the early marine ‘syndepositional’  
545 processes are inherent to most carbonate platforms throughout Earth history. Additional insight  
546 into the sequence of diagenetic processes could be gained in the future through component-specific  
547 (i.e. individual fossil, cement or micrite phases) isotope analyses, such as via MC-ICP-MS  
548 (Johnson et al., 2020; Present et al., 2019, 2015) or SIMS (Bryant et al., 2020; Xiao et al., 2020).

549

## 550 *5.2 Intra-basin isotope variability*

### 551 *5.2.1 Carbon isotopes*

552 The existence of multiple time-equivalent chemostratigraphic profiles provides a means to assess  
553 the reproducibility of data across the Baltoscandian Basin. Compared to the Viki core, the  
554 chemostratigraphic record of the Paatsalu core is more complete in the lower mid-Llandovery, but  
555 is condensed in the upper Llandovery to the early-Wenlock due to differences in sedimentation  
556 rate and erosion (Rubel et al., 2007). The overall trends in paired  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}-\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$  are consistent  
557 between the two drill cores (Fig. 3) except for a slight decrease in  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$  during the peak of the  
558  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  isotope excursion associated with the IBE in the Paatsalu data. This anti-correlation in  
559 carbon isotopes in the Jaani Formation is site-specific (Richardson et al., 2019a; Rose et al., 2019;  
560 Young et al., 2019), reflecting an increase in the apparent biological fractionation. The magnitude  
561 of the  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  isotope excursion during the IBE is  $\sim 0.2\%$  lower in Paatsalu compared to the Viki

562 core and they are both  $\sim 0.5\text{-}0.8\text{‰}$  lower than the record from Gotland (Rose et al., 2019). Such  
563 differences in the magnitude of carbon isotope variation between Estonia and Gotland could be  
564 due to variations in the local  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{DIC}}$  gradient generated by the biological pump, exporting more  
565  $^{13}\text{C}$ -depleted carbon to deeper settings specifically at the Gotland site during the IBE, which  
566 resulted in a greater increase in  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  of the shallow water carbonates being deposited at Gotland.  
567 Data across the IBE on Gotland have shown that systematic variations in  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$  of different  
568 organism groups may be a few per mil (Vandenbroucke et al., 2013). Thus, the extinction event  
569 and associated paleoecological turnovers could have influence on average isotopic values.  
570 Additionally, gradients across a carbonate platform can generate  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  variability of up to  $5\text{‰}$   
571 due to enhanced accumulation of  $^{13}\text{C}$ -enriched aragonite sediment on the platform compared to  
572  $^{13}\text{C}$ -depleted pelagic material (Geyman et al., 2021; Swart and Eberli, 2005), as well as fluid- vs.  
573 sediment-buffered lithification and early marine diagenesis (Higgins et al., 2018; Jones et al.,  
574 2019). Either of these processes could be the cause of the  $0.2\text{‰}$  difference in  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  between the  
575 Paatsalu and Viki core within the Jaani Formation.

576 Early Silurian carbon isotope records from the Baltoscandian basin record similar  
577 stratigraphic signals, possibly representing a global perturbation of the carbon cycle, as evidenced  
578 by the number of sections worldwide that retain coeval carbon isotopic excursions coincident with  
579 the IBE (e.g. Azmy et al., 1998; Calner, 2008; Cramer and Saltzman, 2005; Lehnert et al., 2010;  
580 Rose et al., 2019; Young et al., 2019). The duration of the carbon isotope excursion expressed  
581 globally is  $< 2$  Myr (Cramer et al., 2010; Nestor, 2010), which is sufficiently long for the global  
582 carbon cycle to respond to a perturbation (Kump and Arthur, 1999). Previous research suggests  
583 that a perturbation to the DIC reservoir (through a decrease in organic carbon burial) enhanced by  
584 glacioeustatic sea level change may be the cause of the carbon isotope excursion coincident with

585 the IBE (Cramer and Saltzman, 2005; Lehnert et al., 2010; Munnecke et al., 2010; Richardson et  
586 al., 2019). Local depositional effects on  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  between the sites examined are likely superimposed  
587 on any global carbon isotope signal. It is important to note, however, that the effect of mineralogy  
588 and fluid- versus sediment-buffered early marine diagenesis across a platform cannot be  
589 discounted as a mechanism for the observed carbon isotope excursion in the Baltoscandian Basin,  
590 especially given that the IBE is commonly associated with a eustatic sea level induced facies  
591 change (Rose et al. 2019). Further data (e.g.,  $\delta^{44}\text{Ca}$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ ) are required to determine if the  
592 IBE  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  signal truly reflects a perturbation to the global carbon cycle or is the result of local and  
593 facies-specific processes (Higgins et al., 2018; Jones et al., 2019).

594

### 595 *5.2.2 Sulfur isotopes*

596 No coherent basin-wide sulfur isotope excursion is observed during the IBE. The sulfur isotope  
597 records are distinct in magnitude, variability and stratigraphic expression between the Paatsalu and  
598 Viki cores (Fig. 3; Richardson et al. 2019a) and, importantly, a paired  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}\text{-}\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  excursion  
599 during the IBE on Gotland (Rose et al., 2019) is not observed in either of the Estonian sections.  
600 The absence of a coherent basin-wide  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}\text{-}\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  excursion indicates the sulfur isotope records  
601 of these sections are not proxies for the evolution of the global or even basinal sulfate reservoir.  
602 This is further evidenced by comparing Wenlock  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}\text{-}\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  with sections in the USA; paired  
603  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}\text{-}\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  increases throughout the early Wenlock in Nevada, yet  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  decreases  
604 throughout the early Wenlock in Tennessee (Young et al., 2019). The sulfur isotope values  
605 between Paatsalu and Viki cores and outcrop in Gotland appear to be controlled by (local)  
606 depositional and early marine diagenetic processes. Although local controls on  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  are  
607 generally well-established (Aller et al., 2010; Bryant et al., 2019; Claypool, 2004; Liu et al., 2019;

608 Pasquier et al., 2017), the effect of site-specific depositional environment and early marine  
609 diagenesis on  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  values is less well constrained (Fike et al., 2015; Present et al., 2019; Rennie  
610 and Turchyn, 2014; Richardson et al., 2019a; Rose et al., 2019), and clearly merits further study.

611 While the changes in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  between the Estonian cores are generally not  
612 coeval in timing and/or magnitude, approximately similar trends between facies packages are  
613 observed between the two drill cores, albeit at slightly different times in different places on the  
614 carbonate platform. The  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  values are commonly more variable in shallow-water  
615 carbonate facies, likely owing to higher sedimentation rate, increased labile organic carbon  
616 delivery, increased reactive iron availability, and the episodic nature of reworking events. These  
617 parameters result in the development of a closed-system pore water environment and distillation  
618 of isotopes during MSR, that is then variably reset by tidal/storm reworking to a more open system  
619 (Aller et al., 2010; Fike et al., 2015; Richardson et al., 2019a). This process of developing more  
620 closed-system conditions, punctuated by reworking events that generate more open-system  
621 conditions, is a continuous cycle and results in the isotopic variability of shallow-water carbonate  
622  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$ . Decreased variability in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  occurs when there is lower  
623 sedimentation rate, decreased labile organic carbon delivery, and/or decreased reactive iron  
624 availability, in this case occurring under higher relative sea level, e.g. in the mid-Jaani Formation,  
625 the deepest setting recorded in the core (Table 1; although this trend is also seen in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  of the  
626 shallow-water Rumba Formation). Different depositional environments form carbonates  
627 composed of varying abundances of distinct components (cement, micrite, fossils and grains). The  
628 components may form above or below the sediment water interface, during early marine diagenesis  
629 or any time during fluid movement, resulting in variable CAS abundance and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  (Present et  
630 al., 2015; Richardson et al., 2019b). For example, carbonate components precipitating in the region

631 of MSR (where concentrations of dissolved sulfate are lower) may have an overall lower CAS  
632 abundance (e.g. Richardson et al., 2019b). In a plot of  $1/[CAS]$  vs  $\delta^{34}S_{CAS}$ , mixing of components  
633 will fall on a straight line (Fig. 5B) (Present et al., 2015). Although systematic mixing is not clear,  
634 the wackestone and packstone facies (typically having the widest variety of components) indicate  
635 physical mixing of CAS abundance and  $\delta^{34}S_{CAS}$  of different components from a single sample.  
636 This is consistent with our interpretation that shallow-water carbonates (e.g. reef facies) can be  
637 unreliable proxies for global seawater  $\delta^{34}S_{CAS}$  (Richardson et al., 2019a).

638         The location on the carbonate platform and facies dependence is recorded as differences in  
639 the  $\delta^{34}S_{CAS}$  and  $\delta^{34}S_{pyr}$  values of time-correlative formations between Paatsalu and Viki sites. This  
640 site-specific depositional control is attributable to the relative effect of sea-level change at each  
641 location (and therefore water energy), whereby proximity to the shoreline variably drives tidal,  
642 biological and sedimentation processes. For example, during sea level low-stand in the mid-  
643 Llandovery, shallow-water carbonate facies (marginal marine to outer shelf) were deposited at  
644 both the Paatsalu and Viki sites. However, the Paatsalu site was closer to the shoreline and the  
645 shallow-water facies recorded are vertical stacks of peritidal-lagoonal sequences to inner-mid shelf  
646 facies in the Nurmekund and Rumba formations, respectively. In contrast, those formations in the  
647 Viki core consist of backreef to proximal shelf facies (Richardson et al., 2019a). The lower  $\delta^{34}S_{CAS}$   
648 values and higher sample-to-sample variability in these two formations from Paatsalu compared  
649 to the Viki core reflect increased frequency of sediment reworking from wave-action and tidal  
650 processes in peritidal environments. The result is a fluid-buffered system where the  $\delta^{34}S$  of the  
651 precipitating CAS is moderated by pore fluid  $\delta^{34}S_{SO_4}$  that is frequently replenished by seawater  
652 (Present et al., 2019). The average  $\delta^{34}S_{CAS}$  of the Nurmekund and Rumba formations in the  
653 Paatsalu core is 28.9 and 24.8‰ respectively, compared to 34.38‰ and 17.3 ‰ (skewed by 4

654 samples) in the Viki core. These shallow-water facies in the Paatsalu core are closer to previous  
655 estimates for  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{SO}_4}$  Silurian seawater (Kampschulte and Strauss, 2004; Present, 2018).

656

### 657 *5.2.3 Oxygen isotopes*

658 Oxygen isotopes of sulfate substantiate our conclusion that sulfur isotope signatures in the  
659 Baltoscandian Basin preserve a local, early marine diagenetic signature.  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  values between  
660 the Paatsalu and Viki cores are similar ( $\sim 10\text{-}20\text{‰}$ ; Fig. 3); however, there is greater variability in  
661 the Paatsalu drill core. Lithology-specific  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}\text{-}\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  data show similar, positive correlations  
662 between facies packages in the Paatsalu and Viki drill cores (Fig. 7B and C). Mn/Sr ratios (Fig.  
663 7C and D) and previous analyses support the idea that bulk isotope proxies from the Viki core have  
664 not been reset by non-marine diagenesis (Richardson et al., 2019a). We suggest that the observed  
665 paired  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}\text{-}\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  enrichments are recording an evolving diagenetic porewater signature at  
666 these locations, yet is also observed in a handful of samples from deep-water carbonate facies  
667 indicative of platform-scale migration of fluids and/or carbonate recrystallization at depth within  
668 the anoxic zone of the sediment.

669 The frequency and visible clustering of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  values from marlstone facies (i.e. deep-  
670 water facies in open connectivity with seawater) is the best assessment for most primary  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$   
671 and are comparable between the cores (14–15‰ in Paatsalu and 14-17‰ in Viki). These  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$   
672 values are similar to  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SO}_4}$  of age-equivalent evaporites (Claypool et al., 1980). All other  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$   
673 values in the sections reported here, i.e. increased or decreased relative to 14-15‰, are not  
674 recording changes to the global sulfur cycle. Instead,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  variably records an early marine  
675 diagenetic signal as a function of depositional setting, responding similarly to patterns observed in

676  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$ . More sections should be sampled for paired  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}-\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  analyses to identify the least  
677 evolved values that best approximate seawater  $\delta^{34}\text{S}-\delta^{18}\text{O}$ .

678

## 679 **6.0 Conclusions**

680 Paired  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}-\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$  data from deep-water carbonates in the Paatsalu core from the Eastern  
681 portion of the Baltoscandian Basin record a positive carbon isotope excursion coincident with the  
682 Ireviken Bioevent (IBE), but of slightly lower magnitude to that preserved in the equivalent  
683 shallow-water formations in the western portion of the Baltoscandian basin. Variability in carbon  
684 isotope composition is an expression of local depositional settings modifying a likely global  
685 perturbation. In contrast, there is no basin-wide sulfur isotopic excursion observed during the IBE;  
686 in the slightly more proximal setting in the east compared to the same facies packages in the west  
687 basin, sulfur and oxygen isotopes record distinct stratigraphic signals, a consequence of differing  
688 early marine diagenetic processes in shallow- versus deep-water settings. Paired  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}-\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$   
689 are variable in the former and more uniform in the latter, similar to observations from paired  
690  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}-\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  in the previously studied Viki core. Paired  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}-\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  data preserve signatures  
691 of diagenetic isotopic distillation as a result of progressive MSR in porewaters. Further, proximity  
692 to paleoshorelines may also affect shallow-water  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$ ,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  values due to tidal  
693 and potentially storm disruption of sediment stratification and isotope distillation. Later marine  
694 diagenesis and dolomitization resulted in basinward platform-scale progressive evolution of pore  
695 fluids, such that deep-water facies experienced increases in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  values, while  
696 shallow-water environments have signals associated with sulfide oxidation incorporated during  
697 dolomitization. The best preserved values for  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  are near 27-28‰ and 14-15‰,  
698 respectively, based on clustering and frequency of values in  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  vs  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  from marlstone

699 units. These values are in broad agreement with temporal time-equivalent evaporite records. Future  
700 studies aiming to interpret  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}-\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  data in terms of sulfur cycling should include  
701 depositional context and paired  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}-\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  to assess the impact of isotope distillation.

702

703 **Acknowledgements** – Acknowledgment is made to the donors of the American Chemical  
704 Society Petroleum Research Fund (#57548-ND2) to D.F. for partial support of this research and  
705 from the Estonian Research Council (#PUT611, #PRG836) to O.H and A.L. We thank the  
706 Geological Survey of Estonia, the Department of Geology at Tallinn University of Technology,  
707 and the Department of Geology at Tartu University. T. Martma is acknowledged for his help during  
708 sampling of the Paatsalu section. S. Moore conducted stable isotope and ICP-OES measurements  
709 at Washington University. B. Vander Pas helped prepare samples for isotope analysis at Indiana  
710 University-Purdue University Indianapolis. We thank T. Present and a number of anonymous  
711 reviewers for their comments that improved this manuscript.

712

## 713 **References**

714 Adams, D.D., Hurtgen, M.T., Sageman, B.B., 2010. Volcanic triggering of a biogeochemical  
715 cascade during Oceanic Anoxic Event 2. *Nat. Geosci.* 3, 201–204.

716 <https://doi.org/10.1038/ngeo743>

717 Ahm, A.S.C., Bjerrum, C.J., Blättler, C.L., Swart, P.K., Higgins, J.A., 2018. Quantifying early  
718 marine diagenesis in shallow-water carbonate sediments. *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta* 236,  
719 140–159. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gca.2018.02.042>

720 Al-Helal, A.B., Whitaker, F.F., Xiao, Y., 2012. Reactive transport modeling of brine reflux:  
721 dolomitization, anhydrite precipitation, and porosity evolution. *J. Sediment. Res.* 82, 196–  
722 215. <https://doi.org/10.2110/jsr.2012.14>

723 Aller, R.C., 2004. Conceptual models of early diagenetic processes: The muddy seafloor as an  
724 unsteady, batch reactor. *J. Mar. Res.* 62, 815–835.

725 <https://doi.org/10.1357/0022240042880837>

726 Aller, R.C., Madrid, V., Chistoserdov, A., Aller, J.Y., Heilbrun, C., 2010. Unsteady diagenetic



727 processes and sulfur biogeochemistry in tropical deltaic muds: Implications for oceanic  
728 isotope cycles and the sedimentary record. *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta* 74, 4671–4692.  
729 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gca.2010.05.008>

730 Antler, G., Turchyn, A. V., Rennie, V., Herut, B., Sivan, O., 2013. Coupled sulfur and oxygen  
731 isotope insight into bacterial sulfate reduction in the natural environment. *Geochim.  
732 Cosmochim. Acta* 118, 98–117. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.GCA.2013.05.005>

733 Azmy, K., Veizer, J., Bassett, M.G., Copper, P., 1998. Oxygen and carbon isotopic composition  
734 of Silurian brachiopods: Implications for coeval seawater and glaciations. *Geol. Soc. Am.  
735 Bull.* 110, 1499. [https://doi.org/10.1130/0016-7606\(1998\)110<1499:OACICO>2.3.CO;2](https://doi.org/10.1130/0016-7606(1998)110<1499:OACICO>2.3.CO;2)

736 Baarli, B.G., Johnson, M.E., Antoshkina, A.I., 2003. Silurian Stratigraphy and Paleogeography  
737 of Baltica, in: *Silurian Lands and Seas. Paleogeography Outside of Laurentia*. New York  
738 State Museum, New York. New York State Museum Bulletin 493, 3-34.

739 Baldermann, A., Deditius, A.P., Dietzel, M., Fichtner, V., Fischer, C., Hippler, D., Leis, A.,  
740 Baldermann, C., Mavromatis, V., Stickler, C.P., Strauss, H., 2015. The role of bacterial  
741 sulfate reduction during dolomite precipitation: Implications from Upper Jurassic platform  
742 carbonates. *Chem. Geol.* 412, 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemgeo.2015.07.020>

743 Banner, J.L., Hanson, G.N., 1990. Calculation of simultaneous isotopic and trace element  
744 variations during water-rock interaction with applications to carbonate diagenesis.  
745 *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta* 54, 3123–3137. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0016-7037\(90\)90128-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/0016-7037(90)90128-8)

746 Bartley, J.K., Kah, L.C., 2004. Marine carbon reservoir, Corg-Ccarb coupling, and the evolution  
747 of the Proterozoic carbon cycle. *Geology* 32, 129. <https://doi.org/10.1130/G19939.1>

748 Bartley, J.K., Semikhatov, M.A., Kaufman, A.J., Knoll, A.H., Pope, M.C., Jacobsen, S.B., 2001.  
749 Global events across the Mesoproterozoic-Neoproterozoic boundary: C and Sr isotopic

750 evidence from Siberia. *Precambrian Res.* 111, 165–202. <https://doi.org/10.1016/S0301->  
751 9268(01)00160-7

752 Baumgartner, L.K., Reid, R.P., Dupraz, C., Decho, A.W., Buckley, D.H., Spear, J.R., Przekop,  
753 K.M., Visscher, P.T., 2006. Sulfate reducing bacteria in microbial mats: Changing  
754 paradigms, new discoveries. *Sediment. Geol.* 185, 131–145.  
755 <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.SEDGEO.2005.12.008>

756 Berner, R.A., Scott, M.R., Thomlinson, C., 1970. Carbonate alkalinity in the pore waters of  
757 anoxic marine sediments. *Limnol. Oceanogr.* 15, 544–549.  
758 <https://doi.org/10.4319/lo.1970.15.4.0544>

759 Bottrell, S.H., Newton, R.J., 2006. Reconstruction of changes in global sulfur cycling from  
760 marine sulfate isotopes. *Earth-Science Rev.* 75, 59–83.  
761 <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.EARSCIREV.2005.10.004>

762 Brand, U., Veizer, J., 1980. Chemical Diagenesis of a Multicomponent Carbonate System--1:  
763 Trace Elements. *SEPM J. Sediment. Res. Vol.* 50, 1219–1236.  
764 <https://doi.org/10.1306/212F7BB7-2B24-11D7-8648000102C1865D>

765 Brett, C.E., Boucot, A.J., Jones, B., 1993. Absolute depths of Silurian benthic assemblages.  
766 *Lethaia* 26, 25–40. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1502-3931.1993.tb01507.x>

767 Bryant, R.N., Jones, C., Raven, M.R., Gomes, M.L., Berelson, W.M., Bradley, A.S., Fike, D.A.,  
768 2019. Sulfur isotope analysis of microcrystalline iron sulfides using secondary ion mass  
769 spectrometry imaging: Extracting local paleo-environmental information from modern and  
770 ancient sediments. *Rapid Commun. Mass Spectrom.* 33, 491–502.  
771 <https://doi.org/10.1002/rcm.8375>

772 Bryant, R.N., Jones, C., Raven, M.R., Owens, J.D., Fike, D.A., 2020. Shifting modes of iron

773 sulfidization at the onset of OAE-2 drive regional shifts in pyrite  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  records. *Chem. Geol.*  
774 553, 119808. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemgeo.2020.119808>

775 Burdett, J.W., Arthur, M.A., Richardson, M., 1989. A Neogene seawater sulfur isotope age curve  
776 from calcareous pelagic microfossils. *Earth Planet. Sci. Lett.* 94, 189–198.  
777 [https://doi.org/10.1016/0012-821X\(89\)90138-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/0012-821X(89)90138-6)

778 Calner, M., 2008. Silurian global events – at the tipping point of climate change, in: *Mass*  
779 *Extinction*. Springer Berlin Heidelberg, Berlin, Heidelberg, pp. 21–57.  
780 [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-540-75916-4\\_4](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-540-75916-4_4)

781 Canfield, D.E., 2001. Biogeochemistry of sulfur isotopes. *Stable Isot. Geochemistry* 43, 607–  
782 636. <https://doi.org/10.1515/9781501508745-015>

783 Canfield, D.E., Raiswell, R., Westrich, J.T., Reaves, C.M., Berner, R.A., 1986. The use of  
784 chromium reduction in the analysis of reduced inorganic sulfur in sediments and shales.  
785 *Chem. Geol.* 54, 149–155. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0009-2541\(86\)90078-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/0009-2541(86)90078-1)

786 Chester, R., 1990. Trace elements in the oceans, in: *Marine Geochemistry*. Springer Netherlands,  
787 pp. 346–421. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-94-010-9488-7\\_11](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-94-010-9488-7_11)

788 Chiba, H., Sakai, H., 1985. Oxygen isotope exchange rate between dissolved sulfate and water at  
789 hydrothermal temperatures. *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta* 49, 993–1000.  
790 [https://doi.org/10.1016/0016-7037\(85\)90314-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/0016-7037(85)90314-X)

791 Christ, N., Immenhauser, A., Wood, R.A., Darwich, K., Niedermayr, A., 2015. Petrography and  
792 environmental controls on the formation of Phanerozoic marine carbonate hardgrounds.  
793 *Earth-Science Rev.* 151, 176–226. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.EARSCIREV.2015.10.002>

794 Claypool, G.E., 2004. Ventilation of marine sediments indicated by depth profiles of pore water  
795 sulfate and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ . *Geochemical Soc. Spec. Publ.* 9, 59–65. <https://doi.org/10.1016/S1873->

796 9881(04)80007-5

797 Cocks, L.R.M., Torsvik, T.H., 2005. Baltica from the late Precambrian to mid-Palaeozoic times:  
798 The gain and loss of a terrane's identity. *Earth-Science Rev.* 72, 39–66.  
799 <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.EARSCIREV.2005.04.001>

800 Cramer, B.D., Brett, C.E., Melchin, M.J., Männik, P., Kleffner, M.A., Mclaughlin, P.I., Loydell,  
801 D.K., Munnecke, A., Jeppsson, L., Corradini, C., Brunton, F.R., Saltzman, M.R., 2011.  
802 Revised correlation of Silurian Provincial Series of North America with global and regional  
803 chronostratigraphic units and  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  chemostratigraphy. *Lethaia* 44, 185–202.  
804 <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1502-3931.2010.00234.x>

805 Cramer, B.D., Loydell, D.K., Samtleben, C., Munnecke, A., Kaljo, D., Männik, P., Martma, T.,  
806 Jeppsson, L., Kleffner, M.A., Barrick, J.E., Johnson, C.A., Emsbo, P., Joachimski, M.M.,  
807 Bickert, T., Saltzman, M.R., 2010. Testing the limits of Paleozoic chronostratigraphic  
808 correlation via high-resolution (<500 k.y.) integrated conodont, graptolite, and carbon  
809 isotope ( $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$ ) biochemostratigraphy across the llandovery-Wenlock (Silurian)  
810 boundary: Is a unified Phanerozoic. *Bull. Geol. Soc. Am.* 122, 1700–1716.  
811 <https://doi.org/10.1130/B26602.1>

812 Cramer, B.D., Saltzman, M.R., 2005. Sequestration of  $^{12}\text{C}$  in the deep ocean during the early  
813 Wenlock (Silurian) positive carbon isotope excursion. *Palaeogeogr. Palaeoclimatol.*  
814 *Palaeoecol.* 219, 333–349. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.PALAEO.2005.01.009>

815 Eldridge, D.L., Guo, W., Farquhar, J., 2016. Theoretical estimates of equilibrium sulfur isotope  
816 effects in aqueous sulfur systems: Highlighting the role of isomers in the sulfite and  
817 sulfoxylate systems. *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta* 195, 171–200.  
818 <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.GCA.2016.09.021>

819 Erhardt, A.M., Turchyn, A. V., Dickson, J.A.D., Sadekov, A.Y., Taylor, P.D., Wilson, M.A.,  
820 Scott, P., Schrag, D.P., 2020. Chemical Composition of Carbonate Hardground Cements as  
821 Reconstructive Tools for Phanerozoic Pore Fluids. *Geochemistry, Geophys. Geosystems* 21.  
822 <https://doi.org/10.1029/2019GC008448>

823 Fichtner, V., Strauss, H., Immenhauser, A., Buhl, D., Neuser, R.D., Niedermayr, A., 2017.  
824 Diagenesis of carbonate associated sulfate. *Chem. Geol.* 463, 61–75.  
825 <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.CHEMGEO.2017.05.008>

826 Fike, D.A., Bradley, A.S., Rose, C. V., 2015. Rethinking the Ancient Sulfur Cycle. *Annu. Rev.*  
827 *Earth Planet. Sci.* 43, 593–622. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-earth-060313-054802>

828 Fölling, P.G., Frimmel, H.E., 2002. Chemostratigraphic correlation of carbonate successions in  
829 the Gariep and Saldania Belts, Namibia and South Africa. *Basin Res.* 14, 69–88.  
830 <https://doi.org/10.1046/j.1365-2117.2002.00167.x>

831 Garrels, R.M., Lerman, A., 1981. Phanerozoic cycles of sedimentary carbon and sulfur  
832 (isotopes/sediment cycles/natural oxygen reservoirs). *Geology* 78, 4652–4656.

833 Geyman, E.C., Maloof, A.C., Dyer, B., 2021. How is sea level change encoded in carbonate  
834 stratigraphy? *Earth Planet. Sci. Lett.* 560, 116790.  
835 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.epsl.2021.116790>

836 Gill, B.C., Lyons, T.W., Frank, T.D., 2008. Behavior of carbonate-associated sulfate during  
837 meteoric diagenesis and implications for the sulfur isotope paleoproxy. *Geochim.*  
838 *Cosmochim. Acta* 72, 4699–4711. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.GCA.2008.07.001>

839 Gill, B.C., Lyons, T.W., Saltzman, M.R., 2007. Parallel, high-resolution carbon and sulfur  
840 isotope records of the evolving Paleozoic marine sulfur reservoir. *Palaeogeogr.*  
841 *Palaeoclimatol. Palaeoecol.* 256, 156–173. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.PALAEO.2007.02.030>

842 Goldberg, T., Poulton, S.W., Strauss, H., 2005. Sulphur and oxygen isotope signatures of late  
843 Neoproterozoic to early Cambrian sulphate, Yangtze Platform, China: Diagenetic  
844 constraints and seawater evolution. *Precambrian Res.* 137, 223–241.  
845 <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.PRECAMRES.2005.03.003>

846 Gómez Peral, L.E., Poiré, D.G., Strauss, H., Zimmermann, U., 2007. Chemostratigraphy and  
847 diagenetic constraints on Neoproterozoic carbonate successions from the Sierras Bayas  
848 Group, Tandilia System, Argentina. *Chem. Geol.* 237, 109–128.  
849 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemgeo.2006.06.022>

850 Halverson, G.P., Dudás, F.Ö., Maloof, A.C., Bowring, S.A., 2007. Evolution of the  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$   
851 composition of Neoproterozoic seawater. *Palaeogeogr. Palaeoclimatol. Palaeoecol.* 256,  
852 103–129. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.PALAEO.2007.02.028>

853 Higgins, J.A., Blättler, C.L., Lundstrom, E.A., Santiago-Ramos, D.P., Akhtar, A.A., Crüger  
854 Ahm, A.-S., Bialik, O., Holmden, C., Bradbury, H., Murray, S.T., Swart, P.K., 2018.  
855 Mineralogy, early marine diagenesis, and the chemistry of shallow-water carbonate  
856 sediments. *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta* 220, 512–534.  
857 <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.GCA.2017.09.046>

858 Hints, O., Killing, M., Männik, P., Nestor, V., 2006. Frequency patterns of chitinozoans,  
859 scolecodonts, and conodonts in the upper Llandovery and lower Wenlock of the Paatsalu  
860 core, western Estonia. *Proc. Est. Acad. Sci. Geol.* 55, 128–155.

861 Husson, J.M., Higgins, J.A., Maloof, A.C., Schoene, B., 2015. Ca and Mg isotope constraints on  
862 the origin of Earth's deepest  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  excursion. *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta* 160, 243–266.  
863 <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.GCA.2015.03.012>

864 Jeppsson, L., 1997. The anatomy of the mid-Early Silurian Ireviken Event and a Scenario of P-S

865 Events, in: *Paleontological Events: Stratigraphic, Ecological and Evolutionary Implications*.  
866 pp. 451–492.

867 Johnson, D.L., Grossman, E.L., Webb, S.M., Adkins, J.F., 2020. Brachiopod  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  SCAS  
868 microanalyses indicate a dynamic, climate-influenced Permo-Carboniferous sulfur cycle.  
869 *Earth Planet. Sci. Lett.* 546, 116428. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.epsl.2020.116428>

870 Jones, D.S., Brothers, R.W., Ahm, A.-S.C., Slater, N., Higgins, J.A., Fike, D.A., 2019. Sea level,  
871 carbonate mineralogy, and early diagenesis controlled  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  records in Upper Ordovician  
872 carbonates. *Geology*. <https://doi.org/10.1130/g46861.1>

873 Jones, D.S., Fike, D.A., 2013. Dynamic sulfur and carbon cycling through the end-Ordovician  
874 extinction revealed by paired sulfate–pyrite  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ . *Earth Planet. Sci. Lett.* 363, 144–155.  
875 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.epsl.2012.12.015>

876 Kah, L.C., Lyons, T.W., Frank, T.D., 2004. Low marine sulphate and protracted oxygenation of  
877 the Proterozoic biosphere. *Nature* 431, 834–838. <https://doi.org/10.1038/nature02974>

878 Kaljo, D., Martma, T., 2006. Application of carbon isotope stratigraphy to dating the Baltic  
879 Silurian rocks. *GFF* 128, 123–129. <https://doi.org/10.1080/11035890601282123>

880 Kaljo, D., Martma, T., 2000. Carbon isotopic composition of Llandovery rocks (East Baltic  
881 Silurian) with environmental interpretation, in: *Proceedings of the Estonian Academy of*  
882 *Sciences, Geology*. pp. 267–283.

883 Kampschulte, A., Strauss, H., 2004. The sulfur isotopic evolution of Phanerozoic seawater based  
884 on the analysis of structurally substituted sulfate in carbonates. *Chem. Geol.* 204, 255–286.  
885 <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.CHEMGEO.2003.11.013>

886 Kiipli, E., Kiipli, T., Kallaste, T., 2006. Identification of the O-bentonite in the deep shelf  
887 sections with implication on stratigraphy and lithofacies, East Baltic Silurian. *GFF* 128,

888 255–260. <https://doi.org/10.1080/11035890601283255>

889 Kiipli, T., Orlova, K., Kiipli, E., Kallaste, T., 2008. Use of immobile trace elements for the  
890 correlation of Telychian bentonites on Saaremaa Island, Estonia, and mapping of volcanic  
891 ash clouds. *Est. J. Earth Sci.* 57, 39–52. <https://doi.org/10.3176/earth.2008.1.04>

892 Kozik, N.P., Young, S.A., Bowman, C.N., Saltzman, M.R., Them, T.R., 2019. Middle–Upper  
893 Ordovician (Darriwilian–Sandbian) paired carbon and sulfur isotope stratigraphy from the  
894 Appalachian Basin, USA: Implications for dynamic redox conditions spanning the peak of  
895 the Great Ordovician Biodiversification Event. *Palaeogeogr. Palaeoclimatol. Palaeoecol.*  
896 520, 188–202. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.palaeo.2019.01.032>

897 Kump, L.R., Arthur, M.A., 1999. Interpreting carbon-isotope excursions: carbonates and organic  
898 matter. *Chem. Geol.* 161, 181–198. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0009-2541\(99\)00086-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0009-2541(99)00086-8)

899 Lehnert, O., Männik, P., Joachimski, M.M., Calner, M., Frýda, J., 2010. Palaeoclimate  
900 perturbations before the Sheinwoodian glaciation: A trigger for extinctions during the  
901 ‘Ireviken Event.’ *Palaeogeogr. Palaeoclimatol. Palaeoecol.* 296, 320–331.  
902 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.palaeo.2010.01.009>

903 Liu, Xi, Deng, W., Wei, G., 2019. Carbon and oxygen isotopic analyses of calcite in calcite–  
904 dolomite mixtures: Optimization of selective acid extraction. *Rapid Commun. Mass*  
905 *Spectrom.* 33, 411–418. <https://doi.org/10.1002/rcm.8365>

906 Liu, Xiting, Fike, D., Li, A., Dong, J., Xu, F., Zhuang, G., Rendle-Bühring, R., Wan, S., 2019.  
907 Pyrite sulfur isotopes constrained by sedimentation rates: Evidence from sediments on the  
908 East China Sea inner shelf since the late Pleistocene. *Chem. Geol.* 505, 66–75.  
909 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemgeo.2018.12.014>

910 Lowenstein, T.K., Hardie, L.A., Timofeeff, M.N., Demicco, R. V., 2003. Secular variation in



911 seawater chemistry and the origin of calcium chloride basinal brines. *Geology* 31, 857.  
912 <https://doi.org/10.1130/G19728R.1>

913 Loydell, D.K., Nestor, V., Mnnik, P., 2010. Integrated biostratigraphy of the lower silurian of the  
914 Kolka-54 core, Latvia. *Geol. Mag.* 147, 253–280.  
915 <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0016756809990574>

916 Männik, P., Pöldvere, A., Nestor, V., Kallaste, T., Kiipli, T., Martma, T., 2014. The Llandovery-  
917 Wenlock boundary interval in west-central continental Estonia: an example from the Suigu  
918 (S-3) core section. *Est. J. Earth Sci.* 63, 1–17. <https://doi.org/10.3176/earth.2014.01>

919 Marenco, P.J., Corsetti, F.A., Hammond, D.E., Kaufman, A.J., Bottjer, D.J., 2008a. Oxidation of  
920 pyrite during extraction of carbonate associated sulfate. *Chem. Geol.* 247, 124–132.  
921 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemgeo.2007.10.006>

922 Marenco, P.J., Corsetti, F.A., Kaufman, A.J., Bottjer, D.J., 2008b. Environmental and diagenetic  
923 variations in carbonate associated sulfate: An investigation of CAS in the Lower Triassic of  
924 the western USA. *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta* 72, 1570–1582.  
925 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gca.2007.10.033>

926 Munnecke, A., Calner, M., Harper, D.A.T., Servais, T., 2010. Ordovician and Silurian sea–water  
927 chemistry, sea level, and climate: A synopsis. *Palaeogeogr. Palaeoclimatol. Palaeoecol.* 296,  
928 389–413. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.palaeo.2010.08.001>

929 Munnecke, A., Samtleben, C., Bickert, T., 2003. The Ireviken Event in the lower Silurian of  
930 Gotland, Sweden – relation to similar Palaeozoic and Proterozoic events. *Palaeogeogr.*  
931 *Palaeoclimatol. Palaeoecol.* 195, 99–124. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0031-0182\(03\)00304-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0031-0182(03)00304-3)

932 Nestor, H., Einasto, R., 1997. Ordovician and Silurian Carbonate sedimentation basin, in:  
933 *Geology and Mineral Resources of Estonia*. Estonian Academy Publishers, Tallinn, pp.

934 192–204.

935 Nestor, V., 2010. Distribution of Silurian chitinozoans. *Viki Drill Core. Est. Geol. Sect. Bulletin*

936 1, 19–20.

937 Newton, R.J., Pevitt, E.L., Wignall, P.B., Bottrell, S.H., 2004. Large shifts in the isotopic

938 composition of seawater sulphate across the Permo-Triassic boundary in northern Italy.

939 *Earth Planet. Sci. Lett.* 218, 331–345. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0012-821X\(03\)00676-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0012-821X(03)00676-9)

940 Pasquier, V., Sansjofre, P., Rabineau, M., Revillon, S., Houghton, J., Fike, D.A., 2017. Pyrite

941 sulfur isotopes reveal glacial–interglacial environmental changes. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.*

942 114, 5941–5945. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1618245114>

943 Paytan, A., 1998. Sulfur Isotopic Composition of Cenozoic Seawater Sulfate. *Science* (80-. ).

944 282, 1459–1462. <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.282.5393.1459>

945 Percak-Dennett, E., He, S., Converse, B., Konishi, H., Xu, H., Corcoran, A., Noguera, D., Chan,

946 C., Bhattacharyya, A., Borch, T., Boyd, E., Roden, E.E., 2017. Microbial acceleration of

947 aerobic pyrite oxidation at circumneutral pH. *Geobiology* 15, 690–703.

948 <https://doi.org/10.1111/gbi.12241>

949 Present, T.M., 2018. Controls on the Sulfur Isotopic Composition of Carbonate-Associated

950 Sulfate. California Institute of Technology.

951 Present, T.M., Adkins, J.F., Fischer, W.W., 2020. Variability in Sulfur Isotope Records of

952 Phanerozoic Seawater Sulfate. *Geophys. Res. Lett.* 47.

953 <https://doi.org/10.1029/2020GL088766>

954 Present, T.M., Gutierrez, M., Paris, G., Kerans, C., Grotzinger, J.P., Adkins, J.F., 2019.

955 Diagenetic controls on the isotopic composition of carbonate-associated sulphate in the

956 Permian Capitan Reef Complex, West Texas. *Sedimentology* 66, 2605–2626.

957 <https://doi.org/10.1111/sed.12615>

958 Present, T.M., Paris, G., Burke, A., Fischer, W.W., Adkins, J.F., 2015. Large Carbonate  
959 Associated Sulfate isotopic variability between brachiopods, micrite, and other sedimentary  
960 components in Late Ordovician strata. *Earth Planet. Sci. Lett.* 432, 187–198.  
961 <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.EPSL.2015.10.005>

962 Rennie, V.C.F., Turchyn, A. V., 2014. The preservation of  $\delta\text{SSO}434$  and  $\delta\text{OSO}418$  in carbonate-  
963 associated sulfate during marine diagenesis: A 25 Myr test case using marine sediments.  
964 *Earth Planet. Sci. Lett.* 395, 13–23. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.EPSL.2014.03.025>

965 Richardson, J.A., Keating, C., Lepland, A., Hints, O., Bradley, A.S., Fike, D.A., 2019a. Silurian  
966 records of carbon and sulfur cycling from Estonia: The importance of depositional  
967 environment on isotopic trends. *Earth Planet. Sci. Lett.* 512, 71–82.  
968 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.epsl.2019.01.055>

969 Richardson, J.A., Newville, M., Lanzirrotti, A., Webb, S.M., Rose, C. V, Catalano, J.G., Fike,  
970 D.A., 2019b. Depositional and Diagenetic Constrains on the Abundance and Spatial  
971 Variability of Carbonate-Associated Sulfate. *Chem. Geol.* 523, 59–72.  
972 <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.CHEMGEO.2019.05.036>

973 Rose, C. V., Fischer, W.W., Finnegan, S., Fike, D.A., 2019. Records of carbon and sulfur  
974 cycling during the Silurian Ireviken Event in Gotland, Sweden. *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta*  
975 246, 299–316. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gca.2018.11.030>

976 Rubel, M., Hints, O., Meidla, T., Nestor, V., Sarv, L., Sibul, I., 2007. Lower Silurian  
977 biostratigraphy of the Viirelaid core, western Estonia. *Est. J. Earth Sci.* 56, 193–204.  
978 <https://doi.org/10.3176/earth.2007.01>

979 Samtleben, C., Munnecke, A., Bickert, T., 2000. Development of facies and C/O-isotopes in

980 transects through the Ludlow of Gotland: Evidence for global and local influences on a  
981 shallow-marine environment. *Facies* 43, 1–38. <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF02536983>

982 Sim, M.S., Bosak, T., Ono, S., 2011. Large sulfur isotope fractionation does not require  
983 disproportionation. *Science* (80-. ). 333, 74–77. <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1205103>

984 Stebbins, A., Algeo, T.J., Olsen, C., Sano, H., Rowe, H., Hannigan, R., 2018. Sulfur-isotope  
985 evidence for recovery of seawater sulfate concentrations from a PTB minimum by the  
986 Smithian-Spathian transition. *Earth-Science Rev.*  
987 <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.EARSCIREV.2018.08.010>

988 Strauss, H., 1997. The isotopic composition of sedimentary sulfur through time. *Palaeogeogr.*  
989 *Palaeoclimatol. Palaeoecol.* 132, 97–118. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0031-0182\(97\)00067-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0031-0182(97)00067-9)

990 Swart, P.K., 2015. The geochemistry of carbonate diagenesis: The past, present and future.  
991 *Sedimentology* 62, 1233–1304. <https://doi.org/10.1111/sed.12205>

992 Swart, P.K., Eberli, G., 2005. The nature of the  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  of periplatform sediments: Implications for  
993 stratigraphy and the global carbon cycle. *Sediment. Geol.* 175, 115–129.  
994 <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.SEDGEO.2004.12.029>

995 Thompson, C.K., Kah, L.C., 2012. Sulfur isotope evidence for widespread euxinia and a  
996 fluctuating oxycline in Early to Middle Ordovician greenhouse oceans. *Palaeogeogr.*  
997 *Palaeoclimatol. Palaeoecol.* 313–314, 189–214.  
998 <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.PALAEO.2011.10.020>

999 Tonarová, P., Hints, O., Eriksson, M.E., 2014. Impact of the Silurian Ireviken Event on  
1000 polychaete faunas: New insights from the Viki drill core, western Estonia. *GFF* 136, 270–  
1001 274. <https://doi.org/10.1080/11035897.2013.862855>

1002 Torsvik, T.H., Cocks, L.R.M., 2013. New global palaeogeographical reconstructions for the

1003 Early Palaeozoic and their generation. *Geol. Soc. Mem.* 38, 5–24.  
1004 <https://doi.org/10.1144/M38.2>

1005 Tostevin, R., He, T., Turchyn, A. V., Wood, R.A., Penny, A.M., Bowyer, F., Antler, G., Shields,  
1006 G.A., 2017. Constraints on the late Ediacaran sulfur cycle from carbonate associated sulfate.  
1007 *Precambrian Res.* 290, 113–125. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.precamres.2017.01.004>

1008 Trotter, J.A., Williams, I.S., Barnes, C.R., Männik, P., Simpson, A., 2016. New conodont  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$   
1009 records of Silurian climate change: Implications for environmental and biological events.  
1010 *Palaeogeogr. Palaeoclimatol. Palaeoecol.* 443, 34–48.  
1011 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.palaeo.2015.11.011>

1012 Turchyn, A. V., Schrag, D.P., 2006. Cenozoic evolution of the sulfur cycle: Insight from oxygen  
1013 isotopes in marine sulfate. *Earth Planet. Sci. Lett.* 241, 763–779.  
1014 <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.EPSL.2005.11.007>

1015 Turchyn, A. V., Schrag, D.P., Coccioni, R., Montanari, A., 2009. Stable isotope analysis of the  
1016 Cretaceous sulfur cycle. *Earth Planet. Sci. Lett.* 285, 115–123.  
1017 <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.EPSL.2009.06.002>

1018 Vandenbroucke, T.R.A., Munnecke, A., Leng, M.J., Bickert, T., Hints, O., Gelsthorpe, D.,  
1019 Maier, G., Servais, T., 2013. Reconstructing the environmental conditions around the  
1020 Silurian Ireviken Event using the carbon isotope composition of bulk and palynomorph  
1021 organic matter. *Geochemistry, Geophys. Geosystems* 14, 86–101.  
1022 <https://doi.org/10.1029/2012GC004348>

1023 Xiao, S., Cui, H., Kang, J., McFadden, K.A., Kaufman, A.J., Kitajima, K., Fournelle, J.H.,  
1024 Schwid, M., Nolan, M., Baele, J.-M., Valley, J.W., 2020. Using SIMS to decode noisy  
1025 stratigraphic  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  variations in Ediacaran carbonates. *Precambrian Res.* 105686.

1026 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.precamres.2020.105686>

1027 Young, S.A., Benayoun, E., Kozik, N.P., Hints, O., Martma, T., Bergström, S.M., Owens, J.D.,  
1028 2020. Marine redox variability from Baltica during extinction events in the latest  
1029 Ordovician–early Silurian. *Palaeogeogr. Palaeoclimatol. Palaeoecol.* 554.  
1030 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.palaeo.2020.109792>

1031 Young, S.A., Gill, B.C., Edwards, C.T., Saltzman, M.R., Leslie, S.A., 2016. Middle–Late  
1032 Ordovician (Darriwilian–Sandbian) decoupling of global sulfur and carbon cycles: Isotopic  
1033 evidence from eastern and southern Laurentia. *Palaeogeogr. Palaeoclimatol. Palaeoecol.*  
1034 458, 118–132. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.palaeo.2015.09.040>

1035 Young, S.A., Kleinberg, A., Owens, J.D., 2019. Geochemical evidence for expansion of marine  
1036 euxinia during an early Silurian (Llandovery–Wenlock boundary) mass extinction. *Earth*  
1037 *Planet. Sci. Lett.* 513, 187–196. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.epsl.2019.02.023>

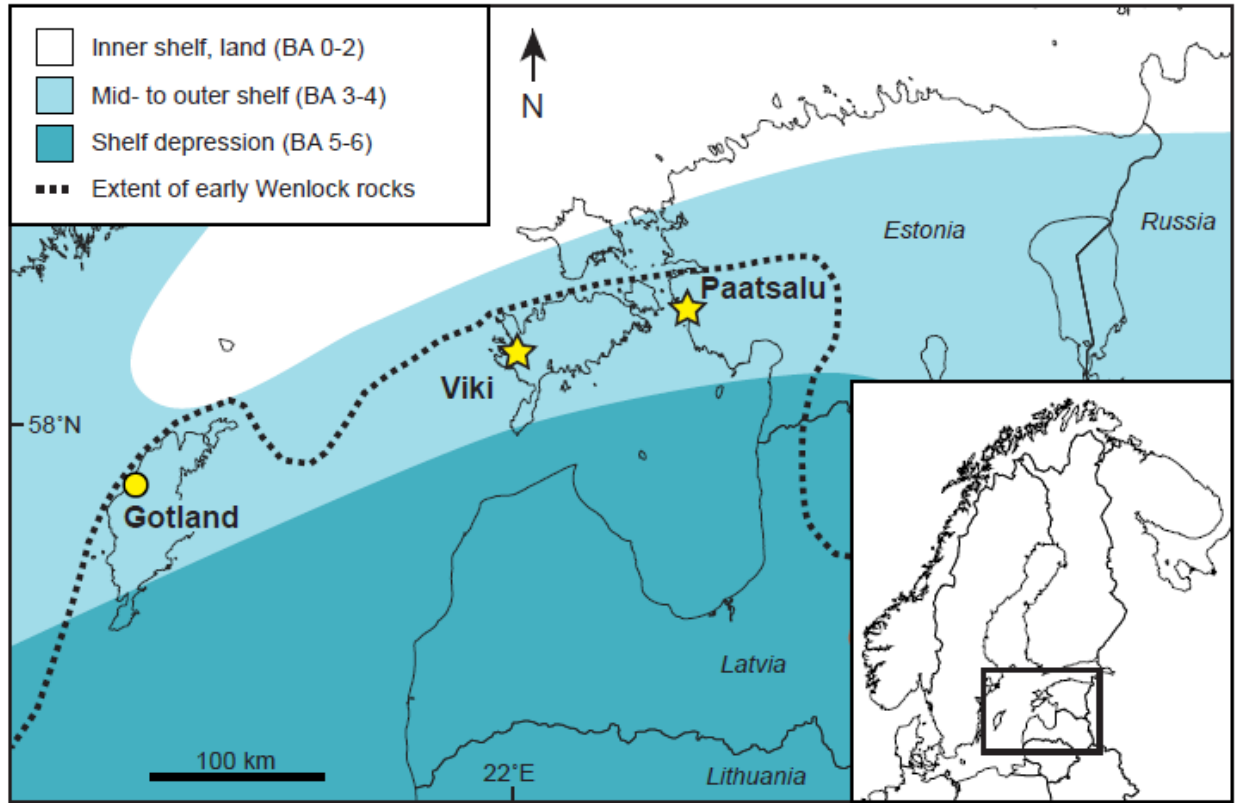
1038

### 1039 **Tables**

1040 Table 1 – average  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  values and average sample-to-sample  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  and  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$   
1041 values for each formation to assess the variability of sulfur isotope values within a given  
1042 depositional environment. The number of samples is included beside each formation name.  
1043 Average sample-to-sample  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  is particularly high in the Velise Fm., as this includes an aberrant  
1044 sample at 74.24 m of -32.38‰. Excluding this sample brings the average sample-to-sample  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$   
1045 down to 8.3‰ in the Velise Fm (given in parentheses). Similarly, the average sample-to-sample  
1046  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  decreases from 7 to 4.2‰ in the Jaani Formation when excluding samples that belong to  
1047 the oolite (which is a rapid shallowing environment; again in parentheses).

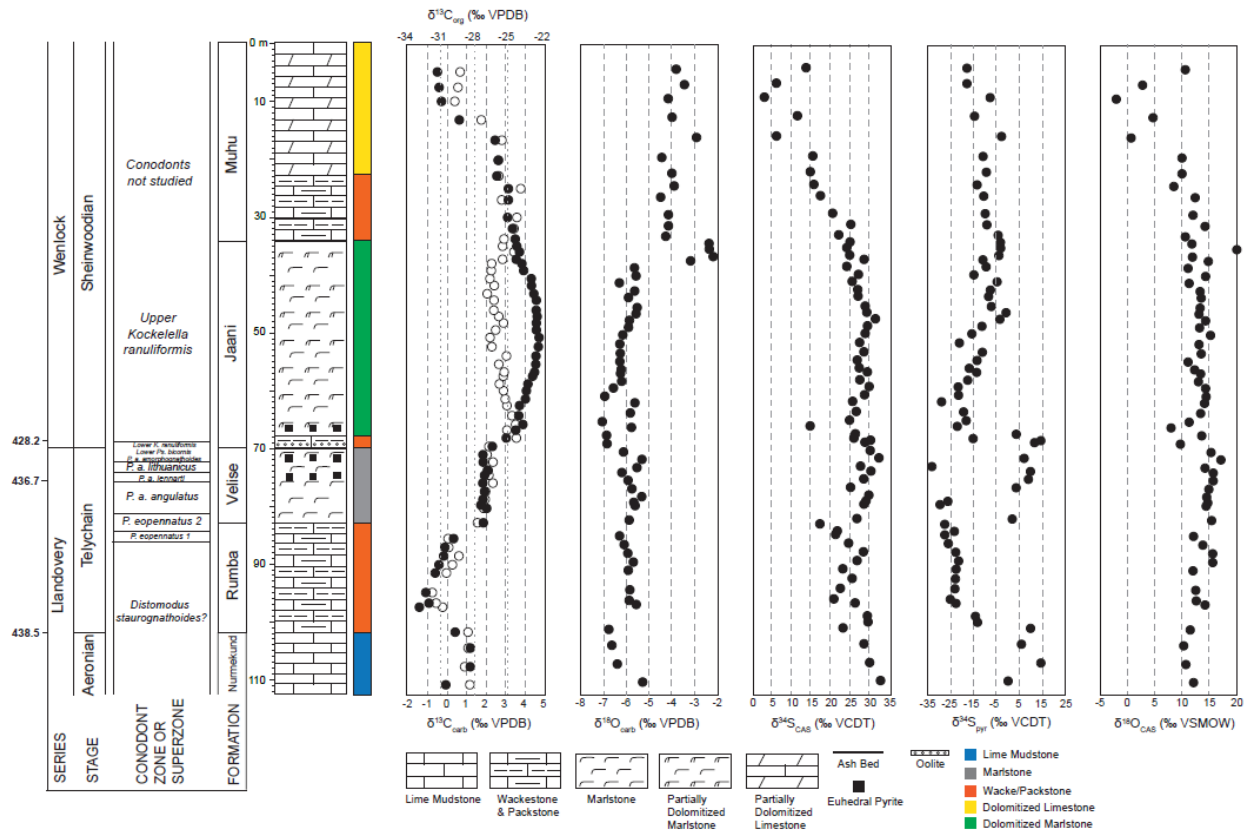
1048

### 1049 **Figures**



1050

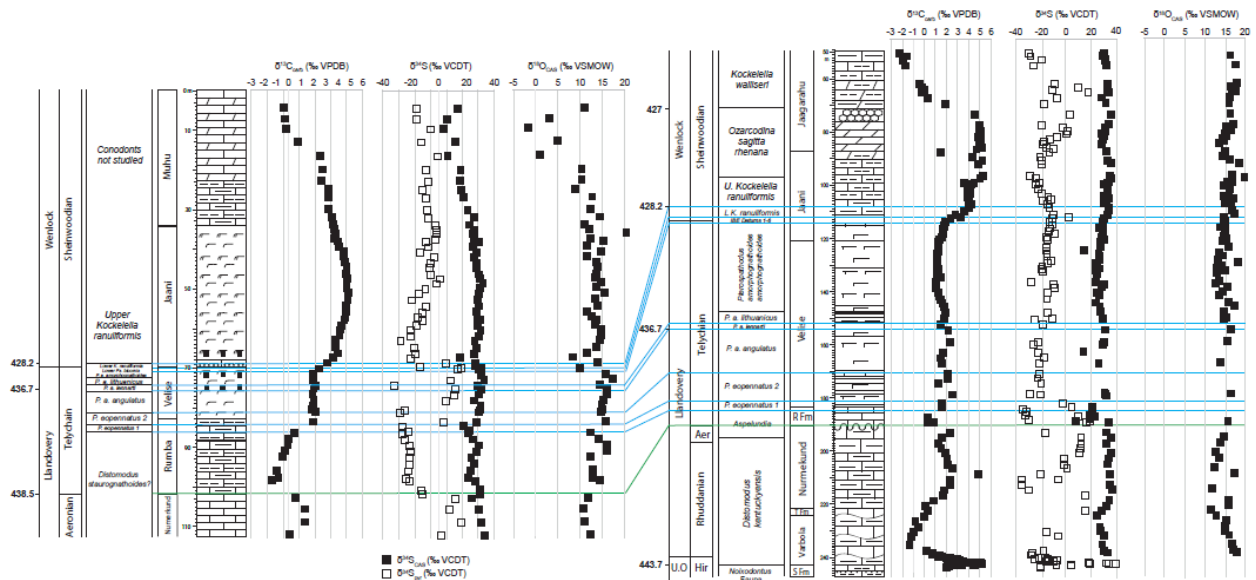
1051 Figure 1 – Map showing the locations of Paatsalu (this study) and Viki drill cores (Richardson et  
 1052 al., 2019a) in Estonia (stars), and a time-equivalent comparison from Gotland Island, Sweden  
 1053 (Rose et al., 2019) (circle). Generalized paleogeography is shown for the early Wenlock (Baarli et  
 1054 al., 2003; Nestor and Einasto, 1997). BA = depth related benthic assemblages (Brett et al., 1993)



1055

1056 Figure 2 – Paatsalu drill core stratigraphy (left) and coeval isotope chemostratigraphy. From left  
 1057 to right:  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  (solid circles; dashed lines) and  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$  (open circles; dotted lines),  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carb}}$ ,  
 1058  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$ ,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$ . Note that the same lithofacies color coding is used in subsequent  
 1059 figures.





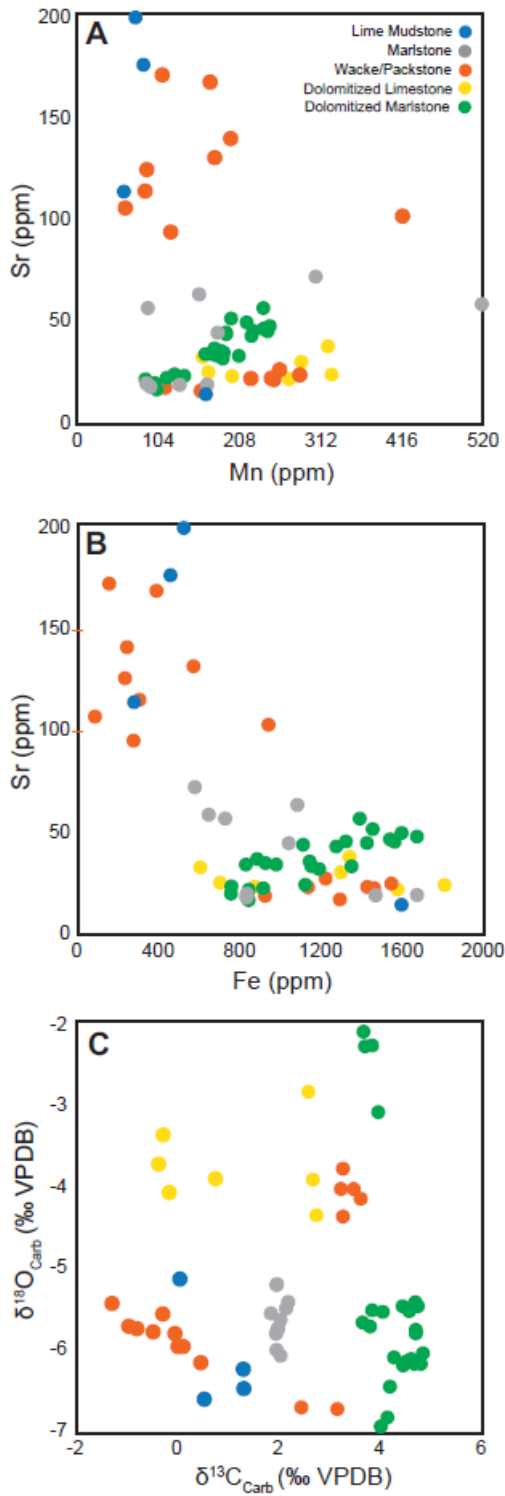
1060

1061 Figure 3 – Comparison of  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$ ,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyr}}$ ,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  (solid squares) and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  (open squares) from

1062 Paatsalu (left) and Viki (right; Richardson et al., 2019). Correlations made based on conodont

1063 biozones (blue lines) and the top of the *Conochitina alargada* chitinozoan biozone (green line).

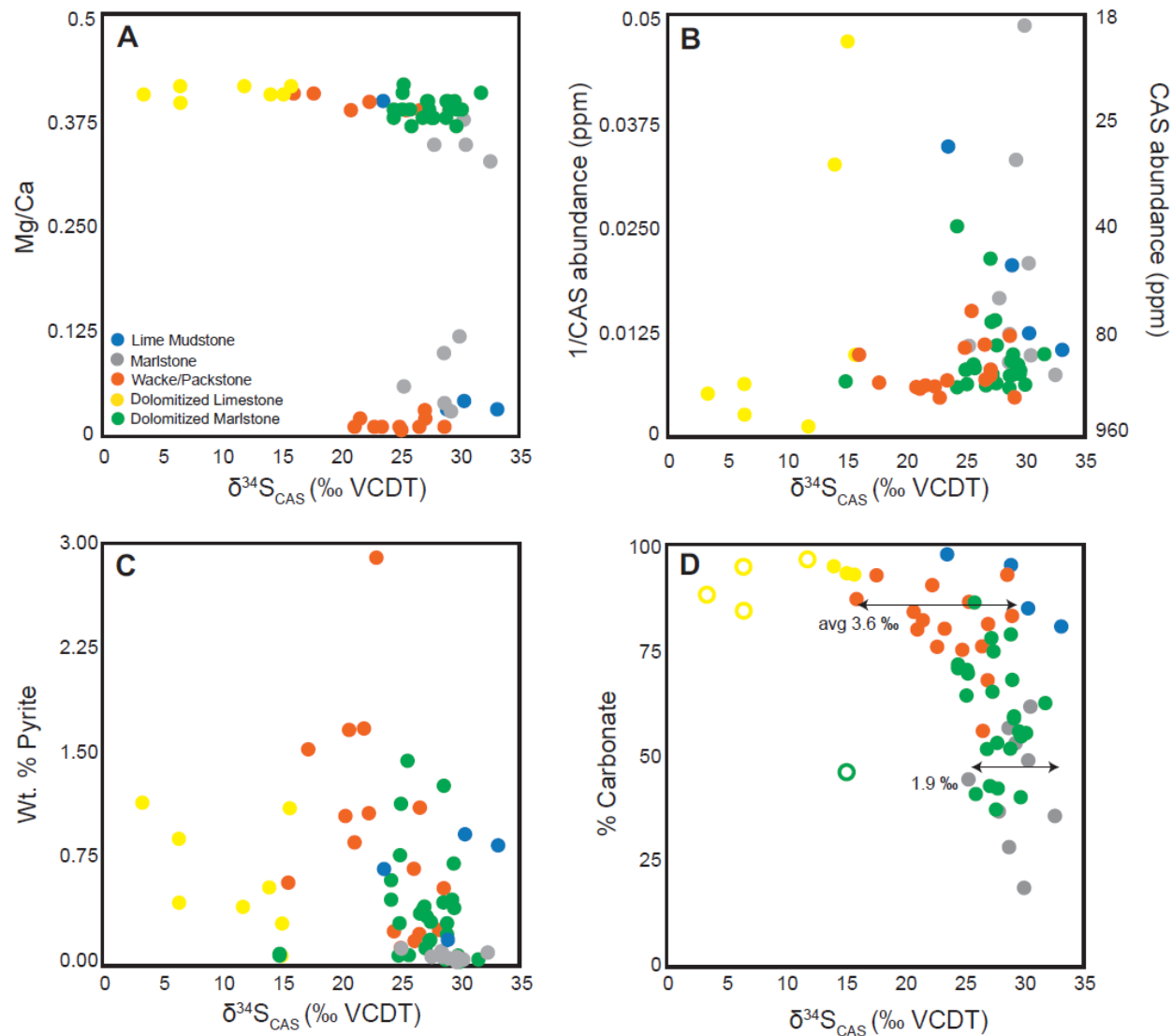
1064 See Fig. 2 for lithology legend.



1065

1066 Figure 4 – Cross plots of indicators of post-depositional late-stage diagenesis color-coded by

1067 lithology. (A) Sr vs. Mn abundance, (B) Sr vs. Fe abundance, (C)  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  vs.  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carb}}$ ,

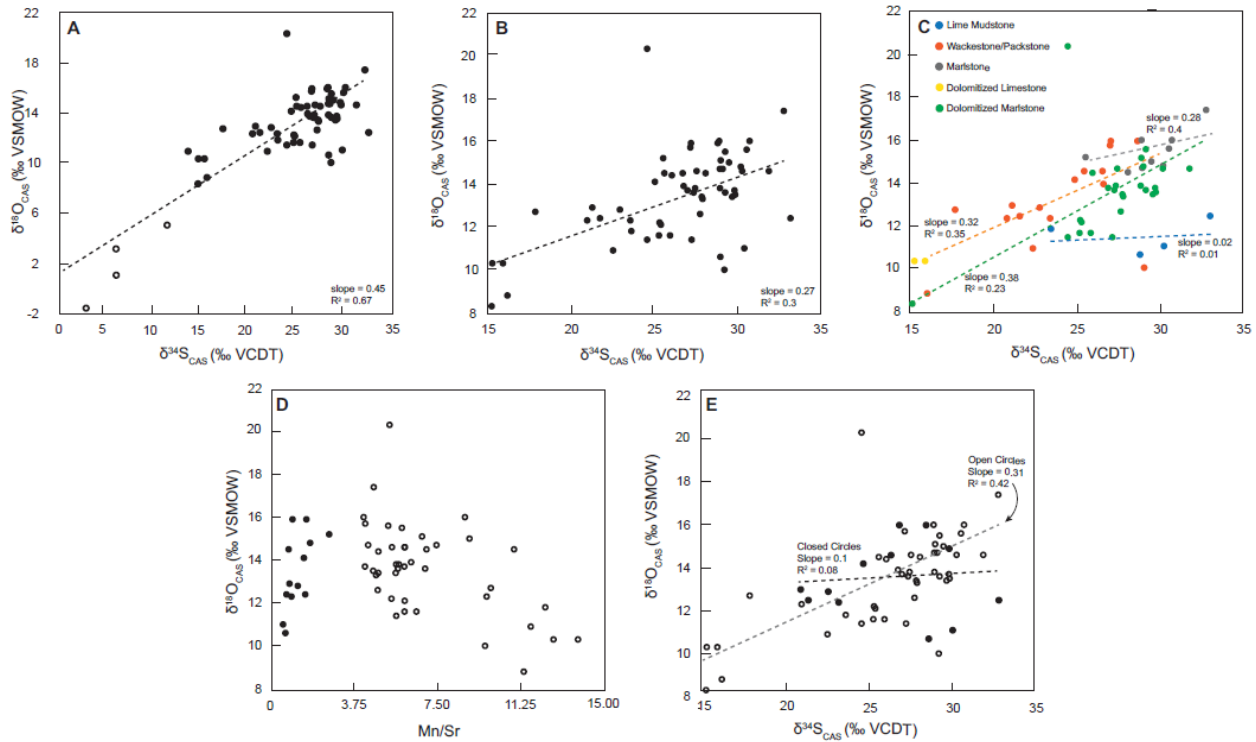


1068

1069 Figure 5 – Cross plots of  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  vs. (A) Mg/Ca molar ratio, (B) 1/CAS abundance, (C) wt % S in  
 1070 pyrite and (D) carbonate abundance. Open symbols are samples thought to be altered.

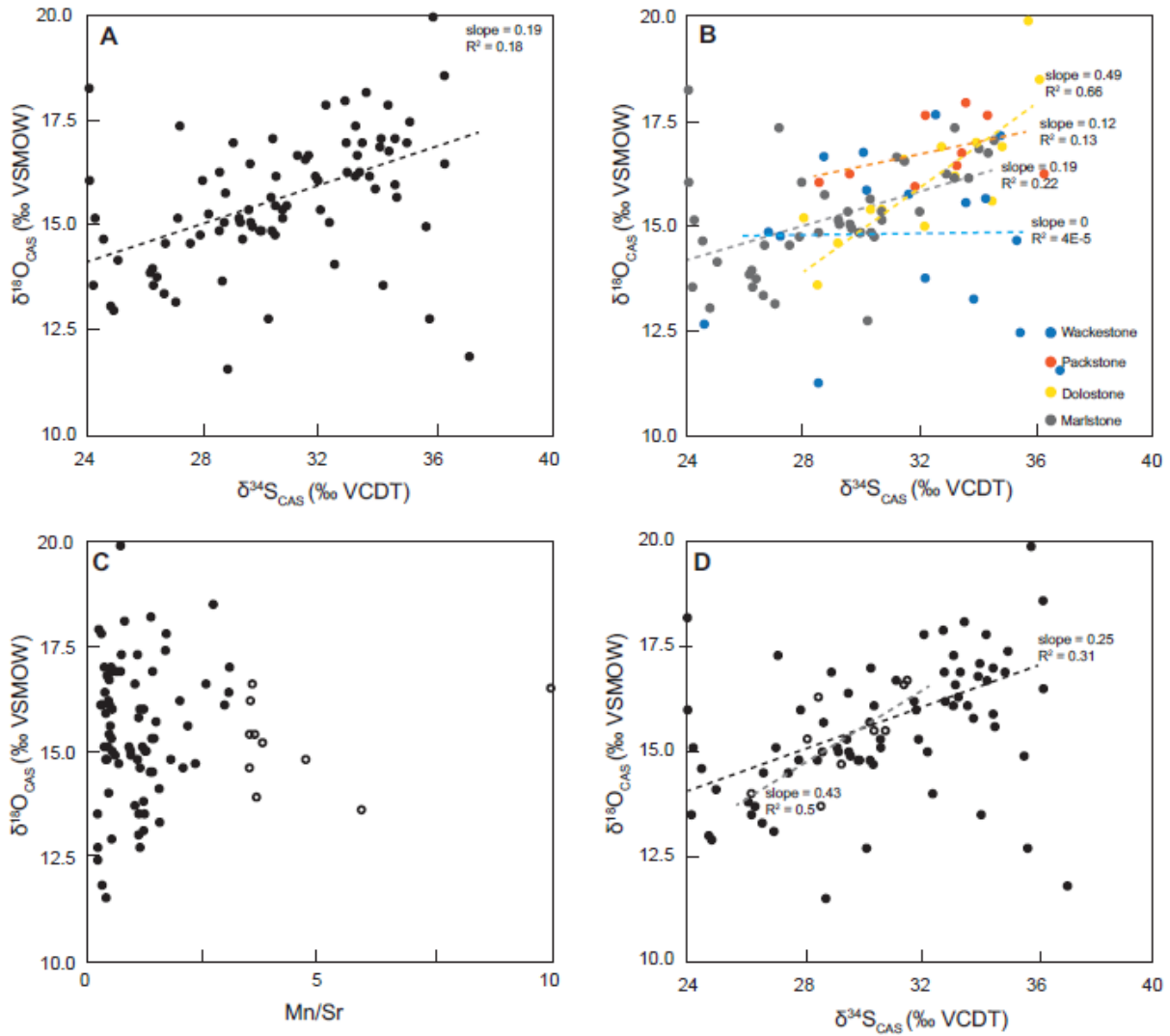
1071 Arrows represent the average sample-to-sample variability in shallow-water (3.6‰) and deep-

1072 water (1.9‰) facies.



1073

1074 Figure 6 – Cross plots of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  from the Paatsalu drill core vs. (A)  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  with altered samples  
 1075 as open circles, (B)  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  with altered samples shown in A removed, (C)  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  color-coded  
 1076 with lithologic information. The slope for dolomitized limestone is omitted due to the small  
 1077 number of samples from this unit ( $n = 2$ ) (D) Mn/Sr. Open circles are samples with Mn/Sr > 4 and  
 1078 solid circles are samples with Mn/Sr < 4. (E)  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  plotted as Mn/Sr > 4 (open circles, grey  
 1079 dashed line) and Mn/Sr < 4 (solid circles, black dashed line).



1080

1081 Figure 7 - Cross plots of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{CAS}}$  from the Viki drill core vs. (A)  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$ , (B)  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  color-coded

1082 with lithologic information, (C) Mn/Sr. Open circles are samples with an Mn/Sr > 4 and solid

1083 circles are samples with Mn/Sr < 4. (D)  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CAS}}$  plotted as Mn/Sr > 4 (open circles) and Mn/Sr <

1084 4 (solid circles).

1085

1086