

**Journal of Asian Earth Sciences**  
**GEOLOGY, MINERALIZATION AND MAGMA EVOLUTION OF THE ZUUN MOD MO-CU DEPOSIT IN SOUTHWEST MONGOLIA**  
--Manuscript Draft--

<b>Manuscript Number:</b>	JAESS-D-23-00283R1
<b>Article Type:</b>	Research Paper
<b>Keywords:</b>	Porphyry Mo-Cu deposit, Zuun Mod, Zircon U-Pb geochronology, Re-Os geochronology, southwest Mongolia
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<b>Abstract:</b>	Zuun Mod is a porphyry-type Mo-Cu deposit located in the Edren terrane in southwest Mongolia. The deposit has estimated resources of 218 Mt with an average Mo grade of 0.057% and Cu grade of 0.069%, and significant amounts of Re. The deposit is characterized by multiple pulses of magmatism and exsolution of magmatic ore fluids and associated alteration and mineralization. The timing of these events and the tectonic environment were unconstrained, and its genesis controversial. Based on drill core and field examinations, four lithological units of the Bayanbulag intrusive complex are identified in the deposit area including quartz syenite, quartz monzonite, granodiorite, and granite. The majority of Mo mineralization at Zuun Mod occurs in sheeted and stockwork quartz veins that crosscut units of the Bayanbulag complex as well as disseminations within altered granitoids wherein the mineralized quartz veins occur with potassic and phyllitic alteration selvages. Zircon U-Pb age dating for quartz monzonite and granodiorite defined the timing of magmatic events at $305.3 \pm 3.6$ Ma and $301.8 \pm 2.7$ Ma, respectively. Molybdenite Re-Os geochronology on grains from a quartz vein with potassic alteration selvage was determined at $297 \pm 4.8$ Ma, indicating the age of Mo mineralization. Lithogeochemical data of intrusive units suggest the granitoid rocks show calc-alkaline to high-K calc-alkaline, I-type, and metaluminous to slightly peraluminous affinities that formed in a post-collisional setting and were likely sourced from subduction-modified lithosphere. Lithogeochemical signatures and the tectonic environment classify Zuun Mod into neither Climax nor Endako-types, but as a Mo-rich porphyry Cu deposit.
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# 1      **Geology, Mineralization and Magma Evolution of the Zuun Mod Mo-Cu** 2      **Deposit in Southwest Mongolia**

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16

## 17     **Abstract**

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19     Southwest Mongolia. The deposit has estimated resources of 218 Mt with an average Mo  
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25     deposit area including quartz syenite, quartz monzonite, granodiorite, and granite. The  
26     majority of Mo mineralization at Zuun Mod occurs in sheeted and stockwork quartz veins  
27     that crosscut units of the Bayanbulag complex as well as disseminations within altered  
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32     at  $297 \pm 4.8$  Ma, indicating the age of Mo mineralization. Lithogeochemical data of intrusive  
33     units suggest the granitoid rocks show calc-alkaline to high-K calc-alkaline, I-type, and  
34     metaluminous to slightly peraluminous affinities that formed in a post-collisional setting and  
35     were likely sourced from subduction-modified lithosphere. Lithogeochemical signatures and

36 the tectonic environment classify Zuun Mod into neither Climax nor Endako-types, but as a  
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38

39 **Keywords:** Porphyry Mo-Cu deposit, Zuun Mod, Zircon U-Pb geochronology, Re-Os  
40 geochronology, Southwest Mongolia

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## 46 1. Introduction

47 Porphyry-type deposits are the primary source of Cu and Mo, accounting for up to  
48 75% of the global Cu and nearly 99% of global Mo production (Richards, 2003; Seedorff et  
49 al., 2005; Sillitoe, 2010). Additionally, porphyry deposits are major repositories of Au, Ag,  
50 and Sn, as well as some other byproducts such as Re, W, In, Pt, Pd, Se, Te, Bi, Pb, and Zn  
51 (John and Taylor, 2016; Sillitoe, 2010; Sinclair, 2007). Approximately half of the  
52 molybdenum production comes from porphyry Mo deposits in which Mo is the primary  
53 recoverable metal with Mo:Cu ratios greater than 1 and ore grades exceeding 0.05 wt % Mo  
54 (Sinclair, 2007). The remaining 50% of Mo is recovered from porphyry Cu-Mo deposits as a  
55 byproduct.

56 The formation of porphyry deposits is associated with subduction- and collision-  
57 related magmatism in orogenic belts (Hou and Cook, 2009; Hou et al., 2011; Sillitoe, 2010;  
58 Sinclair, 2007; Sun et al., 2015). The Central Asian Orogenic Belt (CAOB), which extends  
59 from the Ural Mountains in Russia and Kazakhstan to Northeastern China, is the world's  
60 largest and longest-lived (ca. 1000-250 Ma) orogenic belt, and hosts more than 20 major Cu-  
61 Mo, Mo-Cu, and Cu-Au porphyry deposits (Khain et al., 2002; Seltmann et al., 2014;  
62 Windley et al., 2007; Xiao et al., 2003). Mongolia, located in the central part of the CAOB,  
63 hosts several large porphyry deposits (Fig. 1A), including the world class Oyu Tolgoi Cu-Au-  
64 (Mo) deposit (Khashgerel et al., 2006; Wainwright et al., 2011a; 2011b), as well as the  
65 Kharmagtai Cu-Au (Kirwin et al., 2005; Vigar et al., 2015) and Tsagaan Suvarga Cu-Mo  
66 deposits (Tungalag et al., 2019; Watanabe and Stein, 2000). These porphyry deposits  
67 generally occur in island arc terranes, including the Edren terrane located in southwestern

68 Mongolia. The Edren terrane hosts several less explored porphyry deposits such as the Zuun  
69 Mod Mo-Cu porphyry, Khul Morit Cu-Au porphyry, Shalyn Khudag Cu-Mo porphyry, Senjit  
70 Khyar Cu porphyry, Khuis Tolgoi Cu porphyry, and Chandmani Uul Cu porphyry deposits,  
71 as well as several genetically associated epithermal deposits, including the Bayan Khundii Au  
72 and Altan Nar Au-polymetallic deposits (Fig. 1B). Among these deposits, the Zuun Mod  
73 deposit is the largest, and was first noted as a prospect during a geologic mapping project at a  
74 scale of 1:200.000 between 1996 and 1999 (Bukhbat et al., 1999). Subsequent exploration  
75 projects, including one conducted by a joint venture between WMC Resource Project Ltd and  
76 Gallant Minerals Mongolia Ltd between 2002 and 2003 and another by Erdene Resource  
77 Development Corporation between 2005 and 2008 identified the Zuun Mod deposit as a  
78 porphyry Mo-Cu type based on the geological setting, host rock alterations, and type of  
79 mineralization (Corey et al., 2006; Gillis, 2007; Osterman, 2003). The Mo-Cu mineralization  
80 at Zuun Mod is hosted in the late Carboniferous Bayanbulag intrusive complex and  
81 associated stockwork and sheeted quartz veins and veinlets developed within the intrusive  
82 complex (Altankhuyag, 2008; Bat-Erdene et al., 2011; Gillis, 2007; Gonchigjav et al., 2010).  
83 The deposit's estimated resources are 218 Mt of ore with an average Mo grade of 0.057% and  
84 an average Cu grade of 0.069% (Clark and Baudry, 2011; Gonchigjav et al., 2010).  
85 Additionally, the deposit locally contains significant amounts of Re with grades varying  
86 between 0.15 ppm and 0.29 ppm Re within molybdenite mineralized zones and contents as  
87 high as 125 to 150 ppm Re in individual molybdenite grains (Clark and Baudry, 2011; Gillis,  
88 2007).

89 Although resource estimates and broad stratigraphic relationships have been reported  
90 previously, the genesis of the Zuun Mod deposit remains poorly understood and discussions  
91 on its origin are largely restricted to technical reports. For example, an early technical report  
92 on exploration results by Gillis (2007) speculates that the Zuun Mod deposit might be a  
93 British Columbia (BC) type deposit based on intermediate composition host rocks, high Cu  
94 concentrations, and overall fluorine-poor nature, although locally abundant fluorite and topaz  
95 are observed in some of the molybdenite-bearing veins. A later technical report by Clark and  
96 Baudry (2011) classified the deposit as a transitional style of porphyry Mo deposit between  
97 Climax and Endako types based on ore grades, the presence of fluorite, and petrographic  
98 examination. In contrast, Taylor et al. (2012) identified the Zuun Mod deposit as a possibly  
99 arc-related Endako-type based on the data and/or studies available to these authors. The  
100 intrusive body that is spatially and temporally associated with the Zuun Mod Mo-Cu  
101 mineralization has been assumed to be Carboniferous based on geological relationships

102 (Bukhbat et al., 1999), or late Carboniferous based on geological relationships wherein the  
103 Bayanbulag complex intrudes the early Carboniferous Khuviinkhar Formation whose age was  
104 defined as early Carboniferous by fossilized flora (Togtokh and Gunbileg, 2013; Zabotkin et  
105 al., 1988). That said, the precise age of the host rocks has not been determined.

106 Here we report the first results of a lithogeochemical and zircon U-Pb  
107 geochronological study of the ore-hosting intrusive rocks of the Bayanbulag intrusive  
108 complex. We also report the first mineralization age for the Zuun Mod deposit using  
109 molybdenite Re-Os analysis. The data are integrated with geological and mineralogical  
110 observations (including alteration features) to better understand the origin of the Zuun Mod  
111 deposit.

## 112 2. Geological background

113 The Zuun Mod porphyry Mo-Cu deposit is located in the Edren terrane in Southwest  
114 Mongolia (Fig. 1), a dissected section of the Kazakh-Mongol magmatic arc which is part of  
115 the Transbaikal-Mongolian tectonic collage (Yakubchuk, 2002, 2005; Yakubchuk et al.,  
116 2002). Together with the Altaiid tectonic collage to the west, these orogenic collages form the  
117 CAOB that records 750 Ma of continental growth through continuous subduction-accretion  
118 within the long-lived Paleo-Asian Ocean from the Neoproterozoic through Paleozoic eras  
119 (Dobretsov et al., 2004; Kuzmichev et al., 2005; 2007; Yarmolyuk et al., 2006). The CAOB  
120 is surrounded by the Siberian craton to the north and the North China and Tarim cratons to  
121 the south (Dobretsov et al., 1995; Jahn et al., 2000), and extends from the Ural Mountains in  
122 Kazakhstan and Russia to the west through Kazakhstan, northern China, Mongolia, southern  
123 Siberia, and northeastern China to the Pacific coast on the east (Kröner et al., 2007; Sengör et  
124 al., 1993; Yakubchuk, 2002). Generally, two different models have been proposed to explain  
125 the continental growth in the CAOB. Sengör et al. (1993) and Sengör and Natal'in (1996)  
126 proposed a model wherein the orogen formed by successive subduction-accretion and  
127 orocinal bending of a single giant (i.e., ~7000 km long) long-lived volcanic arc system.  
128 Other models suggest that small ocean basins were closed along several subduction zones  
129 through the accretion of island arcs, oceanic islands, seamounts, microcontinents, and  
130 obduction of ophiolites (Badarch et al., 2002; Khain et al., 2003; Kuzmichev et al., 2005;  
131 Mossakovskiy et al., 1993). Regardless of these models, the assembly of the CAOB in the  
132 Neoproterozoic to Mesozoic produced major growth of the continental crust (Sengör et al.,  
133 1993).

Mongolia, located at the center of the CAOB, is subdivided into northern and southern domains separated by the so-called Main Mongolian Lineament (Fig. 1A; Badarch et al., 2002; Yakubchuk, 2005) which is considered to be a section of the CAOB-wide Irtysh fault (Yakubchuk et al., 2012). The northern domain is usually classified as a ‘Caledonian’ orogen which is composed of cratonal fragments of Precambrian rocks dislocated by faults, late Neoproterozoic to Ordovician Tuva-Mongol magmatic arc intrusions, and associated sequences of series of back-arc and fore-arc, accretionary wedge, ophiolite, and Proterozoic to lower Paleozoic intrusions (Badarch et al., 2002). The southern domain is a Hercynian (or Variscan) orogen dominated by Silurian to latest Carboniferous arc-related magmatic and volcano sedimentary rocks that were intruded by rift-related bimodal and alkali granitic magmatism during the latest Carboniferous – earliest Permian (Badarch et al., 2002; Lamb and Badarch, 1997). During the evolution of the Caledonian and Hercynian orogenic belts, some of the subduction-related magmatic events resulted in the formation of porphyry Cu, Au, and Mo deposits such as those shown in Figure 1 (Badarch et al., 2002).

The Edren terrane is considered to be an ensialic island arc developed on the distal southern margin of the Siberian paleocontinent within the southern Mongolian Hercynian paleo-ocean that existed between the late Silurian and Carboniferous (Dergunov, 2001; Ruzhentsev et al., 1990). The Edren terrane is divided into a northern (Khuviinkhar) and southern (Edren) subsequence (Badarch et al., 2002; Lamb and Badarch, 1997). The northern Khuviinkhar sequence consists of Devonian terrigenous sedimentary and volcanic rocks as well as Carboniferous terrigenous sedimentary rocks (Badarch et al., 2002; Tumurkhuu et al., 2010). The rocks of the Khuviinkhar sequence have undergone intense brittle deformation, folding, and shearing, which resulted in greenschist metamorphism (Badarch et al., 2002). The folds on the northern margin of the Edren terrane suggest dextral strike-slip displacement along the Bulgan fault which separates the terrane from the northern block (Fig. 1B; Badarch et al., 2002). The southern Edren subsequence is dominated by Devonian and Lower Carboniferous basalts, andesites, volcanic breccias, tuffs, volcaniclastic rocks, cherts, minor limestones, and clastic sediments that locally contain early Devonian gabbroic sill-like bodies (Yarmolyuk and Tikhonov, 1982). The major and trace element chemistry of Devonian basalts show medium- to high-K calc-alkaline affinities similar to gabbroic bodies, thus suggesting an arc environment (Lamb and Badarch, 1997; Togtokh et al., 2020; Tumurkhuu et al., 2013). The Edren terrane was intruded by fewer Devonian and more widespread Carboniferous diorites, granodiorites, as well as tonalitic plutons and lesser early Permian granitic rocks, all of which are overlain by late Permian felsic and volcanic rocks (Badarch et

168 al., 2002; Togtokh et al., 2020). Carboniferous intrusive rocks are spatially and temporally  
169 associated with a number of porphyry Cu-Au and Mo-Cu deposits and occurrences that have  
170 been discovered during exploration campaigns in the region over the past several decades  
171 (Fig. 1B; Delgertsogt et al., 2014).

### 172 3. Geology of the Zuun Mod porphyry Mo-Cu deposit

173 The Zuun Mod porphyry Mo-Cu deposit is located in the NE-SW trending contact  
174 fault between the early Carboniferous Khuviinkhar Formation and the Bayanbulag intrusive  
175 complex (Fig. 2A; Corey et al., 2006; Gillis, 2007; Gonchigjav et al., 2010). The Khuviinkhar  
176 Formation consists of a succession of basalts, basaltic andesites, andesites, andesitic dacites,  
177 and their tuffs, the age of which was determined as Tournaisian and Visean (359-330 Ma)  
178 based on fossilized flora (Fig. 2; Bukhbat et al., 1999; Gonchigjav et al., 2010; Zabotkin et  
179 al., 1988). In the area of the Zuun Mod deposit, the Bayanbulag intrusive complex consists of  
180 quartz syenites, quartz monzonites, granodiorites, and granites. Drill core observations  
181 indicate that the quartz syenite and quartz monzonite units were intruded by the granodiorites  
182 and granites (Fig. 2B; Altankhuyag, 2008; Bat-Erdene et al., 2011; Corey et al., 2006; Gillis,  
183 2007; Gonchigjav et al., 2010).

#### 184 3.1. Bayanbulag intrusive complex

185 Based on field relationships and drill core observation, the quartz syenite, located in  
186 the uppermost part of the Bayanbulag intrusive complex and outcropping south of the fault in  
187 the area of the Racetrack South orebody (Fig. 2), is the earliest intrusion unit in the deposit  
188 area. Drill core observations suggest the quartz syenite is less mineralized compared to quartz  
189 monzonite and granodiorite. Nevertheless, quartz syenite typically contains lower  
190 concentrations of Mo due to the intrusion of quartz monzonite, granodiorite, and granodiorite  
191 porphyry. Drill core intercepts of mineralized zones at depths of 150-550 m indicate that the  
192 mineralization is restricted to stockwork and sheeted quartz veins and veinlets hosted in  
193 potassic altered quartz monzonite, granodiorite, and lesser quartz syenite.

194 The quartz monzonite is pink to pinkish-red and medium to coarse-grained with a  
195 seriate texture. It contains abundant quartz, potassium feldspar, and plagioclase with minor  
196 biotite and hornblende, as well as ore minerals such as magnetite and sulfides (Figs. 3A, B,  
197 C). It is noteworthy that at the surface, plagioclase is replaced by clay minerals. At depths  
198 greater than 150 m, plagioclase is replaced by potassium feldspar, forming potassic alteration

halos together with magnetite, biotite, and, locally, chalcopyrite and molybdenite. Quartz monzonite is also crosscut by quartz veins and veinlets with up to 10-15 modal percent molybdenite (Fig. 3B). In areas of extensive veining, potassic vein selvages coalesce, resulting in the formation of pervasive potassically altered rocks (Fig. 3C). The quartz monzonite is intruded by a granodiorite unit that itself was intruded by a biotite granite. The granodiorite is gray and fine- to medium-grained with a seriate texture and contains plagioclase, quartz, biotite, and lesser potassium feldspar and hornblende (Figs. 3D, E, F). The granodiorite is intensely crosscut by sheeted and stockwork quartz veins that contain moderate to intense (10-15 modal abundances) Mo mineralization. The biotite granite is the latest phase of the Bayanbulag complex. It is pinkish gray, medium- to coarse-grained with equigranular texture, and is composed of quartz, potassium feldspar, plagioclase, biotite, hornblende, and minor magnetite and sulfides (Figs. 3G, H). Hydrothermal alteration and quartz veins are common in both the granodiorite and biotite granite units.

### 3.2. Structure of the deposit and Mo-Cu mineralization

Molybdenum and Cu mineralization occurs in stockwork and sheeted quartz zones that crosscut the compositionally different granitoid rocks wherein the ore grades increase with increasing quartz veins density (Altankhuyag, 2008; Bat-Erdene et al., 2011; Gillis, 2007; Gonchigjav et al., 2010). The area of the Zuun Mod deposit is characterized by the presence of an approximately circular structure with a diameter of 4-5 km (indicated in Fig. 2A) that was identified through magnetic and geochemical anomalies, as well as NE-SW, NW-SE, and E-W-trending faults (Corey et al., 2006; Gillis, 2007; Gonchigjav et al., 2010). The NE and NW fault are interpreted to have formed as a conjugate fault set reflecting N-S compression related to subduction (Clark and Baudry, 2011; Gillis, 2007). The E-W faults formed post-mineralization and controlled the emplacement of dykes that formed an intense superimposed fracture-cleavage in some places (Clark and Baudry, 2011; Gillis, 2007). The preferred NE and NW orientation of mineralized intrusive units, quartz zones, and porphyry-related alteration zones indicate that mineralized fluids were focused primarily within these structural corridors (Clark and Baudry, 2011; Gillis, 2007). Exploration campaigns conducted by the WMC Ltd/Gallant Ltd joint venture and Erdene Resources Ltd from 2002 to 2009 identified three different orebodies, i.e., the Racetrack South, Racetrack North, and Stockwork ore bodies (Fig. 2A). The ore bodies occur along the NE-SW trending structurally controlled zone, striking at an angle of 45° within the so-called South Corridor, which

231 extends over 3.6 km distance with a width of 800 m (Fig. 2; Bat-Erdene et al., 2011; Gillis,  
232 2007; Gonchigjav et al., 2010).

233 *Racetrack South*: The Racetrack South orebody is hosted within quartz monzonite and  
234 granodiorite and forms an up to 1.1 km long and 400 m wide body (Figs. 2; 3A, B, C; Bat-  
235 Erdene et al., 2011; Gillis, 2007; Gonchigjav et al., 2010). Molybdenum mineralization  
236 occurs as disseminated molybdenite within the alteration halos of the quartz monzonite and  
237 granodiorite replacing primary and secondary magnetite and biotite (Fig. 3A), as well as  
238 stockwork and sheeted quartz veins and veinlets filling open spaces and fractures (Figs. 3B,  
239 C; Gillis, 2007; Gonchigjav et al., 2010). Pyrite and chalcopyrite locally replace magnetite  
240 and biotite within the host granitoids (Altankhuyag, 2008; Gillis, 2007; Gonchigjav et al.,  
241 2010). Molybdenum grades from 200 to 900 ppm Mo with Cu contents between 500 to 1000  
242 ppm Cu.

243 *Racetrack North*: Racetrack North is an up to 1.1 km long and 300-500 m wide ore  
244 body with mineralized stockwork (dominant) and sheeted quartz veins hosted in granodiorites  
245 (Figs. 2; 3D, E; Altankhuyag, 2008; Bat-Erdene et al., 2011; Gillis, 2007; Gonchigjav et al.,  
246 2010). The thickness of sheeted and stockwork quartz veins and veinlets ranges from 0.1 to  
247 3.0 cm and fills open spaces and fractures. The ore veins/veinlets are characterized by  
248 quartz±molybdenite±chalcopyrite±pyrite in association with potassically altered selvages  
249 composed of potassium feldspar, secondary biotite, and magnetite (Fig. 3E; Clark and  
250 Baudry, 2011; Gillis, 2007). Disseminated molybdenite, chalcopyrite, and pyrite are also  
251 found within the halos of the potassically altered host granodiorite where they replace biotite  
252 and/or are intergrown with secondary biotite and magnetite (Fig. 3E). Rare fractures filled  
253 with massive molybdenite and thicknesses up to 0.5 cm have also been observed cf. (Bat-  
254 Erdene et al., 2011; Gonchigjav et al., 2010). The molybdenum ore grades from 100 to 2000  
255 ppm Mo with copper contents from 200 to 500 ppm Cu. Potassic and sericitic alterations are  
256 observed rimming the quartz veins and veinlets, while granodiorite entirely shows phyllitic  
257 alteration composed of quartz-sericite-pyrite.

258 *Stockwork*: The Stockwork orebody occurs in the southern portion of the circular  
259 structure and is an up to 500 m-long and 300 m-wide ore body hosted in quartz monzonites  
260 and granodiorites (Figs. 2; 3F; Gillis, 2007). Molybdenum and copper mineralization occurs  
261 as stockwork veins and veinlets, as well as disseminated within the intensely altered  
262 granitoids by replacing mafic minerals (Fig. 3F). Quartz+pyrite±molybdenite±chalcopyrite  
263 stockwork veining is widespread, particularly in drill hole KKMD-03 which intersected a 238  
264 m zone with an average grade of 700 ppm Mo (Clark and Baudry, 2011).

265        3.3. Hydrothermal alteration

266        Seven types of alteration – i.e., potassic, phyllitic, sericitic, argillic, propylitic, and  
267        silicic alteration, as well as tourmalinization and greisenization – are observed in the area of  
268        the Zuun Mod deposit (Figs. 4, 5). Potassic, sericitic, and greisen alteration types occur to the  
269        south of the Zuun Mod porphyry system, while phyllitic alteration occurs in wider areas  
270        surrounding the ore bodies within the porphyry system (Fig. 4). Tourmalinization occurs in  
271        the central part as well as to the west, mostly in association with silica alteration (Fig. 4),  
272        while silica alteration occurring southeast, north, and northeast is not associated with  
273        tourmalinization (Fig. 4). Argillic alteration mostly occurs to the north of the porphyry  
274        system (Fig. 4). These porphyry-related alteration types developed with zoning patterns  
275        mostly within the circular structure wherein the main porphyry Mo and Cu mineralization is  
276        associated with potassic alteration, while phyllitic (QSP) and propylitic alterations were  
277        developed in its periphery. Argillic alteration and tourmalinization developed in the  
278        outermost part of the porphyry mineralization (Fig. 4).

279        *Potassic alteration:* Potassic alteration is represented by biotite + potassium feldspar  
280        + magnetite and is most strongly developed within the high-grade Mo (up to 9765 ppm) and  
281        Cu (up to 4370 ppm) zone that consists of intense stockwork ore within the quartz monzonite  
282        and granodiorite units (Figs. 5A, B). Potassium feldspar is frequent near the surface, with  
283        magnetite and biotite becoming increasingly more abundant at deeper levels.

284        *Phyllitic alteration:* Phyllitic alteration, characterized by quartz + pyrite + sericite,  
285        occurs within the andesite, granodiorite, and biotite granite units, facilitated by the formation  
286        of hydrothermal quartz veins (Figs. 4, 5C). The intensity of phyllitic alteration increases to the  
287        north of the deposit while it decreases toward the northeast in accordance with the frequency  
288        of hydrothermal veins. The phyllitic alteration is cogenetic with Cu-Mo mineralization with up  
289        to 100-2000 ppm Cu and 10-40 ppm Mo based on outcrop samples.

290        *Sericitic alteration:* Sericitization is represented by fine-grained sericite-quartz-pyrite  
291        that occur as alteration selvages of the quartz-pyrite veins and veinlets within the granodiorite  
292        in core samples from the Racetrack North orebody (Figs. 5D). Core assay data show that the  
293        sericite alteration is only rarely associated with the Mo mineralization.

294        *Argillic alteration:* Argillic alteration is developed in andesitic rocks that strike  
295        northwest. It is characterized by kaolinite, quartz, sericite, and lesser hematite (Figs. 5E, F).  
296        The argillic alteration transitions to phyllitic alteration toward the Racetrack South and

297 Stockwork orebodies to the south. Outcrop samples contain up to 150 ppm Cu and 10 ppm  
298 Mo.

299 *Propylitic alteration:* Propylitic alteration is represented by chlorite-carbonate-epidote  
300 assemblages within andesite. The alteration forms a zone of ca. 2000 m in length and 300 m  
301 in width to the north of the deposit (Fig. 4) that likely developed during the emplacement of  
302 the monzonite and granodiorite into the andesite (Fig. 5G). Surface and drill core samples  
303 with propylitic alteration contain negligible Mo and Cu contents (i.e., 10 ppm Cu and 1 ppm  
304 Mo), which indicates that the Mo and Cu mineralization is not associated with the propylitic  
305 alteration.

306 *Silica alteration:* Silica alteration occurs variably, depending on the local composition  
307 and structure of the granitoids (Fig. 4). Silicic alteration is closely associated with phyllitic  
308 alteration and characterized by quartz-sericite-pyrite with quartz being the dominant mineral  
309 (Fig. 5H). Outcropping silicified rock samples contain up to 100-200 ppm Cu and 100-300  
310 ppm Mo.

311 *Tourmalinization:* Tourmalinization occurs within the volcanic unit, located  
312 approximately 1.3 km northwest of the Zuun Mod deposit. The tourmalinization zone is  
313 discontinuously 2.2 km long and 450 m wide and associated with strong silicification (Fig.  
314 4). The tourmaline is fine-grained, smeared with irregular and radiating textures (Fig. 5I).  
315 The rock chip geochemical data suggest that there is no systematic relationship between  
316 tourmaline and Cu-Mo mineralization.

317 *Greisen alteration:* Greisen alteration is restricted to the southeast part of the Zuun  
318 Mod deposit at the contact between the quartz syenite and quartz monzonite units at the  
319 surface (Figs. 4, 5J). The alteration zone is approximately 250 m long and 50 m wide and  
320 characterized by abundant muscovite, sericite, and quartz which are associated with iron  
321 oxide/hydroxide minerals such as hematite and limonite. Rock chip geochemical data show  
322 that the greisen alteration zone contains 100-150 ppm Cu and 10-20 ppm Mo, indicating that  
323 the greisen alteration may be related to the Mo mineralization in the Zuun Mod deposit area.

## 324 4. Methods

### 325 4.1. Samples and sample preparation

326 Samples for mineralogical, lithogeochemical, and geochronological analyses of the  
327 granitoids and stockwork veins from the Zuun Mod porphyry Mo-Cu deposit were collected  
328 from nine drill holes and outcrops which are shown in Figure 2. Sample locations and modes

329 of sampling, as well as an overview on what kind of analyses were carried out, are provided  
330 in Appendix 1. Ten thin sections were prepared at the School of Geology and Mining  
331 Engineering, Mongolian University of Science and Technology (MUST) to characterize the  
332 granitoids that are spatially associated with the Mo and Cu mineralization. Nine polished  
333 blocks were prepared at MUST to characterize the ore mineral assemblages and  
334 crystallization sequences. Microscopic studies under transmitted- and reflected-lights were  
335 conducted using a Nikon Eclipse 100 microscope at MUST.

336 Two least weathered and visually altered samples with weights of 300 and 600 g were  
337 taken from the drill cores (ZMD-113-150 and ZMD-29-182.1) for zircon U-Pb  
338 geochronology. Additionally, one drill core sample (ZMD-10-352) was selected for  
339 molybdenite Re-Os geochronological analysis. Zircon grains were separated in the laboratory  
340 of the Center for Research and Innovation in Technology Minerals at MUST before being  
341 mounted in epoxy resin and polished at the laboratory of the Guangzhou Institute of  
342 Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China, following the protocol described in  
343 Boldbaatar et al. (2019). Cathodoluminescence (CL) images of zircon grains were taken  
344 using a JEOL JXA-8100 scanning electron microscope equipped with an energy-dispersive  
345 spectrometer and Mono CL3 detector (Gatan) at the Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry.  
346 Molybdenite grains from quartz vein were prepared in the laboratory of the Center for  
347 Research and Innovation in Technology Minerals. Molybdenite grains were handpicked  
348 under a binocular microscope after the sample was crushed, washed in distilled water, and  
349 heavy mineral concentrates were magnetically separated.

350 **4.2. U-Pb geochronology**

351 Zircon U-Pb age dating analysis was carried out using an Agilent 7500cx quadrupole  
352 laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometer (LA-ICP-MS) connected to a  
353 Resonetic 193 nm ArF excimer laser ablation system at the Guangzhou Institute of  
354 Geochemistry following the analytical procedure and operating conditions described in Yuan  
355 et al. (2004). Target areas for U–Pb geochronological analysis were selected within  
356 transparent, relatively automorphic, and zoned magmatic grains (14 and 15 grains) without  
357 any cracks or inclusions. Isotope data were acquired using a static mode with laser diameter  
358 of 30  $\mu\text{m}$ . The laser-induced elemental fractionation and instrumental mass bias were  
359 corrected against the Temora and NIST SRM 610 zircon standards where the measurements  
360 on zircons were bracketed by the analyses on NIST SRM 610 and Temora zircons (Black et

361 al., 2003; Gao et al., 2002; Paces and Miller Jr., 1993). Data reductions and calculations of  
362 isotopic ratios were performed using GLITTER (Griffin et al., 2008). Errors were estimated  
363 by propagating numerical errors (Ludwig, 2003; 1980) with uncertainties for individual  
364 analyses (ratios and ages) falling within the  $2\sigma$  level, whereas uncertainties for the weighted  
365 mean ages are reported at 95% confidence levels. The NIST SRM 610 analyses show that the  
366 deviations from certified values are  $< 0.006\%$  and external precisions are  $< 1.6\%$  (Table A.1).  
367 The Temora standard shows greater accuracy and precision due to the heterogenous  
368 distribution of U, Th, and Pb (Table A.1). Concordia diagrams, relative probability plots with  
369 stacked histograms of the radiogenic  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  ages, and weighted mean calculations were  
370 generated using Isoplot 3.0 (Ludwig, 2003).

### 371 4.3. Re-Os molybdenite geochronology

372 Ultra-pure molybdenite grains with 5 gr separated from quartz vein hosted in quartz  
373 monzonite were analyzed for Re-Os analysis using a TJA PQ ExCELL ICP-MS in the Re-Os  
374 Laboratory, National Research Center for Geoanalysis, Chinese Academy of Geological  
375 Sciences in Beijing, China. The molybdenite concentrates were digested using Carius tube  
376 digestion, following the analytical procedures described in Shirey and Walker (1995) and Du  
377 et al. (2001); Du et al. (2004). Molybdenite model ages were calculated using an equation  
378  $^{187}\text{Os}_m = ^{187}\text{Re}_m \times (e^{\lambda t} - 1)$  with the assumption of no initial radiogenic  $^{187}\text{Os}$ , wherein  $m$  is  
379 measured,  $t$  is time, and  $\lambda$  is a  $^{187}\text{Re}$  decay constant of  $1.666 \times 10^{-11}$  per year (Smoliar et al.,  
380 1996). To test analytical accuracy, molybdenite standard HLP, sourced from a carbonate  
381 vein-type Mo-Pb deposit in the Jinduicheng-Huanglongpu area of Shaanxi province, China  
382 was analyzed (Stein et al., 1997). The accuracy falls within 0.7% of the standard  
383 measurements (Table A.2-2). The results are reported with 0.5% error, which is a  
384 conservative estimate and reflects all sources of errors. Average blanks for the total Carius  
385 tube procedure yielded ca. 0.3 pg Re and 0.03 pg Os (Table A.2-1).

### 386 4.4. Whole-rock analysis

387 A total of eleven samples were commercially analyzed for their whole-rock major,  
388 minor, and trace elements chemistry at ALS Canada Ltd. Major and minor elements were  
389 analyzed using inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectroscopy (ICP-AES), while  
390 trace elements were analyzed using solution ICP-MS. Standard samples of AMISO 167 and  
391 SY-4 were analyzed for ICP-AES and OREAS 146 and SY-4 were analyzed for ICP-MS  
392 methods wherein the major and minor elements fell within an accuracy of  $\pm 8\%$  and an

393 external precision of  $\pm 25\%$  (2-sigma; Table A.3). The trace elements fell within an accuracy  
394 of  $\pm 15\%$  and an external precision of  $\pm 30\%$  (2-sigma; Table A.3). For duplicate analyses, the  
395 precision fell within  $\pm 15\%$  (2-sigma; Table A.3).

## 396 5. Results

### 397 5.1. Petrography

398 The granitoids included in this study are fine- to medium-grained quartz monzonite,  
399 biotite granodiorite, and biotite granite with seriate textures (Fig. 6). The quartz monzonite  
400 (samples ZMD113, KKMD-03 299.4 m, and ZMD-12 204.5 m) contains plagioclase (30-35  
401 modal %), potassium feldspar (30-35 modal %), hornblende (15-20 modal %), biotite (10-15  
402 modal %), quartz (10-15 modal %), and accessory zircon, sphene, chalcopyrite, pyrite, and  
403 magnetite (Figs. 6A, B, C). Plagioclase forms prismatic grains 0.8-2.1 mm in the longest  
404 direction and shows polysynthetic twinning as well as locally weak compositional zonation in  
405 transmitted light (Figs. 6A, C). The central part of the plagioclase is affected by clay and  
406 sericitic alteration (Figs. 6A, B, C). Anhedral grains of potassium feldspar and quartz occur  
407 between plagioclase grains. Potassium feldspars are 0.4-1.6 mm in the longest direction and  
408 show perthite growth while quartz grains are 0.3-1.0 mm in the longest direction (Figs. 6A,  
409 B). Hornblende shows euhedral to subhedral textures with sizes up to 1 mm in the longest  
410 direction and is locally replaced by chlorite (Figs. 6A, B). Biotite grains display euhedral to  
411 anhedral textures with sizes between 0.2-0.5 mm in the longest direction and are partially  
412 replaced by chlorite and locally contain small epidote grains (Figs. 6B, C). Accessory ore  
413 minerals such as chalcopyrite, pyrite, and magnetite are found (Fig. 6B). Accessory sphene  
414 (Figs. 6B, C) and zircon grains were found as well.

415 The biotite granodiorite (samples ZMD-39 112 m, ZM02, ZMD-16 182, FS-48, and  
416 FS-56) consists of plagioclase (40-45 modal %), potassium feldspar (20-25 modal %), quartz  
417 (20-25 modal %), biotite (15-20 modal %), hornblende (up to 5 modal %), and accessory  
418 zircon and ore minerals such as magnetite, pyrite, chalcopyrite, bornite, covellite, and  
419 molybdenite (Figs. 6D, E, F). The plagioclase grains show prismatic, euhedral to subhedral,  
420 and polysynthetic textures with minor alteration to clay and sericite. Locally, some of the  
421 plagioclase grains show compositional zonation in transmitted light (Figs. 6D, E). The size of  
422 the plagioclase varies between 0.5 and 3.3 mm in the longest direction. Based on an  
423 inclination angle between  $15^\circ$  and  $17^\circ$ , it is defined as andesine with  $\text{An}_{30} - \text{An}_{32}$  (Milam et  
424 al., 2010). Potassium feldspars show anhedral and perthitic textures with sizes between 1.3-

425 3.5 mm in the longest direction and are irregularly altered to clay (Figs. 6D, F). Some of the  
426 potassium feldspar grains enclose plagioclase while others are locally replaced by quartz  
427 (Fig. 6E). Quartz displays an anhedral texture with sizes between 0.3 and 2.3 mm in the  
428 longest direction and locally encloses plagioclase (Figs. 6D, E, F). Biotite with euhedral to  
429 anhedral textures has sizes varying from 1.2 to 2.6 mm in the longest direction and is partially  
430 replaced by chlorite and secondary biotite (Figs. 6E, F). Hornblende is prismatic in shape  
431 with a size of 0.6-1.5 mm and shows less alteration compared to biotite (Fig. 6F). The biotite  
432 granodiorite also contains accessory of magnetite, pyrite, molybdenite, and copper sulfides  
433 (Fig. 6E). Ore minerals with sizes between 0.4-2.1 mm are mainly associated with biotite  
434 flakes (Fig. 6E).  
435

436 The biotite granite (samples ZMD-05 350.5-350.6 m, and FS55) contains quartz (35-  
437 40 modal %), plagioclase (25-30 modal %), potassium feldspar (20-25 modal %), biotite (15-  
438 20 modal %), hornblende (0-5 modal %), and accessory zircon, sphene, magnetite, pyrite,  
439 chalcopyrite, molybdenite, and sphalerite (Figs. 6G, H, I). Quartz grains are anhedral with  
440 sizes between 0.3-3.8 mm and usually fill open spaces between other minerals (Figs. 6G, H,  
441 I). Plagioclase mainly occurs as prismatic crystals with polysynthetic twinning and locally  
442 compositional zoning observed in transmitted light (Figs. 6G, H). Grain sizes vary between  
443 1.5-3.2 mm in the longest direction and the grains are partially altered to clay and sericite  
444 (Fig. 6H). Plagioclase grains with polysynthetic twinning show 13-15<sup>i</sup> extinction, indicating  
445 they are An<sub>26</sub> - An<sub>28</sub> oligoclase in composition (Milam et al., 2010). Potassium feldspar  
446 shows an anhedral texture with sizes of 2-4 mm in the longest direction (Figs. 6G, H, I).  
447 Biotite with subhedral blades is between 0.5-1.5 mm in size, and partially altered to chlorite  
448 and/or replaced by secondary biotite (Figs. 6G, H). Hornblende grains are euhedral to  
449 subhedral with sizes between 0.5-2.3 mm. Accessory zircon occurs as inclusions in biotite as  
450 well as between grains, while magnetite and pyrite occur by replacing biotite and/or are  
intergrown with secondary biotite.

## 451 5.2. Ore mineralogy

452 Ore minerals found in the Zuun Mod porphyry Mo-Cu deposit include molybdenite,  
453 chalcopyrite, pyrite, magnetite and rare bornite, covellite, chalcocite, specularite, and  
454 sphalerite. The ore minerals generally occur as fine to coarse grains disseminated in the  
455 intrusive rocks. In stockwork and sheeted quartz veins, ore minerals occur as fine to coarse  
456 clots, as well as thin bands along vein contacts (Fig. 7). Molybdenite and chalcopyrite  
457 represent the most abundant ore minerals in the Zuun Mod deposit. Based on petrographic

458 observations, Mo and Cu mineralization can be grouped into five main assemblages: 1.  
459 Quartz monzonite-hosted  $\text{pyrite} \pm \text{chalcopyrite} \pm \text{molybdenite}$  assemblages (Figs. 7A, B, C); 2.  
460 Granodiorite-hosted  $\text{pyrite} \pm \text{chalcopyrite} \pm \text{molybdenite} \pm \text{magnetite} \pm \text{bornite} \pm \text{covellite}$   
461 assemblages (Figs. 7D, E, F); 3. Biotite granite-hosted  $\text{pyrite} \pm \text{chalcopyrite} \pm \text{molybdenite}$   
462 assemblages (Fig. 7G), 4. Quartz vein-hosted  $\text{magnetite} \pm \text{chalcopyrite} \pm \text{molybdenite}$ , pyrite,  
463 and rare sphalerite and chalcocite assemblages (Figs. 7H, I). The main Mo-mineralized stages  
464 are quartz-molybdenite and quartz-chalcopyrite-molybdenite veins.

465 *Quartz monzonite-hosted  $\text{pyrite} \pm \text{chalcopyrite} \pm \text{molybdenite}$  assemblages:* Ore  
466 minerals within the fine- to medium-grained quartz monzonite show fine to coarse  
467 disseminated textures. Pyrite is coarse (up to 3 mm) and forms cubic crystals and some grains  
468 locally contain small (0.4 mm) subhedral chalcopyrite grains (Fig. 7A). Chalcopyrite shows a  
469 range of forms from prismatic isometric to irregular shapes with sizes up to 1.2 mm (Figs.  
470 7A, B). Molybdenite forms aggregates of elongated flakes with a length up to 1.2 mm  
471 individually that often occurs filling open spaces and fractures, as well as by replacing biotite  
472 and is intergrown with secondary biotite and magnetite (Figs. 7B, C).

473 *Granodiorite-hosted  $\text{pyrite} \pm \text{chalcopyrite} \pm \text{molybdenite} \pm \text{magnetite} \pm \text{bornite} \pm \text{covellite}$  assemblages:* Within granodiorite, molybdenite forms aggregates with elongated grains (up  
474 to 0.5 mm in length individually), which mainly occur along the fractures of the rock (Fig.  
475 7D). Anhedral and subhedral grains of pyrite (up to 2.4 mm) are mainly associated with  
476 biotite and locally contain chalcopyrite (Fig. 7D). Chalcopyrite occurs as irregular in shape  
477 and up to 1.6 mm in the longest direction filling interstitial spaces between quartz, biotite,  
478 pyrite, and molybdenite (Figs. 7D, E) and is partly replaced by secondary covellite (Fig. 7F).  
479 Bornite occurs as an overgrowth rimming chalcopyrite (Fig. 7F).

480 *Biotite granite-hosted  $\text{pyrite} \pm \text{chalcopyrite} \pm \text{molybdenite}$  assemblages:* Ore minerals  
481 that occur within the fine- to medium-grained biotite granite show disseminated  
482 texture and formed along small veinlets. Within the biotite granite, chalcopyrite forms  
483 anhedral grains with sizes up to 1.5 mm in the longest direction (Fig. 7G). Molybdenite has  
484 sizes up to 1.2 mm (Fig. 7G).

485 *Quartz vein-hosted  $\text{magnetite} \pm \text{chalcopyrite} \pm \text{molybdenite}$ , pyrite, and rare sphalerite  
486 and chalcocite assemblages:* Chalcopyrite and molybdenite are the dominant ore minerals in  
487 the quartz veins. Chalcopyrite forms anhedral grains with sizes up to 1 mm in the longest  
488 direction (Fig. 7H). Molybdenite forms elongated grains up to 1 mm in length and their  
489 batches (Figs. 7H, I). Irregularly shaped magnetite (0.6 mm) and sphalerite (0.4 mm) occur  
490 along the quartz veins together with chalcopyrite (Fig. 7H).

492        5.3. Zircon U-Pb geochronology

493        Two new U-Pb ages for magmatic zircons have been determined to constrain  
494        magmatic events at the Zuun Mod porphyry Mo-Cu deposit. Zircon CL images are given in  
495        Figure 8. Concordia and weighted mean ages are illustrated in Figure 9. All isotopic ratios are  
496        given in Table 1. Zircon grains separated from the granitoids are colorless, clear,  
497        idiomorphic, prismatic under binocular microscope, and 100-200  $\mu\text{m}$  in the longest direction  
498        (Fig. 8). Obvious inherited cores were not analyzed in this study.

499        *Sample ZM113.* The Th/U ratios range between 0.25 and 1.42 (Table 1). Zircon U-Pb  
500        age results were acquired from 14 grains with ages varying from 324.7 Ma to 293.1 Ma; the  
501        Concordia age of the 14 measurements is constrained to be  $305.3 \pm 3.6$  Ma, MSWD = 0.97,  
502        weighted average age  $305.3 \pm 4.4$  Ma, MSWD = 2.4 (Figs. 9A, B).

503        *Sample ZM02.* The Th/U ratios range from 0.37 to 0.89 (Table 1). Zircon U-Pb age  
504        data were obtained from 15 grains with ages ranging from 309.0 Ma to 296.5 Ma; the  
505        Concordia age is constrained as  $301.8 \pm 2.7$  Ma, MSWD = 0.47 and the weighted average age  
506        as  $301.7 \pm 2.6$  Ma, MSWD = 0.4 (Figs. 9C, D).

507        5.4. Re-Os geochronology

508        The results of two Re-Os runs of ultrapure molybdenite concentrates are provided in  
509        Table 2. The concentrations of total Re are 155.3 and 160.3 ppm, while the total contents of  
510         $^{187}\text{Os}$  are 481.9 and 502.1 ppb. The obtained ages are  $295.6 \pm 4.8$  Ma and  $298.4 \pm 4.9$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ )  
511        and thus within analytical uncertainty of one another.

512        5.5. Whole-rock geochemistry

513        The chemical compositions of the Bayanbulag intrusive complex are given in Table 3.  
514        The granitoid rocks in this study are identified as quartz monzonite, granodiorite, and granite  
515        on the basis of the total alkalis versus silica diagram (Fig. 10A; Middlemost 1994), with  
516        characteristics of calc-alkaline to high-K calc-alkaline series rocks (Figs. 10B, C; Irvine and  
517        Baragar, 1971; Peccerillo and Taylor, 1976). The rocks further display metaluminous to  
518        slightly peraluminous signatures with A/CNK ratios from 0.9 to 1.3 (Fig. 10D; Middlemost,  
519        1994). On the tectonic discrimination diagram of Ta vs. Yb after Pearce et al. (1984), the  
520        granitoids plot in the volcanic arc field (Fig. 10E). On the  $\text{SiO}_2$  vs.  $\text{Rb/Zr}$  (Fig. 10F) and  
521         $\text{Rb/30-Hf-Ta}^*3$  diagrams (Fig. 10G) that distinguish granitoids emplaced in a post-collisional  
522        setting from those emplaced in a volcanic-arc setting, after Harris et al. (1986), the granitoids

523 of the Bayanbulag complex plot in the late- and post-collisional field. The granitoids also  
524 have adakitic features based on their Sr/Y ratios (Fig. 11A) following the classification of  
525 Richards and Kerrich (2007) and fertile magma features based on their Sr/Y vs. SiO<sub>2</sub> ratios  
526 (Fig. 11B; Loucks, 2014).

527 An Y vs. SiO<sub>2</sub> diagram (Fig. 12A) shows that the granitoids formed through  
528 amphibole-bearing fractionation (Koprubasi and Aldanmaz, 2004), while a Dy/Yb vs. SiO<sub>2</sub>  
529 diagram (Fig. 12B) shows both amphibole and garnet fractionation occurred (Davidson et al.,  
530 2007). C1 chondrite-normalized rare earth element (REE) patterns show that the granitoids  
531 are characterized by an enrichment in light REE (LREE) relative to heavy REE (HREE)  
532 without consistent negative Eu anomalies (Fig. 13A). Bulk Silicate Earth-normalized patterns  
533 indicate that all samples are enriched in fluid-soluble elements including large ion lithophile  
534 elements (LILE: Rb, K, Ba, Sr), Pb, and U, but depleted in some high field strength elements  
535 (HFSE) such as Nb, Ta and Ti (Fig. 13B).

## 536 6. Discussion

537 Despite being the largest deposit in the Edren terrane in Southwest Mongolia, the  
538 Bayanbulag intrusive complex hosting the Zuun Mod Mo-Cu porphyry deposit remains to be  
539 fully understood with respect to geochemical signatures and tectonic environment. Studies on  
540 its genesis and classification are only limited to technical reports in which the deposit  
541 classification is still controversial. Whereas Gillis (2007) suggested a British Columbia (BC)  
542 type or Endako-type origin, Taylor et al. (2012) described the deposit as a possibly arc-  
543 related porphyry Mo deposit. Alternatively, Clark and Baudry (2011) proposed a transitional  
544 style between Endako and Climax types.

545 The goals of this study are to (i) better characterize the mineralization style at the  
546 Zuun Mod deposit through a lithogeochemical study of the granitoid rocks that host the Mo  
547 and Cu mineralization as well as through new petrographic observations of the granitoids and  
548 ore zones; and (ii) to constrain the timing of events that led to the formation of the deposit.  
549 The data are used to propose an ore genetic model and to reflect on the geodynamic evolution  
550 that facilitated the formation of the Zuun Mod deposit.

### 551 6.1. Tectono-magmatic evolution of the Bayanbulag intrusive complex

552 The composition of the granitoid rocks studied here allows for novel insight into the  
553 source region of the Bayanbulag intrusive complex and the regional geodynamic evolution  
554 that facilitated the formation of the Zuun Mod Mo-Cu porphyry deposit. It is noted that the

possible elemental mobility needs to be evaluated before discussing the tectono-magmatic evolution based on lithogeochemical data. The loss on ignition (LOI) values of these granitoids range from 0.6 to 2.19 wt % (except one value of 3.13 wt %) while the petrographic observations indicate minor potassic, clay, and chloritic alteration types represented by secondary biotite, sericite in plagioclase, and chlorite in biotite, respectively (Fig. 6). Potassic alteration should result in loss of Na<sub>2</sub>O, Sr, and Ba while gain of K<sub>2</sub>O and Rb; however, linear trends between these elements are not observed (Fig. A2). Additionally, replacement of plagioclase by sericite should result in loss of Na<sub>2</sub>O and Sr, but gain of K<sub>2</sub>O, LOI, and Rb and such trends are not observed (Fig. A2). Based on these features, it can be assumed that minor hydrothermal alterations observed in petrographic observations did not mobilize major and mobile elements and therefore, the lithogeochemical data can be used for further evaluations (Tang et al., 2022).

As illustrated in Figure 10, the rocks of the Bayanbulag intrusive complex are quartz monzonites, granodiorites, and granites with I-type, metaluminous to slightly peraluminous, and calc-alkaline to high-K calc-alkaline affinities that were emplaced in a post-collisional setting. The lack of a negative Eu anomaly (Fig. 13A) is indicative of a hydrous magma, wherein plagioclase fractionation was subdued due to abundant water content (Loucks, 2014; Müntener et al., 2001). A hydrous magma composition is petrographically supported by the presence of abundant biotite and lesser hornblende in the petrographic studies (Fig. 6; Johnson et al., 1991; Merzbacher and Eggler, 1984; Richards, 2011). The enrichment in LILE and negative trough of Nb, Ta, and Ti (Fig. 13B) indicates a magma sourced from asthenospheric mantle metasomatized by slab-derived fluids may have been involved for generation of the granitoids (Richards, 2003; Sillitoe, 2010; Tatsumi et al., 1986). Based on these geochemical signatures, it can be inferred that the Bayanbulag intrusive complex was sourced from previously subduction-modified lithosphere in a post-collisional setting as the postsubduction magmas share similar geochemical signatures with precursor arc magmas (Richards, 2009, 2015). It is noted that similar geochemical signatures were demonstrated in porphyry Cu-Mo deposits formed in a post-collisional setting such as the Qulong, Bairong, and Chongjiang porphyry Cu-Mo deposits in the Gangdese porphyry Cu belt (Li et al., 2011).

It is noted that the presence of biotite, hornblende, and sphene has resulted in a peraluminous affinity of these granitoids up to ~1.3 (Fig. 10D; Chappell and White, 2001). Such high A/CNK values generally imply a sedimentary source and/or assimilation of sedimentary rocks upon pluton emplacement (Chappell and White, 2001). However, the peraluminous affinity is not restricted to only a sedimentary source and/or assimilation of

589 sedimentary rocks, but it also may reflect fractional crystallization of typical mantle wedge-  
590 derived picrobasaltic melts (Müntener and Ulmer, 2006; Pettke et al., 2010) and/or partial  
591 melting of metaluminous crustal source (Chappell et al., 2012). Such peraluminous affinity  
592 further supports our findings that the Bayanbulag intrusive complex was emplaced in a post-  
593 collisional setting. Because partial remelting of a subduction-modified lithosphere with  
594 preceding mantle-wedge derived basaltic magma and/or hydrous cumulate zones of precursor  
595 arc (Richards, 2009) and/or with thickened mafic lower crust formed by underplating of  
596 mantle-derived mafic magmas (Hou et al., 2011) are often suggested as a magma source for  
597 the formation of post-collisional porphyry deposits.

598 Magmas with calc-alkaline affinities dominate in mature continental arcs and post-  
599 collisional zones as opposed to tholeiites that dominate in immature island arcs and nascent  
600 continental arcs (Hildreth and Moorbath, 1988; Richards, 2015; Richards et al., 2012). The  
601 origin of calc-alkaline signatures is still controversial whether the signature: (1) originates  
602 from a mantle wedge (Carmichael, 1991); (2) develops through magma fractionation  
603 (Audétat, 2010; Soesoo, 2000); or (3) forms through contamination and mixing with Si-rich  
604 and Fe-poor crustal materials while ascending (Hoshino et al., 2016). The broadly accepted  
605 hypothesis is that calc-alkaline magmas are sourced from the metasomatized mantle wedge  
606 and form through early fractionation of Fe-rich minerals such as magnetite, amphibole and  
607 garnet (Sisson and Grove, 1993; Tang et al., 2018) due to high water contents in a mature arc  
608 setting (Richards, 2003; Richards et al., 2012). Additionally, partial melting of the previously  
609 subduction-modified lithosphere and juvenile lower crust share many similarities with respect  
610 to geochemical signatures with the arc magmas, and therefore, have calc-alkaline to mildly  
611 alkaline character (Richards, 2009, 2015). The fact that the formation of Zuun Mod is  
612 spatiotemporally associated with the calc-alkaline to high-K calc-alkaline granitoids of the  
613 Bayanbulag complex implies that the host granitoids are the most extreme representative of  
614 these calc-alkalic differentiation trend (Loucks, 2014) and formed in a thickened crust  
615 because calc-alkalinity of magma is linearly correlated with crust thickness (Chiaradia,  
616 2014). Geochemical signatures indicative of a post-collisional setting (Figs. 10E, F), as well  
617 as amphibole and garnet fractionation trends (Fig. 12), support a thickened continental crust  
618 that likely formed as a result of the collision (Chin et al., 2018). Underneath the thickened  
619 continental crust during post-collision, calc-alkaline to high-K calc-alkaline magma derived  
620 from subduction-modified lithosphere has similar geochemical characteristics to those of  
621 volcanic-arc magma (Harris et al., 1986).

622 For the formation of porphyry-type deposits, a high Sr/Y ratio has been proposed as  
623 an important magma fertility criterion (Chiaradia and Caricchi, 2017; Chiaradia et al., 2012;  
624 Richards and Kerrich, 2007). However, the origin of high Sr/Y signatures (i.e., adakitic  
625 signatures) in magmas still remains debated. For example, Defant and Drummond (1990) and  
626 Martin et al. (2005) suggest that high Sr/Y ratios are indicative of slab melting, whereas  
627 Petford and Gallagher (2001) and Zellmer et al. (2012) suggest partial melting of the lower  
628 crust. Growing evidence suggests that magma with high Sr/Y ratios forms due to early  
629 hornblende and garnet fractionation and delayed plagioclase production in response to higher  
630 dissolved water contents with possible involvement of crustal melting and assimilation  
631 (Chiaradia et al., 2012). In this instance, high Sr/Y ratios result from early fractionation of Y  
632 into hornblende and/or garnet and Sr concentrations in a residual magma due to the instability  
633 of plagioclase, the main host of Sr (Alonso-Perez et al., 2009; Drake and Weill, 1975).  
634 Chiaradia and Caricchi (2017) demonstrated through stochastic modelling that the causative  
635 magmas of giant porphyry deposits have Sr/Y ratios between 50 and 150. Out of 11 samples  
636 included in this study, 10 are characterized by Sr/Y ratios ranging between 50 and 150 (Fig.  
637 11A) and thus fall within the area characterized by fertile magmas (Fig. 11B). These adakitic  
638 fertile signatures must have derived from partial remelting of subduction-modified  
639 lithosphere which was fertilized by preceding arc magmatism and subsequent amphibole and  
640 garnet fractionation in a post-collisional setting such as those in the Gangdese porphyry Cu  
641 belt wherein porphyry-related adakites are often hosts to giant porphyry Cu-Mo deposits (Li  
642 et al., 2011).

643 Based on the lithogeochemical signatures of the Bayanbulag intrusive complex, we  
644 argue that the granitoids that facilitated the formation of the Zuun Mod porphyry Mo-Cu  
645 deposit was emplaced in a post-collisional setting and was sourced from a subduction-  
646 modified lithosphere which has been fertilized by preceding arc magmatism. Detailed  
647 geological and tectonic history of the Edren terrane will be discussed in section 6.4.

## 648 6.2. Revised classification of the Zuun Mod deposit

649 Molybdenum porphyry-type deposits are commonly classified either as Climax-type  
650 deposits with high F contents related to within-plate, highly evolved A-type granitic  
651 magmatism (Audébat and Li, 2017; Ludington and Plumlee, 2009), or as Endako-type  
652 deposits which are associated with arc-related I-type magmatism and fluorine-poor granitoids  
653 (Ludington et al., 2009; Taylor et al., 2012; Westra and Keith, 1981). The granitoids that host  
654 the Zuun Mod deposit are I-type rocks that were emplaced in a post-collisional environment

655 (Figs. 10E, F), indicating that Zuun Mod cannot be classified as a Climax-type deposit. This  
656 hypothesis is supported by the observation that the granitoids plot outside of the within-plate  
657 granite field commonly associated with Climax-type deposits (Fig. 10F). Although Clark and  
658 Baudry (2011) noted the presence of fluorite with up to 5-14% in samples from drill hole  
659 KKMD03, and thus interpreted the origin of the deposit as a transitional style between the  
660 Climax and Endako types, no fluorite was observed in the samples we studied. Additionally,  
661 the granitoids with values of  $\text{Nb} < 12 \text{ ppm}$  and  $\text{Rb} < 110 \text{ ppm}$  at Zuun Mod are not highly  
662 fractionated which strengthens the argument that the deposit should not be classified as a  
663 Climax type deposit, as they are commonly characterized by  $\text{Nb} > 50 \text{ ppm}$  and  $\text{Rb} > 500 \text{ ppm}$   
664 (Ludington and Plumlee, 2009). Low-F Endako-type deposits form in an arc environment and  
665 are characterized by  $\text{Rb} < 300 \text{ ppm}$  and  $\text{Nb} < 30 \text{ ppm}$  (Taylor et al., 2012). The geochemical  
666 signatures pointing to the formation of the Zuun Mod porphyry Mo-Cu deposits in a post-  
667 collisional environment rule out the possibility of being an Endako-type deposit (Taylor et  
668 al., 2012). Based on these geochemical features of host rocks, we argue that the Zuun Mod  
669 deposit should be reclassified as a Mo-rich porphyry Cu deposit. Further discussion for this  
670 classification is provided in section 6.4.

### 671 6.3. Timing of intrusion emplacement and Mo-Cu mineralization

672 The zircon grains collected from representative quartz monzonite and granodiorite  
673 yield U-Pb ages of  $305.3 \pm 3.6 \text{ Ma}$  and  $301.8 \pm 2.7 \text{ Ma}$ , respectively (Fig. 9). Within the quartz  
674 monzonite and granodiorite, the zircon Th/U ratios range from 0.25 to 1.42, implying a  
675 magmatic origin for the analyzed zircon spots as opposed to metamorphic zircons, which  
676 normally have Th/U ratios less than 0.01 (Hoskin and Schaltegger, 2003). A magmatic origin  
677 for the analyzed zircon grains is also supported by the oscillatory zonation observed under  
678 CL analyses (Fig. 8; Hoskin and Schaltegger, 2003). Additionally, the presence of oscillatory  
679 zonation indicates that zircon inheritance or Pb loss has not affected the interpretation of the  
680 age of these samples (Corfu et al., 2003).

681 The Re-Os geochronometer in molybdenite is considered to be reliable in determining  
682 mineralization ages wherein the Re-Os ages are not easily disturbed by post-mineralization  
683 prolonged hydrothermal activities or metamorphic and/or tectonic events (Selby and Creaser,  
684 2001; Stein et al., 1998). The mineralization age of the Zuun Mod deposit is defined at  
685  $297 \pm 4.8 \text{ Ma}$  in average using molybdenite Re-Os geochronology (Table 3), which falls  
686 within the uncertainty of the emplacement age of the granodiorite determined as  $301.8 \pm 2.7$

687 Ma. Molybdenite flakes were collected from a B-type quartz vein with potassic selvages from  
688 the Stockwork orebody wherein the sulfide precipitation is suggested to have occurred during  
689 the early stages of magmatic-hydrothermal alterations (Klemm et al., 2007; Landtwing et al.,  
690 2005; Redmond et al., 2004; Richards, 2018).

691 The Re concentration within molybdenite ranges widely from < 10 ppm up to several  
692 wt % and is suggested to be controlled by the magma source and the degree of magma  
693 fractionation (Voudouris et al., 2013; Wu et al., 2017). Rhenium contents in molybdenite are  
694 the highest in magma sourced from mantle, decrease in magma that sourced from both mantle  
695 and lower continental crust, and are the lowest in magma sourced from crustal rocks (Wu et  
696 al., 2017). The average Re concentration within molybdenite at Zuun Mod is 158 ppm, higher  
697 than the Re concentrations identified within porphyry Mo and Mo-Cu type deposits found in  
698 China and elsewhere, as compiled by Zeng et al. (2014). The notably higher Re contents  
699 indicate a mantle source (Wu et al., 2017), which is in agreement with the lithogeochemical  
700 findings described above as subduction-modified lithosphere inherits preceding mantle-  
701 derived arc magma characteristics (Richards, 2009).

702 In summary, the new zircon U-Pb and molybdenite Re-Os ages presented in this study  
703 provide strong evidence for a late Carboniferous to early Permian magmatic event, and  
704 subsequent exsolution of magmatic-hydrothermal fluids were responsible for the formation of  
705 the Zuun Mod porphyry Mo-Cu deposit. The Re content within molybdenite supports the  
706 lithogeochemistry findings that the magma is sourced from subduction-modified lithosphere  
707 that inherited geochemical characteristics of preceding arc magma derived from  
708 metasomatized mantle wedge.

#### 709 6.4. Geological model of the Zuun Mod deposit and regional implications

710 Based on the field and ore veins observations, as well as geochronological,  
711 lithogeochemical, and petrological studies of the granitoids that host the Zuun Mod porphyry  
712 Mo-Cu deposit, we propose a new geological model for the origin of the Zuun Mod deposit  
713 as illustrated in Figure 14. Here we note that the proposed model is based on the currently  
714 available data and is not necessarily to scale. The Zuun Mod Mo-Cu deposit formed from  
715 magmatic-hydrothermal fluids exsolved from the granodiorite and biotite granite of the  
716 Bayanbulag intrusive complex that intruded the quartz monzonite (Fig. 14). All the intrusive  
717 units of the Bayanbulag complex were emplaced into the early Carboniferous andesite and  
718 basaltic andesite of the Khuviinkhar Formation (Fig. 14). Petrographic and ore mineralogical

719 observations indicate that magmatic-hydrothermal activities played significant roles in the  
720 Mo and Cu mineralization within the potassic alteration selvages in the quartz monzonite and  
721 granodiorite in addition to vein-hosted sulfide mineralization (Figs. 6, 7). The circulation of  
722 hydrothermal fluids caused the porphyry-style alteration types mapped within the circular  
723 structure (Fig. 4).

724 Within the circular structure, the Khuvyn Khar Cu-Ag occurrence was discovered at  
725 2.2 km north of Zuun Mod (Fig. 2; Bat-Erdene, pers.commun, 2021). Drilling to test the  
726 geophysical target intersected 34 m of 1.3 wt % Cu and 9.2 g/t Ag at depths from 308 to 342  
727 m (hole ZMD-121; Bat-Erdene, pers.commun, 2021). An unpublished geophysical survey  
728 suggests that the Zuun Mod and Khuvyn Khar porphyry deposits are located on both sides of  
729 a mushroom-shaped high resistivity and appear to have sourced from the same magma  
730 chamber beneath the andesite and basaltic andesite of the Khuviinkhar Formation (Fig. 14;  
731 Bat-Erdene, pers.commun, 2021). Therefore, we suggest that the Zuun Mod deposit is only  
732 the southern part of the entire porphyry Cu-Mo system, where Mo is the dominant component  
733 while Cu mineralization seems to be critical in the northwestern part of the system, possibly  
734 due to the decoupling feature of Mo and Cu (Spencer et al., 2015) which is common in  
735 porphyry Cu-Mo deposits such as Bingham (Seo et al., 2012) and El Teniente (Spencer et al.,  
736 2015).

737 The Bayanbulag regional scale fault (Fig. 1B) is interpreted to have formed due to  
738 dextral strike-slip movement based on unpublished regional RTP magnetic surveys and to  
739 have triggered a dilatational structure providing a favorable setting for the emplacement of  
740 the quartz monzonite, granodiorite and biotite granite at a shallow crustal level (Clark and  
741 Baudry, 2011; Gillis, 2007). The dextral strike-slip movement nearly parallel to the preceding  
742 arc subduction provided a favorable setting for the emplacement of an inferred batholith at  
743 mid-crustal level (Fig. 14; Richards, 2021; Tosdal and Richards, 2001). The dextral strike-  
744 slip movement likely contributed to the parallel openings in the host rocks to focus  
745 mineralized fluids forming sheeted quartz veins (Tosdal and Dilles, 2020), while stockwork  
746 veins formed from hydrofracturing from exsolution of mineralized fluids (Taylor et al.,  
747 2012).

748 In the Edren terrane (Fig. 2B), Devonian to Permian magmatic rocks exist, although  
749 precise age dating analyses are sparse. Nevertheless, the Edren terrane can be correlated with  
750 the Devonian-Carboniferous Dulate arc in eastern Junggar to the west (Hanzl et al., 2023).  
751 The sparse geochemical data show that the Devonian intrusive rocks (411 Ma and 359 Ma)  
752 are characterized by tholeiitic to calc-alkaline affinities indicative of an immature island arc

753 environment (Togtokh et al., 2020; Tumurkhuu et al., 2010; Tumurkhuu et al., 2013).  
754 Carboniferous magmatic rocks, although a few of them have precise ages of 350 Ma, 335-330  
755 Ma and 307 Ma, show calc-alkaline to high-K calc-alkaline affinities emplaced in a  
756 continental-arc setting (Tumurkhuu et al., 2010; Tumurkhuu et al., 2013; Hanzl et al., 2023).  
757 The early Permian granitoids with ages ranging from 294 Ma, 289±11 Ma to 273.8±4.2 Ma  
758 are A-type granitoids emplaced in a rift setting (Hanzl et al., 2023; Togtokh et al., 2020).  
759 Hanzl et al. (2023) correlated A-type granitoids that are distributed in the Dulate arc to the  
760 west, through the Edren terrane and the Khan Bogd alkaline complex (297-285 Ma) in the  
761 Gurvansayhan island arc terrane to the east as a narrow linear belt over 1600 km distance that  
762 were emplaced during Early Permian in a continental rift setting. In the eastern Junggar to the  
763 west, Zhang et al. (2018) demonstrated that subduction continued from ca. 355 Ma until 310  
764 Ma which was followed by a continent-continent collision from 310-307 Ma and post-  
765 collisional magmatism from 307 to 265 Ma. Based on the age data of the granitoids  
766 distributed in the Edren terrane, we infer that the granitoids spatiotemporally associated with  
767 the Zuun Mod deposit formed in a post-collisional setting and were likely sourced from a  
768 subduction-modified lithospheric mantle and lower continental crust which was  
769 metasomatized by long-lasting subduction (Hou and Cook, 2009; Pettke et al., 2010).  
770 Subduction-modified lithosphere with extended prehistory is suggested to be an essential  
771 criterion for the formation of a Mo-rich porphyry Cu deposits as was the case for the  
772 formations of the Bingham porphyry Cu-Mo deposit in Utah, USA (Pettke et al., 2010) and  
773 world-class a Mo-rich porphyry Cu deposits in Gandese belt in the Tibetan orogen (Hou and  
774 Cook, 2009).

775 The Zuun Mod deposit formed as the result of an optimal alignment of processes  
776 starting from magma generation in the subcontinental lithospheric mantle to the emplacement  
777 of magma stocks in the upper crust within a favorable tectonic regime (Park et al., 2021). The  
778 fact that the Edren terrane is characterized by abundant porphyry and epithermal  
779 occurrences/deposits that are spatially and temporally associated with Carboniferous  
780 magmatic events makes the terrane an important exploration target. Specifically, the late  
781 Carboniferous magmatic events sourced from the subduction-modified lithosphere makes the  
782 terrane highly prospective for undiscovered porphyry systems. Additionally, the Edren  
783 terrane-wide dextral strike-slip movement along the Bayanbulag fault, i.e., transpressional  
784 regime, likely provided a favorable structural setting for porphyritic magma emplacement,  
785 further signifying its mineralizaton potential.

786        **7. Conclusions**

787        The Zuun Mod Mo-Cu porphyry deposit, despite being the first and largest deposit  
788        discovered in the Edren ensialic island arc terrane in Southwest Mongolia, is woefully  
789        understudied. Integrated petrographic, lithogeochemical, and geochronological studies as  
790        well as field and core observations reveal that molybdenite and chalcopyrite are the main ore  
791        minerals, with pyrite and magnetite that mostly occur within sheeted and stockwork quartz  
792        veins developed in quartz monzonite, granodiorite, and biotite granite which exhibit calk-  
793        alkaline to high-K calc-alkaline affinities and post-collisional trace element signatures. The  
794        ore minerals also occur as disseminated in the host rocks due to the breakdown of hornblende  
795        and biotite as a result of hydrothermal alterations. The LA-ICP-MS zircon U-Pb ages of  
796        granodiorite and quartz monzonite are  $301.8 \pm 2.7$  Ma and  $305.3 \pm 3.6$  Ma, respectively, and  
797        molybdenite Re-Os age is  $297 \pm 4.8$  Ma which indicates the mineralization age. The Zuun  
798        Mod deposit developed as a Mo-dominant branch while the Khuvyn Khar as the Cu-  
799        dominant branch from a hidden porphyry system at depth. The decoupling of Mo and Cu is  
800        probably due to the chemically evolving source and ore fluids that transported the metals and  
801        sulfur. The fact that late Carboniferous magmatic events appear to be fertile based on Sr/Y  
802        ratios, as well as the likelihood of sourcing from subduction-modified lithosphere and the  
803        wide distribution of Carboniferous magmatism in the Edren terrane together with other  
804        porphyry and epithermal type deposits/occurrences, altogether makes the terrane an important  
805        exploration target.

806        **Ackowledgment**

807        Authors are grateful for Erdene Resource Development Corporation's President, Chief  
808        Executive Officer Peter Akerley, Former Vice President Chris Cowan, Vice President  
809        Exploration Michael X, Gillis, and Senior Geologist Bat-Erdene Gendenjamts for their  
810        support and assistance in conducting research at the Zuun Mod deposit. Gankhuyag  
811        Altankhuyag also thanks Dr. Takeyuki Ogata for the help in conducting XRF and ICP-MS  
812        analyses at Akita University. Authors also thank the anonymous reviewers and their  
813        comments that only served to improve this manuscript. Lastly, authors greatly appreciate the  
814        Editor-in-Chief Dr. Mei-Fu Zhou and Associate Editor Dr. Ibrahim Uysal for handling the  
815        manuscript.

816            **Author contributions**

817            This research article is part of the first author's Ph.D. research. While working as a  
818            geologist for the Erdene Mongol LLC (branch company of Erdene Resource Development  
819            Corporation), Gankhuyag Altankhuyag collected the samples for the research. Gankhuyag  
820            Altankhuyag designed and composed the draft of this manuscript which was provided with  
821            feedback and improved by co-authors.

822            **Funding**

823            This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public,  
824            commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

825            **Data availability**

826            All data used for this study is presented in the figures, tables, and electronic appendix.

827            **FIGURES**

828            **Fig. 1.** A. Map of Mongolia showing island arc terranes and major/known porphyry-type  
829            deposits in South Mongolia, modified after Badarch et al. (2002). B. Simplified geological  
830            map of the Edren terrane and porphyry and epithermal deposits and occurrences, modified  
831            after Badarch et al. (1999).

832            **Fig. 2.** Simplified geological map of the Zuun Mod porphyry Mo-Cu deposit within an  
833            approximately circular structure, modified after Corey et al. (2006). Orebody boundaries for  
834            indicated and inferred resources estimation are illustrated (Gonchigjav et al., 2010). B.  
835            Geologic cross section A-A' of the Racetrack South orebody depicting crosscutting  
836            relationship of the Bayanbulag intrusive units and orebody boundary.

837            **Fig. 3.** The intrusive rock types found within the Zuun Mod porphyry Mo-Cu deposit area. A.  
838            Fine to coarse disseminated molybdenite mineralization associated with strongly potassio-  
839            altered quartz monzonite (sample ID: ZMD53 (142.1 m)). B. Quartz-sulfide veins within the  
840            quartz monzonite (sample ID: ZMD59 (134.1 m)). C. Fracture-controlled molybdenite  
841            mineralization with minor pyrite (sample ID: ZMD11 (120-120.2 m)). D. Quartz-sulfide  
842            veins, disseminated molybdenite, chalcopyrite and pyrite mineralization associated with  
843            altered granodiorite (sample ID: ZMD70 (328 m)). E. Quartz-sulfide vein with potassic  
844            alteration halo within altered granodiorite (sample ID: ZMD29 (94 m)). F. Quartz-magnetite-

845 sulfide vein within potassic-altered granodiorite (sample ID: ZMD10 (345.7 m)). G.  
846 Disseminated fine to coarse molybdenite, chalcopyrite and pyrite mineralization associated  
847 with biotite granite (sample ID: ZMD70 (96 m)). H. Molybdenite-rich quartz stockwork with  
848 chalcopyrite and pyrite mineralization associated with biotite granite (sample ID: ZMD39,  
849 244 m)). Abbreviations: Mo – molybdenite, Py – pyrite, Cpy – chalcopyrite, Qtz – quartz,  
850 Mag – magnetite.

851 **Fig. 4.** Alteration map of the Zuun Mod deposit area.

852 **Fig. 5.** The alteration types found within the Zuun Mod porphyry Mo-Cu deposit area. A.  
853 Quartz-calcite-magnetite-sulphide veins within altered potassic granodiorite (sample ID:  
854 ZMD10 (117.8 m)). B. Quarts-sulfide veins within potassic altered biotite granite (sample ID:  
855 ZMD57 (303.7-303.8 m)). C. Phylllic alteration characterized by quartz, pyrite, and sericite  
856 (sample ID: ZMD37 (285.3 m)). D. Centerline pyrite with sericitic alteration halo (sample  
857 ID: ZMD08 (135 m)). E. Argillic alteration with oxidized sulfide grains in an outcrop. F.  
858 Argillic alteration of plagioclase phenocrysts and magnetite veinlet (sample ID: KKMD10  
859 (164 m)). G. Molybdenite-bearing quartz vein displaced by quartz veins with potassic  
860 alteration halos within granodiorite overprinting propylitic alteration (sample ID: ZMD71  
861 (327.5 m)). H. Silicified zone within the granodiorite (sample ID ZMD 15, 252.5 m). I.  
862 Tourmalinization in dacite porphyry (sample ID: KKMD 02 (113.9 m)). J. the quartz-  
863 muscovite veins cuts the altered quartz syenite (outcrop sample). Mo – molybdenite, Py –  
864 pyrite, Cpy – chalcopyrite, Mag – magnetite, Qtz – Quartz, Ser – Sericite, Kaol – Kaolinite,  
865 Alun – Alunite, Tur – Tourmaline, Mus – Muscovite.

866 **Fig. 6.** Photomicrographs of representative transmitted-light images (all crossed polarizers) of  
867 the samples from the Zuun Mod porphyry Mo-Cu deposit. A. Quartz monzonite (sample ID:  
868 ZM113) with potassium feldspar and plagioclase partially altered by clay and sericite, and  
869 euhedral hornblende. B. Quartz monzonite (sample ID: KKMD-03 299.4 m) with plagioclase  
870 partially altered to clay and sericite, and sphene. C. Quartz monzonite (sample ID: ZMD-12  
871 204.5 m) with zoned plagioclase partially altered to sericite and subhedral grains of sphene.  
872 D. Biotite granodiorite (sample ID: ZMD-39 112 m) with zoned plagioclase. E. Biotite  
873 granodiorite (sample ID: ZM02, ZMD-16 182 m) with zoned plagioclase and secondary  
874 biotite. F. Biotite granodiorite (sample ID: ZMD-16 182 m) zoned plagioclase, potassium  
875 feldspar, quartz, hornblende and chloritized biotite. G-H. Biotite granite (sample ID: ZMD-05  
876 350.5-350.6 m) with prismatic and weakly zoned plagioclase and biotite partially replaced by

877 chlorite and secondary biotite. I. Biotite granite (sample ID: FS55) with subhedral potassium  
878 feldspar, plagioclase, quartz, and biotite. Abbreviations: Pl – plagioclase, Kfs – potassium  
879 feldspar, Bio – biotite, Hbl – hornblende, Qtz – quartz, Sph – sphene, Ep – epidote, Sec bio –  
880 secondary biotite, Mag – magnetite, Py – pyrite.

881 **Fig. 7.** Representative reflected-light photomicrographs of samples from the Zuun Mod  
882 porphyry Mo-Cu deposit. A-C. Quartz monzonite-hosted mineralization. A. Coarse pyrite  
883 crystals containing small chalcopyrite grains within quartz monzonite (Sample ID: ZMD113).  
884 B. Quartz monzonite-hosted molybdenite and chalcopyrite (Sample ID: ZMD12 (212.5 m)).  
885 C. Molybdenite batches and chalcopyrite within quartz monzonite (sample ID: ZMD12  
886 (204.5 m)). D-F. Biotite granodiorite-hosted mineralization. D. Coarse anhedral crystal of  
887 chalcopyrite and molybdenite batches within granodiorite (sample ID: ZM02). E.  
888 Disseminated anhedral chalcopyrite within granodiorite (sample ID: ZMD16 (184.5 m)). F.  
889 Anhedral crystal of chalcopyrite within biotite granodiorite. Chalcopyrite crystals partially  
890 replaced by bornite and covellite (sample ID: KKMD-03 299.4 m). G. Biotite granite-hosted  
891 mineralization. Disseminated subhedral chalcopyrite crystals with minor molybdenite in  
892 biotite granite (Sample ID ZMD12 (202.5 m)). H-I. Quartz vein-hosted mineralization. H.  
893 Quartz sulphide vein within granodiorite porphyry (sample ID: ZMD16 (184.5 m)). I. B type  
894 quartz veinlet-hosted aggregate of molybdenite flakes and poikilitic chalcopyrite (sample ID:  
895 ZMD10). Abbreviations: Mo – molybdenite, Py – pyrite, Cpy – chalcopyrite, Mag –  
896 magnetite, Sph – Sphalerite, Bor – bornite, Cv – Covellite.

897 **Fig. 8.** Cathodoluminescence images of zircons with LA-ICP-MS spots and corresponding U-  
898 Pb ages. A. Quartz monzonite; B. Granodiorite.

899 **Fig. 9.** Concordant, histogram and weighted average plots of LA-ICP-MS zircon U-Pb  
900 analytical results. A-B. Quartz monzonite (sample ID: ZM113). C-D. Granodiorite (sample  
901 ID: ZM02 from drill hole ZMD-29-182.1 m). MSWD = mean square of weighted deviates.

902 **Fig. 10.** A. Classification of granitoids based on total alkalis vs. silica (Middlemost, 1994); B.  
903 AFM (A =  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} + \text{K}_2\text{O}$ , F =  $\text{FeO}_T$ , M =  $\text{MgO}$ ) diagram showing tholeiitic vs. calc-alkaline  
904 trend, after Irvine and Baragar (1971); C.  $\text{SiO}_2$  vs.  $\text{K}_2\text{O}$  discrimination diagram (Peccerillo  
905 and Taylor, 1976); D. A/CNK vs. A/NK discrimination diagram (Middlemost, 1994). Field  
906 boundary between I-type and S-type granitoids are from Chappell and White (1974); E. Ta  
907 vs. Yb tectonic discrimination diagram (Pearce et al., 1984); F.  $\text{SiO}_2$  vs.  $\text{Rb/Zr}$  discrimination  
908 diagram (Harris et al., 1986). G.  $\text{Rb}/30\text{-Hf-Ta}^*3$  diagram, after Harris et al. (1986). VAG –

909 volcanic arc granitoids, WPG – within plate granitoids, syn-COLG – syn-collisional  
910 granitoids, LCG – late-collisional granitoids, PCG – post-collisional granitoids.

911 **Fig. 11.** A. Sr/Y vs. Y plot to show adakite after Richards and Kerrich (2007). B. Sr/Y vs.  
912 SiO<sub>2</sub> plot to show magma fertility after Loucks (2014).

913 **Fig. 12.** A. SiO<sub>2</sub> vs. Y plot to show fractionation trend after Koprubasi and Aldanmaz (2004).  
914 B. SiO<sub>2</sub> vs. Dy/Yb plot to show fractionation trend after Davidson et al. (2007).

915 **Fig. 13.** A. C1-chondrite-normalized spidergram; B. Bulk Silicate Earth-normalized  
916 spidergram. Normalization values are from McDonough and Sun (1995).

917 **Fig. 14.** The block diagram for the geological modeling of the Zuun Mod deposit area.

918 **TABLES**

919 **Table 1.** Isotopic data of U-Pb age determinations on zircon grains collected from the  
920 Bayanbulag intrusive complex.

921 **Table 2.** Re-Os isotope data for molybdenite sample from the Zuun Mod porphyry Mo-Cu  
922 deposit.

923 **Table 3.** Whole-rock geochemical data for the host granitoids of the Zuun Mod porphyry  
924 Mo-Cu deposit in Southwest Mongolia.

925 **APPENDIX**

926 **Table A1.** Samples included in this study with drillhole ID, depth, lithology, orebody, and  
927 analyses carried out.

928 **Fig. A2.** Binary plots illustrating affects of hydrothermal alterations. A. Na<sub>2</sub>O vs. LOI; B. K<sub>2</sub>O vs.  
929 LOI; C. CaO vs. LOI; D. MgO vs. LOI; E. Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> vs. LOI; F. Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> vs. LOI; G. Rb vs. LOI; H. Sr  
930 vs. LOI; I. Ba vs. LOI.

931 **Table A3-1.** Blank measurements.

932 **Table A3-2.** Measuremen on the Standard GBW04435 (HLP).

933 **Table A3-3.** Certified values (Stein et al., 1997).

934 **Table A4.** Accuracy and precision calculations of the standard and dublicate measurements  
935 of whole-rock geochemical data.

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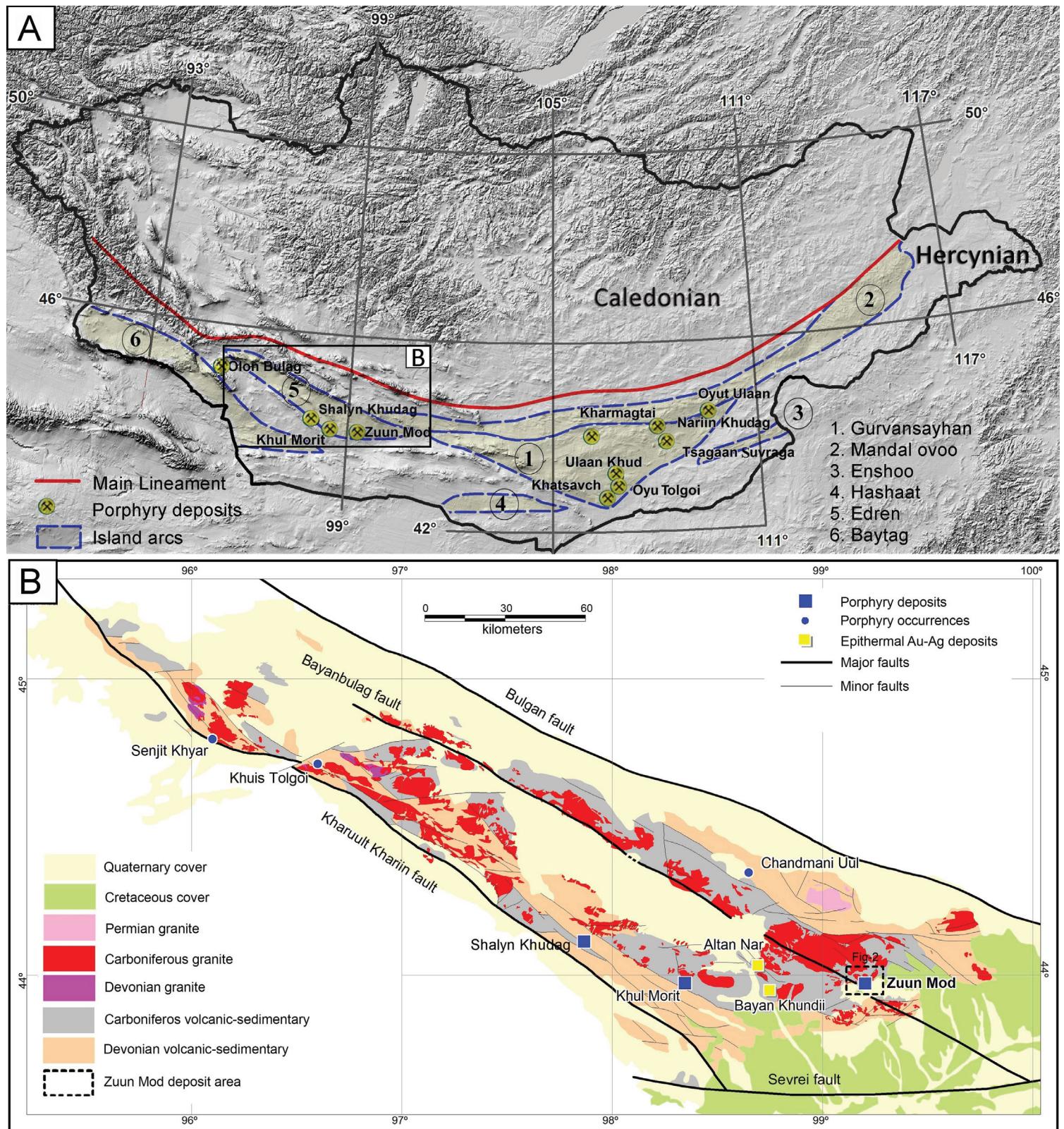
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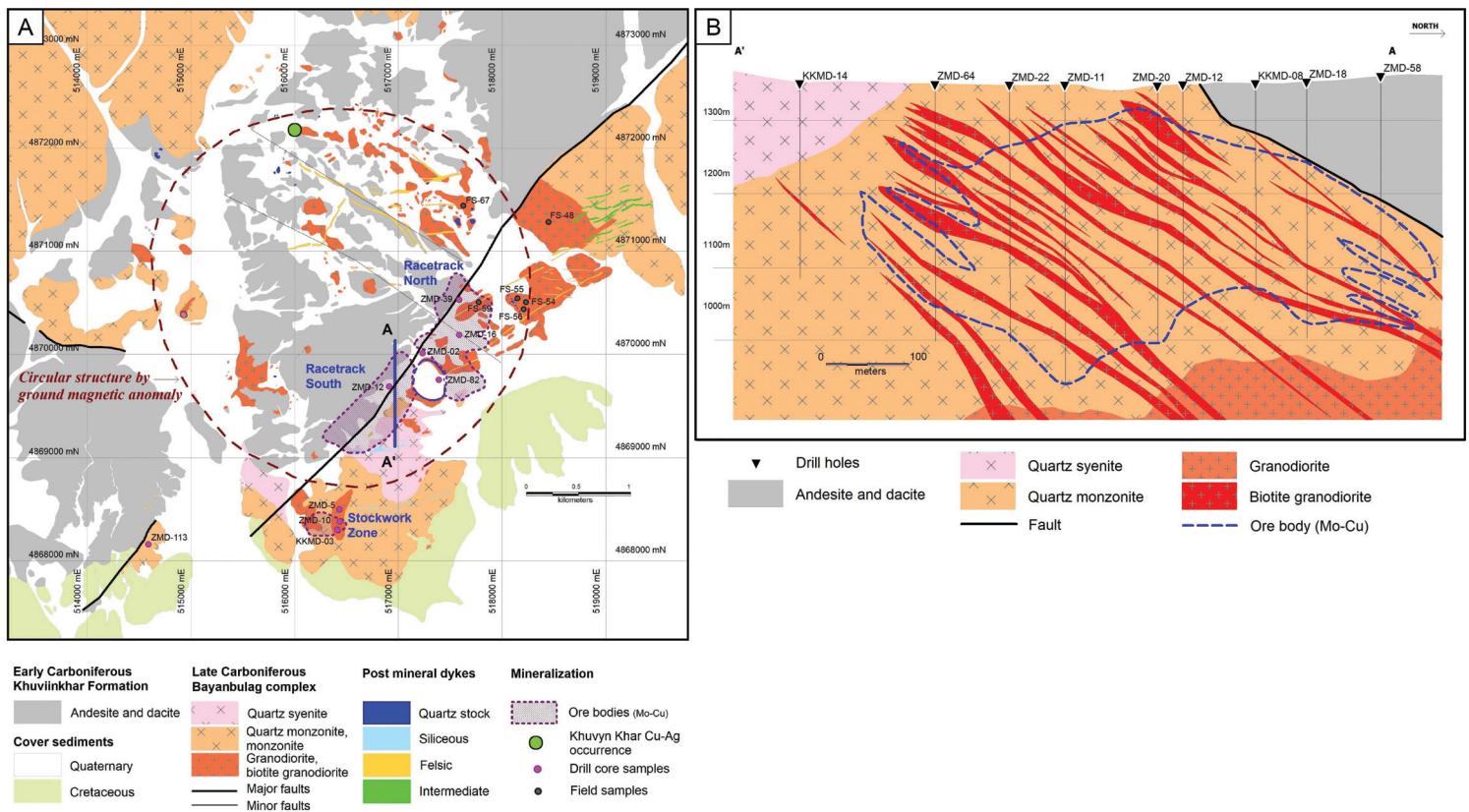
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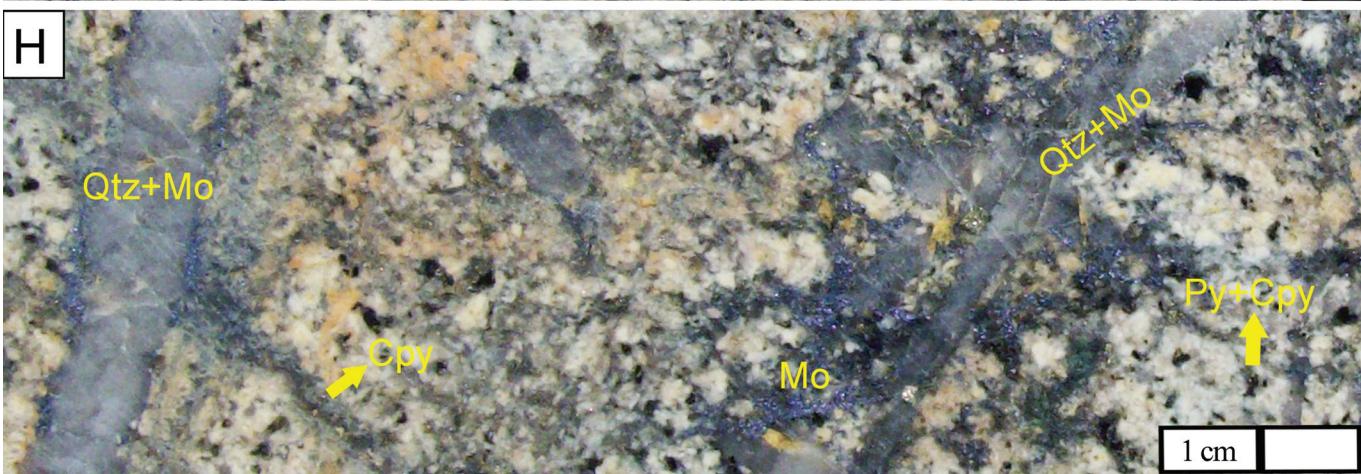
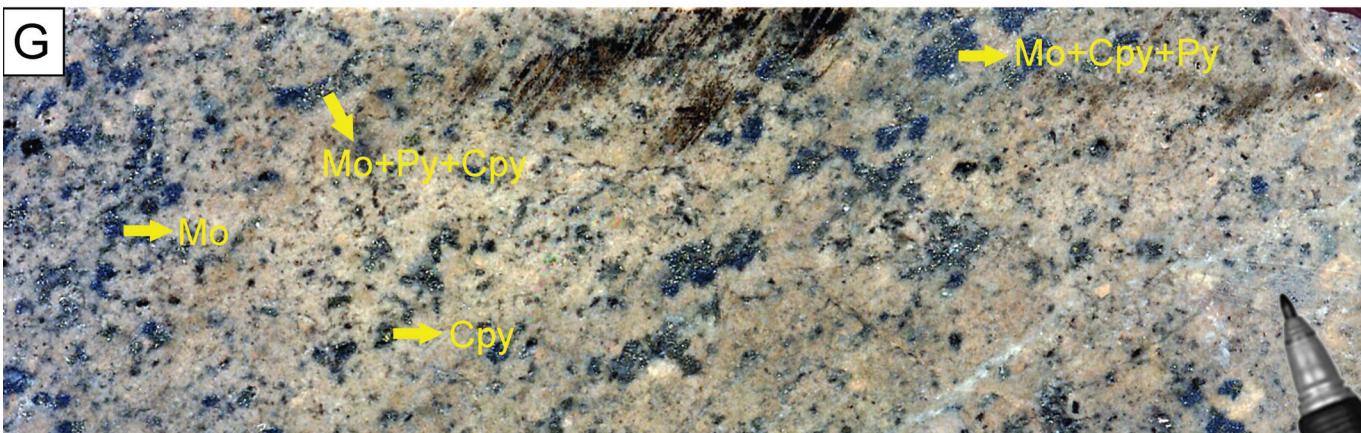
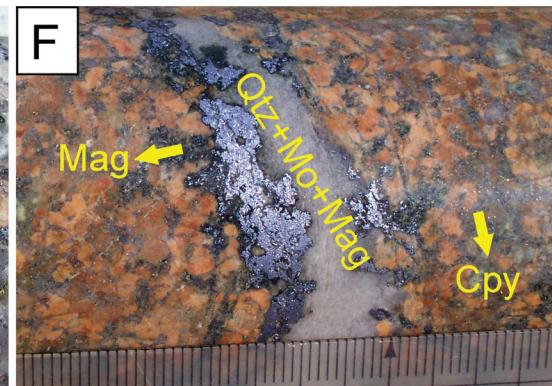
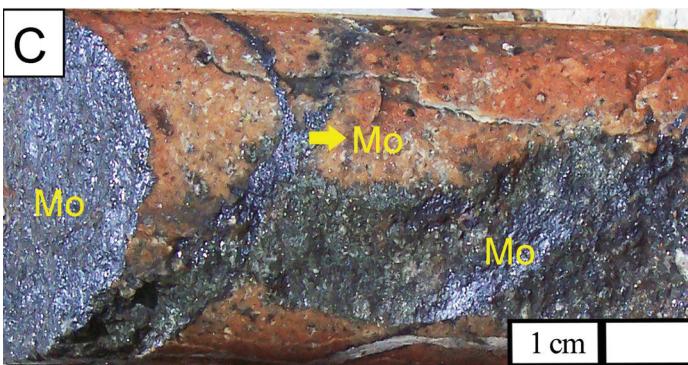
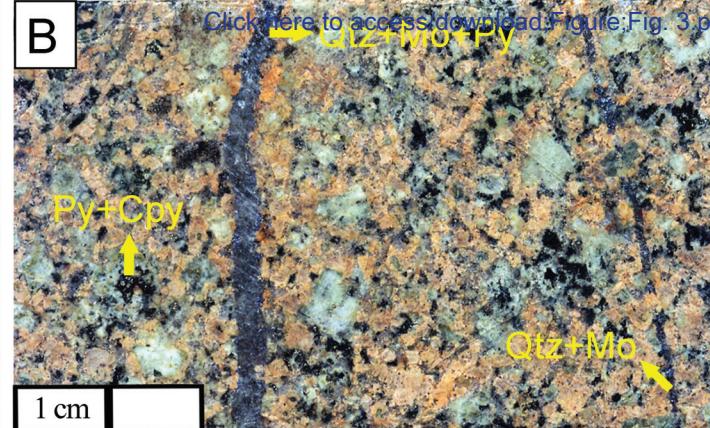
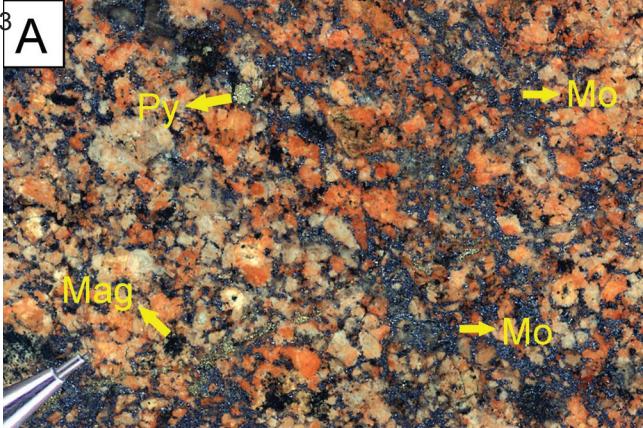
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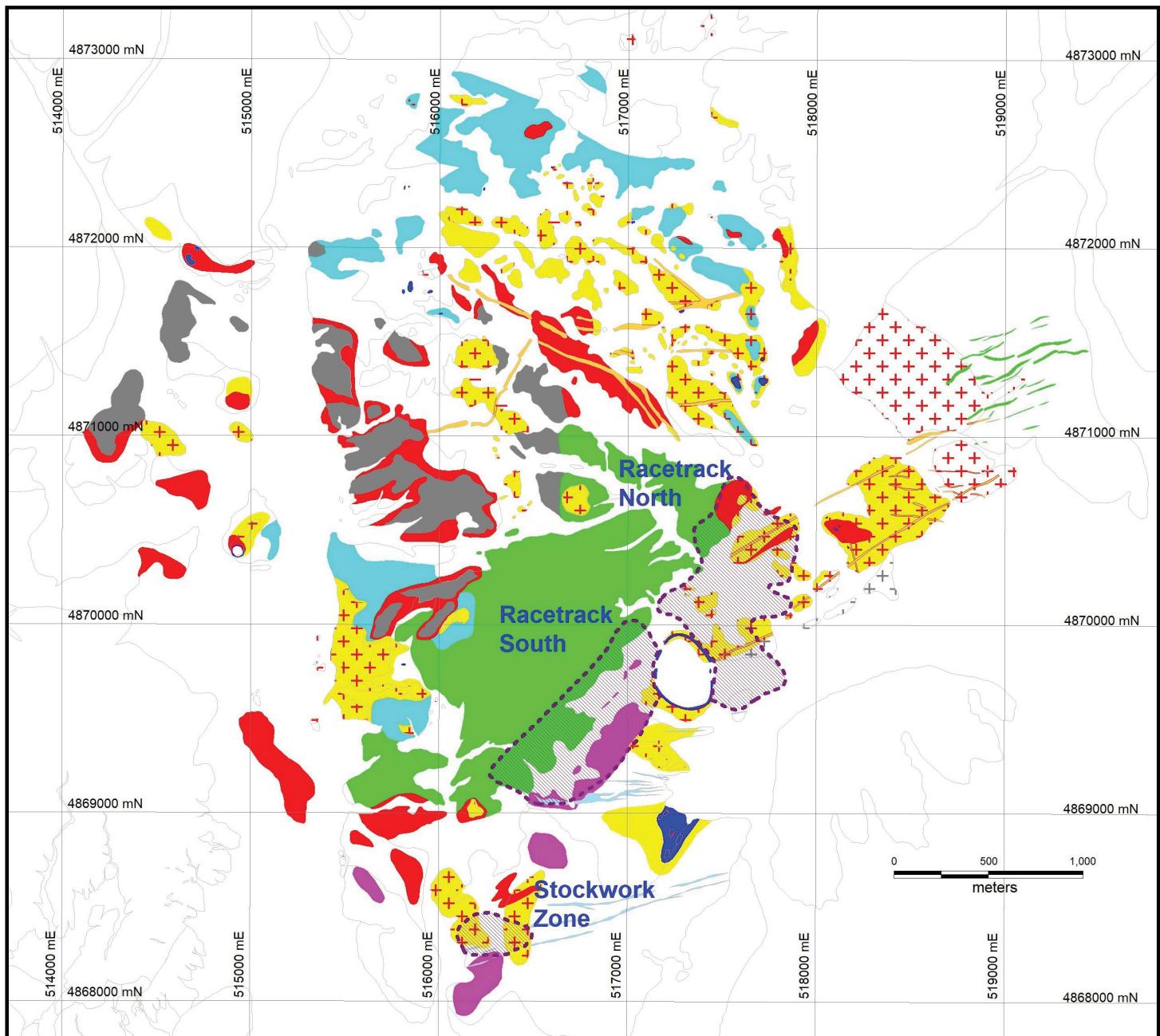
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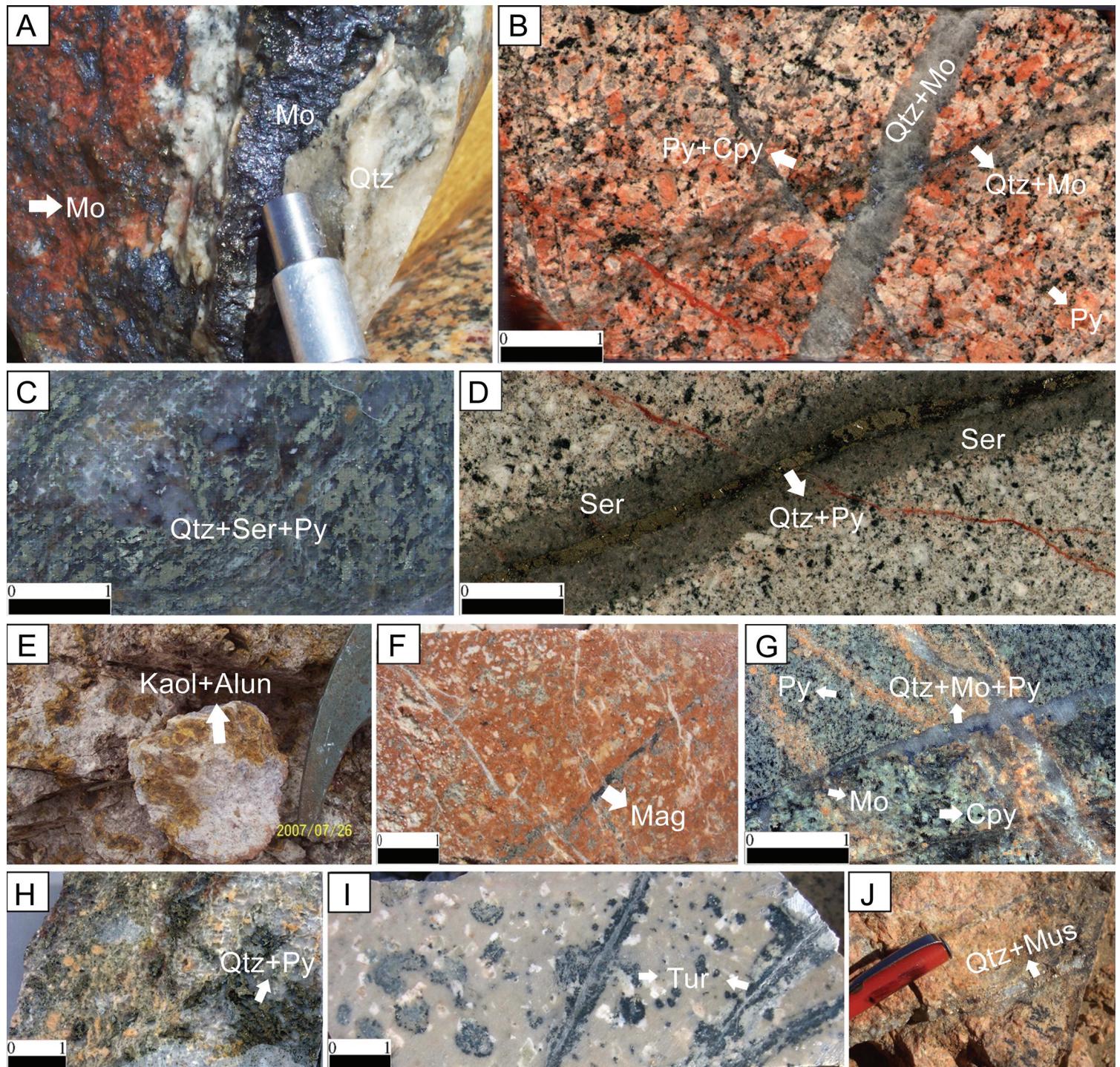


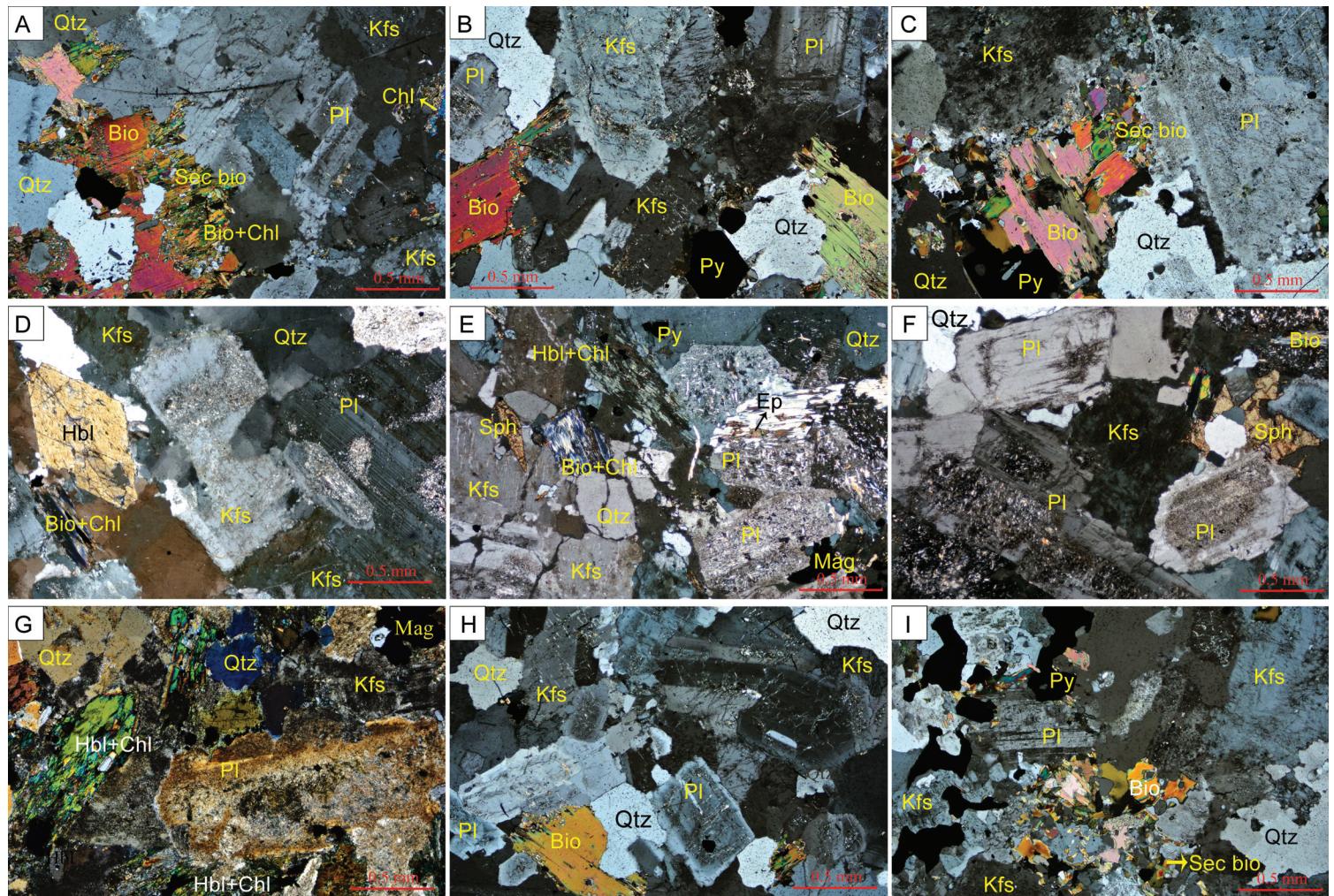
Greisenization  
 Propylitic

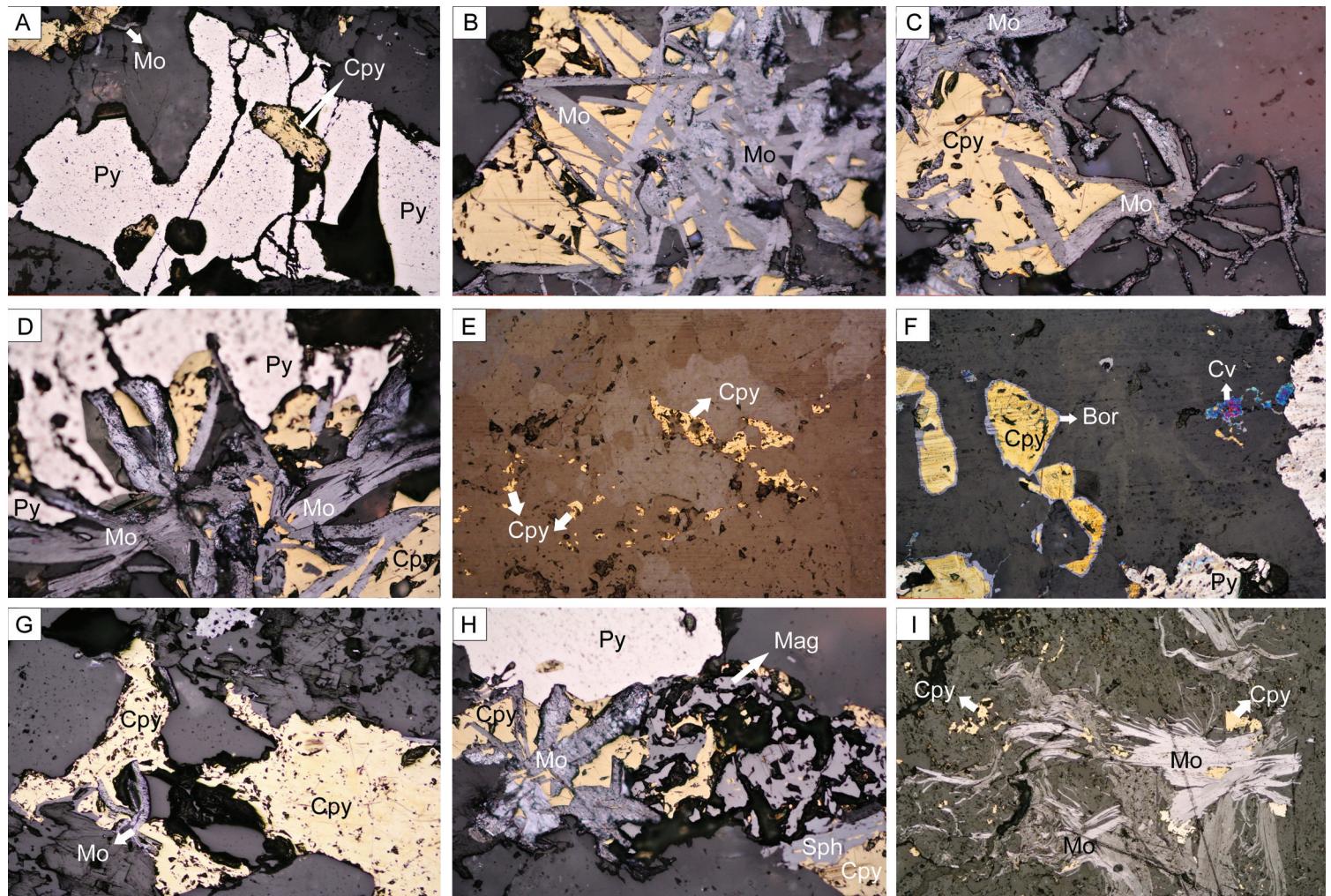
Argillic  
 Tourmalinization

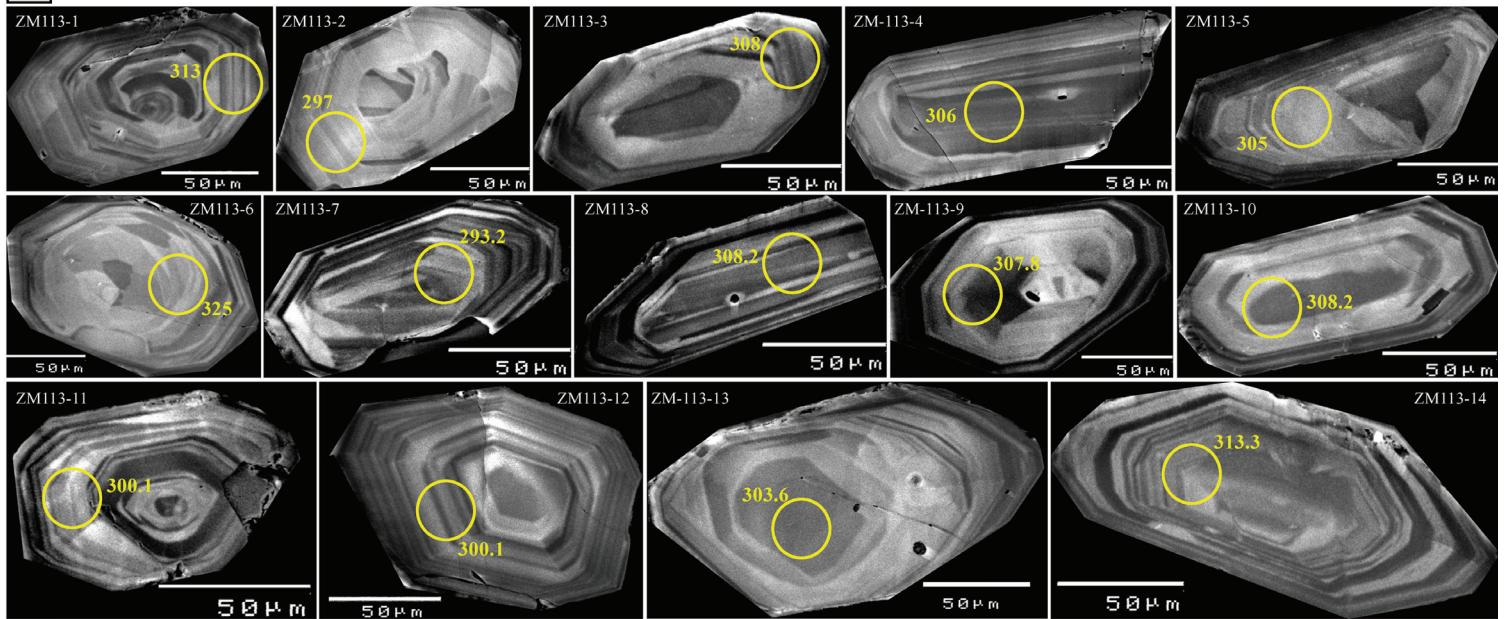
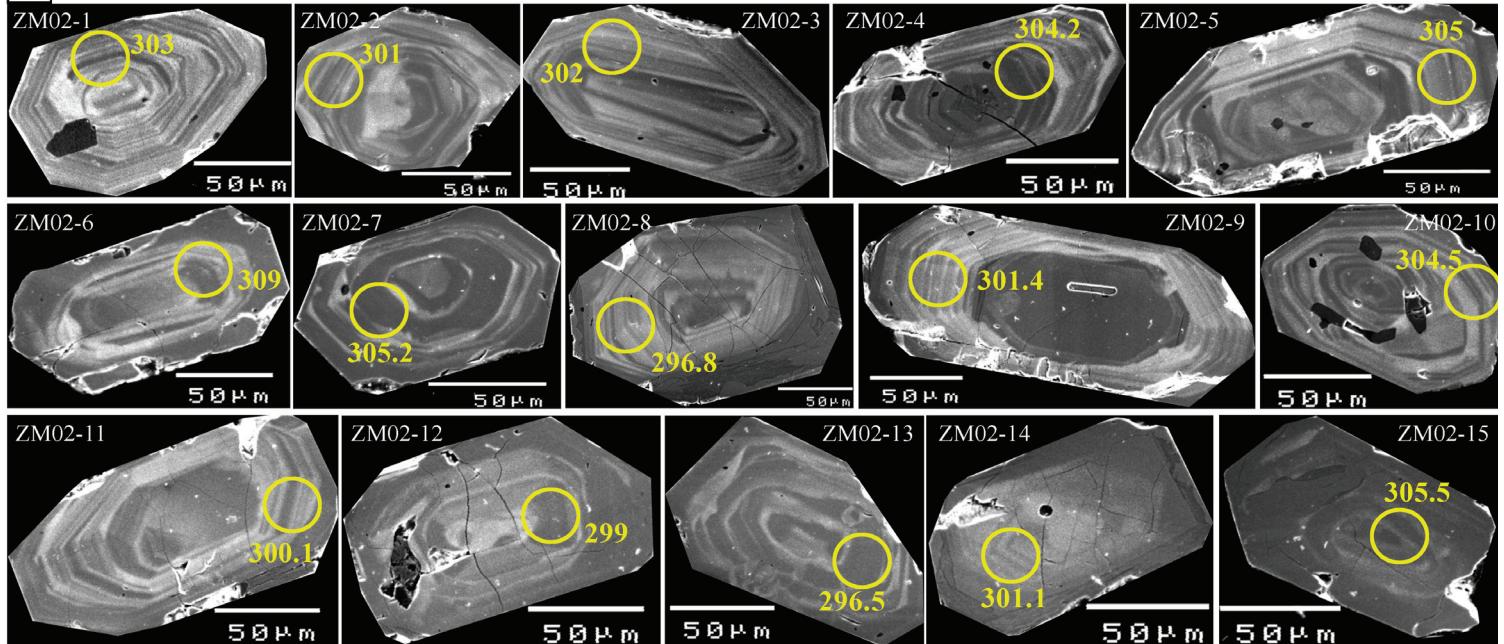
Silica  
 Potassic

Phyllitic (QSP)  
 Ore bodies (Mo-Cu)







**A****B**

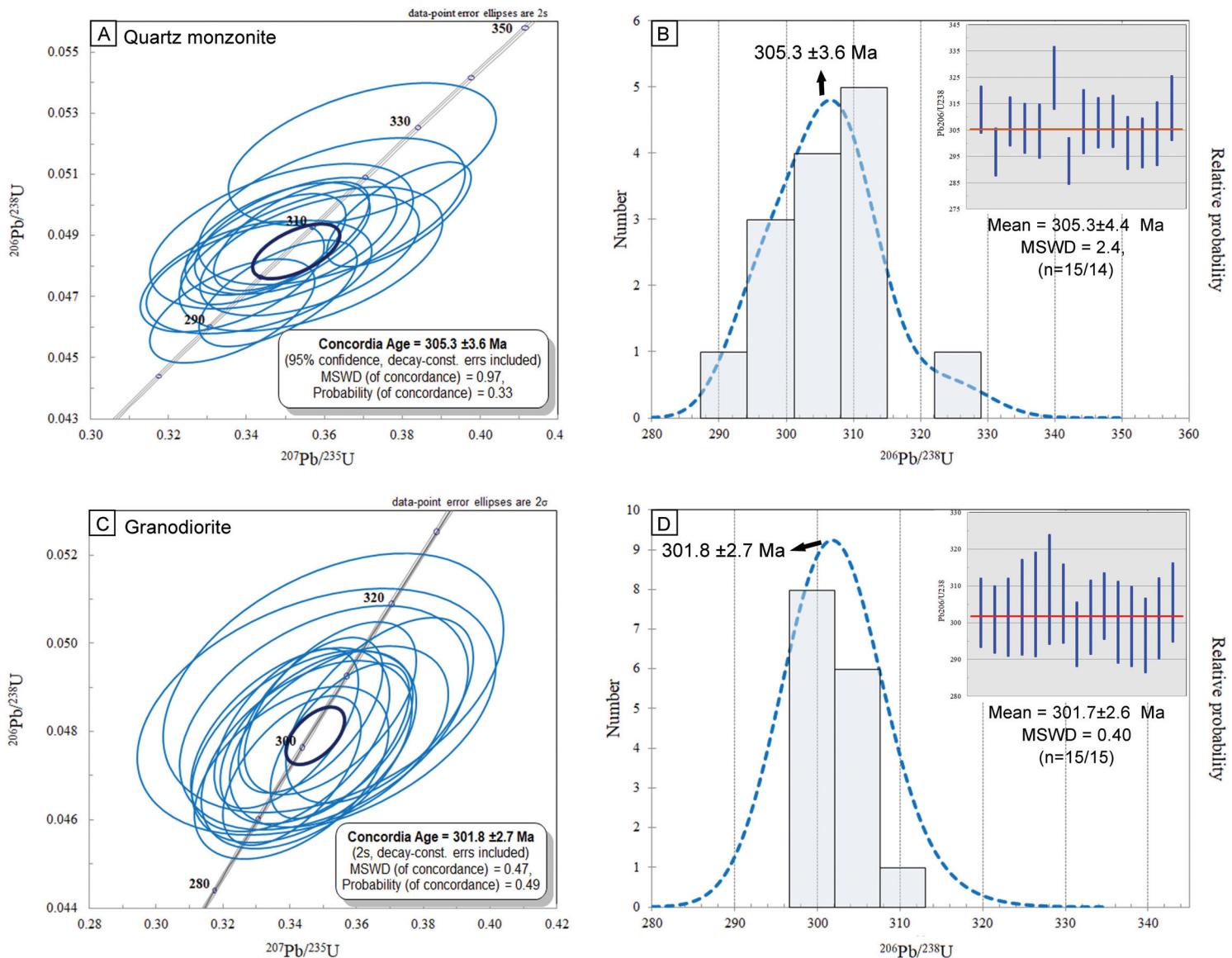
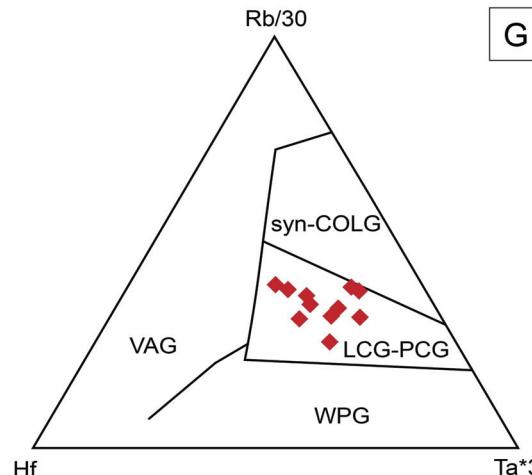
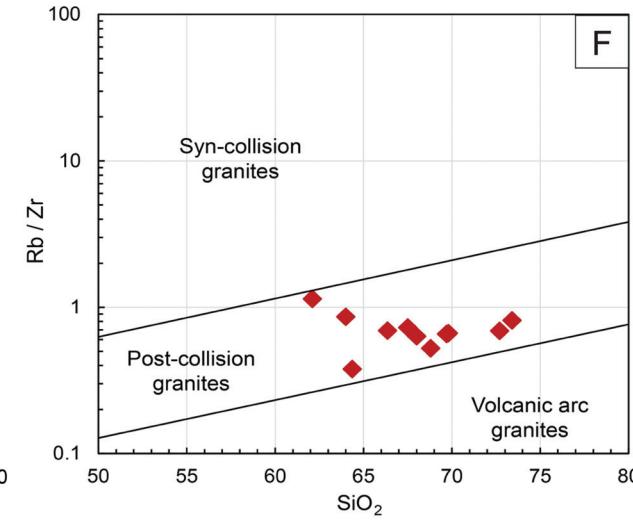
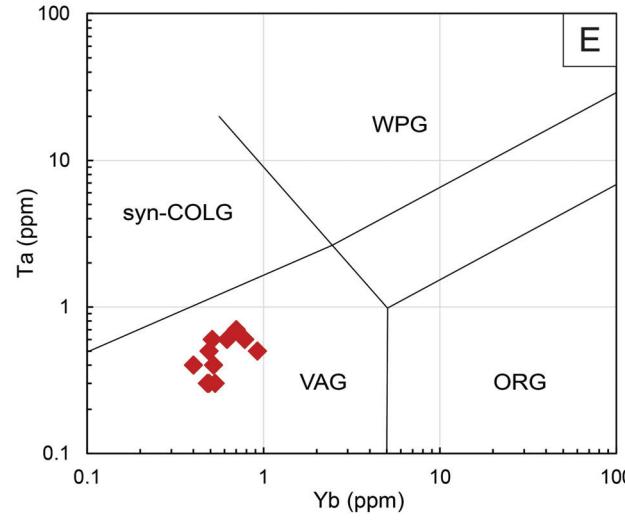
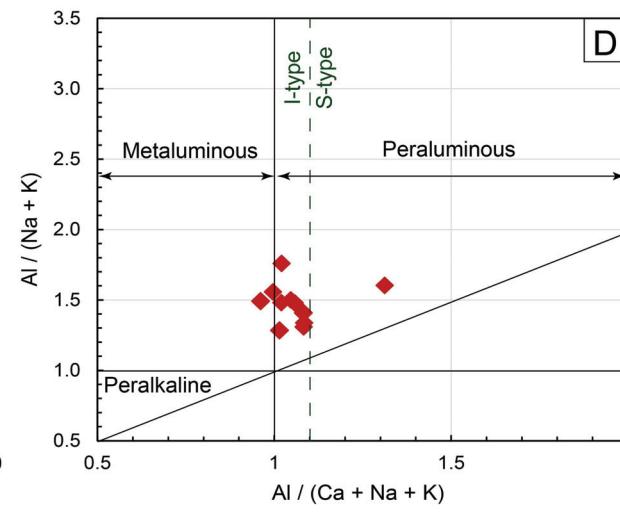
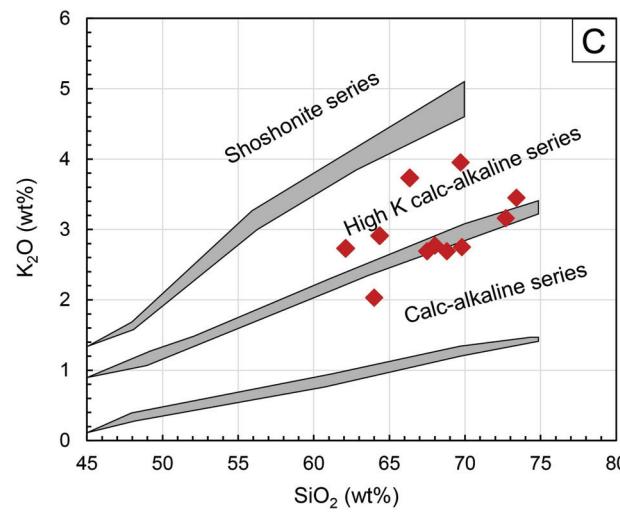
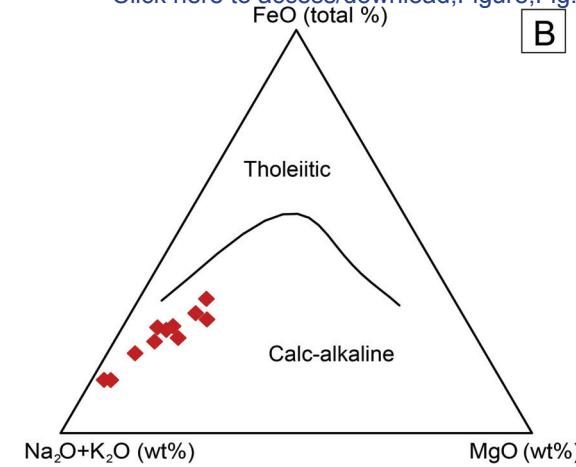
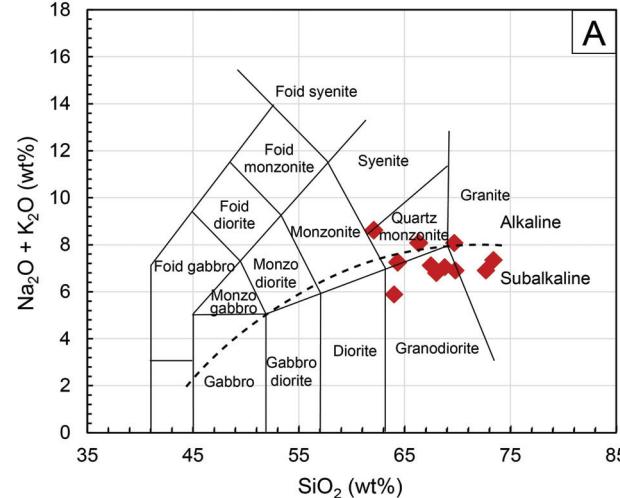
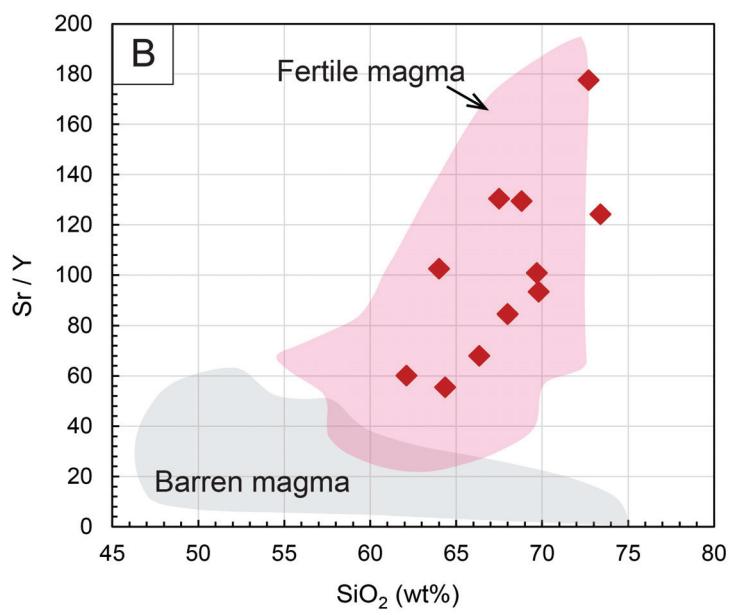
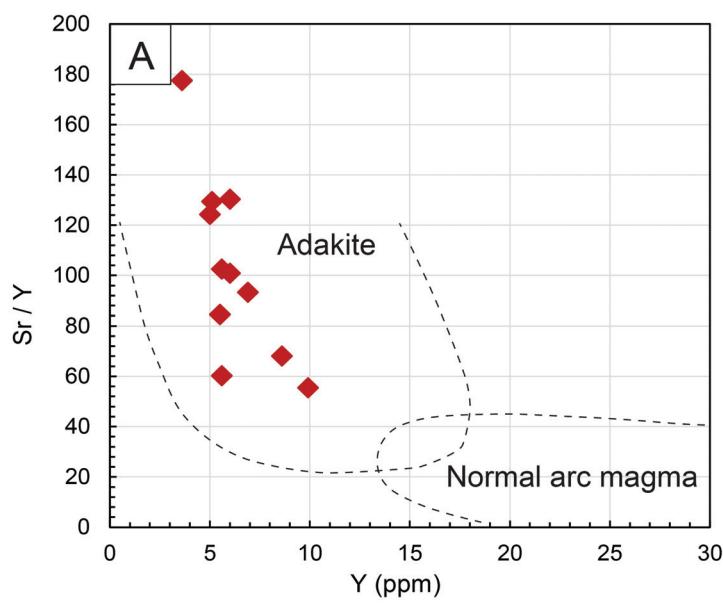
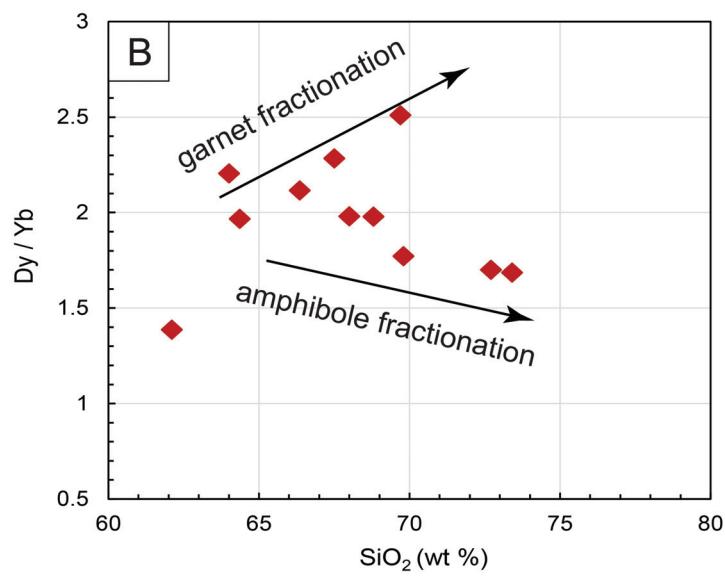
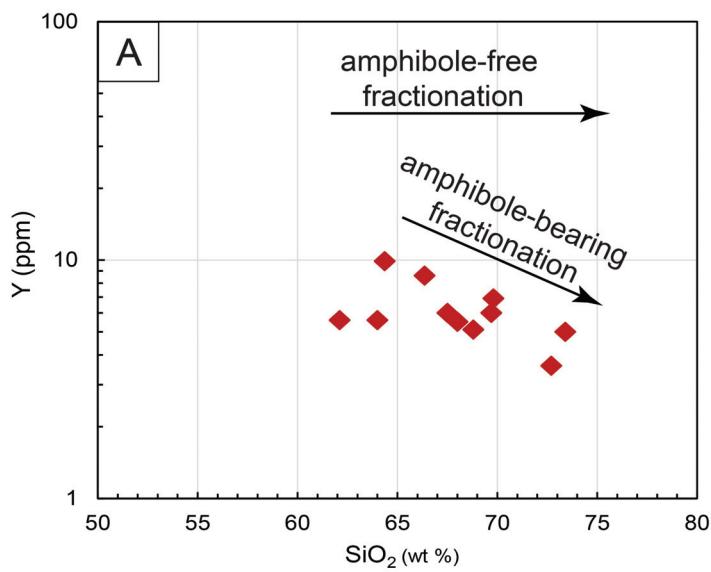


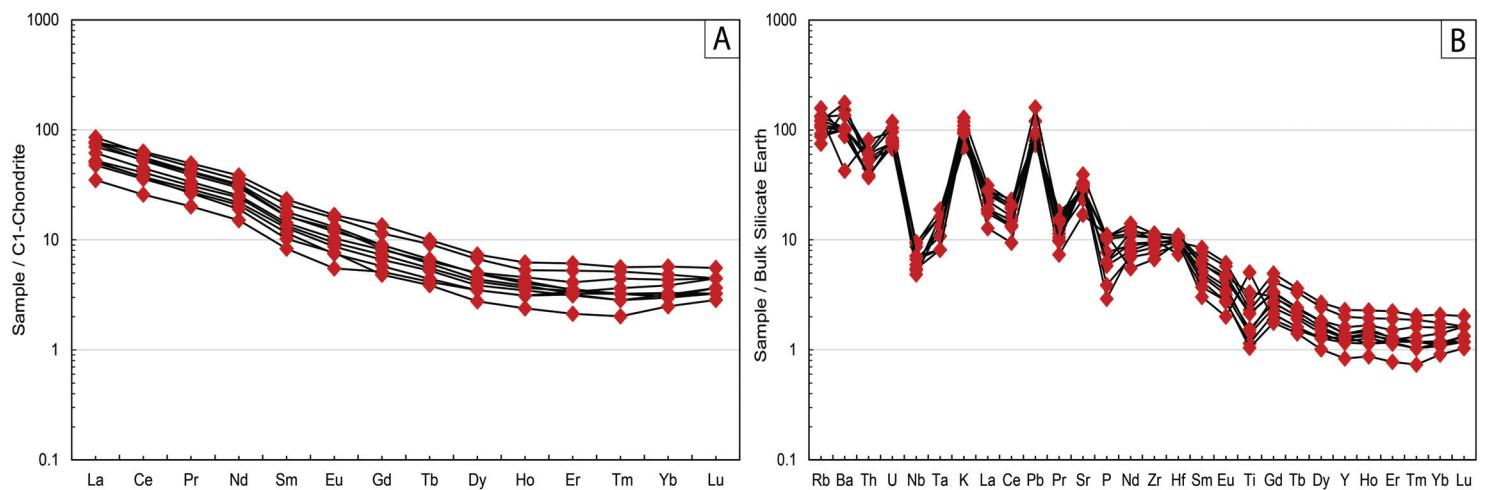
Fig. 10

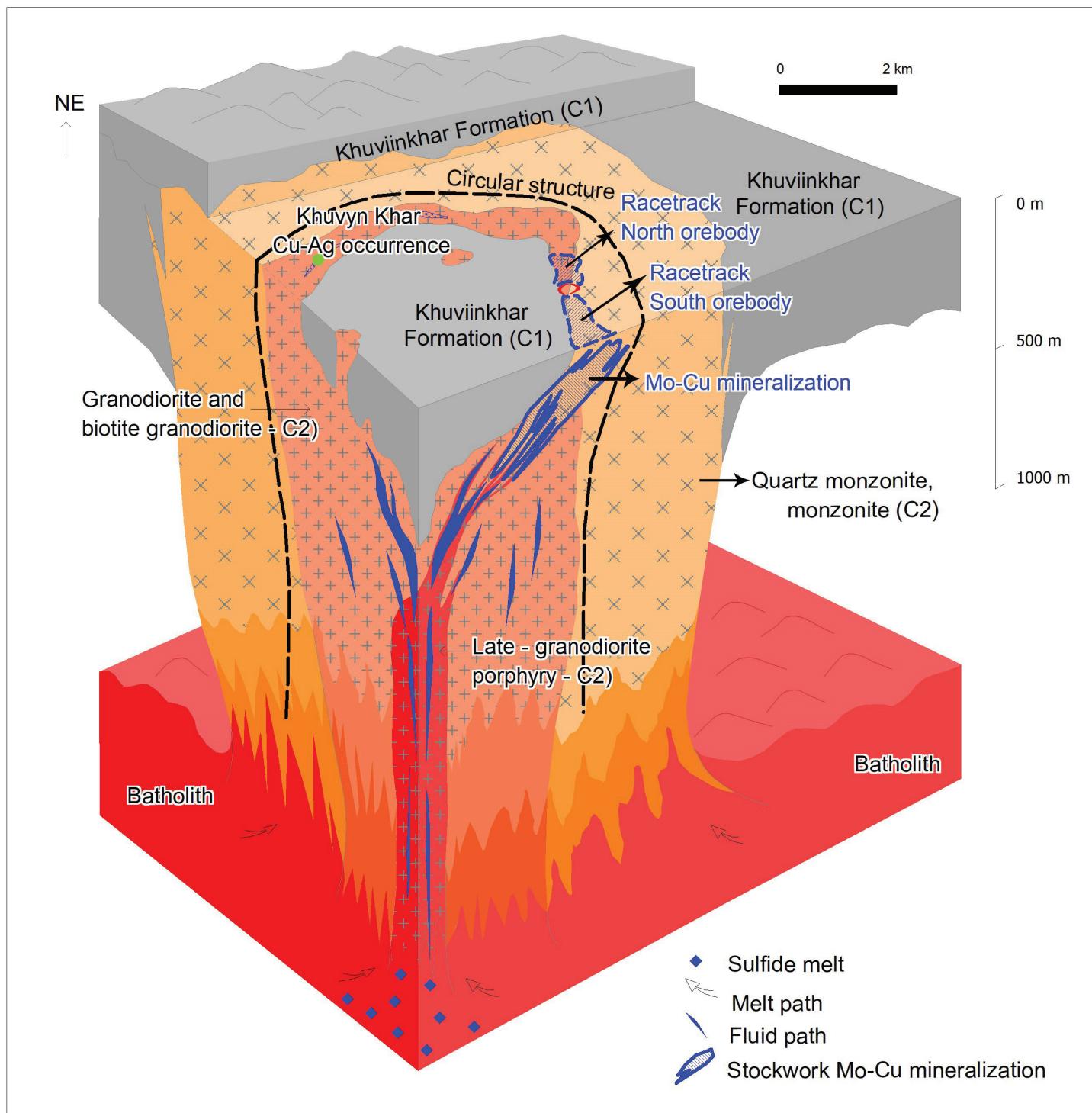
Click here to access/download;Figure;Fig. 10.pdf











**Table 1**
**Table 1.** Isotopic data of U-Pb age determinations on zircon grains collected from the Bayanbulag intrusive complex

No	Spots	Measured isotopic ratios					204 corrected (if RSD < 10%) age (Ma)				Th/U	Dis (%)	For Concordia diagram using Isoplot					
		$^{204}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$	$^{232}\text{Th}/^{238}\text{U}$	$^{45}\text{Sc}/^{89}\text{Y}$	$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$	$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{U}$	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$	$\pm 2s$	$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{U}$			$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{U}$	$\pm 2s$ (%)	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$	$\pm 2s$ (%)	error corrected	
1	ZM113-1	0.004	0.434	0.533	0.055	0.05	0.379	312.6	8.62	326.5	11.16	0.434	4.4	0.379	3.997	0.05	2.817	0.705
2	ZM113-2	0.003	0.705	0.154	0.054	0.047	0.348	296.6	8.74	303.3	12.44	0.705	2.2	0.348	4.745	0.047	3.015	0.635
3	ZM113-3	0.003	0.645	0.254	0.052	0.049	0.352	308.2	8.98	305.9	12.28	0.645	-0.8	0.352	4.648	0.049	2.981	0.641
4	ZM113-4	0	0.846	0.15	0.051	0.049	0.344	305.6	9.14	300.5	13.02	0.846	-1.7	0.344	5	0.049	3.048	0.61
5	ZM113-5	0.009	0.591	0.417	0.053	0.048	0.356	304.5	9.94	309.4	17.22	0.591	1.6	0.356	6.455	0.048	3.349	0.519
6	ZM113-6	0.001	0.495	0.764	0.052	0.052	0.37	324.7	11.62	319.4	20.84	0.495	-1.6	0.37	7.601	0.052	3.678	0.484
7	ZM113-7	0.005	0.697	0.204	0.052	0.047	0.336	293.1	8.52	294.4	13.12	0.697	0.4	0.336	5.132	0.047	2.966	0.578
8	ZM113-8	-0.006	0.249	0.136	0.052	0.049	0.35	308.1	11.86	304	20.76	0.249	-1.4	0.349	7.891	0.049	3.962	0.502
9	ZM113-9	-0.006	0.876	0.28	0.052	0.049	0.348	307.7	9.16	303.2	14.56	0.876	-1.5	0.348	5.552	0.049	3.067	0.553
10	ZM113-10	-0.004	0.663	0.27	0.052	0.049	0.353	308.2	9.56	306.8	15.94	0.663	-0.5	0.353	6.017	0.049	3.185	0.529
11	ZM113-11	0	0.459	0.568	0.051	0.048	0.336	300	9.66	294.4	15.7	0.459	-1.9	0.336	5.715	0.048	3.106	0.543
12	ZM113-12	0.003	0.486	0.483	0.052	0.048	0.343	300	9.14	299.6	14.52	0.486	-0.2	0.343	6.893	0.048	3.19	0.463
13	ZM113-13	-0.004	1.42	0.151	0.054	0.048	0.357	303.6	11.76	309.7	20.68	1.42	2	0.357	7.739	0.048	3.981	0.514
14	ZM113-14	-0.01	0.79	0.179	0.053	0.05	0.363	313.2	12	313.6	20.9	0.79	0.1	0.362	7.73	0.05	3.936	0.509
15	ZM02-1	-0.006	0.571	0.201	0.051	0.048	0.339	302.6	9.14	296.4	13.42	0.571	-2.1	0.339	5.215	0.048	3.079	0.59
16	ZM02-2	-0.001	0.674	0.194	0.054	0.048	0.355	300.8	8.9	308.4	12.74	0.674	2.5	0.355	4.789	0.048	3.014	0.629
17	ZM02-3	0.003	0.831	0.277	0.054	0.048	0.355	301.4	10.36	308.3	20	0.831	2.2	0.355	7.525	0.048	3.509	0.466
18	ZM02-4	0.002	0.434	0.789	0.053	0.048	0.35	304.1	12.78	304.8	26.48	0.434	0.2	0.35	10.067	0.048	4.306	0.428
19	ZM02-5	-0.002	0.887	0.188	0.052	0.048	0.349	304.9	13.98	303.2	33.06	0.887	-0.6	0.348	12.594	0.048	4.706	0.374
20	ZM02-6	0	0.471	0.629	0.052	0.049	0.354	309	14.72	307	31.32	0.471	-0.7	0.353	11.799	0.049	4.887	0.414
21	ZM02-7	-0.002	0.669	0.307	0.055	0.048	0.367	305.1	10.54	317.3	17.06	0.669	4	0.367	6.253	0.048	3.548	0.567
22	ZM02-8	-0.004	0.787	0.211	0.052	0.047	0.341	296.81	8.52	297.7	12.76	0.787	0.3	0.341	4.95	0.047	2.929	0.592
23	ZM02-9	-0.017	0.622	0.685	0.053	0.048	0.348	301.4	9.86	303.2	17.68	0.622	0.6	0.348	6.744	0.048	3.342	0.496
24	ZM02-10	-0.007	0.461	0.681	0.052	0.048	0.346	304.5	8.82	301.8	13.28	0.461	-0.9	0.346	5.09	0.048	2.977	0.585
25	ZM02-11	-0.007	0.372	0.55	0.052	0.048	0.344	300.1	10.9	300.4	20.76	0.372	0.1	0.344	7.979	0.048	3.735	0.468
26	ZM02-12	0	0.612	0.368	0.053	0.047	0.345	298.9	10.68	301	19.52	0.612	0.7	0.345	7.49	0.047	3.665	0.489
27	ZM02-13	-0.002	0.528	0.382	0.052	0.047	0.341	296.5	9.9	297.6	17.98	0.528	0.4	0.341	6.969	0.047	3.399	0.488
28	ZM02-14	-0.003	0.582	0.79	0.052	0.048	0.34	301.1	10.78	297.3	18.96	0.582	-1.3	0.34	7.124	0.048	3.555	0.499
29	ZM02-15	-0.004	0.498	0.614	0.053	0.049	0.352	305.49	10.56	306.4	18.94	0.498	0.3	0.352	5.964	0.049	3.297	0.553

Table 2

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**Table 2.** Re-Os isotope data for molybdenite sample from the Zuun Mod porphyry Mo-Cu-Re deposit.

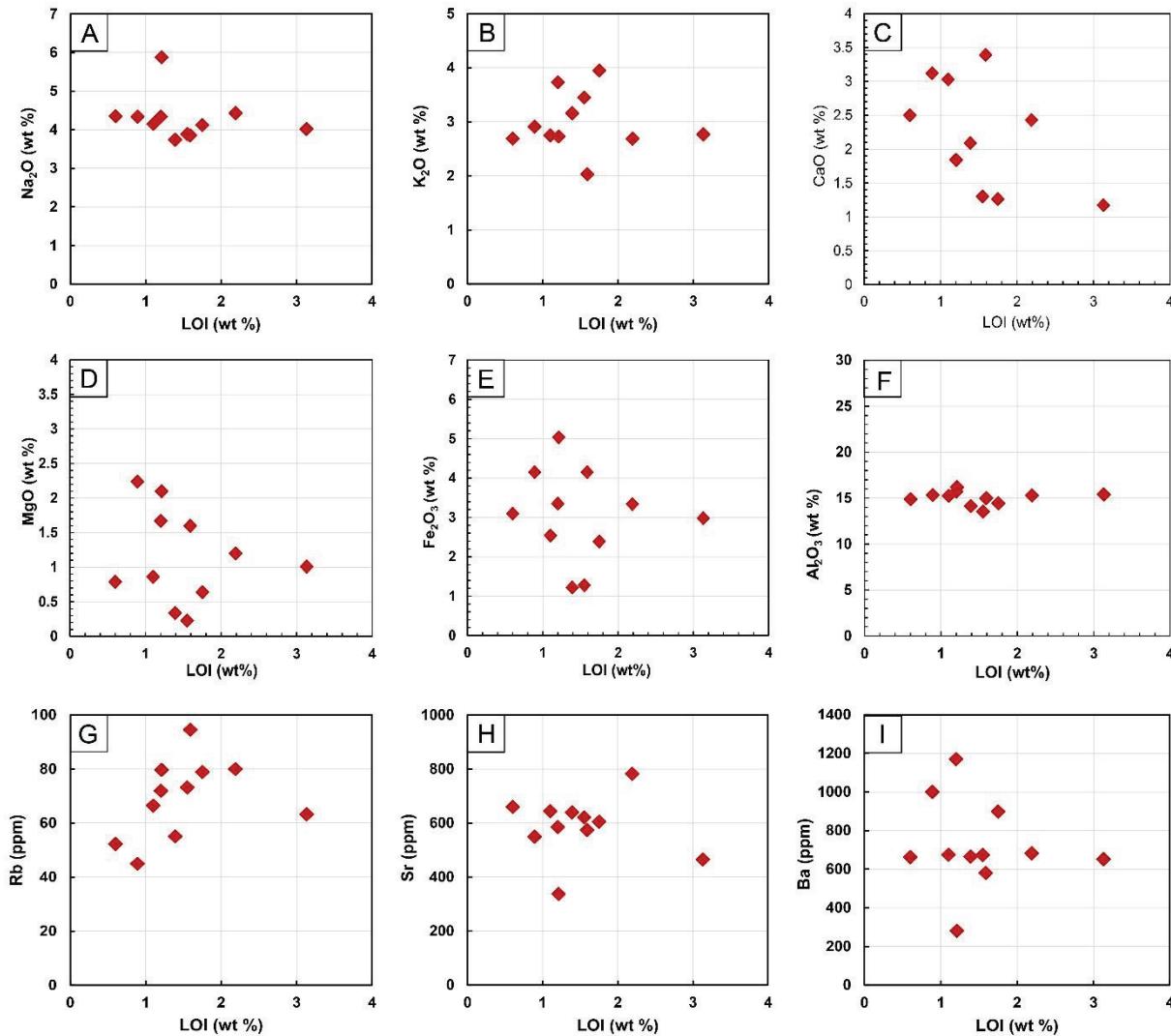
Sample ID	Sample weight (g)	Re (ng/g)		Common Os (ng/g)		Re187 (ng/g)		Os187 (ng/g)		Model age (Ma)	
		Measured value	Uncertainty	Measured value	Uncertainty	Measured value	Uncertainty	Measured value	Uncertainty	Measured value	Uncertainty
ZMD-10	0.01091	155325.4	1655.2	<0.0002	-	97631.3	1040.4	481.9	3.2	295.6	4.8
ZMD-10	0.01058	160286.8	1387.6	<0.0002	-	100749.9	872.2	502.1	4.8	298.4	4.9

**Table 3.** Whole-rock geochemical data for the host granitoids of the Zuun Mod porphyry Mo-Cu deposit in Southwest Mongolia.

No	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Sample ID	ZMD113	ZMD12 202.5	ZMD16 184.5	FS-48	FS-56	FS-67	ZMD02	ZMD82 177.5	FS-54	FS-55	FS-59
SiO <sub>2</sub> (wt %)	62.1	64.36	66.35	69.8	68.8	68	64	67.5	73.4	72.7	69.7
TiO <sub>2</sub>	1.02	0.532	0.463	0.29	0.28	0.31	0.67	0.43	0.23	0.21	0.25
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	16.21	15.34	15.72	15.25	14.9	15.4	15	15.3	13.55	14.15	14.45
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	5.04	4.15	3.35	2.54	3.1	2.98	4.15	3.34	1.28	1.22	2.39
MnO	0.91	0.052	0.055	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.07
MgO	2.1	2.24	1.67	0.86	0.79	1.01	1.6	1.2	0.23	0.34	0.64
CaO	1.84	3.12	1.84	3.03	2.5	1.17	3.39	2.43	1.3	2.09	1.26
Na <sub>2</sub> O	5.88	4.34	4.34	4.15	4.35	4.02	3.85	4.43	3.89	3.74	4.12
K <sub>2</sub> O	2.73	2.91	3.73	2.75	2.69	2.77	2.03	2.69	3.45	3.16	3.95
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.23	0.22	0.22	0.13	0.12	0.16	0.21	0.22	0.06	0.08	0.13
LOI (wt %)	1.21	0.89	1.2	1.1	0.6	3.13	1.59	2.19	1.55	1.39	1.75
V (ppm)	19	110	91	43	43	48	53	68	30	29	35
Cr	10	50	40	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Co	2	9	9	5.1	5.1	6.4	5.8	6.5	0.8	0.7	4.5
Ni	5	30	20	6	7	7	8	7	5	5	6
Cu	44	1340	1330	51	21	40	70	197	46	31	11
Zn	20	40	50	39	46	39	29	30	13	13	68
Rb	79.7	45	72	66.5	52.3	63.3	94.6	80	73.2	55.1	78.9
Sr	337	549	585	644	660	465	574	782	621	639	605
Y	5.6	9.9	8.6	6.9	5.1	5.5	5.6	6	5	3.6	6
Zr	70	119	104	100	100	100	110	110	90	80	120
Nb	5.7	3.2	3.5	6.1	3.6	4.4	3.9	4.4	6.3	4.4	4.7
Ta	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.3
Ba	280	1000	1169	674	662	652	580	681	673	665	898
Hf	2.7	2.7	2.1	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.9	3	2.7	2.5	3.1
Cs	1.99	9	8	1.41	2.36	1.56	22.6	2.91	2.74	2.86	3.37
Ga	18.2	17	18	17.5	17.9	18.3	19.3	19.8	15.7	17.8	18.3
La	8.3	18.3	20.3	14.6	11.9	12.4	17.8	16.6	11.3	12.2	18.4
Ce	15.8	38.8	37.4	27.4	22.9	25.1	32.2	32.9	22	22.8	34.5
Pr	1.87	4.59	4.27	3.12	2.68	2.89	3.63	3.82	2.52	2.47	3.89
Nd	6.9	17.6	16	11.6	10	11.1	13.6	14.2	9.5	8.7	14.7
Sm	1.23	3.45	3.1	2.11	1.9	1.99	2.42	2.46	1.71	1.51	2.66
Eu	0.31	0.947	0.889	0.58	0.49	0.53	0.71	0.67	0.42	0.43	0.74
Gd	1.02	2.69	2.28	1.62	1.31	1.46	1.66	1.79	1.15	0.96	1.83
Tb	0.15	0.36	0.33	0.23	0.19	0.2	0.22	0.24	0.16	0.14	0.24
Dy	0.86	1.81	1.65	1.24	0.95	1.03	1.08	1.21	0.86	0.68	1.23
Ho	0.17	0.34	0.29	0.25	0.19	0.2	0.21	0.22	0.17	0.13	0.23
Er	0.54	0.98	0.84	0.66	0.5	0.55	0.52	0.57	0.51	0.34	0.56
Tm	0.09	0.139	0.127	0.11	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.07	0.05	0.08
Yb	0.62	0.92	0.78	0.7	0.48	0.52	0.49	0.53	0.51	0.4	0.49
Lu	0.11	0.137	0.11	0.11	0.08	0.08	0.09	0.08	0.09	0.07	0.08
U	1.95	2.41	1.7	2.11	1.6	1.63	1.44	1.48	1.37	1.55	1.54
Th	6.46	5.03	3.57	4.74	2.96	2.97	3.1	3.05	4.2	4.31	4.86
Pb	13	13	11	12	12	13	14	13	18	14	24
Mo	2	242	151	201	154	197	177	212	181	127	2
W	9	1.3	2.2	1	1	2	6	7	6	3	1
Sn (ppm)	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1

**Appendix 1.** Samples included in this study with drillhole ID, depth, lithology, orebody, and analyses carried out

Nº	Sample ID	Drillhole	Depth, m	Lithology	Location
<b>U-Pb geochronology (China)</b>					
1	ZM113	ZMD-113	150	Quartz monzonite	Out of ore zone
2	ZM02	ZMD-29	182.1	Granodiorite, 99° 13' 49.7", 43° 59' 40.0"	North zone
<b>Re-Os Mo geochronology (China)</b>					
1	ZMD-10	ZMD-10	352	Molybdenite in quartz vein within quartz monzonite	Stockwork zone
<b>Rock petrography</b>					
1	ZMD16 (182)	ZMD-16	182	Granodiorite	North zone
2	ZM02	ZMD-29	182.1	Granodiorite, 99° 13' 49.7", 43° 59' 40.0"	North zone
3	ZMD39 (112)	ZMD-39	112	Granodiorite	North zone
4	ZMD12 (204.5)	ZMD-12	204.5	Quartz monzonite with quartz vein and mafic enclave	South zone
5	ZMD05 (350.5-350.6)	ZMD-05	350.5-350.6	Biotite granite	Stockwork zone
6	KKMD03 (299.4)	KKMD03	299.4	Quartz monzonite cut by quartz vein	Stockwork zone
7	ZM113	ZMD-113	150	Quartz monzonite	Out of ore zone
8	FS-48	Field sample		Granodiorite	Out of ore zone
9	FS-56	Field sample		Granodiorite	Out of ore zone
10	FS-55	Field sample		Biotite granite	Out of ore zone
<b>Ore mineralogy</b>					
1	ZMD16 (182)	ZMD-16	182	Granodiorite	North zone
2	ZM02	ZMD-29	182.1	Granodiorite, 99° 13' 49.7", 43° 59' 40.0"	North zone
3	ZMD16 (184.5)	ZMD-16	184.5	Granodiorite	North zone
4	ZMD12 (204.5)	ZMD-12	204.5	Quartz monzonite with quartz vein and mafic enclave	South zone
5	ZMD12 (202.5)	ZMD-12	202.5	Biotite granite	South zone
6	ZMD12 (212.5)	ZMD-12	212.5	Potassic altered quartz monzonite	South zone
7	KKMD03 (299.4)	KKMD-03	299.4	Quartz vein in quartz monzonite	Stockwork zone
8	ZMD10	ZMD-10	352	Vein hosted molybdenite in quartz monzonite	Stockwork zone
9	ZM113	ZMD-113	150	Quartz monzonite	Out of ore zone
<b>Major and Trace elements &amp; XRF (Akita University and Mongolia)</b>					
1	FS-48	Field sample		Granodiorite	Out of ore zone
2	FS-54	Field sample		Leucogranite	Out of ore zone
3	FS-55	Field sample		Leucogranite	Out of ore zone
4	FS-56	Field sample		Granodiorite	Out of ore zone
5	FS-59	Field sample		Biotite granite	Out of ore zone
6	FS-67	Field sample		Granodiorite	Out of ore zone
7	ZM113	ZMD-113	150	Quartz monzonite	Out of ore zone
8	ZMD82 177.5m	ZMD82	177.5	Granodiorite	North zone
9	ZM02	ZMD-29	182.1	Granodiorite, 99° 13' 49.7", 43° 59' 40.0"	North zone
10	ZMD16 (184.5)	ZMD-16	184.5	Quartz monzonite	North zone
11	ZMD12 (202.5)	ZMD-12	202.5	Biotite granite	South zone



**Fig. A2.** Binary plots illustrating affects of hydrothermal alterations. A. Na<sub>2</sub>O vs. LOI; B. K<sub>2</sub>O vs. LOI; C. CaO vs. LOI; D. MgO vs. LOI; E. Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> vs. LOI; F. Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> vs. LOI; G. Rb vs. LOI; H. Sr vs. LOI; I. Ba vs. LOI.

**Table A3-1. Blank measurements.**

Sample run	Sample ID	Re (ng)		Common Os (ng)		Os187 (ng)	
		Measured value	Uncertainty	Measured value	Uncertainty	Measured value	Uncertainty
060715-11	BK	0.00033	0.00031	0.00024	0.00005	0.00003	0.00002
060715-12	BK	0.00042	0.00055	0.00032	0.00005	0.00004	0.00005

**Table A3-2. Measurement on the Standard GBW04435 (HLP).**

Sample run	Sample ID	Re (ng/g)		Os187 (ng/g)		Model age (Ma)	
		Sample weight (g)	Measured value	Uncertainty	Measured value	Uncertainty	Measured value
060715-10	hlp	0.01	283809	2902	655	4	220
Accuracy			0.004		0.6		0.7

**Table A3-3. Certified values of the Standard (Stein et al., 1997)**

		Re ( $\mu$ g/g)		Os187 (ng/g)		Model age (Ma)	
		Measured value	Uncertainty	Measured value	Uncertainty	Measured value	Uncertainty
GBW04435 (HLP)		284	6	659	14	221	6

Appendix 4

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**Table A4.** Accuracy and precision calculations of the standard and duplicate measurements of whole-rock geochemical data.

Standard ID	AMISO167		Certified value	Average value	Deviation from certified value (%)	External precision (2σ %)	OREAS146		Certified value	Average value	Deviation from certified value (%)	External precision (2σ %)	SY-4		Certified value	Average value	Deviation from certified value (%)	External precision (2σ %)	ZMD-10				Average value	Exten precis: (2σ %)
	Lower	Upper					Lower	Upper					Lower	Upper					Measured	Duplicate	Lower	Upper		
SiO <sub>2</sub> %	86.9	96	91.7	91.45	0	14			47.4	52.4	51.8	50	4	14			73	73.3	71.3	75	73.2	4		
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.13	0.17	0.14	0.15	7	38			0.26	0.31	0.28	0	2	25			0.45	0.47	0.44	0.48	0.5	8		
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	2.29	2.55	2.37	2.42	2	15			19.65	21.7	20.2	21	2	14			13.95	14	13.6	14.35	14.0	4		
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	3.27	3.63	3.46	3.45	0	15			5.89	6.53	6.05	6	3	15			1.41	1.42	1.37	1.46	1.4	5		
MnO	0.01	0.04	0.02	0.025	25	170			0.09	0.13	0.11	0	0	51			0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.0	80		
MgO	0.22	0.26	0.22	0.24	9	24			0.47	0.54	0.49	1	3	20			0.12	0.12	0.11	0.13	0.1	14		
CaO	0.11	0.15	0.12	0.13	8	44			7.64	8.46	7.75	8	4	14			0.71	0.72	0.69	0.74	0.7	6		
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.07	0.11	0.08	0.09	13	63			6.74	7.47	7.08	7	0	15			3.62	3.64	3.53	3.73	3.6	5		
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.47	0.54	0.47	0.505	7	20			1.57	1.75	1.63	2	2	15			4.41	4.42	4.29	4.54	4.4	5		
P2O <sub>5</sub>	0.01	0.05	0.03	0.03	0	189			0.11	0.15	0.13	0	0	44			0.11	0.1	0.09	0.12	0.1	25		
V ppm							140	182	163	161	1	37	5	18	6	12	92	160	40	39	33	46	39.5	27
Cr							180	240	190	210	11	40	10	30	10	20	100	141	10	10	10	20	12.5	80
Co							30	37.8	31.3	33.9	8	33	1.7	3.9	2.4	3	17	111	1.8	1.8	1.2	2.4	1.8	54
Ni							68	96	70	82	17	48	5	19	7	12	71	165	5	5	5	10	6.3	80
Cu							25	49	33	37	12	92	5	17	8	11	38	154	224	222	207	239	223.0	12
Zn							1230	1510	1410	1370	3	29	78	108	100	93	7	46	30	28	23	35	29.0	34
Rb							24.6	30.6	27.9	27.6	1	31	49.3	60.7	58.4	55	6	29	110	109	104	115	109.5	8
Sr							2790	3410	3310	3100	6	28	1070	1310	1255	1190	5	29	852	851	809	894	851.5	8
Y							814	996	954	905	5	28	106.5	131.5	117.5	119	1	30	17.3	16.9	15.7	18.5	17.1	14
Zr							180	280	230	230	0	61	460	610	600	535	11	40	250	240	210	280	245.0	24
Nb							349	427	408	388	5	28	11.5	14.5	13.8	13	6	33	14.1	15	13.6	15.5	14.6	12
Ta							3.8	4.8	4.4	4.3	2	33	0.7	1.1	0.9	1	0	63	1	1	0.9	1.2	1.0	25
Ba							10000	11450	10000	10725	7	19	306	375	328	341	4	29	634	629	599	664	631.5	8
Hf							4.6	6	5.1	5.3	4	37	9.3	11.9	11.6	11	9	35	6.9	6.6	6.2	7.3	6.8	14
Cs							0.47	0.59	0.54	0.53	2	32	1.34	1.66	1.59	2	6	30	2.97	2.92	2.79	3.1	2.9	9
Ga							26.2	32.2	23.4	29.2	25	29	31.4	38.6	38.5	35	9	29	18.9	19	17.9	20	19.0	9
La							2260	2760	2590	2510	3	28	51.7	64.3	57.3	58	1	31	15.8	15.9	14.6	17.1	15.9	13
Ce							4220	5160	4850	4690	3	28	109.5	134.5	119	122	3	29	31.6	31.8	29.6	33.8	31.7	11
Pr							493	603	579	548	5	28	13.45	16.55	15.05	15	0	29	3.92	4	3.73	4.19	4.0	10
Nd							1965	2400	2330	2182.5	6	28	51.2	62.8	59.8	57	5	29	14.7	15.1	14.1	15.7	14.9	9
Sm							397	485	463	441	5	28	11.4	14	13.5	13	6	29	3.04	3.12	2.9	3.26	3.1	10
Eu							114.5	139.5	124.5	127	2	28	1.77	2.23	2	2	0	33	0.64	0.64	0.58	0.7	0.6	15
Gd							323	395	335	359	7	28	12.55	15.45	14.25	14	2	29	2.55	2.51	2.35	2.71	2.5	12
Tb							42.5	51.9	45.6	47.2	4	28	2.33	2.87	2.71	3	4	29	0.45	0.45	0.42	0.48	0.5	11
Dy							202	246	216	224	4	28	16.35	20.1	18.45	18	1	29	2.93	2.87	2.71	3.1	2.9	11
Ho							33.1	40.5	36.8	36.8	0	28	3.86	4.74	4.61	4	7	29	0.66	0.65	0.61	0.7	0.7	11
Er							78.3	95.7	80.9	87	8	28	12.75	15.65	14.45	14	2	29	1.97	1.94	1.83	2.08	2.0	11
Tm							8.9	10.9	9.55	9.9	4	29	2.06	2.54	2.31	2	0	30	0.32	0.31	0.29	0.34	0.3	13
Yb							48.1	58.9	50	53.5	7	29	13.3	16.3	14.95	15	1	29	2.21	2.18	2.06	2.33	2.2	10
Lu							5.66	6.94	6.32	6.3	0	29	1.88	2.32	2.19	2	4	30	0.37	0.35	0.33	0.39	0.4	14
U							2.37	3.01	2.69	2.69	0	34	0.66	0.94	0.78	1	3	49	4.74	4.84	4.5	5.08	4.8	10
Tb							813	993	966	903	7	28	1.21	1.59	1.18	1	19	38	7.46	7.73	7.15	8.01	7.6	10
Pb							607	753	711	680	4	30	5	21	10	13	30	174	22	22	16	28	22.0	45
Mo							52	68	62	60	3	38	2	6	2	4	100	141	11	11	8	14	11.0	45
W							22	30	30	26	13	44	1	3	1	2	100	141	13	13	11	15	13.0	25
Sn							40	52	47	46	2	37	6	10	8	8	0	71	4	4	3	5	4.0	41

Declaration of interest

The authors of this research manuscript declare that there is no financial and/or personal interest, conflict of interest, or competing interest.

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