

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19

**Revision 3**

**Experimental study of the formation of chalcopyrite and bornite via the sulfidation  
of hematite:  
mineral replacements with a large volume increase.**

Jing Zhao<sup>1,2</sup> Joël Brugger<sup>1</sup>, Guorong Chen<sup>3</sup>, Yung Ngothai<sup>2</sup> and Allan Pring<sup>1,4\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Mineralogy, South Australian Museum, North Terrace, Adelaide,  
SA 5000, Australia

<sup>2</sup>School of Chemical Engineering, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, SA 5005, Australia

<sup>3</sup>Key Laboratory for Ultrafine Materials of Ministry of Education, School of Materials Science  
and Engineering, East China University of Science and Technology,  
Shanghai 200237, China

<sup>4</sup>School of Chemistry and Physics, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, SA 5005, Australia

\*Corresponding author: [allan.pring@samuseum.sa.gov.au](mailto:allan.pring@samuseum.sa.gov.au)

## 20 **Abstract**

21 Chalcopyrite ( $\text{CuFeS}_2$ ) and bornite ( $\text{Cu}_5\text{FeS}_4$ ) are the most abundant Cu-bearing minerals in  
22 hydrothermal Cu deposits, forming under a wide range of conditions from moderate temperature  
23 sedimentary exhalative deposits to high temperature porphyry Cu and skarn deposits. We report  
24 the hydrothermal synthesis of both chalcopyrite and bornite at 200-300 °C under hydrothermal  
25 conditions. Both minerals formed via the sulfidation of hematite in solutions containing Cu(I) (as  
26 a chloride complex) and hydrosulfide, at pH near the  $\text{pK}_a$  of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}(\text{aq})$  over the whole temperature  
27 range. Polycrystalline chalcopyrite formed first, followed by bornite.

28 Assuming that Fe behaves conservatively, the transformation of hematite to chalcopyrite involves  
29 a large increase in volume (~290%). The reaction proceeds both via direct replacement of the  
30 existing hematite and via overgrowth around the grain. Chemical exchanges between bulk  
31 solution and hematite are enabled by a network of  $\mu\text{m}$ -size pores. However, in some cases the  
32 chalcopyrite overgrowth develops large grain sizes with few apparent pores and in these cases  
33 fluid transport may have been via a network of fractures. Similarly to the replacement of hematite  
34 by chalcopyrite, bornite forms via the replacement of chalcopyrite. The reaction has a large  
35 positive volume (~230%), and proceeds both via chalcopyrite replacement and via overgrowth.

36 This study shows that replacement reactions can proceed via coupled dissolution-reprecipitation  
37 even where there is a large volume increase between parent and product mineral. This study also  
38 provides further evidence about the controls of reaction pathways onto the final mineral  
39 assemblage. In this case, the host initial fluid was under saturated with respect to Fe-bearing  
40 minerals. Upon slow release of Fe at the surface of hematite, a mineral assemblage of chalcocite,  
41 bornite, and finally chalcopyrite is expected. However, in practice chalcocite did not nucleate on  
42 the surface of hematite. Rather relatively slow nucleation of bornite enabled high concentrations  
43 of Fe to build up near the dissolving hematite, so that chalcopyrite (high sulfidation experiments)  
44 or chalcopyrite+pyrite (low sulfidation) crystallized first.

45

46

47 *Keywords: hematite, chalcopyrite, bornite, mineral replacement, hydrothermal experiment.*

48

## 49 **Introduction**

50 Chalcopyrite and bornite are the most abundant Cu-bearing sulfides and are the primary  
51 Cu minerals in a wide range of ore deposits from moderate temperature sedimentary  
52 exhalative (SEDEX) deposits, through Fe oxide Cu gold (IOCG) deposits, to high  
53 temperature porphyry Cu deposits and skarns (Robb 2005). Whatever the ore deposit  
54 type, chalcopyrite and bornite are essentially hydrothermal minerals, formed from Cu-  
55 rich saline hydrothermal fluids. Much of our knowledge of the phase relations in the Cu-  
56 Fe-S system is based on experimental studies undertaken using the classic dry sealed tube  
57 technique, which serve to inform our understanding of subsolidus processes, but may not  
58 provide an accurate view of controls on mineral formation under hydrothermal conditions  
59 (see Fleet 2006, Vaughan and Craig 1978).

60 There have been very few experimental studies on chalcopyrite or bornite formation  
61 under hydrothermal conditions relevant for ore formation. Barnard and Christopher  
62 (1966 a,b) recrystallized crushed chalcopyrite grains in pure water and in Cl-rich  
63 solutions at temperatures between 400 and 500 °C, and observed that chalcopyrite  
64 recrystallized in Cl-rich solutions but not in pure water. This result is consistent with the  
65 poor stability of the Cu(I) aqua ion in aqueous solutions (disproportionation to Cu(II) and  
66 Cu(0)), and the importance of Cl-complexing for the transport of Cu(I) in hydrothermal  
67 solutions (Brugger et al. 2007; Etschmann et al. 2010). Kojima and Sugaki (1985) studied  
68 the phase relations in the Cu-Fe-Zn-S system between 300 and 500 °C under  
69 hydrothermal conditions by the recrystallization of chalcopyrite, bornite, and other  
70 sulfides in a 5 *m* NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution. These authors did not report the direct synthesis of  
71 chalcopyrite or bornite hydrothermally. Seyfried and Ding (1993) conducted a series of  
72 experiments to investigate the effects of redox, temperature and fluid chemistry on the  
73 solubility of Cu- and Fe-bearing sulfide minerals in Na-K-Cl aqueous fluids in relation to  
74 sub-seafloor hydrothermal systems. But again, they used chalcopyrite as a starting  
75 material rather than studying its formation. Hu et al. (1999) synthesized chalcopyrite  
76 nanoparticles by dissolving CuCl(s), FeCl<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O(s), and (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>S(s) in aqueous solutions  
77 in autoclaves at 200-250 °C for 3 hrs. The resulting chalcopyrite took the form of  
78 nanorods typically 20-40 nm in diameter and up to several μm in length. Wang et al.

79 (2009) used a similar method but let the reaction run for 24 hrs to make chalcopyrite  
80 nanowires of slightly wider diameter and greater length. Neither of these direct synthesis  
81 methods yielded euhedral chalcopyrite typical of that found in nature.

82 Recently we have used dissolution-precipitation reactions to synthesize, and study the  
83 formation of, a range of important sulfide ore minerals including pyrite (Qian et al. 2010,  
84 2013), violarite (Tenailleau et al. 2006, Xia et al. 2008, 2009a, Brugger et al. 2010), and  
85 marcasite (Qian et al. 2011). Chalcopyrite is principally a hydrothermal mineral, and  
86 forms in some cases in open cavities (veins), and in other cases as a replacement of  
87 preexisting minerals. The replacement of hematite by chalcopyrite has been reported  
88 from a number of different ore-forming environments, including Kupferschiefer type  
89 deposits (Kucha and Pawlikowski 1986) and IOCG deposits (Kiruna type; Edfelt et al.  
90 2005). We undertook to study the formation of chalcopyrite by the replacement of  
91 hematite and magnetite under hydrothermal conditions up to 300 °C under vapor-  
92 saturated pressures.

## 93 **Samples and methods**

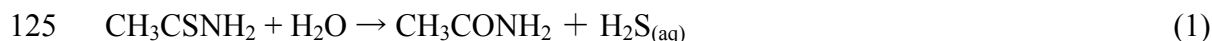
### 94 ***Hematite and magnetite sources***

95 Natural micaceous hematite (SA Museum sample G6983) from Cumberland, England  
96 was used throughout this study. To investigate the effects of the form and nature of the  
97 Fe oxide source on the transformation, needle-shape kidney ore hematite (SA Museum  
98 sample G1603) from Cumberland, England and natural magnetite crystals from the Mt.  
99 Isa area, Queensland (SA Museum sample G8146) were used in addition to micaceous  
100 hematite. The identification of the minerals was confirmed by powder X-ray diffraction  
101 and their chemical purity was determined by electron probe microanalysis (EMP) using a  
102 Cameca SX-51 instrument (20 kV, 20 nA) at Adelaide Microscopy, University of  
103 Adelaide. The following standards were used: Fe ( $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ ) and ( $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$ ); Si, Al and Mg  
104 ( $\text{Mg}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_4)_3$ ); P ( $\text{Ca}_5(\text{PO}_4)_3\text{F}$ ); Mn ( $\text{MnSiO}_3$ ) and V (V metal). Details of the  
105 compositions of the parent minerals are given in the Table 1. Crystals were washed in an  
106 ultrasonic bath, ground, and sieved into a 125 to 150  $\mu\text{m}$  size fraction.



## 107 ***Preparation of solutions and chemicals***

108 Buffer solutions (including acetate, phosphate, and borate) ranging from  $\text{pH}_{25^\circ\text{C}} 3-11$  were  
109 used as background solutions throughout this study at 1 m or 0.2 m concentrations (the  
110 solution compositions are listed in the Table 2). The buffer solutions were prepared using  
111 boiled high purity water (conductivity of  $18 \text{ M}\Omega \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; Direct - Q3 system, Millipore  
112 corp.) in an argon-filled anoxic glove box at room temperature ( $\sim 25^\circ\text{C}$ ), which aims to  
113 remove the dissolved  $\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{CO}_2$ . Sodium chloride (1 molal; m) was added into each  
114 solution to prevent Cu (I) from devolving into Cu (II) and Cu (0) (Brugger et al. 2007).  
115 The pH values of solutions at room temperature were measured before experiments. The  
116 pH values at reaction temperatures (Table 3) were calculated using the HCh geochemical  
117 modeling software (Shvarov and Bastrakov 1999), assuming full dissociation of  
118 thioacetamide into  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ . All chemical reagents used in the experiments were analytical  
119 grade, including copper(I) chloride which was provided by Hopkin and Williams Ltd. and  
120 thioacetamide supplied by Scharlau Chemie SA. Copper (I) chloride was purified before  
121 experiments using the procedure of Keller and Wycoff (1946) to remove any Cu(II)  
122 impurities. Thioacetamide was used as a source of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ . Thioacetamide is added as a  
123 poorly soluble solid at room temperature, and it breaks down above  $100^\circ\text{C}$ , liberating  
124  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  (Qian et al. 2011):



## 126 ***Hydrothermal experiments***

127 Experiments were undertaken under both low and high S conditions ( $S_{\text{tot}} = 0.05$  and  
128  $0.5$  molal, respectively). During the reaction, the pH in the high S conditions was  
129 buffered by  $\text{H}_2\text{S}(\text{aq})/\text{HS}^-$ . Small amounts of acetate, phosphate and borate anions ( $0.2$  m)  
130 were added to better constrain the pH, by controlling the  $\text{H}_2\text{S}(\text{aq})/\text{HS}^-$  ratio. The different  
131 buffers used also enabled the monitoring of the reproducibility and of the potential effects  
132 of the buffer components on the reaction progress. To study the effect of pH on the  
133 reaction, low S experiments were conducted using 1 m buffer solutions ranging from  
134  $\text{pH}_{25^\circ\text{C}} 4-10$ .

135 For all runs, the solids (Fe oxide, CuCl(s) and thioacetamide) were accurately weighed  
136 into titanium autoclaves with an 8 mL internal volume. Then 5 mL of background buffer  
137 solution was added into the autoclave within an argon-filled anoxic glove box. The sealed  
138 autoclaves were removed from the glove box and placed in pre-heated electric furnaces  
139 (at temperature up to 300 °C; temperature regulation precision of  $\pm 2$  °C) for the required  
140 reaction time (up to 360 hrs). At the end of experiments, the autoclaves were quenched  
141 to room temperature in a large volume of cold water (~10 L). The reacted fluid was  
142 collected and the pH value of solution was measured after reaction. Solids were rinsed  
143 three times with Milli-Q water and then three times with acetone before drying. Results  
144 from leaking runs were not used. During the experiments, the pressures in the autoclaves  
145 are autogenous (~86 bar at 300 °C).

146 To explore the effect of temperature on the reaction mechanism and the kinetics, a series  
147 of experimental high S runs (0.5 m S) were carried out at temperatures of 200-300 °C,  
148 using 0.2 m buffer solutions as background solutions. Reaction time ranged from 20 to  
149 360 hrs and the ratio between the weight of micaceous hematite and the background  
150 solution volume was fixed at 1.25 g/L. For each run, 10 mg of micaceous hematite  
151 (SAM G6983), 12.5 mg CuCl(s), and 189 mg thioacetamide were loaded into the  
152 autoclaves. In these experiments the pH is buffered primarily by S. The pH<sub>25°C</sub> values  
153 measured, after quenching, were 5.50, 5.60 and 5.96 for background solutions A5, P7,  
154 and B10, respectively.

155 The needle hematite experiments were run at 250 °C for 140 hrs, using 0.2 m background  
156 solutions P3 and A5. The amount of hematite, CuCl, and thioacetamide were 10 mg,  
157 12.5 mg and 189 mg, respectively. In addition, magnetite experiments were run at  
158 300 °C for 140 hrs, using 0.2 m background solutions A5, P7, B10 and P11. The amount  
159 of magnetite, CuCl, and thioacetamide were 10, 12.8, and 194 mg, respectively.

160 For the series of low sulfidation experiments, the amount of S was reduced by an order of  
161 magnitude (18.9 mg thioacetamide; ~0.05 m S), and a more concentrated buffer (1 m)  
162 solution was used. Hence, the pH during these experiments was controlled by the buffer,  
163 rather than by S. The low sulfidation experiments were conducted at 300 °C for 90 hrs in

164 a number of different buffer solutions, to allow direct comparison of the nature of the  
165 products and reaction extents as a function of pH.

### 166 ***Analysis methodology***

167 The identification of the minerals and quantitative phase analysis was undertaken using  
168 room-temperature powder X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns collected using a Huber  
169 Guinier Image Plate G670 with  $\text{CoK}_{\alpha 1}$  radiation ( $\lambda = 1.78892 \text{ \AA}$ ). Diffraction data in the  
170  $2\theta$  range from  $20$  to  $80^\circ$  was collected. The extent of the transformation was determined  
171 by Rietveld quantitative phase analysis (QPA) of powder X-ray diffraction data (Rietveld  
172 1969) using the program Topas (Bruker AXS 2009). A Pseudo-Voigt function and 6<sup>th</sup>  
173 order Chebychev polynomial were used to model the peak shapes and the background,  
174 respectively. The zero shift and scale factors (S) were refined. Crystal structural data of  
175 minerals for QPA and EBSD were taken from the ICSD database (hematite #82902;  
176 chalcopyrite #94554; bornite #24174; magnetite #31157; pyrite #15012; pyrrhotite  
177 #9146).

178 Characterization of the morphological and textural features of reacted was undertaken  
179 using a Philips XL30 field emission scanning electron microscope (FESEM) at Adelaide  
180 Microscopy, University of Adelaide. The composition of products from selected  
181 experiments was determined by electron probe microanalysis in WDS mode using a  
182 Cameca SX-51 instrument at Adelaide Microscopy, University of Adelaide, operated at  
183 an accelerating voltage of 20 kV and a beam current of 20 nA. The following standard  
184 was used: Cu Fe and S ( $\text{CuFeS}_2$ ). Electron backscatter diffraction (EBSD) analyses were  
185 performed using an EDAX-TSL EBSD system fitted to a FEI Helios NanoLab DualBeam  
186 FIB/SEM platform at Adelaide Microscopy.

## 187 **Results**

### 188 ***Conditions of chalcopyrite and bornite formation***

189 We conducted experiments at two different sulfidation levels. To investigate the effect of  
190 pH on the reaction products, a series of experiments were conducted at  $300^\circ\text{C}$  under low

191 sulfidation conditions (0.05 m H<sub>2</sub>S) in background solutions consisting of 1 m acetate or  
192 borate buffers, and 1 m NaCl (Table 3). These low S experiments (runs L1-L7; Table 3)  
193 show that hematite was replaced by chalcopyrite under acidic to slightly basic conditions  
194 (pH<sub>300°C</sub> 4.59 to 6.06); small amounts of Fe sulfides (pyrite or pyrrhotite) were also  
195 formed under these conditions. In contrast, hematite transformed to magnetite under  
196 basic conditions (pH<sub>300°C</sub> 7.50 to 9.16). For example, around 54% (weight percentage) of  
197 hematite was replaced by chalcopyrite (26%) and pyrite (28%) at pH<sub>300°C</sub> 4.59 after 90 hrs  
198 reaction (Run No. L1), while hematite was totally replaced by magnetite at pH<sub>300°C</sub> 9.16  
199 under similar conditions (L7). Bornite was observed only in the run at pH<sub>300°C</sub> 6.06.

200 The high sulfidation experiments contained an equivalent of 0.5 m H<sub>2</sub>S. In those  
201 experiments, high concentrations of buffer would be required to fix pH beyond the  
202 H<sub>2</sub>S(aq)/HS<sup>-</sup> buffer. Hence, all reactions at high sulfidation were conducted near the  
203 pK<sub>a</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>S(aq)). The background solutions contained 1 m NaCl as well as ~0.2 m of  
204 different buffer solutions, aimed at defining the H<sub>2</sub>S(aq)/HS<sup>-</sup> ratio and testing the effect of  
205 background solution on the reaction. Over the course of the reactions, the solutions  
206 changed from clear to a black suspension (thought to be Cu<sub>2</sub>S) resulting from the reaction  
207 of Cu(I) with the H<sub>2</sub>S<sub>(aq)</sub>, and then cleared as the reaction proceeded. For example, the  
208 solution from experiment B27 (300 °C for 20 hrs; Table 3) was a dark suspension, while  
209 those at the same temperature after 140 hrs (B29) or longer were clear with only a few  
210 H<sub>2</sub>S bubbles.

211 For the high sulfidation experiments, XRD analyses confirms that hematite has been  
212 replaced by chalcopyrite and bornite under hydrothermal conditions over the temperature  
213 range of 200 to 300 °C. No reaction was observed after 360 hrs at 150 °C. The  
214 proportion of the products shows a first order dependence on the reaction conditions. For  
215 example, after 140 hrs reaction in background solution A5 at 250 °C (Run No. B15),  
216 around 40% (weight percentage) of hematite has been replaced by chalcopyrite (29%)  
217 and bornite (11%). As the temperature increased to 275 °C (B26), the extent of  
218 transformation increased to 61%, including 37% of chalcopyrite and 24% of bornite.

219 The precipitation of bornite was only observed at temperatures > 200 °C when more than  
220 35% of the hematite had been converted to chalcopyrite. At 200 °C, no bornite was

221 observed even when 27% of the hematite had been replaced by chalcopyrite (B3). The  
222 percentages of bornite are normally less than 30%, depending on the total reaction time.  
223 In some cases, we also observed a decrease in the amount of bornite over the duration of  
224 the reaction. For example, experiments undertaken in background solution A5 at 300 °C  
225 for 20 to 360 hrs (B27-B31) show that the percentage of bornite increases from 16% to  
226 27% over the first 50 hrs of the reaction, and then decreases to zero for the 360 hrs run.  
227 The proportions of product phases are shown as pie charts in Figure 1.

## 228 ***Products and textures***

229 After reaction, the grain size increased significantly compared to that of the hematite.  
230 The micaceous hematite flakes were replaced by golden yellow grains of chalcopyrite  
231 and sometimes admixed with a small number of purple grey grains of bornite. The  
232 micaceous hematite grains are characterized by sharp-edges and smooth surface before  
233 reactions. After 140 h reaction at 300 °C, the product particles were considerably  
234 enlarged with round edges (Fig. 2a). The surface of the golden yellow grains was covered  
235 by tetrahedral crystals of chalcopyrite reaching sizes up to 2 μm across (Fig. 2b). The  
236 average compositions of chalcopyrite (24 points) and bornite (17 points) are  
237  $\text{Cu}_{1.03(3)}\text{Fe}_{1.04(5)}\text{S}_{1.93(5)}$  and  $\text{Cu}_{5.24(9)}\text{Fe}_{0.92(8)}\text{S}_{3.84(7)}$ , respectively (Table 4). The bornite  
238 composition at  $\text{Bn}_{90}\text{Dg}_{10}$  falls on the bornite-digenite solid solution join. Although many  
239 bornites in nature have a near-stoichiometric composition ( $\text{Cu}_5\text{FeS}_4$ ), Cu-rich  
240 compositions such as that in our experiments are only reported from a few deposits, such  
241 as the granite-associated Cu-Ag-(Au)-Mo veins at Moberg, Telemark, Norway (Cook et  
242 al. 2011).

243 Back-scattered electron images of cross sections of grains show that the replacement  
244 process initiates at the outer surface of the original hematite grains and along cracks  
245 within the grains (Fig. 2c). Small gaps (< 1 μm) and cracks commonly appear at the  
246 reaction interface between chalcopyrite and hematite. Figure 2d shows two hematite  
247 grains that were wrapped together by the chalcopyrite layer resulting in an enlarged grain.  
248 Layering defined by differences in the size and density of pores is commonly observed  
249 within the chalcopyrite. For example chalcopyrite in the grain shown in Figure 2c  
250 contains only a few fine visible pores in the inner part adjacent to the hematite core,

251 while in the outer zone, corresponding to an overgrowth, the pores are more numerous  
252 and on a scale of 1 to 2  $\mu\text{m}$ . The EBSD analyses show that the chalcopyrite rim is  
253 polycrystalline (Fig. 3). No crystallographic relationship between the chalcopyrite and the  
254 hematite substrate could be established.

255 In contrast to chalcopyrite, the surface of the bornite grains is quite rough (Fig. 4a),  
256 showing a complex growth of pyramidal and stepped cube faces (Fig. 4b). The cross-  
257 section images of many bornite grains (e.g., Fig. 4c) reveal three layers: an outer layer of  
258 bornite (light grey), a middle layer of chalcopyrite (grey), and hematite at the core (dark  
259 grey). The reaction interfaces between chalcopyrite and hematite and between  
260 chalcopyrite and bornite can be sharp, but locally display a higher density of pores and  
261 cracks (Figs. 4c-e). Both the chalcopyrite and bornite are porous with the pore size in  
262 bornite the coarser of the two. Bornite rims usually contain an inner porous zone and an  
263 outer zone with few pores (e.g., Fig. 4e). This outer zone shows evidence of idiomorphic  
264 bornite crystals growing into the solution. Figure 4f shows a section through a grain that  
265 has been mostly (possibly completely) replaced by bornite. The bornite displays an inner  
266 zone with high porosity and a porosity-free outer zone. The grain is also cut by a  
267 conjugate set of fractures.

### 268 ***Effect of the nature of the Fe source***

269 Experiments with needle-shaped crystals of hematite (G1603) rather than flakes (G6983)  
270 were run at 250 °C for 140 hrs in background solutions P3 and A5. X-ray diffraction  
271 patterns confirm that kidney ore hematite has been replaced by chalcopyrite and bornite  
272 under all studied conditions. Similar amounts of chalcopyrite (8% and 10%, respectively)  
273 replaced kidney hematite in background solutions P3 and A5 at 250 °C and over 140 hrs  
274 (K1-K2), while about 40% of micaceous hematite were replaced by chalcopyrite (29%)  
275 and bornite (11%) under the same reaction conditions (details shown in Table 5).

276 Magnetite was replaced by chalcopyrite and bornite in background solutions A5, P7, B10  
277 and P11 at 300 °C and over a 140 h reaction time (M1-M4). The XRD pattern of the  
278 parent magnetite (Appendix, Fig. A2b) shows that the starting mineral contains 19 wt%  
279 hematite. After reaction, only magnetite, chalcopyrite and bornite appear, indicating that

280 hematite is preferentially replaced by the Cu Fe sulfide minerals (Fig. 5b). The reaction  
281 extent (Table 5) for runs in background solutions A5, P7, B10 and P11 were 61%, 64%,  
282 69% and 62%, respectively. These results can be compared to experiments using  
283 micaceous hematite under the same conditions (64% for B29; 67% for B32; 72% for B33  
284 and 74% for B35, respectively) and show that the extent of reaction are equivalent in  
285 different background solutions given the statistical uncertainties with QPA.

### 286 ***Effect of background solution***

287 Experimental runs exploring the effects of background solution on the transformation of  
288 hematite to chalcopyrite were undertaken by measuring the extent of reaction under fixed  
289 conditions ( $T = 250\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $[\text{Cl}^-] = 1\text{ m}$ ) for solutions P3, A5, P7 and B10 (Table 3). The  
290 transformation occurs in all solutions used, and the plots of extent of reaction versus time  
291 show a consistent trend (Fig. 1a). BSE images and EDS analyses of samples from  
292 experiments using the phosphate buffer revealed a layer of Cu-Fe phosphate at the  
293 reaction front between hematite and chalcopyrite (Fig. 5). The amounts of Cu-Fe  
294 phosphate were, however, too small to be detected by powder XRD.

### 295 ***Effect of reaction temperature***

296 Experiments conducted at different temperatures but under otherwise similar conditions  
297 show that higher temperatures favor the replacement reaction. For example, as shown in  
298 Figure 1b, the extent reaction for solution A5 (runs B3, B9, B16, and B31) increases from  
299 27% to 83% as the temperature increases from 200 to 300  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Utilizing solution B10, the  
300 extent of runs B4, B10, B22, and B34 increases from 20% at 200  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  to 74% at 300  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ . It  
301 is important to note that the hydrolysis rate of thioacetamide to form  $\text{H}_2\text{S}(\text{aq})/\text{HS}^-$  was  
302 effectively constant over this temperature range (Qian et al. 2010), so that the above  
303 results truly reflect the effect of temperature on the replacement reaction rate.

304 Experiments performed from 20-360 hrs at temperatures ranging from 200 to 300  $^{\circ}\text{C}$   
305 using solution A5 further confirm that higher temperatures favor the replacement reaction.  
306 The reaction kinetic at different temperatures can be modeled using the Avrami equation:

$$307 \ln\{\ln[1/(1-y)]\} = n\ln(k) + n\ln(t) \quad (2)$$

308 where  $y$  is the reaction extent (disappearance of hematite or magnetite),  $t$  (s) is the  
309 reaction time,  $k$  ( $s^{-1}$ ) is the rate constant, and  $n$  (dimensionless) is a time exponent  
310 depending on the reaction mechanism (Avrami 1939, 1940, 1941; Christian 1965). If the  
311 activation energy does not change during the reaction, a plot of  $\ln\{\ln[1/(1-y)]\}$  vs.  $\ln(t)$   
312 yields a straight line from which the exponent  $n$  and the rate constant  $k$  can be determined  
313 (e.g., Wang et al. 2005a,b; Zhao et al. 2009). The results of experiments, conducted at  
314 different temperatures, are shown by the linear behavior on plots of  $\ln\{\ln[1/(1-y)]\}$  vs.  
315  $\ln(t)$  (Fig. 6). The calculated time exponents  $n$  and rate constants  $k$  for the temperature  
316 series are summarized in Table 6. Note that there is no noticeable change in the texture  
317 of the products with temperature, and the values of the time exponent  $n$  are all within  
318 error (95% confidence level; average  $n = 0.31(2)$ ).

## 319 **Discussion**

### 320 ***Reaction mechanism for the replacement of hematite by chalcopyrite***

321 The replacement of hematite by chalcopyrite under the hydrothermal conditions utilized  
322 in this study is a fluid-mediated process. Reaction textures in the form of a reaction front  
323 progressing along grain rims and along fractures within the grains; reaction interfaces  
324 varying from sharp with no visible gap to areas with gaps several  $\mu\text{m}$  wide; e.g., Figs. 2c,  
325 2d and 4d); and the sensitivity of the product to fluid parameters such as pH (low S  
326 experiments) are consistent with a dissolution-precipitation reaction mechanism (Putnis  
327 2009; Xia et al. 2009a,b).

328 The overall reaction of hematite transformation to chalcopyrite can be written as:



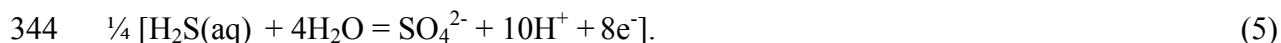
330 In dissolution-precipitation reactions, the kinetics of reaction and the reaction textures  
331 are controlled by the interplay between the dissolution and precipitation reactions. The  
332 dissolution of hematite results in aqueous Fe complexes entering the solutions. Fe(II) is  
333 the most stable form of Fe in hydrothermal solutions (Fein et al. 1992; Testemale et al.  
334 2009). Speciation calculations indicate that Fe solubility is low under our experimental  
335 conditions, due to the high S content ( $\sim 1$  ppb, as  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{FeCl}^+$ ,  $\text{FeCl}_2(\text{aq})$ , and  $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})^+$



336 complexes). These calculations assume that redox is controlled by S and that the  
337 equilibrium Fe(III) solubility (< 1 ppt) is controlled by Fe(OH)<sub>3</sub>(aq) and Fe(OH)<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>  
338 complexes. Reductive dissolution of hematite is an efficient process even at room  
339 temperature (Panas et al. 1996). Therefore it is likely that some Fe in solution in our  
340 experiment is reduced to Fe(II), resulting in the oxidation of some of the S. The  
341 reductive dissolution of hematite in our experiments can be written:



343 Reaction (3) is coupled with the oxidation of S, e.g.,



345 Note that reaction (5) is unlikely to represent the real process since intermediary S  
346 oxidation states, likely catalyzed at the mineral surfaces, may dominate the Fe reduction  
347 pathway. The dissolution rate depends (Lasaga 1998) on (i) the temperature; (ii) the  
348 activities of aqueous species acting as inhibiting or catalyzing agents, most prominently  
349 Fe<sup>2+</sup> (Panas et al. 1996); (iii) the reactive surface area of the hematite (Echigo et al.  
350 2012); and (iv) the undersaturation level of hematite (Hersman et al. 1995). The linear  
351 behavior of the Avrami plots (Fig. 6) indicates that the reaction rate is limited by the  
352 solubility of hematite through a porous product and that the reactions are not fluid  
353 transport limited. It is possible to calculate an activation energy from the above kinetic  
354 data using the Arrhenius equation, but this figure would not represent the E<sub>a</sub> of  
355 chalcopyrite formation but is rather related to the hematite dissolution.

356 The precipitation of chalcopyrite can be described by the reaction:



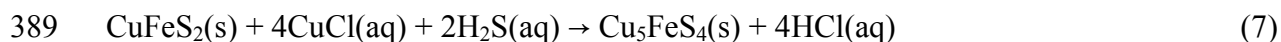
358 Reaction (6) is an oxidation reaction. The replacement of hematite by chalcopyrite may  
359 involve redox reactions even if this is not apparent in the overall reaction (3). In  
360 solutions where sulfide is the predominant S species, it is expected that Cu(I) will be the  
361 dominant oxidation state for Cu, in the form of hydrosulfide or chloride complexes  
362 (Brugger et al. 2007; Estchmann et al. 2010; Liu et al. 2001, 2005; Mountain and Seward  
363 1999, 2003; Xiao et al., 1998). Speciation calculations show that CuHS(aq) and  
364 Cu(HS)<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> are the predominant Cu complexes in the high S solutions at reaction

365 temperatures. According to equation (6), the rate of chalcopyrite precipitation may be  
366 affected by the concentration and speciation of the aqueous Cu, Fe, and S species. Since  
367 abundant Cu and S sources are present in solution, the concentration of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  complexes  
368 (controlled by the dissolution rate of hematite) is likely to exert a first order control on  
369 the rate of chalcopyrite precipitation.

370 The precipitation of chalcopyrite consumes Fe from the solution at the reaction front and  
371 further enhances the dissolution rate of hematite by releasing  $\text{H}^+$  (eq. 6). Thus the  
372 hematite dissolution and the chalcopyrite precipitation processes drive each other (eq. 4),  
373 and the supersaturation state of chalcopyrite in the fluid is maintained at the reaction front  
374 by continuous dissolution and reprecipitation. This process should continue until all the  
375 hematite is consumed. However for every volume dissolved,  $\sim 2.9$  times greater volume  
376 of chalcopyrite precipitates. This is clearly not possible at the reaction front. The fact  
377 that the reaction can progress to completion is related to the ability of the excess Fe to  
378 travel (most likely as a Fe(II) complex) to the outside of the grain, where it contributes to  
379 an overgrowth of chalcopyrite.

### 380 ***Reaction end-points: the roles of nucleation and growth***

381 The precipitation of chalcopyrite and bornite can be divided into two parts: (1) nucleation  
382 and (2) crystal growth. Bornite has not been noted to form at the reaction interface  
383 between hematite and chalcopyrite, but only on the outer surface of some of the  
384 chalcopyrite grains. Usually, only a small number of grains in each reaction batch  
385 contained bornite, the majority consisting of chalcopyrite over hematite. During the  
386 transformation of hematite to chalcopyrite, the chalcopyrite can further react with Cu and  
387 S in the solution to form bornite. The overall reaction for the formation of bornite from  
388 chalcopyrite can be written:



390 The importance of nucleation is illustrated by Figure 7, which shows that our  
391 experimental solutions were initially saturated with respect to chalcocite. Cu-sulfides  
392 indeed nucleate in solution (possibly mostly during quenching), but no evidence for

393 nucleation of Cu-sulfides on the surface of hematite was found. The dissolution of  
394 hematite progressively increases the concentration of Fe(II) aqueous species at the  
395 reaction front. With increasing concentration of Fe in the Cu-S bearing solution, bornite  
396 solubility is reached first (Fig. 7). Yet, the first phase to precipitate is chalcopyrite rather  
397 than bornite or chalcocite. This suggests that nucleation of both chalcocite and bornite at  
398 the reaction front is much more difficult than chalcopyrite, enabling the building up of Fe  
399 concentrations near the dissolving surface. Faster nucleation of chalcopyrite relative to  
400 bornite (even at lower saturation level) results in chalcopyrite usually forming first. As  
401 soon as a thin chalcopyrite rim forms, crystal growth rather than nucleation controls the  
402 system, and new chalcopyrite can be added to the substrate from both the hematite and  
403 solutions sides. This dissolution-reprecipitation process continues until all of the  
404 hematite has dissolved and most of the chalcopyrite has precipitated.

#### 405 ***Replacement reactions with large volume increases***

406 Pseudomorphic reactions proceed via *interface* coupled dissolution re-precipitation  
407 mechanisms, where the dissolution of the parent phase is coupled to the precipitation of  
408 the product phase at the reaction front (see Putnis 2009). The volume change associated  
409 with dissolution and precipitation reactions during mineral replacement is a critical factor  
410 for the advancement of the reaction. Contrary to solid-state reactions, the overall volume  
411 change of a replacement reaction is controlled not only by the molar volume of parent  
412 and product, but also by their solubility ratio within a given solution (Pollok et al. 2011).  
413 Because components can be provided by, or removed via the solution, coupled  
414 dissolution-reprecipitation reactions can show a large increase or decrease in molar  
415 volumes between parent and product. Pseudomorphic replacement via *interface* coupled  
416 dissolution-reprecipitation reactions have been previously observed for reactions with  
417 nominal volume changes varying from 0.21 to 1.6 (in Table 7).

418 The transformation reaction of hematite to chalcopyrite and bornite both have extremely  
419 large volume increases. Based on Fe conservation, the transformation of hematite into  
420 chalcopyrite is accompanied by a volume increase on the order of 290%, and the  
421 transformation of chalcopyrite to bornite by a volume increase of 226%. Such a large  
422 volume increase precludes pseudomorphic replacement except in the initial stages of the

423 reaction. The reactions in this study are similar to the reaction of magnetite dissolution  
424 and pyrite precipitation, which results in a volume increase of 65%, and proceeds via  
425 both replacement and overgrowth (Qian et al. 2010).

426 Chalcopyrite was not observed to nucleate and grow on the sides of the autoclaves, which  
427 is consistent with the fact that nucleation of chalcopyrite is difficult. For the replacement  
428 reaction to commence the dissolution of a small amount of hematite at the reaction front  
429 results in a fluid boundary layer that is supersaturated with respect to the chalcopyrite.  
430 This leads to heterogeneous nucleation (possibly catalyzed by the hematite surface) and  
431 subsequent growth of chalcopyrite from this solution layer. For the reaction to proceed  
432 following nucleation, solution transport from the hematite-chalcopyrite interface and the  
433 bulk solution must continue, as must the dissolution of hematite, since hematite is the  
434 only source of Fe in the system. Initially the chalcopyrite will nucleate and grow near the  
435 site of hematite dissolution, but as the reaction proceeds the large volume expansion  
436 produces increasing strain at the interface. This stress at the hematite surface propagates  
437 cracks in the hematite, which in turn facilitates nucleation and growth of chalcopyrite  
438 within these cracks (e.g., Fig. 2c). The volume increase associated with the precipitation  
439 of chalcopyrite forces the cracks apart enabling further chalcopyrite growth (e.g.,  
440 Jamtveit et al. 2009). The chalcopyrite rims are overgrown with small chalcopyrite  
441 crystals consistent with growth from the bulk solution onto the outside of the grains. This  
442 overgrowth is less compact and more porous than the chalcopyrite growing at the  
443 hematite contact. The chalcopyrite overgrowth can cause the cementing of distinct  
444 hematite grains (Fig. 2d). In contrast, bornite overgrowth can take the form of blocky  
445 bornite crystals. In this case exchanges between the bulk fluid and the reaction fronts  
446 (chalcopyrite/bornite; hematite/chalcopyrite) occur via a set of fractures through the  
447 bornite (Fig. 4f).

#### 448 ***Geological implications***

449 In this study, we demonstrate that chalcopyrite and bornite can form under mild hydrothermal  
450 conditions from Cu- and S-bearing solutions interacting with Fe oxides (hematite, magnetite).  
451 Although direct replacement of hematite by Cu-Fe sulfides is relatively rarely observed, fluid-  
452 rock interaction is an important process that can release Fe in solution and contribute to the

453 formation of Fe-Cu sulfides. The replacement of hematite offers microscopic insight into this  
454 process. Because of the large volume increase associated with this replacement (nearly a  
455 factor of 3), most of the sulfide precipitation occurs as overgrowths on the outside of the  
456 grains. In this situation, both chalcopyrite and bornite form idiomorphic crystals. The nature  
457 of the sulfides in the experiments is controlled by the reaction conditions affecting the relative  
458 nucleation of chalcopyrite and bornite. Similar processes are likely to play important roles in  
459 nature since the scale of Fe transport can vary from  $\mu\text{m}$  (as in the experiments) to meters in  
460 nature, with sulfides forming both via replacement and in structurally controlled open spaces  
461 such as veins.

## 462 **Acknowledgement**

463 We thank Len Green, Aoife McFadden, and Benjamin Wade from Adelaide Microscopy  
464 Center for their assistance in using the FESEM, EBSD, ICP-MS, and electron microprobe.  
465 The constructive comments of David Vaughan, an anonymous referee and associate  
466 editor Daniel Harlov greatly improved the clarity of the text of this paper. This work has  
467 been made possible by the financial support of the Australian Research Council (Grant  
468 DP1095069).

## 469 **Reference**

- 470 Avrami, M. (1939) Kinetics of phase change I. *Journal of Chemical Physics*, 7, 1103-  
471 1112.
- 472 Avrami, M. (1940) Kinetics of phase change II. *Journal of Chemical Physics*, 8, 212-224.
- 473 Avrami, M. (1941) Granulation, phase change and microstructure. *Journal of Chemical*  
474 *Physics*, 9, 177-184.
- 475 Barnard, W.M. and Christopher, P.A. (1966a) Hydrothermal synthesis of chalcopyrite.  
476 *Economic Geology*, 61, 897-902.
- 477 Barnard, W.M. and Christopher, P.A. (1966b) Further study on the effectiveness of  
478 aqueous solutions in the hydrothermal synthesis of chalcopyrite. *Economic*  
479 *Geology*, 61, 1287-1290.

- 480 Brugger, J., Etschmann, B., Liu, W., Testemale, D., Hazemann, J.L., Emerich, H., van  
481 Beek, W., and Proux, O. (2007) An XAS study of the structure and  
482 thermodynamics of Cu(I) chloride complexes in brines up to high temperature  
483 (400 °C, 600 bar). *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, 71(20), 4920-4941.
- 484 Brugger, J., McFadden, A., Lenehan, C.E., Etschmann, B., Xia, F., Zhao, J., and Pring, A.  
485 (2010) A Novel Route for the Synthesis of Mesoporous and Low-Thermal  
486 Stability Materials by Coupled Dissolution-Reprecipitation Reactions: Mimicking  
487 Hydrothermal Mineral Formation. *CHIMIA International Journal for Chemistry*,  
488 64, 693-698.
- 489 Bruker AXS (2009): TOPAS V4.2: General profile and structure analysis software for  
490 powder diffraction data. Bruker AXS GmbH, Karlsruhe, Germany.
- 491 Christian, J.W. (1965) *The theory of transformations in metals and alloys*, 975p.  
492 Pergamon Press, Oxford.
- 493 Cook, N.J., Ciobanu, C.L., Danyushevsky, L.V., and Gilbert, S. (2011) Minor and trace  
494 elements in bornite and associated Cu-(Fe)-sulfides: A LA-ICP-MS study.  
495 *Geochimica Cosmochimica Acta*, 75(21), 6473-6496.
- 496 Echigo, T., Aruguete, D.M., Murayama, M., and Hochella, M.F. (2012) Influence of size,  
497 morphology, surface structure, and aggregation state on reductive dissolution of  
498 hematite nanoparticles with ascorbic acid. *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, 90,  
499 149-162.
- 500 Edfelt, Å., Armstrong, R., Smith, M., and Martinsson, O. (2005) Alteration paragenesis  
501 and mineral chemistry of the Tjärrojäkka apatite-iron and Cu (-Au) occurrences,  
502 Kiruna area, northern Sweden. *Mineralium Deposita*, 40, 409-434.
- 503 Etschmann, B.E., Liu, W., Testemale, D., Muller, H., Rae, N.A., Proux, O., Hazemann,  
504 J.L., and Brugger, J. (2010) An in situ XAS study of copper(I) transport as  
505 hydrosulfide complexes in hydrothermal solutions (25-592 °C, 180-600 bar):  
506 Speciation and solubility in vapor and liquid phases. *Geochimica et*  
507 *Cosmochimica Acta*, 74(16), 4723-4739.

- 508 Fein, J.B., Hemley, J.J., D'Angelo, W.M., Komninou, A., and Sverjensky, D.A. (1992)  
509 Experimental study of iron-chloride complexing in hydrothermal fluids.  
510 *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, 56, 3179-3190.
- 511 Fernández-Díaz, L., Pina, C.M., Astilleros, J.M., and Sánchez-Pastor, N. (2009) The  
512 carbonatation of gypsum: Pathways and pseudomorph formation. *American*  
513 *Mineralogist*, 94, 1223-1234.
- 514 Fleet, M.E. (2006) Phase Equilibria at High Temperatures. *Reviews in Mineralogy and*  
515 *Geochemistry*, 61(1), 365-419.
- 516 Hersman, L., Lloyd, T., and Sposito, G. (1995) Siderophore-promoted dissolution of  
517 hematite. *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, 59(16), 3327-3330.
- 518 Hu, J., Lu, Q., Deng, B., Tang, K., Qian, Y., Li, Y., Zhou, G., and Liu, X. (1999) A  
519 hydrothermal reaction to synthesize CuFeS<sub>2</sub> nanorods. *Inorganic Chemistry*  
520 *Communications*, 2(12), 569-571.
- 521 Jamtveit, B., Putnis, C., and Malthe-Sorensen, A. (2009) Reaction induced fracturing  
522 during replacement processes. *Contributions to Mineralogy and Petrology*, 157,  
523 127-133.
- 524 Kasioptas, A., Perdikouri, C., Putnis, C.V., and Putnis, A. (2008) Pseudomorphic  
525 replacement of single calcium carbonate crystals by polycrystalline apatite.  
526 *Mineralogical Magazine*, 72(1), 77-80.
- 527 Keller, R.N. and Wycoff, H.D. (1946) Copper (I) chloride. *Inorganic Syntheses*, 2, 1-4.
- 528 Kojima, S. and Sugaki, A. (1985) Phase relations in the Cu-Fe-Zn-S system between  
529 500 °C and 300 °C under hydrothermal conditions. *Economic Geology*, 80(1),  
530 158-171.
- 531 Kucha, H. and Pawlikowski, M. (1986) Two-brine model of the genesis of strata-bound  
532 Zechstein deposits (Kupferschiefer type), Poland. *Mineralium Deposita*, 21(1),  
533 70-80.
- 534 Lasaga, A.C. (1998) *Kinetic Theory in the Earth Sciences*. Princeton University Press,  
535 New Jersey.

- 536 Liu, W., McPhail, D.C., and Brugger, J. (2001) An Experimental Study of Copper(I)-  
537 Chloride and Copper(I)-Acetate Complexing in Hydrothermal Solutions between  
538 50°C and 250°C and Vapor-Saturated Pressure. *Geochimica et Cosmochimica*  
539 *Acta*, 65(17), 2937-2948.
- 540 Liu, W. and McPhail, D.C. (2005) Thermodynamic properties of copper chloride  
541 complexes and copper transport in magmatic-hydrothermal solutions. *Chemical*  
542 *Geology*, 221(1-2), 21-39.
- 543 Mountain, B.W. and Seward, T.M. (1999) The hydrosulphide/sulphide complexes of  
544 copper(I): experimental determination of stoichiometry and stability at 22°C and  
545 reassessment of high temperature data. *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, 63(1),  
546 11-29.
- 547 Mountain, B.W. and Seward, T.M. (2003) Hydrosulfide/sulfide complexes of copper(I):  
548 Experimental confirmation of the stoichiometry and stability of  $\text{Cu}(\text{HS})_2^-$  to  
549 elevated temperatures. *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, 67(16), 3005-3014.
- 550 Panias, D., Taxiarchou, M., Douni, I., Paspaliaris, I., and Kontopoulos, A. (1996)  
551 Dissolution of hematite in acidic oxalate solutions: the effect of ferrous ions  
552 addition. *Hydrometallurgy*, 43, 219-230.
- 553 Pollok, K., Putnis, C.V., and Putnis, A. (2011) Mineral replacement reactions in solid  
554 solution-aqueous solution systems: volume changes, reactions paths and end-  
555 points using the example of model salt systems. *American Journal of Science*, 311,  
556 211-236.
- 557 Putnis, C.V., Geisler, T., Schmid-Beurmann, P., Stephan, T., and Giampaolo, C. (2007)  
558 An experimental study of the replacement of leucite by analcime. *American*  
559 *Mineralogist*, 92, 19-26.
- 560 Putnis, A. (2009) Mineral Replacement Reactions. *Reviews in Mineralogy and*  
561 *Geochemistry*, 70(1), 87-124.
- 562 Qian, G., Brugger, J., Skinner, W.M., Chen, G., and Pring, A. (2010) An experimental  
563 study of the mechanism of the replacement of magnetite by pyrite up to 300 °C.  
564 *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, 74(19), 5610-5630.



- 565 Qian, G., Xia, F., Brugger, J., Skinner, W.M., Bei, J., Chen, G., and Pring, A. (2011)  
566 Replacement of pyrrhotite by pyrite and marcasite under hydrothermal conditions  
567 up to 220 °C: An experimental study of reaction textures and mechanisms.  
568 American Mineralogist, 96(11-12), 1878-1893.
- 569 Qian, G., Brugger, J., Testemale, D., Skinner, W., and Pring, A. (2013) Formation of  
570 As(II)-pyrite during experimental replacement of magnetite under hydrothermal  
571 conditions. *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, 100, 1-10.
- 572 Rietveld, H. (1969) A profile refinement method for nuclear and magnetic structures.  
573 *Journal of Applied Crystallography*, 2(2), 65-71.
- 574 Robb, L. (2005) Introduction to ore-forming processes. Blackwell Publishing, Oxford.
- 575 Seyfried Jr., W.E. and Ding, K. (1993) The effect of redox on the relative solubilities of  
576 copper and iron in Cl-bearing aqueous fluids at elevated temperatures and  
577 pressures: An experimental study with application to seafloor hydrothermal  
578 systems. *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, 57(9), 1905-1917.
- 579 Shvarov, Y., and Bastrakov, E. (1999) HCh: a software package for geochemical  
580 modelling. User's guide. AGSO record, 1999/25, 60p.
- 581 Tenailleau, C., Pring, A., Etschmann, B., Brugger, J., Grguric, B., and Putnis, A. (2006)  
582 Transformation of pentlandite to violarite under mild hydrothermal conditions.  
583 *American Mineralogist*, 91, 706-709.
- 584 Testemale, D., Brugger, J., Liu, W.H., Etschmann, B., and Hazemann, J.L. (2009) In-situ  
585 X-ray absorption study of Iron(II) speciation in brines up to supercritical  
586 conditions. *Chemical Geology*, 264(1-4), 295-310.
- 587 Vaughan, D.J. and Craig, J.R. (1978) Mineral chemistry of metal sulphides. Cambridge  
588 University Press, Cambridge.
- 589 Wang, H., Pring, A., Ngothai, Y., and O'Neill, B. (2005a) A low-temperature kinetic  
590 study of the exsolution of pentlandite from the monosulfide solid solution using a  
591 refined Avrami method. *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, 69, 415-425.

- 592 Wang, H., Pring, A., Xia, Y., Ngothai, Y., and O'Neill, B. (2005b) Phase evolution and  
593 kinetics of the oxidation of monosulfide solid solution under isothermal  
594 conditions. *Thermochimica Acta*, 427, 13-25.
- 595 Wang, M.X., Wang, L.S., Yue, G.H., Wang, X., Yan, P.X., and Peng, D.L. (2009) Single  
596 crystal of CuFeS<sub>2</sub> nanowires synthesized through solventothermal process.  
597 *Materials Chemistry and Physics*, 115(1), 147-150.
- 598 Xia, F., Zhou, J., Brugger, J., Ngothai, Y., O'Neill, B., Chen, G., and Pring, A. (2008).  
599 Novel Route To Synthesize Complex Metal Sulfides: Hydrothermal Coupled  
600 Dissolution-Recipitation Replacement Reactions. *Chemistry of Materials* 20(8),  
601 2809-2817.
- 602 Xia, F., Brugger, J., Chen, G., Ngothai, Y., O'Neill, B., Putnis, A., and Pring, A. (2009a)  
603 Mechanism and kinetics of pseudomorphic mineral replacement reactions: A case  
604 study of the replacement of pentlandite by violarite. *Geochimica et*  
605 *Cosmochimica Acta*, 73(7), 1945-1969.
- 606 Xia, F., Brugger, J., Ngothai, Y., O'Neill, B., Chen, G., and Pring, A. (2009b). Three-  
607 Dimensional Ordered Arrays of Zeolite Nanocrystals with Uniform Size and  
608 Orientation by a Pseudomorphic Coupled Dissolution-Recipitation  
609 Replacement Route. *Crystal Growth & Design* 9(11), 4902-4906.
- 610 Xiao, Z., Gammons, C.H., and Williams-Jones, A.E. (1998) Experimental study of  
611 copper(I) chloride complexing in hydrothermal solutions at 40 to 300°C and  
612 saturated water vapor pressure. *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, 62(17), 2949-  
613 2964.
- 614 Zhao, J., Brugger, J., Grundler, P.V., Xia, F., Chen, G., and Pring, A. (2009) Mechanism  
615 and kinetics of a mineral transformation under hydrothermal conditions:  
616 Calaverite to metallic gold. *American Mineralogist*, 94(11-12), 1541-1555.
- 617 Zhao, J., Brugger, J., Xia, F., Ngothai, Y., Chen, G., and Pring, A. (2013) Dissolution-  
618 reprecipitation versus solid-state diffusion: mechanism of mineral transformations  
619 in sylvanite, (AuAg)<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>4</sub>, under hydrothermal conditions. *American Mineralogist*,  
620 98(1), 19-32.

621

622

623

624

## 625 **Figure Captions**

626

627 Figure 1. Reaction extent as a function of (a) time and (b) temperature. For (a), all  
628 experiments were conducted at 250 °C for different fluid compositions. Experiments  
629 were operated for up to 360 hrs. For (b), experiments were conducted in background  
630 solution A5 and B10 at temperatures over 200 to 300 °C, and at a fixed reaction time of  
631 360 hrs. Errors of the reaction extent ( $3\sigma$ ;  $\pm 5\%$ ) are plotted at each point. Pie charts above  
632 and below the plots show the proportions of phases after reaction for the A5 and B10  
633 series, respectively. In the chart, hematite is presented in black, chalcopyrite in light grey,  
634 and bornite in dark grey.

635

636 Figure 2. Secondary electron images showing reaction textures from hydrothermal  
637 reactions forming chalcopyrite. (a) Round edges of a reacted grain, showing the  
638 preservation of the external dimensions of the primary hematite grains (Run No. B3).  
639 (b) Surface of a chalcopyrite-bearing grain showing fine tetrahedral crystals varying in  
640 size up to 2  $\mu\text{m}$  across (B25). Backscattered electron image of the cross section of a  
641 partially reacted grain. (c) Cross-section through a partially reacted grain, showing that  
642 the reaction develops along grain surfaces and cracks (B30). The inset shows the detail of  
643 the porosity changes in the chalcopyrite near the surface of the grain. (d) Two hematite  
644 grains fused together by the overgrowth of the chalcopyrite layer (B28).

645

646 Figure 3. EBSD analyses of hematite and chalcopyrite along phase boundaries of one  
647 grain from sample B31. (a-b)  $\{001\}$  pole figures presenting the orientation and  
648 distribution of hematite and chalcopyrite in the corresponding regions. (c) Crystal  
649 orientations of hematite (left in green) and chalcopyrite (right in multi colors) along the  
650 phase boundaries. Each color in this figure relates to one crystal orientation. Hematite is  
651 single crystal and chalcopyrite is polycrystalline with more than 4 orientations (in the  
652 colors of purple, yellow, green and blue).

653

654 Figure 4. Secondary electron (a,b) and back scattered electron images(c-f) showing the  
655 textures of bornite. (a) Grain covered with bornite overgrowth (Run No.B29) showing a  
656 rough morphology. (b) Detail view of the surface of a bornite grain shown in (a).  
657 (c) Cross section of three layered grain, which include a bornite layer (light grey), a  
658 chalcopyrite layer (grey) and a hematite layer (dark grey) from the outside to the core  
659 (B29). (d) Sharp boundaries between hematite, chalcopyrite and bornite (B16).  
660 (e) Channels at the boundaries between hematite and chalcopyrite. (f) Cross section of a  
661 bornite grain with porous core and fractured, low porosity rim (B33).

662

663 Figure 5. Secondary electron image (SEM) and element distribution maps of Na, P, Fe,  
664 Cu, and S for a partially replaced grain in Run No. B32, showing high concentrations of  
665 **P and Na at the** reaction front between hematite and chalcopyrite.

666

667 Figure 6. Kinetics of the replacement of hematite by chalcopyrite at different  
668 temperatures. Plots showing the linear regression according to Equation 2 for runs at  
669 different temperatures. Time (t) is in seconds. Error bars correspond to a 5% point error  
670 ( $3\sigma$ ) on the reaction extent. Results from the linear regressions are given in Table 6. Pie

671 charts at the bottom illustrate the percentages of hematite, chalcopyrite and bornite in  
672 reactions operated in background solution A5 at 300 °C (B27-B31), and illustrate the  
673 formation and transformation of bornite.

674

675 Figure 7. Activity-activity diagram illustrating the mineral stability fields and reaction  
676 paths in the experiments at 250 °C, high sulphidation (a) and at 300 °C, low sulphidation  
677 (b). The initial solution is Fe-free, and supersaturated with respect to chalcocite. In (a),  
678 the grey arrow shows the paragenetic sequence for a solution saturated with Cu and S  
679 coupled with the slow addition of Fe by dissolution of hematite via chalcocite → bornite  
680 → chalcopyrite. Instead, the experiments showed precipitation of chalcopyrite first,  
681 followed by bornite. In (b), the results of runs buffered at different pHs illustrate the  
682 complexity of the controls on the experimental products. White numbers are buffer pHs;  
683 black circles indicate possible equilibrium assemblages (the presence of pyrrhotite  
684 depends upon the redox state of the fluid), grey circles indicate non-equilibrium  
685 assemblage.

686

687

688 **Tables**

689 Table 1. Composition of starting materials

690

Hematite (G6983) (21 points) (wt%)			Kidney ore hematite (G1603) (18 points) (wt%)			Magnetite (G8146) (13 points) (wt%)					
	M	R	S		M	R	S		M	R	S
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	97.33	94.35-100.69	0.36	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	96.92	95.06-98.66	0.36	Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	99.25	99.67-100.52	0.38
SiO <sub>2</sub>	1.21	<0.06-2.98	0.06	SiO <sub>2</sub>	1.21	0.96-1.35	0.06	VO <sub>2</sub>	0.61	0.58-0.65	0.03
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.05	<0.06-0.17	0.06	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.04	<0.02-0.11	0.02	SiO <sub>2</sub>	0.03	<0.03-0.04	0.03
MgO	0.04	<0.05-0.10	0.05	MnO <sub>2</sub>	0.03	<0.02-0.06	0.02	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.03	<0.03-0.07	0.03
MnO <sub>2</sub>	0.03	<0.06-0.08	0.06	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.06	<0.05-0.11	0.05	MgO	0.02	<0.02-0.03	0.02
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.04	<0.05-0.13	0.05	CaO	≤0.06		0.06	MnO	0.05	<0.03-0.09	0.03
Total	98.53			Total	98.32			Total	99.99		

Note: "M" stands for mean, "R" for range and "S" for standard deviation.

\* XRD analysis of the natural magnetite gave 81 ± 5 wt% magnetite and 19 ± 5 wt% hematite.

691

692 Table 2. Composition of buffer solutions

693

Buffer ID	pH <sub>25°C</sub>		Components						
	calc.	meas	Acid	C/m	Basic	C/m	Addition	C/m	
P3	3.10	2.98	H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	0.0170	NaH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O	0.1820	NaCl	1	
A5	5.06	4.88	CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	0.0590	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa	0.1400	NaCl	1	
P7	7.03	6.90	NaH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O	0.0680	Na <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub>	0.1310	NaCl	1	
B10	10.1	9.80	H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub>	0.1064	NaOH	0.0936	NaCl	1	
P11	10.8	10.8	Na <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub>	0.2000	NaOH	0.0282	NaCl	1	
CA4	3.99	3.86	CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	0.826	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa	0.174	NaCl	1	
CA5	5.06	4.88	CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	0.296	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa	0.704	NaCl	1	
CA6	5.92	5.73	CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	0.549	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa	0.955	NaCl	1	
CP7	7.03	6.90	NaH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O	0.340	Na <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub>	0.655	NaCl	1	
CP8	8.08	8.02	NaH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O	0.045	Na <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub>	0.954	NaCl	1	
CB9	9.10	8.76	H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub>	0.704	NaOH	0.295	NaCl	1	
CB10	10.1	9.80	H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub>	0.532	NaOH	0.480	NaCl	1	

694

695

696

697

698

699

700

701  
 702 Table 3. Reaction conditions and results  
 703

No.	Run No.	T/(°C)	Buffer Solution <sup>†</sup>	pH <sub>T</sub> <sup>‡</sup>	Time (h)	NaCl /m	Products and molar percentage (wt%) <sup>§</sup>
L1	H300D4PH90HS	300	CA4	4.59	90	1	Hm(46)Cpy(26)Py(28)
L2	H300D5PH90HS	300	CA5	5.38	90	1	Hm(27)Cpy(38)Py(15)Po(19)
L3	H300D6PH90HS	300	CA6	6.06	90	1	Hm(78)Mgt(14)Cpy(4)Bn(4)
L4	H300D7PH90HS	300	CP7	7.50	90	1	Hm(96) Mgt(4)
L5	H300D8PH90HS	300	CP8	8.16	90	1	Hm(90) Mgt(10)
L6	H300D9PH90HS	300	CB9	8.56	90	1	Hm(81) Mgt(19)
L7	H300D10PH90HS	300	CB10	9.16	90	1	Mgt(100)
B1	H200D5PH50HS	200	A5	5.28	50	1	Hm(81)Cpy(19)
B2	H200D5PH140HS	200	A5	5.28	140	1	Hm(79)Cpy(21)
B3	H200D5PH360HS	200	A5	5.28	360	1	Hm(73)Cpy(27)
B4	H200D10PH360HS	200	B10	6.31	360	1	Hm(80)Cpy(20)
B5	H225D3PH360HS	225	P3	5.23	360	1	Hm(51)Cpy(36)Bn(13)
B6	H225D5PH20HS	225	A5	5.27	20	1	Hm(86)Cpy(14)
B7	H225D5PH50HS	225	A5	5.27	50	1	Hm(75)Cpy(25)
B8	H225D5PH140HS	225	A5	5.27	140	1	Hm(67)Cpy(33)
B9	H225D5PH360HS	225	A5	5.27	360	1	Hm(62)Cpy(32)Bn(6)
B10	H225D10PH360HS	225	B10	6.22	360	1	Hm(60)Cpy(31)Bn(9)
B11	H250D3PH20HS	250	P3	5.10	20	1	Hm(92)Cpy(8)
B12	H250D3PH50HS	250	P3	5.10	50	1	Hm(80)Cpy(20)
B13	H250D3PH140HS	250	P3	5.10	140	1	Hm(62)Cpy(27)Bn(11)
B14	H250D5PH50HS	250	A5	5.25	50	1	Hm(90)Cpy(10)
B15	H250D5PH140HS	250	A5	5.25	140	1	Hm(60)Cpy(29)Bn(11)
B16	H250D5PH360HS	250	A5	5.25	360	1	Hm(45)Cpy(45)Bn(10)
B17	H250D7PH20HS	250	P7	5.44	20	1	Hm(89)Cpy(11)
B18	H250D7PH90HS	250	P7	5.44	90	1	Hm(68)Cpy(20)Bn(12)
B19	H250D7PH140HS	250	P7	5.44	140	1	Hm(56)Cpy(31)Bn(13)
B20	H250D10PH20HS	250	B10	6.16	20	1	Hm(89)Cpy(11)
B21	H250D10PH90HS	250	B10	6.16	90	1	Hm(68)Cpy(24)Bn(9)
B22	H250D10PH360HS	250	B10	6.16	360	1	Hm(45)Cpy(28)Bn(27)
B23	H275D5PH20HS	275	A5	5.23	20	1	Hm(64)Cpy(25)Bn(11)
B24	H275D5PH50HS	275	A5	5.23	50	1	Hm(45)Cpy(41)Bn(14)
B25	H275D5PH90HS	275	A5	5.23	90	1	Hm(58)Cpy(24)Bn(18)
B26	H275D5PH140HS	275	A5	5.23	140	1	Hm(39)Cpy(37)Bn(24)
B27	H300D5PH20HS	300	A5	5.23	20	1	Hm(51)Cpy(33)Bn(16)
B28	H300D5PH50HS	300	A5	5.23	50	1	Hm(41)Cpy(32)Bn(27)
B29	H300D5PH140HS	300	A5	5.23	140	1	Hm(36)Cpy(44)Bn(20)
B30	H300D5PH240HS	300	A5	5.23	240	1	Hm(32)Cpy(55)Bn(12)
B31	H300D5PH360HS	300	A5	5.23	360	1	Hm(18)Cpy(83)
B32	H300D7PH140HS	300	P7	6.49	140	1	Hm(33)Cpy(55)Bn(11)
B33	H300D10PH140HS	300	B10	6.38	140	1	Hm(28)Cpy(52)Bn(21)
B34	H300D10PH360HS	300	B10	6.38	360	1	Hm(26)Cpy(62)Bn(12)
B35	H300D11PH140HS	300	P11	6.71	140	1	Hm(26)Cpy(56)Bn(18)
B36	C300D5PH140HS	300	A5	4.88	140	1	Cpy(49)Bn(51)
B37	C300D7PH140HS	300	P7	6.90	140	1	Cpy(43)Bn(57)
B38	C300D10PH140HS	300	B10	6.38	140	1	Cpy(50)Bn(50)
B39	12H250D3PH90HS	250	P3	5.10	90	1	Hm(71)Cpy(21)Bn(8)
B40	23H250D3PH90HS	250	P3	5.10	90	1	Hm(88)Cpy(9)Bn(3)
B41	DH250D3PH90HS	250	P3	5.10	90	1	Hm(93)Cpy(7)

B42 TH250D3PH90HS 250 P3 5.10 90 1 Hm(90)Cpy(9)Bn(1)

† “P” phosphate buffer solution, “A” acetate buffer solution, and “B” borate buffer solution. For respective compositions refer to Table 2.

‡ pH values were calculated at reaction temperature using the HCh software.

§ Obtained from powder X-ray diffraction patterns by Rietveld quantitative phase analysis. “Hm” stands for hematite, “Cpy” for chalcopyrite phase, “Bn” for bornite, “Py” for pyrite, “Pyt” for pyrrhotite, and “Mgt” for magnetite. Error on the phase proportion is estimated to 5% on each determination.

704

705 Table 4. Composition of products

706

<b>Chalcopyrite (24 points) (wt%)</b>				<b>Bornite (17 points) (wt%)</b>			
Average composition of $\text{Cu}_{1.03(3)}\text{Fe}_{1.04(5)}\text{S}_{1.93(5)}$				Average composition of $\text{Cu}_{5.24(9)}\text{Fe}_{0.92(8)}\text{S}_{3.84(7)}$			
	<b>M</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>S</b>		<b>M</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>S</b>
Cu	65.60	63.48-67.22	1.94	Cu	35.34	32.22-35.50	0.99
Fe	10.10	9.57-11.31	0.24	Fe	31.49	30.00-32.39	0.70
S	24.30	22.92-24.91	0.68	S	33.44	32.22-35.50	0.98
Total	100.00			Total	100.27		

Note: “M” stands for mean, “R” for range, and “S” for standard deviation.

707

708



709 Table 5. Summary of effects on the nature iron sources  
 710

Reaction Solution	Kidney hematite (250°C)		Micaceous hematite (250°C)	
	No.	Products and molar percentage (wt%)	No.	Products and molar percentage (wt%)
P3	K1	Hm(92)Cpy(8)	B13	Hm(62)Cpy(27)Bn(11)
A5	K2	Hm(90)Cpy(10)	B15	Hm(60)Cpy(29)Bn(11)

Reaction Solution	Magnetite (300°C)		Micaceous hematite (300°C)	
	No.	Products and molar percentage (wt%)	No.	Products and molar percentage (wt%)
A5	M1	Mgt(39)Cpy(38)Bn(23)	B29	Hm(36)Cpy(44)Bn(20)
P7	M2	Mgt(36)Cpy(43)Bn(21)	B32	Hm(33)Cpy(55)Bn(11)
B10	M3	Mgt(31)Cpy(49)Bn(20)	B33	Hm(28)Cpy(52)Bn(21)
P11	M4	Mgt(38)Cpy(38)Bn(24)	B35	Hm(26)Cpy(56)Bn(18)

711  
 712  
 713  
 714  
 715  
 716  
 717  
 718

Table 6. Calculated time exponent n and rate constant k using Avrami Equation, as a function of temperature T.

T (°C)	pH <sub>T</sub>	Background solution	n*	ln(k) [ln(s <sup>-1</sup> )]*	R <sup>2</sup>
200	5.28	A5	0.28 ± 0.08	-17.8 ± 1.1	0.838
225	5.27	A5	0.29 ± 0.02	-16.3 ± 0.2	0.992
250	5.28	A5	0.40 ± 0.04	-14.7 ± 0.5	0.985
275	5.22	A5	0.30 ± 0.04	-14.0 ± 0.5	0.958
300	5.23	A5	0.31 ± 0.06	-12.7 ± 0.8	0.897

Note: Values for n and k correspond to the linear regressions shown in Figures 7a–7f.  
 \*Standard deviations on k were calculated using the errors on n (the slope) and the error on the intercept using following equation:

$$S_k = \sqrt{S_n^2 + S_i^2}$$

719  
 720  
 721  
 722  
 723  
 724  
 725  
 726  
 727  
 728  
 729  
 730  
 731  
 732

733 Table 7. Nominal volume changes and textures during some dissolution-reprecipitation  
 734 reactions  
 735

Reaction	Conservative ion	Volume change (product over parent)	Replacement texture
Hematite→chalcopyrite	Fe	2.89	replacement and overgrowth (this study)
Chalcopyrite→bornite	Fe	2.26	replacement and overgrowth (this study)
Magnetite→pyrite	Fe	1.60	replacement and overgrowth (Qian et al. 2010)
Leucite→analcime	Al-Si	1.29	Pseudomorphic; large porosity of the product despite volume increase (Putnis et al. 2007, Xia et al. 2009b)
Pyrrhotite→pyrite	Fe	1.16	Pseudomorphic with minor overgrowth (Qian et al. 2011)
Sylvanite→calaverite	Au	0.96	Pseudomorphic (Zhao et al. 2013)
Calcite→hydroxyapatite	Ca	0.86	Pseudomorphic (Kasioptas et al. 2008)
Pentlandite→violarite	S	0.83	Pseudomorphic (Tenailleau et al. 2006, Xia et al. 2009a)
Calcite→fluorite	Ca	0.78	Pseudomorphic with a porous reaction rim (Putnis 2009)
Pyrrhotite→pyrite/marcasite	S	0.69/0.71	Pseudomorphic (Qian et al. 2011)
Gypsum→calcite	Ca	0.50	Pseudomorphic (Fernández-Díaz et al. 2009)
Calaverite→gold	Au	0.21	Pseudomorphic (Zhao et al. 2009)

Note: All mineral data used in the calculation is from <http://webmineral.com/data/>

736  
 737



