



1  
00:00:10,789 --> 00:00:08,390  
alright um so today I'm going to talk to

2  
00:00:13,340 --> 00:00:10,799  
a little bit more about our key and

3  
00:00:15,770 --> 00:00:13,350  
hydrothermal systems part of a project

4  
00:00:17,450 --> 00:00:15,780  
that I called amp the dome anchor at

5  
00:00:19,810 --> 00:00:17,460  
mine project i found that acronyms are

6  
00:00:22,820 --> 00:00:19,820  
incredibly important in astrobiology so

7  
00:00:24,950 --> 00:00:22,830  
what i'm doing here is characterizing an

8  
00:00:26,630 --> 00:00:24,960  
anchor at horizon at the dome mine in

9  
00:00:28,250 --> 00:00:26,640  
Timmins Ontario now anchorites an iron

10  
00:00:30,350 --> 00:00:28,260  
carbonate so as you can see this is my

11  
00:00:32,479 --> 00:00:30,360  
field site underground in the gold mine

12  
00:00:36,590 --> 00:00:32,489  
this is myself in an undergrad assistant

13  
00:00:37,910 --> 00:00:36,600

and so presumably by now you guys heard

14

00:00:39,439 --> 00:00:37,920

a lot about our key and hydrothermal

15

00:00:41,029 --> 00:00:39,449

systems why they're really interesting

16

00:00:44,569 --> 00:00:41,039

and why carbonates are pretty cool in

17

00:00:46,220 --> 00:00:44,579

the context of Mars so what my

18

00:00:48,200 --> 00:00:46,230

motivations behind understanding this

19

00:00:50,239 --> 00:00:48,210

system primarily our understanding our

20

00:00:52,369 --> 00:00:50,249

key and habitable or potentially

21

00:00:53,899 --> 00:00:52,379

habitable paleo environments with

22

00:00:55,369 --> 00:00:53,909

applications for interpretation of

23

00:00:57,290 --> 00:00:55,379

Martian paleo environments and the

24

00:00:58,939 --> 00:00:57,300

search for biosignatures and then also

25

00:01:00,770 --> 00:00:58,949

looking at biomarker preservation

26

00:01:03,229 --> 00:01:00,780

potential and detection and ancient

27

00:01:04,670 --> 00:01:03,239

carbonates so the region i'm working in

28

00:01:06,080 --> 00:01:04,680

is called the abitibi greenstone belt

29

00:01:07,700 --> 00:01:06,090

this is a largest and best-preserved

30

00:01:10,940 --> 00:01:07,710

greenstone belt in North error in the

31

00:01:13,580 --> 00:01:10,950

world sorry and it is right here in

32

00:01:14,830 --> 00:01:13,590

Northern Ontario and Quebec and it's

33

00:01:17,840 --> 00:01:14,840

been several hundred kilometers across

34

00:01:20,810 --> 00:01:17,850

as you can see it is host to multiple

35

00:01:24,170 --> 00:01:20,820

world-class gold deposits so these are

36

00:01:25,790 --> 00:01:24,180

primarily hydrothermal or well they're

37

00:01:28,400 --> 00:01:25,800

all hydrothermal pretty much but

38

00:01:29,810 --> 00:01:28,410

seafloor VMs deposits and quartz

39

00:01:34,130 --> 00:01:29,820

carbonate deposits so the area i'm

40

00:01:36,320 --> 00:01:34,140

working in is right there so this is the

41

00:01:39,050 --> 00:01:36,330

porcupine gold camp this is the most

42

00:01:41,000 --> 00:01:39,060

prolific gold camp in the world as you

43

00:01:42,980 --> 00:01:41,010

can see it's kind of your standard or

44

00:01:45,950 --> 00:01:42,990

for those use it our geologists your

45

00:01:47,800 --> 00:01:45,960

standard green stone sequence so what I

46

00:01:50,120 --> 00:01:47,810

mean by that is you've got a series of

47

00:01:51,470 --> 00:01:50,130

mafic and ultramafic results and

48

00:01:53,120 --> 00:01:51,480

sediments that are highly folded these

49

00:01:54,740 --> 00:01:53,130

will essentially come from the sea floor

50

00:01:57,050 --> 00:01:54,750

where you had a subduction zone and a

51  
00:01:59,450 --> 00:01:57,060  
hydrothermal alteration going on they've

52  
00:02:01,970 --> 00:01:59,460  
been squished heated and pushed up into

53  
00:02:03,530 --> 00:02:01,980  
the middle of Canada so what I'm looking

54  
00:02:06,380 --> 00:02:03,540  
at right here is this region right here

55  
00:02:08,749 --> 00:02:06,390  
the dome mine now the don't mine is the

56  
00:02:10,729 --> 00:02:08,759  
longest operating underground mining

57  
00:02:13,130 --> 00:02:10,739  
operation in North America it's been an

58  
00:02:15,260 --> 00:02:13,140  
operation since 1910 it's what we call a

59  
00:02:17,660 --> 00:02:15,270  
late archaean greenstone hosted quartz

60  
00:02:19,880 --> 00:02:17,670  
carbonate game gold deposit so it's

61  
00:02:22,790 --> 00:02:19,890  
hosted in green stone the salts

62  
00:02:25,160 --> 00:02:22,800  
and the gold is in quartz carbonate

63  
00:02:28,699 --> 00:02:25,170

veins so this is structurally controlled

64

00:02:30,410 --> 00:02:28,709

hydrothermal alteration so the

65

00:02:32,150 --> 00:02:30,420

geologists eat it up this is the only

66

00:02:34,280 --> 00:02:32,160

strats x you're going to see i'm not

67

00:02:35,750 --> 00:02:34,290

going to discuss it too much what I want

68

00:02:38,420 --> 00:02:35,760

to get across is the area i'm interested

69

00:02:40,070 --> 00:02:38,430

in is in here right here in the middle

70

00:02:42,230 --> 00:02:40,080

of these two point seven billion year

71

00:02:44,030 --> 00:02:42,240

old volcanics and it's hillsdale

72

00:02:45,920 --> 00:02:44,040

assemblage here these are where the

73

00:02:47,390 --> 00:02:45,930

anchorite veins or anchorite horizon

74

00:02:50,300 --> 00:02:47,400

depending here talking to you so these

75

00:02:52,550 --> 00:02:50,310

are somewhere between 2679 and 26 90

76

00:02:54,920 --> 00:02:52,560

million years old and they're massive

77

00:02:56,570 --> 00:02:54,930

they run 500 meters and strike 900

78

00:02:58,580 --> 00:02:56,580

meters vertically and up to two metres

79

00:03:00,050 --> 00:02:58,590

in width so that's why they call it

80

00:03:03,530 --> 00:03:00,060

anchor at horizon because it pretty much

81

00:03:05,300 --> 00:03:03,540

is conformable between volcanic flows so

82

00:03:06,590 --> 00:03:05,310

it was in place to sometime around the

83

00:03:08,180 --> 00:03:06,600

time when we had this gigantic

84

00:03:09,530 --> 00:03:08,190

sedimentary assemblers a porcupine

85

00:03:11,300 --> 00:03:09,540

assemblage which if you can imagine

86

00:03:13,310 --> 00:03:11,310

formed in a big basin so you've got a

87

00:03:14,960 --> 00:03:13,320

sub seafloor volcanics and then you have

88

00:03:16,790 --> 00:03:14,970

this big sedimentary unit forming in a

89

00:03:20,600 --> 00:03:16,800

basin at the same time you have this

90

00:03:21,770 --> 00:03:20,610

carbonate forming so why would we want

91

00:03:22,790 --> 00:03:21,780

to understand this carbonate well

92

00:03:25,430 --> 00:03:22,800

primarily we want to know what the

93

00:03:26,630 --> 00:03:25,440

depositional context was we want to know

94

00:03:29,330 --> 00:03:26,640

how did it form what were the

95

00:03:30,410 --> 00:03:29,340

environmental conditions again what were

96

00:03:31,610 --> 00:03:30,420

the environmental conditions how did

97

00:03:33,440 --> 00:03:31,620

they vary spatially this is a huge

98

00:03:35,210 --> 00:03:33,450

horizon it's almost a kilometer long was

99

00:03:37,370 --> 00:03:35,220

it uniform in terms of conditions and

100

00:03:39,140 --> 00:03:37,380

this will dictate whether or not it was

101  
00:03:40,640 --> 00:03:39,150  
habitable and whether or not we'll find

102  
00:03:43,330 --> 00:03:40,650  
any bio signatures there or biome

103  
00:03:47,660 --> 00:03:43,340  
organic biomarkers I should say so

104  
00:03:48,830 --> 00:03:47,670  
deposition originally in both the 70s

105  
00:03:50,210 --> 00:03:48,840  
like I said this has been worked on

106  
00:03:52,160 --> 00:03:50,220  
we've been mined for a hundred years so

107  
00:03:53,990 --> 00:03:52,170  
a lot of works been done people thought

108  
00:03:55,940 --> 00:03:54,000  
that this could be in a sin volcanic

109  
00:03:59,449 --> 00:03:55,950  
chemical executive from a sea floor vent

110  
00:04:02,060 --> 00:03:59,459  
system so basically this you've got sea

111  
00:04:03,170 --> 00:04:02,070  
floor fluids coming up in probably more

112  
00:04:04,580 --> 00:04:03,180  
of a white smoker system you're

113  
00:04:06,020 --> 00:04:04,590

precipitating carbonate almost like a

114

00:04:07,759 --> 00:04:06,030

blanket of carbonate on top of volcanic

115

00:04:10,640 --> 00:04:07,769

so that's why they call it a horizon a

116

00:04:12,470 --> 00:04:10,650

conformable horizon but more recently we

117

00:04:14,150 --> 00:04:12,480

found this is just a math of the

118

00:04:15,470 --> 00:04:14,160

twenty-first level of the mine so these

119

00:04:17,990 --> 00:04:15,480

are your volcanic sequences all this

120

00:04:20,060 --> 00:04:18,000

green stuff is volcanic this is a later

121

00:04:22,370 --> 00:04:20,070

intrusion and these are your sediments

122

00:04:24,050 --> 00:04:22,380

up top so you can see these are the mine

123

00:04:26,360 --> 00:04:24,060

workings here and if we overlay the

124

00:04:29,089 --> 00:04:26,370

anchor at horizons here they are they're

125

00:04:30,860 --> 00:04:29,099

pretty much conformable along volcanics

126  
00:04:32,120 --> 00:04:30,870  
between volcanic flows but we've

127  
00:04:33,350 --> 00:04:32,130  
actually found because there's been so

128  
00:04:35,300 --> 00:04:33,360  
much mining down here

129  
00:04:37,429 --> 00:04:35,310  
is that there is an anchor of lan that

130  
00:04:38,929 --> 00:04:37,439  
actually cross cuts the volcanic so this

131  
00:04:40,610 --> 00:04:38,939  
is some evidence against a sea floor

132  
00:04:42,980 --> 00:04:40,620  
deposition unless this is just kinda

133  
00:04:44,779 --> 00:04:42,990  
like a conduit but then also it's more

134  
00:04:47,959 --> 00:04:44,789  
interesting is there is a one horizon

135  
00:04:49,159 --> 00:04:47,969  
that cross cuts a later intrusion so

136  
00:04:51,140 --> 00:04:49,169  
this tells us that it's most likely not

137  
00:04:53,589 --> 00:04:51,150  
a sea floor deposition because it cross

138  
00:04:57,709 --> 00:04:53,599

cuts something that was in place later

139

00:05:00,679 --> 00:04:57,719

so what are we proposing probably sin

140

00:05:01,909 --> 00:05:00,689

tectonic subsea floor deposition so what

141

00:05:05,089 --> 00:05:01,919

you have is a situation kind of like

142

00:05:07,070 --> 00:05:05,099

this you've got volcanic rocks is some

143

00:05:09,740 --> 00:05:07,080

sort of sedimentary cap what I call an

144

00:05:11,119 --> 00:05:09,750

aquitard so the fluids are flowing and

145

00:05:12,230 --> 00:05:11,129

they can't get up to the surface so

146

00:05:14,499 --> 00:05:12,240

they're flowing along with illogical

147

00:05:17,089 --> 00:05:14,509

boundaries between the volcanic layers

148

00:05:18,800 --> 00:05:17,099

where there's less competent rock there

149

00:05:20,510 --> 00:05:18,810

so you end up with this seemingly

150

00:05:23,059 --> 00:05:20,520

conformable horizon that actually cross

151

00:05:25,249 --> 00:05:23,069

cuts so what we're doing is taking a

152

00:05:28,580 --> 00:05:25,259

mind and micron approach to understand

153

00:05:29,899 --> 00:05:28,590

this anchor right so basically coming

154

00:05:31,070 --> 00:05:29,909

from the mine scale i'm lucky i can go

155

00:05:32,409 --> 00:05:31,080

underground and see the entire horizon

156

00:05:34,999 --> 00:05:32,419

you can see it cross-country

157

00:05:36,800 --> 00:05:35,009

cost-cutting different lithologies so

158

00:05:39,290 --> 00:05:36,810

here's the carbonate here here's the

159

00:05:41,269 --> 00:05:39,300

sediment unit you can see that and then

160

00:05:42,980 --> 00:05:41,279

taking sub-samples like this one for

161

00:05:45,230 --> 00:05:42,990

instance the hand sample scale you can

162

00:05:46,820 --> 00:05:45,240

also see para netic relationships like

163

00:05:49,189 --> 00:05:46,830

this later cross-cutting quartz vein

164

00:05:52,100 --> 00:05:49,199

here and then looking down to the micron

165

00:05:54,260 --> 00:05:52,110

scale SEM analysis things like that

166

00:05:56,450 --> 00:05:54,270

carbonate carbon or oxygen isotopes you

167

00:05:58,219 --> 00:05:56,460

can tell more about para genesis fluid

168

00:05:59,719 --> 00:05:58,229

conditions and fluid source because

169

00:06:01,369 --> 00:05:59,729

ultimately we want to understand the

170

00:06:02,869 --> 00:06:01,379

mineralogy in geochemistry because this

171

00:06:05,809 --> 00:06:02,879

will allow us to constrain the

172

00:06:08,540 --> 00:06:05,819

environmental conditions so we're taking

173

00:06:10,339 --> 00:06:08,550

a multiscale multi technique approach

174

00:06:11,899 --> 00:06:10,349

this is one technique am using

175

00:06:14,390 --> 00:06:11,909

spectroscopy this would be kind of

176  
00:06:16,339 --> 00:06:14,400  
comparable to chrism data this is UV vis

177  
00:06:18,409 --> 00:06:16,349  
near-ir i did this include asus lab in

178  
00:06:20,209 --> 00:06:18,419  
winnipeg just an example of several

179  
00:06:23,659 --> 00:06:20,219  
spectra so what we see here is we've got

180  
00:06:25,490 --> 00:06:23,669  
this feature here around 2.5 and 2.3

181  
00:06:27,800 --> 00:06:25,500  
microns this is a carbon and oxygen

182  
00:06:29,990 --> 00:06:27,810  
feature this tells us we have carbonate

183  
00:06:31,610 --> 00:06:30,000  
present that's what they used to

184  
00:06:32,990 --> 00:06:31,620  
carbonate on Mars do that same feature

185  
00:06:34,700 --> 00:06:33,000  
here we see these iron crystal field

186  
00:06:37,459 --> 00:06:34,710  
transitions we have an iron rich

187  
00:06:39,260 --> 00:06:37,469  
carbonate it's an anchorite we also see

188  
00:06:41,779 --> 00:06:39,270

an o H feature here she tells us we have

189

00:06:43,100 --> 00:06:41,789

something hydrated some sort of water

190

00:06:46,679 --> 00:06:43,110

and new crystal lattice in the mineral

191

00:06:49,139 --> 00:06:46,689

we also have a metal Oh age feature

192

00:06:50,759 --> 00:06:49,149

this is probably I think magnesium o.h

193

00:06:51,989 --> 00:06:50,769

this tells us we have a mica this is

194

00:06:54,419 --> 00:06:51,999

what they use to detect phyllosilicates

195

00:06:57,499 --> 00:06:54,429

on Mars so we have a carbonate mica

196

00:06:59,609 --> 00:06:57,509

assemblage now we can also do this is a

197

00:07:01,169 --> 00:06:59,619

information that i got from micro x-ray

198

00:07:03,659 --> 00:07:01,179

diffraction so like x-ray diffraction

199

00:07:06,749 --> 00:07:03,669

what was shown earlier but you can do it

200

00:07:09,600 --> 00:07:06,759

in CA Choo so I did a transect all these

201  
00:07:13,069 --> 00:07:09,610  
little red dots are spots that I did

202  
00:07:15,989 --> 00:07:13,079  
micro xrd on and you can see the general

203  
00:07:17,789 --> 00:07:15,999  
mineralogy here so you've got anchorite

204  
00:07:19,229 --> 00:07:17,799  
or dolomite and some pirate that's kind

205  
00:07:20,579 --> 00:07:19,239  
of everywhere I say anchorite slashed

206  
00:07:22,229 --> 00:07:20,589  
all night because they're Isis

207  
00:07:24,149 --> 00:07:22,239  
structural it's basically can't really

208  
00:07:25,529 --> 00:07:24,159  
tell an xrd which is which it's just to

209  
00:07:28,619 --> 00:07:25,539  
solve a solution series of iron

210  
00:07:30,149 --> 00:07:28,629  
magnesium calcium carbonate then you've

211  
00:07:31,350 --> 00:07:30,159  
got a little bit of calcite but this is

212  
00:07:33,299 --> 00:07:31,360  
one of the few samples that actually has

213  
00:07:35,489 --> 00:07:33,309

any calcite quartz kind of threw out

214

00:07:38,609 --> 00:07:35,499

some mica so that's a fellow silicate

215

00:07:41,159 --> 00:07:38,619

and then some different types of

216

00:07:43,199 --> 00:07:41,169

sulfides Galena but then also tourmaline

217

00:07:44,639 --> 00:07:43,209

so this is telling us we have some sort

218

00:07:46,199 --> 00:07:44,649

of sedimentary and put into the fluid to

219

00:07:49,199 --> 00:07:46,209

provide the boron Fitzwilliam so we've

220

00:07:51,059 --> 00:07:49,209

got multiple fluids and then down to SEM

221

00:07:52,709 --> 00:07:51,069

analysis these are backscatter sem

222

00:07:54,659 --> 00:07:52,719

images showing different types of

223

00:07:58,079 --> 00:07:54,669

sulfides that we see so here we've got

224

00:08:00,569 --> 00:07:58,089

pyrite and molybdenite got sphalerite

225

00:08:03,869 --> 00:08:00,579

which is a zinc sulfide some more pie

226  
00:08:07,769 --> 00:08:03,879  
right Galena calcio products we got lead

227  
00:08:08,879 --> 00:08:07,779  
zinc copper sulfides these will all form

228  
00:08:10,139 --> 00:08:08,889  
at different temperatures we know we

229  
00:08:11,819 --> 00:08:10,149  
have different fluid sources in

230  
00:08:13,019 --> 00:08:11,829  
different temperatures but what does

231  
00:08:15,769 --> 00:08:13,029  
this all tell us about the geochemistry

232  
00:08:18,749 --> 00:08:15,779  
and the potential habitability well

233  
00:08:21,209 --> 00:08:18,759  
firstly we have carbonates aracite or

234  
00:08:24,569 --> 00:08:21,219  
potassium this is low salinity co2

235  
00:08:26,729 --> 00:08:24,579  
dominated fluids so a pretty monday and

236  
00:08:28,290 --> 00:08:26,739  
hydrothermal fluid but then we see

237  
00:08:29,850 --> 00:08:28,300  
variability and accessory middles and

238  
00:08:32,939 --> 00:08:29,860

trace metals so accessory minerals like

239

00:08:34,619 --> 00:08:32,949

different types of sulfide species rue

240

00:08:36,600 --> 00:08:34,629

tiles things like that n trace metals

241

00:08:37,949 --> 00:08:36,610

like titanium vanadium chromium

242

00:08:41,129 --> 00:08:37,959

molybdenum some of which are really

243

00:08:43,980 --> 00:08:41,139

important we talk about metal catalysts

244

00:08:46,559 --> 00:08:43,990

for life and enzymes we also see

245

00:08:49,139 --> 00:08:46,569

multiple fluid sources which partially

246

00:08:51,389 --> 00:08:49,149

we attribute some of this trace metal

247

00:08:53,670 --> 00:08:51,399

variability to episodic magmatic fluid

248

00:08:56,150 --> 00:08:53,680

input so little pulses of these metal

249

00:09:00,170 --> 00:08:56,160

rich really interesting fluids into this

250

00:09:03,650 --> 00:09:00,180

pretty you know just carbonate rich

251

00:09:04,880 --> 00:09:03,660

fluid providing areas of fluid mixing

252

00:09:06,200 --> 00:09:04,890

which is really interesting you got

253

00:09:08,090 --> 00:09:06,210

different fluids different temperatures

254

00:09:10,400 --> 00:09:08,100

you're creating potential for redox

255

00:09:14,329 --> 00:09:10,410

gradients and pH gradients as we know

256

00:09:17,180 --> 00:09:14,339

are important for life so what we're

257

00:09:19,100 --> 00:09:17,190

doing now and working on is trying to

258

00:09:20,750 --> 00:09:19,110

further understand this fluid source and

259

00:09:22,970 --> 00:09:20,760

mixing so looking at carbon and oxygen

260

00:09:24,790 --> 00:09:22,980

stable isotopes I will start running

261

00:09:27,620 --> 00:09:24,800

them as soon as I get back to London and

262

00:09:29,150 --> 00:09:27,630

then I've done some synchrotron x-ray

263

00:09:30,800 --> 00:09:29,160

mapping and speciation of pyrite grains

264

00:09:32,720 --> 00:09:30,810

to look at trace metal speciation and

265

00:09:34,970 --> 00:09:32,730

abundances and correlations between

266

00:09:39,079 --> 00:09:34,980

different trace metals and gold for

267

00:09:40,699 --> 00:09:39,089

instance and yeah primarily gold it sits

268

00:09:43,010 --> 00:09:40,709

in a mind the gold company wants to know

269

00:09:44,780 --> 00:09:43,020

where the gold is from but I get to get

270

00:09:47,990 --> 00:09:44,790

cool samples and do awesome science is

271

00:09:49,250 --> 00:09:48,000

kind of again it's a trade off and then

272

00:09:50,300 --> 00:09:49,260

we won't understand flu temperatures

273

00:09:52,070 --> 00:09:50,310

this is what I'm excited but we're going

274

00:09:53,990 --> 00:09:52,080

to do some clumped carbonate isotope

275

00:09:55,519 --> 00:09:54,000

thermometry this will allow us to

276

00:09:58,040 --> 00:09:55,529

elucidate what temperature this

277

00:09:59,810 --> 00:09:58,050

carbonate was precipitated at and then

278

00:10:01,610 --> 00:09:59,820

also to fully understand the timing and

279

00:10:03,199 --> 00:10:01,620

pear genesis the rock record ins area is

280

00:10:04,390 --> 00:10:03,209

pretty well understood a lot of things

281

00:10:07,370 --> 00:10:04,400

have been dated it's been worked on for

282

00:10:09,920 --> 00:10:07,380

you know 100 years but if we can put

283

00:10:11,840 --> 00:10:09,930

this hydrothermal alteration in two

284

00:10:13,100 --> 00:10:11,850

contexts with when the basin was forming

285

00:10:14,449 --> 00:10:13,110

what intrusions were for me we can

286

00:10:16,160 --> 00:10:14,459

better understand what's going on on the

287

00:10:17,810 --> 00:10:16,170

large scale so we're going to do either

288

00:10:20,930 --> 00:10:17,820

some monocyte or molybdenite dating

289

00:10:24,680 --> 00:10:20,940

having decided yet with that I would

290

00:10:25,970 --> 00:10:24,690

like to thank my sponsors and everyone