

Stratigraphy and Isotope Geochemistry of the pre-Sturtian Ugab Subgroup, Otavi Group, northwestern  
Namibia

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**Abstract**

The Islay carbon isotope anomaly is a late Tonian negative  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  excursion that has been documented in marine carbonates globally. It has in the past been thought to be causally linked to the onset of Cryogenian glaciation ca. 717 Ma. However, recent work suggests that this anomaly is instead closer to ca. 739–735 Ma and that it may be one of two distinct late Tonian isotope anomalies. Here we present the litho- and chemo-stratigraphy of the late Tonian Ugab Subgroup of the Otavi Group in northwestern Namibia. Carbon isotope data from two separate outcrop belts, the Summas Mountains and the Vrede Domes, indicate that the Ugab Subgroup strata exposed in the former inlier are older than those of the latter, with only approximately 100 metres of stratigraphic overlap. We use detailed measured sections to develop a sequence stratigraphic framework for the Ugab Subgroup in each outcrop belt, and correlate strata across the two exposures to construct a composite carbonate  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  record for the late Tonian in Namibia. This carbon isotope profile of the Ugab Subgroup shows two separate pre-Sturtian negative anomalies, consistent with findings in northern Canada, Svalbard, Scotland, and Ethiopia. Our results are an important contribution to the pre-Cryogenian carbon isotope record, as these data may serve as the first definitive documentation of both anomalies within a single basin.

Keywords: Neoproterozoic; carbon isotopes; carbonates; stratigraphy

## Introduction

The Neoproterozoic Era (1000-541 Ma) was a time of enormous climatic fluctuations that included at least two global glaciations, often termed ‘Snowball Earth’ events, each followed by extreme greenhouse conditions (Kirschvink 1992; Hoffman et al., 1998). The Neoproterozoic also records at least six globally correlative significant negative excursions in the marine carbonate carbon isotope record ( $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$ ), which are superimposed on a long-term baseline carbon isotope enrichment of  $\sim 5\text{‰}$  that persisted until the Cambrian Period ( $\sim 541$  Ma) (Halverson et al., 2005; Halverson et al., 2018a). Much of this time is characterized by significant tectonic reorganization, with the lengthy breakup of the equatorially-centered supercontinent Rodinia (ca. 830-720 Ma) and following assembly of Gondwana (Hoffman, 1991, 1999; Meert and Lieberman, 2008; Pisarevsky et al., 2003). Additionally, the Neoproterozoic features important advances in biological evolution, including expansion in eukaryotic diversity observed in the fossil record beginning ca. 800 Ma (Porter, 2004) and the appearance of the first macroscopic metazoans ca. 571 Ma (Pu et al., 2016).

Although the Neoproterozoic geological record has been dramatically refined by new stratigraphic and geochronological studies in the past two decades, the study of the Precambrian sedimentary record remains a challenge due to the limited biostratigraphic record and relative scarcity of well-preserved successions. Consequently, division of the Precambrian into meaningful and accurate units of geologic time poses an ongoing challenge. Following establishment of the basal Ediacaran Global Stratotype Section and Point (GSSP) at the base of cap carbonates overlying Marinoan (ca. 635.5 Ma) glacial deposits (Knoll et al., 2004), an international effort is now underway to replace the 720 Ma Tonian-Cryogenian Global Standard Stratigraphic Age (GSSA) with a GSSP. However, this effort is complicated by the typically erosional nature of the lower Cryogenian boundary (Shields-Zhou et al., 2016; Shields et al., 2018). It is mandated that the Cryogenian GSSP should be beneath the oldest glaciogenic deposits and it is broadly agreed that its placement will be guided by high resolution chemostratigraphic data,

specifically the carbon isotope record (Shields-Zhou et al, 2016). Therefore, improved records of pre-Sturtian strata worldwide are required in order to select the most appropriate location for the GSSP.

A potentially important chemostratigraphic marker for selecting this GSSP is the pre-Sturtian Islay anomaly, a negative carbon isotope excursion has been observed in late Tonian carbonate successions in multiple locations on many paleocontinents. The purported Islay anomaly marks a drop in  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  of approximately 10‰; in some locations, it corresponds also to a small coeval decline in  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$  (Hoffman et al., 2012; Strauss et al., 2014). The Islay anomaly has been considered to be analogous to the better-documented pre-Marinoan Trezona anomaly (McKirdy et al., 2001; Halverson et al., 2002), and by extension, inferred to record a perturbation to the carbon cycle that is genetically linked to the onset of the first (Sturtian) Neoproterozoic Snowball Earth event (e.g., Halverson and Shields, 2011). However, debate as to the cause, synchronicity, and even primary nature of these pre-glacial anomalies persists.

Furthermore, new age constraints for the Islay anomaly have called into question the assumption of a causal linkage between the mechanism that generated the Islay anomaly and initiated the Cryogenian glaciation. A late Tonian carbon isotope anomaly in northern Ethiopia thought to be correlative to the global Islay anomaly is now precisely constrained by a U-Pb age of  $735.25 \pm 0.88$  Ma from a volcanic layer just metres above the nadir of the anomaly (MacLennan et al., 2018). This age agrees with Re-Os ages of  $739.9 \pm 6.1$  Ma and  $732.2 \pm 3.9$  Ma bracketing an anomaly of similar magnitude in northwestern Canada (Rooney et al., 2014; Strauss et al., 2015), and followed by a complete recovery to baseline  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values before the onset of the Sturtian glaciation ca. 717 Ma. However, recent work in Scotland on a conformable transition from pre-glacial carbonates into glacial diamictite shows a negative carbon isotope excursion of similar magnitude in strata that are interpreted to be continuous and conformable with early Cryogenian glacial deposits, suggesting an age much closer to 717 Ma (Fairchild et al., 2018; Ali et al., 2018). These ages and observations have raised speculation of the existence of two separate ‘Islay anomalies’, and highlights the need for more detailed end-Tonian  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  records (Halverson et al., 2018a).

Despite the many documented occurrences globally of pre-Sturtian  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  excursions, the ‘Islay’ anomaly has not been conclusively reported in the Otavi Group of northwestern Namibia, a succession which played a key role in the development of the Snowball Earth Hypothesis (e.g. Hoffman et al., 1998). The Ugab Subgroup of the Otavi Group comprises the most immediately pre-Cryogenian strata of northwestern Namibia and is only present on the distal foreslope of and in the basin adjacent to the Otavi Platform. Negative  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  values have been documented in the Ugab Subgroup where it outcrops in the Summas Mountains region (Hoffman and Halverson, 2008; Hoffman, unpublished data), but their affinity with the Islay anomaly is uncertain, and the stratigraphic relationships between the Ugab Subgroup strata in the Summas Mountains and other exposures of the subgroup are not well-defined. Here we will present a depositional framework and regional correlations for the pre-Cryogenian Ugab Subgroup and use these to integrate the existing carbon isotope data with our new results to present an updated carbon isotope profile for the Ugab Subgroup, which is consistent with the recent proposal of the existence of two discrete pre-Sturtian negative  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  anomalies.

## **Geologic Context**

Early during the fragmentation of Rodinia, north-south crustal stretching opened a rift basin between the Congo craton and its conjugate margin to the south. Initial rifting, ca. 900-760 Ma, resulted in the deposition of the Nosib Group as siliciclastic sediments were shed southward off the Congo craton into the emerging rift basin (Miller, 2008). As extension continued episodically for ~140 Ma, a paleotopographic high called the Makalani Ridge developed in the basin from uplift and back-rotation along a large-scale normal fault. This faulting divided the Makalani sub-basin to the north from the Outjo sub-basin to the south. Intensity of the crustal stretching increased southwards (Henry et al., 1990), causing differentiation between the Makalani sub-basin, into which the Ombombo Subgroup was deposited, and the deeper Outjo sub-basin, in which bimodal volcanism was followed by deposition of intercalated siliciclastic sediments and peritidal carbonates of the Ugab Subgroup. During the Sturtian glaciation, a second paleotopographic high, the Huab Ridge, formed south of the Makalani Ridge. Crustal

stretching ceased during the interglacial interval ca. 650 Ma, and thermal subsidence took over as the dominant control on the basin (Halverson et al., 2002), resulting in the development of a stable, shallow-water carbonate platform with a shelf-break at the scarp of the Huab ridge. A foreslope south of the shelf break transitioned into the deep-water Outjo sub-basin, and the Hoanib Lagoon was established to the north. Ensuing thermal subsidence on the passive margin accommodated nearly two kilometres of almost entirely carbonate strata on the Otavi platform. A comprehensive review of the Otavi Group stratigraphy in northwestern Namibia is provided by Hoffman and Halverson (2008).

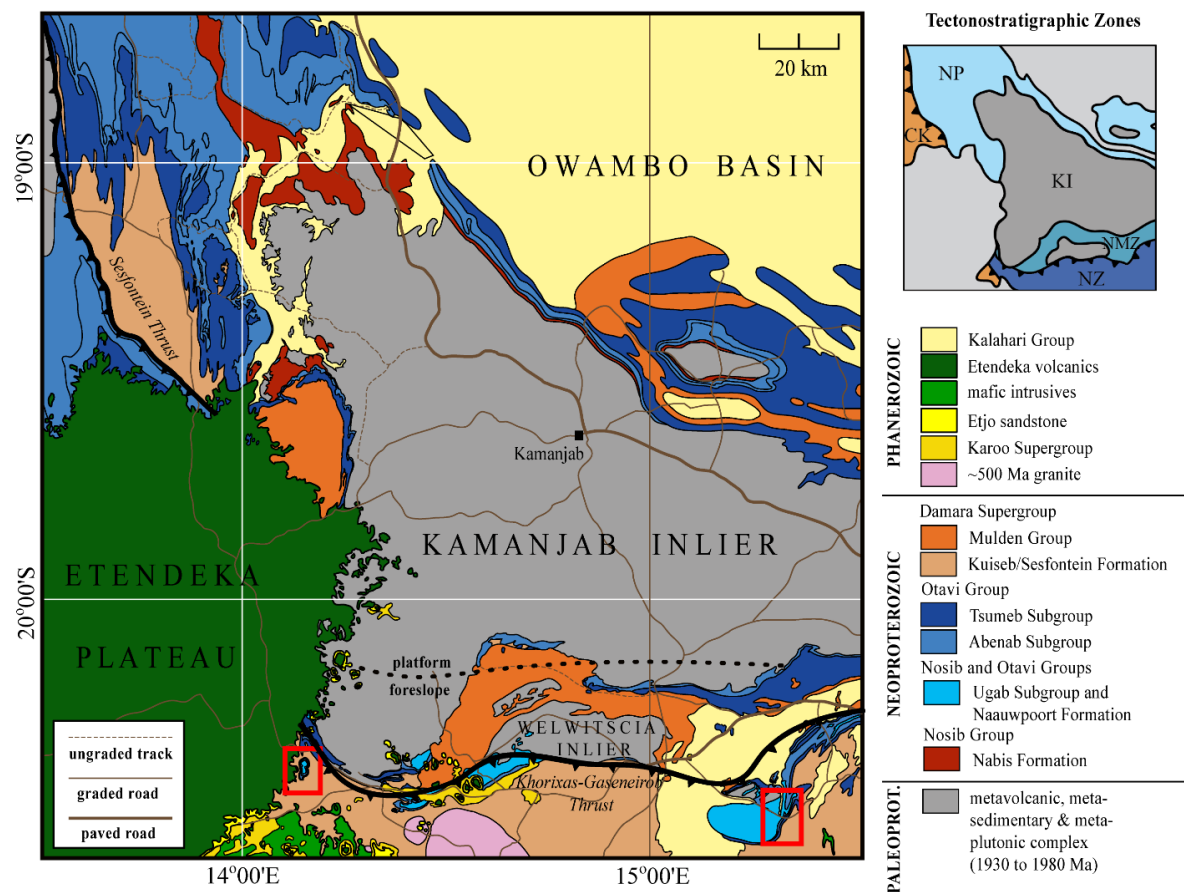


Figure 1: Geological map of the southern Kunene region area around the Kamanjab inlier, from Hoffman and Halverson (2008). Field areas outlined in red boxes; Vrede Domes to the left and the Summas Mountains to the right. Small map in top right corner shows the tectonostratigraphic zones of this same area, where NP= Northern Platform, NMZ= Northern Margin Zone, NZ= Northern Zone, KI= Kamanjab Inlier, and CK= Central Kaoko Zone.

111 Miller (1983, 2008) divided Namibia into tectonostratigraphic zones associated with the Damara Orogen,  
112 (see **Figure 1**), with alternate names for the zones offered by Hoffmann et al. (1989). The Otavi Group  
113 lies within three of these tectonostratigraphic zones: the Northern Platform, the Northern Margin Zone,  
114 and the northernmost Northern Zone, where there is a gradational transition into the basinal correlatives  
115 of the Swakop Group (Miller, 2008).

116 The Northern Platform or Otavi Platform contains the platform facies rocks of the Otavi Group. Damara  
117 Supergroup successions are exposed along the western and southern rim of the Northern Platform and  
118 extend beneath Phanerozoic cover in the Owambo Basin to the east. The western border of the Northern  
119 Platform is defined by the east-vergent Sesfontein Thrust, which juxtaposes metamorphosed Otavi Group  
120 from the internal zone of the Kaoko Belt against the less deformed fold and thrust belt. The southern  
121 border is the platform-to-slope transition; it is well-exposed along the southern flank of the Kamajab  
122 Inlier. The Northern Margin Zone is a thin strip of foreslope deposits rimming the southern edge of the  
123 Northern Platform. The Northern Margin Zone is separated from the Northern Zone to the south by the  
124 Khorixas-Gaseneirob Thrust. The Northern Zone or Outjo Zone made up part of the seafloor of the Outjo  
125 basin during rifting and spreading. When the Kalahari and Congo cratons collided ca. 550 Ma, the  
126 Northern Zone was thrust northward along the Khorixas-Gaseneirob Thrust onto the Northern Margin  
127 Zone. It is within the Northern Zone that the Ugab Subgroup outcrops.

128 In the northernmost Northern Zone, the Ugab Subgroup forms the base of the Otavi Group and sits  
129 stratigraphically between the volcanic Naauwpoort Formation and the glaciogenic Chuos Formation. The  
130 Ugab Subgroup consists mainly of peritidal carbonates intercalated with siliciclastics. Its relationship to  
131 the Ombombo Subgroup of the Otavi Platform is still not fully understood, but a U-Pb zircon age of 746  
132  $\pm 2$  Ma from an ash-flow tuff in the Naauwpoort Formation (Hoffman et al., 1996) suggests that the Ugab  
133 Subgroup must be at least 15 m.y. younger than the upper Devede Formation, which contains a tuff dated  
134 (U-Pb zircon) at 760 $\pm 1$  Ma (Halverson et al., 2005). The youngest possible age for the top of the Ugab

Subgroup can be inferred from a maximum age constraint of  $717.4 \pm 0.2$  Ma for the onset of the Sturtian glaciation (Macdonald et al., 2010, 2018; MacLennan et al., 2018).

Miller (1980; 2008) divided the Ugab Subgroup of the NZ into the Okotjize and Orusewa Formations, with the former being a carbonate-dominated and the latter being siliciclastic-dominated. The Okotjize Formation is described as a succession of dolostone interbedded with schist and marly schist that is locally hundreds of metres thick but laterally pinches out. The Okotjize Formation is conformably overlain by the Orusewa Formation, which generally consists of schist overlain by a quartzite that is highly variable in degree of sorting and composition that has been suggested to represent deposition of eroded material associated with the pre-Sturtian fall in sea-level (Miller, 2008).

## **Methods**

### ***Field Work***

Field work was executed in the two outcrop belts with the best exposures of the Ugab Subgroup: the Summas Mountains and the Vrede Domes. In each field area, many closely-spaced sections were measured to work out stratigraphic relationships, and carbonate samples were collected from several sections and partial sections were sampled opportunistically (sampling interval of 3–4 m) for carbon isotope analysis.

We synthesized these new stratigraphic logs and data with previously published (Hoffman and Halverson, 2008) and unpublished results of many past field seasons of work done in the Vrede Domes and Summas Mountains regions, including detailed measured sections and  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  profiles.

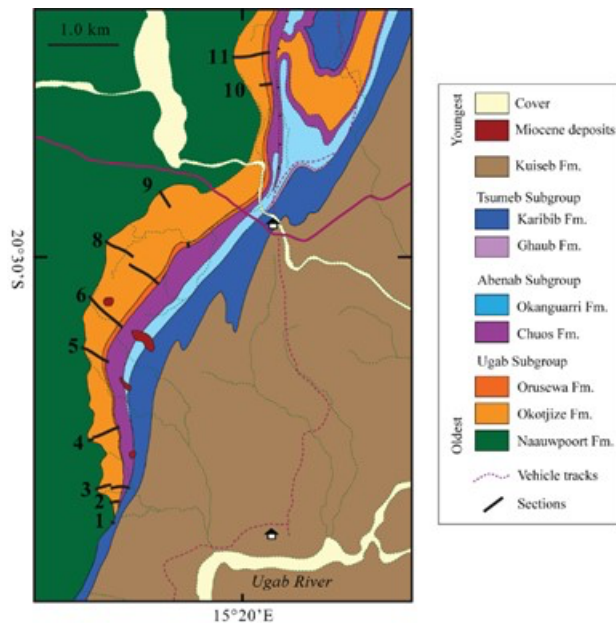
### ***Carbon and oxygen isotope analysis***

Carbonate samples were cut using a diamond lapidary blade to expose unweathered surfaces, then rinsed and dried. A table drill was used to collect small amounts of fine powder, along lamination where visible, from cut surfaces of the samples for  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carb}}$  analyses. Veins and fractures were avoided. Approximately 120  $\mu\text{g}$  of powder from each sample was weighed out for analysis on a Nu Instruments

Perspective mass spectrometer coupled to a NuCarb automated carbonate preparation device, at McGill University. Carbon and oxygen isotope ratios were measured simultaneously in dual inlet mode. Batches contained 40 samples with 10 in-house geostandards regularly interspersed. The samples were heated to 70°C and sequentially reacted with phosphoric acid (H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>) to produce CO<sub>2</sub>, which was then cryogenically isolated. Isotopic ratios of the CO<sub>2</sub> were measured against reference gas, and  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carb}}$  were calculated and calibrated to VPDB, with a 1 $\sigma$  precision of <0.05‰.

### The Summas Mountains Inlier

The Summas Mountains Inlier (**Figure 2**) is located in the Northern Zone approximately 30 km ESE of the town of Khorixas. It is a former volcanic center and one of the two sources of the Naauwpoort Formation rift-related volcanics (Miller, 1980). The Naauwpoort Formation in the Summas Mountains consists mainly of peralkaline to alkaline rhyolitic tuffs, with minor mafic volcanics (Miller, 1980). A U-Pb zircon date of 746±2 Ma exists for an ash-flow tuff collected approximately 1000 metres stratigraphically below the contact with the Ugab Subgroup (Hoffman et al., 1996). At the core of the



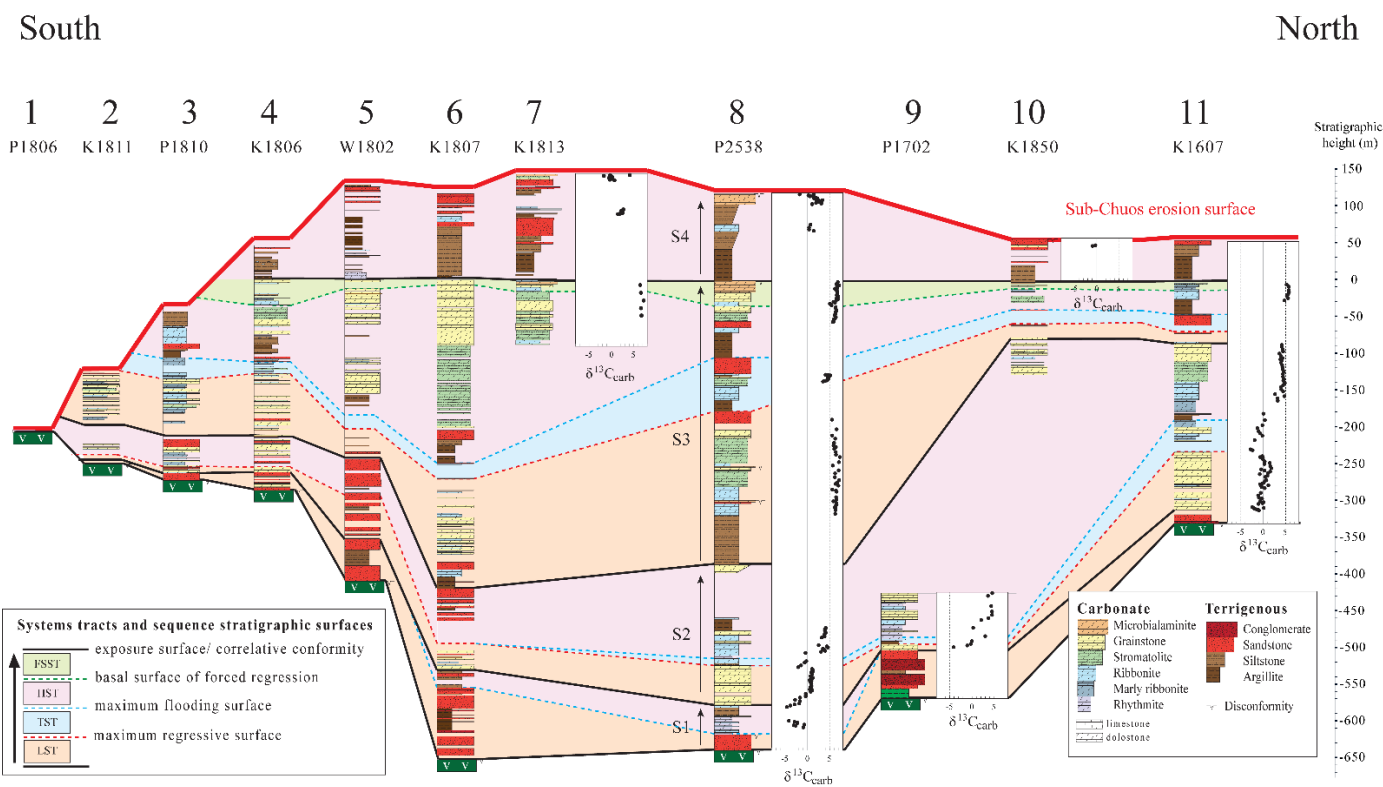
**Figure 2: Geological map of the Summas Mountains with measured section locations marked (see Figure 3 for corresponding sections). Modified from Hoffman et al. (2018).**



inlier, proposed to be a cauldron-subsidence structure (Guj, 1974), the cumulative thickness of the rhyolitic ash-flow tuffs exceeds 6km and the base is not visible (Miller, 1974; 1980). The Ugab Subgroup outcrops on the eastern edge of the Summas Mountains, where it paraconformably overlies Naauwpoort Formation volcanic rocks and lies beneath the Chuos Formation, separated by a low-angle unconformity. The Chuos Formation here is continuous and ranges in thickness from at least 25 metres to over 300 metres.

### *Ugab Subgroup Lithostratigraphy in the Summas Mountains*

A composite section (P2538) of the Ugab Subgroup in the Summas Mountains was previously generated from overlapping sections just south of the Huab River on Loewenfontein Farm (**Figure 3**; Hoffman and



*Figure 3: Stratigraphic sections of the Ugab Subgroup in the Summas Mountains, with base of Okotjize Formation used as datum. Section locations marked on Figure 2. S1-4 indicate the identified depositional sequences, as described in text.*

Halverson, 2008). This section comprises 20 shallowing-upward depositional cycles separated by flooding surfaces or, less commonly, by subaerial exposure surfaces.

Six additional full sections of the Ugab Subgroup and three partial sections were measured for this study. The southernmost sections (K1806, P1810, and K1811) show erosional truncation beneath the Chuos Formation increasing to the south, and complete erosion of the Ugab Subgroup in section P1806 (**Figure 3**).

A coarse siliciclastic unit, consisting dominantly of quartz arenite, is found at the base of all sections with the exception of K1811, where the base is not exposed. This basal unit is highly variable both in thickness and number of parasequences recorded. Directly overlying the coarse siliciclastic unit in P2538 are four small-scale (<10 metres thick) deep-water carbonate parasequences that are absent in the other sections but may coincide with a gap in exposure. Alternatively, the fine carbonate unit could have been squeezed out during deformation, as it is rheologically weaker than the bracketing units of sandstone. The next several hundred metres of section are dominated by carbonate cycles, commonly interbedded with argillite or siltstone in the northern sections. Sandstone-capped cycles in the south progressively become more carbonate-rich up-section. Near the top of the sections, a major flooding surface marks a transition to dominantly fine-grained siliciclastics at the base of the Okotjize Formation.

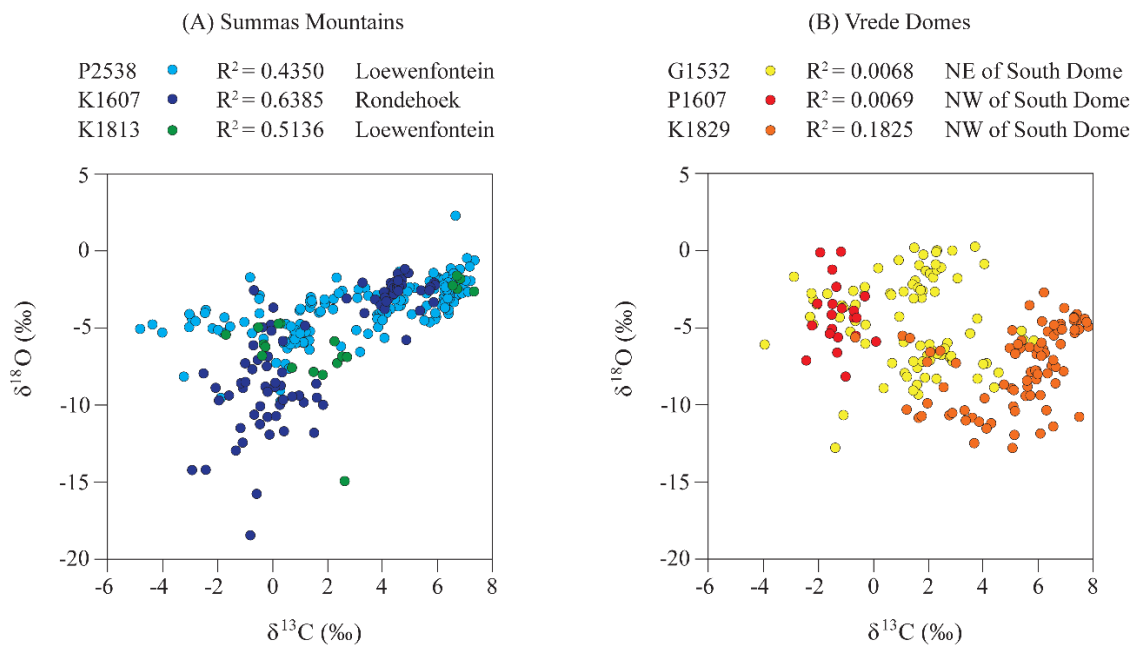
### ***Sequence Stratigraphic Architecture of the Summas Mountains***

Four third-order depositional sequences (Krapez, 1996), denoted as S1-S4, were identified and are shown in **Figure 3**. We interpret the basal coarse siliciclastic unit as a lowstand systems tract (LST), overlain in P2538 by a thin highstand systems tract represented by several fine carbonate parasequences. The end of this deep-water unit marks the transition to sequence 2, which begins with a unit of variable thickness consisting dominantly of grainstone to the north and sandstone to the south that comprise the LST. A maximum flooding surface (MFS) above a thick carbonate unit marks the base of a thick HST, consisting of at least five parasequences of ribbonite or marly ribbonite, or less commonly argillite, grading into grainstone to the north and sandstone to the south. The base of a thick siltstone unit in P2538 is

interpreted as an exposure surface, overlain by an LST at the base of sequence 3. The top of the LST is a flooding surface above a sandstone unit. This flooding surface marks the beginning of a TST consisting of two parasequences. The MFS is within the thick argillite unit that overlies sandstone. The HST consists dominantly of fine-grained siliciclastic sediments at the base and carbonates at the top. It is overlain by an FSST that culminates in grainstone and microbialaminates with an exposure surface, which marks the base of sequence 4 and a major flooding surface.

### ***Carbon Isotope Results from the Summas Mountains***

Carbonate samples were collected from one full section and three partial sections in the Summas Mountains and integrated with existing data from P2538. Cross-plots of carbon and oxygen isotope data from all sections from the Summas Mountains show some degree of correlation, implying the potential for moderate to high levels of diagenetic overprinting (**Figure 4**). Alteration by meteoric water has been documented to drive both oxygen isotope ratios and carbon isotope ratios (to a lesser extent) to more negative values (Allan and Matthews, 1982). However, the carbon isotope data from the full section



**Figure 4: Carbon and oxygen isotope cross-plots of Ugab Subgroup sections from the Summas Mountains (A) and the Vrede Domes (B).**

at Rondehoek Farm from this study (K1607) closely matches the composite section (P2538) measured previously on Loewenfontein Farm approximately five kilometres to the south (Hoffman and Halverson, 2008) (**Figure 3**). Both sections show a double-nadir negative anomaly and a recovery to ~5‰ in the basal 150 metres of section, followed by  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  remaining relatively stable around 5‰ for several hundreds of metres.

The nadir of the first peak of the basal anomaly reaches nearly -5‰ in Loewenfontein section P2538. The full anomaly is not recorded in Rondehoek section K1607, and the ascending arm begins from -3‰. In both sections,  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  rises to approximately 1 ‰ before abruptly dropping back to -3 ‰ directly above a flooding surface. Partial section P1702 also captures a portion of this apparent double-peaked negative anomaly. Section K1607 records a drop in  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  coinciding with the basal anomaly, as well as a large increase in the scatter of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  that is not observed in  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ .

Carbon isotope values then rise to a plateau around 5‰, at which they remain for nearly 500 metres. Carbonates from the top of the Loewenfontein section, absent in the Rondehoek section, record  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  descending back towards 0‰, and drop to negative values within a few metres of the subglacial erosion surface. This descent coincides with a considerable decrease in  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ , signifying that alteration is likely and the negative trend in  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  should be treated cautiously. A partial section, K1850, measured just half a kilometre south of the full Rondehoek section, contains a thin carbonate grainstone unit within the uppermost sandstone unit, with  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values just below 0‰.

## **The Vrede Domes**

The Vrede Domes (**Figure 5**) are a pair of doubly plunging anticlines located in the Northern Zone, approximately 80 km west of the town of Khorixas (**Figure 1**). They are interpreted to have formed from interference folding during three phases of deformation, beginning with N-S shortening followed by E-W shortening associated with the Kaoko orogen, and finally ENE-WSW shortening associated with the Damara orogen (Maloof, 2000). The domes expose Otavi Group strata, with the Ugab Subgroup in the core. The Ugab Subgroup here shows a rapid lateral transition from coarse siliciclastic deposition in the

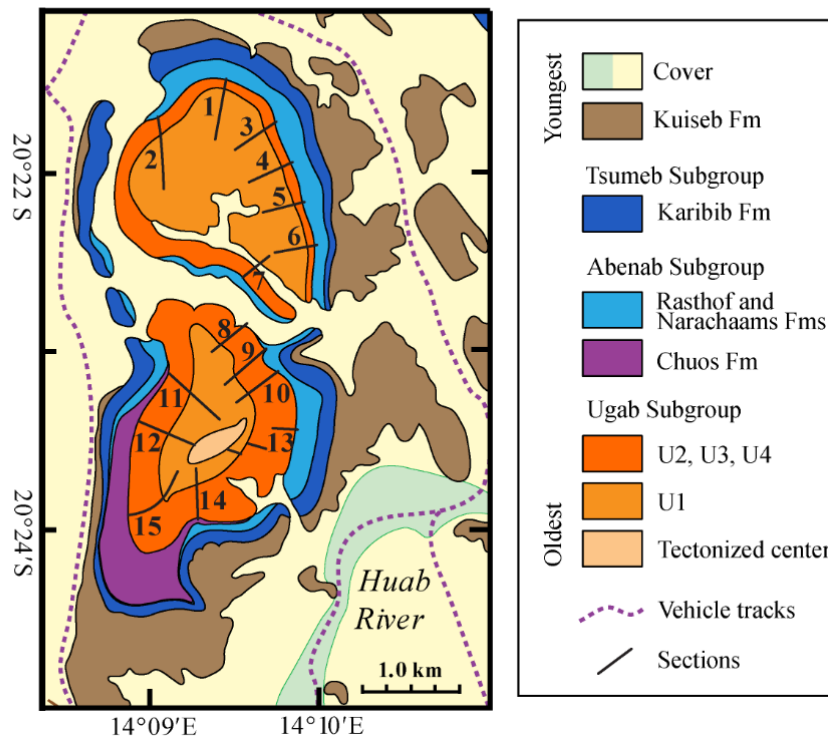


Figure 5: Geological map of the Vrede Domes with measured section locations marked (see Figure 6 for corresponding sections). Modified from Hoffman et al. (2016). U1-4 are the subdivisions of the Ugab Subgroup as defined by Maloof (2000).

north to carbonate-dominated strata in the south. The South Dome exposes the Ugab strata up to a greater depth than the North Dome with a highly tectonized carbonate at the base. It is unknown if the Naauwpoort Formation lies beneath, or if the Ugab Subgroup here lies directly on Paleoproterozoic basement.

The Chuos Formation is not laterally continuous in the Vrede Domes and mainly overlies the Ugab Subgroup in the southern end of the South Dome (**Figure 5**), where it appears as a thick wedge interpreted as a moraine-like deposit due to the stratigraphic onlap of overlying strata and absence of significant incision into the underlying Ugab Subgroup (Hoffman et al., 2016; Hoffman et al., 2017). It also appears in some areas in the North Dome, where it is much thinner. Where the Chuos Formation is absent, the Rasthof Formation unconformably overlies the Ugab Subgroup.

## ***Ugab Subgroup Lithostratigraphy in the Vrede Domes***

Prior detailed stratigraphic logging and mapping in the Vrede Domes resulted in division of the Ugab Subgroup into four unnamed units, referred to from lowermost to uppermost as U1, U2, U3, and U4. These units were originally defined and described by Maloof (2000), divided by significant flooding surfaces, and assigned to the Ombombo Subgroup, but later workers reassigned the strata to the Ugab Subgroup while keeping the same divisions of units (Hoffman and Halverson, 2008; Hoffman et al., 2016). Unit U1 only occurs in the South Dome, where it sits above the basal tectonized limestone. It consists mainly of black to maroon limestones on the west side of the dome or dolostone on the east side, and sandstones. The top of the unit shows a transition to coarse-grained polymictic conglomerate. Unit U2 is made up of polymictic conglomerate, sandstone, and dolostone ribbonite, generally arranged in fining-upwards cycles. However, the unit as whole coarsens upwards. In the North Dome, U2 is dominated by coarse-grained conglomerate. A maximum age constraint of  $743 \pm 10$  Ma for the upper part of U2 from U-Pb ages on detrital zircons (Nascimento et al., 2017; Hoffman and Halverson, 2018) is consistent with the  $746 \pm 2$  Ma date from the Nauwpoort Formation (Hoffman et al., 1996). The top of U2 is defined by a flooding surface and U3 marks a transition to carbonate-dominated deposition. This unit consists of shoaling upward cycles of dolostone ribbonites, *Tungussia*-type stromatolites, and grainstones with silicified ooid beds containing individual ooids up to 0.5 cm in diameter. A major flooding surface marks the base of U4, which comprises almost entirely dolostone ribbonite, usually in beds that are decametres thick. Some sections include subordinate thin beds of grainstone or stromatolite. The Ugab Subgroup is truncated and in places brecciated beneath the Sturtian subglacial erosive surface. Correlation of U4 across the domes indicates variable depth of erosion on this boundary (**Figure 6**).

## ***Sequence Stratigraphic Architecture in the Vrede Domes***

Four fourth-order depositional sequences have been identified and divided into systems tracts in the Vrede Domes (**Figure 6**). These depositional sequences (denoted in **Figure 6** as V1-V4) are different from the units U1-U4 defined by Maloof (2000), and also distinct from the depositional sequences

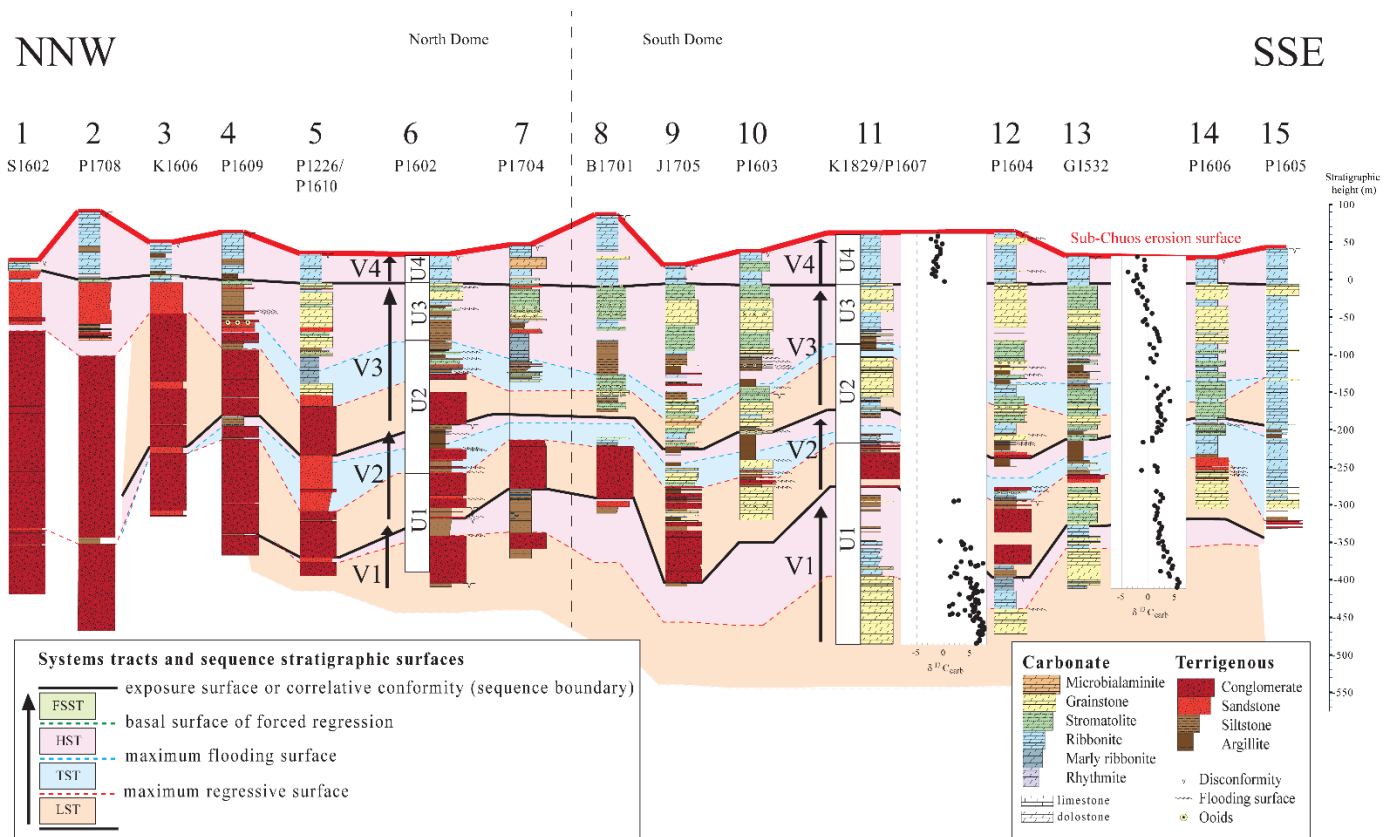


Figure 6: Stratigraphic sections of the Ugab Subgroup in the Vrede Domes, with base of uppermost ribbonite unit (V4) as datum (Hoffman et al., 2017). Section locations are marked on Figure 5. V1-4 are the depositional sequences described in text.

recognized in the Summas Mountains (S1-S4). The sequences show repeated abrupt increases in base level, likely tectonically controlled, caused by slip on the extensional fault to the north of the Outjo basin.

The base of sequence V1 cannot be seen. In the North Dome, the lowest visible systems tract is an LST, represented by a thick polymictic conglomerate unit, which grades laterally to a thick interval of grainstone in the South Dome. No TST is preserved, and instead, a sharp flooding surface marks the base of the overlying HST. The HST in the North Dome is represented by sandstone or siltstone, sometimes containing carbonate concretions; ribbonite or marly ribbonite make up the HST in the South Dome.

An exposure surface, recognized in some sections by a scoured surface and discoloration of the underlying siltstone, marks the base of sequence V2, followed by an LST generally consisting of over 50

metres of conglomerate in the North Dome. This thick conglomerate unit continues into the South Dome, where it is variably interbedded with carbonates or finer-grained siliciclastics. A TST begins at the top of the conglomeratic unit, ending with a maximum flooding surface near the base of an argillite unit. This is followed by a thin HST represented by the argillite or fine siltstone unit, which can be traced across nearly all the sections.

Sequence V3 begins, once again, with a thick conglomerate unit in the North Dome representing an LST. In the South Dome, the LST consists of a few parasequences capped by stromatolite or grainstone. The maximum regressive surface is generally found at the top of a thick grainstone unit, followed by a well-developed TST recording fining upward. The base of the HST is another significant argillaceous unit, containing several small-scale parasequences, that can be seen in nearly every section. Parasequence grain size coarsens upwards and become dominated by stromatolite and ooid grainstone.

The base of sequence V4 is a significant flooding surface, marked by an abrupt transition to a ribbonite unit, interpreted as an HST. It is erosionally truncated by the sub-Chuos glacial unconformity.

#### ***Carbon Isotope Results from the Vrede Domes***

Samples were collected from one full section (G1532) and two partial sections (K1829 and P1607) in the South Dome of the Vrede Domes. Carbon isotope results from the Vrede Domes sections are plotted stratigraphically in **Figure 6**, and show negligible correlation between  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  (**Figure 4**). The full section sampled on the east side of the South Dome (G1532) records a very gradual decline over nearly 450 metres of strata, from  $\sim 5\text{‰}$  at the base of the section to a low around  $-3\text{‰}$  at the top of the section. The decline plateaus between 1 and 3  $\text{‰}$  through the middle of the section. Section K1829, from the western side of the South Dome, reproduces the beginning of the decline from baseline observed in the lower part of G1532, but begins stratigraphically deeper. Section P1607, the uppermost ribbonite unit roughly stratigraphically above K1829, reproduces the gradual decline into negative  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values observed at the top of the Ugab Subgroup in G1532.



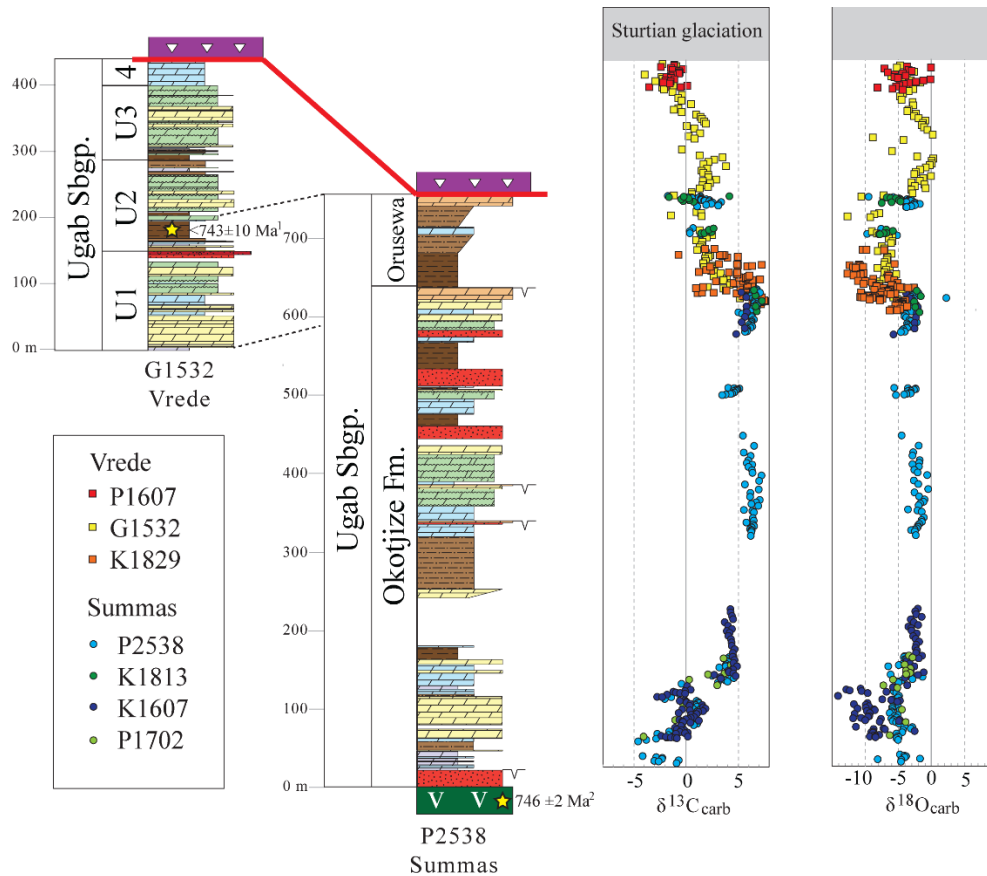


Figure 7: Composite carbon isotope profile of the Ugab Subgroup. Radiometric ages are from the following references: 1: Nascimento et al., 2017; 2: Hoffman et al., 1996.

## Discussion

### Regional Correlations and a composite section

The  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  trends at the Vrede Domes and Summas Mountains are starkly different, suggesting that if the trends are primary, the correlatable overlap between the two exposures of the Ugab Subgroup is relatively small. Because the dominant control on base level fluctuation during the deposition of the Ugab Subgroup in both the Summas Mountains and the Vrede Domes was local extension, which differed in each area, the identified depositional sequences are of little to no use for correlation. Consequently, correlation between the section sampled at the Vrede Domes and the sections from the Summas Mountains was made

based on the carbon isotope data and on the indication from available geochronology and lithostratigraphic correlation of the overlying glacial deposits that the two regions broadly overlap in age. The lower half of the Vrede Domes section records a descent from approximately 5‰ to 0‰ that can be connected with a similar negative trend in the upper portion of the Summas Mountains section (**Figure 7**). The decline in  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  at the top of P2538 corresponds with scattered  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  declining to -10‰, which suggests meteoric diagenesis may have been significant. However, the bulk of the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  data lie between -4 and -2‰, consistent with  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values throughout most of the section, whereas all of the  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  data points drop nearly 4‰ relative to the baseline. Though some of the samples were likely diagenetically driven towards lower values, the decline in  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  at the top of P2538 cannot be explained by diagenesis alone. The composite section covers a relatively complete record of the pre-Cryogenian in northwestern Namibia, spanning nearly 1 km of strata unconformably lying between radiometrically dated volcanic rocks giving a maximum age constraint for the base of  $746 \pm 2$  Ma (Hoffman et al., 1996), and the sub-glacial erosion surface of the Sturtian glaciation, giving a maximum age constraint for the top of  $717 \pm 0.2$  Ma (Macdonald et al., 2010). This age-constrained profile can be used to propose global correlations.

#### ***Late Tonian carbon isotope anomalies and global correlation***

Based on the proposed correlations between the two inliers, the Ugab Subgroup preserves two separate negative  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  anomalies: an older one that is recorded at the base of the Summas Mountains sections, and a younger one in the Vrede Domes. It is worth noting that this two-anomaly interpretation is made based on the assumption that Fairchild et al (2018) were correct in their conclusion that the pre-Sturtian negative anomaly recorded in Scotland lies immediately below conformable Sturtian glacial deposits, despite the absence of age constraints within this succession that could validate this. Alternatively, the upper Ugab Subgroup drop in  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  may represent a gradual decline in global seawater  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  preceding the glaciation, rather than a truncated excursion.

Within the two-anomaly framework, we posit that the younger anomaly is truncated by sub-Chuos erosion, where only the declining arm is preserved and the nadir and recovery have been removed. The

older excursion, near the base of the Summas Mountains sections, is much sharper and reaches more negative values (ca. -4.5 ‰) than the Vrede Domes anomaly. However, it has a double-minima, which is not observed in pre-Sturtian anomalies in other parts of the world. The association of the second minimum with a flooding surface and subsequent deep-water facies suggests that it could be a secondary feature resulting from authigenic carbonate contribution or alteration, but we also explore the possibility that it is a primary seawater signal.

In the context of the recently updated  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  record from Scotland (Fairchild et al., 2018), our data set is consistent with the existence of at least two separate global negative carbon isotope anomalies recorded in marine carbonates deposited between the ca. 802 Ma end of the Bitter Springs anomaly and the onset of the Sturtian glaciation (Fairchild et al., 2018; Halverson et al., 2018a). To avoid confusion, in this discussion we will use the convention of Halverson et al. (2018b) of referring to the older of the two anomalies (ca. 735 Ma) as the Russøya anomaly following Halverson et al. (2004), and the younger (ca. 720 Ma) as the Garvellach anomaly following Fairchild et al. (2018). We interpret the negative excursion at the base of the Summas Mountains sections as the Russøya anomaly and the decline in  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  observed in the Vrede Domes as the Garvellach anomaly, with the nadir and recovery erosionally severed. The protracted expression of the decline in  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  in the upper Ugab Subgroup seems inconsistent with the Garvellach anomaly in Scotland, however that may be explained by the differences in sedimentation rates between the Ugab Subgroup in the Vrede Domes, where subsidence was fault-driven during active rifting, and the uppermost Appin Group in the Garvellach Islands.

The maximum age constraint of ca. 746 Ma for the base of the Ugab Subgroup in the Summas Mountains (Hoffman et al., 1996) is consistent with a ca. 735 Ma age for the Russøya anomaly (MacLennan et al., 2018) and effectively rules out the possibility of correlation with the Bitter Springs anomaly. It is very likely that strata recording the immediately pre-glacial Garvellach anomaly have been removed in many regions by erosive scour beneath the glacial surface. In areas where the Garvellach anomaly has not been removed, the older Russøya anomaly could be mistaken for the ca. 810-802 Ma Bitter Springs anomaly in

successions with few or no age constraints. This complicates using late Tonian anomalies as chronostratigraphic markers, because in sections preserving only one pre-Sturtian negative anomaly, it may difficult to ascertain which of the two excursions is preserved. On the other hand, whereas both the Russøya and Garvellach anomalies appear to define a sharp minimum, the Bitter Springs anomaly is distinguished by a plateau of low  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values that likely spanned millions of years (Halverson et al., 2018b).

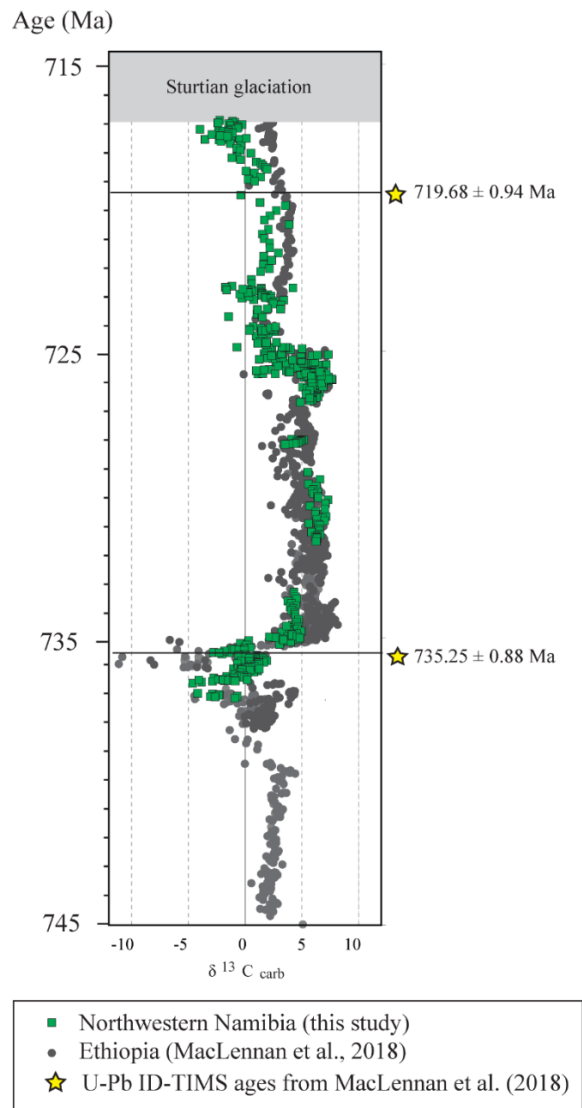


Figure 8: Ugab Subgroup  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  profile superimposed on upper Tambien Group  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  profile with U-Pb ID-TIMS dates and age model (MacLennan et al., 2018).

The carbon isotope record of the uppermost ~700 metres of the Tambien Group in Ethiopia is notably similar to that of the Ugab Subgroup, with a sharper anomaly and return to baseline several hundreds of metres beneath glaciogenic deposits, followed by a gradual decline in the hundreds of metres immediately below the sub-glacial unconformity (Swanson-Hysell et al., 2015; MacLennan et al., 2018). The onset of this upper decline coincides with a shift to deposition of dominantly deeper-water facies, which could suggest this trend may be related to authigenic carbonate contribution. However, our data shows a similar upper decline with seemingly no facies dependence. Therefore, we tentatively suggest that the Ugab Subgroup strata exposed in the Vrede Domes may be correlative with the Mariam Bohkakho Formation of the Tambien Group of Ethiopia (**Figure 8**). Correlation of U-Pb radiometric ages into the Ugab composite  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  section suggest that upper Ugab Subgroup in the Vrede Domes preserves a very complete, immediately pre-Sturtian stratigraphic record.

## Conclusions

The Ugab Subgroup in the Northern Margin Zone of Namibia preserves a latest Tonian, pre-Sturtian stratigraphic record. We demonstrate that this record preserves evidence of two distinct negative carbon isotope excursions between ca. 746–717 Ma. This result is consistent with recent data and interpretation suggesting that there were two separate global  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  excursions prior to the onset of Cryogenian glaciation, ca. 735 and ca. 718 Ma (Halverson et al. 2018; MacLennan et al., 2018). This result has important implications for correlating between Tonian successions and for formally defining the base of the Cryogenian period, which will likely be linked to chemostratigraphic records (Shields-Zhou et al., 2016). Furthermore, the data presented here will aid with the construction of a robust, age-calibrated pre-Cryogenian carbon isotope record, which is essential to understanding the factors that led to the first Cryogenian Snowball Earth. If the younger pre-Sturtian  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  anomaly does indeed record a global seawater signal, then it, rather than the better defined Russøya anomaly, is likely to be mechanistically linked to the Sturtian glaciation.

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## 539 **Supplementary**

540 Supplementary Table 1: Facies descriptions, from Hoffman and Halverson (2008).

	Facies	Description	Depositional environment
Shallowest ↑ Shading ↓ Deepest	Microbialaminite	Thinly laminated carbonate sediments with crinkly lamination. May have sedimentary structures that suggest a shallow depositional environment such as teepee structures and breccias.	Intertidal to supratidal zones
	Grainstone	Carbonate sands. Often display dark-coloured silicification, likely due to the high primary permeability, which occasionally preserves giant ooids and crossbedding	Sub- to lower intertidal zone, under continual influence of wave break action
	Stromatolite	Mounded microbial growth structures, often Tungussia-type - columnar stromatolites with divergent branching patterns, and pinkish in colour. Conophyton-type stromatolites may also be present.	Sub-tidal zone, maximum depth limited by photic zone
	Ribbonite	Finely laminated silt-to-fine-sand -sized carbonate sediments showing low-angle cross-stratification. May be mixed with siliciclastic muds (marly ribbonite).	Low-energy zone well below breaking waves but above the storm wave base
	Rhythmite	Parallel-laminated carbonate muds, may also contain turbidites.	Below storm wave base

541

542 Supplementary Table 2: Coordinates at bases of sampled sections.

Section	Coordinates at base	Location
K1813	S20°29.960' E015°19.388'	Loewenfontein
P1702	S20°29.604' E015°19.330'	Loewenfontein
K1607	S20°28.557' E015°19.950'	Rondehoek
K1829	S20°23.549' E014°09.417'	Vrede
G1532	S20°23'35.4" E014°09'30.2"	Vrede
P1607	S20°23'16.8" E014°09'04.0"	Vrede

543

544 Supplementary Table 3: Carbon and oxygen isotope data and composite section heights. Section location  
 545 information provided in Table 2.

K1607			
sample height (m)	composite height (m)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	$\delta^{18}\text{O}$ (‰)
332.9	618.5	5.36	-3.87
330.3	612.3	5.86	-3.32
325.5	600.9	5.88	-2.06
322.5	593.8	5.91	-2.20
320	587.9	5.73	-2.35
317.2	581.2	5.40	-2.55
314.1	573.9	5.71	-2.55
311	566.5	4.86	-5.78
248.8	221.8	4.29	-2.06
245.8	218.4	4.30	-2.45
242.4	214.6	4.44	-2.31
239.5	211.4	4.55	-1.46
236.7	208.3	3.72	-3.14
233.4	204.6	4.05	-2.66
230.4	201.2	4.44	-2.00
228.5	199.1	3.93	-3.51
226.8	197.2	4.21	-3.06
224	194.1	4.08	-3.02
220.9	190.6	4.34	-2.22

217.9	187.2	4.40	-2.77
214.8	183.8	4.42	-2.39
211.6	180.2	4.70	-1.84
208.2	176.4	4.52	-2.31
204.6	172.4	4.52	-2.42
201.7	169.1	4.69	-2.19
198.9	166.0	4.59	-2.34
195.8	162.5	4.94	-1.41
192.8	159.2	4.56	-1.91
190	156.0	4.07	-3.76
186.9	152.6	4.13	-3.27
183.8	149.1	4.57	-2.58
180.1	145.0	2.68	-3.08
177.2	141.7	4.81	-1.16
174.2	138.4	3.26	-2.04
171	134.8	3.33	-4.03
152.8	125.4	0.00	-3.67
143.9	123.0	0.35	-5.85
136.8	121.2	-0.21	-10.80
132.7	120.1	-1.37	-12.99
128.2	118.9	-1.12	-12.47
125.2	118.1	-0.70	-10.65
122	117.2	-0.20	-6.86
115.9	115.6	-1.99	-9.72
103	112.2	-2.97	-14.26

101.8	111.9	-2.47	-14.24
93.5	107.7	-0.24	-7.49
92.2	106.9	-0.73	-6.13
90.8	106.0	-0.09	-4.79
88.8	104.7	-0.07	-5.18
86.1	103.0	0.32	-9.75
84	101.7	1.49	-11.83
82.5	100.8	0.24	-10.01
79.6	99.0	1.59	-9.54
76.7	97.1	1.82	-10.01
75.1	96.1	-0.49	-11.27
73.4	95.1	0.27	-8.75
71.8	94.1	1.57	-8.63
70.1	93.0	1.11	-9.85
68.2	91.8	-0.84	-18.51
66	90.4	0.94	-9.40
64.4	89.4	0.39	-11.73
59.9	86.6	0.69	-9.47
58.5	85.7	0.36	-9.68
56.4	84.4	0.10	-10.74
55.6	83.9	-0.14	-11.95
54.3	83.1	-0.77	-7.69
52.8	82.1	1.16	-4.85
51.6	81.4	-0.48	-10.10
50.2	80.5	-0.40	-4.96

48.8	79.6	0.32	-7.89
42.3	75.5	-0.61	-15.81
38.6	73.2	-1.20	-11.52
35.5	71.2	-1.03	-7.30
34.2	70.4	-0.29	-8.82
33.6	70.0	-0.57	-7.08
30.1	67.8	-0.71	-2.54
29.1	67.2	0.06	-8.84
27.8	66.4	-0.21	-9.16
26.8	65.8	-1.11	-8.91
22.4	63.0	-2.55	-7.96
21.2	62.2	0.07	-8.57
20.6	61.9	-2.11	-8.90
19.3	61.0	-1.62	-9.40
18.7	60.7	-1.18	-8.59
17.8	60.1	-1.02	-8.52
G1532			
sample height (m)	composite height (m)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	$\delta^{18}\text{O}$ (‰)
440.3	904.9	-2.19	-4.76
436	902.0	-0.84	-5.24
428	896.7	-0.73	-2.58
422.6	893.0	-0.72	-3.76
420	891.3	-3.97	-6.08
416	888.6	-2.31	-4.27
412	885.9	-2.20	-3.14

408	883.3	-2.90	-1.66
404	880.6	-1.68	-2.77
399.9	877.8	-1.15	-3.53
395.5	874.9	-2.26	-2.74
392	872.5	-2.06	-3.47
387	869.2	-1.23	-4.31
382	865.8	-0.28	-4.79
376	861.8	-0.66	-4.54
371.3	858.7	-0.33	-2.85
365	854.5	0.62	-2.75
356.9	849.0	-0.65	-3.48
354.4	847.4	-1.09	-3.66
350	844.4	-0.31	-2.33
345	841.1	1.11	-2.63
341	838.4	1.53	-1.92
336.9	835.6	1.68	-0.91
332.1	832.4	1.92	-1.28
328.2	829.8	2.07	-1.46
324	827.0	0.18	-1.10
319.2	823.8	0.93	-0.58
310.1	817.7	1.50	0.23
304.9	814.2	0.38	-8.92
300.3	811.1	0.95	-4.26
279.5	797.2	-0.29	-6.02
268.9	790.1	1.44	-2.16



265.3	787.7	3.72	0.30
261	784.8	2.89	0.04
256.4	781.7	2.33	0.06
252.7	779.2	1.83	-0.22
248.6	776.5	4.06	-0.83
244.3	773.6	2.19	-1.71
240.2	770.9	1.64	-2.38
236.3	768.2	1.81	-2.58
232.4	765.6	2.30	-0.05
228	762.7	2.32	-1.22
223.5	759.7	3.08	-1.76
220.7	757.8	1.77	-3.03
217	755.3	2.48	-1.06
213.3	752.8	1.73	-2.53
209.6	750.4	2.28	-0.86
207	748.6	1.48	-3.07
200	743.9	0.66	-2.85
196.2	741.4	0.69	-7.29
194	739.9	-1.09	-10.68
162.8	719.0	1.15	-7.94
160.6	717.5	1.60	-8.70
156.7	714.9	-1.39	-12.81
155.1	713.9	1.65	-9.34
128.8	696.2	1.46	-9.08
124.5	693.4	2.31	-8.31

120	690.3	2.71	-5.97
115.5	687.3	2.17	-6.50
110	683.6	1.11	-5.92
106.5	681.3	1.72	-6.15
100.7	677.4	1.61	-7.59
96.5	674.6	1.47	-7.18
91.7	671.4	1.23	-8.18
86.6	668.0	2.06	-6.07
81.6	664.6	2.49	-6.75
78.8	662.7	2.34	-6.69
75.3	660.4	1.97	-6.81
70.6	657.3	2.07	-7.10
66.7	654.6	1.80	-7.19
62.3	651.7	2.61	-6.35
59.7	650.0	1.89	-8.24
56	647.5	2.80	-6.92
51.5	644.5	2.90	-7.18
48.4	642.4	3.54	-5.36
42.2	638.2	2.85	-6.83
38.9	636.0	4.14	-7.30
34.8	633.3	3.81	-8.30
30	630.1	4.58	-7.91
26.2	627.5	4.42	-8.88
22.7	625.2	2.25	-2.64
19.8	623.2	3.80	-4.39

16	620.7	4.02	-7.35
12	618.0	5.48	-6.02
7.8	615.2	5.87	-5.82
4.6	613.0	5.50	-5.79
1.4	610.9	5.42	-5.19
P1607			
sample height (m)	composite height (m)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	$\delta^{18}\text{O}$ (‰)
88.8	903.3	-1.15	-3.74
85.5	902.2	-1.18	-0.05
81	900.7	-2.45	-7.14
76.5	899.2	-1.49	-3.46
72.3	897.8	-0.31	-2.96
67.5	896.2	-1.32	-6.63
63	894.7	-0.71	-4.35
58.5	893.3	-0.64	-5.54
54.1	891.8	-0.71	-3.90
49.5	890.3	-1.29	-5.63
45	888.8	-1.51	-5.08
40.5	887.3	-1.94	-0.10
36	885.8	-1.50	-1.22
31.5	884.3	-1.35	-2.34
26.9	882.8	-2.04	-3.43
22.5	881.3	-1.52	-4.16
18	879.8	-2.24	-4.86
13.5	878.3	-1.59	-5.39

9	876.9	-1.01	-8.19
4.6	875.4	0.10	-5.91
0.4	874.0	-0.61	-4.36
K1829			
sample height (m)	composite height (m)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	$\delta^{18}\text{O}$ (‰)
237.8	673.0	2.89	-10.54
236.9	672.7	1.98	-9.91
235.9	672.4	1.97	-7.22
182.0	655.0	-0.66	-5.62
180.5	654.5	3.38	-11.03
178.0	653.7	3.69	-12.51
176.5	653.2	3.87	-11.11
175.0	652.8	3.62	-10.85
170.8	651.4	5.18	-10.42
169.3	650.9	5.16	-11.97
167.7	650.4	4.14	-11.55
145.3	643.2	3.34	-10.37
144.6	643.0	5.09	-12.82
142.5	642.3	7.53	-10.79
141.0	641.8	5.19	-6.68
138.9	641.1	6.58	-11.42
137.3	640.6	6.11	-11.88
135.7	640.1	2.45	-6.49
125.3	636.7	2.08	-6.57
123.8	636.3	2.57	-8.86

118.8	634.7	1.34	-5.66
116.5	633.9	4.31	-11.21
115.3	633.5	5.12	-10.11
109.6	631.7	5.14	-9.05
108.1	631.2	5.08	-5.15
105.1	630.2	6.33	-10.36
101.7	629.1	6.15	-5.96
100.1	628.6	5.29	-6.06
98.7	628.2	5.62	-8.43
97.0	627.6	6.01	-8.01
95.1	627.0	5.96	-8.35
93.6	626.5	7.36	-5.12
92.3	626.1	6.17	-4.57
92.3	626.1	6.61	-4.8
90.8	625.6	6.24	-2.69
89.2	625.1	5.71	-3.52
87.6	624.6	3.02	-7.29
83.4	623.2	5.37	-6.33
81.8	622.7	4.78	-8.69
79.9	622.1	4.99	-6.31
78.4	621.6	6.14	-6.82
76.8	621.1	6.58	-7.09
74.8	620.5	6.04	-6.3
73.4	620.0	6.27	-6.64
71.9	619.5	6.67	-7.54

70.4	619.1	1.77	-10.74
68.9	618.6	5.42	-5.82
66.5	617.8	1.07	-5.51
65.6	617.5	5.97	-6.71
64.1	617.0	5.71	-6.25
62.6	616.5	5.92	-7.77
61.1	616.1	5.96	-7.78
59.6	615.6	4.07	-9.58
58.1	615.1	5.64	-8.82
56.6	614.6	5.74	-9.4
55.1	614.1	6.66	-8.61
53.6	613.6	1.66	-10.86
52.1	613.2	2.78	-10.69
51.6	613.0	1.22	-10.32
50.1	612.5	5.06	-8.94
48.6	612.0	6.37	-7.96
47.1	611.6	6.11	-9.38
45.6	611.1	6.52	-7.46
44.1	610.6	6.96	-7.82
42.6	610.1	5.57	-9.43
41.0	609.6	5.76	-7.87
39.5	609.1	8.57	-3.94
38.0	608.6	7.52	-5.09
36.4	608.1	7.36	-5.32
34.9	607.6	7.33	-4.35

33.4	607.1	7.34	-4.3
31.6	606.6	6.9	-5.09
29.3	605.8	7.8	-4.62
27.7	605.3	7.73	-4.41
26.2	604.8	7.86	-4.91
24.6	604.3	7.33	-4.48
23.1	603.8	7.49	-4.49
21.6	603.3	6.75	-5.14
20.1	602.9	6.85	-4.9
18.6	602.4	6.6	-5.49
17.0	601.9	7.44	-4.1
15.6	601.4	6.98	-3.7
7.6	598.8	6.85	-4.73
5.4	598.1	6.85	-6.05
1.7	596.9	6.38	-5.23
0.7	596.6	6.21	-6.37
K1813			
sample height (m)	composite height (m)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	$\delta^{18}\text{O}$ (‰)
229.9	738.7	-0.38	-6.8
229.3	738.1	-0.26	-6.22
228.7	737.6	-1.7	-5.43
227.1	736.0	0.22	-4.72
226.1	735.1	-0.51	-4.95
224.7	733.7	0.29	-4.7
223.6	732.7	-0.32	-6.07

222.7	731.8	0.71	-7.58
183	698.4	2.72	-6.88
181.2	696.7	2.26	-5.86
178.3	693.9	2.54	-6.85
178.1	693.7	2.36	-7.28
176.9	692.6	1.83	-8.04
176.7	692.4	1.5	-7.85
80.2	621.5	6.57	-2.23
69.6	614.6	6.72	-1.60
59.1	607.7	7.35	-2.62
48.6	600.9	6.74	-2.45
38.7	594.4	6.85	-1.8
P1702			
sample height (m)	composite height (m)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	$\delta^{18}\text{O}$ (‰)
132.3	162.7	4.58	-3.42
128.9	160.3	3.59	-2.86
116.1	151.5	4.32	-4.07
109.3	146.8	4.52	-3.20
105	143.8	4.53	-3.88
100.9	141.0	3.69	-3.23
98.6	139.4	2.04	-3.83
88.8	132.6	0.17	-5.85
78.3	125.3	2.96	-7.32
72	122.3	-0.11	-5.18
68.5	94.8	-0.41	-4.49



66.5	79.1	-1.22	-3.91
64.4	62.6	-4.37	-6.35
P2538			
	composite height (m)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	$\delta^{18}\text{O}$ (‰)
	739.6	-1.89	-9.58
	739.2	1.34	-5.82
	738.7	1.35	-6.44
	738.2	0.13	-7.30
	737.8	0.47	-7.36
	737.5	1.17	-4.91
	737.0	0.49	-4.76
	736.6	1.37	-3.69
	736.1	1.44	-3.39
	735.7	1.40	-3.01
	735.3	1.92	-3.43
	734.9	1.37	-3.28
	734.6	1.43	-3.24
	734.3	2.23	-3.13
	733.7	1.70	-4.02
	733.3	1.76	-3.94
	732.9	2.21	-3.80
	732.0	3.39	-2.42
	731.4	2.55	-2.60
	730.6	2.34	-1.74
	729.8	2.42	-2.75

	729.0	3.14	-2.51
	728.3	1.90	-3.16
	727.5	3.10	-3.06
	727.0	0.99	-3.88
	726.5	1.02	-3.77
	699.4	0.60	-7.67
	695.3	0.28	-9.09
	692.9	0.29	-9.80
	691.1	1.37	-5.23
	622.8	6.93	-2.39
	621.6	6.83	-2.26
	620.1	6.56	-2.78
	618.5	7.24	-1.95
	617.0	6.72	-2.64
	615.5	6.79	-2.85
	613.9	6.25	-3.09
	612.4	6.69	2.30
	611.9	6.53	-2.66
	610.4	6.73	-2.88
	608.8	6.82	-2.77
	607.7	6.78	-2.76
	605.3	6.68	-2.91
	604.2	6.93	-2.35
	602.7	6.98	-2.24
	601.2	6.62	-2.36

	599.6	6.92	-2.76
	598.1	6.50	-2.41
	596.6	5.91	-2.48
	595.4	6.26	-3.02
	593.9	5.09	-4.13
	592.0	5.47	-3.88
	589.4	6.43	-4.10
	587.9	6.44	-3.83
	584.8	6.63	-3.33
	583.3	6.41	-3.15
	581.8	6.38	-2.22
	580.2	6.32	-3.70
	578.7	6.18	-3.53
	577.2	6.31	-3.33
	576.2	6.47	-3.10
	574.6	6.30	-3.71
	573.1	5.98	-4.30
	571.6	5.94	-4.46
	570.0	5.95	-4.05
	569.5	5.75	-4.65
	499.4	4.09	-5.67
	499.0	4.68	-3.57
	498.5	5.20	-2.40
	497.7	5.01	-2.37
	497.0	4.93	-2.65

	496.4	4.79	-3.20
	495.7	4.80	-3.17
	495.1	4.60	-3.61
	493.6	4.68	-3.22
	492.3	4.47	-3.15
	491.7	4.31	-3.78
	491.0	3.83	-4.15
	490.3	3.49	-5.40
	439.5	5.55	-4.53
	426.7	6.65	-1.92
	418.4	5.63	-2.76
	414.2	6.31	-2.87
	408.5	6.07	-1.76
	405.2	5.92	-1.84
	403.3	6.47	-2.87
	400.5	6.09	-1.88
	396.3	6.45	-2.60
	393.0	6.49	-2.08
	389.7	7.38	-0.62
	382.9	7.15	-2.66
	378.4	5.74	-1.98
	372.1	7.11	-0.47
	367.9	6.29	-2.57
	362.9	6.25	-1.85
	359.0	7.21	-1.02

	356.1	6.85	-1.19
	354.0	6.38	-1.70
	351.6	7.06	-1.93
	346.5	5.64	-3.56
	345.2	6.47	-2.12
	343.6	6.63	-1.46
	336.4	6.52	-1.14
	333.1	6.61	-1.47
	330.8	5.89	-1.43
	328.3	6.58	-1.84
	326.2	6.65	-2.05
	324.5	6.42	-2.06
	322.6	6.25	-2.23
	321.4	6.38	-2.54
	320.5	6.41	-3.08
	318.9	6.38	-2.52
	314.1	6.32	-2.36
	162.2	4.17	-4.04
	160.7	3.93	-4.19
	158.2	3.92	-4.05
	157.7	4.00	-3.85
	155.8	4.12	-3.52
	153.8	3.89	-3.32
	152.0	3.83	-4.43
	150.8	3.86	-4.97

	149.3	3.20	-6.58
	139.0	2.50	-6.22
	137.5	4.41	-2.84
	136.0	4.64	-1.34
	134.6	3.50	-2.93
	133.1	3.82	-2.87
	131.6	4.02	-4.51
	130.3	3.06	-5.16
	128.9	-0.54	-5.00
	117.8	-0.33	-5.72
	116.0	-0.75	-5.36
	112.1	-1.55	-4.93
	109.8	-2.20	-5.05
	107.5	0.95	-5.95
	106.0	1.14	-6.00
	104.5	1.21	-5.28
	103.0	0.80	-5.23
	102.0	0.87	-5.71
	100.3	1.00	-5.14
	97.8	0.58	-5.97
	95.6	1.13	-5.96
	94.4	1.01	-4.77
	92.7	0.41	-6.02
	91.2	0.85	-6.01
	90.6	0.54	-6.35

	88.0	0.82	-5.14
	86.3	0.78	-5.65
	84.8	0.85	-5.31
	83.5	0.66	-6.09
	82.0	0.82	-5.76
	80.3	0.45	-5.90
	78.9	1.01	-5.37
	77.1	0.67	-4.91
	74.5	-0.48	-4.07
	72.8	-0.47	-2.90
	71.0	-0.49	-3.12
	69.2	-1.76	-4.33
	66.3	-2.94	-4.45
	64.7	-1.83	-5.31
	61.5	-1.99	-5.15
	60.2	-3.05	-4.97
	58.7	-4.03	-5.32
	56.7	-4.84	-5.08
	38.4	-4.39	-4.79
	37.1	-3.04	-4.11
	36.2	-2.44	-3.85
	34.8	-2.47	-4.04
	33.2	-0.82	-1.72
	32.4	-3.24	-8.19
	31.7	-2.81	-4.58

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	29.4	-1.03	-4.63
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