Zonation of Sulfate and Sulfide Minerals and Isotopic Composition in the Far Southeast Porphyry and Lepanto Epithermal Cu–Au Deposits, Philippines

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Abstract

The world-class Far Southeast (FSE) porphyry system, Philippines, includes the FSE Cu–Au porphyry deposit, the Lepanto Cu–Au high-sulfidation deposit and the Victoria–Teresa Au–Ag intermediate-sulfidation veins, centered on the intrusive complex of dioritic composition. The Lepanto and FSE deposits are genetically related and both share an evolution characterized by early stage 1 alteration (deep FSE potassic, shallow Lepanto advanced argillic-silicic, both at ~1.4 Ma), followed by stage 2 phyllic alteration (at ~1.3 Ma); the dominant ore mineral deposition within the FSE porphyry and the Lepanto epithermal deposits occurred during stage 2. We determined the chemical and S isotopic composition of sulfate and sulfide minerals from Lepanto, including stage 1 alunite (12 to 28 permil), aluminum–phosphate–sulfate (APS) minerals (14 to 21 permil) and pyrite (−4 to 2 permil), stage 2 sulfides (mainly enargite–luzonite and some pyrite, −10 to −1 permil), and late stage 2 sulfates (barite and anhydrite, 21 to 27 permil). The minerals from FSE include stage 2 chalcopyrite (1.6 to 2.6 permil), pyrite (1.1 to 3.4 permil) and anhydrite (13 to 25 permil). The whole-rock S isotopic composition of weakly altered syn-mineral intrusions is 2.0 permil. Stage 1 quartz–alunite–pyrite of the Lepanto lithocap, above about 650 m elevation, formed from acidic condensates of magmatic vapor at the same time as hypersaline liquid formed potassic alteration (biotite) near sea level. The S isotopic composition of stage 1 alunite–pyrite record temperatures of approximately 300–400°C for the vapor condensate directly over the porphyry deposit; this cooled to <250°C as the acidic condensate flowed to the NW along the Lepanto fault where it cut the unconformity at the top of the basement. Stage 1 alunite at the base of the advanced argillic lithocap over FSE contains cores of APS minerals with Sr, Ba and Ca; based on back-scattered electron images and ion microprobe data, these APS minerals show a large degree of chemical and S-isotopic heterogeneity within and between samples. The variation in S isotopic values in these finely banded stage 1 alunite and APS minerals (16 permil range), as well as that of pyrite (6 permil range) was due largely to changes in temperature, and perhaps variation in redox conditions (average ~ 2:1 H2S:SO4). Such fluctuations could have been related to fluid pulses caused by injection of mafic melt into the diorite magma chamber, supported by mafic xenoliths hosted in diorite of an earlier intrusion.

The S isotopic values of stage 2 minerals indicate temperatures as high as 400°C near sea level in the porphyry deposit, associated with a relatively reduced fluid (~10:1 H2S:SO4) responsible for deposition of chalcopyrite. Stage 2...
Consolidated Mining Company (LCMC); this took deposit was mined underground by the Lepanto time in the 19th century, the Lepanto epithermal during the Ming dynasty and then in Spanish colonialeralization. Following early mining, as abundance and diversity of hydrothermal mining in terms of proven and potential economic value as richest mineral districts in the southwest Pacific sulzons may be subsequently mineralized with copper although lithocaps as well as their structural feeder graphic horizon is called a lithocap (Sillitoe, 1995); and advanced argillic alteration hosted by a stratigraphic horizon is called a lithocap (Sillitoe, 1995); magmatic vapors condense at shallow (<1 km) depth to form acidic solutions that leach the volcanic host rocks (Ransome, 1907; Hedenquist & Taran, 2013). In this environment, silicic and advanced argillic alteration hosted by a stratigraphic horizon is called a lithocap (Sillitoe, 1995); although lithocaps as well as their structural feeder zones may be subsequently mineralized with copper sulfides and gold, many lithocaps are barren. These zones of advanced argillic alteration are integral parts of mineralized porphyry systems (Sillitoe, 2010), and where preserved from erosion, the presence of such hypogene advanced argillic alteration indicates the potential for a porphyry deposit at depth.

The Far Southeast (FSE) porphyry system is located in the Mankayan mineral district of northern Luzon, Philippines (Hedenquist et al., 1998). The Lepanto high-sulfidation Cu–Au deposit is elongate along the Lepanto fault, NW of the surface projection of the FSE porphyry deposit; the Victoria–Teresa intermediate-sulfidation vein complex (Claveria, 2001) lies about 500–1000 m south of FSE (Fig. 1). This is one of the richest mineral districts in the southwest Pacific, both in terms of proven and potential economic value as well as abundance and diversity of hydrothermal mineralization. Following early mining, first by the Igorots during the Ming dynasty and then in Spanish colonial time in the 19th century, the Lepanto epithermal deposit was mined underground by the Lepanto Consolidated Mining Company (LCMC); this took place initially from 1936 until World War II, when Mitsui Mining operated the mine, and then again by LCMC from 1948 to 1996. The total production from gold-rich enargite ore was 36.3 Mt at 2.9 wt.% Cu, 3.4 g/t Au and 14 g/t Ag, with 0.74 Mt Cu, 92 t (2.95 Moz) Au and 393 t Ag recovered (Chang et al., 2011). The FSE porphyry ore body (Concepción & Cinco, 1989) was discovered in 1980 by the second hole drilled from surface (1400 m elevation) at 900 m depth (Chang et al., 2011). This followed a proposal that there should be a porphyry deposit at depth associated with the Lepanto high-sulfidation Cu–Au deposit (Sillitoe, 1983). The deposit was defined with nearly 50 km of drilling in over 85 holes, most from underground, up to 1996. A joint venture between LCMC and Gold Fields recently conducted a 102-km drill program of 98 holes from the 700 m level (mL) of the Lepanto mine. This study confirmed an inferred resource of 892 Mt at grades of 0.7 g/t Au and 0.5 wt.% Cu, equivalent to 19.8 Moz Au and 4.6 Mt Cu between levels of 500 m and ~400 m elevation (Fig. 2; Gaibor et al., 2013). The Victoria–Teresa epithermal veins were discovered in 1995, had an initial resource estimate of 11 Mt at 7.3 g/t Au (2.6 Moz Au), and are still being mined.

Epithermal mineralization of high-sulfidation style at Lepanto is hosted by an advanced argillic lithocap; its base is at about 650 m elevation over potassic alteration of the deeper porphyry deposit, and rises to about 900 m elevation to the NW, with upper extent approximately as high as the 1100 mL (Fig. 2). Dating of alunite in the lithocap and hydrothermal biotite of the porphyry deposit indicate the same age, about 1.4 Ma (Arribas et al., 1995a). Stage 1 potassic alteration of the FSE deposit was overprinted by stage 2 white mica (phylllic) alteration, with much of the copper and gold of the porphyry deposit precipitated during.

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Fig. 1 Map of the Mankayan mineral district showing the distribution of volcanic units, the surficial extent of hydrothermal alteration zones (silicic [residual quartz] ± quartz-alunite ± pyrite, dickite ± kaolinite ± pyrite, illite and/or smectite ± pyrite, and white mica + pyrite ± stockwork veins), based on mapping by Garcia (1991) and Chang et al. (2011); the surface projection of the Lepanto and Far Southeast (FSE) ore zones plus the intermediate-sulfidation veins are shown. Stratigraphic units and alteration are revealed by river erosion in the western third of the district (streams shown with blue lines). Diagram modified from Chang et al. (2011). Line of cross section in Figures 2 and 9 indicated by wide light yellow bar.
the stage 2 overprint (Hedenquist et al., 1998). The average radiometric ages of the white mica are younger, at about 1.3 Ma. The fluid related to stage 2 white mica alteration is argued to have ascended to the lithocap and flowed laterally to the NW, depositing enargite and gold subsequent to the leaching event of stage 1 (Mancano & Campbell, 1995; Hedenquist et al., 1998), forming the Lepanto deposit.

We studied the mineralogy and S isotopic composition of sulfide and sulfate minerals of the porphyry deposit and along >2 km of the Lepanto lithocap, proximal to distal, including the halo of advanced argillic alteration to the silicic body (stage 1) and silicic-hosted enargite ore (stage 2). The ore minerals at Lepanto consist mainly of enargite deposited in fractures and breccias that post-date formation of the advanced argillic alteration (Fig. 3; Hedenquist et al., 1998; Claveria, 2001); there is also luzonite and minor chalcopyrite plus various gold- and silver-bearing minerals. Alunite and aluminum phosphate–sulfate (APS) minerals of the alunite supergroup are characteristic of advanced argillic alteration (Meyer & Hemley, 1967; Hemley et al., 1969; Stoffregen & Alpers, 1987; Aoki, 1991), and their isotopic composition, including O, H and S, has been used to help constrain formation conditions (Rye et al., 1992; Arribas et al., 1995b; Deyell et al., 2005a, b). These minerals are common at Lepanto, and in addition to their O and H isotopic variation (Hedenquist et al., 1998), also show distinctive compositional zoning that has been interpreted to indicate proximity to the high-temperature source of intrusions associated with the FSE porphyry deposit (Chang et al., 2011). In addition to the epithermal mineralogy, we also examined the chalcopyrite, pyrite and anhydrite of the underlying porphyry deposit that are largely associated with white mica (phyllic) alteration of stage 2. We discuss the variations in S isotopic composition across this magmatic-hydrothermal system and the
implications for the evolution of the hydrothermal system, from proximal porphyry to distal epithermal environments, and from early stage 1 alteration to the later stage 2 mineralization that dominated metal deposition.

2. Geology

Gonzalez (1959), Sillitoe and Angeles (1985), Concepción and Cinco (1989), Garcia (1991) and Chang et al. (2011) mapped and studied the Mankayan district. Here we present an overview of the geology relevant to this study, incorporating the results of recent mapping by P.N. Dunkley (2015) that have clarified the volcanic stratigraphy and related intrusive history in the FSE and Lepanto area.

From oldest to youngest, there are five principal lithologic units in the district, exposed by river erosion (Fig. 1), including: the basal basaltic Lepanto volcanic unit; the Bagon gabbro–diorite–tonalitic batholith; the epiclastic Balili volcanoclastic unit; and the Imbanguila and Bato pyroclastic units and related intrusions of dacite to andesite composition. Much of the porphyry deposit is hosted by an intrusive complex of diorite and dacite intrusions, and was cut locally by phreatomagmatic breccia pipes that formed late in the history of the hydrothermal system.

The Lepanto volcanic unit forms a basement to the district and comprises a thick sequence of basaltic pillow lavas with hyaloclastites and volcanoclastic rocks, with an Upper Eocene–Lower Oligocene age for the upper part of the Lepanto volcanic unit (Dunkley, 2015). The Bagon tonalite–diorite–gabbro complex, located to the west, intruded the Lepanto volcanic unit late in the deposition of the Lepanto sequence. The Oligocene to mid Miocene Balili volcanoclastic unit unconformably overlies the Lepanto volcanic unit, and consists of epiclastic andesitic breccias and conglomerates with minor volcanic sandstones and pebbly sandstones.

The Pleistocene Imbanguila and Bato dacitic pyroclastic units form an extensive cover sequence, with ages of about 1.8 to 2.2 and \( \leq 1.5 \) Ma, respectively (Arribas et al., 1995a; Dunkley, 2015); the latter includes deposits of local phreatomagmatic eruptions from diatremes that are well exposed on the surface and in drill core. The Imbanguila unit locally contains mafic xenoliths in outcrops of porphyritic diorite (Dunkley, 2015). Bato volcanic products are associated with several slightly eroded domes south of the FSE deposit. Quartz diorite and andesite to dacite intrusions (referred to as the FSE intrusion complex; Dunkley, 2015) that cut the young pyroclastic cover sequences are similar in composition to the volcanic units (Hedenquist et al., 1998); they were intruded to \( \sim 300 \) m elevation in the porphyry deposit, and are interpreted to be related to the timing of early potassic alteration (\( \sim 1.4 \) Ma; Arribas et al., 1995a). The intrusions may have been associated with the Bato phase of volcanism, with hornblende from the matrix of a phreatomagmatic unit in the Lepanto vicinity dated at 1.43 \( \pm 0.21 \) Ma (Arribas et al., 1995a).

Secondary structures splay from the main Mankayan fault, a strand of the Philippine fault, and are oriented NW and WNW across the Lepanto–FSE
area (Fig. 1). The Lepanto fault is the principal structure that controlled the location of the main Lepanto ore body but cannot be traced at surface through the Pleistocene volcanic cover in the area of the FSE ore body (P.N. Dunkley, pers. commun., 2015; Dunkley, 2015). Rather, the roughly E–W Imbanguila fault zone matches the axis of the FSE deposit and can be traced at the surface (Dunkley, 2015).

3. Alteration and mineralization

3.1 Stage 1 alteration

Potassic alteration, preserved below about 400 m elevation (Fig. 2), consists of biotite–magnetite and minor K-feldspar and is centered on quartz diorite porphyry intrusions. K–Ar ages of the biotite are 1.41 ± 0.05 Ma (n = 6; Arribas et al., 1995a). Vitreous, anhedral quartz veins associated with this early stage 1 alteration contain vapor-rich and hypersaline liquid inclusions with homogenization temperatures of about 550°C and salinities of 50 to 55 wt.% NaCl equiv., indicating lithostatic pressure estimates of about 500 b near sea level, with paleosurface at 1500–2000 m elevation (Hedenquist et al., 1998).

Advanced argillic alteration formed over the top of the porphyry deposit and consists of residual quartz and a halo of quartz–alunite–pyrite (Fig. 3) plus variable assemblages of kaolinite, dickite, pyrophyllite, and diaspore. The alunite has been dated at 1.42 ± 0.08 Ma (n = 5), i.e., synchronous with the underlying potassic alteration (Arribas et al., 1995a) and is thus part of the early stage 1, representing a coupled vapor and hypersaline liquid, respectively (Hedenquist et al., 1998). Where alunite is dominant over kaolinite, dickite, diaspore, and pyrophyllite, and the matrix is quartz-rich, we use the term quartz–alunite–pyrite alteration, to distinguish this alteration style from deeper occurrences of pyrophyllite ± white mica ± kaolinite (Hedenquist et al., 1998; Z. Chang, pers. commun., 2015). The lower limit of extensive quartz–alunite–pyrite alteration is about 650 m elevation, although such alteration occurs as deep as sea level, restricted to zones along fractures (Gaibor et al., 2013).

Quartz–alunite–pyrite of stage 1 and a core of more completely leached residual quartz (silicic) alteration extends WNW approximately 4 km from the porphyry (Fig. 1) along the unconformable contact of the Imbanguila pyroclastic unit with the underlying basaltic basement of the Lepanto volcanic unit, forming a lithocap (Fig. 2). The lithocap was localized by the Lepanto fault (Gonzalez, 1959), which has a steep dip to the NE and served as a feeder zone, causing the strong WNW elongation along with other faults. Silicic alteration and particularly the halo of quartz–alunite are well developed at the surface (with pyrite largely oxidized), where the Lepanto fault and fault splays are exposed, e.g., at the Spanish workings, the type locality for the sulfosalts mineral luzonite, which is a dimorph of enargite. Outside of the quartz–alunite–pyrite zone, notably where it flares along the unconformity to form a lithocap, the lateral or upper and lower contacts of quartz–alunite grade into halos of kaolinite ± dickite (Chang et al., 2011), then to chloride or montmorillonite, depending on host rock (basement or dacite, respectively; Gonzalez, 1959). Stage 1 quartz–alunite–pyrite (advanced argillic) alteration is largely devoid of copper sulfides, and in outcrop contains <50 ppb Au (Chang et al., 2011).

3.2 Stage 2 alteration

Stage 1 potassic alteration of the FSE porphyry deposit is overprinted by stage 2 phyllic alteration of chlorite–white mica with hematite replacing magnetite, and veins of euhedral quartz that locally fill reopened stage 1 anhedral quartz veins. These euhedral quartz veins contain anhydrite–white mica–pyrite ± chalcopyrite ± bornite (Fig. 4a–c) and have bleached halos of sericite (the historic term used for white mica). Fluid inclusions in quartz near sea level provide evidence for boiling on inception of fracturing events (Th = 350°C, 5 wt.% NaCl equiv), and indicate a hydrostatic depth of about 1500–2000 m below the paleowater table, consistent with the estimate of the paleosurface from the potassic stage and other constraints (Shinohara & Hedenquist, 1997; Hedenquist et al., 1998). Illite separated from the halos of white mica and earlier chloride–white mica (sericite) alteration has an age range of 1.37 to 1.22 Ma with errors of ±0.04 to 0.10 m.y. (average 1.30 ± 0.07 Ma, n = 10; Arribas et al., 1995a). The white mica is locally associated with pyrophyllite on the margins of the porphyry and at shallower depths, with evidence for deeper occurrences along structures (Hedenquist et al., 1998; Gaibor et al., 2013; Z. Chang, pers. commun., 2015).

3.3 Stage 2 mineralization

A majority of the porphyry Cu–Au ore was deposited during the stage 2 euhedral quartz vein development.
Hedenquist et al., 1998; anhydrite is variable in these and earlier veins, associated with chlorite–white mica alteration (Fig. 4). Chalcopyrite ± bornite replaces earlier pyrite (Fig. 4a, b), followed by conversion of some bornite to chalcocite, digenite and/or covellite (Fig. 4c). Fine (<10–20 μm) blebs of gold (8–15 wt.% Ag), krennerite and petzite are present within or on the margins of bornite, and elemental spikes from laser ablation–inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry analyses indicate these minerals also occur as approximately 1 μm inclusions; these inclusions may have exsolved from bornite on cooling within the porphyry deposit (Bunce et al., 2015).

Cross-cutting relations indicate that ore minerals in the epithermal deposit are younger than stage 1 residual quartz and quartz–alunite–pyrite (Fig. 3a). An episode of Cu mineralization (stage 2a) occurs in an assemblage of euhedral pyrite–enargite–luzonite. In the principal ore zone along the Lepanto fault, repeated periods of brecciation were followed by deposition of sulfide minerals in the matrix, particularly enargite (Fig. 3b). Stage 2b gold occurs in microfractures that cut enargite ± luzonite, accompanied by tetrahedrite, chalcopyrite and sphalerite plus telluride and selenide minerals (Gonzalez, 1956; Tejada, 1989; Claveria & Hedenquist, 1994; Claveria, 2001; Fig. 4d). Anhydrite and barite gangue minerals were deposited after enargite, followed by late vug-filling quartz and dickite. Enargite-hosted fluid inclusions (Mancano & Campbell, 1995) indicate that their

Fig. 4 (a–c) Photomicrographs of Far Southeast (FSE) mineral relationships, from near sea level to ~400 m elevation (transmitted and reflected light, partly crossed polars; FSU 10 and 37 sample positions not plotted on Fig. 2). (a) FSU 66–897.5 m. Early pyrite replaced by chalcopyrite and bornite; copper sulfides are intergrown with anhydrite and quartz. (b) FSU 10–1393.2 m. Early corroded pyrite replaced by chalcopyrite and bornite; the copper sulfides are intergrown with flakes of white mica. (c) FSU 37–855.8 m. Bornite–chalcopyrite–anhydrite vein with white mica halo in a quartz groundmass; bornite replaced by chalcocite and digenite. (d) Lepanto sample, stage 2 luzonite plus pyrite cut by veinlet of tennantite with blebs of tetrahedrite plus gold, calaverite and petzite (Claveria & Hedenquist, 1994). Abbreviations: py, pyrite; cp, chalcopyrite; bn, bornite; cc, chalcocite; dg, digenite; lz, luzonite; tn, tennantite; td, tetrahedrite; Au, gold; ca, calaverite; pe, petzite; qz, quartz; an, anhydrite; wm, white mica.
homogenization temperature and salinity decrease with increasing distance of enargite samples from the porphyry (maximum $T_h$ decreasing from 294 to 196°C, with average salinity decreasing from 3.2 to 1.7 wt.% NaCl equiv., respectively), over a distance of about 2 km (Fig. 2; see below).

The principal host of epithermal enargite and gold ore is silicic alteration (Fig. 3b), which starts at about 650 m elevation on the upper NW margin of the FSE body, and extends for about 2 km to the WNW along the Lepanto fault, with the top of enargite rising to about 1150 m elevation (Fig. 2), largely hosted by silicic alteration (Hedenquist et al., 1998; Chang et al., 2011). The silicic body has a halo of quartz–alunite–pyrite alteration, which extends for another 2 km to the NW (Fig. 1), with silicic alteration restricted to narrow fractures. Quartz–alunite–pyrite is supergene oxidized and is only weakly anomalous in gold where it crops out (12 to 49 ppb Au), except where cut by narrow silicic zones along fractures, which can contain up to a few ppm Au (Chang et al., 2011).

The Lepanto fault (Fig. 1) is strongly brecciated (Fig. 3b) due to syn-mineral movement and hosts approximately 70% of the epithermal ore in a zone up to 50 m wide, called the Main Ore Body (Garcia, 1991). The balance of the mineralization occurs adjacent to the fault along the silicic lithocap, mostly in roughly E–W branch veins that cut the footwall and, to a lesser extent, the hanging wall (Fig. 1). As with the silicic lithocap, the base of the enargite body increases in elevation, from 700 to 1000 m as the unconformity between the basement volcanoclastic units and dacite of the Imbanguila Fm rises to the WNW with increasing distance from the porphyry (Fig. 2; Garcia, 1991). The vertical extent of enargite ore along the Lepanto fault is typically 100 to 200 m, extending downward from the local level of the unconformity.

4. Results

4.1 Sulfate mineralogy

The alunite group minerals in the Lepanto lithocap contain K, Na, and/or Ca as end-member alunite, natroalunite and huangite, with formula (A)Al$_3$(SO$_4$)$_2$(OH)$_6$, where A is K, Na or Ca$_{0.5}$, respectively. There is complete solid solution between the Na and K as well as Na and Ca endmembers, with a wide miscibility gap occurring between the K and Ca endmembers (Li et al., 1992); the composition of minamiite (now known as natroalunite 2C) is (Na, Ca$_{0.5}$K)Al$_3$(SO$_4$)$_2$(OH)$_6$. The aluminum phosphate isostructural mineral is crandallite, (CaAl$_3$(PO$_4$)(PO$_3$OH)(OH)$_6$) in the plumbogummite group, and has complete solid solution with alunite.

The most common aluminum–phosphate–sulfate (APS) minerals at Lepanto are woodhouseite, CaAl$_3$(SO$_4$)(PO$_4$)(OH)$_6$ (Fig. 5a), and svanbergite, SrAl$_3$(SO$_4$)(PO$_4$)(OH)$_6$ (Fig. 5c), members of the beudantite group. These APS minerals are typically rimmed by banded intergrowths of alunite and natroalunite (Figs 5–7), as observed in advanced argillic lithocaps elsewhere. Associated with APS minerals and alunite overgrowths are small inclusions of diaspore (Fig. 5a), as well as trace amounts of pyrophyllite, zenyite, quartz, and, locally, tourmaline (in drillcore from U80–23). Over the top of the FSE deposit, woodhouseite is preserved as euhedral crystals with epitaxial overgrowths of alunite and natroalunite (Fig. 5b). Further from the porphyry deposit to the northwest, APS minerals typically show strong corrosion, with replacement by alunite and natroalunite (Fig. 5c). The most distal occurrence of advanced argillic alteration sampled is located about 4 km NW of the surface projection of the porphyry deposit; here only weakly zoned alunite and natroalunite occur in the lithocap, without evidence for APS minerals (Fig. 5d).

In addition to alunite and APS minerals, which formed with advanced argillic alteration of stage 1, prior to enargite deposition (Fig. 3a), barite and anhydrite are also present in the epithermal deposit, as gangue minerals deposited after enargite of stage 2. Anhydrite is also a common mineral in stage 2 euhedral quartz veins of the deeper porphyry deposit (Fig. 4a, c), associated with white mica alteration and chalcopyrite–bornite deposition (Fig. 4b, c; Concepción & Cinco, 1989; Imai, 2000; Bunce, 2015); Gaibor et al. (2013) also report anhydrite with quartz–magnetite veins related to deep potassic alteration of stage 1, although it is not known if the anhydrite is present in reopened veins.

4.2 Compositional zoning of alunite and APS minerals

The APS minerals in the Lepanto lithocap are preserved in the cores of elongate alunite crystals (Fig. 5a), and show significant chemical variation between samples, as well as zonation within individual crystals. Sample U80–23-66 ft (Fig. 6) has zoned crystals up to

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50-μm in size of woodhouseite that contains Sr, as well distinctly euhedral cores that are rich in Ba and Pb. There is a thin P- and Ca-rich euhedral rim indicating that woodhouseite deposited after the initial zone of alunite, although this second growth contains low Ba and Pb. As there is no evidence of dissolution of the core, it appears that K–Na–alunite began to precipitate followed by a brief return to APS deposition before a resumption of alunite growth. A sample 2 m higher in this drill core (U80–23-61 ft) contains an APS mineral with a Ba-rich core, analogous to woodhouseite.

Electron microprobe images (Fig. 6) across growth-banded crystals indicate that svanbergite occurs as a core to woodhouseite, with some bands of woodhouseite being Pb-rich. Although trace amounts of Sr are incorporated into rims of alunite, Pb and P are not present. Chang et al. (2011) also discuss the compositions of these minerals.
4.3 S isotopic composition of sulfide and sulfate minerals

The S isotopic composition of sulfate and sulfide minerals (Table Appendix A1; Fig. 8) in the Lepanto lithocap, as well as samples from FSE drill core, were determined by conventional analytical techniques using KIBA reagent at the Geological Survey of Japan (Sasaki et al., 1979). Additional samples of coexisting sulfides and anhydrite from FSE drill core were collected by micro-drill (Bunce, 2015) and analyzed at the University of Ottawa, using a Continuous Flow-Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometer after volatilization at 1800°C. The whole-rock S isotopic composition of two least-altered samples of Imbanguila diorite intrusion collected at the surface (Table A1) were also analyzed by this method. Both methods report an error of ±0.2 permil. Ion microprobe analysis of two samples with woodhouseite, alunite, anhydrite and pyrite from over the FSE ore body was conducted using the SHRIMP at Australian National University. Error for ion probe analysis is quoted at ±2 permil $\delta^{34}S$ for sulfur isotope values of sulfide and sulfate minerals; the lower sulfate contents of the woodhouseite are associated with ±3 permil $\delta^{34}S$ error.

Stage 1 alunite was sampled from the quartz–alunite–pyrite zone adjacent to the Main Ore Body in underground workings, and from structures cutting both footwall and hanging wall (Fig. 2; Table A1). Sulfide minerals from the same hand sample, mainly
Fig. 7  Backscattered electron images of samples analyzed for S-isotopic composition (values of $\delta^{34}$S) by SHRIMP, including woodhouseite (wh), alunite (al), anhydrite (an) and pyrite (py). Ablation pits are ~30 um diameter (inset). (a,b) U80-23-117 ft and (c-e) U80-23-596 ft. Inset (white box) shows location of adjacent ablation pits.
disseminated stage 1 pyrite in quartz–alunite–pyrite alteration, were also sampled and analyzed. Stage 2 enargite and pyrite were collected (Mancano & Campbell, 1995) from the Main Ore Body, with some samples containing sulfate minerals (Table A1). Vug-filling barite and anhydrite gangue, both of stage 2 and precipitated on enargite, were also analyzed. Anhydrite and intergrown pyrite and/or chalcopyrite, both of stage 2, were collected from FSE drill core, beneath the quartz–alunite–pyrite zone (Fig. 2).

Stage 1 pyrite from quartz–alunite–pyrite in the lithocap has δ34S values that range from −11.8 (distal) to 2 permil (over the porphyry), with most values from −4 to −0.5 permil δ34S (Table A1; Fig. 8). Stage-1 alunite in the lithocap, at and above the 900 m level, ranges from 13.4 to 27.0 permil δ34S, with most δ34S values between 21 and 24 permil. Below this level over the FSE deposit, from the 680 to 870 m level, alunite δ34S values range between 9 and 28 permil, including results from ion probe analysis; most values are 13 to 24 permil, lower than the typical values from the 900 to 1070 m level (Fig. 8).

Stage 2 sulfides were analyzed from 530 to −160 m elevation, within the FSE deposit (Fig. 2), including pyrite with δ34S values between 1.0 and 3.4 permil, and chalcopyrite with values of 1.6 to 2.6 permil (the latter from 250 to −30 m elevation). The anhydrite that is intergrown with sulfides has δ34S values of 13.2 to 24.4 permil (all but three values ≤21.5 permil) up to the 680 m level. At ≥700 m elevation, in the portion of the Lepanto deposit nearest to FSE, stage-2 anhydrite has values of 21.7 to 27.3 permil. Further to the NW in the Lepanto deposit, stage 2 sulfate gangue is largely barite, with δ34S values of 20.8 to 23.0 permil at ≥1030 m level (Fig. 2; Table A1).

Stage 2 enargite has δ34S values that vary from −9.7 to −0.5 permil (Table A1), with six of 21 enargite samples (including one luzonite) lighter than −5.0 permil, scattered from 700 to 1100 m levels, and all but the luzonite in the Main Ore Body (Fig. 2). Of the five stage 2 pyrite crystals intergrown with enargite, the pyrite is 0.2 to 2.3 permil heavier than the enargite in the same sample. Enargite is expected to have a fractionation factor similar to that of sphalerite due to their structural similarities (R. Seal, pers. commun., 2015). At 250°C, the approximate enargite homogenization temperatures where intergrown with pyrite (Table A1), the fractionation factor for pyrite and sphalerite, Δ34S_{pyrite-sphalerite}, is 1.1 permil, equal to the average measured Δ34S_{pyrite-enargite} of 1.1 permil (0.4 to 2.3 permil average, n = 5; Table A1).

### 4.4 SHRIMP results

Individual spots on APS minerals and overgrown alunite were analyzed for S isotopic composition by ion probe, with spot size approximately 30 μm (Fig. 7, inset). The two samples are from drill hole U80–23 (Fig. 2) at about 870 and 730 m elevation, over the top of the FSE deposit (Aoki & Eldridge, 1994).

Euhedral woodhouseite crystals in U80–23–117 ft are zoned (Fig. 7a, b), whereas woodhouseite clusters in U80–23–596 ft (Fig. 7c–e) are strongly corroded and show less evidence of zoning. The crystals are 250 to >500 μm in size and are overgrown by alunite and...
irregular crystals of pyrite. Three woodhouseite crystals (Fig. 7) returned δ³⁴S values of 14 and 16 permil, 21 and 15 permil, and 16 and 15 permil, with no clear variation related to position on the crystals. Overgrowths of alunite plus one crystal of anhydrite returned δ³⁴S values of 20, 18, 21 and 28 permil (Fig. 7a), 13, 16 and 12 permil (Fig. 7b), 18 permil (Fig. 7d), and 16 (anhydrite) and 15 permil (Fig. 7e), with analyses from 50 to 500 μm away from woodhouseite crystals. There is not any obvious spatial correlation of alunite δ³⁴S values, which vary from 12 to 28 permil. Alunite is heavier (18, 20, 21, 28 permil) than woodhouseite (14, 16 permil) in one section (Fig. 7a), slightly lighter in another (12, 13 and 16 permil) versus woodhouseite (15, 21 permil), and similar in the deeper sample (18 permil versus 15, 16 permil). Pyrite from U80-23-117 ft, adjacent to the woodhouseite crystal (Fig. 7a), has a δ³⁴S composition of ~4 permil, and two pyrite crystals from U80-23-596 ft have values of 1 permil, and 2, 1 and ~4 permil, the latter >1 mm in size (Fig. 7c).

Three analyses of alunite on spots immediately adjacent to one another (Fig. 7, inset) returned δ³⁴S values of 20, 18 and 21 permil, and two adjacent spots on pyrite (Fig. 7c) returned values of 2 and 1 permil. This reproducibility (although the repeat analyses were not in the exact same place, with center points separated by ~30–40 μm) is within the reported SHRIMP error of ±2 permil δ³⁴S.

### 4.5 Sulfate–sulfide fractionation temperatures

The S isotopic results for sulfate and sulfide minerals separated from the same hand samples or drill core are reported in Table A1. In cases where the presumption of equilibrium between minerals was questionable, such as where minerals were not in contact (i.e., from adjacent samples), or were from stages interpreted to be different in the same sample, the calculated temperature is listed in brackets.

Stage 1 alunite–pyrite pairs have fractionation temperatures that range from 202 to 224°C, with the four samples coming from footwall and hanging wall structures; two other alunite samples, with cross-cutting enargite used as the sulfide (values in parentheses; Fig. 9) return 200, 221 and 233°C. By contrast, two alunite (and the APS mineral woodhouseite) samples, over the top of the FSE porphyry at 870 and 730 m elevation and analyzed by SHRIMP, record temperatures as high as 398°C and as low as 225°C (with one particularly heavy alunite indicating 166°C, assuming constant δ³⁴S of pyrite). Four analytical spots on alunite and APS from the deeper sample have a small (3 permil) variation, whereas four pyrite analyses returned a range of 6 permil δ³⁴S (~4 to 2 permil; 1 permil was used for calculations). Only one pyrite was analyzed in the shallower sample, ~4 permil, but data were gathered on 10 sulfate spots (12 to 21 permil, with one result at 28 permil) and six spots on APS minerals (14 to 21 permil). The results indicate that alunite (and to a lesser extent APS minerals) plus pyrite can have large local variations in S isotopic composition. Another alunite–pyrite sample, about 250 m to the NW at 680 m elevation (the deepest alunite analyzed), returned 320 and 362°C, using results from repeat alunite analyses (Table A1).

The copper (and gold) mineralization related to stage 2 anhydrite and barite is associated with chalcopyrite plus pyrite in FSE and enargite in Lepanto, respectively. Locations below sea level return fractionation temperatures of 329, 352 and 391°C from one sample, with other samples as high as 493°C (but also 320°C from another pair in the same thin section) to 406°C. From sea level to 680 m elevation, six anhydrite–pyrite pairs return temperatures of 250 to 320°C. Within the Lepanto ore body >1 km to the NW, barite–chalcopyrite and barite–enargite pairs indicate 233 and 199°C, respectively.

The sulfate–sulfide (alunite–pyrite) fractionation temperatures, plotted in a SE to NW long section from FSE to Lepanto (Fig. 9), indicate the location of the approximate 300 and 200°C isotherms of the hydrothermal system during early stage-1 alteration. In comparison with later stage 2 sulfate (anhydrite and barite) and sulfide (chalcopyrite, enargite and pyrite) fractionation values, the calculated temperatures suggest that the 300 and 200°C isotherms receded towards the core of the FSE porphyry from stage 1 to stage 2, shifting more than 500 m laterally to the SE within Lepanto and 500 m vertically within FSE (Fig. 9). In addition, the 300 and 200°C isotherms of the hydrothermal system during the main stage of mineralization (stage 2), as indicated by fluid inclusion homogenization temperatures documented for the Lepanto (Mancano & Campbell, 1995) and FSE (Hedenquist et al., 1998) deposits are shown on Figure 9. Allowing for variation between methods for determination of paleotemperatures (fluid inclusions versus S isotopic fractionation), the results are consistent with cooling and isotherm recession from stage 1 to stage 2.
5. Discussion

5.1 Hydrothermal fluid framework from O and H isotopes, and fluid inclusion data

The FSE porphyry deposit is the center of the hydrothermal system, with early potassic alteration near sea level indicating a high-temperature environment, >500°C (Shinohara & Hedenquist, 1997; Hedenquist et al., 1998). By contrast, the stability of alteration minerals (pyrophyllite, diaspore, dickite, nacrite, kaolinite and alunite) of the contemporaneous advanced argillic lithocap, which formed above about 650 m elevation, indicate temperatures of approximately 350 to 200°C (Hemley et al., 1980; Watanabe & Hedenquist, 2001; Chang et al., 2011). The hydrothermal biotite and alunite of the potassic and lithocap alteration, respectively, were contemporaneous at about 1.4 Ma (Fig. 9; Arribas et al., 1995a). These stage 1 alteration minerals formed from coupled hypersaline liquid and vapor, respectively; after the vapor separated from the liquid it ascended and condensed to form an acidic solution that leached the rock and created the alunite of the lithocap. The alunite in the lithocap directly over the porphyry has oxygen and hydrogen isotopic compositions expected for end-member magmatic vapor condensed by a 15% meteoric water component (Hedenquist et al., 1998). Further to the NW, alunite compositions show evidence for a progressive dilution of this magmatic vapor condensate by local meteoric water, from 25 to 35% in the center of the Lepanto ore body to as much as a 50% meteoric water component at the furthest sample location, about 4 km NW of the porphyry (Fig. 9). The O and H isotopic compositions of subsequent stage 2 white mica and pyrophyllite of the porphyry deposit, and more distal dickite and
nacrite in the lithocap, show evidence for a similar NW-directed flow and meteoric water dilution (Hedenquist et al., 1998).

As an independent check on the meteoric water component and the degree of cooling, critical-behavior vapor (>373°C, with an enthalpy of ~2100 kJ/kg) condensed by a 15% meteoric component would produce ~340°C liquid condensate; this mixed with an additional meteoric component during outflow to the NW (to reach a total of 35 and 50% in the center and distal portion of the lithocap, respectively, as indicated from O and H stable isotopic compositions). A mass–enthalpy calculation indicates temperatures of about 260 and 210°C for the mixtures, respectively, similar to that determined from alunite–pyrite pairs. The diluent used was steam-heated (~100°C) meteoric water, as indicated from extending the fluid inclusion temperature-salinity mixing trend to nil salinity (Hedenquist et al., 1998); a 20°C meteoric-water diluent would result in slightly lower temperatures, as would heat loss to the surrounding rock.

Fluid inclusion homogenization data (Table A1) from stage 2 euhedral quartz veins, associated with white mica alteration (Hedenquist et al., 1998), record 350 and 280°C from the core and the margin of the porphyry deposit, respectively (Fig. 9, ~0 mL elevation). These findings are consistent with data from stage 2 enargite-hosted fluid inclusions (Mancano & Campbell, 1995) in the epithermal deposit, which range from 294°C at 592 m elevation over the FSE deposit to 196°C at the distal limit of enargite (Fig. 9).

The data from these stage 2 minerals are interpreted to indicate that the same white mica-stable liquid was present in both environments (Hedenquist et al., 1998). Cooling from about 350°C in the porphyry to 200°C in the epithermal deposit was caused by meteoric-water dilution (similar to that noted for the stage 1 condensate), as indicated by the decrease from 5 wt.% NaCl equivalent salinity at the porphyry level (in quartz veins associated with white mica alteration) to <2 wt.% NaCl equivalent (in enargite-hosted inclusions) at the distal limit of the ore body (Fig. 13 in Hedenquist et al., 1998). Cooling as the liquid ascended to ~1000 m elevation during lateral flow, a distance of over 2 km to the NW, caused enargite deposition within the residual quartz zone of the lithocap (Fig. 9).

The shift from intermediate sulfidation-state chalcopyrite stability at ~350°C in the porphyry (as well as tennantite; Imai, 2000) to high sulfidation-state enargite stability at 300 to 200°C, is characteristic of such deposits worldwide, due to cooling in the buffer-free residual quartz of the silicic lithocap (Einaudi et al., 2003).

5.2 S isotopic variation

The existing framework for the FSE porphyry system (Arribas et al., 1995; Hedenquist et al., 1998) indicates cooling with distance from the porphyry center and with time. The evolution in S isotopic composition of stage 1 and stage 2 sulfide and sulfate minerals also indicates a consistent pattern, albeit with some complexities. The starting point of this discussion is the total S isotopic composition of the source intrusions, as indicated by two samples of least-altered Imbanguila diorite (age ~ 2 Ma; Arribas et al., 1995a). Values of 2.0 permil (Table A1) are typical of the δ34S values of igneous rocks and associated ore deposits in arc systems (average of ~2 to 5 permil; Sasaki & Ishihara, 1979, 1980).

Stage 1: The deepest S-bearing stage-1 minerals analyzed are alunite–pyrite pairs from 680 to 870 m elevation, over the top of the FSE porphyry deposit. These pairs indicate equilibrium temperatures of 411 to 320°C, although one particularly heavy δ34S value of 28 permil (by ion probe) indicates 166°C if in equilibrium with the pyrite used for calculation (1 permil; Table A1). The stage 1 pyrite from 680 to 870 m elevation, both from conventional analysis and by ion probe, ranges from ~4 to 2 permil δ34S (Table A1); individual spots within 500 μm of each other in one pyrite crystal vary by this range of 6 permil (Fig. 7c). Thus, the single pyrite value analyzed from one sample at 870 m elevation (U80–23-117 ft; Table A1), –4 permil δ34S, may not be the appropriate indicator of the sulfide value to use as a pair for all alunite values from this one thin section, which has a 16 permil δ34S range (Fig. 7a, b) over a few millimeters. The ion probe variation within single crystals is greater than expected from the ±2 δ34S permil error for the ion probe technique, whereas conventional replicate analyses indicate smaller variation, probably due to the larger sample aliquots being homogenized.

The wide variation of S isotopic composition of stage 1 sulfates in the same crystals (16 permil δ34S; Fig. 7) from 680 to 870 m elevation – more than can be accounted for by the observed shifts in pyrite values (6 permil) due to variations in redox conditions – suggests that there were also sharp variations of temperature at this level over the top of the porphyry deposit and associated intrusions. These samples indicate a redox state of ~2:1 H2S:SO4.

To the NW in the Lepanto deposit, from 700 to 1030 m elevation, other stage 1 alunite–pyrite pairs
returned S isotopic fractionation temperatures of 224 to 202°C, with no strong temperature zonation along the 2 km lateral extent of the proximal, mineralized half of the lithocap (Fig. 9). This indicates that the high-temperature (~350 ± 50°C) acidic condensate directly over the porphyry deposit cooled to <250°C within an interval of about 400 m of lateral flow to the NW (Fig. 9), suggesting a highly permeable hydrologic system to allow mixing with steam-heated meteoric water (see above). The cooling to ~200°C over the ~2 km interval would have caused an increase in reactivity (Hedenquist & Taran, 2013), resulting in leaching of the rock and formation of residual quartz in the thickest portion of the lithocap. The offset of the main lithocap from the underlying location of the porphyry deposit was caused by lateral flow caused by the NW-directed hydraulic gradient at 1.4 to 1.3 Ma (Hedenquist et al., 1998).

Stage 2 porphyry level: Subsequently, the deep system evolved to stage 2 of phyllic alteration (Hedenquist et al., 1998). Near sea level (<100 m), stage 2 minerals include chalcopyrite (1.6 to 2.6 permil δ34S; avg. 2.1 permil, n = 4), pyrite (1.1 to 3.0 permil; avg. 2.5 permil, n = 7) and anhydrite (13.2 to 23.4 permil, n = 10). This is similar to the range of δ34S values reported by Imai (2000) for the same minerals at this level, and who also recorded δ34S values of anhydrite as light as 12.4 permil near sea level in the center of the deposit. There is a relatively large range in anhydrite composition for some individual samples (range up to 7 permil), based on micro-drilling results (13.2 and 21.3, and 16.8 to 20.3 permil δ34S; Table A1, Bunce, 2015).

The average values of deep chalcopyrite and pyrite samples are similar to the whole-rock δ34S value of 2.0 permil. This similarity of total δ34S value to that of the sulfide δ34S value during stage 2 of the deep porphyry system indicates a relatively reduced parent fluid at depth, i.e., SO2 < H2S, such that temperature fluctuations would be reflected mostly in the sulfate δ34S value due to the large leverage. Based on the whole-rock δ34S value and compositions of coexisting sulfide minerals and anhydrite, the H2S:SO4 ratio was determined by the lever rule, and may have been about 10:1 during stage 2 copper deposition in the porphyry deposit. The much larger S isotopic variation of anhydrite (~10 permil) than coexisting stage 2 sulfides (~2 permil) near sea level have been caused by temperature fluctuations from such a sulfide-dominant fluid (e.g., local fluid pulses up to ~450+ °C in a 300–350°C system).

The white mica-stable (phyllic) stage 2 quartz has fluid inclusion homogenization values of 350°C at 90 m elevation in the center of the porphyry deposit (E400 section), and 280°C on the western margin at 80 m elevation (Hedenquist et al., 1998; Table A1). S isotopic temperatures (Δ 34S sulfate-sulfide; Table A1) of samples from 0 to 110 m elevation on the western margin (E10 section) are 255 and 281°C, similar to the fluid inclusion values. To the east (E400 to E540 sections), equilibrium temperatures from samples at ~30 to ~100 m elevation range from 320 to 493°C, and 285°C at 90 m elevation. Compared to the fluid inclusion homogenization value of 350°C at 90 m, the deeper samples report 30°C lower to 145°C higher temperatures from mineral pairs, and 65°C lower for the 90-m elevation pair, which comes from the same sample (U83–34-2121 ft; Table A1) as the fluid inclusion measurement. If these pairs reflect equilibrium conditions, they would indicate pulses of high-temperature magmatic fluid that were not reflected in the fluid inclusion result. Alternatives would be disequilibrium conditions or possible contamination of the anhydrite by pyrite (the micro-drilling of the FSU samples by Bunce, 2015, was undertaken with care during examination by binocular microscope, to avoid contamination).

Stage 2 lithocap level: Stage 2 anhydrite–pyrite pairs from 430 to 680 m elevation at the top of the FSE deposit returned temperatures of 362 to 242°C, with enargite fluid inclusion results from 592 m having the highest enargite homogenization value of 294°C (Table A1). One anhydrite–sulfide pair in the Lepanto vicinity from 680 m indicates a value of 250°C. By contrast, three values from stage 2 barite–sulfide gange in the Lepanto ore body at the 1030 to 1100 mL, NW of the Tubo shaft, return values of 233 to 199°C, consistent with the lower temperatures from stage 2 enargite-hosted fluid inclusions (241 to 196°C; Fig. 9) in this portion of the lithocap-hosted outflow.

All stage 2 enargite and pyrite (as well as stage 1 pyrite) at the level of the lithocap have negative δ34S values. The average δ34S value of 14 stage-2 enargite samples from the Main Ore Body (including three pyrite and one sphalerite; duplicate analyses averaged) is −4.2 permil (range −9.7 to −1.1 permil), and the average of 14 enargite samples from FW and HW structures (including two pyrite, one luzonite and one chalcopyrite) is −5.1 permil (Table A1). Seven stage 1 pyrite samples from FW and HW structures average −1.7 permil (−2.9 to −0.5 permil); one stage 1 pyrite from the Main Ore Body, far to the NW, is the lightest at −11.8 permil.
(Table A1). The large range in $\delta^{34}$S values of Lepanto sulfides (Fig. 8), particularly during stage 2 (average − 4 and −3 permil in the Main Ore Body and HW plus FW structures, respectively), is consistent with a more oxidized fluid at this shallow level (H$_2$S:SO$_4$ = 4), in contrast to that in the deep porphyry deposit during stage 2. Such higher oxidation states are typical of the lower temperature portions of magmatic-hydrothermal systems (Arribas, 1995; Einaudi et al., 2003; Hedenquist & Taran, 2013).

Redox variation. Rocks of nearby Pinatubo volcano, approximately 200 km to the south, record a range of oxidation conditions during its evolution, culminating in a mafic-driven cataclastic eruption of dacite in 1991 (Hattori, 1993), with mafic xenoliths hosted by the erupted dacite. The water-rich dacite contained sulfide globules and S$^{2-}$ in the melt (Hattori, 1997), but input of SO$_2$ from an underlying mafic source may have further oxidized the dacite magma to ~NNO + 1.5 to 2 (Scaillet & Evans, 1999). The SO$_2$ from the mafic melt, after reduction, provided S$^{2-}$ to form sulfide minerals that precipitated metals added by the mafic melt to the overlying dacite magma chamber (de Hoog et al., 2004). This example may be relevant to the FSE system, where Imbanguila diorite also hosts mafic xenoliths (P.N. Dunkley, pers. commun., 2015). Evidence for fluctuations in temperature as well as redox state in the FSE porphyry deposit during stage 1 and 2, ~2:1 to 10:1 H$_2$S:SO$_4$ ratio, respectively, may have been associated with pulses of hot SO$_2$-rich fluid (possibly during stage 17), linked to periodic injection of mafic melt into more silicic magma chambers.

6. Summary and conclusions

Previous studies of the FSE porphyry system have established that a magmatic fluid was present during early alteration of stage 1 and mineralization of stage 2, both in the FSE porphyry Cu–Au deposit and the main portion of the Lepanto lithocap and high-sulfidation Cu–Au deposit (Hedenquist et al., 1998). Stage 1 quartz–alunite–pyrite in the lithocap of the FSE porphyry system, above about 650 m elevation, formed from condensates of magmatic vapor at about 1.4 Ma, at the same time as potassic alteration formed from hypersaline liquid near sea level, with the vapor and hypersaline liquid being coupled in timing (Arribas et al., 1995a) and thus origin.

The S isotopic composition of the stage-1 alunite and pyrite in this study indicates condensate temperatures >300°C (320 to 411°C) directly over the porphyry deposit, where the magmatic vapor was condensed by a small (~15%) component of meteoric water (Hedenquist et al., 1998; Fig. 9). As the acidic condensate flowed down the hydraulic gradient to the NW, forming the lithocap near the basement–dacite unconformity along the Lepanto fault, meteoric water dilution increased to 25–50%. This dilution caused a temperature decrease, 224 to 202°C for alunite–pyrite pairs, resulting in increased reactivity due to acid dissociation as the temperature decreased (Hedenquist & Taran, 2013), leading to leaching and the formation of residual quartz in the lithocap.

The S isotopic temperatures ($\Delta^{34}$S$_{sulfate:sulfide}$) of stage 2 minerals indicate temperatures as high as 400 + °C near sea level in the porphyry deposit, ≥300°C at the base of the lithocap at ~700 m elevation, cooling to <250°C within the main lithocap at ~900 to 1100 m elevations, and as low as ~200°C at the limit of the Lepanto orebody, ~2 km NW of the porphyry (Fig. 9). These results agree with stage 2 fluid inclusion homogenization temperatures of hydrothermal quartz within FSE (Hedenquist et al., 1998) and enargite from Lepanto (Mancano & Campbell, 1995). The cooling within silicic-altered host rock in the lithocap was largely due to dilution by steam-heated meteoric water, which resulted in the deep chalcopyrite-stable fluid of stage 2 evolving to high sulfidation-state enargite stability and mineral deposition within the residual quartz of the lithocap. The negative $\delta^{34}$S compositions of enargite and pyrite, compared to the positive values of sulfate minerals, indicates an H$_2$S:SO$_4$ ratio of about 4 within the lithocap, similar to that of other high-sulfidation deposits worldwide (~3 to 5; Arribas, 1995).

The variation in temperature, spatially and during change from stage 1 to stage 2 (Fig. 9), indicates an overall cooling trend as the FSE porphyry system evolved. The 300°C isotherm descended about 500 m from a position over the FSE porphyry, from stage 1 potassic to stage 2 phyllic, although the wide range of $\delta^{34}$S values of stage 1 alunite over the top of the porphyry deposit and stage 2 anhydrite within the porphyry deposit indicates intermittent periods (pulses) of higher temperature fluid. The distal 200°C isotherm shifted at least 500 m, from the NW to the SE along the Lepanto lithocap and towards the porphyry, from stage 1 to 2. The thermal pulses above the porphyry deposit are best recorded by detailed ion probe results. Large fluctuations in the $\delta^{34}$S values of stage 1 alunite and APS minerals (up to 16 permil), within 0.5 mm in the same sample, as well as in

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associated pyrite (up to 6 permil), provide evidence for sharp temperature changes – as indicated by the fine compositional and isotopic banding – due to pulses of a relatively oxidized fluid with \( H_2S:SO_4 \) ratio of \( \approx 21 \). By contrast, the average \( \delta^{34}S \) values of stage 2 chalcopyrite near sea level are similar to the whole-rock \( \delta^{34}S \) value of the least-altered Imbanguila diorite intrusion (2 permil). If this was still the bulk \( \delta^{34}S \) composition of the stage 2 fluid responsible for most of the copper sulfide deposition, the fluid was more reduced, \( \approx 10:1 \ H_2S:SO_4 \) than during stage 1. The wider range in composition of coexisting anhydrite (\( \approx 10 \) permil) than copper sulfides (\( \approx 2 \) permil) in the porphyry deposit also indicates a relatively reduced fluid during the stage-2 temperature fluctuations, based on leverage consideration.

The results of this study, in conjunction with previous work (Garcia, 1991; Arribas et al., 1995a; Mancano & Campbell, 1995; Hedenquist et al., 1998; Claveria, 2001; Chang et al., 2011) on the FSE porphyry system – including the Lepanto and Victoria epithermal deposits – have led to general conclusions relevant to other porphyry systems (Sillitoe, 2010). These include the formation lifetime of many porphyry deposits (Arribas et al., 1995a), the relation of the potassic stage to the formation of the lithocap, as well as the high sulfidation-state mineralization of the latter by a subsequent, but still magmatic-dominant fluid, during the phyllic-stage overprint (Arribas et al., 1995a; Hedenquist et al., 1998), and the integral association of the intermediate-sulfidation Victoria veins with the porphyry system (Claveria, 2001; Chang et al., 2011).

The present study used both traditional methods as well as an ion probe to determine the isotopic composition of sulfide and sulfate minerals. Although the traditional methods indicate calculated temperatures that are consistent with other methods (mineralogy, fluid inclusions), sharp zonations in chemical and isotopic composition are present, most likely due to thermal pulses associated with a more reduced fluid. The common occurrence of such pulses can be seen in the ubiquitous occurrence of multiple stages of quartz veins in porphyry deposits (Sillitoe, 2010) that are related to rapid overpressure-permeability waves (Weis et al., 2012). Such episodic events are very short (years) relative to the lifetimes of porphyry systems associated with individual intrusions, on the order of \( \times 10^4 \) years (\( \times 10^5 \) years for the initial potassic stage), as determined by dating results (Arribas et al., 1995a; Garvin, 2002; Buret et al., 2016) and consistent with the constraints from modeling (Cathles, 1977; Shinohara & Hedenquist, 1997; Weis, 2015). If the episodic fracture events reach the surface, they may be represented by phreatomagmatic activity, such as the eruption of altered material from active volcanic–hydrothermal systems at White Island, New Zealand, and Ontake, Japan (Hedenquist et al., 1993; Minami et al., 2016).

In order to resolve these magmatic fluid pulses and more clearly deduce the processes associated with porphyry systems and the deposition of metals, the chemical and isotopic composition of these pulses must be examined by combining careful paragenetic studies on well-constrained samples with microbeam analyses of zoned minerals. This includes both compositional and S (this study) as well as O (e.g., Fekete et al., 2016) and H isotopic analyses, integrated with information from fluid inclusion assemblages (e.g., Redmond et al., 2004; Landtwing et al., 2005). Such information from porphyry ore deposits can also be contrasted with the evolution of apparently barren intrusive systems (e.g., Rezeau et al., 2016) to determine regional controls on magmatism related to ore genesis.

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Appendix

Table A1: Sulfide and sulfate sample data from the Far Southeast and Lepanto deposits. Included are sample location, elevation, mineral stage, mineralogy, and S isotopic composition, with calculated S isotopic fractionation temperature (Seal, 2006), fluid inclusion homogenization temperature (Mancano & Campbell, 1995; Hedenquist et al., 1998) and K–Ar age of alunite (Arribas et al., 1995a). Also included are whole-rock total sulfur contents and S isotopic composition for two least-altered samples of Imbangula diorite. Samples in which minerals were not coexisting (i.e., stage 2 pyrite cutting stage 1 alunite, or minerals from two adjacent samples) have calculated temperatures listed in [ ].

| Sample     | Location            | Elev. | Sulfides % | Sulfates % | T °C | T h °C | Age Ma |
|------------|---------------------|-------|------------|------------|------|--------|--------|
| Lepanto    |                     |       |            |            |      |        |        |
| 891106–1  | surface, end of     | 1090  | oxidized   | 22.1, 23.5 | 190 qz | 1.46 ± 0.06 |
|           | runway               |       |            |            |      |        |        |
| 891106–5  | portal, 50 F MOB    | 1150  | -11.8      |            |      |        |        |
| 891107–19 | 90 M FW             | 1100  | -0.6       |            |      |        |        |
| 891107–21 | 100 L FW            | 1100  | (-8.9, -4.9) | 21.9 ba | 233 ba-cp | 228 qz |
| 891107–24 | 100 L FW            | 1100  | -2.9       |            |      |        |        |
| 891107–29 | 115 L FW            | 1100  | -0.5       |            |      |        |        |
| 930219–1  | 135 N O2            | 1100  | -3.8       |            |      |        |        |
|           | FW                  |       |            |            |      |        |        |
| 930219–3  | 135 N1 FW           | 1100  |            |            |      |        |        |
| 891107–11 | 35 K HW             | 1070  |            |            |      |        | 241    |
| 891107–12 | 35 K HW             | 1070  |            |            |      |        | 20.8 ba |
| 891107–13 | 35 K HW             | 1070  |            |            |      |        | 23.8   |
| 891107–14 | 35 K HW             | 1070  |            |            |      |        | 27.0, 17.2 |
|           | U90-4-53 m          | 1070  |            |            |      |        | 13.4   |
| 930208–4  | 50 J4 MOB           | 1070  | -9.5, -9.9 |            |      |        | 207    |
| 930206–4  | 10 C3 NOA           | 1030  |            |            |      |        | 196    |
| 891107–1  | 45 H HW             | 1030  | -4.4       |            |      |        | 20.8   |
| 891107–4  | 45 H HW             | 1030  |            |            |      |        | 4.4    |
| 930403–1  | 50 M5 MOB           | 1030  | -4.8       | 23.0 ba   | 199 ba-en | 232    |
| 930209–1  | 50 J4 MOB           | 1030  | -1.6       |            |      |        | 221    |
| 930205–2  | 70 N3 MOB           | 1030  | -7.2       |            |      |        | 23.6   |
| 930403–2  | 95 T MOB            | 1030  | -6.8       |            |      |        | 219    |
| 930402–1  | 120 S FW            | 1030  |            |            |      |        | 237    |
| 930315–1  | PAN 8 W             | 1030  | -2.4       |            |      |        |        |
| 930218–2  | 20 C MOB            | 1000  |            |            |      |        | 214    |
| U91–24-275 m | 35 K HW         | 1000  | -3.1       | 22.3       | [221]|      | 1.44 ± 0.10 |
| 930306–3  | 50 PQ2 HW           | 1030  | -4.4       |            |      |        | 231    |
| U89-34-630' | 155 BZ FW        | 1000  | -1.8, -2.9 | 23.4       | 218 |      | 1.56 ± 0.29 |
| 930311–2  | 45 PO4 HW           | 950   | -1.0, -1.8 | 24.3       | 218 |      | 225    |
| 930209–2  | 45 P4 HW            | 950   |            |            |      |        |        |
| 900517–1  | 103 FZ XC           | 950   |            |            |      |        | 23.7   |
| 891108–2  | 105 X MOB           | 950   | -4.5       |            |      |        | 1.39 ± 0.06 |
| 930306–2  | 125 EZ MOB          | 950   |            |            |      |        | 254    |
| 891108–8  | 130 IZ HW           | 950   | -4.8       |            |      |        |        |
| 891108–14 | 155 KZ FW           | 950   | -2.1, -4.8 |            |      |        | -3     |
Table A1. (Continued)

| Sample   | Location | Elev. | Sulfides % | Sulfates % | T °C | Tn °C | Age Ma |
|----------|----------|-------|------------|------------|------|-------|--------|
|          |          | m     | pyrite stage 1 | chalcopyrite- | pyrite stage 2 | alunite stage 1 | anhydrite-barite stage 2 | sulfate-sulfide | enargite, quartz |
|          |          |       |              | enargite stage 2 | (other sulfides) |              |              |              |                  |
| 930202–2 | 165 LZ FW  | 950   | -2.6        | -0.8       |      |       | 267    |
| U89–24   |          |       | -1.3        | -2.6       | 24.4 | 202   | 1.44 ± 0.08 |
| U89–25   |          |       | -2.9        | -1.4       |      |       | 245    |
| 930325   | 135 EZ   | 850   | -2.6        | -2.4       |      |       | 252    |
| 930219–2 | 125 BZ1 MOB 584  | 700   | -7.4        | -5.1       |      |       | 223    |
| L91–42   | 145 JZ FW  | 700   | -0.5        | 24.6       | 23.9 | 224 [231] | 1.17 ± 0.16 |
| 15.6 m   |          |       |              |              |      |       |        |
| 930212–1 | 140 GZ MOB  | 700   | -1          | 21.7       | 250  |        |
| 930319–1 | 140 GZ MOB  | 680   | -1          | 21.7       | 250  |        |
| 930218–3 | 125 FZ O1 vein | 680   | -1.7        | -1.1       | 25.0, 23.5 | [200, 223] | 1.35 ± 0.10 |
| FSE      | E 510 140 VZ DW  | 900   | -4          | 20.7       |      |       | 1.34 ± 0.20 |
| 930126–1 |          |       |              |              |      |       |        |
| U80–23–29‘ | E815    | 890   | 2, 1, 1, -4 | 18 (15, |      |       |        |
| (ion probe) | E815 | 870   |              | 16 wood); 15 |       |       |        |
| U80–23–117‘ | E815 | 730   | 2, 1, 1, -4 | 18 (15, |      |       |        |
| (ion probe) | E815 | 730   |              | 16 wood); 15 |       |       |        |
| U80–23–596‘ | E815 | 730   | 2, 1, 1, -4 | 18 (15, |      |       |        |
| (ion probe) | E815 | 730   |              | 16 wood); 15 |       |       |        |
| 891110–4 | E 400    | 700   | 1.0, 0.0    | 13        |      |       | 411    |
| 891110–5 | E 400    | 700   | 1.0, 0.0    | 13        |      |       | 411    |
| U85–37–77‘ | E 475    | 680   | -1.9, -4.0 | 13.6, 15.8 | 362, 320 |        |
| U85–37–64‘ | E 475    | 680   |              | 16.9      |      |       |        |
| U85–21 140 RZ3 | E 325 | 592   |              | 16        | 333–398 |        |
| UFF92–2–167 m | E400 | 530   | 2.3        | 20.1       | 320  |        |
| UFF93–5–274 m | E400 | 430   | 1.0        | 24.4       | 242  |        |
| U83–31–1450‘ | E 400 | 260   |              | 18.8      |      |       |        |
| U83–14a–1908‘ | E 440 | 120   |              | 3.4       |      |       |        |
| U86–6–1944‘ | E10    | 110   | 1.1        | 23.4       | 255  |        |
| U83–34b–2121 | E 400 | 90    | 1.5        | 21.5       | 285  | 350 qz |        |
| U86–6–2045‘ | E10    | 80    | 1.5        | 21.5       | 285  | 350 qz |        |
| U88–5–2291‘ | E10    | 17    | 22.0       | 281        |      |       |        |
| U83–24–2623‘ | E540 | -100  | 2.6        | 16.3       | 406  |        |
| FSU58W1–995.2 m | E540 | -30   |              | 2.3        | 13.2, 493 |        |
| FSU58W1–999.3 m | E540 | -30   | 2.3        | 14.2       | 458  |        |
| FSU10–962.7 m | E540 | -90   | 2.0        | 16.8       | 391  |        |
| FSU76–878 | off section | 250   | 2.0 cp       | 2.6 cp       |      |       |        |
| FSU78–900.9 |        | 100   |              |            |      |       |        |
### Table A1. (Continued)

| Sample     | Location     | Elev. | Sulfides % | Sulfates % | T °C | T1, °C | Age Ma |
|------------|--------------|-------|------------|------------|------|--------|--------|
|            |              |       | pyrite stage 1 | pyrite stage 2 | alunite stage 1 | anhydrite-barite stage 2 | sulfate–sulfide | enargite, quartz |
| FSU3–926.5 |              | 60    |             | 1.6 cp      | 3.0, 2.4 | 2.7    |        |
| FSU66–897.5|              | 10    |             |             |        |        |        |
| FSU58W1–124|              | -160  |             |             |        |        |        |
| Whole rock |              |       | S % | Content, % |        |        |        |
| PNDLP 1671 | Imbanguila   |       |    | 2.0 | 0.03 |        |        |
| PNDLP 1712 | Imbanguila   |       |    | 2.0 | 0.05 |        |        |

Samples listed based on elevation (high to low), then from NW (distal) to SE (proximal) for Lepanto; those beginning in 93xxxx from Mancano & Campbell (1995). Most samples analyzed at the Geological Survey of Japan, except for SHRIMP at ANU. FSU and PNDLP samples courtesy of Far Southeast Gold Resources, Ltd.; FSU samples (Bunce, 2015) were prepared by micro-drilling; they plus PNDLP whole rocks processed by flow-through analyzer, University of Ottawa. The range of S isotopic values reported by Imai (2000) and Berger et al. (2014) on samples provided by the authors are similar to those listed here. Enargite Th values from Mancano and Campbell (1995); quartz Th values from Hedenquist et al. (1998) and Hedenquist, unpublished; alunite dates from Arribas et al. (1995a). Sulfate–pyrite, \(6.063 \times 10^6/|ln \alpha_{\text{sulfate-py-0.56}}| = T2\) (K); sulfate–chalcopryite, \(6.513 \times 10^6/|ln \alpha_{\text{sulfate-cp-0.56}}| = T2\) (K); sulfate–covellite (CuS), \(6.423 \times 10^6/|ln \alpha_{\text{sulfate-cv-0.56}}| = T2\) (K) (Seal, 2006). Where temperature calculated for stage 1 alunite using stage 2 sulfide, value listed in [brackets]. Conventional and flow-through sulfur analyses have an error of ±0.2 ‰; SHRIMP error is ±2 ‰. MOB, Main Ore Body (along Lepanto fault); FW and HW, footwall and hanging wall; cp, chalcopyrite; cv, covellite; lz, luzonite; sl, sphalerite; al, alunite; wood, woodhouseite; an, anhydrite; ba, barite; qz, quartz.