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## **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

# Variation of copper isotopes in chalcopyrite from Dabu porphyry Cu-Mo deposit in Tibet and implications for mineral exploration

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#### Abstract

The study presents copper (Cu) isotope data of mineral separates of chalcopyrite from four drill core samples in the Miocene Dabu porphyry Cu-Mo deposit formed in a post-collisional setting in the Gangdese porphyry copper belt, southern Tibet. Copper isotope values in hypogene chalcopyrite range from -1.48% to +1.12%, displaying a large variation of up to 2.60%, which demonstrates Cu isotope fractionation at high-temperature during hydrothermal evolution. The majority of measured chalcopyrite isotopic compositions show a gradual increasing trend from -1.48% to +1.12% with the increase of drilling depth from 130m to 483m, as the alteration assemblages change from potassic to phyllic. Similarly, the other  $\delta^{65}$ Cu values ( $\delta^{65}$ Cu=(( $^{65}$ Cu/ $^{63}$ Cu)<sub>sample</sub>/( $^{65}$ Cu/ $^{63}$ Cu)<sub>standard</sub>-1) × 1000) of the chalcopyrite show a gradual increasing trend from -1.48% to +0.59% with the

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