

1 **Oxygen isotope composition of waters recorded in carbonates in strong clumped and oxygen**  
2 **isotopic disequilibrium**

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8 **Abstract.** Paleoenvironmental reconstructions, which are mainly retrieved from oxygen isotope ( $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ )  
9 and clumped isotope ( $\Delta_{47}$ ) compositions of carbonate minerals, are compromised when carbonate  
10 crystallization occurs in isotopic disequilibrium. To date, knowledge of these common isotopic  
11 disequilibria, known as vital effects in biogenic carbonates, remains limited and the potential  
12 information recorded by  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  offsets from isotopic equilibrium values is largely overlooked.  
13 Additionally, in carbonates formed in isotopic equilibrium, the use of the carbonate  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  signature as a  
14 paleothermometer relies on our knowledge of the paleowaters'  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  value, which is often assumed.  
15 Here, we report the largest  $\Delta_{47}$  offsets observed to date (as much as  $-0.270\text{‰}$ ), measured on microbial  
16 carbonates, that are strongly linked to carbonate  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  offsets ( $-25\text{‰}$ ) from equilibrium. These offsets are  
17 likely both related to the microorganism metabolic activity and yield identical erroneous temperature  
18 reconstructions. Unexpectedly, we show that the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  value of the water in which carbonates  
19 precipitated, as well as the water-carbonate  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  fractionation dependence to temperature at equilibrium  
20 can be retrieved from these paired  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  disequilibrium values measured in carbonates. The  
21 possibility to retrieve the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  value of paleowaters, sediments' interstitial waters or organisms' body  
22 water at the carbonate precipitation loci, even from carbonates formed in isotopic disequilibrium, opens

23 long-awaited research avenues for both paleoenvironmental reconstructions and biomineralization  
24 studies.

25

## 26 **1 Introduction**

27 Oxygen isotope composition ( $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ) paired with clumped isotope composition ( $\Delta_{47}$ ) of carbonate  
28 minerals is increasingly used for reconstructing paleoenvironmental or diagenetic conditions (Ghosh et  
29 al., 2006; Henkes et al., 2018; Mangenot et al., 2018 a and b). The  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  of carbonates depends on both  
30 the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  value of the water in which the carbonate precipitated and the precipitation temperature (Urey  
31 et al., 1951). Its use to reconstruct paleoenvironments can be combined with the new carbonate C-O  
32 “clumped isotopes” abundance ( $\Delta_{47}$ ) thermometer which depends only on the carbonate precipitation  
33 temperature (Ghosh et al., 2006). By combining the  $\Delta_{47}$  derived temperatures and the carbonate  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$   
34 value ( $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$ ), the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  value of the water ( $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ ) in which the carbonate precipitated can be  
35 retrieved. However, this requires that solid carbonate and water reached isotopic equilibrium, which is  
36 often hard to prove. Conversely, carbonate precipitation in isotopic disequilibrium is commonly  
37 encountered (Affek et al., 2014; Loyd et al., 2016). Out of equilibrium  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  values are  
38 particularly known to occur in biogenic carbonates (Thiagarajan et al., 2011, Bajnai et al., 2018)– the  
39 most abundant carbonates in the sedimentary record. To date, the reasons for these isotopic disequilibria  
40 in carbonates remain largely under-constrained. While  $\Delta_{47}$  compositions of carbonates seemed at first  
41 free of any biologically-driven or mineral-specific fractionation known to affect  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$   
42 compositions (Eiler, 2011), recently identified disequilibrium  $\Delta_{47}$  values (Saenger et al., 2012; Affek,  
43 2013; Tang et al., 2014; Burgener et al., 2018) open new perspectives to unravel the mechanisms  
44 responsible for oxygen isotopic disequilibrium in carbonate minerals. Even though these vital effect  
45 identification do not prevent  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  tools to be powerful paleothermometer as empirical

46 calibrations taking vital effects into account allow temperature reconstructions, it has become crucial to  
47 determine if the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  disequilibria observed in carbonates as diverse as those found in coral reefs  
48 (Saenger et al., 2012), brachiopods (Bajnai et al., 2018), microbialites and methane seep carbonates  
49 (Loyd et al., 2016), along with speleothems (Affek et al., 2014) could be explained by oxygen-isotope  
50 disequilibria occurring in dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC) involved in carbonate precipitation. In this  
51 case,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  disequilibria in biogenic carbonates would record information, however unavailable  
52 yet, on the physiological characteristics of carbonate-forming organisms.

53 In previous experiments we produced microbial calcium carbonates (Millo et al., 2012; Thaler et  
54 al., 2017) that recorded the strongest oxygen isotope disequilibrium ever identified between DIC and  
55 precipitation water (*i.e.* -25‰ offset from  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  equilibrium values). We used carbonic anhydrase  
56 (CA), an enzyme able to accelerate oxygen isotope equilibration between DIC and water *via* fast  $\text{CO}_2$   
57 hydration and  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  dehydration. When CA was added to the precipitation water, the carbonate oxygen  
58 isotope compositions reached equilibrium with the precipitation water (Thaler et al., 2017). Here, we  
59 build up on these experiments as they offer a unique opportunity to assess experimentally whether  
60 carbonates precipitated from DIC in disequilibrium with water also record  $\Delta_{47}$  disequilibrium values, and  
61 the type of information that is actually carried by these paired disequilibria. We latter show how and to  
62 what extent this can be applied to previously published cases of oxygen isotopic offsets from  
63 equilibrium values in both biogenic and abiotic carbonates.

64

## 65 **2 Material and Methods**

### 66 **2.1 Precipitation of microbial carbonates**

67 Carbonates were precipitated at  $30 \pm 0.1^\circ\text{C}$  using the procedure detailed in Millo et al., (2012) and Thaler  
68 et al., (2017) and summarized hereafter. The precipitation solution (initial pH = 6.0) was composed of

69 ions added to Milli-Q<sup>®</sup> water (resistivity = 18 MΩ·cm) by dissolving salts in the following order:  
70 MgSO<sub>4</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O (16 mM), NaCl (80 mM), KCl (4 mM), urea (33.3 mM), CaCl<sub>2</sub> (40 mM). The aim was to  
71 mimic the ionic composition of a groundwater (Millo et al., 2012). In experiments with CA whose δ<sup>18</sup>O  
72 results (but not the Δ<sub>47</sub> ones) were recently published in Thaler et al., (2017), the precipitation solution  
73 was supplemented with CA at a concentration of 2 mg/L. The precipitation solution (with or without  
74 CA) was then mixed at a volumetric ratio of 1:1 with the ureolytic soil bacteria *Sporosarcina pasteurii*  
75 (Fig.1) suspended in Milli-Q<sup>®</sup> water, at a final optical density at 600 nm of 0.100±0.010. For this study,  
76 16 gastight Exetainer<sup>®</sup> vials were filled with the precipitation solution without CA in order to sacrifice  
77 them at regular time intervals (*i.e.* 30, 60, 120, 180, 360 min and 24 h) and thus obtain information on  
78 the kinetics of the reaction, while reproducing the procedure followed for the experiment with CA  
79 (Thaler et al., 2017) consisting of 27 vials sacrificed every 10 to 30 min and after 24 h. The vials capped  
80 with rubber septa were filled up to the brim, *i.e.* without headspace, hence preventing any gaseous  
81 exchange with the atmosphere or headspace gases.

82 Ureolysis corresponds to two hydrolysis : (i) the hydrolysis of urea into ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) and carbamate (H<sub>2</sub>N-  
83 COOH) (H<sub>2</sub>N – CO – NH<sub>2</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>O → NH<sub>3</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>N – COOH), which is catalyzed by urease and is the rate limiting  
84 step, and (ii) the rapid and spontaneous hydrolysis of carbamate into ammonia and CO<sub>2(aq)</sub> (H<sub>2</sub>N – COOH +  
85 H<sub>2</sub>O → NH<sub>3</sub> + CO<sub>2(aq)</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>O) (Krebs and Roughton, 1948; Matsuzaki et al., 2013) or into H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (H<sub>2</sub>N –  
86 COOH + H<sub>2</sub>O → NH<sub>3</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>) (Mobley and Hausinger, 1989; Krajewska, 2009).

87 Ureolysis completion was followed by evaluating the production of dissolved inorganic nitrogen (DIN =  
88 NH<sub>3</sub>+NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>). Determination of pH, DIN concentration and amount of precipitated carbonates (Fig. 2), as  
89 well as isotopic measurements, were performed for each vial to monitor their evolution as the ureolysis  
90 reaction progresses. The pH initially increased from 6.0 to 9.0 due to NH<sub>3</sub> production by ureolysis and  
91 consecutive alkalization of the precipitation solution (Fig. 2a). The subsequent carbonate precipitation  
92 (Fig. 2b) lowered pH to 8.6 (without CA) and 8.5 (with CA) and was followed by a second pH increase

93 to 8.8 (without CA) and 8.7 (with CA) when carbonate precipitation stopped while ureolysis continued.  
94 At ureolysis completion, all the calcium initially present in solution (*i.e.* the limiting reagent) has  
95 precipitated whereas 35 to 45% of the DIC produced by ureolysis remained in solution. Carbonate  
96 precipitates, formed at the bottom and on the wall of the vials, were immediately rinsed with a few drops  
97 of pure ethanol in order to dehydrate bacteria and prevent further ureolysis, carbonate formation and/or  
98 dissolution–reprecipitation processes. Ethanol was then removed, and prior to their collection,  
99 carbonates were dried overnight at 40°C in the vials placed in a ventilated oven equipped with  
100 desiccating beads. The major part of the carbonates precipitated in this study was composed of calcite  
101 (Thaler et al., 2017) with minor amounts of aragonite (1 to 4%), vaterite (2 to 4%) and magnesian calcite  
102 with low Mg content ( $\text{Mg}_{0.064}\text{Ca}_{0.936}\text{CO}_3$  (up to 8%) (Thaler et al., 2017).  
103 All of the measured chemical parameters (pH, DIC, amount of solid carbonates,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  concentration,  
104 DIN) along with DIC and solid carbonate  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  behave similarly with or without active CA (Thaler et al.,  
105 2017). It was not possible to measure  $\Delta_{47}$  for all the precipitated carbonates due to their low amount,  
106 particularly for the tubes sacrificed at the beginning of the experiments (Supplementary Table S1).

## 107 108 **2.2 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and $\Delta_{47}$ measurements and associated uncertainties**

109 All the isotopic analyses were made at Institut de physique du globe de Paris (IPGP, France).  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$   
110 analyses were performed on carbonate powders of ca. 2 mg with a continuous helium-flow isotope ratio  
111 mass spectrometer AP 2003 (Analytical Precision 2003, GV Instruments) coupled to a gas  
112 chromatograph column (GC-IRMS, Chrompac Column Type 99960), as described in Millo et al., (2012)  
113 and Thaler et al., (2017). External reproducibility on carbonate standards is  $\pm 0.1\text{‰}$  (1SD) and represents  
114 the uncertainty assigned to  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  data.

115 The analytical procedure used for clumped isotope  $\Delta_{47}$  measurements is only briefly presented  
 116 here and detailed in Bonifacie et al., (2017). About 5 mg of carbonates were digested at 90°C during 20  
 117 min with 104% phosphoric acid  $H_3PO_4$  in a common acid bath. The produced gaseous  $CO_2$  was purified  
 118 with a manual vacuum line before introduction into a Thermo Scientific MAT 253 dual-inlet mass  
 119 spectrometer. Each purified  $CO_2$  gas was analyzed for their abundance in isotopologues with m/z from  
 120 44 to 49 versus a working gas provided by Oztech Trading Corporation with  $\delta^{13}C = -3.71\text{‰}$  VPDB and  
 121  $\delta^{18}O = +24.67\text{‰}$  VSMOW, as determined with the international reference material NBS19. One single  
 122  $\Delta_{47}$  measurement corresponds to 70 cycles of 26 s integration time each (total integration time = 1820 s).  
 123 Conventional  $\delta^{18}O$  and  $\delta^{13}C$  data were also acquired simultaneously to  $\Delta_{47}$  measurements with this  
 124 instrument (Supplementary Tables S1 and S2). They are in excellent consistency with data obtained with  
 125 the continuous-flow method on smaller samples (Supplementary Table S1).

126 The  $\Delta_{47}$  is calculated as a function of the stochastic distribution of the  $CO_2$  isotopologues, as  
 127 follows:

$$128 \quad \Delta_{47} = \left[ \left( \frac{R_{measured}^{47}}{R_{stochastic}^{47}} - 1 \right) - \left( \frac{R_{measured}^{46}}{R_{stochastic}^{46}} - 1 \right) - \left( \frac{R_{measured}^{45}}{R_{stochastic}^{45}} - 1 \right) \right] \times 1000 \quad (1),$$

129 where  $\Delta_{47}$  is expressed in per mil (‰), and  $R^{47}$ ,  $R^{46}$  and  $R^{45}$  are the abundance ratios of the masses 47,  
 130 46, 45 respectively, relative to the mass 44 ( $^{12}C^{16}O^{16}O$ ).  $R_{measured}^X$  are measured ratios of the  $CO_2$  sample.  
 131  $R_{stochastic}^X$  are calculated from the measured 44, 45, 46 and 47 abundance ratios. The amount of  
 132 isotopologues of mass 47 (mainly  $^{13}C^{18}O^{16}O$ , but also  $^{12}C^{17}O^{16}O$  and  $^{13}C^{17}O^{17}O$ ) measured within the  
 133  $CO_2$  sample extracted from the acid digestion of the carbonates is linked to the amount of isotopologues  
 134 of mass 63 (mainly  $^{13}C^{18}O^{16}O^{16}O$ ) within the reacted carbonate mineral (Guo et al., 2009). For the  
 135 correction from  $^{17}O$  interferences we used the  $^{17}O$  correction parameters from Brand et al., (2010), as  
 136 recently recommended (Daëron et al., 2016, Schauer et al., 2016). In order to transfer the obtained raw

137  $\Delta_{47}$  data into the absolute Carbon Dioxide Equilibrium Scale “CDES” ( $\Delta_{47}^{\text{CDES90}}$  being the  $\Delta_{47}$  values of  
138 carbonates reacted within acid at 90°C), standards of CO<sub>2</sub> gases equilibrated at 25°C and 1000°C and  
139 with bulk isotopic compositions covering the range of measured carbonate samples ( $\delta^{47}$  values between -  
140 50 and +24‰) were analyzed interspaced with unknown samples (typically 15 equilibrated CO<sub>2</sub> gas  
141 analyses by discrete session of analysis, 4 analytical sessions in total; Supplementary Table S5). For  
142 each analytical session, as recommended in Dennis et al., (2011), the  $\Delta_{47}$  data were finally corrected  
143 with a fixed Equilibrated Gas Line slope (only slightly varying from 0.0048 to 0.0062 over our  
144 analytical sessions) and an Empirical Transfer Function (slopes varying from 1.0859 to 1.1344) based on  
145 the equilibrated CO<sub>2</sub> standards. Finally, the accuracy of our whole dataset and processing procedure was  
146 validated on carbonate reference material (*i.e.* IPGP-Carrara and 102-GC-AZ01), typically analyzed  
147 every 2 unknown samples (Supplementary Table S5). The  $\Delta_{47}$  values obtained at IPGP over the course  
148 of this study are  $\Delta_{47}^{\text{CDES90}} = 0.316 \pm 0.020\text{‰}$  (1SD,  $n = 16$ ) for IPGP-Carrara and  $\Delta_{47}^{\text{CDES90}} =$   
149  $0.620 \pm 0.010\text{‰}$  (1SD,  $n = 18$ ) for 102-GC-AZ01. Those values are indistinguishable from the values  
150 obtained at IPGP over four years of analyses on the same instrument ( $n > 300$ ) or previously reported by  
151 other laboratories (Daëron et al., 2016).

152

### 153 **2.3 Temperature estimates and associated uncertainties**

154 Apparent temperatures issued from oxygen isotope compositions were calculated based on the measured  
155  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values of both the precipitated carbonate and the precipitation water in each experimental  
156 vial (Supplementary Table S1) and using the equation of oxygen isotopes’ fractionation between calcite  
157 and water from Kim and O’Neil, (1997). Apparent temperatures issued from clumped isotope  
158 compositions were calculated from  $\Delta_{47}^{\text{CDES90}}$  data using the composite universal  $\Delta_{47}$ -T calibration (Eq. 3  
159 from Bonifacie et al., (2017) with T, the temperature). It is noteworthy that our main observations and

160 conclusions do not change if other calibrations to temperature are used for  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and/or  $\Delta_{47}$  (Kelson et al.,  
161 2017) (see also Supplementary Table S3). For both proxies, the uncertainties on temperature estimates  
162 reported here correspond to the standard deviation of the mean of replicated isotopic measurements of  
163 the same powder propagated in the calibration equation (but the actual errors on the calibration  
164 themselves are not considered). Note that the long-term external reproducibility on homogeneous calcite  
165 reference materials found in this study (*i.e.*  $\pm 0.020\%$ , 1SD) is used for samples with only one  
166 measurement or with 1SD lower than  $0.020\%$  (Supplementary Tables S1 and S5, Supplementary  
167 Discussion).

168 For the temperature (T) derived from the  $\Delta_{47}$  data, we chose the calibration determined by Bonifacie et  
169 al., (2017) as it integrates a consequent number of data ( $n > 300$ ), which statistical weight have been  
170 properly considered, and covers a wide temperature range (from 1 to  $350^\circ\text{C}$ ), three characteristics that  
171 were recently shown by several teams as governing the precision on  $\Delta_{47}$ -T calibration equations (Bonifacie  
172 et al., 2017; Kelson et al., 2017; Fernandez et al., 2017). Importantly, this calibration covers the high  
173 apparent temperature ranges reported here (*i.e.*, low  $\Delta_{47}$  values) allowing to avoid loss of  
174 precision/accuracy when extrapolating to temperature ranges that have not been experimentally  
175 investigated. Finally the Bonifacie et al. (2017) calibration has been checked independently with other  
176 methods (Mangenot et al., 2017, Dassié et al., 2018) on the range of temperatures ( $\sim 30$  to  $96^\circ\text{C}$ ) where  
177 most of available calibrations are diverging and/or not well constrained. Indeed, these studies report  
178 excellent consistencies: i/ between T  $\Delta_{47}$  and homogenization temperatures from fluid inclusion  
179 microthermometry (Mangenot et al., 2017), and ii/ between the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  values directly measured in fluid  
180 inclusions by cavity ring down spectroscopy and those calculated from combined T $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  of  
181 the host-mineral (Dassié et al., 2018). Thought we recognize that the normalization to carbonate standards  
182 presented in Bernasconi et al. (2018) might become commonly used by the community in the future (*ie.*



183 with the on-going inter-comparison Intercarb project), we preferred not to use this correction frame here  
184 because not enough of the four carbonate standards proposed by Bernasconi et al., 2018 were run together  
185 with our samples (n= 14 run in total of ETH1, ETH2, ETH3, ETH4 standards; Supplementary Table S5),  
186 and such normalization method will then introduce larger uncertainty than the normalization we performed  
187 with the large number of equilibrated gases ran daily together with our unknowns (n= 104 equilibrated  
188 gas; Supplementary Table S5 — Note also 33 secondary carbonate standards 102-GC-AZ01 and IPGP-  
189 Cararra, also ran in other IPGP studies and some other laboratories). Also remarkably,  $\Delta_{47}$  obtained here  
190 on the four ETH carbonate standards are all systematically higher than values reported in Bernasconi et  
191 al., 2018 (Supplementary Table S4). Thought the reason of this positive offset is still unclear, it is  
192 noteworthy that positive offsets are also observed when compiling other recent published values  
193 (Supplementary Table S4; Daëron et al. 2016; Schauer et al., 2016; Fiebig et al., 2019).

194

### 195 **3 Results and Discussion**

#### 196 **3.1 $\Delta_{47}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ compositions of microbial carbonates can present strongly correlated vital** 197 **effects**

198 We performed  $\Delta_{47}$  measurements on (i) microbial carbonates precipitated without CA by faithfully  
199 replicating the experiment detailed in Thaler et al., (2017) and (ii) microbial carbonates precipitated in  
200 the presence of CA remaining from these experiments. These calcium carbonates were precipitated as  
201 the result of microbially-driven hydrolysis of urea into DIC and ammonia (Millo et al., 2012). They  
202 constitute a reliable model for carbonate precipitation triggered by enzymatic production or transport of  
203 DIC, as it is the case for micro- and macro-skeletal carbonates common in the Phanerozoic, and for  
204 microbially-mediated carbonates since the Precambrian.

205 Without CA, the isotopic values of the very first carbonate precipitates present strong isotopic offsets  
206 from equilibrium values. The  $\Delta_{47}$  offset to equilibrium starts down to -0.270‰ (the largest  $\Delta_{47}$  offset  
207 ever measured in solid carbonates) and the offset to equilibrium reaches -24.7‰ for  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  (Fig. 3  
208 and Supplementary Table S1). Both  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  absolute values then increase as ureolysis  
209 progresses, reducing offsets from equilibrium values to -0.179‰ for  $\Delta_{47}$  and -15.7‰ for  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$ . In  
210 the presence of CA, the trends observed for the  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values are similar but the offsets  
211 from equilibrium are drastically reduced (down to -0.027‰ for  $\Delta_{47}$  and -1.4‰ for  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  at the end  
212 of the experiment; Fig. 3), hence attesting for on-going isotopic equilibration of DIC with water by CA  
213 enzymatic activity prior to and during carbonate precipitation. The comparable behavior of  $\Delta_{47}$  and  
214  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values with respect to CA suggests that both disequilibria are inherited from the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$   
215 signatures of the DIC generated by the biological activity.

216

### 217 **3.2 $\Delta_{47}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$ disequilibrium originate from the metabolic production of DIC**

218 Here, we discuss the potential processes known to generate  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  isotope fractionations during  
219 carbonate precipitation and we identify the main mechanism explaining our paired  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$   
220 disequilibria. The relatively high precipitation rate (R) in our experiments ( $\log R = -3.95 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ ;  
221 (Thaler et al., 2017)) can only account for an oxygen kinetic isotope fractionation (KIF) of about 1 to  
222 2‰ for  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values (Watkins et al., 2013), while the oxygen isotope disequilibrium recorded in our  
223 carbonates reaches -24.7‰. Degassing of  $\text{CO}_2$ , known to fractionate DIC oxygen isotopes (Affek and  
224 Zaarur, 2014), can be ruled out as there is no gas phase in our experiments (see Material and Methods).  
225 Any potential kinetic fractionation due to DIC diffusion (Thiagarajan et al., 2011) is also unlikely as  
226 precipitation occurred on the bacterial DIC-producing cells, as highlighted by scanning electron  
227 microscopy showing bacterial cells trapped within and at the surface of carbonate crystals (Fig. 1).

228 Accordingly, the large offsets from equilibrium values observed for both  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  in our microbial  
229 carbonates can only result from (i) a KIF induced by  $\text{CO}_2$  hydration/hydroxylation into  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  (but only  
230 if ureolysis produces  $\text{CO}_2$  rather than  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$ , which has not been established yet (Matsuzaki et al.,  
231 2013)) or (ii) a metabolic isotopic signature of the DIC produced by the bacteria, inherited from the  
232 initial isotopic composition of urea and/or due to a KIF introduced by the urease enzyme.  $\text{CO}_2$   
233 hydration/hydroxylation leads to the formation of  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ , with two oxygen atoms coming from  $\text{CO}_2$  and  
234 the third one from  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (hydration) or  $\text{OH}^-$  (hydroxylation). The  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{HCO}_3^-}$  value can then be estimated  
235 using a simple mass balance calculation (Létolle et al., 1990b; Usdowski et al., 1991). The newly formed  
236  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  is depleted in  $^{18}\text{O}$  compared to the reacting  $\text{CO}_2$  because of the incorporation of oxygen coming  
237 from  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  or  $\text{OH}^-$ , both depleted in  $^{18}\text{O}$  relative to  $^{16}\text{O}$  in contrast with  $\text{CO}_2$  (Green and Taube,  
238 1963; Beck et al., 2005). Such a low  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{HCO}_3^-}$  value, several per mil lower than the equilibrium one, can  
239 then be preserved in the calcium carbonate if precipitation occurs shortly after  $\text{CO}_2$   
240 hydration/hydroxylation and before the full equilibration with water (Rollion-Bard et al., 2003).  
241 Regarding clumped isotopes, ab initio calculations predict that the fractionation associated with  $\text{CO}_2$   
242 hydration/hydroxylation increases the relative abundance of  $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^{18}\text{O}$  bonds, and thus the  $\Delta_{47}$  value (Guo,  
243 Ms 2009). Even though this predicted fractionation trend has previously been used to explain several  
244 datasets for which  $\text{CO}_2$  hydroxylation was assumed to occur prior to carbonate precipitation (Tripathi et  
245 al., 2015; Spooner et al., 2016), such a tendency can only be validated using data acquired on carbonates  
246 for which  $\text{CO}_2$  hydration/hydroxylation is demonstrated. This is the case of (i) hyperalkaline travertines  
247 (Falk et al., 2016) even though part of the reported kinetic isotope fractionation can be interpreted as  
248 resulting from  $\text{CO}_2$  dissolution process (Clark et al., 1992) and (ii) two experimental samples (Tang et  
249 al., 2014) precipitated at high pH where  $\text{CO}_2$  hydroxylation dominates. Both studies show, in agreement  
250 with the ab initio calculations (Guo, Ms 2009), higher  $\Delta_{47}$  and lower  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values compared to

251 equilibrium. Thus, in a case where ureolysis would produce CO<sub>2</sub> in isotopic equilibrium with water, the  
252  $\Delta_{47}$  values affected by CO<sub>2</sub> hydration/hydroxylation recorded in calcium carbonates should be higher  
253 than the equilibrium value, while our microbial carbonates are showing  $\Delta_{47}$  values lower than  
254 equilibrium. Thus, we conclude that our low  $\Delta_{47}$  values measured in carbonates can only be explained by  
255 a metabolic source effect. In our case it corresponds to the ureolytic production of DIC, either directly as  
256 H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> or as CO<sub>2</sub>, with a  $\Delta_{47}$  value low enough to compensate for any potentially succeeding increase  
257 due to the KIF associated with CO<sub>2</sub> hydration/hydroxylation. Nonetheless, the slow but continuous  
258 increase observed in our experiment without CA for both  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values more likely reflects  
259 ongoing equilibration of DIC oxygen isotopes with water at a slow rate.

260 Our results highlight that the isotope clumping proceeds continuously as C-O bonds are breaking  
261 and re-forming in the DIC, allowing oxygen isotopes (<sup>16</sup>O, <sup>17</sup>O and <sup>18</sup>O) to be redistributed between  
262 H<sub>2</sub>O, OH<sup>-</sup>, H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> species *via* H<sub>2</sub>O/OH<sup>-</sup> -attachment to CO<sub>2</sub> and -detachment from  
263 HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>. In the experiment with CA, both  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  reach simultaneously values close to  
264 equilibrium and without CA both  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values increase simultaneously. This coevolution  
265 corroborates former observations of comparable kinetics for clumped isotopes and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  equilibration  
266 between DIC and water or CO<sub>2</sub> and water once  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  is equilibrated (Affek, 2013; Clog et al., 2015). This  
267 principle has been used to correct for disequilibrium fractionation factor in speleothems (Affek et al.,  
268 2008).

269

### 270 **3.3 Erroneous yet comparable temperatures reconstructed from disequilibrium $\Delta_{47}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$** 271 **values in carbonates**

272 Apparent temperatures were calculated from disequilibrium  $\Delta_{47}$  values obtained in the experiment  
273 without CA using the calibration of Bonifacie et al., (2017). Ranging from 198±21°C to 115±8°C (Fig.

274 4), they are at odds with the actual precipitation temperature of  $30\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  (see Methods). This shows that  
275 when carbonates precipitate from DIC in oxygen-isotope disequilibrium with water, the abundance of  
276  $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^{18}\text{O}$  bonds in carbonates does not correlate with precipitation water temperature. Conversely, the  
277 temperatures reconstructed from the  $\Delta_{47}$  values of carbonates precipitated in the presence of CA, ranging  
278 from  $47\pm 6^\circ\text{C}$  to  $39\pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ , are much closer to the actual precipitation temperature. Interestingly, the  
279 apparent temperatures reconstructed using Kim and O'Neil et al., (1997) calibration from the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$   
280 and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  values of the same samples show comparable offsets from the actual temperature in both  
281 experiments without CA (from  $218\pm 2^\circ\text{C}$  to  $139\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ ) and with CA (from  $39\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  to  $37\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ ) (Fig. 4).  
282 Practically, this implies that similar temperatures calculated from both carbonate  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$   
283 values (in a case where the precipitation water  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  can be determined) can neither constitute evidence  
284 against O-isotope disequilibrium nor confirm that this is the true precipitation temperature.

285

### 286 **3.4 $\Delta_{47}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$ paired disequilibria record the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ of the water in which the** 287 **carbonates precipitated**

288 The fact that both  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values permit to calculate similarly evolving apparent  
289 temperatures along the (dis)equilibration profile recorded in carbonates as the experiment proceeds,  
290 indicates that the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$ ,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ ,  $\Delta_{47}$ , and apparent temperature values are all together linked. In a  
291  $\Delta_{47}$  versus  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  diagram, all of our data align, irrespectively of the fact that they are in strong  
292 isotopic disequilibrium or close to equilibrium (Fig. 5). Their alignment is fitted with what would be  
293 expected for equilibrium  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values of calcite precipitated at various temperatures from a  
294 water at a given  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  value. This  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  value can be calculated by combining for the same  
295 temperature, the equations of  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  temperature calibrations from Kim and O'Neil, (1997)  
296 and Bonifacie et al., (2017), respectively (Eq. 2):

$$\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}} = \exp \left[ -\frac{18.03}{\sqrt{\frac{0.0422 \times 10^6}{\Delta_{47} \text{ CDES90}^{-0.1126}}}} + 32.42 \times 10^{-3} + \ln(\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}} + 1000) \right] - 1000 \quad (2),$$

298 with  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values in the same isotopic referential (here VSMOW), and  $\Delta_{47}$  values  
 299 reported into the absolute Carbon Dioxide Equilibrated Scale ( $\Delta_{47} \text{ CDES90}$ ). The calibration of Kim and  
 300 O'Neil, (1997) was preferred over more recent calibration equations (e.g. Watkins et al., 2013) because  
 301 it provides the best consistency for temperatures reconstructed from both the carbonate  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$   
 302 values at temperatures above 100°C. Note that Kim and O'Neil, (1997) and Bonifacie et al., (2017)  
 303 calibrations were developed independently, which prevents circular reasoning. Finally, as Kim and  
 304 O'Neil, (1997) is the most used calcite calibration to date, it also allows for a broader comparison with  
 305 previously published results.

306 Despite the fact that the data present a large range of offsets from equilibrium (Fig. 5), the mean  
 307  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  value calculated using Eq. 2 for each combination of  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values measured for  
 308 our carbonates is  $-8.0 \pm 2.8\%$  (1SD), indistinguishable (*i.e.* within errors) from the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  values  
 309 measured in our experiments ( $-6.4 \pm 0.2\%$  with CA and  $-6.8 \pm 0.2\%$  without CA; Fig. 5). Note that such  
 310 precision in  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  values found in disequilibrium carbonates is remarkable considering that even for  
 311 equilibrium carbonates at isotopic equilibrium for both  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  can only be retrieved  
 312 from paired  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values with a precision of  $\pm 1\%$  at best (see Supplementary information).  
 313 This opens the promising opportunity to retrieve the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  value of the water in which carbonates  
 314 precipitated out of equilibrium for both  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$ .

315 In order to evaluate the applicability of such an approach to other types of carbonates, Fig. 6  
 316 compiles disequilibrium paired  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  data from two previously published experimental  
 317 studies (Tang et al., 2014; Staudigel et al., 2018). These studies were chosen to further evaluate the  
 318 relevancy of our  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}} - \Delta_{47}$  correlation because they are the only published dataset reporting full  
 319 sets of measured (rather than calculated)  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ ,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  values, with one or both proxies

320 *showing disequilibrium*, together with precipitation temperatures. A perfect knowledge (*i.e.*  
321 measurements and not estimates) of these four parameters is mandatory here to adequately test whether  
322 the use of our new  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  proxy could be generalized to a large diversity of carbonates. This thus  
323 precludes plotting in Fig. 6 most published  $\Delta_{47}$  studies on both natural and experimental samples, in  
324 which  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  and/or temperature were not directly measured. These two datasets are also recent  
325 enough to allow the conversion of their  $\Delta_{47}$  values to the currently used normalization method (*i.e.* the  
326 CDES absolute reference frame). It will then allow comparison with future studies, if measuring and  
327 reporting all these four parameters together become the rule rather than the exception in  $\Delta_{47}$  studies. Fig.  
328 6a shows paired  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  values of abiotic carbonates produced at 5, 25 and 40°C that are  
329 known to be affected by KIF due to fast precipitation and for at least two of them by KIF due to  $\text{CO}_2$   
330 hydration/hydroxylation prior to precipitation (Tang et al., 2004). Except for these two carbonate  
331 samples, the data align on a  $\Delta_{47}$  versus  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  covariation curve that cannot be explained solely by  
332 temperature variation. As for our microbial carbonates obtained with or without CA, the average  
333 calculated  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  (Eq. 2;  $-11.2 \pm 1.5\text{‰}$ ) matches within error with the measured  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  ( $-9.6 \pm 0.2\text{‰}$ )  
334 (Dietzel et al., 2009).

335 Fig. 6b shows paired  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  values of abiotic carbonates that were precipitated  
336 during an initial  $\text{CO}_2$  degassing + equilibration phase followed by solely equilibration with water at 5,  
337 15 and 25°C (Staudigel et al., 2018). During the latter equilibration phase, even though the carbonates  
338 precipitated out of isotopic equilibrium, the paired  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  values align on a covariation  
339 curve of average calculated  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  value (Eq. 2;  $-3.0 \pm 1.1\text{‰}$ ) close to the measured  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  ( $-0.65\text{‰}$ ).  
340 As a major outcome of this study, we thus anticipate that reliable  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  values of precipitation water  
341 can be retrieved from carbonates presenting  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values in strong disequilibrium.

342 Some data presented in Fig. 6 also permit to evaluate the conditions of applicability of our  
343 approach. In Fig. 6a, the two data points deviating from the  $\Delta_{47}$  versus  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  covariation curve  
344 correspond to carbonates precipitated at pH ~10 and 5°C (while the others formed at pH and  
345 temperatures ranging from 8.3 to 9 and 5 to 40°C, respectively) that have recorded a KIF due to CO<sub>2</sub>  
346 hydration/hydroxylation prior to precipitation (Tang et al., 2014). At pH=10, CO<sub>2</sub> reacts at 95% with  
347 OH<sup>-</sup> and at 5°C, DIC isotopic equilibration with water takes days. To a lesser extent, the KIF induced by  
348 CO<sub>2</sub> hydroxylation seems also visible at pH= 9 (and 40°C) where CO<sub>2</sub> reacts at 82% with OH<sup>-</sup> but DIC  
349 isotopic equilibration with water at 40°C only takes about 15 hours. As previously detailed, the direction  
350 of these isotopic offsets from equilibrium is compatible with ab initio calculations (Guo, Ms, 2009) and  
351 can be intuitively understood as follows: in carbonates derived from CO<sub>2</sub> hydroxylation, the  $R^X_{stochastic}$   
352 term used for the  $\Delta_{47}$  calculation (Eq. 1) should be strongly modified as the <sup>18</sup>O concentration in OH<sup>-</sup> and  
353 H<sub>2</sub>O is lower than in CO<sub>2</sub> and the reaction does not add more <sup>13</sup>C than what is present in CO<sub>2</sub>. This  
354 might explain why in the case of disequilibria acquired through CO<sub>2</sub> hydroxylation, the correlation  
355 between paired  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  disequilibria and the precipitation water  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  is not preserved and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$   
356 cannot be reconstructed by the approach proposed here. The negative slope associated with this KIF on  
357 the  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  diagram (Fig. 6a) is nevertheless a good tool to identify CO<sub>2</sub> hydroxylation  
358 reactions.

359 In Fig. 6b, during the CO<sub>2</sub> degassing phase of the precipitation experiment (Staudigel et al.,  
360 2018), the data also deviate from the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  versus  $\Delta_{47}$  covariation curve. This behavior was interpreted by  
361 the authors as a decoupling between  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values due to variable kinetics of <sup>12</sup>C-O and  
362 <sup>13</sup>C-O bonding. A known difference in equilibration kinetics takes place between C and O isotopes in  
363 the carbonate system as carbon isotopes equilibrate in seconds, while oxygen isotopes necessitate  
364 minutes to hour to equilibrate among the different oxygen-bearing species (*i.e.* CO<sub>2</sub>, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>, H<sub>2</sub>O,



365 OH<sup>-</sup>), depending on the pH, temperature and salinity of the solution (Zeebe and Wolf-Gladrow, 2001).  
366 However, note that in that experiment, the carbon isotope compositions evolved for several hours as a  
367 result of CO<sub>2</sub> degassing (Staudigel et al., 2018). We propose here that CO<sub>2</sub> degassing, because it affects  
368 both C and O isotopes, modifies the  $R^X_{stochastic}$  term (in Eq. 1), thus preventing  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  to vary with  
369 the proportionality that allows to retrieve the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  value on a  $\Delta_{47}$  versus  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  covariation plot.  
370 Hence, as for CO<sub>2</sub> hydroxylation, in case of a KIF induced by CO<sub>2</sub> degassing,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  cannot be  
371 reconstructed exclusively from disequilibrium  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  values.

372 In summary, we conclude that mechanisms that can drastically change the  $R^X_{stochastic}$  term in  $\Delta_{47}$   
373 calculation (such as CO<sub>2</sub> hydroxylation and degassing) prevent  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  reconstructions from paired  
374 disequilibrium  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values. Nevertheless, these mechanisms lead to peculiar types of  
375 carbonates (*i.e.* speleothems that form in caves from CO<sub>2</sub> degassing, and travertine that form on lands  
376 where fluids and gas escape from subsurface reservoirs for CO<sub>2</sub> hydroxylation) that represent only a  
377 small fraction of all the carbonates existing on Earth. We hypothesize that ureolysis, which consists in  
378 two successive steps of urea hydrolysis, an exchange reaction with the H<sub>2</sub>O molecule from the aqueous  
379 medium, might give a DIC whose  $R^X_{stochastic}$  term in  $\Delta_{47}$  calculation is already close to that of a DIC  
380 under equilibration with the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ . This would explain why even our most extreme out of equilibrium  
381 carbonates still fall close to the  $\Delta_{47}$  versus  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  covariation line corresponding to the real  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$   
382 value.

383

### 384 **3.5 Toward a better understanding of body water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ in biomineralizing organisms**

385 The ability to reconstruct precipitation water  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  from disequilibrium  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values  
386 further allows to examine the origin of the vital effect observed in organisms for which (i) CO<sub>2</sub>  
387 degassing and hydration/hydroxylation KIF can be ruled out, and (ii) only small  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  variations are

388 observed, thus preserving the  $R_{stochastic}^X$  term in  $\Delta_{47}$  calculation. We hypothesize that such an approach  
389 could open perspectives to understand how  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  signals are affected by kinetic effects in most of  
390 the biogenic carbonates, provided that  $\text{CO}_2$  hydroxylation or degassing do not occur prior to carbonate  
391 precipitation. This approach could thus be applied to the vast majority of sedimentary carbonates  
392 (Milliman et al., 1993) and since deep time (*i.e.* microbialites, brachiopods, bryozoans, bivalves,  
393 foraminifera, coccoliths), even when  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  variations occur in the shell of the organism.  
394 Additionally, the data presented here stand as an experimental demonstration that the mechanisms  
395 controlling carbonate  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  equilibration with water (*i.e.* DIC equilibration with water) also control solid  
396 carbonate  $\Delta_{47}$  equilibrium (Watkins et al., 2015). This result can be used to recover information on  
397 biomineralization mechanisms. For example, in recent coccolithophorid *Emiliana huxleyi* culture  
398 experiments, the calcitic shell produced by the organism systematically yields a 2‰ positive  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  offset  
399 from equilibrium values while their  $\Delta_{47}$  values seem to faithfully record precipitation temperature (Katz  
400 et al., 2017). These coccolithophorids were grown in waters with different  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  compositions (*i.e.*  
401 measured at -6.14, -5.82 and 0.65‰ VSMOW, that are respectively seawater A, B and C in Fig. 6c).  
402 Based on our results, which demonstrate that no  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  disequilibrium should be recorded in solid  
403 carbonates if the associated  $\Delta_{47}$  is at equilibrium, we can assume that the coccoliths precipitated at  
404 oxygen-isotope equilibrium and calculate from Eq. 2 the actual  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  value of the water in which  
405 precipitation took place (respectively shifted by  $1.0 \pm 0.2\%$ ,  $2.1 \pm 0.4\%$  and  $1.1 \pm 0.7\%$  towards more  
406 positive values compared to the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  value measured for the culture medium water; Fig. 6c). This  
407 could reflect a biologically-driven difference between the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  of body water at the precipitation site  
408 inside *E. huxleyi* and the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  of ambient water (*i.e.* the culture medium water). This hypothesis is  
409 supported by what is known about intracellular precipitation of coccolith performed by  
410 coccolithophorids: each coccolith forms from the accumulation of coccolithosomes, which are vesicles

411 containing up to a dozen of 7 nm spherical calcium-rich granular units (Outka and Williams, 1971).  
412 Water in these ~100 nm vesicles can be considered as a finite reservoir whose isotopic composition  
413 could be modified through isotopic exchange with a DIC affected by metabolic isotope fractionation.  
414 Another mechanism that could increase the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  value of a finite water reservoir by equilibrating it with  
415 a comparable reservoir of DIC would be the introduction of DIC systematically as  $\text{CO}_2$ . As  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  and  
416  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  are enriched in  $^{16}\text{O}$  in comparison to  $\text{CO}_2$ , the  $\text{CO}_2$  conversion to  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  and  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  at equilibrium  
417 before precipitation would pump  $^{16}\text{O}$  from water.

418 In both case scenarios, a local change in water isotopic composition requires that the water  
419 molecules turnover (*i.e.* external inputs) in these cellular organites is slow enough. Coccolithosomes are  
420 subunits of the Golgi complex, which is a system of flat stacked vesicles concentrating a lot of  
421 membranes in a small location (Outka and Williams, 1971). It is thus plausible that in a single celled  
422 organism, living in seawater and performing intracellular biomineralization, specific osmolarity and  
423 water circulation regulation mechanism are occurring. It is particularly plausible in the Golgi complex,  
424 whose water content is isolated from seawater by several membranes. We thus suggest that inside  
425 coccolithosomes, coccoliths precursors precipitate in equilibrium with the body water for oxygen  
426 isotopes, but that the body water has a different  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  value than the seawater, which explains the  
427 observed  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  apparent fractionation while their  $\Delta_{47}$  composition reflects culture temperature (Katz et  
428 al., 2017). It has already been highlighted through geochemical analysis of coccoliths, that  
429 coccolithosomes water has altered pH (Liu et al., 2018) and ion concentrations (Hermoso et al., 2017) in  
430 comparison to seawater. We hypothesize that the internal  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  water would thus be another parameter  
431 controlled by the coccolithophore algae.

432

433 **3.6 Ubiquity of the observed  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}} - \delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}} - \Delta_{47}$ -temperature covariations in both**  
434 **equilibrium and disequilibrium carbonates**

435 As shown above, in a  $\Delta_{47}$  versus  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  diagram, disequilibrium carbonates precipitated at fixed  
436 temperature plot on the theoretical line of equilibrium carbonates precipitated with a similar  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  but  
437 at a different temperature. This is illustrated in Fig. 7 where the three disequilibrium data series studied  
438 in this paper (Fig. 5 for this study and Figs. 6a and b for datasets from Tang et al., (2014) and Staudigel  
439 et al., (2018)) align with equilibrium data series. In other words, the values of the disequilibrium  
440  $1000\ln\alpha_{\text{carbonate-water}}$  for oxygen isotopes (with  $\alpha = \frac{\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}+1000}{\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}+1000}$ ) are similar to the equilibrium  
441  $1000\ln\alpha_{\text{carbonate-water}}$  for any given, and independently determined, apparent  $\Delta_{47}$  temperature (Fig. 7). In  
442 details, our closest to equilibrium data recording low apparent temperatures match better the predicted  
443 equations from Coplen, (2007) and Watkins et al.,(2013), recently updated (Daëron et al., 2019). This  
444 latter calibration is based on carbonates from two caves where calcite precipitate extremely slowly and is  
445 thus assumed to have precipitated at equilibrium. Note that the use of these two cave samples for  
446 determining the dependence to temperature of the equilibrium  $1000\ln\alpha_{\text{carbonate-water}}$  relies on the  
447 assumption that constant environmental conditions, including temperature in the two caves (7.9 and  
448 33.7°C) and the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  value of the precipitation water, prevailed over the whole period of carbonate  
449 precipitation (Coplen, 2007; Kluge et al., 2014). In Fig. 7, the disequilibrium data recording high  
450 apparent temperatures (above 100°C) match better the predicted equation of Kim and O'Neil, (1997).  
451 This  $1000\ln\alpha_{\text{carbonate-water}}$  dependence to temperature was established on carbonates precipitated in the  
452 laboratory at well-known  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  and temperatures (from 10 to 40°C), but suspected to present a small  
453 KIF due to a high precipitation rate that lowers the value of the  $1000\ln\alpha_{\text{carbonate-water}}$  (Watkins et al.,  
454 2013). Despite this, we used this equation to retrieve the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  from our experimental carbonates,  
455 because most of them are associated with high apparent  $\Delta_{47}$  temperatures. Coplen, (2007) or Watkins et

456 al., (2013) equations would have return 2‰ lower values (ca.  $-10 \pm 2\text{‰}$  compared to  $-8 \pm 3\text{‰}$  calculated  
457 with Kim and O’Neil (1997) equation). From our results, due to our experimental condition and the  
458 associated error in our dataset, it is not possible and not our intention to argue in favor of one of these  
459 calibrations. This however shows how crucial it is to improve knowledge on the equilibrium  
460  $1000\ln\alpha_{\text{carbonate-water}}$  at both high and low temperatures in order to improve the accuracy and precision of  
461 our new proxy for reconstructing the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  from which carbonates, even disequilibrium ones,  
462 precipitated.

463         Importantly, we here establish a new method to determine the equilibrium  $1000\ln\alpha_{\text{carbonate-water}}$ ,  
464 which consists in using the kinetics of  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  covariations during (dis)equilibration. Notably,  
465 because of the very large range of apparent temperatures recorded by disequilibrium carbonates  
466 (between  $\sim 40$  and  $200^\circ\text{C}$ ; Fig. 7) this method could be particularly adapted to calibrate  $1000\ln\alpha_{\text{carbonate-}}$   
467  $\text{water}$  at high temperatures for which the differences between the two most popular  $1000\ln\alpha_{\text{carbonate-water}}$   
468 dependence to temperature equations (Kim and O’Neil, 1997; Coplen, 2007) appear larger (Fig. 7).  
469 Unfortunately, none of the three experimental setups having produced these disequilibrium carbonates  
470 (this study, as well as Tang et al., 2014 and Staudigel et al., 2018) were designed for the purpose of  
471 calibrating the equilibrium  $1000\ln\alpha_{\text{carbonate-water}}$ . It is thus not possible using these datasets to propose a  
472 meaningful calibration. At least in our experiment, too many phenomena including the relatively high  
473 precipitation rate, variations in  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values ( $\sim 3\text{‰}$ ) (Thaler et al., 2017), and the presence of traces of  
474 aragonite and vaterite in our carbonates (Supplementary Information) lower the accuracy of the  
475 reconstructed equilibrium  $1000\ln\alpha_{\text{carbonate-water}}$  values.

476         As a broader perspective, we anticipate that such an approach will help in determining critical  
477 equilibrium fractionation factors for other gaseous isotopic systems (such as isotopologues of molecules  
478 containing S-O bounds) or minerals of prime interest in biology and geology if clumped isotopes

479 measurements expand further beyond gaseous mass spectrometry (*e.g.* bounding between Fe-O, Fe-S,  
480 Ca-C).

481

#### 482 **4. Conclusions**

483 Our experimental results show that the information held in disequilibrium (and apparent disequilibrium)  
484 carbonates is diverse and promising. First, a paired  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  disequilibrium indicates that  
485 carbonates have precipitated in a dynamic environment where DIC and water did not reach isotopic  
486 equilibrium. In our microbial carbonate experiments, all the DIC is produced in isotopic disequilibrium  
487 with water and precipitates rapidly. Accordingly, the disequilibrium O isotope compositions recorded in  
488 those carbonates are maximized compared to what can be expected in nature where newly produced DIC  
489 is expected to be mixed with at least partly equilibrated ambient DIC before carbonates precipitate.  
490 Second, the combined use of clumped and traditional oxygen isotopic compositions allows retrieving the  
491  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  of the precipitation water, *i.e.* organism body water or environmental water, even for carbonates  
492 presenting  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and/or  $\Delta_{47}$  disequilibria or apparent disequilibria. Hence, except in the case of processes  
493 such as  $\text{CO}_2$  degassing and  $\text{CO}_2$  hydration/hydroxylation, which likely modify the  $R^X_{\text{stochastic}}$  term in  $\Delta_{47}$   
494 calculation, paired  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonates}}$  disequilibria in carbonates can be used to reconstruct the  
495 oxygen-isotope composition of both DIC and water at the precipitation loci even when precipitation  
496 occurred under disequilibrium conditions. Third, the (dis)equilibration trend in a  $\Delta_{47}$  versus  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonates}}$   
497 covariation diagram can be used as a new method to determine the equilibrium fractionation factor  
498 between carbonate and water for a wide range of temperatures. Altogether, this open up new avenues to  
499 better constrain not only past climate changes through improved paleoenvironmental reconstructions but  
500 also the physiology and habitat of sea-life sensitive to ocean acidification.

501

502 **Data availability.** All the data generated and analyzed in this study are available within the paper and in  
503 its Supplementary Information.

504

#### 505 **Author contributions**

506 C.T. and A.K. conceived the research. C.T. performed the microbial precipitation experiment and the  
507  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  analyses during her PhD thesis under M.A. and B.M. supervision. A.K. performed the  $\Delta_{47}$   
508 analyses during her PhD thesis under M.B. supervision. C.T. took the lead in the interpretation of the  
509 results and the writing of the original draft. All authors provided critical feedback and helped shaping  
510 the research, analyses and manuscript.

511

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513

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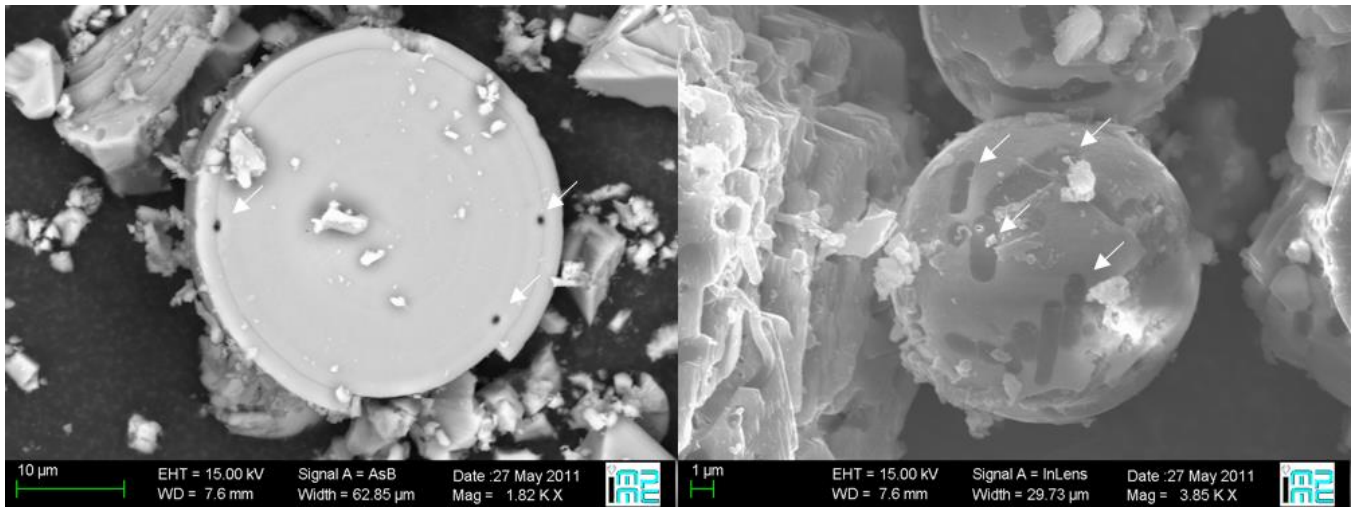
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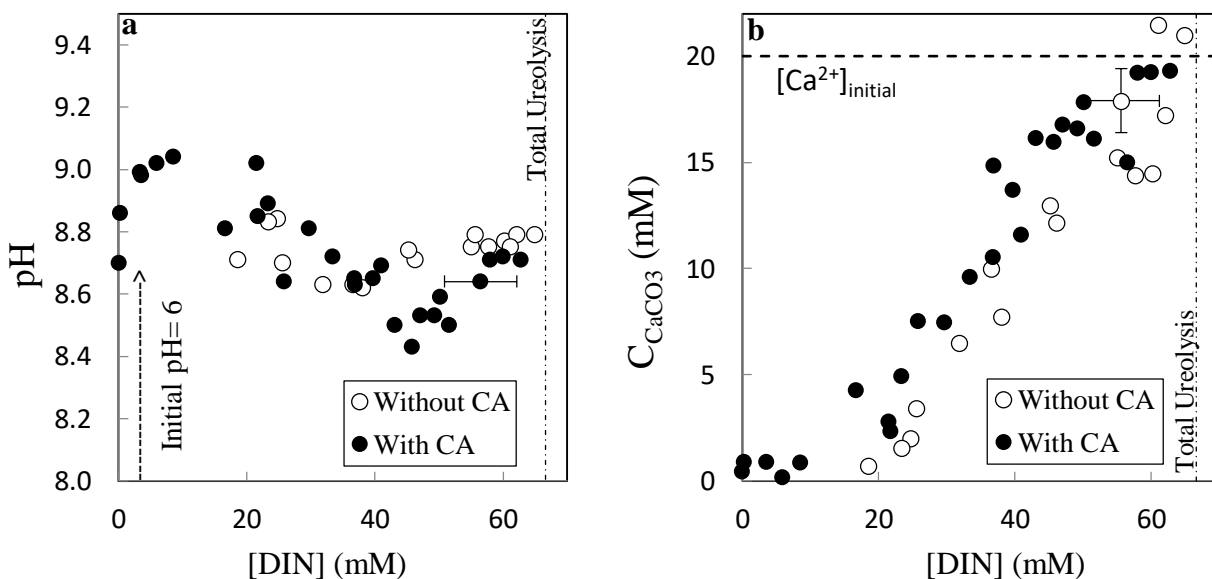
702 **Figures & Figure Legends**



703

704 **Figure 1** | Scanning electron microscopy images of the bio-induced carbonates formed with CA (almost  
 705 pure calcite and traces of vaterite and aragonite as determined using X-ray diffraction (Thaler et al.,  
 706 2017). The fingerprints of *Sporosarcina pasteurii* cells are visible as black holes (on the left picture  
 707 showing a cross-section of carbonate) or as rods and indicated by white arrows.

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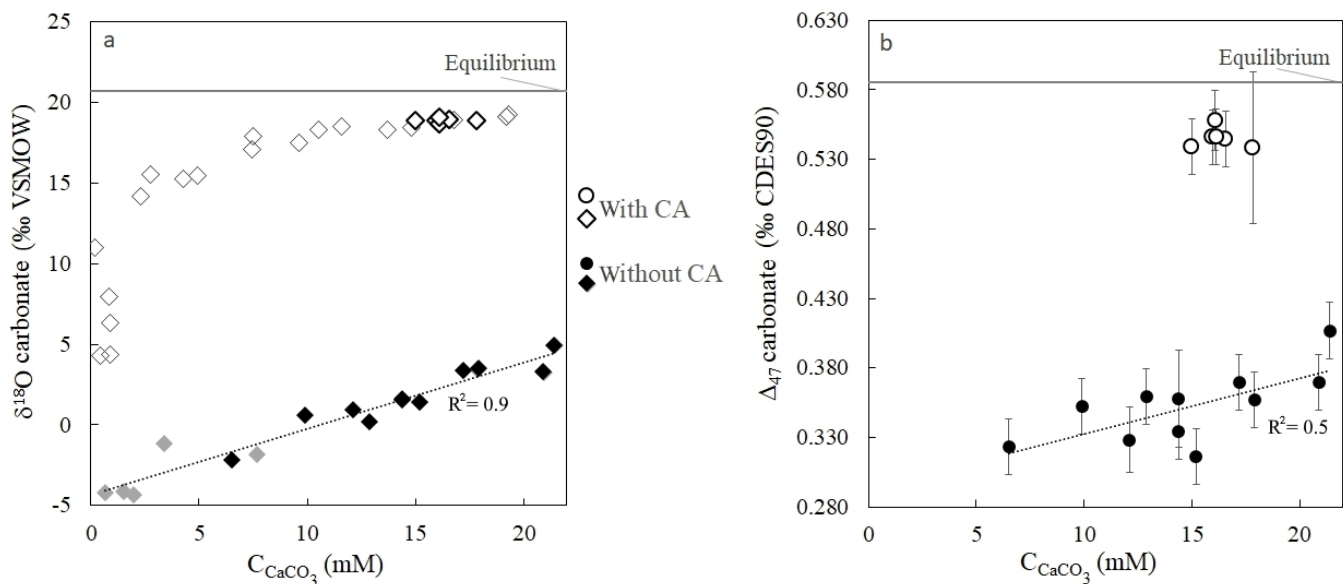
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710 **Figure 2** | Evolution of pH (a) and amount of precipitated calcium carbonate  $C_{CaCO_3}$  (b) as a function of  
 711 the production of dissolved inorganic nitrogen DIN ( $DIN = NH_3 + NH_4^+$ ) by bacteria during ureolysis,



712 without carbonic anhydrase (CA) (this study) and with CA (data from ref. (15)). Error bars account for  
 713 2SD and are always smaller than symbols for pH values. The mineralogy of the carbonates precipitated  
 714 with or without CA was determined by X-ray diffraction, indicating that solid carbonates are mostly  
 715 composed of calcite (including up to 8% of low-Mg calcite ( $\text{Mg}_{0.064}\text{Ca}_{0.936}\text{CO}_3$ ), vaterite (2-4%) and  
 716 aragonite (1-4%) Thaler et al., 2017. The influence of mineralogy on isotopic measurements and  
 717 temperature estimates is discussed in the Supplementary Discussion.

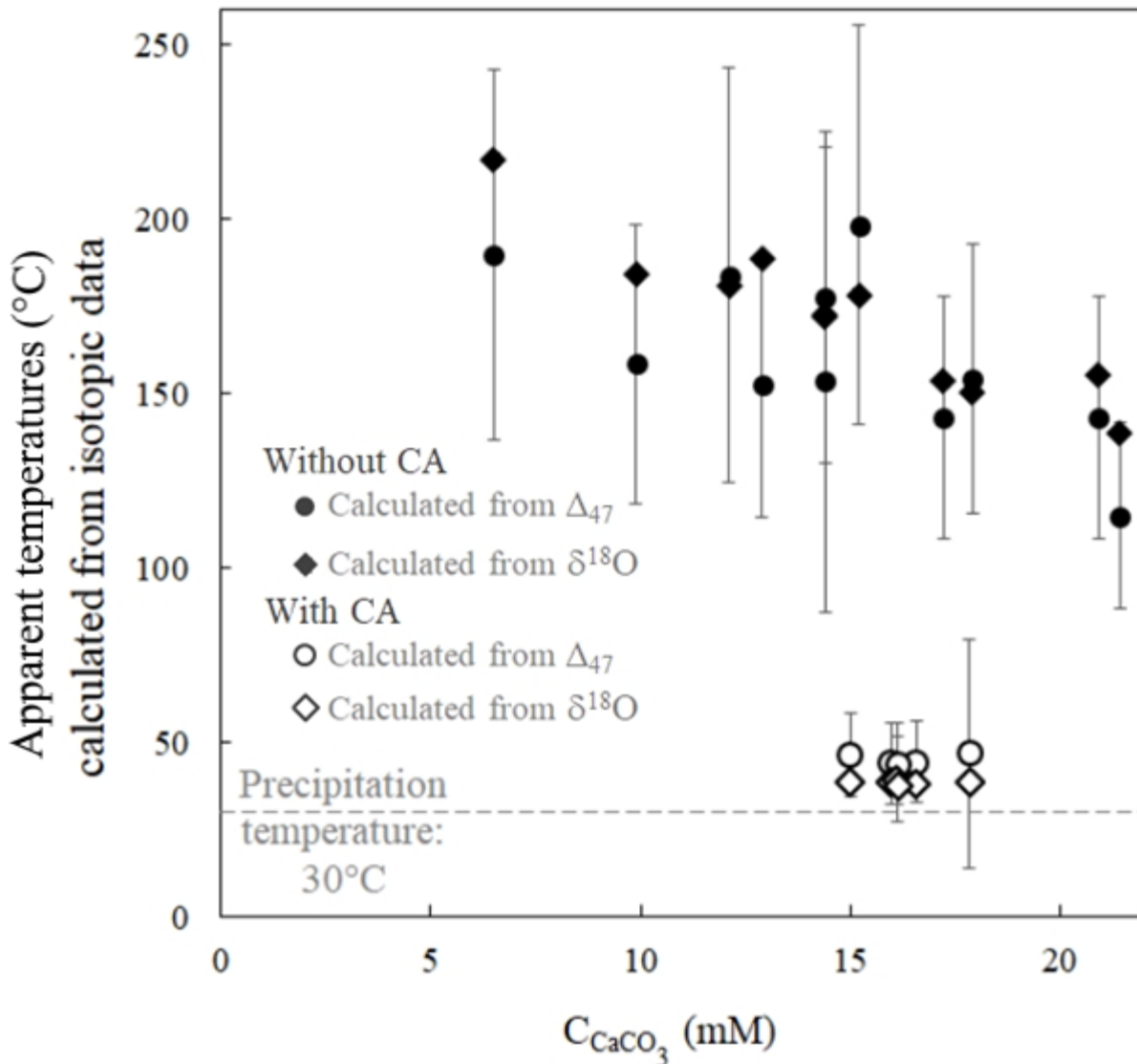
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720 **Figure 3 | Strong  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  disequilibria recorded in microbial carbonates** as shown by  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$   
 721 (a) and  $\Delta_{47}$  (b) values of calcium carbonates ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ) precipitated during bacterial ureolysis at  $30^\circ\text{C}$  (with  
 722 and without carbonic anhydrase, CA; open and solid symbols, respectively) as a function of carbonate  
 723 accumulation ( $C_{\text{CaCO}_3}$ ). Black symbols correspond to samples for which both  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  measurements  
 724 were performed. The grey horizontal lines are equilibrium  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  values at  $30^\circ\text{C}$  for calcite  
 725 following Bonifacie et al., (2017) and Kim and O'Neil, (1997) calibrations, respectively. Uncertainties  
 726 (one standard deviation, 1SD) are smaller than symbol for  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and  $C_{\text{CaCO}_3}$  values (Supplementary Table  
 727 S1). Reported  $\Delta_{47}$  uncertainties are detailed in Methods and Supplementary Discussion.

728



729

730 **Figure 4 |  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  disequilibria in microbial carbonates induce comparable biased**

731 **estimates of precipitation temperature** as illustrated by apparent temperatures calculated from the

732 carbonate  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  signatures as a function of  $\text{CaCO}_3$  accumulation. Open and solid symbols

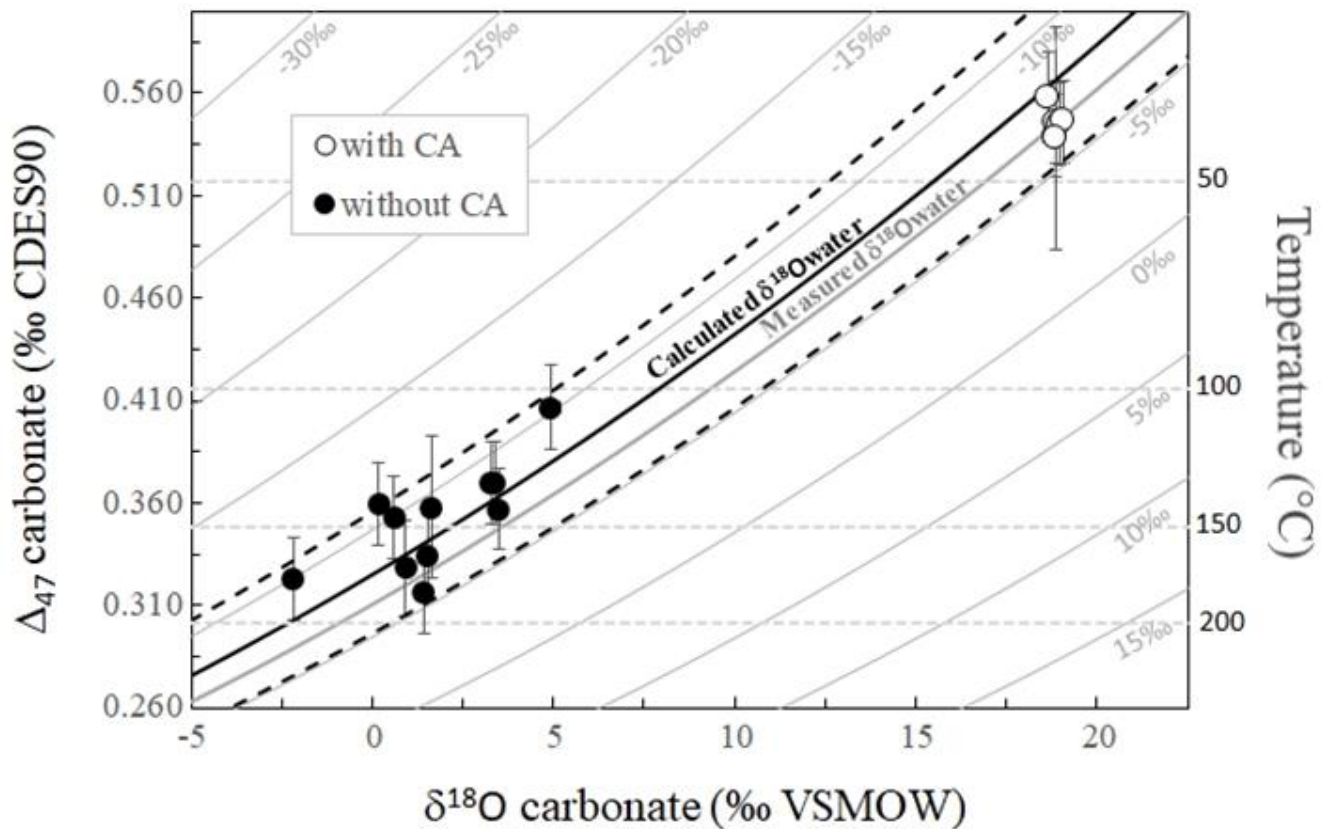
733 refer to the experiments with and without CA, respectively. The dashed grey line corresponds to the actual

734 precipitation temperature. Apparent temperatures are respectively calculated from the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$

735 calibrations to temperature of Bonifacie et al., (2017) and Kim and O'Neil, (1997). Reported uncertainties

736 were calculated as the propagation of the one standard deviation (1SD) error of the isotopic data in the

737 calibrations (Supplementary Information).



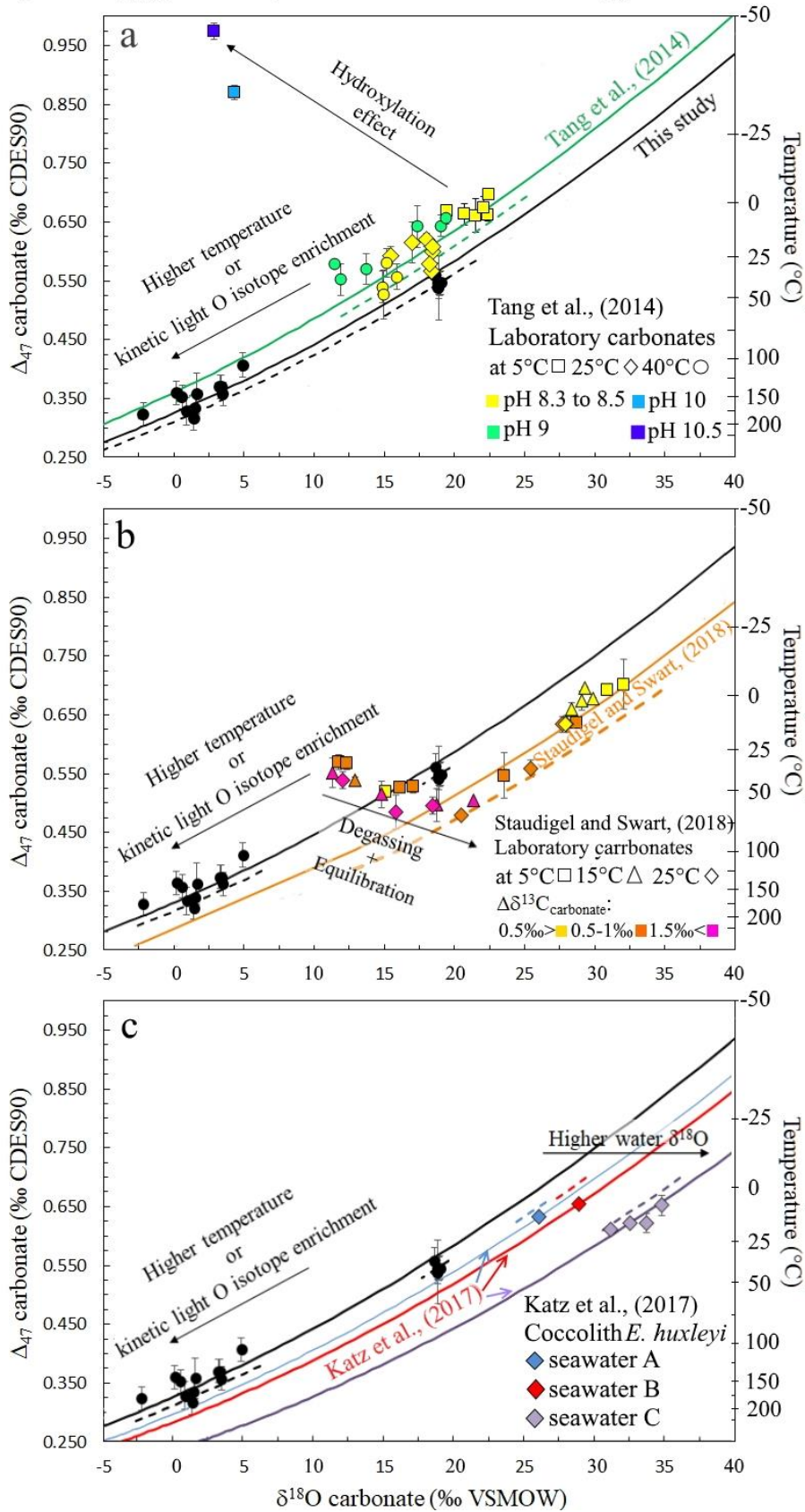
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740 **Figure 5 | Combined  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  and  $\Delta_{47}$  disequilibria of microbial carbonates precipitated at  $30^\circ\text{C}$**   
 741 **allow reconstruction of the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  of the water ( $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ ) in which they precipitate.** Solid grey curves  
 742 represent the calculated  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  compositions of carbonates precipitated at oxygen isotope  
 743 equilibrium from water with fixed  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  values (indicated on each curve) and variable temperatures.  
 744 Horizontal dashed grey lines are calculated for fixed temperatures and variable  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ . The average  
 745  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  value of  $-6.6 \pm 0.4\text{‰}$  measured in our experiments is reported using the thick solid grey curve.  
 746 The solid black curve was obtained using the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  calculated with Eq. 1 ( $-8.0 \pm 2.8\text{‰}$ ) with its  
 747 associated errors (dashed black curves).

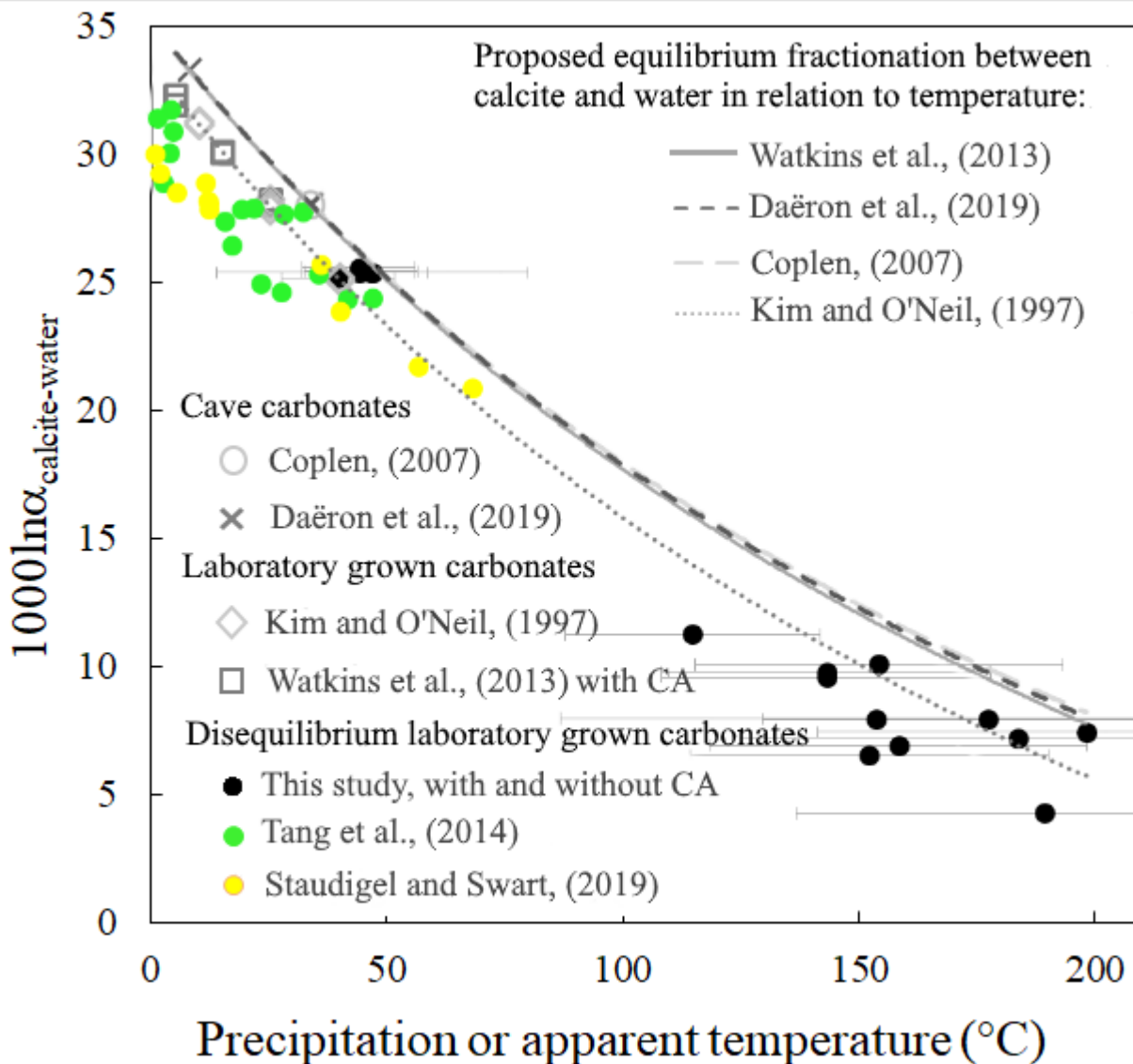
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$\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values at equilibrium with: — Calculated  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  --- Measured  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$



751 **Figure 6 |  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  relationship to precipitation water  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  for other solid carbonates**  
752 **presenting oxygen isotope disequilibria.** In (a) to (c) black data series (this study, performed at 30°C)  
753 shows how kinetic oxygen isotope fractionation in the DIC prior to carbonate precipitation can be  
754 mistaking for high temperature isotopic equilibrium. Similarly to Fig. 3, the solid curves were obtained  
755 using the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  calculated with Eq. 1. (a) Abiotic carbonates from Tang et al., (2014) illustrating the  
756 effect of  $\text{CO}_2$  hydroxylation on  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values (various pH plotted with different colors,  
757 various temperatures plotted with different symbols). (b) Abiotic carbonates from Staudigel and Swart,  
758 (2019) illustrating the effect of  $\text{CO}_2$  degassing and DIC oxygen isotope equilibration with water on  $\Delta_{47}$   
759 and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$  values.  $\Delta\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carbonate}}$  stands for the difference between the  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  value measured in  
760 carbonates and the final  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  of the data series at the end of equilibration (various  $\Delta\delta^{13}\text{C}$  ranges plotted  
761 with different colors, various temperatures plotted with different symbols). (c) Coccolithophorid *E.*  
762 *huxleyi* grown at 7, 10, 15, 20 and 25°C from Katz et al., (2017) showing how coccoliths with equilibrium  
763  $\Delta_{47}$  values record the equilibrium  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  of their body water, which differs from that of the culture  
764 medium (*i.e.* artificial seawaters A, B, and C plotted with different colors).  
765



767

768 **Figure 7 | The relation to temperature of equilibrium oxygen isotope fractionation factor between**  
 769 **calcium carbonate and water ( $1000 \ln \alpha_{\text{calcite-water}}$ ) appears to be retrievable from solid carbonates**  
 770 **(mainly calcites) in strong clumped and oxygen isotope disequilibrium** such as our microbial  
 771 carbonates (black dots, precipitated at 30°C) and two additional data series of laboratory grown carbonates  
 772 showing disequilibrium fractionation (Tang et al., 2014; Staudigel and Swart, 2019) (green and yellow  
 773 dots, respectively). The data points affected by CO<sub>2</sub> hydroxylation (Tang et al., 2014) or CO<sub>2</sub> degassing  
 774 (Staudigel and Swart, 2019) (see Fig.6) are not included. Grey symbols correspond to cave carbonates  
 775 precipitated at or near equilibrium (Coplen, 2007; Daëron et al., 2019) or laboratory experiments (Kim and  
 776 O'Neil, 1997; Watkins et al., 2013). Those grey data series are usually considered as representative of the

777 equilibrium fractionation factor between calcium carbonate and water whose relations to temperature,  
778 extrapolated at high temperature, are illustrated by the different dashed curves. Plotted temperatures  
779 corresponds to precipitation temperatures except for disequilibrium carbonates for which apparent  
780 temperatures have been calculated based on  $\Delta_{47}$  values. X-axis errors for this study are included in the  
781 symbol size. The Y-axis error for all the reconstructed temperature is given on the figure.