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2 **Coordination and competition between magnetic particles**

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driven by opposite climate transitions

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14 **Key Points:**

15 • Dry and warm climates favor the dehydration of amorphous iron oxides to

16 form antiferromagnetic hematite and ferrimagnetic particles

17 • Wet and cool climates retard their formation but lead to competition

18 • Evaporation is as important as precipitation in extreme climate cycles and

19 patterns reconstruction

20 Abstract

21 The ferrimagnetic (FM) and antiferromagnetic (AFM) particles of iron oxides are
22 considered to be pedogenic and climatic indicators in soil taxonomy and paleoclimate
23 reconstruction due to their enrichment trends as a function of increasing rainfall and
24 temperature. However, opposite climate can retard chemical weathering but promote
25 significant transformation between iron oxides, which could account for a nonlinear
26 response of magnetism and color to extreme climate. We examined two soil sequences
27 undergone opposite climate on the eastern edge of the Tibetan Plateau. The dry and
28 warm climate transition favors the dehydration of amorphous iron oxides to form
29 AFM hematite and FM particles, while the wet and cool climate transition impedes
30 the formation but leads to their competition. The outcome well interprets the
31 synchronous and asynchronous changes in color and magnetism under extreme
32 opposite climate, and suggests that evaporation is as important as precipitation in
33 extreme paleoclimate reconstructions based on iron oxides.

34 **Key words:** Magnetism; Color; Iron oxides; Paleoclimate reconstruction

35 Plain Language Summary

36 Iron oxides are ubiquitous on the surface of Earth and Mars. They can be divided
37 into antiferromagnetic (AFM) and ferrimagnetic (FM) phases according to physical
38 properties. The former is found in colors ranging from red to yellow, while the latter is
39 the dominant form of magnetism in soils and sediments. Color and magnetism are
40 considered sensitive pedogenic and climatic indicators in soil taxonomy and
41 paleoclimate reconstruction because iron oxides are commonly enriched as a

42 result of increasing regional rainfall and temperature. However, inverse changes in
43 temperature with rainfall can retard chemical weathering but promote significant
44 transformation between FM and AFM particles, which could result in a nonlinear
45 climatic response of soil color and magnetism to extreme climate cycles and patterns.
46 The uplift of the Tibetan Plateau (TP) has led to different orographic lifts in the
47 Yunnan Plateau (YP) and Guizhou Plateau (GP) on the eastern edge, which has
48 resulted in contrasting climate transitions on both plateaus. We found that the dry and
49 warm climate transition present in the YP is favorable to the dehydration of
50 amorphous iron oxides that then synchronously form FM particles and AFM hematite,
51 while the wet and cool climate transition present in the GP retards the formation but
52 leads to their competition. It well interprets synchronous and asynchronous change of
53 magnetism and color in dry and wet climate stages. Additionally, it also suggested that
54 evaporation is as important as precipitation when performing extreme paleoclimate
55 reconstruction based on iron oxides, especially during extreme climate cycles and
56 patterns.

57 **1 Introduction**

58 Iron oxides are ubiquitous on the surface of Earth and Mars [*Cornell and*
59 *Schwtermann, 2003; Christensen et al., 2001*] and can be divided into chromogenic
60 and magnetogenic groups according to their physical properties [*Long et al., 2011*].
61 The former includes antiferromagnetic (AFM) hematite (Hm, α -Fe₂O₃) and goethite
62 (Gt, α -FeOOH) dominate optical properties, while the latter includes ferrimagnetic

63 (FM) magnetite (Mgt, Fe_3O_4) and maghemite (Mgh, $\gamma\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$), which dominate
64 magnetism in soils and sediments [*Cornell and Schwartzman, 2003; Liu et al., 2012*].
65 These particles are often synchronously enriched as immobile weathering products
66 under aerobic conditions with comparable increase in rainfall and temperature [*Long*
67 *et al., 2011, 2016; Torrent et al., 2006*]. Consequently, color and magnetism are
68 considered reasonable pedogenic and climatic indicators in soil taxonomy and
69 paleoclimate reconstruction if iron contents in parent materials are comparable
70 [*Cornell and Schwartzman, 2003; Maher, 1998*]. Over the past few decades, magnetic
71 properties have been successfully incorporated into paleorainfall reconstruction,
72 especially with aeolian sediments in the Chinese Loess Plateau (CLP) [*Heller et al,*
73 *1991, 2010; Liu et al., 1995, 2003; Liu et al., 2007; Nie et al., 2008, 2013; Maher,*
74 *2016*] and other temperate regions [*Liu et al., 2001, 2012; Chlachula, 2003*].
75 Meanwhile, the color indices of soils have also been employed to reflect changes in
76 temperature [*Yang et al., 2001; Yang and Ding, 2003*].

77 However, growing evidences have been accumulated on asynchronous of color
78 indices and magnetism properties in soils [*Han et al., 1996; Gao et al., 2018; Maher,*
79 *1998; Yang et al., 2001*] and sediments at different scales, especially in loesses and
80 paleosols layers of CLP, such as S1 [*Liu and Ding, 1998*], S5 [*Guo et al., 2013*], and
81 S9 [*Xie et al., 2003*], driven by extreme climate cycles, or deposits ranging from the
82 Tertiary red clay to the Quaternary loess driven by the dramatic climate pattern shifts
83 of the CLP [*Ji et al., 2004; Nie et al., 2014; Balsam et al., 2004; Hao et al., 2009*].
84 Therefore, the other soil chemical and mineral parameters have been introduced to

85 understand these shifting correlations. The Fe_d parameter indicating the total amount
86 of iron oxides has been applied to trace the changes in pedogenic intensity [Ding et
87 al., 2001]. The Fe_o parameter reflecting amorphous iron oxides was also introduced to
88 interpret the formation and transformation of FM particles [Hu et al., 2009].
89 Moreover, the ratio of Hm and Gt determined by diffuse reflectance spectra method
90 [Ji et al., 2001] is used to reconstruct changes in the relative humidity (RH) rather
91 than individual changes in rainfall and temperature [Ji et al., 2001, 2004; Balsam,
92 2004; Hao et al., 2009]. It was found that these extreme stages are often characterized
93 by high pedogenic intensity [Ding et al., 2002], lower iron oxide crystallinity [Hu et
94 al., 2009] and significant changes in Hm/(Hm+Gt) [Ji et al., 2004; Hao et al., 2009].

95 Theoretically, AFM Hm forms under warm, dry and seasonal climates, while Gt
96 forms under cool, wet and less seasonal climates [Schwertmann, 1985]. The change in
97 Hm/(Hm+Gt) can be promoted by inverse changes in rainfall and temperature [Long
98 et al., 2011, 2016]. Moreover, FM Mgh particles with differing sizes compete with
99 AFM Hm as an intermediate product from amorphous iron oxides under aerobic
100 conditions [Barrón and Torrent, 2002; Torrent, 2015], which also depends on the
101 formation efficiency of the Hm estimated by Hm/(Hm+Gt) [Hu et al., 2013; Long et
102 al., 2015]. However, the pedogenesis derived from aeolian sediments is disturbed by
103 the dust provenances [Li et al., 2009], deposition rates [Kukla, 1987], physical erosion
104 processes [Lu et al., 2006] besides chemical weathering controlled by specific
105 climates. Therefore, it is difficult to discern the independent contributions of climate
106 to pedogenic iron oxides and related changes in color and magnetism.

107 The Yunnan Plateau (YP) and Guizhou Plateau (GP) on the eastern edge of the
108 Tibetan Plateau (TP) have undergone differential uplifts and opposite climate
109 transitions at least since the Quaternary [Yang et al., 2010; Yan et al., 2011] due to the
110 uplift of the TP [Pan et al., 2004]. Moreover, the change in rainfall is accompanied by
111 the inverse pattern of temperature, which enhance the difference in the relative
112 humidity (RH) of the two plateaus. As a result, marked soil reddening in the YP and
113 yellowing in the GP has been observed and indicates that the iron oxide
114 transformations are driven by opposite climate transitions. These conditions provide a
115 good opportunity to understand the correlation between chromogenic and
116 magnetogenic iron oxides and their climatic implications in extreme wet-dry cycles
117 and patterns.

118 **2 Materials and Methods**

119 ***2.1 Geographical settings and soil sampling***

120 The YP and GP belong to the tectonic extrusion zone of the TP [Bao et al.,
121 2015]. Compared to the flatter TP with that has experienced rapid uplifting to an
122 average altitude of approximately 4000 m [Li and Fang, 1999], the surfaces of the
123 YP and GP are rugged with an average altitude of approximately 2000 m and 1100 m,
124 respectively [Liu and Dong, 2013; Yang et al., 2010]. **(Appendix A)**. The climate of
125 the YP is characterized by a higher mean annual temperature (MAT) of 13 °C ~ 20 °C
126 and a lower mean annual precipitation (MAP) of 600 ~ 900 mm/yr [Tong et al., 1994]
127 than the GP characterized by a MAT of 12 °C ~ 16 °C and a MAP of 800 ~ 1200 mm/

128 yr [Liu and Xiong et al., 2015]. The opposite trends in MAT and MAP enlarge the
129 difference in the RH between the YP and GP from 50% to 85% [Xu, 1991]. Moreover,
130 it is near the climatic inflection point that controls soil reddening and yellowing, as
131 proposed in our previous studies [Long et al., 2016]. As a result, the saprolitic soils
132 derived from the widespread Triassic carbonate rocks [Feng, 2005] have
133 demonstrated a common reddening trend (3.2 YR ~ 6.3 YR) in the YP due to its lower
134 RH from 58% to 73% while the soils have demonstrated a significant yellowing trend
135 (6.2 YR ~ 9.6 YR) in the GP due to its high RH from 79% to 82%.

136 We collected two saprolitic soil profile sequences from the YP and GP that are
137 separated by the boundary of the Wumeng Mountains. The profiles of YP1, YP2 and
138 YP3 were collected from the YP under increasing MAT from 13.4 °C to 18.2 °C and
139 decreasing MAP from 924 mm/yr to 762 mm/yr. Similarly, the profiles of GP1, GP2
140 and GP3 were collected under slowly increasing MAT from 12.9 °C to 14.4 °C and a
141 decreasing MAP from 937 mm/yr to 899 mm/yr. These profiles were collected on the
142 local highland and were covered by natural vegetation ranging from herbaceous plants
143 in YP to evergreen forests in GP. The soil type in the YP can be categorized as an
144 Acrisol, while that in the GP can be categorized as an Alisol [IUSS Working Group
145 WRB, 2015]. The soil samples were collected from the surface to the bottom of
146 outcrops at intervals of 20 cm or 40 cm covering the main horizons depending on the
147 thickness of the outcrops.

148 **2.2 Chemical and physical measurement**

149 The air-dried samples were sieved by a 2-mm sieve and ground into powder for
150 chemical analysis. The chemical compositions were determined with an ARL9800XP
151 + X-ray spectrophotometer and have been expressed as oxides. The chemical
152 weathering index (CIA) was calculated as the molar percentage of $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 / (\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 +$
153 $\text{CaO} + \text{Na}_2\text{O} + \text{K}_2\text{O})$ [Nesbitt and Young, 1982], and the Sa index was calculated as
154 the molar ratio of $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ [Bayan and Ruxton, 1968]. Free iron (Fe_d) and
155 amorphous iron (Fe_o) were extracted by the citrate-bicarbonate-dithionate (CBD)
156 method [Mehra and Jackson, 1960] and ammonium oxalate method [Schwertmann,
157 1964], respectively.

158 The diffuse reflectance spectra (DRS) were measured with a Perkin Elmer
159 Lambda 900 UV/VIS/NIR spectrometer at 2 nm intervals. The standard Hm and Gt
160 minerals used in the experiment were the Pfizer R1599 pure red from Pfizer Company
161 and Synox HY610 pure yellow nanoscale iron oxides from the Hoover Color
162 Corporation. The redness was calculated according to the ratio of mean reflectance
163 between the red-light band (630 ~ 700 nm) and the visual light band (400 ~ 700 nm)
164 [Judd and Wyszecki, 1975]. The Hm content was estimated using a working curve
165 established by the sample substrate after CBD treatment mixed with a series of
166 standard Hm and Gt samples in different ratios [Long et al., 2011, 2016]. Finally, we
167 assigned Fe_d to be the combination of Fe in stoichiometric Hm, Gt [Torrent et al.,
168 2007] and Fe_o , and the contents of Hm and Gt were calculated by the following
169 equation:

$$170 \quad \text{Hm (g kg}^{-1}\text{)} = 0.0012 \times e^{0.227 * \text{Redness}}$$

$$171 \quad \text{Gt (g kg}^{-1}\text{)} = 1.59 \times (\text{Fe}_d - \text{Fe}_o - \text{Hm}/1.43)$$

172 The magnetic susceptibility of all samples was measured in the laboratory at 0.47
 173 kHz (χ_{lf}) and 4.7 kHz (χ_{hf}) with a Bartington MS2B susceptibility meter. The
 174 frequency-dependent susceptibilities χ_{fd} and $\chi_{fd}\%$ representing the absolute and
 175 relative contributions of SP particles were calculated as $\chi_{lf} - \chi_{hf}$ and $(\chi_{lf} - \chi_{hf})/\chi_{lf} \times$
 176 100%, respectively [Dearing et al., 1996; Worm, 1998]. Meanwhile, the anhysteretic
 177 remanent magnetization (ARM) was imparted using a peak of the 100 mT alternating
 178 field and a 0.05 mT biasing field with a Molspin demagnetizer [Dunlop and
 179 Özdemir, 1997]. The χ_{ARM} parameter was calculated by the ARM and normalized by
 180 the biasing field. The saturation isothermal remanent magnetization (SIRM) was
 181 attained at 1 T with the ASC-10 impulse magnetizer, and all the remanence
 182 magnetizations were measured in the AGICO JR6 spinner magnetometer. HIRM was
 183 calculated by $(\text{IRM}_{-300\text{mT}} + \text{SIRM})/2$, which mainly reflects the content changes of
 184 high-coercivity minerals, such as Hm [Nie et al., 2010], and the *S-ratio* is calculated
 185 by $-\text{IRM}_{-300\text{mT}}/\text{SIRM}$ [King et al., 1991], which indicates the relative abundance of the
 186 FM to AFM minerals [Thompson and Oldfield, 1986; Liu et al., 2007].

187 3. Results

188 As illustrated in **Figure 1**, the change of Fe_d/Fe_t is comparable in both sequences.
 189 In contrast, the $\text{Hm}/(\text{Hm}+\text{Gt})$ demonstrates a significant shift from 0.20 to 0.98 in the
 190 YP sequence but remains low from 0.05 to 0.19 in the GP sequence (**Figure 1a**). In

191 addition, the Fe_o content is also little higher in the YP sequence than those in the GP
192 sequence. However, the Hm content in the YP sequence is much higher than that in
193 the GP sequence (**Figure 1b**). Correspondingly, the χ_{lf} ranges from $573.9 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1}$
194 to $4005.1 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ in the YP sequence, which is much higher than that ranging
195 from $8.7 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ to $310.5 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ in the GP sequence (**Figure 1c**). More
196 importantly, χ_{lf} changes in phase with redness control by Hm in the YP sequence but
197 out of phase in the GP sequence. The χ_{fd} , χ_{ARM} and SIRM, also exhibit synchronous
198 changes with χ_{lf} (**Figure 2a-2c**), although the $\chi_{\text{fd}}\%$, $\chi_{\text{fd}}/\chi_{\text{ARM}}$, ARM/SIRM are more
199 comparable across both sequences (**Figure 2e-2g**). $\chi_{\text{fd}}\%$ and ARM/SIRM are only
200 slightly higher in the YP sequence, while $\chi_{\text{fd}}/\chi_{\text{ARM}}$ is slightly higher in the GP
201 sequence. In addition, the HIRM is higher in the YP sequence than that in the GP
202 sequence (**Figure 2d**), but it has a less correlation with the increasing χ_{lf} . The *S-ratio*
203 exhibits a rapid increase with increasing χ_{lf} in the GP sequence but remains close to 1
204 in the YP sequence (**Figure 2h**).

205 4. Discussion

206 *4.1 Comparable chemical weathering and significant iron oxides transformation* 207 *driven by opposite climate transitions*

208 Theoretically, the increasing of rainfall and temperature favors chemical
209 weathering and the enrichment of iron oxides because primary iron-bearing minerals
210 are often preferentially weathered to form secondary iron oxides [Kump *et al.*, 2000].
211 However, in the GP under the wet and cool climate, the higher rainfall is

212 superimposed by lower evaporation. Although the changed leaching could be
213 enhanced by the more effective rainfall, the chemical reaction rates should be retarded
214 by the lowering temperature [Kump *et al.*, 2000; White and Blum, 1995]. The
215 phenomena can be widely observed in mountainous, where the rainfall also
216 accompanied by the inverse change of the temperature [Long *et al.*, 2016].
217 Nevertheless, the effective rainfall would favor the formation of iron oxyhydroxides
218 such as Gt [Schwertmann, 1971]. However, in the YP under the dry and warm climate,
219 the lower rainfall superimposed by the increased evaporation retards chemical
220 leaching but promotes the dehydration of amorphous iron oxides to form iron oxides
221 like Hm and Mgh [Schwertmann, 1971; Barrón and Torrent, 2002; Grogan *et al.*,
222 2003]. Generally, these inverse changes of temperature with rainfall lead to less
223 variability in chemical weathering intensity and more significant differentiation of
224 iron oxides indicated by Hm/(Hm+Gt) in both sequences.

225 *4.2 Coordination and competition between FM and AFM particles driven by* 226 *opposite climate transitions*

227 The magnetic properties revealed a common positive correlation with Fe_o in both
228 sequences except that the SIRM and HIRM reveals more consistent correlation with
229 Fe_o (**Figures 3a-3e**). Although the contents of Hm and FM particles are much higher
230 in the YP sequence than these in the GP sequence (**Figures 3f-3j**). However, the Hm
231 and FM particles change in phase in the YP sequence but out of phase in the GP
232 sequence (**Figures 3f-3i**) except that the HIRM reveals more consistent correlation

233 with Hm (**Figure 3j**). Moreover, the χ_{fd}/χ_{ARM} , χ_{lf}/χ_{ARM} in the GP soils (**Figures 3l-3m**),
234 as well as the $\chi_{fd}\%$, χ_{fd}/χ_{ARM} and ARM/SIRM in the YP soils, which indicate the ratio
235 of fine FM particles to coarser FM particles both decrease with Hm in both sequences
236 (**Figures 3k-3n**). However, the *S-ratio* reveals significant decreasing with Hm in the
237 GP yellowing soils but remains constant in the YP reddening soils (**Figure 3o**).

238 These outcomes verify the FM particles with growing size as the intermediate
239 products of AFM Hm aging from amorphous iron oxides [*Barrón and Torrent, 2002*]
240 but the correlation between FM particles and Hm depends on Hm/(Hm+Gt) controlled
241 by RH [*Torrent et al., 2006; Long et al., 2015*]. The positive correlation between FM
242 particles and Hm, as revealed in the YP reddening soils, occurs under the condition
243 with a high formation efficiency of Hm, indicate by Hm/(Hm+Gt) from 0.20 to 0.98
244 under the low RH. It is consistent with the result revealed in aerobic soils with high
245 Hm/(Hm+Gt) [*Torrent et al., 2006*], especially in the red Ferralsols derived from
246 basalt with the Hm/(Hm+Gt) above 0.6 [*Long et al., 2015*]. However, the negative
247 correlation between Hm and FM particles, as revealed in the GP yellowing soils,
248 occurs under the conditions with a low Hm/(Hm+Gt) from 0.05 to 0.19 under high
249 RH. These negative correlations can be observed in each profile of the GP sequence
250 (**Figure 1c**). This result apparently accords with the yellow soils derived from the
251 downslope of a subtropical granitic toposequence, with Hm/(Hm+Gt) < 0.2 and Hm%
252 <1% controlled by the downward increasing of water activity [*Guo et al., 2021*].

253 However, in contrast to the toposequence affected by the dynamic migration of
254 magnetic particles [*Guo et al., 2021*]. The negative correlation between FM particles

255 and Hm in the climosequence of the GP under high RH indicates there would be a
 256 competition between FM particles and Hm since high soil water activity retards the
 257 formation of iron oxides but promote the formation of iron oxyhydroxides [*Tardy and*
 258 *Nahon, 1985; Trolard and Tardy, 1987*]. Moreover, with the slow increasing of RH
 259 from GP1 to GP3, a little amount of FM particles has accumulated at the cost of Hm.
 260 The outcome confirms the FM particles as rainfall indicator while the Hm as
 261 temperature or evaporation indicator at a large scale [*Gao et al., 2018*]. If the different
 262 aging processes under aerobic conditions in natural systems of Hm and Gt from Fh
 263 are combined as Gt 1 Fh 2 SP Mgh3 SD Mgh4 Hm [*Schwertmann, 1971; Barrón and*
 264 *Torrent, 2002*], in the wet and cool climate transition, the step 1 and step 2 are
 265 favored, which results in the accumulation of a large amount of Gt and a limited
 266 number of FM particles at the cost of previously formed Hm. However, in the dry and
 267 warm climate transition with low RH, the step 3 and step 4 are favored, which results
 268 in the accumulation of a large number of FM particles, as well as their significant
 269 grain growth and transformation into Hm.

270 ***4.3 Significance in paleoclimate cycle and pattern reconstruction***

271 In both sequences under high and low RH, an increase in rainfall is often
 272 accompanied by decreasing temperature. It could help us understand the response of
 273 iron oxide to extreme dry-wet cycles and patterns. In paleoclimate reconstruction,
 274 changes in rainfall are often considered to be accompanied by synchronous changes in
 275 temperature [*Liu et al., 2001, 2012; Kukla, 1987; Maher, 1998, 2016*]. This climate

276 pattern could lead to remarkable changes in the Fe_d content controlled by chemical
277 weathering that constrains the changes in the $Hm/(Hm+Gt)$ controlled by RH [Ji et
278 al., 2004; Balsam et al., 2004; Ding et al., 2001]. However, if the temperature and
279 rainfall changes in opposing directions, a significant change in $Hm/(Hm+Gt)$ can be
280 observed, and the formation efficiency of Hm and FM particles and their correlation
281 could change, resulting in the mismatching of color indices and magnetic properties.
282 Actually, the magnetism and redness are often coupled in loess deposits under dry and
283 cool climates [Ji et al., 2004], but they are frequently observed as decoupled in
284 paleosols under warm and wet climate, with $Hm/(Hm+Gt)$ commonly decreasing
285 below 0.2 [Ji et al., 2004; Hao et al., 2009]. This phenomenon agrees with the
286 competition occurring between Hm and FM particles under the high RH present in the
287 GP sequence with low $Hm/(Hm+Gt)$. In addition, the change content of FM particles
288 estimated by χ_{lf} (approximately $30 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1} \sim 190 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1}$) [Ji et al., 2004]
289 well matches the content changes in the hematite content (approximately 0.1% ~
290 0.2%) [Guo et al., 2021; Ji et al., 2004] if the χ_{lf} of pure FM particles are estimated
291 around $110,000 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ [Worm and Jackson, 1999].

292 However, in some warm stages, such as red clays with $Hm/(Hm+Gt)$ above 0.6
293 [Hao et al., 2009], uncertain and even opposite correlation between redness and
294 magnetism were also found [Ding et al., 2001; Nie et al., 2008; Hu et al., 2009]. In
295 the YP sequence as well as red Ferrosols with high $Hm/(Hm+Gt)$ under low RH and

296 high evaporation, the positive correlation between FM particles and Hm still remains
297 although the formation of fine FM particles are observed to deaccelerate with Hm
298 [Long *et al.*, 2015]. Therefore, the opposite correlation between redness and
299 magnetism in Tertiary Red Clay could also correlate with the increased iron
300 crystallinity with longer aging time [Hu *et al.*, 2009; Jiang *et al.*, 2018], less ligand
301 protection of highly weathering soils [Ren *et al.*, 2020] in addition to high
302 Hm/(Hm+Gt). Nevertheless, it verifies the magnetic parameters indicating the ratios
303 of different FM particles could be more reasonable than the magnetic parameters
304 indicating the contents of magnetic particles in paleoclimate reconstruction under
305 widely climate scale [Nie *et al.*, 2014].

306 In addition, it should be noted that the soil sequences exhibit comparable
307 changes in the Fe_d contents but significant changes in the Hm/(Hm+Gt). The higher
308 redness and degree of magnetism are observed in the YP sequence under dry and
309 warm climate. In contrast, under comparable changes in rainfall and temperature on
310 the CLP, the Fe_d of the paleosols is often two times that of loesses [Ding *et al.*, 2001],
311 while the Hm/(Hm+Gt) is slightly lower in paleosols [Ji *et al.*, 2004]. The higher
312 redness and degree of magnetism are observed in paleosols formed under a wet and
313 warm climate. Since the soil reddening and magnetic enhancement could be achieved
314 by the dehydration of iron oxides associated with strong evaporation [Barrón and
315 Torrent, 2002; Long *et al.*, 2015] even when chemical weathering is restrained by low
316 rainfall. The accompanying change in temperature should be considered as important
317 as rainfall in paleoclimate reconstruction, especially under extreme climate cycles and

318 patterns shifts.

319 **5. Conclusion**

320 To unravel the changing relationship between AFM and FM particles and their
321 climatic implications under extremely climate, we examined two soil sequences in the
322 YP and GP on the eastern edge of TP. The YP and GP sequences have undergone
323 significant reddening and yellowing, respectively, as a result of dry and wet climate
324 transitions accompanied by inverse changes in temperature and rainfall. The AFM
325 Hm and FM particles are much more enriched in the YP reddening soils than these in
326 the GP yellowing soils although the change in total amount of iron oxides controlled
327 by chemical weathering are comparable. The dry and warm climate favors the
328 dehydration of amorphous iron oxides to form higher contents of AFM Hm and FM
329 particles, while the wet and cool climate impedes their formation and leads to
330 competition. The little amount of FM particles could form at the cost of previously
331 formed Hm under high RH. The model well interprets the synchronous and
332 asynchronous changes in color and magnetism under the dry and wet cycles, and
333 suggests that evaporation is as important as precipitation in extreme paleoclimate
334 reconstruction based on iron oxides.

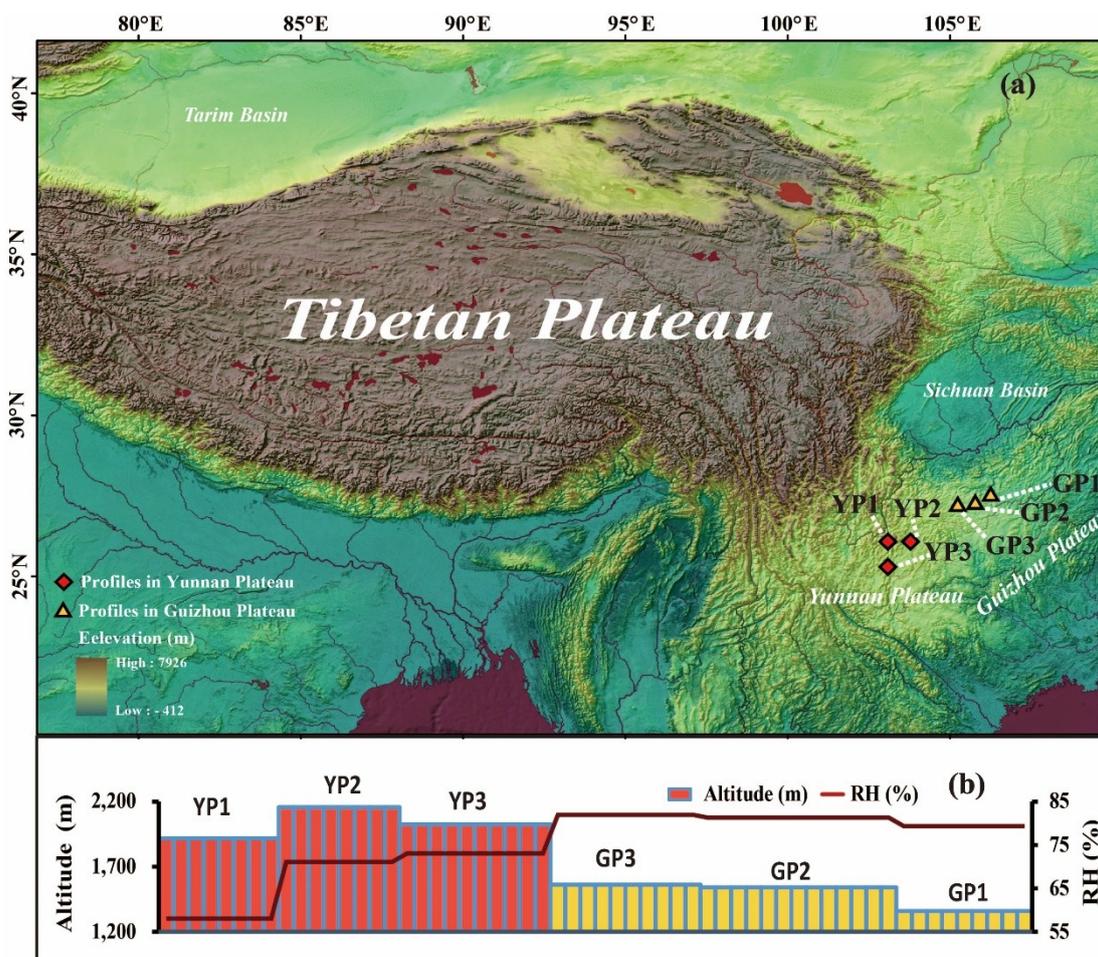
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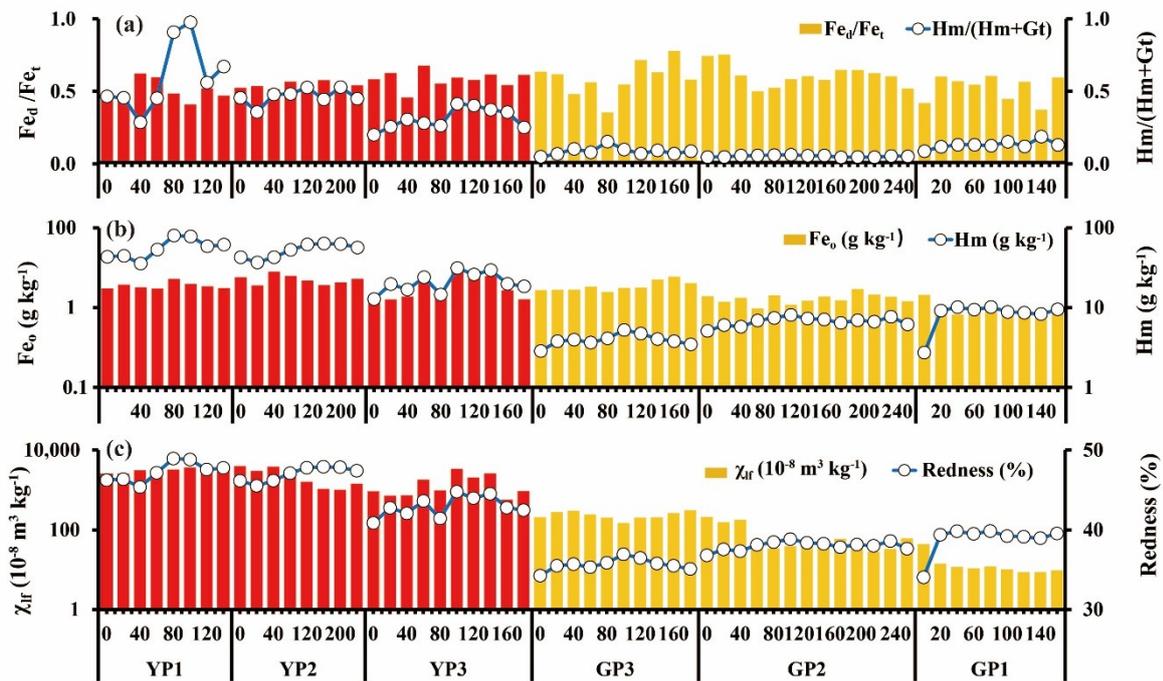
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341 paper can be accessed through the public domain repository Zenodo at
342 <http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4495880>

343 **Appendix A: (a)** Location of sampling points on the YP and GP; **(b)** The YP is
 344 characterized by higher elevation and lower RH than the GP. The profiles of YP1,
 345 YP2, YP3 and GP1, GP2, GP3, with increasing relative humidity in the sequences
 346 were sampled in the YP and GP, respectively.



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357 **Figure 1.** The Fe_d/Fe_t keeps comparable in both sequences but the $Hm/(Hm+Gt)$ is
 358 much higher in the YP sequence than that in the GP sequence
 359 (a). The Fe_o in the YP sequence is a little higher than that in the GP sequence while
 360 the Hm is significantly higher in the YP than that in the GP
 361 (b). The magnetic susceptibility changes in phase with the redness in the YP sequence
 362 but out of phase in the GP sequence (c). Note that the Fe_o , Hm and χ_{ir} are shown in
 363 logarithmic form because of the significant difference between profiles.



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375 **Figure 2.** The χ_{fd} , χ_{ARM} and SIRM generally increase with χ_{lf} (a-c) except the HIRM376 (d). The $\chi_{fd}\%$, χ_{fd}/χ_{ARM} , ARM/SIRM demonstrates no systematical trend in the GP

377 sequence but demonstrates decreasing in the YP sequence except for

378 χ_{fd}/χ_{ARM} (e-g). However, the *S-ratio* demonstrates a significant increase with379 χ_{lf} in the GP sequence but a slower increase in the YP sequence

380 (h).

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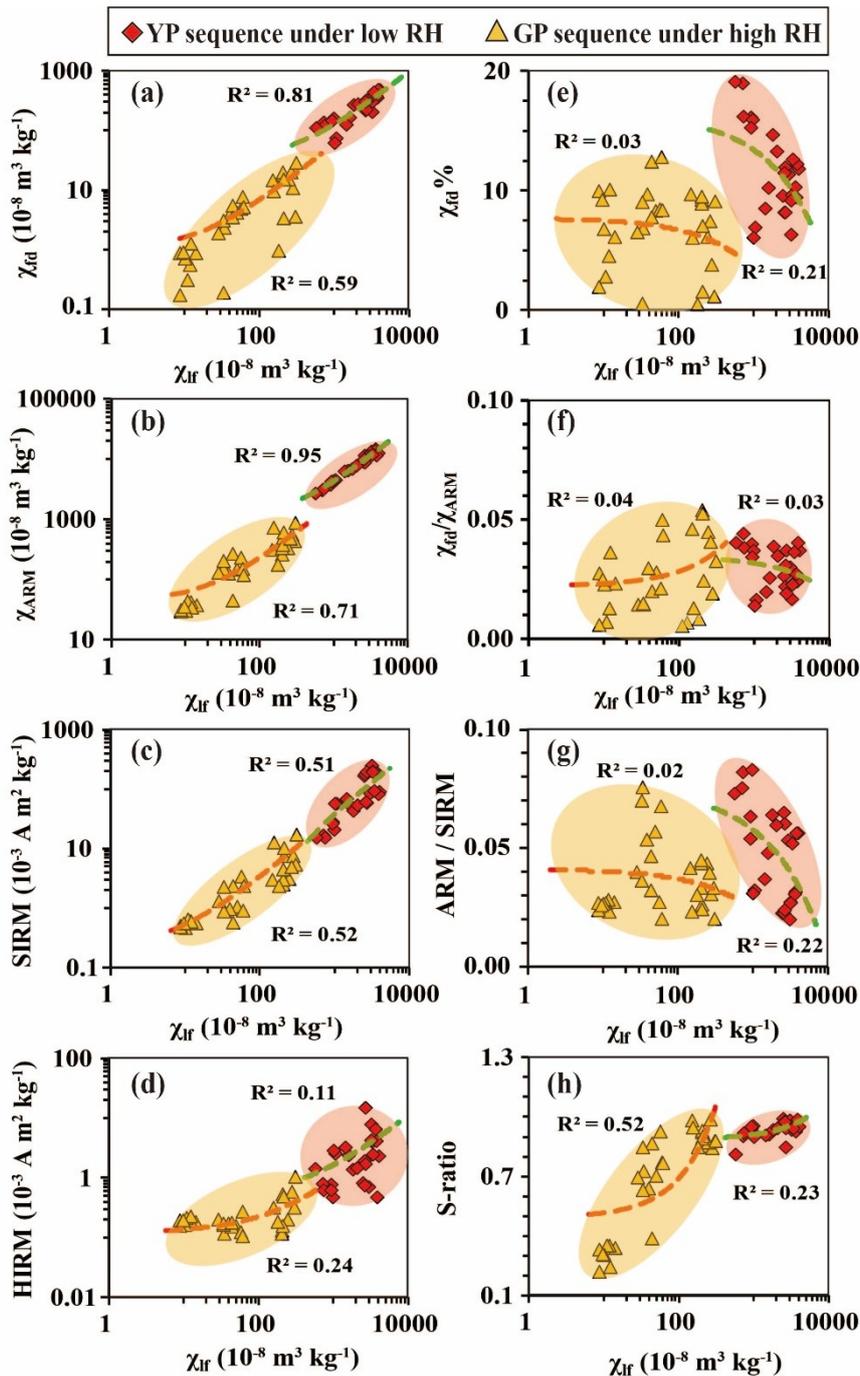
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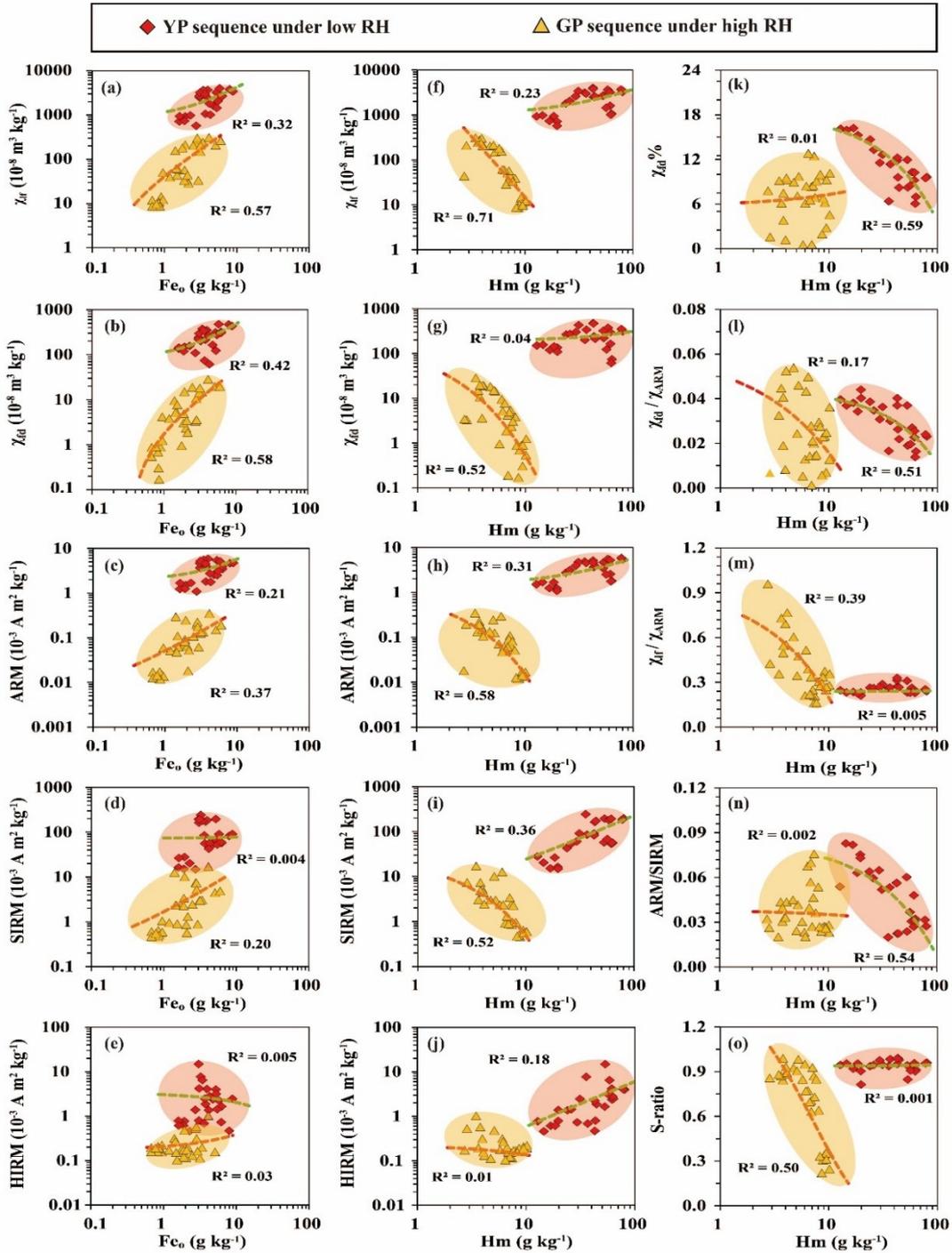
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404 **Figure 3.** The magnetic parameters generally increase with Fe_o (a-e). Both the FM
 405 particles and Hm are more enriched in the YP than that in the GP but they change in
 406 phase in the YP and out of phase in GP except for the HIRM (f-j). The χ_{fd}/χ_{ARM} , χ_{If}/χ_{ARM}
 407 decreases with Hm in the GP while $\chi_{fd}\%$, χ_{fd}/χ_{ARM} and ARM/SIRM decreases with Hm
 408 in the YP and the *S-ratio* reveals significant decreasing with Hm in the GP but
 409 remains constant in the YP (k-o).



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