

the temperature of the solutions. The aragonitic muds and the Mg-rich carbonates located laterally in the basin, formed or not in high salinity environments, could act as a source area for the magnesian solutions (enriched in Cl_2Mg). These solutions, when migrating laterally, would substitute the calcite and dolomite to produce a deposition of magnesite. This phenomenon is congruent to the observed decrease in $\delta^{18}\text{O}$. Furthermore, a purely sedimentary magnesite should be heavier in $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ than the dolomite typically formed in evaporitic environments (Kralik and Hoefs 1978).

In summary, the comments of Chayé d'Albissin et al. on the origin of the magnesite ore deposits do not invalidate our hypothesis because they do not respond to the particular features of the magnesite deposit of Eugui.

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