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The stratigraphic complexity of the middle Ediacaran carbon isotopic record in the Yangtze Gorges area, South China, and its implications for the age and chemostratigraphic significance of the Shuram excursion

Chuanming Zhou, Shuhai Xiao, Wei Wang, Chengguo Guan, Qing Ouyang, Zhe Chen

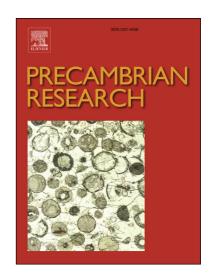
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## **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

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2	the Yangtze Gorges area, South China, and its implications for the age and
3	chemostratigraphic significance of the Shuram excursion
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5	Chuanming Zhou <sup>a*</sup> , Shuhai Xiao <sup>b</sup> , Wei Wang <sup>a</sup> , Chengguo Guan <sup>a</sup> , Qing Ouyang <sup>a,c</sup> ,
6	Zhe Chen <sup>a</sup>
7	<sup>a</sup> Key Laboratory of Economic Stratigraphy and Palaeogeography, Nanjing Institute of
8	Geology and Palaeontology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Nanjing 210008, China
9	<sup>b</sup> Department of Geosciences, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061, USA
10	<sup>c</sup> University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, China
11	
12	*Corresponding author. <i>E-mail address:</i> cmzhou@nigpas.ac.cn (C. Zhou).
13	
14	ABSTRACT: The middle Ediacaran Shuram excursion represents the most
15	pronounced negative carbon isotopic shift in Earth history, and has been considered as
16	evidence for a profound disturbance to the global carbon cycle and proposed as a key
17	chemostratigraphic marker for Ediacaran stratigraphic subdivision and global
18	correlation. Previous study has revealed a pronounced negative $\delta^{13}C$ shift (EN3) in the
19	upper Doushantuo Formation of South China, which has been interpreted as an
20	equivalent of the Shuram excursion. Detailed $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ investigation of multiple sections
21	of the Ediacaran Doushantuo Formation around the Huangling Anticline, western
22	Hubei Province, South China, indicates that the $\delta^{13}$ C variation in the upper

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