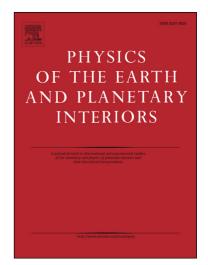
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Characterizations of Geothermal Springs along the Moxi Deep Fault in the Western Sichuan Plateau, China

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² Deep Fault in the Western Sichuan Plateau, China

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10 ABSTRACT: Abundant geothermal springs occur along the Moxi fault located in western 11 Sichuan Province (the eastern edge of the Qinghai-Tibet plateau), highlighted by geothermal 12 water outflow with an unusually high temperature of 218°C at 21.5 MPa from a 2010-m 13 borehole in Laoyulin, Kangding. Earthquake activity occurs relatively more frequently in the region and is considered to be related to the strong hydrothermal activity. Geothermal waters 14 15 hosted by a deep fault may provide evidence regarding the deep underground; their aqueous 16 chemistry and isotopic information can indicate the mechanism of thermal springs. Cyclical 17 variations of geothermal water outflows are thought to work under the effect of solid earth 18 tides and can contribute to understanding conditions and processes in underground 19 geo-environments. This paper studies the origin and variations of the geothermal spring group 20 controlled by the Moxi fault and discusses conditions in the deep ground. Flow variation 21 monitoring of a series of parameters was performed to study the geothermal responses to solid 22 tides. Geothermal reservoir temperatures are evaluated with Na-K-Mg data. The abundant 23 sulfite content, dissolved oxygen (DO) and oxidation-reduction potential (ORP) data are 24 discussed to study the oxidation-reduction states. Strontium isotopes are used to trace the 25 water source. The results demonstrate that geothermal water could flow quickly through the

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