

New middle and late Smithian ammonoid faunas from the Utah/Arizona border: new evidence for calibrating Early Triassic transgressive-regressive trends and paleobiogeographical signals in the western USA basin.

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Arnaud Brayard, Nicolas Olivier, Emmanuelle Vennin, James F. Jenks, Kevin G. Bylund, et al.. New middle and late Smithian ammonoid faunas from the Utah/Arizona border: new evidence for calibrating Early Triassic transgressive-regressive trends and paleobiogeographical signals in the western USA basin. Global and Planetary Change, 2020, 192, pp.103251. 10.1016/j.gloplacha.2020.103251 . hal-02883322

HAL Id: hal-02883322

https://hal.science/hal-02883322

Submitted on 22 Oct 2020

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- 1 New middle and late Smithian ammonoid faunas from the Utah/Arizona
- 2 border: new evidence for calibrating Early Triassic transgressive-regressive
- 3 trends and paleobiogeographical signals in the western USA basin
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Abstract

New Smithian (Early Triassic) ammonoid assemblages were sampled near the Utah/Arizona
border. They provide several spatiotemporal constraints on the regional Sinbad Formation
showing that the extent of the Smithian sea in the southwestern-most part of the western USA
basin is larger than previously expected, reaching northern Arizona and an area just east of
Kanab in Kane County, Utah. This southwestern-most excursion of the sea in the western
USA basin is part of the third order Smithian transgression-regression cycle, which is well-
documented worldwide. These new spatiotemporal constraints also indicate that the Sinbad
Formation spans the late middle to early late Smithian time interval in the studied area. The
observed transgressive trend corresponds to the warm temperatures of the middle-early late
Smithian and the regressive trend to the cooling phase spanning the Smithian-Spathian
transition. Thus, the Sinbad Formation and its marine deposits are the direct result of global
climatic fluctuations and related sea-level changes that occurred from the late middle
Smithian to the Smithian-Spathian transition. This highlights the importance of the Sinbad
Formation in untangling local and global changes occurring around the late Smithian, and
thus in overcoming a major obstacle to the understanding of the biotic recovery after the
Permian/Triassic boundary mass extinction. This also indirectly confirms that the western
USA basin is a key area containing essential information for the understanding of the Early
Triassic events. The taxonomic richness of late middle Smithian assemblages is much lower
in the studied area than in the more northern localities. However, the occurring taxa confirm
the known regional to global distribution of Smithian ammonoids, witnessing the major
global environmental changes from the middle Smithian to the early Spathian.

Keywords:

Smithian, Early Triassic, Ammonoids, Utah, Arizona, Biostratigraphy, Transgression regression cycle

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1. Introduction

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Our understanding of the complex biotic rediversification that occurred in the first million years after the Permian/Triassic boundary mass extinction (PTBME; ca 251.9 Ma, Baresel et al., 2017) requires detailed sedimentological studies to reconstruct depositional environments and their evolution (Bagherpour et al., 2017; Kershaw, 2017; Olivier et al., 2018). Indeed, the type of depositional settings as well as sea-level changes directly influences how the nature and preservation of the fossil record is to be analyzed and interpreted (Brett, 1995; Behrensmeyer et al., 2000). However, deciphering the spatiotemporal variation patterns of Early Triassic depositional environments requires calibrating the sedimentary record according to a biostratigraphically-controlled accurate timescale (Brühwiler et al., 2010; Ware et al., 2015; Brosse et al., 2016). The Early Triassic is characterized by a global long-term sea-level rise with several secondand third-order transgressive-regressive sequences that can be identified worldwide (Embry 1988; Haq and Al-Oahtani, 2005; Haq, 2018). The western USA basin, mainly covering present day eastern Nevada, Utah, Idaho and western Wyoming (Fig 1A, B), is one of the few places where these sequences can be recognized, and it includes a notable third order transgressive-regressive cycle dated from the Smithian substage (Collinson and Hasenmueller, 1978; Clark and Carr, 1984; Paull and Paull, 1993, 1997; Embry, 1997; Lucas et al., 2007b; Brayard et al., 2013; Olivier et al., 2014, 2016, 2018; Vennin et al., 2015; Jeffrey et al., 2019). A rapid transgression towards the south and south-east is recorded within

76	the southern part of the western USA basin during the early-middle Smithian (Fig. 1C),
77	followed by a marked regression near the Smithian/Spathian boundary (Paull and Paull, 1993,
78	1997; Lucas et al., 2007b; Brayard et al., 2013). However, the southern-most boundary of the
79	late Smithian sea is difficult to establish. Several contributions briefly reported on the
80	presence of undetermined and poorly-preserved gastropods, bivalves and ammonoids
81	(Gregory, 1948, 1950; Blakey, 1979; Doelling and Davis, 1989) as well as scarce conodonts
82	(e.g., Paull and Paull, 1993; Lucas et al., 2007b) from several localities in southern Utah.
83	These organisms served for instance to characterize local open marine conditions, but the
84	associated timescale was poorly constrained.
85	Newly-found Smithian ammonoid faunas near the Utah/Arizona border allow us to determine
86	a more accurate minimal age for the arrival of the open sea in the southern-most part of the
87	western USA basin. Additionally, in well-characterized depositional settings, these faunas
88	allow us to constrain the minimum duration of the corresponding stratigraphic units. For the
89	first time, we also report late middle and late Smithian ammonoid assemblages from
90	northernmost Arizona demonstrating that the Smithian transgression reached this area as soon
91	as the late middle Smithian. Finally, these new ammonoid assemblages support the severe
92	biotic and climatic fluctuations known from the middle Smithian to the early Spathian in both
93	the western USA basin and worldwide, highlighting that this basin encompasses various
94	exposures that can provide invaluable insights into the mechanisms underlying these major
95	events in the aftermath of the PTBME (Schubert and Bottjer, 1995; Goodspeed and Lucas,
96	2007; Pruss et al., 2005, 2007; Mata and Bottjer, 2011; Hofmann et al., 2013, 2017; Brayard
97	et al., 2017).

2. Early Triassic basinal setting

During the Early Triassic, the western USA basin was located within the northern intertropical zone of the western margin of Pangea (Fig. 1A, B) and recorded both terrestrial and marine deposits (Moenkopi and Thaynes groups, respectively; sensu Lucas et al., 2007b). This epicontinental basin was contemporaneous with the Sonoma orogeny and is usually interpreted as a foreland basin (Stewart et al., 1972; Collinson et al., 1976; Dickinson, 2013; Caravaca et al., 2018). It presently covers large areas within eastern Nevada, Utah, Idaho, western Wyoming and southwestern Montana. The southern part of the basin records Smithian and Spathian marine deposits, whereas an earlier portion of the Early Triassic is documented in the northern part (e.g., McKee, 1954; Kummel, 1957). Based on a reappraisal of lithology, thickness and subsidence rates, as well as on quantitative biogeographical analyses of ammonoids within the basin, Caravaca et al. (2018) and Jattiot et al. (2018) showed a marked north-south differentiation of the western USA basin in terms of organism distribution and tectonics. On the latter point, the southern part of the basin shows a relative quiescence during the Early Triassic and can be considered more stable and much less influenced by short-term tectonic deformations than the northern part, mostly likely due to the stronger rigidity inherited from its basement terranes (Caravaca et al., 2018). Recently published carbon and sulfur isotope curves from several localities within this basin (Thomazo et al., 2016, 2019; Caravaca et al., 2017; Schneebeli-Hermann et al., 2020) show that the wellknown global isotopic signals were markedly influenced by local processes resulting from environmental and biotic heterogeneities within the basin during the Early Triassic.

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3. Previous Smithian-early Spathian stratigraphic framework in southern Utah and recent developments

125 In the southern part of the western USA basin, and mainly in southern Utah, depositional 126 settings correspond to relatively shallow environments (tidal to outer shelf; **Fig. 1C**) 127 characterized by shale and limestone sediments. Marine facies deposited during the early-128 middle Smithian transgression are typical and are generally represented by various microbial 129 deposits overlain by, or interfingered with, bioclastic limestones (Lucas et al., 2007a, b; 130 Goodspeed and Lucas, 2007; Brayard et al., 2011, 2013; Mata and Bottjer, 2011; Olivier et 131 al., 2014, 2016, 2018; Vennin et al., 2015; Jeffrey et al., 2019). The often-massive microbial 132 deposits exhibit complex metazoan consortia including sponges and bivalves, forming 133 laterally discontinuous bioconstructions (e.g., Brayard et al., 2011; Olivier et al., 2018). 134 Bioclastic limestones generally contain various organisms such as ammonoids, bivalves, 135 gastropods, echinoderms and lingulid brachiopods (Brayard et al., 2013, 2015; Olivier et al., 136 2014, 2018). These microbial-bioclastic deposits are documented at many places in southern 137 Utah and correspond to the Timpoweap and Sinbad fms. The Timpoweap Fm. is now 138 considered as a junior synonym of the Sinbad Fm. (Lucas et al., 2007b). 139 In southwestern-most Utah, e.g., in the Hurricane area (Figs. 1D, E; 2), the Sinbad Fm. 140 overlies the Rock Canyon Conglomerate of uncertain age, which represents the hiatus in 141 marine deposits that lasted from the Late Permian to the beginning of the Early Triassic. This 142 formation is made of various breccias and thick channelized conglomerates that may fill 143 incised valleys in the Permian Kaibab Fm. (e.g., Blakey, 1979; Marzolf, 1993; Olivier et al., 144 2014, 2018). A facies gradation between conglomerates and microbial deposits is often visible 145 between the Rock Canyon Conglomerate and the Sinbad Fm. (Nielson, 1991; Olivier et al., 146 2014, 2018), suggesting that they belong to the same stratigraphic unit and that the Rock 147 Canyon Conglomerate may therefore be Early Triassic in age. 148 Previous works in southern Utah merely mentioned the occurrence in the Smithian 149 Timpoweap Fm. of e.g., "Meekoceras" (Reeside and Bassler, 1922; Reeside, 1943; Gregory,

150 1948, 1950; Stewart et al., 1972; Nielson and Johnson, 1979; Nielson, 1991), a long-ranging 151 Smithian ammonoid genus, which can be easily confused with many other genera when 152 poorly preserved (Brayard et al., 2013), potentially leading to biostratigraphical mistakes or 153 confusion. Additionally, these reports were often diluted or repeated in different studies (e.g., 154 Doelling and Davis, 1989). More recently, Lucas et al. (2007b), Brayard et al. (2013) and 155 Olivier et al. (2014, 2018) identified typical late Smithian assemblages in different localities 156 of southwestern Utah. These reports indicated that the transgression had already reached 157 southwestern Utah during the middle Smithian and southwestern-most Utah (Hurricane area) 158 at least during the late Smithian. 159 The age of the Sinbad Fm. is therefore constrained by the occurrence of typical late Smithian 160 ammonoid genera such as Anasibirites and Wasatchites in its uppermost layers (Lucas et al., 161 2007b; Brayard et al., 2013; Olivier et al., 2018; Jeffrey et al., 2019). Conodonts also indicate 162 a late Smithian age for these beds (Lucas et al., 2007b; Olivier et al., 2014). Typical latest 163 Smithian ammonoid assemblages in which e.g., Pseudosageceras augustum, Xenoceltites and 164 Glyptophiceras can co-occur (Brayard et al., 2013; Jattiot et al., 2017, 2018; Jenks and 165 Brayard, 2018) have not yet been found in southwestern-most Utah, suggesting that a rapid 166 regressive phase was probably already occurring at that time in this area. Age constraints for 167 the base of the Sinbad Fm., i.e. the microbially-dominated part, are much vaguer due to, e.g., 168 the paucity and poor preservation of conodonts (Paull and Paull, 1993). However, a middle 169 Smithian ammonoid, *Owenites* sp., was recently reported from the top of microbial fenestral 170 deposits in the Timpoweap Canyon near Virgin (Olivier et al., 2014). The age of the base of 171 the Sinbad Fm. in other localities within the Hurricane area is yet to be determined. 172 The Sinbad Fm. is stratigraphically covered by the Lower Red Member, which marks a 173 regressive trend during the Smithian-Spathian transition, showing a marginal and terrestrial 174 sedimentation (Blakey, 1979; Lucas et al., 2007b). A new marine incursion is recorded by the overlying Virgin Limestone Fm., which is early Spathian in age (Poborski, 1954; Hautmann et al., 2013; Hoffmann et al., 2013).

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4. Studied exposures and sampled material

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180 Ammonoid specimens studied herein were collected from four localities near the 181 Utah/Arizona border where the Sinbad Fm. is exposed: two in Washington County, Utah 182 (Workman Wash and Honeymoon Trail); one in Kane County, Utah (White Sage Wash); and 183 one in Rock Canyon, Mohave County, Arizona (Fig. 1D-F). Ammonoid preservation in some 184 cases is quite good, with some shell remains preserved, for instance in Workman Wash. 185 However, internal recrystallization is common, making the collection and preparation of these 186 specimens often difficult. Also, exposing suture lines is often impossible. 187 The Workman Wash locality (**Figs. 1D, E, 2**; 37°5′56.96"N, 113°17′31.01"W) was described 188 in detail by Olivier et al. (2018). Unlike many other exposures of the Sinbad Fm. in the area, 189 it exhibits contemporaneous fossiliferous lateral deposits of the microbially-dominated unit. 190 This unit also displays moderately-diversified faunal assemblages that can be traced laterally 191 from microbial to the bioclastic deposits. Within the assemblages of the microbially-192 dominated unit, ammonoids and large-sized gastropods are abundant (Brayard et al., 2015). 193 Ammonoids, often accumulated in large lenses and specific beds, are represented by typical 194 early late Smithian prionitid genera such as Anasibirites, Wasatchites, Gurlevites (specimens 195 previously attributed to Arctoprionites in the western USA basin) and Hemiprionites. 196 Contrary to many other localities in the western USA basin, Gurleyites smithi (ex-197 "Arctoprionites resseri") specimens sampled in Workman Wash are abundant and well 198 preserved, exhibiting a very large intra-specific variation and unexpected ornamentation. 199 These features have not yet been observed in specimens from other localities and they provide new information for prionitid taxonomy and systematics (see Systematics section). Middle Smithian ammonoid taxa have not yet been found at Workman Wash, indicating that the open sea possibly did not reach this locality until the early late Smithian. A neighboring exposure with an identical name, but located in a more northern canyon, was recently described by Jeffrey et al. (2019) and shows a similar succession. However, no ammonoids were reported from this site, preventing further in-depth biostratigraphical comparisons. The second southern Utah site studied herein is located along a ~500 m gully on the eastern edge of the Honeymoon Trail, bordering the Hurricane Cliffs (Fig. 1D, E; 37°1'42.93"N, 113°16'16.44"W). Only the topmost part of the Rock Canyon Conglomerate and the basal microbially-dominated part of the Sinbad Fm. are visible here (Fig. 2). Our observations confirmed the brief report by Perfilli and Ritter (2018), who indicated that large microbial mounds are well exposed at this site and are made of various microbial deposits. These microbial limestones also contain abundant 1-6 cm-high gastropod shells (possible Coelostylina sp.) and common late middle Smithian ammonoids, such as Inyoites and Guodunites, often densely packed into dm-scale lenses. A few sphaeroconic (Juvenites or Paranannites) and serpenticonic (Dieneroceras?) ammonoids rarely occur, but they are too poorly preserved for firm determination. Jeffrey et al. (2019) described a neighboring section ("Cottonwood Wash"; ~700 m to the SW) where the Sinbad Fm. is well exposed but they did not report ammonoids from the microbially-dominated unit. The third studied site is located at the wash entrance of Rock Canyon, in Mohave County, northernmost Arizona, just south of the Utah border (Figs. 1D, E, 3; 36°58'43.35"N, 113°15'37.67"W). The Rock Canyon Conglomerate is well developed, showing thick channelized conglomerates filling large incised valleys. This site serves as a type section for this formation (Reeside and Bassler, 1922; Nielson, 1991). Overlying microbial deposits of the Sinbad Fm. are also well exposed and include abundant large gastropods (Brayard et al.,

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2015) and two successive ammonoid assemblages. The lowermost assemblage is monogeneric and contains the late middle Smithian Guodunites hooveri and G. monneti, whereas the uppermost assemblage includes early late Smithian taxa such as Anasibirites. Ammonoid occurrences at the same site were also reported by Nielson (1991) and Jeffrey et al. (2019), but without firm identification and detailed biostratigraphic zonation. The fourth studied site is White Sage Wash, located ~25 km east of Kanab and ~200 m north of the Utah/Arizona border (**Fig. 1D, F**; 37°0'12.84"N, 112°13'51.60"W). Lower Triassic rocks are relatively widespread in Kane County, but developed exposures of the Sinbad Fm. are rarely investigated in detail (but see Jeffrey et al., 2019 for a recent study of two neighboring localities in the Buckskin Mountains). In addition, occurrences of Smithian ammonoids east of Kanab were neither firmly identified (e.g., Gregory, 1948) nor even reported from the Sinbad Fm. in this area (Doelling and Davis, 1989; Jeffrey et al., 2019). Only part of the microbially-dominated unit of the Sinbad Fm. is visible at the studied site (Fig. 3), but we can reasonably assume that the local Early Triassic succession is similar to those observed at neighboring sites (Jeffrey et al., 2019). Total exposed strata (only ~4.5 m thick) consist of various microbial deposits that tend to locally form small wavy mounds. Ammonoids and large gastropods (e.g., Coelostylina sp. A, Abrekopsis, ?Worthenia) are abundant and often clustered in lenses, as already noted by Reeside (1943) and Gregory (1948) in some neighboring exposures. Three successive ammonoid assemblages were found at this site and all contain late middle Smithian Guodunites hooveri. Additionally, the uppermost assemblage contains a rather evolute taxon that is too poorly preserved to be firmly identified, but it resembles the middle Smithian genus Dieneroceras.

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5. The Smithian sea near the Utah/Arizona border: arrival, duration, extent, and

correlation

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5.1. Biostratigraphical significance of sampled ammonoids

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A total of eight ammonoid taxa were identified from the four studied localities. These are attributed to specific ammonoid zones permitting high-resolution correlation at a local to global scale (Brayard et al., 2009a, 2013; Jenks et al., 2010, 2015; Jattiot et al., 2017; Jenks and Brayard, 2018). *Inyoites oweni* was found at a single locality, Honeymoon Trail, indicating the presence of the late middle Smithian *Inyoites* horizon, which is widely found in the southern part of the basin at the top of the Owenites beds (e.g., Brayard et al., 2013) and at several places worldwide (Jenks et al., 2015). It co-occurs with Guodunites hooveri, which is abundant throughout the studied area. This taxon is restricted to the *Invoites* horizon and is thus characteristic of the late middle Smithian in the southern part of the basin (Brayard et al., 2009a, 2013; Stephen et al., 2010) and the top of the regional middle Smithian UAZ4 as defined by Jattiot et al. (2017). Although rare, Guodunites also occurs in late middle Smithian assemblages of the Owenites beds at Crittenden Springs, NE Nevada (Jenks and Brayard, 2018). Additionally, Guodunites is typically found in late middle Smithian ammonoid assemblages in Oman (Brühwiler et al., 2012a), Vietnam (Shigeta et al., 2014) and South China (Brayard and Bucher, 2008). These new findings are also consistent with the report of the occurrence of Owenites sp. in the Sinbad Fm. at the more northern locality of Virgin Dam (Olivier et al., 2014). In the more complete sections at Workman Wash and Rock Canyon, sampled ammonoids in the upper part of the Sinbad Fm. correspond to the typical prionitid assemblage of early late Smithian age. This assemblage includes the cosmopolitan genera Anasibirites and Wasatchites, and is found throughout the basin (e.g., Brayard et al., 2013; Jattiot et al., 2017,

2018) and also worldwide (see Jenks et al., 2015 for global correlations). It corresponds to the regional UAZ5 as defined by Jattiot et al. (2017). Typical latest Smithian ammonoid taxa such as *Xenoceltites, Glyptophiceras* and *Pseudosageceras augustum* were not found in the uppermost beds of the Sinbad Fm. likely indicating that the sea had already receded from the area by this time.

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5.2. Richness and abundance of sampled ammonoids

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Although relatively abundant in all studied localities, ammonoids show a very low taxonomic diversity compared to the more northern localities in the basin (Brayard et al., 2013; Jattiot et al., 2017, 2018; Jenks and Brayard, 2018), with the richest assemblages mainly recorded during the late Smithian. Late middle Smithian ammonoids such as Guodunites or Invoites are typical of the southern part of the basin (e.g., Jattiot et al., 2018); it is therefore not surprising to find them near the Utah/Arizona border. Unexpectedly, some taxa typical of the middle Smithian in this part of the basin, such as *Churkites*, or more cosmopolitan taxa, such as Meekoceras gracilitatis, are supposedly absent. This is striking, because although often reported from the studied area, the iconic M. gracilitatis was actually probably misidentified (see Brayard et al., 2013). The unusual very low richness of late middle Smithian ammonoid assemblages in the southwestern-most part of the basin can be explained by the shallow seas in this area (mostly peritidal settings) that may have been favorable to only a few taxa. Jattiot et al. (2018) has already pointed out that the distribution of middle Smithian ammonoids within the western USA basin was highly contrasted, both in terms of abundance and richness, according to north-south and south-north gradients. These authors emphasized the role of the terrigenous load, and thus turbidity, in the water column and hydrodynamics in the spatial segregation of

taxa. They suggested that taxa preferentially found in the southern part of the basin (such as Guodunites) were more tolerant to higher terrigenous load levels than taxa with northern affinities. Peritidal settings as found in the studied area, and especially recorded in the microbially-dominated unit of the Sinbad Fm., rarely show a high terrigenous load. However, they were potentially more subject to higher temperature and salinity levels than in more northern localities, possibly favoring a few taxa more tolerant to these conditions. There is no strong evidence for taphonomic bias, mechanical sorting or differential transport that could explain why some species appear to occur abundantly in this shallow setting. The combination of (i) the observed preservation of shells without damage, and (ii) the presence in neighboring areas with similar depositional settings, of diversified ammonoid assemblages including various taxa with morphologies similar to those collected here, better argue for a causal relationship between species paleoecology and local environmental conditions. However, this point deserves further investigation by continuing to explore nearby fossiliferous localities. Late Smithian ammonoid assemblages include highly cosmopolitan taxa (Brayard et al., 2006, 2007). These assemblages are typical and are recognized throughout the basin (Lucas et al., 2007b; Brayard et al., 2013; Jattiot et al., 2017, 2018; Jenks and Brayard, 2018) and worldwide (see Brühwiler et al., 2010; Zakharov and Abnavi, 2013; Shigeta et al., 2014; Jenks et al., 2015; Jattiot et al., 2016 for reviews in different basins). They show a low taxonomic richness and serve to mark the base of the late Smithian. Indeed, they follow a major extinction event at the middle/late Smithian boundary and correspond to the beginning of marked shifts in environmental conditions such as cooling and anoxia (e.g., Grasby et al., 2013; Goudemand et al., 2019; Zhang et al., 2019). On that ground, early late Smithian ammonoid assemblages observed in the southwestern-most USA basin provide an excellent

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record of the global environmental fluctuations that took place at that time as they correspond to the warmest temperatures reached during the Smithian-Spathian transition (see section 5.4).

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5.3. Local and regional constraints on the Smithian sea

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The new ammonoid assemblages from the area near the Utah/Arizona border show that the Smithian sea extended farther south than previously known, reaching northern Arizona and the eastern part of Kane County, Utah. They also indicate that marine deposits corresponding to the Sinbad Fm. span the late middle to early late Smithian interval in this area (Fig. 4). Except for the Workman Wash site, the oldest ammonoid assemblages found in the lower beds of the Sinbad Fm. are all of late middle Smithian age. The thin beds that characterize the transition between the Rock Canyon Conglomerate and the Sinbad Fm. are devoid of characteristic fossils, but the proximity of these beds with strata containing late middle Smithian ammonoids as well as the apparent absence of a sedimentation break suggests that they are very close in age. Because the microbial facies of the Sinbad Fm. progressively overlie the Rock Canyon Conglomerate (Nielson, 1991; Olivier et al., 2014), we can hypothesize that at least the upper part of this formation is likely Smithian in age. At Workman Wash, index fossils have not yet been found in the lowermost beds. We therefore cannot confirm a potential late middle Smithian age for these beds or that the open sea reached this locality slightly later than expected, i.e. during the late Smithian. The age of the Sinbad Fm. at the more northern localities of Cedar City and Kanarraville has been shown to span at least the late middle Smithian and late Smithian (Lucas et al., 2007b; Brayard et al., 2013). Thus, from Cedar City south to the Utah/Arizona border, exposures of the Sinbad Fm. are almost coeval, suggesting a very rapid transgression during this interval. Slightly older strata are probably present in the Cedar City and Kanarraville areas, indicating

that the transgression reached these localities first, but age constraints are still lacking to determine its exact timing (Brayard et al., 2013). Finally, the late middle to late Smithian age of the Sinbad Fm. in the entire southwestern-most region of Utah further justifies the synonymization of the Timpoweap Fm. with the Sinbad Fm. (Lucas et al., 2007b).

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5.4. Connections with global climatic and biotic events

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Overall, one of the most important pieces of information provided by these new biostratigraphic data is that the advancement of the sea throughout the relatively large studied area, as well as its retreat, was extremely rapid (a time span less than that of an ammonoid zone). The amount of time recorded by the Sinbad Fm. in this area is also rather restricted as it corresponds only to the *Invoites* horizon-Anasibirites multiformis beds interval. If we translate this biostratigraphic interval into an approximate duration based on the present-day estimates provided by Brühwiler et al. (2010) for Smithian ammonoid UA zones, this epicontinental sea likely persisted in the area near the Utah/Arizona border for a period less than 100 kyr. This relatively short-term marine incursion into the southern-most western USA basin is part of the Smithian third order transgressive-regressive cycle, which is known in several basins worldwide (e.g., Paull and Paull, 1997). During the Smithian, the southern part of the western USA basin exhibited relatively shallow environments and is characterized by a relative tectonic quiescence (Caravaca et al., 2018). In such a context, where regional and global tectonic controls can likely be ruled out (e.g., Olivier et al., 2014; Haq, 2018), the observed transgressive/regressive cycle in the studied area is probably related primarily to climatic changes (Olivier et al., 2014). In the current absence of reported evidence for intermittent high-latitude continental ice-sheets for the Early Triassic, such rapid m-scale eustatic fluctuations may be explained either by the variations in

storage of aquifers and lakes (Hay and Leslie, 1990; Jacobs and Sahagian, 1993; Haq, 2018) or by the thermal expansion and retraction of ocean waters (Gornitz et al., 1982; Schulz and Schäfer-Neth, 1997). The time interval represented by the Sinbad Fm. is coeval with a dramatic and sudden global climatic change, as it spans the passage from middle Smithian warm temperatures to much colder temperatures during the late Smithian and Smithian-Spathian transition. Warmest temperatures were initially assumed to have occurred at the Smithian/Spathian boundary based on δ^{18} O conodont data analyzed by conventional gas isotope ratio mass spectrometry (Sun et al., 2012; Romano et al., 2013). Nevertheless, recently published δ^{18} O conodont data analyzed by sensitive high-resolution ion microprobe indicated that the warmest temperatures were reached during the middle and early late Smithian, followed by a cooling phase during the rest of the Smithian and the Smithian-Spathian transition (Goudemand et al., 2019). The observed transgressive trend therefore corresponds to the middle-early late Smithian warmer temperatures and the regressive trend to the cooling phase spanning the latest Smithian and Smithian-Spathian transition. Thus, the Sinbad Fm. and its marine deposits seem to be the direct result of global climatic fluctuations and related sea-level changes that occurred from the late middle Smithian to the Smithian-Spathian transition. These climatic and sea-level changes have also been associated with several other environmental perturbations such as changes in carbon and sulfur cycles (Payne, 2004; Horacek et al., 2007b; Galfetti et al., 2007; Song et al., 2014; Zhang et al., 2015; Stebbins et al., 2019; Thomazo et al., 2019) and anoxia (Horacek et al., 2007a; Shigeta et al., 2009; Grasby et al., 2013; Sun et al., 2015; Clarkson et al., 2016; Zhao et al., 2020). They also coincide with a major extinction of nekto-pelagic organisms such as ammonoids and conodonts during the late Smithian (Tozer, 1982; Dagys, 1988; Hallam, 1996; Orchard, 2007; Stanley, 2009; Jattiot et al., 2016). Much caution should be heeded when interpreting the

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detailed timing and spatial extent of these perturbations, as well as their underlying causal processes such as volcanism and redox changes (reader can refer to e.g., Hammer et al., 2019 and Thomazo et al., 2019 for recent examples of discussion). Our knowledge of the short late Smithian time interval has improved recently by showing that successive cosmopolitan ammonoid assemblages thrived during this time interval (e.g., Jenks et al., 2015). Mechanisms controlling the major extinction at the middle/late Smithian boundary and the marked dominance of prionitids at the beginning of the late Smithian are still hypothetical, but they probably can be primarily related to the warm temperature reached at that time. Ammonoid assemblages that followed correspond to the cooling phase, finally leading to the installation of the more endemic assemblages of the early Spathian. This change supports a link between ammonoid diversity s.l. and distribution, and rapid fluctuations of the latitudinal gradient of sea-surface temperature during the Smithian-Spathian transition (e.g., Brayard et al., 2006). Contemporary changes in other environmental parameters such as redox conditions or continental weathering may have also influenced ammonoid diversity, but their effects are presently much harder to assess (e.g., Jattiot et al., 2018). Thus, the observed sedimentological and paleontological changes recorded in the Sinbad Fm. are consistent with coeval global climatic and biotic events. This also emphasizes that detailed and replicated field studies conducted within a regional sedimentary basin by revealing basin-wide paleontological, sedimentological and geochemical signals and variabilities can provide valuable and meaningful clues to environmental changes and evolutionary processes during a global crisis.

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6. Conclusions

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New Smithian ammonoid assemblages sampled near the Utah/Arizona border provide for the first time several spatiotemporal constraints on the regional Sinbad Fm. (western USA basin), highlighting its importance for understanding environmental and biotic events during the middle and late Smithian, ca. 1 myr after the Permian/Triassic boundary mass extinction. This new information also highlight the significance of the Sinbad Fm. for disentangling local vs. global signals near the late Smithian. Newly obtained age constraints and correlation also have important consequences for the understanding of the western USA basin dynamics and architecture. 1) The late middle to late Smithian age of the Sinbad Fm. in all of southwestern Utah as well as central Utah further justifies the synonymization of the Timpoweap Fm. with the Sinbad Fm. 2) The taxonomic richness of late middle Smithian assemblages is much lower in the studied area than in more northern localities. Occurrences of some taxa characteristic of the southern part of the basin, such as Guodunites and Invoites, support the view of a spatial segregation of ammonoids within the western USA basin during the middle Smithian. However, the absence of certain middle Smithian iconic taxa, such as Churkites and Meekoceras gracilitatis, in this part of the basin is still in need of clarification. Sampled assemblages of late Smithian ammonoids include cosmopolitan taxa that are typical of this time interval worldwide and reflect the late Smithian crisis. 3) The biostratigraphical constraints obtained for the Sinbad Fm. demonstrate that the southern-most extent of the Smithian sea in the southwestern-most part of the western USA basin is further south than previously realized, reaching northern Arizona and eastern Kane County, Utah. 4) This southwestern-most excursion of the sea in the western USA basin belongs to the third order Smithian transgression-regression cycle, which is well-documented worldwide.

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5) Within the studied area, the Sinbad Fm. spans the late middle to early late Smithian (*Inyoites* horizon – *Anasibirites* beds), representing presumably a short time interval, probably less than 100 kyr based on present-day estimates of Smithian ammonoid UA zones.

6) The rapid transgression-regression cycle recorded in the Sinbad Fm. appears to be primarily linked to known concomitant global warming followed by cooling changes, which led to the late Smithian extinction and to the more endemic ammonoid assemblages of the early Spathian.

7. Systematic paleontology

Systematic descriptions mainly follow the classification of Tozer (1981), and that further refined by Brayard et al. (2013), Jattiot et al. (2016, 2017) and Jenks and Brayard (2018). Quantitative morphological ranges for identified species are illustrated by scatter diagrams based on classical measurements of the diameter (D), and corresponding whorl height (H), whorl width (W) and umbilical diameter (U). Scatter diagrams of H, W and U, and H/D, W/D and U/D are provided only when the number of measured specimens is higher than four. Measurements are given in **Supplementary Table A**. The number of sampled specimens (fragmentary to complete) for each taxon and locality is indicated as "n=".

Repository of figured specimens is abbreviated UBGD (Université de Bourgogne, Géologie Dijon). WW: Workman Wash; HT: Honeymoon Trail; RC: Rock Canyon; WSW: White Sage Wash.

- Order Ammonoidea Zittel, 1884
- 472 Suborder Ceratitina Hyatt, 1884

473 Superfamily Meekoceratoidea Waagen, 1895 474 Family Proptychitidae Waagen, 1895 475 Genus Guodunites Brayard and Bucher, 2008 476 Type species: Guodunites monneti Brayard and Bucher, 2008 477 478 Guodunites hooveri (Hyatt and Smith, 1905) 479 Figs. 5A-M 480 481 1905 Aspidites hooveri Hyatt and Smith, p. 153, pl. 17, figs. 1–12. 1932 Clypeoceras hooveri – Smith, p. 63, pl. 17, figs. 1–12. 482 483 v 2009b Guodunites hooveri – Brayard et al., p. 476, pl. 2, figs. 1–30. 484 2010 ?Clypeoceras hooveri – Stephen et al., figs. 6e, f, i. 485 v 2013 Guodunites hooveri – Brayard et al., p. 170. 486 v 2017 Guodunites hooveri – Jattiot and Bucher in Jattiot et al., p. 18, pl. 4., figs. L-V. 487 488 Occurrence: Documented from the basal microbially-dominated part of the Sinbad Fm. in 489 HT, RC (ROC2-A; n = 18) and WSW (WSW 1, WSW 2, WSW 3; n = 19). Apparently absent 490 from WW. 491 492 **Description:** For thorough description and illustration of this classical middle Smithian 493 species in the western USA basin, readers are invited to consult Brayard et al. (2009b, 2013). 494 This taxon can be easily recognized by the main following diagnostic features: a platyconic 495 shell with an involute coiling and a narrowly rounded venter, slightly convex flanks with 496 maximum thickness near mid-flanks, an egressive coiling at submature stage, a deep

crateriform umbilicus, and marked, projected lirae on outer shell (Brayard et al., 2009b,

2013). Weak folds are sometimes visible on the specimens presented here, but no delicate strigation as in some specimens from other sites (e.g., Brayard et al., 2009b). Suture line typically subammonitic with crenulated saddles, but only the overall architecture can be seen on our recrystallized specimens. Measurements: See Supplementary Fig. A and Supplementary Table A. Estimated maximal size: ~15 cm (Brayard et al., 2009b, 2013). **Discussion:** Guodunites hooveri can be distinguished from G. monneti, by its deeper umbilicus and its more involute coiling. Until this study, the latter had not been found in central and southern Utah suggesting a strong exclusion of these two species within the western USA basin as shown for several ammonoid taxa by Jattiot et al. (2018). However, three specimens sampled from Rock Canyon and White Sage Wash (Fig. 5N-P) show a rather more evolute coiling and more compressed whorl section than typical G. hooveri specimens, and thus are likely G. monneti (see next section). Both Guodunites species are characteristic of the middle Smithian, G. monneti being more cosmopolitan than G. hooveri, which is restricted to the western USA basin (Brayard et al., 2009b, 2013; Jattiot et al., 2017). Guodunites monneti Brayard and Bucher, 2008 Figs. 5N-P See Jattiot et al. (2017) and Jenks and Brayard (2018) for updated synonymy lists for this

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522	Occurrence: Two specimens sampled from bed ROC2-A and one from bed WSW3 in the
523	microbially-dominated part of the Sinbad Fm. Not yet found in other studied sections.
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525	Description: Large sized, compressed specimens represented by an internal mold showing a
526	moderately involute coiling and a narrowly rounded venter. Umbilicus shallow with an
527	egressive coiling. Preserved ornamentation consists only of weak, probable lirae, visible on
528	the umbilical margin and barely perceptible on flanks. The suture line of our specimens is
529	poorly preserved and only shows high saddles and indented lobes. Its overall structure fits
530	with suture lines illustrated by e.g., Brayard et al. (2009).
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532	Measurements: See Supplementary Table A.
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534	Discussion: These rare specimens mainly differ from other sampled <i>Guodunites</i> specimens by
535	their less crateriform umbilicus and slightly more evolute coiling, thus corresponding to G .
536	monneti. This species has not yet been reported from central and southern Utah.
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538	Family Inyoitidae Spath, 1934
539	Genus Inyoites Hyatt and Smith, 1905
540	Type species: Inyoites oweni Hyatt and Smith, 1905
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542	Inyoites oweni Hyatt and Smith, 1905
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544	1905 Inyoites oweni Hyatt and Smith, p. 134, pl. 6, figs. 1-16; pl. 69, figs. 1-9; pl. 78, figs., 1-
545	8.
546	1932 Inyoites oweni – Smith, p. 80, pl. 6, figs. 1-16, pl. 40, figs. 1-8, pl.69, figs. 1-9.

- 547 1934 *Inyoites oweni* Spath, p. 138, fig. 37.
- 548 1968 *Inyoites spicini* Zakharov, p. 151, pl. 30, fig. 2.
- 549 1973 *Inyoites oweni* Collignon, p. 12, pl.1, fig. 9.
- 550 ? 1995 *Inyoites oweni* Shevyrev, p. 34, pl. 3, figs 2-4.
- 551 2010 *Inyoites oweni* Stephen et al., figs. 5a, b.
- 552 v 2012a *Inyoites oweni* Brühwiler et al., p. 34, pl. 21, figs. 1-6.
- ? 2012a *Inyoites* sp. indet. Brühwiler et al., p. 35, pl. 21, figs. 8a-c.
- 554 v 2013 *Inyoites oweni* Brayard et al., p. 185, fig. 49a-t.
- 555 v 2017 *Inyoites oweni* Jattiot and Bucher in Jattiot et al., p. 24, pl. 8, figs. A-G.
- 556 v 2018 *Inyoites oweni* Jenks and Brayard, p. 56, figs. 54q-t.
- Occurrence: A unique specimen documented (but not sampled) from the microbially-
- dominated part of the Sinbad Fm. in HT. Not yet found in the other studied sections.
- Description: See Brayard et al. (2013), Jattiot et al. (2017) and Jenks and Brayard (2018) for
- a thorough description and illustration of this typical late middle Smithian species in the
- western and southern parts of the western USA basin. Main diagnostic features include (i) a
- moderately involute and highly compressed shell bearing a characteristic high, pronounced
- keel, (ii) a shallow umbilicus, (iii) very conspicuous slightly sinuous fold-like ribs varying
- greatly in strength and width, and (iv) ribs rapidly fade away on the outer half of the flanks
- where they are gradually transformed into delicate, dense and sinuous lirae. Suture line not
- visible on our specimen.

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570 **Measurements:** Estimated maximal size: ~8 cm (Brayard et al., 2013).

572 **Discussion:** Two additional *Inyoites* species (*I. beaverensis* and *I. stokesi*) are known from the 573 Smithian of the western USA basin (Brayard et al., 2013; Jenks and Brayard, 2018). Inyoites 574 beaverensis is older (early middle Smithian) and mainly differs from the type species by its 575 more evolute coiling, its near-absence of ornamentation and its smaller keel (Brayard et al., 576 2013; Jattiot et al., 2017). Intermediate forms between I. beaverensis and I. oweni were also 577 reported from the late middle Smithian of Nevada (Jattiot et al., 2017). Invoites stokesi co-578 occurs with *I. oweni*, but differs by its barely perceptible keel as well as its slightly more 579 involute coiling. Inyoites oweni is typical of the late middle Smithian in the western USA 580 basin and facilitates correlation worldwide (e.g., with the *Inyoites* horizon of the *Owenites* 581 beds in South China; see Brayard and Bucher, 2008). 582 583 Family Prionitidae Hyatt, 1900 584 Genus *Gurleyites* Mathews, 1929 585 **Type species:** Gurleyites smithi Mathews, 1929 586 587 Gurleyites smithi Mathews, 1929 588 Figs. 6A-Q, 7A-S, 8A-O, 9A-J, 10A-H 589 590 ? 1929 Goniodiscus ornatus Mathews, p. 34, pl. 6, figs. 6-10. 591 ? 1929 *Goniodiscus* (?) *varians* Mathews, p. 35, pl. 7, figs. 26-39. 592 1929 Kashmirites resseri Mathews, p. 38, pl. 8, figs. 4-7.

? 1929 Anasibirites edsoni Mathews, p.27, pl. 4, figs. 29-32

? 1929 Anasibirites bassleri Mathews, p.28, pl. 4, figs. 33-35

1929 Gurlevites smithi Mathews, p. 43, pl. 10, figs. 1-6.

? 1929 Anasibirites mojsisovicsi Mathews, p. 30, pl. 5, figs. 1-3

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- 597 1929 *Gurleyites bastini* Mathews, p. 44, pl. 10, figs. 7-11.
- p 1929 Gurleyites chamberlini Mathews, p. 44, pl. 11, figs. 3-5.
- 599 1929 *Gurleyites milleri* Mathews, p. 45, pl. 9, figs. 10-12.
- 600 1929 Gurleyites boutwelli Mathews, p. 45, pl. 8, figs. 1-3.
- 601 1932 *Kashmirites resseri* Smith, p. 67, pl. 81, figs. 9, 10.
- 602 ? 1932 *Anasibirites mojsisovicsi* Smith, p. 73, pl. 80, figs. 1-2.
- 603 1932 *Anasibirites bastini* Smith, p. 70, pl. 80, figs. 3-5.
- 604 ? 1932 *Anasibirites ornatus* Smith, p. 75, pl. 80, figs. 11, 12.
- 605 1932 *Anasibirites smithi* Smith, p. 76, pl. 80, figs. 13-15.
- 606 1961 Arctoprionites sp. indet. Tozer, pl. 20, figs. 1, 3.
- v 1962 Arctoprionites sp. indet. Kummel and Steele, p. 699, pl. 101, fig. 2.
- 608 ? 1976 *Gurleyites debilis* Wang and He, p. 296, pl. 7, figs. 23-24.
- 609 1994 Arctoprionites williamsi Tozer, p. 83, pl. 34, figs. 1-4.
- 610 v 2013 Anasibirites cf. angulosus Brayard et al., p. 195, fig. 65.
- 611 v 2013 Arctoprionites resseri Brayard et al., p. 198, fig. 67.
- 612 2015 Arctoprionites resseri Piazza, p. 52, pl. 2, figs. e-g.
- 613 v 2017 Arctoprionites resseri Jattiot and Bucher in Jattiot et al., p. 34, pl. 12, figs. N-X.
- 614 2017 Arctoprionites resseri Piazza in Piazza et al., fig. 4C-D.
- p v 2018 *Hemiprionites typus* Jenks and Brayard, figs. 78D-F, 79G-I only.
- v 2018 Arctoprionites resseri Jenks and Brayard, p. 92, fig. 86-87.
- 617 2020 Arctoprionites resseri Jattiot et al., p. 55, pl. 28P-U.
- Occurrence: Abundant in the microbially-dominated unit of the Sinbad Fm. in WW (BRC; n
- 620 = 85).

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Description: Compressed and moderately involute prionitid showing a slightly egressive coiling, and a sulcate to delicately arched venter, many specimens exhibiting a tabulate venter. Ornamentation is characteristically highly variable among specimens and sometimes throughout ontogeny. It generally consists of forward projected, bullate, elongated and sinuous ribs that stem near the umbilical shoulder and fade rapidly toward the venter (see also description of "Arctoprionites resseri" in Brayard et al., 2013; Jattiot et al., 2017; Jenks and Brayard, 2018). The newly sampled, well-preserved specimens from Workman Wash indicate that these ribs may cross the venter, resulting in a slightly crenulated venter. Some rare specimens also exhibit elevated bullate ribs that almost form tubercles in a manner similar to Wasatchites. Specimens with a more evolute coiling generally exhibit a stronger ornamentation, thereby complying with Buckman's rules of covariation (Westermann, 1966; Monnet et al., 2015). Umbilical margin is broadly arched with an inclined wall. As a complement to previous works, our abundant and well-preserved material shows a feature not previously reported for this taxon, which consists of a strigation on the venter and on the flanks, most often on both sides of the ventrolateral margin. These spiral lines can be seen at all growth stages, but often do not continue throughout the entire ontogeny. Additionally, they are more or less well expressed and are apparently independent from the venter shape. This strigation may also occur asymmetrically on the venter of some specimens and more rarely, may shift a little further towards the internal part of the flank. One specimen also exhibits on its inner whorls, regularly spaced relief that strongly resembles megastriae (**Fig. 9I-J**). The suture line is rarely observable on our specimens and is often incomplete. However, it is typical of the genus with three large, arched saddles, decreasing in size from the ventrolateral to the umbilical margin. Lobes are well indented.

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Measurements: See **Supplementary Fig. B** and **Supplementary Table A**. Estimated maximal size: ~15 cm (Jenks and Brayard, 2018).

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Discussion: The genus *Gurlevites* is a typical example of the complicated taxonomy of prionitids as members of this family show a marked intraspecific variation. The newly sampled material leads us to merge all Gurlevites species and two Goniodiscus species erected by Mathews (1929) with the more recent taxon Arctoprionites erected by Spath (1930), including specimens described as *Kashmirites resseri* by Mathews (1929), as well as all Mathews' specimens that fit well within the now known much wider intraspecific variation of Gurleyites smithi. Since G. smithi is the type species of Gurleyites and has priority, Arctoprionites resseri is now considered to be a junior synonym. Jattiot et al. (2016) tentatively synonymized some Gurlevites species with A. kingianus. This similarity was also discussed by Spath (1934) who highlighted the existence of a few intermediate juvenile forms between e.g., Anasibirites and Gurlevites, and by Tozer (1971) who synonymized Gurlevites with Anasibirites. In 1930, Spath erected the new genus Arctoprionites for Goniodiscus nodosus from Spitsbergen (Frebold, 1930), which also served as a new genus name for specimens of "Kashmirites resseri" from the western USA basin. Arctoprionites nodosus closely resembles Gurleyites smithi (see Jenks and Brayard, 2018 for explanations on potential differences between these two species). Even though we consider A. nodosus to be a possible valid species, typical of the Boreal late Smithian, it is extremely difficult to justify why it also should not be placed within the genus Gurleyites. Spath (1934) erected three additional prionitid taxa from Spitsbergen, i.e., Gurlevites freboldi, Hemiprionites gardwoodi and Arctoprionites tyrrelli, which are very close to A. nodosus and actually are probably variants of this species. In terms of whorl shape and coiling geometry, these four taxa are practically indistinguishable from *Gurleyites smithi* (compare our **Supplementary Material**

Fig. B and measurements of A. nodosus provided by Piazza, 2015), the only difference being slight but apparently consistent differences in ornamentation (e.g., shape and trajectory of ribs, and nodes on the flanks of A. nodosus appear to be placed farther toward the venter than on Gurlevites smithi). These ornamental variances can justify a separate species, but probably not a separate genus. Therefore, we place A. nodosus within Gurleyites and invalidate the genus Arctoprionites. Gurleyites smithi shows a rather large geographic distribution as do most early late Smithian prionitid genera, (e.g., Spitsbergen: Frebold, 1930, Piazza et al., 2017; British Columbia: Tozer, 1994; Timor: Jattiot et al., 2020). It is found at several places in the eastern and southern parts of the western USA basin, but is often rare (Brayard et al., 2013; Jattiot et al., 2017; Jenks and Brayard, 2018). However, this is not the case at Workman Wash, where the taxon occurs abundantly. The newly sampled material also leads us to reassign certain specimens attributed to *H. typus* by Jenks and Brayard (2018; figs. 78D-G, 79G-I) to Gurlevites smithi (note that these specimens show a very weak ventral strigation; see implications hereafter). In addition, it leads us to integrate specimens of Anasibirites cf. angulosus illustrated by Brayard et al. (2013) into G. smithi. Gurleyites debilis, erected by Wang and He (1976) for prionitid specimens from southern Tibet, may fit within G. smithi. However, the poor preservation and inadequate illustration of these specimens prevent a firm assignment. Specimens assigned to Gurlevites and Arctoprionites have also been reported from South Primorye (e.g., Zakharov, 1978), but detailed comparisons based on more illustrated material are needed before these assignments can be validated. The observed spiral lines on the venter and on the flanks are a newly observed ornamental feature indicating that Gurleyites, similar to another Prionitidae, Hemiprionites (e.g., Jattiot et al., 2017; Jenks and Brayard, 2018), exhibits strigation on well-preserved specimens.

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696 Although strigation has occasionally been documented and illustrated for *Hemiprionites*, this 697 feature has rarely been integrated into taxonomic descriptions and discussed. This also 698 indicates that, like many other Smithian families (e.g., Flemingitidae, Arctoceratidae, 699 Proptychitidae), the Prionitidae include at least two representatives that exhibit strigation, and 700 that this ornamentation is therefore common among Smithian ammonoids. 701 Newly sampled specimens of *Gurlevites smithi* illustrate that this species exhibits a very large 702 intraspecific variation. Notably, it overlaps the intraspecific variation of *Hemiprionites typus*. 703 Specimens of G. smithi exhibiting weak ornamentation may indeed be confused with some 704 "robust" specimens of *H. typus*, which may bear highly sinuous, bullate folds and ventral 705 strigation. However, in contrast with G. smithi, H. typus specimens apparently do not exhibit a 706 prominent relief near the umbilical margin and sometimes bear a minute depression just 707 below the ventral shoulder (see Jattiot et al., 2017 and Jenks and Brayard, 2018 for a 708 discussion on the diagnostic nature of the latter's ornamentation). Some large specimens of G. 709 *smithi* may also display later growth stages that resemble those of *H. typus* (**Fig. 8L-O**). Some 710 workers may therefore see a morphological continuum between these two taxa. Based on this 711 and other recent studies, this indicates that they, at the very least, are very closely-related 712 prionitid species. G. smithi specimens are on average slightly more evolute than typical H. 713 typus (Supplementary Fig. C), but this observation is highly dependent on the robustness of 714 their ornamentation. Additionally, some rare specimens of G. smithi have elevated bullate ribs 715 that may almost form tubercles (Fig. 8A-C, F-H). Such specimens can thus be confused with 716 poorly preserved Wasatchites specimens. However, they differ by their highly variable 717 ornamentation throughout ontogeny; this ornamentation is generally weaker than that of 718 Wasatchites. Nevertheless, these specimens suggest a rather close phylogenetic affinity 719 between Gurleyites and Wasatchites. Finally, one specimen also bears megastriae on its inner 720 whorls (Fig. 9I-J); this feature is remindful of the megastriae observed in *Anasibirites*

- species, thus also supporting a possible close phylogenetic link between *Anasibirites* and
- 722 Gurleyites. This resemblance between both genera, found in a few Gurleyites specimens, was
- earlier noticed by Spath (1934).
- The suture line of *G. smithi* and its variability have rarely been well illustrated. The overall
- architecture of the suture line observed on our specimens fits well with those documented
- 726 from specimens sampled at Palomino Ridge and Crittenden Springs, Nevada, and illustrated
- by Jattiot et al. (2017) and Jenks and Brayard (2008), respectively. This observation suggests
- that the intraspecific variability of the suture line is somewhat restricted for this species. By
- 729 contrast, saddles of *H. typus* appear more pinched and its first lateral saddle more flared (see
- also Jenks and Brayard, 2018 for comparison). However, the number of suture lines illustrated
- 731 for *H. typus* is still rather restricted, thus preventing a precise assessment of its intraspecific
- variability.
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- 734 Genus *Wasatchites* Mathews, 1929
- 735 **Type species**: *Wasatchites perrini* Mathews, 1929
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- 737 Wasatchites perrini Mathews, 1929
- 738 **Figs. 9K-L**
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- 740 1929 Wasatchites perrini Mathews, p. 40, pl. 9, figs. 1–9
- 741 1929 Wasatchites meeki Mathews, p. 41, pl. 7, figs. 1–3; pl. 8, figs. 11–14.
- 742 1929 *Wasatchites magnus* Mathews, p. 41, pl. 11, figs. 1, 2.
- 743 1929 Wasatchites quadratus Mathews, p. 42, pl. 7, figs. 23–25.
- 744 ? 1929 *Kashmirites thornei* Mathews, p. 38, pl. 6, figs. 22–25.
- 745 1929 *Kashmirites wasatchensis* Mathews, p. 36, pl. 6, figs. 26–28.

- 746 ? 1929 Kashmirites gilberti Mathews, p. 38, pl. 7, figs. 4–8.
- 747 1929 Keyserlingites seerleyi Mathews, p. 39, pl. 8, figs. 8–10.
- 748 1932 *Kashmirites meeki* Smith, p. 67, pl. 81, figs. 1, 2.
- 749 1932 Kashmirites wasatchensis Smith, p. 69, pl. 81, figs. 3–5.
- 750 1932 *Kashmirites perrini* Smith, p. 67, pl. 81, figs. 6–8.
- 751 1932 *Kashmirites seerleyi* Smith, p. 68, pl. 81, figs. 11, 12.
- p 1961 Wasatchites tardus Tozer, p. 71, pl. 19, figs. 1a-b (only).
- 753 1994 Wasatchites perrini Tozer, p. 79, pl. 29, figs. 5a-c; pl. 35, figs. 2-4.
- 754 v 2010 Wasatchites perrini Stephen et al., fig. 7c.

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- 755 v 2013 *Wasatchites perrini* Brayard et al., p. 191, figs. 13d, 59a-k.
- 756 v 2017 Wasatchites perrini Jattiot and Bucher in Jattiot et al., p. 28, figs. 13d, 59a-k.
- 757 v 2018 Wasatchites perrini Jenks and Brayard, p. 87, fig. 83.
- 759 **Occurrence:** Documented from the microbially-dominated unit of the Sinbad Fm. in WW
- 760 (BRC; n = 2) and its upper part in RC (ROC3-A; not sampled).
- 762 **Description:** Reader should refer to Brayard et al. (2013), Jattiot et al. (2017) and Jenks and
- Regard (2018) for detailed descriptions and discussions of this typical early late Smithian
- taxon. This species exhibits a rather large intraspecific variation, but the shell is generally
- moderately involute with a trapezoidal whorl section. Its ornamentation consists of (i) very
- conspicuous tubercles on umbilical shoulders that become more bullate or nodate on mature
- whorls, but then tend to rapidly lose strength near the aperture, and (ii) alternating strong and
- 768 weak, fasciculate ribs that stem from the tubercles and cross the venter. The venter is also
- subtabulate to slightly arched. Suture line unknown from the studied specimens.

Measurements: Sampled specimens are all fragmented, preventing measurements. Estimated maximal size: ~20 cm (Jenks and Brayard, 2018).

Discussion: *W. perrini* can be distinguished from other co-occurring taxa by its conspicuous, regularly spaced ornamentation. This species is not very abundant in the western USA basin compared to, e.g., *Anasibirites*. A second species of *Wasatchites* (*W.* cf. *distractus*) has been reported from the early late Smithian at one locality within the western USA basin, i.e., Crittenden Springs, Nevada (Jenks and Brayard, 2018). This species, previously known only from the Tethys (e.g., Brühwiler et al., 2012b, c), mainly differs from the type species by its more broadly rounded venter at all growth stages, the mid-flank position of its tubercles, and its more radially directed ribs. *Wasatchites* is an emblematic early late Smithian prionitid that shows a large cosmopolitan distribution (e.g., Brayard et al., 2006). It is thus a helpful taxon that can be used as an auxiliary marker to *Anasibirites* to delineate the early late Smithian worldwide.

- Genus Anasibirites Mojsisovics, 1896
- **Type species:** Sibirites kingianus Waagen, 1895

Remark: Jattiot et al. (2016) provided a comprehensive review of the taxonomy of the various iconic late Smithian *Anasibirites* species. We follow the conclusions of this work and thus do not include the complete description and synonymy list for each sampled species. Reader should refer to Jattiot et al. (2016) for complete synonymy lists (see also our remarks on species included in *G. smithi*).

Anasibirites multiformis Welter, 1922

796 **Fig. 11A-P** 797 798 v 2016 Anasibirites multiformis – Jattiot et al., p. 184, figs. 10N–S, 21–23 [cum syn.]. 799 v 2017 Anasibirites multiformis – Jattiot and Bucher in Jattiot et al., p. 30, pl. 11, figs. G-AA. 800 v 2018 Anasibirites multiformis – Jenks and Brayard, p. 79, figs. 74D-F, G(4,5), 75. 801 802 Occurrence: Documented from the microbially-dominated unit of the Sinbad Fm. in WW 803 (BRC; n = 28) and its upper part in RC (ROC3-A; n = 2). 804 805 **Description:** Rather involute, compressed prionitid with near isometric growth. 806 Ornamentation typically consists of weak and dense megastriae throughout ontogeny. Suture 807 line unknown for sampled specimens. 808 809 Measurements: See Supplementary Fig. D and Supplementary Table A. Estimated 810 maximal size: ~10 cm (Jattiot et al., 2016). 811 812 **Discussion:** This species is abundant within the studied area, but is mainly represented by 813 small-sized specimens, generally < 4 cm (**Fig. 11**). As shown by Jattiot et al. (2016), the 814 occurrence of megastriae mimicking the intercalation of strong ribs only on the inner whorls 815 (often <20 mm) is essential for distinguishing A. kingianus from A. multiformis. The latter 816 display weaker and denser megastriae throughout ontogeny. A. multiformis is also less 817 variable with a generally more compressed whorl and near isometric growth. A. multiformis is 818 much more abundant than A. kingianus in the western USA basin (Jattiot et al., 2016; Jenks 819 and Brayard, 2018). Anasibirites is an iconic genus utilized worldwide to define the base of

the late Smithian (e.g., Brühwiler et al., 2010), as it shows a highly cosmopolitan distribution

- that includes Siberia, Spitsbergen, British Columbia, western USA, Timor, Spiti, Salt Range,
- 822 Kashmir, Afghanistan, South China, Oman, South Primorye and Japan (e.g., Jattiot et al.,
- 823 2016).

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- 825 Genus *Hemiprionites* Spath, 1929
- 826 **Type species:** *Goniodiscus typus* Waagen, 1895

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- 828 Hemiprionites typus (Waagen, 1895)
- 829 **Figs. 10A-H, 12J-S**

- 831 1895 *Goniodiscus typus* Waagen, p. 128, pl. 9, figs. 7-10.
- 832 1929 *Goniodiscus typus* Mathews, p. 31, pl. 5, figs. 12-21.
- 833 1929 Goniodiscus americanus Mathews, p. 32, pl. 5, figs. 22-27.
- 834 1929 *Goniodiscus shumardi* Mathews, p. 33, pl. 6, figs. 11-14.
- 835 1929 *Goniodiscus utahensis* Mathews, p. 33, pl. 6, figs. 29-31.
- 836 1929 *Goniodiscus slocomi* Mathews, p. 34, pl. 6, figs. 15-17.
- 837 1929 *Goniodiscus butleri* Mathews, p. 35, pl. 6, figs. 18-21.
- 838 1932 *Anasibirites typus* Smith, p. 76, pl. 80, figs. 6-8.
- 839 1932 *Anasibirites utahensis* Smith, p. 77, pl. 80, figs. 9, 10.
- 840 1934 *Hemiprionites typus* Spath, p. 331, figs. 114ac.
- v p 2008 Hemiprionites cf. H. butleri Brayard and Bucher, p. 58, pl. 29, figs 1, 4, 7 only,
- 842 text- fig. 50.
- 843 2012b *Hemiprionites typus* Brühwiler and Bucher, p. 103, figs. 89A-AH.
- v 2013 Hemiprionites cf. H. typus Brayard et al., p. 197, fig. 66.

845 v 2017 *Hemiprionites typus* – Jattiot and Bucher in Jattiot et al., p. 31, pl. 12, figs. A-M, pl. 846 13, figs. A-X. 847 p v 2018 Hemiprionites typus – Jenks and Brayard, p. 81, figs. 77, 78A-C, 78G-R, 79A-848 F,.79J-O. 849 2020 *Hemiprionites typus* – Jattiot et al., p. 56, pl. 29A-AN. 850 851 Occurrence: Documented from the microbially-dominated unit of the Sinbad Fm. in WW 852 (BRC; n = 20). 853 854 **Description:** See taxonomic revision of *Hemiprionites* species by Jattiot et al. (2017). The 855 type species shows a compressed shell with variable involution and a typical marked 856 egressive coiling at mature stage. A small depression on the outer edge of the flank, just 857 below the ventral margin, is also visible on some specimens (e.g., Fig. 12N). Spiral lines are 858 sometimes visible on the venter and/or near the ventrolateral margin (e.g., Figs. 12K, R-S). 859 Flexuous and slightly biconcave growth lines are visible and may bundle into small folds that 860 may cross the venter. Suture line ceratitic with a deep and flared first lateral lobe. Saddles 861 appear pinched. 862 863 Measurements: See Supplementary Fig. E and Supplementary Table A. Estimated 864 maximal size: ~10 cm (Jattiot et al., 2017). 865 866 **Discussion:** H. typus is a characteristic early late Smithian taxon. It can be distinguished from 867 another co-occurring *Hemiprionites* species, *H. walcotti*, by its often wider venter and 868 umbilicus, as well as by more egressive coiling and the existence of a small depression near 869 the ventral margin on some specimens. Another *Hemiprionites* species, *H. roberti*, is

- documented from the western USA basin but is late middle Smithian in age (Jenks et al.,
- 871 2010). *H. roberti* does not exhibit egressive coiling and has a funnel-shaped umbilicus. The
- morphological variability of *H. typus* partly overlaps with *Gurleyites smithi*, but the latter
- appears more ornamented and slightly more evolute, and has a somewhat different suture line
- 874 (see *G. smithi* discussion).

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- 876 *Hemiprionites walcotti* (Mathews, 1929)
- 877 **Fig. 12A-I**

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- p 1922 Anasibirites multiformis Welter, p. 17, figs. 4-7, 11-14.
- 880 1929 Goniodiscus walcotti Mathews, p. 32, pl. 6, figs. 1-5.
- 881 1934 Hemiprionites timorensis Spath, p. 331.
- v p 2008 Hemiprionites cf. H. butleri Brayard and Bucher, p. 58, pl. 29, figs. 2, 3, 6 only.
- v 2008 Hemiprionites klugi Brayard and Bucher, p. 59, pl. 30, figs. 1-4.
- p 2012a *Hemiprionites* cf. *H. butleri* Brühwiler and Bucher, p. 33, pl. 19, figs. 10 only.
- p 2012b *Anasibirites angulosus* Brühwiler and Bucher, p. 103, figs. 87H-J, N-P only.
- 886 2012b *Hemiprionites klugi* Brühwiler and Bucher, p. 103, figs. 87Q-AB.
- v 2017 Hemiprionites walcotti Jattiot and Bucher in Jattiot et al., p. 34, pl. 14, figs. A-Y.
- 888 v 2018 *Hemiprionites walcotti* Jenks and Brayard, p. 83, figs. 79Q-V.
- 889 2020 *Hemiprionites walcotti* Jattiot et al., p. 57, pl. 29AT-BG.

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- 891 **Occurrence:** Documented from the microbially-dominated unit of the Sinbad Fm. in WW
- 892 (BRC; n = 5).

Description: See taxonomic revision of *Hemiprionites* species by Jattiot et al. (2017). This species exhibits a more involute and less egressive coiling than the type species. The umbilicus is deep with a steeply inclined wall. Radial folds are sometimes visible together with flexuous growth lines following the trajectory of the folds. Suture line unknown for sampled specimens. Measurements: See Supplementary Fig. F and Supplementary Table A. Estimated maximal size: ~7 cm (Jattiot et al., 2017). **Discussion:** See *H. typus* discussion. **Declaration of Competing Interests** Authors have no competing interests to declare. Acknowledgements This work is a contribution to the ANR project AFTER (ANR-13-JS06-0001-01) and was also supported by the French "Investissements d'Avenir" program, project ISITE-BFC (ANR-15-IDEX-03). The final version of this paper benefited from constructive reviews by Spencer Lucas and two anonymous referees. S. Ritter (BYU) shared some locality data (HT). We thank G. Caravaca, T. Hurd and P. Guenser for their help in the field. The studied sections are located on US public land under the stewardship of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) of the US Department of the Interior; access to these lands is gratefully acknowledged.

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1291	Figure captions
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1293	Fig. 1. Early Triassic (A) and present-day (B) locations of the western USA basin. C)
1294	Schematic distribution of depositional environments within the southern part of the western
1295	USA basin during the Smithian. D-F) Map of southern Utah and northern Arizona showing
1296	the location of the sampled localities.
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1298	Fig. 2. Stratigraphic logs showing the main faunal occurrences at Workman Wash and
1299	Honeymoon Trail (Washington County, Utah). Stratigraphy follows the main units defined by
1300	Lucas et al. (2007b) and described by Brayard et al. (2015), Olivier et al. (2018) and Jeffrey et
1301	al. (2019). RCC: Rock Canyon Conglomerate.

1303 Fig. 3. Stratigraphic logs showing the main faunal occurrences at Rock Canyon (Arizona) and 1304 White Sage Wash (Utah). See Fig. 2 for references and legends. 1305 1306 Fig. 4. Temporal extent of the deposition of the Sinbad Fm. at each studied locality as 1307 determined by newly-found ammonoid assemblages. See Fig. 1 for abbreviations. The gray 1308 shaded area corresponds to the end of the marine deposits of the Sinbad Fm. The age for the 1309 base of the Sinbad Fm. at WW remains tentative because late middle Smithian ammonoids 1310 have not yet been found at this locality. 1311 1312 Fig. 5. A-M: Guodunites hooveri. N-P: Guodunites monneti. Specimens A-C and N-O from 1313 bed WSW3, White Sage Wash, Utah, late middle Smithian. Specimens D-M and P from bed 1314 ROC2-A, late middle Smithian. A: UBGD 32220; B: UBGD 32221; C: suture line of UBGD 1315 32221 at H = 12.7 mm; D–F: UBGD 32222–32224; G–H: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 1316 32225; I: UBGD 32226; J-K: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32227; L-M: lateral and 1317 ventral views of UBGD 32228; N: UBGD 32229; O: suture line of UBGD 32229 at H = 9.3 1318 mm; P: UBGD 32230. Black arrows indicate the position of the corresponding ventral view. 1319 Scale bars: 10 mm, except C and O: 5 mm. 1320 1321 Fig. 6. A-Q: Gurleyites smithi. All specimens from bed BRC, Workman Wash, Utah, early 1322 late Smithian. A–D: lateral, apertural and ventral views of UBGD 32232; E–F: lateral and 1323 ventral views of UBGD 32233; G-H: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32234; I: UBGD 1324 32235; J: UBGD 32236; K: UBGD 32237; L-M: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32238; 1325 N: lateral view of two specimens on block UBGD 32239; O: ventral view of the specimen on

the left of UBGD 32239; P-Q: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32240. Black arrows

indicate the position of the corresponding ventral view. Note presence of ventral strigation in A, D, H and O. Scale bars: 10 mm.

Fig. 7. A–S: *Gurleyites smithi*. All specimens from bed BRC, Workman Wash, Utah, early late Smithian. A–B: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32241; C–D: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32242; E–F: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32243; G: UBGD 32244; H–I: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32245; J: UBGD 32246; K: UBGD 32247; L–M: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32248; N–P: lateral, ventral and apertural views of UBGD 32249; Q–S: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32250. Black arrow indicates the position of the corresponding ventral view. Scale bars: 10 mm.

Fig. 8. A—O: *Gurleyites smithi*. All specimens from bed BRC, Workman Wash, Utah, early late Smithian. A: UBGD 32251; B—C: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32252; D—E: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32253; F—G: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32254; H: UBGD 32255; I: UBGD 32256 (specimen in the background is probably *Hemiprionites typus*); J: UBGD 32257; K: UBGD 32258; L—M: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32259; N—O: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32260. Black arrows indicate the position of the corresponding ventral view. Identification of UBGD 32259 (L—M) and UBGD 32260 (N—O) may be questionable as outer whorls overlap with intraspecific variation of *Hemiprionites typus*, but their overall shape and ornamentation, especially folds on inner whorls, fit within *G. smithi*. Scale bars: 10 mm.

Fig. 9. A–J: *Gurleyites smithi*. All specimens from bed BRC, Workman Wash, Utah, early late Smithian. A–B: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32261; C–E: apertural, ventral and lateral views of UBGD 32262; F–G: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32263; H: suture line

1352 of UBGD 32264 at H = 16.3 mm; I–J: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32265. K–L: 1353 Wasatchites perrini. Lateral (K) and ventral (L) views of specimen UBGD 32231, from bed 1354 BRC, Workman Wash, Utah, early late Smithian. Black arrow indicates the position of the 1355 corresponding ventral view. Scale bar: 10 mm. 1356 1357 **Fig. 10.** A–H: blocks with *Gurleyites smithi* and *Hemiprionites typus*. All specimens from bed BRC, Workman Wash, Utah, early late Smithian. A–B: lateral and ventral views of specimens 1358 1359 on block UBGD 32266; C: lateral view of specimens on block UBGD 32267; D: lateral view 1360 of specimens on block UBGD 32268; E-G: lateral and ventral views of specimens on block 1361 UBGD 32269; H: suture line of the complete specimen on UBGD 32269 at H = 18.8 mm. 1362 Black arrows indicate the position of the corresponding ventral view. Gu: Gurleyites smithi; He: Hemiprionites typus. Identification of the complete specimen on block UBGD 32269 (E-1363 1364 G) may be questionable as its overall shape, especially coiling, and ornamentation on inner 1365 whorls (bullate ribs visible on the umbilical margin) fit within the intraspecific variation of G. 1366 smithi, but the lack of ornamentation at later growth stages fits with H. typus. Its suture line 1367 (H) is also somewhat intermediate between G. smithi and H. typus. Scale bars: 10 mm, except 1368 H: 5 mm. 1369 1370 Fig. 11. A-P: Anasibirites multiformis. All specimens from bed BRC, Workman Wash, Utah, 1371 early late Smithian. A: UBGD 32270; B-C: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32271; D: 1372 UBGD 32272; E: UBGD 32273; F-H: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32274; I: UBGD 1373 32275; J-L: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32276; M: UBGD 32277; N: UBGD 32278; 1374 O-P: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32279. Black arrows indicate the position of the

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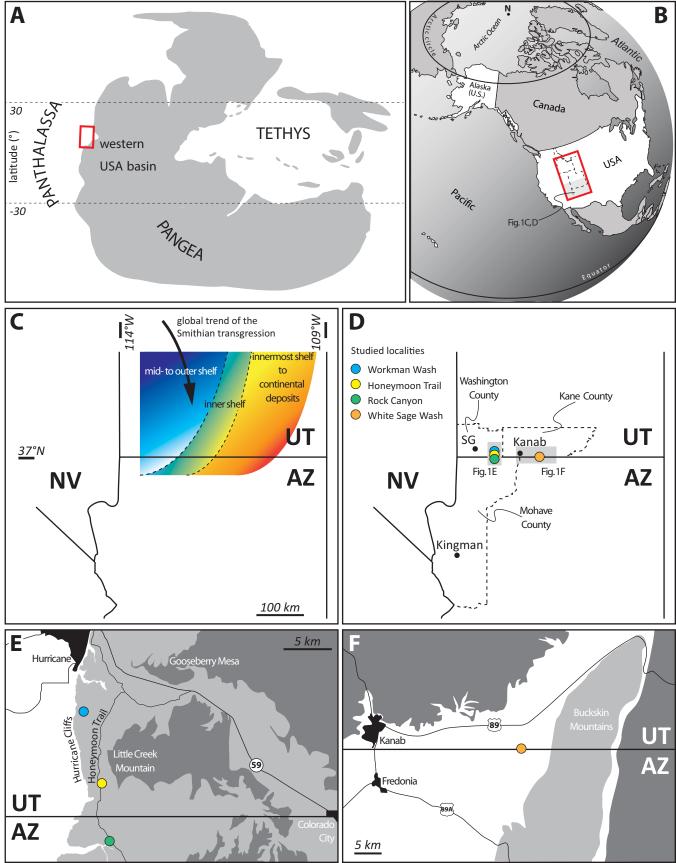
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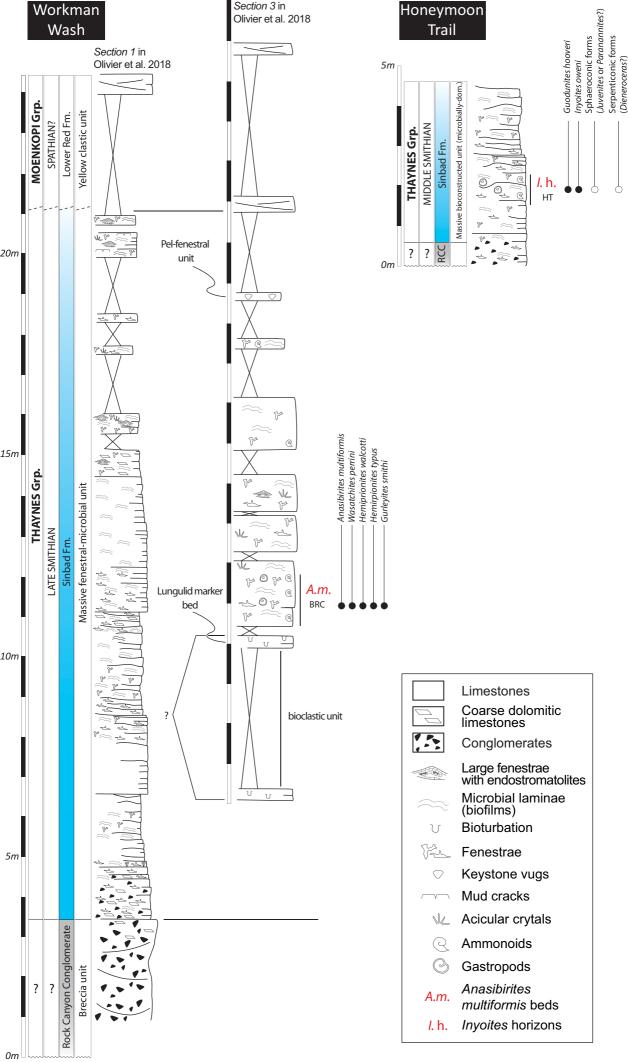
corresponding ventral view. Scale bars: 10 mm.

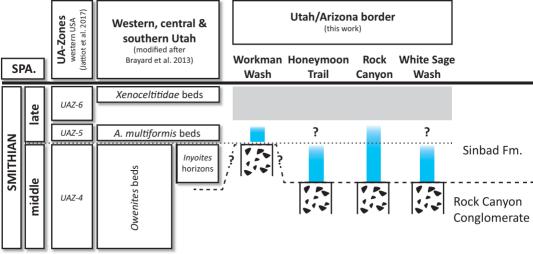
1377 Fig. 12. A–I: Hemiprionites walcotti. A–B: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32280; C–D: 1378 lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32281; E: UBGD 32282; F-G: lateral and ventral views of 1379 UBGD 32283; H–I: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32284. J–S: Hemiprionites typus. J– 1380 K: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 32285; L-M: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 1381 32286; N: lateral view of UBGD 32287 (star indicates the minute depression visible near the 1382 ventrolateral margin); O: suture line of UBGD 32288 at H = 15.4 mm; P: lateral view of UBGD 32289; Q: lateral view of UBGD 32290; R-S: lateral and ventral views of UBGD 1383 1384 32291. All specimens from bed BRC, Workman Wash, Utah, early late Smithian. Black 1385 arrows indicate the position of the corresponding ventral view. Scale bars: 10 mm, except O: 1386 5 mm. 1387 1388 Supplementary Figure A. Scatter diagrams of H, W and U, and H/D, W/D and U/D for 1389 1390 Guodunites hooveri. Open symbols indicate specimens from Rock Canyon, Arizona, and 1391 White Sage Wash, Utah (n = 12). Grey symbols indicate specimens from central and western 1392 Utah (data from Brayard et al., 2013; n = 56) and Palomino Ridge (data from Jattiot et al., 1393 2017; n = 4).1394 1395 **Supplementary Figure B.** Scatter diagrams of H, W and U, and H/D, W/D and U/D for 1396 Gurlevites smithi. Open symbols indicate specimens from bed BRC, Workman Wash, Utah, 1397 early late Smithian (n = 40). Grey symbols indicate specimens from Palomino Ridge (data 1398 from Jattiot et al., 2017; n = 7) and Crittenden Springs (Jenks and Brayard, 2018; n = 14), 1399 Nevada.

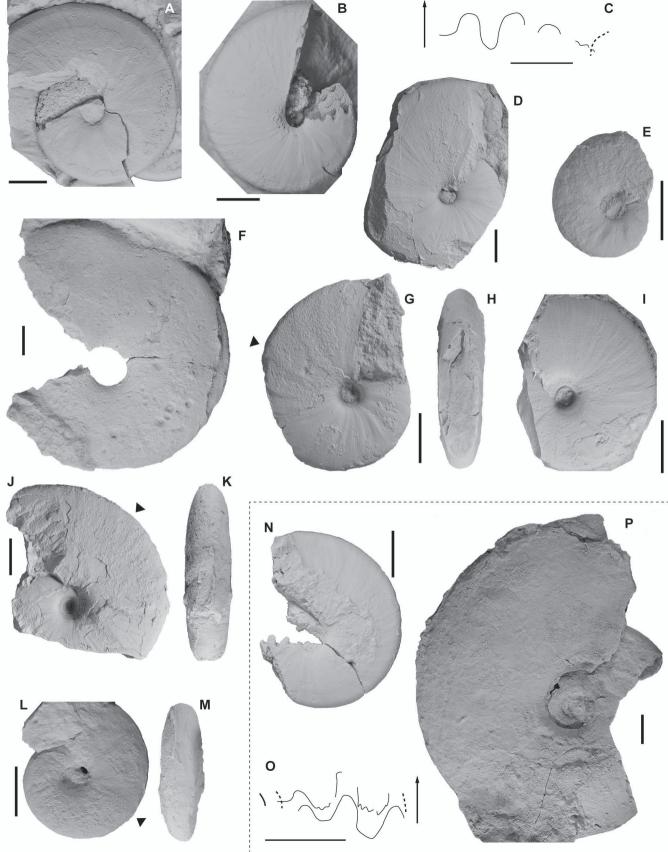
1401 **Supplementary Figure C.** Box plots of U/D for *Gurlevites smithi* and *Hemiprionites typus* 1402 from the studied area and Nevada. Specimens from Nevada were sampled at Palomino Ridge 1403 (Jattiot et al., 2017) and Crittenden Springs (Jenks and Brayard, 2018). 1404 1405 **Supplementary Figure D.** Scatter diagrams of H, W and U, and H/D, W/D and U/D for Anasibirites multiformis. Open symbols indicate specimens from bed BRC, Workman Wash, 1406 1407 Utah, early late Smithian (n = 14). Grey symbols indicate specimens from Palomino Ridge, 1408 Nevada (data from Jattiot et al., 2017; n = 54). 1409 1410 **Supplementary Figure E.** Scatter diagrams of H, W and U, and H/D, W/D and U/D for 1411 Hemiprionites typus. Open symbols indicate specimens from bed BRC, Workman Wash, 1412 Utah, early late Smithian (n = 6). Grey symbols indicate specimens from Palomino Ridge (data from Jattiot et al., 2017; n = 58) and Crittenden Springs (data from Jenks and Brayard, 1413 1414 2018; n = 23), Nevada. 1415 1416 **Supplementary Figure F.** Scatter diagrams of H, W and U, and H/D, W/D and U/D for 1417 Hemiprionites walcotti. Open symbols indicate specimens from bed BRC, Workman Wash, 1418 Utah, early late Smithian (n = 5). Grey symbols indicate specimens from Palomino Ridge 1419 (data from Jattiot et al., 2017; n = 26) and Crittenden Springs (data from Jenks and Brayard, 1420 2018; n = 2), Nevada. 1421 1422 **Supplementary Table A.** Measurements of some Smithian ammonoids from the studied area, 1423 central and southern Utah (data from Brayard et al., 2013) and Nevada (Palomino Ridge and 1424 Crittenden Springs; data from Jattiot et al., 2017 and Jenks and Brayard, 2018, respectively)

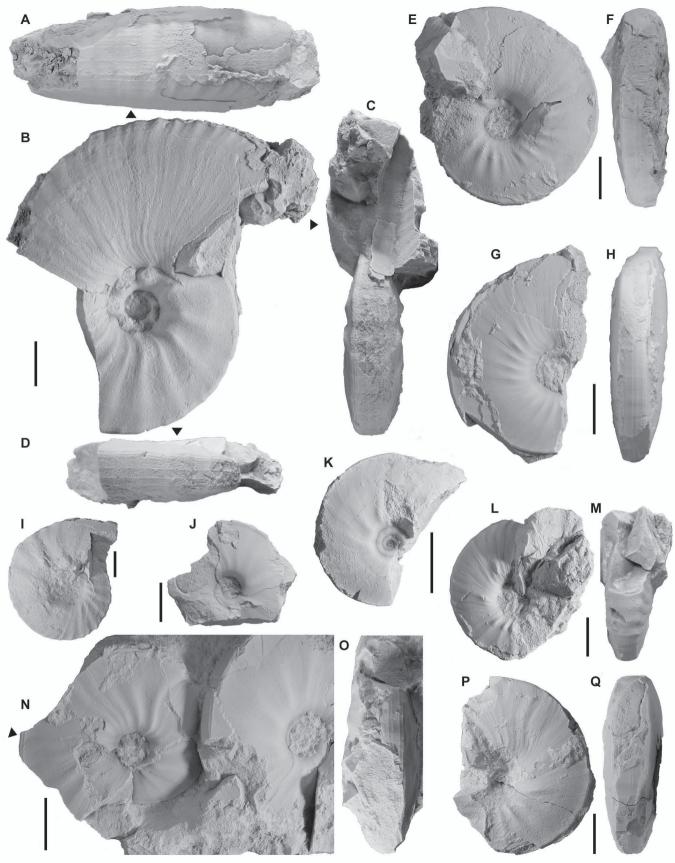
(D: Diameter; H: whorl height; W: whorl width; U: umbilical diameter).

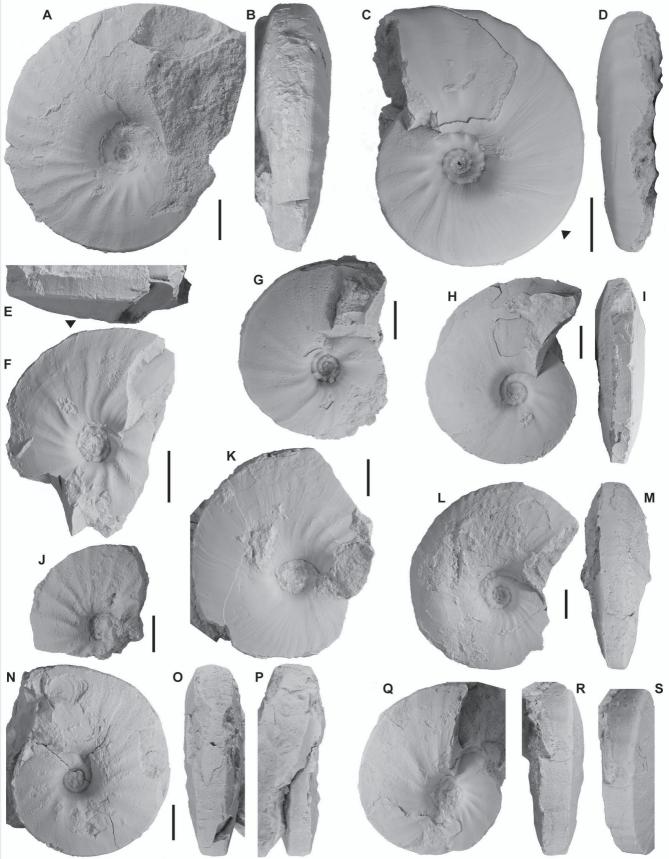


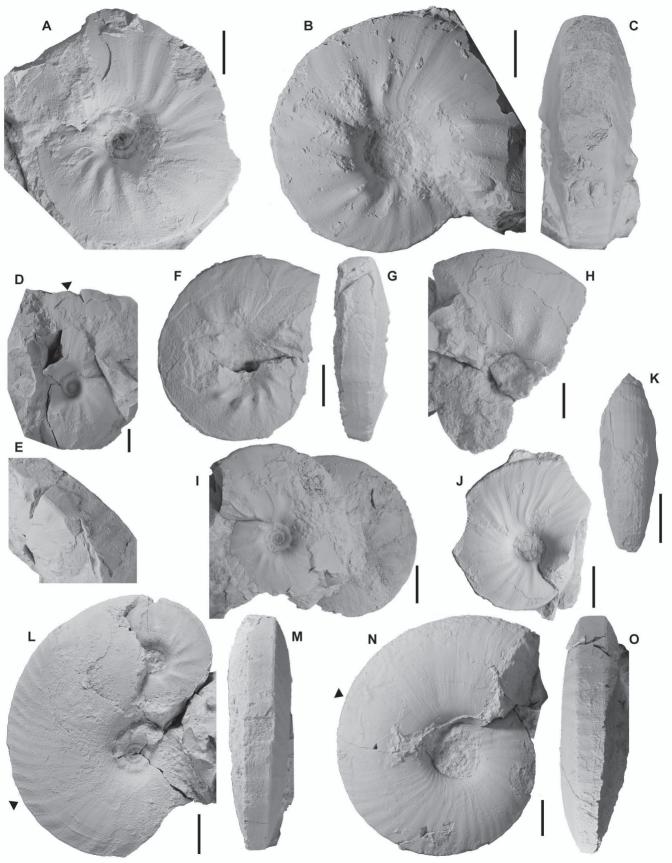


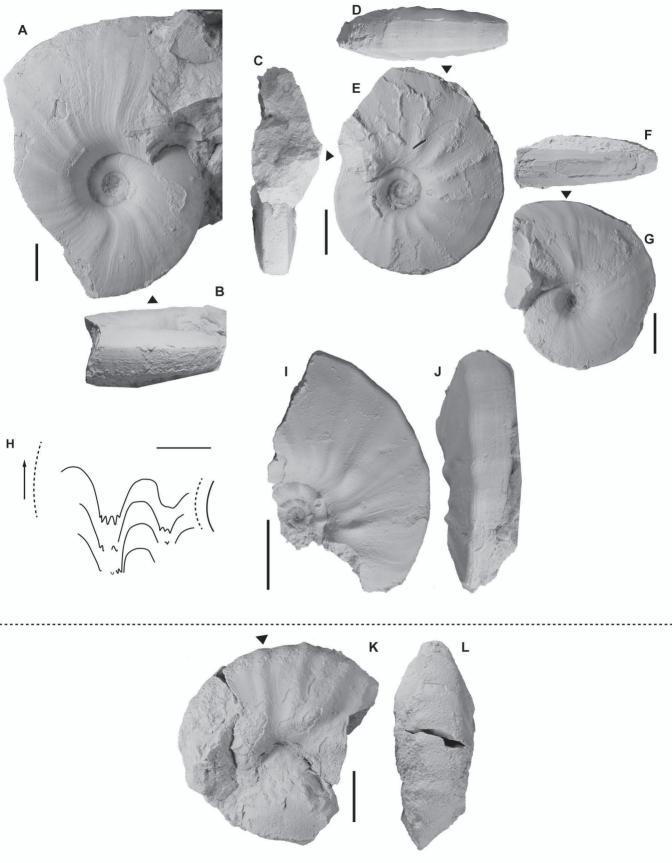


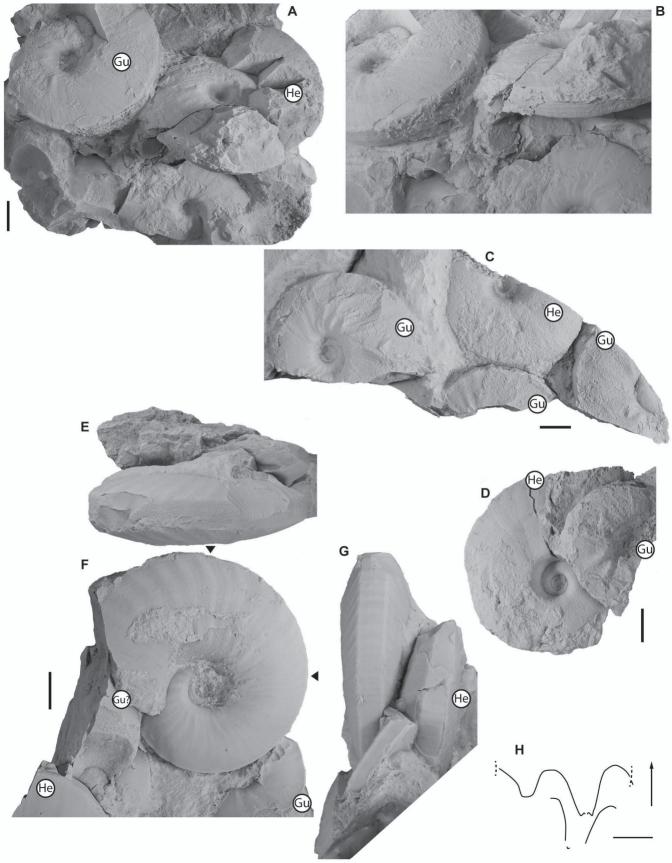


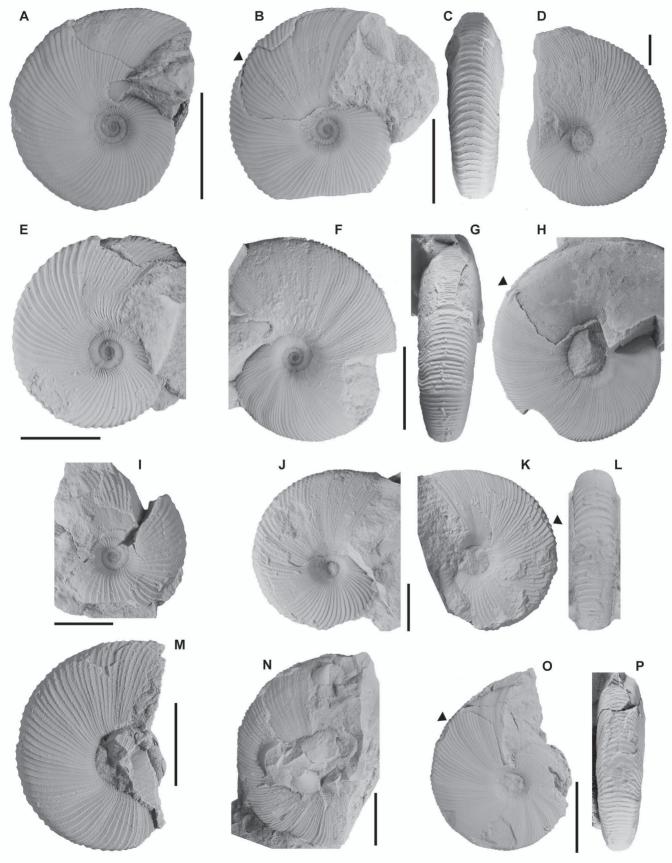


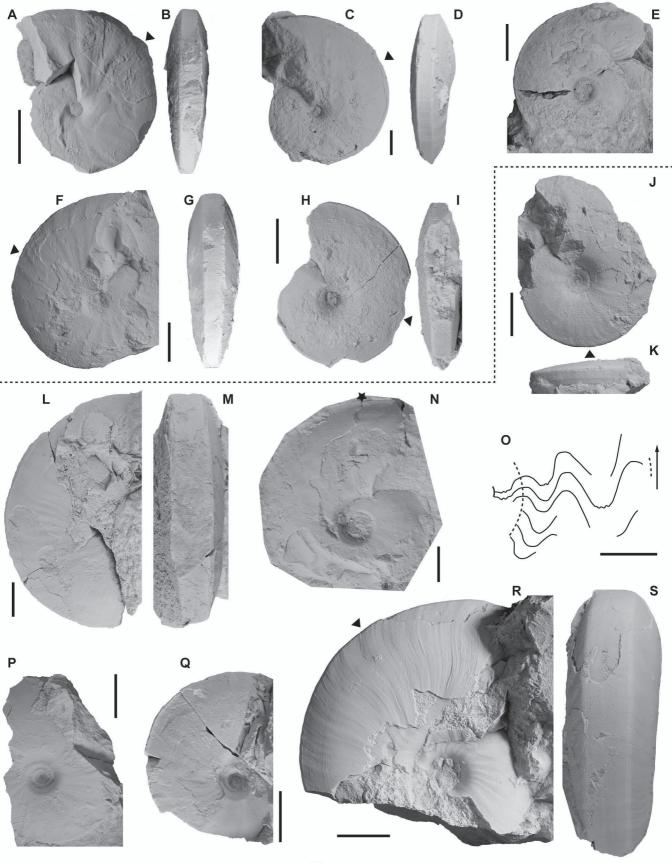




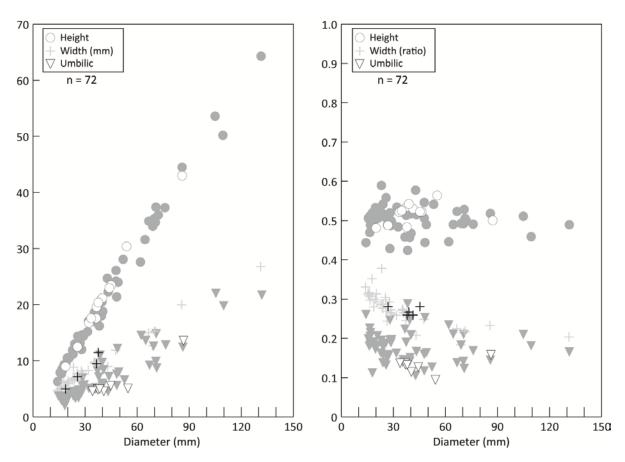




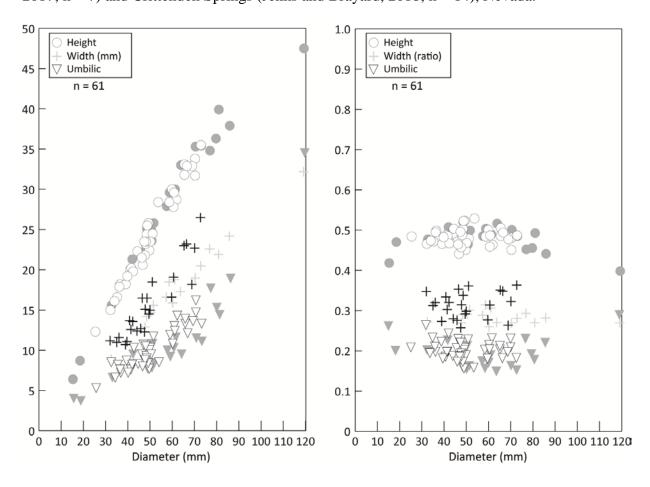




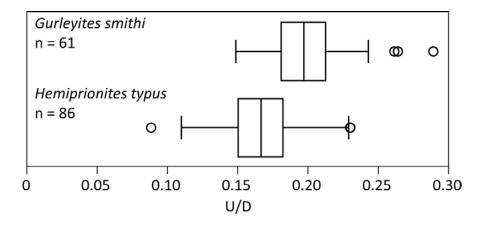
Suppl. Fig. A. Scatter diagrams of H, W and U, and H/D, W/D and U/D for *Guodunites hooveri*. Open symbols indicate specimens from Rock Canyon, Arizona, and White Sage Wash, Utah (n = 12). Grey symbols indicate specimens from central and western Utah (data from Brayard et al., 2013; n = 56) and Palomino Ridge (data from Jattiot et al., 2017; n = 4).



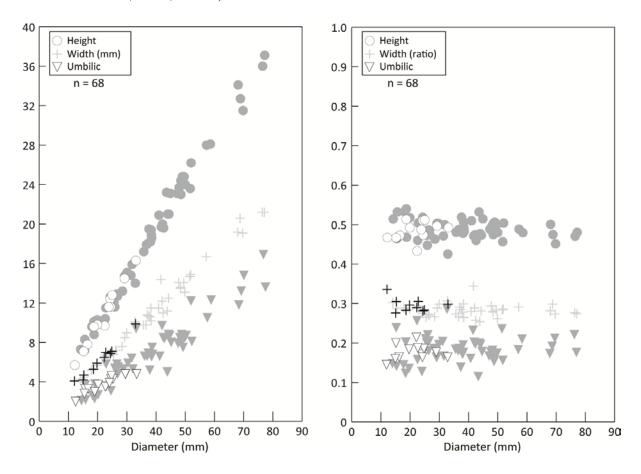
Suppl. Fig. B. Scatter diagrams of H, W and U, and H/D, W/D and U/D for *Gurleyites smithi*. Open symbols indicate specimens from bed BRC, Workman Wash, Utah, early late Smithian (n = 40). Grey symbols indicate specimens from Palomino Ridge (data from Jattiot et al., 2017; n = 7) and Crittenden Springs (Jenks and Brayard, 2018; n = 14), Nevada.



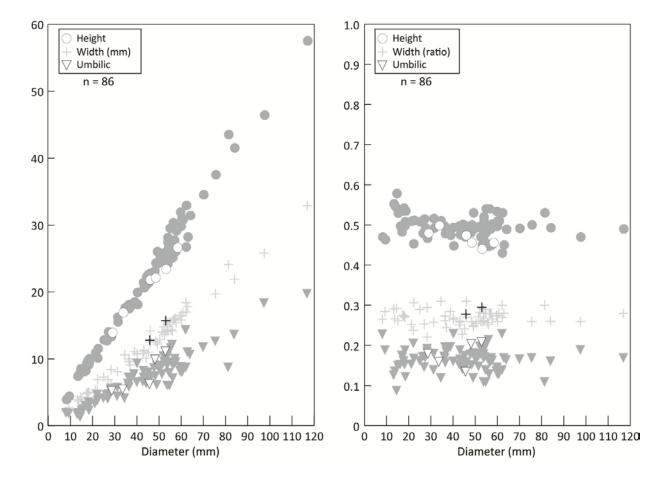
Suppl. Fig. C. Box plots of U/D for *Gurleyites smithi* and *Hemiprionites typus* from the studied area and Nevada. Specimens from Nevada were sampled at Palomino Ridge (Jattiot et al., 2017) and Crittenden Springs (Jenks and Brayard, 2018).



Suppl. Fig. D. Scatter diagrams of H, W and U, and H/D, W/D and U/D for *Anasibirites multiformis*. Open symbols indicate specimens from bed BRC, Workman Wash, Utah, early late Smithian (n = 14). Grey symbols indicate specimens from Palomino Ridge, Nevada (data from Jattiot et al., 2017; n = 54).



Suppl. Fig. E. Scatter diagrams of H, W and U, and H/D, W/D and U/D for *Hemiprionites typus*. Open symbols indicate specimens from bed BRC, Workman Wash, Utah, early late Smithian (n = 6). Grey symbols indicate specimens from Palomino Ridge (data from Jattiot et al., 2017; n = 58) and Crittenden Springs (data from Jenks and Brayard, 2018; n = 23), Nevada.



Suppl. Fig. F. Scatter diagrams of H, W and U, and H/D, W/D and U/D for *Hemiprionites* walcotti. Open symbols indicate specimens from bed BRC, Workman Wash, Utah, early late Smithian (n = 5). Grey symbols indicate specimens from Palomino Ridge (data from Jattiot et al., 2017; n = 26) and Crittenden Springs (data from Jenks and Brayard, 2018; n = 2), Nevada.

