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erratum

Reassessing the evidence for the earliest traces of life

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Nature **418**, 627–630 (2002).

On page 628, line 23, of this Letter, the isotope equilibrium fractionation temperature of 500 °C was incorrectly stated as 1,500 °C. □

corrigenda

Recovery of 16S ribosomal RNA gene fragments from ancient halite

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Nature **417**, 432–436 (2002).

Figure 4b of this Letter included a sequence (Thailand-2 AJ319571), which we now realise is highly likely to be a chimaera between sequences Thailand-6 (AJ319575) and Thailand-7 (AJ319576), also shown in the phylogenetic tree. The chimaeric sequence is one out of twenty-three halite sequences shown in Fig. 4b, and did not occupy a pivotal position in the discussion; its inclusion in the phylogenetic tree therefore does not affect our general conclusions. The chimaeric sequence has now been removed from the databases. We are grateful to E. Willerslev and A. Cooper for bringing this to our attention. □

IRE1 couples endoplasmic reticulum load to secretory capacity by processing the *XBP-1* mRNA

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In this Letter, the commercial polyclonal antiserum used to detect endogenous XBP-1 was sc-7160 (Santa Cruz Biotechnology) and not sc-8015, as erroneously stated. The antibody sc-8015 is a mouse monoclonal and, in our hands, is not useful in detecting the endogenous protein by immunoblotting. □