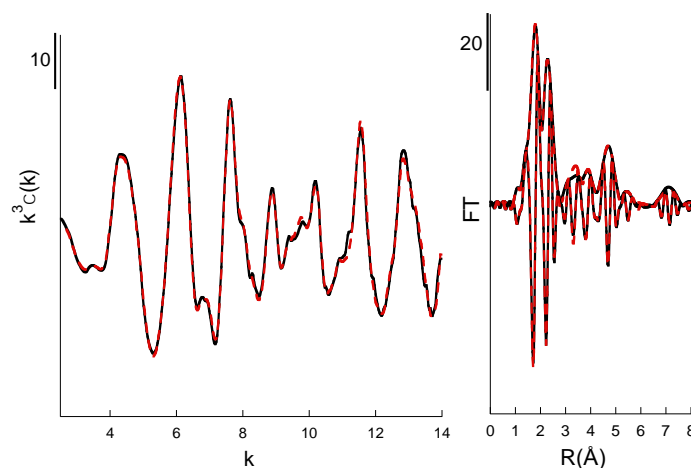


S1 File| Fe K-edge EXAFS analysis of enrichment culture with added lactate, dissolved Fe(II) and sulfate (FeLS). left: $k^3\chi(k)$ and right: Fourier Transform of the EXAFS signal. Black: data; red: fit. LCF analysis led to the identification of 3 components: mackinawite (88%), greigite (9%) and lepidocrocite (3%).



X-Ray absorption spectroscopy

Sample FeLS was analyzed by X-ray absorption spectroscopy at the Fe K-edge. Vacuum dried sample was gently grinded in an agate mortar in the glovebox, mixed with an appropriate amount of cellulose to achieve an absorption edge height ($\Delta\mu x$) as close as possible to 1, and compressed into pellet sealed with Kapton tape.

Fe K-edge XAS spectra were collected at 77 K (liquid N_2 -cryostat) in transmission mode at the XAFS beamline (ELETTRA, Italy) using a Si(111) double-crystal monochromator. The energy was calibrated by setting the first inflection point of an Fe-foil K-edge recorded in double-transmission setup to 7112 eV. Extended X-ray Absorption Fine Structure (EXAFS) data were extracted using the program XAFS [1]. k^3 -weighted EXAFS spectra ($2.5 - 14 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$ range) were analyzed using a Linear Combination Fit (LCF) [2,3] using the spectra from synthesized reference compounds (mackinawite, cf [4] ; greigite cf [5]; lepidocrocite cf [6]).

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