

Geowissenschaftliches Kolloquium

Metal isotopes as (paleo)weathering proxies

Donnerstag, 24. Januar 2019 - 16.15 Uhr

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The weathering of silicate minerals is a crucial part of many element cycles and planetary homeostasis mechanisms. The presentation will give an overview of how the so-called 'novel' stable isotope systems can give us useful information about the weathering at the Earth's surface, and how this understanding can be applied to the sediment record to infer changes in weathering through time. I will focus on weathering changes across two periods of relatively rapid climate change: the Palaeocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum, and the transition from the last glacial to the Holocene.



Patrick Frings studied in London and did his PhD in Lund, Sweden, with a focus on the global silicon cycle, before moving to Potsdam two years ago as a postdoc at GFZ in the Earth Surface Geochemistry section. His research interests revolve around understanding and applying "novel" isotope systems, in particular as proxies for (paleo) weathering, and the functioning of the silicate-weathering feedback that helps to maintain our planets habitability.

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