

Geowissenschaftliches Kolloquium

Obduction: Why where and how. Clues from rocks and analog/numeric models

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Obduction remains a puzzling process with respect to why, how and where it develops, as it places unmetamorphosed fragments of dense, oceanic lithosphere ("ophiolites") atop light continental ones over distances of several hundred of kilometres. Based on field evidence and geodynamic models I herein show that this odd (and relatively rare) phenomenon is triggered by a combination of key geodynamic



boundary conditions and discuss rheological implications for the mantle and the crust.



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