

Speleothem Records and Climate

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (30 September 2018)

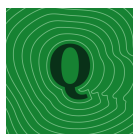
Message from the Guest Editors

Given their high temporal resolution and the excellent opportunities for dating, speleothem records provide a unique opportunity for assessing climate change on various spatial and temporal scales. The different measurements, including the stable isotopes of oxygen and carbon ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$) and various trace elements, are widely used to reconstruct local changes in the hydrological cycle and changes in atmospheric composition.

Regional syntheses of speleothem data provide an opportunity to reconstruct changes in atmospheric circulation patterns, opening up the possibility of using speleothem records to evaluate state-of-the-art climate models. Several groups involved in palaeoclimate simulations during the current phase of the CMIP6/PMIP4 are using isotope- and tracer-enabled model versions, and, thus, it is timely to assess the state of data availability and our understanding of these records.

The [SISAL Working Group](#) of PAGES invites contributions documenting speleothem records and their interpretation. We also invite methodological contributions, including innovative approaches to dating, interpretation, climate reconstruction, and data-model comparison.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

We live in a Quaternary world, that is, a world shaped by the interplay of the different compartments of the earth system—lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere, cryosphere—during the last ~2.6 million years. It is not possible to understand the current world—and, hence, to anticipate its possible future developments—without knowing the Quaternary history of drivers, processes, and mechanisms that have generated it. Our own species is an evolutionary outcome of the Quaternary performance. Therefore, the journal *Quaternary* is born with the aim of being an integrative journal to encompass all aspects of Quaternary science focused on understanding the complex world in which we live and to provide a sound scientific basis to anticipate possible future trends and inform environmental policies.

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