

# GeoROC and MetBase: FAIR-data-driven Geochemical Science

Pilot Proposal:

## MERGING AND MODERNISING THE GEOROC AND METBASE DATABASES

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Gerhard Wörner<sup>3</sup>



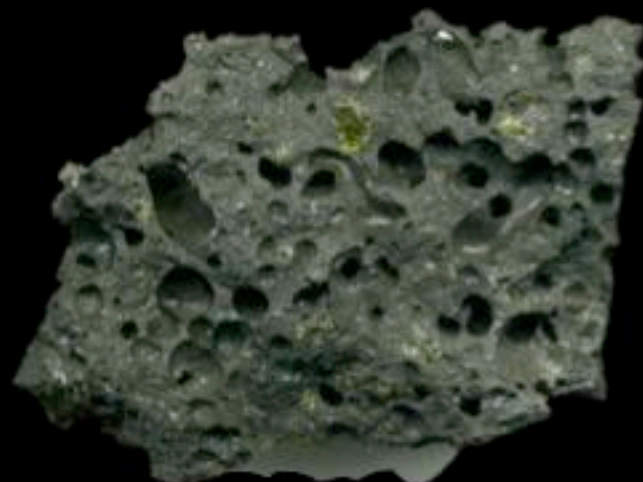
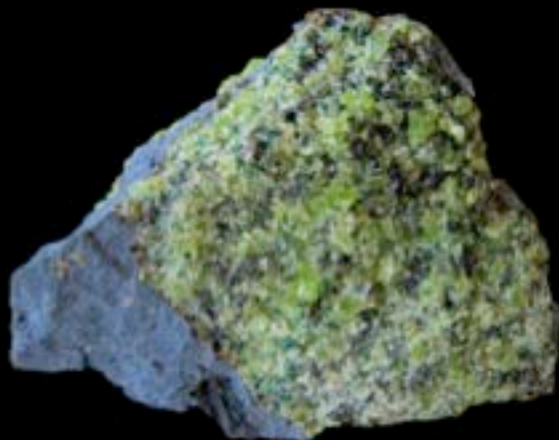
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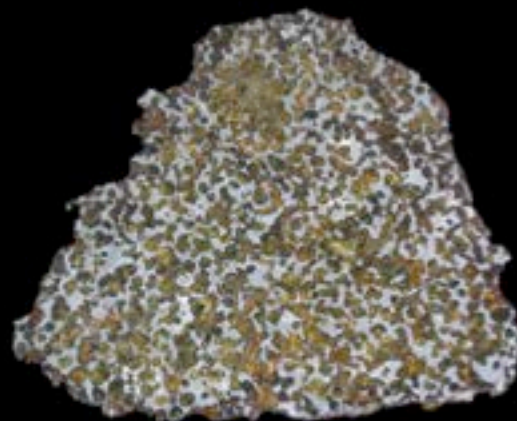
<sup>2</sup>Universität zu Köln

<sup>3</sup>Universität Göttingen

# From Rocks, Minerals and Meteorites



c. 5 cm







.. to high-tech labs



A satellite image of Earth from space, showing the Western Hemisphere. North and South America are visible, surrounded by the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The image is centered on the Americas, with the Atlantic Ocean to the east and the Pacific Ocean to the west. The text is overlaid on the image.

Why on Earth are we  
analysing  
so many old rocks ?





# Deep Earth control on surface dynamics !

2900 km

6378 km



MetBase

Find, Plot &  
Understand  
Meteorite Data

What

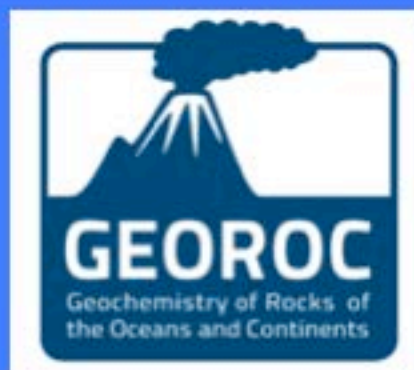
type of data ?

Why

is it important ?

Where

do we need to go ?



18,870	papers
570,720	rock and mineral samples
1,768,720	geochemical analyses
25,684,140	single data values

used and cited in thousands of publications

<http://georoc.mpch-mainz.gwdg.de/georoc/>



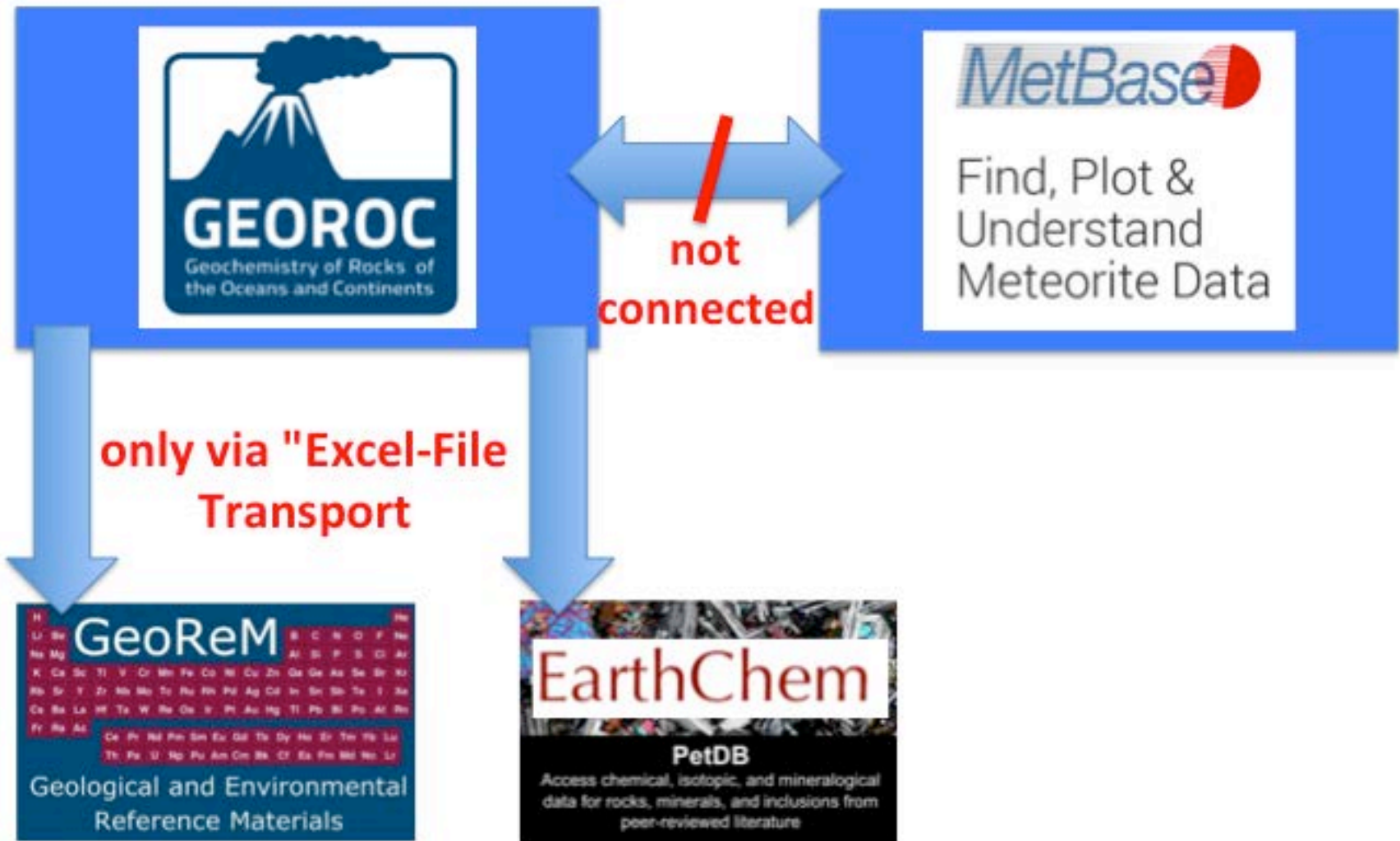
Find, Plot &  
Understand  
Meteorite Data

world's largest web-interface for  
meteorite and mineral compositional data:

1. access, plot, and analyse data
2. online cosmochemistry course
3. 90,000 indexed references

University Cologne Teaching Award  
Meteoritical Society Service Award

<https://metbase.org/>





**not entirely FAIR**  
**partly disconnected**  
**not sufficiently interoperable**  
**not user-friendly enough**  
**data-base structure not up-to-date**  
**data-input procedure needs improvement**



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
FOR CHEMISTRY

Hosted at the Lamont-Doherty Earth  
Observatory of Columbia University.  
Part of the Interdisciplinary Earth Data  
Alliance Facility (IEDA).



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# We analyse

major- and minor elements

(Si, Al, Fe, Mg, Ca, Na, K,..... Ti, P) trace elements ("the rest"),  
and

stable and radiogenic isotopes  
**in rocks, minerals and meteorites**

(and soil, water, sediments, fossils...)

**since many decades, in many labs around the world,  
with many different methods**

## **Stable Isotopes:**

H/D    Li    Be    B    C    N    O  
Mg    Si    S    Cl  
Ca    Ti    V    Cr    Mn    Fe    Cu    Zn    Se  
Mo    Ag    Cd  
Sr, Ba    .....  
Halogens

## **Radiogenic (long-lived) Isotopes):**

K/Ar    Rb/Sr    Sm/Nd  
Lu/Hf    U-Th/Pb    Re/Os

## **Radiogenic (short-lived) Isotopes:**

U-Th    Ra-(Ba)    Rn-Pb

## **Cosmogenic Isotopes:**

Be, C, Al, Cl, He, Ne, Ar

# Research

Earth  
is made from meteorites

MetBase

Find, Plot &  
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Meteorite Data

BULK COMPONENTS LITERATURE

Start Over

Bulk DB Search



Meteorite Class 1

ADIO-AN  
ADIO-P ·  
AEUC  
AEUC-C ·  
AEUC-M ·  
AEUC-P  
AHOW ·  
ALOD ·  
ALOS-AN

CV3 X

Literature(B) 166

Search

X Uncheck all

✓ ALLEN ,77  
✓ ALLEN ,87 ·  
✓ ANNELL,87 ·  
✓ BAEDEC,87 ·  
✓ BART ,80 ·  
✓ BECKER,74 ·

ALLEN ,77 X ALLEN ,87 X  
ANNELL,87 X BAEDEC,87 X  
BART ,80 X BECKER,74 X

Country 1

Search

X Uncheck all

--  
Afghanistan ·  
Algeria ·  
Algeria or Morro ·  
Algeria/Morocco ·  
Angola ·

Mexico X

Location 1

Search

X Uncheck all

(near Algerian border) ·  
--  
Adamoua ·  
Addis-Ababa ·  
Adelie Land ·  
Adrar ·

Chihuahua X

From: 1

Search

X Uncheck all

--  
0852 ·  
0856 ·  
0861 ·  
0892 ·  
0921 ·

1969

Search

X Uncheck all

--  
0852 ·  
0856 ·  
0861 ·  
0892 ·  
0921 ·

1969



# Research

MetBase

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SCATTER CATEGORY REPORT MAP

## Legend

CLASS METEORITE ... (Bulk)

CLASS METEORITE ... (Component)

## X-Axis

ELEMENTS ISOTOPES ...

Nom: Mg Denom: 1

Unit: WT-% WT-PPM WT-PPB

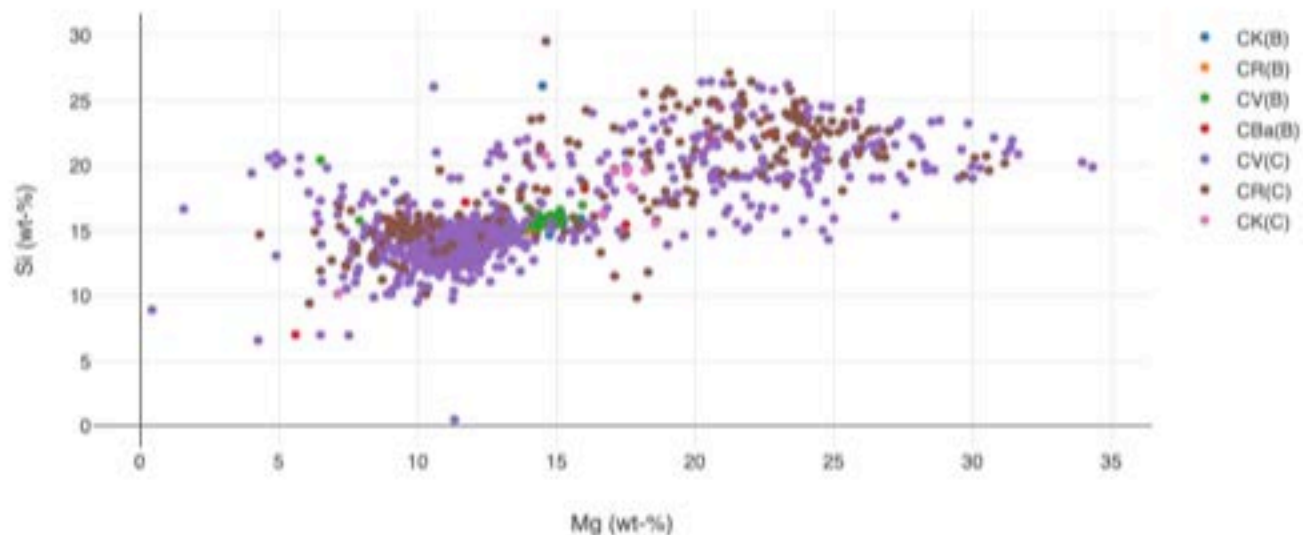
## Y-Axis

ELEMENTS ISOTOPES ...

Nom: Si Denom: 1

Unit: WT-% WT-PPM WT-PPB

PLOT



Enlarge plot



MetBase

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What

type of data ?

Why

is GEOROC important ?

important ?

Where

do we need to go ?

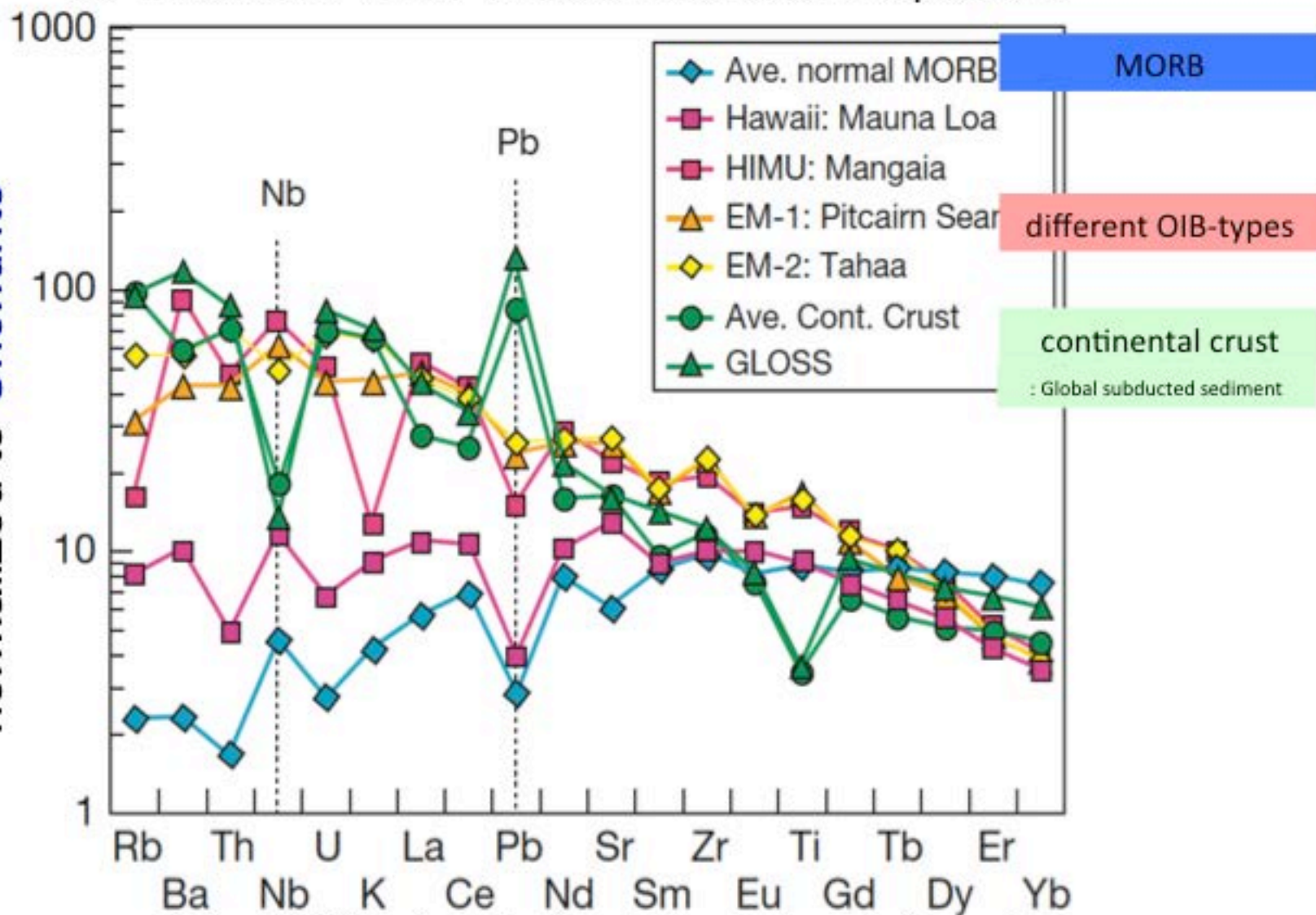


Basalts, basaltic (oceanic) and continental crust on Earth have VERY different trace element patterns

Meteorite data



concentrations  
normalized to Chondrite



Hofmann (1997) Mantle geochemistry: the message from oceanic volcanism.  
Nature review article vol. 385:219-224

Based on GEOROC data compilation

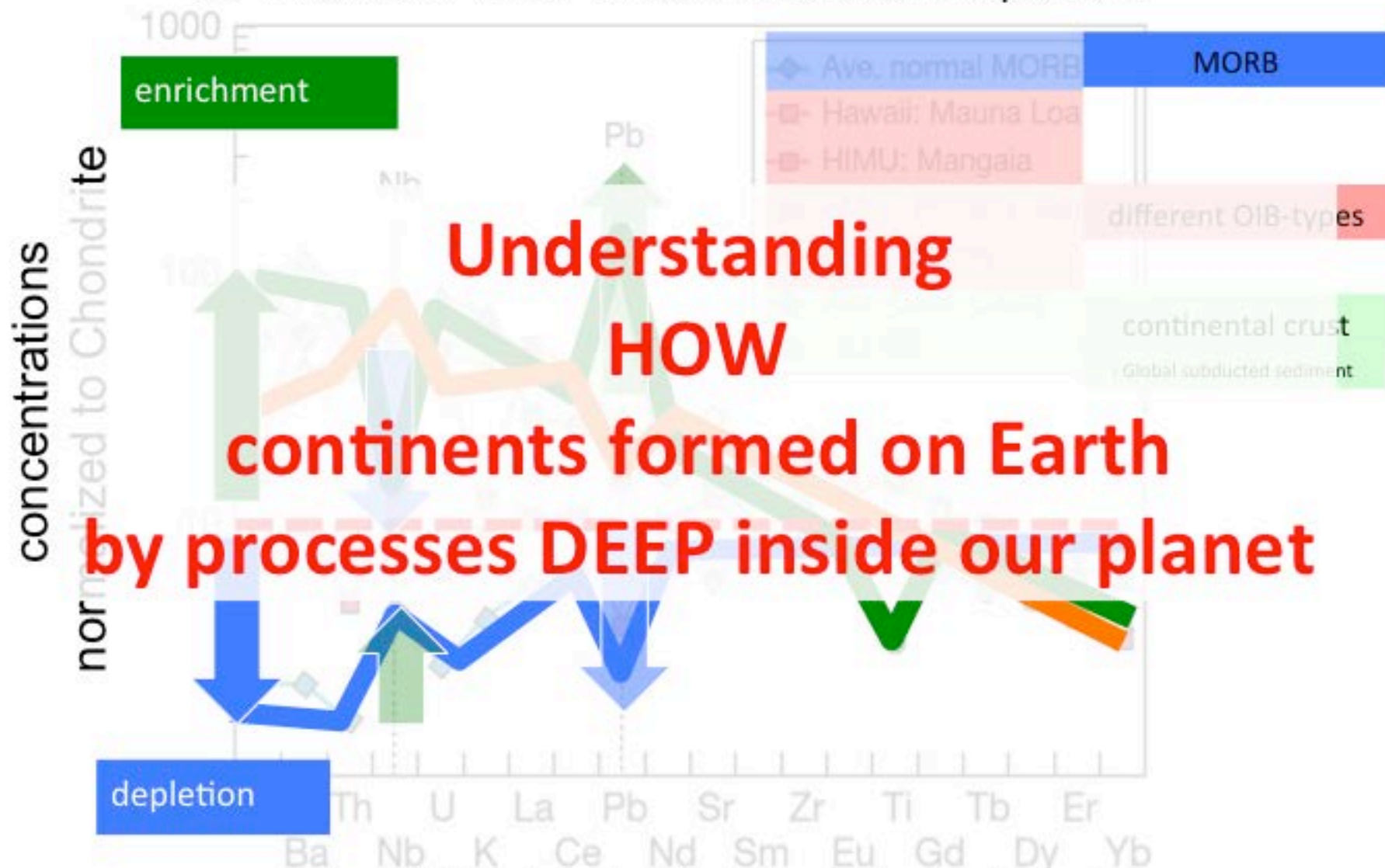
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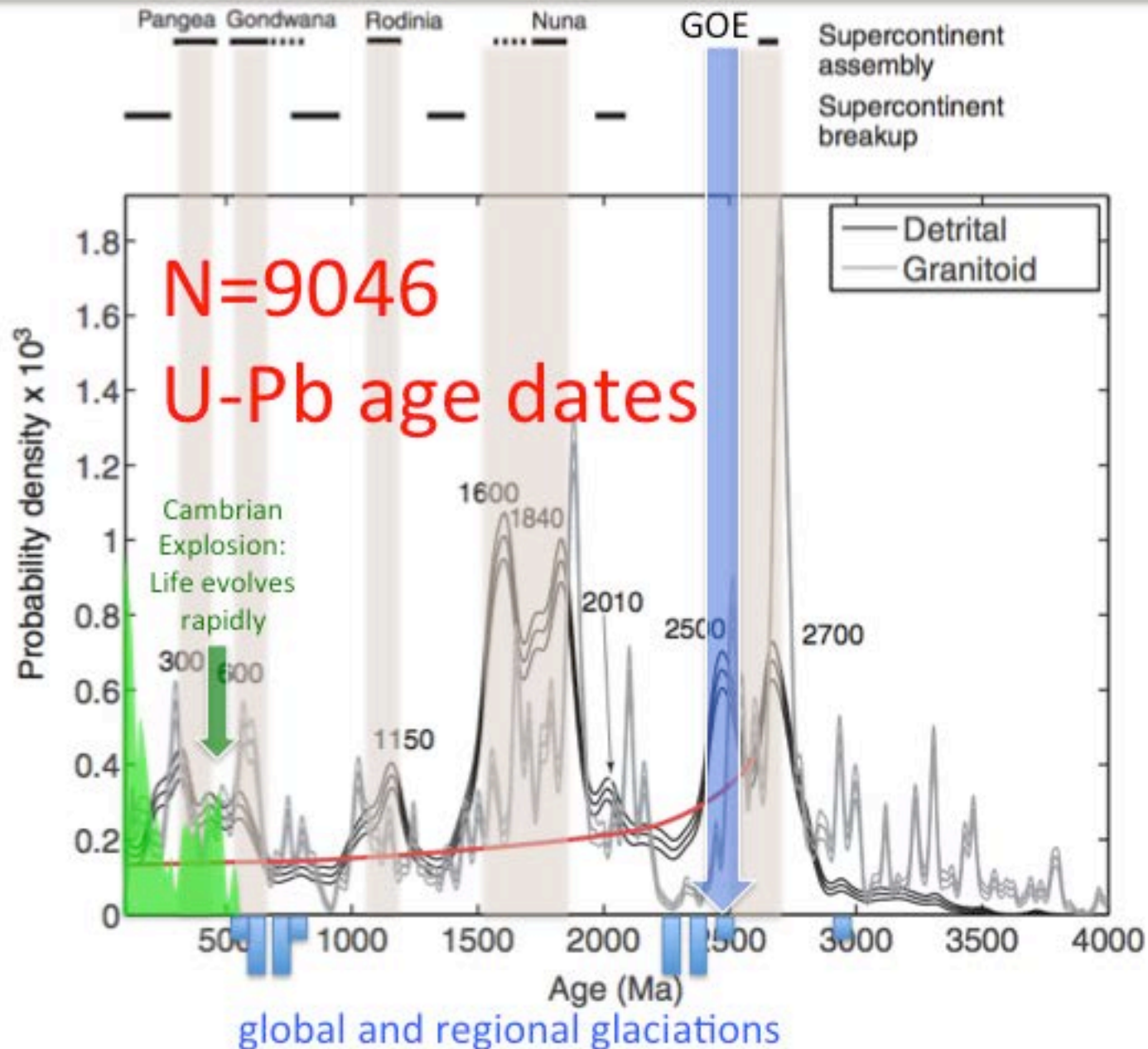


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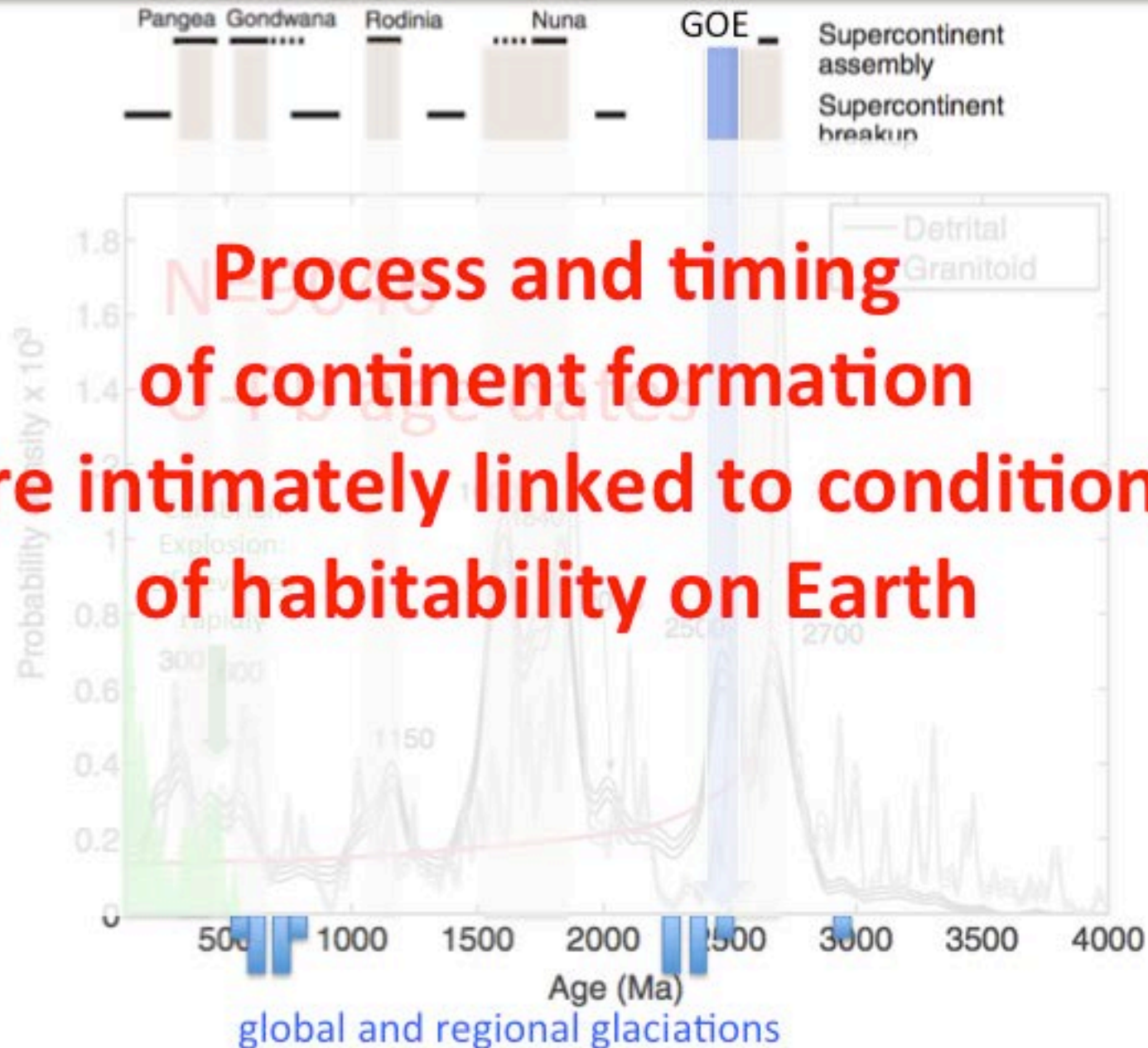
Based on GEOROC data compilation



# When were continents formed on Earth ?



# When were continents formed on Earth ?



# Applications:

examples and potential links to  
other NFDI-initiatives



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trace element fingerprinting and  
provenance of (human) artefacts

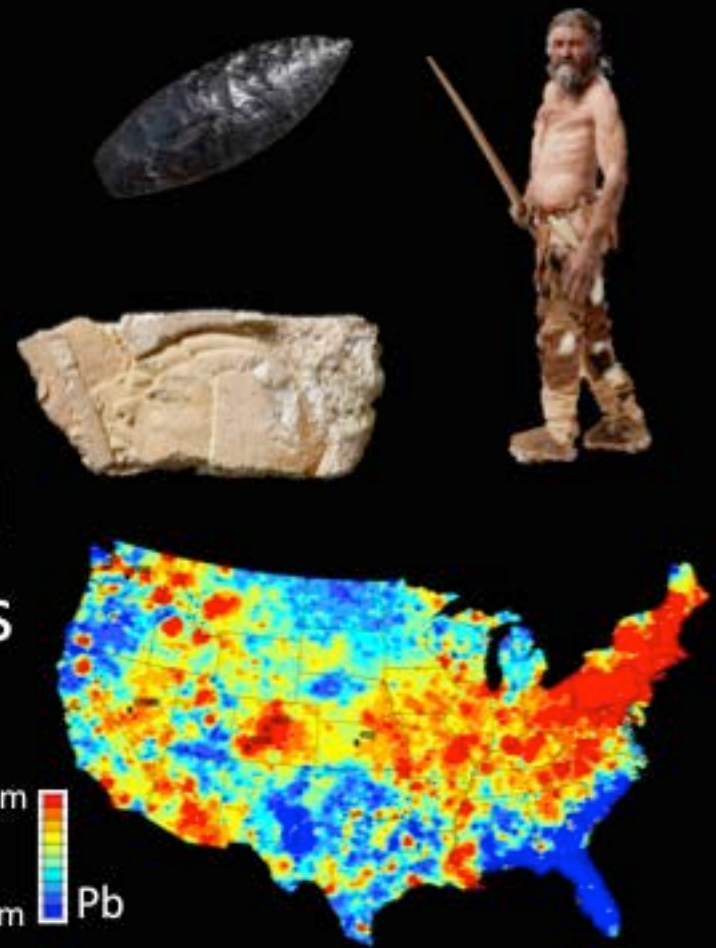


# Applications:

examples and potential links to  
other NFDI-initiatives

trace element fingerprinting and  
provenance of (human) artefacts

reference for soils and  
soil contamination









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# Our NFD<sub>4</sub>Earth Pilot

- **relates to long-tail Earth system science data on Deep Earth and Deep Time**  
**it will ..**

- link GEOROC and MetBase and harmonize database structure to achieve interoperability
- FAIR-conditions and apply international metadata-standards  
-> EarthChem (international), national Community, DFG
- address the challenge of migrating and making long-tail data interoperable
- develop data analysis and visualisation tools for GEOROC and MetBase
- provide advanced online-access to these services

and

- ◆ is intimately linked to a database initiative at University Frankfurt and a
- ◆ recently funded DFG-LIS-Project at Göttingen aiming to
  - restructure and update the GEOROC database,
  - develop new tools for data entry and
  - to link it other existing geochemical data bases
  - and rock sample archives

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