

Aims & Scope

eEarth uses an open access interactive format to publish short, topical papers in all disciplines of the Earth Sciences. Its scope ranges from processes in the deep interior of the Earth and the terrestrial planets; magmatism, metamorphism and volcanism; the creation, deformation and destruction of lithosphere; fluids, fluxes, and reservoirs of mineral and energy resources; surface processes such as erosion, transport, deposition of sediments and resulting geomorphology; and the response of the Earth to climate change. The length of papers is limited to four journal pages, which corresponds to about 3000 words, a maximum of 30 references and no more than 5 figures and tables.

eEarth follows the innovative two-stage publication concept of the EGU which involves a scientific discussion forum to:

- foster scientific discussion;
- enhance the effectiveness and transparency of scientific quality assurance;
- enable rapid publication;
- make scientific publications freely accessible.

In the first stage, papers that pass a rapid access-review by one of the editors are immediately published on the *eEarth* Discussions website. They are then subject to interactive public discussion, during which the referees' comments (anonymous or attributed), additional short comments by other members of the scientific community (attributed) and the authors' replies are also published in *eEarth* Discussions. In the second stage, the peer-review process is completed and, if accepted, the final revised papers are published in *eEarth*. To ensure publication precedence for authors, and to provide a lasting record of scientific discussion, *eEarth* Discussions and *eEarth* are both ISSN-registered, permanently archived and fully citable.

Visit the journal homepage at:

www.electronic-earth.net

Publication Policy

eEarth (eE):

- Distribution via internet, paper copies, and on CD-ROM.
- Free of charge online access to all articles.
- Typesetting/composing of all articles in "Journal Style".
- No extra charges for colour illustrations and supplementary material (e.g. movies and data sets).
- Efficient new way of publishing special issues.
- Personalized copyright.
- Publication of top quality revised papers emerging from an innovative two-stage process of peer-review, publication and interactive discussion involving *eEarth* Discussions.

eEarth Discussions (eED):

- Rapid publication of high quality manuscripts as discussion papers.
- Efficient access peer-review involving technical corrections but no further revision before acceptance/rejection.
- Interactive Public Discussion: immediate non-peer-reviewed publication of referee comments, author comments, and additional short comments by any member of the community alongside the discussion paper.
- Permanent archiving and accessibility of discussion papers together with the interactive comments.
- Individual citability of every discussion paper and interactive comment.

eE Print: ISSN 1815-381X

eE Online: ISSN 1815-3828

eED Print: ISSN 1815-3836

eED Online: ISSN 1815-3844

eEarth
& *eEarth* Discussions

Editors:

Nicholas Arndt
Henri-Claude Nataf
Vala Ragnarsdottir
Jan Smit

Managing Editor:

John Ludden



An Interactive Open Access Journal of the
European Geosciences Union

Editorial & Production Office

Editors

Nicholas Arndt • arndt@ujf-grenoble.fr

Henri-Claude Nataf • henri-claude.nataf@ujf-grenoble.fr

Vala Ragnarsdottir • vala.ragnarsdottir@bristol.ac.uk

Jan Smit • jan.smit@falw.vu.nl

Managing Editor

John Ludden • john.ludden@cnsr-dir.fr

Editorial Office • egu.editorial@copernicus.org

Production Office • egu.production@copernicus.org

Max-Planck-Str. 13, 37191 Katlenburg-Lindau, Germany

Tel: +49-5556-1440 • Fax: +49-5556-4709

eE and eED are published by the Copernicus Gesellschaft on behalf of the EGU

Peer Review & Publication

The eE publication process uses the latest developments in computers and the web to provide rapid publication at low cost and a high standard of peer review. Articles are provided free to the web and are publicized by an efficient alert service.

Submission and Initial Screening

Papers under review are first published in eED. This ensures that new results are not delayed by the review process but can be discussed by the community as soon as possible. A manuscript sent to the Editorial Office first goes to a Topic Editor who checks that it is suitable for eE. If necessary he may contact potential reviewers for comments. He may also suggest technical corrections needed before publication in eED.

Publication in eEarth Discussions

The authors make any technical corrections, the paper is typeset by the Copernicus Production Office, proof-read by the authors and published immediately in eED. From this point on the paper and any published discussion is fully citable.

Review and Open Discussion

The paper is sent to two or more reviewers for formal review. At the same time the alert service informs people worldwide of the new paper and it is open for eight weeks of interactive public discussion. During this time, Referee Comments, Author Comments and Short Comments by members of the scientific community are published alongside the discussion paper. At the end of the period, the authors may respond with final comments.

Completion of Peer Review

On the basis of the reviews and discussion the Topic Editor decides whether to accept, reject or return the paper for revision. In the latter case the Topic Editor may check with the reviewers that the revised paper is satisfactory.

Publication in eEarth

Accepted papers are typeset, proof-read by the authors and published on the eEarth Website with links to the eED paper and discussion. All publications (original and final papers, and the interactive discussion) are permanently archived and remain freely accessible to the public via the Internet. Printed and CD volumes of eE are available at low cost.

Online + Open Access Publishing

Competence + Creativity

The EGU is a signatory of the Berlin Open Access Declaration of 2003, the largest scientific association in Europe for the geosciences and planetary and space sciences encompassing more than 60 000 scientists worldwide, and a publisher of scientific journals for more than 20 years. This guarantees the most up to date publications and the highest standards in editorial competence and quality of production.

Full Public Peer Review + Interactive Public Discussion

The EGU has extended the traditional peer review process by adding the concepts of an “Public Peer Review”, i.e. the comments of the reviewers, anonymous or attributed, are published together with the article on the web, and of “Interactive Public Discussion”, i.e. after having passed a rapid access peer review process manuscripts submitted to EGU two-stage-journals will be published first of all in the “Discussions” part of the website of that journal being then subject to interactive public discussions initiated by alerting the corresponding scientific community. The results of the public peer review and of the interactive public discussion are then used for the final evaluation of the manuscript by the Editor and, eventually, for its publication on the website of the actual journal.

Full Citation + Maximum Impact

All articles accepted for publication in an EGU journal are edited and formatted in the traditional journal style with their traditional citation and an online citation (URL), which is directly derived from their traditional citation. Since the article files on the web are used as is for the digital printing process (print-on-demand) EGU journals are distributed both online and in print totally alike, enjoying therefore also the

advantages of traditional publications as, e.g. being indexed in ISI Current Contents and the Science Citation Index or being archived in the so-called Copyright Libraries of the world. Moreover, as open access publications they enjoy the widest dissemination in mirror-archives worldwide, the highest impact factors and, even more, the best immediacy indices.

Online Publication First + No Page Limits

Although EGU journals are published in the traditional annual volume-and-issue way no page budgets exist for these issues or for the annual volumes. Thus, any article accepted for publication is immediately published online together with its received-, revised-, accepted-, and publication-date. This reduces the time from acceptance to publication to days and sometimes even hours, which is of valuable importance, in particular, for special issues and proceedings.

Personalized Copyright + Free Circulation

Most papers, comments, figures and other material published in EGU journals are copyrighted by the author(s) and licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution – Non Commercial – Share Alike License. This allows everybody (1) to copy, distribute, display, and perform the work published and (2) to make derivative works under the following conditions: (I) Attribution: he/she must give the original author credit; (II) Non Commercial: he/she may not use the work for commercial purposes; and (III) Share Alike: if he/she alters, transforms, or builds upon this work, he/she may distribute the resulting work only under a license identical to this one.

Moderate Service Charges + No Extra Costs

For its assistance during the evaluation and the production process the EGU levies service charges of min. 23,- EUR per page. **These service charges are waived for the first 1000 pages published in eEarth!** Printing and distribution incl. all extra costs, such as for colour illustrations, are included in the subscription fees for hard copies which are still very moderate compared to subscription costs to traditional publications. In this way the costs for EGU open access publishing are only about 10% of the overall subscription costs for traditional publications.

Copyright & Licensing

As the authors pay for publishing, they keep the copyright but publish the paper with a Creative Commons license which allows the creation of electronic and printed copies for non-commercial purposes. Thus individuals, mirror and archive sites may copy the papers. The authors also grant the EGU rights to produce the printed and CD copies of papers and volumes.