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Cosmogenic ¹⁰Be records of past geomagnetic instabilities: a tool for global synchronization of Plio-Quaternary records

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Chronological uncertainties often hinder accurate synchronizations of paleoclimatic series between marine and ice records. The use of a robust and independent chronostratigraphic tool capable of correlating these series is therefore essential in order to understand their inter-variability and teleconnections. Although potentially suffering from biases associated with paleomagnetic lock-in depths, one such tool, the variations of the Earth magnetic field, has been successfully used in marine sedimentary sequences, but cannot be retrieved in ice records. An alternative approach to decipher past variations of the geomagnetic dipole moment (GDM) is through the use of cosmogenic nuclide beryllium-10 (10 Be) since its atmospheric production rate depends primarily on the magnetospheric shielding at millennial time scales. Moreover, it has been demonstrated that the episodic collapses of the geodynamo accompanying all polarity reversals and excursions have systematically triggered large ¹⁰Be overproduction episodes over the last 2 Ma (Simon et al., 2016, 2018), providing robust and synchronous stratigraphic markers that can be retrieved in both ice and marine records. Such ¹⁰Be production time series can thus be synchronized at the global scale and be correlated to radiometrically and/or astrochronologically dated Geomagnetic Instability and Polarity time scales. We present a compilation of several authigenic 10Be/9Be ratio (proxy of atmospheric ¹⁰Be production) records obtained from Plio-Quaternary marine archives. It permits to introduce and discuss improvements of orbitally tuned magnetic and oxygen isotope stratigraphies that are sometimes affected by biases or unconformities intrinsic to the recording processes. It will also improve the synchronization of long paleoclimatic series from Antarctica and Greenland ice records with marine sequences worldwide.

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