

1 **The hydrochemical signature of incongruent weathering**  
2 **in Iceland**

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6 **Key Points:**

- 7 • New inverse model can explain the budgets of major and trace elements and their  
8 isotope ratios in Icelandic Rivers  
9 • River compositions suggest preferential Na release relative to bulk Icelandic basalts  
10 • Silicate weathering dominates the riverine alkalinity budget in Iceland

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**Abstract**

Basaltic watersheds such as those found in Iceland are thought to be important sites of CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration via silicate weathering. However, determining the magnitude of CO<sub>2</sub> uptake depends on accurately interpreting river chemistry. Here, we compile geochemical data from Iceland and use them to constrain weathering processes. Specifically, we use a newly developed inverse model to quantify solute supply from rain and hydrothermal fluids as well as allow for different mineral phases within basalts to react at different rates, solutes to be removed via clay formation, and some Ca to be sourced from carbonate dissolution. While some of these processes have been considered previously, they have not been considered together allowing us to newly determine their relative contributions.

We find that weathering in Iceland is incongruent in two ways. Firstly, solute release from primary silicates is characterized by a higher proportion of Na than would be expected from bulk basalts, which may reflect preferential weathering or some contribution from rhyolites. This Na enrichment is further enhanced by preferential Mg and K uptake by clays. No samples in our dataset ( $n=537$ ) require carbonate dissolution even if isotopic data ( $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ ,  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ ,  $\delta^{44}\text{Ca}$ , and/or  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ) are included. While some carbonate weathering is allowable, silicate weathering likely dominates. The complexity we observe in Iceland underscores the need for inverse models to account for a wide range of processes and end-members. Given that riverine fluxes from Iceland are more Na-rich than expected for congruent basalt weathering, the characteristic timescale of CO<sub>2</sub> draw-down is likely affected.

**Plain Language Summary**

The chemical composition of rivers can be used to determine how processes occurring at Earth's surface affect the climate. Here, we use measurements from rivers in Iceland, which is an ideal test case as geologic factors are expected to simplify the interpretation of river chemistry. Using a new approach, we identify a range of processes that affect Icelandic rivers and quantify their relative importance. While it was assumed that the results would be "simple", we instead find complicated behavior, which is important to understand when applying similar to approaches to much larger rivers. We also find that the way rivers in Iceland affect the climate is slightly different than originally expected. Nevertheless, these rivers still act to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and thus cool the climate.

**1 Introduction**

Silicate mineral dissolution promotes the removal of CO<sub>2</sub> from the ocean-atmosphere system by providing the cations and alkalinity necessary for carbonate mineral burial, which is the primary geologic sink for CO<sub>2</sub> released from solid Earth degassing and sedimentary recycling (Berner et al., 1983). Though the dissolution of carbonate minerals also supplies alkalinity to the ocean, carbonate weathering alone cannot drive net carbonate burial and thus influences CO<sub>2</sub> consumption over shorter timescales compared to silicate weathering (Broecker & Sanyal, 1998). Therefore, quantifying the fractional contribution of cations derived from silicate versus carbonate mineral dissolution during chemical weathering is critical to understanding the geologic C cycle.

The main factors that modulate silicate weathering fluxes are thought to include climate, lithology, and uplift/erosion rates. These mechanisms have been explored through numerous field studies of riverine solute fluxes (e.g., Bluth & Kump, 1994; West et al., 2005; Eiriksdottir et al., 2013; Ibarra et al., 2016) as well as laboratory experiments (e.g., Chen & Brantley, 1997; Taylor et al., 2000; Gislason & Oelkers, 2003; Wolff-Boenisch et al., 2004; Gudbrandsson et al., 2008; Schaef & McGrail, 2009). Overwhelmingly, these

60 investigations highlight lithology as a major control on weathering fluxes and suggest that  
61 mafic lithologies (“basalts”) chemically weather 2 to 10 times faster than felsic litholo-  
62 gies (“granites”; Bluth & Kump, 1994; Ibarra et al., 2016). So, despite the fact that basalts  
63 occupy only  $\sim 5\%$  of exoreic land surface area, solute fluxes from these areas may con-  
64 tribute disproportionately to C sequestration by accounting for 30 to 35% of the global  
65 contemporary silicate weathering flux (Dessert et al., 2003). The weathering of mafic litholo-  
66 gies like basalt also factors in to current interpretations of the drivers of geologic climate  
67 change. For example, models disagree on whether Cenozoic cooling reflects an increase  
68 (Park et al., 2020) or decrease (G. Li & Elderfield, 2013) in global basalt weathering fluxes,  
69 highlighting the need for a more mechanistic understanding of mafic weathering processes.

70 The interpretation that basalts contribute disproportionately to modern silicate  
71 weathering fluxes is based on measurements of the dissolved chemistry of rivers and there-  
72 fore is predicated on our ability to accurately partition riverine solutes between differ-  
73 ent solute sources such as atmospheric deposition, silicate mineral dissolution, and car-  
74 bonate mineral dissolution (Négrel et al., 1993; Bickle et al., 2015; Torres et al., 2016;  
75 P. Kemeny et al., 2020). While common igneous rock types are nominally considered to  
76 contain purely silicate minerals, they often contain accessory carbonate minerals in trace  
77 amounts (White et al., 1999, 2005). Due to their high reactivity, carbonates can contribute  
78 significantly to solute loads even when present at low abundances in bedrock (D. Li et  
79 al., 2014).

80 Existing global analyses of basaltic weathering fluxes based on river chemistry have  
81 mostly assumed that there is a negligible contribution from accessory carbonates (Dessert  
82 et al., 2003; Ibarra et al., 2016; G. Li et al., 2016). If this assumption about solute sources  
83 is in error, as implied by interpretations of either the stable isotopic compositions of dis-  
84 solved calcium and strontium (Jacobson et al., 2015; Andrews & Jacobson, 2017) or ma-  
85 jor element concentrations (Georg et al., 2007) in some basalt-draining watersheds in Ice-  
86 land, then our understanding of global basalt weathering may be incomplete. On the other  
87 hand, the chemical signals in river waters that are thought to be indicative of carbon-  
88 ate mineral dissolution (i.e., differences in elemental and stable isotopic ratios relative  
89 to primary silicates) can be generated by other geochemical processes such as secondary  
90 silicate mineral (“clay”) formation (Hindshaw et al., 2013). If it is the case that carbon-  
91 ate weathering meaningfully contributes to solute fluxes in basaltic watersheds, prior stud-  
92 ies could potentially have over-emphasized the role of basaltic landscapes in stabilizing  
93 the geologic carbon cycle by sequestering atmospheric  $\text{CO}_2$ .

94 Evidence that secondary clay formation modulates the chemical composition of Ice-  
95 landic rivers, and basalt-draining rivers in general, exists in the form of mineral mass bal-  
96 ance calculations (Moulton et al., 2000), reaction path modelling (Stefánsson & Gíslason,  
97 2001), the isotopic composition of dissolved Si and Li (P. A. Pogge von Strandmann et  
98 al., 2006; Georg et al., 2007; Opfergelt et al., 2013), and direct measurements of clay min-  
99 eralogy and elemental composition (Crovisier et al., 1992; Wada et al., 1992; Moulton  
100 et al., 2000; Ehlmann et al., 2012; Thorpe et al., 2019). However, explanations of river  
101 chemistry that appeal to multiple solute sources (carbonate vs. silicate) or fractionation  
102 by secondary clay formation are not mutually exclusive. As such, effective hypothesis  
103 testing requires models that consider a range of processes together. Specifically, recent  
104 work has shown that the formation of secondary minerals biases inferences of carbon-  
105 ate versus silicate mineral weathering in river chemistry data such that models must ex-  
106 plicitly account for both processes in order to yield accurate results (Bickle et al., 2015;  
107 Emberson et al., 2017, 2018).

108 In some past work on weathering in Iceland, it has been assumed that silicate weath-  
109 ering processes release solutes in similar ratios to bulk basalts (Gíslason et al., 1996; Stefánsson  
110 et al., 2001; Jacobson et al., 2015; P. C. Kemeny et al., 2021) or some mixture of bulk  
111 basalts and bulk rhyolites (Louvart et al., 2008). The assumption of congruent solute re-  
112 lease (i.e., similar elemental ratios for rivers as in bulk rocks) may be reasonable for catch-

113 ments where volcanic glass weathering dominates as experiments show the congruent re-  
114 lease of major cations from basaltic glass (Gislason & Eugster, 1987). However, for more  
115 crystalline bedrock, the fact that not all minerals react at the same rate under like con-  
116 ditions may lead to effective solute release ratios that are substantially different from the  
117 bulk rock composition (Gislason & Eugster, 1987; Ryu et al., 2011; Emberson et al., 2017).  
118 Deviations in effective end-member compositions relative to the bulk rock depend on a  
119 myriad of factors (e.g., weathering duration; Ferrier & Kirchner, 2008) such that com-  
120 positions near the bulk rock value may be reasonably accurate for some crystalline litholo-  
121 gies under some circumstances. Nevertheless, observations of differential rates of primary  
122 mineral depletion in basaltic soil profiles from Hawaii (Ryu et al., 2014) suggests that  
123 this process must be considered alongside secondary clay formation when trying to in-  
124 terpret river chemistry in terms of the lithologic sources of solutes.

125 The details affecting river water chemistry are ultimately important as they can  
126 influence the magnitude of CO<sub>2</sub> drawdown by weathering and the characteristic timescales  
127 over which this drawdown applies. In much previous work, the effects of basaltic water-  
128 sheds on the C cycle have been determined using bicarbonate fluxes (Dessert et al., 2003;  
129 Ibarra et al., 2016; G. Li et al., 2016), which implicitly assumes that all dissolved cations  
130 contribute to CO<sub>2</sub> drawdown equally over the same timescales. This is not the case, how-  
131 ever, as the major processes that remove seawater alkalinity associated with Na<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>,  
132 and Mg<sup>2+</sup> ions (i.e., “reverse weathering”; F. Mackenzie & Garrels, 1966) are different  
133 from those that remove seawater alkalinity associated with Ca<sup>2+</sup> ions. By altering the  
134 proportion of silicate weathering derived alkalinity associated with Ca relative to what  
135 is implied by the bulk bedrock composition, varying rates of primary mineral dissolu-  
136 tion and/or extent of solute uptake into secondary minerals can affect the links between  
137 weathering and the long-term C cycle. Additionally, significant cation retention in sec-  
138 ondary minerals effectively decreases the amount of alkalinity generated by weathering  
139 and could be one of the factors that explains observed differences in solute generation  
140 between basaltic watersheds (Dessert et al., 2003; Ibarra et al., 2016; G. Li et al., 2016).

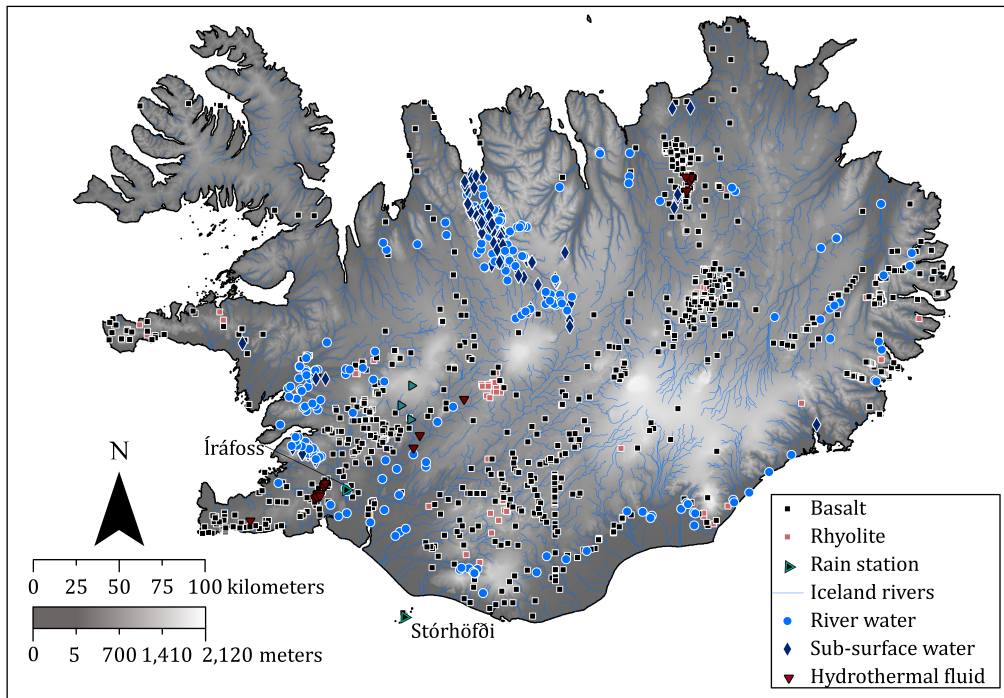
141 To make progress on understanding silicate weathering in volcanic terrains, we com-  
142 bine published measurements of bedrock and water chemistry from Iceland and analyze  
143 them using an inverse model that allows for multiple solute sources (rainwater, hydrother-  
144 mal fluids, silicates, and carbonates) and solute fractionation mechanisms (clay mineral  
145 formation and heterogeneous dissolution rates). Our definition of solute fractionation aligns  
146 with the more generic term incongruent weathering, which, in the literature, has been  
147 used to refer to instances where solutes released by weathering are taken up into secondary  
148 phases (Misra & Froelich, 2012) as well as when solutes are released into solution in a  
149 different ratio relative to the bulk solid, but no new phases are formed (e.g., due to dif-  
150 ferent rates of primary mineral dissolution; Rickli et al., 2013; Bickle et al., 2015). For  
151 clarity, we separate these two concepts and refer to them as secondary phase incongru-  
152 ence and primary mineral incongruence, respectively. The structure of our modelling ap-  
153 proach allows us to discern how primary and secondary incongruence influence the par-  
154 titioning of solute loads between carbonate and silicate sources in a system where the  
155 bedrock chemistry is relatively uniform and well-known. Understanding solute source  
156 apportionment in such systems is a prerequisite for interpreting more lithologically-complex  
157 river systems in terms of their effects on the global C cycle.

## 158 2 Methods

### 159 2.1 Hydrochemistry

#### 160 2.1.1 Data Compilation

161 Previously published solute concentrations, water quality parameters (pH, temper-  
162 ature, and water type classification) as well as geospatial data for water samples collected



**Figure 1.** Shaded relief map showing the sampling locations for the river waters (light blue circles), sub-surface waters (dark blue diamonds), rain station (light blue triangle with black center), rain waters (light blue triangles), hydrothermal fluids (red triangles), basalts (black squares), and rhyolites (light red squares) used in this study.

163 in Iceland were identified through Web of Knowledge and transcribed into an Excel® database  
 164 through a combination of electronic transfer and manual tabulation. For this work, we  
 165 emphasized data from rivers, but our compilation includes a range of other water sam-  
 166 ple types. Specifically, we distinguish ten water types: rain waters, cold springs, glacial  
 167 rivers, groundwater wells, hydrothermal fluids, lake waters, multi-sourced rivers, non-  
 168 glacial rivers, soil pore waters, and unclassified rivers (Supplementary Table S1). In ad-  
 169 dition to these classifications, we also group all of the river water data types together  
 170 (labeled river waters) as well as group the groundwater well, cold spring, and soil pore  
 171 water samples together (labeled sub-surface waters; Figure 1). We focused on collect-  
 172 ing data for major solute concentrations (i.e., Cl, SO<sub>4</sub>, Na, K, Ca, Mg, Si), but if addi-  
 173 tional trace elements and isotopic ratio data were available, we included them in our database.  
 174 In our database, Ca isotopic ratios are reported as both <sup>44</sup>Ca/<sup>42</sup>Ca and <sup>44</sup>Ca/<sup>40</sup>Ca val-  
 175 ues normalized to either the SRM915a or OSIL seawater standard, respectively. For the  
 176 analyses reported here, we converted all Ca isotopic data to <sup>44</sup>Ca/<sup>40</sup>Ca values normal-  
 177 ized to the OSIL seawater standard.

178 When geographical coordinates of sampling locations were provided, they were con-  
 179 verted to datum ISN1993 and recorded in decimal degrees. If a sample location was not  
 180 provided but a map was, an attempt was made to approximate the sample location us-  
 181 ing Google Earth® (Gíslason et al., 1996; Stefánsson & Gíslason, 2001; Mutonga et al.,  
 182 2010; Scott et al., 2014; Oskarsson et al., 2013). Coordinates for the sampling locations

183 associated with the data reported in Gíslason and Arnórsson (1993) and Stefánsson et  
 184 al. (2001) are not available due to a lack of sample location map or provided locality data.  
 185 A map showing all of the sample locations is provided in Figure 1.

186 An effort was made to classify river water types (i.e., glacial or non-glacial river)  
 187 if a description was not provided but a sample location was by using visual observations  
 188 of river turbidity in Google Earth imagery. We note that the data reported by Gíslason  
 189 et al. (1996) and Moulton et al. (2000) represent average concentrations from multiple  
 190 measurements and that the individual data points were not provided by the authors. In  
 191 some cases, time-series of multiple observations from an individual site were reported (e.g.,  
 192 Eiriksdottir et al., 2013) and, in our analysis, each sample is considered independently.  
 193 Other sources report single observations from a given locality (e.g., Jacobson et al., 2015).  
 194 In total, 22 publications were compiled amounting to 1432 observations (Louvaton et al.,  
 195 2008; Andrews & Jacobson, 2017; Arnórsson et al., 2002; Eiriksdottir et al., 2013; Gan-  
 196 noun et al., 2006; Gíslason et al., 2006; Georg et al., 2007; Gíslason et al., 1996; Gísla-  
 197 son & Arnórsson, 1993; Hindshaw et al., 2013; Jacobson et al., 2015; Moulton et al., 2000;  
 198 Olsson et al., 2014; P. A. Pogge von Strandmann et al., 2006; P. A. E. Pogge von Strand-  
 199 mann, Olsson, et al., 2019; Stefánsson et al., 2001; Stefánsson & Gíslason, 2001; Vigier  
 200 et al., 2006, 2009; Mutonga et al., 2010; Oskarsson et al., 2013; Scott et al., 2014).

201 Data for the chemical composition of Icelandic rainwater was taken from the Co-  
 202 operative programme for monitoring and evaluation of the long-range transmission of  
 203 air pollutants in Europe (EMEP). The EMEP provides time-series data for two sites in  
 204 Iceland: Íráfoss and Stórhöfði (Figure 1). Here, we primarily focus on 96 monthly and  
 205 annually averaged rainwater samples from the Íráfoss site, which has measurements for  
 206 major cations and anions for the time period 2006 to 2012 as well as 2015. Rainwater  
 207 data from the Stórhöfði site match the elemental ratios expected for seawater and show  
 208 much higher solute concentrations than at Íráfoss. The higher concentrations observed  
 209 at the Stórhöfði site may relate to the fact that this site is much closer to the ocean com-  
 210 pared to Íráfoss (Figure 1). The monthly data from the Íráfoss site are more variable in  
 211 terms of solute concentrations and ratios compared to the Stórhöfði site, but still encom-  
 212 pass seawater-like elemental ratios.

### 213 **2.1.2 Data Quality Control**

214 For the river and subsurface water analyses, we removed samples where concen-  
 215 trations for either Cl, Na, K, Ca, Mg, or Si were missing or reported as zero in the pri-  
 216 mary publication. We also removed river and subsurface water where the total charge  
 217 of major anions (Cl and SO<sub>4</sub>) exceeded the total charge of major cations (Na, K, Ca,  
 218 and Mg). For thermodynamic calculations (see below), we applied a more stringent thresh-  
 219 old to the river and subsurface waters by only accepting samples where the absolute value  
 220 of the calculated charge balance error was less than 10%. With a full speciation calcu-  
 221 lation (i.e., taking into account the speciation of weak acids and ion pair formation), charge  
 222 balance error takes the absolute values of measured concentrations in units of charge equiv-  
 223 alents and normalizes the difference between the sums of all positively and negatively  
 224 charged species by the sum of all charged species. For the remaining water types, namely  
 225 the rain and hydrothermal waters, we did not apply any quality control procedures.

### 226 **2.1.3 Thermodynamic Calculations**

227 Mineral saturation indices (SI) were evaluated for river and sub-surface water sam-  
 228 ples using PHREEQC with the thermodynamic databases `phreeqc` and `wateq4f` and mea-  
 229 surements of temperature, pH, cation concentrations (Al<sup>3+</sup>, Ca<sup>2+</sup>, Fe<sup>2+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>, Mg<sup>2+</sup>, Na<sup>+</sup>,  
 230 and/or NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>), strong anion concentrations (Cl<sup>-</sup>, F<sup>-</sup>, SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, and/or NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>), the total  
 231 Si concentration, and either alkalinity (Gíslason et al., 1996; Moulton et al., 2000; P. A. Pogge von  
 232 Strandmann et al., 2006; Gannoun et al., 2006; Vigier et al., 2006; Gíslason et al., 2006;

233 Georg et al., 2007; Louvat et al., 2008; Vigier et al., 2009; Eiriksdottir et al., 2013; Hind-  
 234 shaw et al., 2013; Jacobson et al., 2015; Andrews & Jacobson, 2017) or total dissolved  
 235 inorganic carbon (Gislason & Arnórsson, 1993; Stefánsson et al., 2001; Stefánsson & Gíslason,  
 236 2001; Arnórsson et al., 2002; Olsson et al., 2014; P. A. E. Pogge von Strandmann, Ols-  
 237 son, et al., 2019; Mutonga et al., 2010; Scott et al., 2014; Oskarsson et al., 2013) as in-  
 238 puts. We focused on saturation indices for a set of primary (albite, anorthite, diopside,  
 239 forsterite, calcite, and K-feldspar) and secondary (Ca-montmorillonite, illite, kaolinite,  
 240 laumontite, sepiolite, and AlOH) minerals for which thermodynamic data is available in  
 241 the `phreeqc` and `wateq4f` databases. Accordingly, samples lacking dissolved Al concen-  
 242 trations could only be used to constrain SI values for calcite, forsterite, diopside, and se-  
 243 piolite.

#### 244 **2.1.4 Data Normalization and Principle Component Analysis**

245 For many of our analyses, we use ratios of solute concentrations in order to focus  
 246 on variations in solute sources instead of other factors, such as evaporation, dilution, and  
 247 variable extent of reaction, that can independently influence measured concentrations.  
 248 Multiple options are available to convert a solute concentration ( $X$ ;  $\mu\text{M}$ ) to a ratio. For  
 249 example, individual cations ( $X/\text{Na}$ ; Négrel et al., 1993), sums of a subset of cations ( $X/(\text{Na}+\text{Ca})$ ),  
 250 or sums of cations and anions ( $X/(\text{Na}+\text{SO}_4)$ ; Blattmann et al., 2019) could all be used  
 251 as normalization variables. The choice of normalization variable is important as mixing  
 252 analyses cannot model end-members that contribute solely to an element that is not in  
 253 the normalization variable. For example, if Na is used as the normalization variable, it  
 254 must be assumed that carbonate dissolution also contributes to the Na budget.

255 For visualization and principle component analysis (PCA), we normalize the in-  
 256 dividual solute concentrations by the sum of Na, K, Ca, and Mg concentrations ( $\Sigma^+$ ;  $\mu\text{M}$ )  
 257 because most end-member solute sources contribute to the budget of at least one ma-  
 258 jor cation. For inverse analysis of solute sources (see below), we use the sum of  $\Sigma^+$  and  
 259 sulfate concentrations ( $\Sigma^\pm$ ;  $\mu\text{M}$ ) as a normalization variable in order to model sulfide  
 260 mineral oxidation as an independent process that releases sulfate, but not major cations.  
 261 This approach of normalizing by sums of solute concentrations has some important im-  
 262 plications for data analysis. For example, the  $X/\Sigma^+$  values for Na, K, Ca, and Mg have  
 263 the property of each being confined to the interval 0 to 1 and, for a single sample, the  
 264 four ratios must all sum to a value of 1 (unit sum constraint). For elements not included  
 265 in the denominator term, which, for  $\Sigma^+$ , includes Si, Cl, and  $\text{SO}_4$ ,  $X/\Sigma^+$  can exceed 1.  
 266 However,  $\text{SO}_4/\Sigma^+$  or  $\text{Cl}/\Sigma^+$  values much greater than 1 would imply a charge imbal-  
 267 ance unless other cations (e.g.,  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and/or  $\text{H}^+$ ) were present at sufficient levels in so-  
 268 lution. For elements that are included in the denominator term, uncertainties in  $X/\Sigma^+$   
 269 values are correlated.

The auto-correlation inherent in normalizing by either  $\Sigma^+$  or  $\Sigma^\pm$  as well as the unit  
 sum constraint can impact calculations such as linear regression and PCA (Pearson, 1897;  
 Aitchison, 1983). We note that similar issues could arise in the case where solute con-  
 centrations were normalized by a single cation (e.g.,  $X$  to Na ratios). To remove this auto-  
 correlation and enable PCA, we normalize solute concentration ratios using the centered  
 log-ratio transformation (*clr*), which, here, is calculated for normalization with  $\Sigma^+$  as:

$$\text{clr}(X_i/\Sigma^+) = \frac{X_i/\Sigma^+}{\left(\prod_{i=1}^4 X_i/\Sigma^+\right)^{1/4}} \quad (1)$$

270 where the subscript  $i$  indexes the individual elements used in the calculation of the nor-  
 271 malization variable  $\Sigma^+$ . The *clr* transformation normalizes each concentration ratio for  
 272 a sample by the geometric mean of all of the concentration ratios values for that sam-  
 273 ple, which transforms proportions so that they are no longer restricted to the interval  
 274 0 to 1. This transformation can only be applied to data where all of the elemental ra-

275 tios are non-zero. While no water samples in our culled dataset have a value of zero for  
 276 any of the required solute concentrations, this non-zero constraint affects projecting end-  
 277 members into the space defined by the PCA. This further motivates normalizing by  $\Sigma^+$   
 278 as including Cl, SO<sub>4</sub> and/or Si in the normalization variable would hamper visualizing  
 279 the silicate and rainwater end-members.

280 To perform PCA on *clr*-transformed ratio data, we used the MATLAB function  
 281 `pca()`, which applies a singular value decomposition algorithm. Inputs for PCA were re-  
 282 stricted to the river and sub-surface water observations and, prior to analysis, we cen-  
 283 tered the data by subtracting the mean value for each variable. To project putative end-  
 284 members into the principle component space defined by the river and sub-surface wa-  
 285 ter observations, we used the `coeff` output of the `pca()` function. Again, we perform  
 286 PCA on the *clr*-transformed data to remove the auto-correlation that arises from nor-  
 287 malizing all solutes by the same normalization variable as well as the unit-sum constraint  
 288 that arises by choosing  $\Sigma^+$  as the normalization variable. While concentration data could  
 289 be used for PCA, the result would not necessarily separate samples based on their so-  
 290 lute sources as solute concentrations can be decoupled from elemental ratios by a vari-  
 291 ety of processes (e.g., evaporation, dilution, variable water-to-rock ratios, and/or vari-  
 292 able extents of reaction).

## 293 **2.2 Solid Phase Compositions: Compilation and Analysis**

294 Icelandic bedrock elemental abundances and sampling locations were primarily taken  
 295 from the Geochemistry of Rocks of the Oceans and Continents (GEOROC) database.  
 296 Additional solid-phase geochemical data, including measurements of sieved sediment sam-  
 297 ples and soils as well as mineral abundances, were taken from the literature (Moulton  
 298 et al., 2000; Thorpe et al., 2019). All bedrock samples were classified into different rock  
 299 types (basalt, dacite, rhyolite, *etc.*) according to a scatterplot of the sum of sodium and  
 300 potassium concentrations and silica concentrations.

301 As a quality control measure for the GEOROC dataset, samples where any of the  
 302 concentrations of Al, Ca, K, Mg, Na, or Si deviated more than three scaled median ab-  
 303 solute deviations from the median concentration for that element were excluded from  
 304 our data analysis, which was accomplished using the MATLAB function `isoutlier()`.  
 305 In total, 6,887 bedrock samples were retained out of initial dataset of 7,849 and used in  
 306 subsequent analyses (88% retention).

307 To constrain the composition of secondary precipitates, we used soil and sediment  
 308 samples in our database where the authors sieved to  $<2\mu\text{m}$  prior to analysis (Moulton  
 309 et al., 2000; Thorpe et al., 2019). While analyses presented in these original publications  
 310 confirm that such samples are enriched in phyllosilicate mineral phases, it is unlikely that  
 311 they are perfectly pure and may instead contain some finely ground primary minerals.  
 312 Accordingly, we use these data as a loose guide on the composition of secondary phyl-  
 313 losilicates. Furthermore, for the data from Moulton et al. (2000), we consider their re-  
 314 ported measurements with and without a correction for contamination from atmospheric  
 315 deposition based on the Cl concentrations reported in the original publication and as-  
 316 suming seawater element to chloride ratios (see discussion in Stefánsson & Gíslason, 2001).

## 317 **2.3 Solute mass balance modelling using MEANDIR**

### 318 **2.3.1 Overview**

319 Models for interpreting the chemical composition of rivers in terms of weathering  
 320 processes range in complexity. For example, the mineral mass balance approach of Garrels  
 321 and Mackenzie (1967) allows for multiple mineral phases to both dissolve and precipi-  
 322 tate with the important constraint that the composition of each phase must be known  
 323 (Moulton et al., 2000). In contrast, the inversion approach of Négrel et al. (1993) groups



324 all silicate minerals together and does not allow for any secondary mineral formation,  
 325 but is less demanding in terms of the prior knowledge required to employ the model. Here,  
 326 we utilize an intermediate complexity approach that accounts for secondary mineral for-  
 327 mation without the strict data requirements of a full mineral mass balance. Our method  
 328 is similar to the approach of Bickle et al. (2015), but differs in that we consider secondary  
 329 silicate phases rather than secondary carbonate phases and are more flexible in our def-  
 330 inition of the silicate end-member. A full description of our inversion model is given in  
 331 P. Kemeny and Torres (2021) and the associated software, titled “Mixing Elements and  
 332 Dissolved Isotopes in Rivers (MEANDIR)”, is available as MATLAB code. Below, we  
 333 describe relevant aspects of the model and its application to the Icelandic dataset.

334 Based on expectations from prior research, we assume that rivers in Iceland source  
 335 solutes from rain water, hydrothermal fluids, silicate mineral dissolution, low-Mg car-  
 336 bonate mineral dissolution, and sulfide mineral oxidation. Additionally, solutes may be  
 337 removed by the formation of secondary clay minerals. For the silicate end-member, we  
 338 utilize four separate components (i.e., one for each major cation). In effect, this results  
 339 in 9 unique end-members. Using our solution scheme (see below), it is possible to solve  
 340 for the fractional contributions from this set of 9 end-members using Cl, SO<sub>4</sub>, Na, K, Ca,  
 341 Mg, and Si concentration measurements alone, which are available for 537 quality-controlled  
 342 river water samples. To evaluate the results we obtain using only major elements as model  
 343 constraints, we perform additional simulations using the subset of river samples with ad-  
 344 ditional trace element and isotopic data. Specifically, we use a subset of 24 samples with  
 345 measurements of Sr concentrations, <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr, and δ<sup>44</sup>Ca as well as a subset of 7 river  
 346 water samples where measurements of δ<sup>26</sup>Mg and δ<sup>30</sup>Si are also available in addition to  
 347 Ca and Sr isotopic ratios.

### 348 2.3.2 MEANDIR inversion equations

For Na, K, Ca, Mg, Sr, Si, SO<sub>4</sub>, and Cl, we utilize the mass balance equation:

$$\left(\frac{X_i}{\Sigma^\pm}\right)_{riv} = \sum_{j=1}^n f_j \cdot \left(\frac{X_i}{\Sigma^\pm}\right)_j \quad (2)$$

349 where  $X_i/\Sigma^\pm$  is the ratio of element  $i$  to the sum of major cations (Na, K, Ca, and Mg)  
 350 and sulfate measured in a river sample (subscript *riv*) or assumed for an end-member  
 351 (subscript  $j$ ) and  $f_j$  is the fractional contribution of end-member  $j$  to the net budget of  
 352 the normalization variable. To force primary minerals to dissolve and secondary min-  
 353 erals to precipitate, we constrain the model to only find solutions where the  $f_j$  values  
 354 are either positive (dissolution) or negative (precipitation) depending on the end-member.

To add strontium isotopic ratios to our mass balance framework, we utilize the equa-  
 tion:

$$\left(\frac{{}^{87}\text{Sr}}{{}^{86}\text{Sr}}\right)_{riv} \cdot \left(\frac{\text{Sr}}{\Sigma^\pm}\right)_{riv} = \sum_{j=1}^n f_j \cdot \left(\frac{{}^{87}\text{Sr}}{{}^{86}\text{Sr}}\right)_j \cdot \left(\frac{\text{Sr}}{\Sigma^\pm}\right)_j \quad (3)$$

355 While Equation 3 represents a relatively standard approach for incorporating isotopic  
 356 data into river inversion models (Négre et al., 1993), we note that our application here  
 357 is complicated by the fact that we allow for solutes to be removed from solution by sec-  
 358 ondary mineral formation (i.e.,  $f_j$  for the clay end-member is constrained to be  $\leq 0$ ). Con-  
 359 sequently, it is mathematically possible for the extent of clay formation to shift dissolved  
 360 <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr values if, for example, the isotopic composition of Sr supplied by weathering,  
 361 atmospheric deposition, and/or hydrothermal inputs does not match the isotopic com-  
 362 position of Sr incorporated into clays. In order to avoid such a mathematical fraction-  
 363 ation of <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr by clay formation, we set the <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr of clays to be equal to the weighted  
 364 average isotopic composition of all of the solute sources in each model simulation.

In contrast to <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr, we *do* expect clay formation to naturally fractionate Mg,  
 Si, and Ca isotopic ratios. Accordingly, we incorporate these isotopic systems using a

different approach. To model the isotopic fractionation associated with clay formation, we adapt the model of Bouchez et al. (2013), which relates the isotopic composition of river water to the extent of element uptake using the expression:

$$\delta_{riv}^X - \delta_{source}^X = F_{clay}^X \cdot \Delta^X \quad (4)$$

where  $\delta_{riv}^X$  is the isotopic ratio of element X measured in a river sample,  $\delta_{source}^X$  is the contribution-weighted average isotopic ratio of element X supplied from all solute sources,  $F_{clay}^X$  is the fraction of all of element X supplied to the weathering system that is taken up into secondary clays, and  $\Delta^X$  is the fractionation factor for element X incorporation into secondary clays. We use the Bouchez et al. (2013) model as mixing in river systems causes departures from Rayleigh-type behavior that can be approximated by this type of linear model (Druhan & Maher, 2017). For each simulation,  $F_{clay}^X$  is constrained by the calculated  $f_j$  values and selected end-member compositions. To determine  $\delta_{source}^X$ , we weight end-member isotopic ratios for rainwater, silicates, carbonates, and hydrothermal fluids (Table 1) by the inversion model results for their fractional contributions. We specify an allowable range for  $\Delta^X$  for each isotopic system based on published experimental and field data (Section 2.3.5; Table 1).

### 2.3.3 MEANDIR solution scheme

We utilize a Monte-Carlo approach to sample the full range of possible end-member compositions. Specifically, we generated random sets of end-member ratios from their defined ranges assuming uniform distributions (Section 2.3.5; Table 1) excluding combinations that violated the unit sum constraint. All inversion model formulations are solved using a cost-function that minimizes the proportional error of each solute using the MATLAB function `fmincon()`. For isotopic systems expressed in delta notation, this approach requires converting the delta values to absolute isotopic ratios. When using only the major elements as model constraints, an additional Monte-Carlo draw of the relative contributions from the Na- and K-silicate end-members is necessary prior to performing the constrained optimization (see NaK-silicate end-member in Table 1). In effect, this makes the parameter search less efficient (i.e., more model iterations are required), but full range of possible silicate end-member compositions is still sampled.

For a given set of end-members, the constrained solution that minimizes the cost-function need not satisfy the observed mass or charge balance of the river water sample. In other words, it is possible that the products of the model predicted mixing fractions ( $f_j$ ) and constrained end-member compositions do not exactly match the river observations. This generic issue affecting most inversion models has various potential solutions, including accepting only a subset of “best-fitting” results (Torres et al., 2016; Hemingway et al., 2020). Here, we avoid poor-fitting parameter combinations by constraining the model to only accept simulations where the predicted values for all solute concentration ratios were within  $\pm 20\%$  of observations, predicted  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ ,  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ , and  $\delta^{44}\text{Ca}$  values were within  $\pm 0.2\text{‰}$  of observations, and predicted  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  was within  $\pm 0.002$  of observations. In effect, this approach accounts for the analytical uncertainty of the riverine measurements and, as means to cull poor-fitting simulations results, is preferable to accepting a fixed percentage of the best-fitting model results. We performed a sufficient number of simulations to generate either 500 (major elements only) or 200 (isotope constrained) results that matched the above constraints for each river sample. In a set of preliminary experiments, we generated 5000 isotope-constrained model results for a subset of samples and, by downsampling, verified that 200 results were sufficient for characterizing the posterior distributions.

### 2.3.4 MEANDIR analysis and model metrics

The calculated mixing fractions ( $f_j$ ) from MEANDIR are used to calculate the proportion of all weathering-derived cations (i.e., those sourced from both carbonate and

silicate dissolution) that are sourced from carbonate weathering ( $R$ ) where:

$$R = \frac{\Sigma_{carbonate}^{\pm}}{\Sigma_{carbonate}^{\pm} + \Sigma_{silicate}^{\pm}} = \frac{f_{carbonate}}{f_{carbonate} + f_{Na-silicate} + f_{K-silicate} + f_{Ca-silicate} + f_{Mg-silicate}} \quad (5)$$

409 Because we assume that the silicate and carbonate end-members do not contribute to  
 410 the  $SO_4$  budget, the calculated values of  $R$  only reflect the cation contributions. Follow-  
 411 ing Torres et al. (2016), we report  $R$  in units of charge equivalents to match C cycle pre-  
 412 dictions based on alkalinity fluxes. We note here that  $R$  can be calculated for both the  
 413 gross weathering budget (before clay mineral formation;  $R_{gross}$ ) and net weathering bud-  
 414 get (after clay mineral formation;  $R_{net}$ ) and that these two measures of  $R$  need not be  
 415 the same. For example, if clays only remove K from solution, which is a cation derived  
 416 from silicate weathering and not carbonate weathering, then  $R_{net}$  will be higher than  
 417  $R_{gross}$ . This is discussed further in Section 4.3.1.

To characterize the degree of primary mineral incongruence, we combine the model results for the relative contributions from the multiple silicate end-members to determine the composition of the overall silicate end-member. Accordingly, the overall silicate end-member for each simulation is calculated by summing the products of the selected  $X/\Sigma^{\pm}$  values for each of the individual silicate end-members and their calculated gross mixing fractions (i.e., the mixing fractions re-normalized to sum to 1). Using Na as an example, the fact that only the Na-silicate end-member contributes to the Na budget and that the value of  $Na/\Sigma^{\pm}$  for this end-member is 1 means that the  $Na/\Sigma^{\pm}$  of the overall silicate end-member can be calculated from the inversion results as

$$Na/\Sigma_{silicate}^{\pm} = \frac{f_{Na-silicate}}{f_{Na-silicate} + f_{K-silicate} + f_{Ca-silicate} + f_{Mg-silicate}} \quad (6)$$

418 Analogous equations can be written for the other cations. Again, because we assume that  
 419 the silicate weathering does not contribute to the  $SO_4$  budget, ratios normalized to  $\Sigma^{\pm}$   
 420 and  $\Sigma^+$  are equivalent for the silicate end-members (i.e.,  $Na/\Sigma_{silicate}^{\pm}$  calculated from  
 421 the model can be compared directly with  $Na/\Sigma^+$  values measured in basalts). Accord-  
 422 ingly, we report all estimates of the composition of the overall silicate end-member as  
 423  $X/\Sigma_{silicate}^{\pm}$  values for clarity.

To assess secondary mineral congruence, we utilize the estimated fraction of the normalization variable taken up into secondary clays ( $f_{clay}$ ). Alone, this value represents the fraction of the observed concentration of  $\Sigma^{\pm}$  that was taken up into secondary phases. So, we re-normalize  $f_{clay}$  so that it instead expresses the fraction of gross solute release taken up into secondary phases ( $F_{clay}^{\Sigma^{\pm}}$ ) where:

$$F_{clay}^{\Sigma^{\pm}} = \frac{-f_{clay}}{1 - f_{clay}} \quad (7)$$

424 This equation assumes that the model perfectly reproduces the river observations, but  
 425 can be adjusted slightly for cases where there is some mismatch between the model pre-  
 426 dictions and river observations. The value of  $f_{clay}$  can also be combined with the indi-  
 427 vidual  $X/\Sigma^{\pm}$  values for the clay end-member and gross elemental budgets to assess, for  
 428 each element, the proportion of the gross solute release that was sequestered into sec-  
 429 ondary phases.

### 430 **2.3.5 End-member definitions**

431 For rainwater Na-, K-, Ca-, Mg-, Cl-, and  $SO_4$  to  $\Sigma^{\pm}$  ratios, we use the full range  
 432 of major element compositions displayed by monthly values at the Irafoss site in the EMEP.  
 433 Further, we assume that rainwater contains negligible Si and that seawater Sr to Ca ra-  
 434 tios can be used to estimate the rainwater Sr to  $\Sigma^{\pm}$  ratio based on our assumed range  
 435 of  $Ca/\Sigma^{\pm}$ . For rainwater Ca, Mg, and Sr isotopic ratios, we use seawater values assum-

436 ing that seawater-derived aerosols are the primary source of these elements in rainwa-  
 437 ter.

438 For the hydrothermal end-member, we take the range defined by the measurements  
 439 of samples in our database with temperatures over 100°C as these are assumed to bet-  
 440 ter represent “pure” hydrothermal fluids. We assume that hydrothermal fluids contain  
 441 negligible Mg ( $\text{Mg}/\Sigma^{\pm}=0$ ) and allow  $\text{SO}_4/\Sigma^{\pm}$  to range from 0 to 0.1. For Ca, Mg, Sr,  
 442 and Si isotopic ratios, we use data from Elderfield and Greaves (1981), P. Pogge von Strand-  
 443 mann et al. (2008), Hindshaw et al. (2013), and Opfergelt et al. (2013).

444 For the carbonate end-member, we assume that it contains negligible amounts of  
 445 Na and K, but allow  $\text{Mg}/\Sigma^+$  to range between 0 (stoichiometric carbonate) and 0.05,  
 446 which is in line with measurements of Icelandic carbonates (Harstad & Stipp, 2007). We  
 447 parameterize that  $\text{Sr}/\Sigma^+$ ,  $\delta^{44}\text{Ca}$ , and  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  of the carbonate end-member using mea-  
 448 surements from Jacobson et al. (2015) and Andrews and Jacobson (2017). We use data  
 449 from (P. A. E. Pogge von Strandmann, Olsson, et al., 2019) to parameterize the Mg iso-  
 450 topic composition of hydrothermal carbonate.

451 For the clay end-member, we make slight adjustments to the ranges of elemental  
 452 ratios displayed by the data presented in Moulton et al. (2000) and Thorpe et al. (2019).  
 453 Specifically, we allow for lower  $\text{Ca}/\Sigma^{\pm}$  values (0.2 to 0.45 instead of the 0.3 to 0.5 range  
 454 displayed by the data) and higher  $\text{Mg}/\Sigma^{\pm}$  values (0.75 to 1 instead of the 0.3 to 0.4 range  
 455 displayed by the data). These differences are justified because the grain-size separates  
 456 from Moulton et al. (2000) and Thorpe et al. (2019) may contain some primary silicate  
 457 minerals in addition to secondary phyllosilicates. Further, we allow  $\text{Si}/\Sigma^{\pm}$  to range be-  
 458 tween 2 and 10, which is wider than the observed range of 2.5 to 6. The higher  $\text{Si}/\Sigma^{\pm}$   
 459 values are included to account for the possibility of some formation of amorphous Si and/or  
 460 aluminosilicates (e.g., allophane and immogolite) that may only sequester low concen-  
 461 trations of cations via adsorption. For  $\text{Sr}/\Sigma^{\pm}$ , we assume a wide range from  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  to  
 462  $3 \times 10^{-3}$  given the lack of direct measurements.

463 In lieu of specifying the Ca, Mg, and Si isotopic ratios of clay minerals, we instead  
 464 specify a range of allowable fractionation factors for each isotope system. Moreover, we  
 465 deliberately select a slightly wider range of fractionation factors relative to existing ob-  
 466 servations to account for uncertainties and limit the influence of a priori distribution on  
 467 the modelling results. By examining the posterior distributions of fractionation factors,  
 468 we are able to examine whether or not “extreme” values much greater than existing ob-  
 469 servations are required to explain the observations. For each isotopic system, we also al-  
 470 low for fractionation factors of 0 ‰, which, in effect, requires all observed variations in  
 471 isotopic ratios to be driving by the mixing of isotopically distinct sources. So, even though  
 472 we include clay minerals as a solute sink in our model, we are able to directly test their  
 473 importance to isotopic budgets by including scenarios where they have no impact.

474 For Si isotopic ratios, we use a range of  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}$  from -2 to +1 ‰. Though most clays  
 475 preferentially take up  $^{28}\text{Si}$  (i.e., negative  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}$ ; Ziegler, Chadwick, White, & Brzezinski,  
 476 2005; Cornelis et al., 2014; Baronas et al., 2020), we allow for slightly positive Si frac-  
 477 tionation factors given experimental data for amorphous Si (Roerdink et al., 2015; Zheng  
 478 et al., 2019) and the possibility that it may serve as a precursor for clays and/or affect  
 479 river chemistry by adsorbing cations. Likewise, we use a range from -1.5 to +1 ‰ for  
 480  $\Delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  based on experimental data showing that the sign of the Mg fractionation factor  
 481 can be variable for clays depending on the Mg-O bond length (Hindshaw et al., 2020).  
 482 For the Ca isotopic system, there is limited experimental data for clay minerals. Nev-  
 483 ertheless, adsorption onto clay surfaces imparts a range of fractionation factors from -  
 484 2.7 to +0.06 (Ockert et al., 2013; Brazier et al., 2019), though the largest fractionation  
 485 factors are observed at seawater ionic strength. Accordingly, we use a prior distribution  
 486 of  $\Delta^{44}\text{Ca}$  from -1.5 to +0.5 to account for the present uncertainty.

487 For the composition of the silicate end-member, we use a novel approach that al-  
 488 lows for primary mineral incongruent weathering. Specifically, we break the silicate end-  
 489 member into four separate components: Na-silicate ( $\text{Na}/\Sigma^\pm = 1$ ), K-silicate ( $\text{K}/\Sigma^\pm =$   
 490  $1$ ), Ca-silicate ( $\text{Ca}/\Sigma^\pm = 1$ ), and Mg-silicate ( $\text{Mg}/\Sigma^\pm = 1$ ). In effect, this allows the sil-  
 491 icate end-member to take on any composition and uses the data to constrain the best-  
 492 fitting values. This contrasts with the approach used in prior inversion models where a  
 493 single silicate end-member is used and assumed to have a composition similar to bulk  
 494 Icelandic basalts. In effect, this restricts the expression of primary mineral incongruence  
 495 to the uncertainty assigned to the silicate end-member composition. We assign all sil-  
 496 icate end-members the same prior distributions for  $\text{Sr}/\Sigma^\pm$ ,  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ , and  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ . How-  
 497 ever, since each of the four silicate end-members are independent, they need not have  
 498 identical values for these ratios in a given simulation. In effect, this captures the slight  
 499 differences in isotopic ratios between igneous materials that results from magmatic dif-  
 500 ferentiation (e.g., Savage et al., 2011). For Ca and Mg isotopic ratios, we use constraints  
 501 from Jacobson et al. (2015), Andrews and Jacobson (2017), and P. Pogge von Strand-  
 502 mann et al. (2008).

### 503 3 Results

#### 504 3.1 Bedrock Chemistry

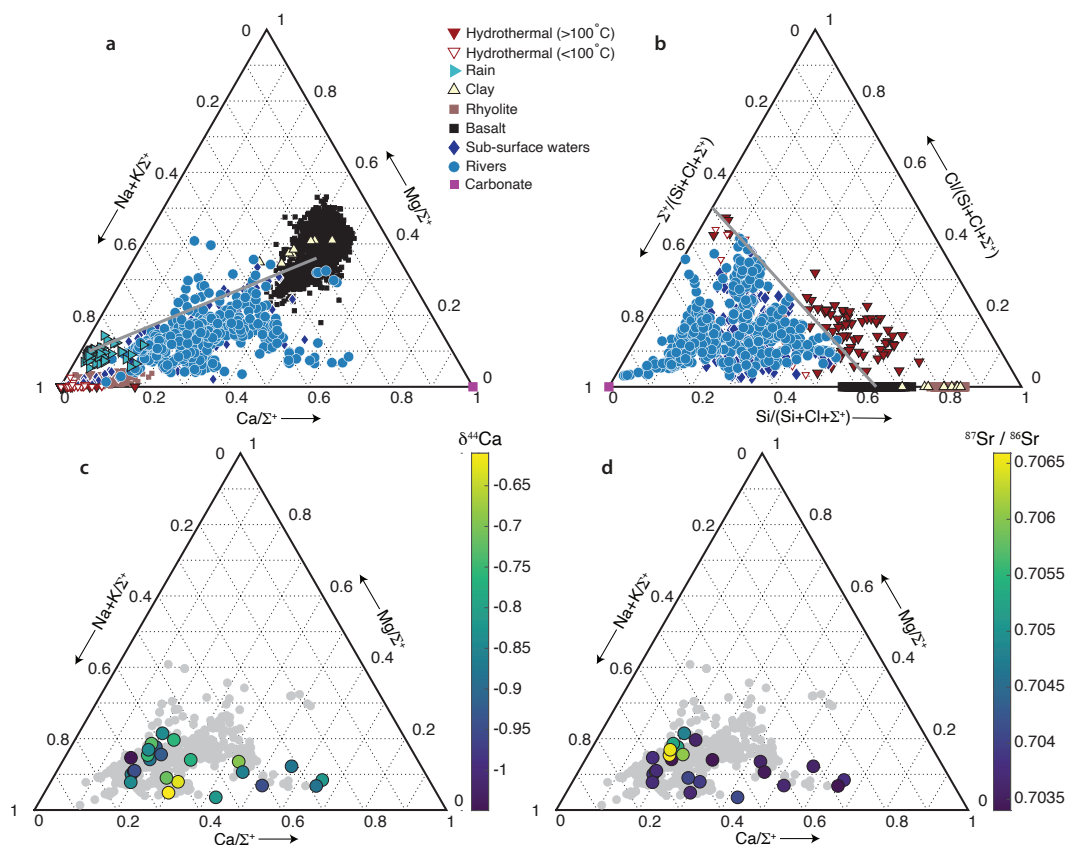
505 Tholeiitic basalts represent  $\sim 80\%$  of the compiled database followed by rhyolite ( $\sim 9\%$ ),  
 506 dacite (3%), trachyte (2%), and to a lesser extent andesite, trachyandesite, trachybasalt,  
 507 picro basalt and basanite ( $\sim 6\%$ ). This generally matches the areal extent of basalt (80-  
 508 85%) and rhyolite ( $\sim 10\%$ ) based on 1:250,000 scale geologic maps (Gíslason et al., 1996;  
 509 Louvat et al., 2008).

510 Using the element to sum of major cations ( $X/\Sigma^+$ ) normalization, rhyolites and  
 511 basalts define Na-rich and Ca-rich end-members, respectively (Figure 2). The other rock  
 512 types (not shown) mostly have intermediate compositions between the rhyolite and basalt  
 513 end-members, as expected. The values of  $\text{Na}/\Sigma^+$  and  $\text{Ca}/\Sigma^+$  for the culled basalts range  
 514 from 0.07 to 0.33 and 0.31 to 0.55, respectively with mean values of 0.18 and 0.44, re-  
 515 spectively. Rhyolite  $\text{Na}/\Sigma^+$  and  $\text{Ca}/\Sigma^+$  values range from 0.444 to 0.767 and 0.007 to  
 516 0.247, respectively with an average  $\text{Na}/\Sigma^+$  of 0.62 ( $1\sigma=0.04$ ).

#### 517 3.2 Hydrochemical data ranges

518 In the original publications from which our compilation is based, many of the gen-  
 519 eral characteristics of the solute chemistry of natural waters in Iceland were discussed  
 520 including proposed differences between water types (e.g., glacial versus non-glacial rivers).  
 521 For completeness, we re-analyze and re-state some of these observations using our larger  
 522 dataset. While we will primarily focus on the river water samples, various aspects of the  
 523 other sample types are discussed as they relate to interpreting the river water samples.  
 524 After quality control (Section 2.1.2), our database includes 96 rain water samples, 32 cold  
 525 springs samples, 213 glacial river samples, 86 groundwater well samples, 154 hydrother-  
 526 mal fluid samples, 4 lake water samples, 93 multi-sourced river samples, 201 non-glacial  
 527 river samples, 54 soil pore water samples, and 30 unclassified river samples. Initially, all  
 528 of the reported concentrations or ratio values will be for samples where no correction for  
 529 rainwater-derived solutes has been applied. In Section 3.5, we discuss the results of the  
 530 inverse solute mass balance model, which allows us to correct the data for atmospheric  
 531 and hydrothermal contributions.

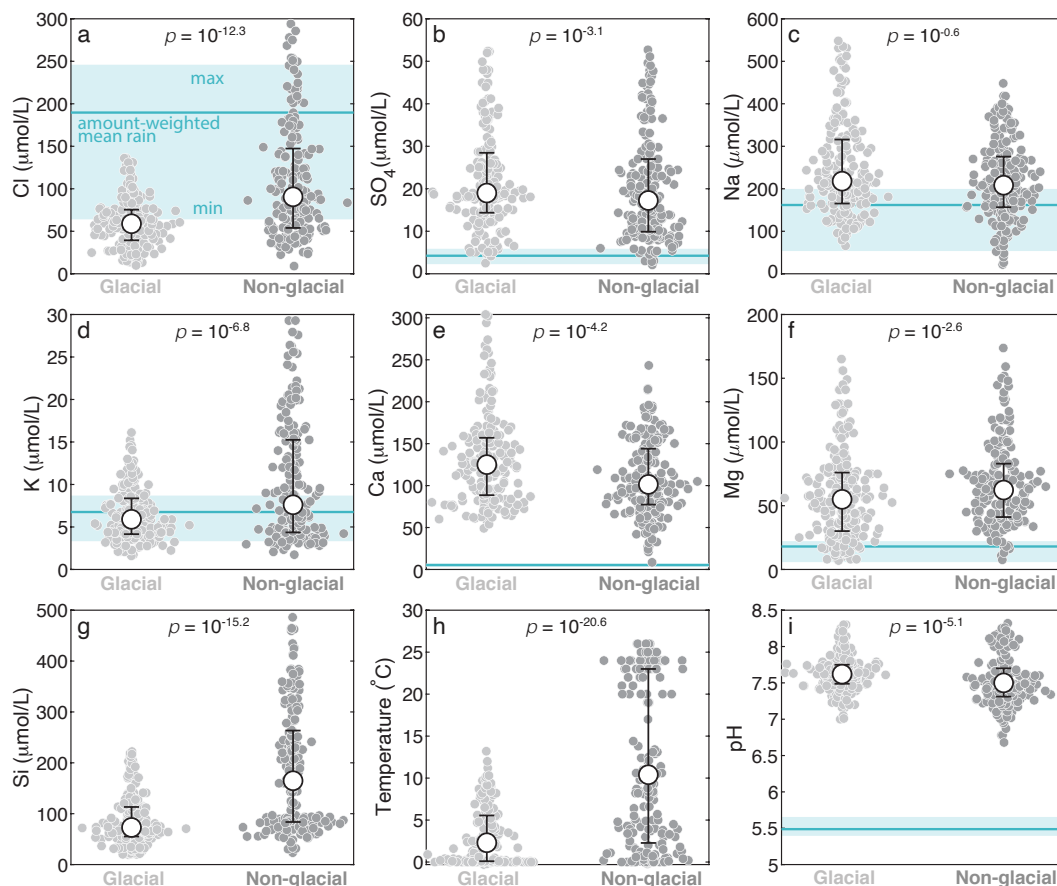
532 For all of the river water samples, the concentrations of Cl,  $\text{SO}_4$ , Na, K, Ca, Mg,  
 533 and Si have median values and ranges (given in parenthesis) of  $77 \mu\text{M}$  (9 to  $1084 \mu\text{M}$ ),  
 534  $20 \mu\text{M}$  (2 to  $2830 \mu\text{M}$ ),  $238 \mu\text{M}$  (22 to  $2780 \mu\text{M}$ ),  $8 \mu\text{M}$  (2 to  $225 \mu\text{M}$ ),  $109 \mu\text{M}$  (8 to  $7780$   
 535  $\mu\text{M}$ ),  $58 \mu\text{M}$  (7 to  $4330 \mu\text{M}$ ), and  $114 \mu\text{M}$  (20 to  $764 \mu\text{M}$ ), respectively (Figure 3). River



**Figure 2.** Solid and dissolved phase elemental ratios. (a) Ternary plot showing the proportions of Na+K, Ca, and Mg in river waters (light blue circles), sub-surface waters (dark blue diamonds), rain (light blue triangle), hydrothermal fluids (red triangles), bulk basalts (black squares), bulk rhyolites (light red), clays (yellow triangles), and Ca-carbonates (purple square). (b) Ternary plot showing the proportions of  $\Sigma^+$ , Si, and Cl using the same symbology as panel a. In both panels a and b, the grey line shows the expected mixing relationship between solutes sourced from basalt dissolution and atmospheric deposition with a seawater composition. (c) Ternary plot showing the proportions of Na+K, Ca, and Mg in the river waters color-coded by  $\delta^{44}\text{Ca}$  (river samples without isotopic measurements are shown in gray). (d) same as in panel c, but with color-coding by  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ .

536 water temperatures range between -0.3 and 26 °C with a median of 5.2 °C. River water  
 537 pH ranges between 6 and 9.8 with a median of 7.6. The river water samples tend to  
 538 have higher concentrations of major solutes relative to rain waters (Figure 3), but are  
 539 generally less concentrated than the sub-surface and hydrothermal waters. The river water  
 540 samples have a similar, but slightly lower concentration of Cl compared to the monthly  
 541 rain data, which may reflect contributions from snow/ice melt (Figure 3a). The sub-surface  
 542 and hydrothermal waters tend to be much more concentrated in Cl relative to the river  
 543 waters.

544 With or without removing outliers, a two sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov (K-S) test  
 545 suggests significant differences in the distributions of solute concentrations, temperature,  
 546 and pH between glacial and non-glacial rivers with the exception of Na concentrations,  
 547 which are not significantly different between the two sample types (Figure 3c). In general,  
 548 glacial river waters are lower in temperature, K, Si, and Cl, but higher in pH, Ca,



**Figure 3.** Jitter plots of solute concentrations, temperature, and pH for glacial (light gray) and non-glacial (dark gray) river waters. The black points indicate the median value for each data distribution and the range from the 25<sup>th</sup> to 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles of the data. Outliers from all data distributions have been removed for visualization and do not affect the outcomes of the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test used to assess differences between the data distributions (associated  $p$  values are listed in each panel). The solid blue lines show the amount weighted mean values for rainwater from the Íráfoss site. The light blue rectangles show the range from the minimum to maximum rainwater values for each parameter. No rainwater values are shown for Si concentration (panel g) or temperature (panel h).

549 and  $\text{SO}_4$  relative to the non-glacial rivers (Figure 3). While glacial versus non-glacial rivers  
 550 may reflect different data distributions, these distributions substantially overlap with each  
 551 other for all measured properties (Figure 3).

552 When normalizing the river water data by sum of major cations ( $\Sigma^+$ ), the ratios  
 553  $\text{Na}/\Sigma^+$ ,  $\text{K}/\Sigma^+$ ,  $\text{Ca}/\Sigma^+$ ,  $\text{Mg}/\Sigma^+$ ,  $\text{Si}/\Sigma^+$ , and  $\text{Cl}/\Sigma^+$  have median values and ranges (given  
 554 in parenthesis) of 0.55 (0.17 to 0.87), 0.02 (0.004 to 0.13), 0.26 (0.09 to 0.66), 0.15 (0.01  
 555 to 0.41), 0.27 (0.01 to 1.28), and 0.20 (0.03 to 0.87), respectively. These ranges do not  
 556 exactly match what is observed in bulk basalts from the GEOROC database (Figure 2).  
 557 In general, the river water data un-corrected for rainwater inputs are enriched in  $\text{Na}/\Sigma^+$   
 558 or, conversely, depleted in  $\text{Mg}/\Sigma^+$  relative to bulk basalts (Figure 2a). Similar discrepan-  
 559 cies are observed for the sub-surface water samples (Figure 2). As with the concen-  
 560 tration data, a K-S test suggests significant differences in the distributions of elemen-

tal ratios between glacial and non-glacial samples with the exception of  $\text{Na}/\Sigma^+$ , which does not appear to have a significantly different distribution between the two river types. Relative to the non-glacial rivers, glacial rivers generally have higher  $\text{Ca}/\Sigma^+$  values, but lower  $\text{K}/\Sigma^+$ ,  $\text{Mg}/\Sigma^+$ ,  $\text{Si}/\Sigma^+$ , and  $\text{Cl}/\Sigma^+$  values.

Atmospheric deposition and hydrothermal fluids are the only end-member water types that can contribute Cl to rivers. Most of the rain samples have  $\text{Cl}/\Sigma^+$  values near 1 whereas hydrothermal fluids show lower and more variable  $\text{Cl}/\Sigma^+$  values (Figure 2b). Both the rain water and hydrothermal fluid samples show elevated  $\text{Na}/\Sigma^+$  values close to the seawater ratio of 0.86 (Figure 2b). Both the river and sub-surface waters are depleted in  $\text{Si}/\Sigma^+$  relative to basalts, rhyolites, and hydrothermal fluids (Figure 2b).

### 3.3 Saturation Indices

Broadly, samples of most water types are under-saturated with respect to primary minerals (albite, anorthite, diopside, forsterite, calcite, and K-feldspar), but exceptions exist. For example, some river water samples are near saturation with respect to albite, K-feldspar, diopside, and calcite (Figure 4a,c,e,f). Most river water samples are super-saturated with respect to kaolinite and Ca-montmorillonite (Figure 4h,k) whereas super-saturation with respect to illite, laumontite, sepiolite, and/or  $\text{AlOH}$ , is less common or not observed (Figure 4g,i,j,l). There is a tendency for the glacial rivers to show higher degrees of super-saturation with respect to the secondary minerals illite, kaolinite, and Ca-montmorillonite as compared to the non-glacial rivers (Figure 4g,h,k). These results are broadly consistent with previous thermodynamic analyses of Icelandic rivers (e.g., Stefánsson et al., 2001).

### 3.4 Principle Component Analysis

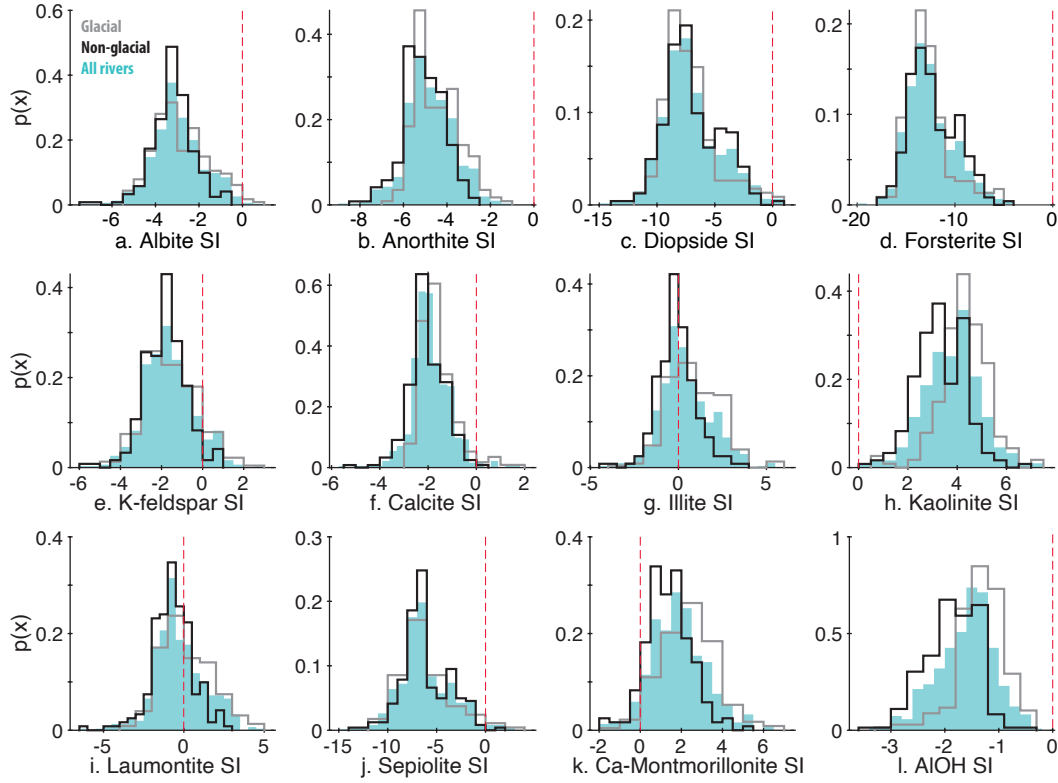
When analyzing *clr*-transformed  $\text{X}/\Sigma^+$  values for a combined dataset of rivers and sub-surface water using PCA, 84%, 12%, and 4% of the variance is explained by principle components 1, 2, and 3, respectively. The strongest variable loading on PC1 is for  $\text{clr}(\text{Mg}/\Sigma^+)$  (Figure 5). For PC2, the strongest variable loading is for  $\text{clr}(\text{K}/\Sigma^+)$  (Figure 5). A portion of the sub-surface water samples cluster together in PC1 separated from most of the river waters, which show higher PC1 values (Figure 5). The river water samples appear inconsistent with conservative mixing between solutes sourced from rainwater, hydrothermal fluids, as well as the dissolution of bulk basalts and/or bulk rhyolites (Figure 5b). This is because mixing relationships plot as a curve in (Figure 5b) that does not intersect with most of the data points. For the sub-surface water samples, PC1 scores are negatively correlated with the sample pH (Figure 5b).

### 3.5 Source and sink apportionment

Our solute mass balance model was able to reproduce all of the quality-controlled river water samples with valid mixing fractions with or without the added isotopic constraints. In Supplementary Figures S2-S5, we show the reconstructed river values for a subset of samples with Mg, Si, Ca, and Sr isotopic ratios, which provides an assessment of how accurately the mixing fractions reproduce the observations. In Supplementary Figure S6, we show an example of how the slight model-data mismatches allowed in our analysis (see section 2.3.3) impact our results using the reconstructed value of  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  and the predicted proportion of carbonate weathering ( $R_{net}$ ) as an example.

As we set our model to find up to 200 or 500 valid model results for each sample, each derived parameter, such as the net ratio of carbonate-derived cations to the sum of carbonate and silicate derived cations ( $R_{net}$ ; Equation 5) is best described as a distribution of values (Figure 7). The exact shape of this distribution can be sensitive to the distributions used to draw end-member ratios and the applied simulation acceptance



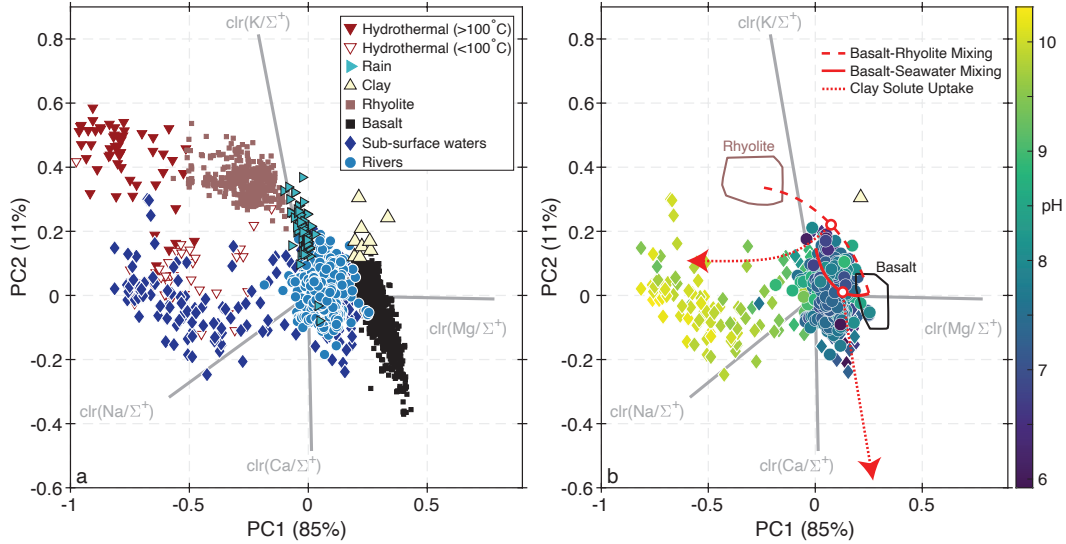


**Figure 4.** Probability density functions of mineral saturation indices for all rivers (filled light blue) and the subsets of glacial (open gray) and non-glacial (open black) rivers. The red dashed lines highlight a saturation index of 0, which represents equilibrium.

609 criteria. As a result, the mean, median, or modal results need not be closer to the “true”  
 610 value relative to some of the rarer results. To describe the distributions of model out-  
 611 put variables, we calculate the 5<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 75<sup>th</sup>, 95<sup>th</sup>, and 99<sup>th</sup> percentiles of the model  
 612 results for each sample.

613 The *a priori* range of possible values span a known interval for all of the derived  
 614 parameters we constrain with our model (i.e.,  $R_{net}$  can only range between 0 and 1). There-  
 615 fore, the model provides new information when the range of results it returns spans a  
 616 smaller range than the *a priori* range. For the parameters we investigate, which include  
 617  $R_{net}$ , the proportion of gross cation supply incorporated into clays ( $F_{clay}^{\Sigma+}$ ), and the de-  
 618 gree of primary mineral congruence, the model returns distributions that span narrower  
 619 ranges than what is allowable and, as a result, these parameters are constrained by the  
 620 model.

621 In addition to looking at the distributions of model parameters at the level of in-  
 622 dividual samples, we also look at the ranges of for each percentile across all samples. For  
 623 example, we calculate the 5<sup>th</sup> percentile of  $F_{clay}^{\Sigma+}$  for each sample and then look at the  
 624 distribution of the pooled 5<sup>th</sup> percentile values. This approach of looking at the inter-  
 625 sample distribution of a percentile value emphasizes the range of a particular statistic  
 626 across all samples. Using the inter-sample distributions of pooled 95<sup>th</sup> percentile values,  
 627 we characterize the upper bound of a model result for “most” samples as the value that  
 628 is higher than 60% of the samples. In Supplementary Figure 10, we show a schematic  
 629 of our approach to visualizing the model results as inter-sample distributions of percentiles.



**Figure 5.** Principle component analysis using centered log-ratio (clr) transformed data. (a) Scatter plot of PC1 and PC2 defined using both the river (light blue circles) and sub-surface water (dark blue diamonds) datasets. Data for basalts (black squares), rhyolites (light red squares), hydrothermal fluids (red triangles), rain waters (light blue triangles), and clays (yellow triangles) are projected into the PCA space defined by the river and sub-surface water data. The gray lines show the principle component coefficients for the four *clr*-transformed variables. (b) PC1 and PC2 scores for the river (circles) and sub-surface water samples (diamonds) color-coded by pH. The compositions of basalts and rhyolites are shown as outlines that encompass 90% of the variation in PC1 and PC2. The solid red line shows mixing between the mean basalt composition and seawater. The dashed red line shows mixing between mean basalt and mean rhyolite. The open red circles along each mixing line denote equal contributions from the end-members. The dotted red lines that originate from both mixing lines show the trends for clay solute uptake using the clay composition shown in the panel as a yellow triangle. These curves are modeled using Equation 2.

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### 3.5.1 Predicted isotopic fractionation

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While isotopic data are only available for a small subset of our full dataset, they can offer important insights into the interpretation of the results derived using only major element concentrations as model constraints (Section 2.3). However, the degree to which the inversion model is constrained by including isotopic data depends on knowledge fractionation factors for the incorporation of elements into secondary minerals. Given limited direct measurements and/or experimental constraints (Section 2.3.5), we opted to include a wide range of values for a prior distributions of Mg, Si, and Ca fractionation factors (Equation 4). Using the posterior distributions of fractionation factors for each isotopic system, we can assess the model performance as, in some cases, values at the extreme ends of our prior distributions may be less likely and/or associated with specific processes or secondary mineral phases.

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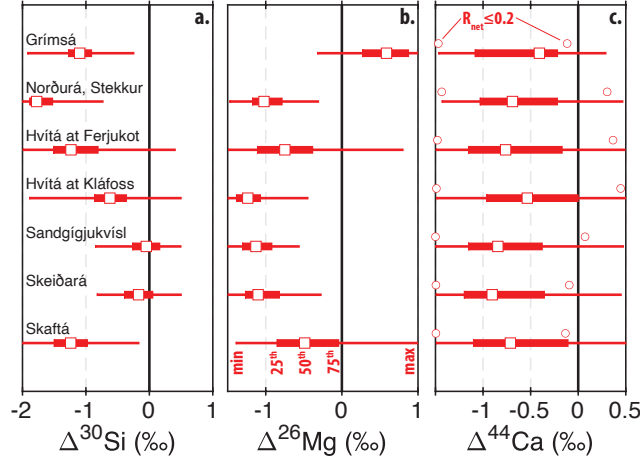
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For Si isotopic ratios, all samples can be modelled with a negative fractionation factor ( $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}$ ), which is the expectation for clay formation (Figure 6a; Ziegler, Chadwick, Brzezinski, & Kelly, 2005; Cornelis et al., 2014; Baronas et al., 2020). Four out of the seven samples can be described by  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}$  greater than or equal to zero, which is the expectation for amorphous Si (Roerdink et al., 2015; Zheng et al., 2019). Similarly, For Mg



**Figure 6.** Inversion-constrained fractionation factors (Equation 4) for Si (panel a), Mg (panel b) and Ca (panel c) isotopic ratios. In each panel, the x-axis scale spans the range of the prior distribution for each isotopic system. For each sample, the range from minimum to maximum allowable fractionation factor is shown as the thin bar. The thick bar shows the range from the 25<sup>th</sup> to 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles. The white square shows the median result. In panel c, the circles show that minimum to maximum range in  $\Delta^{44}\text{Ca}$  for each sample for the subset of simulations where the proportion of carbonate weathering ( $R_{net}$ ) is less than 0.2.

647 isotopic ratios, all of the samples can be modeled with negative fractionation factors (Fig-  
 648 ure 6b), which is the expectation for smectite-group clays (Hindshaw et al., 2020). As  
 649 with Si,  $\Delta^{26}\text{Mg} \geq 0$  is allowable for three out of the seven samples.

650 Unlike for Si and Mg isotopic ratios, the posterior distributions of  $\Delta^{44}\text{Ca}$  values  
 651 span nearly the same range as the prior distributions (Figure 6c). So, both positive and  
 652 negative Ca isotopic fractionations are allowable. Similarly, all of the data can be mode-  
 653 led assuming that clay minerals do not fractionate Ca isotopic ratios (i.e.,  $\Delta^{44}\text{Ca}=0$ ).  
 654 Given that both carbonate dissolution and clay formation with a negative  $\Delta^{44}\text{Ca}$  value  
 655 would tend to increase riverine  $\delta^{44}\text{Ca}$  (Hindshaw et al., 2013; Jacobson et al., 2015), it  
 656 is reasonable to expect a trade-off where simulations with lower proportions of carbon-  
 657 ate weathering ( $R_{net}$ ) are associated with lower  $\Delta^{44}\text{Ca}$  values and vice versa. Such a trade-  
 658 off would be important to recognize as the limited experimental data for freshwater sys-  
 659 tems suggest  $\Delta^{44}\text{Ca}$  values of -0.1 to -0.3 ‰ (Hindshaw et al., 2013; Brazier et al., 2019)  
 660 rather than values closer to the lower bound of our prior distribution, which is informed  
 661 on experiments conducted at high ionic strength (Ockert et al., 2013) and the range of  
 662 global riverine measurements (Bouchez et al., 2013). With this in mind, we report the  
 663 range of  $\Delta^{44}\text{Ca}$  values for the subset of simulations in each sample where  $R_{net}$  is less than  
 664 or equal to 0.2 (i.e., no more than 20% of the sum of carbonate and silicate alkalinity  
 665 is derived from carbonate weathering in units of charge equivalents). While this range  
 666 is shifted to lower  $\Delta^{44}\text{Ca}$  values relative to the full range of model simulations (Figure  
 667 6c), there are still simulations for each sample where  $\Delta^{44}\text{Ca}$  values are entirely compat-  
 668 ible with known Ca isotopic fractionation factors for adsorption onto clay surfaces in fresh-  
 669 water (Brazier et al., 2019). So, while our data can be modeled with large, negative  $\Delta^{44}\text{Ca}$   
 670 values, such values are not necessary to reproduce the observations even when assum-  
 671 ing low contributions from carbonate weathering.

### 3.5.2 Comparison between results with and without added isotopic constraints

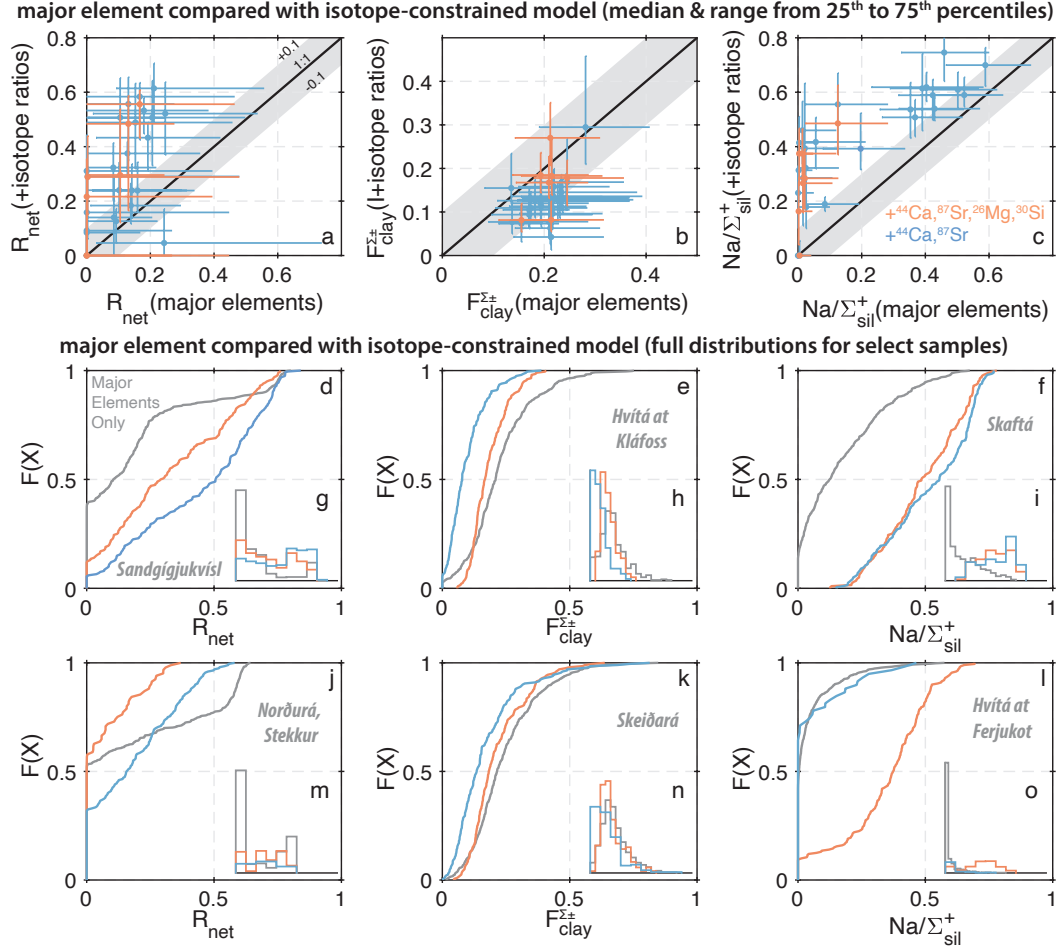
Given the ability of our model to fit all of the river samples with isotopic measurements using reasonable values for Mg, Si, and Ca fractionation factors (Figure 6), we can compare the results obtained using isotopic constraints to those obtained using only major element data for the same sample set (Figures 7). The purpose of this comparison is to identify whether or not including isotopic data substantially modifies the model results for the proportion of carbonate weathering ( $R_{net}$ ), the fraction of gross solute supply taken up into secondary clays ( $F_{clay}^{\pm}$ ) and the overall composition of the silicate end-member ( $Na/\Sigma_{sil}^+$ ). Ultimately, identifying any systematic differences will help us to better interpret the model results for the majority of samples where only major element data are available. We note, however, that the river samples with isotopic data do not span the full range of geochemical variability observed for all rivers in Iceland (Figure 2c,d). Specifically, Mg- and Ca-rich river water samples similar in composition to bulk Icelandic basalts have not been characterized for their Mg, Si, Ca, or Sr isotopic compositions (Figure 2c,d).

For our estimates of  $R_{net}$ , the median results using isotopic constraints tend to be higher than the results using only major elements constraints (Figures 7a). However, in most cases, the 25<sup>th</sup> to 75<sup>th</sup> percentile ranges of  $R_{net}$  values overlap for the model results with and without isotopic constraints (Figures 7a). In other words, the upper and lower bounds tend to be similar with and without isotopic constraints, but, within those bounds, the shape of the distribution can be substantially different (Figure 7a,d,g,j,m).

For  $F_{clay}^{\Sigma^+}$ , including isotopic constraints tends to decrease the median values for most samples (Figure 7b). In some cases, the upper bound on  $F_{clay}^{\Sigma^+}$  markedly decreases when isotopic constraints are included (e.g., Figure 7e,h). Accordingly, adding isotopic constraints appears to help to bound the role of cation uptake into clays. As such, the highest values of  $F_{clay}^{\Sigma^+}$  predicted for a sample using only major elements as constraints is likely an over-estimate for this parameter.

For  $Na/\Sigma_{sil}^+$ , added isotopic constraints slightly increases the median values for most samples (Figure 7c). Given the changes in both  $F_{clay}^{\Sigma^+}$  and  $Na/\Sigma_{sil}^+$ , including isotopic constraints tends to favor results where there is relatively less secondary mineral incongruence and relatively more primary mineral incongruence (Figure 7b,c). For the sample set we test (Figure 2c,d), using  $\delta^{26}Mg$  and  $\delta^{30}Si$  as added constraints does not substantially change the distribution of model results relative to using just  $\delta^{44}Ca$  and  $^{87}Sr/^{86}Sr$  (e.g., Figure 7d,f,k), but slight differences are apparent for some samples (e.g., Figure 7j,l).

While there are coherent differences in median values of  $R_{net}$ ,  $F_{clay}^{\pm}$ , and  $Na/\Sigma_{sil}^+$  with and without the added constraints from isotopic ratios (Figure 7a-c), the different distributions tend to show very similar ranges for a given sample (e.g., Figure 7d,k). Therefore, it is likely reasonable to use the major element only version of the model to place upper and/or lower bounds on the model parameters for each sample. While the major element only model can overestimate the upper bound on  $F_{clay}^{\Sigma^+}$  (e.g., Figure 7e), the differences between the model results and without isotopic constraints vary by about 0.1 (Figure 7b), which provides some guidance for how precisely the results can be interpreted. For  $Na/\Sigma_{sil}^+$ , the observation that the major element only model tends to under-predict this ratio (Figure 7c) suggests that the lower bound calculated using major elements alone is a conservative estimate.



**Figure 7.** Comparison of solute mass balance model results with and without added isotopic constraints. Panels a-c compare the median (point) and 25<sup>th</sup> to 75<sup>th</sup> percentile range (error bar) results calculated using major elements only (x-axis) with the results calculated using added isotopic constraints for the proportion of carbonate weathering ( $R_{net}$ ; Equation 5; panel a), the fraction of solute uptake into clay ( $F_{clay}^{\pm}$ ; Equation 7; panel b), and the  $Na/\Sigma^+$  of the silicate end-member (Equation 6; panel c). For the results using isotopic constraints, we show the 24 samples with Ca and Sr isotopic data in blue. Seven of these 24 samples have additional measurements of Mg and Si isotopic ratios, so we show the inversion results using all 4 isotopic ratios in orange. The black line in the panel shows a 1:1 relationship with the gray shading showing  $\pm 0.1$ . Panels d-o show full intra-sample distributions for the three model parameters using 6 individual rivers (Grimsá River not shown) where either major elements (gray), Ca and Sr isotopic ratios (solid blue), or Mg, Si, Ca, and Sr isotopic ratios (solid orange) are used as model constraints. The main panels show cumulative distribution functions (panels d, e, f, j, k, and l) and the inset panels show probability density functions (panels g, h, i, m, n and o).

## 4 Discussion

Conservative mixing between solutes sourced from congruent basalt dissolution and atmospheric deposition fails to explain a majority of the river and sub-surface water data from Iceland (Figures 2, 5). This observation has been previously stated in some of the original literature from which our compilation is based (e.g., Gíslason et al., 1996), al-

beit sometimes using different wording and/or data analysis techniques. Nevertheless, multiple competing mechanisms exist to explain this discrepancy between the null hypothesis for basaltic watersheds (congruent basalt weathering and atmospheric deposition are the sole solute sources) and the observations from Iceland.

The uptake of cations in secondary clays (secondary phase incongruence; Gíslason et al., 1996; Moulton et al., 2000; Stefánsson et al., 2001; Hindshaw et al., 2013), the dissolution of rhyolites (Louvat et al., 2008), and the dissolution of hydrothermal calcite (Georg et al., 2007; Jacobson et al., 2015; Andrews & Jacobson, 2017) have all been proposed as additional factors that influence the chemical composition of Icelandic rivers. Here, we also consider the potential for individual minerals to react at distinct rates yielding a different geochemical signature than bulk basalt (primary mineral incongruence). To explore the different hypotheses and help discern their relative importance, we first analyze the data using mixing diagrams and then test the resulting inferences using the solute mass balance model. It is important to use these two steps together as individual mixing diagrams are often non-unique in their interpretation, but require few *a priori* assumptions about the underlying processes. While the solute mass balance model leverages all available constraints at once, it requires more restrictive assumptions about the compositions of solute sources and sinks.

As detailed below, we find evidence that both primary and secondary mineral incongruence contribute to observed chemical composition of Icelandic rivers. Carbonate weathering is not strictly required by any of the river water samples in our database, but carbonate contributions are permissible in all samples. In order for carbonate weathering to contribute more to the total cation budget, the relative importance of incongruent weathering must be increased. Below, we describe the evidence for each of these findings, discuss the apparent differences between water sample types (i.e., glacial versus non-glacial and river vs. sub-surface), and provide potential mechanisms underlying the apparently incongruent weathering taking place in Iceland.

#### 4.1 Evidence for cation uptake by secondary clays (secondary phase incongruence)

A majority of the river water samples are relatively depleted in Mg, K, and Si relative to what would be expected from conservative mixing between solutes sourced from basalt dissolution and atmospheric deposition (Figure 2a,b). Interpreting this to reflect some uptake of Si, Mg, and K into secondary clays is consistent with our PHREEQC calculations of super-saturation with respect to clays (Figure 4g,h,i,j,k) as well as available measurements of fine-grained sediments in Iceland, which can be enriched in Si, Mg, and K relative to bulk basalts (Figure 2a,b; Moulton et al., 2000; Thorpe et al., 2019). Selectively removing a specific cation or set of cations affects all element to  $\Sigma^+$  ratios by modifying the denominator term. Assuming clays do not take up much Na, which is consistent with the available sediment measurements (Figure 2; Moulton et al., 2000; Thorpe et al., 2019), clay formation would act to increase  $\text{Na}/\Sigma^+$  relative to what is expected for basalt dissolution and atmospheric deposition (Figure 5b). Such enrichment in  $\text{Na}/\Sigma^+$  is observed in most of the river water data (Figure 2a).

In principle, the extent of Mg-depletion and Na-enrichment could be due to contributions from hydrothermal fluids (Figure 2a), though this would not explain the observed extent of Si depletion as most hydrothermal fluids have high  $\text{Si}/\Sigma^+$  (Figure 2b). While such a scenario appears plausible when looking at individual mixing diagrams, visualizing the data using PCA more clearly shows that the extent of Na-enrichment in the river water data is unlikely to be driven exclusively by hydrothermal contributions (Figure 5a). Relative to conservative mixing between rain water and bulk basalts, the river water data are shifted in PC1 and/or PC2 (Figure 5). The low PC2 scores of the river water data do not match expectations for hydrothermal fluid contributions as this

775 end-member is characterized by much higher PC2 scores (Figure 5a). These interpre-  
 776 tations based on the PCA are consistent with the results of the isotope-constrained mix-  
 777 ing model, which constrains the gross contribution of hydrothermal fluids to the  $\Sigma^+ + \text{SO}_4$   
 778 budget to be less 20% using the median values for 22 of the 24 samples constrained with  
 779 Ca and Sr isotopic ratios (the Sandgígjukvísl and Grimsá River have higher median hy-  
 780 drothermal contributions of 31% and 43%, respectively).

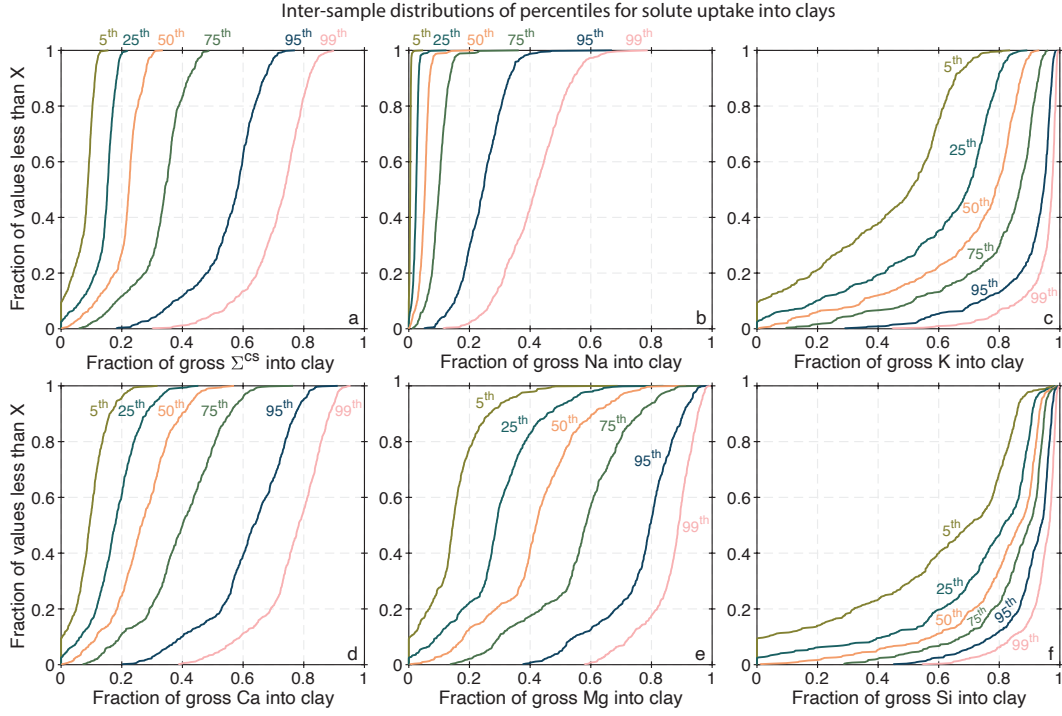
781 The uptake of cations into clay minerals in Icelandic watersheds has been suggested  
 782 previously using the concentrations and isotopic compositions of both major and trace  
 783 elements in both the solid and dissolved phase (Gíslason et al., 1996; Moulton et al., 2000;  
 784 Stefánsson et al., 2001; P. A. Pogge von Strandmann et al., 2006; Georg et al., 2007; Vigier  
 785 et al., 2009; Ehlmann et al., 2012; Hindshaw et al., 2013; Thorpe et al., 2019). Never-  
 786 theless, the magnitude of cation uptake remains poorly constrained on account of dif-  
 787 ferences between the methods used to quantify clay uptake in prior work as well as few  
 788 direct measurements of clay compositions. Using the solute mass balance, we refine es-  
 789 timates of clay cation uptake for all of the samples with major element data. Importantly,  
 790 differences between the MEANDIR model results with and without isotopic constraints  
 791 suggest that the major element only version of the model slightly over-estimates the max-  
 792 imum allowable amount of cation uptake into clays (Figure 7f,l). Below, we account for  
 793 this by using estimates of the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile for each sample distribution. Moreover, we  
 794 do not use the largest 95<sup>th</sup> percentile value from the pool of all river sample distribu-  
 795 tions and instead find the value that is greater than 60% of the samples and use this as  
 796 an upper bound.

797 Taking into account model biases, we estimate that no more than ~60% of the cations  
 798 released by weathering (or provided by atmospheric deposition and/or hydrothermal fluid  
 799 discharge) is likely taken up into secondary clays (Figure 8a). A few samples allow for  
 800 zero cation uptake into clays whereas others require, at a minimum, ~10% of the total  
 801 cation supply to have been sequestered into secondary clays (see upper bound of 5<sup>th</sup> per-  
 802 centile curve in Figure 8a). For Mg and K, clay formation tends to account for a larger  
 803 proportion of the gross solute release compared to Na and Ca (Figure 8b-e). The dis-  
 804 tribution of 95<sup>th</sup> percentile values suggest that, for most (60%) samples, up to roughly  
 805 26%, 95%, 67%, 81%, and 95% of Na, K, Ca, Mg, and Si are taken up to clays, respec-  
 806 tively (Figure 8b-f). Using the distribution of median values, most samples suggest that  
 807 up to roughly 6%, 81%, 30%, 45%, 90% of Na, K, Ca, Mg, and Si are taken up to sec-  
 808 ondary clays, respectively (Figure 8b-f).

#### 809 **4.2 Evidence for preferential Na release from silicates (primary mineral** 810 **incongruent weathering)**

811 While clay mineral formation acts to increase riverine  $\text{Na}/\Sigma^+$ , it is likely insuffi-  
 812 cient to explain the full extent of Na enrichment evident in the river water data such that  
 813 an additional mechanism for Na enrichment is required. In part, this is because the mag-  
 814 nitude of cation uptake into clays is limited by the Si budget (Figure 8f) and the rela-  
 815 tively low  $\Sigma^+/\text{Si}$  ratios of measured Icelandic clays (Figure 2b). While contributions from  
 816 atmospheric deposition and/or hydrothermal fluids also act to increase  $\text{Na}/\Sigma^+$ , this mech-  
 817 anism cannot explain the high  $\text{Na}/\Sigma^+$  values observed for river samples with relatively  
 818 low  $\text{Cl}/\Sigma^+$  (Figure 2b). To explore the possibility of preferential Na-release from rocks/minerals,  
 819 we utilize our reconstruction of the overall silicate end-member from the four individ-  
 820 ual components (Equation 6).

821 For many river water samples, the calculated overall silicate end-member using the  
 822 default model does not match the  $\text{Na}+\text{K}/\Sigma^+$ ,  $\text{Ca}/\Sigma^+$ , and  $\text{Mg}/\Sigma^+$  values observed for  
 823 bulk basalts in the GEOROC database (Figure 9). Instead, the model returns an over-  
 824 all silicate end-member that is relatively depleted in Ca and enriched in Na compared  
 825 to bulk basalts (Figure 9). The visualization in Figure 9a shows the calculated silicate

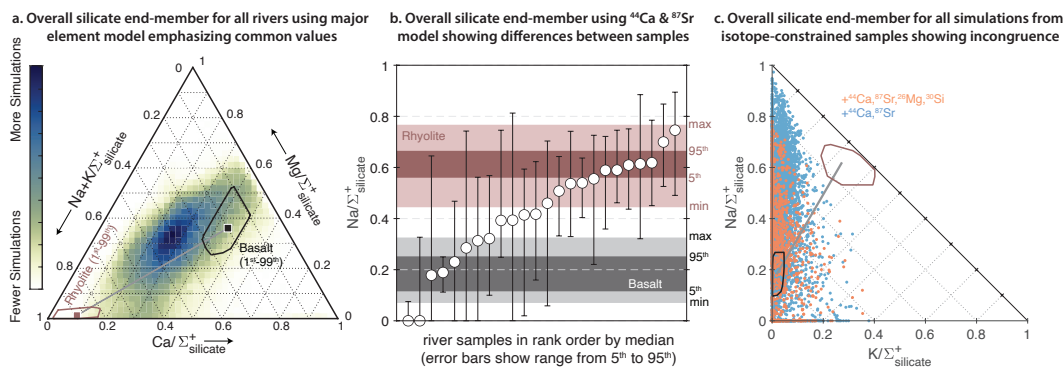


**Figure 8.** Fractions of gross solute release sequestered into secondary clays. Each panel shows the inter-sample variability (as an empirical cumulative distribution function) in the 5<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 75<sup>th</sup>, 95<sup>th</sup>, and 99<sup>th</sup> percentiles calculated from the 500 simulations for each sample. For example, the blue curve labeled “95<sup>th</sup>” in panel a shows the range in the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile of the fraction of gross  $\Sigma^+$  sequestered into secondary clay calculated from each individual sample. Panels a-d show the fraction of the gross amount of  $\Sigma^+$ , Na, K, Ca, Mg, and Si sourced to each sample that was sequestered into secondary clays, respectively.

826 end-member compositions for all of the river water samples using only major elements  
 827 as model constraints. For clarity, results where  $\text{Na}/\Sigma_{sil}^+$ ,  $\text{Ca}/\Sigma_{sil}^+$ , or  $\text{Mg}/\Sigma_{sil}^+$  were less  
 828 than 0.01 or  $\text{K}/\Sigma_{sil}^+$  was less than 0.001 were filtered out. By grouping all of the data  
 829 together, this visualization highlights the silicate end-member compositions that are shared  
 830 by the most samples. The modal result in Figure 9a is outside of the 1<sup>st</sup> to 99<sup>th</sup> percentile  
 831 range of basaltic compositions and falls along the mixing trend from basaltic to rhyolitic  
 832 rock compositions (i.e., it is more Na-rich than expected for the congruent weathering  
 833 of basalts).

834 While Figure 9a emphasizes end-member compositions that are shared between river  
 835 samples, it is also the case that different river samples are characterized by different silicate  
 836 end-member compositions. In Figure 9b, we show the 5<sup>th</sup> to 95<sup>th</sup> percentile results  
 837 for the inversion constrained  $\text{Na}/\Sigma^+$  value for the silicate end-member using the 24 samples  
 838 with Ca and Sr isotopic constraints. In 9 of these samples,  $\text{Na}/\Sigma_{sil}^+$  is higher than  
 839 bulk Icelandic basalts (Figure 9b). In contrast, only 4 samples return model results that  
 840 only match basaltic  $\text{Na}/\Sigma_{sil}^+$  values (Figure 9b). The remaining 11 samples can be fit by  
 841 either a basaltic or rhyolitic  $\text{Na}/\Sigma_{sil}^+$  value (Figure 9b).





**Figure 9.** Inversion constrained composition of the silicate end-member. (a) ternary diagram of the proportions of Na+K, Ca, and Mg. The MEANDIR results using only major element data are represented as a 2D histogram where darker colors reflect more simulations from each sample producing an end-member composition with that particular value. For comparison, we show the compositions of basalts and rhyolites as black and light red squares with outlines that encompass 98% of the measured variability. The gray line connecting the black and light red squares is the mixing line between mean basalt and mean rhyolite. (b) Inversion constrained values for the  $Na/\Sigma^+$  using Ca and Sr isotopic data as model constraints. The white circles show the median values calculated using the model and the error bars show the range from the 5<sup>th</sup> to 95<sup>th</sup> percentiles. For comparison, we show the minimum/maximum (light shading) and 5<sup>th</sup>/95<sup>th</sup> percentile (dark shading) ranges of  $Na/\Sigma^+$  for Icelandic basalts (black) and rhyolites (light red). (c) Incongruent release of Na relative to K evident in the isotope-constrained solute mass balance model simulations. The blue (Ca and Sr isotope constrained; n=24) and orange (Mg, Si, Ca, and Sr isotope constraints; n=7) points show the predicted composition of the silicate end-member for each individual simulation for all rivers considered. Similar results (i.e., incongruent release of Na relative to K) are also obtained using only major elements as constraints.

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#### 4.2.1 Potential mechanisms of preferential Na release during silicate weathering

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Roughly 10% of Iceland is underlain by rhyolitic bedrock (Gíslason et al., 1996; Louvat et al., 2008), fine-grained rhyolitic tephra is deposited on catchment surfaces by local volcanic eruptions (Larsen & Eiriksson, 2008; Óskarsson et al., 2012), rhyolitic glass can be present as an interstitial phase in basalts (Meyer & Sigurdsson, 1978) and, in laboratory experiments, rhyolitic glass dissolves as fast as crystalline basalt (Wolff-Boenisch et al., 2004). Similarly, basalts contain albite ( $NaAlSi_3O_8$ ) as a major phase and laboratory experiments are consistent with albite dissolution rates matching the dissolution rate of anorthite ( $CaAl_2Si_2O_8$ ) at circum-neutral pH values after surface area normalization (Brantley et al., 2008). It follows that some contribution from the weathering of Na-rich lithologies and/or minerals could explain the general enrichment in  $Na/\Sigma^+$  of the overall silicate end-member determined from the river water data (Figure 9).

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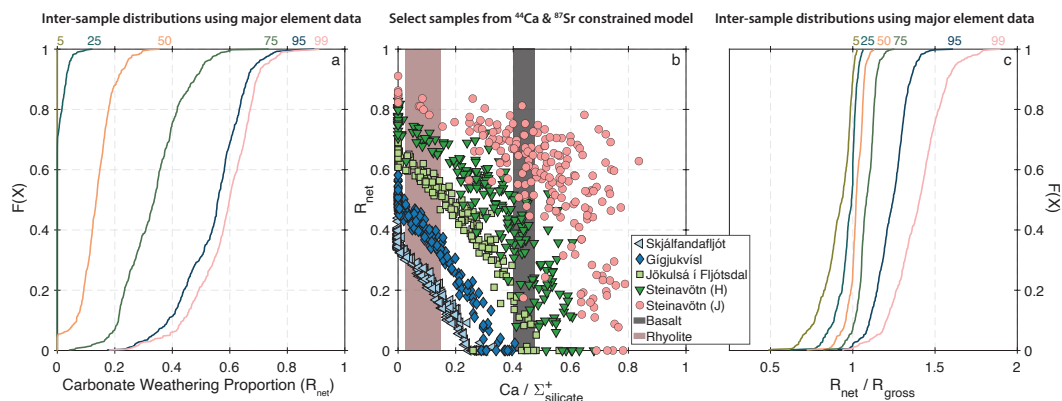
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If the Na-enrichment of the silicate end-member is due to the preferential weathering of interstitial rhyolitic glass or albite in basalts, then it can reasonably be classified as primary mineral incongruence. If instead it derives from the weathering of rhyolite outcrops or ash deposits (Louvat et al., 2008), then it is more appropriately thought of as multiple silicate end-members. Some model results do not produce a silicate end-member that exactly matches mixing between bulk basalts and bulk rhyolites (Figures 9a,c and 10b). Instead, the calculated silicate end-members can be K-poor (Figure 9c)



**Figure 10.** Constraints on carbonate contributions from the solute mass balance model. (a) Empirical cumulative distribution functions of the inter-sample variability in the 5<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 75<sup>th</sup>, 95<sup>th</sup>, and 99<sup>th</sup> percentiles of the carbonate weathering proportion ( $R_{net}$ ; Equation 5). (b) The values for the  $Ca/\Sigma^+$  of the silicate end member and  $R_{net}$  for individual simulations for a subset of 5 samples with Ca and Sr isotopic constraints. Each point is a single simulation and the different colors correspond to different river water samples. The ranges of  $Ca/\Sigma^+$  for basalts and rhyolites from the GEOROC database are shown as black and salmon rectangles, respectively. (c) The ratio of net carbonate contributions to gross carbonate contributions calculated from the inversion of major element data only shown as an inter-sample distribution of percentiles.

862 or Ca-rich (Figure 10b) relative to expectations for contributions from congruent rhy-  
 863 olite dissolution and basalt weathering. As such, even if the Na-enrichment is due to the  
 864 dissolution of rhyolitic outcrops or ash deposits, the weathering of this more felsic ma-  
 865 terial is characterized by primary mineral incongruence, especially with respect to K (Fig-  
 866 ure 9c).

867 Ultimately, classifying the observed silicate end-member as resulting from primary  
 868 mineral incongruence versus multiple silicate end-members is important as the exact mech-  
 869 anism(s) underlying the dissolved Na enrichment of Icelandic watersheds, which persists  
 870 after clay formation, atmospheric deposition, or hydrothermal fluid discharge are taken  
 871 into account, underlies the applicability of studies from Iceland to other volcanic systems  
 872 (Börker et al., 2019). Future work looking at the compositions of soils, fluvial sediment,  
 873 and weathered rocks may provide helpful constraints to address this knowledge gap.

#### 874 4.3 Constraints on carbonate contributions to Icelandic rivers

875 The dissolution of trace calcite formed during the hydrothermal alteration of basalts  
 876 could potentially contribute some proportion of the total Ca measured in Icelandic rivers  
 877 (Georg et al., 2007; Jacobson et al., 2015; Andrews & Jacobson, 2017). However, given  
 878 the overall trend of dissolved Na-enrichment in Icelandic rivers (Figure 2a), contributions  
 879 from carbonate weathering alone cannot explain the full range of river water chemistry  
 880 without also including primary and secondary mineral incongruence. Nevertheless, the  
 881 C cycling implications of carbonate weathering are very different than silicate weather-  
 882 ing, so it is important to determine what proportion of the cation budget may be derived  
 883 from carbonates even if carbonate weathering does not generate the first-order trends  
 884 apparent in the hydrochemical data (Figure 2a).

885 The results for  $R_{net}$  from the solute mass balance model imply that the dissolu-  
 886 tion of carbonate is not required to explain the elemental and isotopic composition of

887 Icelandic rivers (Figure 10a). Specifically, using the 5<sup>th</sup> percentile of  $R_{net}$  as a guide for  
 888 the minimum carbonate contribution, the largest value we find for any river sample is  
 889 0.0004% and thus represents a negligible contribution from carbonate dissolution. Us-  
 890 ing the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile of the range of model results for each sample, most samples are  
 891 incompatible with substantial carbonate contributions as a minority (<40%) of samples  
 892 yield inversion results where >60% of the cation budget derives from carbonate weath-  
 893 ering (Figure 10a). The few samples that are suggestive of large carbonate contributions  
 894 are characterized by distinctly low  $\text{Na}/\Sigma^+$  and high  $\text{Ca}/\Sigma^+$  values relative to most of  
 895 the other river water data. However, for these same samples, model solutions with low  
 896 values of  $R_{net}$  that match elemental and isotopic constraints are also found where the  
 897 solution chemistry is explained by the preferential release of Ca from silicate minerals  
 898 (Figure 10b).

899 Considering all samples together, the aggregate distribution of  $R_{net}$  can be inter-  
 900 preted as having two modes (e.g., Figures 7d & 10b): one with a low carbonate contri-  
 901 bution ( $R_{net} < 0.1$ ) and one with a higher carbonate contribution ( $R_{net} > 0.5$ ). Stated  
 902 another way, the model results indicate a trade-off between the degree of primary min-  
 903 eral incongruence and carbonate contributions (Figure 10b). Specifically, in order to get  
 904 large carbonate contributions (high  $R_{net}$ ), it is necessary to have a silicate end-member  
 905 that is more depleted in Ca relative to bulk basalts (Figure 10b).

906 This trade-off between the composition of the overall silicate end-member and the  
 907 proportion of cations from carbonate weathering reflects the ambiguity of our selected  
 908 tracers, but can be leveraged to improve estimates in future studies if any of these sources  
 909 or processes can be independently constrained with additional analyses. Here, we dis-  
 910 cuss two approaches that can be used to further constrain  $R_{net}$  and apply them to the  
 911 subset of the data where it is possible. Importantly, both of these approaches act to de-  
 912 crease the amount of carbonate weathering allowable in each sample. Accordingly, we  
 913 posit that silicate weathering dominates the alkalinity budget of chemical weathering in  
 914 Iceland.

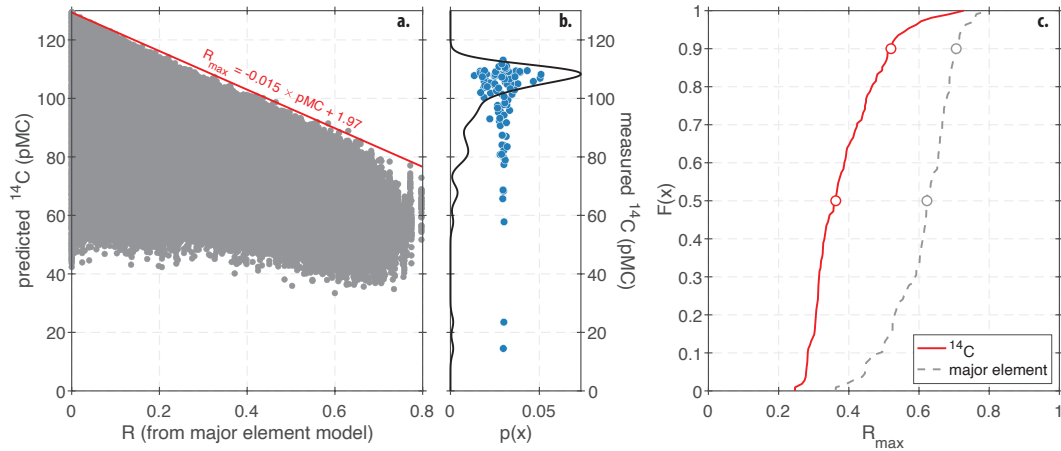
915 One additional tracer useful for constraining  $R_{net}$  is the  $^{14}\text{C}$  content of dissolved  
 916 inorganic carbon (DIC). This is because the dissolution of hydrothermal calcite is ex-  
 917 pected to provide radiocarbon-dead DIC decreasing the  $^{14}\text{C}$  content of riverine DIC re-  
 918 lative to expectations from DIC derived from the atmosphere and/or soil respiration, which  
 919 will both have higher  $^{14}\text{C}$  contents. Unlike  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ ,  $^{14}\text{C}$  measurements are unaffected by  
 920 degassing and are thus easier to interpret as a constraint on DIC sources.

921 As a proof-of-concept, we use our model output from MEANDIR to predict the  $^{14}\text{C}$   
 922 content of DIC taking into account uncertainties in the isotopic composition of soil res-  
 923 piration using soil carbon data from Torres et al. (2020). We then compare these pre-  
 924 dictions to riverine measurements of  $^{14}\text{C}$  from (Sveinbjörnsdóttir et al., 2020), which are  
 925 available for 108 of the samples in our database with measurements of major element  
 926 concentrations and MEANDIR model predictions. A full description of this calculation  
 927 is included in the Supplementary Materials. Unfortunately, there is no overlap between  
 928 samples with measurements of Mg, Si, Ca, and Sr isotopic ratios and those with  $^{14}\text{C}$  mea-  
 929 surements, but we suggest that this would be a useful goal for future work.

930 While adding Mg, Si, Ca, and Sr isotopic constraints helps to bound cation uptake  
 931 into clays (Figure 7e,k), we find that C isotopic ratios help to bound possible carbon-  
 932 ate contributions and our estimates of  $R_{net}$ . For the 108 samples with  $^{14}\text{C}$  measurements,  
 933 we find that there is a shared upper bound where the highest  $^{14}\text{C}$  value that can be gen-  
 934 erated depends on  $R_{net}$  (Figure 11a). By fitting this upper bound with a linear relation-  
 935 ship (Figure 11a), we are able to convert all of the measurements of  $^{14}\text{C}$  (Figure 11b)  
 936 into estimates of the maximum allowable  $R_{net}$  for each sample. We find that measure-  
 937 ments of  $^{14}\text{C}$  greatly decrease the highest allowable value of  $R_{net}$  based on major ele-  
 938 ment constraints for most samples (Figure 11c). For example, 90% of samples with C

939 isotopic data have  $R_{net}$  values of less than 0.52 with most having  $R_{net}$  less than 0.4 (Figure 11c).  
 940

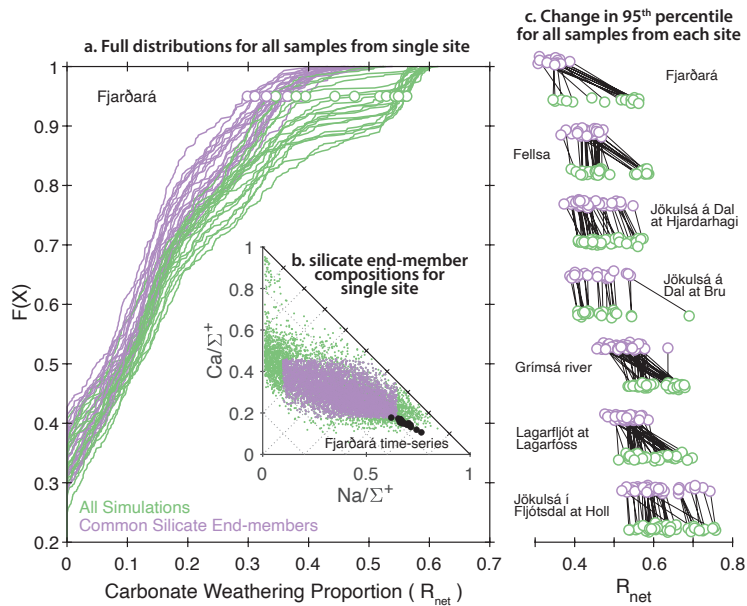
941 River samples in the Sveinbjörnsdóttir et al. (2020) dataset are super-saturated with  
 942 respect to  $\text{CO}_2$  and can have  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values that do not match equilibrium with atmospheric  
 943  $\text{CO}_2$ . Consequently, the high  $^{14}\text{C}$  values are unlikely to represent exchange with atmo-  
 944 spheric  $\text{CO}_2$  and instead can be reasonably interpreted as a constraint on DIC sources.  
 945 The high measured values of  $^{14}\text{C}$  for most samples are incompatible with large carbon-  
 946 ate contributions to the alkalinity budget (Figure 11c). Importantly,  $^{14}\text{C}$  only constrains  
 947 the maximum allowable  $R_{net}$  and, for all samples, lower values than the upper bound pro-  
 948 vided by  $^{14}\text{C}$  are permissible. Given the overall rarity of any samples with a maximum  
 949 allowable  $R_{net}$  of greater than 0.5 (i.e., equal contributions of carbonate and silicate-derived  
 950 alkalinity), we conclude that silicate weathering dominates the alkalinity budget of weath-  
 951 ering in Iceland.



**Figure 11.** Carbon isotopic modelling. (a) The grey points show predictions of  $^{14}\text{C}$  based on MEANDIR output for all 108 samples with C isotopic measurements. The red line shows a fitted upper bound based on all samples and simulations. (b) Field measurements of the  $^{14}\text{C}$  content of DIC for the subset of river measurements presented by Sveinbjörnsdóttir et al. (2020) that also have major element data. The blue points show the individual measurements while the black line shows a kernel density estimate of their probability distribution. (c) Empirical cumulative distribution functions of the maximum allowable value of  $R_{net}$  based on modelling major elements using MEANDIR (gray dashed line) or a combination of MEANDIR and  $^{14}\text{C}$  data (red line).

952 As an orthogonal approach to further constrain  $R_{net}$ , we take advantage of the fact  
 953 that some of the samples in our dataset are time-series collected from single sampling  
 954 locations. One hypothesis is that all of the samples in a time-series from a single loca-  
 955 tion should share the same silicate end-member composition given that they share the  
 956 same catchment area. Such a prediction may be reasonable for sites where bedrock is  
 957 present at or near the surface and soils are relatively thin and poorly developed. This  
 958 hypothesis can be applied to a time-series to constrain  $R_{net}$  by removing simulations from  
 959 each individual sample where the calculated silicate end-member composition is not shared  
 960 with every other sample from the same location. Here, we select the seven sites with at  
 961 least 20 time-series measurements and investigate how the distribution of  $R_{net}$  changes  
 962 when the constraint of shared silicate end-member compositions is imposed for each site.

963 For each of the seven sites, we find that the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile of the distribution of  
 964  $R_{net}$  values tends to decrease when all samples are required to sample the same silicate



**Figure 12.** Constraining the carbonate weathering proportion ( $R_{net}$ ) using time-series data. (a) Empirical cumulative distributions of  $R_{net}$  for all time-series samples from a single site along the Fjarðará River (Eiriksdottir et al., 2013). The green curves show all model simulations while the purple curves show the subset of model simulations with the same range of silicate end-member compositions. (b) Silicate end-member compositions from the Fjarðará showing the full range (green) and the range shared by all samples from the time-series (purple). (c) Change in the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile of  $R_{net}$  for all sites with long time-series after requiring all samples from a site to share the same range in silicate end-member compositions.

965 end-members (Figure 12a,c). The magnitude of the decrease is variable sample to sample and, in some instances, little to no change is observed. At the same time, we do not  
 966 observe any samples where the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile is meaningfully increased (Figure 12c).  
 967 While imposing shared silicate end-members on each time-series is an assumption, we  
 968 note that mixing trends apparent in the dataset are not inconsistent with shared end-  
 969 members (Figure 12b). Given that high values of  $R_{net}$  are rare overall and that includ-  
 970 ing additional constraints has a tendency to further decrease  $R_{net}$ , we conclude most of  
 971 the alkalinity generated by chemical weathering in Iceland is sourced from the dissolu-  
 972 tion of silicates as opposed to carbonates.  
 973

#### 974 **4.3.1 Net versus gross carbonate contributions**

975 The evidence for cation-bearing clay formation during chemical weathering in Ice-  
 976 land implies that the partitioning of solutes between carbonate and silicate sources can  
 977 be done for both gross (before clay formation) and net (after clay formation) weather-  
 978 ing fluxes. These two approaches to source partitioning need not yield identical results  
 979 given that 1) carbonate and silicate minerals contribute differently to the budget of each  
 980 major cation and 2) secondary clays preferentially uptake specific cations. Since Icelandic  
 981 carbonates are observed to have low K and Mg contents (Harstad & Stipp, 2007) and  
 982 Icelandic phyllosilicates are K- and Mg-rich (Moulton et al., 2000; Thorpe et al., 2019),  
 983 net weathering fluxes should show a higher contribution from carbonates relative to gross  
 984 fluxes. Comparing the budgets for net and gross weathering reveals whether the mag-  
 985 nitude of the carbonate contribution is driven primarily by greater reactivity (gross bud-

get) versus inflation due to the uptake of primarily silicate-derived cations via secondary clay formation (net budget). Ultimately, it is the net weathering flux that impacts the ocean/atmosphere chemistry and Earth’s climate.

The fractional contributions from each of the solute sources can be summed and re-normalized to this total to calculate their individual contributions to the gross budget for the normalization variable ( $\Sigma^+ + \text{SO}_4$ ). This re-normalization accounts for the fact that the raw fractions from each solute source calculated using the inversion model do not sum to 1 on account of solute uptake into clays. The gross  $\Sigma^+ + \text{SO}_4$  budget can then be used to calculate gross budgets for each individual solute using the corresponding end-member definitions. Finally, the gross budgets for each solute can be applied to the observed (i.e., net) concentrations to determine the cation and  $\Sigma^+ + \text{SO}_4$  budgets for net weathering.

As expected, we find that some samples return model solutions where the proportion of cations in the river water derived from carbonate dissolution is apparently higher as a result of the preferential uptake of Mg and K into clays (Figure 10c). The exact increase in  $R_{net}$  as a consequence of clay formation is uncertain and variable between samples, but increases of up to 20% are allowable in most samples (Figure 10c). So, it is possible that estimates of carbonate contributions in Iceland are elevated *because* of clay formation and not just the abundance and reactivity of carbonate in the weathering zone. We also note that some samples show model solutions with ratios of net to gross carbonate proportions that are lower than one, which reflects the incorporation of carbonate derived Ca into clays, which is discussed further below.

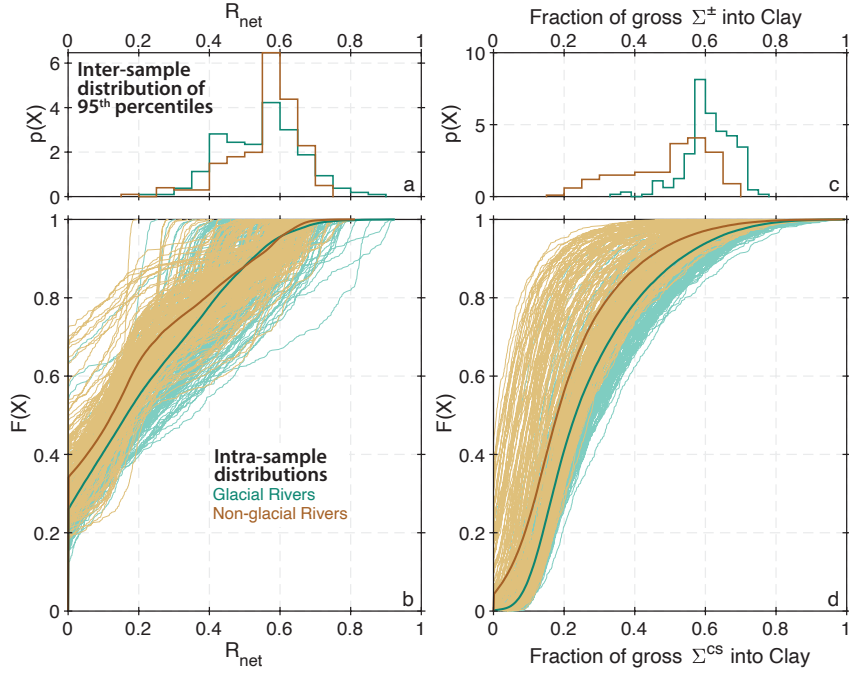
#### 4.4 Implications of incongruent weathering for cation mobility

In prior publications on data from Icelandic rivers (e.g., Gíslason et al., 1996; Stefánsson & Gíslason, 2001), the “mobility” of different elements during weathering has been calculated as:

$$X_{\text{mobility}} = 100 \times \frac{X^*/Na^*_{\text{river}}}{X/Na_{\text{basalt}}} \quad (8)$$

where the superscript asterisk refers to solute concentrations that have been corrected for contributions from atmospheric deposition using Cl concentrations and end-member element to Cl ratios. This approach conflates both types of incongruent weathering by assuming that the expected ratio of solutes in river waters (after correction for atmospheric contributions) is given by bulk basalts. As described above, our data suggests that the effective silicate end-member for most rivers in Iceland is not bulk basalts and is instead more Na-rich. As a result, the elemental mobility inferred from Equation 8 might be artificially decreased. Identifying this potential bias is important as it underlies the calibration of some isotopic tools for reconstructing weathering processes in the past (e.g.,  $\delta^7\text{Li}$ ; P. A. E. Pogge von Strandmann, Fraser, et al., 2019).

Past estimates of element mobility in Iceland using Equation 8 are difficult to directly compare to our results using the solute mass balance model for multiple reasons. Firstly, Equation 8 produces mobility values greater than 100% for some elements in some river samples (Stefánsson & Gíslason, 2001). Additionally, our solute mass balance model allows solutes sourced from rainwater or carbonates to ultimately be incorporated into clays, which is not accounted for in Equation 8. Such behavior is consistent with measurements of soil profiles in other volcanic landscapes where atmosphere-derived cations are incorporated into solid-phases (Huh et al., 2004; Chadwick et al., 2009; Dessert et al., 2020). The large uncertainty in our estimates of mobility for individual samples also makes it difficult to quantify biases that might result from Equation 8. For example, uncertainty in clay compositions and other model parameters can increase mobility estimates relative to what is predicted using Equation 8 despite the fact that a more Na-rich silicate end-member tends to decrease mobility estimates in general.



**Figure 13.** Solute mass balance model predictions for glaciated versus non-glaciated watersheds. (a) Inter-sample distribution of 95<sup>th</sup> percentile values for the proportion of carbonate weathering ( $R_{net}$ ) for glaciated (blue) and non-glaciated (brown) river samples. (b) Full distributions of  $R_{net}$  for all glacial and non-glacial river samples. The thin, lighter-colored lines show individual samples whereas the thicker, darker-colored lines show the distributions for all samples combined. (c) same as in panel a, but showing the inter-sample distributions for the fraction of  $\Sigma^+ + \text{SO}_4$  uptake into clays ( $F_{clay}^{\Sigma^{\pm}}$ ). (d) same as in panel b but showing the full distributions of  $F_{clay}^{\Sigma^{\pm}}$  for glaciated and non-glaciated watersheds.

1032 To make a simplified comparison to previous work, we note that Gíslason et al. (1996)  
 1033 report that K is more mobile than Ca in Icelandic watersheds, which is not supported  
 1034 by our analysis (Figure 8c,d). Similarly, Gíslason et al. (1996) suggest that up to 90%  
 1035 of Ca is sequestered into clays, which is a much higher proportion than our upper bound  
 1036 of less than 70% (Figure 8d). Superficially, our results appear more similar to what is  
 1037 reported in Stefánsson and Gíslason (2001) for overall mobility ranges, though we still  
 1038 expect to find differences between our different approaches on the level of individual sam-  
 1039 ples. Additional constraints on clay compositions in Iceland as well as the degree and  
 1040 character of primary incongruence will likely be useful to better constrain solute mobil-  
 1041 ity in Icelandic watersheds.

#### 1042 4.5 Processes affecting glacial versus non-glacial rivers

1043 Differences between glacial and non-glacial river waters in Iceland have been noted  
 1044 in some of the original publications from which this compilation is based (e.g., Hindshaw  
 1045 et al., 2013; Jacobson et al., 2015). Similar differences like the enrichment in sulfate and  
 1046 calcium ion (Figure 3b,e) are also observed between glacial and non-glacial rivers glob-  
 1047 ally (Torres et al., 2017).

1048 The results of the solute mass balance model are uncertain, but the few samples  
 1049 with the highest median carbonate contributions are from glacierized catchments (Fig-

1050 ure 13a,b). Though this is apparently consistent with the hypothesis of Jacobson et al.  
 1051 (2015) that contributions from trace reactive phases are enhanced by glaciers in Iceland,  
 1052 we note that the majority of glacial rivers in our database do *not* show evidence for el-  
 1053 evated carbonate contributions relative to non-glacial rivers (Figure 13b). Specifically,  
 1054 the inter-sample distributions of 95<sup>th</sup> percentile values for glacial versus non-glacial rivers  
 1055 are not substantially different from each other (Figure 13a).

1056 The results of our solute mass balance model do not rule out the hypothesis of Hindshaw  
 1057 et al. (2013) that glaciation enhances clay formation as the proportion of the total cation  
 1058 budget taken up into clays may be slightly elevated in the glacierized catchments rela-  
 1059 tive to non-glacial rivers (Figure 13c,d). Specifically, despite substantial overlap, the inter-  
 1060 sample distribution of 95<sup>th</sup> percentile values for  $F_{clay}^{cs}$  is shifted to higher values for the  
 1061 the glacial river samples compared to those from non-glaciated watersheds (Figure 13c).

1062 Not all basalts contain significant carbonate as its formation is restricted to the por-  
 1063 tions of geothermal systems that experience boiling (Arnórsson, 1989; Neuhoff et al., 1999;  
 1064 Weisenberger & Selbekk, 2009). So, the observation that most of river water samples from  
 1065 Iceland, including those from glaciated watersheds, do not show evidence for large car-  
 1066 bonate contributions could imply a heterogeneous distribution of different hydrothermal  
 1067 alteration minerals rather than an effect of distinctive surface processes on chemical weath-  
 1068 ering (i.e., glacial versus fluvial erosion). The idea that glaciation enhances cation up-  
 1069 take into clays (Hindshaw et al., 2013) is not expected and, technically, not required by  
 1070 the results of our analysis. However, it is consistent with the results of our solute mass  
 1071 balance model and the higher degree of secondary clay mineral super-saturation observed  
 1072 for river water samples from glaciated catchments (Figure 4g,h,i,k).

#### 1073 4.6 Implications for the long-term C cycle

1074 The general Na enrichment of the river waters on account of both types of incon-  
 1075 gruent weathering may have implications for the long-term C cycle. At timescales shorter  
 1076 than or similar to the residence time of Ca, all silicate-derived alkalinity will impact at-  
 1077 mospheric pCO<sub>2</sub> through its effects on the oceanic carbonate system (Middelburg et al.,  
 1078 2020). The unclear fate of silicate-derived Na and uncertainty in the timescale(s) asso-  
 1079 ciated with its removal processes (e.g., “reverse” weathering; F. T. Mackenzie, 1995) com-  
 1080 plicate longer-term inferences about its role in the global C cycle. Nevertheless, assum-  
 1081 ing that reverse weathering processes are “slow” relative to carbonate burial, which is  
 1082 not altogether unreasonable on account of the longer oceanic residence time of Na rela-  
 1083 tive to Ca, the “transient” effect of increased silicate Na fluxes on atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> may  
 1084 be long relative to climate and carbon cycle perturbations observed in geologic history.  
 1085 In general, the abundance of silicate-derived Na in weathering “hot spots” such as Ice-  
 1086 land highlights the need for future research on how to best account for all silicate-derived  
 1087 alkalinity in the global C cycle.

## 1088 5 Conclusions

1089 While the chemistry of Icelandic waters has been extensively studied in the past,  
 1090 no previous analyses have used an inverse model that allows for both types of incongru-  
 1091 ent weathering (i.e., solute sinks vs. variable primary mineral dissolution rates) and key  
 1092 solute sources other than basalts (e.g., carbonates) simultaneously. Such models are nec-  
 1093 essary as neglecting to include all processes can significantly bias the model results (Bickle  
 1094 et al., 2015; Emberson et al., 2017, 2018). Using this approach, we identify that both types  
 1095 of incongruent weathering play a role in setting the chemistry of Icelandic watersheds,  
 1096 which is distinct from previous interpretations that have mostly focused on the role of  
 1097 secondary clay minerals. Our evidence for the preferential release of silicate-derived Na  
 1098 relative to what is expected for bulk basalts implies that some previous estimates of cation  
 1099 mobility may have over-estimated the role of clays as solute sinks.



Our results also constrain the potential magnitude of carbonate contributions in Icelandic watersheds and suggest that silicate contributions dominate overall such that Iceland is an important locus of CO<sub>2</sub> draw down. In part, this may reflect the heterogeneous distribution of hydrothermal calcite given its specific formation mechanisms and the observations that only a few samples within our database are consistent with large carbonate contributions.

The bedrock lithology of Iceland is comparatively simple to other rivers with mixed igneous and sedimentary bedrock. The complexity of weathering processes identified using our analysis thus highlights the need for using more robust inverse approaches when attempting to partition solutes between carbonate and silicate sources.

**Table 1.** End-member compositions used in the solute mass balance model

		Pyrite	Precipitation	Hot spring	Clay	Carbonate	Na-silicate	K-silicate	NaK-silicate	Mg-silicate	Ca-silicate
Na/ $\Sigma^{\pm}$	Min	0.6	0.8	0			1		0		
Na/ $\Sigma^{\pm}$	Max	0.9	0.95	0.25			1		1		
K/ $\Sigma^{\pm}$	Min	0.02	0.05	0.05				1	0		
K/ $\Sigma^{\pm}$	Max	0.2	0.12	0.3				1	1		
Ca/ $\Sigma^{\pm}$	Min	0.02	0	0.2	0.95						1
Ca/ $\Sigma^{\pm}$	Max	0.1	0.01	0.45	1						1
Mg/ $\Sigma^{\pm}$	Min	0.05		0.75	0					1	
Mg/ $\Sigma^{\pm}$	Max	0.1		1	0.05					1	
Cl/ $\Sigma^{\pm}$	Min	0.6	0.4								
Cl/ $\Sigma^{\pm}$	Max	1.2	0.9								
SO <sub>4</sub> / $\Sigma^{\pm}$	Min	1	0.014	0							
SO <sub>4</sub> / $\Sigma^{\pm}$	Max	1	0.1	0.1							
Sr/ $\Sigma^{\pm}$	Min	1.00E-04	1.00E-06	1.00E-05	1.00E-06	1.00E-06	1.00E-06	1.00E-06	1.00E-06	1.00E-06	1.00E-06
Sr/ $\Sigma^{\pm}$	Max	3.00E-04	1.00E-04	3.00E-03	1.00E-04	1.00E-03	1.00E-03	1.00E-03	1.00E-03	1.00E-04	1.00E-03
<sup>87</sup> Sr/ <sup>86</sup> Sr	Min	0.7091	0.703	source	0.7031	0.703	0.703	0.703	0.703	0.703	0.703
<sup>87</sup> Sr/ <sup>86</sup> Sr	Max	0.7093	0.704	source	0.7034	0.704	0.704	0.704	0.704	0.704	0.704
Si/ $\Sigma^{\pm}$	Min		0.2	2		1	1	1	1	1	1
Si/ $\Sigma^{\pm}$	Max		3	10		3	3	3	3	2	2
$\Delta^{44}\text{Ca}$	Min			-1							
$\Delta^{44}\text{Ca}$	Max			+0.5							
$\Delta^{26}\text{Mg}$	Min			-1.5							
$\Delta^{26}\text{Mg}$	Max			+1							
$\Delta^{30}\text{Si}$	Min			-2							
$\Delta^{30}\text{Si}$	Max			+0.5							
$\delta^{44}\text{Ca}$	Min	0	-1.1		-0.9						-2
$\delta^{44}\text{Ca}$	Max	0	-0.8		-0.5						-1
$\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$	Min	-0.83			-4					-0.5	
$\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$	Max	-0.81			-0.2					-0.2	
$\delta^{30}\text{Si}$	Min		-0.5			-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5
$\delta^{30}\text{Si}$	Max		1			-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2

## Data Availability

The basalt and rhyolite bulk geochemistry data used in this study is available at <http://georoc.mpch-mainz.gwdg.de/georoc/>. The fine-grained sediment data used in this study is available in the original publications (Moulton et al., 2000; Thorpe et al., 2019). The hydrochemistry data used in this study will be archived along with the analysis code on Zenodo upon acceptance (data files available for review as supplementary material).

The MEANDIR model code is available at [github.com/PrestonCosslettKemeny](https://github.com/PrestonCosslettKemeny). The MEANDIR input files used in this study will be available at [github.com/torres-lab](https://github.com/torres-lab) and archived on Zenodo upon acceptance of the paper for publication (included as supplementary data for review).

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# Supporting Information for ”The hydrochemical signature of incongruent weathering in Iceland”

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## Contents of this file

1. Text 1
2. Figures S1 to S10

## Additional Supporting Information (Files uploaded separately)

1. MEANDIR input files for review
2. Hydrochemical data compilation for review
3. Data analysis code for review

## Text S1. Carbon isotopic modelling

To model C isotopic ratios, we use a separate offline calculation based on output from MEANDIR. We prefer this approach in part because CO<sub>2</sub> degassing and/or exchange with the atmosphere can modify the isotopic composition of DIC and these processes are difficult to model. By using a separate calculation, we can more loosely apply C isotopic constraints and thus circumvent directly modelling degassing and exchange. Additionally,

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directly including C isotopic ratios also adds computation expense as the C isotopic ratios of weathering end-members vary independently of their X/ $\Sigma^\pm$  values thus requiring more random draws to find acceptable solutions.

For the purposes of approximating the DIC budget, we equate the positive alkalinity provided by each end-member to its DIC concentration:

$$DIC_j = (f_{j,Na} \cdot [Na]_{riv}) + (f_{j,K} \cdot [K]_{riv}) + (2 \cdot f_{j,Ca} \cdot [Ca]_{riv}) + (2 \cdot f_{j,Mg} \cdot [Mg]_{riv}) - (f_{j,Cl} \cdot [Cl]_{riv}) - (2 \cdot f_{j,SO_4} \cdot [SO_4]_{riv}) \quad (1)$$

This assumes all DIC is speciated as  $HCO_3^-$ , which is reasonable given observations of riverine pH values. Using Monte-Carlo simulation, we take the apportionment of DIC budget between silicate, carbonate, rain water, and hydrothermal fluids for each simulation from each sample and compute a range of possible riverine C isotopic ratios given the *a priori* ranges in the different end-member C isotopic ratios using the equations:

$$\delta^{13}C_{riv,pred} = \sum_{j=1}^4 f_{DIC,j} \cdot \delta^{13}C_j \quad (2)$$

and

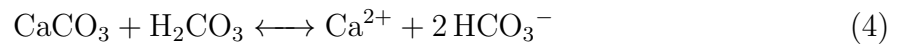
$$^{14}C_{riv,pred} = \sum_{j=1}^4 \overbrace{f_{DIC,j}}^{\text{from MEANDIR}} \cdot \underbrace{^{14}C_j}_{\text{random variable}} \quad (3)$$

The output of these equations can then be compared with the actual C isotopic measurement, which avoids having to require the model to exactly match the observations given that, for example, measured  $\delta^{13}C$  values may be elevated as a consequence of  $CO_2$  degassing.

For the purposes of modelling C isotopic ratios, we assume that any DIC from rainwater has a  $\delta^{13}C$  of -7 ‰ and  $^{14}C$  abundance of 105 percent modern carbon (pMC) following Sveinbjörnsdóttir et al. (2020).

For DIC from hydrothermal fluids, we assume a uniform distribution of  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values between -18.8 and +4.4 ‰ following Barry, Hilton, Fűri, Halldórsson, and Grönvold (2014) and a  $^{14}\text{C}$  of 0 pMC.

Based on measurements of Icelandic spar from Landis (1983) and (Smalley et al., 1989), we assume a uniform distribution of carbonate  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values from -5 to -3 ‰ and a  $^{14}\text{C}$  abundance of 0 pMC. For carbonate weathering driven by carbonic acid, half of the DIC will derive from the carbonic acid such that the overall values of  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{14}\text{C}$  will not match pure carbonates:



Here, we assume that carbonic acid derives from a mixture of atmospheric  $\text{CO}_2$  ( $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -7$  ‰;  $^{14}\text{C} = 105$  pMC) and  $\text{CO}_2$  from soil respiration. Based on direct measurements of soil organic matter from Icelandic river catchments (Torres et al., 2020), we assume a uniform distribution of  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values between -32 and -24 ‰ and a uniform distribution of  $^{14}\text{C}$  abundances from 60 to 130 pMC for the soil respiration end-member.

Similar to how to model carbonate weathering, we assume that DIC from silicate weathering has C isotopic compositions given by a mixture of atmospheric  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{CO}_2$  derived from soil respiration. We draw the end-member C isotopic ratios for silicate weathering separately from carbonate weathering, which in effect allows for different  $\text{CO}_2$  sources to drive the weathering of different mineral phases.

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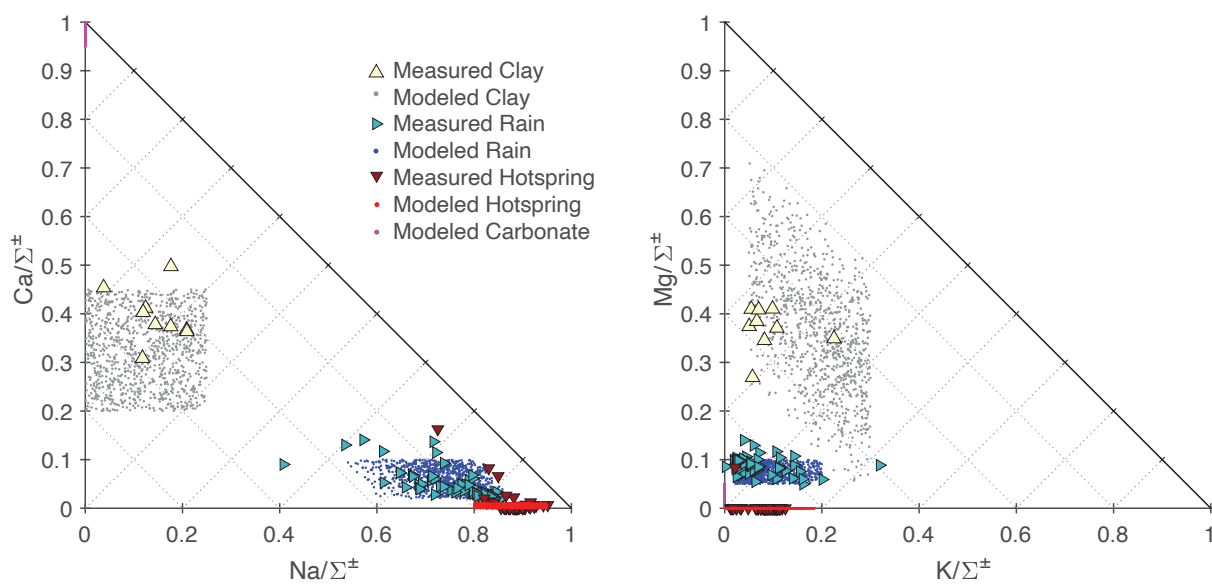
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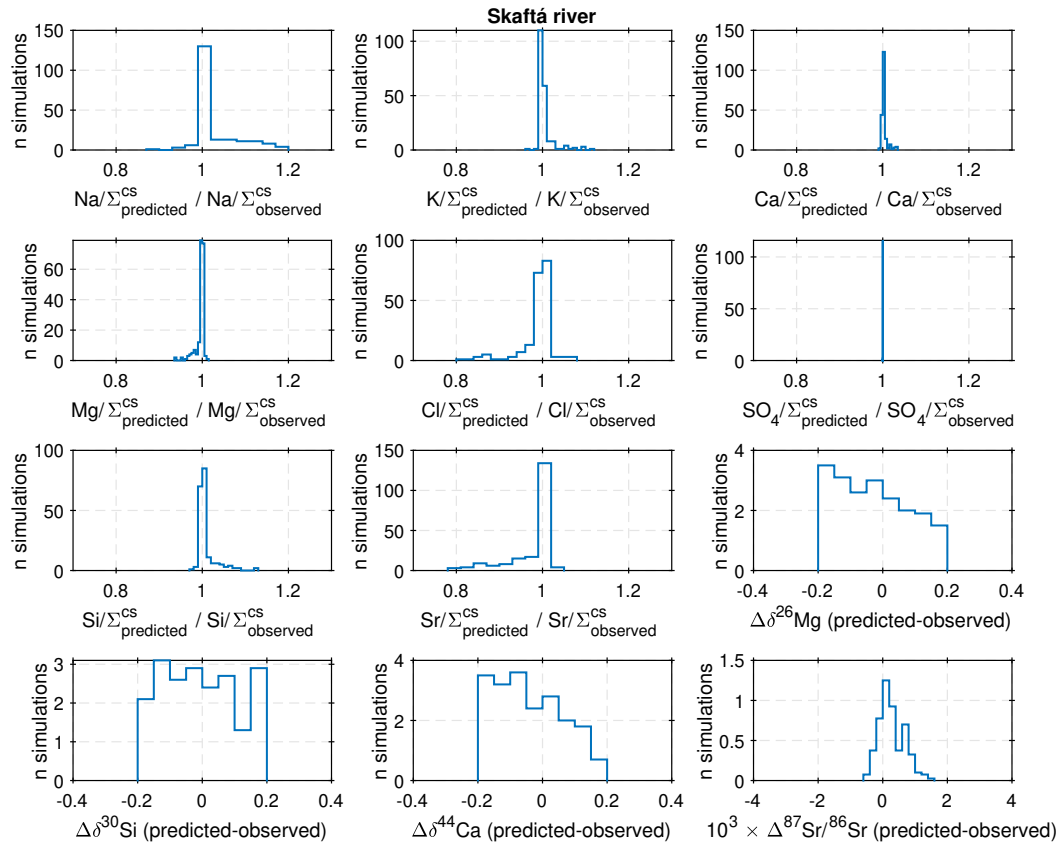
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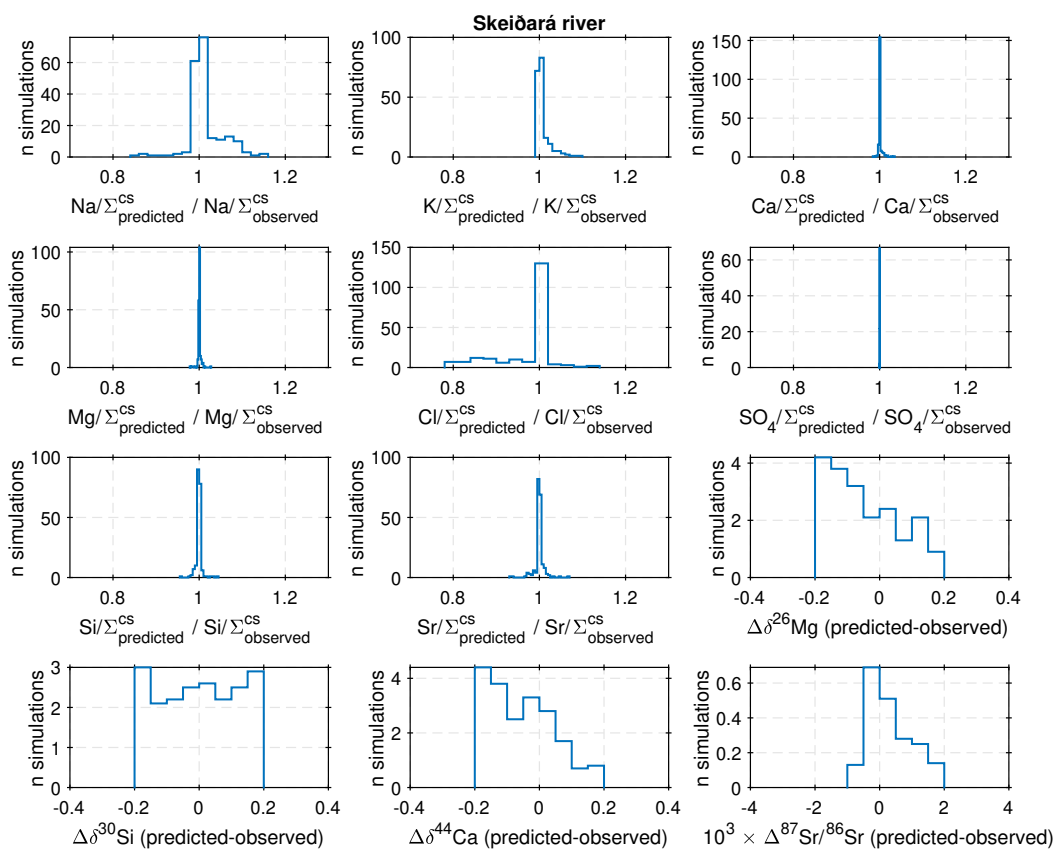
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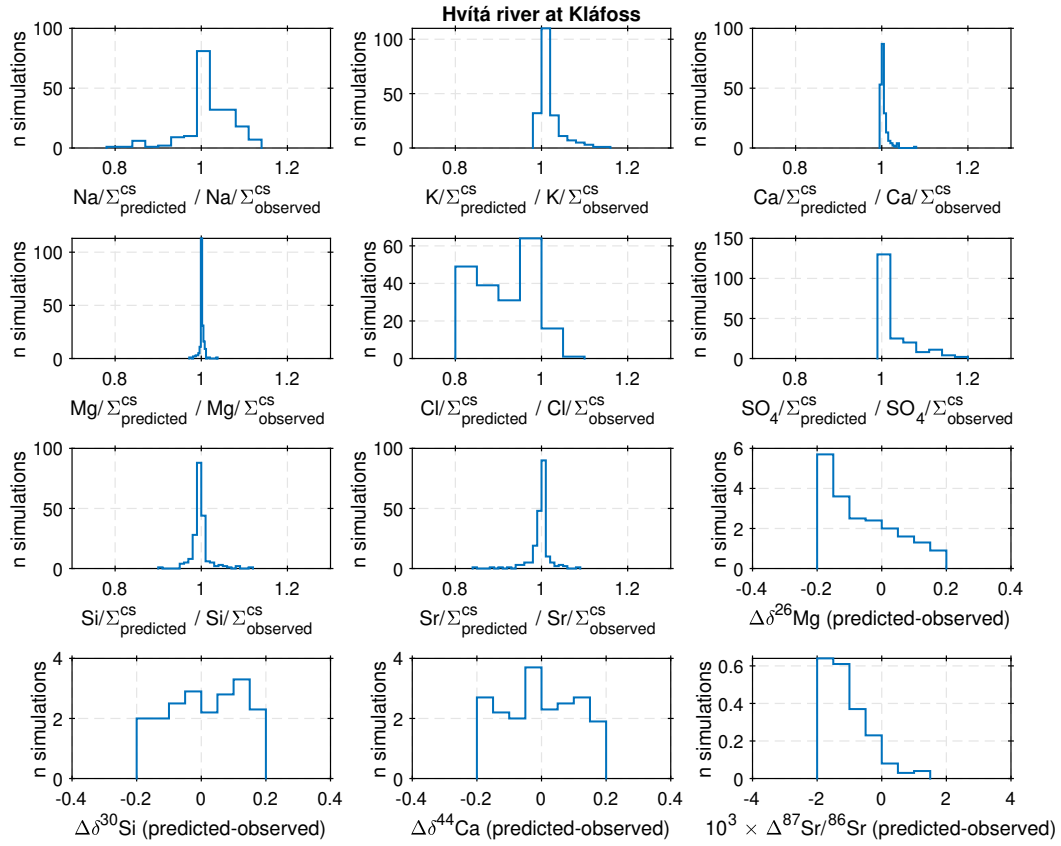
**Figure S1.** End-member cation compositions used in the solute mass balance model compared to field observations.



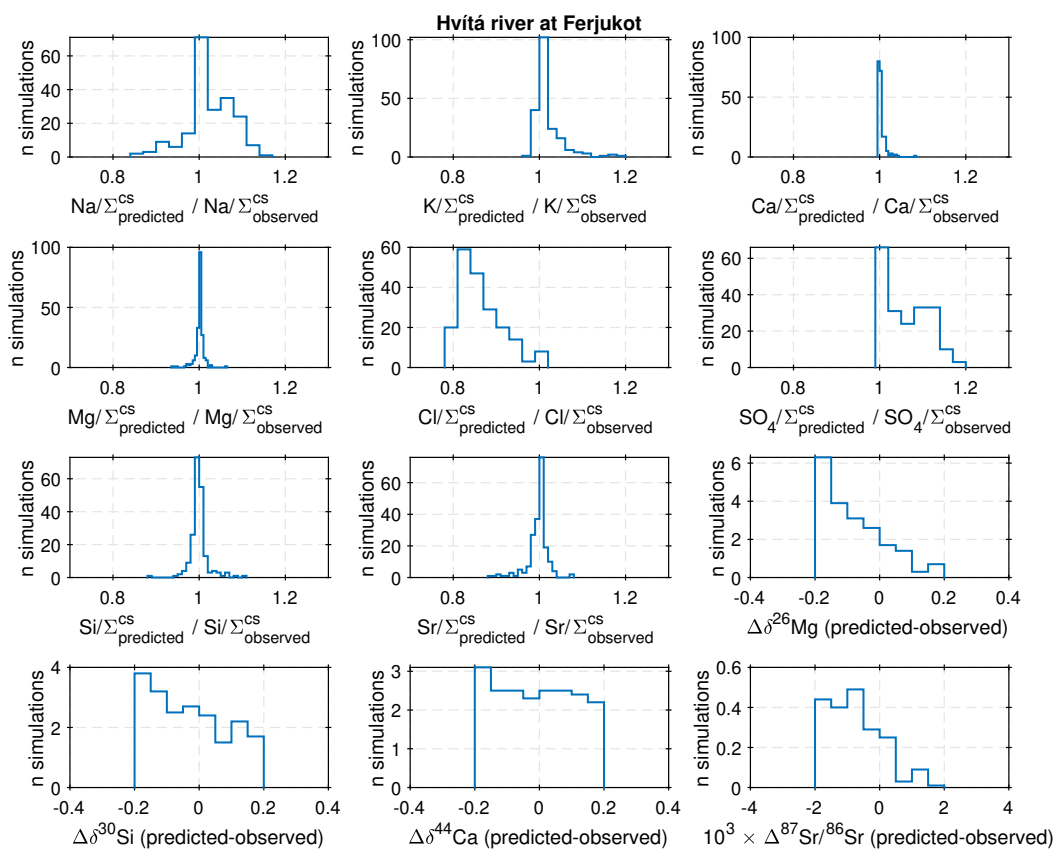
**Figure S2.** Histograms of the model reconstructed values for all of inputs for the Skaftá River.



**Figure S3.** Histograms of the model reconstructed values for all of inputs for the Skeiðará River.

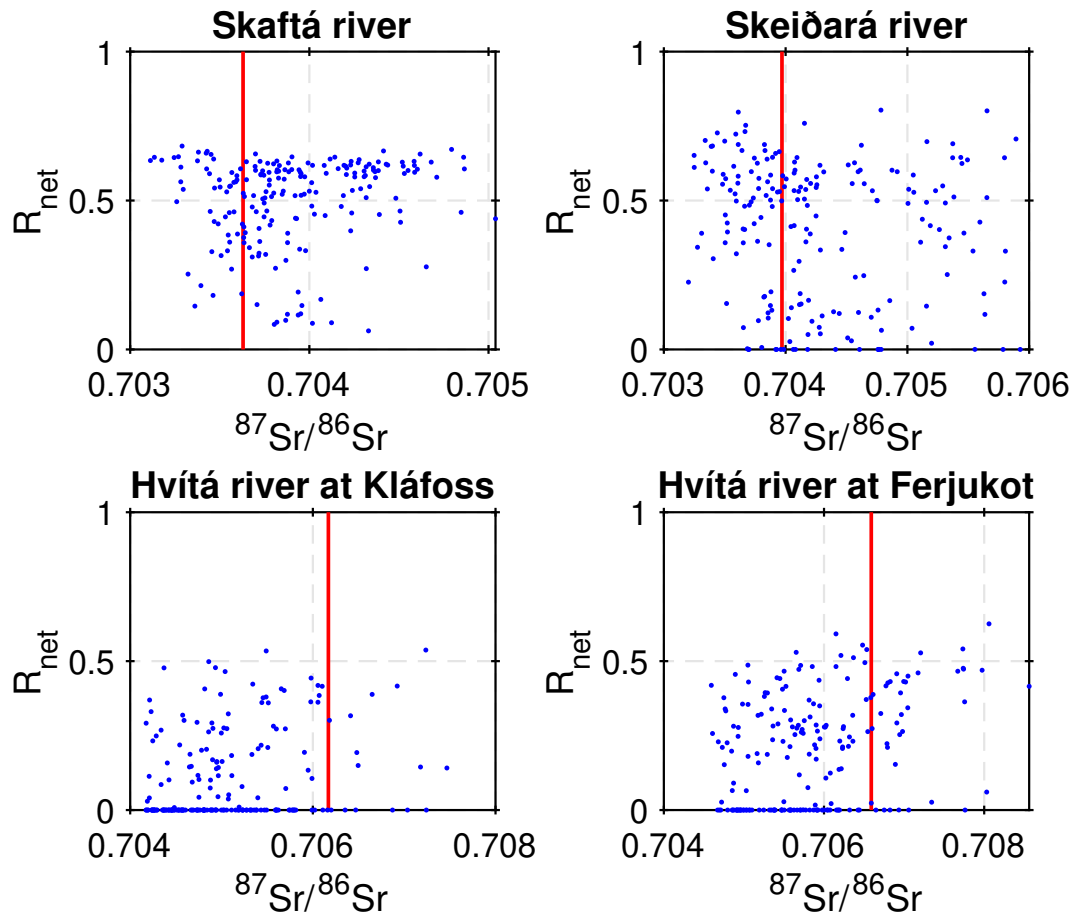


**Figure S4.** Histograms of the model reconstructed values for all of inputs for the Hvítá River at Kláfoss.

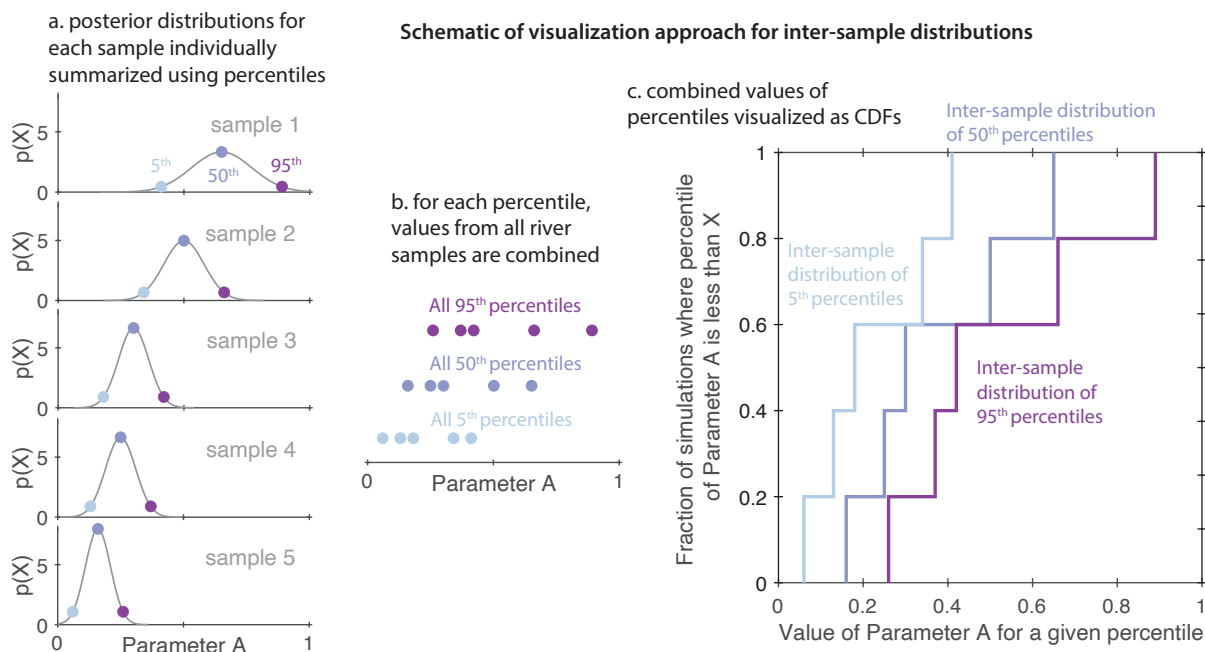


**Figure S5.** Histograms of the model reconstructed values for all of inputs for the Hvítá River at Ferjukot.





**Figure S6.** Comparison between the reconstructed  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  and predicted proportion of carbonate weathering ( $R_{net}$ ) for the rivers shown in Figures S2-S5 with all 4 isotopic constraints (blue dots). In each plot, the red line shows the measured  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ . Importantly, these data show that further culling the model results to only accept the best-fitting  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  values would not substantially change our inferences of the model-constrained range in  $R_{net}$ .



**Figure S7.** Schematic showing how inter-sample distributions of percentiles are calculated from the individual sample distributions.