

# 1 Iron and silicon isotope behaviour accompanying weathering in Icelandic soils, and the 2 implications for iron export from peatlands

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## 18 Abstract

19

20 Incipient warming of peatlands at high latitudes is expected to modify soil drainage and hence the  
21 redox conditions, which has implications for Fe export from soils. This study uses Fe isotopes to  
22 assess the processes controlling Fe export in a range of Icelandic soils including peat soils derived  
23 from the same parent basalt, where Fe isotope variations principally reflect differences in weathering  
24 and drainage. In poorly weathered, well-drained soils (non-peat soils), the limited Fe isotope  
25 fractionation in soil solutions relative to the bulk soil ( $\Delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{solution-soil}} = -0.11 \pm 0.12 \text{ ‰}$ ) is attributed to  
26 proton-promoted mineral dissolution. In the more weathered poorly drained soils (peat soils), the  
27 soil solutions are usually lighter than the bulk soil ( $\Delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{solution-soil}} = -0.41 \pm 0.32 \text{ ‰}$ ), which indicates  
28 that Fe has been mobilised by reductive mineral dissolution and/or ligand-controlled dissolution. The  
29 results highlight the presence of Fe-organic complexes in solution in anoxic conditions. An additional  
30 constraint on soil weathering is provided by Si isotopes. The Si isotope composition of the soil  
31 solutions relative to the soil ( $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{solution-soil}} = 0.92 \pm 0.26 \text{ ‰}$ ) generally reflects the incorporation of  
32 light Si isotopes in secondary aluminosilicates. Under anoxic conditions in peat soils, the largest Si  
33 isotope fractionation in soil solutions relative to the bulk soil is observed ( $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{solution-soil}} = 1.63 \pm 0.40$   
34  $\text{‰}$ ) and attributed to the cumulative contribution of secondary clay minerals and amorphous silica  
35 precipitation. Si supersaturation in solution with respect to amorphous silica is reached upon freezing  
36 when Al availability to form aluminosilicates is limited by the affinity of Al for metal-organic  
37 complexes. Therefore, the precipitation of amorphous silica in peat soils indirectly supports the  
38 formation of metal-organic complexes in poorly drained soils. These observations highlight that in a  
39 scenario of decreasing soil drainage with warming high latitude peatlands, Fe export from soils as Fe-  
40 organic complexes will increase, which in turn has implications for Fe transport in rivers, and  
41 ultimately the delivery of Fe to the oceans.

42 **Keywords:** basalt weathering, volcanic soil, Iceland, Fe isotopes, Si isotopes, Fe export, peat soil

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45 **1. INTRODUCTION**

46 Iron in rivers ultimately originates from mineral weathering and export from soils. Rivers are a major  
47 source of Fe to the ocean, and Fe is an essential nutrient for marine primary production (Morel et al.,  
48 1991; Poulton and Raiswell 2002; Martin and Fitzwater, 1988; Boyd et al., 2000; Smetacek et al.,  
49 2012). Recent evidence suggests that peatlands play a pivotal role in the delivery of Fe to coastal  
50 waters, and the organic acids that originate in peat likely serve as the principal metal chelator for Fe  
51 transport in rivers (Krachler et al., 2005, 2010). The transport of Fe in these colloidal (<10 kD) metal-  
52 organic complexes is considered a major way for peat-derived riverine Fe to escape Fe oxyhydroxide  
53 precipitation and flocculation, and hence escape estuarine removal (Boyle et al., 1977; Krachler et al.,  
54 2005, 2010).

55 High latitude permafrost peatlands currently face dramatic changes in temperature (Westermann et  
56 al., 2015; Hecht et al., 2007), and the predicted 37% reduction of the permafrost extent by 2100  
57 (IPCC 2013) is likely to result in significant changes in soil drainage. Although whether permafrost  
58 peatlands will become wetter or drier is still uncertain (e.g., Swindles et al., 2015). Changing freeze-  
59 thaw cycles and frequencies of seasonal anoxic soils is likely to impact redox-controlled process such  
60 as Fe mobilisation, and hence, Fe export from soils. In order to better predict the potential impact of  
61 warming peatlands at high latitudes on the Fe export from soils in these regions, a detailed  
62 understanding of processes controlling Fe behaviour in high latitude soils is required.

63 In soils, Fe is initially locked up in primary minerals. Through chemical weathering, Fe is mobilised by  
64 proton-promoted, ligand-controlled or reductive dissolution (e.g., Cornell and Schwertmann, 2003;  
65 Bonneville et al., 2004; Wiederhold et al., 2006; Melton et al., 2014). This mobilised Fe can reside in  
66 soils as secondary phyllosilicates, Fe oxyhydroxides and/or chelated as metal-organic complexes  
67 (e.g., Cornell and Schwertmann, 2003; Thompson et al., 2011), or be exported from soils. The  
68 evolution of Fe in secondary phases is a function of (i) soil drainage that affects redox processes, (ii)  
69 soil weathering degree that affects the mineral reserve and the solubility of minerals, and (iii) soil  
70 organic matter content that affects the amount and type of organic ligands (e.g., Schwertmann,  
71 2008; Fritsch et al., 2009).

72 The stable iron isotope compositions of soils can be shifted from the composition of the parent  
73 material by the removal or addition of significant pools of fractionated Fe, providing a valuable  
74 approach to trace the processes controlling Fe mobilisation and export from soils (e.g., Fantle and De  
75 Paolo, 2004; Emmanuel et al., 2005; Wiederhold et al., 2007a; Thompson et al., 2007; Fekiacova et  
76 al., 2013; Mansfeldt et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2014; Schulz et al., 2016; Dauphas et al., 2017). More  
77 precisely, Fe isotopes in soils are sensitive to redox processes, to weathering processes and the  
78 formation of Fe-oxides, and to the formation of Fe-organic complexes. Light Fe isotopes are often  
79 enriched in soils containing secondary Fe phases (e.g., Wiederhold et al., 2007b; Kiczka et al., 2011;  
80 Guelke et al., 2010; Poitrasson et al., 2008; Yesavage et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2014 ; Fekiacova et al.,  
81 2017). This enrichment can be explained by the quantitative precipitation of light Fe-oxyhydroxides  
82 from light Fe isotopes preferentially released by proton-promoted mineral weathering (Chapman et  
83 al., 2009; Kiczka et al., 2010a), reductive mineral dissolution (e.g., Wiederhold et al., 2006, 2007a,  
84 2007b), and ligand-controlled mineral dissolution (Brantley et al., 2001, 2004; Wiederhold et al.,  
85 2006, 2007b; Buss et al., 2010). In solution, there is an isotope fractionation between Fe(III) and  
86 Fe(II), with light isotopes accumulating in the Fe(II) (Johnson et al., 2002; Thompson et al., 2007;

87 Wiederhold et al., 2007a; Welch et al, 2003; Wu et al., 2011). The greater mobility of Fe(II) is a cause  
88 of soil Fe isotope fractionation in anoxic soils, leaving a residual soil enriched in heavy Fe (e.g.,  
89 Wiederhold et al., 2007a; Fekiacova et al., 2013; Akerman et al., 2014; Schuth et al., 2015). In the  
90 presence of organic ligands, heavy Fe isotopes are favoured in Fe-organic complexes relative to  
91 uncomplexed Fe in solution (Dideriksen et al., 2008; Morgan et al., 2010), potentially modifying the  
92 Fe isotope fractionation induced by mineral dissolution.

93 Icelandic soils hosts high latitude soils, that range from poorly weathered, well drained, oxic soils to  
94 more intensely weathered, poorly drained, peat-rich soils (i.e., anoxic, or seasonally anoxic) all  
95 derived from a largely homogeneous basaltic bedrock. These soils therefore provide an ideal natural  
96 laboratory to use Fe isotopes to investigate the controls on Fe export from soils under contrasting  
97 soil drainage, soil weathering degree and soil organic matter content. The working hypothesis of this  
98 study is that in poorly weathered well drained soils, a limited Fe isotope fractionation in solution  
99 relative to the parent basalt is expected; by contrast, in the more weathered soils, given the poor  
100 drainage and the high amount of soil organic carbon, Fe isotope fractionation in solution associated  
101 with reductive dissolution, ligand-controlled dissolution, and leaching of Fe(II) is expected, and Fe-  
102 organic complexation would modify the Fe isotope fractionation driven by mineral dissolution.

103 Additional constraint on the advance of weathering in soils can also be obtained from silicon isotopes  
104 which are fractionated by weathering processes due to the preferential incorporation of light  
105 isotopes in secondary aluminosilicates (e.g., Ziegler et al., 2005; Georg et al., 2009; Opfergelt et al.,  
106 2010, 2012; Oelze et al., 2014). The formation of these secondary phases depends on Al availability,  
107 which in organic-rich soils is limited due to the formation of Al-organic complexes (Parfitt, 2009;  
108 Parfitt and Kimble, 1989; Mizota and van Reeuwijk, 1989). If the formation of secondary aluminosilicates  
109 is limited, the Si concentration in solution may reach supersaturation with respect to  
110 amorphous silica, for example upon freezing (Ping, 1988; Shoji and Masui, 1971). The precipitation of  
111 amorphous silica fractionates Si isotopes (e.g., Li et al., 1995; Geilert et al., 2014, 2015; Roerdink et  
112 al., 2015; Oelze et al., 2015), and would add to the Si isotope fractionation induced by clay formation.  
113 Consequently, a second working hypothesis is that Si isotope fractionation in soils, if partly caused by  
114 amorphous silica precipitation, indirectly provides a way to support the formation of metal-organic  
115 complexes in soils.

116 This study tests these two hypotheses on Icelandic soils comparing organic-poor and organic-rich  
117 soils derived from the same parental basalt. We report on Fe and Si isotope compositions of bulk  
118 soils, secondary phases, and soil solutions with a detailed soil characterisation and information on  
119 the distribution of Fe and Si.

## 120 **2. MATERIALS AND METHODS**

### 121 **2.1. Environmental setting**

122 The types of soils developed in Iceland are primarily determined by the drainage conditions and  
123 aeolian volcanic ash inputs (Arnalds, 2004), which provide a source of fresh reactive material to the  
124 developing soils. Soils in West Iceland receive lower amounts of aeolian ash deposition ( $\sim 0.1 \text{ mm yr}^{-1}$ ;  
125 Sigfusson et al., 2008) relative to areas closer to the rift zones in South West Iceland ( $\sim 2 \text{ mm yr}^{-1}$ ;  
126 Arnalds, 2004). In areas with vegetation cover, soils are classified as Andosols ( $\sim 48 \%$ ; Haplic, Histic  
127 and Gleyic Andosols), desert areas are dominated by poorly developed Vitric Andosols ( $\sim 40 \%$ ) and

128 wetland areas by organic-rich Histosols (~1 %), with the rest of Iceland (~11%) being mainly covered  
129 by glaciers (Arnalds, 2004, 2008). The andic properties of the soils and the cold climate (mean  
130 summer temperature of 12 °C) are amongst the key factors that result in low rates of organic matter  
131 decomposition in Iceland (Guicharnaud, 2009). Oxidation is also impaired in poorly drained areas  
132 such that the accumulation of plant debris results in the progressive buildup of peat (Histic Andosol  
133 and Histosol).

134 The hydrology in Icelandic soils is affected by seasonal variability in runoff, which ranges from below  
135 100 mm/season in the summer (June-July-August) to 200 - 400 mm/season in the winter (December-  
136 January-February) (Icelandic Meteorological Office; Crochet et al., 2007). The climate in the areas of  
137 the lowland soils (below 200 m altitude) is temperate, with a mean annual precipitation (MAP) of  
138 1017 mm yr<sup>-1</sup> and a mean annual temperature (MAT) of 4.6 °C. Due to the maritime winter climate of  
139 Iceland, the soils are exposed to more freeze-thaw cycles than many other subarctic regions  
140 (Orradottir et al., 2008; Arnalds, 2008). This leads to seasonal wet-dry cycles that influence water  
141 mobility in soils. Recently (post 1945), Icelandic inland wetland areas have been subject to a wide-  
142 scale draining subsidy driven by agriculture, mainly for hay-making (Arnalds et al., 2016). As a result  
143 of the installed ditch network or drainage trenches, inland wetlands are now strongly affected by  
144 drainage, especially in lowland areas, where up to 70% of the wetland areas are affected. Most of the  
145 poorly drained soils (Histic Andosol and Histosol) located in the lowland areas are, therefore, affected  
146 by drainage ditches. However, Histosols are still characterised by wetter conditions (more anoxic)  
147 than Histic Andosols (Arnalds, 2008).

## 148 **2.2. Soil sampling and characterisation**

149 Five typical Icelandic soil types (Histic Andosol, HA; Histosol, H; Haplic Andosol, BA; Gleyic Andosol,  
150 GA; Vitric Andosol, V) under grassland were sampled in September 2009 (location in Figure 1),  
151 including the parent basalt from the BA site, and the grass-type vegetation (hummocky grassland,  
152 bulk shoot part) was sampled in June 2010 from the HA site. The soil profiles were described  
153 following the World Reference Base for Soil Resources (IUSS, 2014; Table EA-1) and sampled by  
154 horizon. The profiles have been characterised previously for their Mg, Mo and Zn isotopic  
155 compositions (Opfergelt et al., 2014; Siebert et al., 2015; Opfergelt et al., 2017). The five soil profiles  
156 can be divided into two groups as a function of drainage: the freely drained soils V-BA-GA and the  
157 poorly drained soils HA-H. Profiles V, BA, and GA are characterised by a neutral pH and a low organic  
158 carbon content (pH 6.7 ± 0.7; 5.4 ± 2.9 % C; Table 1), in contrast to profiles HA and H which are acidic  
159 and organic rich soils (pH 4.8 ± 0.6; 21 ± 9 % C; Table 1; Opfergelt et al., 2014). The parent material is  
160 basaltic (main primary minerals: augite, Ca-rich plagioclase, magnetite, and glass). In volcanic soils,  
161 short-range ordered or poorly crystalline phases (i.e., aluminosilicates and Fe-oxides) are formed first  
162 (e.g., Rai and Kittrick, 1989; Thompson et al., 2011; Delmelle et al., 2015). With increasing time for  
163 soil development, the poorly crystalline phases transform to more crystalline minerals. Among the  
164 five soil profiles, the weathering degree increases in the following order: Basalt<V<BA<GA<H<HA  
165 (Opfergelt et al., 2014).

166 Iron was selectively extracted using dithionite-citrate-bicarbonate (DCB) (Fe<sub>d</sub>; Mehra and Jackson,  
167 1960), ammonium oxalate (Fe<sub>o</sub>; Blakemore et al., 1981), and Na-pyrophosphate (Fe<sub>p</sub>; Bascomb, 1968)  
168 and measured by ICP-AES. The analytical conditions for these extractions are provided in Table EA-2.  
169 The DCB-extractable Fe is used to provide an estimate of the content of free iron oxides in soils, i.e.,

170 poorly crystalline and crystalline Fe-oxides. The oxalate-extractable Fe is used as an indicator of  
171 poorly crystalline Fe-oxides. The pyrophosphate-extractable Fe is used as an indicator of Fe-organic  
172 complexes. These extractions are, however, to be considered with caution. Magnetite might be  
173 partly dissolved by oxalate and contribute to  $Fe_o$  (e.g., Walker, 1983). The dithionite extraction is  
174 usually considered to not dissolve magnetite, but some studies report magnetite dissolution with  
175 DCB (e.g., Kostka and Luther, 1994; Henkel et al., 2016). The pyrophosphate is a dispersing agent and  
176  $Fe_p$  may include the contribution of Fe-oxide nanoparticulates in addition to the organically-bound Fe  
177 (Jeanroy and Guillet, 1981), even if this contribution decreased by the centrifugation and filtration of  
178 the extract (Table EA-1). These selective extractions are, therefore, not fully quantitative, but can,  
179 nevertheless, be used as indicators of the evolution of the mineral phases as a function of the soil  
180 development. The  $Fe_o/Fe_d$  ratio is used as a reflection of the relative proportion of short-range  
181 ordered Fe oxyhydroxides (ferrihydrite) in the global pool of Fe-oxides. Within the total iron content  
182 ( $Fe_t$ ) in soils, the proportion of Fe contained in free Fe-oxides ( $Fe_d$ ) is used as a weathering index (the  
183  $Fe_d/Fe_t$  ratio). The organic carbon released after dispersion by the pyrophosphate ( $C_p$ ) was quantified  
184 by combustion (Shimadzu TOC analyzer, detection limit  $< 2 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ) and is considered to provide an  
185 indication of the amount of C that was included in metal-organic complexes (e.g. Cornu and Clozel,  
186 2000; Cornu et al., 2008).

187 The oxalate-extractable Si ( $Si_o$ ) was determined by ICP-AES to estimate the quantity of Si associated  
188 with poorly crystalline aluminosilicates (allophane) as an indicator of the evolution of the mineral  
189 phases in soils with weathering. The  $Si_o$  also includes the contribution from Si associated with poorly  
190 crystalline Fe oxyhydroxides (ferrihydrite). The  $Si_o$  estimated this way is, however, to be considered  
191 with caution because volcanic glass might also be partly dissolved using this protocol, particularly at  
192 pH values below 6 (Oelkers and Gislason, 2001; Arnalds and Gislason, 2002; Wolff-Boenisch et al.,  
193 2004). The DCB-extractable Si ( $Si_d$ ) measured by ICP-AES can be used as an indicator of Si-bound to Fe  
194 oxyhydroxides, but is also to be considered with caution given that partial dissolution of poorly-  
195 crystalline silicate phases, such as allophane, by DCB may occur (e.g., Parfitt and Childs, 1988;  
196 Borggaard, 1988; Ryan and Gschwend, 1991). Bulk soils ( $< 2 \text{ mm}$ ) were analysed by X-ray diffraction  
197 (XRD, Bruker D8, Cu  $K\alpha$ ), after oxalate extraction to remove poorly crystalline allophane and  
198 ferrihydrite and  $H_2O_2$  treatment to remove organic matter, to evaluate the presence of goethite and  
199 amorphous silica.

### 200 **2.3. Soil solution and river water: sampling and characterisation**

201 Soil solutions, i.e., pore waters from the soil profiles (except V), were sampled in June 2010, using  
202 macro rhizon soil water samplers (length 9 cm, diameter 4.5 mm, porosity  $0.2 \mu\text{m}$ ; Eijkelkamp®). The  
203 soil horizons were fully saturated at the time of sampling in H-HA, but not in BA-GA. The rhizon  
204 samplers were installed in soils for two weeks and collected every 24 hours to provide a bulk soil  
205 solution (total volume of between 100 and 1500 ml), which was then acidified in 0.5%  $HNO_3$  to  
206 prevent oxidative precipitation. The Fe concentrations were measured by ICP-MS, and Si  
207 concentrations by spectrophotometry (Opfergelt et al., 2014).

208 Three river water samples were collected in West Iceland in September 2009 (Figure 1). One river  
209 sample (HA river) was collected next to the HA soil profile and the two other rivers (A3 and A4)  
210 corresponding to localities A3 and A4 previously sampled to study the influence of weathering  
211 processes on U and Li isotopes (Pogge von Strandmann et al., 2006), Mg isotopes (Pogge von

212 Strandmann et al., 2008), and Mo isotopes (Pearce et al., 2010) were sampled again. Water was  
213 collected in pre-cleaned polypropylene bottles from the centre of the flow, and filtered within 24h  
214 through 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  cellulose acetate filters. The temperature, pH, and electrical conductivity were  
215 measured in the field. For river localities A3 and A4, the 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  filtered water was then ultrafiltered,  
216 using a Sartorius cross-flow filter unit containing Sartocon polyethersulphone (PESU) slice cassettes,  
217 in order to separate the colloidal fraction ( $> 10$  kD) from the “truly” dissolved ( $< 10$  kD) fraction. The  
218 Fe concentration in the dissolved ( $< 0.2\mu\text{m}$ ) and colloidal fraction (10 kD - 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ) was determined by  
219 ICP-MS in 2 %  $\text{HNO}_3$  (Open University, UK). The accuracy on the Fe concentration ( $\pm 7$  %;  $< 0.01$   $\mu\text{M}$   
220 detection limit) was assessed using the water reference material SLRS-4 (measured Fe concentration  
221 value of  $110 \pm 3$   $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$  relative to certified value of  $103 \pm 5$   $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ ; Yeghicheyan et al., 2001).

#### 222 **2.4. Iron and silicon stable isotope measurements**

223 The Fe isotope compositions ( $\delta^{57/54}\text{Fe}$ , relative to the IRMM014 Fe standard) of the basalt (USGS  
224 international rock standard BIR-1 which is an Iceland basalt), bulk soil samples (except for soil profile  
225 V), selective extractions by dithionite-citrate-bicarbonate ( $\text{Fe}_d$ , excluding Fe bound in silicates, except  
226 V; Guelke et al., 2010), soil solutions (except V), and the vegetation sample were analysed by MC-ICP-  
227 MS (Thermo Neptune) at Durham University using standard Fe purification and mass spectrometry  
228 procedures (Williams et al., 2012). Dissolution, Fe purification and isotope analyses were undertaken  
229 using established procedures (Williams et al., 2014). Briefly, bulk soil samples and the vegetation  
230 sample were first digested in aqua regia (3:1  $\text{HCl}:\text{HNO}_3$ ) and following a reflux and evaporation cycle,  
231 were subsequently treated with concentrated  $\text{HF}:\text{HNO}_3$  (10:1) in order to dissolve any detrital  
232 material. Soil solutions and extractions were evaporated down. All samples were then oxidised with  
233 several reflux (at  $150^\circ\text{C}$ ) and evaporation (at  $210^\circ\text{C}$ ) cycles of  $\text{HNO}_3$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (repeatedly e.a. to  
234 decompose the sulphide matrix from the dithionite reagent; e.g., Henkel et al., 2016), an important  
235 step given that Fe isotope analysis of DCB extracts are challenging, after which they were converted  
236 to 6M  $\text{HCl}$  form for anion column chemistry (AG1-X4, 200-400 mesh, chloride form). Iron yields were  
237 quantitative and total procedural blanks were  $< 0.5$  ng, which is negligible compared to the total  
238 amount of Fe processed per soil sample or extraction ( $\sim 20$   $\mu\text{g}$ ). The analysed sample and standard  
239 solutions comprised 2 ppm Fe in 0.1 M  $\text{HNO}_3$ . Sample and standard (IRMM-014) intensities ( $^{56}\text{Fe}$  and  
240  $^{54}\text{Fe}$ ) were matched to within 10 %. The standard  $^{56}\text{Fe}$  beam intensity was in the range  $2.5$  to  $3.5 \times 10^7$   
241  $\text{A}$ . Measurements included collection of  $^{57}\text{Fe}$ ,  $^{56}\text{Fe}$  and  $^{54}\text{Fe}$  and  $^{53}\text{Cr}$  to allow for correction of any  
242 interference of  $^{54}\text{Cr}$  on  $^{54}\text{Fe}$ . We typically measured with a pseudo-high (peak-edge) resolution  
243 ( $M/\Delta M$ ) of  $\sim 8500$ - $9000$ . Errors are reported as the 2 standard deviations of replicate analyses. Mass  
244 dependence, long-term reproducibility and accuracy were evaluated by analysis of an in-house  $\text{FeCl}$   
245 salt standard ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe} = -1.05 \pm 0.07$  ‰, 2SD,  $n=67$ ) previously analysed in other studies (Williams et al.,  
246 2014). The international rock standards BIR-1 (Icelandic basalt) and Nod-P1 (Pacific ferromanganese  
247 nodule) were analysed over the course of this study. The mean Fe isotope compositions of these  
248 standards are:  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe} = 0.07 \pm 0.04$  ‰ (2SD,  $n = 4$ ) for BIR-1, and  $-0.84 \pm 0.02$  ‰ for Nod-P1 (2SD,  $n =$   
249  $7$ ). These data are in excellent agreement with those reported previously (Millet et al., 2012; Weyer  
250 et al., 2005; Williams et al., 2014).

251 The Si isotope compositions ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ , relative to the NBS-28 Si standard) of the parent basalt (from the  
252 BA site; Opfergelt et al., 2014), bulk soil samples (all soils), clay fractions  $< 2$   $\mu\text{m}$  (except V, recovered  
253 after sonication, dispersion with  $\text{Na}^+$ -saturated resin of the  $< 2\text{mm}$  fraction, separation from the  
254 larger grain size by gravitational settling following the Stokes law, and flocculation of the clay

255 particles; Rouiller et al., 1972), and soil solutions were analysed by MC-ICP-MS at the University of  
256 Oxford, UK, using standard Si purification and mass spectrometry procedures (Opfergelt et al., 2012).  
257 Briefly, solid samples were ashed at 450 °C and dissolved by NaOH fusion at 720 °C in a silver  
258 crucible. All samples were purified for Si isotope measurements using cation exchange resin (BioRad  
259 AG50W-X12) (Georg et al., 2006). Silicon isotope compositions were determined on a Nu Plasma HR-  
260 MC-ICP-MS in dry plasma mode in pseudo-high (“medium”) resolution. Each sample was analysed 9  
261 times, where each single  $\delta$ -value (n) represents one sample run and two bracketed standard runs.  
262 The mass dependence, accuracy and long-term reproducibility on  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  were assessed over a period  
263 of 12 months using the reference materials Diatomite ( $+1.25 \pm 0.09 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD, n=132), Quartz Merck ( $-$   
264  $0.05 \pm 0.06 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD, n=45) and the USGS rock standard BHVO-2 ( $-0.26 \pm 0.09 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD, n=124). These  
265 values are in excellent agreement with those reported previously (Reynolds et al., 2007; Abraham et  
266 al., 2008; Savage et al., 2010; Zambardi and Poitrasson, 2011).

### 267 3. RESULTS

268 All data are presented in Tables 1-3, in Figures 1-6 and in Figures EA-1 to EA-5 (for some parameters,  
269 characterisation performed on a subset of samples).

#### 270 3.1. Distribution of secondary phases in soils with weathering

271 Poorly crystalline aluminosilicates such as allophane are present in a higher amount in V-BA-GA than  
272 in HA-H soils, and this is supported by a higher  $\text{Si}_o$  content in V-BA-GA ( $20.5 \pm 6.0 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ) relative to  
273 HA ( $10.6 \pm 4.3 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ) and H ( $5.9 \pm 3.0 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ; Table 1). The crystalline clay minerals that have been  
274 identified are kaolinite and smectite (Opfergelt et al., 2014). The pool of free iron oxides ( $\text{Fe}_d/\text{Fe}_t$ )  
275 increases with an increasing degree of weathering (Figure 2), and the proportion of short-range  
276 ordered Fe-oxides in the global pool of Fe-oxides ( $\text{Fe}_o/\text{Fe}_d$  ratio) decreases with an increasing degree  
277 of weathering (Figure EA-1a), suggesting that with increasing time for soil development poorly  
278 crystalline Fe-oxyhydroxides, such as ferrihydrite, transform to more crystalline phases such as  
279 goethite (shown by XRD; Figure EA-2). The proportion of  $\text{Si}_d$  is lower in V-BA-GA ( $\text{Si}_d/\text{Si}_t = 2.1 \pm 0.5 \%$ )  
280 than in HA and H (HA =  $4.8 \pm 2.2 \%$ ; H =  $3.3 \pm 1.3 \%$ ; Table 1).

281 In addition to secondary aluminosilicates and Fe-oxides, Fe released from the weathering of primary  
282 minerals may form metal-organic complexes. The amount of  $\text{Fe}_p$  is higher in HA-H soils ( $30.4 \pm 17.6 \text{ g}$   
283  $\text{kg}^{-1}$ ) than the V-BA-GA soils ( $4.1 \pm 3.0 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ; Table 1), while the amounts of  $\text{C}_p$  are lower in V, BA and  
284 GA soils ( $14.5 \pm 8.0 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ) than in HA and H soils ( $49.6 \pm 16.9 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ; Table 1). More specifically, the  
285 proportion of  $\text{Fe}_p$  in the total soil Fe ( $\text{Fe}_p/\text{Fe}_t$ ) is higher in H than in HA, and  $\text{Fe}_p$  correlates with the  
286 amount of  $\text{C}_p$  in all soils (Figure EA-1b).

#### 287 3.2. Iron isotope variations in soils, soil solutions and rivers

288 The poorly weathered soils (BA-GA) display relatively invariant Fe isotope compositions ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe} = 0.09$   
289  $\pm 0.08 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD, n=10; Table 1; Figure EA-3a) that are indistinguishable within error from the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$   
290 value of the Iceland basalt BIR-1 ( $0.07 \pm 0.04 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD), which is considered representative of the  
291 parent material. At higher degrees of weathering and hence a higher amount of free Fe-oxides  
292 (Figure 3a), the bulk soil Fe isotope compositions tend to deviate from the parent basalt composition,  
293 with a trend towards lighter values in HA ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe} = -0.14 \pm 0.33 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD, n=7) and heavier values in H  
294 ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe} = 0.34 \pm 0.26 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD, n=6). The pool of free Fe-oxides in soils ( $\text{Fe}_d$ ) is characterised by  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{DCB}}$

295 values that are generally lighter than the bulk soil (Figure 3b) and positively correlated with the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$   
296 of the bulk soil ( $R^2 = 0.56$ ). Importantly, the bulk soil and the  $\text{Fe}_d$  pool of the least weathered soil BA  
297 are characterised by  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values (BA:  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{bulk soil}} = 0.13 \pm 0.03 \text{ ‰}$ ,  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{DCB}} = 0.07 \pm 0.09 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) that  
298 are within error of that of the Iceland basalt BIR-1 ( $0.07 \pm 0.04 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD), as expected. These  
299 observations provide further evidence that matrix effects do not compromise the Fe isotope analysis  
300 of DCB extractions (Guelke et al., 2010).

301 The soil solutions are characterised by low Fe concentrations in BA-GA ( $0.02 \pm 0.01 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $n=10$ ) and  
302 HA ( $0.03 \pm 0.01 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $n=5$ ) relative to H (from 0.06 to 25.07  $\text{mg L}^{-1}$  Fe, with the highest  
303 concentrations in H O4 (15.25  $\text{mg L}^{-1}$  Fe) and H O6 (19.98  $\text{mg L}^{-1}$  Fe; Table 2). The Fe isotope  
304 compositions of the soil solutions are lighter than the bulk soils (Figure 3c) but not systematically  
305 lighter than the  $\text{Fe}_d$  pool (Figure EA-3a). The  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  of the soil solutions are positively correlated with  
306 the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  of the bulk soil ( $R^2 = 0.55$ ; in soil horizons for which  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  is available for bulk soils and soil  
307 solutions: BA, HA, H). There is no difference between the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values in soil solutions relative to  
308 Icelandic basalt (BIR-1) in BA-GA ( $0.02 \pm 0.11 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD,  $n=4$ ), a trend towards lighter values relative to  
309 the basalt in HA soil solutions ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  range from -1.36 to -0.08 ‰), while the heaviest  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$   
310 compositions in soil solutions are found in H soil solutions ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  range from -0.48 to +0.38 ‰; Figure  
311 EA-3a). The lightest  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  in soil solutions are found in those characterised by the lowest pH (Table 1;  
312 Figure EA-3b). The soil solutions with the highest Fe concentrations (H O4 and H O6) are  
313 characterised by Fe isotope compositions of -0.48 ‰ and 0.14 ‰, respectively (Figure 3c). The  
314 Icelandic grass collected is characterized by a  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  of  $-0.09 \pm 0.03 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD (Table 1).

315 The river water samples collected in September 2009, A3 and A4, display similar temperature and pH  
316 values ( $8.2 \pm 1.4 \text{ °C}$  and  $\text{pH } 8.2 \pm 0.3$ ; Table 3) and slightly higher conductivity values ( $57 \pm 6 \text{ } \mu\text{S cm}^{-1}$ ;  
317 Table 3) relative to samples from the same rivers collected in September 2003 (average values for  
318 localities A3 and A4:  $10.7 \pm 2.4 \text{ °C}$ ,  $\text{pH } 8.0 \pm 0.1$ , conductivity  $38 \pm 4 \text{ } \mu\text{S cm}^{-1}$ ; Pogge von Strandmann et  
319 al., 2006). The Fe concentration in the filtered fraction of those rivers (below 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ) ranges between  
320 6 and 11.7  $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$  (Table 3), with between 26 and 56 % of Fe being colloidal (10 kD - 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ; Table 3).  
321 In river sample A4, the Fe isotope composition of the filtered fraction (< 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ) is lighter ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe} = -$   
322  $0.46 \pm 0.07 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) than the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  value of the colloidal fraction (10 kD - 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ) ( $-0.14 \pm 0.07 \text{ ‰}$ ,  
323 2SD; Table 3).

### 324 3.3. Silicon isotope variations in soils and soil solutions

325 Bulk soil Si isotope compositions are generally lighter than that of the parent basalt ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si} = -0.29 \pm$   
326  $0.06 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) in V ( $-0.42 \pm 0.05 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD,  $n=3$ ) and in BA-GA ( $-0.61 \pm 0.06 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD,  $n=11$ ), and are the  
327 lightest and most variable in HA ( $-0.91 \pm 0.28 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD,  $n=7$ ) and H ( $-0.74 \pm 0.20 \text{ ‰}$ ,  $n=6$ , 2SD; Table 1;  
328 Figure EA-4a). The  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  values of the bulk soil samples become progressively lighter with greater  
329 degree of weathering, as defined using the amount of free Fe-oxide ( $R^2 = 0.47$ ; Figure 4a). The data  
330 indicate that above 45 % clay content (< 2  $\mu\text{m}$ ; granulometric clay fraction with clay minerals and Fe-  
331 oxides as the main mineral constituents), the Si isotope composition of the bulk soils becomes  
332 systematically lighter (Table 1). The  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  of the clay fractions are lighter than the  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  of the bulk  
333 soil, with a trend towards lighter  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{clay}}$  with increasing weathering from BA-GA to HA (Figure 4b).

334 The Si concentrations in soil solutions in HA ( $20.03 \pm 9.75 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $n=5$ ) are higher than in BA-GA ( $6.80$   
335  $\pm 3.21 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $n=10$ ), whereas H soil solutions display Si concentrations ( $14.25 \pm 6.13 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $n=5$ ;  
336 Table 2) that fall between those from BA-GA and HA but are not significantly different from each



337 other. The Si concentrations in soil solutions increase at lower pH ( $R^2 = 0.79$ ; Table 1; Figure EA-4b).  
338 The Si isotope compositions of soil solutions are heavier ( $+0.29 \pm 0.37 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD,  $n=30$ ; Table 2) than  
339 the bulk soils (Figure 4c) and the Icelandic basalt (Figure EA-4a). There is no difference in  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$   
340 between the BA-GA and HA-H soil solutions (Table 2). The heaviest  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  values in soil solutions are  
341 found in the deep horizons of the H soil profile (H O4  $+0.88 \text{ ‰}$  and H O6  $+1.22 \text{ ‰}$ ; Figure 4c).

## 342 4. DISCUSSION

### 343 4.1. Iron isotope fractionation in soils

344 The  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  value of the Icelandic basalt used as representative of the parent material (BIR-1 =  $0.07 \pm$   
345  $0.04 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) is within the range of terrestrial igneous rocks ( $-0.1$  to  $+0.15 \text{ ‰}$ ; Beard et al., 2003;  
346 Figure 5a). The range of  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  observed in bulk Icelandic soils ( $-0.60$  to  $+0.67 \text{ ‰}$ ) is within that of  
347 existing iron isotope data for soils (recalculated where necessary from  $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$  to  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  using the mass-  
348 dependent scaling factor of 1.5; e.g., from  $-0.9$  to  $+1.4 \text{ ‰}$ ; Fantle and De Paolo, 2004; Emmanuel et  
349 al., 2005; Thompson et al., 2007; Wiederhold et al., 2007a; Mansfeldt et al., 2012; Fekiacova et al.,  
350 2013; Liu et al., 2014; Akerman et al., 2014; Liu et al., 2014; Schulz et al., 2016; Figure 5a), including  
351 soils that formed in both oxic and anoxic weathering conditions. The  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values of the free Fe oxide  
352 pool ( $-1.07$  to  $+0.25 \text{ ‰}$ ) are within the range of published values for pedogenic Fe-oxides ( $-1.07$  to  
353  $+0.90 \text{ ‰}$ ; Wiederhold et al., 2007b; Kiczka et al., 2011; Guelke et al., 2010; Poitrasson et al., 2008;  
354 Yesavage et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2014; Schuth and Mansfeldt 2015; Figure 5a).

355 Minimal  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  variations in the BA-GA bulk soils ( $0.09 \pm 0.08 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) relative to the parent basalt  
356 ( $0.07 \pm 0.04 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) likely reflect the low degree of weathering of these soils, and the lower amount  
357 of Fe-oxyhydroxides present compared to the HA-H soils (Figure 3a). This is supported by the “basalt-  
358 like”  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  ratio in the volcanic ash horizon HA soil profile (HA redox, 67-83 cm depth =  $-0.05 \pm 0.05$   
359  $\text{ ‰}$ , 2SD; Figure 3a; Table EA-1). In this volcanic ash layer, the heavier  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  value with respect to the  
360 rest of the profile reflects the lower weathering degree of the material, i.e., a lower proportion of Fe-  
361 oxyhydroxides (Figure 2). Aeolian deposition of volcanic ash at the top of the soils also contributes to  
362 soil formation in Iceland (Arnalds, 2008). However, the influence of volcanic ash on soil Fe isotope  
363 compositions is likely to be limited given that the aeolian contribution in the area of BA-GA-HA-H  
364 soils in West Iceland are low ( $\sim 0.1 \text{ mm yr}^{-1}$ ; Sigfusson et al., 2008) when compared to areas closer to  
365 the rift zones in South West Iceland ( $\sim 2 \text{ mm yr}^{-1}$ ; Arnalds, 2004).

366 The  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values in HA bulk soils are heavier than the basalt at the surface and lighter than the basalt  
367 below 25 cm depth (Figure EA-3a). The poorly drained conditions of this profile are likely to favour  
368 the release of isotopically light Fe(II) under anoxic conditions, followed by the quantitative  
369 precipitation of Fe-oxides during fluctuating oxic conditions (e.g., Fekiacova et al., 2013; Yesavage et  
370 al., 2016) resulting in the enrichment of light Fe isotopes in pedogenic oxides in these soils  
371 (Wiederhold et al., 2007a; Guelke et al., 2010; Kiczka et al., 2011). This hypothesis is supported by  
372 the lighter  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{DCB}}$  composition of the  $\text{Fe}_d$  pool relative to the bulk soils (Figure 3b) indicating a  
373 preferential retention of light Fe isotopes in Fe-oxides. The fluctuations of oxic-anoxic conditions are  
374 generated by frequent seasonal freeze-thaw cycles (Orradottir et al., 2008), and these fluctuations  
375 occur more regularly in HA than H (Arnalds, 2008), and are amplified by drainage ditches in wetlands  
376 (Arnalds et al., 2016). In addition, the presence of Fe-organic complexes may contribute to the Fe  
377 isotope variability in the HA profile ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe} = -0.14 \pm 0.33 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD), and lead to the heavier  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$   
378 relative to the basalt observed above 25 cm. Iron-organic ligand complexation has been

379 experimentally shown to favour heavy Fe isotopes (Dideriksen et al., 2008; Morgan et al., 2010), as  
380 predicted by the isotope fractionation theory for a stronger bonding environment (Schauble, 2004).  
381 The correlation between  $Fe_p/Fe_t$  and  $C_p$  (Figure EA-1b) supports the presence of Fe-organic  
382 complexes in both HA and H soils. The formation of metal-organic complexes is favoured by the  
383 higher amounts of organic carbon available in the HA-H soils relative to the BA-GA soils (Table 1), and  
384 by the lower pH in the HA-H soils than in BA-GA soils (Table 1) enhancing the rate of glass dissolution  
385 (Oelkers and Gislason, 2001) and thereby creating a larger dissolved Fe pool.

386 The  $\delta^{57}Fe$  values in the H bulk soils are heavier than the basalt suggesting the loss of light Fe isotopes  
387 from this soil. The poorly drained conditions (mainly anoxic) of this profile are likely to favour the  
388 release of isotopically light Fe(II) by reductive dissolution. The reduction of Fe is known to lead to a  
389 fractionation of Fe isotopes, with Fe(II) being isotopically lighter than Fe(III) (Thompson et al., 2007;  
390 Wiederhold et al., 2007a; Welch et al., 2003; Wu et al., 2011), and the greater mobility of Fe(II) in  
391 aqueous solutions during weathering and soil development progressively depletes the soil in light Fe  
392 isotopes, and leaves the residual material enriched in heavy Fe (e.g., Wiederhold et al., 2007a;  
393 Fekiacova et al., 2013; Akerman et al., 2014; Schuth et al., 2015). The existence of drainage ditches  
394 in wetlands (Arnalds et al., 2016) can potentially expose the H soil profile to oxic conditions for short  
395 periods of time, which could explain the presence of secondary Fe-oxides in this soil and the range of  
396 Fe isotope variability of the bulk soils ( $\delta^{57}Fe = 0.34 \pm 0.26 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD). The variable  $\delta^{57}Fe$  isotope  
397 composition of the  $Fe_d$  pool is similar to or heavier than the bulk soil in the H profile (except one  
398 lighter value; Figure 3b) and this suggests that the quantitative precipitation of Fe-oxides has  
399 occurred following a loss of light Fe isotopes. In addition, the formation and quantitative  
400 accumulation of Fe-organic complexes may contribute to the Fe isotope variability in the H profile.  
401 This process is likely to occur to a greater extent in H than in HA, given the anoxic conditions  
402 releasing Fe by reductive dissolution (highest Fe concentration in soil solution in H; Table 1), resulting  
403 in the higher proportion of  $Fe_p$  in the H soil than in the HA soil (higher  $Fe_p/Fe_t$ ; Figure EA-1b).

404 Iron recycling by vegetation, including plant Fe uptake and decomposition of organic matter, is likely  
405 to contribute to the Fe isotope variability in soils, especially in organic-rich soils such as HA-H. The  
406  $\delta^{57}Fe$  value in plant available from the HA site (Icelandic grass:  $\delta^{57}Fe = -0.09 \pm 0.03 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD; Table 1)  
407 is isotopically similar or heavier than the HA soil solution (Table 2). However, the Fe isotope  
408 fractionation in plants is still debated (e.g., Guelke-Stelling and von Blanckenburg, 2012; Caldelas and  
409 Weiss 2017) as it may depend on different parameters such as the plant Fe acquisition strategy  
410 (Marschner and Römheld, 1994; Guelke and von Blanckenburg, 2007) or the nutrient status of the  
411 soils (Kiczka et al., 2010b). It is therefore difficult to predict if heavier or lighter Fe isotopes are  
412 preferentially taken up by vegetation at the studied field sites based on the available data. The Fe  
413 concentrations of vegetation from the BA-GA-HA-H soils ranges from 0.2 to 0.4 g kg<sup>-1</sup> (Opfergelt et  
414 al., 2014), in good agreement with reported values for Fe concentrations in Icelandic grass 0.1 to 1.4  
415 g kg<sup>-1</sup> (e.g., Johannesson et al., 2007). Taking a biomass production of  $\sim 2 \text{ t ha}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  (Opfergelt et al.,  
416 2014), the Fe uptake by vegetation ranges from 0.4 to 0.9 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>. Relative to the total soil Fe  
417 reservoir (between 134 and 338 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> in the top 40 cm of the soil profile, calculated for each profile  
418 from the total Fe concentration in soil horizons above 40 cm in Table 1, and the bulk density of soil  
419 horizons provided in Opfergelt et al., 2014), the annual Fe uptake in vegetation represents 0.3% to  
420 0.6% of the soil Fe reservoir. Therefore, although Fe recycling by vegetation may contribute to the  
421 overall Fe isotope variability in bulk soils, this contribution is limited relative to the other processes  
422 previously discussed.

#### 423 4.2. Controls on Fe in soil solutions

424 The  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values of the soil solutions, generally lighter than their corresponding bulk soils (Figure 3c),  
425 indicate the preferential release of light Fe isotopes in the dissolved pool relative to the solid pool, or  
426 a preferential removal of heavy Fe isotopes from the soil solution. The limited Fe isotope  
427 fractionation in soil solutions relative to the bulk soil in BA-GA ( $\Delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{solution-soil}} = -0.11 \pm 0.12 \text{ ‰}$ ; Figure  
428 6) reflects the limited Fe isotope fractionation in poorly weathered soils (Figure EA-3a): the trend to  
429 release light Fe isotopes likely reflects primary mineral weathering by proton-promoted dissolution  
430 (Chapman et al., 2009; Kiczka et al., 2010a).

431 The  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values in the HA soil solutions are lighter relative to the bulk soil except for HA Bw1 where  
432 the solution is heavier ( $\Delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{solution-soil}}$  in HA = -0.76 to + 0.25 ‰; Figure 6). The dissolution of glass is  
433 favoured given the low pH of the HA soil (as supported by the high Si concentration in solution;  
434 Figure EA-4b). Given that the HA soil is organic-rich, ligand-controlled mineral dissolution is likely to  
435 contribute to the release of Fe, favouring light Fe isotopes. In this soil, characterised by fluctuating  
436 oxic-anoxic conditions, reductive dissolution is likely to occur and release light Fe isotopes during  
437 periods of anoxia. Iron reduction may mobilize colloidal Fe-organic complexes and Fe-oxides from the  
438 soil (Buettner et al., 2014; Thompson et al., 2011). Mobilisation of colloidal Fe-oxides to soil solutions  
439 can provide some explanation of the lighter  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  in soil solutions relative to bulk soils, given that the  
440  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{DCB}}$  is similar to or lighter than the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  of bulk soils (Figure 3b). Mobilisation of colloidal Fe-  
441 organic complexes, e.g., from the surface horizon HA A1 and horizon A2, may contribute to the  
442 heavier  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values in the soil solution of the horizon HA Bw1, given that organic-Fe complexation  
443 favours heavy Fe isotopes (Dideriksen et al., 2008; Morgan et al., 2010).

444 The  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values in H soil solutions are lighter than the bulk soil ( $\Delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{solution-soil}} = -0.45 \pm 0.24 \text{ ‰}$ ;  
445 Figure 6), but not as light as the HA soil solutions relative to the bulk soil ( $\Delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{solution-soil}}$  up to -0.76 ‰  
446 in HA). The poorly drained conditions (mainly anoxic) in H soil favour reductive dissolution and the  
447 release of isotopically light Fe(II) (Thompson et al., 2007; Wiederhold et al., 2007a; Welch et al., 2003;  
448 Wu et al., 2011), and this is supported by the highest Fe concentrations in solution in H, especially at  
449 depth (below 52 cm depth, in H O4 and H O6, 15.25 and 19.98  $\text{mg L}^{-1}$  Fe, respectively), relative to the  
450 other soil profiles (BA-GA:  $0.02 \pm 0.01 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $n=10$ ; HA:  $0.03 \pm 0.01 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $n=5$ ; Table 2). In addition,  
451 as for the soil profile HA, ligand-controlled mineral dissolution may also contribute to the release of  
452 light Fe isotopes in the H soil solutions, and Fe reduction may mobilize colloidal Fe as Fe-organic  
453 complexes or Fe-oxides (Buettner et al., 2014; Thompson et al., 2011) and contribute to the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$   
454 variability in solutions. The soil solutions of H O4 and H O6 are dominated by dissolved Fe(II) released  
455 under anoxic conditions, as supported by the high Fe concentrations in these soil solutions.  
456 Interestingly, the H O6 soil solution, which is characterised by a higher Fe concentration (19.9  $\text{mg L}^{-1}$   
457 Fe), is isotopically heavier (0.14 ‰) than the soil solution of H O4 (-0.48 ‰; Figure 3c) which has a  
458 lower Fe concentration (15.2  $\text{mg L}^{-1}$  Fe; Table 2). These observations suggest that the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  in H soil  
459 solutions is not only driven by light Fe(II) (Johnson et al., 2008), but modified towards heavier  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$   
460 values by the preferential retention of heavy Fe isotopes in solution, relative to the more mobile and  
461 isotopically lighter Fe(II). The formation of Fe-organic complexes in solution is expected to favour the  
462 incorporation of heavy Fe isotopes (Dideriksen et al., 2008; Morgan et al., 2010). The formation of  
463 Fe-organic complexes in the H soil profile is consistent with the higher  $\text{Fe}_p/\text{Fe}_t$  of the bulk H soil  
464 relative to the other soils (Figure EA-1b). These observations point to a contribution from colloidal  
465 Fe-organic complexes in soil solutions from the H soil profile, i.e., characterised by more anoxic

466 conditions (Figure 6). This is consistent with observations in a tropical setting in Brazil, where Fe is  
467 leached from soils as Fe-organic complexes in lowlands characterised by poorly drained  
468 (waterlogged) organic-rich environments involving Fe reductive dissolution in anoxia (Chauvel et al.,  
469 1987; Lucas et al., 1987; Fritsch et al., 2011).

#### 470 **4.3. Silicon isotope fractionation in soils**

471 The  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  isotope composition of the parent basalt ( $-0.29 \pm 0.06 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) is consistent with previously  
472 published values for basalts (BHVO-2 =  $-0.31 \pm 0.06 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD; e.g., Abraham et al., 2008), and with the  
473 overall rather uniform  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  composition of terrestrial basalts (Savage et al., 2010; Figure 5b). The Si  
474 isotope composition of bulk soils (ranging from  $-1.32$  to  $-0.38 \text{ ‰}$ ) and clay fractions (ranging from  $-$   
475  $2.04$  to  $-0.63 \text{ ‰}$ ) are within the range of previously reported Si isotope values for such materials  
476 (review in Opfergelt and Delmelle, 2012; Frings et al., 2016; Poitrasson, 2017; Figure 5b). The  
477 evolution of the Si isotope compositions of soils and clay fractions towards lighter  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  values with  
478 increasing degree of weathering (Figure 4a and 4b) is consistent with a preferential incorporation of  
479 light Si isotopes in secondary weathering phases, resulting in light  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  in soils and clay fractions  
480 relative to the parental basalt (e.g., Ziegler et al., 2005; Georg et al., 2009; Opfergelt and Delmelle,  
481 2012). The relationship between the weathering degree and the bulk soil  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  is also supported by  
482 the heavier  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  of the HA horizon corresponding to a volcanic ash layer (HA redox, 67-83 cm depth =  
483  $-0.42 \pm 0.14 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) close to the basalt  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  value, and to the heavier  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  of the H O4 horizon  
484 located underneath a volcanic tephra layer (H tephra 40-52 cm; Table EA-1) and potentially including  
485 a basaltic contribution (H O4 =  $-0.47 \pm 0.08 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) (Figure 4a).

486 The presence of Fe-oxides in the secondary clay fractions may contribute to the light Si isotope  
487 composition of those clay fractions, due to the Si adsorption onto Fe-oxides (Jones and Handreck,  
488 1983; Hiemstra et al., 2007; Swedlund and Webster, 1999) favouring isotopically light Si (Delstanche  
489 et al., 2009; Opfergelt et al., 2009). However, the  $\text{Si}_d/\text{Si}_t$  ratio, that can be used as a relative indicator  
490 of the contribution of Si adsorbed onto Fe-oxides to the total Si content in soils, suggests that the  
491 proportion of  $\text{Si}_d$  in Icelandic soils is limited ( $\text{Si}_d/\text{Si}_t$ : BA-GA =  $2.2 \pm 0.5 \%$ ; HA =  $4.8 \pm 2.2 \%$ ; H =  $5.2 \pm$   
492  $3.3 \%$ ; Table 1). Even if the  $\text{Si}_d/\text{Si}_t$  ratio is two times higher in HA than in BA-GA, the proportion of Si  
493 adsorbed is below 8 %, which is limited relative to Si mass in aluminosilicates. Consequently, the  
494 contribution of light Si isotopes adsorbed onto Fe-oxides to the observed isotope difference between  
495  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{clay}}$  in HA ( $-1.67 \pm 0.35 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) and in BA-GA ( $-0.98 \pm 0.24 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD; Table 1) is probably limited.

496 In secondary aluminosilicates, there is an evolution from poorly crystalline aluminosilicates such as  
497 allophane forming in poorly weathered soils V-BA-GA (as supported by higher  $\text{Si}_o$  content than in HA-  
498 H; Table 1), towards crystalline aluminosilicates such as kaolinite in more weathered soils HA-H. That  
499 evolution is generally accompanied by a decrease of the  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  value of the clay minerals (e.g., Ziegler  
500 et al., 2005; Opfergelt et al., 2012; Cornelis et al., 2014), in good agreement with the decrease in  
501  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{clay}}$  from BA-GA to HA (Figure 3b).

502 In organic-rich soils, such as HA-H (Table 1), the affinity of Al for organic ligands at relatively low pH  
503 limits Al availability for the formation of allophane (Parfitt, 2009; Parfitt and Kimble, 1989; Mizota  
504 and van Reeuwijk, 1989). These conditions, combined with the enhanced dissolution of glass at lower  
505 pH (Oelkers and Gislason, 2001), favour the increase of the Si concentration in solution (Figure EA-  
506 4b). During periods of freezing, Si supersaturation with respect to amorphous silica may be reached,  
507 leading to amorphous silica precipitation (Ping, 1988; Shoji and Masui, 1971; Dietzel, 2005). The

508 occurrence of amorphous silica is confirmed by XRD for the HA-H soils and is not observed in the V-  
509 BA-GA soils (Figure EA-2). The light isotopes of Si are known to be preferentially incorporated into  
510 amorphous Si (e.g., Li et al., 1995; Geilert et al., 2014, 2015; Roerdink et al., 2015; Oelze et al., 2015),  
511 which may contribute to the lighter Si isotope compositions of the HA and H bulk soils relative to the  
512 V-BA-GA soils (Figure 4a). A contribution from phytoliths to the fraction of amorphous Si in soils  
513 cannot be ruled out (McKeague and Cline, 1963), but is unlikely to represent the only contribution to  
514 amorphous silica. To be detected by XRD, an amorphous phase needs to represent ~30% of the  
515 sample (e.g., Paque et al., 2016). Taking the Si content in plants (25 g kg<sup>-1</sup>; Opfergelt et al., 2014) and  
516 the amount of organic carbon in HA and H soils (between 18 and 42 %; Table 1), a minimum Si  
517 contribution from organic matter in soils would be ~1 % (considering a low organic matter  
518 decomposition), and that contribution alone would not be detected by XRD. The presence of  
519 phytoliths may contribute to the Si isotope variability in bulk soils but is unlikely to explain the lighter  
520  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  in HA-H soils relative to the other soils because plants preferentially incorporate the light Si  
521 isotopes (e.g., Opfergelt and Delmelle, 2012 and references therein) from soil solutions that are  
522 heavier than the bulk soil (Figure 4c). The presence of amorphous silica in HA-H and not in V-BA-GA  
523 supports the limited availability of Al to form alumino-silicates in HA-H relative to V-BA-GA, and  
524 provides indirect support for the formation of metal-organic complexes in HA-H, as suggested in  
525 section 4.2. The formation of metal-organic complexes involving Al in HA-H is confirmed by the  
526 higher proportion of pyrophosphate extractable Al ( $\text{Al}_p/\text{Al}_t$ , used to estimate metal complexes with  
527 organic ligands; Figure EA-1c) in HA-H than in BA-GA.

528 Heavier  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  compositions in soil solutions (ranging from -0.19 to +1.22 ‰ in BA-GA-HA-H) relative  
529 to the basalt result from the preferential incorporation of light Si isotopes in secondary weathering  
530 phases (e.g., Ziegler et al., 2005; Georg et al., 2009; Opfergelt and Delmelle, 2012; Figure 5b). The Si  
531 isotope difference between the soil and the soil solution is within the same range in BA-GA and HA-H  
532 ( $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{solution-soil}} = 0.92 \pm 0.26 \text{ ‰}$ ) except in H soil profile below 50 cm where the soil solutions are  
533 heavier than any other soil solutions (for H O4 and H O6 solutions:  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{solution-soil}} = 1.63 \pm 0.40 \text{ ‰}$ ;  
534 Figure 6; Figure 4c; Figure EA-4a). These data do not suggest a contribution from the dissolution of  
535 secondary minerals in HA-H organic rich-soils more acidic, as it would release light Si isotopes in  
536 solution (Cornelis et al., 2010; Steinhöfel et al., 2017). No specific process is reported to release of  
537 heavy Si isotopes in solution. Instead, successive mineral precipitation with the preferential  
538 incorporation of light Si isotopes may lead to a larger Si isotope fractionation between the soil and  
539 the soil solution. Successive precipitation of amorphous Si and clay minerals has been suggested in  
540 HA-H and not in BA-GA (Opfergelt et al., 2011). The heavier  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  in H solutions relative to other soil  
541 solutions support that the precipitation of amorphous silica occurs in addition to the formation of  
542 secondary clay minerals. This is consistent with a limited availability of Al in H when metal-organic  
543 complexes are formed, as highlighted based on Fe isotopes (section 4.2; Figure EA-5a and 5b).

#### 544 **4.4. Implications for the Fe export to rivers**

545 Based on the present study, it can be anticipated that if warming peatland at high latitudes (IPCC,  
546 2013; Romanovsky et al., 2010) decreases soil drainage and leads to more anoxic soils, Fe export  
547 from soils as Fe-organic complexes will increase. Although beyond the scope of the present study,  
548 the potential implications for Fe in rivers can be considered based on the few Fe isotope  
549 compositions measured for Icelandic rivers from the catchment areas in which the soil profiles are  
550 located in (Table 3). The riverine Fe isotope compositions of the dissolved fraction (< 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ;  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe} = -$

551  $0.55 \pm 0.30$  ‰, 2SD, n=3) are within the range of  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values reported for the dissolved fraction of  
552 other rivers (e.g., -1 to 0 ‰; Bergquist and Boyle, 2006; Mulholland et al., 2015; Figure 5a). The  
553 dissolved Fe fraction of rivers (< 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ) includes truly dissolved Fe (<10 kD) and a range of colloidal  
554 Fe (10 kD - 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ). The colloidal fraction of the A4 river locality (10 kD - 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ) is heavier ( $-0.14 \pm$   
555  $0.07$  ‰, 2SD) than the corresponding dissolved fraction (< 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ;  $-0.46 \pm 0.07$  ‰, 2SD). Based on an  
556 isotope mass balance calculation where 26 % of Fe has been measured in the colloidal fraction (Table  
557 3), the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  value of the truly dissolved Fe is  $-0.57$  ‰, suggesting that the colloidal riverine Fe  
558 fraction represents an isotopically heavier Fe carrier than the truly dissolved Fe. This observation is  
559 consistent with the heavier  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values reported for river colloids (Ingri et al., 2006; Iliina et al., 2013;  
560 Akerman et al., 2014; Escoube et al., 2015; Mulholland et al., 2015; Figure 5a) relative to the  
561 dissolved fraction of global rivers (e.g., Bergquist and Boyle, 2006).

562 The heavier  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  value of the colloidal fraction (10 kD - 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ) relative to the dissolved fraction (<  
563 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ) of a local Icelandic river may reflect a contribution from colloidal Fe originating in soils.  
564 Colloidal Fe exported from soils may be present as Fe oxyhydroxide nanoparticulates and/or Fe-  
565 organic complexes (Thompson et al., 2011). In the context of organic-rich soils, the contribution of  
566 Fe-organic complexes transported from soils (Chauvel et al., 1987; Lucas et al., 1987; Fritsch et al.,  
567 2009, 2011) to rivers is thought to explain the heavy  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  ratio of the dissolved fraction of the Rio  
568 Negro river relative to the dissolved fraction of the Amazon river, Brazil (Bergquist and Boyle, 2006;  
569 dos Santos Pinheiro et al., 2014). In Iceland, the available  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  data for H soil solutions suggests that  
570 the release of colloidal Fe from Histosols may contribute to the colloidal heavy  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  of rivers  
571 draining peat soils. Further study is required to quantify the contribution from Fe oxyhydroxides  
572 nanoparticulates and/or Fe-organic complexes to the colloids exported from soils to rivers, and hence  
573 the impact for Fe transport in rivers.

## 574 **5. CONCLUSIONS**

575 The Fe isotope composition in Icelandic soils provides important insights into the processes  
576 controlling Fe export from high latitude soils as function of weathering and drainage (Figure 6).  
577 During early weathering stages, well-drained soils do not generate any significant  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  isotope  
578 variability in the bulk soils ( $0.09 \pm 0.08$  ‰, 2SD) relative to the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  composition of the parent basalt  
579 ( $0.07 \pm 0.04$  ‰, 2SD). In contrast, in poorly drained soils that have experienced a higher degree of  
580 weathering, light Fe isotopes are released in solution by reductive or ligand-controlled mineral  
581 dissolution. The Fe released is either quantitatively precipitated in Fe-oxides, where the fluctuating  
582 redox conditions can account for the lighter  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  in soils ( $-0.14 \pm 0.33$  ‰, 2SD) than in the basalt and  
583 increasingly lighter  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  in soils with increasing amount of Fe-oxides, or else leached from soils  
584 under anoxic conditions leaving heavier  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  in soils ( $0.34 \pm 0.26$  ‰, 2SD) than in the basalt. In soil  
585 solutions, a limited Fe isotope fractionation in poorly weathered well-drained soils ( $\Delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{solution-soil}} = -$   
586  $0.11 \pm 0.12$  ‰) reflects proton-promoted mineral dissolution (Figure 6). Larger Fe isotope  
587 fractionation in more weathered poorly drained soils ( $\Delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{solution-soil}} = -0.41 \pm 0.32$  ‰) reflects the  
588 presence of Fe mobilised by reductive mineral dissolution and ligand-controlled dissolution, and  
589 suggests the formation of Fe-organic complexes in solution under anoxic conditions (Figure 6).

590 The  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  in soils (ranging from -1.32 to -0.38 ‰) decreases relative to the parent basalt ( $-0.29 \pm 0.06$   
591 ‰, 2SD) with increasing degree of weathering and the formation of secondary aluminosilicates, and  
592 more specifically with the evolution from poorly crystalline aluminosilicates such as allophane to

593 crystalline clay minerals such as kaolinite. Under oxic conditions and in fluctuating redox conditions,  
594 the heavier  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  composition of soil solutions than soils ( $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{solution-soil}} = 0.92 \pm 0.26 \text{ ‰}$ ) reflects the  
595 incorporation of light Si isotopes into secondary aluminosilicates. Under anoxic conditions, a larger  
596  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{solution-soil}}$  ( $1.63 \pm 0.40 \text{ ‰}$ ) points to a succession of processes that preferentially incorporates light  
597 Si isotopes, i.e., the cumulative contribution of secondary clay minerals and amorphous silica  
598 precipitation. The precipitation of amorphous silica is confirmed and suggests that Si concentration in  
599 solution reached supersaturation with respect to amorphous silica due to Al affinity for organic  
600 ligands, thereby providing indirect support for the formation of metal-organic complexes in the  
601 poorly drained soils consistently with the conclusion based on Fe isotopes.

602 This study suggests that if the warming of peatlands at high latitude decreases soil drainage, Fe  
603 export from soils as Fe-organic complexes will increase. Further study is needed to quantify the  
604 implications of such enhanced Fe export from soils on the proportion of colloidal Fe in rivers and  
605 hence for Fe transport in rivers.

606

607

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952  
953

954 **Figure captions**

955 **Figure 1.** Location map of the soil sites (HA, H, BA, GA, V) and the river sites (A3, A4, and HA) in  
956 Iceland studied here. Histic Andosol, HA; Histosol, H; Haplic Andosol, BA; Gleyic Andosol, GA; Vitric  
957 Andosol, V. Soil types are classified according to the World Reference Base for Soil Resources (IUSS,  
958 2014). The soil map is based on Arnalds (2004) and Arnalds and Gretarsson (2001).

959 **Figure 2.** The degree of weathering in soils: The HA–H soils, with low Total Reserve in Bases (TRB =  
960 [Na] + [Mg] + [Ca] + [K]; Herbillon, 1986; data from Opfergelt et al., 2014) and a high proportion of  
961 free iron ( $Fe_d/Fe_t$ ) are more weathered than V–BA–GA soils with higher TRB and lower  $Fe_d/Fe_t$  ( $Fe_d$  =  
962 Fe extracted by DCB or dithionite-citrate-bicarbonate;  $Fe_t$  = Fe total). Soil acronyms as in Figure 1.

963  
964 **Figure 3.** (a) The relation between the Fe isotope composition in bulk soils ( $\delta^{57}Fe_{bulk\ soil}$ , 2SD) and the  
965 proportion of free iron ( $Fe_d/Fe_t$ , with  $Fe_d$  = Fe extracted by DCB or dithionite-citrate-bicarbonate;  $Fe_t$   
966 = Fe total), the  $\delta^{57}Fe$  of the basalt BIR-1 considered as representative of the parent material is given  
967 by the horizontal line for comparison; (b) The relation between the Fe isotope composition of the  
968 free iron pool extracted by DCB ( $\delta^{57}Fe_{DCB}$ , 2SD) and the  $\delta^{57}Fe_{bulk\ soil}$ , 2SD; a 1:1 line is provided for  
969 comparison; (c) The relation between the Fe isotope composition of the soil solution ( $\delta^{57}Fe_{soil\ solution}$ ,  
970 2SD) and the  $\delta^{57}Fe_{bulk\ soil}$ , 2SD; a 1:1 line is provided for comparison, and the two horizons with the  
971 highest Fe soil solution concentrations, H O4 and H O6, are identified (Table 2). Soil acronyms as for  
972 Figure 1 (no data available for V).

973 **Figure 4.** (a) The Si isotope composition in the bulk soils ( $\delta^{30}Si_{bulk\ soil}$ , 2SD) decreases with increasing  
974 degree of soil weathering, as shown by the proportion of free iron ( $Fe_d/Fe_t$ , with  $Fe_d$  = Fe extracted by  
975 DCB or dithionite-citrate-bicarbonate;  $Fe_t$  = Fe total), from V to BA-GA to HA-H. The  $\delta^{30}Si$  of the  
976 parent basalt is given by the horizontal line for comparison. (b) The Si isotope composition of the clay  
977 fractions ( $\delta^{30}Si_{clay}$ , 2SD; < 2  $\mu m$ ) as a function of the  $\delta^{30}Si_{bulk\ soil}$ , 2SD; a 1:1 line is provided for  
978 comparison. (c) The Si isotope composition of the soil solution ( $\delta^{30}Si_{soil\ solution}$ , 2SD) as a function of the  
979  $\delta^{30}Si_{bulk\ soil}$ , 2SD; a 1:1 line is provided for comparison, and the two horizons with the highest  $\delta^{30}Si_{soil}$   
980  $_{solution}$ , H O4 and H O6, are identified (Table 2). Soil acronyms as for Fig. 1 (no data available for V in  
981 the clay fraction and in soil solution).

982 **Figure 5.** (a) Comparison between the main terrestrial Fe isotope variations ( $\delta^{57}Fe$ ) in igneous rocks,  
983 soils and rivers in the literature and the present study. (b) Comparison between the main terrestrial  
984 Si isotope variations ( $\delta^{30}Si$ ) in igneous rocks, soils, clay fractions, clay fractions from Cameroon with  
985 and without Fe-oxides, and soil solutions in the literature and the present study. [1] Beard et al.,  
986 2003, [2] Fantle & De Paolo 2004, [3] Emmanuel et al., 2005, [4] Fekiacova et al., 2013, [5] Mansfeldt  
987 et al., 2012, [6] Liu et al., 2014, [7] Fekiacova et al., 2017, [8] Thompson et al., 2007, [9] Akerman et  
988 al., 2014, [10] Schulz et al., 2016, [11] Wiederhold et al., 2007b, [12] Kiczka et al., 2011, [13] Yesavage  
989 et al., 2012, [14] Schuth and Mansfeldt 2015, [15] Garnier et al 2017, [16] Bergquist & Boyle 2006,  
990 [17] Mulholland et al., 2015, [18] Iliina et al., 2013, [19] Escoube et al., 2015, [20] Ingri et al., 2006,  
991 [21] review in Opfergelt and Delmelle, 2012, [22] review in Frings et al., 2016. Results expressed as  
992  $\delta^{56}Fe$  in the literature were converted to  $\delta^{57}Fe$  using the mass-dependent scaling factor of 1.5.

993 **Figure 6.** Conceptual view (no scale) of the main processes controlling Fe release from soils based on  
994 the difference in Fe and Si isotope composition between soil solutions and bulk soils (e.g.,  $\Delta^{30}Si_{solution-}$

995  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{soil}} = \delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{soil solution}} - \delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{bulk soil}}$ ). Schematic soil constituents modified from Chorover et al., 2007. Soil  
996 acronyms as for Figure 1.

Table 1

**Table 1.** Soil parameters (pH, carbon and clay content), bulk soil Fe and Si content ( $Fe_t$ ,  $Si_t$ ), Fe and Si content in selective extracts (dithionite-citrate-bicarbonate = d, oxalate = o, pyrophosphate = p) in soils. Iron and silicon isotope compositions of the bulk soils, secondary phases (Fe-oxides  $Fe_d$  from DCB extracts for Fe isotopes, and clay fractions  $<2\mu m$  for Si isotopes), parent basalt, and grass from the site of HA profile. Soil acronyms as in Fig. 1.

Soil horizon	Depth cm	pH <sub>H2O</sub> <sup>a</sup>	Carbon <sup>a</sup> %	Clay <sup>a</sup> %	$Fe_t^a$ g kg <sup>-1</sup>	$Si_t^a$ g kg <sup>-1</sup>	$Fe_d$ g kg <sup>-1</sup>	$Fe_o$ g kg <sup>-1</sup>	$Fe_p$ g kg <sup>-1</sup>	$Si_d$ g kg <sup>-1</sup>	$Si_o$ g kg <sup>-1</sup>	$C_p$ g kg <sup>-1</sup>	$\delta^{57}Fe_{bulk\ soil}$ ‰	2SD <sup>b</sup> ‰	$\delta^{57}Fe_{DCB}$ ‰	2SD <sup>b</sup> ‰	$\delta^{30}Si_{bulk\ soil}$ ‰	2SD ‰	$\delta^{30}Si_{clay}$ ‰	2SD ‰	
HA	A1	0-15	5.32	18.52	56.1	165.7	83.4	129.2	41.5	43.5	3.7	8.2	56.6	0.38	0.08	-	-	-1.05	0.09	-1.73	0.10
HA	A2	15-26	4.89	16.94	54.3	98.9	110.7	71.5	31.6	27.0	4.0	15.9	52.3	0.12	0.03	0.25	0.07	-0.97	0.04	-1.64	0.17
HA	Bw1	26-40	4.82	14.49	55.2	175.1	98.0	139.2	70.0	33.1	5.5	13.9	45.0	-0.33	0.07	-0.51	0.07	-1.32	0.05	-1.84	0.15
HA	Bw2	40-57	5.15	16.86	45.5	164.4	97.2	129.8	41.6	32.6	4.7	11.5	47.1	-0.36	0.14	-0.43	0.07	-1.00	0.07	-2.04	0.14
HA	O1	57-67	4.44	28.71	53.8	55.7	55.6	50.9	25.6	18.7	4.5	11.0	74.0	-0.16	0.15	-0.19	0.07	-0.77	0.12	-1.11	0.14
HA	redox	67-83	4.27	12.79	-	57.6	185.4	14.0	8.3	3.7	2.2	11.5	30.2	-0.05	0.05	-0.71	0.07	-0.42	0.14	-	-
HA	O2	83+	3.93	42.73	55.3	42.9	32.0	40.9	19.1	16.0	1.9	2.4	82.5	-0.60	0.07	-0.79	0.07	-0.85	0.04	-	-
H	O1	0-13	6.18	21.00	52.3	120.3	100.4	99.5	39.8	11.5	3.7	4.1	29.6	0.67	0.07	-0.11	0.04	-0.82	0.09	-	-
H	O2	13-26	5.10	22.94	8.4	83.8	94.9	57.9	22.6	18.2	2.4	3.0	30.3	0.56	0.07	0.71	0.02	-1.08	0.05	-	-
H	O3	26-40	4.57	18.62	38.2	141.7	91.5	111.4	34.6	53.1	4.5	11.1	49.5	-0.02	0.02	-0.05	0.07	-0.73	0.15	-1.42	0.15
H	O4	52-63	4.66	10.32	44.4	101.6	157.6	79.1	19.6	35.5	3.4	7.6	30.6	0.12	0.07	0.16	0.05	-0.47	0.08	-0.97	0.15
H	O5	63-72	4.35	29.27	70.9	140.7	40.9	-	27.8	69.1	4.4	3.8	59.7	0.30	0.06	-	-	-0.68	0.06	-	-
H	O6	72+	4.56	30.39	42.7	86.6	48.8	-	23.0	41.8	3.5	5.9	57.8	0.44	0.01	-	-	-0.69	0.09	-	-
BA	A1	0-21	6.35	7.29	33.2	111.9	158.1	53.4	45.9	6.8	2.6	17.9	22.4	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.07	-0.53	0.03	-1.07	0.18
BA	A2	21-40	6.40	7.92	29.7	117.2	151.8	62.9	50.5	8.3	2.9	18.3	21.3	0.12	0.10	0.00	0.07	-0.72	0.07	-	-
BA	Bw1	40-52	6.50	6.47	37.2	122.7	150.2	58.3	43.1	6.3	3.2	15.4	16.6	0.14	0.04	-	-	-0.67	0.08	-	-
BA	Bw2	52-96	6.53	7.25	41.0	126.1	151.8	74.9	57.3	7.1	4.2	21.7	19.1	0.17	0.10	0.19	0.07	-0.61	0.06	-1.22	0.16
BA	Bw3/C	96+	6.24	5.71	-	127.9	153.4	59.4	49.7	6.9	3.3	21.0	20.7	0.12	0.06	-0.01	0.07	-0.57	0.10	-	-
GA	A1	0-12	6.22	9.51	37.1	104.5	135.4	52.8	43.4	6.8	3.7	16.3	25.4	0.10	0.04	0.05	0.07	-0.63	0.06	-1.11	0.14
GA	A2	12-29	6.30	6.20	41.2	119.2	149.9	64.4	50.0	5.1	4.4	20.4	16.7	0.10	0.07	-	-	-0.61	0.05	-	-
GA	Bw1	29-43	6.33	6.86	38.9	116.7	145.7	59.6	37.7	3.8	3.1	24.4	15.8	0.14	0.05	-0.03	0.07	-0.69	0.09	-0.85	0.13
GA	Bw2	43-56	6.34	6.76	36.3	105.5	155.5	49.6	27.3	2.4	3.0	25.7	14.9	-	-	-1.07	0.04	-0.58	0.06	-	-
GA	C	56-64	6.57	2.70	-	119.2	189.0	30.6	23.4	1.6	2.6	12.3	5.2	-0.09	0.05	-	-	-0.55	0.08	-	-
GA	2Bw1	64+	6.44	3.26	22.9	59.2	176.6	11.4	10.7	0.6	3.6	35.2	7.5	0.01	0.05	-0.23	0.02	-0.59	0.02	-0.63	0.09
V	A	0-9	7.77	0.32	4.6	116.2	203.2	18.3	22.7	0.6	2.9	14.8	2.1	-	-	-	-	-0.40	0.06	-	-
V	B/C	9-33	8.20	0.26	4.6	122.2	196.8	32.2	41.9	0.3	4.0	23.7	0.9	-	-	-	-	-0.47	0.08	-	-
V	C	33+	7.70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.38	0.09	-	-
Parent basalt			-	-	-	103.8	228.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.29	0.06	-	-
Icelandic grass			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.09	0.03	-	-	-	-	-	-

<sup>a</sup> data from Opfergelt et al., 2014; <sup>b</sup> in *italic*: for analyses where there was only enough Fe for 1 replicate, the 2SD of the in-house FeCl salt standard measured during the course of analysis is used



**Table 2.** Characterization of the soil solutions: pH in solution, iron and silicon concentrations in solution, and iron and silicon isotope compositions of the soil solutions. Soil acronyms as in Fig. 1.

Soil horizon	Depth cm	pH <sub>solution</sub>	Fe <sup>a</sup> mg l <sup>-1</sup>	Si <sup>a</sup> mg l <sup>-1</sup>	δ <sup>57</sup> Fe ‰	2 SD <sup>b</sup> ‰	δ <sup>30</sup> Si ‰	2 SD ‰
HA A1	0-15	5.05	0.027	9.6	-0.23	0.10	0.37	0.13
HA Bw1	26-40	4.67	0.023	9.6	-0.08	0.16	-0.19	0.07
HA O1	57-67	3.99	0.032	24.2	-0.71	0.08	0.27	0.11
HA redox	67-83	3.98	0.036	26.5	-0.28	<i>0.07</i>	0.12	0.02
HA O2	83+	3.95	0.036	30.3	-1.36	0.08	-0.08	0.08
H O1	0-13	4.88	0.282	10.5	-0.03	0.05	0.14	0.12
H O2	13-26	5.47	0.059	5.3	0.38	<i>0.07</i>	0.15	0.13
H O3	26-40	5.15	0.193	17.4	-	-	0.34	0.11
H O4	52-63	-	15.250	19.2	-0.48	0.06	0.88	0.11
H O5	63-72	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
H O6	72+	-	19.980	18.8	0.14	0.03	1.22	0.16
BA A1	0-21	-	0.012	5.9	-0.12	0.03	0.58	0.12
BA A2	21-40	5.84	0.010	3.5	0.14	0.09	0.27	0.10
BA Bw1	40-52	5.88	0.034	3.6	-0.01	0.07	-0.08	0.13
BA Bw2	52-96	5.96	0.008	4.4	-	-	0.15	0.08
BA Bw3/C	96+	5.46	0.004	5.0	-	-	-0.07	0.06
GA A1	0-12	-	0.014	5.7	-	-	0.56	0.10
GA A2	12-29	5.77	0.045	7.5	-	-	0.05	0.12
GA Bw1	29-43	-	0.015	8.1	-	-	0.27	0.12
GA Bw2	43-56	5.6	0.011	12.0	0.06	<i>0.07</i>	0.25	0.09
GA 2Bw1	64+	5.46	0.005	12.4	-	-	0.25	0.07

<sup>a</sup> data from Opfergelt et al., 2014; <sup>b</sup> in *italic* : for analyses where there was only enough Fe for one replicate, the 2SD of the in-house FeCl salt standard measured during the course of analysis is used

**Table 3.** Main characteristics of river water samples: location, temperature, pH, conductivity, dissolved Fe concentration (<0.2µm), proportion of colloidal Fe (10kD-0.2µm) in the dissolved phase, iron isotope compositions of the dissolved and colloidal phases.

Sample name	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Temp. °C	pH	Conductivity µS cm <sup>-1</sup>	[Fe] <sub>dissolved</sub> (<0.2µm) µg l <sup>-1</sup>	% Fe colloidal (10kD-0.2µm)	δ <sup>57</sup> Fe <sub>dissolved</sub> ‰	2SD <sup>a</sup> ‰	δ <sup>57</sup> Fe <sub>colloid</sub> ‰	2SD <sup>a</sup> ‰
A3	Grimsa	N64°35'57.6"	W21°34'75.3"	9.2	8.0	61	11.7	56	-0.30	0.03	-0.29	0.01
A4	Hvita (Ferjukot)	N64°36''19.9"	W21°42'48.1"	7.2	8.4	52	6.0	26	-0.46	<i>0.07</i>	-0.14	<i>0.07</i>
HA river	Hestur	N64°34'28.1"	W21°35'41.9"	-	-	-	6.7	-	-0.89	0.01	-	-

<sup>a</sup> in *italic* : for analyses where there was only enough Fe for 1 replicate, the 2SD of the in-house FeCl salt standard measured during the course of analysis is used

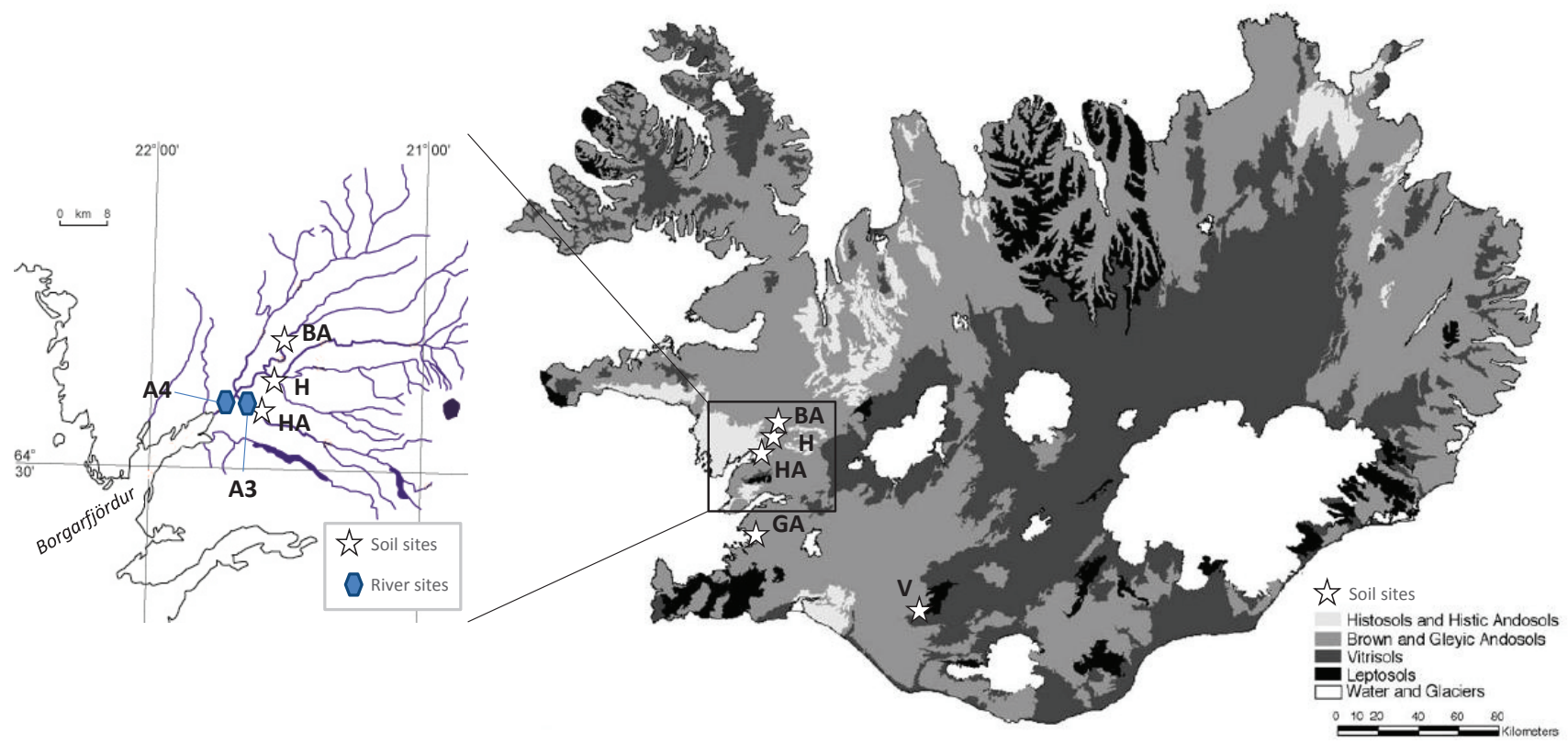


Figure 1.

Figure 2

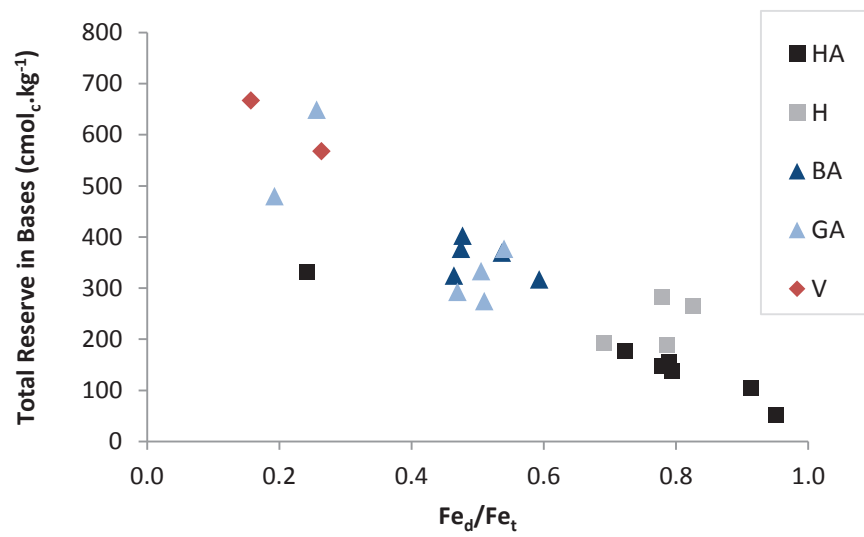


Figure 2.

Figure 3

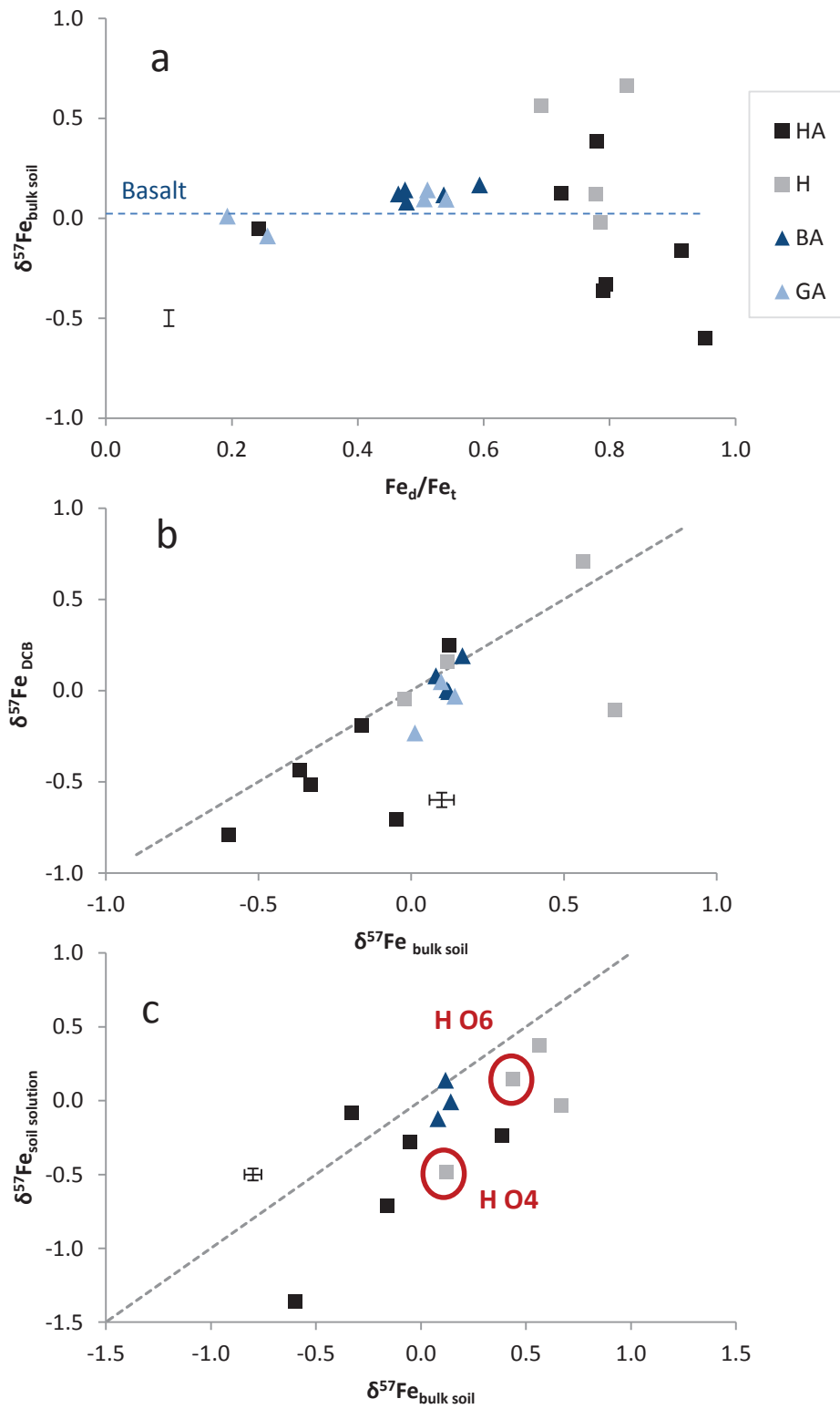


Figure 3.

Figure 4

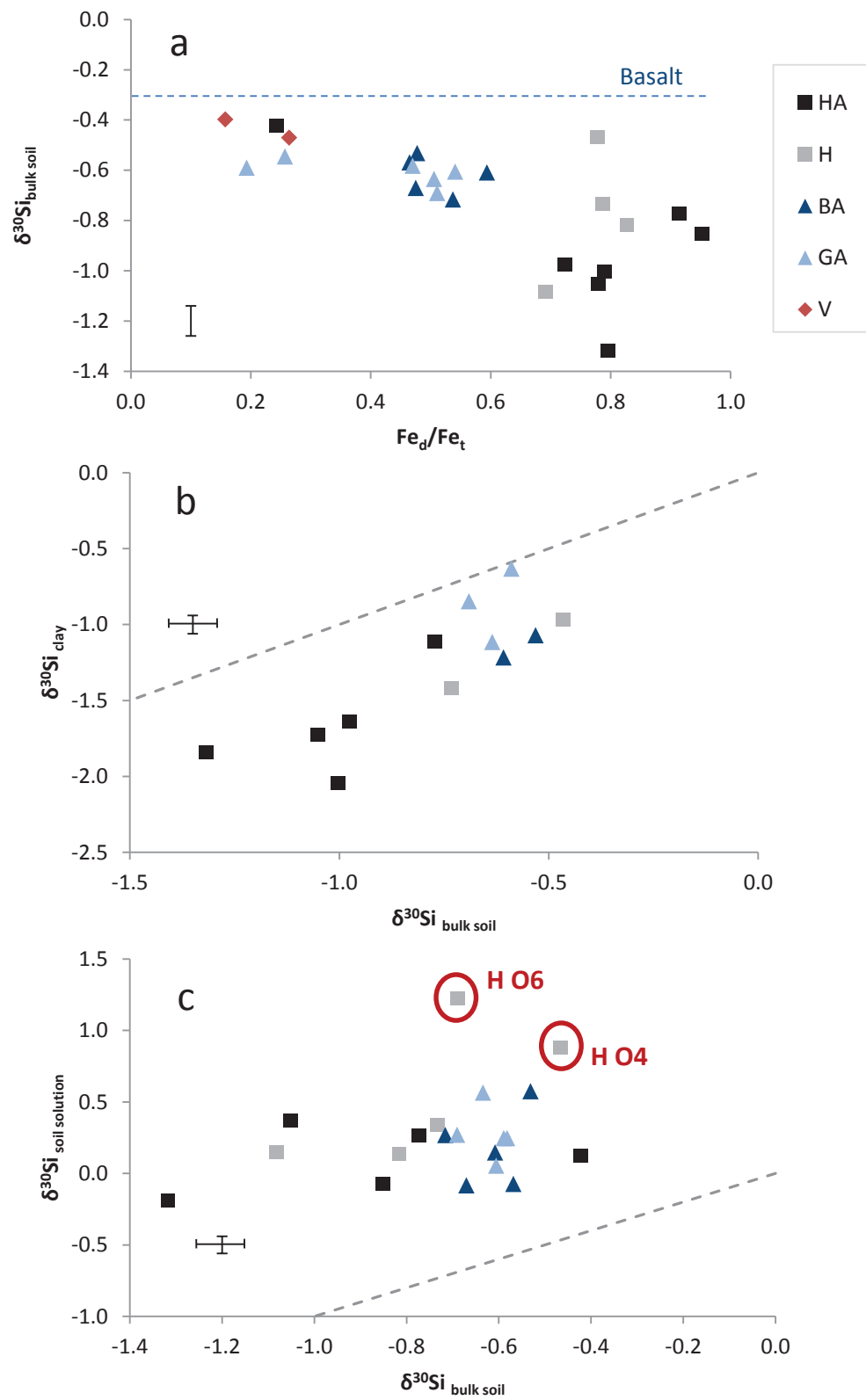


Figure 4.

Figure 5

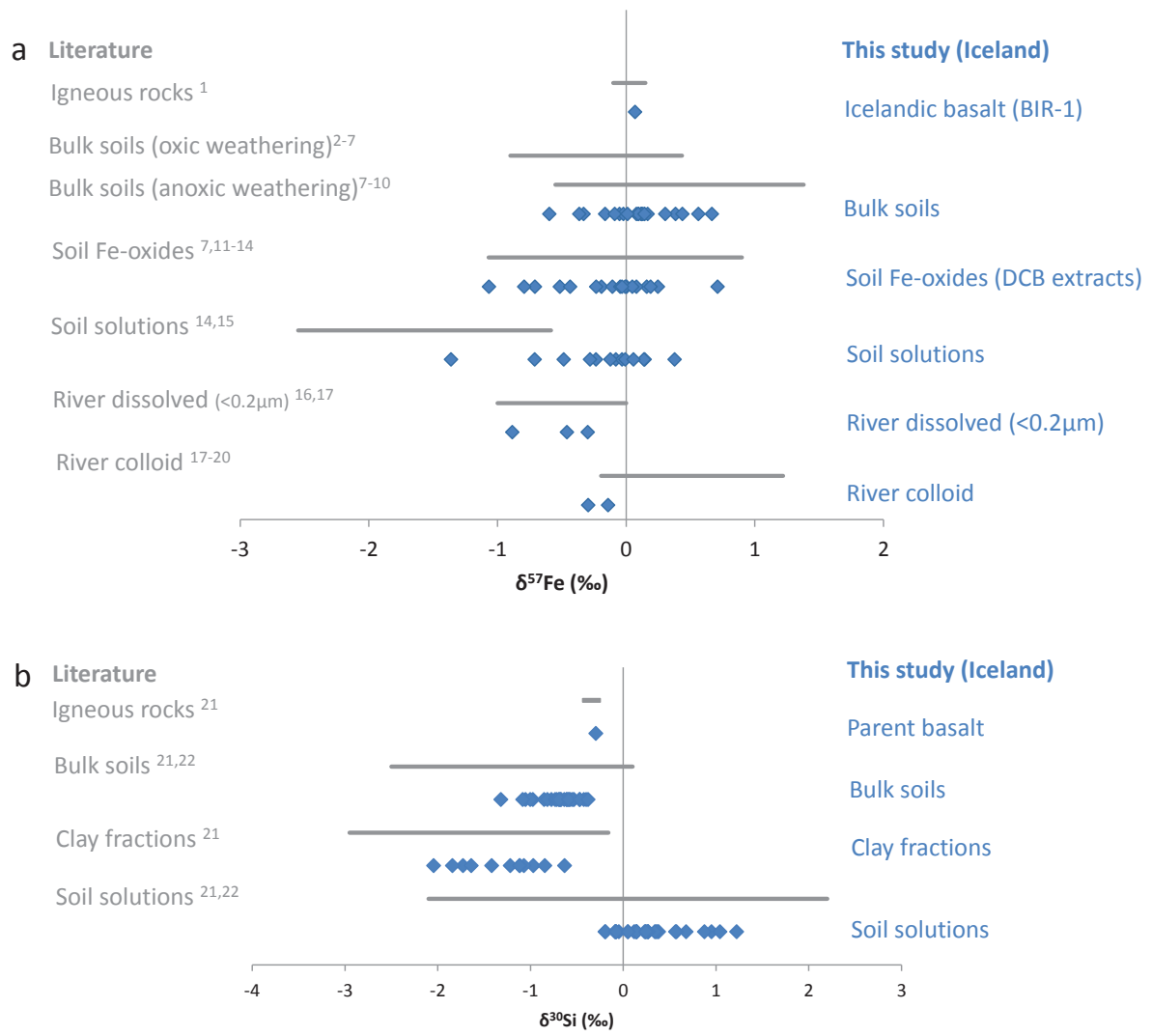
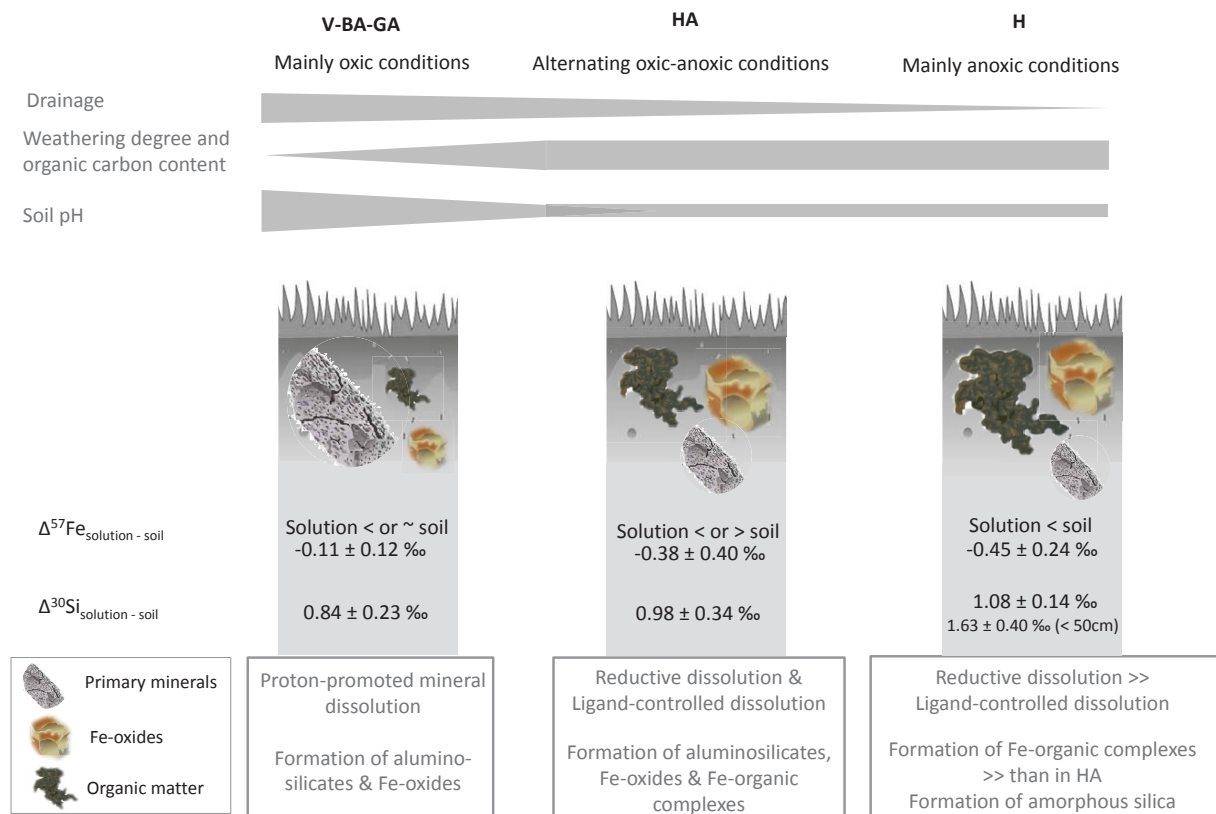


Figure 5.

**Figure 6**



**Figure 6.**