

Thermochronology and Landscape Evolution

A paper authored by Peter W. Reiners and David L. Shuster in *Physics Today*, Sept., 2009, pp.31-36 describes radioactive decay, the diffusion of daughter nucleides and the annealing of fission tracts, developing time versus temperature histories of rocks and the processes that sculpted Earth's surface. How to read a thermochronometer, application to rock uplift and erosion, rates of landscape evolution are aspects considered.