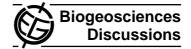
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Interactive Comment

Interactive comment on "Diagenetic changes in Concholepas concholepas shells (Gastropoda, Muricidae) in the hyper-aridconditions of Northern Chile – implications for palaeoenvironmentalreconstructions" by N. Guzman et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 31 March 2008

By using a range of spatially-resolved techniques, this study provides further information on the micro- and nano-structures and chemical composition of modern and fossil mollusk shells, and describes some effects of diagenetic alteration on these shells. This work is of importance because of the increasing use of biominerals in palaeoen-vironmental reconstructions, so that the limitations and constraints need to be better understood. What is clear from this, and other recent studies is the complexity of

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the entire process of diagenesis, ranging from the environmental conditions of preservation, their effects on the micro- and nano-structures, and the fate and role of the chemical (both organic and inorganic) components.

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 5, 501, 2008.

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