

MORPHOLOGY AND COMPOSITION OF CEMENTS ON UPPER CRETACEOUS – LOWER TERTIARY CARBONATES, PATAGONIAN MASSIF (RÍO NEGRO PROVINCE, ARGENTINA).

MATHEOS, S.D. Centro de Investigaciones Geológicas-CONICET, La Plata, Argentina.

Petrographic composition of cementation development in marine carbonate sediments from the Upper Cretaceous – Lower Tertiary (Maastrichtian-Danian) in the Northeast of Nordpatagonian Massif (Río Negro Province, Argentina) was described. The sedimentary succession is mainly composed by limestone (wackestone and packstone) dominated by skeletal grains (bivalves, ostracods, brachiopods, foraminifers, echinoderms, bryozoans and gastropods), associated with variable contents of carbonate cements, micrite, intraclasts and siliciclastics grains. The features of the different types of cements are: neomorphics development into the grains during marine cementation; fine-grained calcite crystals (low-Mg ferroan composition) partially or totally filling the pore space; botryoidal cements interpreted as former high – magnesium calcite, with growth-form occurring as coalescent mamelons; microdolomite rhombs euhedral to subhedral fine crystalline texture; elongate crystals of aragonite fibbers; radiaxial fibrous calcite with long axes of crystals oriented perpendicular to vein walls and with spherulitic structures growth; speleothems composed by grained deposits made of random needle-fibbers of low magnesian calcite.