

# **Seasonal variability in sea surface temperature, salinity, and carbonate chemistry during Greenhouse Extremes (e.g., PETM)**

J.C. Zachos

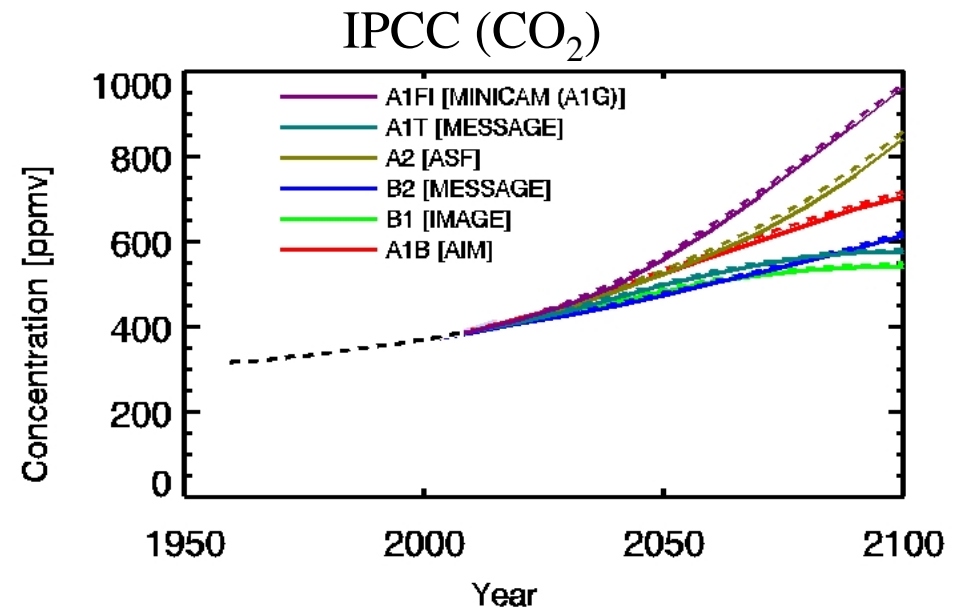
Acknowledgments:

C. Kelly, S. Bohaty, C. John, D. Thomas,  
D. Penman, B. Hönisch, K. Littler, H.  
Spero, J. Kiehl

# Hydrologic Cycle: Rich get richer,

*With rising CO<sub>2</sub> and  
global warming;*

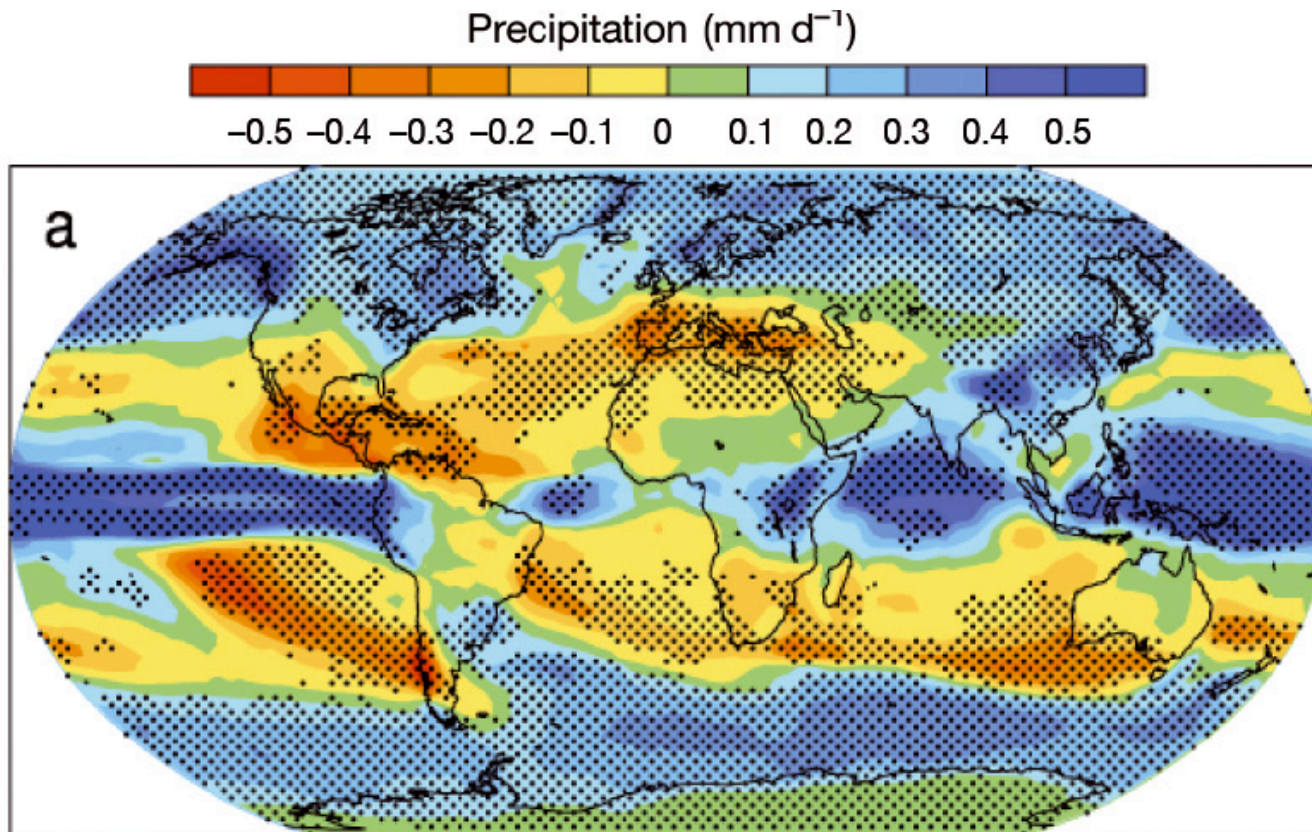
- water holding capacity of air increases by about 7% per 1°C warming
- **convection** - dry regions become drier, wet regions become wetter
- more intense precipitation events
- frequent/longer droughts



# Impacts of future GHG Warming

- Global increase in humidity/mean annual precipitation(MAP)

**Precip. change from 1980–1999 to 2080–2099**  
11 CMIP5 models under the RCP4.5 emissions



“the earth has been here before...”

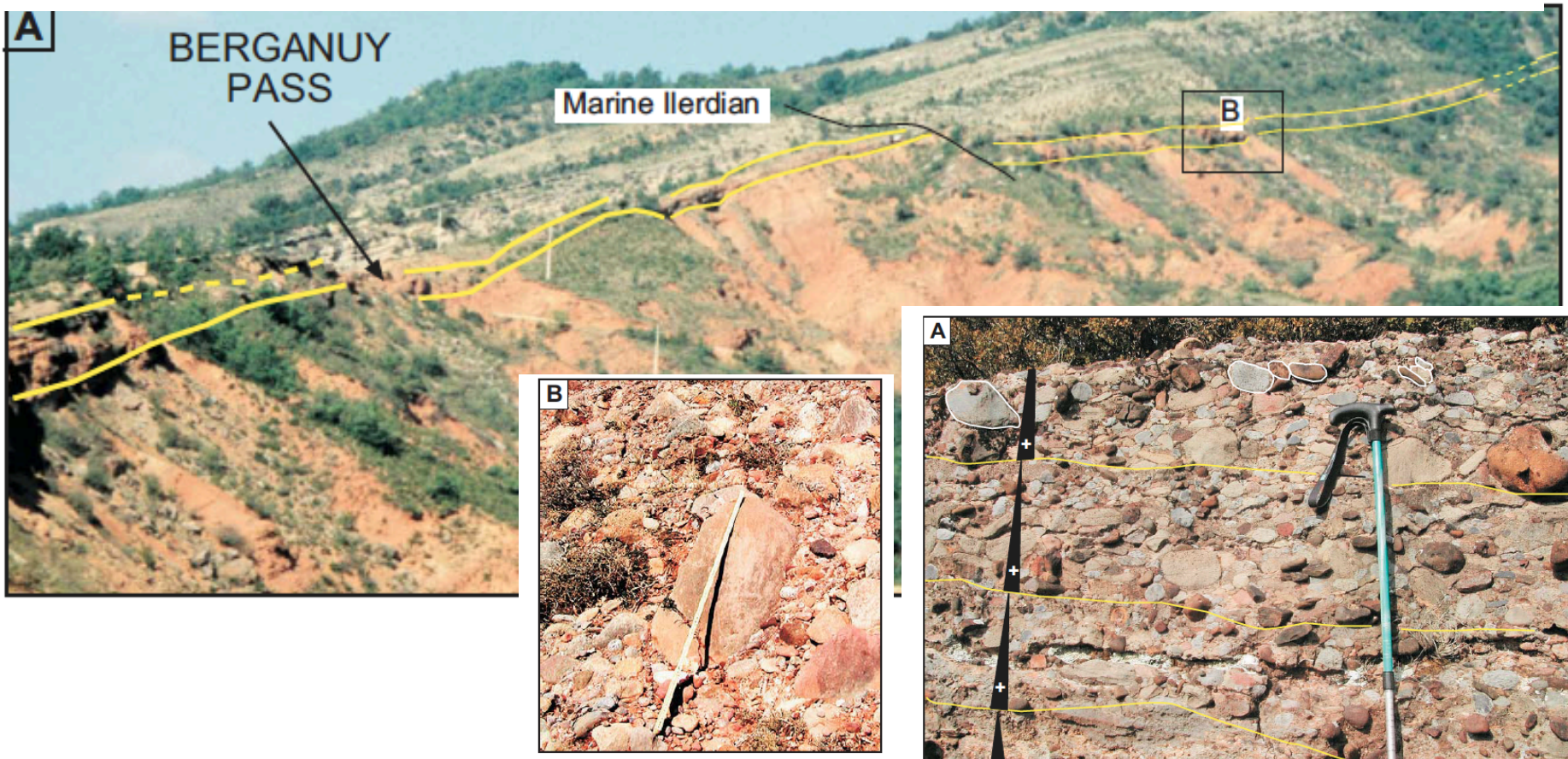
# A Case Study in Extreme Greenhouse Warming: Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum (PETM, 55.6 Mya)

1. Transient Global Warming (5-6°C)
  - Relatively uniform over latitude
2. Massive carbon release (4500 to 7000 PgC)
  - Carbon isotope excursion (CIE) of  $\sim -4.0\text{‰}$
  - Ocean acidification
3. Intensification of the hydrologic cycle
  - Overall higher humidity
    - Reduced MAP - low latitudes
    - Increased MAP - mid to high latitudes
  - Significant  $\Delta$  in Evaporation-Precipitation (E-P)

# Abrupt increase in seasonal extreme precipitation at the Paleocene-Eocene boundary

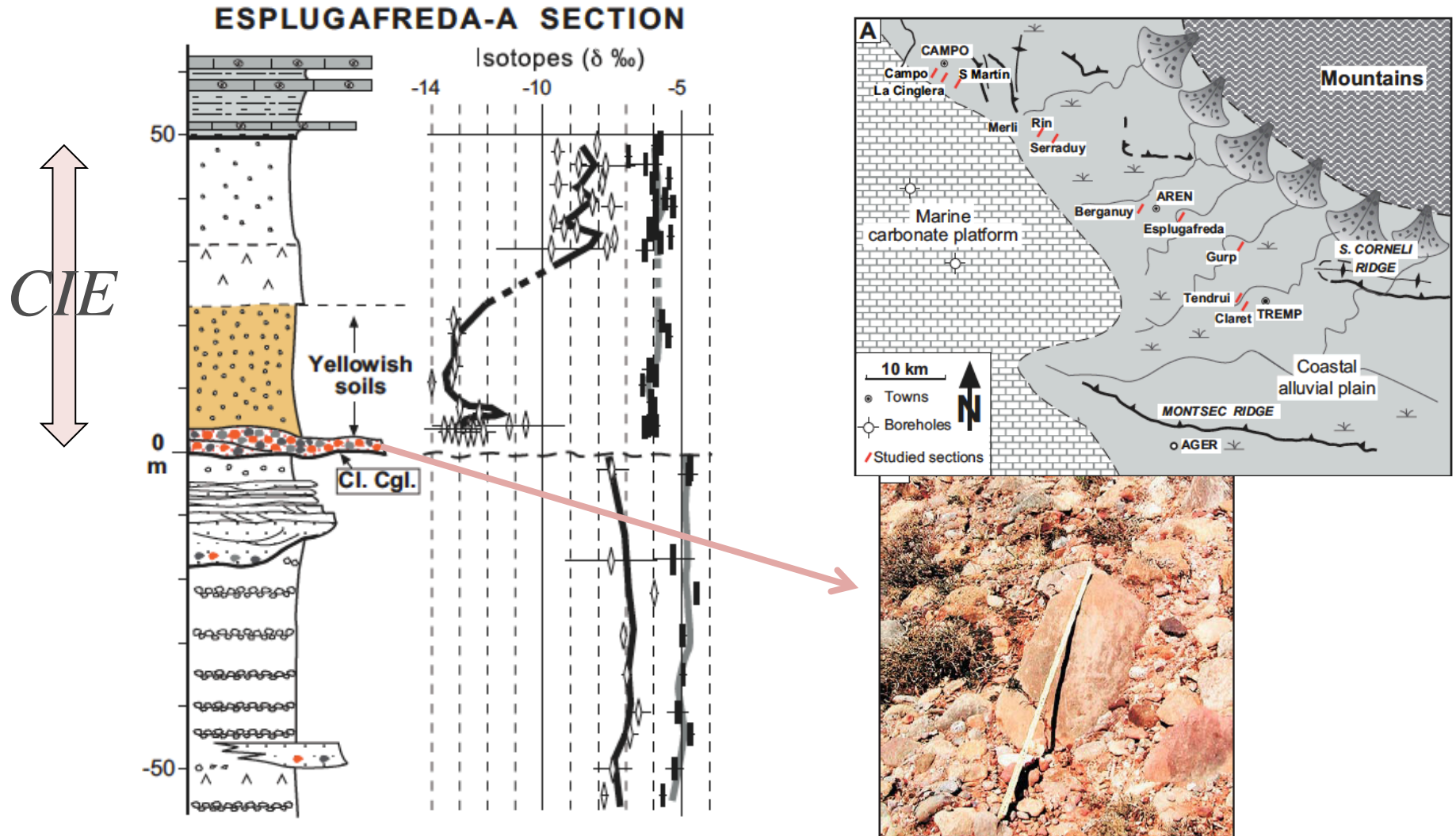
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- *Claret Conglomerate* – Alluvial Fan Progradation

# P-E Boundary, Pyrenees, Spain (Schmitz & Puljate, 2007)



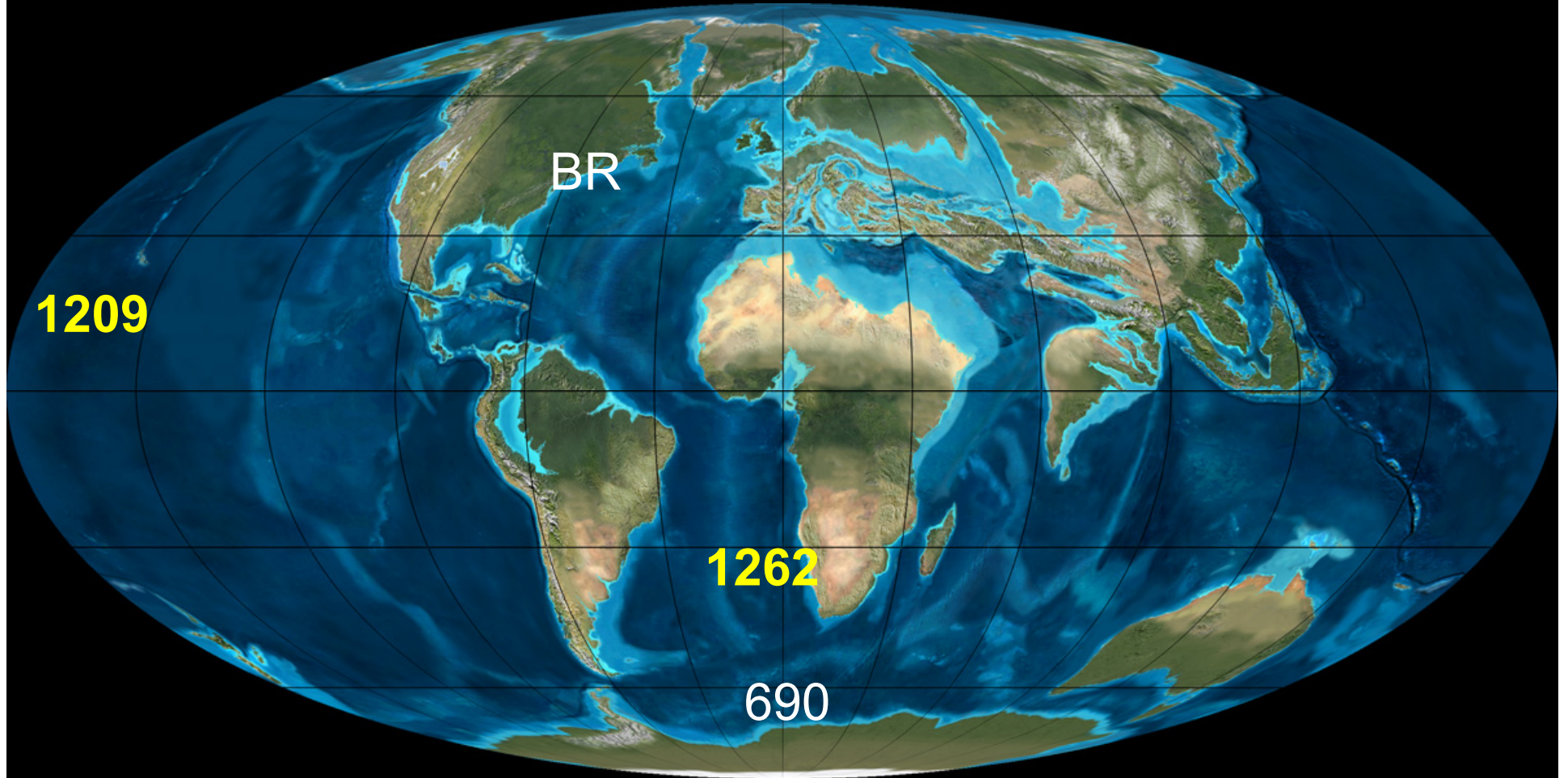
- *Claret Conglomerate* – Rapid Alluvial Fan Progradation (i.e., high energy floods) – Seasonally dry climate, intense wet season

# Seasonal Extremes – More frequent flood events





# Early Eocene (~56 Mya)

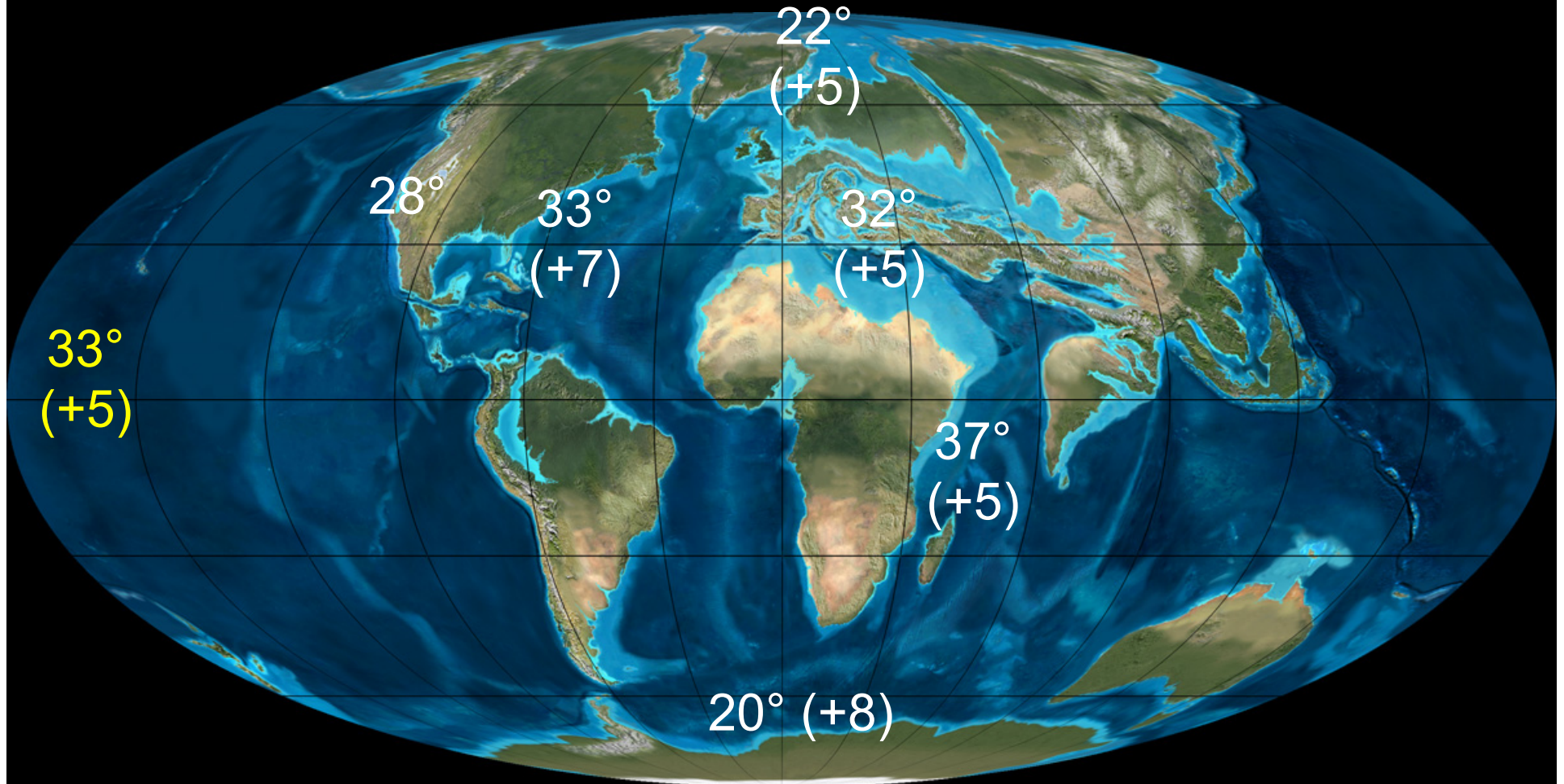


# Site 1262 Cores, South Atlantic



•Paleocene-Eocene sediments: ODP Leg 208

# Peak SST ( $\Delta$ SST $^{\circ}$ C) during the PETM

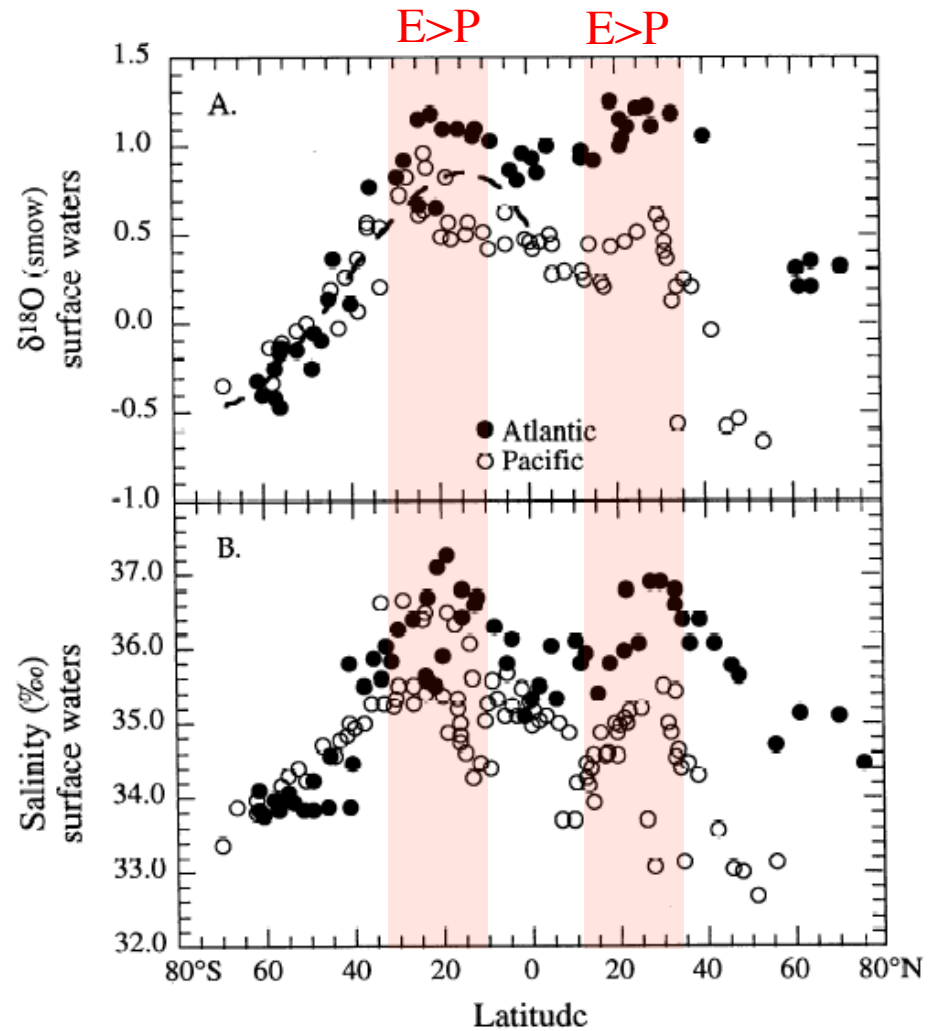


**Proxies:  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ,  $\text{TEX}_{86}$ , Mg/Ca**

*ACEX - Lomonosov Ridge; New Jersey Margin, Bass River; California, Lodo; Maud Rise, Sites 689 and 690; Allison Guyot, Site 865*

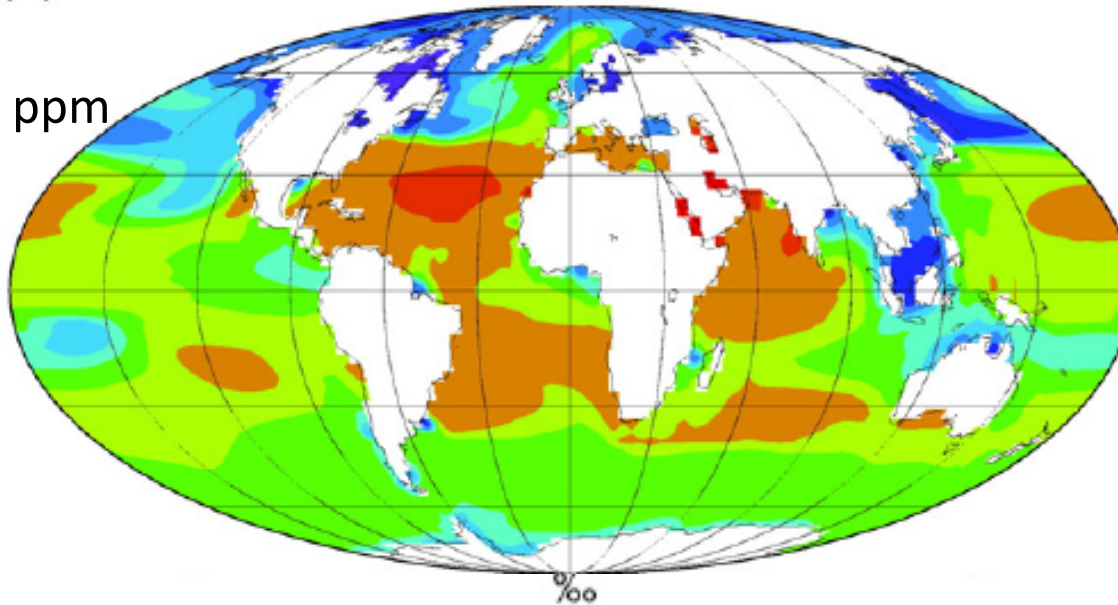
# Paleo SST/ SSS ( $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SW}}$ )

- Spatial SSS and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SW}}$  variations linked to E-P
  - $\uparrow\text{E-P}$ ,  $\uparrow\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SW}}$
- Planktonic foraminifera  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ 
  - SST (Mg/Ca)
  - $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SW}}$
- Variables (local)
  - seasonality
    - minor in the open ocean
  - vertical mixing
  - runoff (coastal oceans)



(c) Modern surface ocean  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  (permil)

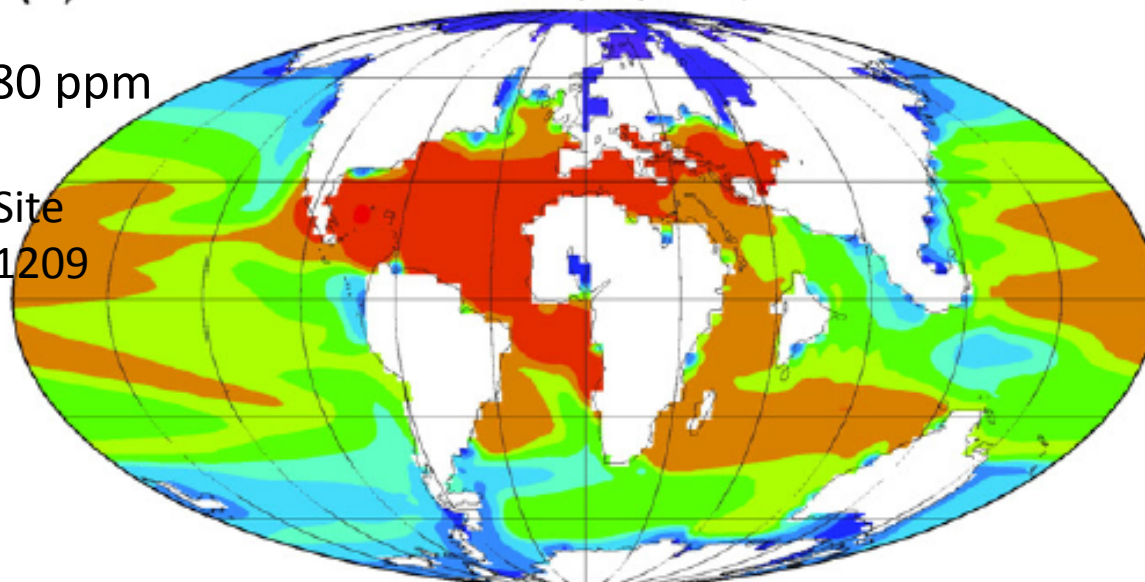
280 ppm



(d) Eocene surface ocean  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  (+1 permil)

1680 ppm

Site  
1209

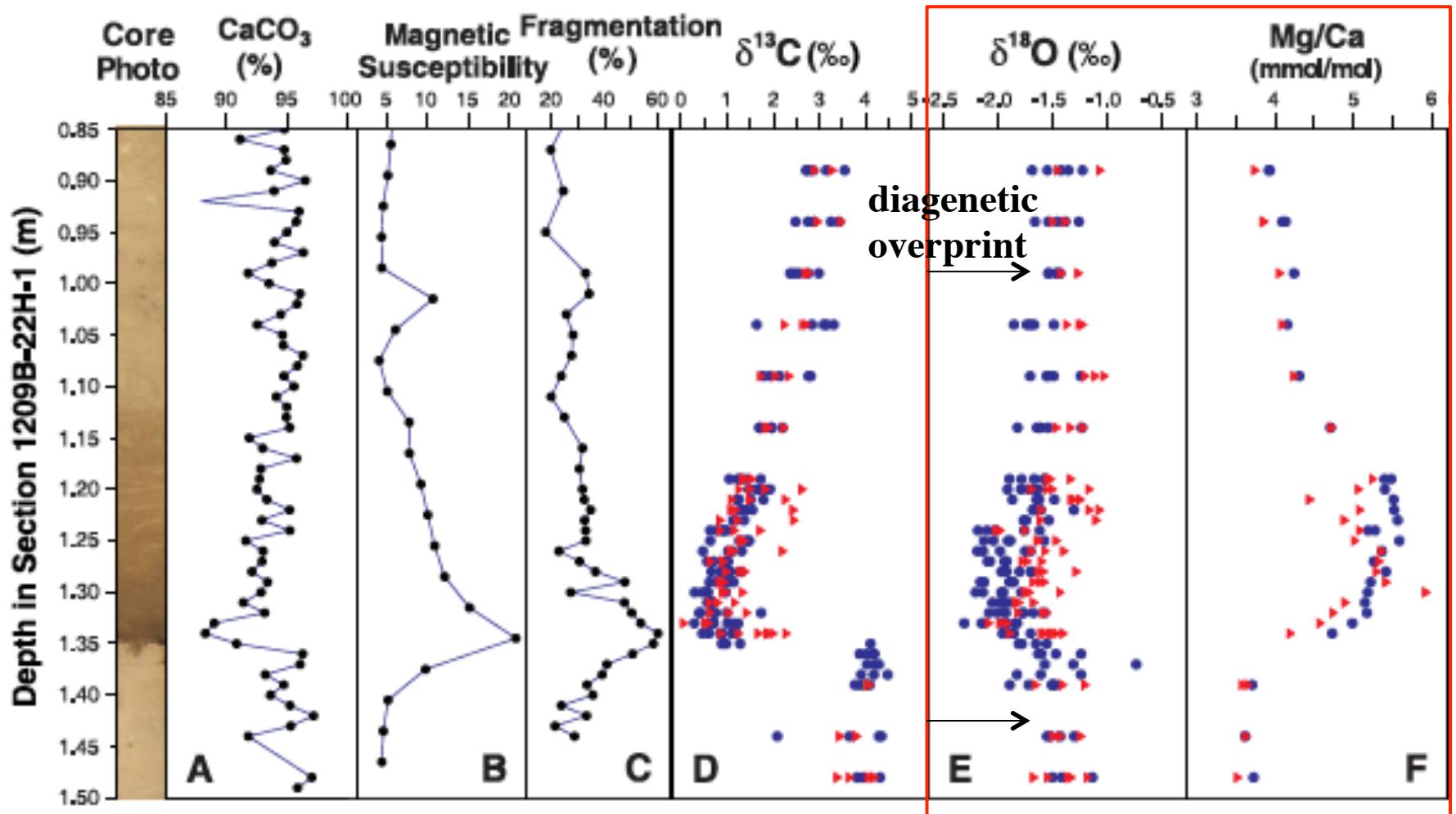


## GHG Extremes and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sw}}$

*Tindall et al., 2011*

- HadCM3
- 280 to 1680 ppm
- $\Delta$  sea surface salinity and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$
- More energetic hydrologic cycle
- E-P increases in the tropics, decreases in mid-high latitudes (salinity)

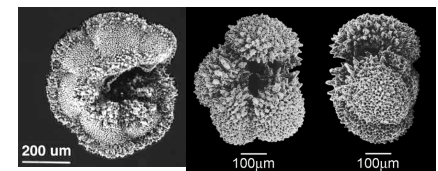
# Site 1209 - PETM



Mixed-layer Planktics record:

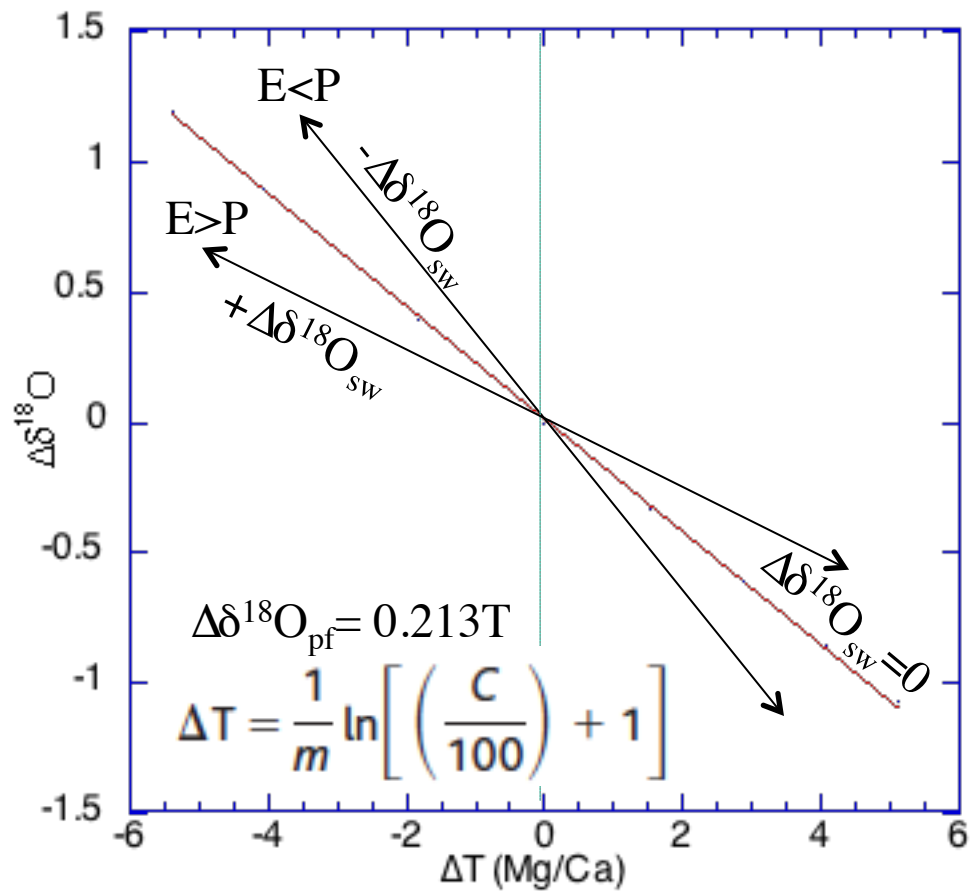
- 0.7‰ decrease in δ<sup>18</sup>O
- 50% rise in Mg/Ca

*Zachos et al., 2003*



# SST/SSS Anomalies

## $\Delta\text{Mg}/\text{Ca}_{\text{pf}}$ and $\Delta\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{pf}}$



# Increase in sub-tropical SSS (E-P) during the PETM

Site 1209

- $\Delta\text{Mg/Ca}$  SST

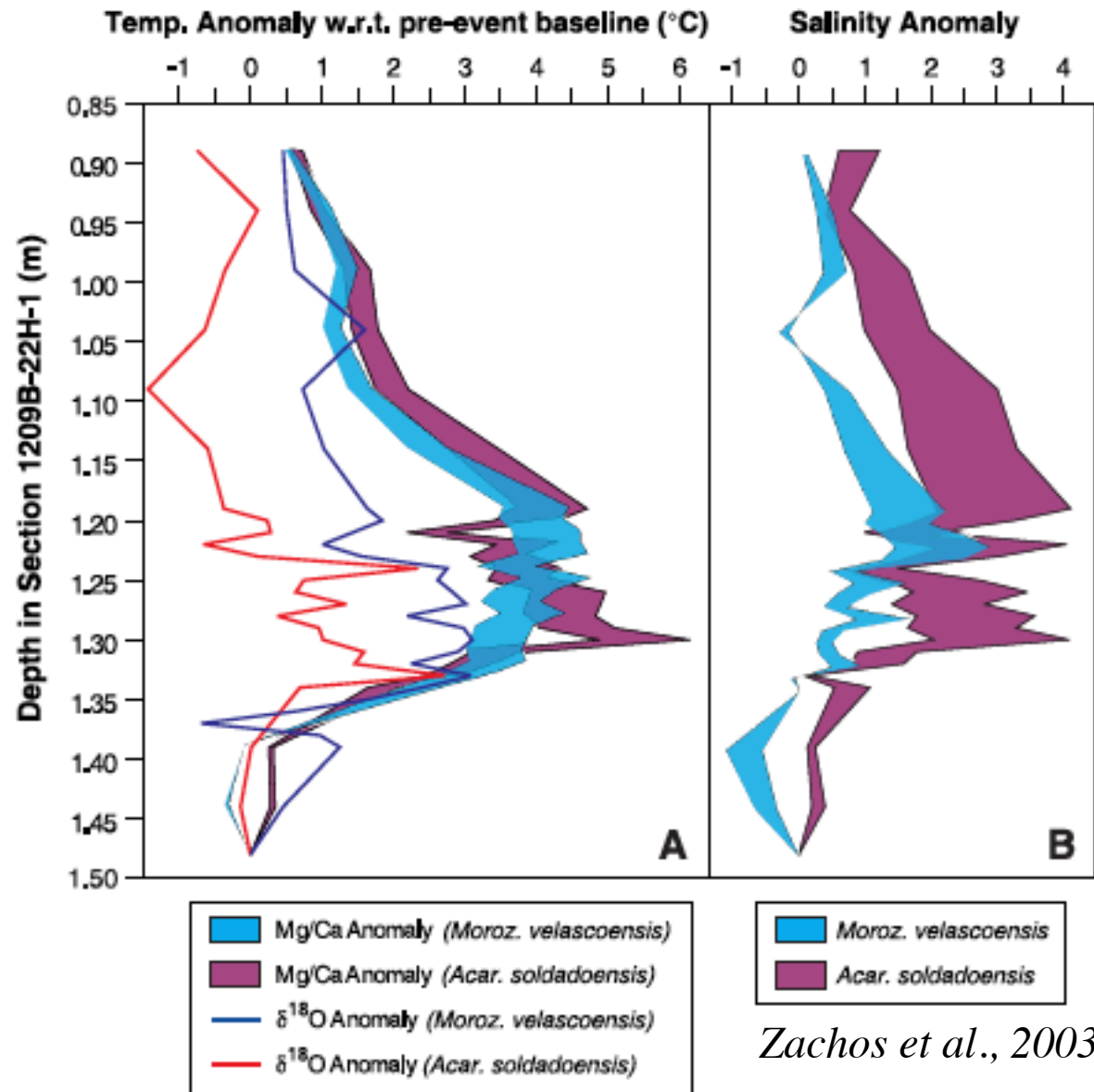
$$\Delta T = \frac{1}{m} \ln \left[ \left( \frac{C}{100} \right) + 1 \right]$$

$m = \text{exp. constant (0.1)}$

$C = \% \Delta \text{Mg/Ca}$

$$\Delta \delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sw}} / \Delta \text{sal} = 0.25 \text{ to } 0.50$$

$\Delta\text{SST} = +5 \text{ to } 6^\circ\text{C}$   
 $\Delta\text{SSS} = +2 \text{ to } 3 \text{ ppt}$

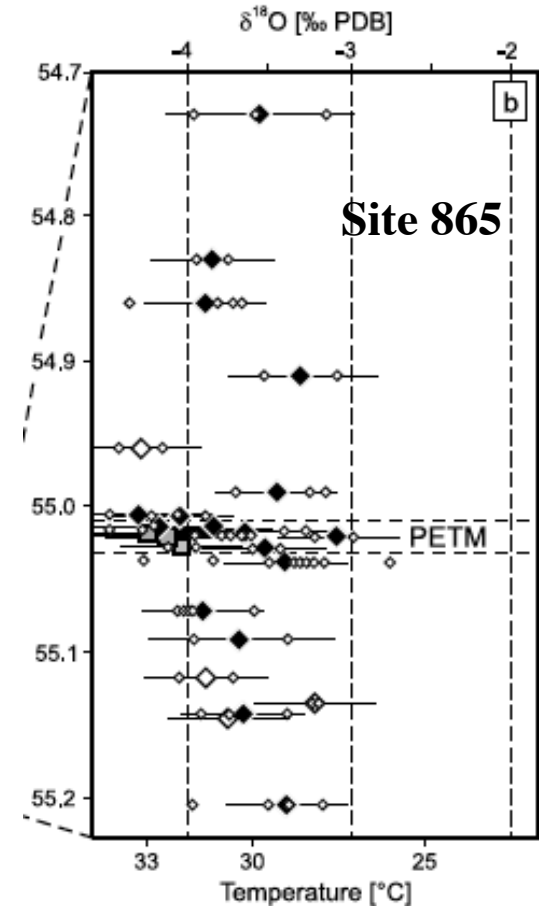
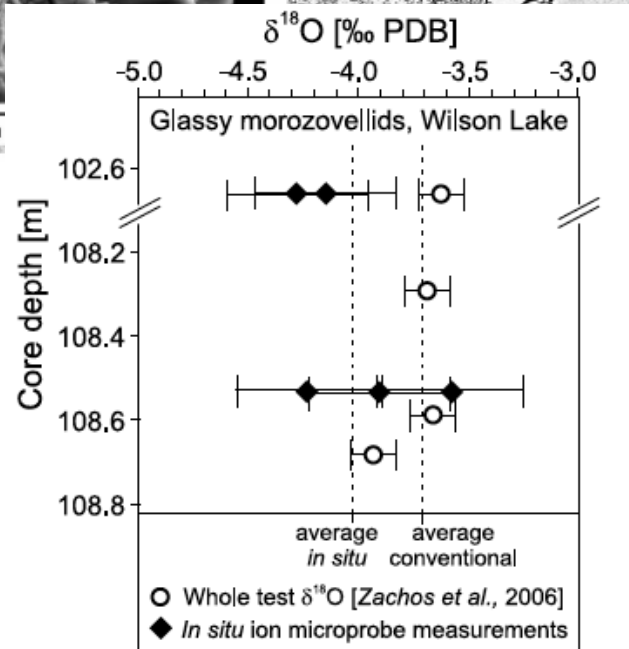
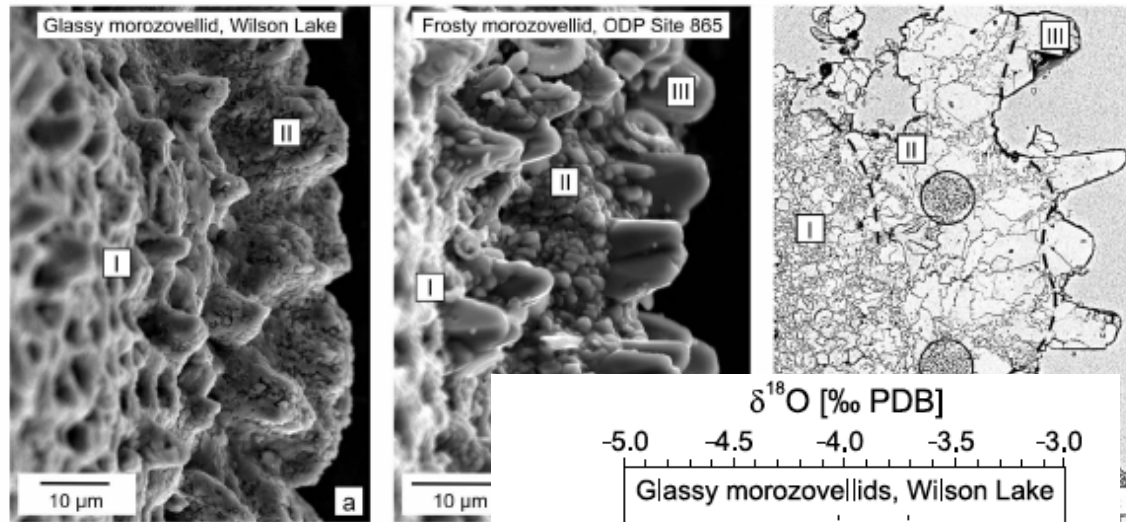


Zachos et al., 2003



# Can the primary $\Delta\text{Mg}/\text{Ca}$ and $\Delta\delta^{18}\text{O}$ be restored via microprobes?

KOZDON ET AL.:  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  IN MURICAE BASES BY ION MICROPROBE

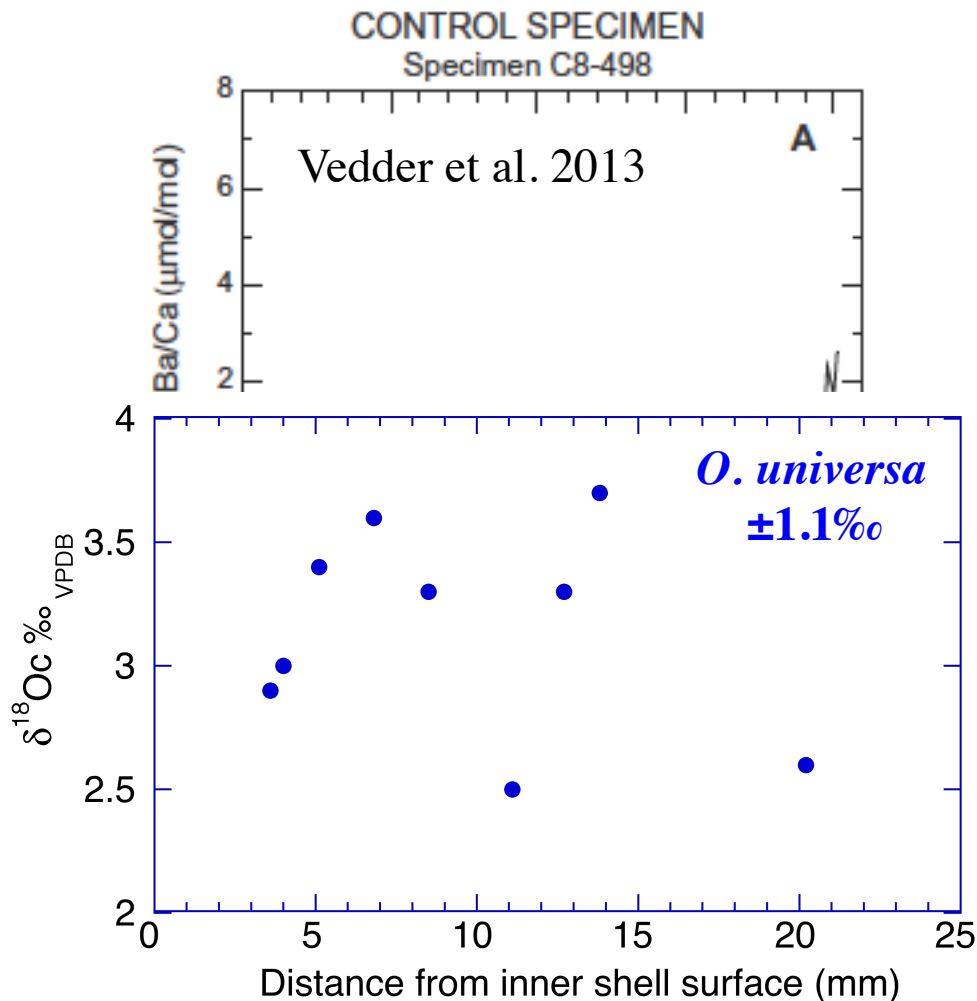


*In situ* ion microprobe measurements, Site 865

- ◇ individual *in situ*  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  measurements
- ◆ ◇ averaged *in situ*  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  measurements multiple tests / single test
- *M. allisonensis*, *in situ*  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  measurements

It appears so....

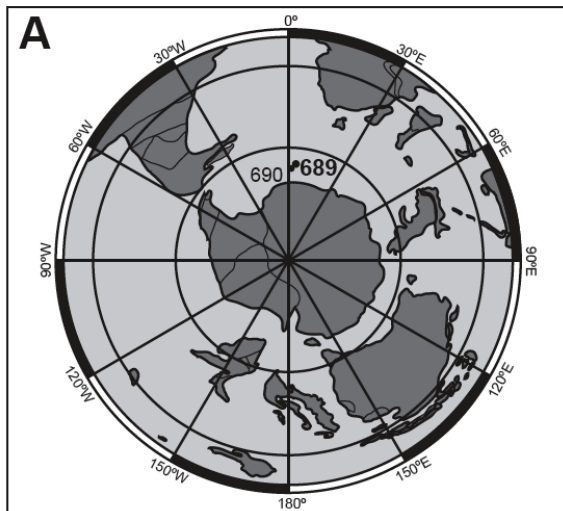
Can the changes in  $\Delta\text{Mg}/\text{Ca}$  and  $\Delta\delta^{18}\text{O}$  as influenced by seasonal cycles in SST/SSS be reconstructed using microsampling?



Some basic requirements  
Co-eval Mg/Ca &  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$

Temporal resolution

- weekly/monthly?
- micro-, whole shell, and/or multi-shell sampling
- precision vs. accuracy-statistical requirements



Single shell isotopes

- Mixed Layer Plank.
- Thermocline Plank.
- Benthic Foraminifera

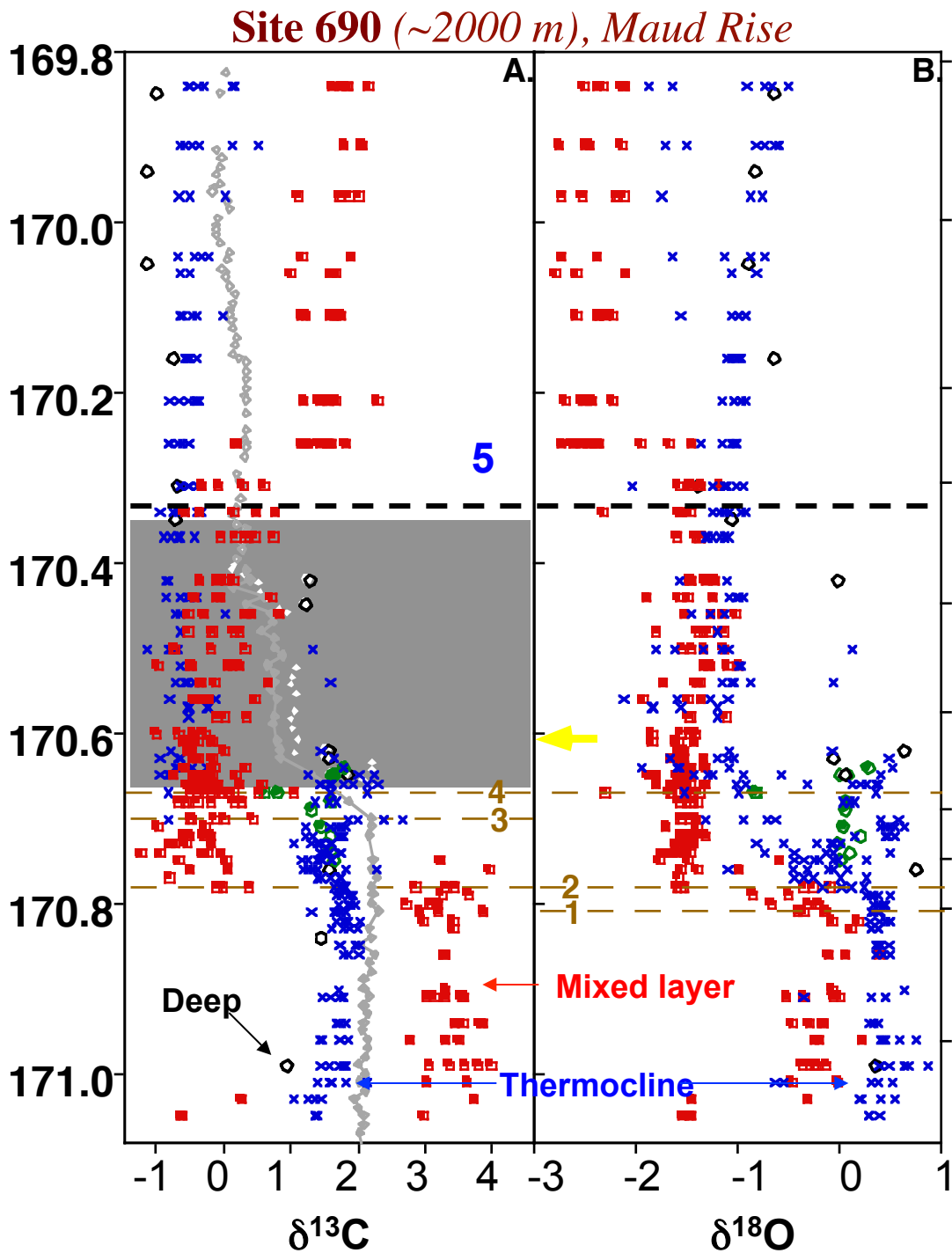
*Thomas et al. 2002*

$$\Delta\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{pf}} = -2.2\text{‰}$$

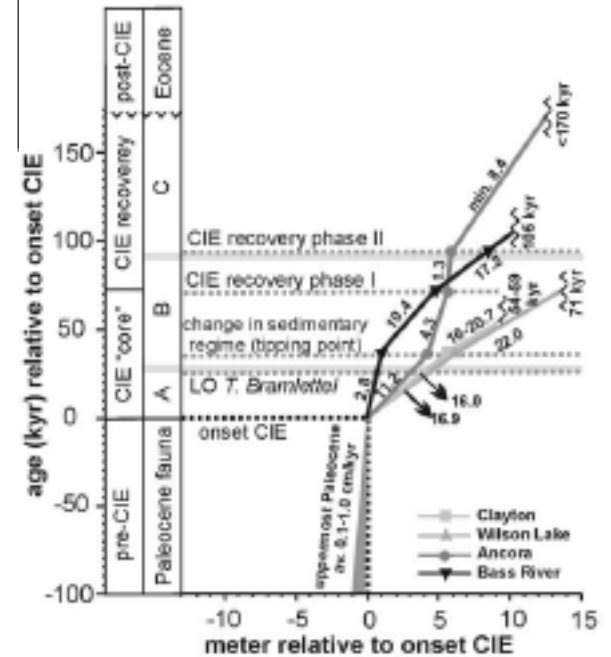
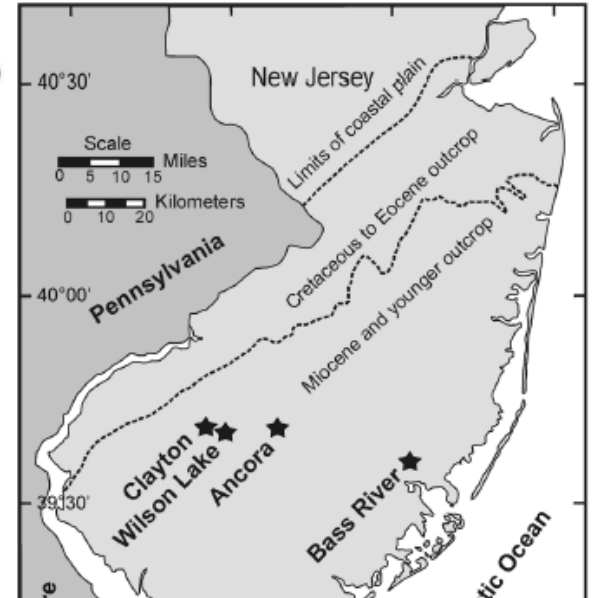
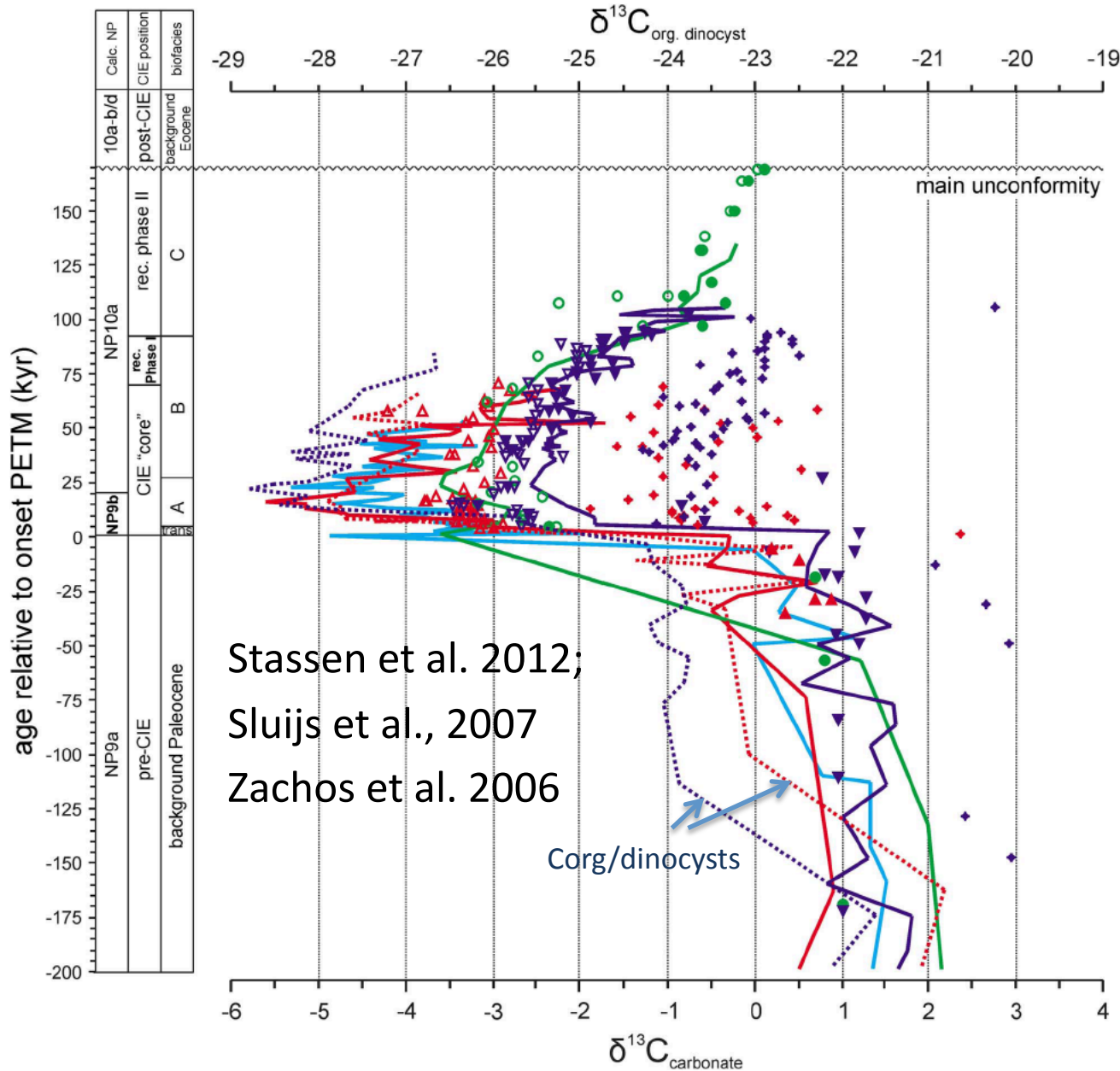
$$\Delta T = +5\text{-}6^{\circ}\text{C}$$

$$\Delta\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sw}} = -0.8\text{‰}$$

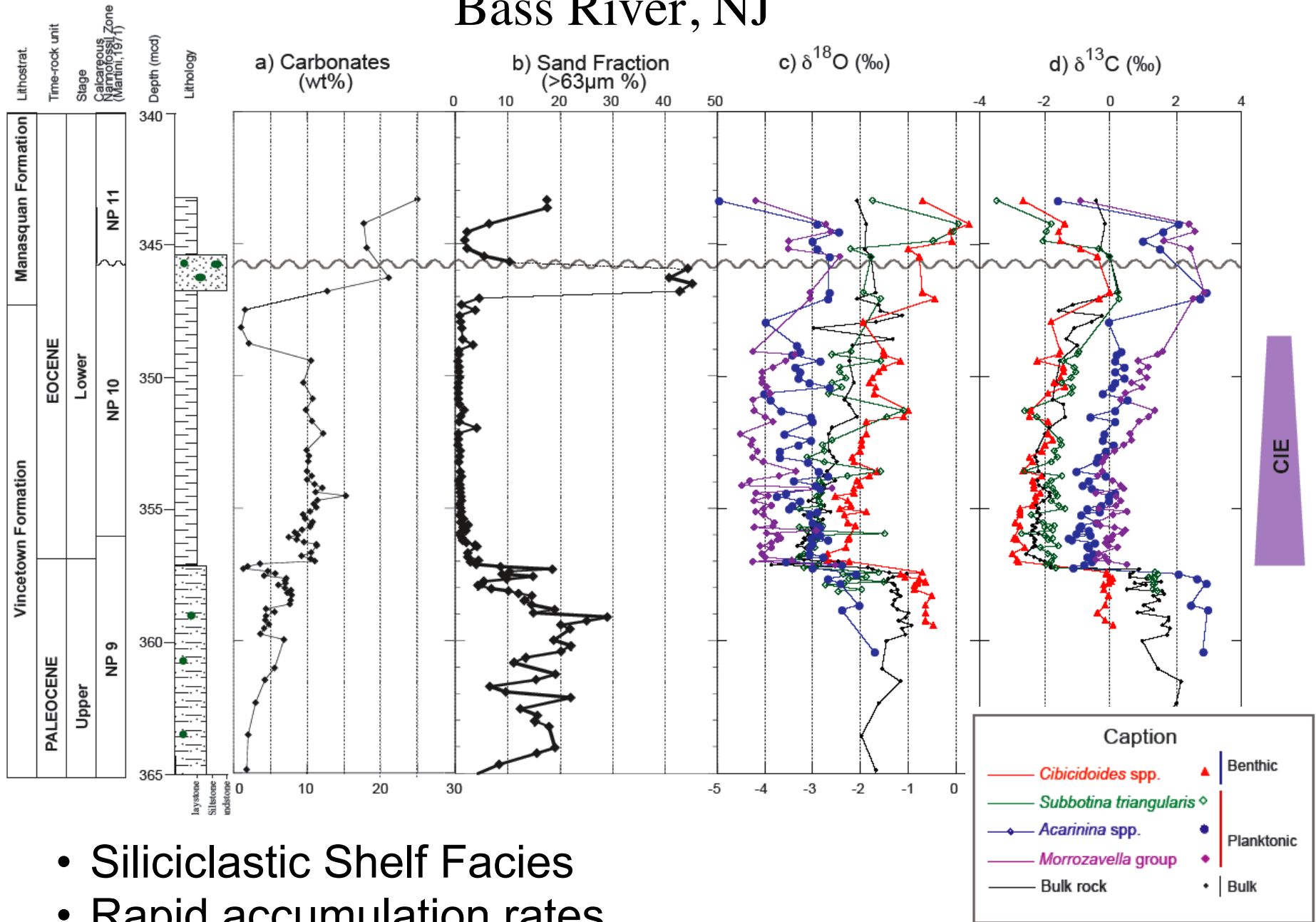
Depth  
(Mbsf)



# PETM/CIE –NJ coastal sections



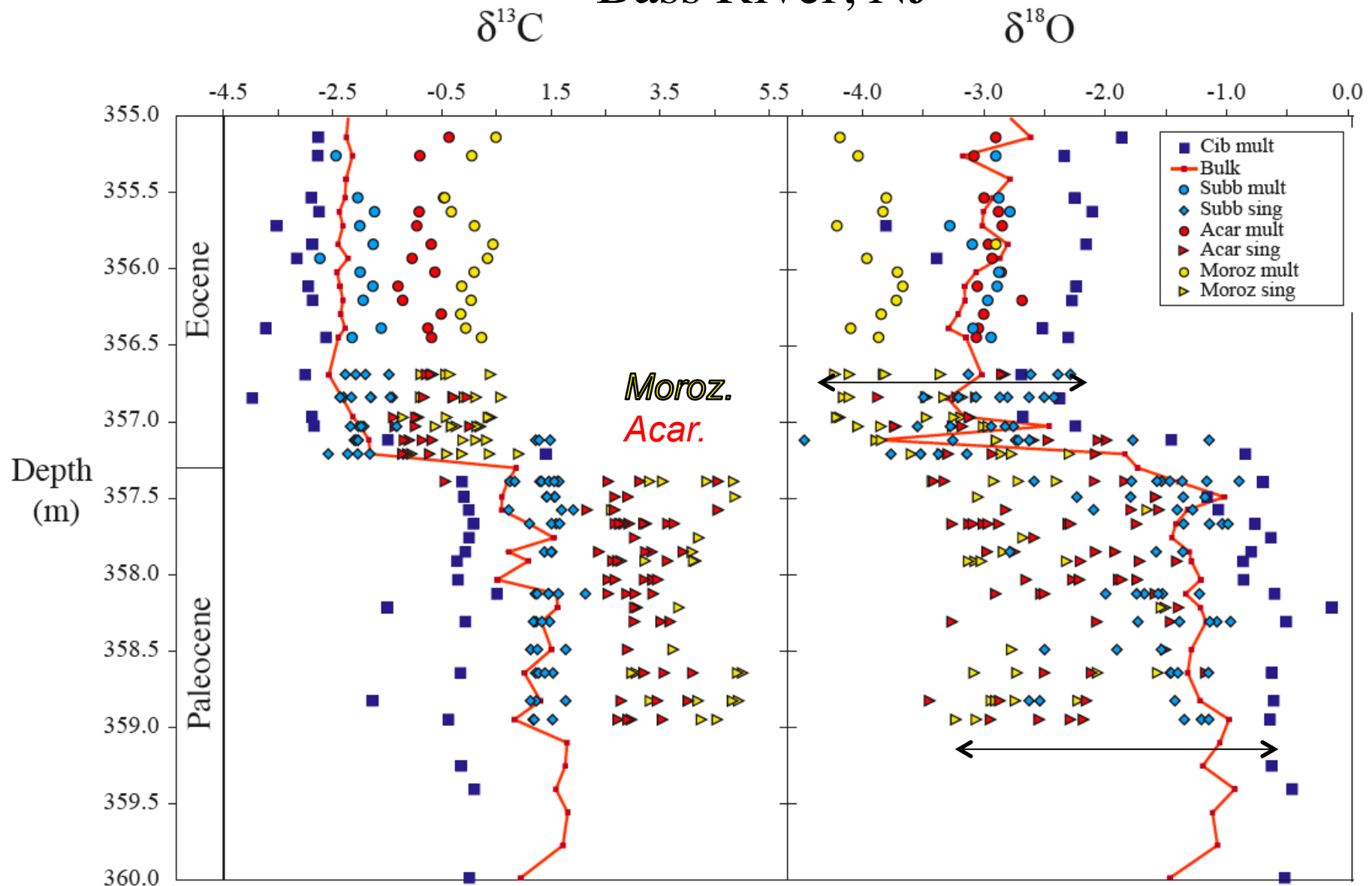
# Bass River, NJ



- Siliciclastic Shelf Facies
- Rapid accumulation rates

John et al., 2008

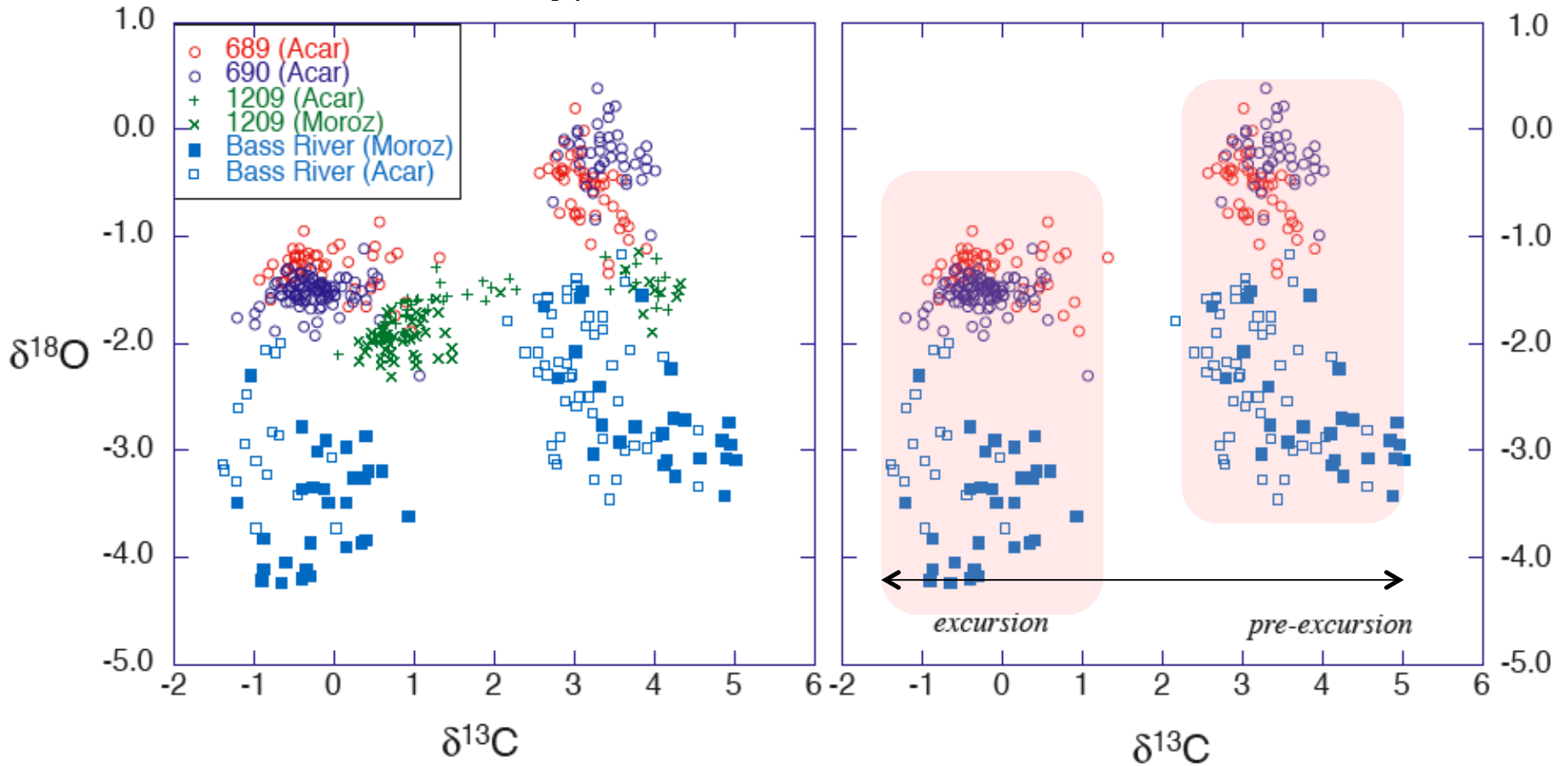
# Bass River, NJ



- Multiple/Single Shell Isotope Series
- $\Delta$  in seasonal SST/SSS range?

Zachos et al. (2007)

# P-E Single Shell Isotope Data: Magnitude of the CIE?



- couple Mg/Ca with  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  to constrain relative SST/SSS