# IPCC Chapter 5: Informations from paleoclimate archives



- Introduction (Section 5.1)
- Pre-industrial perspective on radiative forcing factors (Section 5.2)
- Earth System Responses and Feedbacks (Section 5.3)
- Executive summary (Ch. 5)

Masson-Delmotte, V., et al., 2013: Information from Paleoclimate Archives. In: Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Cambridge University Press.



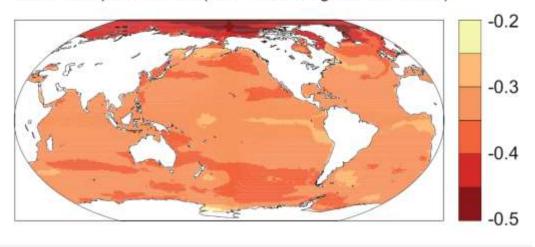
## Chapter 5 - Topic presentations

 Volcanic Eruptions and Climate – cause for the litte Ice Age? Malte

 Polar amplification in the past (IPCC chapter 5, updated papers) Christine

## Q: Why is stronger pH decrease over the Arctic?





"An exception is the Arctic Ocean where reductions in pH and CaCO3 saturation states are projected to be exacerbated by effects from increased freshwater input due to sea ice melt, more precipitation, and greater airsea CO2 fluxes due to less sea ice cover (Steinacher et al., 2009; Yamamoto et al., 2012)."

## **Background Informations**

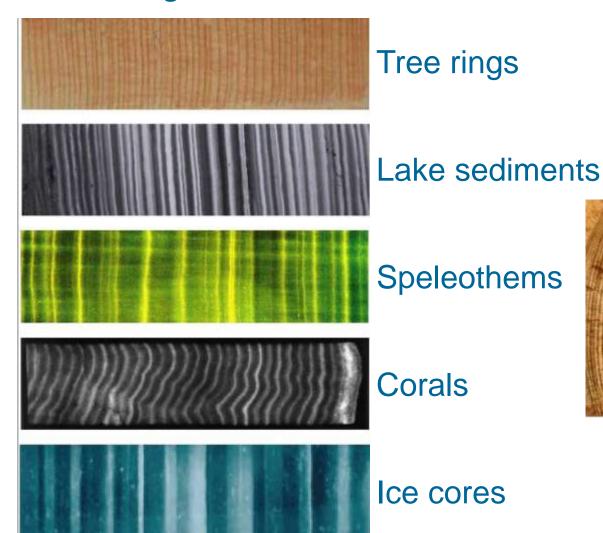
-Proxies

-Reconstructions

-Models

### Can we quantify past climate change?

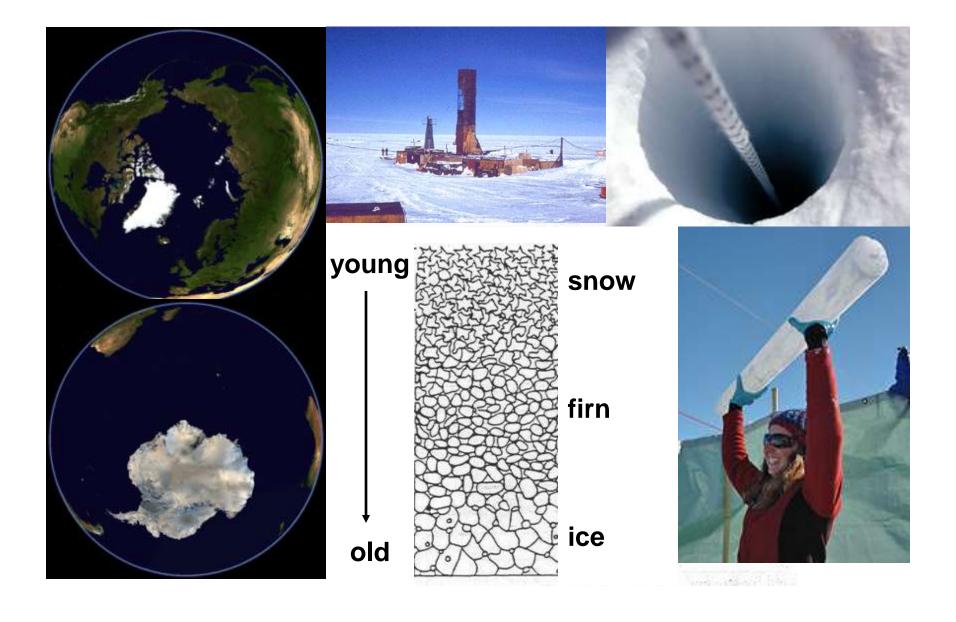
high resolution climate archives with annual layering



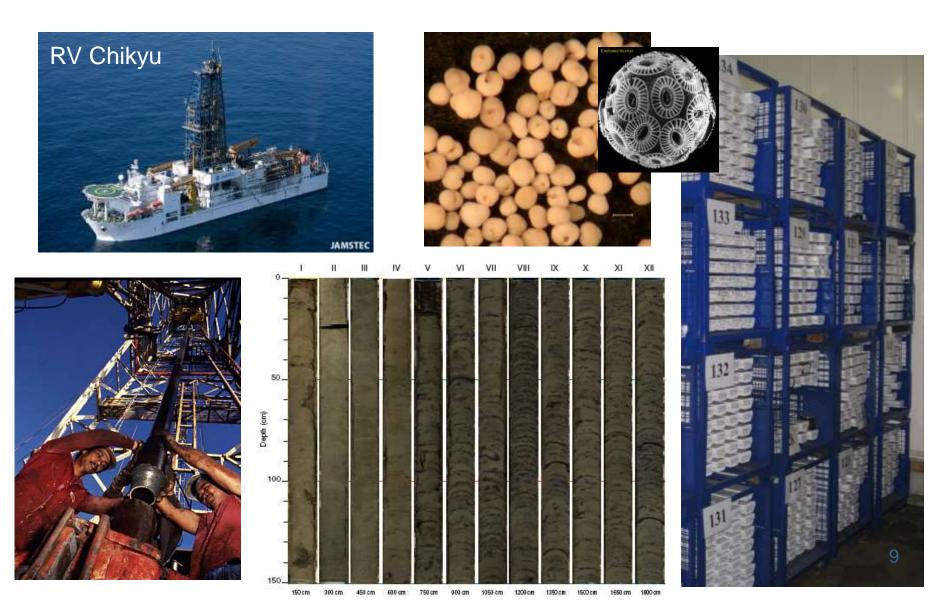


Cooler climate reduces tree growth, causing thinner tree rings (frost rings).

### Ice Cores as Climate Archives

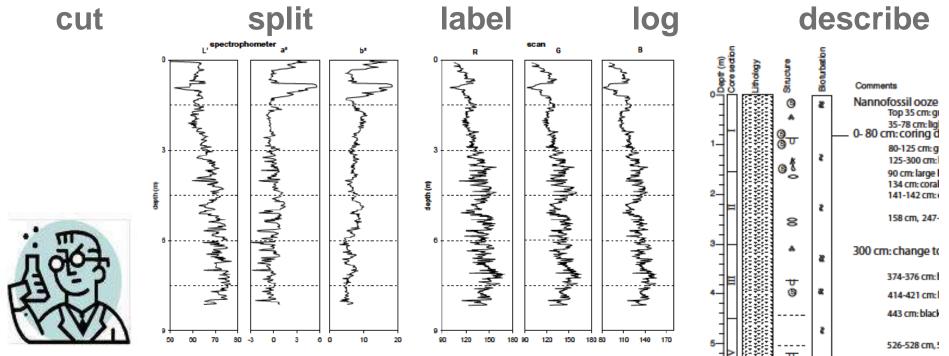


## Marine sediment cores as climate archives up to 180 Mio years back in time



#### Core Lab Work





## Climate archives

Source	Time (years)	Climate variable				
		temperature, pressure, wind,				
1. Instruments	250	precipitation				
2. Historical						
documents	1000	temperature, precipitation				
floods, strong winters,						
crop failure, wine						
quality, corn prices,						
coastal ice, etc.						
3. Paleoclimate data						
tree rings	10000	temperature, precipitation				
varves	10000	temperature, precipitation				
ice cores (d <sup>18</sup> O)	100000	temperature				
pollen	100000	temperature, precipitation				
marine sediments	1000000					
fauna		temperature, sea-ice coverage				
d <sup>18</sup> O		continental ice volume				
dust (grain size)		wind speed and direction				

## Isotopes

Table 5.A.2 | Summary of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO<sub>3</sub>) proxy methods and confidence assessment of their main assumptions.

## CO<sub>2</sub> proxies

## Marine proxies from ocean sediments:

- -Alkenone (phytoplankton marker)
- -Boron isotopes in foraminifera

## **Terrestrial proxies** fro soil (paleosols) and fossils:

- -Carbon isotopes in soil carbonate and organic matter
- -Stomata in fossil plant leaves
- -Nahcolite (baking soda a mineral
- -Liverwort (plant)

	Method	Scientific Rationale	Estimated Applicability	Limitations	Main Assumptions (relative confidence)			
	Alkenone (phytoplankton biomarker) carbon isotopes	toplankton carbon isotope ratios of marine sedi- on isotopes (or other organic compounds) allows determination of the		oligotrophic areas and some- times absent. Method relies on empirical calibration and 6°PC is sensitive to other environmental factors, especially nutrient-relat- ed variables. Method has been used successfully to reconstruct	Aqueous pCO <sub>2</sub> is in equilibrium with atmospheric pCO <sub>2</sub> (medium).  Carbon isotope fractionation in modern alkenone-producing species is the same in			
om	Boron isotopes in foraminifera	Boron isotope ratios (b1B) in foraminifera (or other calcifying organisms) give paleo-pH from which pCO <sub>2</sub> can be calculated if a value for a second carbonate system parameter (e.g., alkalinity) is assumed.	100 to ~4000 ppm; 0 to 100 Ma	Calculated pCO <sub>2</sub> is very sensi- tive to the boron isotope ratio of seawater which is relatively poorly known, especially for the earlier Cenozoic Effects of foraminiferal preserva- tion are not well understood. Method has been used successfully to reconstruct gladial—interglacial changes.	Measured boron isotope ratio is accurate and precise (high).  The equilibrium constant for dissociation of boric acid and boron isotopic fractionation between 8(OH) <sub>3</sub> and 8(OH) <sub>3</sub> are well known (high).  Boron incorporation into carbonate is predominantly from borate ion (high).  Boron isotope ratio of foraminifer calcification reflects ambient surface seawater pH (high).  Aqueous pCO <sub>2</sub> is in equilibrium with atmospheric pCO <sub>2</sub> (medium).  Habitats of extinct species can be determined (high),  There is no vital effect fractionation in extinct species, or it can be determined (medium).  The boron isotope ratio of seawater (high) can be determined (medium).  Ocean alkalinity or concentration of Total Dissolved Inorganic Carbon can be determined (high).  Sea surface temperature (SST) and salinity (SSS) can be determined (high).  Diagenetic effects are minimal or can be quantified (high).			
	Carbon isotopes in soil carbonate and organic matter	Atmospheric pCO <sub>2</sub> affects the relation- ship between the 6 <sup>12</sup> C of soil CO <sub>2</sub> and the 6 <sup>13</sup> C of soil organic matter at depth in certain soil types, hence measurement of these parameters in paleosols can be used to calculate past pCO <sub>2</sub> .	1000 to -4000 ppm; 0 to 400 Ma	Method works better for some soil types than others. CO <sub>2</sub> loss is difficult to quantify and method and effects of late diagenesis may be difficult to determine.	Isotopic composition of soil CO <sub>2</sub> is reflected in soil carbonates below a depth of 50 cm. (medium).  The concentration of respired CO <sub>2</sub> in the soil is known or assumed (medium). Isotopic composition of atmospheric CO <sub>2</sub> is known or can be inferred (flow). Soil carbonates were precipitated in the vadose zone in exchange with atmospheric CO <sub>2</sub> (high).  The original depth profile of a paleosoil can be determined (low).  Burial (late) diagenetic effects are minimal or can be quantified (high).			
da	Stomata in plant leaves	The relative frequen- cy of stomata on fossil leaves (Stoma- tal Index: (Salisbury, 1928) can be used to calculate past atmo- spheric CO <sub>2</sub> levels.	100 to ~1000 ppm; 0 to 400 Ma	Closely related species have very different responses to pCO <sub>2</sub> . The assumption that short-term response is the same as the evolutionary response is difficult to test. This and the shape of the calibration curves mean that much greater certainty applies to low pCO <sub>2</sub> and short time scales.	Measured stomatal index is accurate and precise (high).  Measured stomatal index is representative of the plant (high).  The target plants adjust their stomatal index of leaves to optimize CO <sub>2</sub> uptake (medium).  Atmospheric pCO <sub>2</sub> close to the plant is representative of the atmosphere as a whole (medium).  The quantitative relationship between stomatal index and CO <sub>2</sub> observed on short time scales (ecophenotypic or 'plastic response') applies over evolutionary time (low).  Environmental factors such as irradiance, atmospheric moisture, water availability, temperature, and nutrient availability do not affect the relationship between stomatal index and CO <sub>2</sub> (medium).  Stomatal index response to CO <sub>2</sub> of extinct species can be determined or assumed (low). Taphonomic processes do not affect stomatal index counts (high).  Diagenetic processes do not affect stomatal index counts (high).			

## Temp reconstructions:

#### Based on proxy data:

- -Tree rings
- -lce cores
- -Lake and ocean sediments
- -Glacier records
- -Boreholes
- -Pollens
- -Corals

Table 5.A.6 | Hemispheric and global temperature reconstructions assessed in Table 5.4 and used in Figures 5.7 to 5.9.

Reference	Period (CE)	Resolution	Region*	Proxy Coverage <sup>b</sup>				
[Identifier]				н	M	L	0	Method & Data
iriffa et al. (2001)  only sed in Figure 5.8b–d due o divergence issue	1402-1960	Annual (summer)	L 20°N to 90°N	*	×	0	0	Principal component forward regression of regional composite averages.  Tree-ring density network, age effect removed via age-band decomposition.
Christiansen and Ljungqvist 2012) [CL12loc]	1-1973	Annual	L+5 30°N to 90°N	*	*			Composite average of local records calibrated by local inverse regression. Multi-proxy network.
P'Arrigo et al. (2006) Da06treecps]	713–1995	Annual	L 20°N to 90°N	*	×			Forward linear regression of composite average. Network of long tree-ring width chronologies, age effect removed by Regional Curve Standardisation.
rank et al. (2007) [Fr07treecps]	831~1992	Annual	L 20°N to 90°N	×	×	О	П	Variance matching of composite average, adjusted for artificial changes in variance. Network of long tree-ring width chronologies, age effect removed by Regional Curve Standardisation.
legerl et al. (2007) [He07tis]	558-1960	Decadal	L 30°N to 90°N	×	×			Total Least Squares regression. Multi-proxy network.
uckes et al. (2007) [Ju07cvm]	1000-1980	Annual	L+S 0° to 90°N	Ø	×			Variance matching of composite average. Multi-proxy network.
eclercq and Oerlemans 2012} [LO12glac]	1600-2000	Multidecadal	L 0° to 90°N L 90S to 0° L 90°S to 90°N	×	*	×	0	Inversion of glacier length response model. 308 glacier records.
jungqvist (2010) [Lj10cps]	1-1999	Decadal	L+S 30°N to 90°N	*	×		×	Variance matching of composite average. Multi-proxy network.
oehle and McCulloch 2008) [LM08ave]	16-1935	Multidecadal	L+S mostly 0° to 90°N	×	×	0	×	Average of calibrated local records.  Multi-proxy network (almost no tree-rings).
Aann et al. (2008) [Ma08cpsl] Ma08eivl] Ma08eivf] Ma08min7eivf]	200-1980	Decadal	L [cpsl/eivl] and L+S [eivf] versions, 0° to 90°N, 0° to 90°S, and 90°S to 90°N	*	*	×	×	(i) Variance matching of composite average. (ii) Total Least Squares regression. Multi-proxy network.
Mann et al. (2009) [Ma09regm]	500-1849	Decadal	L+S 0 to 90°N	*	*	×	×	Regularized Expectation Maximization with Truncated Total Least Squares. Multi-proxy network.*
Noberg et al. (2005) Mo05wavej	1-1979	Annual	L+S 0° to 90°N	×	*	×		Variance matching of composites of wavelet decomposed records.  Tree-ring width network for short time scales; non-tree-ring network for long time scales.
follack and Smerdon 2004) [PS04bore]	1500-2000	Centennial	L 0° to 90°N L 0° to 90°S L 90°S to 90°N	×	*	×		Borehole temperature profiles inversion
hi et al. (2013) [Sh13pcar]	1000-1998	Annual	L 0 to 90°N	*	×	П		Principal component regression with autoregressive timeseries model. Multi-proxy network (tree-ring and non-tree-ring versions).

- Region: L = land only, L+5 = land and sea, latitude range indicated.
- Proxy location and coverage: H = high latitude, M = mid latitude, L = low latitude, O = oceans, □ = none or very few, 図 = limited, ★ = moderate
- These studies also present versions without tree-rings or without seven inhomogeneous proxies (including the Lake Korttajärvi sediment records; Tiljander et al., 2003). The latter version is used in Figure 5.7a (Ma08min7eivf) in preference to the reconstruction from the full network. The impact of these seven proxies on the other NH reconstructions is negligible (MA08cpsI) or results in a slightly warmer pre-900 reconstruction compared to the version without them (Ma09regm).

## Model data:

#### -AOGCM:

Atmosphere Ocean Generel Circulation Model

#### -ESM:

Earth System Mode

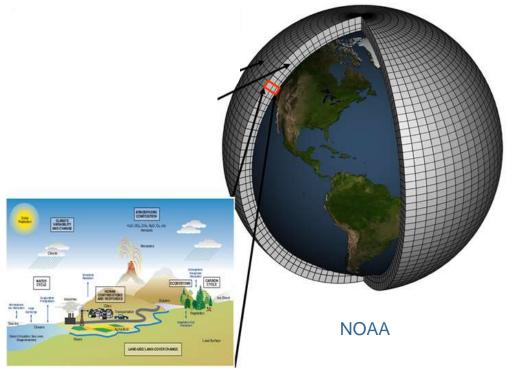
Simulations in red were excluded from Figs 5.8, 5.9 and 5.12

Model	Model (No. runs) Period Forcings <sup>a</sup>		Reference					
Pre PMIP3/CMIP	Pre PMIP3/CMIP5 Experiments							
CCSM3	(1×) 1000–2000 (4×) 1500–2000	SS11-V22.G30,31,35	Hofer et al. (2011)					
CNRM-CM3.3	(1×) 1001-1999	5511.V21.G30,34,35.A44,L54	Swingedouw et al. (2011)					
CSM1.4	(1×) 850-1999	SS10.V21.G303135.A41	Ammann et al. (2007)					
CSIRO-MK3L-1-2	(3×) 1–2001 (3×) 1–2001 (3×) 501–2001	SW <sup>1,4</sup> , G <sup>3,4</sup> , O <sup>60</sup> SW <sup>1,4</sup> +, V <sup>2,4</sup> -, G <sup>3,4</sup> -, O <sup>60</sup>	Phipps et al. (2013)					
ECHAM4/OPYC	(1×) 1500-2000	SS11-V21,26-G38-A42-E55	Stendel et al. (2006)					
ECHAM5/MPIOM	(5×) 800–2005 (3×) 800–2005	\$WI3,V25,G34,39,A40,L53,OEI \$\$10,V25,G34,39,A40,L33,OEI	Jungclaus et al. (2010)					
ECHO-G	(1×) 1000–1990 (1×) 1000–1990 (2×) –7000–1998	\$\$11.\030.\031.36.37 \$\$11.\030.\031.36.37	González-Rouco et al. (2003) <sup>o</sup> González-Rouco et al. (2006) Wagner et al. (2007)					
HadCM3	(1×) 1492-1999	5S11,V23,G32,A43,L50,54,55,O60	Tett et al. (2007)					
IPSLCM4	(1×) 1001-2000	\$\$11-G10,34,35-A44-Q69	Servonnat et al. (2010)					
FGOALS-gl	(1×) 1000–1999	SS11,V20,G30,31,35	Zhou et al. (2011) <sup>c</sup>					
PMIP3/CMIP5 Exp	IIP3/CMIP5 Experiments							
BCC-csm1-1	(1×) 850-2005	SW15-V24-G30,33,34- A45-O60						
CCSM4	(1×) 850-2004	SW15-V24,G30,33,34, A45 -L51,O60	Landrum et al. (2013)					
CSIRO-MK3L-1-2	(1×) 851-2000	SW14-V25-G30,33,34,060						
GISS-E2-R	(8×) 850–2004	SW14.V25.G30.33,34.A45.L51.O60 SW14.Q24.G30.33,34.A45.L51.O60 SW15.V25.G30.33,34.A45.L51.O60 SW15.V24.G30.33,34.A45.L51.O60 SW15.V24.G30.33,34.A45.L51.O60 SW15.V25.G30.33,34.A45.L51.O60 SW15.V25.G30.33,34.A45.L51.O60	d					
HadCM3	(1×) 800-2000	SW14.V25.G30,32,34.A43.L51.O60	Schurer et al. (2013)					
IPSL-CM5A-LR	(1×) 850-2005	SW15.V27.G30,33,34.O60						
MIROC-ESM	(1×) 850-2005	SW16-V25-G30,34,39-O60						
MPI-ESM-P	(1×) 850-2005	SW15.V25.G30.33,34.A45.L51.O60						

Climate models 18.11.2015

## Climate models

- Background
- Types
- Development
- Spatial resolution
- Model runs and experiments
- Model forcing and response



## What is an atmospheric model?

- An atmospheric model is a physical model solving the primitive dynamical equations to simulate atmospheric motions.
- It can supplement these equations with **parameterizations\*** for turbulent diffusion, radiation, moist processes (clouds and precipitation), convection, gravity waves etc.
- Atmospheric models are solved **numerically**, i.e. they discretize equations of motion.
- It can predict microscale, sub-microscale, as well as synoptic and global flows.
- The horizontal domain of a model is either *global*, covering the entire Earth, or *regional* covering only parts of the Earth.

<sup>\*</sup>Parameterization refers to a method of replacing processes that are too small-scale or complex to be physically resolved in the model.

## What type of numerical models exists?

#### Weather predictions:

Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) models: global and regional models

#### **Climate projections:**

- General Circulation Model (GCM):
  - Atmosphere GCM (AGCM)
  - Ocean GCM (OGCM)
- Climate models:
  - AOGCM
  - **CMIP3** models: Climate Model Intercomparison Project 3 for IPCC AR4 (most were low top models with model lid @10 hPa)
  - CMIP5 models: IPCC AR5 (low and high top models (model lid >60 km r >0.1hPa)
  - PMIP3 models: Paleo Model Intercomparison Project models for IPCC AR4

## What types of numerical models exist?

#### **Earth System studies:**

- **ESM**: Earth System Models
  - Complex fully coupled atmosphere ocean/sea ice, carbon cycle, biogeochemistry, vegetation models; also with full atmospheric chemistry and land ice
  - partly used in CMIP5
- EMIC: Earth System Model of Intermediate Complexity
  - Limited physical processes included
  - 2D or 3D
  - Long transient runs

#### Paleo climate studies:

- **PMIP**: Paleo Model Intercomparison Project models:
  - -coupled climate models (low top AOGCMs)
  - limited spatial resolution enables long transient runs
- EMIC: as above

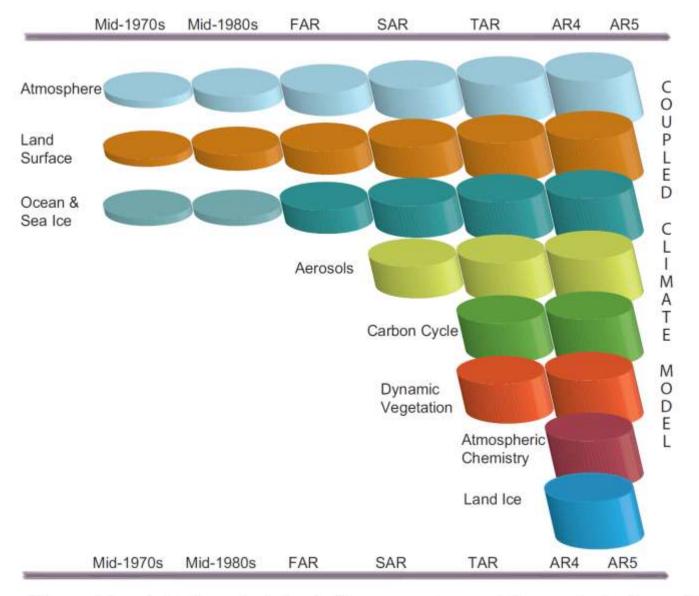
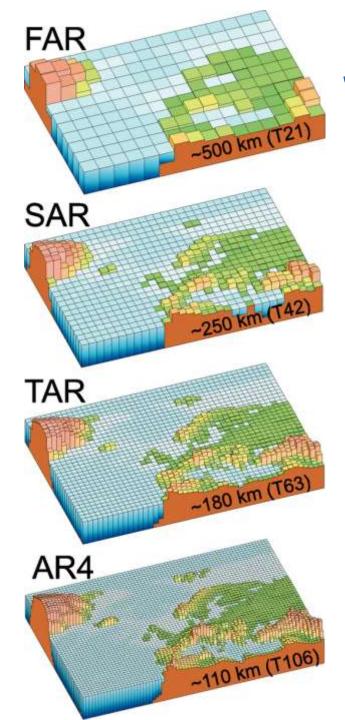


Figure 1.13 | The development of climate models over the last 35 years showing how the different components were coupled into comprehensive climate models over time. In each aspect (e.g., the atmosphere, which comprises a wide range of atmospheric processes) the complexity and range of processes has increased over time (illustrated by growing cylinders). Note that during the same time the horizontal and vertical resolution has increased considerably e.g., for spectral models from T21L9 (roughly 500 km horizontal resolution and 9 vertical levels) in the 1970s to T95L95 (roughly 100 km horizontal resolution and 95 vertical levels) at present, and that now ensembles with at least three independent experiments can be considered as standard.

Ch. 1 IPCC, 2013



## Spatial model resolution

## Model runs and model experiments

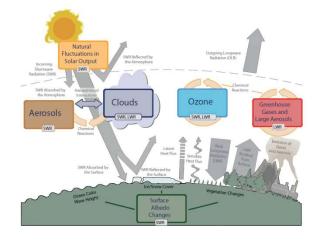
#### **Model runs:**

- Control run (CTR): e.g. present-day climatology
- Experiment (EXP):
  - Transient runs (historical runs, RCP future runs, hindcast runs)
  - Time slice runs (e.g. 2000 state runs)
  - Perpetual runs (e.g. perpetual January runs)

**Model experiment**: a scientific question or model experiment should be anwsered by implementing a model forcing to the model

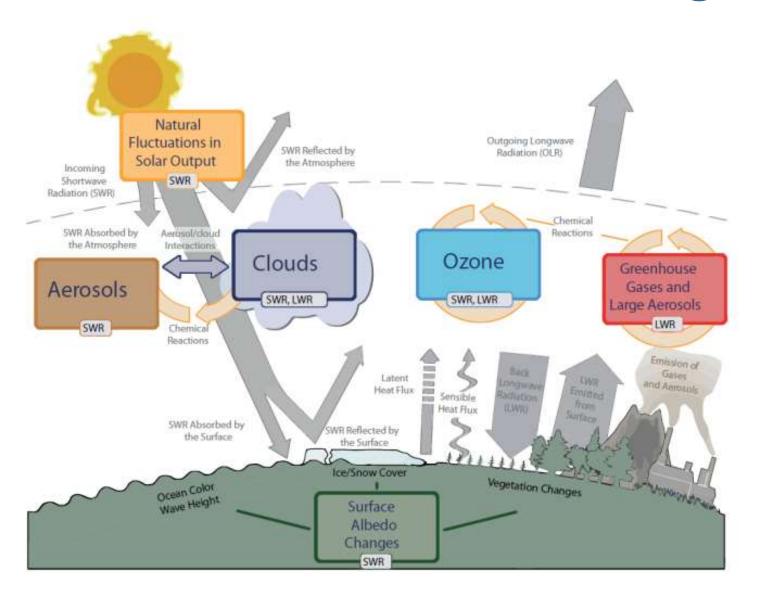
- What is the effect of Arctic sea ice loss?
- What is the effect of greenhouse gas increase?
- What is the effect of ENSO on the atmosphere?

## Model forcing – model response



- For a model experiment a forcing is prescribed:
   e.g. RCP8.5 scenario, volcanic and solar forcing, Arctic sea ice loss...
- Radiative forcing (IPCC Chapter 8):
   resulting radiative response to implemented model forcing
- Radiative (model) response
  - $-\Delta Rad = Rad(EXP)-Rad(CTR)$
- Climate (model) response
  - -e.g.  $\Delta$ SAT=SAT(EXP)-SAT(CTR)
  - -e.g. ΔSST= SST(El Nino yrs)-SST(no ENSO yrs)

## Main drivers of climate change



## Pre-industrial perspective on radiative forcing factors (Section 5.2)

## Radiative forcing factors

### External forcing:

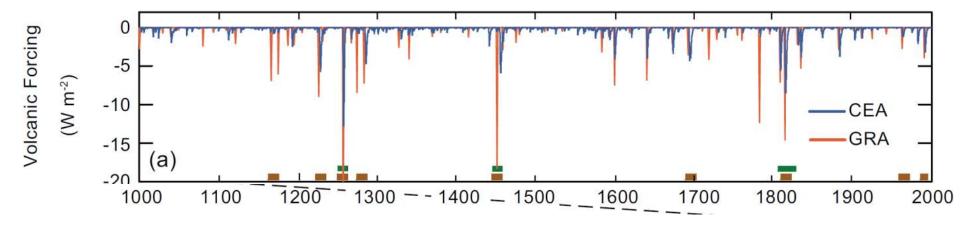
- Volcanic Forcing
- Solar Forcing
- Orbital Forcing

Greenhouse gases, aerosols, and dust:

CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, dust and aerosols

## Last Millennium 1 ka-Reconstructed Volcanic forcing

based on ice core records

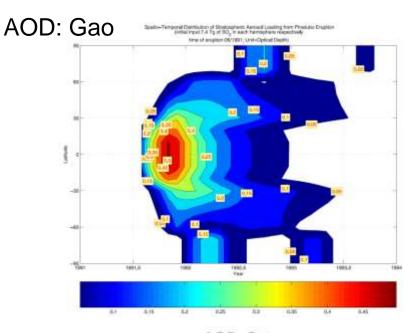


Stratospheric origin: Greenland, Antarctica

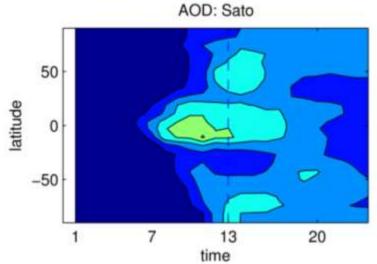
-Crowley and Unterman (2013)

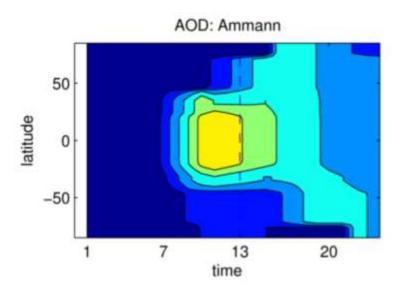
-GRA: Gao, Robock and Ammann (2008 & 2012)

## Pinatubo AOD used in CMIP5 models



Crowley and Untermann (2013 volcanic forcing has only 4 bands of AOD(0.5um) and Reff: 90-30N, 30-0N,0-30S, 30-90S



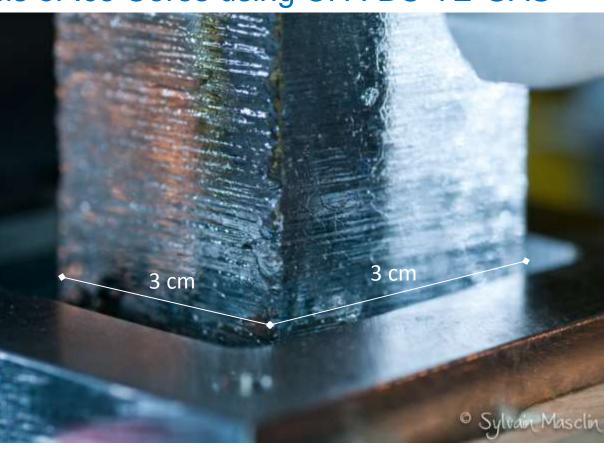




#### **Ultra Trace Chemistry Lab at DRI**

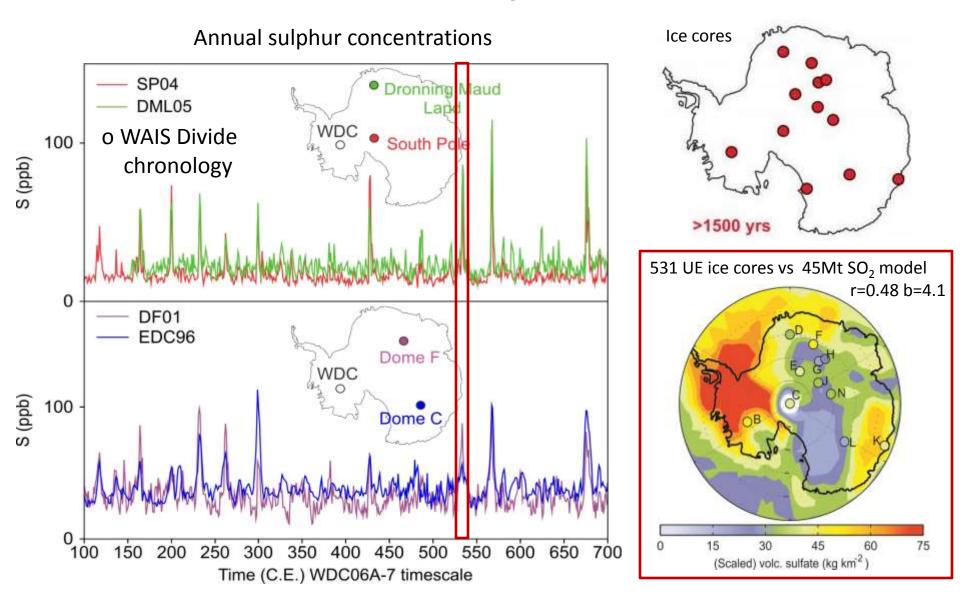
#### Continuous Flow Analysis of Ice Cores using CFA-BC-TE-GAS





By using black carbon measurements and many other parameters from new, real-time, high-resolution measurement techniques for annual layer dating, we could develop a history of sulfate deposition for Antarctica for the past 2,500 years.

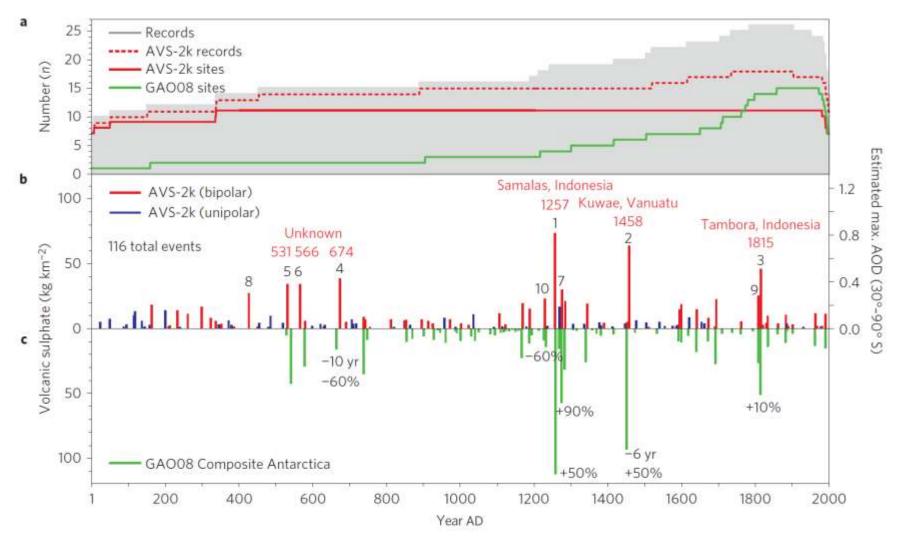
#### Volcanic ice-core synchronization



With 12 records covering the past 1,500 years, we can reconstruct robust estimates of sulfate deposition on larger spatial scales.

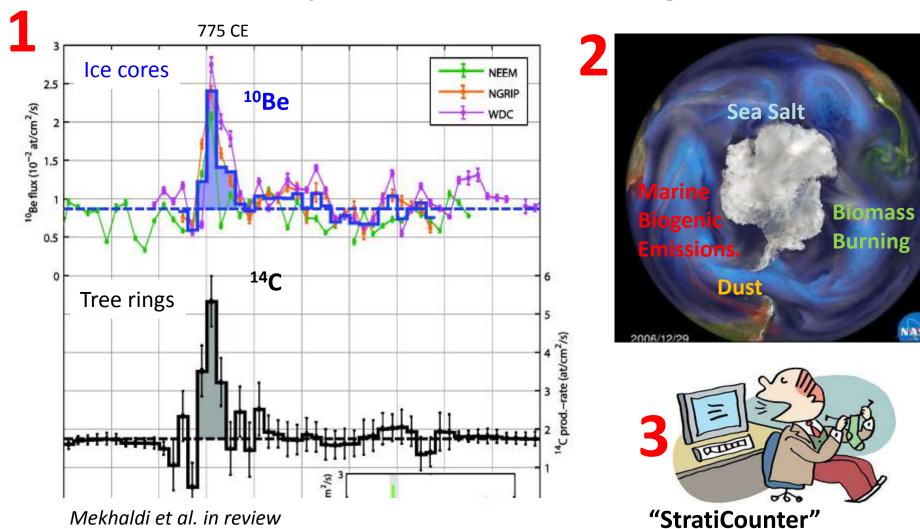
Sigl et al. 2014, Nature Clim. Change

#### Stratospheric aerosol loading in the Southern Hemisphere



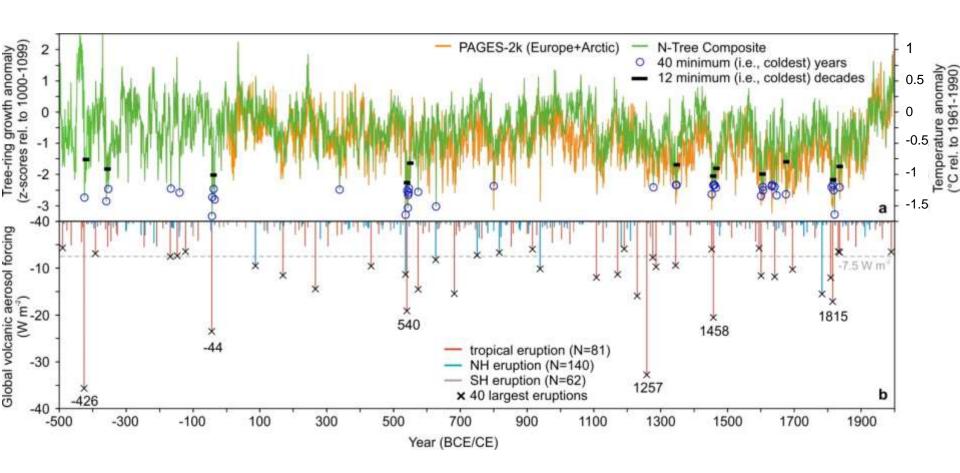
A comparison with Gao et al (2008) based on earlier ice core compilations shows that during the past 500yr, when both of the reconstructions are based on a similar sample size, the values agree very well; whereas the differences prior to 1500 AD are larger in both magnitude and timing.

#### New bipolar ice core chronologies

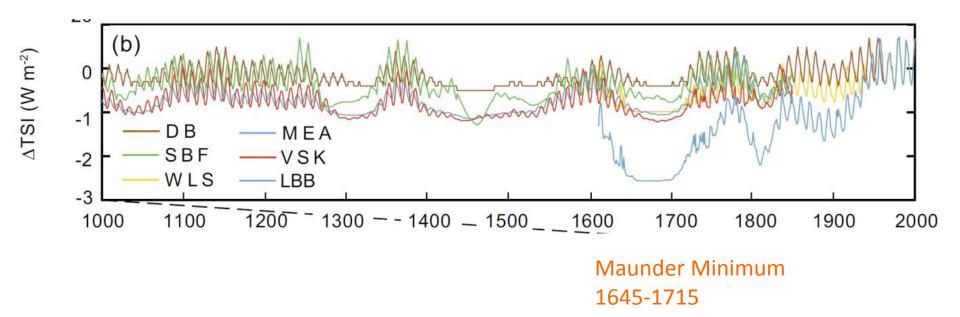


Revision of ice core chronologies in Greenland and Antarctica up to 10 years during 1<sup>st</sup> Millennium by: 1) using a fixed age marker in 775 CE, 2) constrained annual layer dating using multi-parameter aerosol records, 3) applying an objective algorithm.

#### Post-volcanic cooling during the past 2,500 years



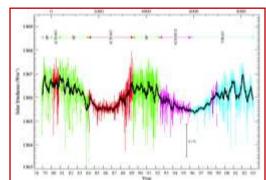
## Last Millennium 1 ka Reconstructed solar forcing



Solar activity proxy: sunspots and <sup>10</sup>Be All reconstructions have been used for PIMP3/CMIP5 simulations expect Lean et al 1995b (LBB), which has been widely used before that.

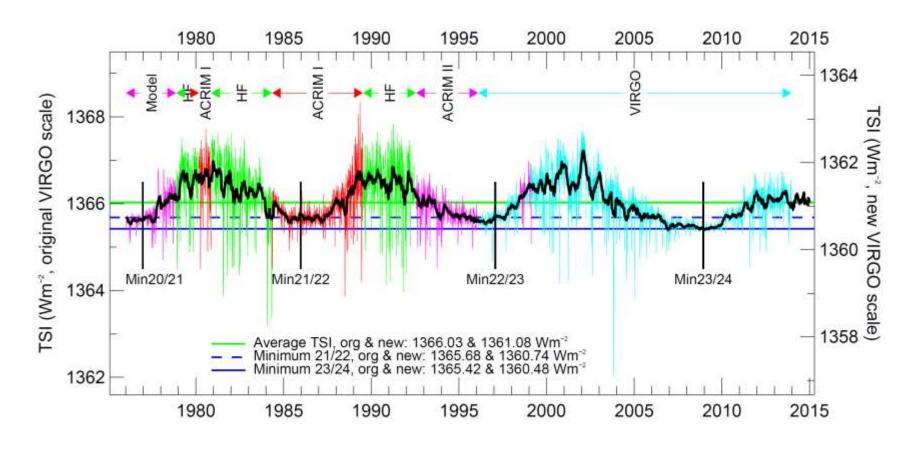
## Temporal variations of the solar insolation

- The solar constant is not constant
- ~27-day rotation cycle of the sun



- ~11-year sunspot cycle
- Centennial scales
- Milankowich (1941): influence of the earth orbit parameter on the ice age cycles was confirmed by Hays et al. (1976).

### The 11-year solar cycle

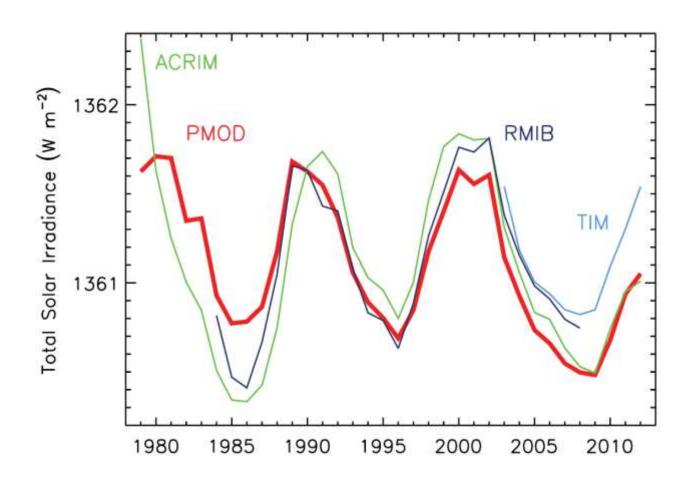


http://www.pmodwrc.ch/pmod.php?topic=tsi/composite/SolarConstant



Physikalisch-Meteorologisches Observatorium Davos World Radiation Center

## Note new TSI value of ~1361 W/m<sup>2</sup>



ACRIM: Active Cavity Radiometer Irradiance Monitor

**TIM: Total Irradiance Monitor** 

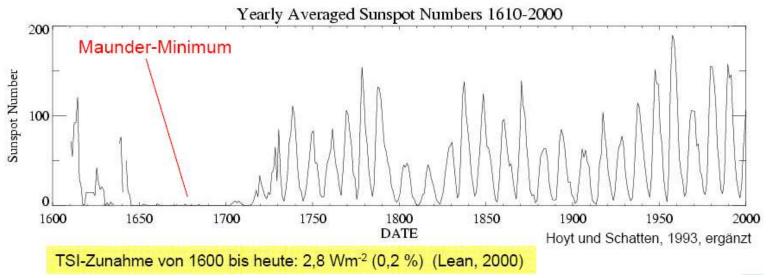
RMIB: Royal Meteorological Institute of Belgium

PMOD: Physikalisch Meteorologisches Observatorium Davos

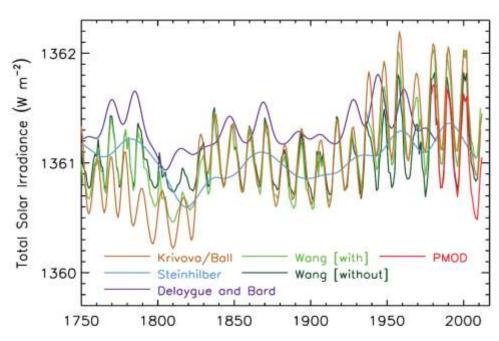
Kopp and Lean (2011) taken from IPCC 2013 Chapter 8

TSI: Total Solar Irradiance

### Historical reconstructions of TSI



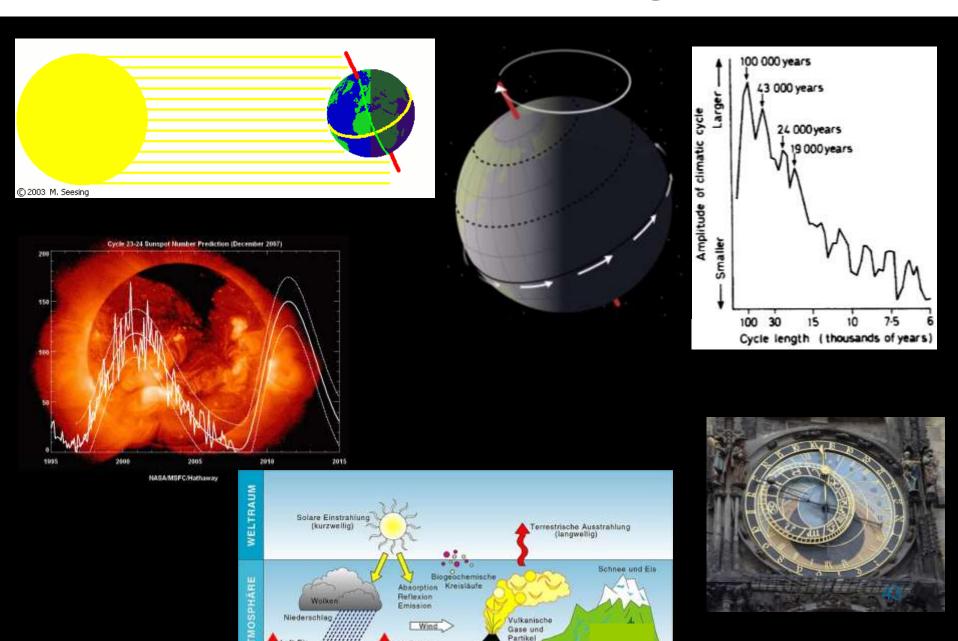
- -Reconstructions are based on physical modeling of the evolution of solar surface magnetic flux...
- -All reconstructions rely on indirect proxies that inherently do not give consistent results.
- -Large discrepancies among the models.



TSI: Total Solar Irradiance

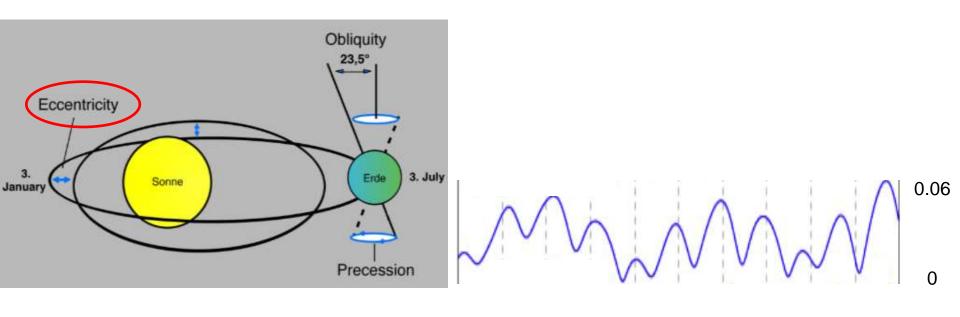
Chapter 8 IPCC (2013)

## **Orbital Forcing**



#### External climate factors

Orbital parameters: 1. Eccentricity

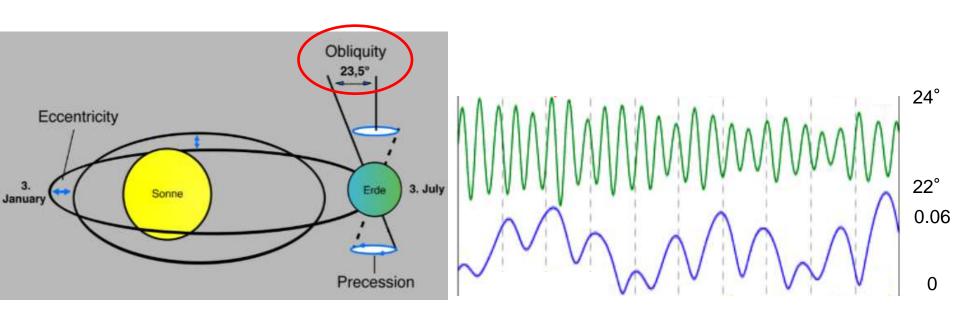


100,000 years, 400,000 years

Time in 1,000 yrs before today 0 200 400 600 800 1,000

#### External climate factors

#### Orbital parameters: 2. Obliquity of earth's axis

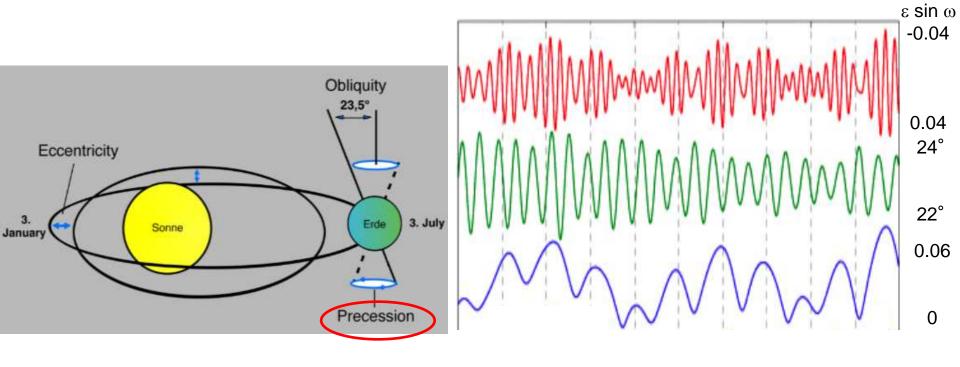


41,000 years

Time in 1,000 yrs before today 0 200 400 600 800 1,000

#### External climate factors

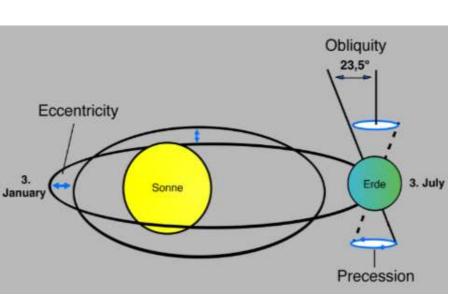
#### Orbital parameters: 3. Precession



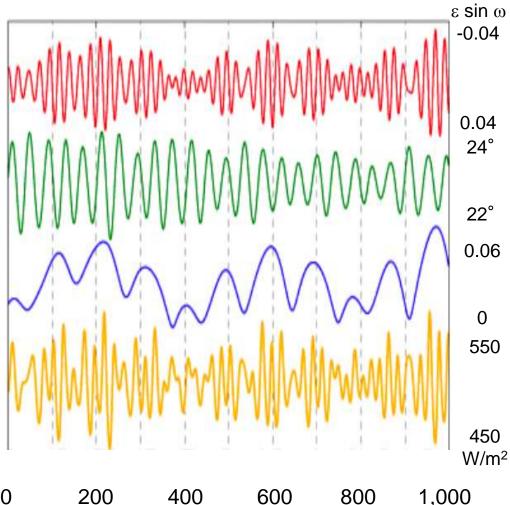
21,000 years

Time in 1,000 yrs before today 0 200 400 600 800 1,000

#### External climate factors Orbital parameters



Solar radiation in NH summer at 65° N



Time in 1,000 years before today

0

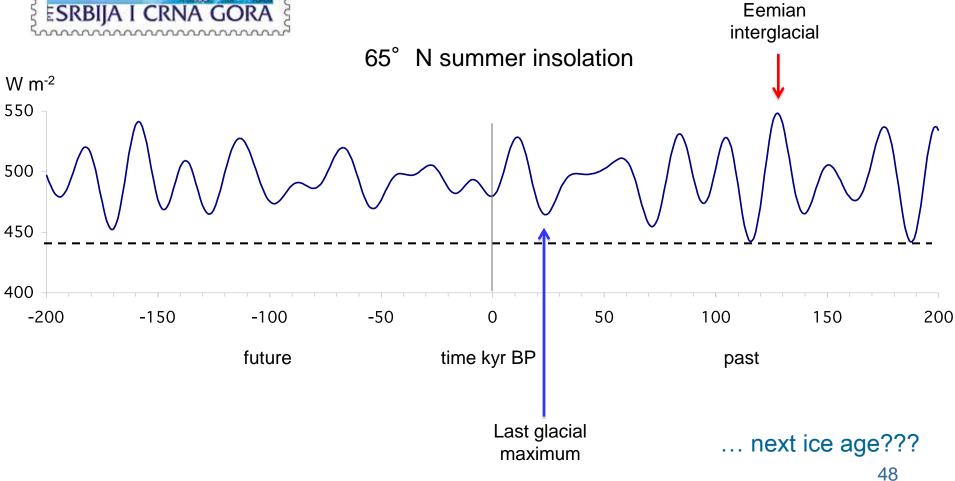
200

400

1,000



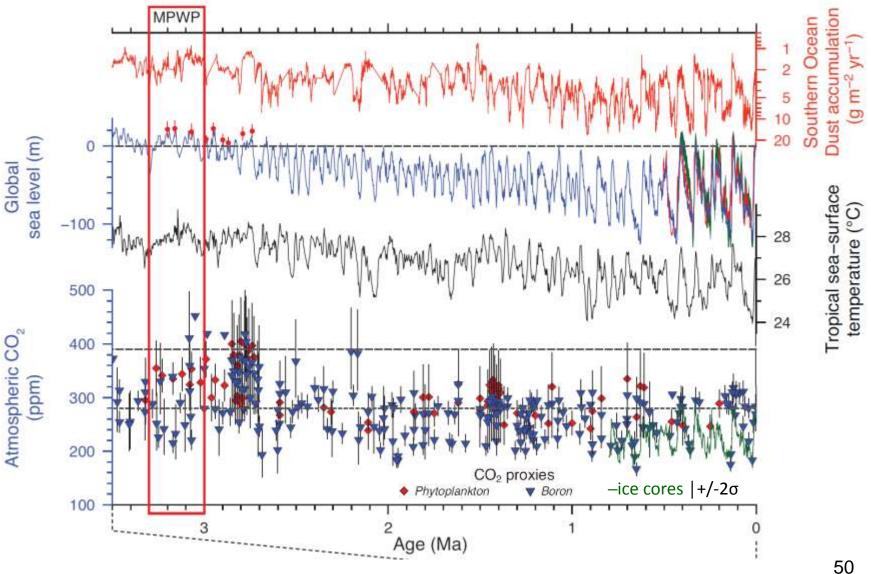
## Milankovitch theory orbital pacemaker for ice ages



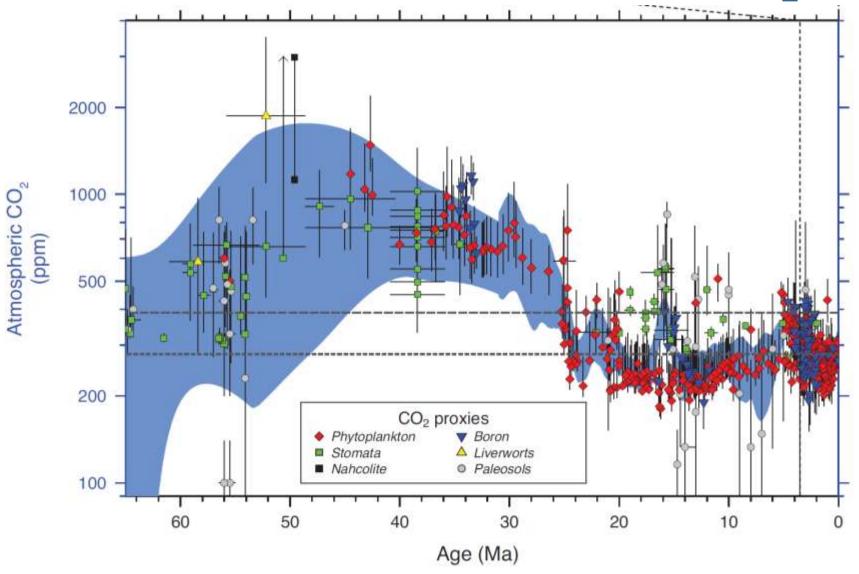
## IPCC (2007)

- "The Milankovitch, or 'orbital' theory of the ice ages is now well developed.
- Ice ages are generally triggered by minima in high-latitude NH summer insolation, enabling winter snowfall to persist through the year and therefore accumulate to build NH glacial ice sheets.
- Similarly, times with especially intense high-latitude NH summer insolation, determined by orbital changes, are thought to trigger rapid deglaciations, associated climate change and sea level rise.
- These orbital forcings determine the pacing of climatic changes, while the large responses appear to be determined by strong feedback processes that amplify the orbital forcing.
- Over multi-millennial time scales, orbital forcing also exerts a major influence on key climate systems such as the Earth's major monsoons, global ocean circulation and the greenhouse gas content of the atmosphere.
- Available evidence indicates that the current warming will not be mitigated by a natural cooling trend towards glacial conditions.
- Understanding of the Earth's response to orbital forcing indicates that the Earth would not naturally enter another ice age for at least 30,000 years. "

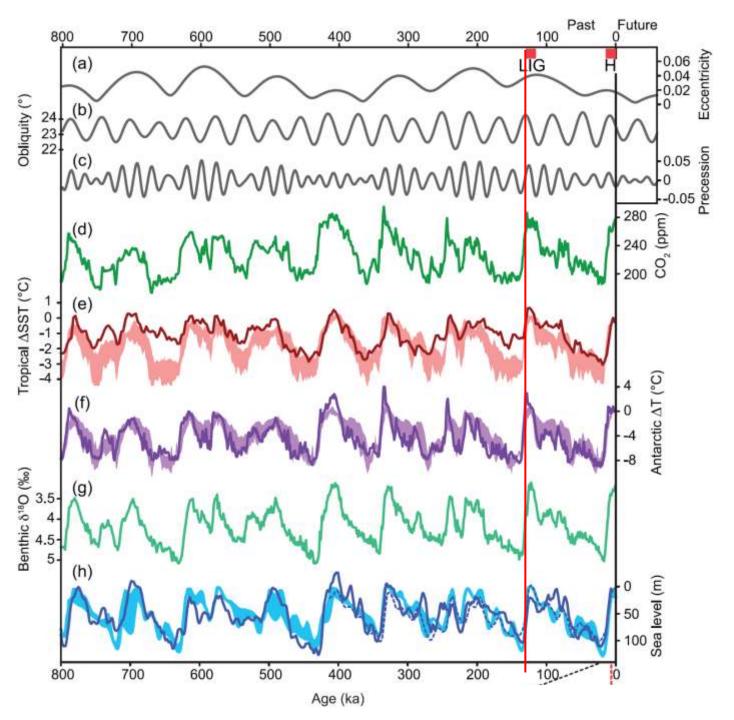
## Past 3.5 Ma – Climate Changes



## Past 65 Ma - Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>



## Earth System Responses and Feedbacks (Section 5.3)



## Past 800 ka

LIG: Last Interglacial

H: Holocene

#### Box 5.2 | Climate-Ice Sheet Interactions

Ice sheets have played an essential role in the Earth's climate history (see Sections 5.3, 5.6 and 5.7). They interact with the atmosphere, the ocean—sea ice system, the lithosphere and the surrounding vegetation (see Box 5.2, Figure 1). They serve as nonlinear filters and integrators of climate effects caused by orbital and GHG forcings (Ganopolski and Calov, 2011), while at the same time affecting the global climate system on a variety of time scales (see Section 5.7).

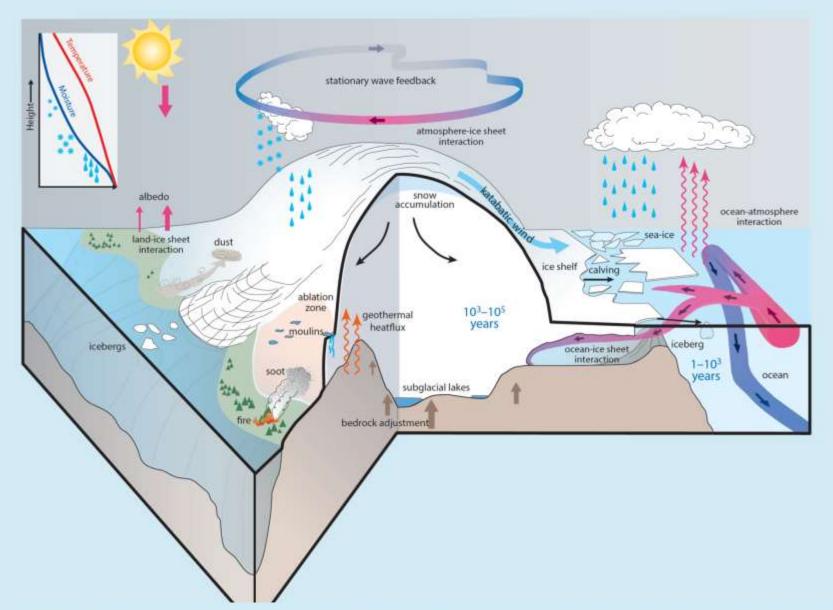
Ice sheets form when annual snow accumulation exceeds melting. Growing ice sheets expand on previously vegetated areas, thus leading to an increase of surface albedo, further cooling and an increase in net surface mass balance. As ice sheets grow in height and area, surface temperatures drop further as a result of the lapse-rate effect, but also snow accumulation decreases because colder air holds less moisture (inlay in Box 5.2, Figure 1). This so-called elevation-desert effect (Oerlemans, 1980) is an important negative feedback for ice sheets which limits their growth. Higher elevation ice sheets can be associated with enhanced calving at their margins, because the ice flow will be accelerated directly by increased surface slopes and indirectly by lubrication at the base of the ice sheet. Calving, grounding line processes, basal lubrication and other forms of thermo-mechanical coupling may have played important roles in accelerating glacial terminations following phases of relatively slow ice sheet growth, hence contributing to the temporal saw-tooth structure of the recent glacial—interglacial cycles (Figure 5.3).

Large glacial ice sheets also deflect the path of the extratropical NH westerly winds (Cook and Held, 1988), generating anticyclonic circulation anomalies (Box 5.2, Figure 1), which tend to warm the western side of the ice sheet and cool the remainder (e.g., Roe and Lindzen, 2001). Furthermore, the orographic effects of ice sheets lead to reorganizations of the global atmosphere circulation by changing the major stationary wave patterns (e.g., Abe-Ouchi et al., 2007; Yin et al., 2008) and trade wind systems (Timmermann et al., 2004). This allows for a fast transmission of ice sheet signals to remote regions.

The enormous weight of ice sheets depresses the underlying bedrocks causing a drop in ice sheet height and a surface warming as a result of the lapse-rate effect. The lithospheric adjustment has been shown to play an important role in modulating the ice sheet response to orbital forcing (Birchfield et al., 1981; van den Berg et al., 2008). The presence of terrestrial sedimentary materials (regolith) on top of the unweathered bedrock affects the friction at the base of an ice sheet, and may further alter the response of continental ice sheets to external forcings, with impacts on the dominant periodicities of glacial cycles (Clark and Pollard, 1998).

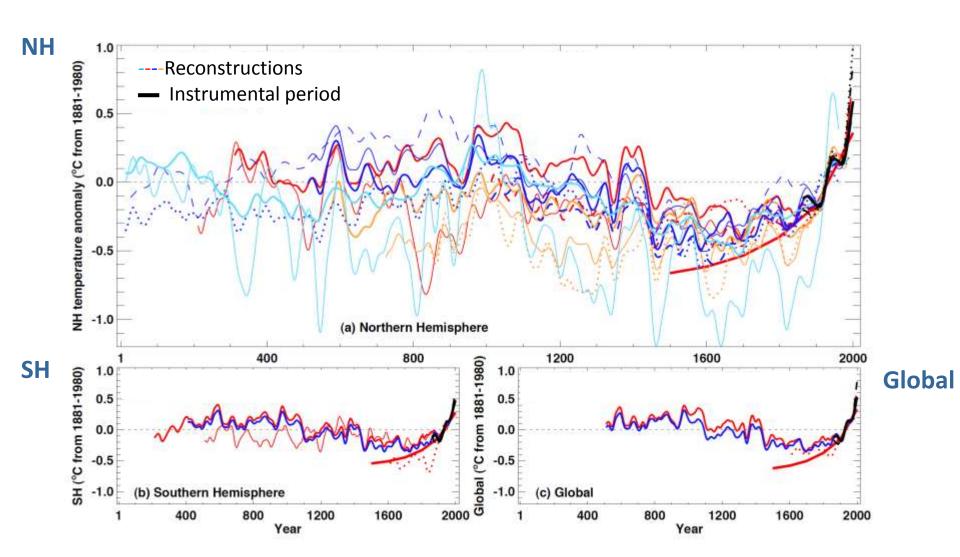
An area of very active research is the interaction between ice sheets, ice shelves and the ocean (see Sections 4.4, 13.4.3 and 13.4.4). The mass balance of marine ice sheets is strongly determined by ocean temperatures (Joughin and Alley, 2011). Advection of warmer waters below ice shelves can cause ice shelf instabilities, reduced buttressing, accelerated ice stream flow (De Angelis and Skvarca, 2003) and grounding line retreat in regions with retrograde bedrock slopes (Schoof, 2012), such as West Antarctica. On orbital and millennial time scales such processes may have played an essential role in driving ice volume changes of the West Antarctic ice sheet (Pollard and DeConto, 2009) and the Laurentide ice sheet (Alvarez-Solas et al., 2010). Massive freshwater release from retreating ice sheets, can feed back to the climate system by altering sea level, oceanic deep convection, ocean circulation, heat transport, sea ice and the global atmospheric circulation (Sections 5.6.3 and 5.7).

Whereas the initial response of ice sheets to external forcings can be quite fast, involving for instance ice shelf processes and outlet glaciers (10 to 10<sup>3</sup> years), their long-term adjustment can take much longer (10<sup>4</sup> to 10<sup>5</sup> years) (see Section 12.5.5.3). As a result, the climate—cryosphere system is not even in full equilibrium with the orbital forcing. This also implies that future anthropogenic radiative perturbations over the next century can determine the evolution of the Greenland (Charbit et al., 2008) and Antarctic ice sheets for centuries and millennia to come with a potential commitment to significant global sea level rise (Section 5.8). (continued on next page)

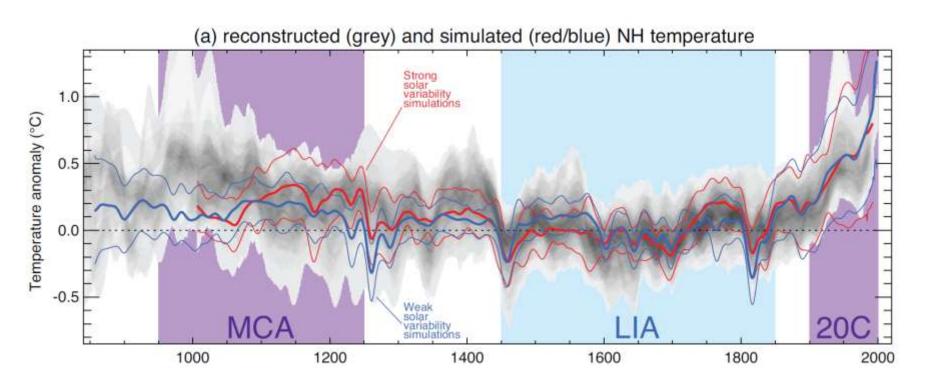


**Box 5.2, Figure 1** | Schematic illustration of multiple interactions between ice sheets, solid earth and the climate system which can drive internal variability and affect the coupled ice sheet—climate response to external forcings on time scales of months to millions of years. The inlay figure represents a typical height profile of atmospheric temperature and moisture in the troposphere.

#### Reconstructions



## NH surface temperature changes



#### Models:

-Strong solar variability sims

-Weak solar variability sims

-multi-model mean

- multi-model 90% range

MCA: Medieval Climate Anomaly

LIA: Little Ice Age 20C: 20th Century

# IPCC Chapter 5: Informations from paleoclimate archives

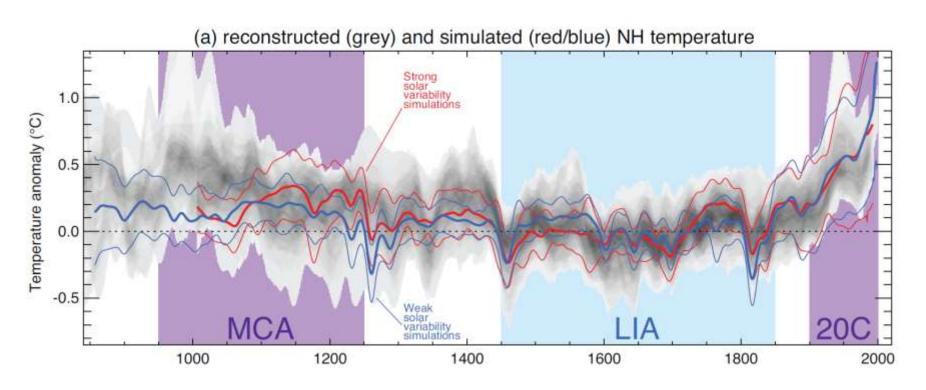


- Introduction (Section 5.1)
- Pre-industrial perspective on radiative forcing factors (Section 5.2)
- Earth System Responses and Feedbacks (Section 5.3)
- Executive summary (Ch. 5)

Masson-Delmotte, V., et al., 2013: Information from Paleoclimate Archives. In: Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Cambridge University Press.



## NH surface temperature changes



#### Models:

-Strong solar variability sims

-Weak solar variability sims

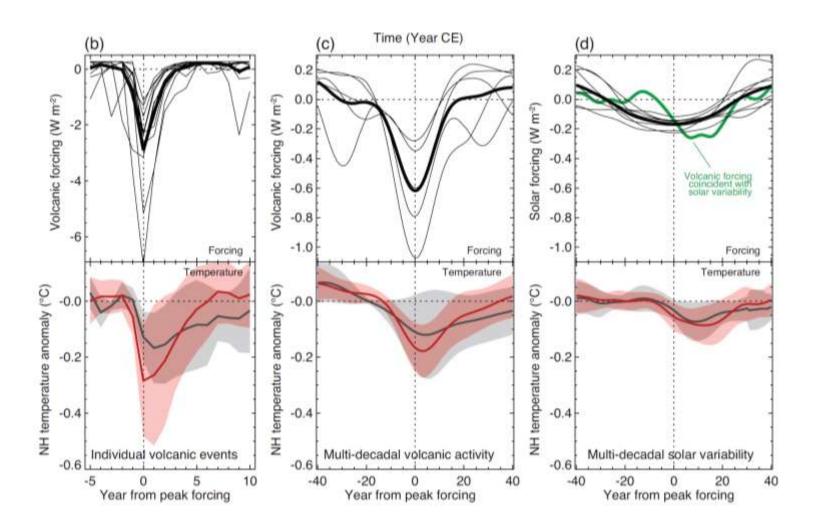
-multi-model mean

- multi-model 90% range

MCA: Medieval Climate Anomaly

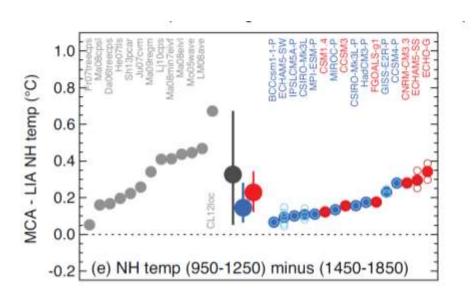
LIA: Little Ice Age 20C: 20th Century

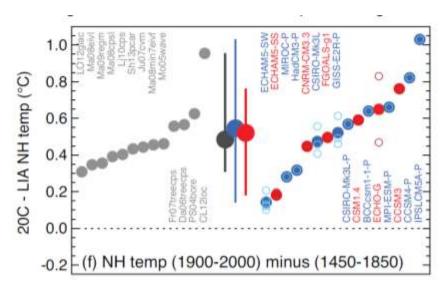
#### Volcanic vs solar forcing and climate response



## Cold-Warm Period: NH temp

#### MCA-LIA and 20C-LIA





MCA: Medieval Climate Anomaly

LIA: Little Ice Age 20C: 20th Century

## **Executive Summary**

## **Excecutive Summary -I**

#### **Greenhouse-Gas Variations and Past Climate Responses**

- It is a fact that present-day (2011) concentrations of the atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHGs) carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4) and nitrous oxide (N2O) exceed the range of concentrations recorded in ice cores during the past 800,000 years.
- With very high confidence, the current rates of CO2, CH4 and N2O rise in atmospheric concentrations and the associated radiative forcing are unprecedented with respect to the highest resolution ice core records of the last 22,000 years.
- There is high confidence that changes in atmospheric CO2 concentration play an important role in glacial—interglacial cycles. Although the primary driver of glacial—interglacial cycles lies in the seasonal and latitudinal distribution of incoming solar energy driven by changes in the geometry of the Earth's orbit around the Sun ("orbital forcing"), reconstructions and simulations together show that the full magnitude of glacial—interglacial temperature and ice volume changes cannot be explained without accounting for changes in atmospheric CO2 content and the associated climate feedbacks.

## **Excecutive Summary - II**

With medium confidence, global mean surface temperature was significantly above pre-industrial levels during several past periods characterised by high atmospheric CO2 concentrations.

- During the mid-Pliocene (3.3 to 3.0 million years ago), atmospheric CO2 concentrations between 350 ppm and 450 ppm (medium confidence) occurred when global mean surface temperatures were 1.9° C to 3.6° C (medium confidence) higher than for pre-industrial climate.
- During the Early Eocene (52 to 48 million years ago), atmospheric CO2 concentrations exceeded ~1000 ppm (medium confidence) when global mean surface temperatures were 9° C to 14° C (medium confidence) higher than for pre-industrial conditions.
- New temperature reconstructions and simulations of the warmest millennia of the last interglacial period (129,000 to 116,000 years ago) show with medium confidence that global mean annual surface temperatures were never more than 2° C higher than pre-industrial.

## **Excecutive Summary - III**

• There is high confidence that annual mean surface warming since the 20th century has reversed long-term cooling trends of the past 5000 years in mid-to-high latitudes of the Northern Hemisphere (NH). New continental- and hemispheric-scale annual surface temperature reconstructions reveal multi-millennial cooling trends throughout the past 5000 years. The last mid-to-high latitude cooling trend persisted until the 19th century, and can be attributed with high confidence to orbital forcing, according to climate model simulations. {5.5.1}