



## Aigua: desafiaments i oportunitats

11 i 12 de novembre del 2024

**Thirty-two thousand years  
of climate dynamics in  
Andorra**



# Aigua: desafiaments i oportunitats

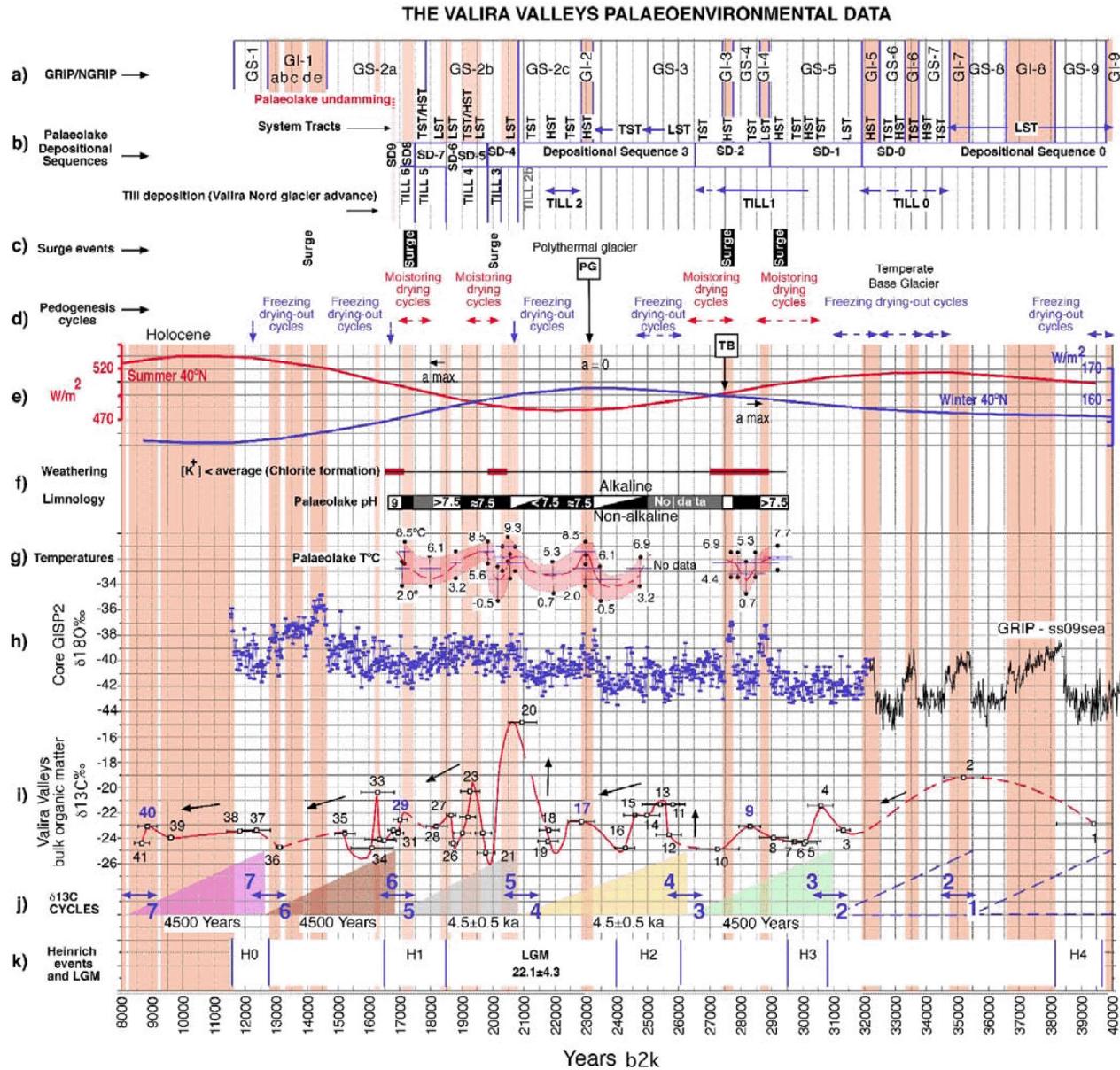
11 i 12 de novembre del 2024

Thirty-two thousand years  
of climate dynamics in  
Andorra

*Here we go!*

The main chart

..... 40.000 to 8.000 yrs ago



Greenland stadials

Stratigraphy

Surges events

Soil weathering

Solar irradiation and the role of "a"

Palaeolimnology

Palaeotemperatures at La Massana

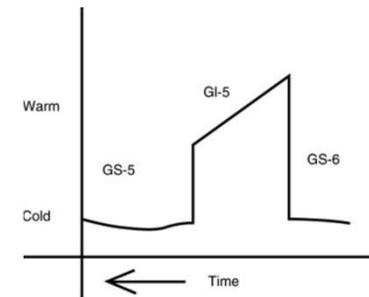
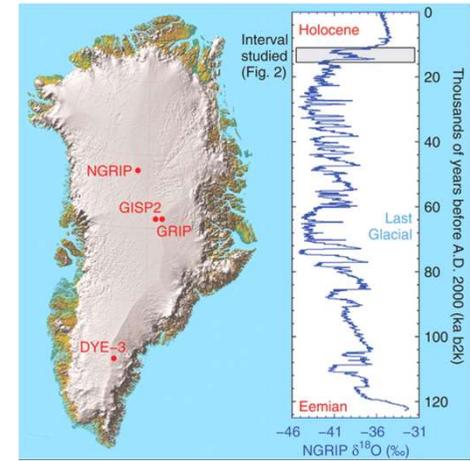
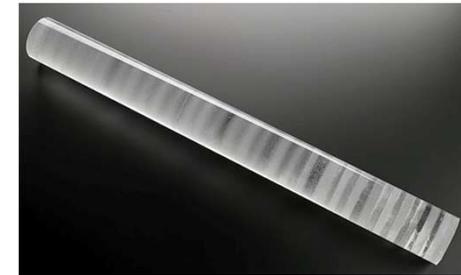
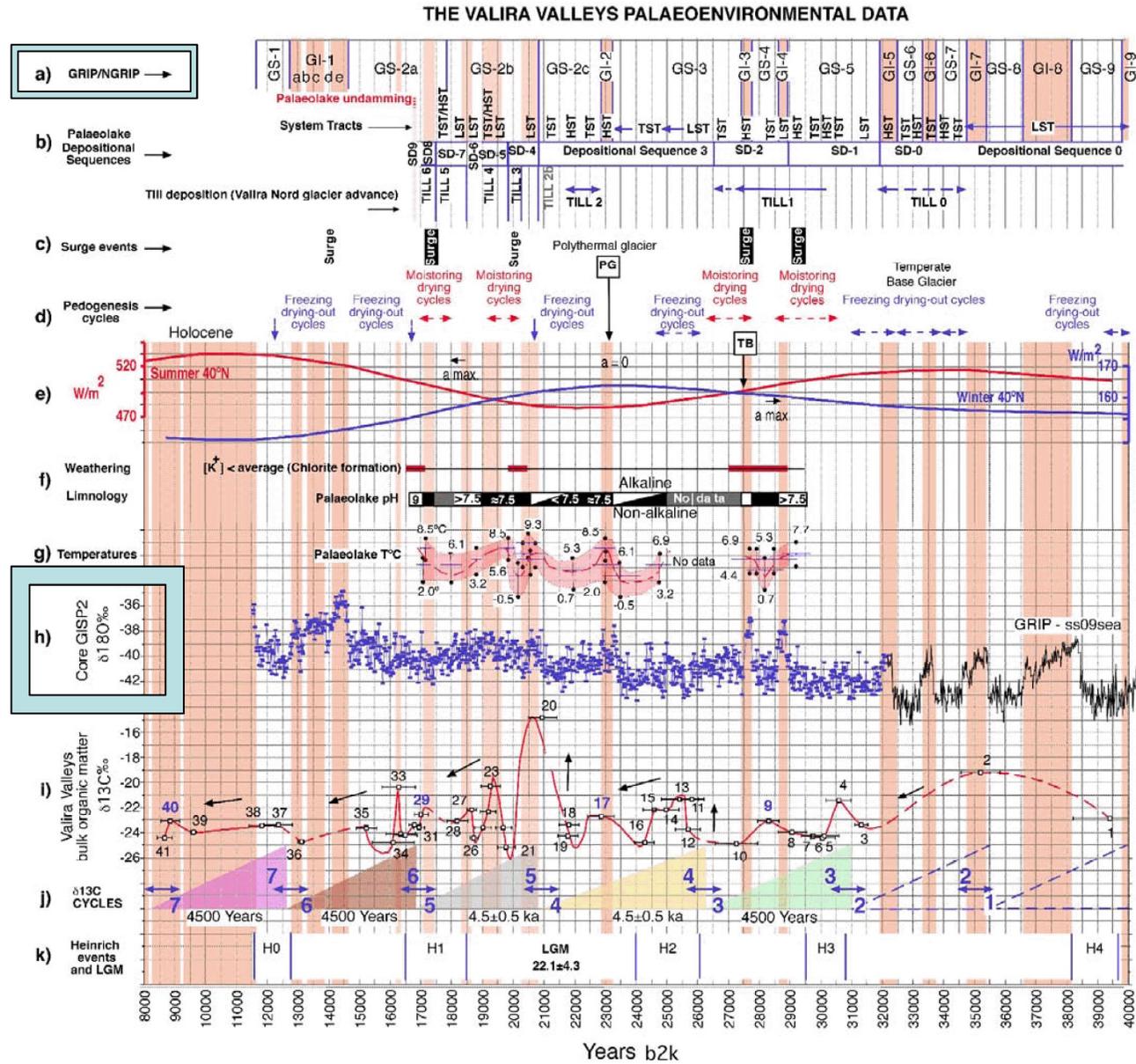
GISP 2 (global reference)

P Cycles

Heinrich events

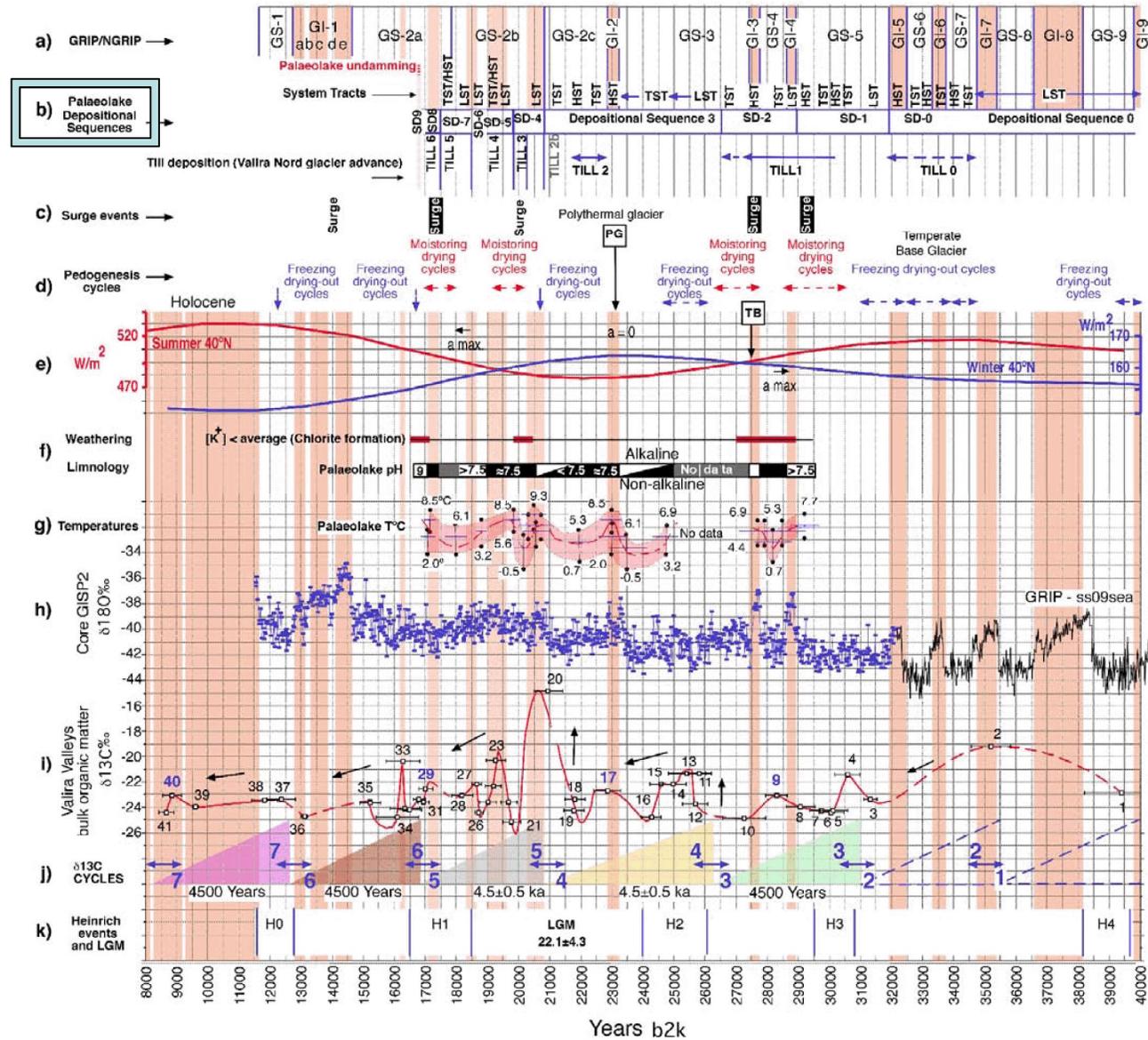
..... 40.000 to 8.000 yrs ago

### Greenland stadials

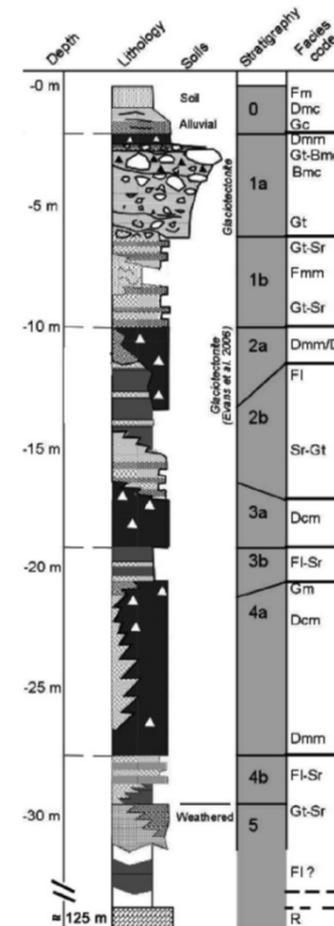


..... 40.000 to 8.000 yrs ago

THE VALIRA VALLEYS PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL DATA

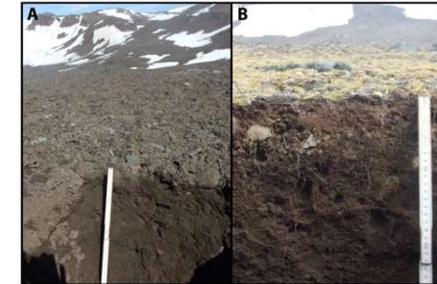
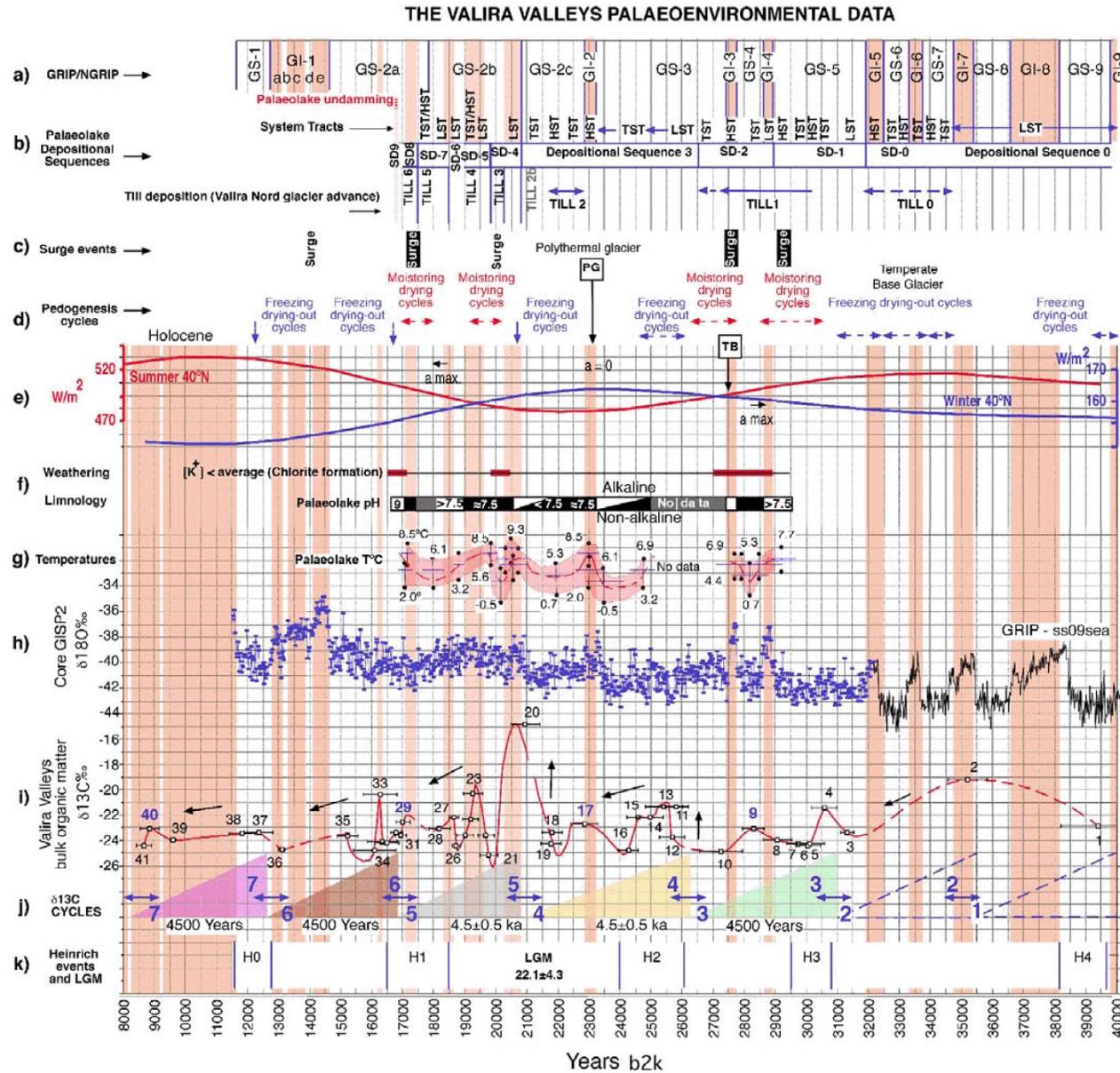


Stratigraphy





..... 40.000 to 8.000 yrs ago



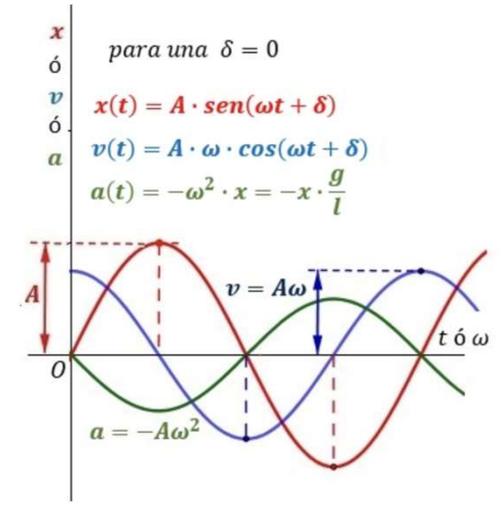
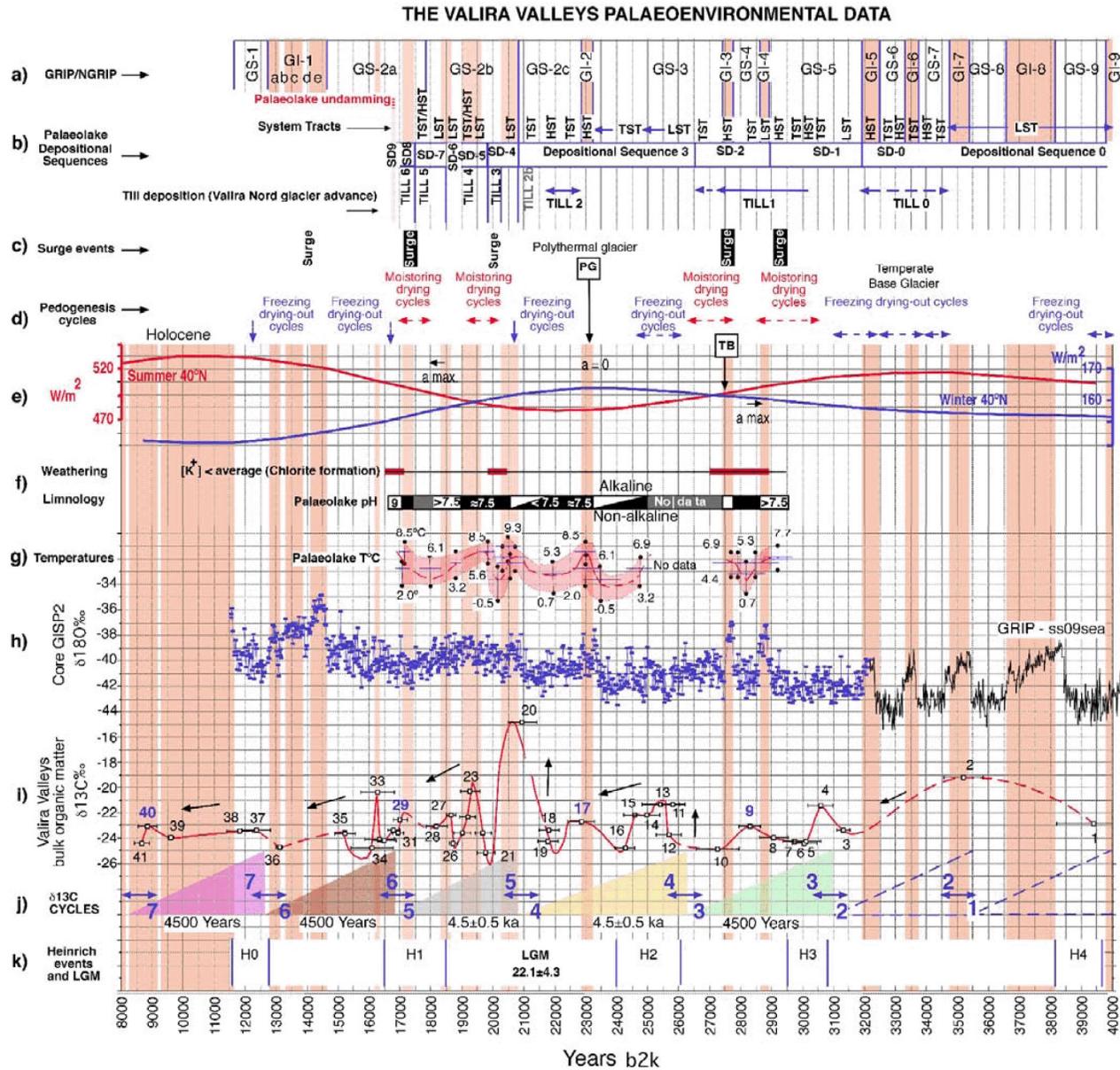
Soil weathering

Photographs of the investigated Cryosols on King George Island, South Shetland Islands.

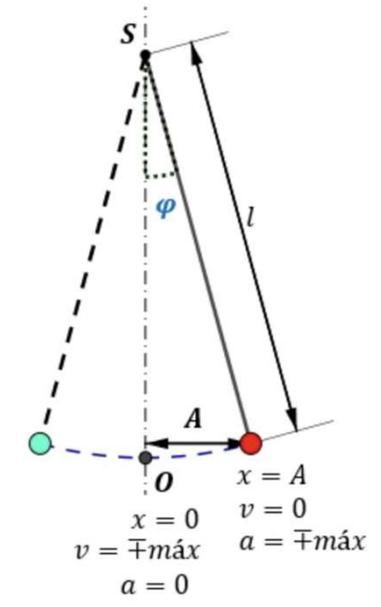
(A) KGI A, a hyperskeletal Crysol, was located in the foreland of the Ecology Glacier, which was deglaciated after 1979

(B) Soil profile KGI D, a Cambic Crysol, was located distal to the lateral moraine of the Ecology Glacier and was deglaciated before 1956

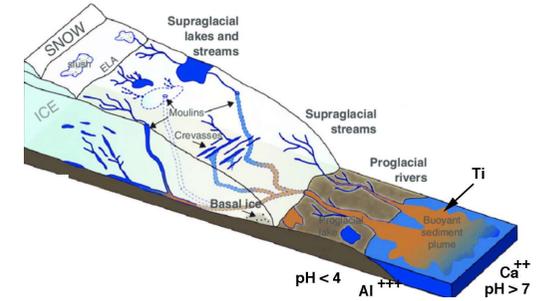
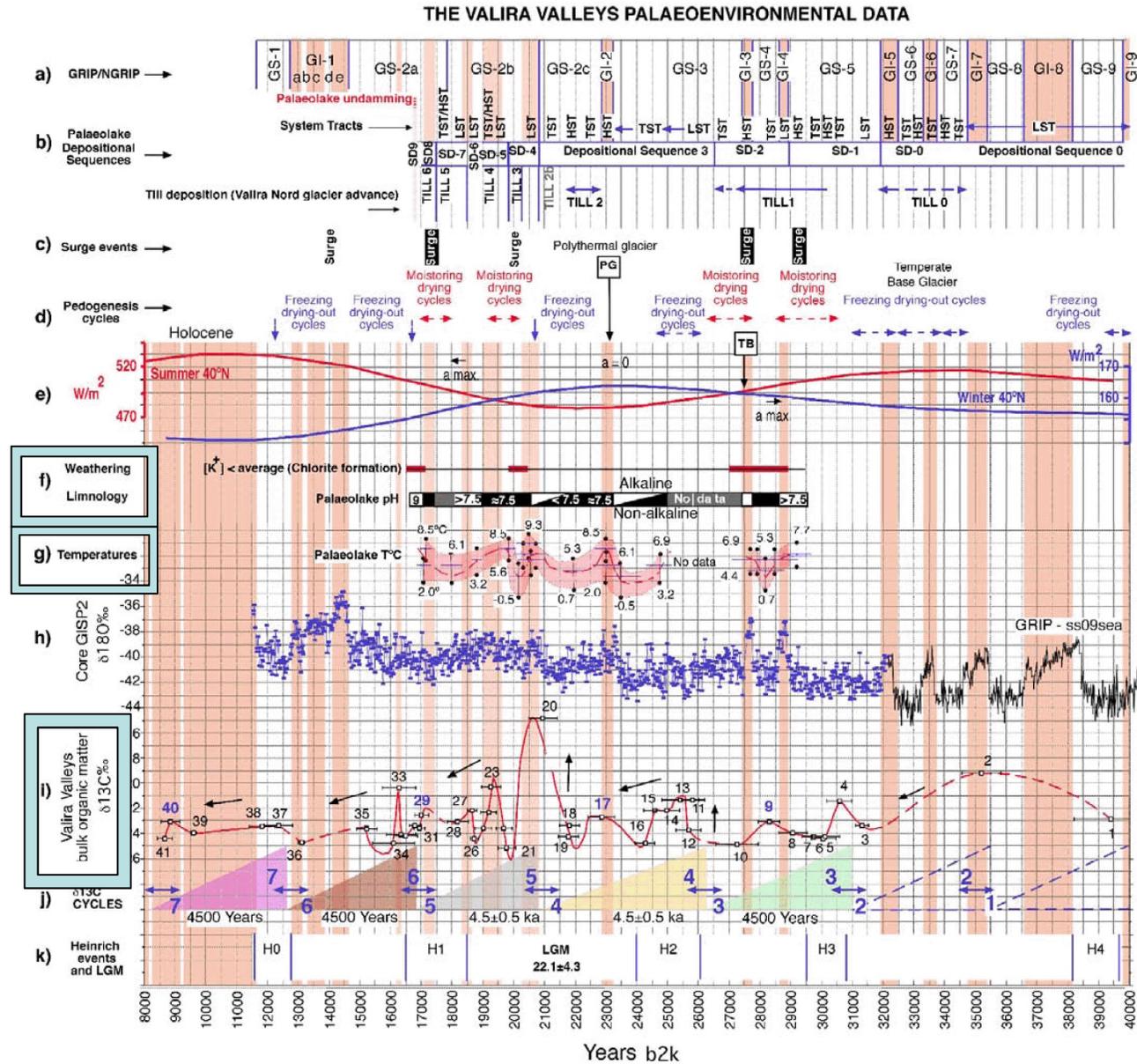
..... 40.000 to 8.000 yrs ago



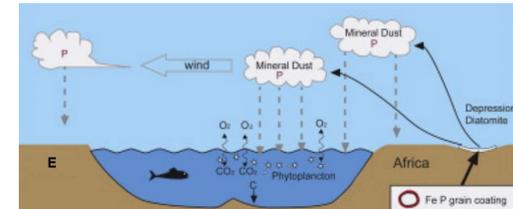
Solar irradiation and the role of "a"



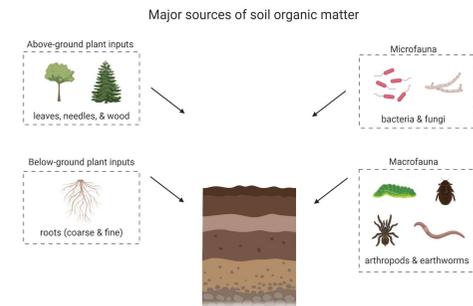
..... 40.000 to 8.000 yrs ago



## Palaeolimnology



## P content as a proxy



## Carbon isotopes data





# Aigua: desafiaments i oportunitats

11 i 12 de novembre del 2024

## Thirty-two thousand years of climate dynamics in Andorra

Introduction

The water ice .....  
and glaciers

## The water ice and glaciers

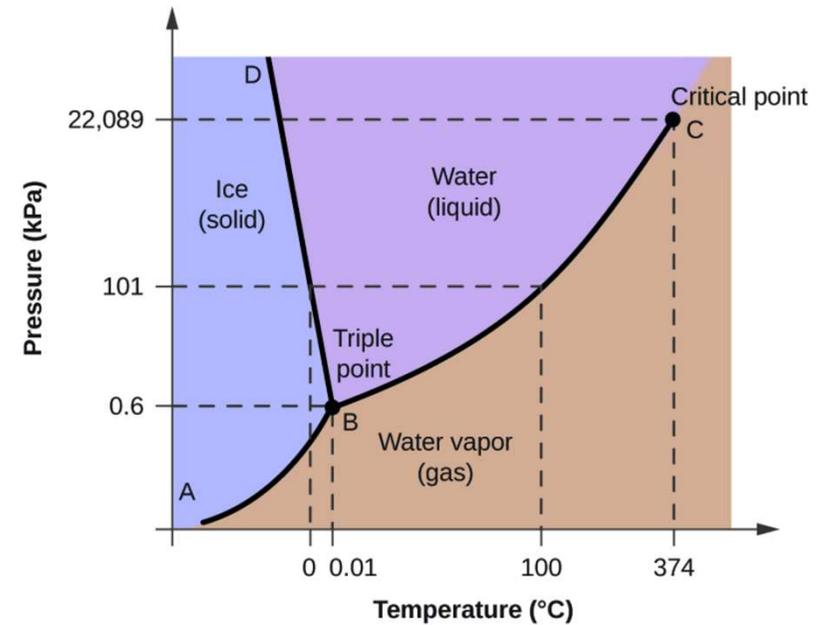
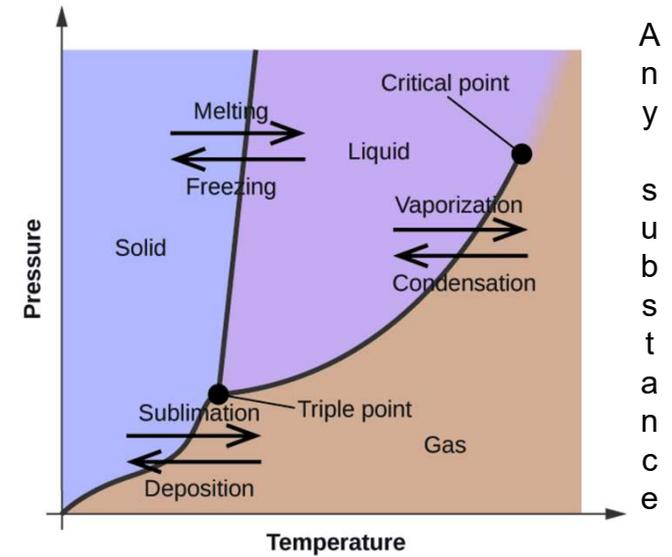
The melting temperature of water decreases slightly as pressure increases. Water is an unusual substance in this regard.

The immense pressures beneath glaciers result in partial melting to produce a layer of water that provides lubrication to assist glacial movement.

This satellite photograph shows the advancing edge of the Perito Moreno glacier in Argentina (credit: NASA)

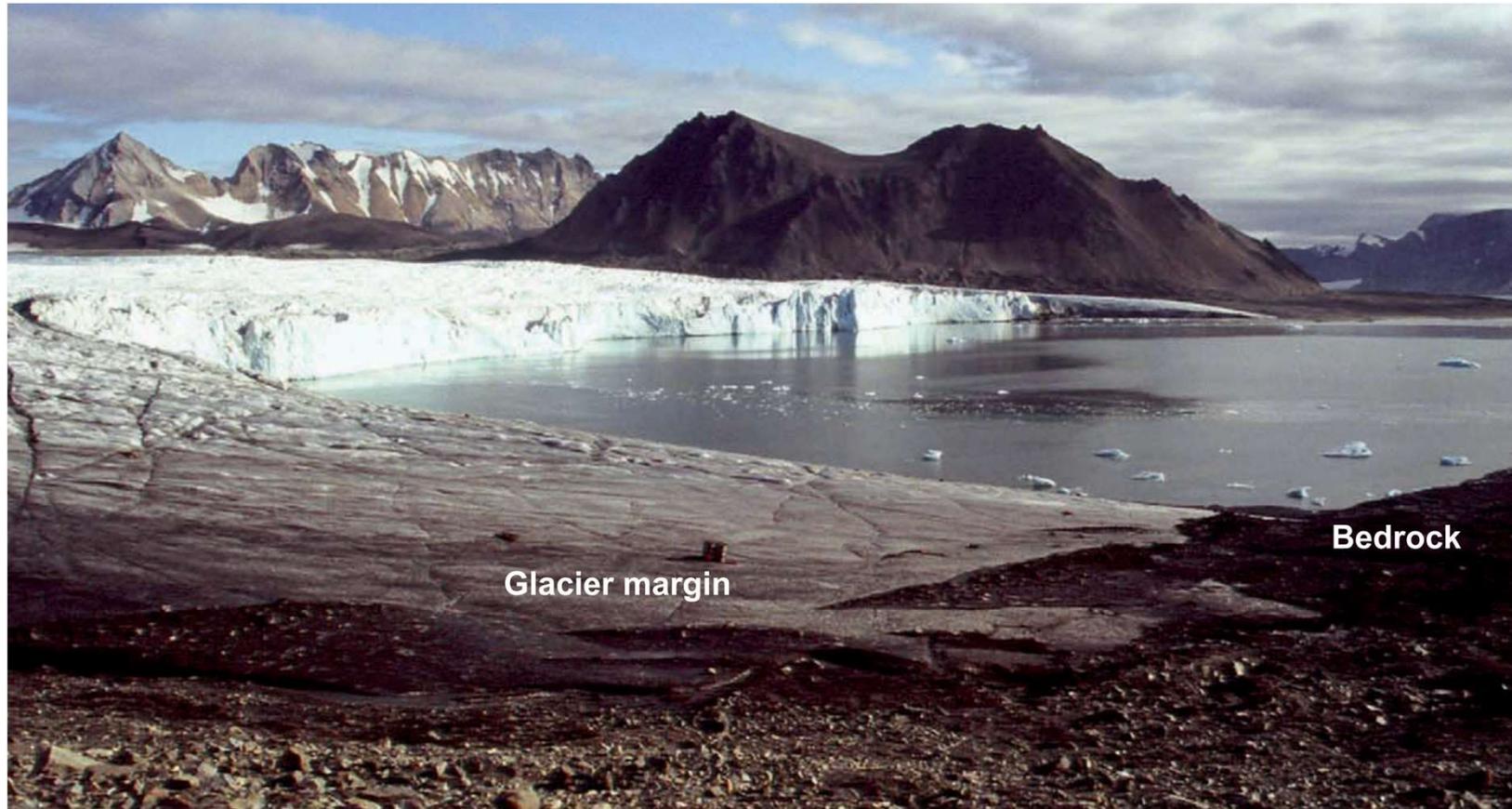


<https://courses.lumenlearning.com/suny-binghamton-chemistry/chapter/phase-diagrams-2/>



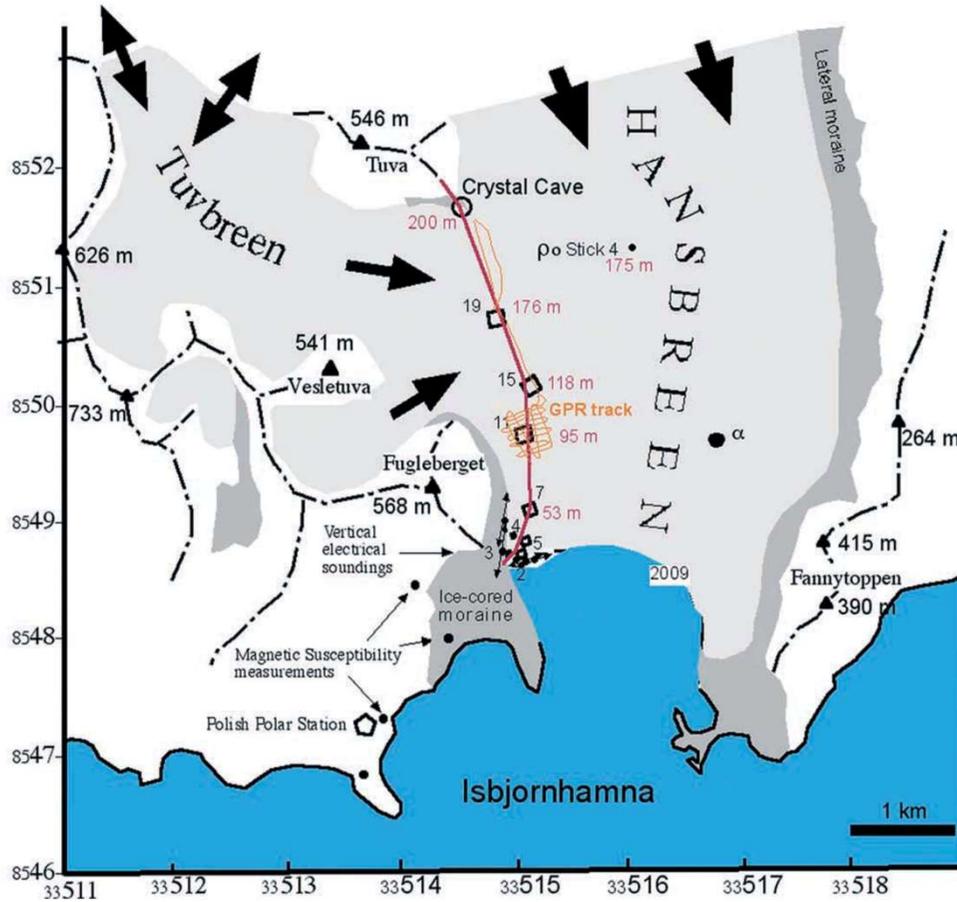
For water only

Architectural structure of a glacier: The Hansbreen glacier example



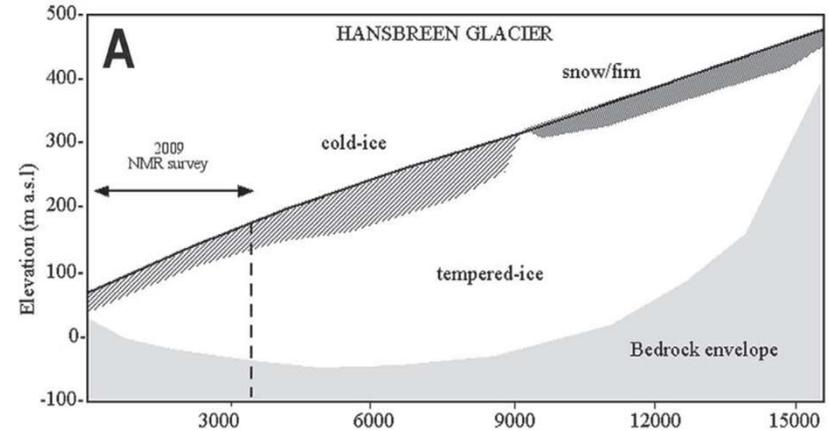
Hansbreen calving ice-cliff, a tidewater grounding glacier at Siedleckivika bay on Hornsund fjord (Spitzbergen), September 2009

# Cold and temperate ice

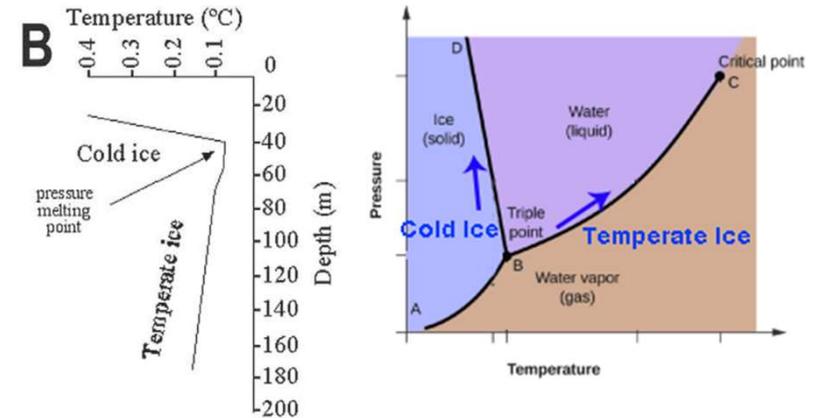


Profile in red and squares MRS stations.

Small black arrows Vertical electrical soundings (VES). Orange brushed lines are the GPR tracks. Pentagon figure show the HRN Polish polar station location. Solid grey and light grey glacial moraines and glacier ice.



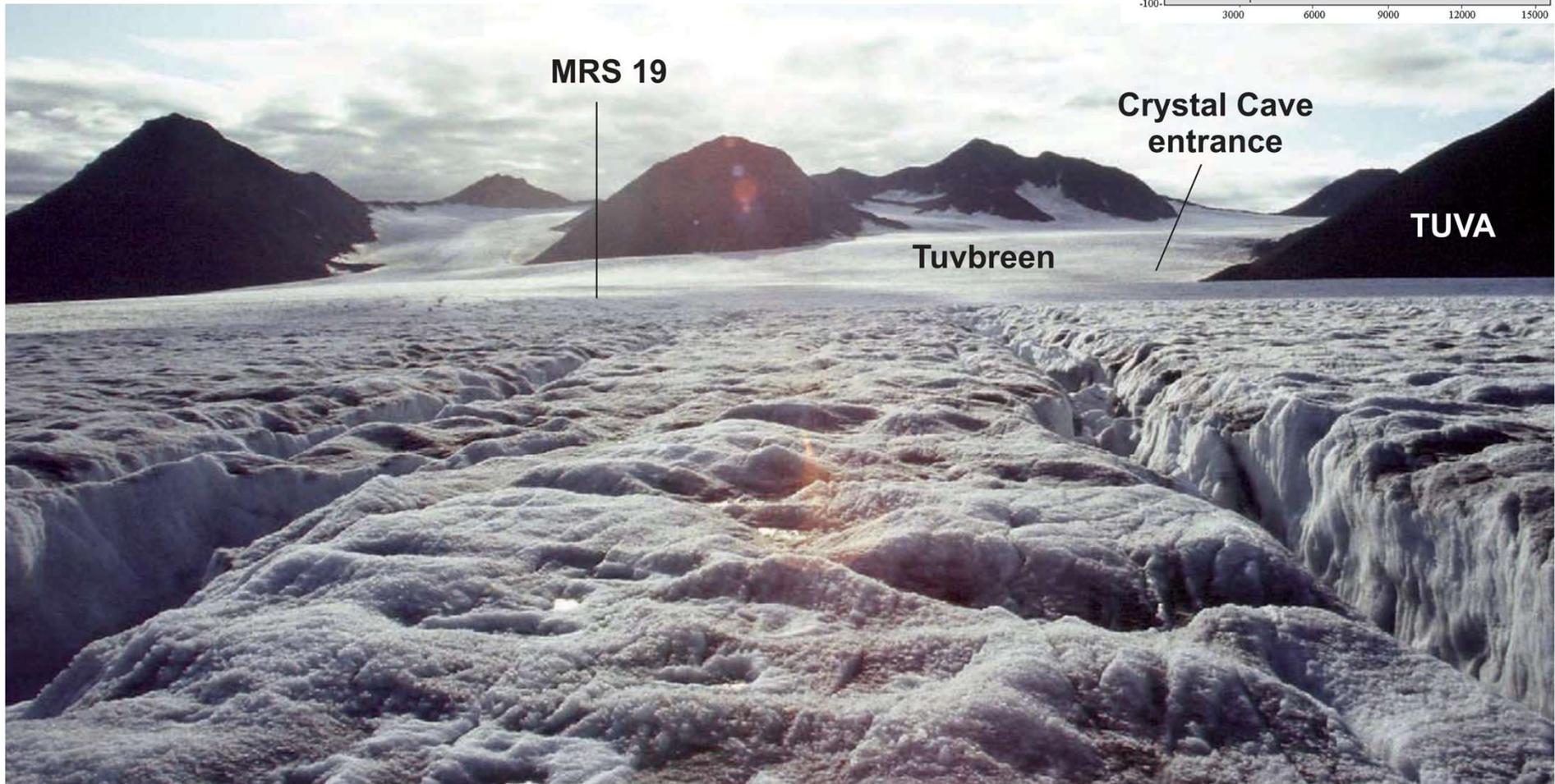
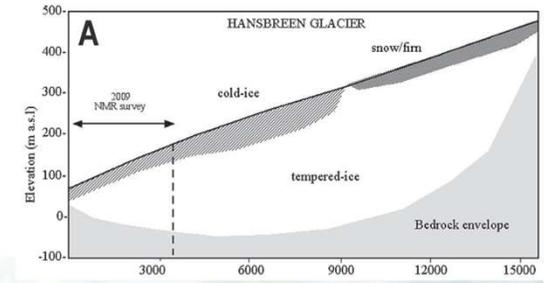
Two main layers form the thermal structure at the ablation zone, cold ice for the uppermost layer and temperate ice below. The increase in temperature with depth is due to the insulating effect of the overlying layer of ice and the increase in pressure with depth, until the PMP (pressure melting point reached here at 40 m depth).



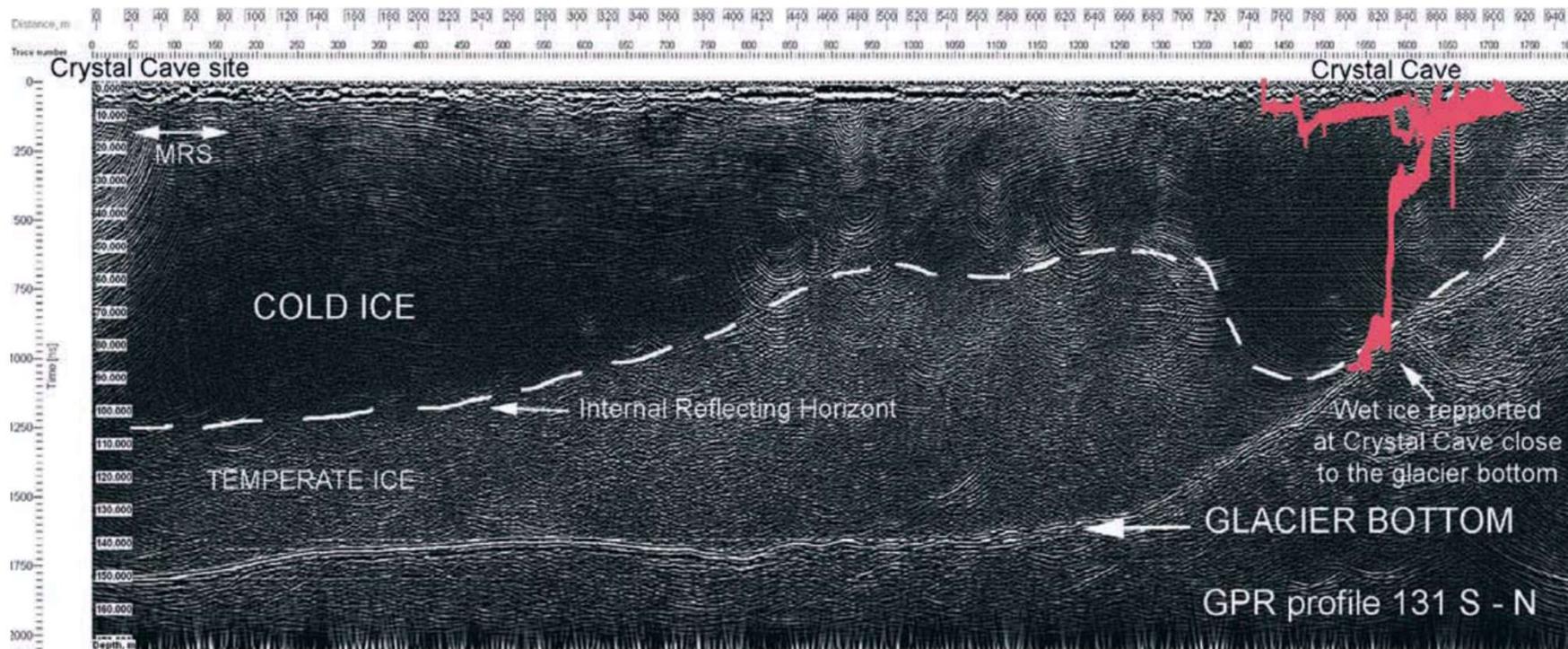
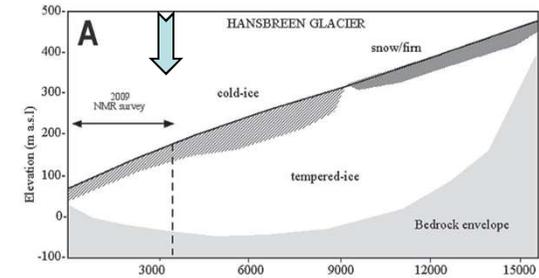
Thermal profile after Jania et al. 1996.

Ice bodies independently work each other

## 2D Profile

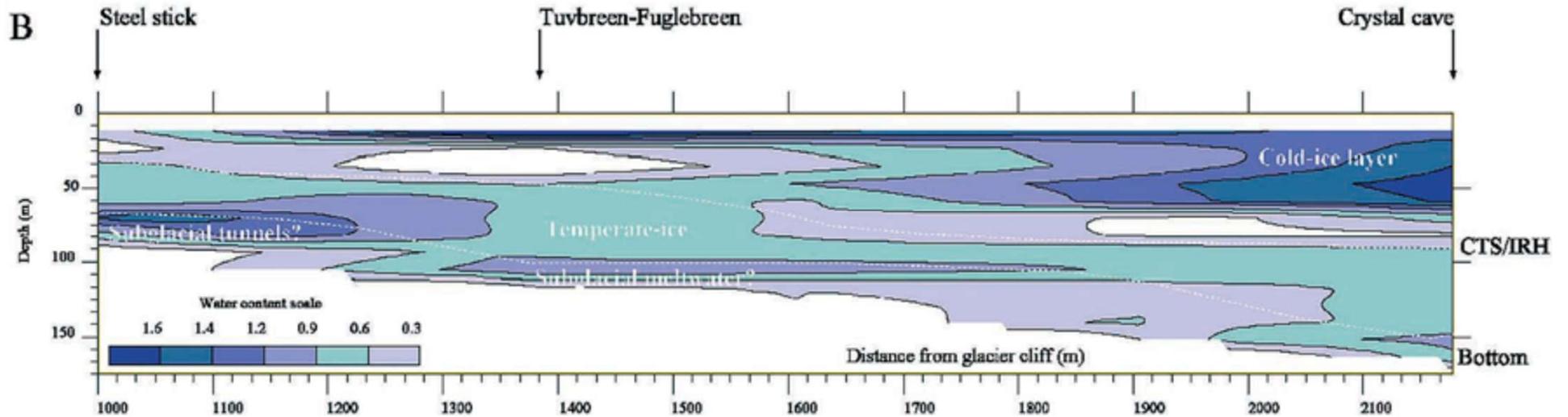
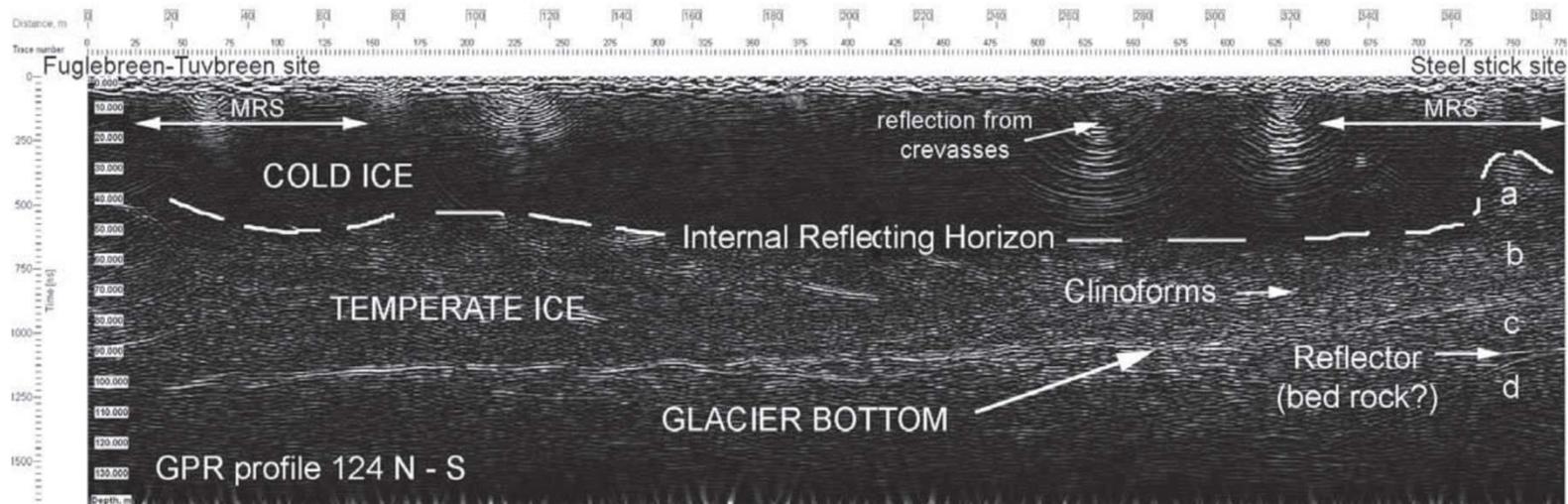


## Georadar GPR data



Crystal cave (plotted in red on the GPR profile) is located at the confluence between Tuvbreen and Hansbreen ice streams near to Tuva mountain at the end of the surveyed profile. Here vertical shafts were followed through more than 70 m to subglacial conduit. The presence of wet ice close to the glacier bottom has been reported by Benn et al. (2009). (GPR profile courtesy of Mariusz Grabiec in 2010).

Liquid water on the bottom of the glacier (subglacial drainage channels)



## What is the interest if glaciers?, they are palaeoclimate proxies

# Proxy (climate)

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From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*This article is about climatic patterns. For other uses, see [Proxy](#).*

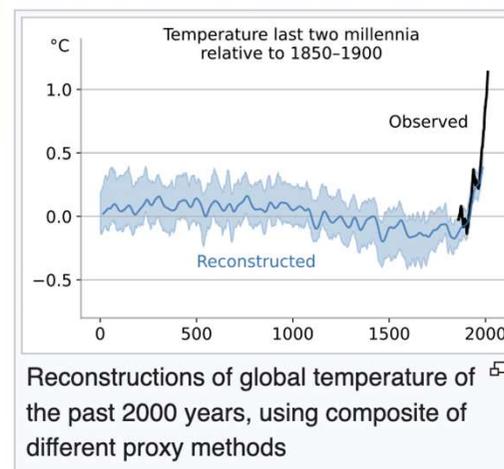
In the study of past climates ("paleoclimatology"), **climate proxies** are preserved physical characteristics of the past that stand in for direct meteorological measurements<sup>[1]</sup> and enable scientists to reconstruct the [climatic conditions](#) over a longer fraction of the Earth's history. Reliable global records of climate only began in the 1880s, and proxies provide the only means for scientists to determine climatic patterns before record-keeping began.

A large number of climate proxies have been studied from a variety of geologic contexts. Examples of proxies include stable isotope measurements from [ice cores](#), growth rates in [tree rings](#), [species composition](#) of [sub-fossil pollen](#) in lake sediment or [foraminifera](#) in ocean sediments, temperature profiles of [boreholes](#), and stable isotopes and mineralogy of [corals](#) and carbonate [speleothems](#). In each case, the proxy indicator has been influenced by a particular seasonal climate parameter (e.g., summer temperature or monsoon intensity) at the time in which they were laid down or grew. Interpretation of climate proxies requires a range of ancillary studies, including calibration of the sensitivity of the proxy to climate and cross-verification among proxy indicators.<sup>[2]</sup>

Proxies can be combined to produce temperature reconstructions longer than the [instrumental temperature record](#) and can inform discussions of [global warming](#) and climate history. The geographic distribution of proxy records, just like the instrumental record, is not at all uniform, with more records in the northern hemisphere.<sup>[3]</sup>



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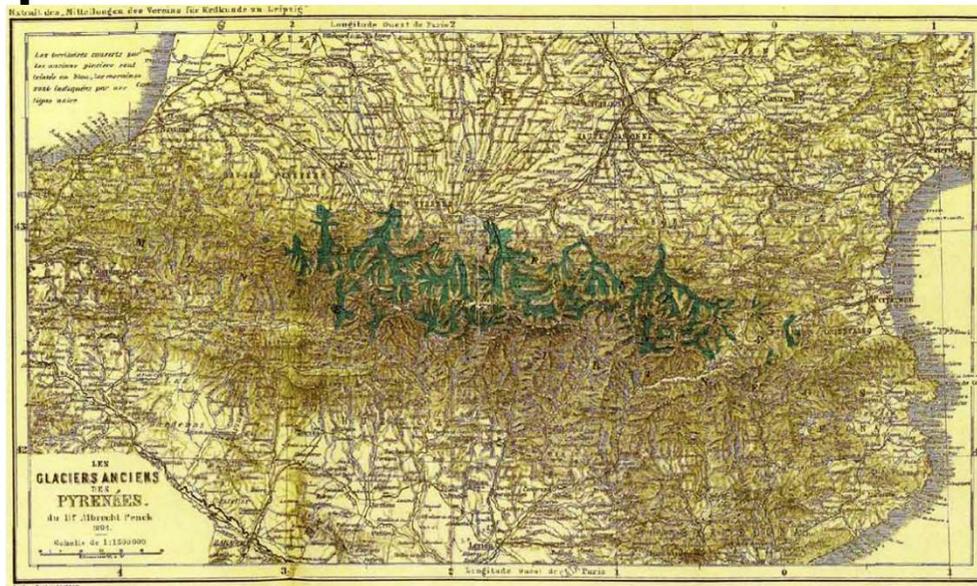
11 i 12 de novembre del 2024

Thirty-two thousand years  
of climate dynamics in  
Andorra

Past and present  
knowledge in the  
Pyrenees

The glacial cycles  
chronology

140 years ago



Penck, A.1883.Die Eiszeit in der Pyrenäen. Mitt. Ver. Erdt. Leipzig.

Three unnamed glacial cycles

Penck & Brückner (1904)

Würm

100 ka

Riss

>200 ka

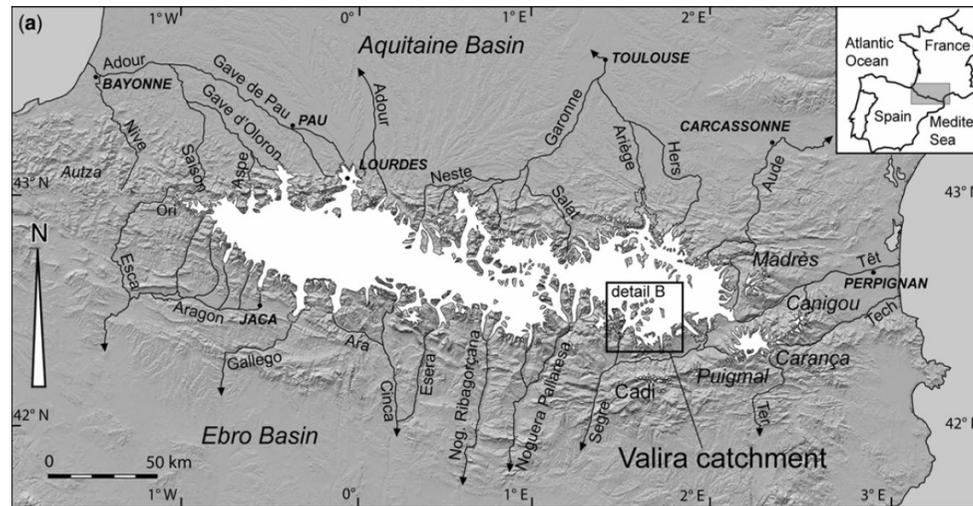
Mindel

Gunz

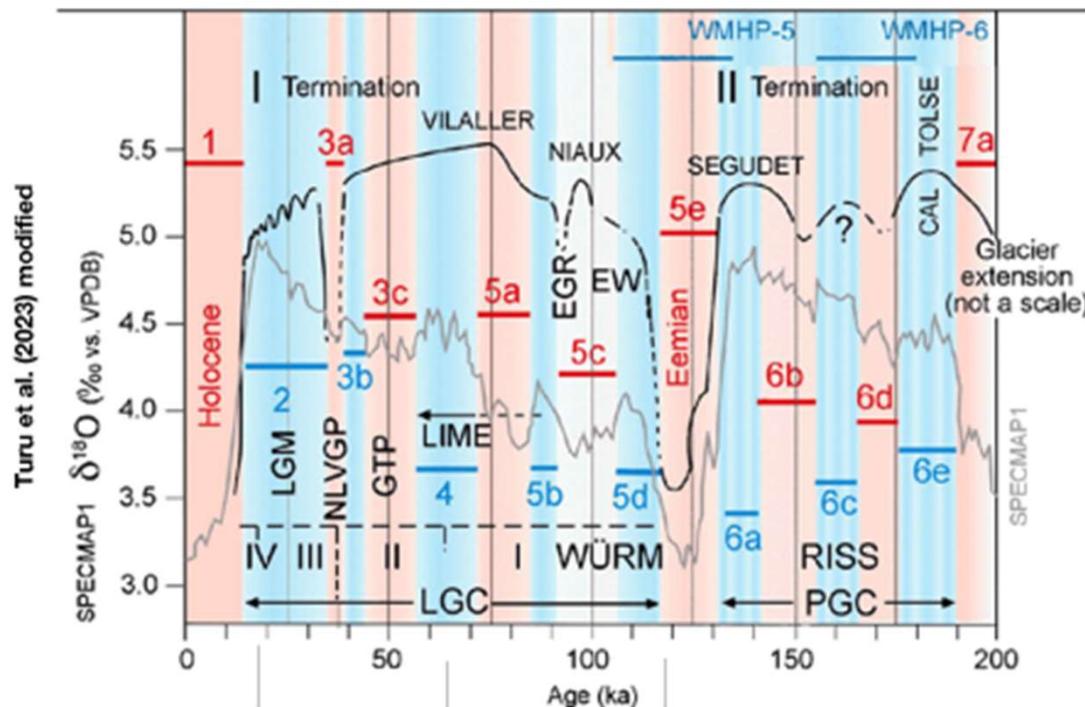
< 1 Ma

*(In the Pyrenees)*

# Nowadays

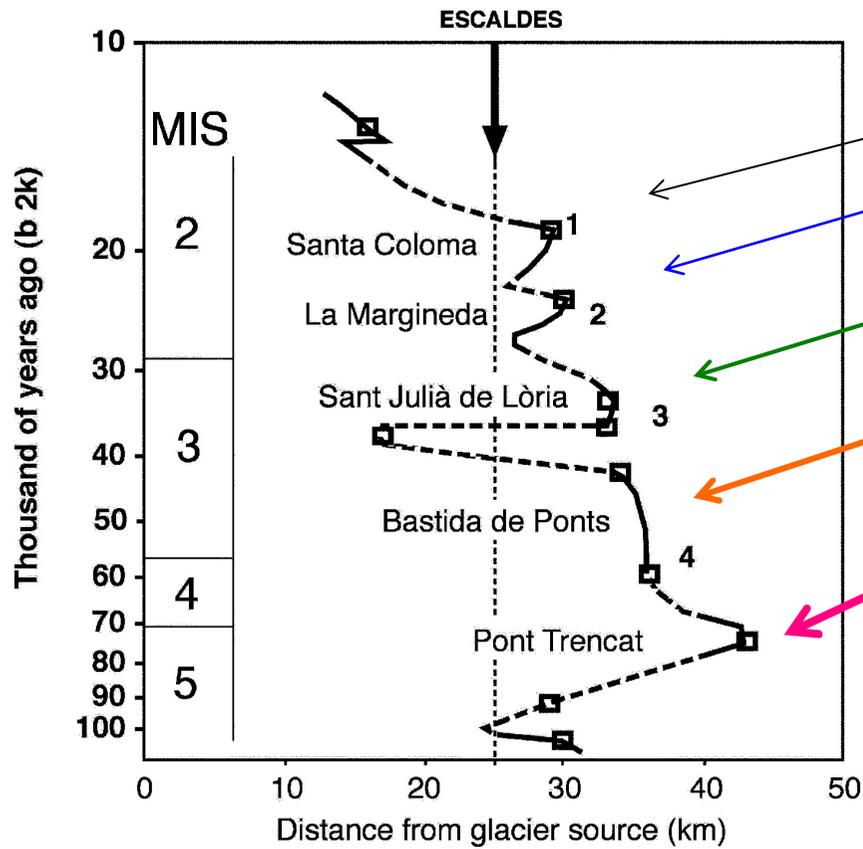


Calvet et al. (2011)

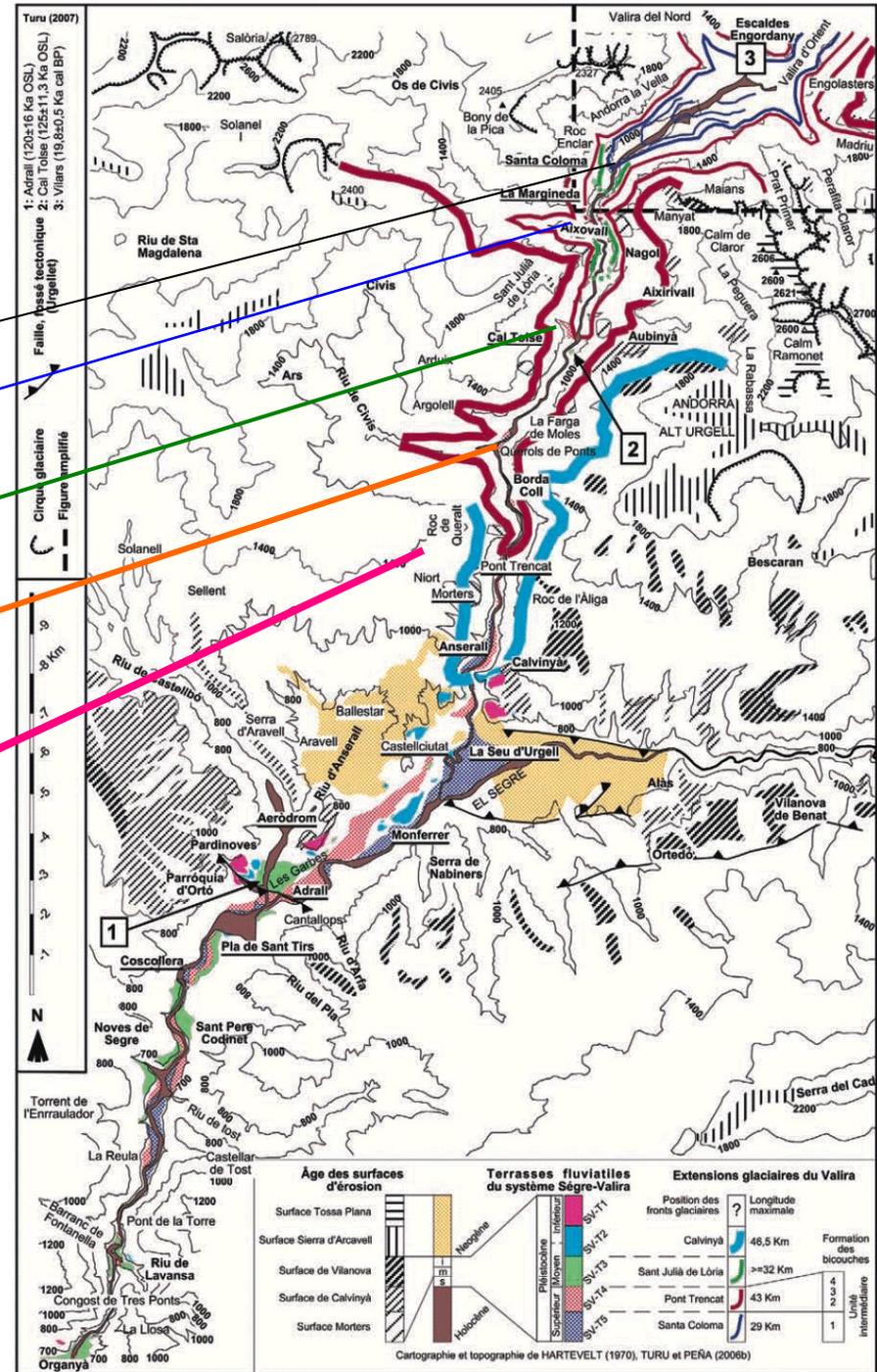


- LGM = Last Glacial Maximum (Global)
- CP = MIS 2 in the central Pyrenees
- NLVGP = No Large Valley Glacier Period
- GTP = Glacial Thinning Period
- LIME = Last Ice Maximum Extent
- EGR = Early Glacial Recession
- EW = Early Würm
- WMHP = Western Mediterranean Humid Periods
- LGC = Last Glacial Cycle
- PGC = Penultimate Glacial Cycle

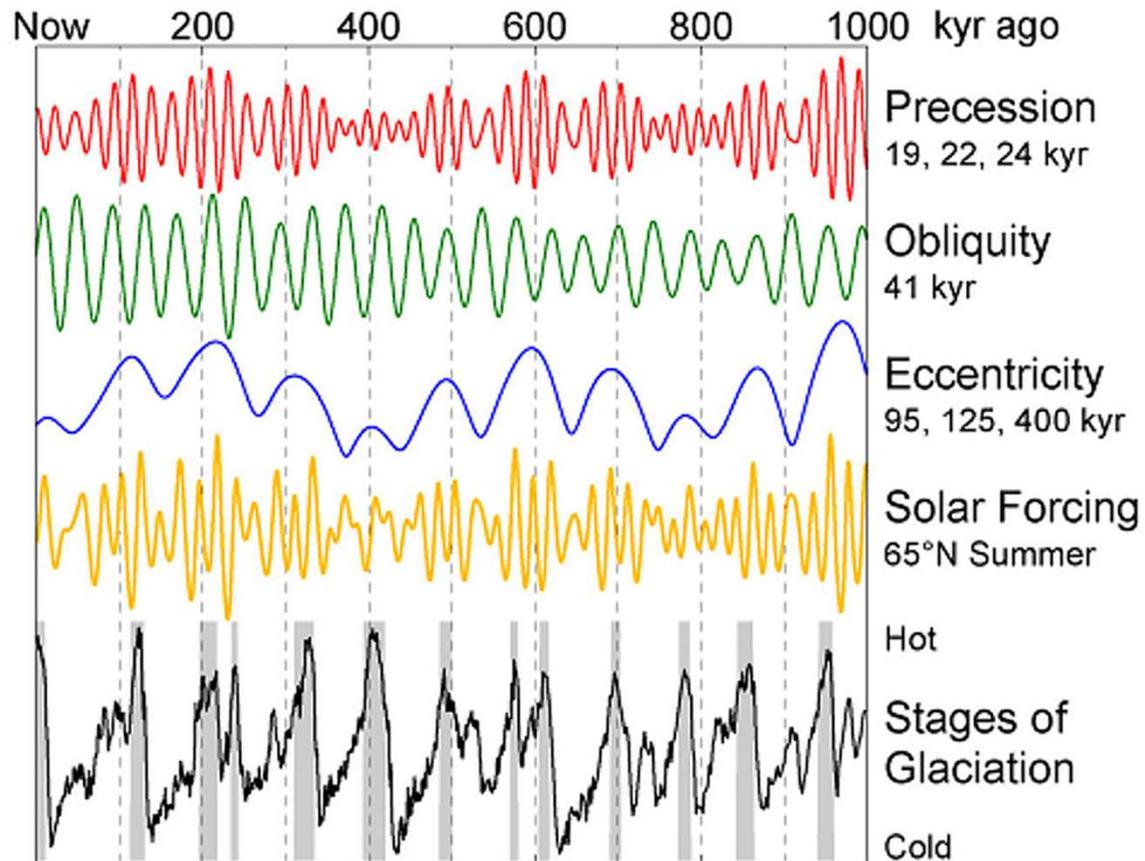
## The ice extension



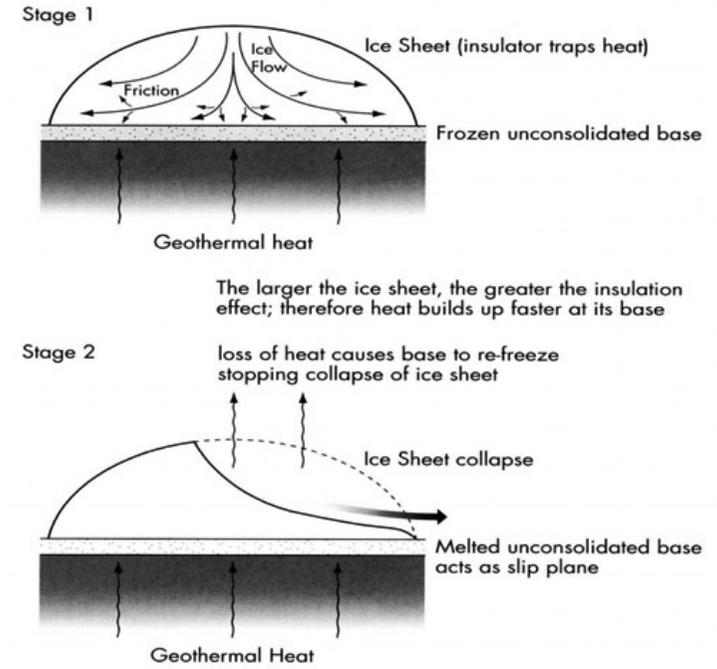
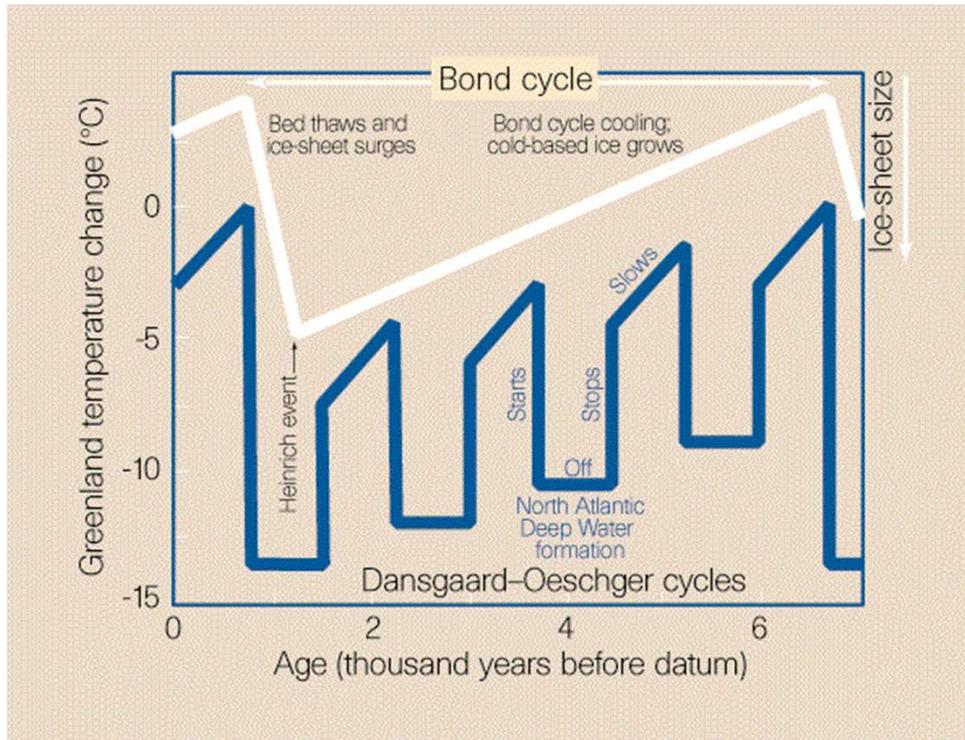
Schematic time-distance diagram showing the known locations of end-moraines from glacier re-advances in the Valira valley. At each re-advance (1 to 4), a ground moraine (diamicton or till) was by the glacier deposited (Turu et al., 2007; 2017; 2023).



Causes: Orbital cycles



## Causes: Sub-orbital cycles



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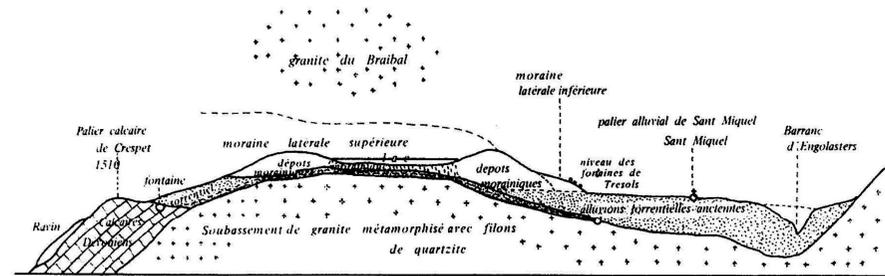
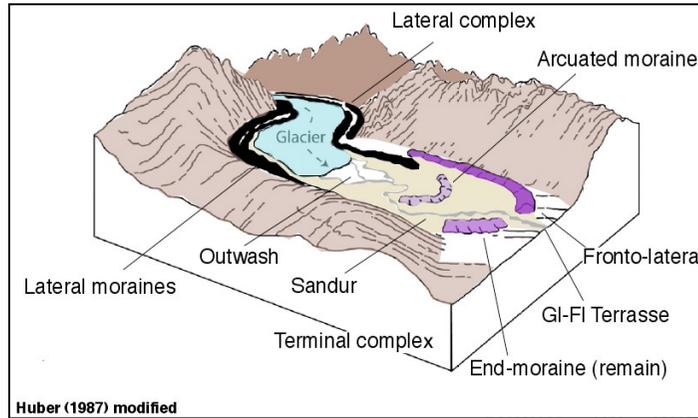


Thirty-two thousand years  
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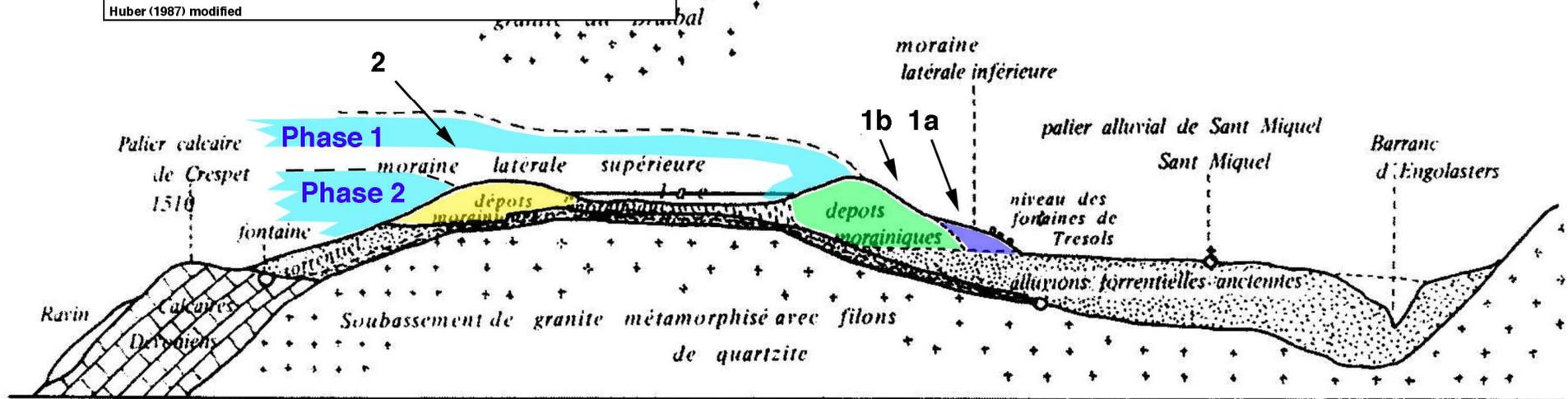
Evidences

The main Valira valley

## Evidences from the glacial landsystems: The height and extension of the lateral moraines



Chevalier (1930)



MASSIF D'ENGOLASTERS

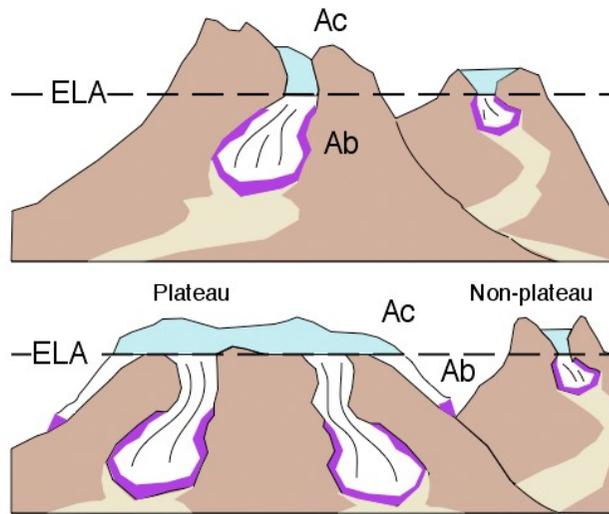
Coupe I. - Profil longitudinal 1: 12.500 - 1: 10.000

M. Chevalier.

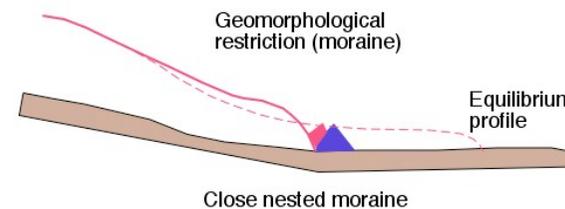
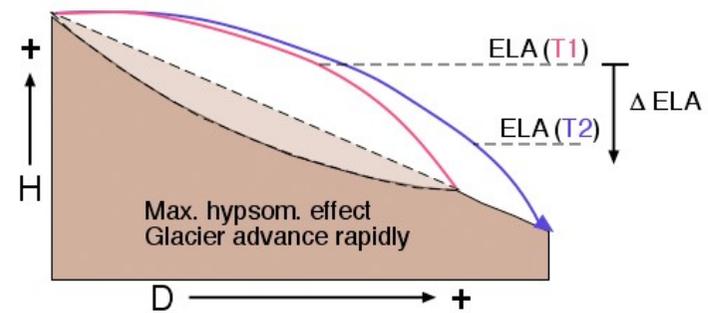
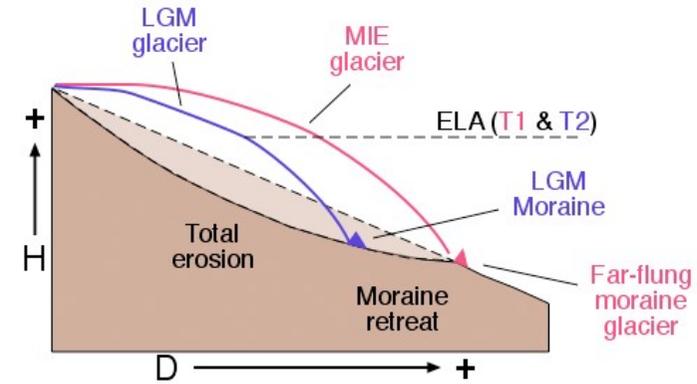
Barcelona, 12 septembre 1930.

NOTA : Aquest tall geològic que és reproduït a 4/5 parts de l'original forma part d'un estudi "Note sur la constitution géologique du lac d'Engolasters (Encamp-Andorra)"; inédit

## The ELA and extension of end-moraines

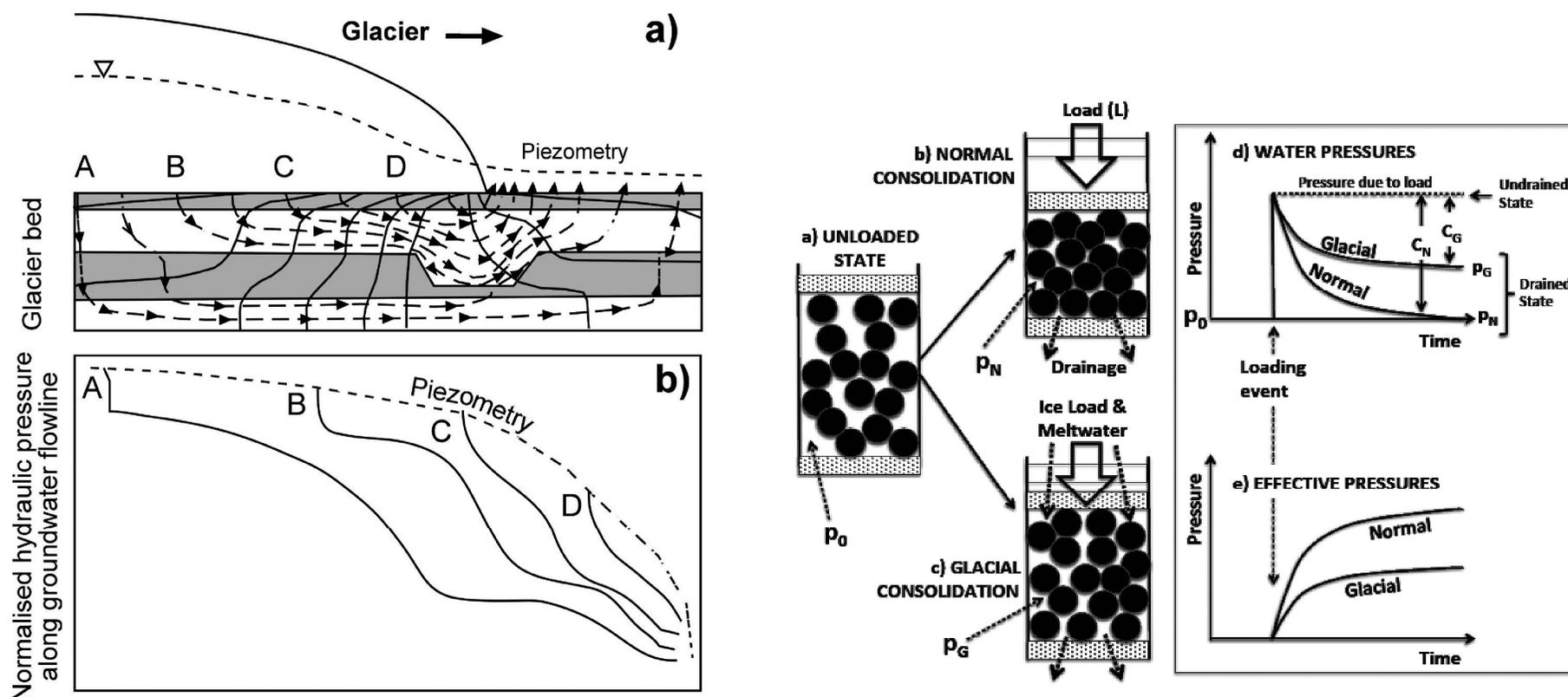


Equilibrium line altitude (ELA). The lower topographic limit of multi-annual snow cover is called the snow line or equilibrium line altitude (ELA).



Close nested moraine

## Evidences of the subglacial drainage imprint in sediments : the glacial consolidation



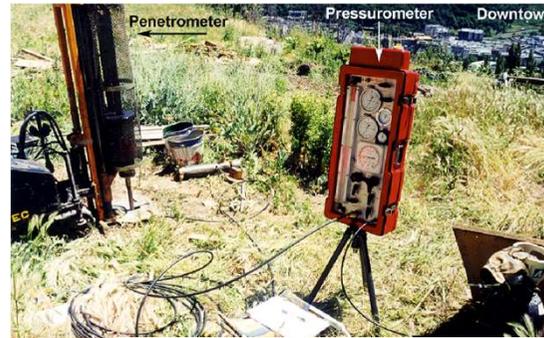
Schematic diagrams based showing a) groundwater flow lines (arrows) and equipotential lines (solid lines) through subglacial strata comprising aquifers and aquitards (mottled), and b) the potential drop along a series of the flowlines in a), with potential gradients changing according to changes in hydraulic conductivity along the flowline. Still on the figure from below, at the bottom right-hand corner shows pressure going to zero as groundwater emerges at the surface beyond the glacier.

Schematic diagram illustrating a glacial consolidation (Boulton & Dobbie, 1993). a) Unloaded sediment. Initial water pressure =  $p_0$ . b) Consolidation under a "normal" load. c) Consolidation by a glacier but where the glacier sole also a water source, which maintains a higher water pressure than in b). d) Changes in water pressures as the sediment is loaded. e) Equivalent changes inadequate pressure determined by the changes in water pressure shown in d)..

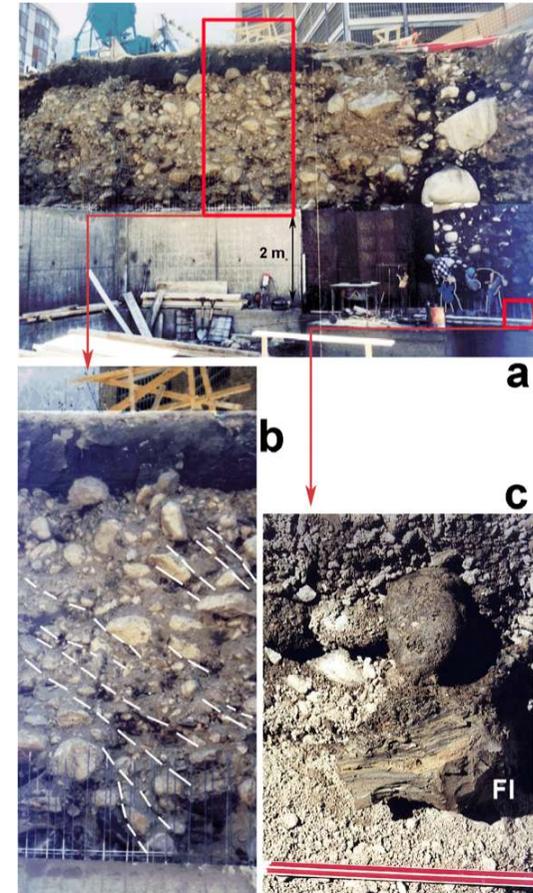
## Methods done in the main Valira valley



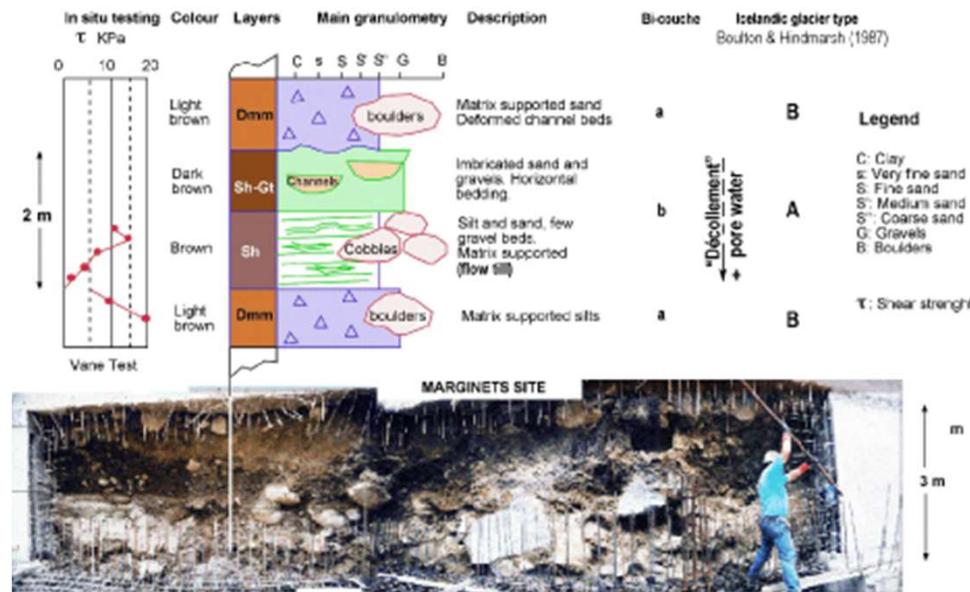
Pumping tests at Av. Meritxell 85



Pressurometer tests at Vilars

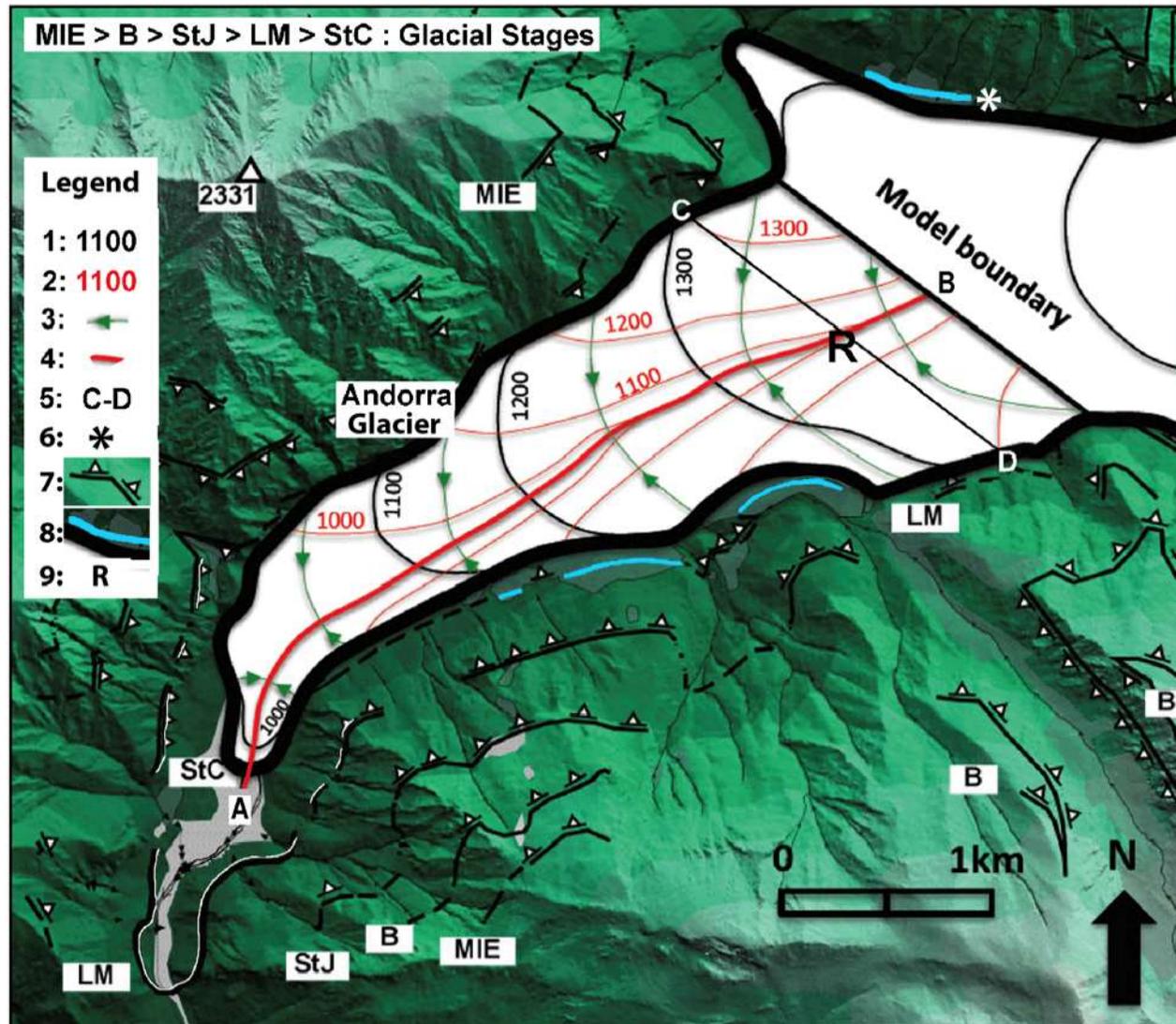


Field descriptions at Av. de les Escoles



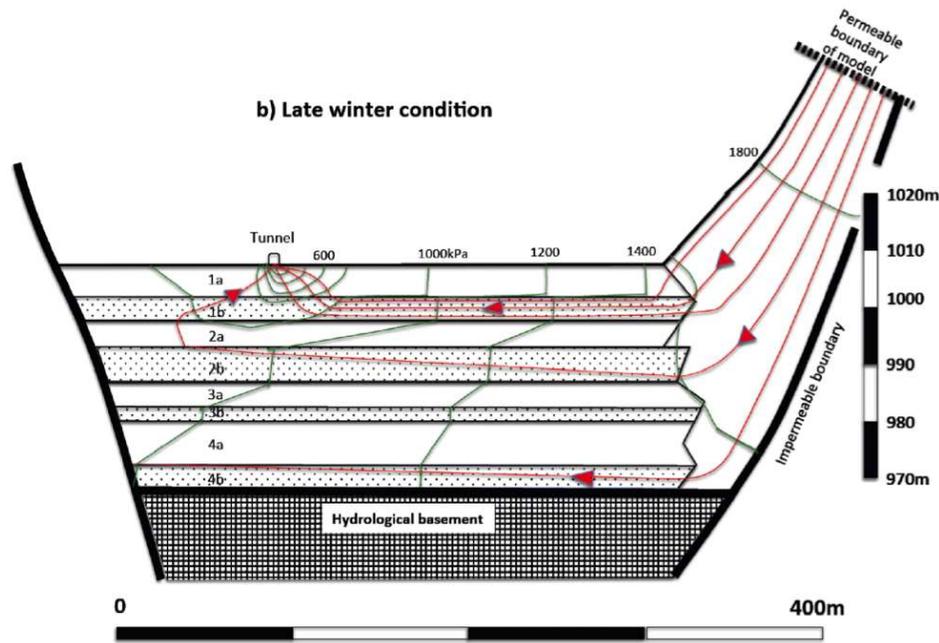
Field descriptions at els Marginets

## The conceptual model and numerical modeling for the former Valira glacier of tempered ice

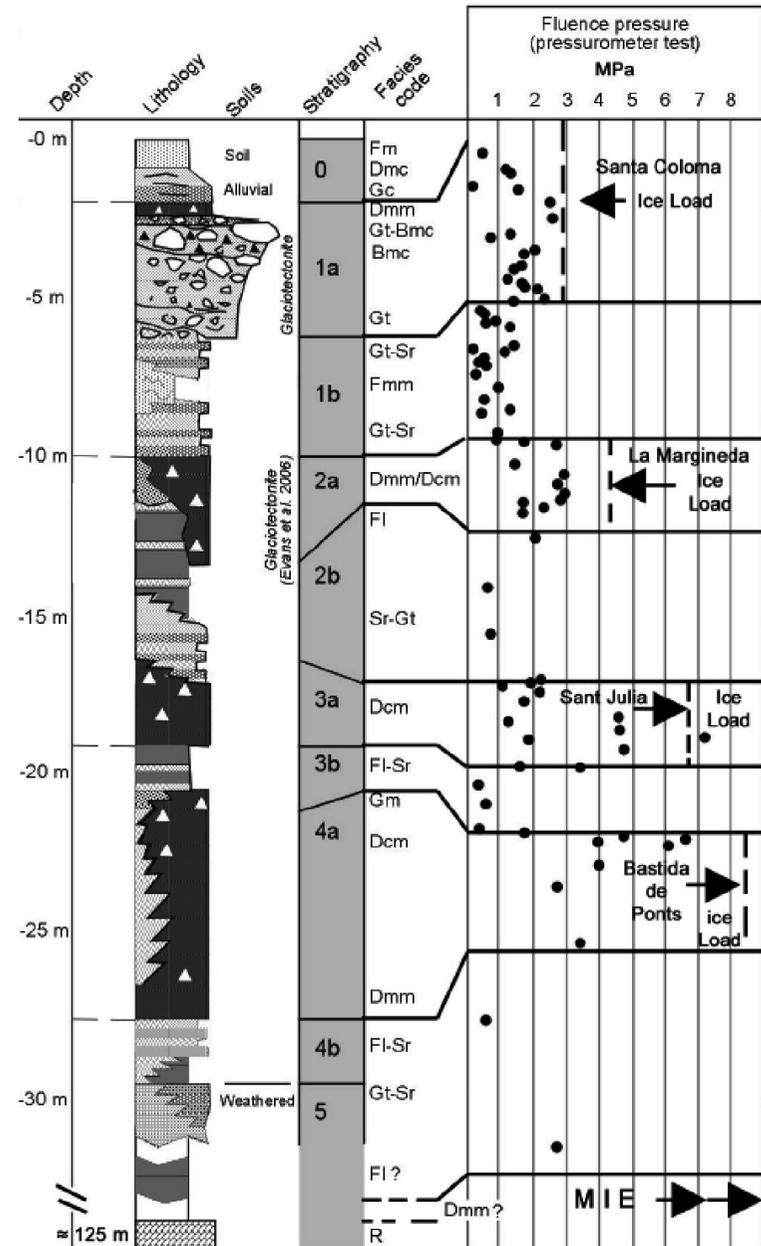


- Reconstructed glacier surface topography and modelled groundwater flow for the Santa Coloma re-advance.
- (1) Glacier surface contours
  - (2) Piezometric surface (m a.s.l.)
  - (3) Groundwater flowlines.
  - (4) R-type tunnel (Turu 2007b).
  - (5) Profiles A-B and C-D.
  - (6) AMS Data locality
  - (7) Simplified geomorphology includes lateral moraines indicating the highest lateral elevations of the glacier surface during the last glacial period maximum ice extent (MIE) and later advance stages, like Bastida del Ponts (B), San Julia (StJ), La Margineda (LM) Santa Coloma (StC).
  - (8) Moraine ridges.
  - (9) The study area's location

# Computed and field data comparison



Computed and measured preconsolidation values fits by using precipitation and temperature at the LGM (last glacial maximum) from Rodes (2008). It would have been  $40 \pm 20\%$  less than today and  $9^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$  of mean annual temperature lesser.



Multilayered aquifer



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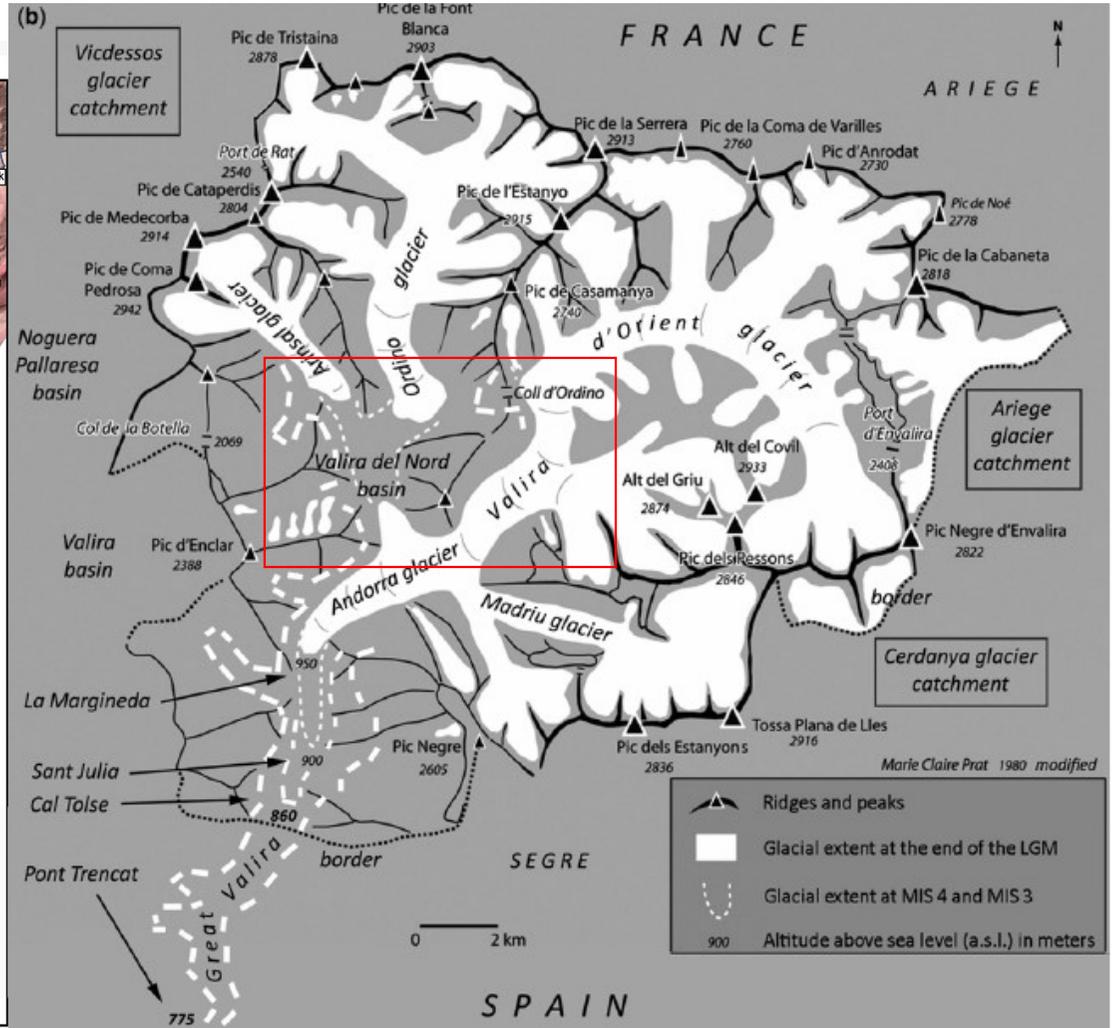
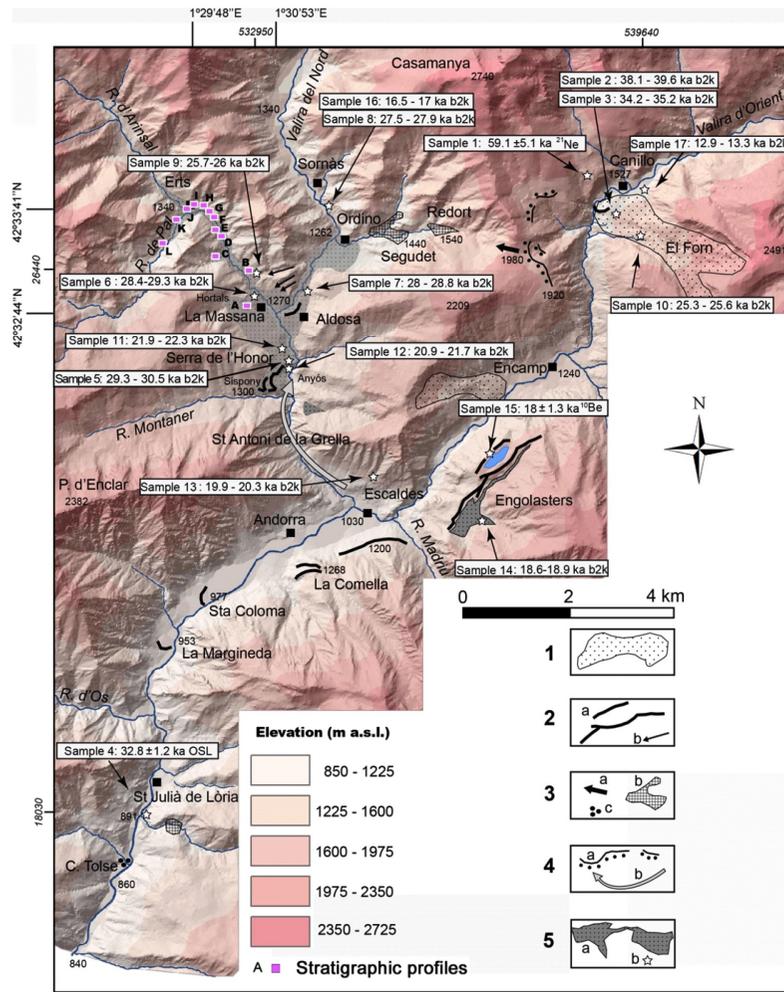
Thirty-two thousand years  
of climate dynamics in  
Andorra

Evidences

The  
La Massana  
palaeolake

Valentí Turu

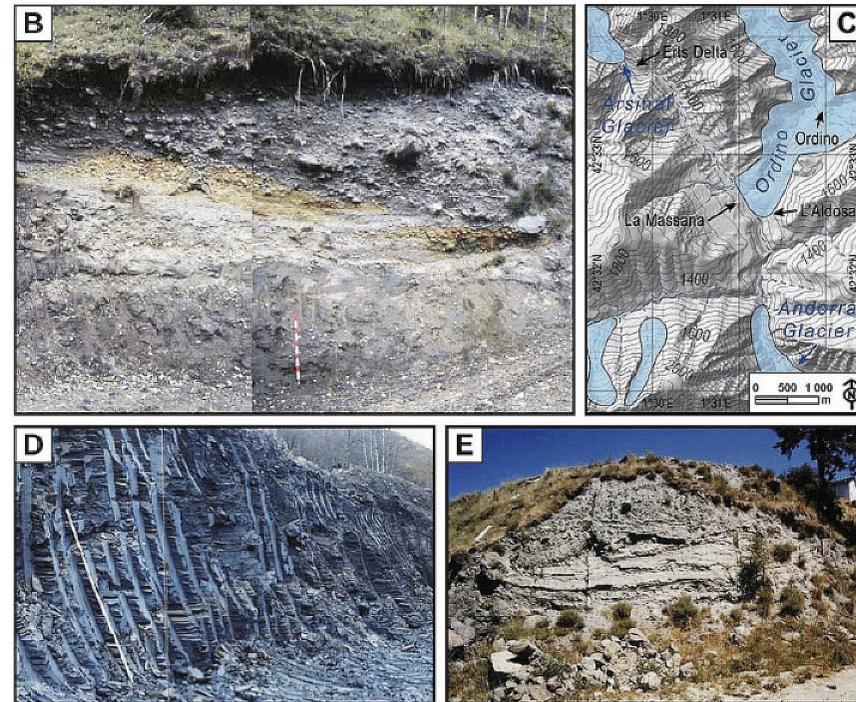
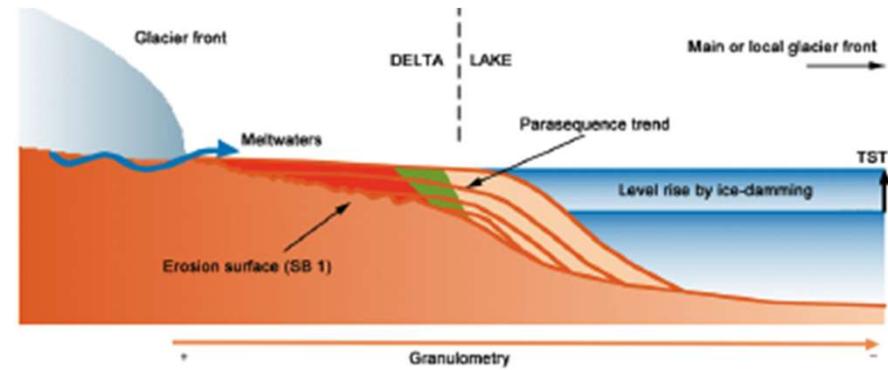
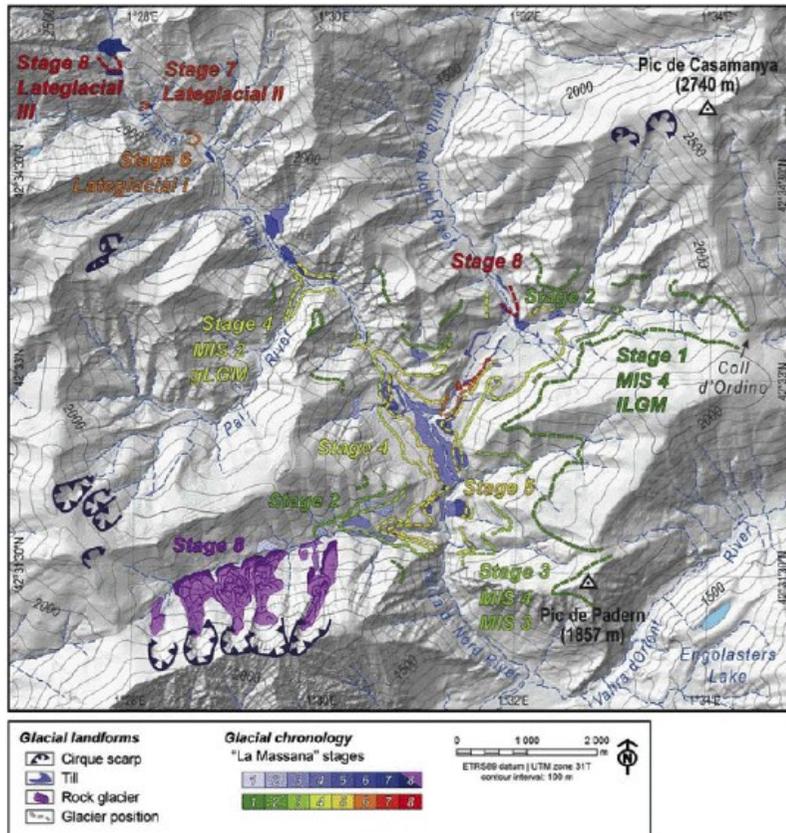
# The core of the study



Turu et al. (2016)

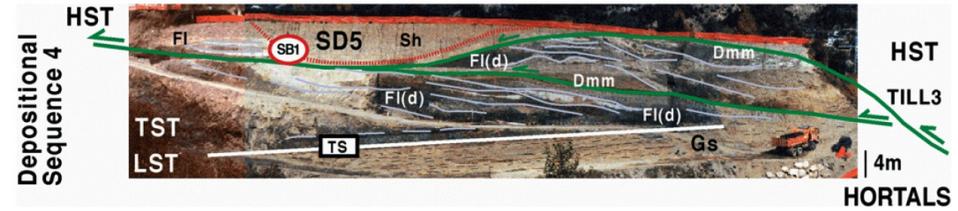


# The La Massana palaeolake

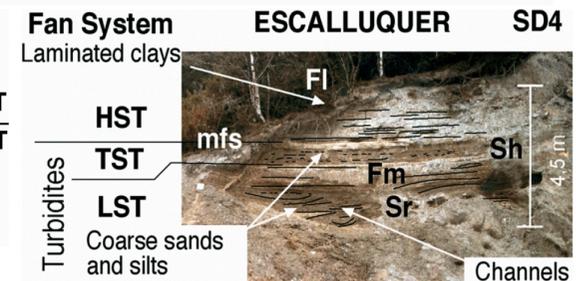
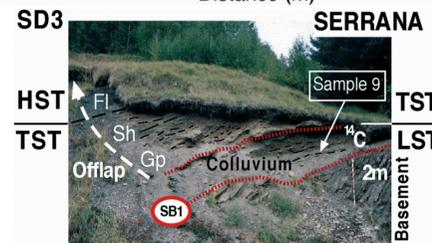
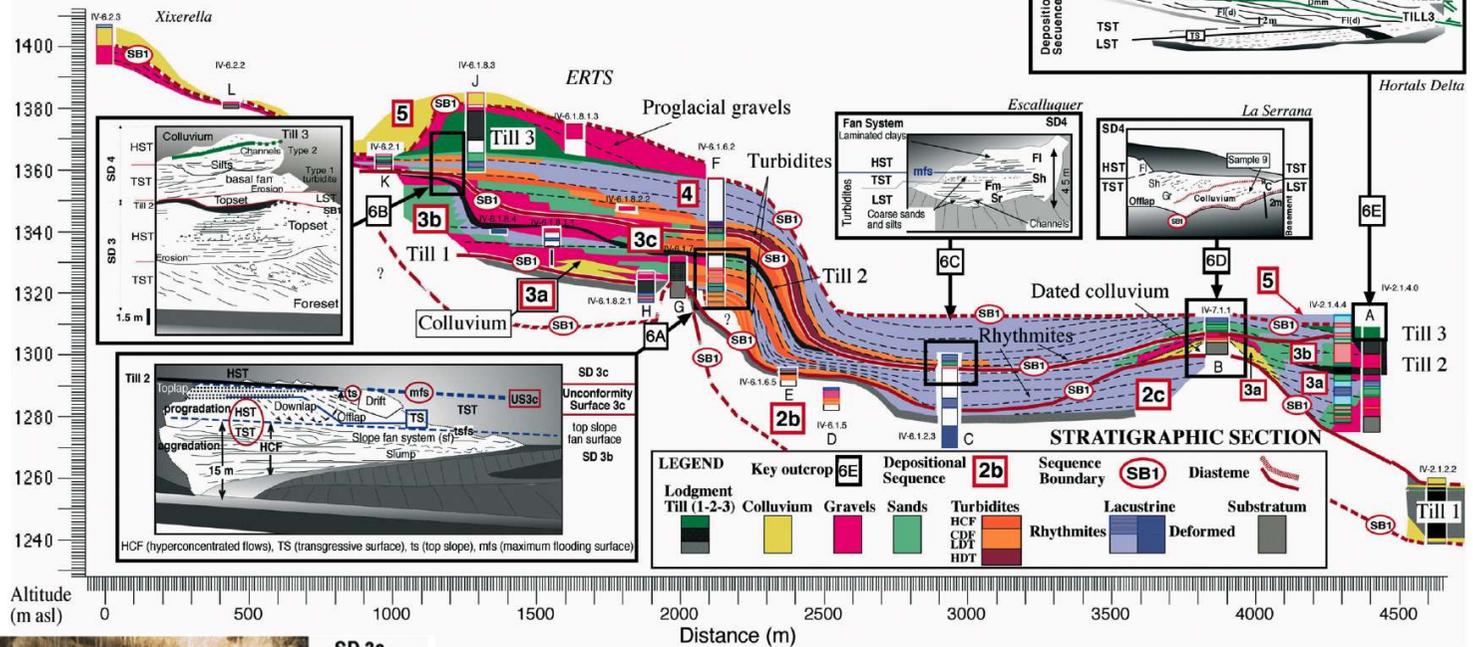
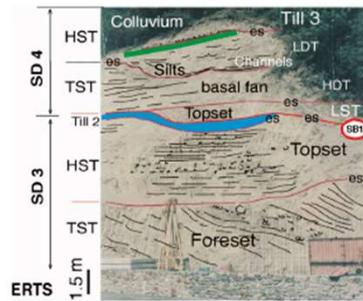


Ventura & Turu (2022)

# The glacier dynamics recorded at the La Massana palaeolake



Turu et al. (2016)



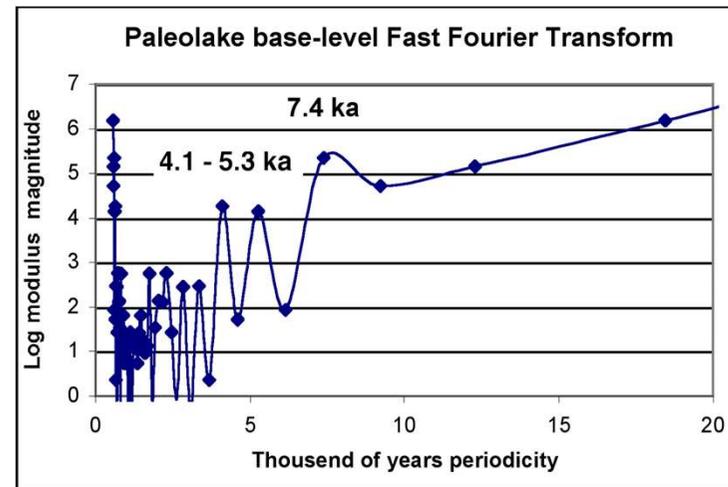
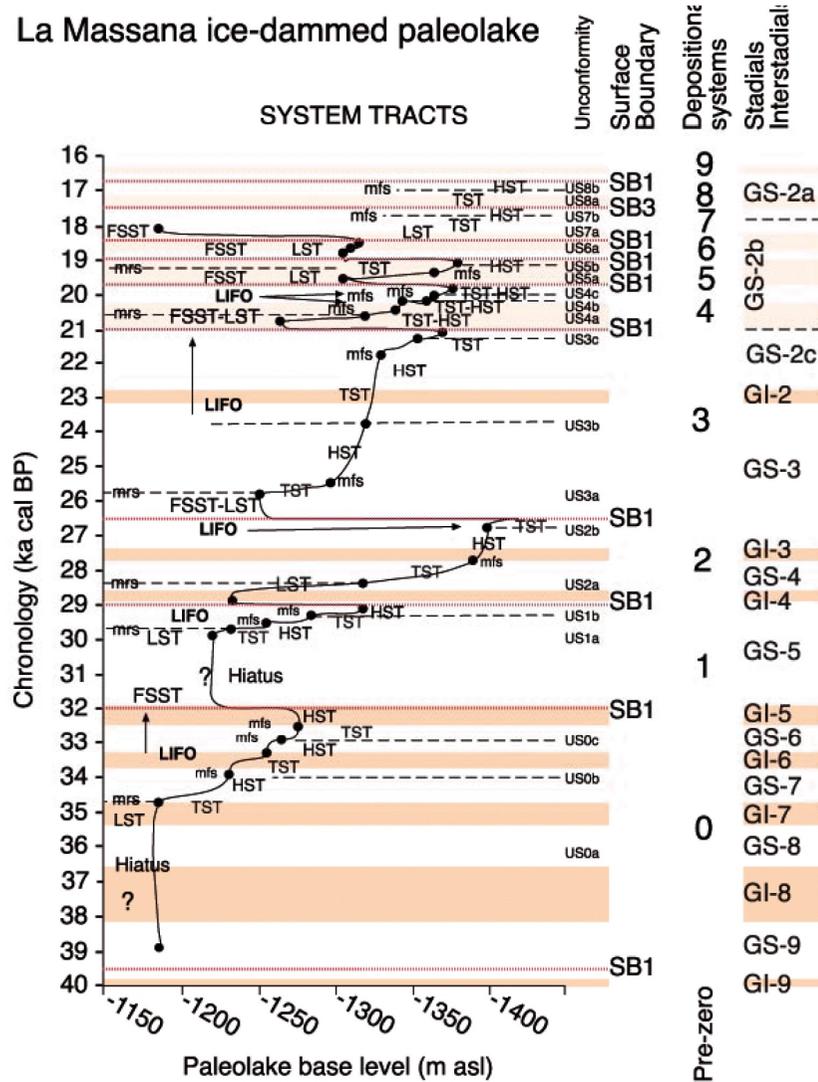






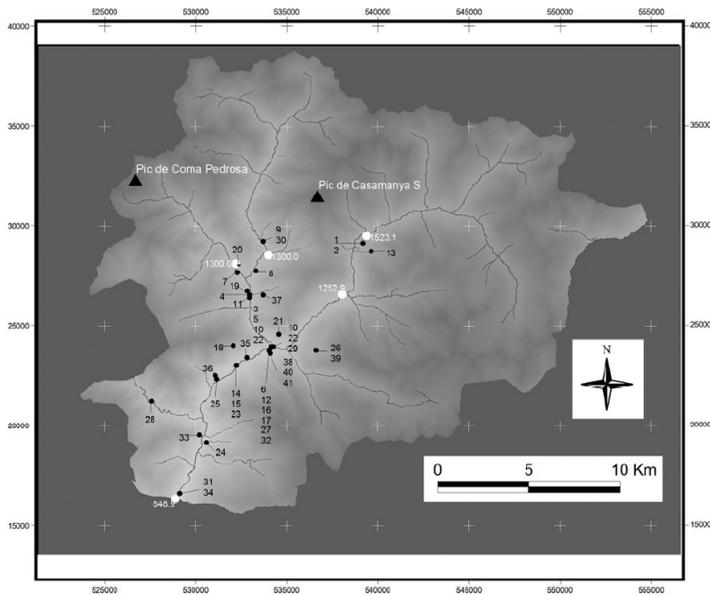
..... FFT reveal sub-Milankovich cycles

La Massana ice-dammed paleolake



Cyclicity within the Henrich events at a frequency aprox. of 7.5 ka, but also .... other

..... the sub-Milankovich cycles palaeoenvironmental signification, the P cycles



P-cycles (4,500 +/- 500 yrs)

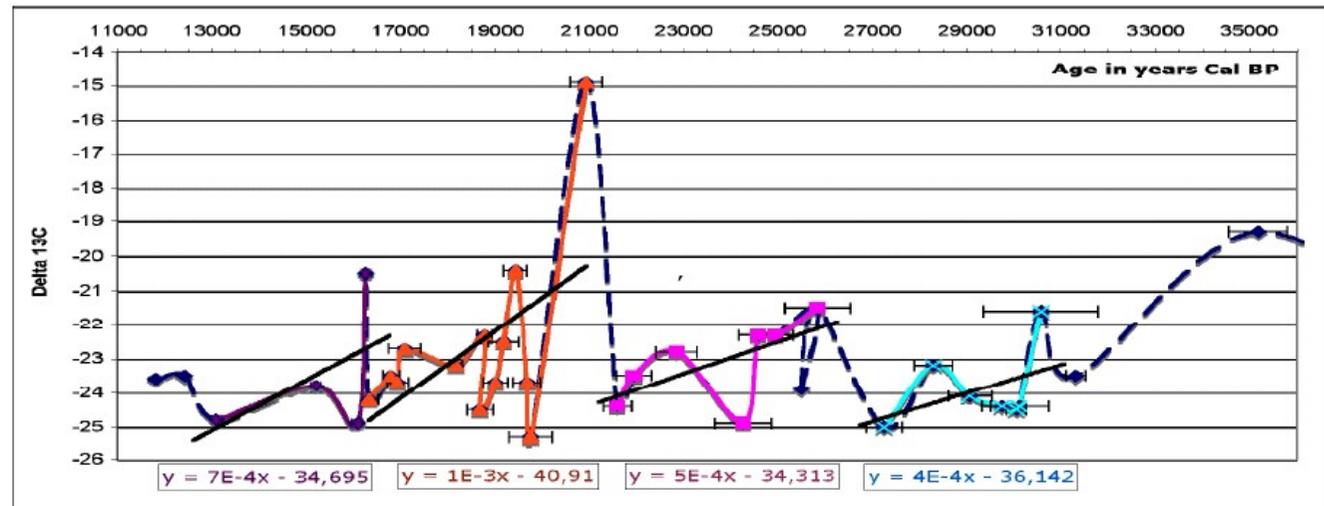
A peak of aridity within the 2sigma's range of an AMS date  
 (... in **only +/- 80 yrs !!**)

The way after is a long recovering time of 4500 yrs until the system reach a new relative palaeoenvironmental climax

Quick shifting of depleted  $\delta^{13}C$  to enhanced values  
 4.5  $\pm$  0.5 ka to recover depleted values of -25‰ ( $\delta^{13}C$ )

Sampled sites from Andorra

Only bulk organic matter were used in AMS dates



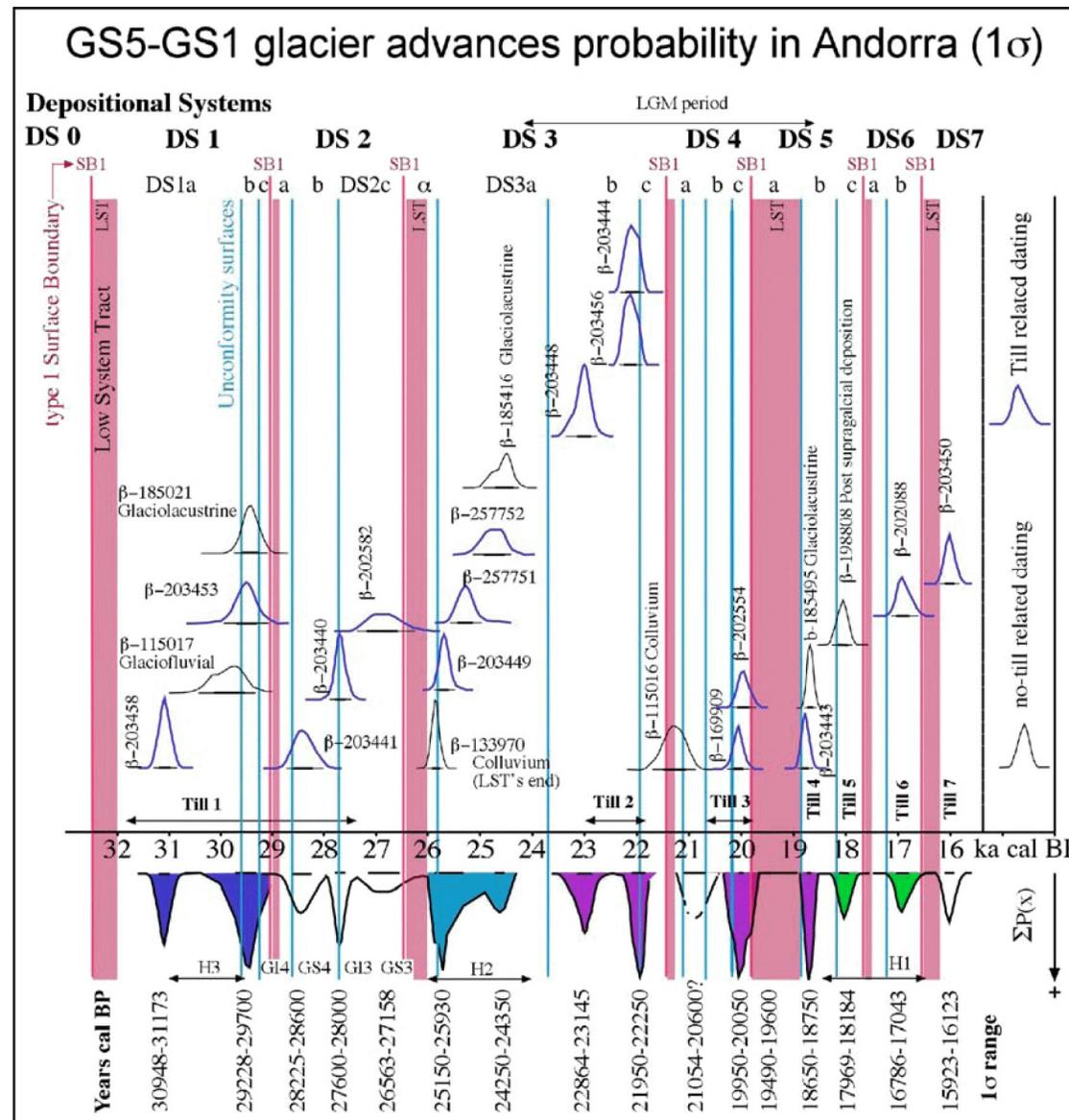
...depicting the contribution of the P-cycles, LGM and Heinrich events together

P Cycles  
switch at  
32-31.5 ka  
Gravettien  
26.5-26 ka  
Solutrean  
21.5-21 ka  
Badegoulien

The LGM peak two  
times twice. First  
within a P-cycle  
and the last at  
20 and 18.75 ka,  
the changeover to  
Magdalenian

Glaciers peaked  
twice at each  
Henrich event

...adding subfacies to  
the Gravettien, the  
Solutrean, the  
Badegoulien and the  
Magalénian



DS = Depositional sequences





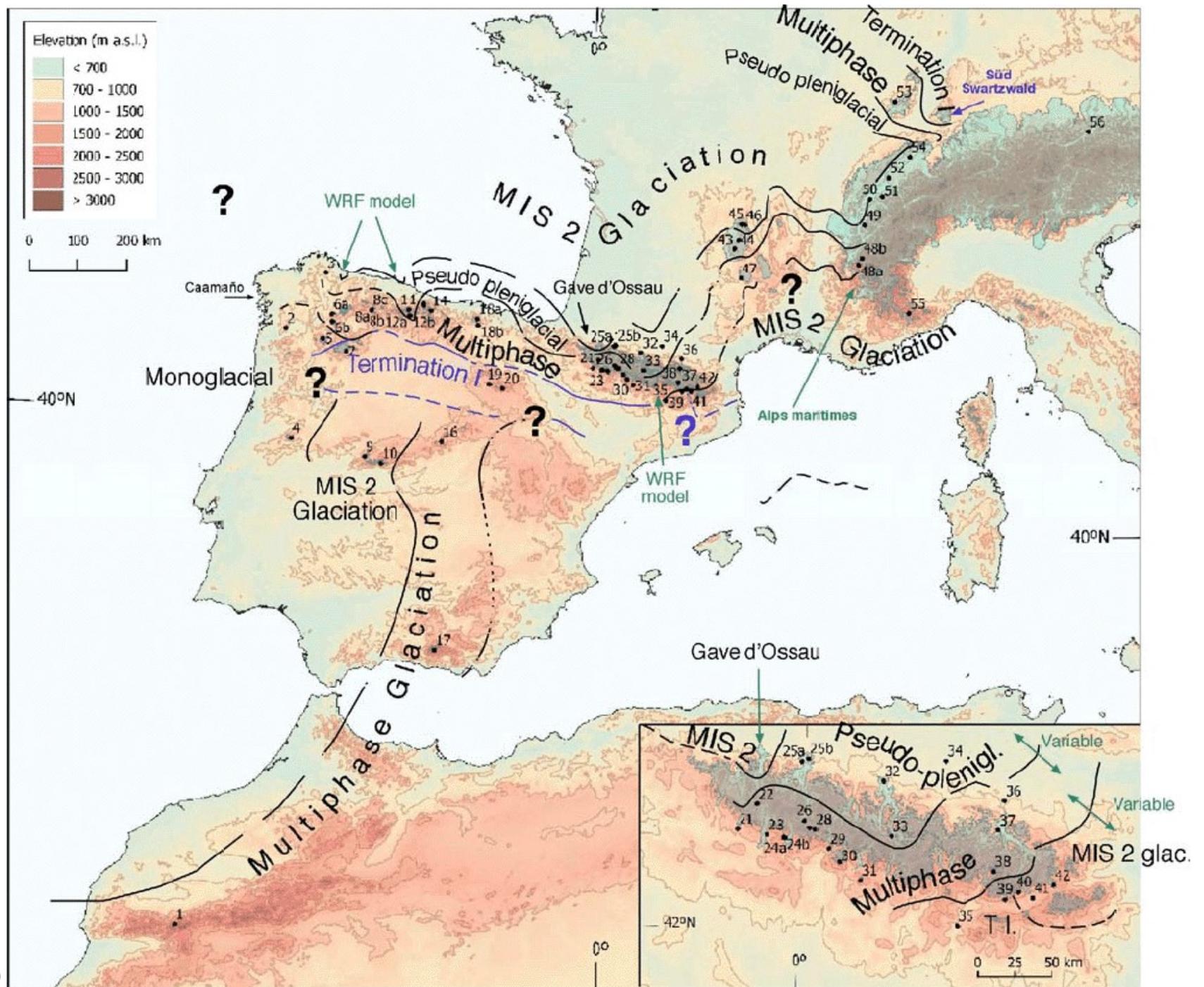
# Aigua: desafiaments i oportunitats

11 i 12 de novembre del 2024

Thirty-two thousand years  
of climate dynamics in  
Andorra

Correlation

The Last Glacial Cycle



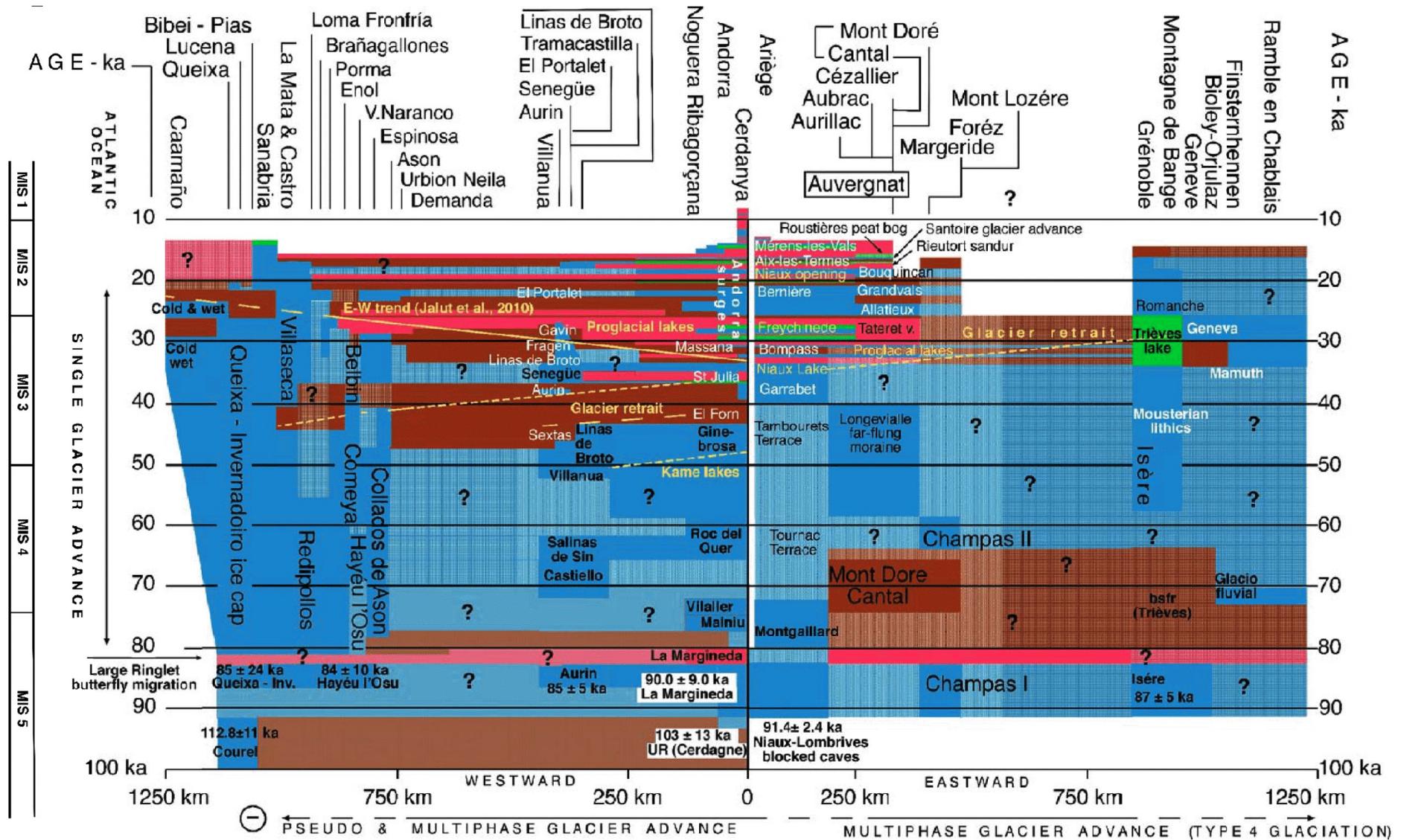
Turu (2023)

## Legend

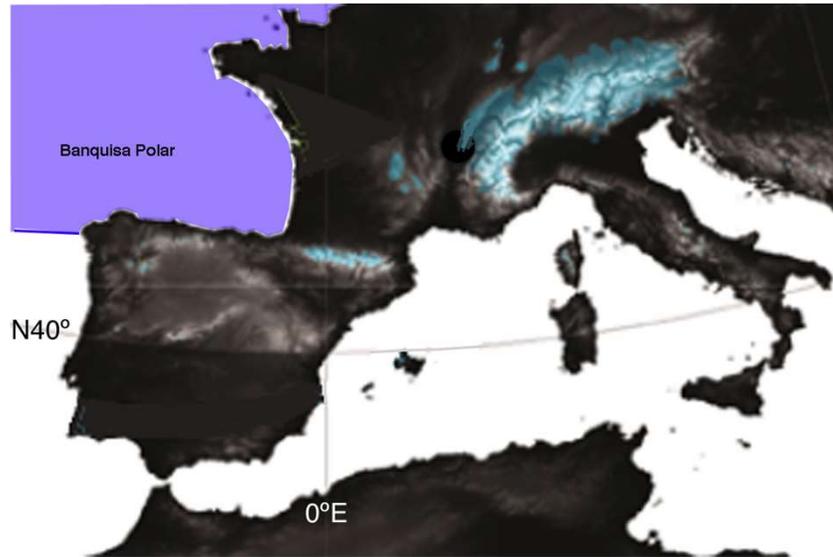
Glaciation types boundaries and sites: 1-Toubkal-4, 2-Serra do Xistral, 3-Sextas, 4-Serra da Estrela, 5-Queixa-Invernadoiro, 6a-Oribio Mounts, 6b-O Courel, 7-Sanabria, 8a-Castro Lake (Villaseca de Laciana), 8b-Laguna-A-Lucenza, 8c-Laguna Grande de Neila, 9-Bejar massif, 10-Gredos massif, 11-Brañagallones, 12a-, Porma/Lillo, 12b-Redipollos, 13a-Comeyas' polje, 13b-Hayéu l'Osu cave, 14-Campo Mayor, 15-Bibei, 16-Guadarrama, 17-Hoya Pelada, 18a-Ansón, 18b-Trueba, 19-Laguna de Miro (Villaseca Laciana), 20-Sierra Cebollera, 21-Villanúa(Castiello de Jaca, 22-Serra Faro de Avión, 23-Gavin, 24a-Llinàs de Broto, 24b-Viu, 25a-Soum d'Ech, 25b-Lourdes and Monge, 26-Garbarnie, 27-Pineta (Lago), 28-Larri hanged valley, 29-Salinas de Sin, 30-Cotiella, 31-Turbon, 32-Barbazán, Garonne paleolake, 33-Joèu, 34-Têt – La Borde, 35-Segre- TQ4 (Organyà), 36-Tournac, 37-Niaux cave, 38-Roc del Quer, 39-La Llosa/Duran, 40-Malniu, 41-Querol/Puigcerda, 42-Tamboreurets, 43-Cantal, 44-Lugarde (Cantal), 45-Mont Dore, 46-Couze Chambon (Auvernat), 47-Aubrac, 48a-Isère-Grenoble, 48b-Trieves/Avignonet, 49-Montagne de Bange, 50-Genève, 51-Ramble de Chablais, 52-Biolet-Orjulaz, 53-Vosges massif, 54-Finsterhennen, 55-Maritime Alps, 56-Unterangerberg. Arrows, influence from the Mediterranean over the SE of France and the NE of Spain.



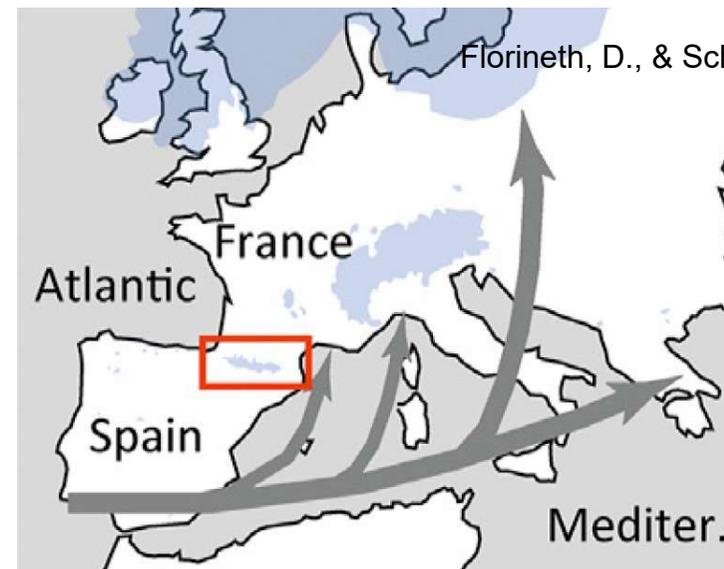
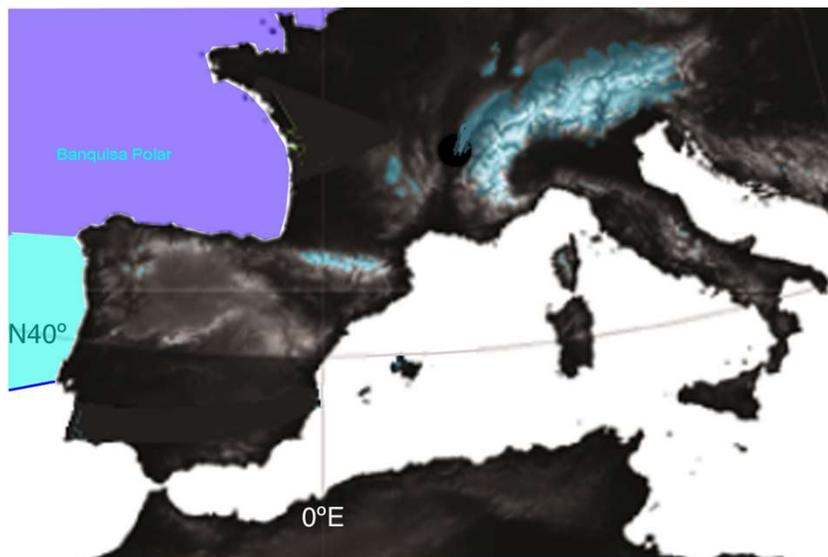
# ...and palaeoenvironmental correlation to the Alps



## Two situations for storm tracks affecting the Pyrenees



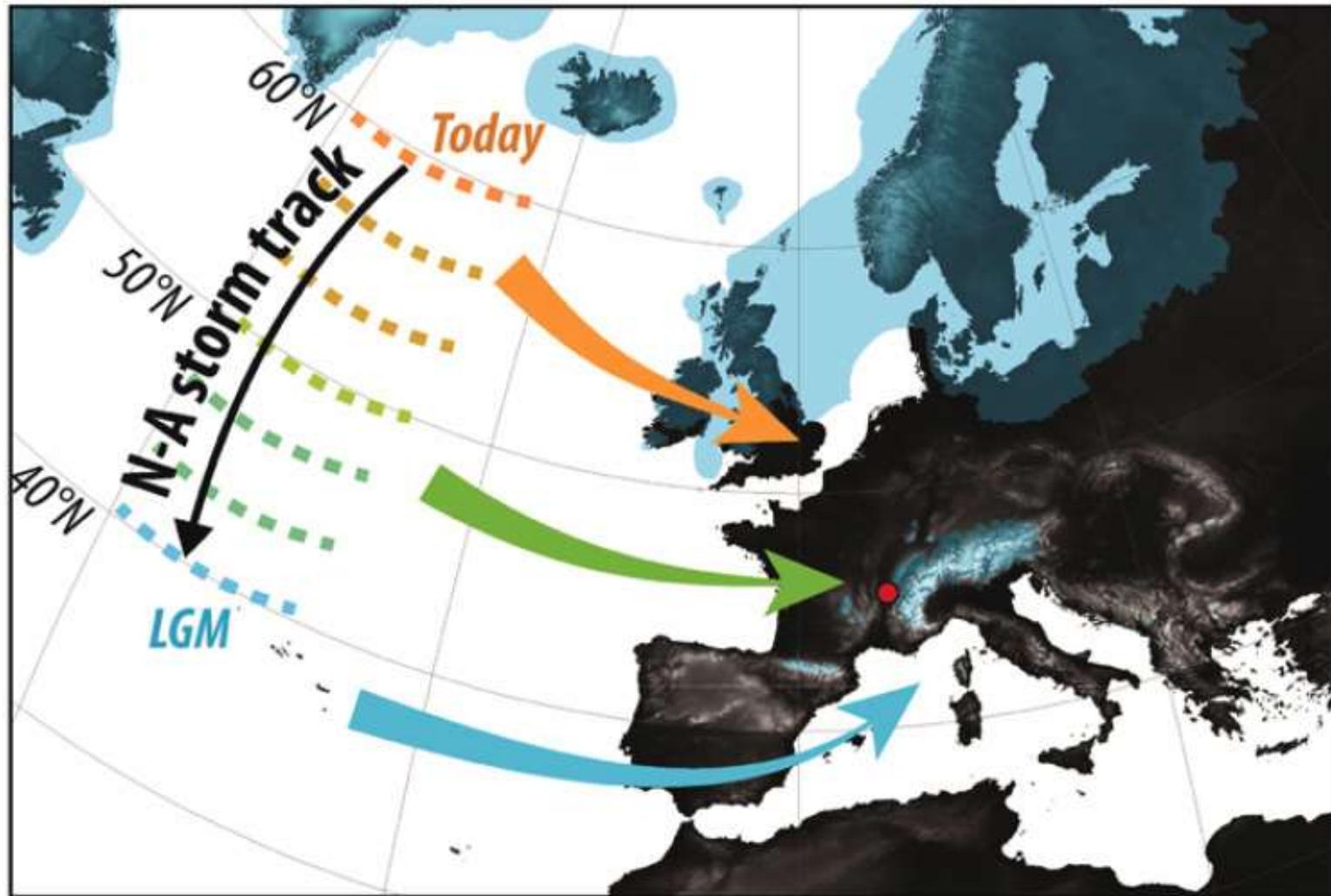
**LMIE**  
70-46 ka  
36-32 ka



46-36 ka

**LGM**  
25-19 ka

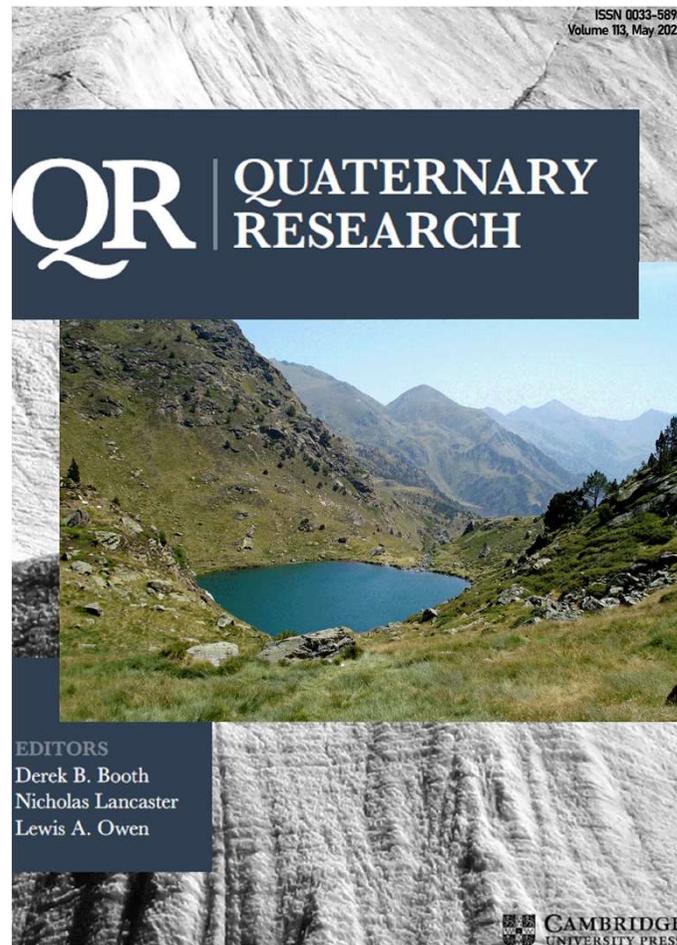
Storm tracks affecting the Pyrenees during the final deglaciation



< 21 ka

Gribenski et al. (2021)

Thank for your time



Estany primer de Tristaina amb la vista de la capçalera del Valira del Nord i el Cassamanya al Fons (Principat d'Andorra)