

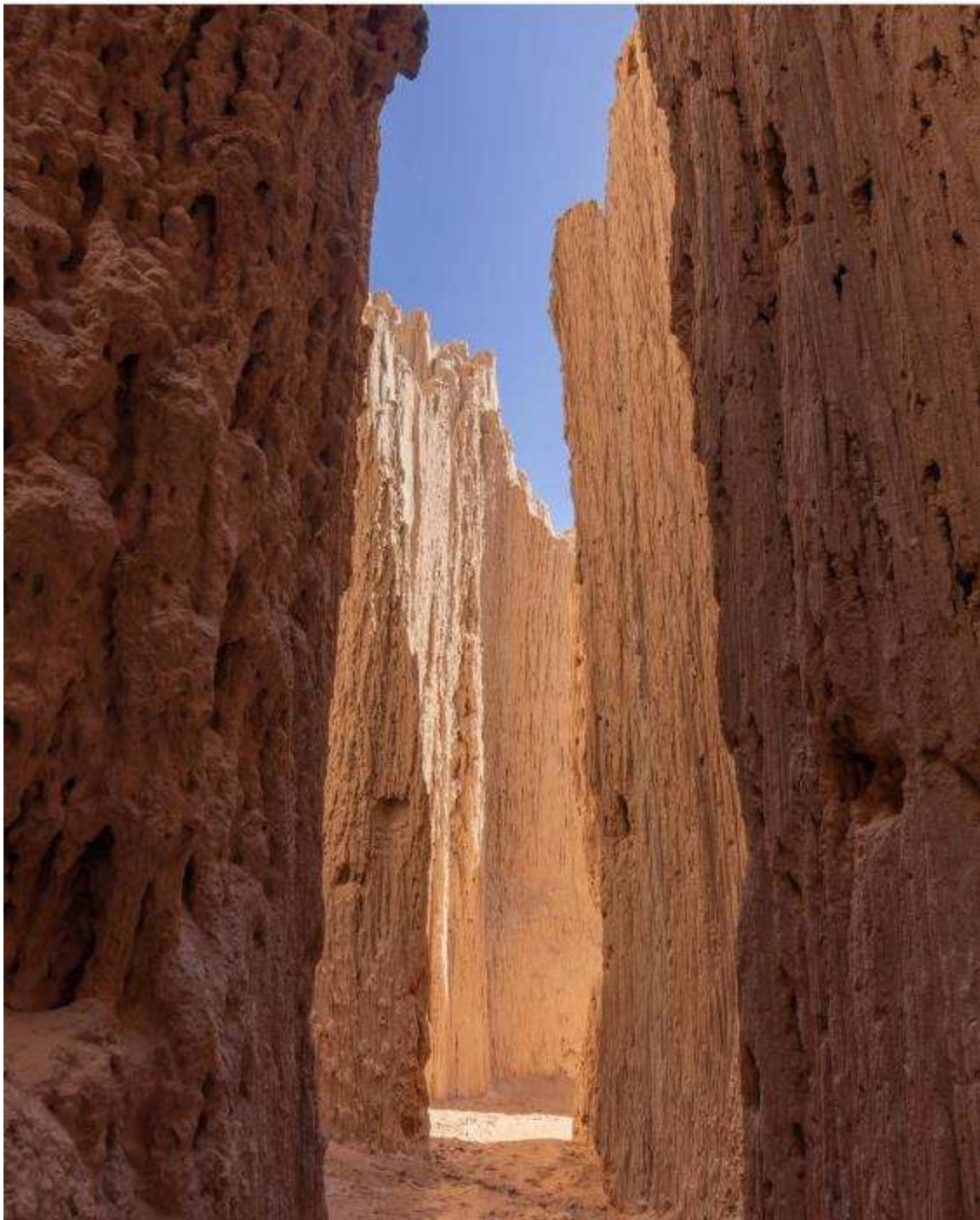
Sea Level



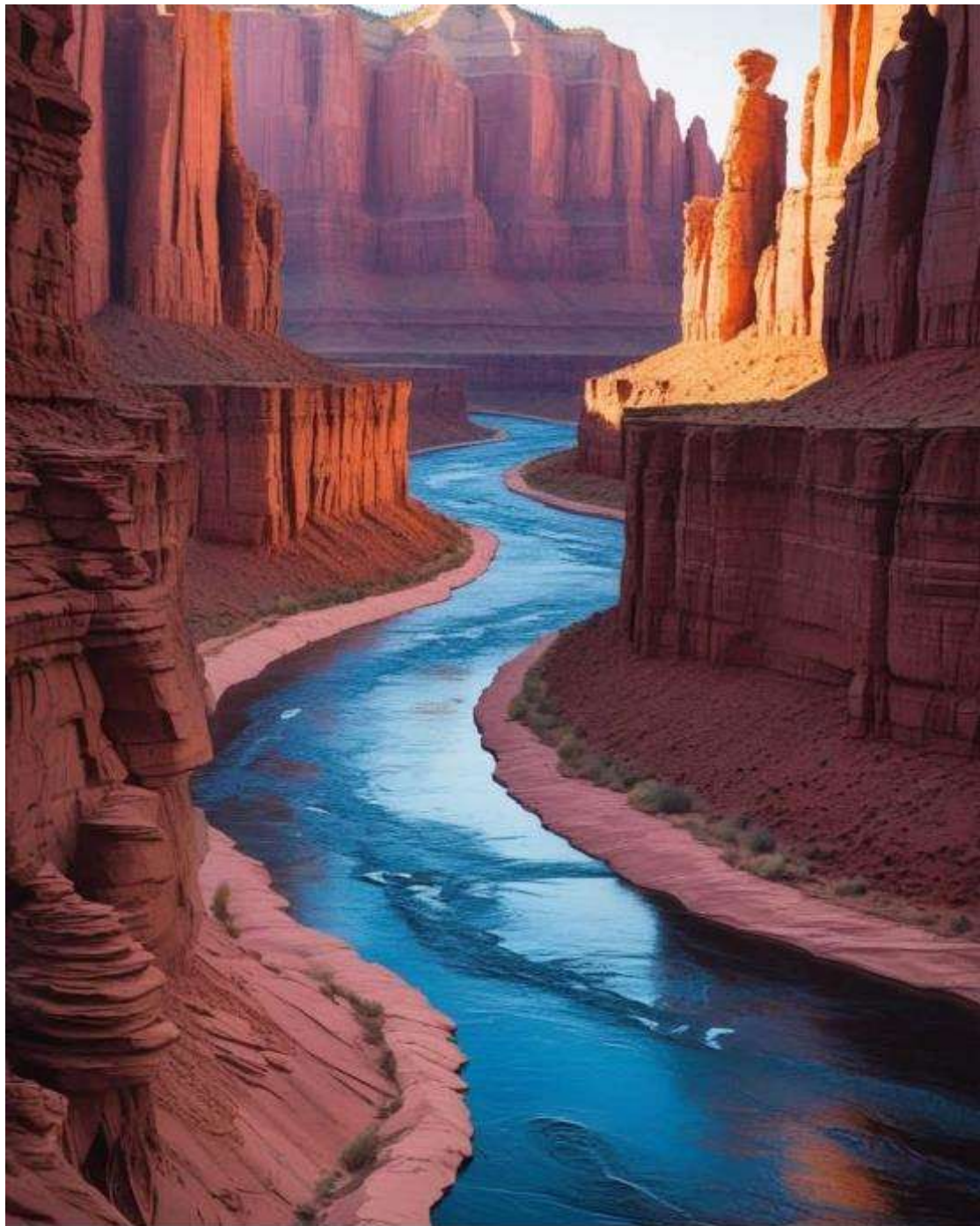
Lecture 10

Skaftafelljökull (glacier)

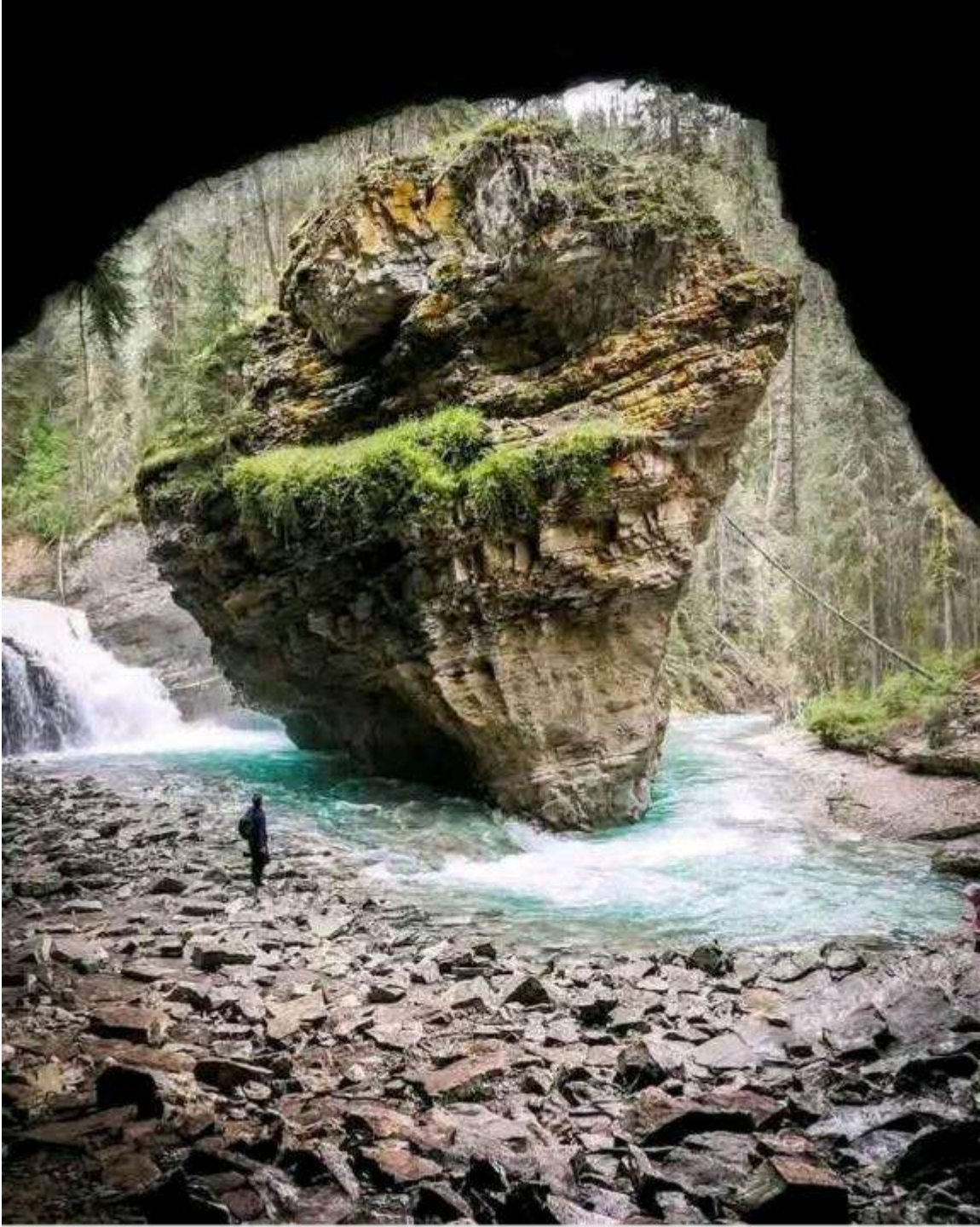
Part 0: Social Media



narrow steep-walled valley:
nothing specifically glacial
probably too narrow for
glacial flow



wider steep-walled valley:
steps mildly reminiscent of
staircase cirques
pillars unlikely to survive
glaciation
probably not glacial



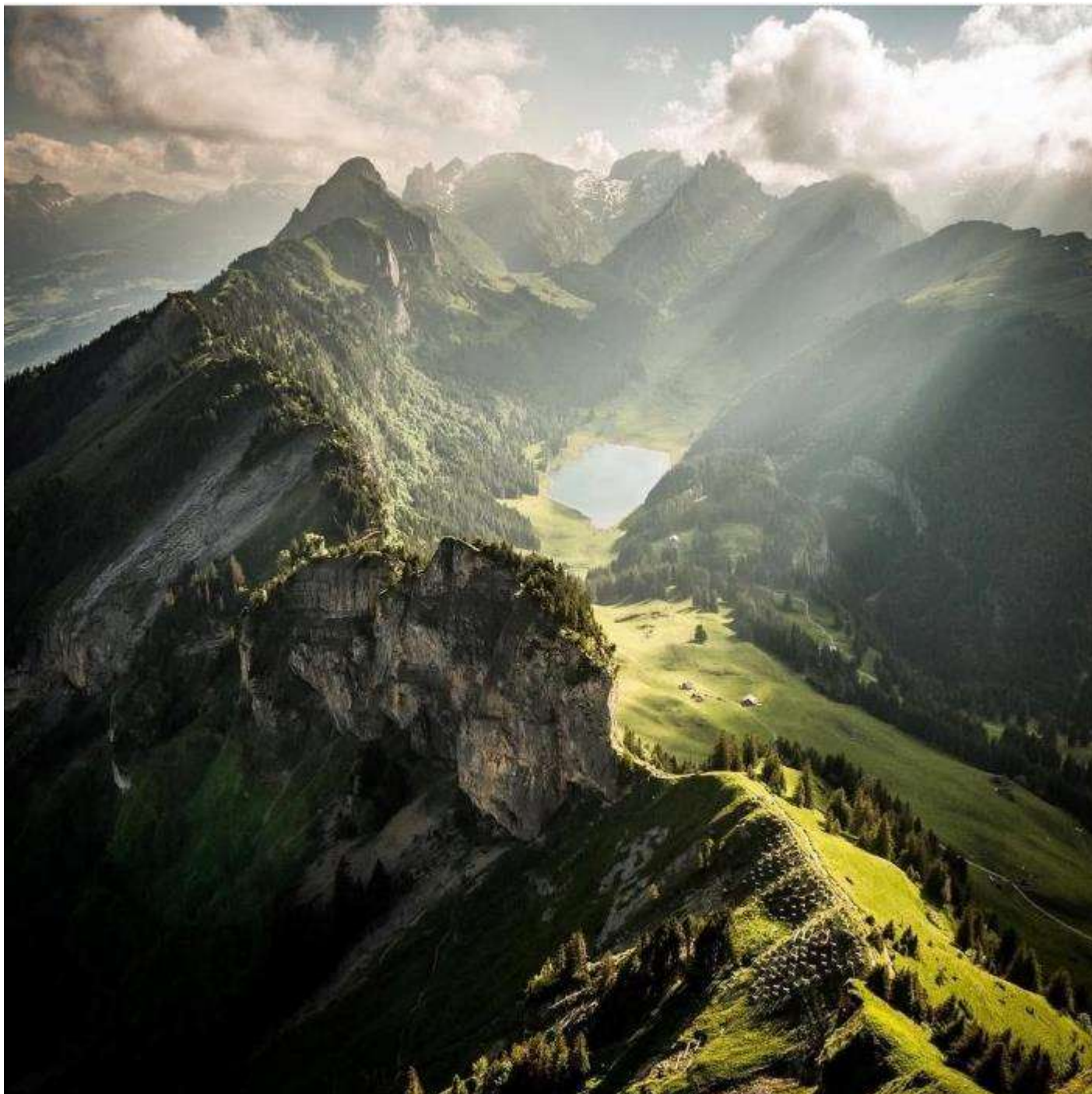
big boulder as seen from a cave:
probably fell off cliff

no reason to think it's glacial



two glacial valleys
hanging cirque on right
moraine
lakes
outlet stream



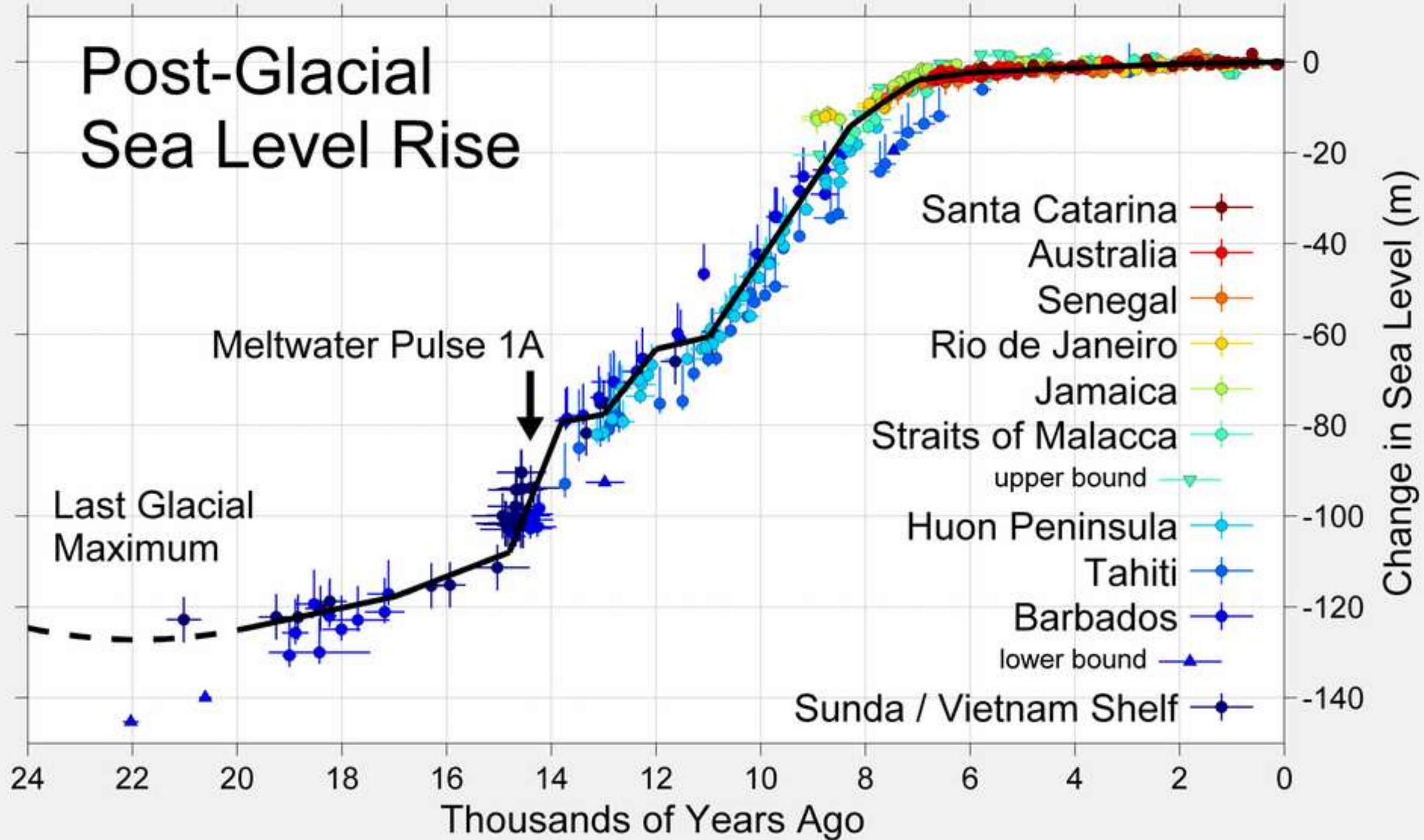


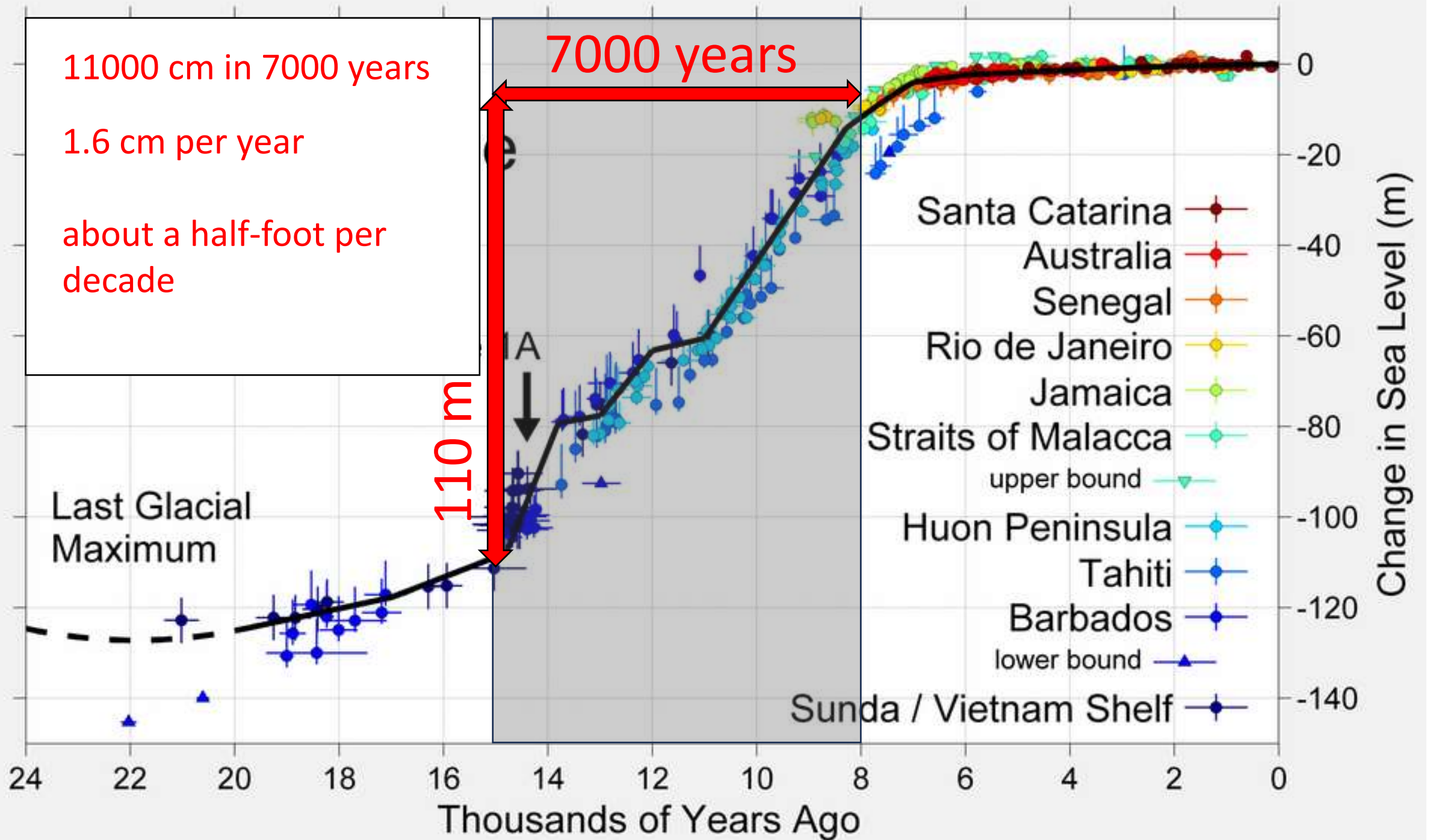
cirque
arete
cirque lake

Part 1: Sea Level

More complicated than you might expect

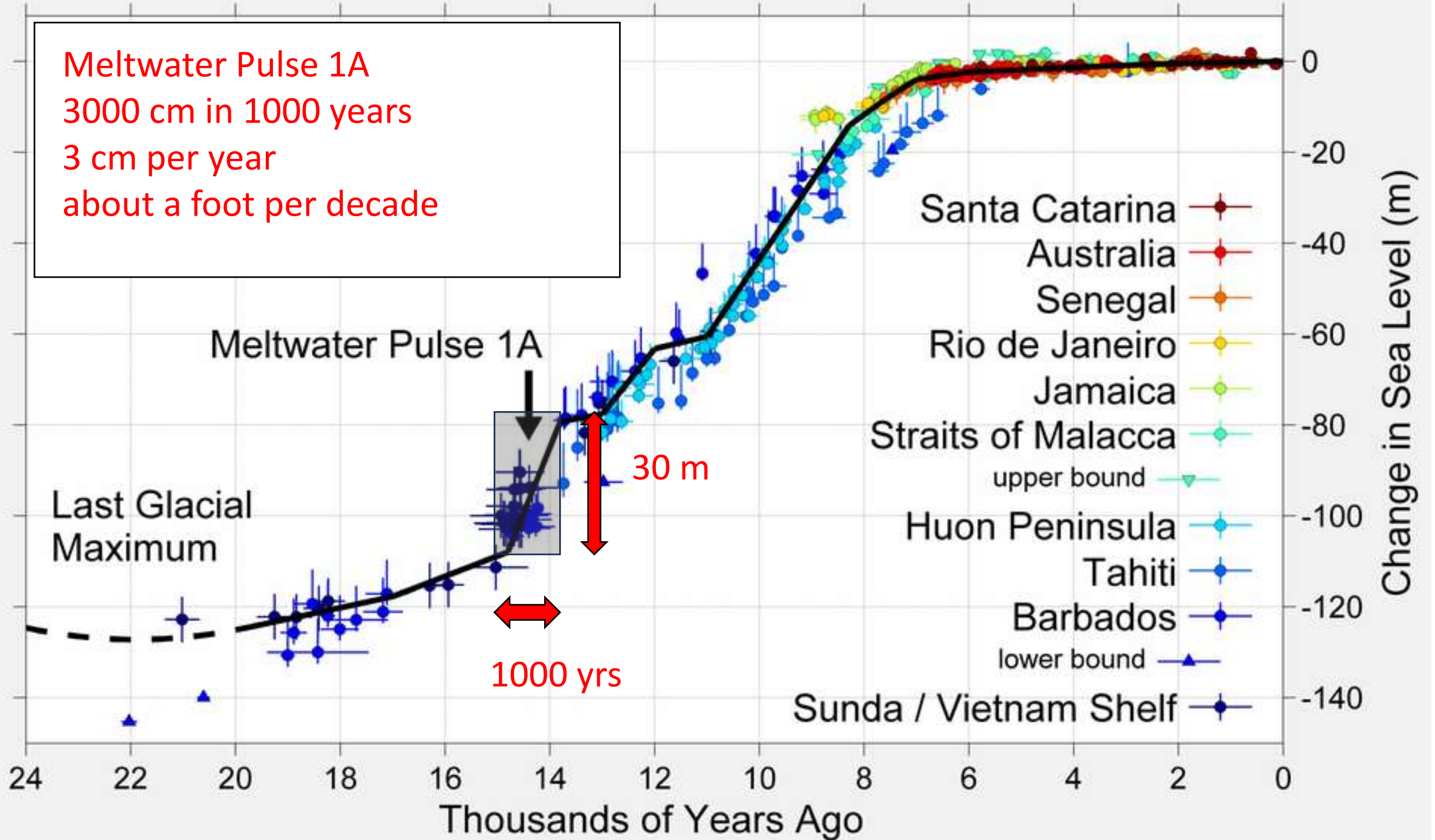
Post-Glacial Sea Level Rise





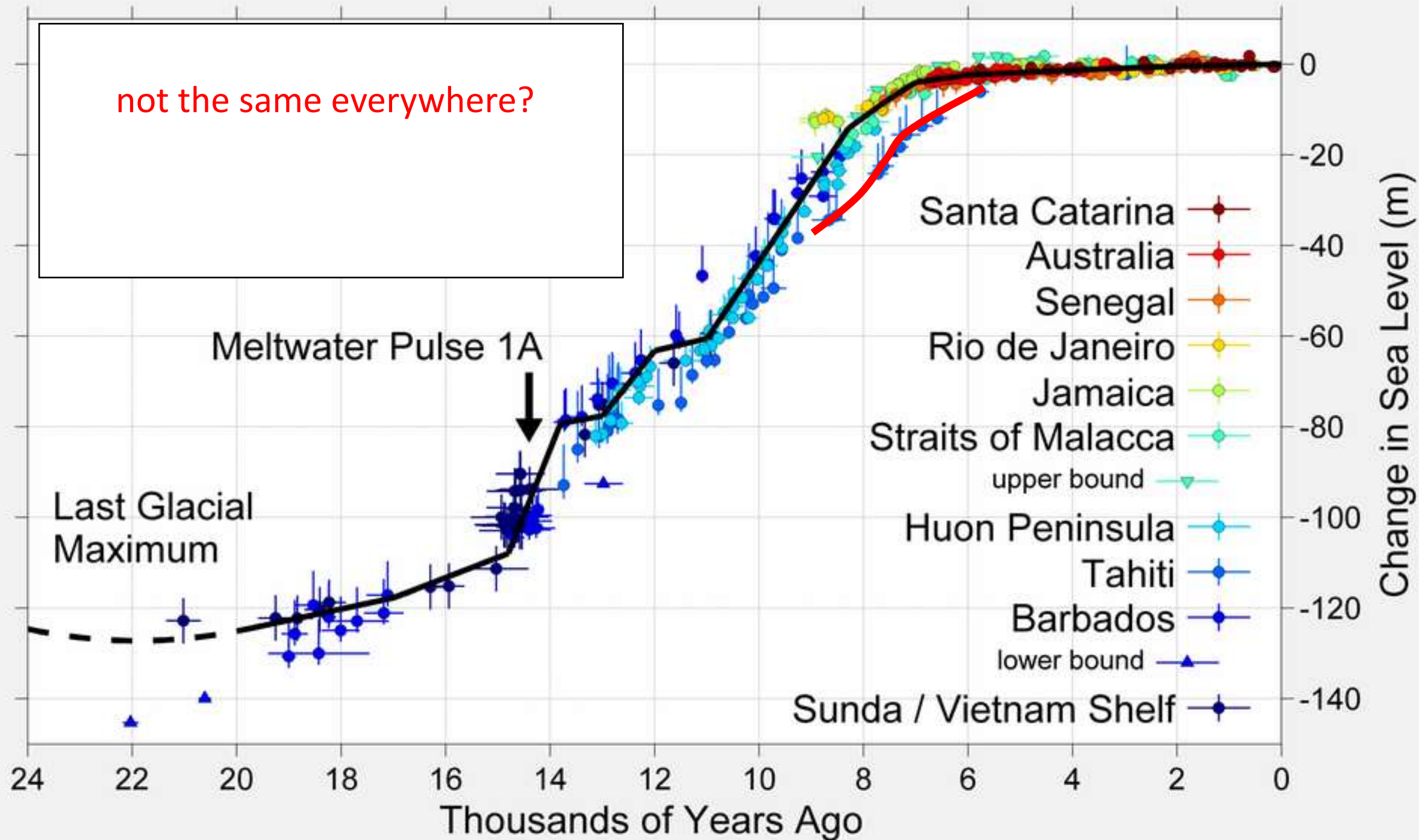


10 years





10 years



Reason for sea level changes

1. ice volume of glaciers
2. thermal expansion of oceans
3. gravitational attraction of glaciers
4. Earth rotation
5. shape of earth (isostasy)

1. ice volume of glaciers

$$height = \frac{glacial\ volume\ change}{surface\ area\ of\ oceans}$$



26.5 million
cubic
kilometers

= 73 meters



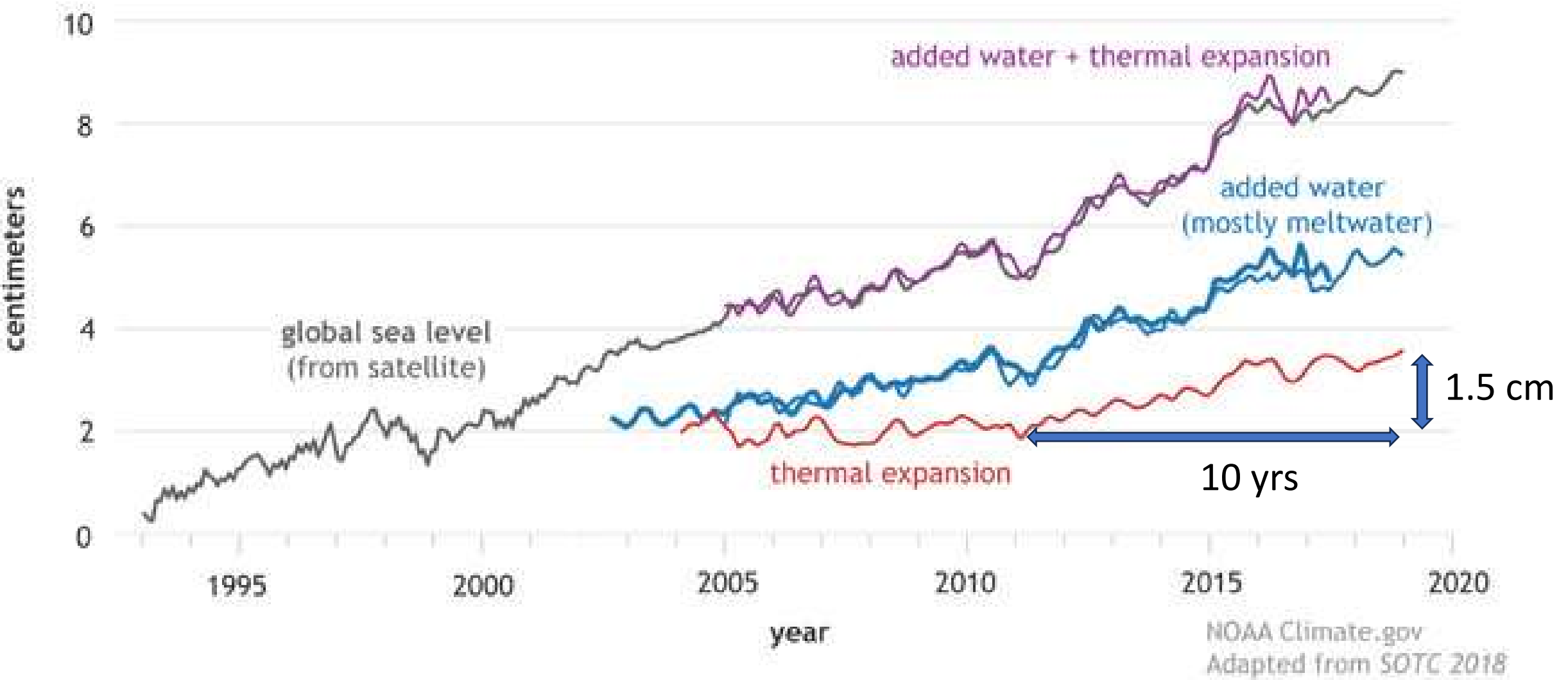
361 million
square
kilometers

(2) Thermal Expansion of ocean

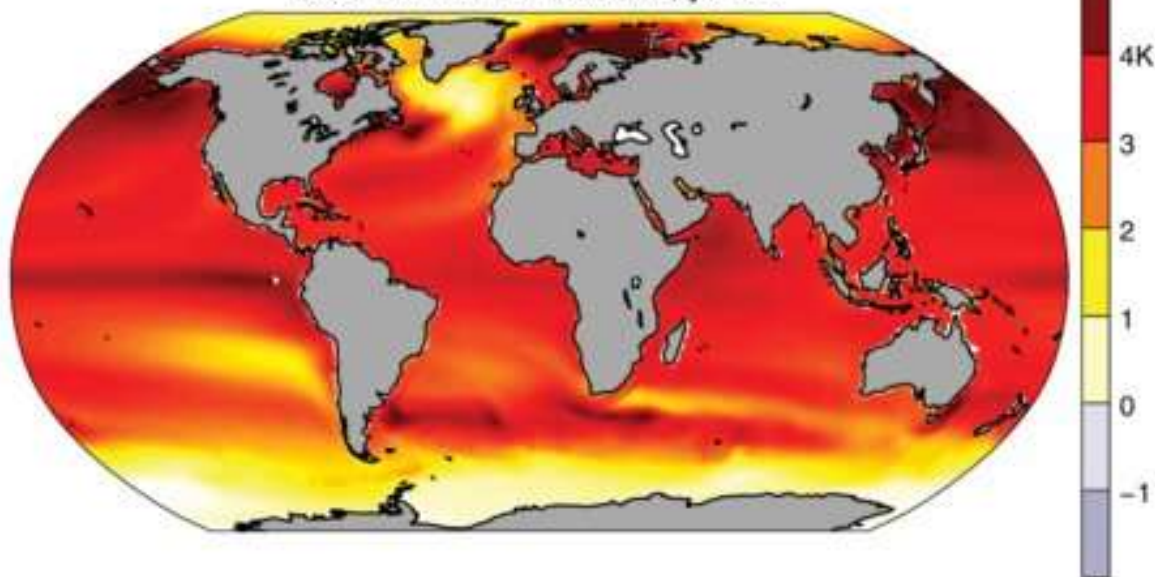
height

$$= 2.1 \times 10^{-4} \times \textit{thickness} \times \Delta \textit{temperature}$$

Contributors to global sea level rise (1993-2018)



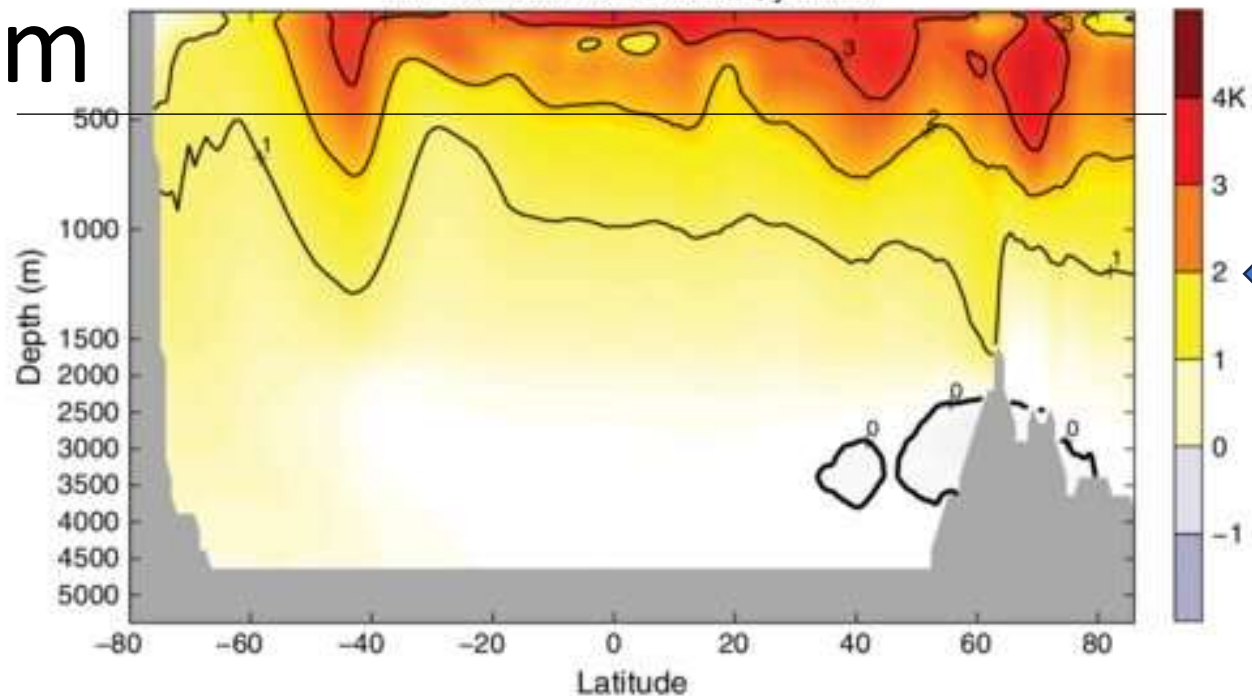
Δ SST for CMIP5 Ensemble, yr. 100



Ocean Warming

Prediction for
next 100 years

Δ T from CMIP5 Ensemble, yr. 100



← 2 degC

500 m

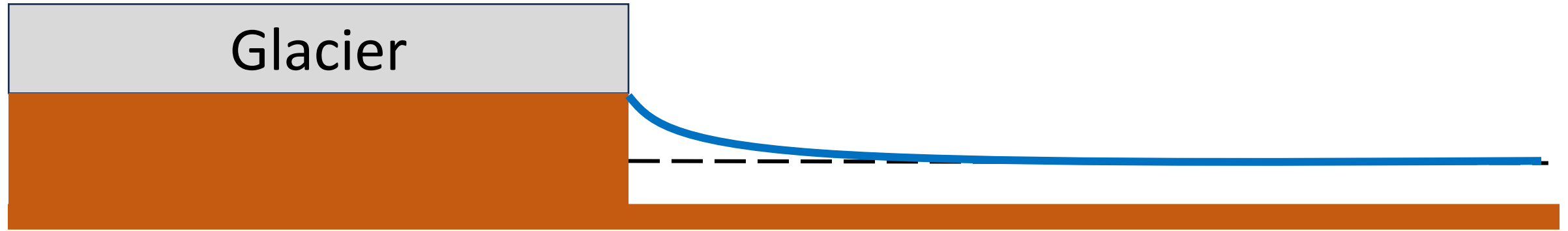
Thermal Expansion of ocean

$$height = 2.1 \times 10^{-4} \times 50000 \text{ cm} \times 2 \text{ degC}$$

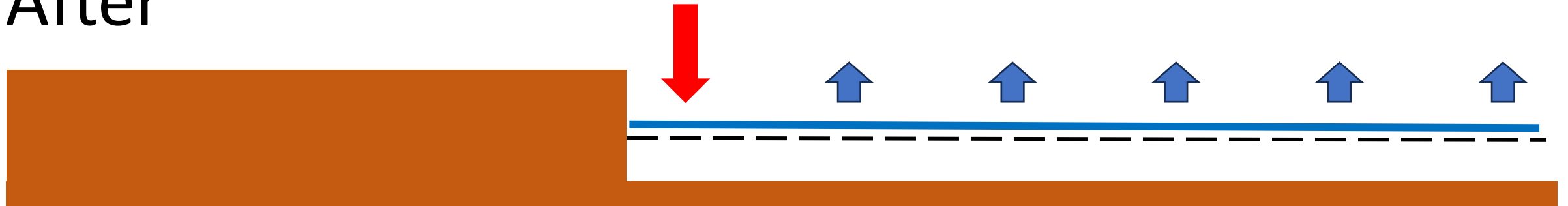
$$= 21 \text{ cm}$$

3. Gravitational Attraction of Glaciers

Before

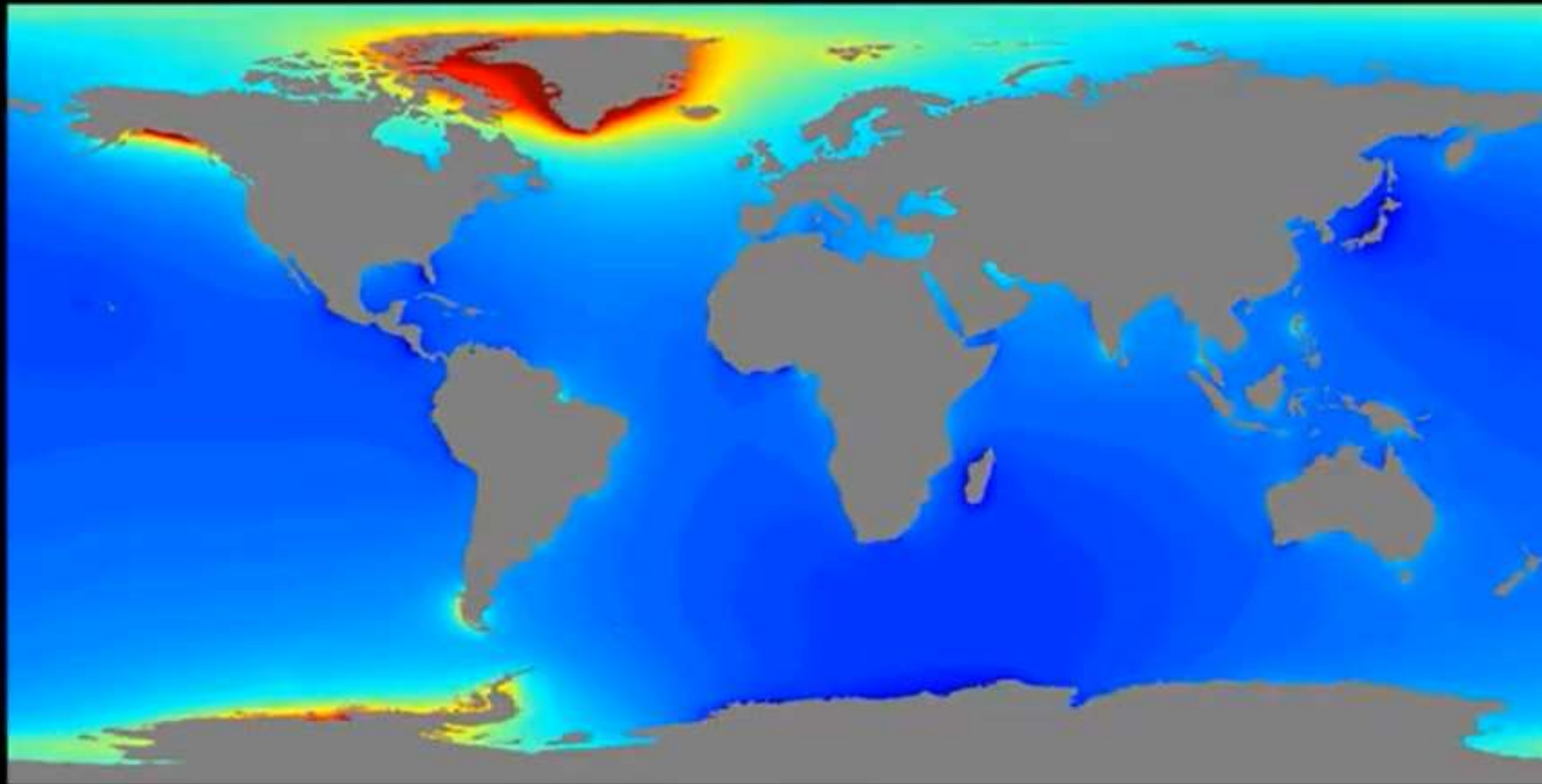


After

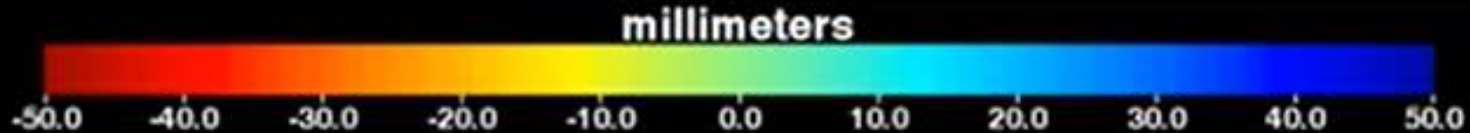


Sea Level Change Relative to April 2002

February 2015

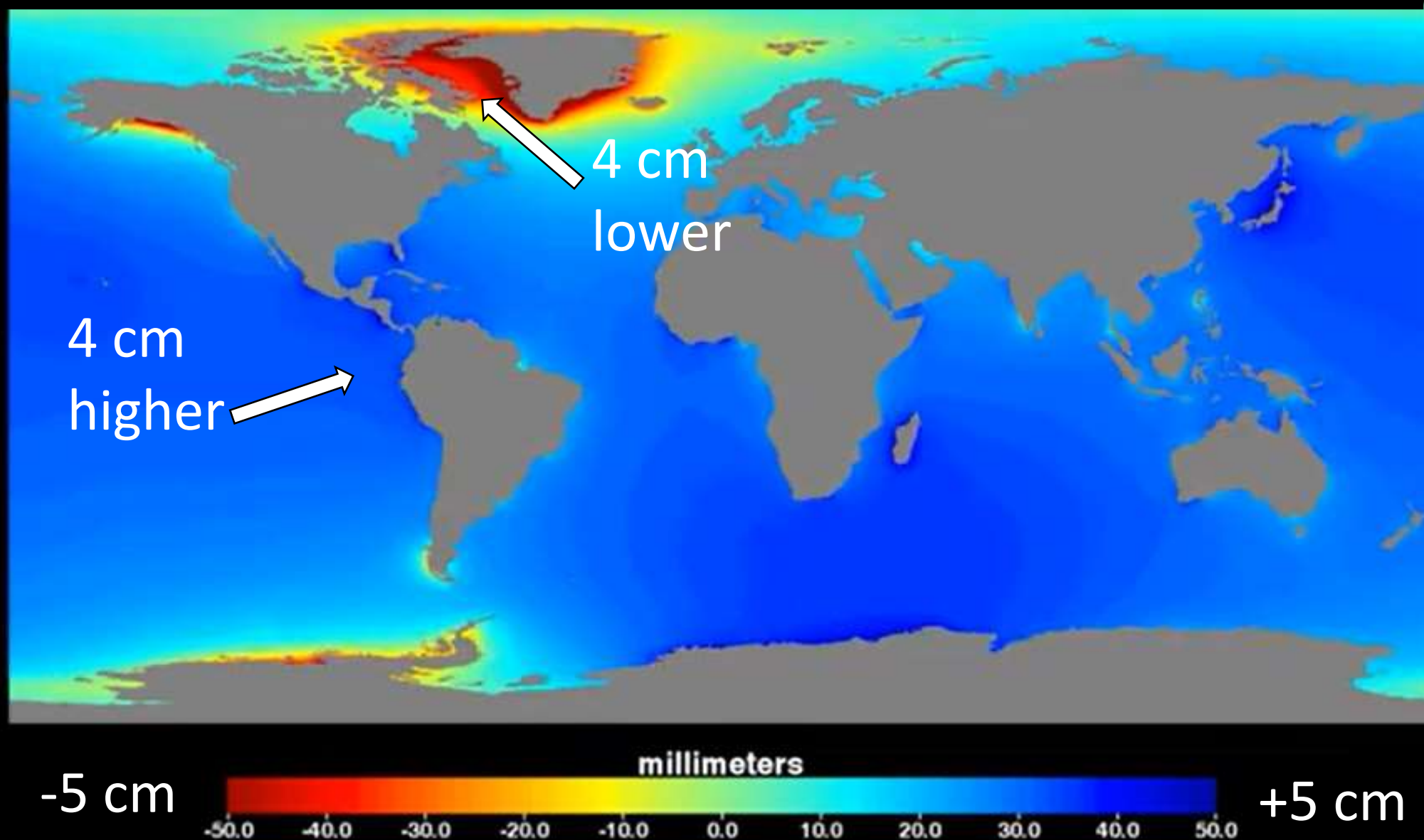


-5 cm

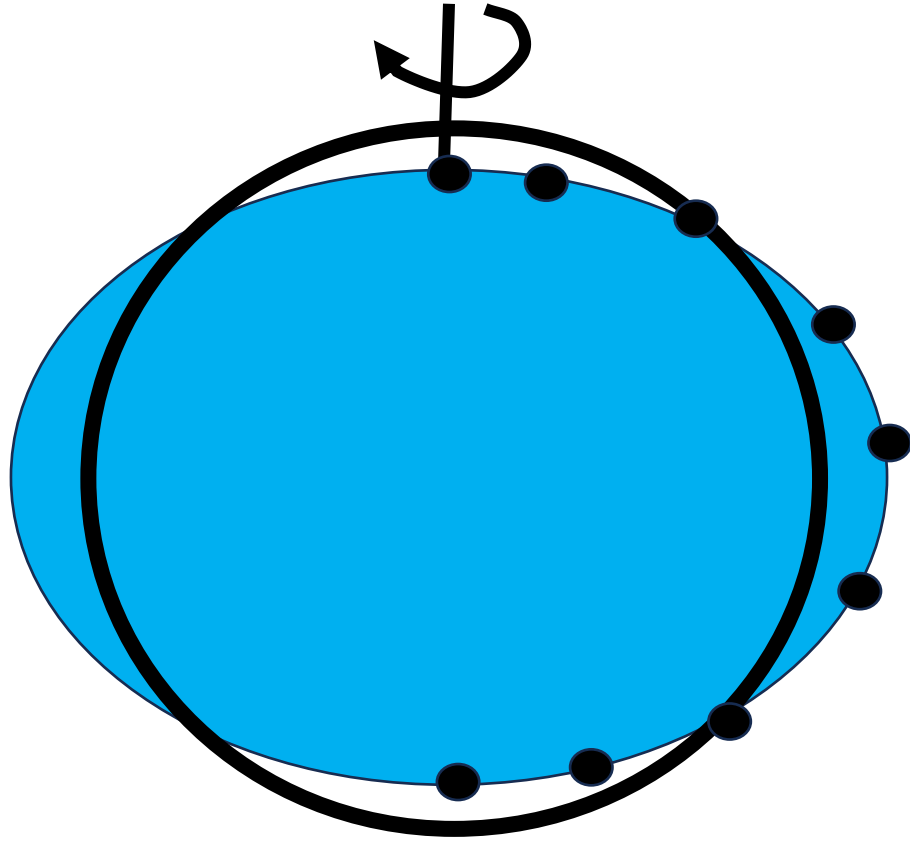


+5 cm

Sea level fall near Greenland comparable to sea level rise in equatorial ocean

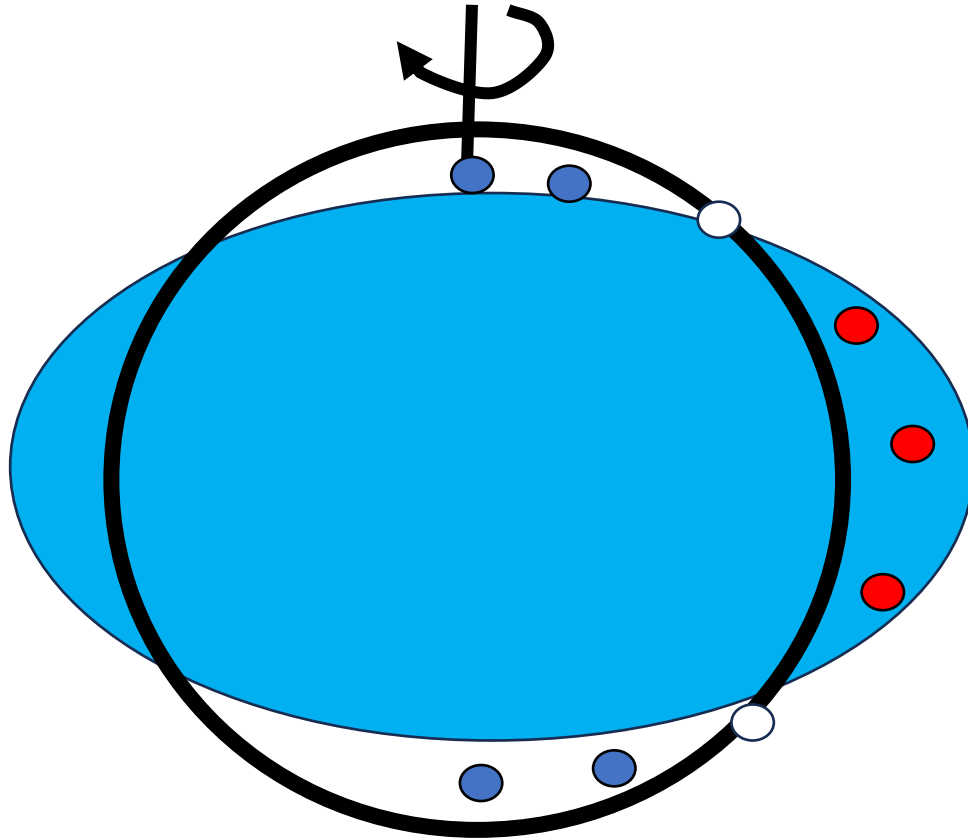


4. Rotation of Earth



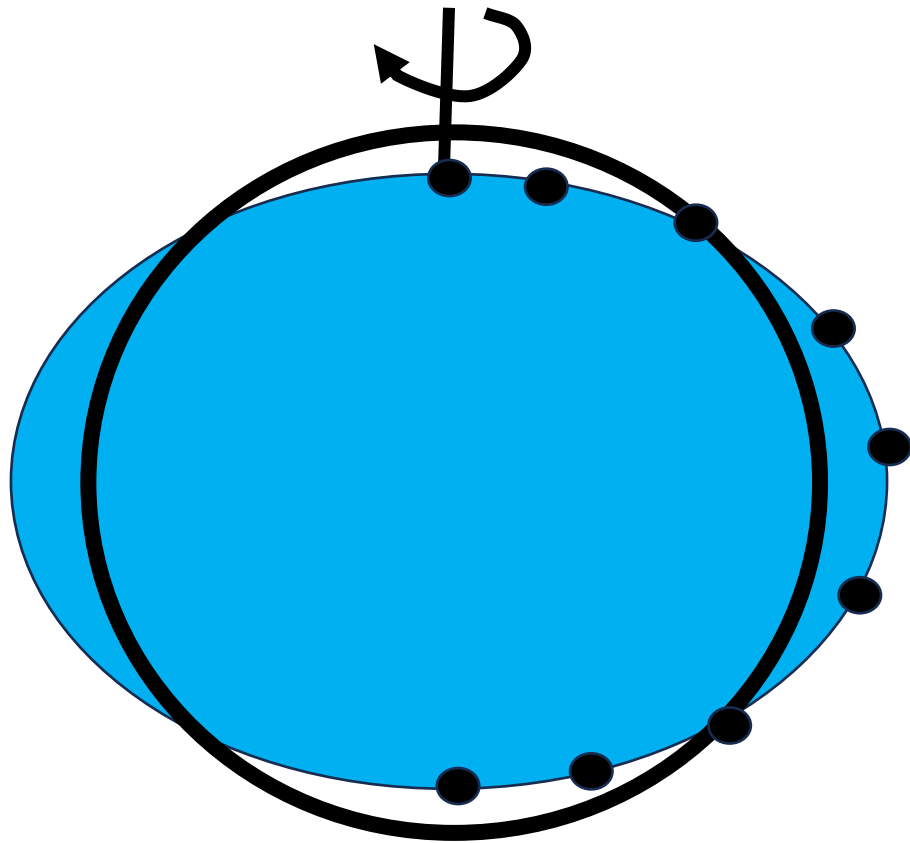
centrifugal force
causes equatorial
bulge

spin faster



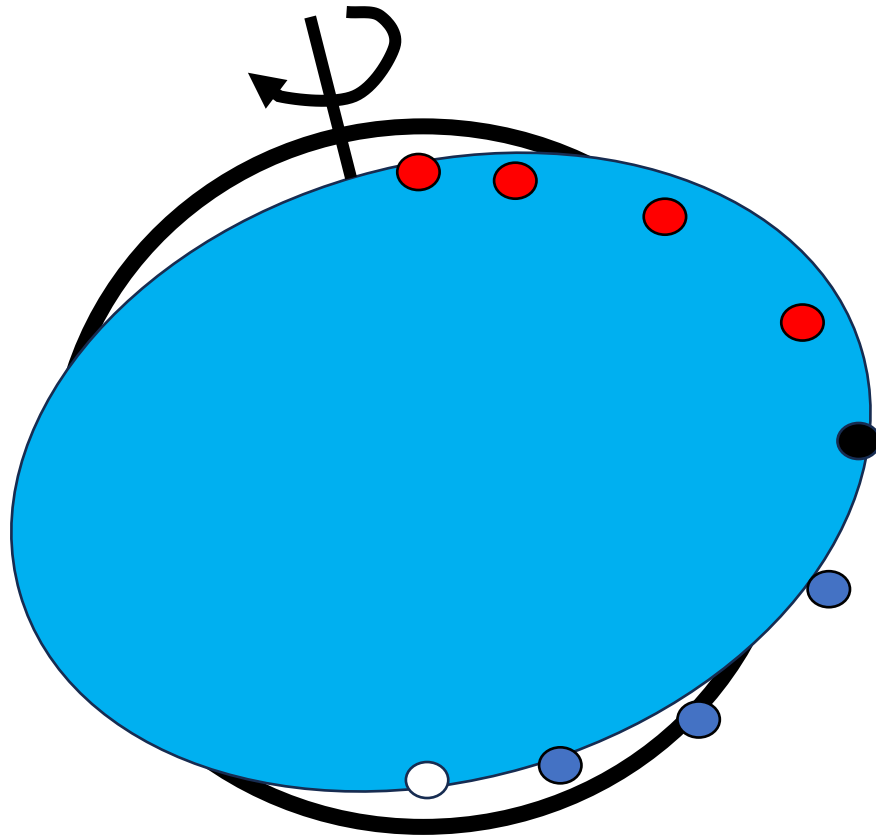
● falls

● rises



centrifugal force
causes equatorial
bulge

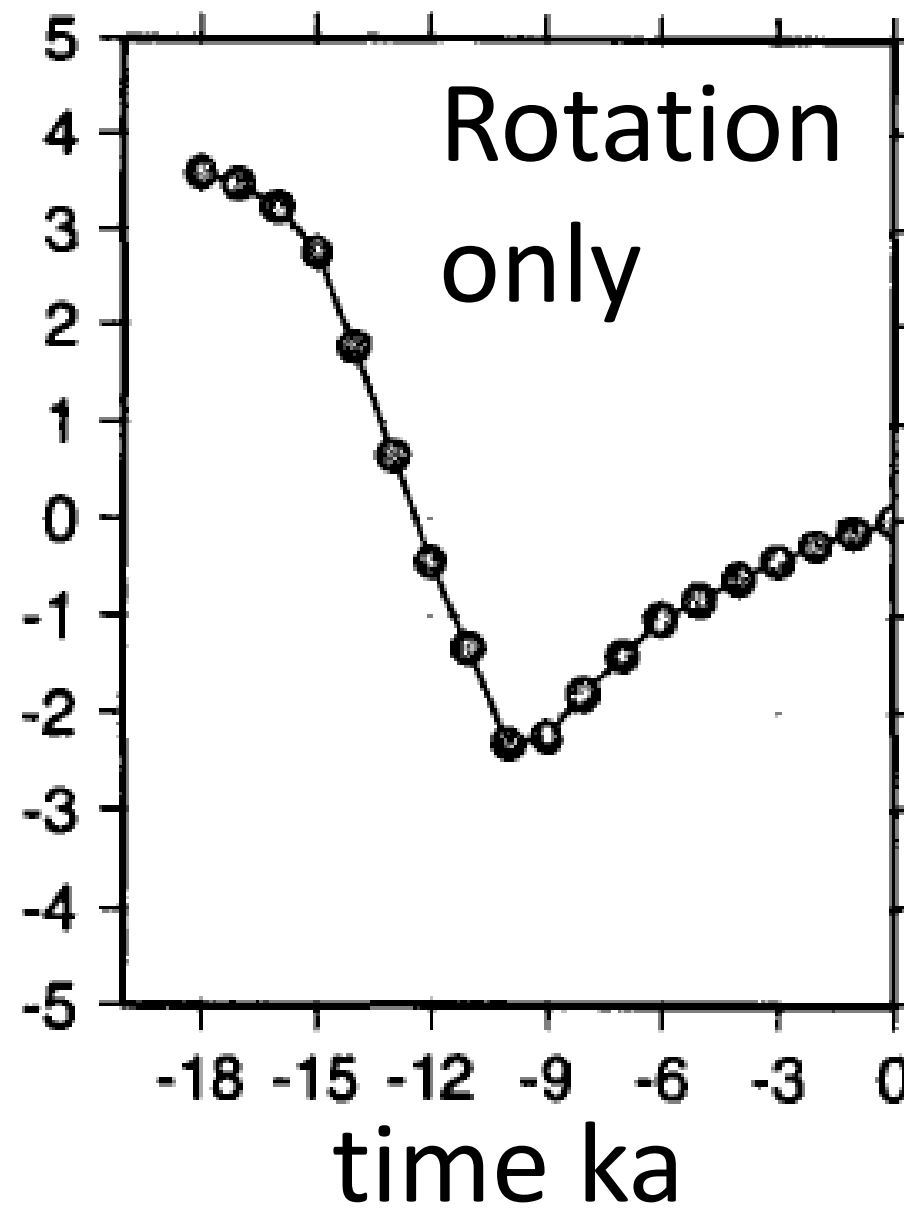
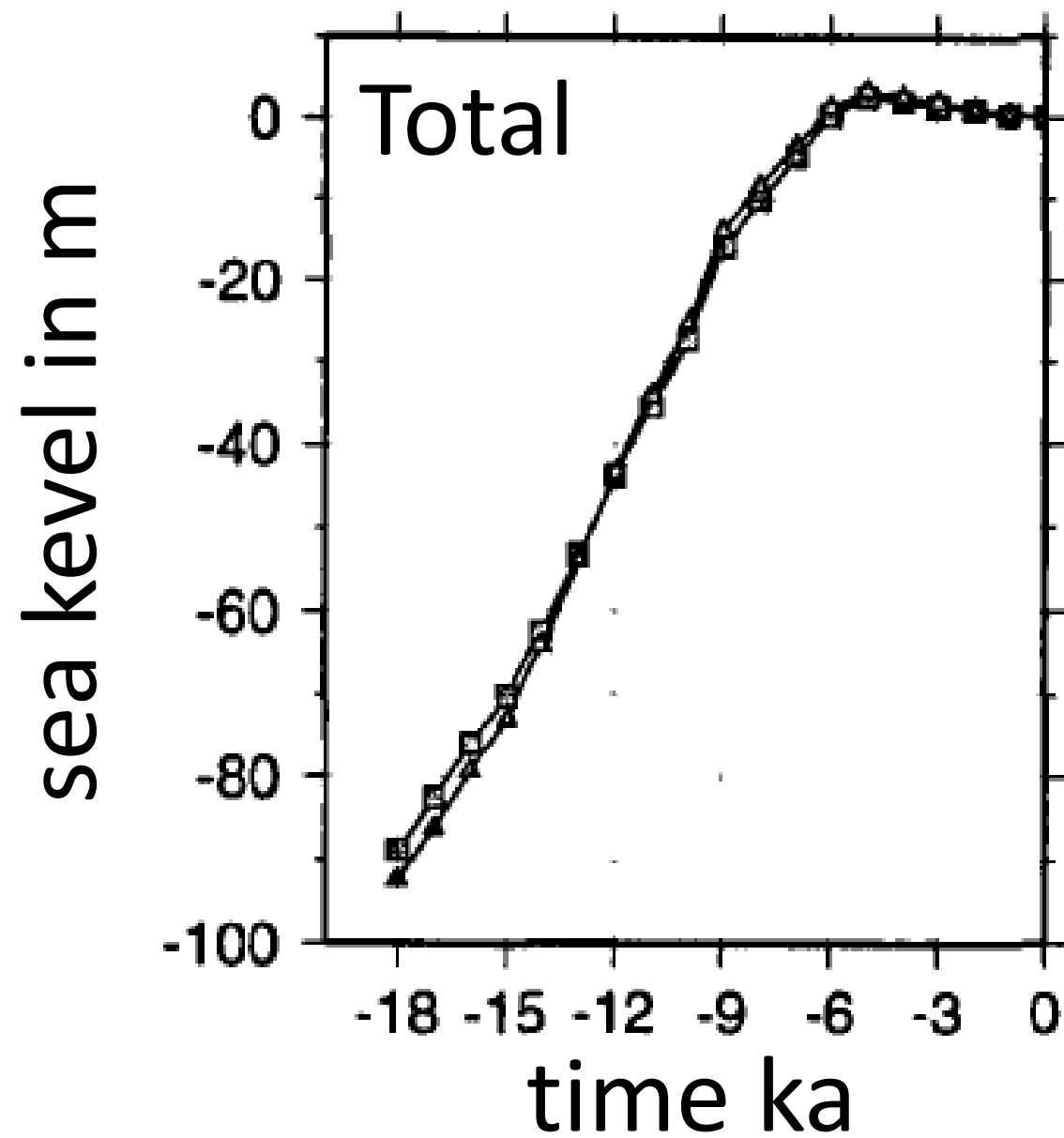
axis tilts



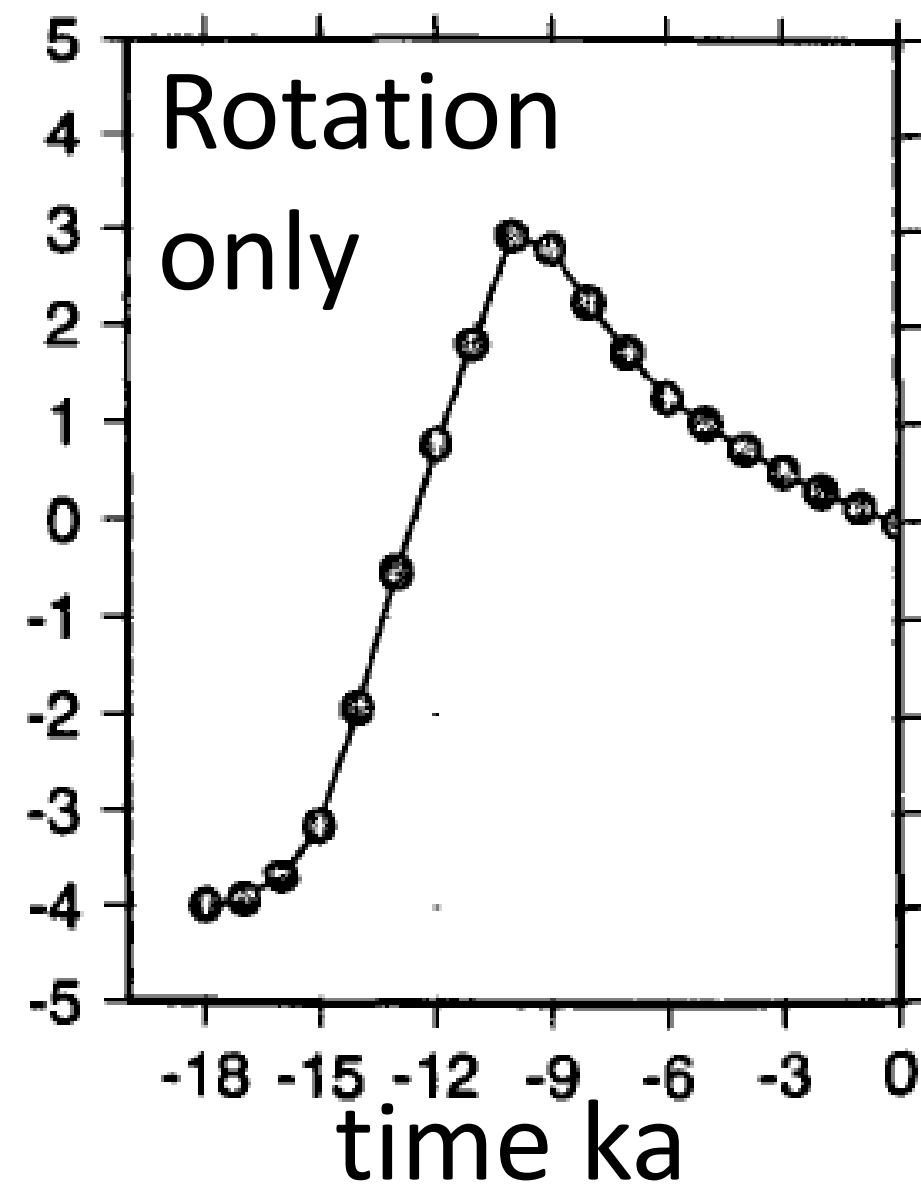
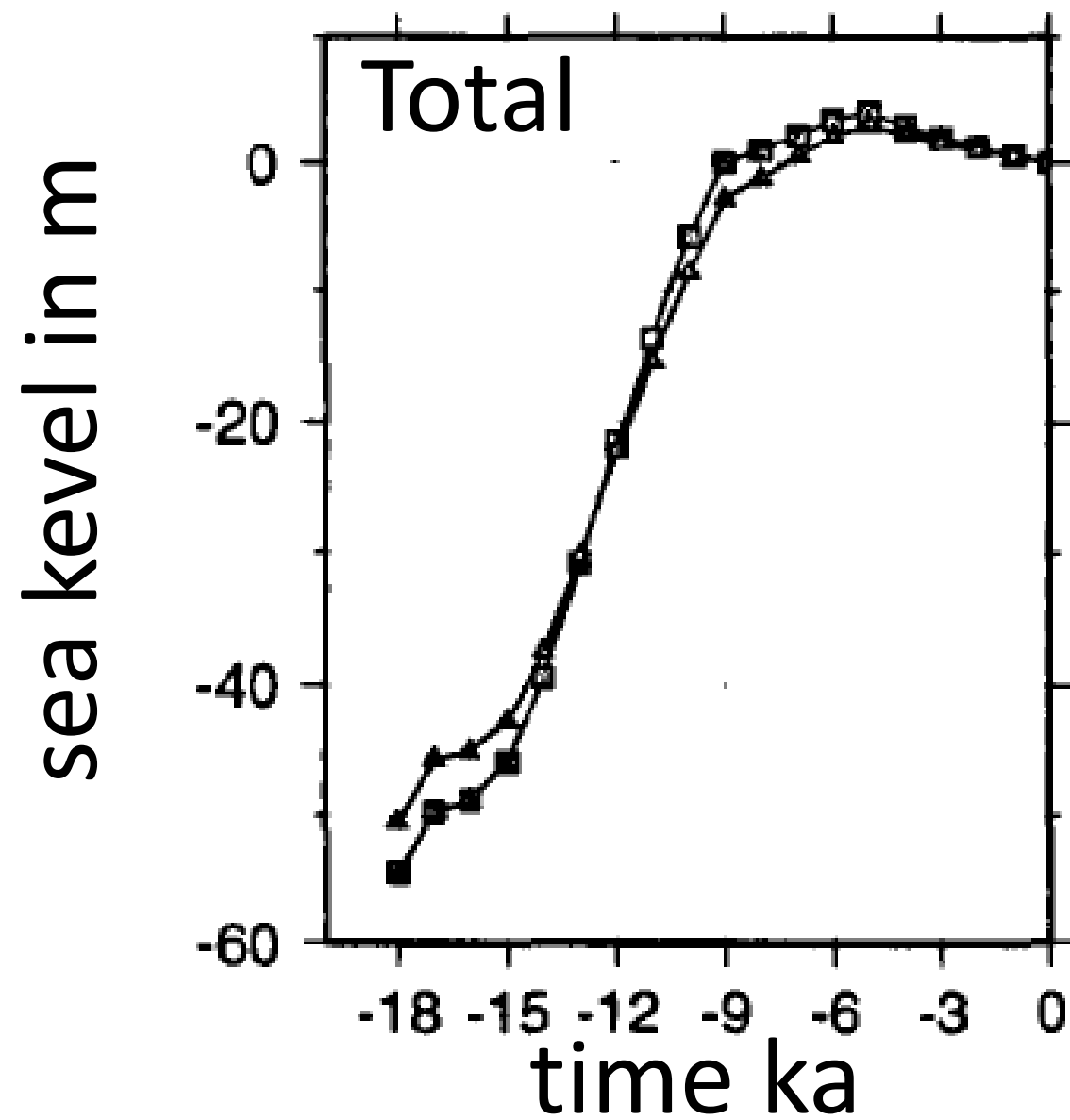
● falls

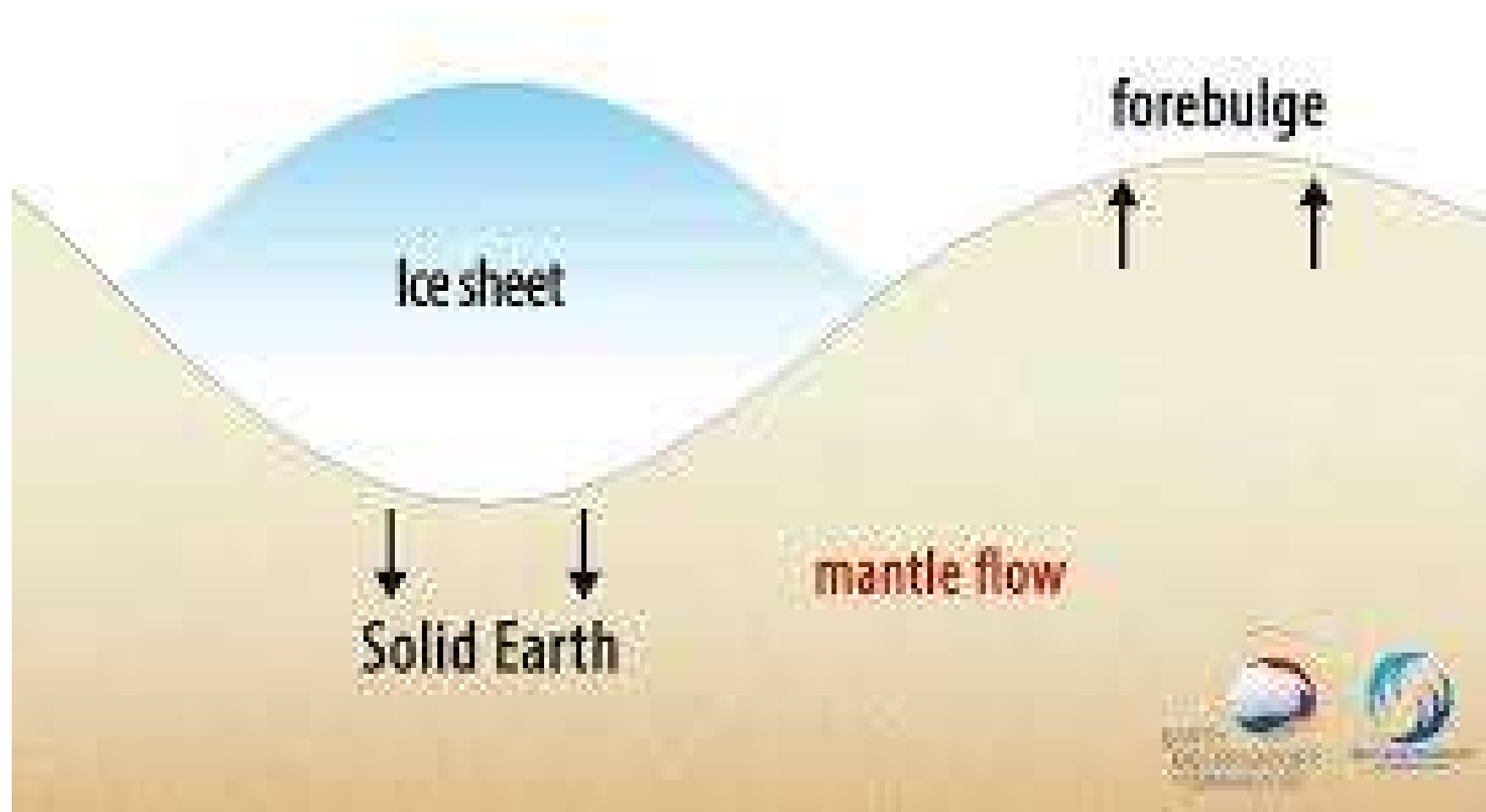
● rises

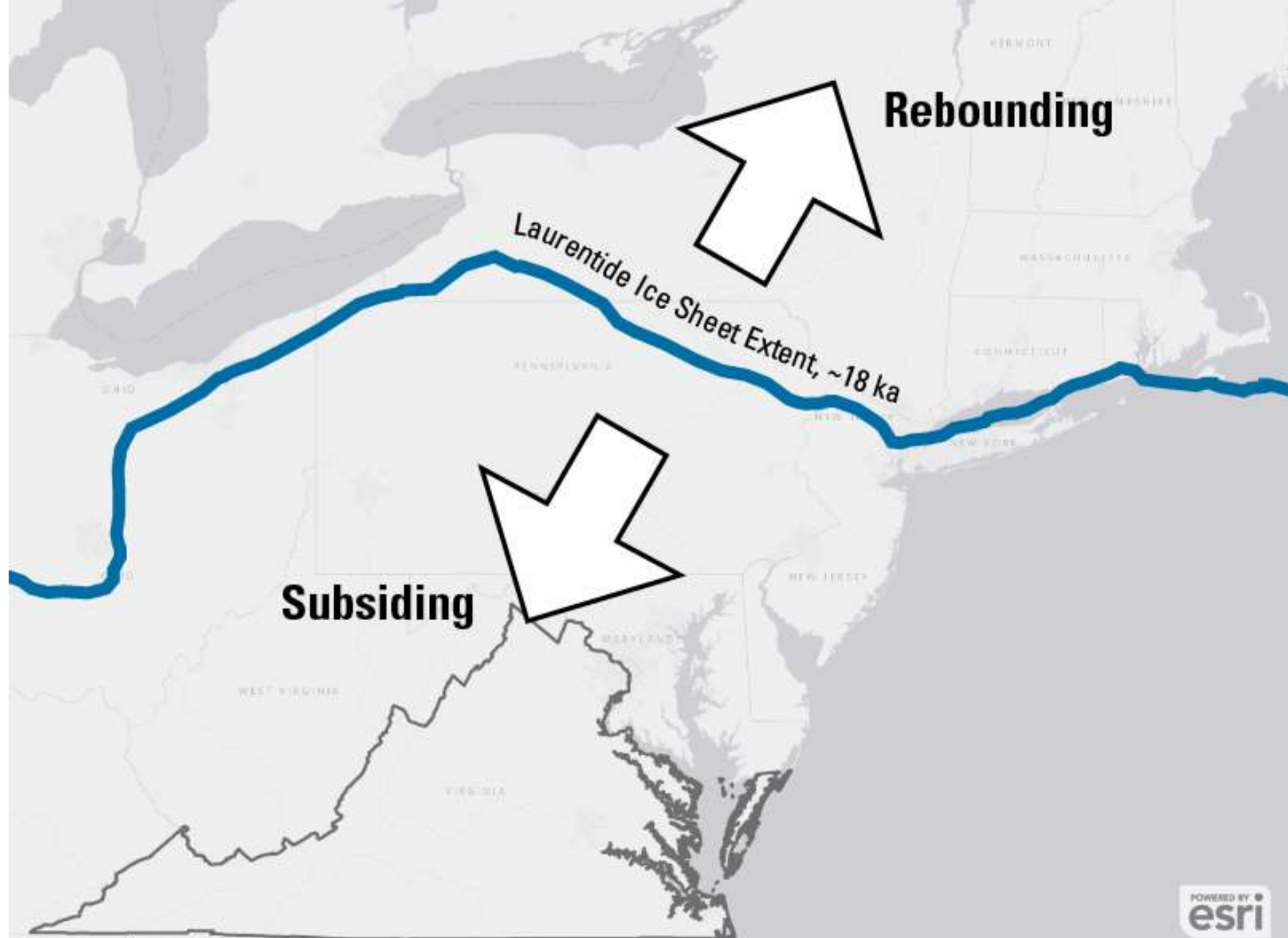
PERTH, AUSTRALIA (32.0S,116.0E)

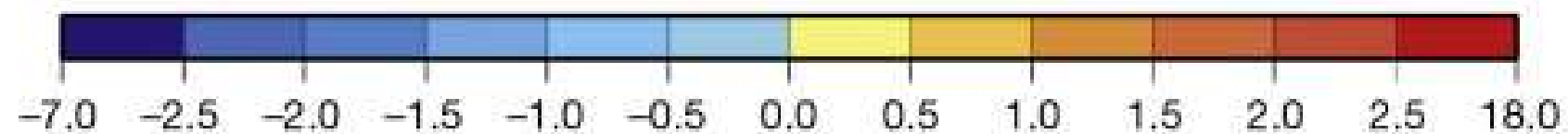
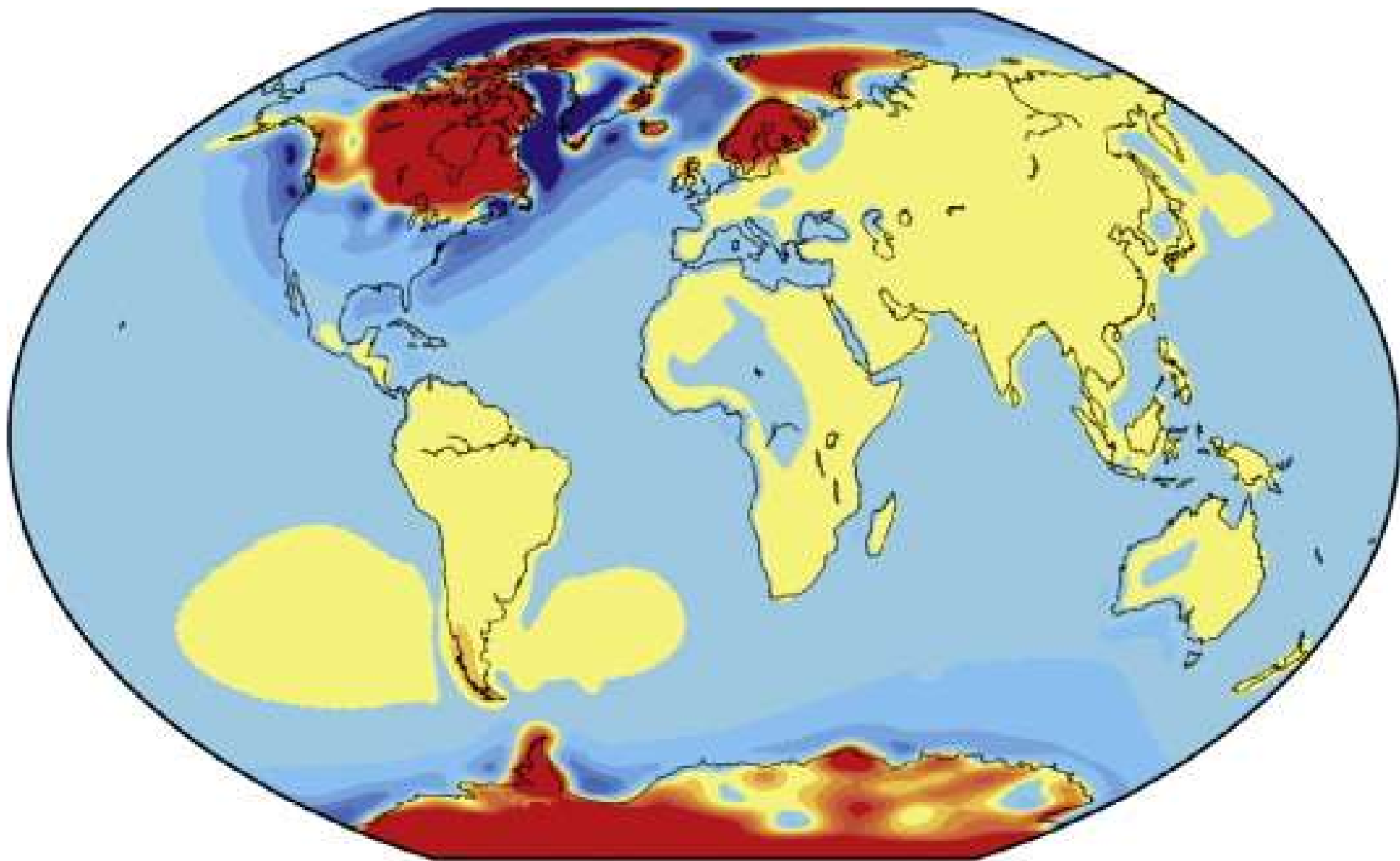


BAHIA GENTE GRANDE, CHILE (52.8S,-70.8E)









Present-day radial deformation (mm yr⁻¹)



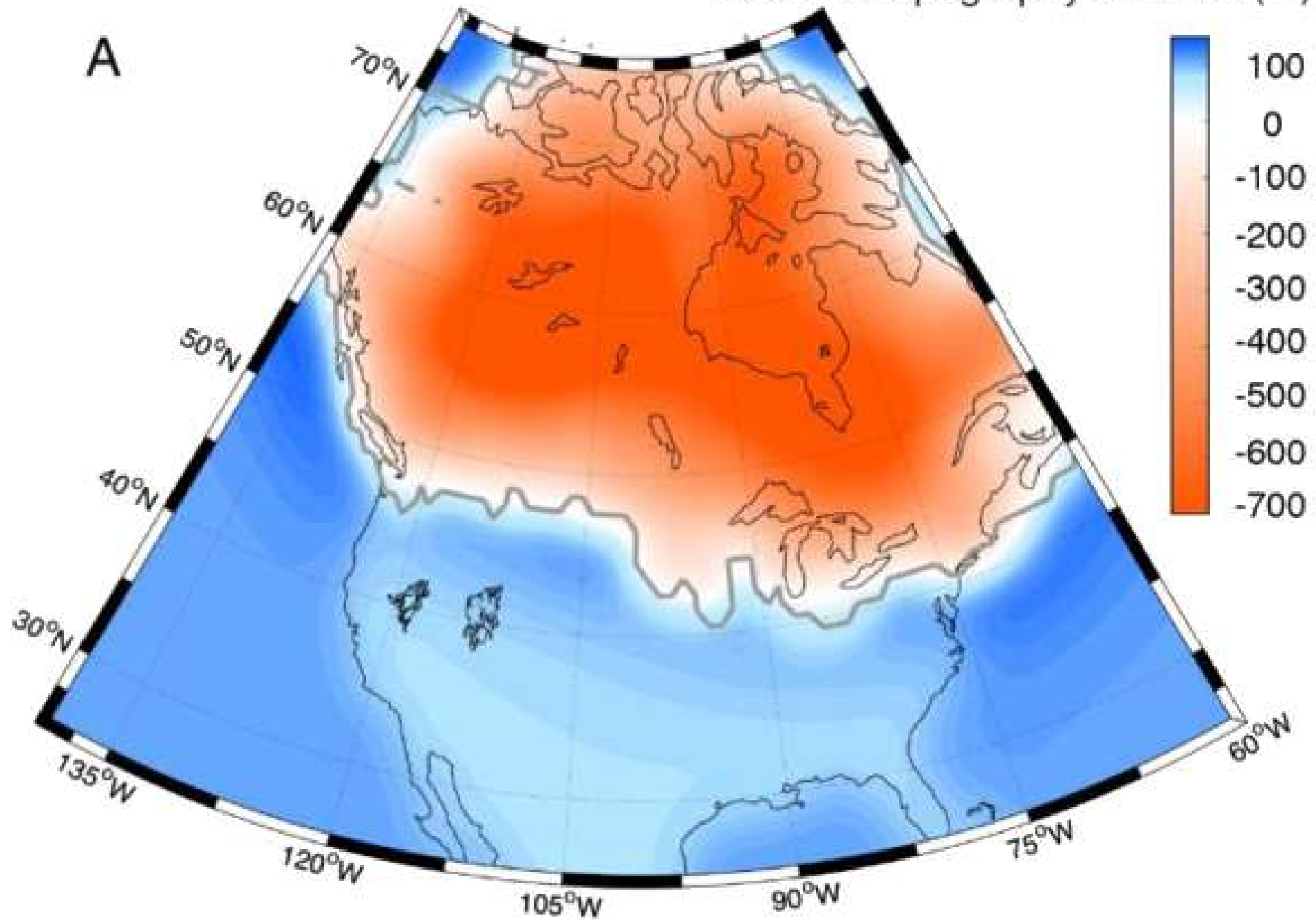
Glacial-era sea cliff on Reykjanes



Beach
terraces in
Greenland

more
interesting
because
they are
dateable

Relative topography at 18 ka (m)









BONNEVILLE Peak ~18K years ago

PROVO Lake Receding ~15K years ago

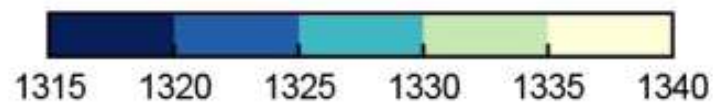
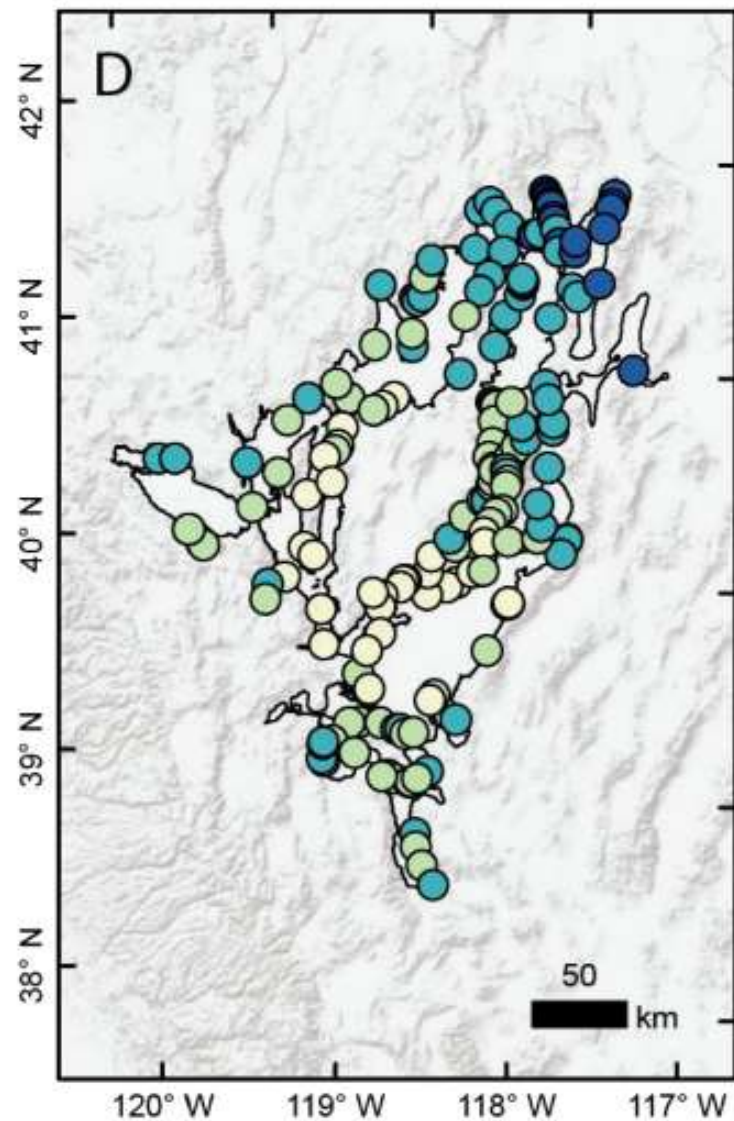
STANSBURY Lake Rising. ~25K years ago

18 ka

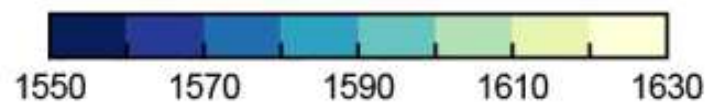
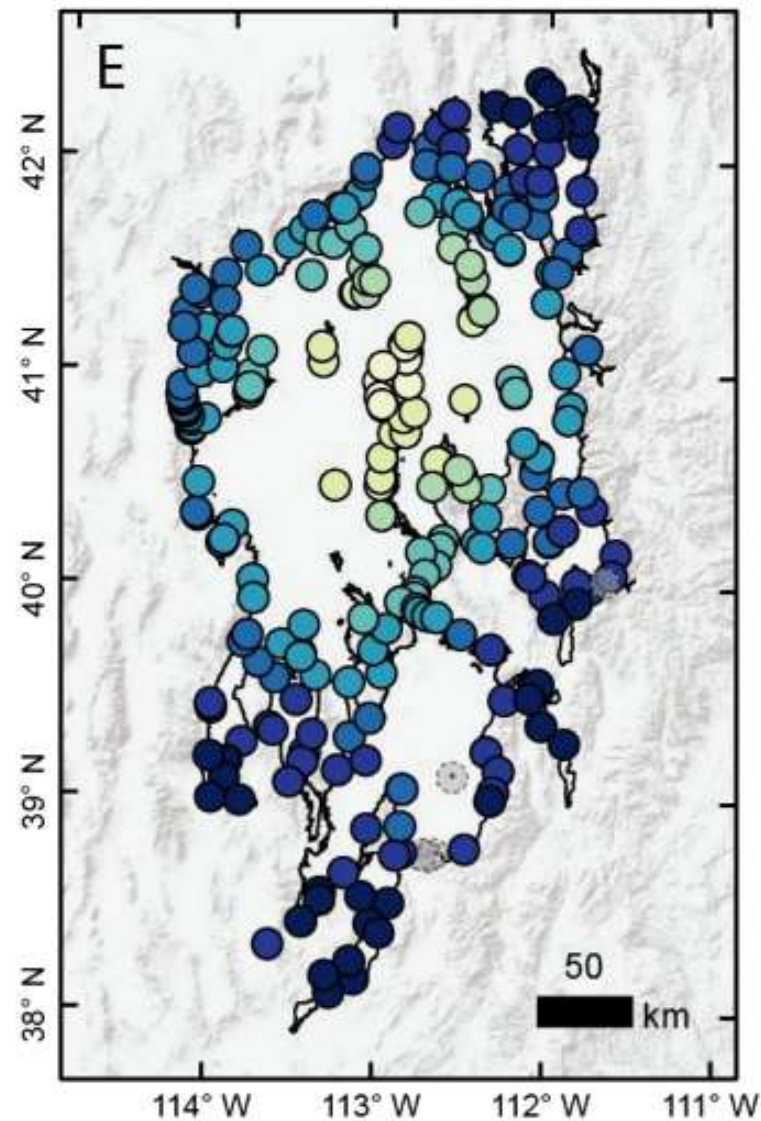
15 ka

25 ka

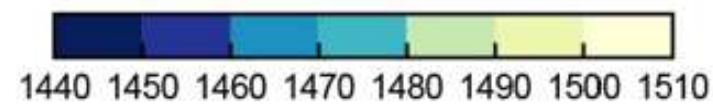
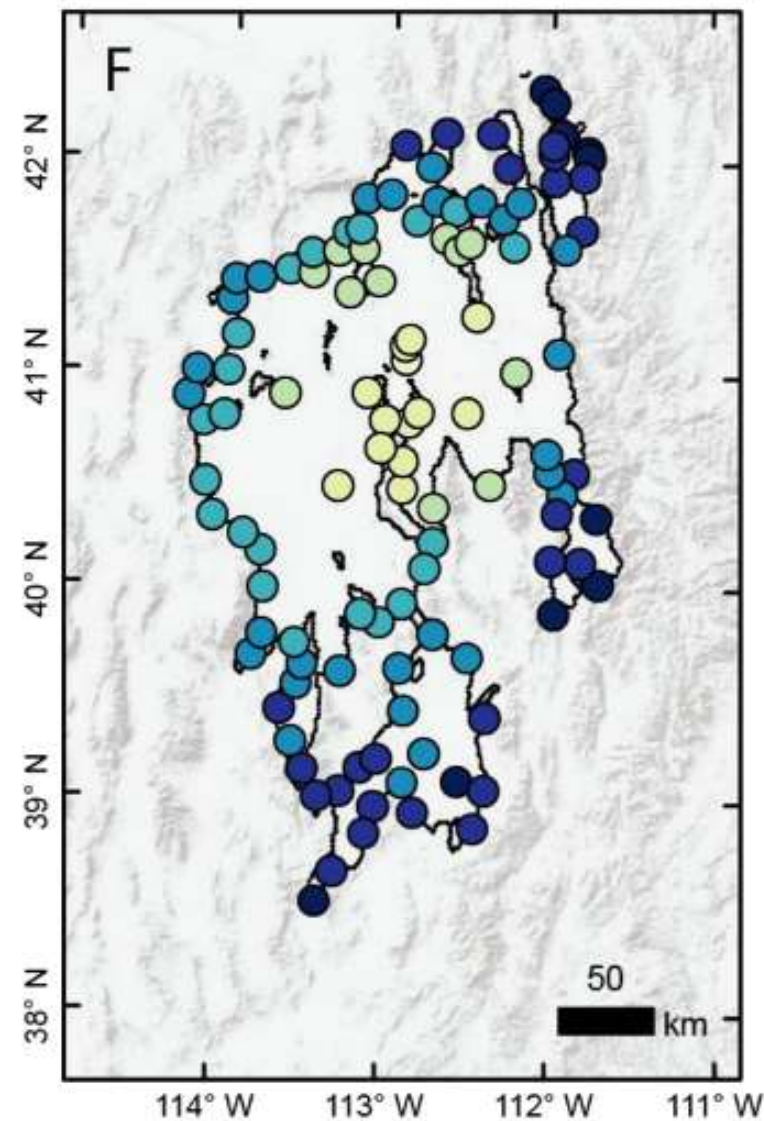
Sehoo lake stage (Lake Lahontan)



Bonneville lake stage (Lake Bonneville)



Provo lake stage (Lake Bonneville)

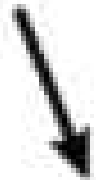


Estimate of the SWL Elevation from Shoreline Features (meters above sea level)

B

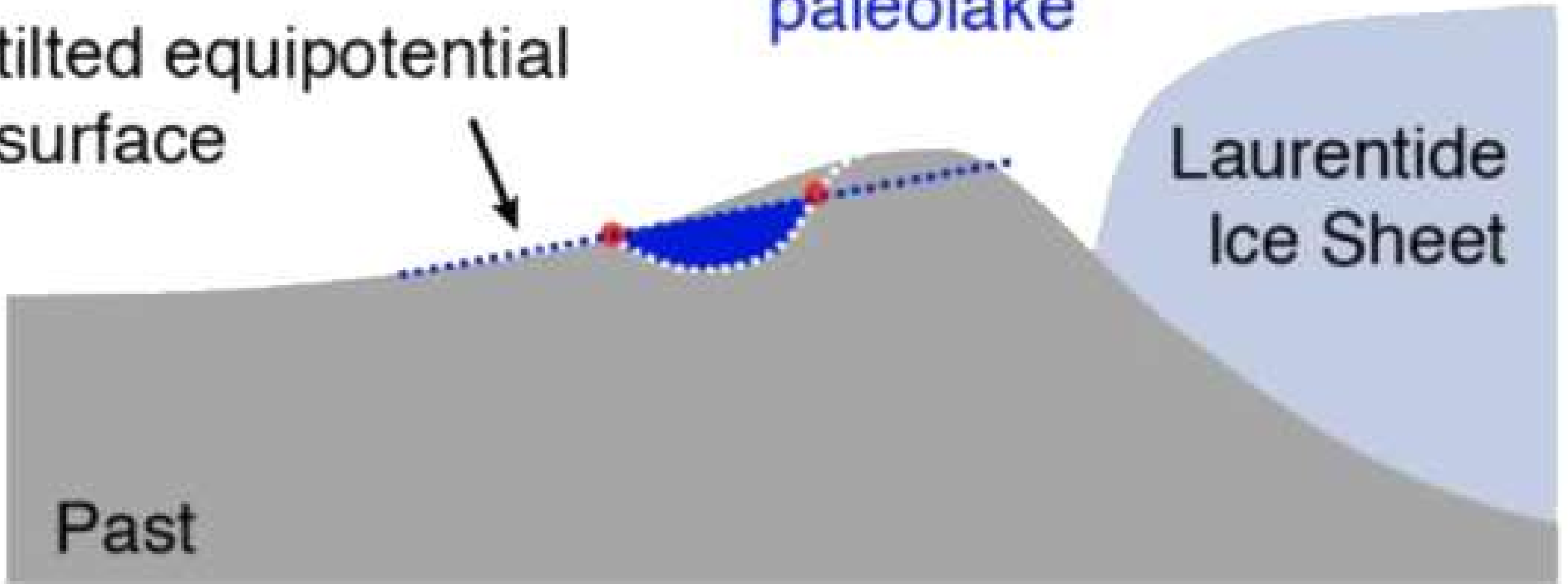
shoreline features
paleolake

tilted equipotential
surface



Laurentide
Ice Sheet

Past



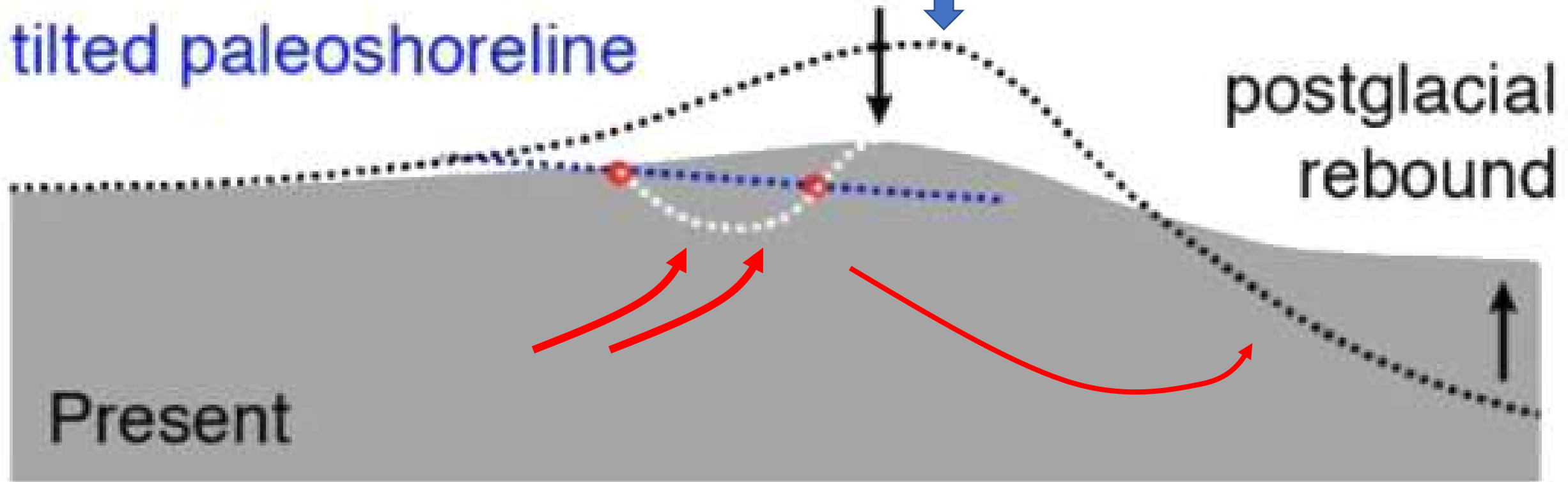
tilted and domed
shoreline features

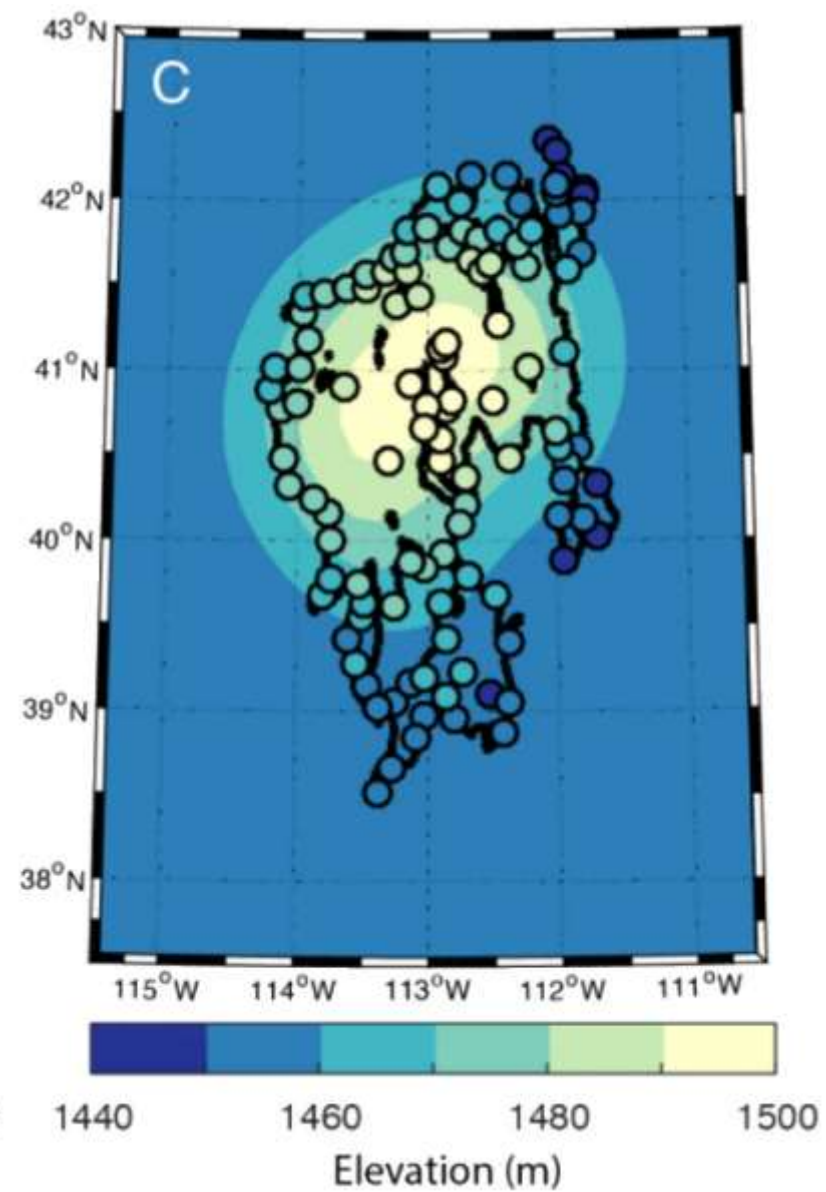
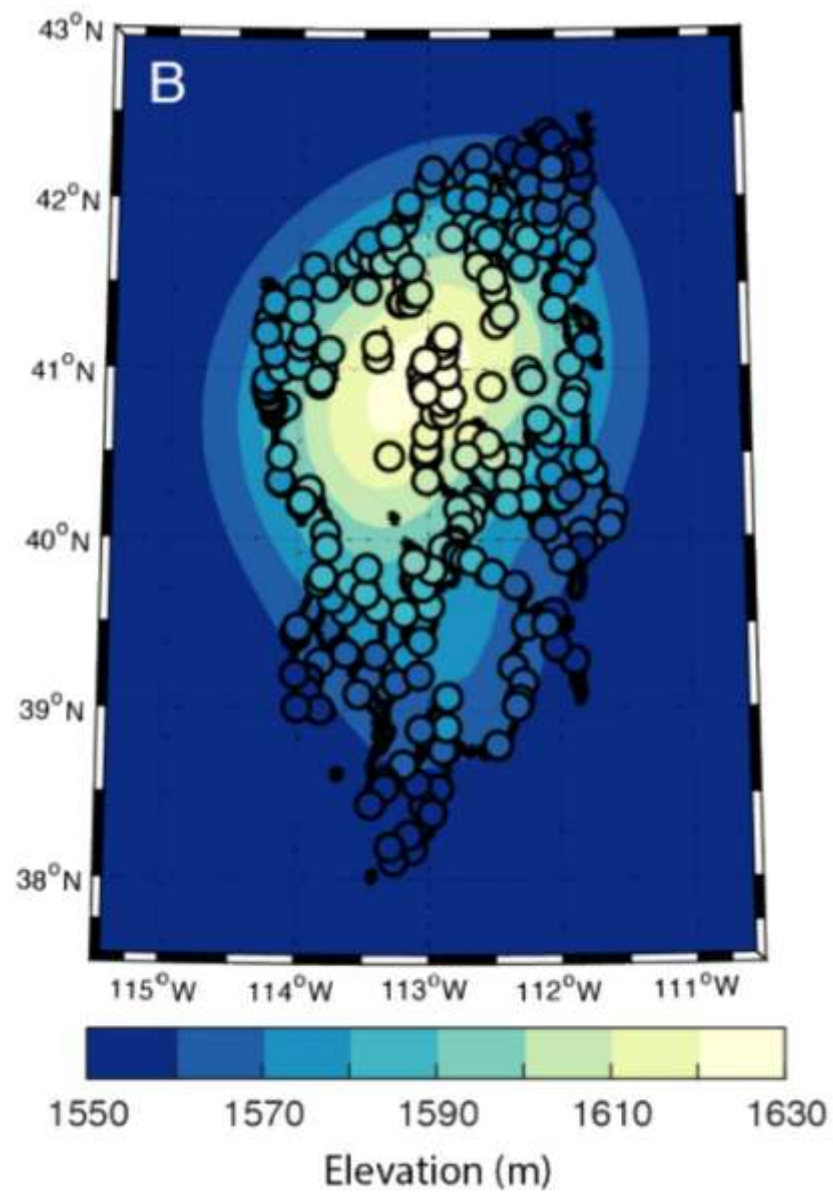
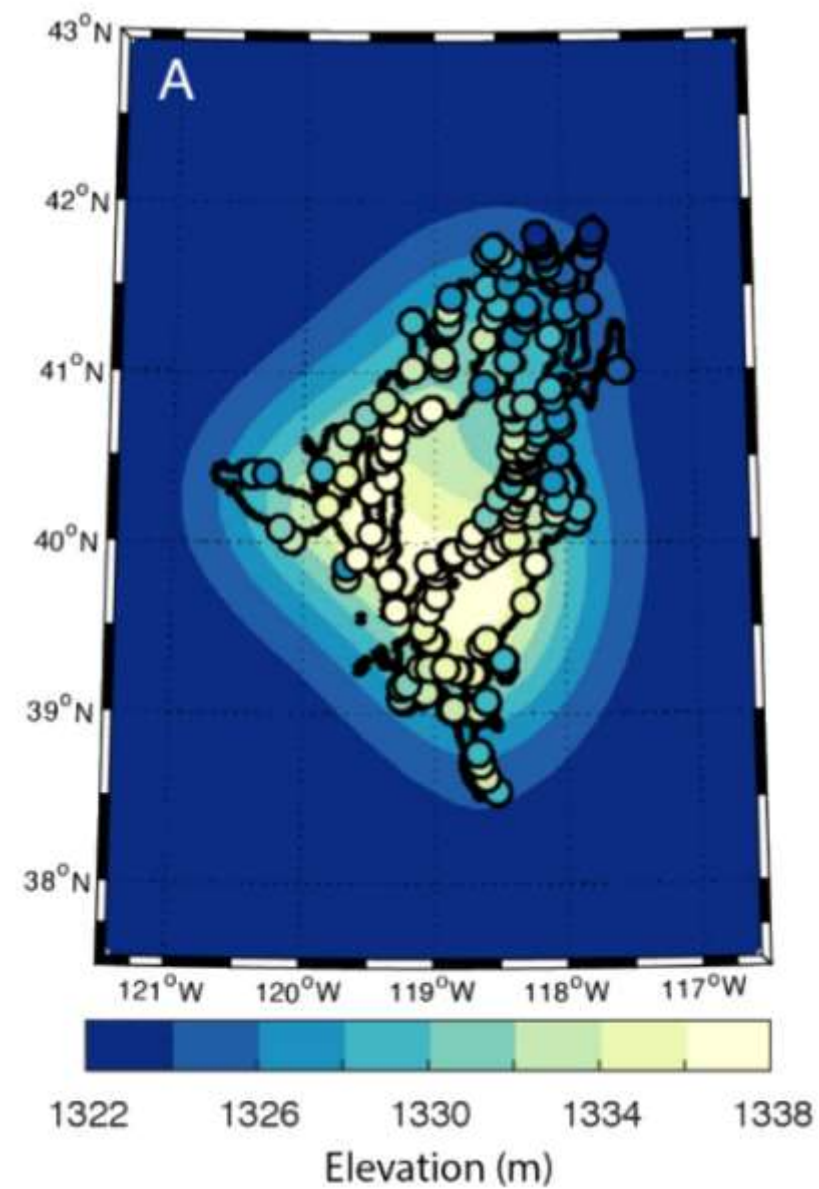
subsidence of
peripheral bulge

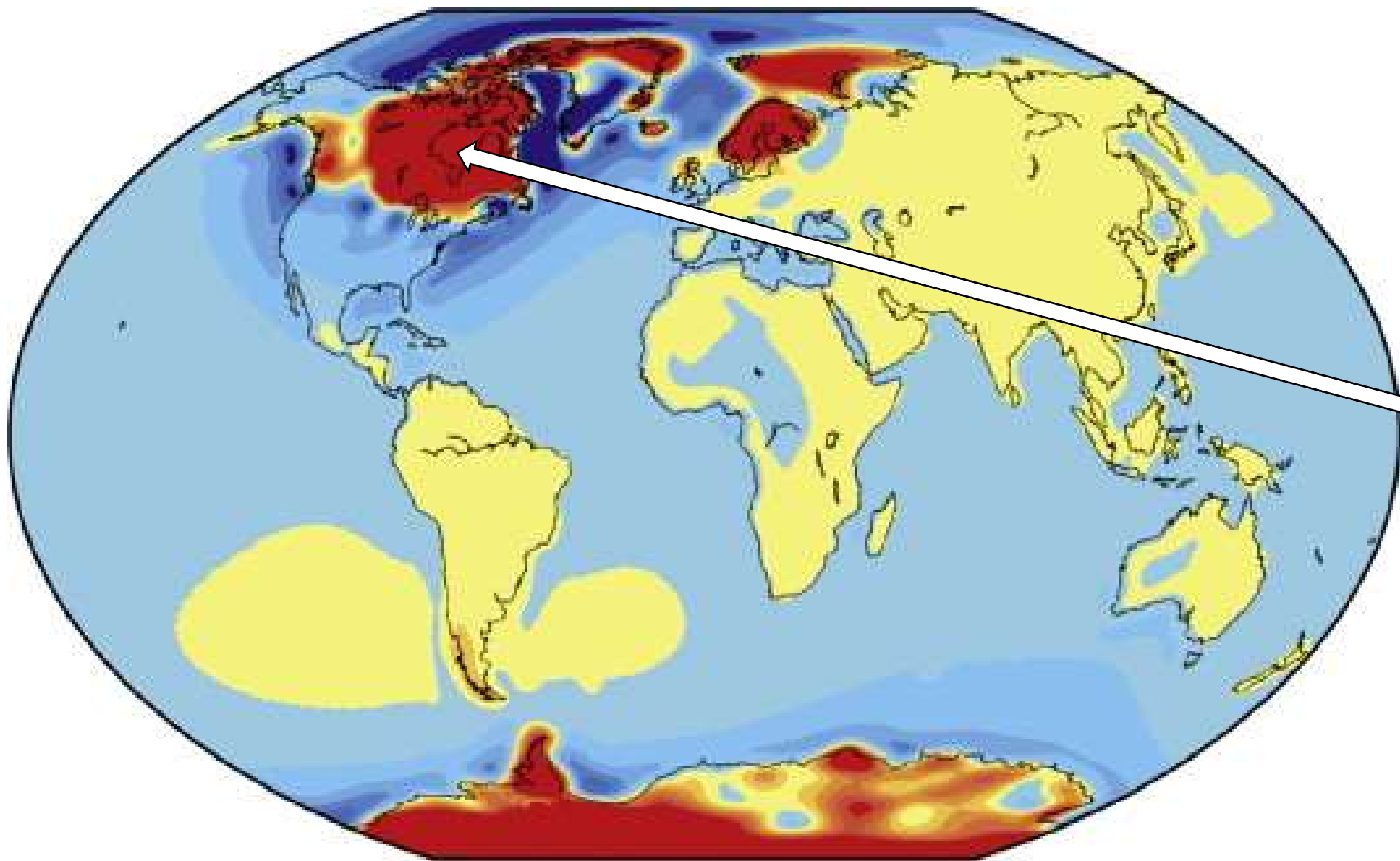
tilted paleoshoreline

postglacial
rebound

Present

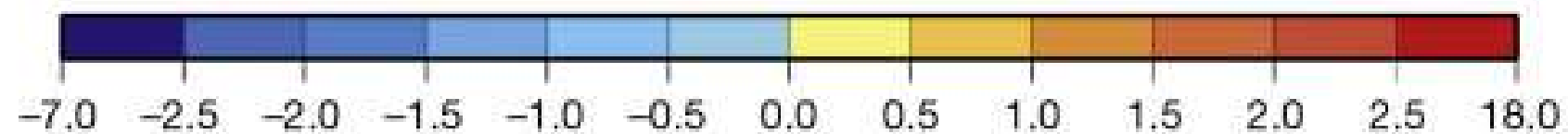




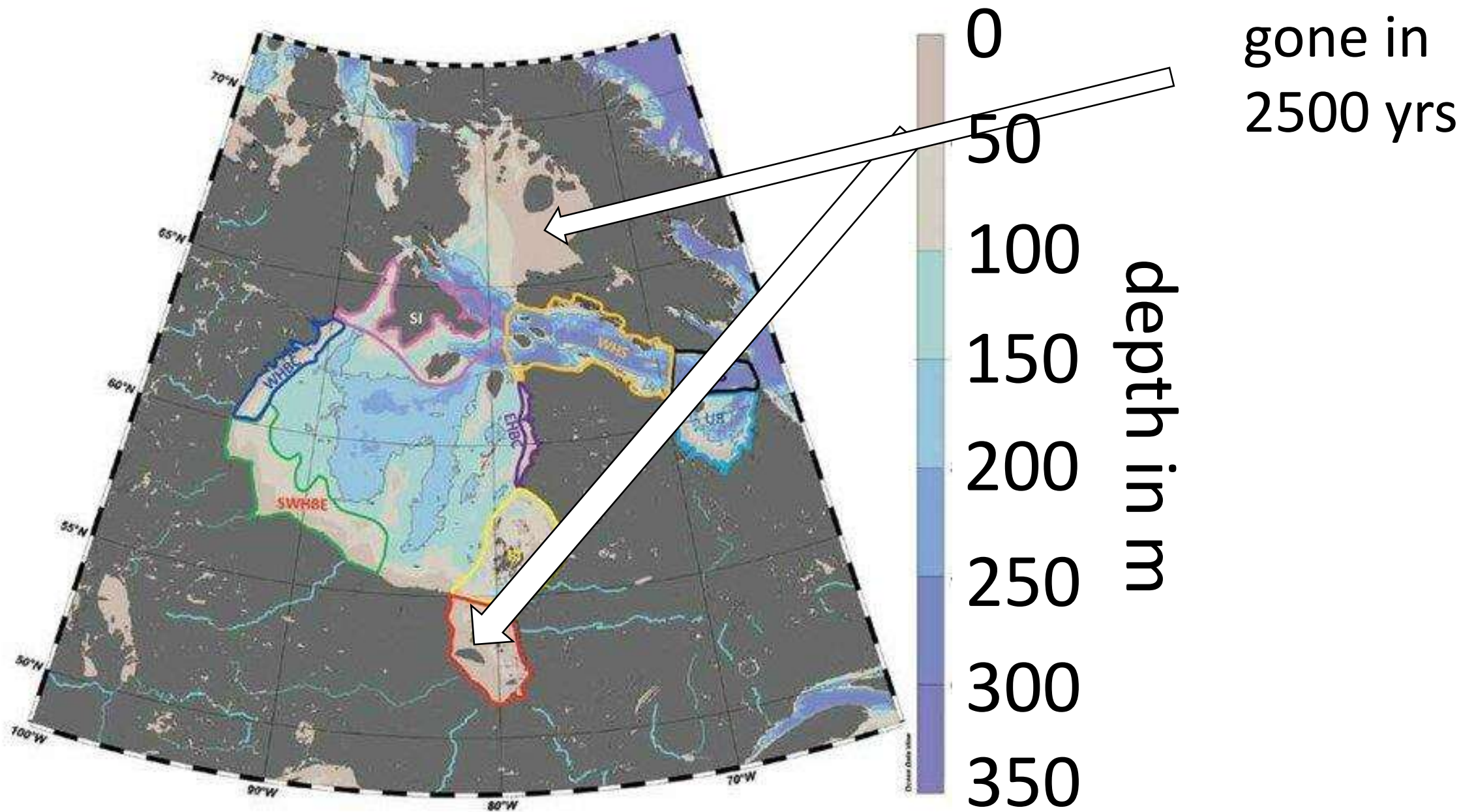


1.8 cm year
of uplift

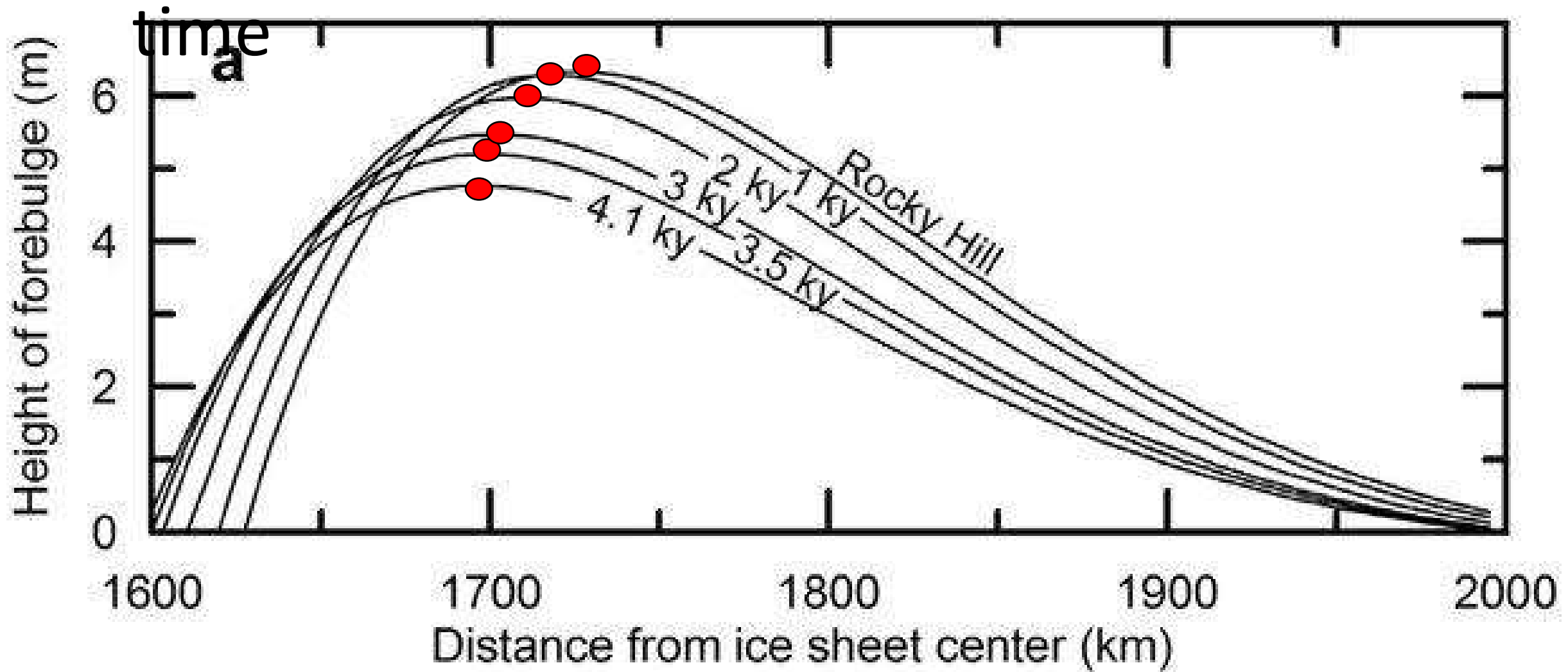
roughly
1 m in
50 years



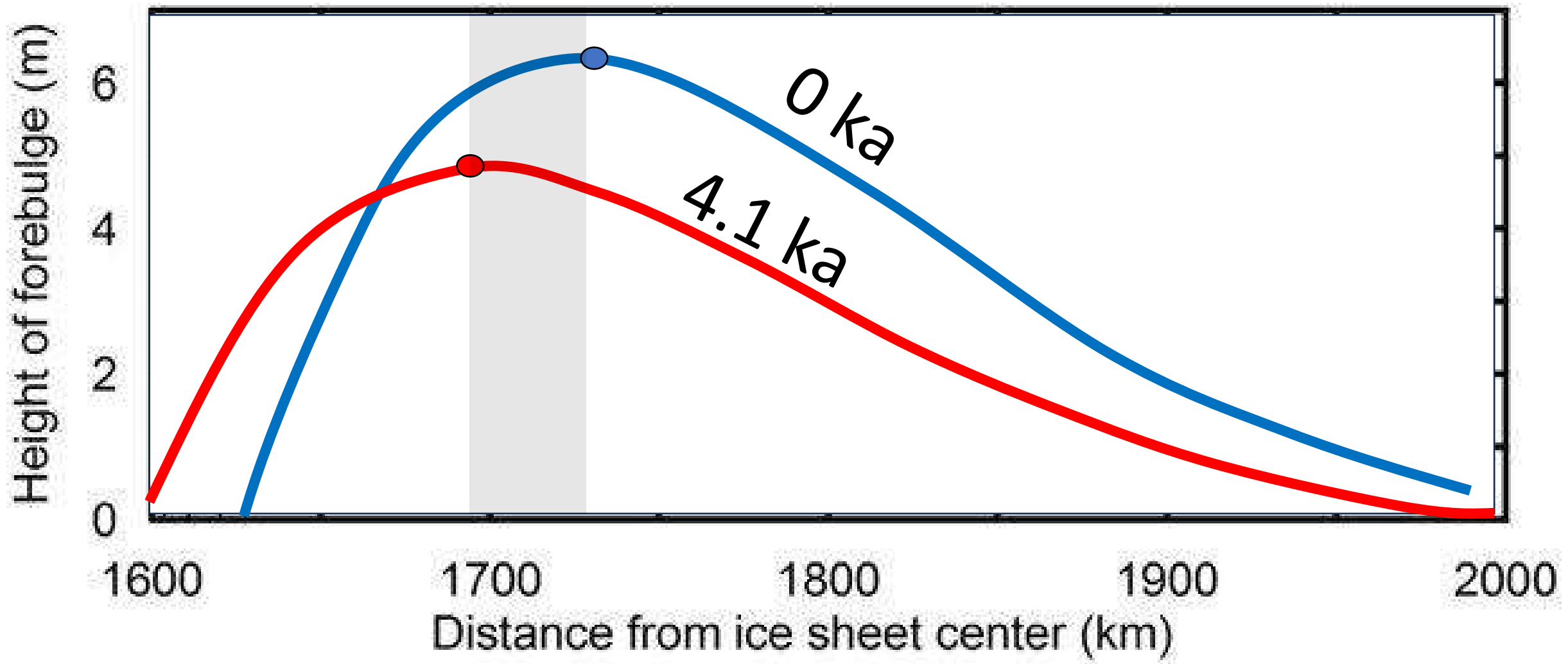
Present-day radial deformation (mm yr^{-1})



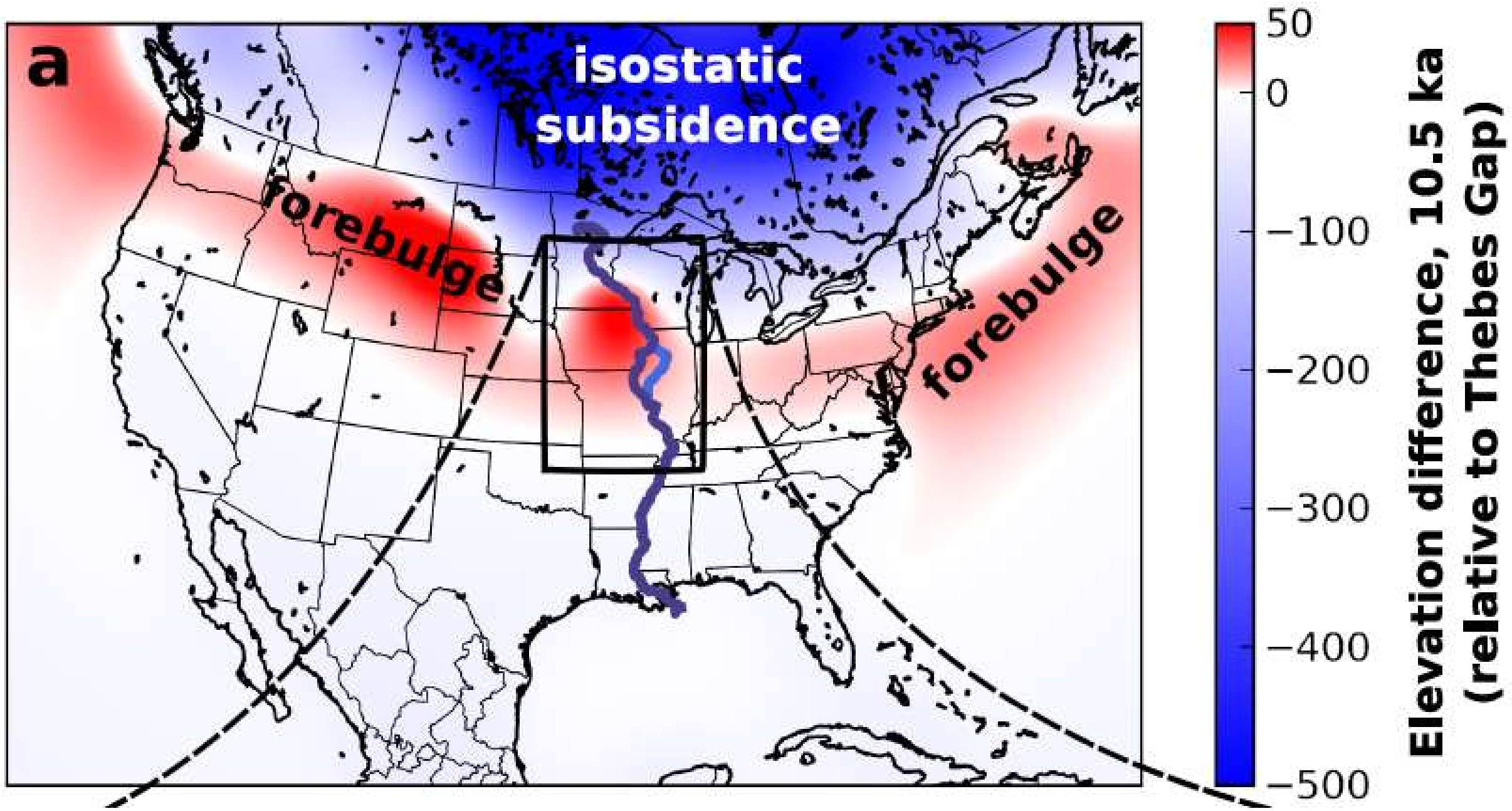
position of peak • shifts glacier-ward with time

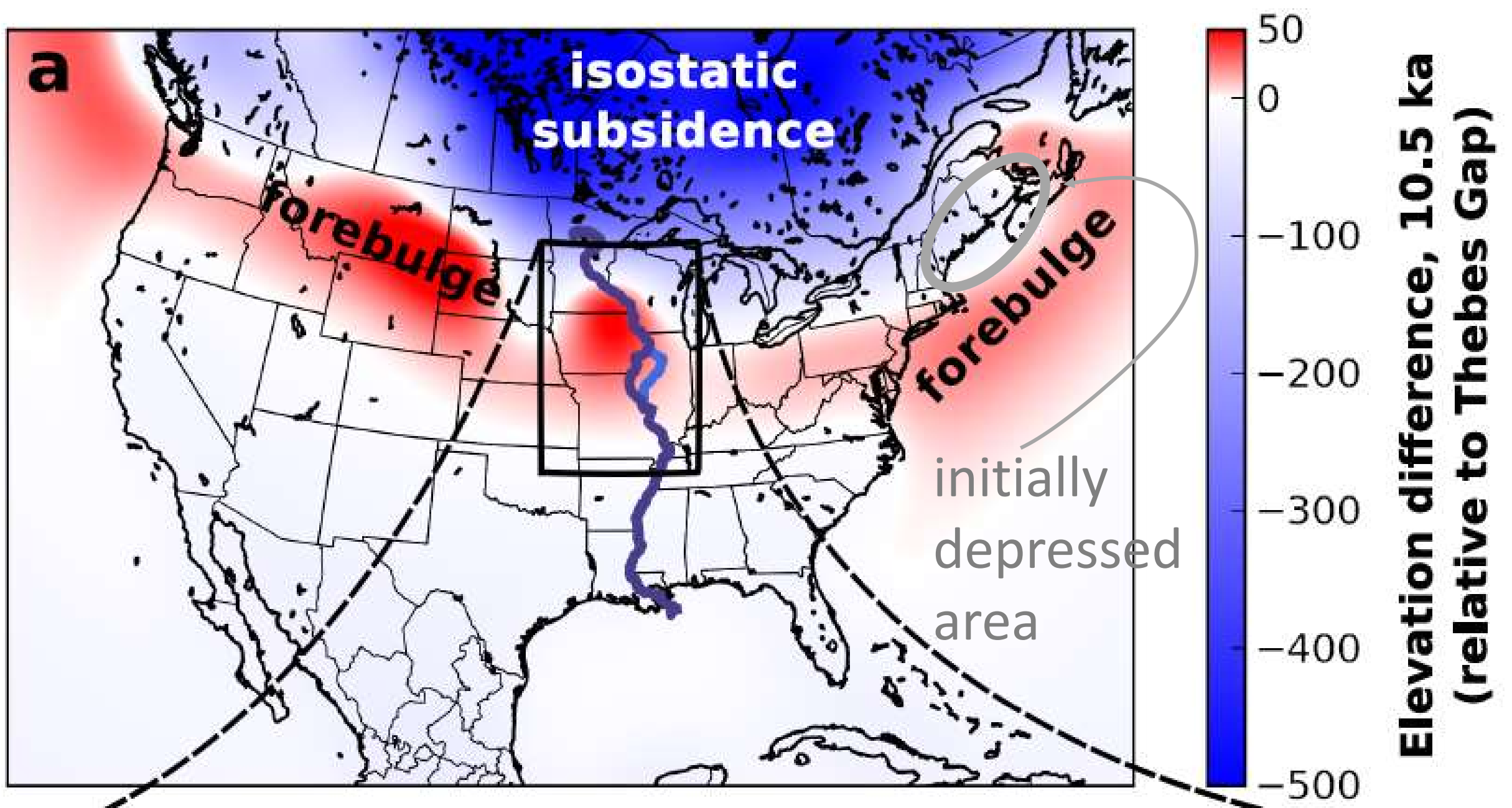


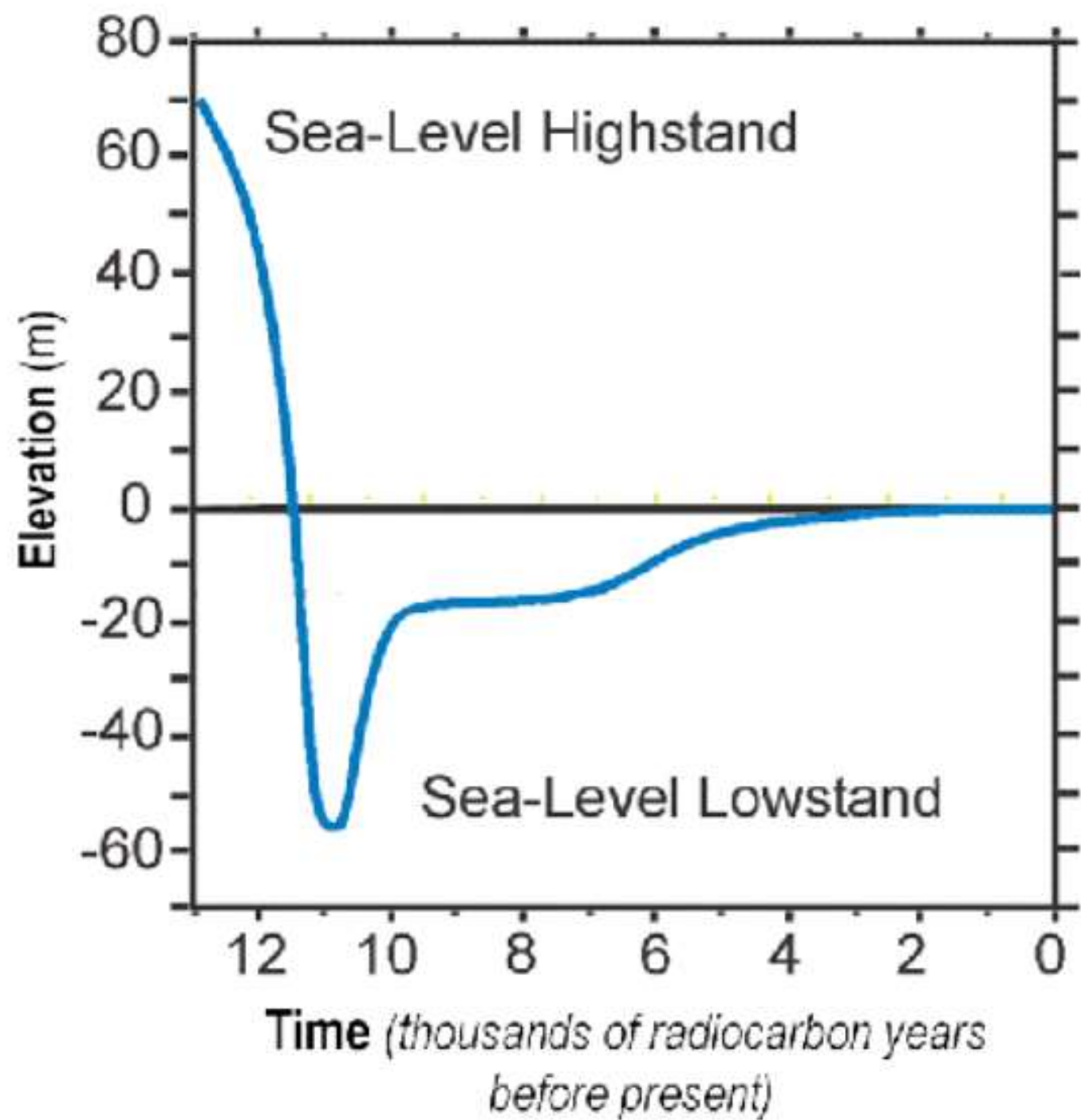
range where slope reverses



rivers could reverse direction





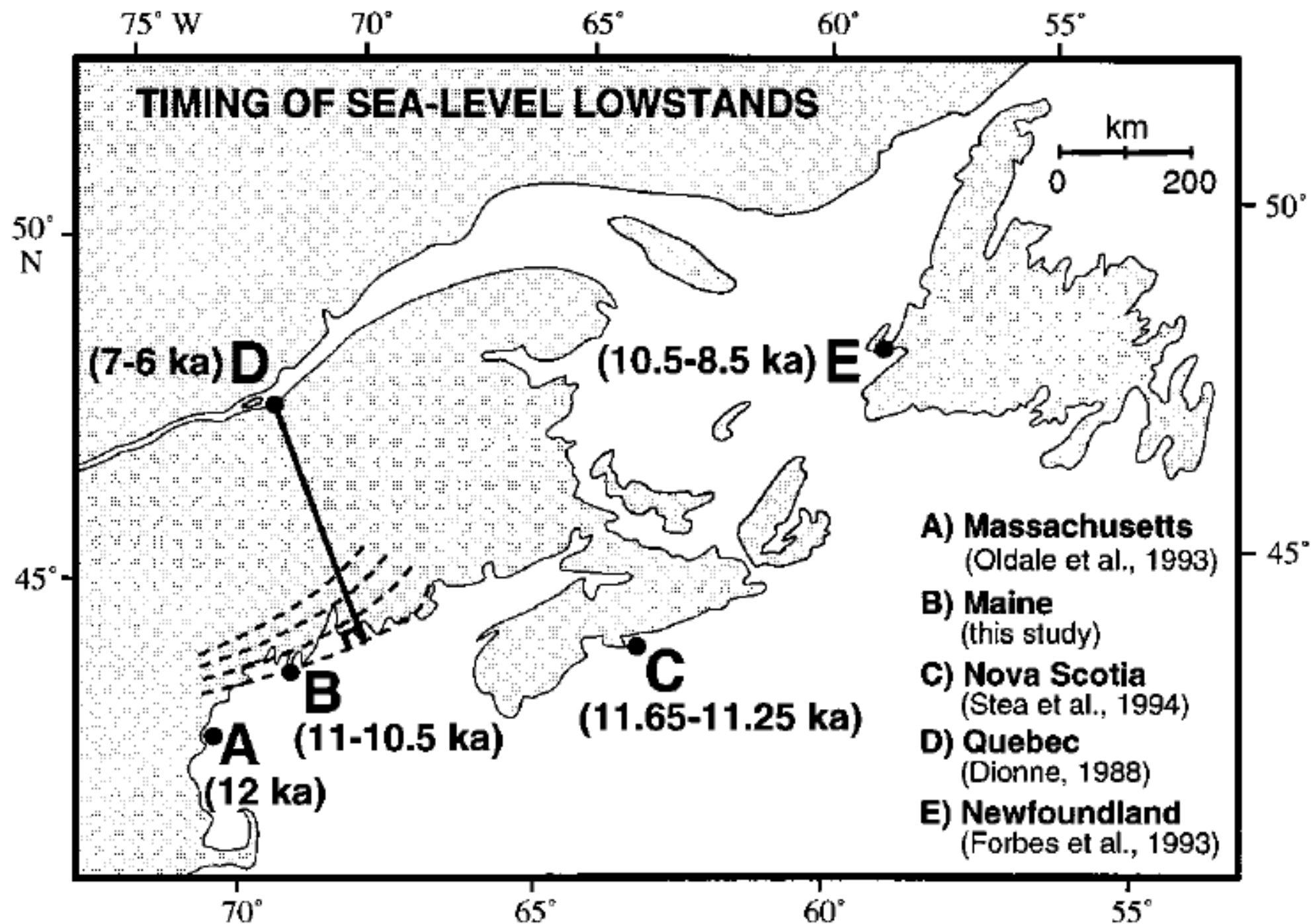


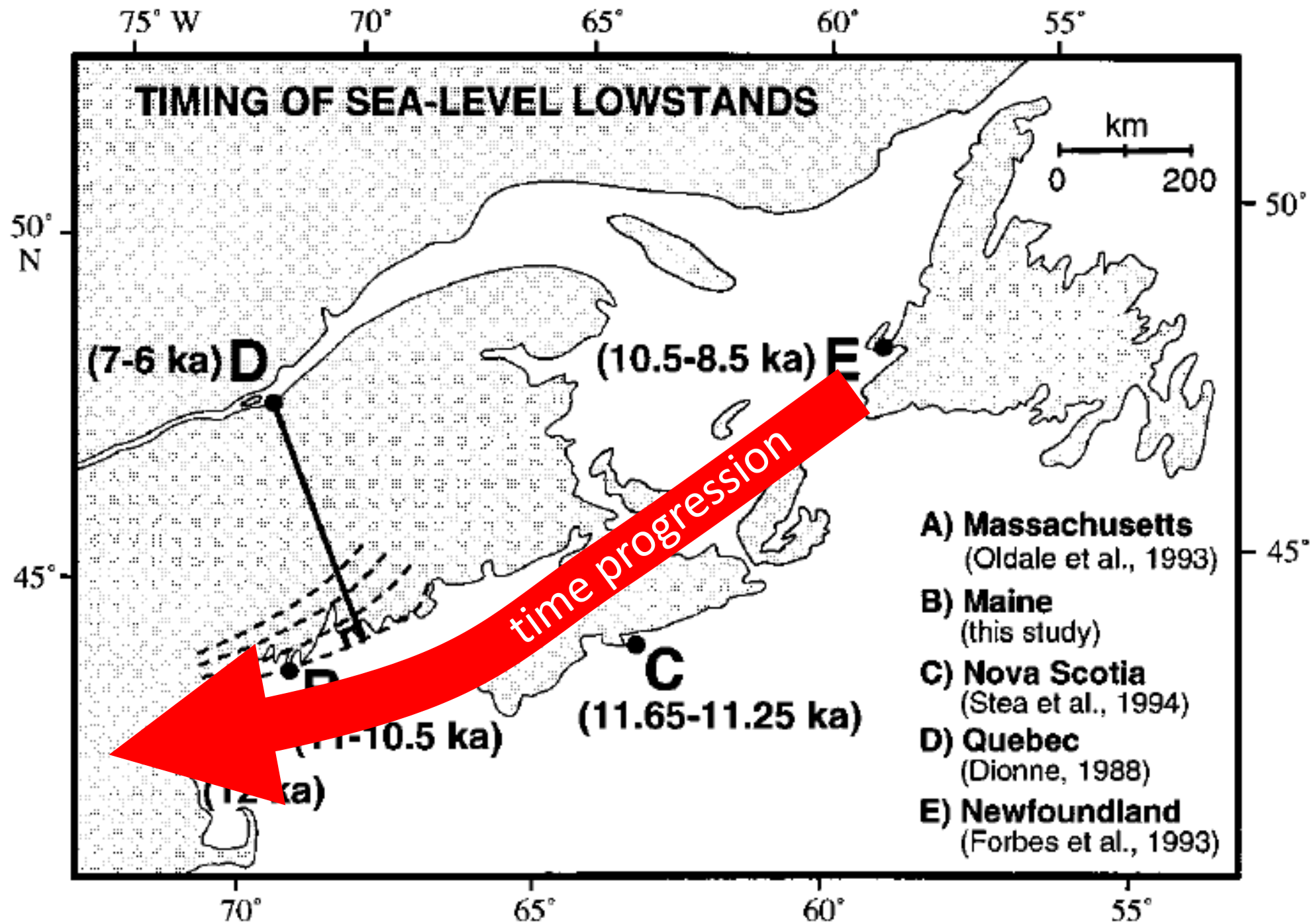


glacial
marine
sediments
in Maine

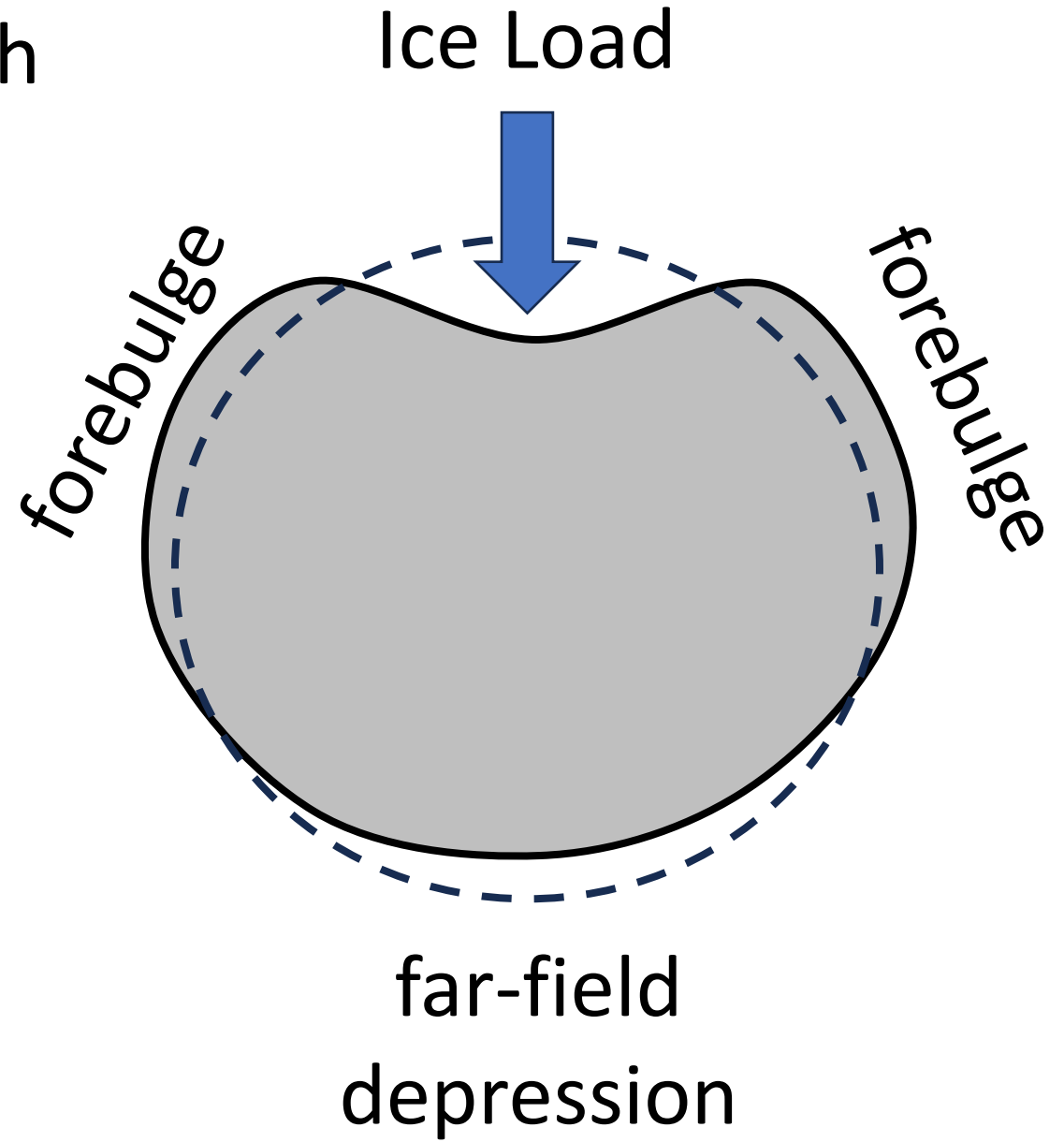
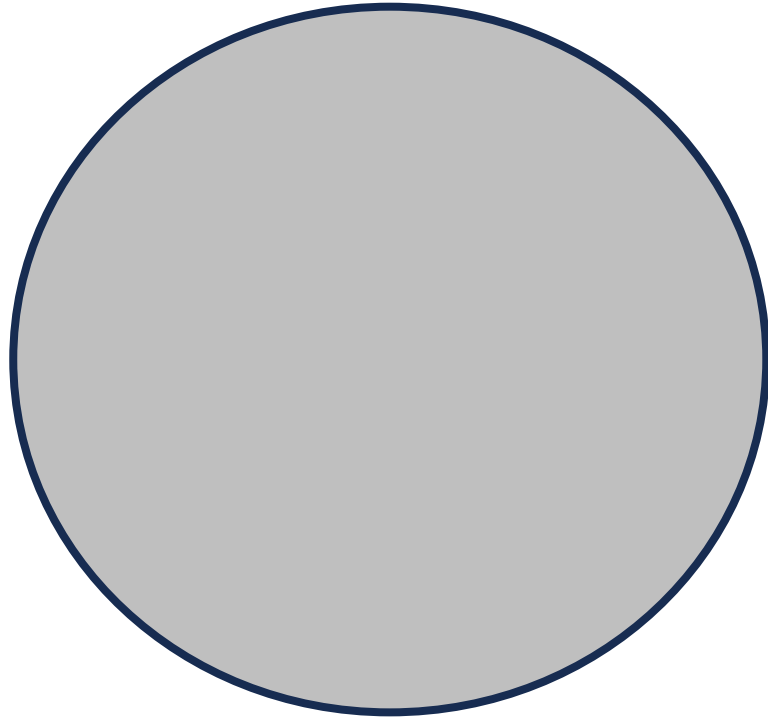


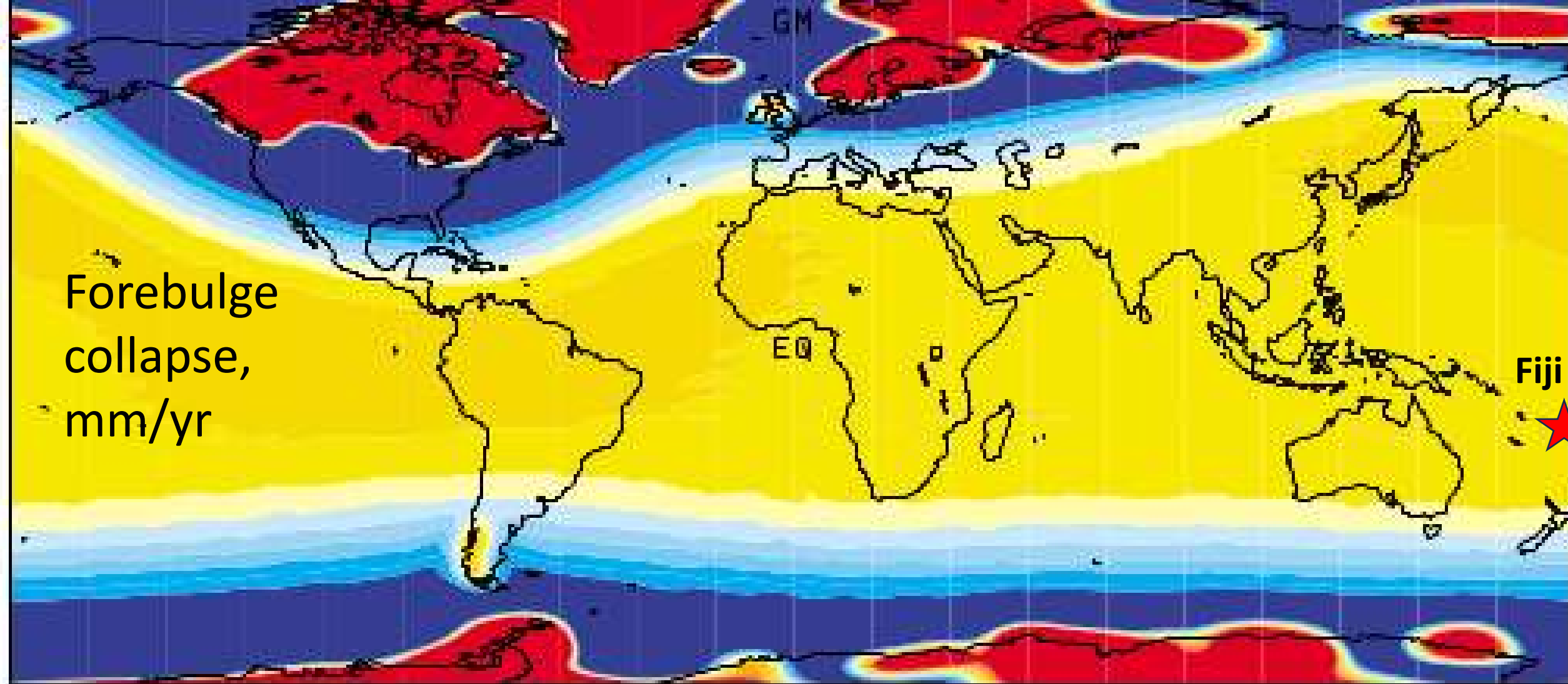
drop-stones?





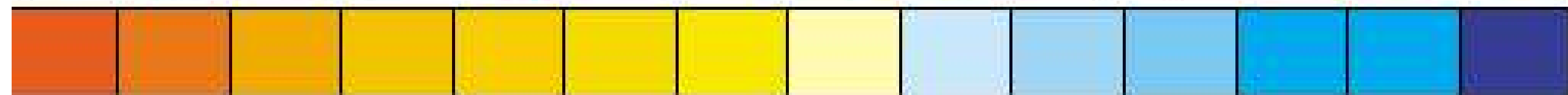
forebulge on a spherical earth





Forebulge
collapse,
mm/yr

Fiji

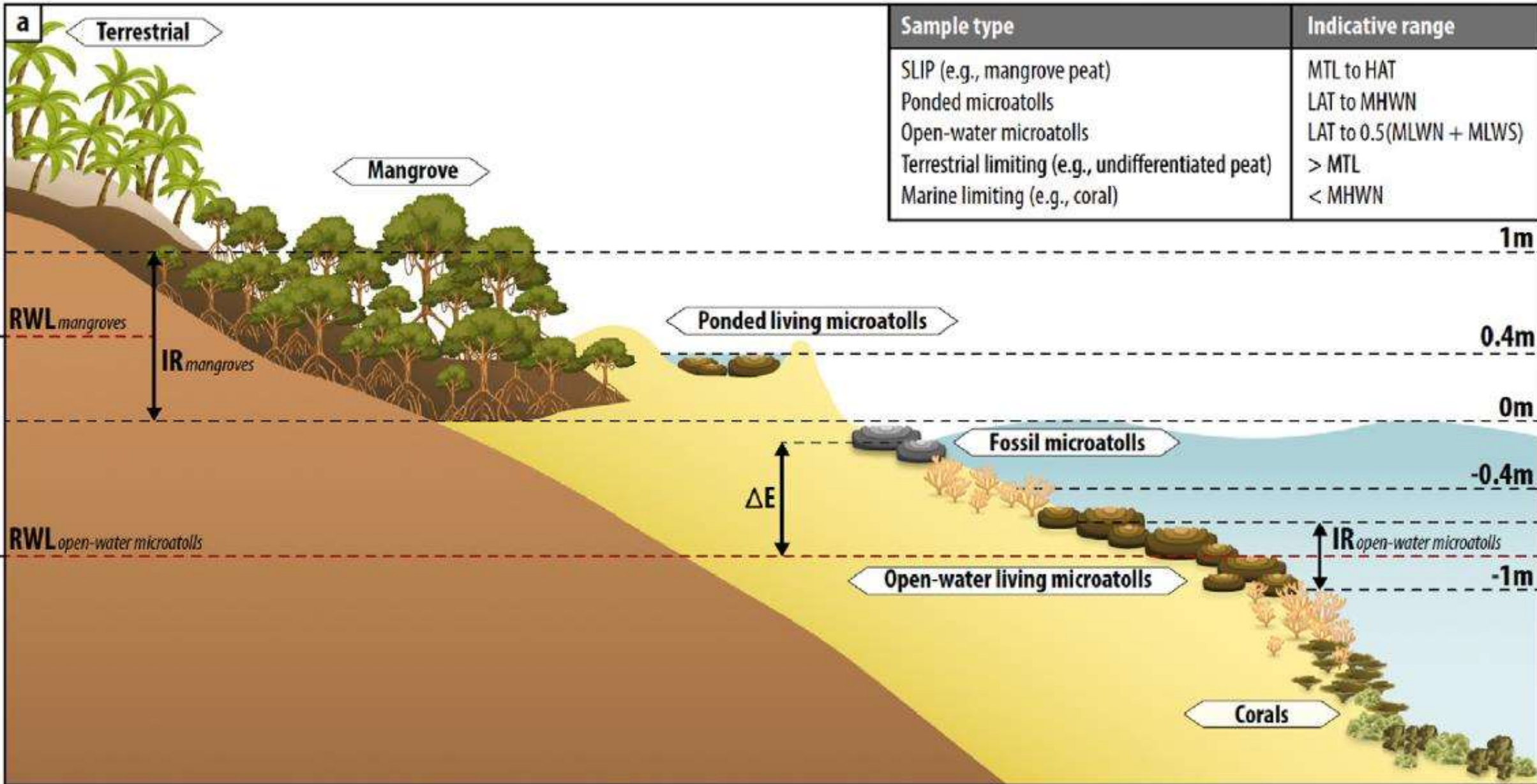


-0.7 -0.6 -0.5 -0.4 -0.3 -0.2 -0.1 0 .1 .2 .3 .4 .5



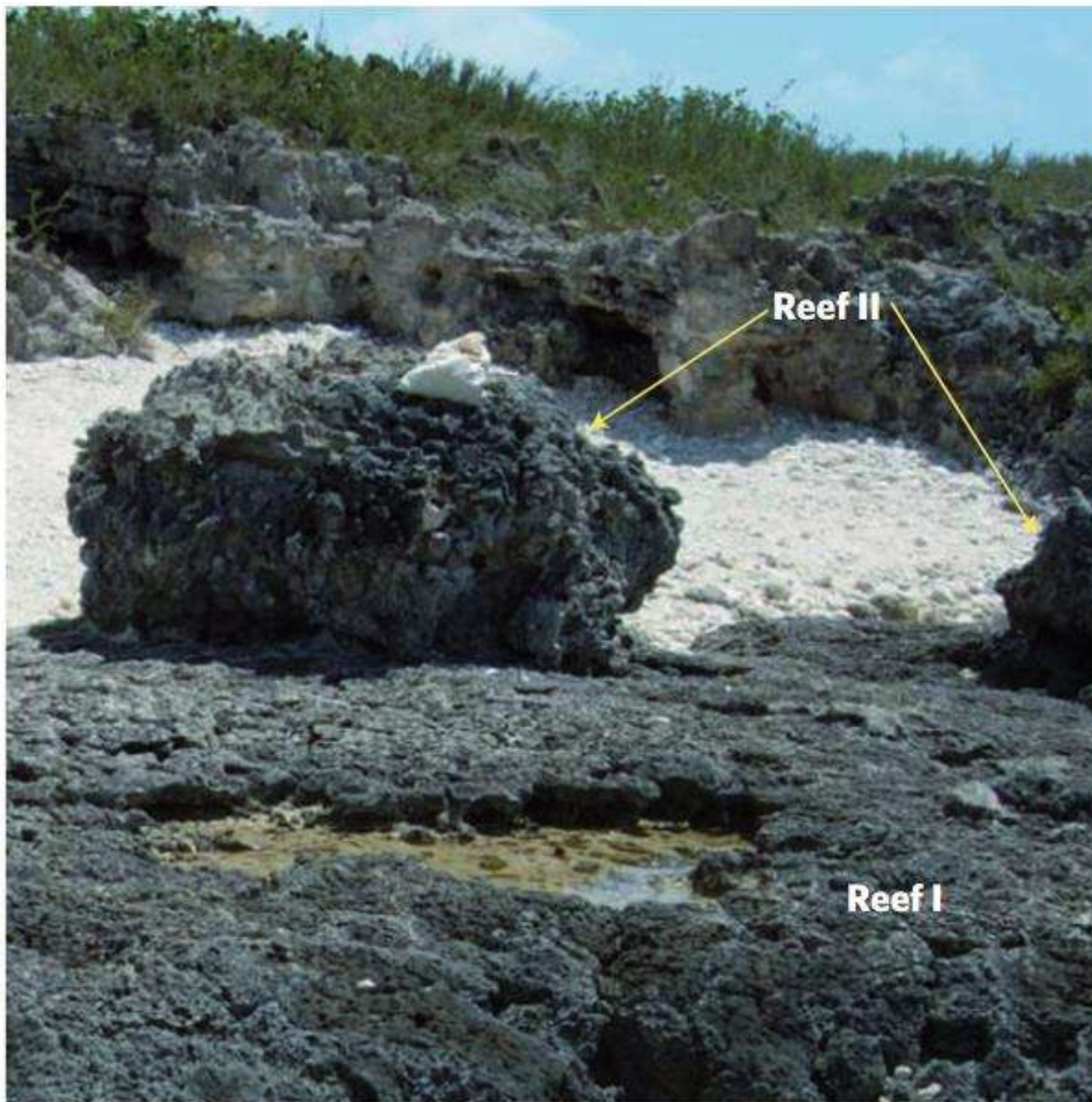


Vitilevu Island, Fiji



Sample type	Indicative range
SLIP (e.g., mangrove peat)	MTL to HAT
Ponded microatolls	LAT to MHWN
Open-water microatolls	LAT to 0.5(MLWN + MLWS)
Terrestrial limiting (e.g., undifferentiated peat)	> MTL
Marine limiting (e.g., coral)	< MHWN

— RSL
 ↓ -RWL
 $\pm \frac{IR}{2}$ RSL uncertainty associated with indicative range
 Other vertical uncertainties

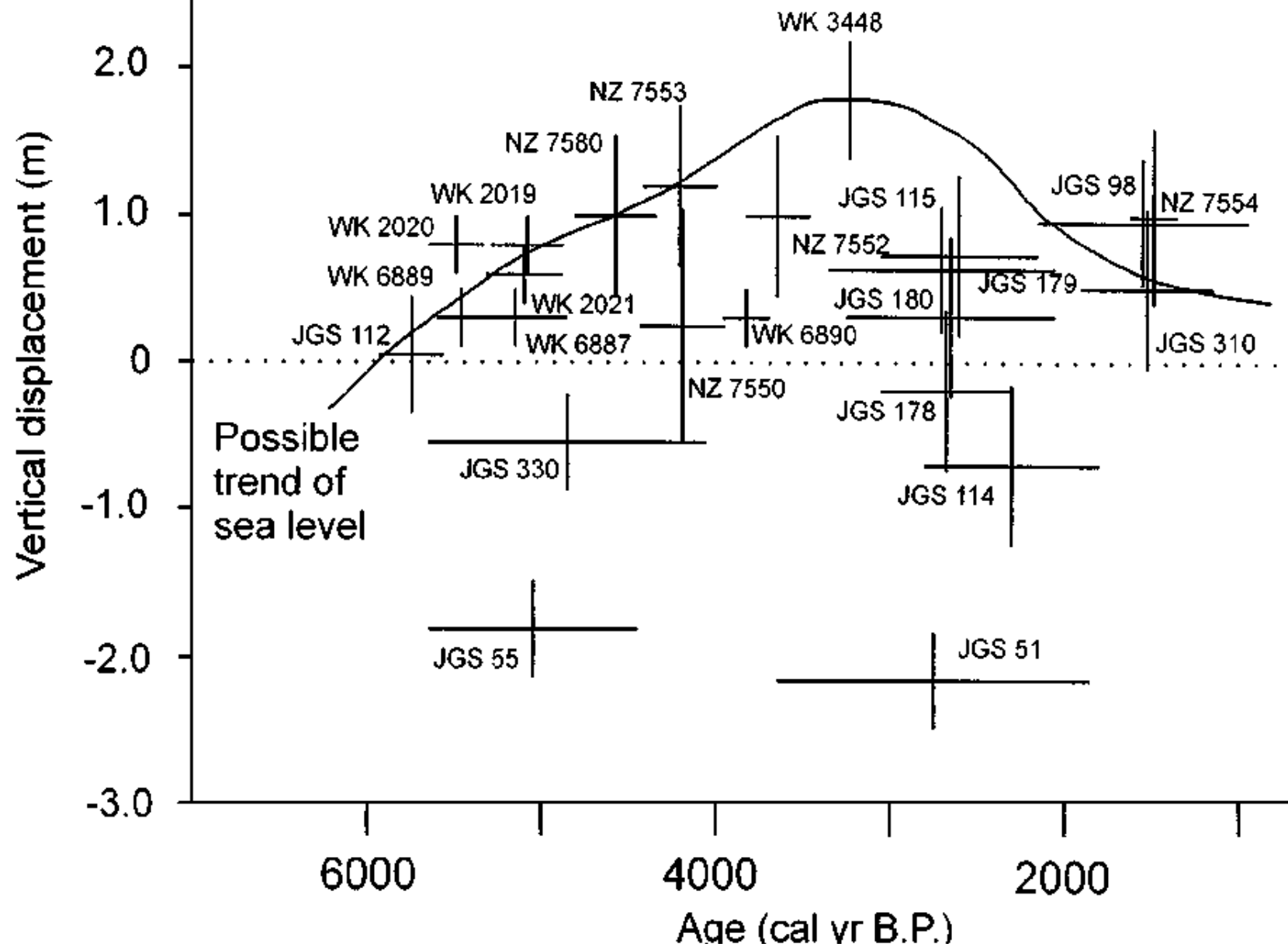


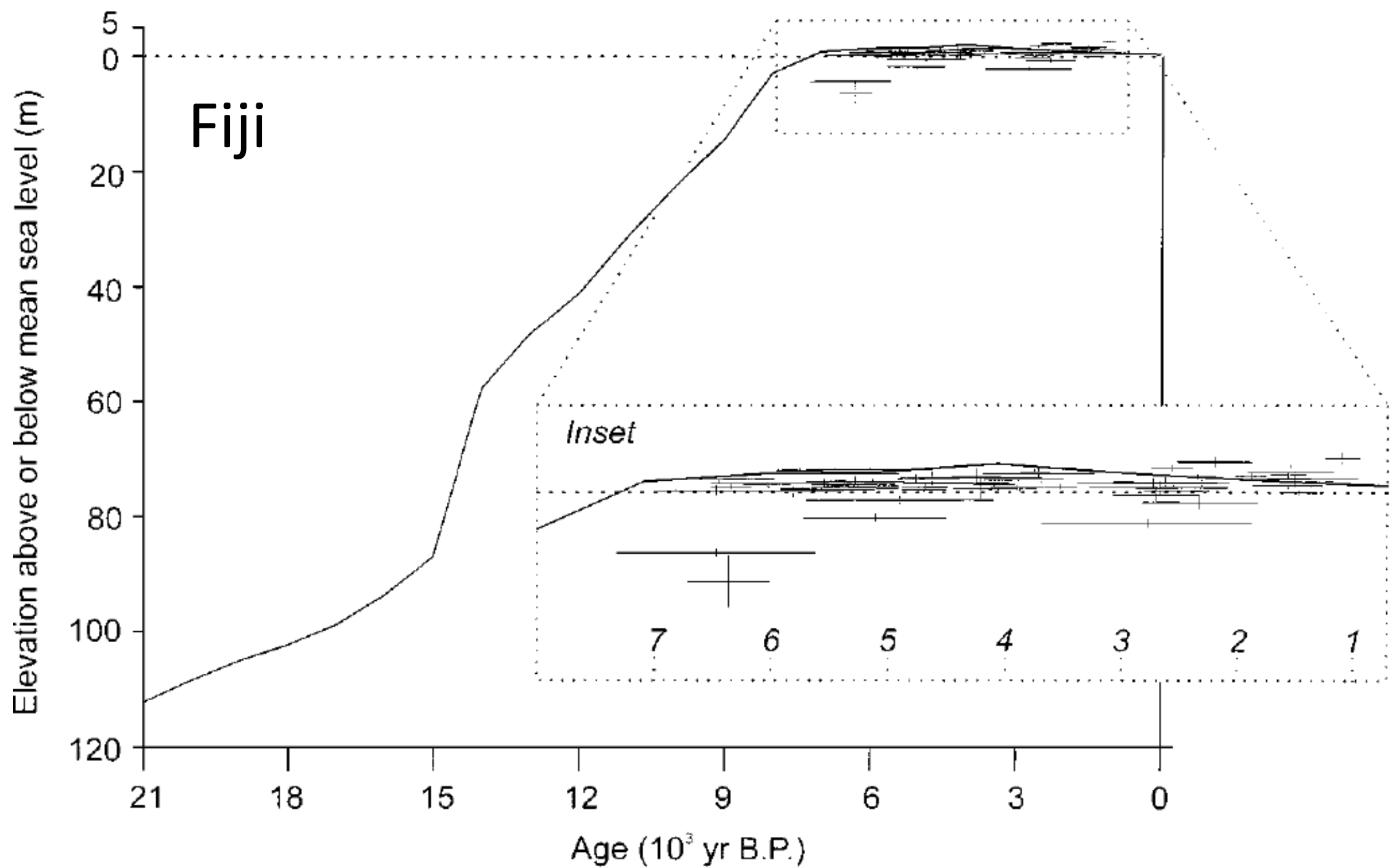
Reef 1: Modern coral

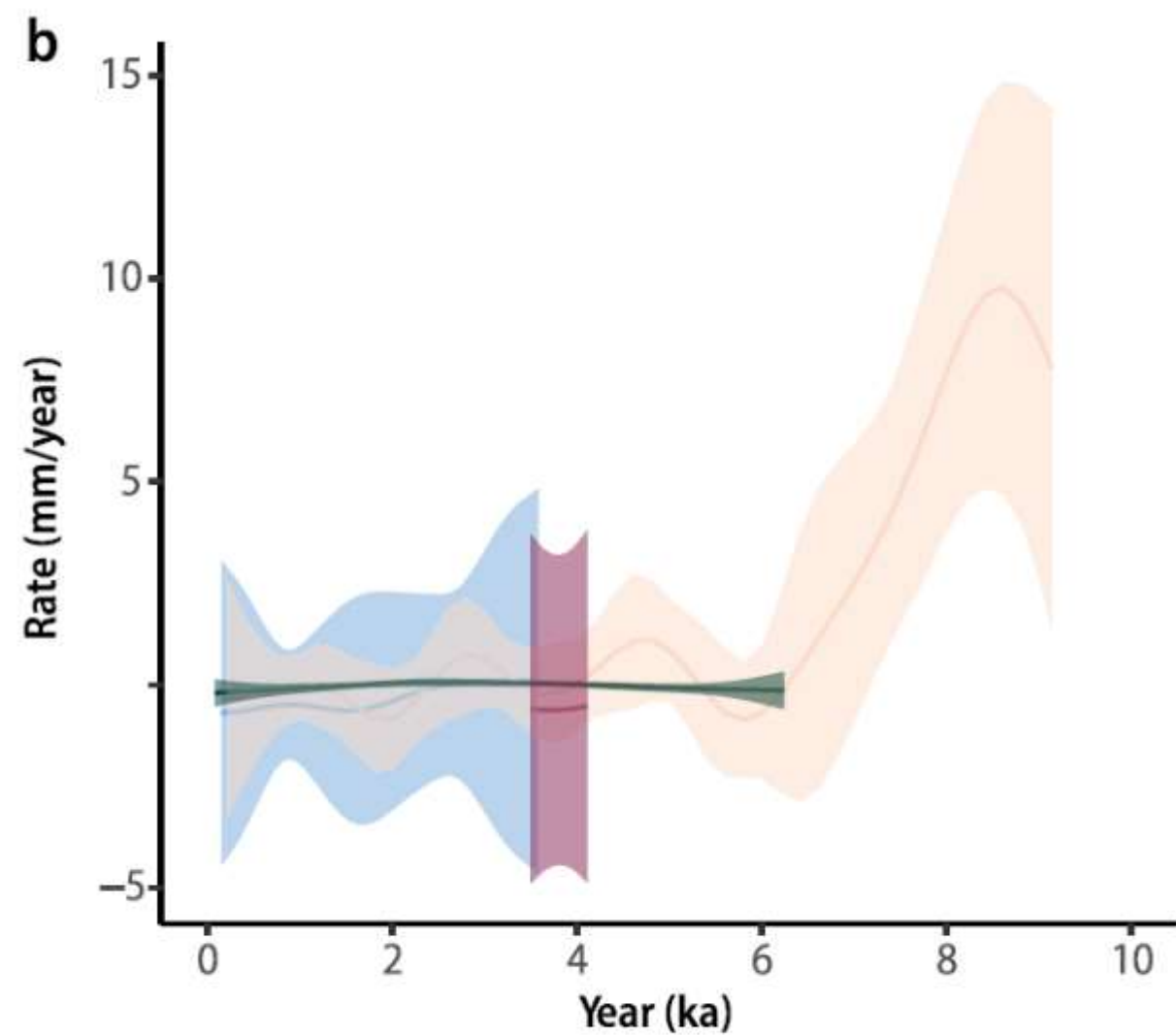
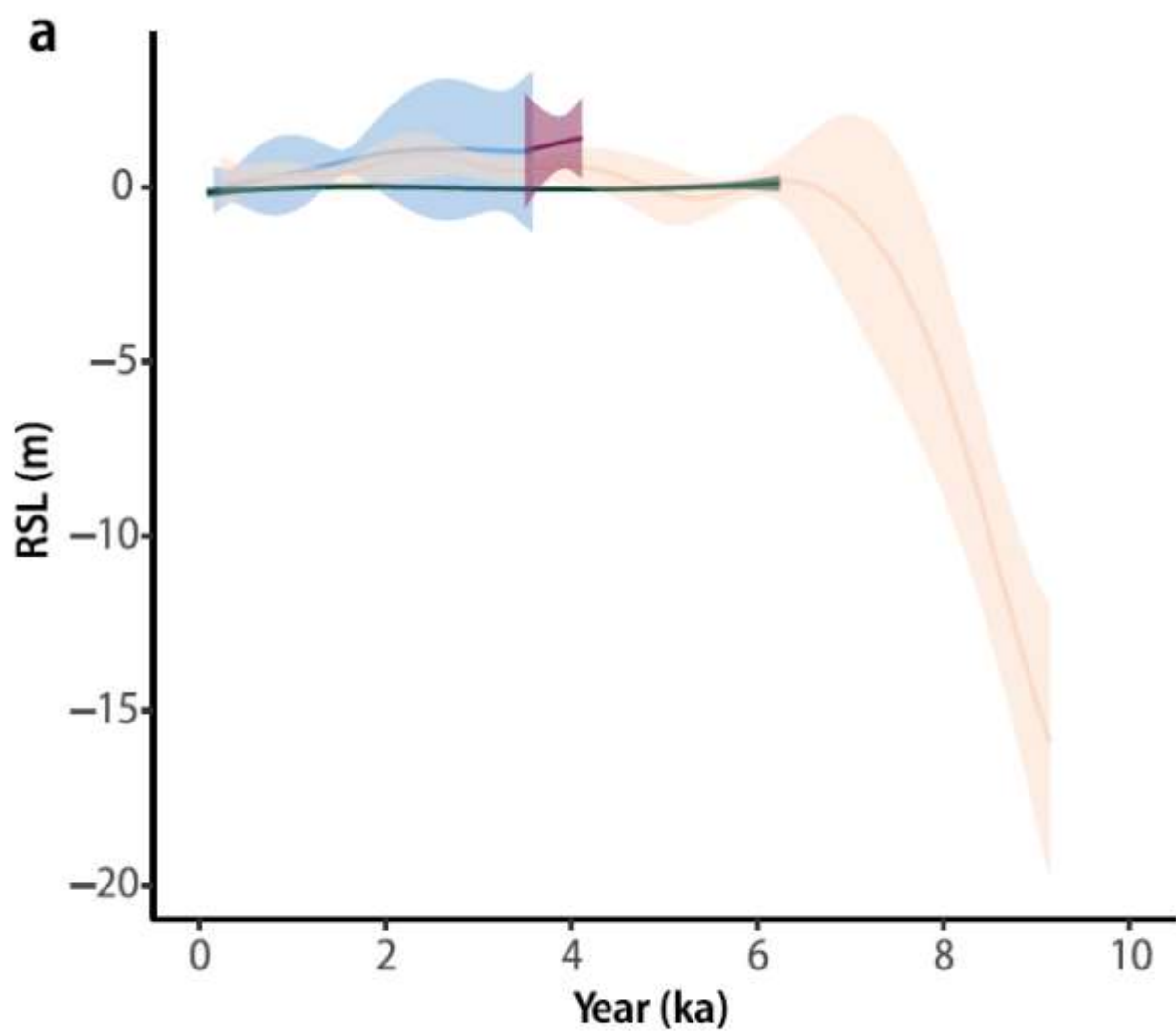
Reef 2: coral from a
period of higher
sea level

(a)

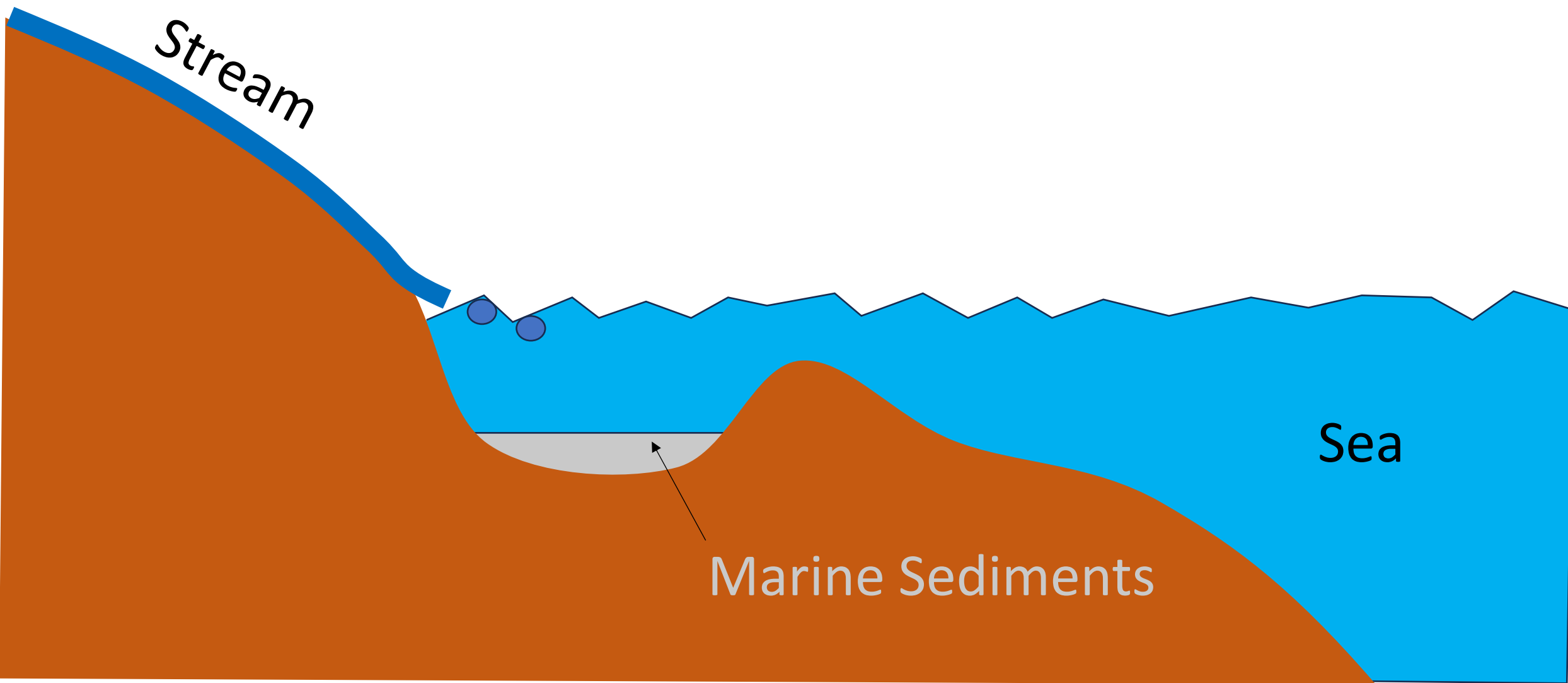
Vitilevu Island







Isolation Basin



sediment transition recognized
through fossils and
radiometrically dated

