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1 **SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS**

2

3 Freshwater input, upwelling, and the evolution of Caribbean coastal ecosystems  
4 during formation of the Isthmus of Panama

5

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13

14 **METHODS**

15 **Sampling Methods**

16 A 0.5 dental drill was used to collect sample powders in holes or along shallow grooves on  
17 growth lines in ontogenetic sequence on the spire of the gastropod shells (Figure S1). Sample  
18 grooves were used for larger samples (~200 µg) necessary for trace element analyses (data not  
19 reported). Representative oxygen and carbon isotopic profiles of modern and fossil gastropod  
20 shells are shown in Figure S2.

21 **Baseline Calculations**

22 To reference nearshore and shelf environments to open ocean conditions, we normalized the

23  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  profiles of fossil specimens for each fossil locality to the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values of coeval planktonic  
24 foraminifera from deep sea cores. Following the approach of Tao et al. (2013) for modern shells,  
25 gastropod  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  profiles were referenced to open ocean baselines using  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  measurements of  
26 coeval, depth-equivalent planktonic foraminifera from deep-sea cores collected from the same  
27 region. The method assumes that planktonic foraminiferal  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  represents open ocean conditions  
28 free of seasonal upwelling and freshening. Though planktonic foraminifera can show seasonal  
29 growth patterns, foraminifera from lower latitudes ( $\pm 20^\circ$ ), and *G. ruber* (white) and *G. sacculifer*  
30 in particular, are most suitable for estimating mean annual SST (Fraile et al., 2009).  
31 Foraminiferal  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values were equated to gastropod shell aragonite by correcting for aragonite-  
32 calcite fractionation ( $\epsilon_{\text{cc-ar}} = 0.8\text{\textperthousand}$ ; Grossman and Ku, 1986).

33 To test this method, we compared baseline  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values for modern *Conus* localities,  
34 determined using logger and WOA data (Tao et al., 2013), with values determined from the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$   
35 of foraminifera from sediment core-tops. The baselines generated using the two techniques fall  
36 along the 1:1 line (Table S2, Figure S3).

37 Foraminiferal  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values for the Plio-Pleistocene were obtained from sediment cores ODP  
38 999A (Haug et al., 2001; Steph et al., 2010), DSDP 502B (Prell, 1982), and MD03-2628  
39 (Sepulcre et al., 2011) in the Caribbean and ODP 1241 (Steph et al., 2006), ODP 111-677A,B  
40 (Shackleton and Hall, 1989), and ODP 851 (Cannariato and Ravelo, 1997; Ravelo and  
41 Shackleton, 1995) in the Pacific (Figure 1). For specimens from depths of 30 m or less, *G. ruber*  
42 (white) isotope values were used as the baseline. Specimens with median depths of 50-60 m were  
43 normalized using data from *G. sacculifer* foraminifera. For specimens from waters between 100  
44 and 150 m deep, *N. dutertrei* was used. Specimens from 50-100 m deep were normalized using  
45 an average of *G. sacculifer* and *N. dutertrei* values. Baselines for shallow water (<30 m)

46 specimens from La Bomba, Río Limoncito, and Wild Cane Key were determined by adding the  
47 average difference between *G. ruber* (white) and *G. sacculifer* foraminifera measurements from  
48 0.5 to 1.0 Ma (-0.16‰; data from Prell, 1982; Sepulcre et al., 2011) to the average of all *G.*  
49 *sacculifer* measurements from ODP 999 over the interval of time represented by the locality. The  
50 interval from 0.5 to 1.0 Ma was used because it predates the most severe fluctuations in marine  
51  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  associated with glaciation (Lisiecki and Raymo, 2005) and goes back as far as the *G. ruber*  
52 isotope record exists in this region. No *G. sacculifer* measurements are available for the interval  
53 in which Wild Cane Key was deposited, so an average of *G. sacculifer* measurements from 500  
54 kyr before and after was used. Specimens from Isla Popa and La Peña used the average  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  of  
55 *G. sacculifer* specimens from their respective cores and intervals of time (Haug et al., 2001;  
56 Steph et al., 2006). All values were converted from calcite to aragonite by adding 0.8‰  
57 (Grossman and Ku, 1986).

58 We averaged the means of *G. sacculifer* and *N. dutertrei* data from the appropriate intervals  
59 to calculate baselines for localities that fall between 50-100 m paleodepth. These localities  
60 include Lower Lomas del Mar, Fish Hole, Isla Solarte, Punta Norte East, and Punta Tiburon to  
61 Punta Piedra. For younger localities (Upper Lomas del Mar and Pueblo Nuevo Cemetery), *N.*  
62 *dutertrei* data were not available for the entire interval of interest. For Upper Lomas del Mar  
63 (1.5-1.7 Ma), the averages of *G. sacculifer* and *N. dutertrei* data from 2.5 to 3.0 Ma (Haug et al.,  
64 2001; Steph et al., 2010) were averaged to determine the offset between that average (-0.65‰)  
65 and the *G. sacculifer* average (-0.91‰), which was -0.26‰. This value was then subtracted from  
66 the average of *G. sacculifer*  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  measurements from 1.5-1.7 Ma (Prell, 1982) to determine the  
67 baseline for Upper Lomas del Mar. The same offset was used to calculate the baseline for Pueblo  
68 Nuevo Cemetery, but was subtracted from the average of *G. sacculifer*  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  measurements from

69 1.3-1.8 Ma (Prell, 1982) and 2.2-2.7 Ma (Haug et al., 2001). We used the average of *N. dutertrei*  
70  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  measurements (Steph et al., 2010) over the interval of interest (3.5 to 5.0 Ma) to calculate  
71 baselines for deep water localities (100-150 m; SE and NE Escudo de Veraguas).

72 Baseline  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values were compared with measured  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values (Figure S4) to produce the  
73  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{median}}-\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{baseline}}$  ( $\Delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{med-bl}}$ ) box-and-whisker plots (Fig. 3). Median values were used rather  
74 than averages to minimize the influence of extreme values. Error bars for each of the baseline  
75 calculations ( $\varepsilon[\delta^{18}\text{OBL}]$ ) were determined by squaring and then summing the standard deviations  
76 ( $1\sigma$ ) of each set of foraminiferal data ( $\varepsilon[\delta^{18}\text{OForam1-X}]$ ) used in the calculation. The square of  
77 our own isotope analysis precision ( $\varepsilon[\delta^{18}\text{OAR}]$ ) was added to this sum before taking the square  
78 root of the final sum. This square root represented the error in our baseline calculations.

79 
$$\varepsilon(\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{BL}}) = [\varepsilon(\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{AR}})^2 + \varepsilon(\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{Foram1}})^2 + \varepsilon(\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{Foram2}})^2 + \dots + \varepsilon(\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{ForamX}})^2]^{1/2}$$

80

81 **RESULTS**

82 All isotopic results are shown in Table S3.

83 **Carbon Isotopes and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ - $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  Correlations**

84 Carbon isotope profiles in these Plio-Pleistocene specimens have proved difficult to interpret  
85 and merit additional study. Median values ranged from -1.3 to 2.7‰ except for three *Conus*  
86 specimens from Punta Nispero (H19694, H19707, H19715), which yielded median values of -  
87 5.8, -6.0, and -16.0‰ (Fig. S5). These  $^{13}\text{C}$ -depleted specimens remain enigmatic, and may  
88 reflect oxidation of buried plant matter, including logs, found at Punta Nispero (Collins and  
89 Coates, 1999). Unfortunately, we do not have detailed sedimentological data collected with these  
90 shells. Excluding the shells, the second most important factor controlling  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  is taxonomy, with  
91 *Strombus* shells mostly <0‰ and *Conus* mostly >0‰. Carbon isotope composition does not

92 correlate with age or paleodepth.

93 Previous studies have used  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ - $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  correlations ( $R_{\text{O-C}}$ ) and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  range as proxies for

94 freshening and upwelling, with mixed results (e.g., Killingley and Berger, 1979; Jones and

95 Allmon, 1995; Tao et al., 2013; Anderson et al., 2017). We see no significant correlation between

96  $R_{\text{O-C}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  range, or between  $R_{\text{O-C}}$  and  $\Delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{med-bl}}$  for the entire data set and for individual

97 sample localities, age groups, or paleo-depths (Figures S6, S7). In localities influenced by

98 seasonal freshening and upwelling, the freshwater signal can swamp the upwelling signal,

99 resulting in a positive O-C correlation (Tao et al., 2013). However, in special cases like beach-

100 collected shells from the modern Pacific, the isotopic record can be parsed by  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  into two

101 segments, with positive correlation in the low  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  segment (rainy season) and negative

102 correlation in the high  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  segment (dry, upwelling season; Graniero et al., 2017). Such trends,

103 however, can be lost in shells from greater water depth where  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  range is reduced and other

104 influences like vital effects (physiological processes) and flux of microbial CO<sub>2</sub> from organic-

105 rich sediments complicate the carbon isotope record.

106

## 107 PALEOLATITUDE

108 To ensure that changes in rainfall patterns can be safely ascribed to shifts in the ITCZ rather

109 than plate movements, we determined paleolatitudes for the study area. Paleolatitude has

110 changed little (<0.2° latitude) in the last 6 Ma (GPlates, 2017, <https://www.gplates.org/>;

111 PALEOMAP PaleoAtlas for GPlates, 2016,

112 [ftp://ftp.earthbyte.org/earthbyte/PaleoAtlas\\_Scotesee\\_v2.zip](ftp://ftp.earthbyte.org/earthbyte/PaleoAtlas_Scotesee_v2.zip)).

113

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173 **SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE CAPTIONS**

174 Figure S1. Photographs of representative *Conus* shells viewed from above (spire) and from the  
175 side with aperture. Specimens were sampled using a 0.5-mm dental bur in a series of grooves  
176 parallel to growth bands (AT06-5-1A) or in a series of narrow-diameter holes (H19711).

177 Figure S2. Representative oxygen and carbon isotopic profiles of modern and fossil gastropod  
178 shells. Lengths are spiral distance from the protoconch to the lip (growth direction). The  
179 spire top was not sampled in most specimens because the shell was too thin to avoid  
180 penetration of the inner shell layer. Modern shell data are from Tao et al. (2013).

181 Figure S3. Baseline  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{ar}}$  values for each modern *Conus* specimen calculated using non-  
182 upwelling, non-freshening water conditions based on World Ocean Atlas data (x-axis;  
183 Conkright et al., 2002; Tao et al., 2013) and open-ocean core-top foraminifera  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  (y-axis).  
184 There is an excellent correlation between the baseline calculated using World Ocean Atlas  
185 data and open-ocean core-top foraminiferal  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  ( $r = 0.98$ ,  $n = 13$ ,  $p < 10^{-8}$ )  $p < 0.0001$ . An  
186 independent-samples t-test was conducted to compare the two variables, and there is not a  
187 significant difference ( $t(24) = -0.12$ ,  $r = 0.900$ ).

188 Figure S4. Box-and-whisker plot of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  measurements for mollusks in this study. The box  
189 represents the median and 1st and 3rd quartiles (with mean shown as “+”), and are shaded to  
190 represent paleodepths. The circles represent the remaining data in each shell, colored based  
191 on locality (orange = Caribbean, blue = Pacific).

192 Figure S5. Box-and-whisker plot of  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  measurements for mollusks in this study. The box  
193 represents the median and 1st and 3rd quartiles (with mean shown as “+”), and are shaded to  
194 represent paleodepths. The circles represent the remaining data in each shell, colored based  
195 on locality (orange = Caribbean, blue = Pacific).

196 Figure S6. Correlation coefficient for  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  versus  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ , plotted against  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  range for 4.25-2.5  
197 Ma and 2.5-0.1 Ma age groups and different depth categories (A: without labels, B: with  
198 labels).

199 Figure S7. Correlation coefficient for  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  versus  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ , plotted against  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  difference between  
200 median and baseline values ( $\Delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{Med-bl}}$ ) for 4.25-2.5 Ma and 2.5-0.1 Ma age groups and  
201 different depth categories (A: without labels, B: with labels).

202

203

204 **SUPPLEMENTAL TABLES**

205 Table S1 (see separate spreadsheet). Locality, taxonomy, median age and paleodepth for each  
206 shell in this study. Baseline values and calculated errors are given, as well as references for the  
207 foraminiferal data used to calculate them (1: Steph et al., 2010; 2: Haug et al., 2001; 3: Sepulcre  
208 et al., 2011; 4: Prell, 1982; 5: Steph et al., 2006). Median values for  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ , ranges for  
209  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ , C-O Pearson correlations and p-values (two-tailed test) are listed. See Table S1-v2.1.xlsx

210

211 Table S2 (below). Sample locations, depths, and baseline calculations for modern *Conus*  
212 specimens from Panamanian coastal waters using data from both the World Ocean Atlas 2001  
213 (Conkright et al., 2002; Tao et al., 2013) and core-top foraminifera (Benway et al., 2006;  
214 Cannariato and Ravelo, 1997; Durazzi, 1981; Schmidt et al., 2004). Foraminiferal species used to  
215 calculate each baseline are listed (*Globigerinoides ruber* (white), *G. sacculifer*, and *Orbulina*  
216 *universa*). \* Isotope measurements from sediment cores RC13-158, RC13-154, RC10-49, V26-  
217 124 were used for these calculations (Durazzi, 1981).

Shell ID	Location	Depth	WOA-derived baseline (‰)	Foram-derived baseline (‰)	Error	Foram. species	Core	Source
<i>Southwest Caribbean</i>								
TA06-294A	Gulf of Mosquitos	40.7	-0.66	-0.66	0.25	1	Multiple*	D
TA06-294B	Gulf of Mosquitos	40.7	-0.66	-0.66	0.25	1	"	D
SB95-1	San Blas	11	-1.26	-1.04	0.14			
TA04-10A	Bocas del Toro	15.9	-1.14	-1.04	0.14	1	"	D
TA04-10B	Bocas del Toro	15.9	-1.14	-1.04	0.14	1	"	D
TA04-10C	Bocas del Toro	15.9	-1.14	-1.04	0.14	1	"	D
<i>Tropical Eastern Pacific</i>								
GP97-17A	Gulf of Panama	17	-2.08	-1.78	0.22	2	ODP 1242	B
GP97-17B	Gulf of Panama	17	-2.08	-1.78	0.22	2	"	B
310474	Gulf of Panama	14.8	-1.68	-1.78	0.22	2	"	B
301490A	Gulf of Panama	10	-1.79	-1.78	0.22	2	"	B
301490B	Gulf of Panama	10	-1.79	-1.78	0.22	2	"	"
GC97-80A	Gulf of Chiriquí	61	0.20	-0.09	0.35	3	ODP 851	CR
GC97-80B	Gulf of Chiriquí	61	0.20	-0.09	0.35	3	"	CR

Species: 1 - *G. sacculifer*, *O. universa*; 2 - *G. ruber* (white); 3 - *G. sacculifer*

Source: D - Durazzi, 1981; B - Benway et al., 2006; CR = Cannariato and Ravelo, 1997

218

219 Table S3 (see separate spreadsheet). Compilation of all isotopic data for fossil gastropods  
220 analyzed in this study. Sample information also appears in Table S1.

221

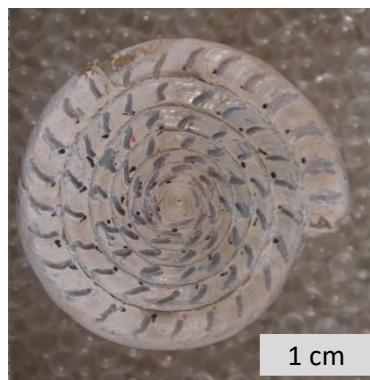
Figure S1

**AT06-5-1A**

La Peña Fmn,

Burica Peninsula, Pacific

(~3.5 Ma)



**H19711**

Swan Cay Fmn,

Bocas del Toro, Caribbean

(1.6-1.2 Ma)



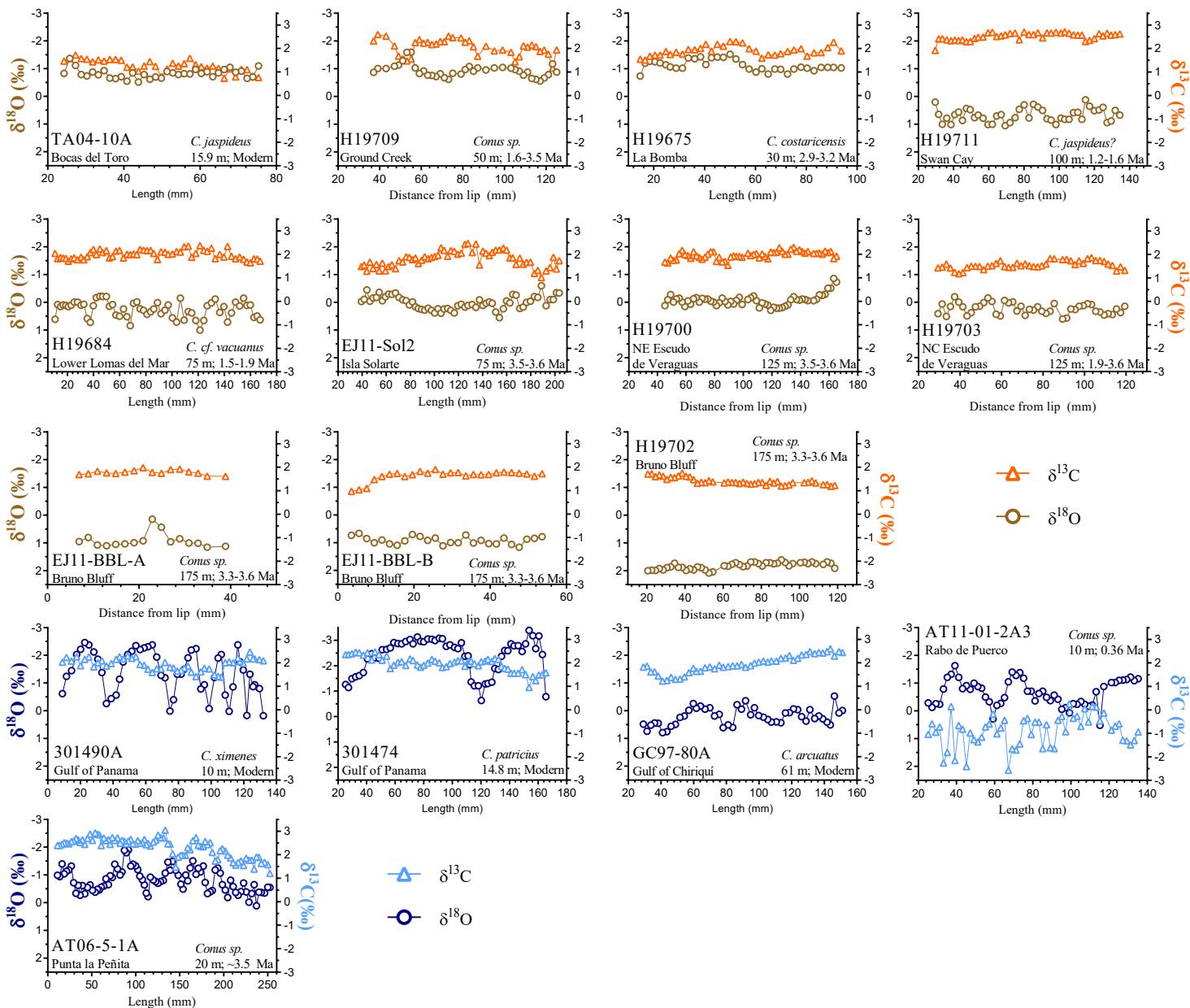


Figure S3

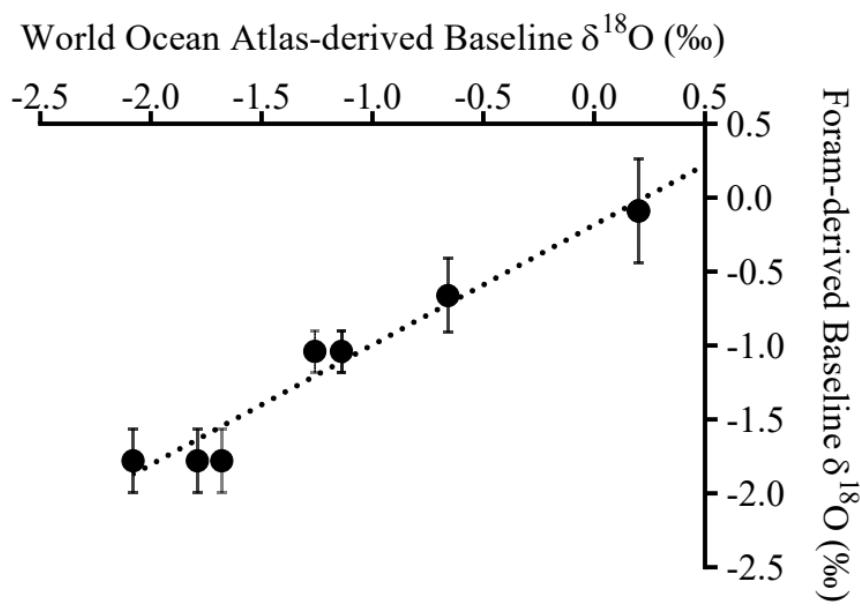


Figure S4

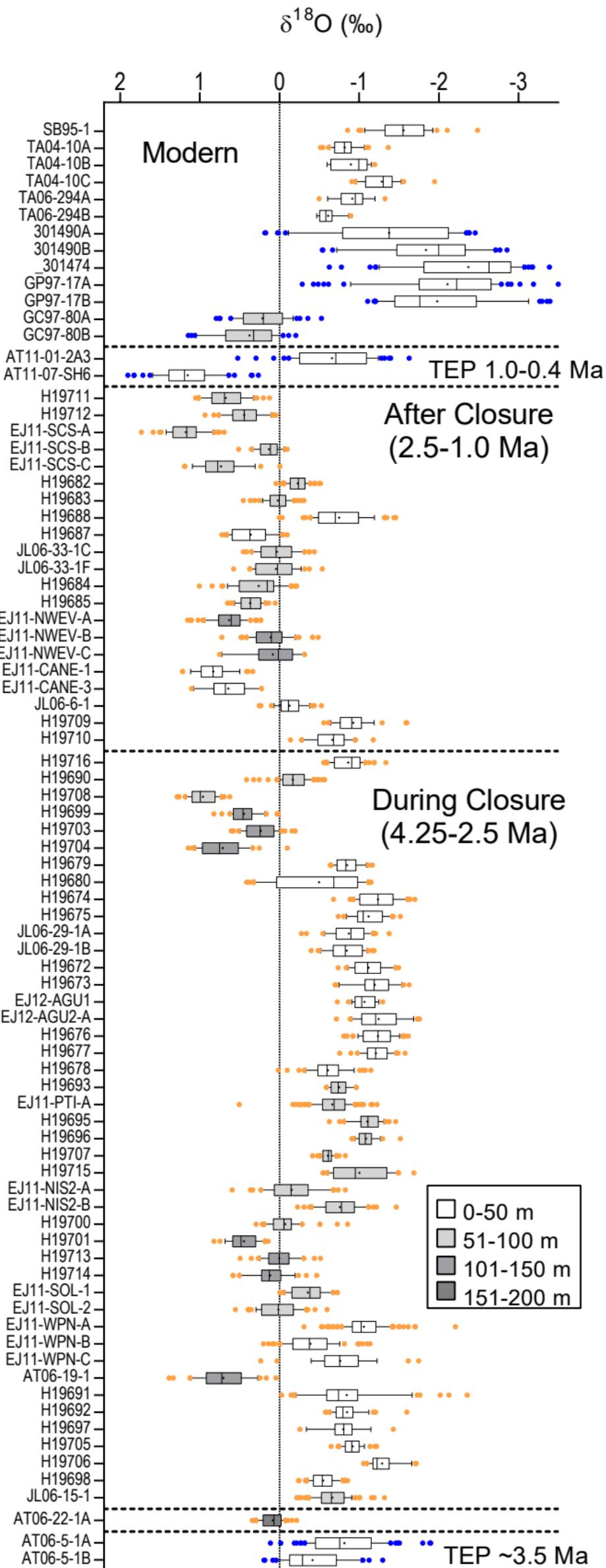


Figure S5

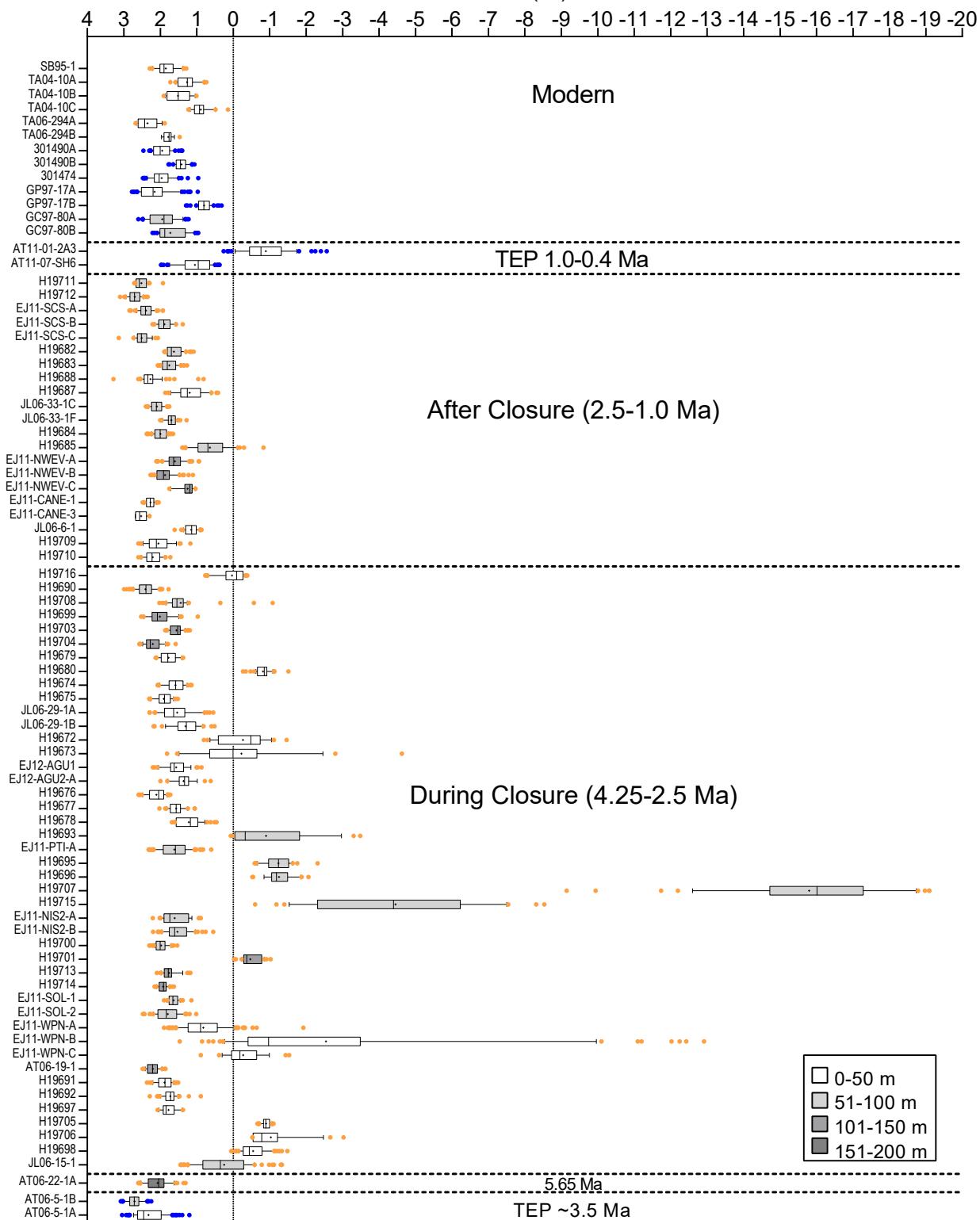
 $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  (‰)

Figure S6

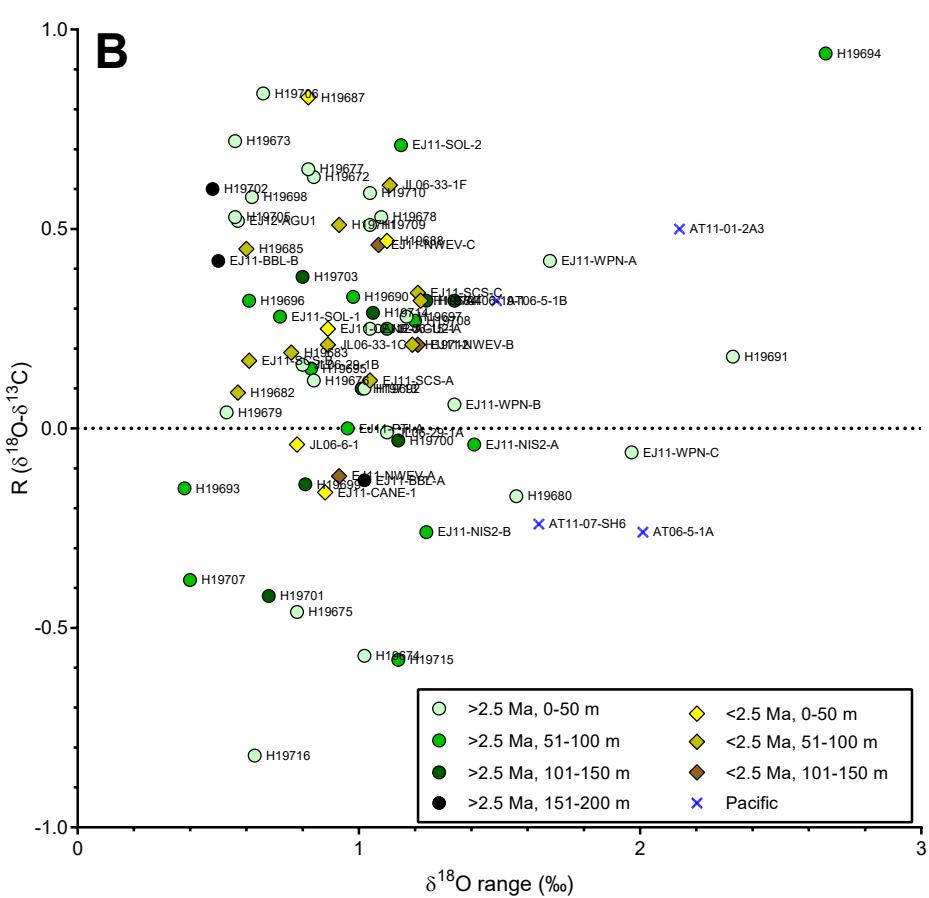
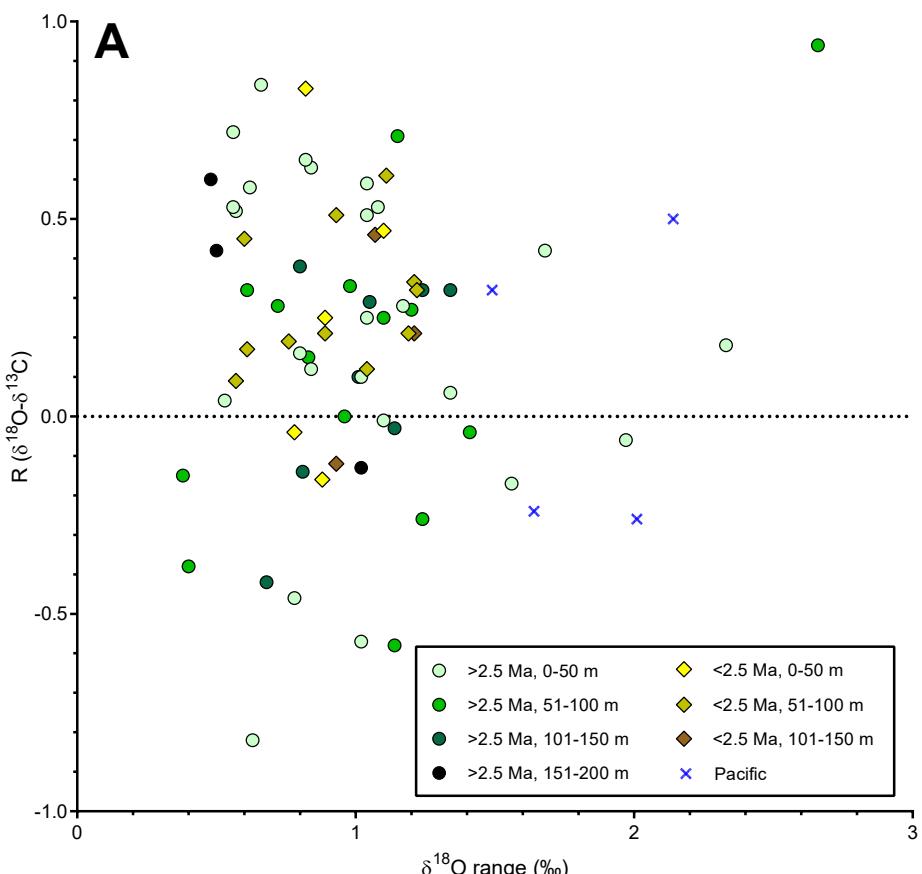


Figure S7

