

¹⁰Be and climate variability during 1900-2006 AD reflected in varved lake sediments

A.-M. BERGGREN^{1*}, A. ALDAHAN^{1,4}, G. POSSNERT²,
E. HALTIA-HOVI³ AND T. SAARINEN³

¹Department of Earth Sciences, Uppsala University, SE-758 36 Uppsala, Sweden

²Tandem Laboratory, Uppsala University, SE-751 21 Uppsala, Sweden

³Department of Quaternary Geology, University of Turku, 20014 Turku, Finland

⁴Department of Geology, United Arab Emirates University, Al Ain, UAE

We present new data about ¹⁰Be distribution in varved lake sediments extending for about one century. The sediment was cored in a lake located in eastern Finland (63°37'N, 29°06'E, 95.8 m a.s.l.), which has a surface and drainage areas of about 0.15 km² and 1 km² respectively. The sediment core was sliced at varve boundaries under a microscope and the varve material varied between 20 and 180 mg dry weight. ¹⁰Be was extracted from the samples through total dissolution followed by ion exchange column separation and a final BeO. The ¹⁰Be was measured at the AMS facility at Uppsala University. ¹⁰Be concentrations range from 2.3-6.9×10⁸ atoms g⁻¹, with an average of 3.3×10⁸ atoms g⁻¹. The years 1894, 1921, 1930 and 1977-1978 AD have relatively high ¹⁰Be concentration (>4.5×10⁸ atoms g⁻¹). The years with lowest concentration are 1904 AD (2.3×10⁸ atoms g⁻¹) and 1916 AD (2.4×10⁸ atoms g⁻¹). ¹⁰Be concentration was converted to flux in order to account for the effect of variable sediment composition (organic and mineralogical parts) and accumulation rate. Years with relatively high precipitation are correlated with high ¹⁰Be suggesting that most of the isotope flux is strongly linked to wet fallout. The higher flux of ¹⁰Be to the lake during cold years possibly reflects extensive supply upon melting of snow and ice cover which was associated with less retention within the drainage area. Data treatment reveals a clear negative correlation of ¹⁰Be to individual solar cycles during the 20th century.

Holocene climate variability in Southwestern Mexico from speleothem δ¹⁸O and Mg/Ca

J.P. BERNAL¹, M. LACHNIET², M.T. MCCULLOCH³,
G.E. MORTIMER³, P. MORALES¹ AND E. CIENFUEGOS¹

¹Instituto de Geología, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. Ciudad Universitaria, Coyoacán, Mexico City, 04510, Mexico (jpbernal@geologia.unam.mx)

²Department of Geoscience, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV 89154-4010, USA

³Research School of Earth Sciences, The Australian National University, Canberra, ACT, 0200, Australia

In spite of many marine records identifying rapid climate fluctuations in tropical and subtropical North and Central America, there are few high-resolutions records from continental environments revealing the consequences of climate variability in continental settings.

Here we present a Holocene paleoclimate reconstruction based on multiproxy analysis (δ¹⁸O and Mg/Ca) of a stalagmite from southwestern Mexico that grew between 11.2 and 1.7 ka. The δ¹⁸O and Mg/Ca records reveal a complex interplay between Caribbean and Pacific moisture sources, modulated by the north Atlantic SST, the ITCZ position and trade winds strength.

Climate anomalies from the Holocene (10.3, 8.2 and 4.2 ka) are characterized, in our record, by severe disruption to the total arrival of moisture in southwestern Mexico. However, associated disruption to local precipitation was more significant during the early Holocene than the late Holocene.