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[Paleoceanography and Paleoclimatology]

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Supporting Information for

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**Southward displacement of the Subtropical Gyre circulation system during North
5 Atlantic cold spells**

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12 **Contents of this file**

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Data Set S1. SO164-03-4 *G. ruber* and *G. truncatulinoides* stable oxygen isotope,
19 Mg/Ca and calculated temperature data [see below].

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Data Set S2. M78/1-235-1 *G. ruber* (*p*) and *G. truncatulinoides* stable oxygen isotope,
21 Mg/Ca and calculated temperature data [see below].

21

22 **Introduction**

23

This supplementary file addresses information on the possible sample contamination
24 monitored by Al/Ca, Mn/Ca, Fe/Ca ratios, a potential diagenetic overprint of the sample
25 material, an overview about the data points that were treated as outliers inclusive a short
26 discussion. We discuss a potential habitat change of *G. truncatulinoides* and show the
27 raw data of both analyzed sediment cores.

27

28 **Text S1 Assessment of sample contamination**

29 Together with Mg and Ca concentrations we analyzed furthermore Al, Ba, Co, Fe,
30 Li, Mn, Ni, Sr, Ti and Zn e.g. to monitor contamination by diagenetic overgrowth and
31 insufficient removal of siliciclastic material during the cleaning procedure.

32 In sediment core M78/1-235-1 we obtained for *G. truncatulinoides* tests Fe/Ca
33 ratios that exceed the value of 0.1 mmol/mol (mean: 0.41 ± 0.41 mmol/mol, $n = 238$)
34 given as critical for possible sample contamination by Fe-oxide coatings (Barker et al.,
35 2003). Mn/Ca ratios which are commonly higher than the critical value of 0.1 mmol/mol
36 (mean: 0.12 ± 0.03 mmol/mol, $n = 238$) were obtained. We do not assume that our
37 record is contaminated by Mn-Fe-Oxide coatings which influence our measured Mg/Ca
38 values, due to no statistically significant correlation between Mg/Ca versus Fe/Ca ($R^2 =$
39 0.04) and Mg/Ca versus Mn/Ca ($R^2 = 0.02$) which infers that the Mg/Ca values are not
40 biased by Fe-Mn coatings (Fig. S1). Furthermore concentrations of Fe and Mn were an
41 order of magnitude smaller than Mg values. Most samples with obvious elevated Fe/Ca
42 ratios (<0.4 mmol/mol) appear in the range between 1.95-2.6 mmol/mol Mg/Ca (15.5 -
43 19.3°C) matching with modern average water temperatures of living *G. truncatulinoides*
44 individuals by plankton net samples (Jetzen, 2017; Schmunker and Schiebel, 2002) in
45 the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico, whereas highest observed Mg/Ca ratios of 2.6-
46 3.4 mmol/mol exhibit slightly increased Fe/Ca ratios (0.2 mmol/mol) and are in good
47 agreement with observed temperatures. Al/Ca ratios higher than 0.1 mmol/mol can be
48 indicative for insufficient clay removal during the cleaning procedure (Barker et al.,
49 2003). *G. truncatulinoides* yield out obvious increased Al/Ca ratios (mean: 0.16 ± 0.21
50 mmol/mol, $n = 238$) though there is no significant correlation between Al/Ca and Mg/Ca
51 ($R^2 = 0.03$). After the clay removal sample preparation step we did not observe a
52 remaining milky solution pointing out that clay removal was sufficient and clay is not a
53 source of sample contamination in our study. When cracking especially the *G.*
54 *truncatulinoides* test, for the following cleaning procedure, we observed golden to silver
55 colored crystalline particles at the inner chamber walls and linked them to pyrite (FeS_2)
56 which can be formed in sea sediments by sulfate-reducing bacteria. It is dissolvable in
57 nitric acid which we used to dissolve sample material for measuring the trace metal
58 concentrations. We tried to remove all particles with a brush but cannot be sure all
59 particles have been removed. This can explain the elevated Fe/Ca ratios without
60 influencing the Mg/Ca ratios of the sample material.

61 Diagenetically overgrown foraminifera tests by microcrystalline Ca carbonates, due
62 to carbonate dissolution and reprecipitation, can yield to abnormal high Mg/Ca ratios (>6
63 mmol/mol) accompanied by reduced Sr/Ca ratios (<1.3 mmol/mol) and elevated $\delta^{18}\text{O}$
64 values, attributed to the chemical composition of the overgrowths (Regenberg et al.,
65 2007). We did not observe unusual low Sr/Ca ratios for *G. truncatulinoides*. The $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ for
66 both species are comparable to other records in the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico (Fig.
67 S2). Therefore we exclude diagenetic overgrowth as a source for the elevated $\text{SST}_{\text{Mg/Ca}}$.

68 Sediment core SO164-03-4 exhibit no significant Fe/Ca (mean: 0.01 ± 0.02
69 mmol/mol, $n=121$), Mn/Ca (mean: 0.07 ± 0.027 mmol/mol, $n = 121$) and Al/Ca values
70 (mean: 0.03 ± 0.04 mmol/mol, $n = 121$) for *G. truncatulinoides* (Fig. S1). For *G. ruber*
71 values of Al/Ca (mean: 0.03 ± 0.07 mmol/mol, $n = 48$), Fe/Ca (mean: 0.01 ± 0.02
72 mmol/mol, $n = 48$) and Mn/Ca (mean: 0.03 ± 0.02 mmol/mol, $n = 48$) do not exceed
73 critical values given by Barker et al. (2003).

74 Furthermore we eliminated Mg/Ca ratios from the record when we obtained extremely
75 high values of Al/Ca (>2 mmol/mol) and/or Fe/Ca (>1 mmol/mol) although they obviously
76 fit into the record. We tested our Mg/Ca ratios with a Grubbs' test to detect outliers and
77 removed values when they were reported with $P<0.05$ as a significant outlier taking the
78 nearest 20 samples into account (Fig. S4).

79 **Text S2 Comparison of subsurface temperature calibrations for *G.*** 80 ***truncatulinoides***

81 Quite a few $\text{Mg/Ca}_{G.truncatulinoides}$ based subsurface temperature calibrations are
82 currently available, which all have their strengths and weaknesses (Fig. S5). We finally
83 decided to present and apply the most reasonable calibration, which is the species and
84 morphotype specific Cléroux et al. (2008) calibration, established from widely distributed
85 sample material of the Atlantic Ocean. This calibration provides Holocene $\text{subSST}_{\text{Mg/Ca}}$
86 consistent with the modern subsurface temperature of $\sim 15.5^\circ\text{C}$ at ~ 200 m water depth at
87 Tobago Basin core 235 and $\sim 20.4^\circ\text{C}$ Beata Ridge core 03 (Fig. 3). Most calibrations
88 yield $\text{subSST}_{\text{Mg/Ca}}$ being either too warm or too cool (Fig. S5, exemplarily for Tobago
89 Basin core 235). The resulting downcore $\text{subSST}_{\text{Mg/Ca}}$ reconstructions are close to those
90 derived from the McKenna and Prell (2004) calibration, which was not applied as it is
91 based on electron-probe Mg/Ca analyses on Indian Ocean sample material. Thus, the
92 sample material was not oxidative either nor reductive cleaned.

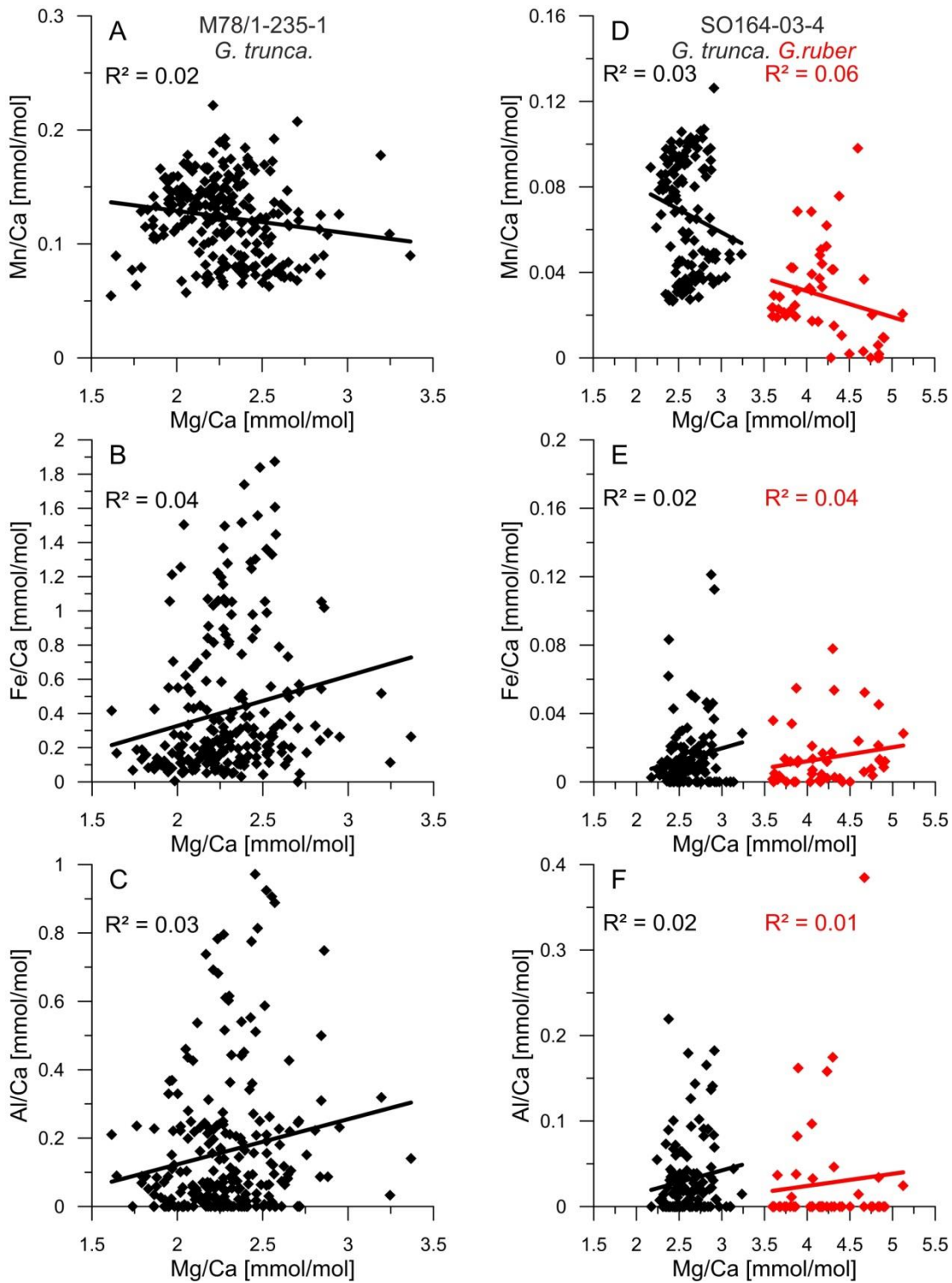
93 **Text S3 Propagated error for $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sw-ivf}}$ calculations**

94 We performed error propagation based on the uncertainty of the paleotemperature and
95 $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{calcite}}$ to $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sw}}$ conversion equations and the reproducibility of the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and Mg/Ca
96 measurements to assess the error of the $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{ivf-sw}}$ calculations. As mentioned in the main
97 text, the obtained unusually high 2σ -error for *G. truncatulinoides* at both sites is based
98 on the comparatively large uncertainty ($\pm 1.4^\circ\text{C}$) of the Mg/Ca temperature calibration
99 ($\text{Mg/Ca}_{G. \text{truncatulinoides}}$ [mmol/mol] = $0.62 (\pm 0.16) \exp(0.074 (\pm 0.017) \text{ SST } [^\circ\text{C}]$) of Cl eroux
100 et al. (2008). Notably, the error of each term of the calibration is relatively high. To check
101 if our calculated $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{ivf-sw}}$ displays significant changes in past sub-surface seawater
102 salinity, we calculated them by applying another temperature calibration equation
103 exemplarily for Tobago Basin core 235 (Fig. S5). For that purpose we used the
104 temperature calibration equation $\text{Mg/Ca}_{G. \text{truncatulinoides}}$ [mmol/mol] = $0.355 (\pm 0.053)$
105 $\exp(0.098 (\pm 0.008) T [^\circ\text{C}]$) of McKenna and Prell (2004). The resulting calculated
106 subsurface temperatures are quite similar to that of the Cl eroux et al. (2008) calibration
107 (Fig. S5). Subsequently we proceed as described in chapter 3.3. The calculated $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{ivf-}}$
108 sw shows an identical pattern as when applying the Cl eroux et al. (2008) subsurface
109 temperature calibration. However, the resulting $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{ivf-sw}}$ amplitude variations are similar
110 but offset by $\sim 0.2\text{-}0.4\text{‰}$ (Fig. S5). The propagated 2σ -error ($\pm 0.49\text{‰}$ for Beata Ridge core
111 03 (not shown); $\pm 0.52\text{‰}$ for Tobago Basin core 235 (in orange) is two times lower than by
112 using the Cl eroux et al. (2008) calibration equation ($\pm 1.16\text{‰}$). Based on this test we
113 clearly show that the error associated with each term of the Cl eroux et al. (2008)
114 calibration equation (± 0.16 and ± 0.017) is reasonable for the extraordinary high
115 calculated 2σ -error when applying this equation for the subsurface temperature
116 reconstruction. Thus, we assume that the calculated salinity gradients between Tobago
117 Basin core 235 and Beata Ridge core 03 are significant.

118 **Text S4 Error estimation for calculating the vertical gradient at Beata Ridge core**
119 **03**

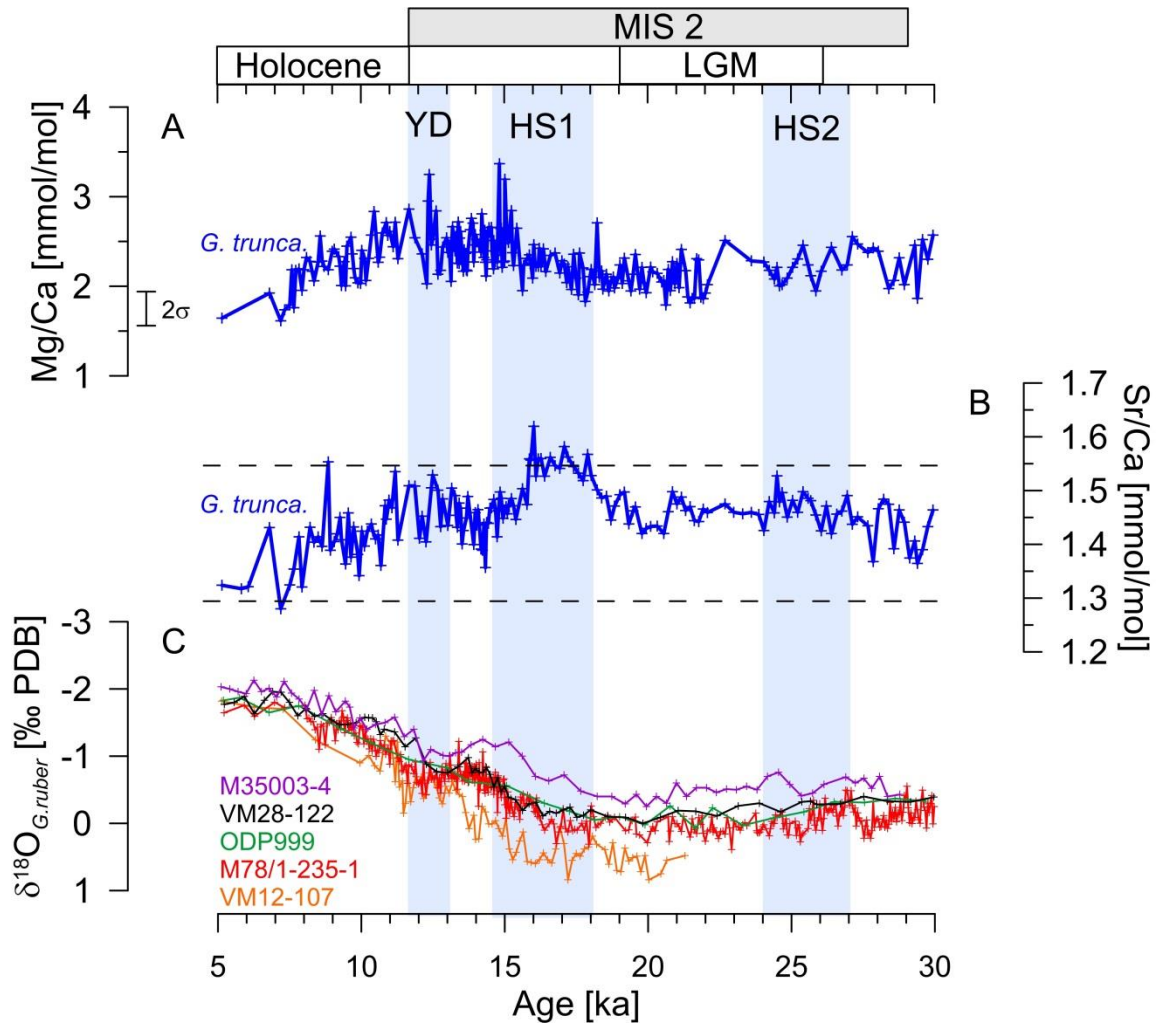
120 We propagated the error for thermocline reconstruction at Beata Ridge core 03 by using
121 the reproducibility of Mg/Ca measurements. The calculated errors for $\text{SST}_{\text{Mg/Ca}}$ and
122 $\text{subSST}_{\text{Mg/Ca}}$ are $\pm 0.62^\circ\text{C}$ and $\pm 0.92^\circ\text{C}$, respectively. Thus, our calculated error is lower
123 than the predicted 2σ -error for Mg/Ca analyses of $\pm 1.2^\circ\text{C}$ given by N urnberg et al.
124 (2000). The resulting 2σ -error for the vertical gradient is $\pm 2.2^\circ\text{C}$ (Fig. S6). The calculated

125 vertical gradient at Beata Ridge core 03 ranges between $\sim 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ and $\sim 10.9^{\circ}\text{C}$ but most of
126 the variability is within error. The propagated error for raw Mg/Ca ratios is ± 0.5 mmol/mol
127 (± 0.24 mmol/mol for *G. ruber* and ± 0.18 mmol/mol for *G. truncatulinoides*), while the
128 values range between 2.8 mmol/mol and 0.88 mmol/mol. This implies a range of ~ 2
129 mmol/mol and that most of the calculated variations are outside the calculated error. We
130 hence conclude that our calculated thermocline changes are significant at this point.



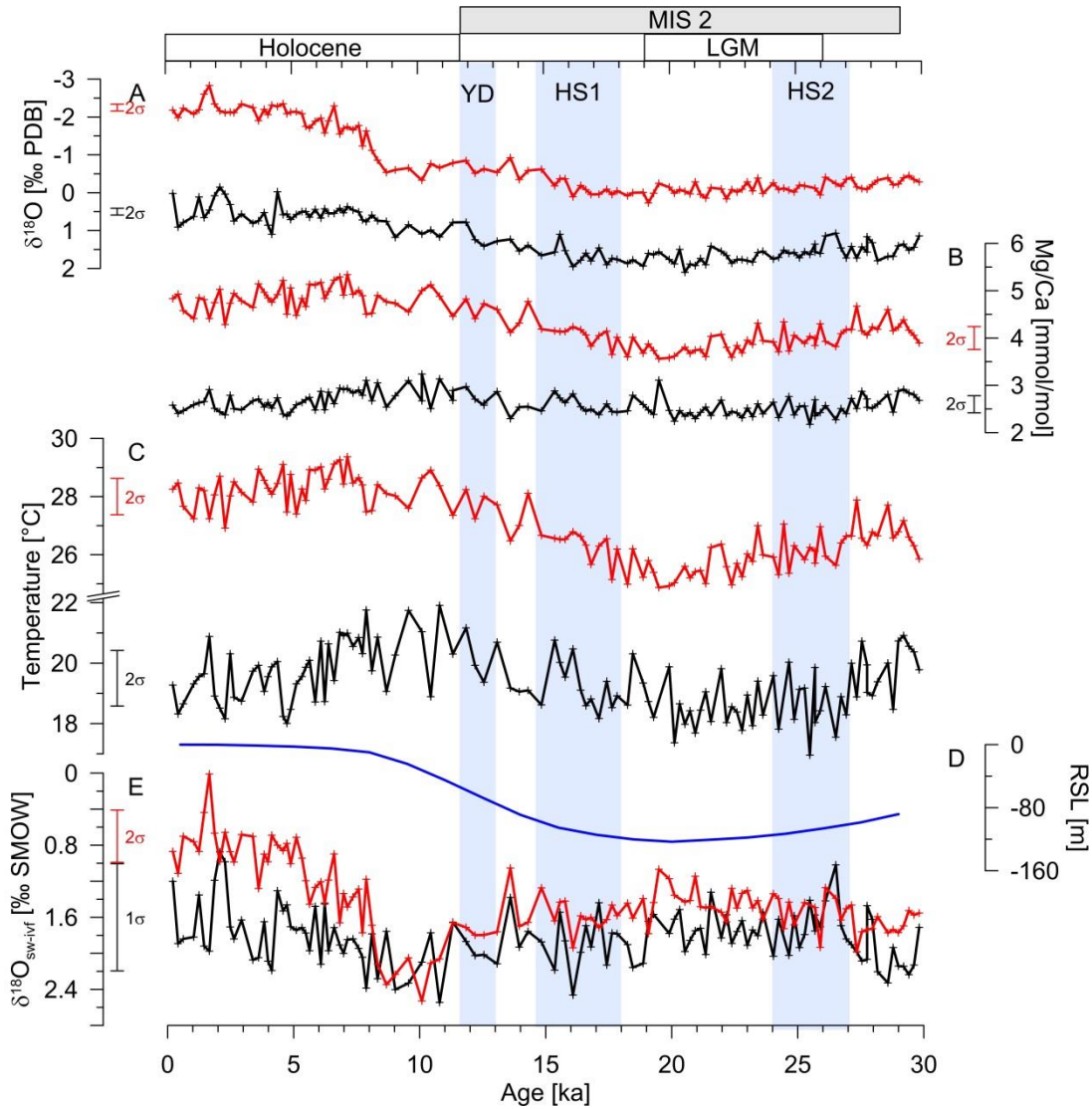
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Figure S1. Planktonic Foraminiferal Mg/Ca in relation to contaminant phases Fe/Ca (top), Mn/Ca (middle) and Al/Ca (base) from clay and Mn-Fe-oxides. Black diamonds represent data from *G. truncatulinoides* and red diamonds from *G. ruber*. Correlation coefficients (R^2) are indicated. Data are from sediment cores M78/1-235-1 (A, B, C) and SO164-03-4 (D, E, F).



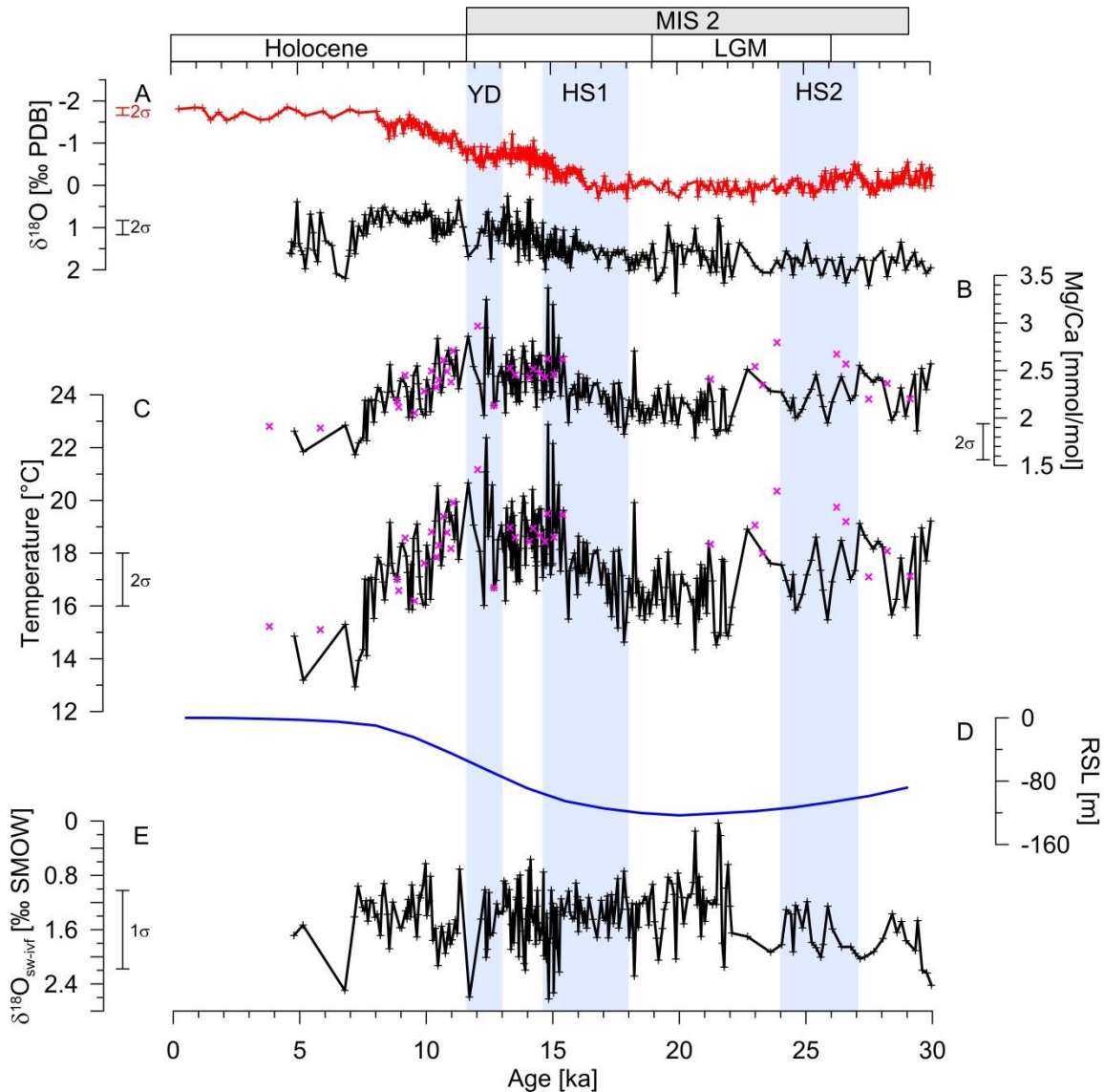
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Figure S2. Evaluation of potential diagenetic overprint of foraminiferal calcite from sediment core M78/1-235-1. A) Mg/Ca ratios for *G. truncatulinoides*. B) Sr/Ca ratios for *G. truncatulinoides*. No extremely high Sr/Ca ratios pointing to potential diagenetic overgrowths (c.f. Regenberg et al., 2007) were obtained. Dashed black line marks critical Sr/Ca ratio given by Regenberg et al. (2007). C) δ¹⁸O values of *G. ruber* (*p*) selected from core M78/1-235-1 are within the range of other surface δ¹⁸O records from the Caribbean (VM12-107, Schmidt et al., 2012; VM28-122 and ODP999, Schmidt et al., 2004; M35003-4, Rühlemann et al. 1999), implying that diagenetic alteration is negligible. Blue shadings mark Younger Dryas (YD) and Heinrich Stadials (HS2 and HS1). LGM = Last Glacial Maximum, MIS2 = Marine Isotope Stage 2.



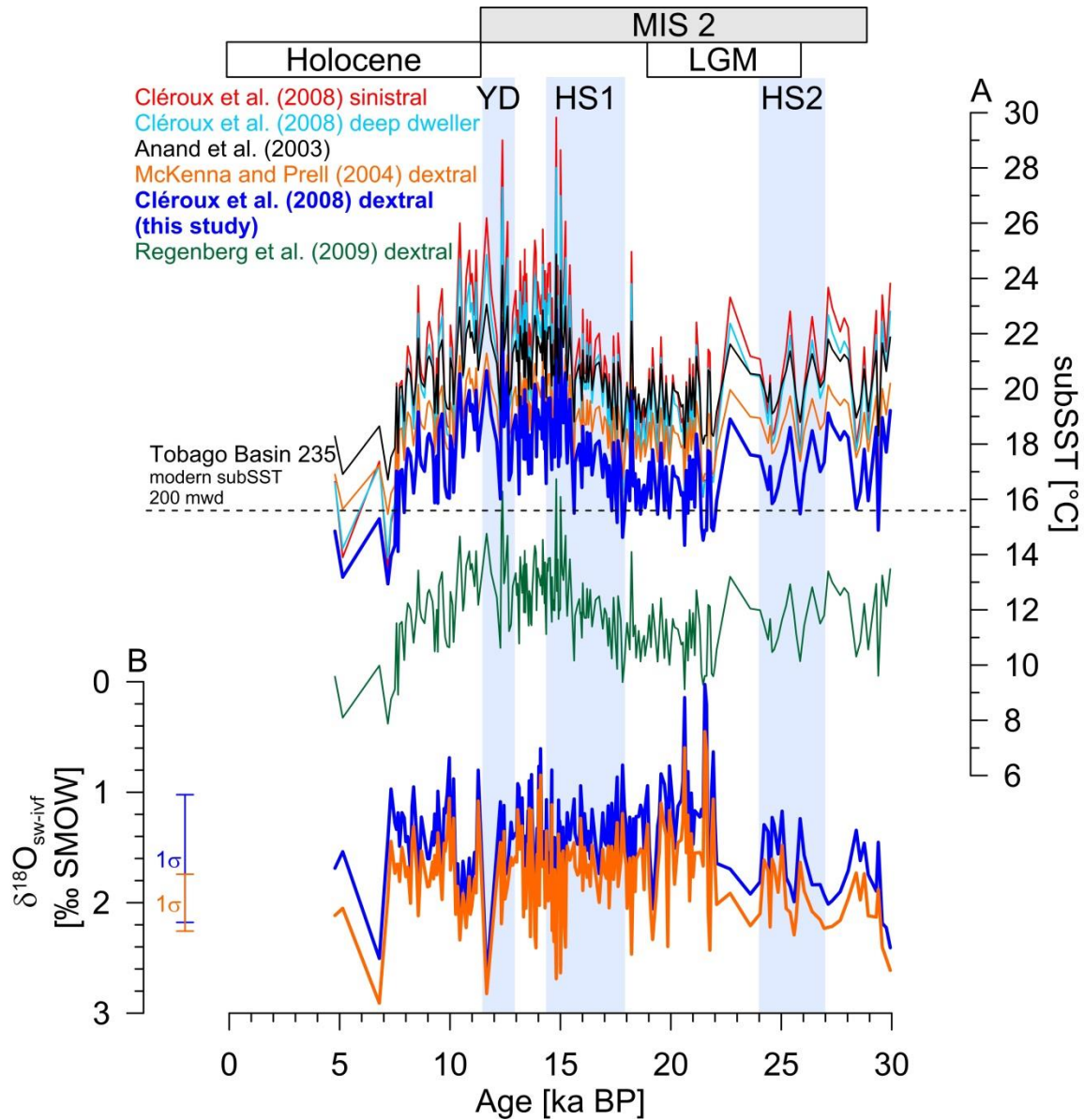
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Figure S3. Planktonic foraminiferal isotope and trace metal data of sediment core SO164-03-4, and calculated ocean temperature, and salinity approximations ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sw}}$). Data of *G. ruber* in red and *G. truncatulinoides* in black. A) $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records; B) Mg/Ca ratios; C) SST_{Mg/Ca} and subSST_{Mg/Ca} calculated from equations of Anand et al. (2003) and Cléroux et al. (2008); D) relative changes of the sea level (Waelbroeck et al., 2002) used to calculate (E) relative changes of $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sw}}$ as approximation for SSS and subSSS using the equation by Thunell et al. (1999) corrected for ice volume changes (Waelbroeck et al. (2002). Blue shadings mark Younger Dryas (YD) and Heinrich Stadials (HS2 and HS1). LGM = Last Glacial Maximum, MIS2 = Marine Isotope Stage 2.

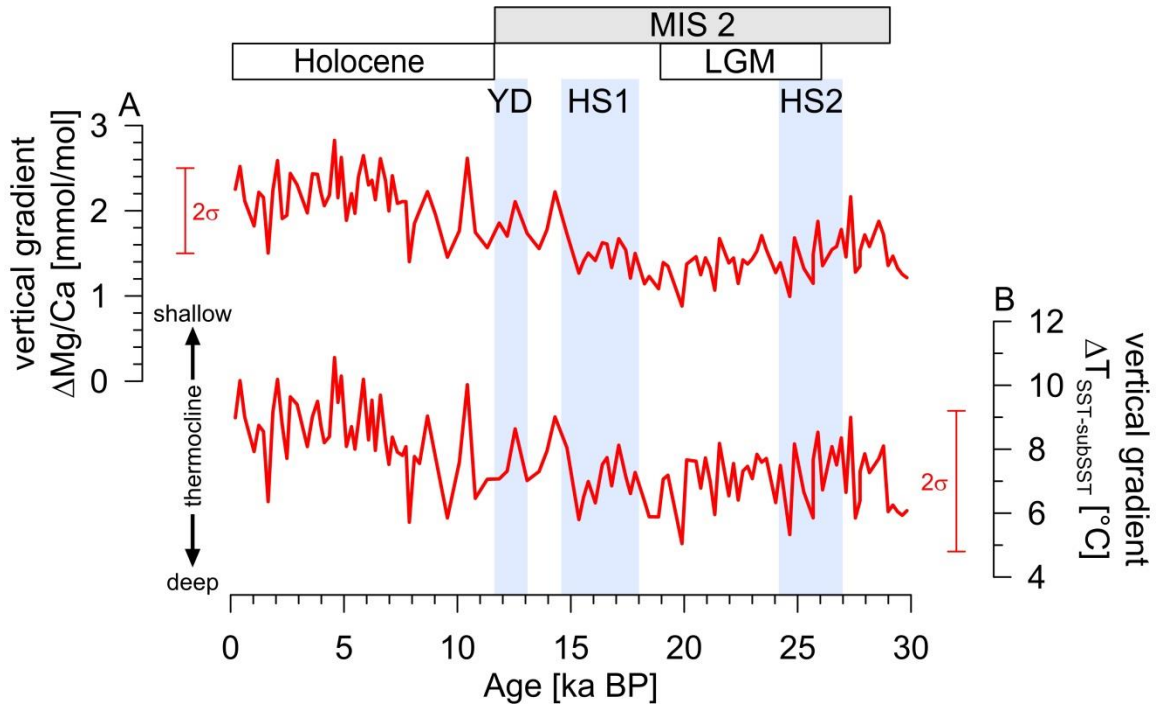


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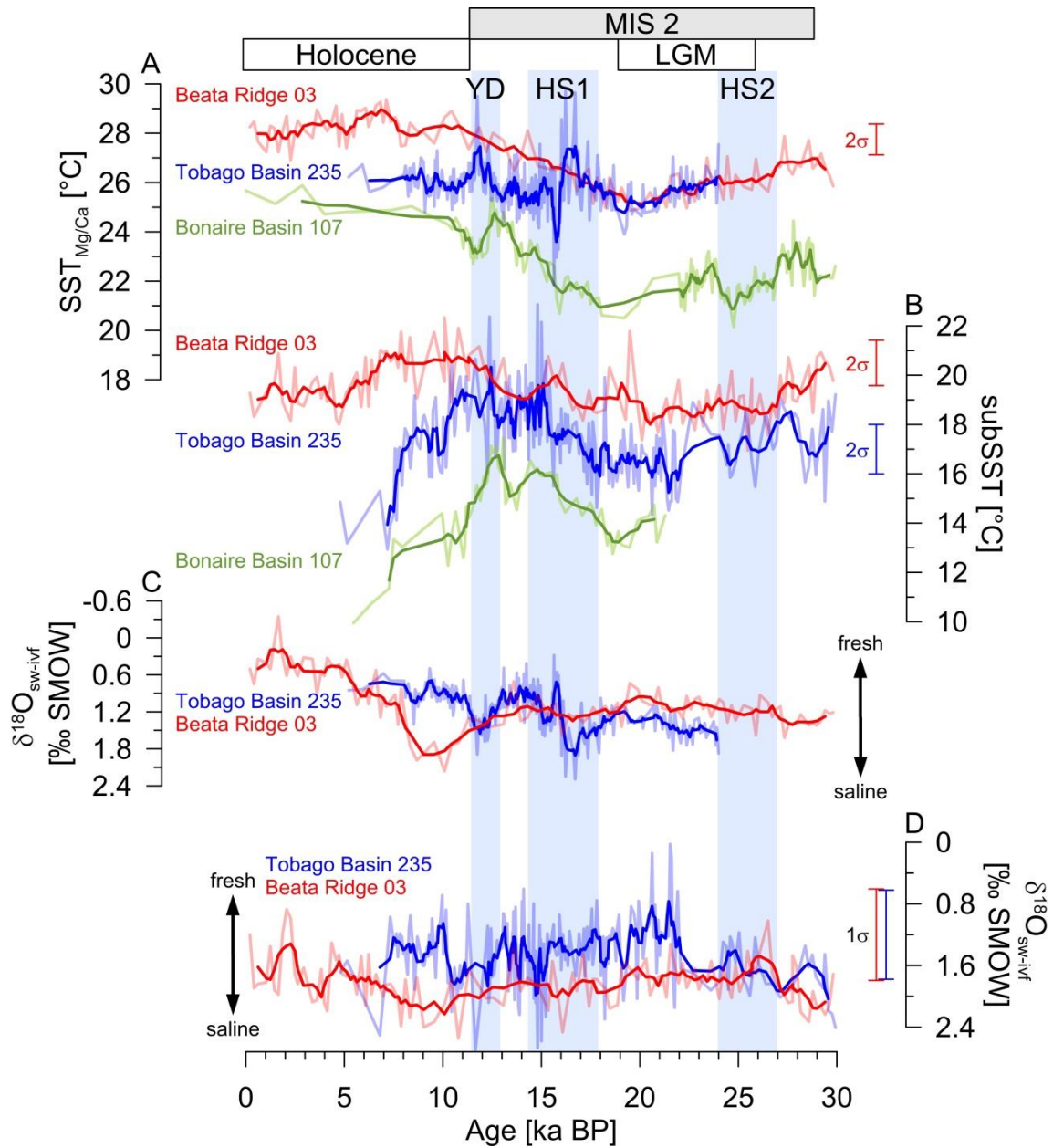
160 **Figure S4.** Planktonic foraminiferal isotope and trace metal data of sediment core
 161 M78/1-235-1, and calculated ocean temperature, and salinity approximations ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sw}}$).
 162 Data of *G. ruber* (p) in red and *G. truncatulinoides* in black. Purple crosses indicate
 163 measurements we decide to eliminate from the dataset due to elevated Al/Ca and Fe/Ca
 164 ratios as well as values which were defined as outliers by using the Grubbs test. A) $\delta^{18}\text{O}$
 165 records; B) Mg/Ca ratios; C) subSST_{Mg/Ca} calculated with the equation of Cl eroux et al.
 166 (2008); D) changes of the relative sea level (Waelbroeck et al., 2002); (E) relative
 167 changes of $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sw}}$ as approximation for subSSS using the equation by Thunell et al.
 168 (1999) corrected for ice volume changes (Waelbroeck et al. (2002). Blue shadings mark
 169 Younger Dryas (YD) and Heinrich Stadials (HS2 and HS1). LGM = Last Glacial
 170 Maximum, MIS2 = Marine Isotope Stage 2.



171
 172 **Figure S5:** Comparison of Mg/Ca-temperature calibrations available for
 173 *G. truncatulinoides*. A) The calibration of Cléroux et al. (2008) for *G. truncatulinoides*
 174 dextral morphotype was considered best applicable (thick blue). The calibration of
 175 McKenna and Prell (2004) shows slightly higher temperatures (~0.5-1°C) (orange).
 176 Calibrations from Cléroux et al. (2008) and Anand et al. (2003) provide unrealistic high
 177 subSST_{Mg/Ca} up to 30°C, while the Regenberg et al. (2009) calibration underestimates
 178 modern temperatures by ~8°C. B) Relative subsurface salinity changes approximated
 179 from $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sw-ivf}}$ at Tobago Basin core 235 by using the McKenna and Prell (2004) (orange)
 180 and Cléroux et al. (2008) (blue) temperature calibrations for *G. truncatulinoides*. Blue
 181 shadings mark Younger Dryas (YD) and Heinrich Stadials (HS2 and HS1). LGM = Last
 182 Glacial Maximum, MIS2 = Marine Isotope Stage 2.



183
 184 **Figure S6:** Vertical gradient at Beata Ridge core 03 between surface and subsurface. A)
 185 Vertical Mg/Ca gradient ($Mg/Ca_{\text{surface}} - Mg/Ca_{\text{subsurface}}$). B) Vertical temperature gradient
 186 ($\Delta T_{\text{SST-subSST}}$) between sea surface and subsurface indicating thermocline depth
 187 variations at Beata Ridge core 03. Red error bars show propagated 2σ -errors for each
 188 plot. Blue shadings mark Younger Dryas (YD) and Heinrich Stadials (HS2 and HS1).
 189 LGM = Last Glacial Maximum, MIS2 = Marine Isotope Stage 2.



190

191 **Figure 3:** Sea surface temperature ($SST_{Mg/Ca}$), subsurface temperature ($subSST_{Mg/Ca}$),
 192 sea surface and sea subsurface $\delta^{18}O_{sw-ivf}$ (salinity) development in the tropical W Atlantic
 193 from 30-0 ka BP. A) $SST_{Mg/Ca}$ record of Beata Ridge core 03 (*G. ruber*) (red = 5 pt-
 194 running average, light red = raw data), Tobago Basin 235 (*G. ruber pink*) (blue = 5 pt-
 195 running average, light blue = raw data) in comparison to the $SST_{Mg/Ca}$ (*G. ruber*) record of
 196 Bonaire Basin core 107 (dark green = 5 pt-running average, light green = raw data;
 197 Parker et al., 2015; Schmidt et al., 2012). B) $subSST_{Mg/Ca}$ development at Tobago Basin
 198 core 235 (dark blue = 5 pt-running average, light blue = raw data for *G. truncatulinoides*),
 199 at Beata Ridge core 03 (red = 5 pt-running average, light red = raw data for *G.*
 200 *truncatulinoides*) and at Bonaire Basin core 107 (Schmidt et al., 2012; dark green = 5 pt-
 201 running average, light green = raw data for *G. crassaformis*). C) Relative sea surface
 202 salinity changes approximated from calculated $\delta^{18}O_{sw-ivf}$ for Beata Ridge core 03 (red = 5
 203 pt-running average, light red = raw data for *G. ruber*) and Tobago Basin core 235 (dark

204 blue = 5 pt-running average, light blue = raw data for *G. ruber pink*). D) Relative
205 subsurface salinity changes approximated from calculated $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sw-ivf}}$ for Beata Ridge core
206 03 (red = 5 pt-running average, light red = raw data for *G. truncatulinoides*) and Tobago
207 Basin core 235 (dark blue = 5 pt-running average, light blue = raw data for *G.*
208 *truncatulinoides*). Blue shadings mark Younger Dryas (YD) and Heinrich Stadials (HS2
209 and HS1). LGM = Last Glacial Maximum, MIS 2 = Marine Isotope Stage 2

210 **Data Set S1.** SO164-03-4 *G. ruber* and *G. truncatulinoides* stable oxygen isotope,
211 Mg/Ca and calculated temperature data.

212 **Data Set S2.** M78/1-235-1 *G. ruber (p)* and *G. truncatulinoides* stable oxygen isotope,
213 Mg/Ca and calculated temperature data.