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## Ocean-ice sheet interaction along the SE Nordic Seas margin from 35 to 15 ka Bp

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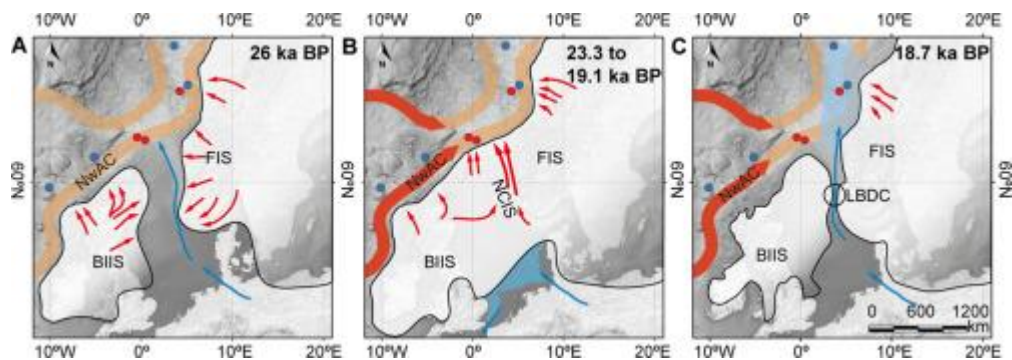
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### Abstract :

Sediment cores from the south-eastern Nordic Seas simultaneously archive the variability of the Fennoscandian Ice Sheet (FIS), the British-Irish Ice Sheet (BIIS) and the regional oceanic conditions. This study aims to contribute to our understanding of the marine-based section of the FIS and the BIIS between 35,000 and 15,000 years BP, by using cores MD99-2283, MD99-2284 and MD99-2289, retrieved along the upper continental slope between the Faroe-Shetland Channel and the Wiring Plateau. For this, we present a revised, radiocarbon based, Bayesian modelled chronological framework and a compilation of new and published sedimentological, geochemical and micro-paleontological datasets. Our results show a possibly first Weichselian FIS/BIIS confluence at ca. 25,500 years BP in the central North Sea, which buttressed the BIIS to the East, potentially leading to a northwards BIIS deflection via the Shetlands. The Norwegian Channel Ice Stream (NCIS) most likely only reached the shelf edge after 23,300 +/- 500 years BP, possibly for the first time during the Weichselian. The NCIS onset directly preceded a pronounced influx of warm Atlantic water to the northern North Sea margin possibly implying forcing through ocean melt. We find a highly variable NCIS, with three similar to 1400 yearlong episodes of increased ice rafted debris flux interrupted by similar to 600 yearlong minima. When compared to other sides of the European Ice Sheet, these episodes appear to correlate well, suggesting a common forcing mechanism. In conclusion, our data supports recent suggestions that the last glacial stage of the BIIS was more extensive in the central North Sea and the confluence later than previously thought.

## Graphical abstract



## Highlights

► Possibly first, Weichselian ice confluence in the North Sea around  $24.5 \pm 0.3$  ka BP. ► Separation of central North Sea ice dated on meltwater plume to  $18.7 \pm 0.2$  ka BP. ► The Weichselian Norwegian Channel Ice Stream was likely restricted to 23.3–19 ka BP. ► The Ice Stream might have operated in at least three 1.5 ka long episodes. ► Episodes correlate well with S and W margins, suggesting atmospheric teleconnections.

**Keywords** : IRD, Multi-proxy, Norwegian Channel Ice Stream, NE Atlantic margin, Ice sheet variability, Last Glacial Maximum

## 38 **1. Introduction**

39 Large landmasses in the Northern Hemisphere have been covered repeatedly by  
40 continental ice sheets throughout the Quaternary. The world's last two continental ice  
41 sheets today, on Greenland and Antarctica, are experiencing an ongoing and, in terms  
42 of speed, possibly unprecedented loss of ice mass within the last decades, as  
43 emphasized in the last report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change  
44 (Vaughan et al., 2013). The retreat of these ice sheets, associated with potential sea  
45 level changes and the influence on the climate system, is assumed to have a large  
46 environmental impact worldwide (Vaughan et al., 2013). The increased freshwater  
47 delivery to the North Atlantic has the possible impact of reducing the strength of the  
48 Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (Broecker et al., 1985; Rahmstorf et al.,  
49 2015; Liu et al., 2017), which is in turn proposed to result in large-scale restructuring  
50 of our climate system (Hall et al., 2006).

51 The understanding of the mechanisms controlling ice sheet decay and the  
52 associated speed of these processes, still remains fragmentary. Research on paleo-  
53 ice sheets and numerical modelling of ice sheets is today receiving increased attention  
54 in an effort to decipher the complex responses of present ice sheets to a warming  
55 climate. Within the last decade, there has been a growing focus on marine-based parts  
56 of ice sheets and their interaction with ocean circulation (Rise et al., 2005; Lekens et  
57 al., 2006; Knutz et al., 2007; Alvarez-Solas et al., 2011; Crocker et al., 2016; Wary et  
58 al., 2016). To be able to develop and test climate models, detailed knowledge about  
59 the timing and the mechanism behind the initiation, dynamics and decay of the marine-  
60 based fraction of continental ice sheets is essential (e.g. Vaughan and Arthern, 2007;  
61 Bentley et al., 2014).

62 The aim of this study is to contribute to our understanding of the timing of ice sheet  
63 advances and instabilities along the south-eastern Nordic Seas continental margin.  
64 This is done by compiling a series of well-dated cores from the region (Fig. 1A),  
65 covering the Middle and Late Weichselian, focusing on the time period between 35  
66 and 15 ka before present (BP). Additionally, the observed ice sheet variability will be  
67 related to changes in ocean surface circulation in the south-eastern Nordic Seas. With  
68 this, a special focus will be set on the investigation of the timing of Norwegian Channel  
69 Ice Stream (NCIS) activity combined with new insights into the timing of British-Irish  
70 Ice Sheet (BIIS) and Fennoscandian Ice Sheet (FIS) confluence in the central North  
71 Sea.

72

## 73 **2. Background**

74 The Eurasian Ice Sheet, consisting of the FIS, the BIIS and the Barents-Kara Ice  
75 Sheet, encompassed a large marine-based section during maximum extension  
76 (Sejrup et al., 2005; Lee et al., 2012; Hughes et al., 2015). The location of the Eurasian  
77 Ice Sheet made it particularly vulnerable to ocean melt forcing through the inflow of  
78 warm Atlantic waters along the continental margin (Joughin et al., 2012). A high co-  
79 variability of the BIIS with changes in ocean sea surface temperature, that is, the  
80 position of the polar front, has been suggested (Scourse et al., 2009; Hall et al., 2011).  
81 Even though the maximum extension of the western oceanic border of the Eurasian  
82 Ice Sheet within the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM) is rather well documented (Dahlgren  
83 and Vorren, 2003; Sejrup et al., 2005; Clark et al., 2012; Hughes et al., 2015; Ottesen  
84 et al., 2016), the timing and structure of the build-up and deglaciation can still be  
85 refined further.

86        Until recently, it was widely accepted that the FIS and the BIIS were in confluence  
87 across the central North Sea between about 31-24 ka BP (Sejrup et al., 1994; Bradwell  
88 et al., 2008; Ehlers and Gibbard, 2008; Sejrup et al., 2009; Toucanne et al., 2010;  
89 Sejrup et al., 2015). Based on mapping of landforms and a compilation of data from  
90 sediment cores within the North Sea region, Sejrup et al. (2016) suggested that the  
91 two ice sheets were in confluence in the central North Sea at 23 ka BP until separating  
92 at 18.5 ka BP, but without stating the onset of confluence. Along the Mid-Norwegian  
93 margin the FIS is suggested to reach the shelf edge by 24 ka BP, marked by the  
94 deposition of glacial debris flows (Dahlgren et al., 2002; Dahlgren and Vorren,  
95 2003; Hjelstuen et al., 2005).

96        The eastern section of the North Sea is characterized by the Norwegian Channel  
97 (Fig. 1A), a distinct ca. 850 km long morphological feature, 70-150 km in width and  
98 280-700 m in depth (Rise et al., 2008). The morphology of the Norwegian Channel is  
99 to a large extent the product of multiple periods of ice streaming of the NCIS within the  
100 last 1.1 million years (Sejrup et al., 2003; Nygård et al., 2005; Reinardy et al., 2017).  
101 The last active period of the NCIS is reported to have taken place during the LGM and  
102 until the onset of deglaciation at around 19 ka BP (Lekens et al., 2006; Nygård et al.,  
103 2007), with estimated sediment fluxes of ca. 8,000 cubic meters per year, per meter  
104 ice front (Nygård et al., 2007). However, the onset of NCIS ice streaming during the  
105 LGM or any inter-LGM variability remains unclear and challenging to determine, as  
106 with most paleo-ice streams (Margold et al., 2015).

107        The timing of retreat from the maximum LGM ice stand position, that is, the shelf  
108 edge, is assumed to have differed along the north-western European margin. Studies  
109 agree on an early retreat of the BIIS along its western margin after 24 ka BP (e.g. Peck

110 et al., 2006; Bigg et al., 2012), while the FIS along the northern North Sea margin is  
111 thought to have stayed grounded on the shelf edge until about 19 ka BP (King et al.,  
112 1998; Nygård et al., 2007; Sejrup et al., 2016). On the Mid-Norwegian margin the onset  
113 of retreat is reported to have been before 17 ka BP (Dahlgren and Vorren, 2003;  
114 Hjelstuen et al., 2005). Additionally, shell fragments in till on the same margin  
115 suggested grounded ice at the shelf edge until after 18.1 ka BP (Rokoengen and  
116 Frengstad, 1999). Following the retreat from the northern North Sea margin, recent  
117 work suggests that the NCIS had withdrawn to the innermost parts of the Norwegian  
118 Channel (Skagerrak) by 17.6 ka BP (Morén et al., 2017), which agrees with terrestrial  
119 data (Sejrup et al., 1998; Sejrup et al., 2009; Houmark-Nielsen et al., 2012; Anjar et  
120 al., 2014; Svendsen et al., 2015; Briner et al., 2016).

121 The along-shelf deglaciation signal is briefly halted on the Mid-Norwegian margin,  
122 where Nygård et al. (2004) describe a glacial re-advance (the Bremanger re-advance)  
123 around 16-17 ka BP onto the Måløy Plateau (Fig. 1A), which is believed to coincide  
124 with a re-advance from the Shetlands into the Fladen area (Sejrup et al., 2015).

125 The present-day surface current system in the studied region comprises of two  
126 branches of North Atlantic Water, the Shetland and the Faroe currents, entering the  
127 Nordic Seas across the Wyville-Thomson and the Iceland-Faroe Ridges (Hansen and  
128 Østerhus, 2000). The Shetland Current continues along the shelf edge northwards  
129 and across the Vøring Plateau as the Norwegian Atlantic Current (NwAC) (Fig. 1A).  
130 Additionally, along the coastline of Norway, the Norwegian Coastal Current transports  
131 Norwegian Coastal water northwards (Fig. 1A) (Hansen and Østerhus, 2000).  
132 Position, speed and depth of the NwAC were variable within the last glacial cycle  
133 (Rasmussen and Thomsen, 2008), with sluggish current speeds during stadials and

134 increased flow, sorting deposits, within interstadials (Kissel et al., 1998; Dahlgren and  
135 Vorren, 2003). During the LGM, NwAC speeds along the Mid-Norwegian margin are  
136 reportedly low before the ice sheet reached the shelf edge, medium strong and able  
137 to sort sands during maximum ice advance, while strong after the onset of the last  
138 deglaciation, leading to winnowing and non-deposition (Dahlgren and Vorren, 2003).  
139

## 140 **3. Material and methods**

### 141 **3.1. Core locations**

142 This study is based on a compilation of new and previously published data from  
143 the giant CALYPSO piston cores MD99-2283, MD99-2284, MD99-2289 (hereafter  
144 MD83, MD84 and MD89), raised from the south-eastern Nordic Seas margin in 1999  
145 (Fig. 1A, Table 1). The sedimentological, geochemical, micro-paleontological and  
146 stable isotope records from these cores are compared to published data from cores  
147 MD04-2829, LINK17, MD99-2291 and MD95-2010 (Table 1) roughly taken along the  
148 approximate track of the NwAC (Fig. 1A). Together, these cores form a 1100 km long  
149 transect from Rosemary Bank, northeast of Scotland, to the northern Vøring Plateau  
150 in the eastern Norwegian Sea, enabling a spatial overview of the western margin of  
151 the Eurasian Ice Sheet, extending the work of Scourse et al. (2009) northwards.

152 A set of sub-bottom profiles is applied to illustrate the regional and depositional  
153 context of the studied cores (Figs. 1A and B). The profiles are a deep-towed boomer  
154 line made available by the British Geological Survey (Fig. 1C) and two 2D TOPAS  
155 high-resolution profiles (Figs. 1D and E), of which the latter is a modification of Figure  
156 2b in Reiche et al. (2011). To convert sediment two-way-travel time into meters, we  
157 have used the velocity of 1600 m/s.

158 Core MD84 was retrieved from a sediment package composed of acoustically well-  
159 laminated facies, suggesting hemipelagic deposits, that appear to drape an old, deep  
160 feature (Figs. 1B and C). The eastern section of the available boomer profile (Fig. 1C)  
161 cuts through the thick package of glaciogenic debris flows forming the North Sea Trough  
162 Mouth Fan. These glaciogenic debris flow deposits are assumed to reflect the long  
163 history of the NCIS throughout the Quaternary (King et al., 1996; Sejrup et al., 2003;



164 Nygård et al., 2005). Cores MD83 and MD84 are located 75 km apart, but differ almost  
165 800 m in water depth (Table 1). The location of core MD83 is about 40 km north-west  
166 of the shelf break, at the mouth of the Norwegian Channel (Fig. 1B) and thus  
167 downstream of the NCIS. The position of MD83 (Fig. 1D) is about 2 km west of the  
168 youngest identified glacigenic debris flows of the North Sea Trough Mouth Fan (e.g.  
169 Nygård et al., 2005).

170 The glacigenic debris flows appear to have protected the underlying hemipelagic  
171 sediments from the vigorous NwAC flowing along the margin (Fig. 1D), especially  
172 since the onset of the last deglaciation (Sejrup et al., 1981; Jansen et al., 1983). This  
173 can be observed by tracing the first identified reflector below the seabed from the core  
174 site of MD83 to the East (Fig. 1D), which reveals a maximum thickness of about 1.5  
175 ms (~1 m) of hemipelagic deposits beneath the contact to the overlying glacigenic  
176 debris flow. This implies some additional time of hemipelagic sedimentation before  
177 deposition of the glacigenic debris flow, compared to the age of the core top of MD83.  
178 This observation fits well with previous work on the North Sea Fan, where the last  
179 glacigenic debris flows have been dated to have been deposited before 19.1 ka BP  
180 (King et al., 1998).

181 Core MD89 was raised from the south-western flank of the Vøring Plateau in a  
182 hemipelagic setting (Haflidason et al., 2003), about 100 km to the west of the last  
183 deposited glacigenic debris flows, identified on the southern part of the Vøring Plateau  
184 (Reiche et al., 2011).

185

186

## 187 **3.2. Chronology**

188 This study adds 33 new accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS) radiocarbon dates  
189 (Table 2) to the 113 previously published dates from the same cores (Table S1). In  
190 addition, the Faroe Marine Ash Zone (FMAZ) II, dated to  $26.69 \pm 0.39$  ka BP (Davies et  
191 al., 2008) has in this study been identified in MD83 and previously in MD84 (Dokken  
192 et al., 2013) and MD89 (Nilsen, 2014) (Table 2).

193 Earlier studies in the region have either constructed age models based on  
194 radiocarbon dates (e.g. Hafliðason et al., 1998; Lekens et al., 2005) or have relied on  
195 tuning proxy records to Greenland ice core stratigraphies (Hafliðason et al., 1995;  
196 Seierstad et al., 2014). Such tuning to Greenland Stadials and Interstadials has been  
197 based on the variability in the relative abundance of sub-polar planktonic foraminifera  
198 (e.g. Scourse et al., 2009; Hall et al., 2011; Crocker et al., 2016; Rasmussen et al.,  
199 2016), magnetic susceptibility records (e.g. Stanford et al., 2011; Dokken et al., 2013;  
200 Wary et al., 2016) or variations in relative Ca-concentration in X-Ray Fluorescence  
201 (XRF) core scanner data (Lekens et al., 2006; Brendryen et al., 2010).

202 In this study, all age models are based solely on radiocarbon dates. The rationale  
203 behind this is to be able to compare the proxy records from the margin to the  
204 development of the marine-based parts of the FIS and the BISS on the continental  
205 shelf, as these records are largely based on radiocarbon dates on marine carbonates  
206 (e.g. Sejrup et al., 2016). During the age model run all dates were (re-)calibrated with  
207 Marine13 (Reimer et al., 2013), including 405-year global reservoir correction. No  
208 further local reservoir correction was applied. The changes in local reservoir effect are  
209 considered to be similar along the south-eastern Nordic Seas margin, making the  
210 presented cores comparable to each other within individual age model uncertainties.

211 The age models cover the time interval 40-10 ka BP (Fig. 2) and are constructed  
212 with the R-based, Bayesian age modelling script "Bacon" (v.2.2) (Blaauw and Christen,  
213 2011). All age models were constructed with an accumulation rate distribution width of  
214 1.5, a student-t distribution and a section thickness depending on the flexibility need  
215 in each core (Blaauw and Christen, 2011). The section thickness was set to the  
216 smallest possible value, which still allowed the age model to be run within the 2-sigma  
217 standard deviation of each calibrated radiocarbon date. Outliers were removed in core  
218 MD91 (reworking in 2 samples described in Leksens et al. (2005)), in MD89 (one  
219 sample out of context) and in MD83 (two apparently too young ages). In core MD83  
220 the Laschamp palaeomagnetic reversal (Leksens et al., 2006) was used to constrain  
221 the age model in its oldest section. The above described FMAZII tephra was not  
222 included in any age model run and is just used to validate the tentative tuning.

223 The age model of core MD91 however required some additional measures, as a  
224 sudden, pronounced change in accumulation rate in the core surpasses the  
225 capabilities of Bacon. Nearly 14 m of the core is related to a rapidly deposited  
226 meltwater plume along the Mid-Norwegian margin, dated to about 18.5 ka BP  
227 (Hjelstuen et al., 2004; Leksens et al., 2005; Reiche et al., 2011; Sejrup et al., 2016;  
228 Hjelstuen et al., this issue). Thus, the previously identified "UNT6" (Reiche et al., 2011)  
229 between reflectors Ny7 (280.5 cm) and Ny6 (1720.5 cm) (Fig. 1E) was removed during  
230 age modelling in this study (Fig. 2). Through re-evaluation of core and TOPAS data,  
231 reflector Ny6 was moved to 1500 cm core depth in MD91. This section was afterwards  
232 added back into the depth scale and the sedimentation between the top and bottom  
233 point of the plume event was regarded as linear (Fig. 2). Any possible variability of the  
234 sedimentation rate within the plume can therefore not be resolved within this age

235 model, as in fact the complete duration of the plume event itself likely lies within the  
236 age model uncertainties of about 230 years.

237 One of the major challenges while comparing different time series is the question  
238 of synchronicity of events, or the detection of potential leads or lags. To increase the  
239 comparability, all independent age models in this study are calculated with the same  
240 settings. Our assumption is that events are most likely synchronous if they overlap  
241 within the uncertainty of two-sigma in the age model. However, studies have attempted  
242 to solve this numerically (Werner and Tingley, 2015), or visually with "ghost plots" of  
243 any proxy within Bacon (Blaauw and Christen, 2011).

244

### 245 **3.3. Analysis and proxies**

246 The visual description of core MD83 was additionally supported through high  
247 resolution colour images taken with the ITRAX core scanner (COX Analytic Systems).  
248 In addition, analogue X-rays, previously taken on the split core (Lekens et al., 2006),  
249 were used to assess core stretch, voids and sediment composition.

250 Subsamples from all cores were wet sieved with an array of sieve sizes and in  
251 varying sampling intervals (Table 3). Most of the grain size data, however, has  
252 previously been published elsewhere. Lithic grains in the fraction >1 mm of cores  
253 MD89 and MD83 were counted manually, updating previous counts of core MD83  
254 (Lekens et al., 2006) within the top 13 m (35-19 ka BP). Furthermore, all lithic grains  
255 in the 150-1000  $\mu\text{m}$  fraction were counted in core MD83 using the automated light  
256 microscope "Morphologi G3" from Malvern Instruments (Malvern Instruments Ltd.),  
257 applying a method described in Becker et al. (Accepted Author Manuscript). In core  
258 MD84 lithic particles were manually counted in fractions >150  $\mu\text{m}$ , all counts between

259 30 and 16.26 m core depth (35-29 ka BP) were previously published (Dokken et al.,  
260 2013). An additional 13 samples were counted in the same fraction in MD84 between  
261 15 and 10.79 m core depth (28-25 ka BP) with the same method as for MD83. The  
262 interpretation of lithic grains  $>150 \mu\text{m}$  as ice rafted debris (IRD) is widely used in the  
263 literature (e.g. Bond and Lotti, 1995; Bailey et al., 2012), even though, there is an  
264 ongoing discussion on which grain size fraction should be regarded as IRD (Andrews,  
265 2000). A study on the western Barents Sea margin associated an increased amount  
266 of IRD  $>500 \mu\text{m}$  with the advance and retreat of ice streams, while observing only little  
267 IRD at the maximum extension of the ice stream (Dowdeswell and Elverhøi, 2002). In  
268 this study, lithic grain counts  $>150 \mu\text{m}$  are interpreted as an IRD signal of a fluctuating,  
269 relatively proximal ice sheet margin.

270 The assemblage of planktonic foraminifera was counted in the 150-1000  $\mu\text{m}$   
271 fraction in core MD83 within the upper 13 m core depth (35-19 ka BP), with a resolution  
272 of 100-200 years. Additional samples were counted in MD89, increasing the resolution  
273 published by Berstad et al. (2003) to 200-500 years between 12.90 and 10.49 m core  
274 depth (35-27 ka BP). The high resolution (10-100 years) assemblage data from MD84  
275 (Dokken et al., 2015b) were supplemented with 13 new counts between 11.44 and  
276 10.79 m core depth (26-25 ka BP).

277 The relative concentrations of the polar species *Neogloboquadrina pachyderma*  
278 sinistral of less than 90% are widely used as an indication of influx of Atlantic water  
279 into the near surface of the Nordic Seas (Haflidason et al., 1995; Klitgaard-Kristensen  
280 et al., 2001; Austin et al., 2004; Scourse et al., 2009) indicating summer temperatures  
281 higher than 4°C (Bé and Tolderlund, 1971; Kellogg, 1980; Pflaumann et al., 2003).  
282 Previous studies suggest a change from 90% to 50% *N. pachyderma* sin. in this region

283 to be comparable to a relative temperature variation of about 7°C (e.g. Rasmussen  
284 and Thomsen, 2008; Dokken et al., 2013). Some data points, if based on counts of  
285 less than 200 planktonic foraminifera, were removed due to unreliability.

286 The oxygen stable isotope data used in this study were previously published  
287 elsewhere (Berstad, 2003; Lekens et al., 2006). The isotopes are reported in respect  
288 to the VPDB (Vienna Peedee Belemnite) standard and were measured on ca. 7  
289 (MD83) or ca. 20 (MD84 and MD89) tests of *N. pachyderma* sin. on the Finnigan  
290 MAT251 mass spectrometer at the Geological Mass Spectrometry laboratory at the  
291 University of Bergen with an accuracy of  $\pm 0.07\text{‰}$ . This proxy is widely considered to  
292 partly reflect global ice volume and near-surface water freshening and/or temperature  
293 changes (e.g. Lekens et al., 2006; Rasmussen and Thomsen, 2008), where lighter  
294 values indicating fresher and/or warmer near-surface waters.

295 The upper 15 meters of cores MD83 and MD89, covering the studied time interval,  
296 were analysed every 500  $\mu\text{m}$  on the split core with the ITRAX core scanner (COX  
297 Analytic Systems). All XRF measurements were performed with the Molybdenum tube  
298 to produce a set of relative geochemical parameters, updating earlier measurements  
299 with 40 times the previous resolution (Berstad, 2003; Lekens et al., 2006). Core MD84  
300 was scanned every 2 cm with similar settings, but on an AVAATECH XRF core  
301 scanner. The measured counts of Calcium (Ca) were normalized with the Iron (Fe)  
302 counts. The Ca/Fe ratios were further resampled on a continuous 50 year sampling  
303 interval with the nearest point regular interpolation method of the software PAST  
304 (Hammer et al., 2001). Lekens et al. (2006) have previously demonstrated, that the  
305 Ca/Fe ratios in core MD83 closely follow the carbonate content obtained from the  
306 same core.

307

## 308 **4. Results**

309 The results of the performed analyses, plotted on depth scale and compared to the  
310 tentative tuning to Greenland ice core GISP2, demonstrate the large differences in  
311 accumulation rates within and between cores MD83, MD84 and MD89 (Fig. 3). In the  
312 following, the data will be presented in detail on the individual age model (Fig. 4).

313

### 314 **4.1. Sedimentology**

315 On average, about 80-90% of the deposits in the cores consist of silt and clay (Fig.  
316 4). Distinct episodes with a higher content of coarser grain sizes are observed in all  
317 records. Before 26 ka BP, cores MD83 and MD84 show an influx of up to 50% very  
318 fine sorted sands for episodes of 500 to 1000 years (Figs. 4 and 5), in stark contrast  
319 to conditions after 26 ka BP, where similar influx episodes consist of coarse sand and  
320 pebbles (Figs. 4 and 6). The concentrations of grains  $>150 \mu\text{m}$  and  $>1 \text{ mm}$  reflect this  
321 contrast, with relatively low coarse grain content before 26 ka BP and high after (Fig.  
322 3 and 4). The coarse sediment composition after 26 ka BP is also recorded on the X-  
323 ray image of MD83 (Fig. 6), including pebbles of up to 8 cm in diameter. In MD89 the  
324 fine sand events during before 26 ka BP are not as pronounced as in the southern  
325 cores, but the relative carbonate content inferred from the Ca/Fe data (Lekens et al.,  
326 2006) shows a similar pattern as in the southern cores (Fig. 4). In MD83, the Ca/Fe  
327 data and the carbonate content correlate well with the variations in grain size  
328 composition (Fig. 5). The Ca/Fe data in MD84 display a comparable, but more  
329 complex picture (Fig. 4), with a less precise correlation of the fine sand influx and the  
330 Ca/Fe ratio. After 26 ka BP, the Ca/Fe ratio and grain size composition appear not to  
331 show any co-variability, except within an episode between 25.8 and 24.5 ka BP, a short

332 event around 21 ka BP in MD83 and around 16 ka BP in MD89 (Fig. 4). The  
333 pronounced episodes of medium to very coarse sand influx, especially between 25.8  
334 and 18 ka BP, are interrupted by the deposition of almost pure silt and clay grain size  
335 content. In core MD83 these episodes are most distinct (Fig. 3 and 4) and make it  
336 possible to identify three coarse influx episodes, labelled "B" (21.2-19.8 ka BP), "C"  
337 (23.5-21.6 ka BP) and "D" (25.7-24.3 ka BP). A detailed look into the IRD counts of  
338 MD84 (light yellow graph in Fig. 4) shows similar episodes and opens the possibility  
339 for a fourth, younger, episode "A" (19.3-18.3 ka BP), that is not preserved in MD83.  
340 This is in agreement with the above-mentioned observation of the erosion of  
341 hemipelagic deposits on top of MD83, which predate the adjacent glacigenic debris  
342 flow (Figs. 1D and 4).

343 These episodes of coarser sediment input are each about 1.5 ka in duration and  
344 are followed by 400-800 years of reduced or no coarse input (Fig. 4). Minor changes  
345 in the content of lithic grains, interpreted to be IRD, suggest higher frequency variability  
346 within each episode. The input of IRD in the more northerly located MD89 during these  
347 episodes is similar in timing, but generally less pronounced. This appearance changes  
348 between 18.5 and 15 ka BP, where increased influx of coarse sands and IRD suggests  
349 ice sheet proximity (Fig. 4). The content of IRD is largely following the variability  
350 displayed in the grain size distribution, but also gives insights into the absolute  
351 amounts of IRD flux. In all three cores the apparent episodes of IRD input between  
352 25.8 and 18 ka BP show about four times as high a content in the oldest episode,  
353 labelled D (Fig. 4), although we note that this is less pronounced in MD89. The timing  
354 of the initiation of these episodes appears to be the same in all records, but the input  
355 differs in scale and partly in duration. The latter is believed to be a function of



356 uncertainty within the individual age models and the above-mentioned sampling  
357 resolution.

358 The upper 4.5 m (26-19 ka BP) of MD83 reveal clear differences in sediment  
359 composition between the different input episodes (Fig. 6). As mentioned above,  
360 episode D appears to be different from episodes B and C. The carbonate content is  
361 slightly enhanced above average values (14%), with spikes of 16 and 20%, the  
362 magnetic susceptibility values are at their lowest ( $21 \cdot 10^5$  SI units) and the sediment  
363 is almost barren of any foraminifera (not shown). At the same time the content of lithic  
364 particles is about four times higher, even though the absolute grain size composition  
365 appears similar to episodes B and C. Additionally, it appears that episode D can be  
366 divided into two distinct periods based on the Ca/Fe ratio, sediment composition and  
367 grain counts data (Fig. 6). This episode is additionally clearly different in sediment  
368 colour, appearing much lighter than the surrounding deposits (Fig. 6). Lekens et al.  
369 (2006) published chalk counts from this core, which show a high concentration within  
370 the depth corresponding to episode D, also reflected in the relatively high carbonate  
371 content in the core. However, a re-evaluation of the coarse fraction revealed that the  
372 light-coloured grains previously interpreted to be chalk are indeed mollusc and  
373 barnacle fragments. Finally, several samples of the layer in question were analysed in  
374 an electron microscope. This confirmed the absence of any coccolithophores, making  
375 the presence of large amounts of chalk particles unlikely. The conclusion is therefore,  
376 that the increased carbonate content in episode D is likely a product of ground down  
377 mollusc and barnacle shell fragments that are present in high concentration in all size  
378 fractions (Fig. 6).

379 Average sedimentation rates for the studied time period are calculated to be ca. 60  
380 cm/ka (Fig. 7), with maximum values of 350 cm/ka at around 28 ka BP in core MD89.  
381 However, this short period of very high sedimentation rates in MD89 might be an  
382 erroneous effect of age modelling through a wide spread of densely sampled  
383 radiocarbon dates at this depth (Fig. 2). Calculating the sedimentation rate between  
384 the oldest and the youngest radiocarbon date within this date cluster around 28 ka BP,  
385 yields a more reasonable sedimentation rates of 160 cm/ka.

386 The sedimentation rate in core MD91 exceeds 300 cm/ka at  $18.7 \pm 0.23$  ka BP, as  
387 12.2 m of the core are modelled to have been deposited within only decades (Fig. 2),  
388 due to the previously described meltwater plume deposition (Reiche et al., 2011;  
389 Sejrup et al., 2016; Hjelstuen et al., this issue).

390 A striking feature in the calculated accumulation rates is the apparent similar  
391 change in magnitude through time within the studied cores (Fig. 7). Phases of  
392 relatively high sedimentation rates (100-150 cm/ka) in most cores are interrupted by  
393 periods of generally lower accumulation, with average rates of about 40 cm/ka,  
394 between 25.5 and 22.5 ka BP and after 18.5 ka BP.

395

## 396 **4.2. Oceanic conditions**

397 Throughout most of the observed time period, the polar, planktonic foraminifera *N.*  
398 *pachyderma* sin. generally accounts for more than 95% of the planktonic assemblage  
399 in our data (Fig. 4), suggesting full arctic conditions with close to perennial sea ice  
400 cover and near surface temperatures  $<4^{\circ}\text{C}$  (Scourse et al., 2009). This state is  
401 perturbed by several 300-900 yearlong episodes with increased presence of sub-polar  
402 species evidenced by *N. pachyderma* sin. minima of 50% in MD84, 70% in MD83 and

403 a minimum of 80% in MD89 (Fig. 4), implying periodic influx of warm Atlantic water  
404 into the Nordic Seas (e.g. Rasmussen and Thomsen, 2008). The relative timing of  
405 these events appears to coincide between the cores, within age model uncertainties.  
406 Cores MD83 and MD89 show in general lower *N. pachyderma* sin. minima and less  
407 variability than MD84. However, the lowest values, that is, the warmest intervals in  
408 MD84, only have a duration of less than 200 years, which makes it likely that the signal  
409 is missed or blurred in MD83 and MD89, where 2 cm sample slices are taken (0.5 cm  
410 in MD84) and the sampling resolution is commonly lower than 200 years (Table 3).  
411 Arguably, MD83 and MD89 might therefore also show a higher variability when denser  
412 sampled.

413 The above described episodes of sorted fine sand layers in MD83 and MD84  
414 correspond roughly with the episodes of increases in sub-polar fauna before 26 ka BP.  
415 The relative temperatures increase briefly in MD84 when the sand layers disappear  
416 (Fig. 4). This might, however, be due to a dilutive effect during deposition of the fine  
417 sands, with parts of the assemblage being possibly exposed to reworking. The rapid  
418 change in sediment composition from 50% to less than 5% fine sands at this boundary  
419 represents a large change in the depositional environment. Between 24.5 and 23.5 ka  
420 BP, two very distinctive peaks in sub-polar planktonic fauna are identified in core  
421 MD84, with *N. pachyderma* sin. minima as low as 50%. These minima coincide with  
422 similarly low values in cores MD83 (81%) and MD89 (91%). Notably, the *N.*  
423 *pachyderma* sin. values start to drop as soon as the coarse lithic grain content is  
424 decreasing, suggesting warm water intrusion to the coring location (Fig. 6).

425

## 426 **5. Discussion**

427 Based on the data presented above, the following discussion is structured into  
428 three distinct and quite different time periods in terms of the depositional environments  
429 along the studied margin. These are (Fig. 4): (1) Stadial / interstadial conditions (35-  
430 26 ka BP), (2) Full shelf edge glaciation (26-18.7 ka BP) and (3) Last deglaciation  
431 (18.7-15 ka BP).

432

### 433 **5.1. Stadial / Interstadial conditions (35-26 ka BP)**

434 The climate system between 35 and 26 ka BP was dominated by, periodic, large-  
435 scale temperature variations, which left a global imprint in different types of climate  
436 archives including deep sea records from the Nordic Seas (Rasmussen et al., 2016).  
437 These Greenland Interstadials (GIS) or Dansgaard-Oeschger events are  
438 characterized by rapid warming at the onsets of interstadial conditions, gradual cooling  
439 throughout the interstadial, followed by rapid cooling to stadial conditions (Dansgaard  
440 et al., 1993; Rasmussen et al., 2016). Multiple paleoclimatic proxy studies and  
441 modelling efforts have suggested a link between Dansgaard-Oeschger events and  
442 variability in Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation strength, sea ice extent and  
443 polar front position variations in the Nordic Seas (Elliot et al., 2002; Scourse et al.,  
444 2009; Petersen et al., 2013; Peltier and Vettoretti, 2014; Hoff et al., 2016; Rasmussen  
445 et al., 2016; Wary et al., 2016). The large-scale changes in near sea-surface  
446 temperatures along the studied transect, inferred from the relative amounts of *N.*  
447 *pachyderma* sin., exhibit a clear Dansgaard-Oeschger pattern before 26 ka BP (Fig.  
448 8). This pattern is most pronounced in the southern section (Irish/Scottish margin) and  
449 not visible in the North (Mid-Norwegian margin).

450 The deposition of carbonate rich, sorted fine sands, coinciding with an apparent  
451 near-surface warming in cores MD83 and MD84 (Figs. 4 and 5) indicates a relatively  
452 high energy environment and the presence of Atlantic water along the margin (as  
453 described in Dahlgren and Vorren, 2003). The influx of lithic grains  $>150\ \mu\text{m}$  through  
454 ice rafting from 35-26 ka BP is likely limited, compared to the input between 26 and  
455 15 ka BP, where the additional presence of particles  $>1\ \text{mm}$  clearly indicates ice rafting  
456 as the main contributor (Fig. 3). The apparent synchronous deposition in MD83 and  
457 MD84 coinciding with warm water influx might be due to winnowing effects of an  
458 increased overturning circulation through the Faroe-Shetland overflow during  
459 Interstadial conditions (Fig. 9A). Similar to present-day vigorous current speeds in the  
460 Faroe-Shetland Channel (Hansen and Østerhus, 2000). Sejrup et al. (1981) also  
461 described similar deposits during the Holocene, which they related to the vigorous  
462 NwAC along the upper slope in this area. An increased NwAC current speed would  
463 also agree with the stronger bio-productivity through elevated nutrient content as  
464 indicated by the increase in total planktonic foraminifera concentration during the  
465 episodes characterized by fine sand influx and higher carbonate content (Fig. 5).  
466 However, when directly comparing MD84 and MD83, with MD84 on the age model of  
467 Dokken et al. (2013), the magnetic susceptibility records appear to show the opposite  
468 behaviour (Fig. 5). The magnetic data of MD83 correlate well with the episodes of fine  
469 sand sorting and relatively warmer near-surface temperatures, linked to interstadial  
470 conditions (Lekens et al., 2006; Rasmussen and Thomsen, 2008; Scourse et al.,  
471 2009). Taking both approaches into account this would result in cores MD83 and MD84  
472 being in anti-phase between 35-26 ka BP, despite being raised only 75 km in distance  
473 and 555 m in water depth apart. Here, the events of the two records are regarded as

474 synchronous (Fig. 4) and the sorted fine sand influxes are seen as effects of  
475 winnowing due to an increased overturning circulation during interstadials.

476 Further north, along the Mid-Norwegian margin, a similar sorting effect linked with  
477 warm planktonic assemblages as seen in MD83 and MD84, is not evident in MD89  
478 (Fig. 4). However, it has to be noted, that the sampling resolution in MD89 in this period  
479 might be too coarse (Table 3) to capture these relatively short-lived events or the  
480 distance from the overflow threshold is simply too far.

481

## 5.2. Periods with full shelf edge glaciation (26-18.7 ka BP)

After about 26 ka BP, the positive correlation between sea surface conditions, as evidenced by the *N. pachyderma* sin. content, and the fine sand flux degenerates and is replaced by a distinct change to more unsorted sediments with an increase in coarser, middle sand to pebble sized material along the transect, with no simultaneous warming of the near surface waters. This is in agreement with marine and terrestrial evidence of the onset of FIS and BIIS, switching from a mostly continental to a marine-based margin after the Ålesund/Sandnes/Denekamp interstadial around 29 ka BP (Fig. 9B) (Sejrup et al., 2000; Scourse et al., 2009; Hall et al., 2011; Mangerud et al., 2011).

The IRD influx between 26 and 18.5 ka BP does not appear to be constant, but instead varies strongly, suggesting ice sheet instabilities with alternating advances, still stands or retreats (Fig. 4), as earlier described in e.g. Hjelstuen et al. (2005) for the Mid-Norwegian margin. Such a high degree of instability for the BIIS section of the Eurasian Ice Sheet has earlier been suggested for the Irish/Scottish margin from geological evidence (Scourse et al., 2009; Haapaniemi et al., 2010; Hall et al., 2011) and also from ice sheet modelling experiments (Hubbard et al., 2009; Patton et al., 2016).

The fact that the influx episodes D-A can generally be traced along the north-western European margin suggests an overarching forcing mechanism. The first episode "D" (25.7-24.3 ka BP) is most pronounced, exhibiting the highest IRD influx from the Irish/Scottish to the Mid-Norwegian margin, even though varying in absolute amounts and exhibiting two separate peaks (Fig. 8). Earlier studies have reported a similarly pronounced event during the same time period (Dahlgren and Vorren, 2003;

506 Peck et al., 2006). We interpret this episode as the first widespread advance of the  
507 Eurasian Ice Sheet towards the respective shelf edges during the LGM.  
508 Simultaneously, the *N. pachyderma* sin. content suggests full arctic water  
509 temperatures during this episode, while the sediments are almost barren of  
510 foraminifera, suggesting limited productivity (Fig. 6). Episode D ends with a rapid  
511 decrease in IRD and a simultaneous rise in relative near-surface temperatures (Fig. 6  
512 and 8), indicating a retreat of the Eurasian Ice Sheet from the shelf edge.

513 The reduction in IRD influx in the southern cores, following episode D, might mark  
514 the early BIIS retreat from the shelf edge as reported from other studies (e.g. Scourse  
515 et al., 2009). This is also in line with terrestrial evidence from Ireland and the United  
516 Kingdom (summarized in Hughes et al. (2015)). Scourse et al. (2009) link the rapid  
517 deterioration of the BIIS at the end of episode D to the rise in temperatures, which they  
518 correlated to GIS2. These two warming pulses at the end of episode D are clearly  
519 visible in cores MD83, MD84, LINK17 and MD04 at around 24 ka BP (Fig. 8), and is  
520 likely contributing to a substantial retreat of the calving front from the shelf edge.

521 The relative near-surface temperatures drop again at the onset of episode C and  
522 stay steady and low throughout the observed time period and the transect. The IRD  
523 influx north of MD83 in episode C and B is lower than during episode D, but follows  
524 similar trends as in MD83, suggesting that the FIS on the northern North Sea and Mid-  
525 Norwegian margin regained its shelf edge position within centuries, i.e., at around 23.5  
526 ka BP. On the other hand, increased IRD influx in MD89 during episode A is not  
527 recorded, but two large influx episodes between 19 and 15 ka BP suggest late ice  
528 proximity on the Mid-Norwegian margin. South of MD83 the influx is greatly reduced



529 after episode D (Fig. 8), supporting the above presented interpretation of the BIIS  
530 retreating from its maximum position after episode D.

531 The absence of further distinct warm spikes between the following episodes C-A  
532 in our data, suggests, that the apparent cyclicity of the glacial advances is at least not  
533 solely forced through increased ocean melt. Only the data from the Irish/Scottish  
534 margin suggests repeated intrusions of warm water during the period from 23 to 19 ka  
535 BP (Fig. 8), which might indicate a varying position of the polar front south of the  
536 northern North Sea margin, as suggested by Scourse et al. (2009). Especially core  
537 LINK17 exhibits relatively warm near-surface temperatures (Fig. 8), implying, that the  
538 large-scale influx of ice bergs and freshwater within this time period might have forced  
539 the path of the NwAC further westwards than suggested for pre-LGM times  
540 (Rasmussen and Thomsen, 2008).

541 Notably, at the same time as the data of LINK17 suggests rising near-surface  
542 temperatures, cores MD83 and MD84 show a gradual increase in the concentration of  
543 planktonic foraminifera from 24-19 ka BP (not shown), which varies in pace with the  
544 IRD influx. This could hint at improving oceanic conditions towards the end of the LGM,  
545 as proposed elsewhere (Bauch et al., 2001).

546

### 547 **5.2.1. Norwegian Channel Ice Stream variability**

548 The episodes of increased IRD influx in MD83, labelled B, C and D (Fig. 4) were  
549 earlier interpreted as indicators for periodic iceberg calving off the NCIS and shelf edge  
550 extension of the FIS and BIIS with an active ice stream (Lekens et al., 2006). However,  
551 the sediment composition, the high concentration of barnacle and mollusc fragments  
552 together with the other physical and geochemical parameters in MD83 (Fig. 6), and

553 less pronounced in MD84, led us to hypothesize a provenance change between  
554 episode D and the younger episodes. If the deposits in episode D in cores MD83 and  
555 MD84 do have another provenance, this episode might offer a rare opportunity to  
556 understand the mechanisms and the timing of the NCIS onset during the LGM.  
557 Deciphering the provenance of episode D, we found three potential source regions.

558 Firstly, a BIIS source, which was previously suggested through the discovery of an  
559 increase in the clay mineral smectite, the presence of ordered layered clays and the  
560 above disproved chalk counts in MD83 (Lekens et al., 2006; 2009). The authors  
561 hypothesized, that the clays were an indicator for ice transport from the Moray Firth  
562 area, north-eastern Scotland. Indeed, the most proximal source for the well-preserved  
563 barnacle and mollusc shells found in episode D in MD83 (Fig. 6) is the shallow shelf  
564 area around the Shetlands, 200 km to the south-west, supporting the notion of a south-  
565 westerly provenance. Today some of the beaches on the Shetlands consist almost  
566 purely of shell sands (e.g. Whittington and Edwards, 1993). Global sea level lowering  
567 during continental ice sheet build-up at the onset of the LGM would have left an  
568 extensive area of hard substrate available for mollusc growth around the Shetlands.  
569 These mollusc banks could have subsequently been eroded through an overriding  
570 grounded ice sheet, transported to and calved off at the shelf edge, and then deposited  
571 at the coring location (Fig. 9C). This transport direction and the associated early BIIS  
572 maximum extension is in accordance with above-mentioned earlier studies  
573 interpreting this time period as the maximum extension of the BIIS (e.g. Peck et al.,  
574 2006; Bigg et al., 2012). Dating of the best-preserved and most juvenile looking  
575 mollusc fragments could help resolve this issue and confirm its hypothetical Shetland  
576 provenance, as the youngest ages would give a minimum estimate of ice expansion

577 off the islands. Secondly, a Scandinavian, FIS origin for this mollusc-rich layer cannot  
578 be excluded, as the direct transport distance from mainland Norway is of similar  
579 magnitude. However, this would imply FIS extension to the shelf edge and across the  
580 400 m deep Norwegian Channel at a very early stage, suggesting rapid ice sheet build-  
581 up from an ice-free coast during the Hamnsund interstadial at around 29 ka BP  
582 (Mangerud et al., 2003) to a grounded ice sheet on the shelf edge within about 1000  
583 years, which seems unlikely. Indeed, grounded ice on the shelf edge would likely  
584 indicate an active NCIS, which is reported to transport mainly FIS sourced material  
585 (Sejrup et al., 1996). This raises the question why episodes C-A are compositionally  
586 different from D, if they all would have been delivered by the same transport  
587 mechanism. In turn, a non-Scandinavian origin for the IRD in episode D appears  
588 reasonable. Thirdly, the timing, the exceptionally high amount of IRD and, on first  
589 glance, the composition of the IRD grains, are in favour of a North American, that is,  
590 Laurentide Ice Sheet origin of the deposits. Thus, the layer might belong to North  
591 Atlantic Heinrich event 2 (H2). This would fit with observations from the western United  
592 Kingdom margin, where clear evidence of Laurentide Ice Sheet sourced material  
593 during H-events H4, H2 and H1 were found, except for H3, which is hypothesized to  
594 have a largely European contribution (Peck et al., 2007; Scourse et al., 2009; Hall et  
595 al., 2011). However, the very low magnetic susceptibility values in MD83 contradict  
596 this interpretation (Fig. 6), as H-events are commonly found to have high magnetic  
597 susceptibility values (Robinson et al., 1995). The magnetic susceptibility values are  
598 similarly low at the same time in MD84, supporting the notion, that the sediment  
599 deposited during episode D in MD84 might belong to a similar source. On the Faroe-  
600 Shetland side of the Faroe-Shetland Channel, a layer interpreted as H2 was also found

601 to be light coloured and has a relatively low magnetic susceptibility (Ezat et al., 2014).  
602 On the other hand, the H2 deposits on the western United Kingdom margin have not  
603 been observed as such a light coloured, IRD and carbonate rich layer as in MD83  
604 (Scourse, J., pers. comm., 2016), which underlines the interpretation, that this might  
605 be a local signal. In consequence, this episode might be a clear indication for early  
606 expansion of the BIIS to and beyond the Shetlands. Hence, the apparent difference in  
607 provenance within the episodes leads to the conclusion, that the NCIS might not have  
608 reached the outer parts of the Norwegian Channel within episode D (Fig. 9C), but  
609 rather only became more extensive after GIS2, that is, after  $23.3 \pm 0.5$  ka BP (Fig. 9E).  
610 This might indicate, that the NCIS was not active as an ice stream before this time  
611 during the Weichselian, which is about 4000 years later than previously suggested  
612 (Nygård, 2003). The pronounced warming on the margin in core MD83 and MD84,  
613 tentatively correlated to GIS2, precedes the proposed onset of the NCIS only briefly  
614 (Fig. 6), which could indicate forcing of the NCIS streaming through increased ocean  
615 melt.

616 Following on from episode D, the ice stream appears to have advanced for about  
617 1500 years (episode C) until it came to a standstill for a couple of centuries to then  
618 advance again (episode B), followed by another pause and potentially a final advance  
619 (episode A), before retreat from the shelf edge. This interpretation is supported by the  
620 similarity of sediment composition in episodes C-A. Considering today's surface  
621 circulation patterns (Hansen and Østerhus, 2000) the north-eastwards surface  
622 transport (NwSC) along the shelf edge, allowed only a minority of the NCIS sourced  
623 icebergs to be transported south-westwards (Fig. 9E), which could explain the gradient  
624 in absolute sediment influx between MD83 and MD84.

625

## 626 **5.2.2. FIS-BIIS confluence**

627 Assuming that the conclusion of no NCIS activity in the northern parts of the  
628 channel before 23.3 ka BP is correct, the question is to which extent grounded ice was  
629 already reaching into the Norwegian Channel and to the shelf edge of the northern  
630 North Sea margin before that time. This conclusion effects the location and timing of  
631 FIS and BIIS confluence, which was, as described above, widely accepted to have  
632 been between about 31-24 ka BP, whereas a recent reinterpretation suggested a  
633 sustained confluence until 18.5 ka BP (Sejrup et al., 2016).

634 Both ice sheets are believed to gain a marine calving margin after the  
635 Ålesund/Sandnes/Denekamp interstadial. While the BIIS is interpreted to extend  
636 towards the east into the North Sea basin, the exact timing of this advance is, however,  
637 uncertain as there is a lack of datable material. Dates on the Fladen ground suggest  
638 ice proximal, but ice free conditions in the Fladen area until about 26 ka BP (Sejrup et  
639 al., 2016). On the Norwegian side, glacial ice in the northern section retreated back  
640 beyond the coastline during the Hamnsund interstadial (Mangerud et al., 2003). By  
641 25.5 ka BP the presented data supports an eastwards extension of the BIIS from  
642 Scotland towards the North-east (Shetlands), the East (Fladen Plateau) and the  
643 South-east (Which Ground). This is interpreted to lead to confluence with the FIS,  
644 which by then extended into the Norwegian Channel, following a large-scale climatic  
645 deterioration after the Hamnsund interstadial, at the shallowest part of the Norwegian  
646 Channel, on the latitude of Stavanger, Western Norway (Fig. 9C). The timing of the  
647 confluence is therefore interpreted to be at around 25.5 ka BP, where a sharp drop in  
648 accumulation rate on the northern North Sea margin marks a sudden loss of sediment  
649 supply (Figs. 7 and 9B). This shifts earlier confluence interpretations by several

650 thousands of years. Subsequently, the FIS and BIIS confluence potentially lead to a  
651 restructuring of the eastwards flow-direction and the BIIS was deflected north and  
652 south, delivering Shetland sourced IRD towards the region southwest of the  
653 Norwegian Channel and the location of MD83 and MD84 (25.5 to 24.5 ka BP). The  
654 observation of Shetland sourced glacial influx to the shelf edge on the northern North  
655 Sea margin in addition to the mapping of glacial landforms by Sejrup et al. (2016),  
656 suggests that the BIIS was more important for the glaciation of the central North Sea  
657 than previously anticipated. This would explain the apparent solely BIIS contribution  
658 to the northern North Sea margin around episode D (Fig. 6), as the Norwegian  
659 Channel north of the latitude of Stavanger is by then interpreted to be still mainly free  
660 of grounded ice (Fig. 8).

661 Evidence from freshwater drainage into the Gulf of Biscay (Toucanne et al., 2015)  
662 suggests freshwater drainage via the Fleuve Manche, when northwards transport is  
663 inhibited due to ice damming of a Eurasian Ice Sheet in confluence across the central  
664 North Sea. Finally, recent modelling efforts of the Eurasian Ice Sheet suggest a FIS  
665 and BIIS confluence around a similar latitude, with the FIS extending into the  
666 Skagerrak and the southern central North Sea about 1000 years prior to a confluence  
667 with the BIIS (Patton et al., 2016). The model comes to the same conclusion as our  
668 interpretation, with two largely independent ice sheets that merely "meet" in the  
669 eastern parts of the central North Sea and buttress each other during that time period.  
670 We interpret from the presented data that the NCIS reached the shelf edge about  
671 1000-1500 years after initial confluence (Fig. 9D) at the start of episode C, roughly  
672 around 23.3 ka BP (Figs. 9E and 8).

673 The BISS and the FIS are thus believed to be in confluence between  $25.5\pm 0.3$  and  
674  $18.7\pm 0.2$  ka BP and therefore much later than the previously suggested 30-25 ka BP  
675 (Bradwell et al., 2008; Sejrup et al., 2009). The earlier described Tampen advance at  
676 around 21 ka BP (Sejrup et al., 2015) would by this interpretation not be a separate  
677 advance of the FIS, but instead the late, first advance of the FIS across the Norwegian  
678 Channel during the LGM. Advances into the Måløy area on the Mid-Norwegian margin  
679 are inferred to around 16 ka BP, the earlier described Bremanger event (Nygård et al.,  
680 2004).

681

### 682 **5.3. Last deglaciation (18.7-15 ka BP)**

683 The onset of deglaciation and as such the retreat of the grounded ice from the shelf  
684 edge is interpreted to have initiated at around 19 ka BP through a speed up in ice  
685 streaming through the NCIS (Nygård et al., 2007). This resulted in a draw down and  
686 thinning of the ice sheet in the central North Sea area (Sejrup et al., 2016) leading  
687 finally to the separation of the FIS and the BIIS. Sejrup et al. (2016) proposed that the  
688 separation is marked by the collapse of an ice dam in the central North Sea, which  
689 was holding back the ice-dammed lake in the southern North Sea. This lake is then  
690 interpreted to subsequently have drained northwards through the Ling Bank Drainage  
691 Channel (Fig. 9F). In favour of this, north of the North Sea Trough Mouth Fan an  
692 acoustically transparent unit, interpreted as a meltwater plume (in cores MD89, MD91  
693 and MD2010), was mapped by Hjelstuen et al. (2004) and later described by several  
694 studies (Hjelstuen et al., 2005; Lekens et al., 2005; Reiche et al., 2011). This  
695 suspension plume is interpreted to originate from a point source in the direction of the  
696 Norwegian Channel (Lekens et al., 2005) and was, as discussed above, likely  
697 deposited within only centuries. This, including a detailed view in the fluvial deposits  
698 within the Norwegian Channel and the delta build up on the Ling Bank is further  
699 discussed in Hjelstuen et al. (this issue).

700 The timing of the deposition of the meltwater plume on the Mid-Norwegian margin  
701 is dated to  $18.7 \pm 0.2$  ka BP in the three presented and independently age modelled  
702 cores MD89, MD91 and MD2010 (green line in Fig. 8). Within the oxygen isotope data,  
703 a 1‰ step in the cores on the Mid-Norwegian margin precedes a long 2‰ light oxygen  
704 isotope event in all cores by about 500 years (Fig. 8). The light isotope event in all  
705 cores between 18 and 15 ka BP likely shows the global, post LGM deglaciation signal.



706 We interpret the 1‰ step, most pronounced in MD91, as a trace of the freshwater  
707 perturbation of the glacially dammed lake collapse, released through the Ling Bank  
708 Drainage Channel (Sejrup et al., 2016; Hjelstuen et al., this issue). Hjelstuen et al.  
709 (this issue) estimate the duration of lake drainage to be only 5-15 months.

710 During deglaciation, the high IRD influx in MD89 and, to a lesser extent to MD91,  
711 after 19 ka BP appears to be restricted to the Mid-Norwegian margin (Fig. 8). This is  
712 in agreement with observations of a delayed deglaciation signal north of the North Sea  
713 Trough Mouth Fan and the mentioned Bremanger re-advance at around 16-17 ka BP  
714 (Nygård et al., 2004).

715

## 716 **5.4. Regional implications**

717 Comparing the above discussed IRD influx episodes D-A along the northern North  
718 Sea shelf edge with studies from the southern and the western (Irish) margin of the  
719 Eurasian Ice Sheet (Fig. 1A), there appears to be a good correlation between the  
720 individual events (Fig. 10). In fact, while anticipating a constant local reservoir  
721 correction of 1000 years for the presented age models, which is in agreement with the  
722 chronological offset of the FMAZII tephra layers (Table 2), episodes D-A have an  
723 almost perfect fit with riverine runoff events in the Gulf of Biscay (Ménot et al., 2006;  
724 Toucanne et al., 2015) and IRD flux spikes off western Ireland (Peck et al., 2008) (Fig.  
725 1A). These time series are displayed on tuned, absolute chronologies. The riverine  
726 runoff events within the Gulf of Biscay (Fig. 1A) are interpreted as implications of  
727 Eurasian Ice Sheet fluctuations within the Baltics and the southern North Sea, e.g. the  
728 southern, continental margin of the Eurasian Ice Sheet (Toucanne et al., 2015). On  
729 the western margin, Peck et al. (2008) record the advance and retreat signal off

730 western Ireland (Fig. 1A), agreeing with terrestrial and Irish/Scottish shelf studies on  
731 the retreat pattern (e.g. Peters et al., 2015). Offsets between the dataset in this study  
732 and the other data cannot be evaluated due to the large reservoir effect uncertainties.  
733 Under the assumption of age model comparability, it appears that all margins of the  
734 southern Eurasian Ice Sheet act simultaneous to one common forcing. Interestingly,  
735 as already indicated by Peck et al. (2008), a similar pattern (b-a in Fig. 10) is found  
736 throughout the southern North Atlantic (Bond and Lotti, 1995). Therefore, the forcing  
737 mechanism and the teleconnections might potentially not only be confined to the  
738 Eurasian Ice Sheet, but rather to the whole North Atlantic region, connecting influx  
739 from the Laurentide Ice Sheet and the Eurasian Ice Sheet. Additionally, the fact that  
740 not only marine margins appear to show the same signal, but also continental margins  
741 (Toucanne et al., 2015) strongly indicates atmospheric teleconnections as at least one  
742 important driver of these simultaneous changes.

743

## 744 **6. Conclusions**

745 Our compilation of new and previously published, well-dated cores, enables us to  
746 makes inferences about ice-sheet advances and instabilities along the south-eastern  
747 Nordic Seas continental margin and link this with the variability in ocean circulation  
748 between 35 and 15 ka BP. The established chronology, based on 146 AMS  
749 radiocarbon dates, is regarded as coherent within the presented transect of cores, but  
750 as no delta R correction has been applied, it should be emphasized that the absolute  
751 age of parts of the records may be significantly younger. The identification of the tephra  
752 FMAZII, dated to  $26.7 \pm 0.4$  cal. ka BP, suggests that the delta R at this time might have  
753 been close to +1000 years, confirming previously suggested reservoir ages in the  
754 region (Davies et al., 2008).

755 The following conclusions can be drawn from the analysed sedimentological,  
756 geochemical and micro-paleontological proxies in this study:

- 757 • Between 35 and 26 ka BP, the stadial/interstadial deposition pattern along  
758 the northern North Sea margin is characterized by 500-1000 year long  
759 periods dominated by strong current speeds with winnowing effects and  
760 periods which are influenced by glacimarine deposition.
- 761 • The possibly first Weichselian confluence of the FIS and the BIIS at  
762  $25.5 \pm 0.3$  ka BP is marked by a sharp drop in accumulation rates along the  
763 margin, suggesting cut-off from southern sediment sources. The confluence  
764 is interpreted to have lasted until the last inter-ice sheet connection  
765 collapsed in the central North Sea, releasing a rapidly deposited meltwater  
766 plume onto the Mid-Norwegian margin, which we dated in three cores to  
767  $18.7 \pm 0.2$  ka BP.

- 768           • Following the confluence, we propose a possibly first time BIIS expansion  
769           northeast of the Shetlands within the Weichselian, between 25.5 and 24.5  
770           ka BP. This is evidenced by a distinct change in sediment provenance on  
771           the northern North Sea margin.
- 772           • The change in provenance on the northern North Sea margin led us to  
773           suggest a late extension of grounded ice in the northern section of the  
774           Norwegian Channel, potentially restricting the only Weichselian NCIS  
775           activity to between 23.3±0.5 ka BP and 19.0 ka BP. We noted that the onset  
776           of the NCIS directly precedes a large-scale intrusion of warm near-surface  
777           waters into the study region, which may indicate forcing through ocean melt.
- 778           • Strong variations in the IRD flux on the northern North Sea margin indicate  
779           a highly variable NCIS, consisting of at least three streaming/advancing  
780           episodes, interrupted by 500-600 yearlong halts/retreats.
- 781           • The presented four episodes of high IRD flux on the northern Eurasian Ice  
782           Sheet margin compared to similar data off the western and eastern Eurasian  
783           Ice Sheet margin may indicate a common glacial forcing mechanism and  
784           potential atmospheric teleconnections.

785

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800

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1142

1143

## 1144 **Figure texts**

1145 Figure 1: **(A)** The southern Norwegian Sea, red dots indicate studied cores, blue  
1146 dots reference cores. X1: MD01-2461 (Peck et al., 2006), X2: 300 km north of MD95-  
1147 2002 (Toucanne et al., 2015). Modern surface currents, the Faroe- (FC), Shetland-  
1148 (SC), Norwegian Atlantic- (NwAC) and the Norwegian Coastal Current (NCC) are  
1149 indicated (Hansen and Østerhus, 2000). **(B)** Seabed character of the northern North  
1150 Sea margin and the Norwegian Channel (NC); bathymetric data from Olex AS. MD99-  
1151 2284 and MD99-2283 are separated by a submarine bulge. **(C)** A deep-tow boomer  
1152 profile crossing the >300 m thick North Sea Trough Mouth Fan (NSTMF), position  
1153 indicated in B. The profile is reproduced with the permission of the British Geological  
1154 Survey ©NERC. All rights reserved. **(D)** TOPAS high-resolution seismic profile, as  
1155 indicated in B, demonstrating the position of MD99-2283 relative to the youngest  
1156 described glacigenic debris flow (GDF). Several layers of sediment are visible below  
1157 the GDF, which postdate the core top of MD99-2283. **(E)** TOPAS high-resolution  
1158 seismic profile, as indicated in A, visualizing the stratigraphic position of MD99-2289  
1159 relative to the last GDFs. This profile is modified after Reiche et al. (2011).

1160

1161 Figure 2: Individual age models of all cores in this study. The age models are based  
1162 on 142 accelerator mass spectrometry radiocarbon dates (Table S1) and are  
1163 computed with the R-based script Bacon (Blaauw and Christen, 2011). The red line  
1164 marks the weighted mean, the grey shaded area displays the two-sigma uncertainty  
1165 of each depth in the core. The darker the grey tone, the higher the age model certainty.  
1166 In core MD99-2283 the Laschamp magnetic reversal was used as an additional age

1167 model constraint. Core MD99-2291 was modelled without the proposed plume event  
1168 (2.8-15 m core depth). No local reservoir correction was applied.

1169

1170 Figure 3: Results of the analyses of cores MD99-2289, MD99-2283 and MD99-  
1171 2284 on depth scale. The  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  data from Greenland ice core GISP2 are displayed on  
1172 the GIIC05 time scale, Greenland Interstadials (GIS) and Marine Isotope Stages (MIS)  
1173 are indicated. Planktonic  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  data from the cores is displayed in respect to the VPDB  
1174 (Vienna Peedee Belemnite) standard. Relative abundances of *N. pachyderma* sin.  
1175 (Nps) in red, are displayed in light red, if <200 planktonic foraminifera were counted  
1176 (reversed scale). Grain content is displayed as counts >1 mm per g dry sediment  
1177 (orange) and counts >150  $\mu\text{m}$  for cores MD83 and MD84 (black). Radiocarbon dated  
1178 levels (black triangles) and the stratigraphical position of the Faroe Marine Ash Zone  
1179 (FMAZ) II are indicated. Grey shaded bars indicate tentative correlations between  
1180 decreases in Nps and Greenland Interstadials. Capital letters D-A denote episodes of  
1181 increased grain content >150  $\mu\text{m}$ . Numbers in paragraphs within graph captions  
1182 correspond to the individual references of published data (see Table 2): (x) this study,  
1183 (1) (Berstad et al., 2003), (2) (Lekens et al., 2006), (3) (Dokken et al., 2013), (4)  
1184 (Dokken et al., 2015b).

1185

1186

1187 Figure 4: Results of the analyses of core MD99-2289, MD99-2283 and MD99-2284  
1188 on individual age model. Coarse grain content is displayed as counts per g dry  
1189 sediment (orange). Note that the grain size fraction used for counting differs in core  
1190 MD89 (>1 mm). The grain content in MD84 is additionally given in higher detail in

1191 yellow. Relative abundances of *N. pachyderma* sin. (Nps) in red, are displayed in light  
1192 red, if <200 planktonic foraminifera were counted (reversed scale). Cumulative grain  
1193 size values are displayed in their separate fractions. In MD84, fraction 63-150  $\mu\text{m}$  was  
1194 not subdivided. Radiocarbon dated levels are indicated with black triangles, red  
1195 triangles denote dates that were removed. Ca/Fe core scanner data are resampled  
1196 with the nearest point method (Hammer et al., 2001) every 50 years (blue). The  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$   
1197 data from Greenland ice core GISP2 are displayed on the GICC05 time scale,  
1198 Greenland Interstadials (GIS) and Marine Isotope Stages (MIS) are indicated. Grey  
1199 shaded bars indicate tentative correlations between decreases in Nps and Greenland  
1200 Interstadials. The stratigraphical position of the Faroe Marine Ash Zone (FMAZ) II and  
1201 the glaciogenic debris flows (GDF) 3 and 1 (cf. Fig. 1D and E) are indicated. Capital  
1202 letters D-A denote episodes of increased grain content  $>150 \mu\text{m}$ . Numbers in  
1203 paragraphs within graph captions correspond to the individual references of published  
1204 data (see Table 2): (x) this study, (1) (Berstad et al., 2003), (2) (Haflidason et al., 2003),  
1205 (3) (Lekens et al., 2006), (4) (Dokken et al., 2013), (5) (Dokken et al., 2015b).

1206

1207 Figure 5: Detail of core MD99-2283 between 900-1250 cm core depth, showing  
1208 that the Ca/Fe counts, carbonates measurements, point measurements of magnetic  
1209 susceptibility (MS), %Nps (*N. pachyderma* sin. - reversed scale) and coarse grain  
1210 contents correlate well with the variations in the displayed grain size distribution.  
1211 Subtle changes in colour mark the change in sediment composition. Radiocarbon  
1212 dated levels are indicated (black triangles). Tentatively correlated Greenland  
1213 Interstadials (GIS) are also indicated.

1214

1215 Figure 6: The uppermost three sections of core MD99-2283, subdivided into the  
1216 identified episodes D to B. Light sediment colour, high Ca/Fe and coarse grain counts,  
1217 spikes in CaCO<sub>3</sub>, a high number of small fragments in the X-ray picture and low point  
1218 measurements of magnetic susceptibility (MS) values mark episode D. Episodes C  
1219 and B exhibit no sediment colour variation, relatively low and stable Ca/Fe counts,  
1220 varying, but lower coarse grain counts, occasional pebbles of up to 8 cm in diameter  
1221 on the X-ray image and high magnetic susceptibility values. %Nps (*N. pachyderma*  
1222 sin.) shows a distinct warm spike between episodes D and C (reversed scale).  
1223 Radiocarbon dated levels are indicated (black triangles). Two colour image insets  
1224 show fraction >1 mm with mollusc fragments >0.5 cm, raster in background is 1 cm.  
1225

1226 Figure 7: Linear accumulation rates, calculated between every dated level of all  
1227 cores. Core MD99-2291 exceeds the scale at around 18.5-19 ka BP. The amount of  
1228 accumulation varies between 30 cm/ka and up to 350. Two zones of relatively high  
1229 sedimentation (grey bars) between 35-25.5 ka BP and 22.5-18.5 ka BP are interrupted  
1230 by periods with lower sedimentation rates.  
1231

1232 Figure 8: Compilation of available data from all cores (plotted northeast to  
1233 southwest), with the relative abundance of Nps (*N. pachyderma* sin.) in red, the  
1234 content of coarse grains, mainly interpreted as ice rafted debris (IRD), in orange and  
1235 the isotopic measurements of planktonic  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  in black. The isotopic values are  
1236 reported in respect to the VPDB (Vienna Peedee Belemnite) standard. Note, that the  
1237 Nps and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  scale is reversed and that the IRD values in MD83 and MD04 are  
1238 displayed as flux values in [ $\# \text{IRD} > 150 \mu\text{m}/\text{cm}^2/\text{ka}$ ]. IRD counting was performed in

1239 the >150  $\mu\text{m}$  fraction, except of MD99-2291 and MD99-2289 (>1 mm). Radiocarbon  
1240 dated levels are indicated with black triangles, red triangles denote removed dates.  
1241 The  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  data from the Greenland ice core GISP2 are displayed on the GIIC05 time  
1242 scale, Greenland Interstadials (GIS) and Marine Isotope Stages (MIS) are indicated.  
1243 Grey shaded bars indicate tentative correlations between decreases in Nps and  
1244 Greenland Interstadials marked in  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  GISP2. The stratigraphical positions of the  
1245 Faroe Marine Ash Zone (FMAZ) II and the meltwater drainage event (green line) are  
1246 indicated, FMAZII was not found in MD04 to the authors knowledge. Numbers in  
1247 paragraphs within graph captions correspond to the individual references of published  
1248 data (see Table 2): (x) this study, (1) (Dokken and Jansen, 1999), (2) (Berstad et al.,  
1249 2003), (3) (Lekens et al., 2005), (4) (Lekens et al., 2006), (5) (Rasmussen and  
1250 Thomsen, 2008), (6) (Scourse et al., 2009), (7) (Dokken et al., 2013), (8) (Dokken et  
1251 al., 2015a), (9) (Dokken et al., 2015b).

1252

1253 Figure 9: Paleogeographic reconstructions with outlines without new data based  
1254 on Hughes et al. (2015). The modern flow direction of the Norwegian Atlantic Current  
1255 (NwAC) indicating warm water inflow (red) and no recorded inflow (orange). Fluvial  
1256 sediment input (blue arrows) is separated from interpreted ice transport direction (red  
1257 arrows). Interpreted freshwater pooling and meltwater plume sediments (blue areas)  
1258 and glaciated areas (white areas) show their inferred extension. LBDC (Ling Bank  
1259 Drainage Channel); NCIS (Norwegian Channel Ice Stream); FIS (Fennoscandian Ice  
1260 Sheet); BIIS (British-Irish Ice Sheet).

1261

1262

1263 Figure 10: Episodes (D-A) of increased content of ice rafted debris (IRD) from this  
1264 study compared to IRD flux off the Irish margin in MD01-2461 (Peck et al., 2006) and  
1265 riverine influx events (grey bars, R1-R5) observed in Fe/Ca data in the Bay of Biscay  
1266 in MD95-2002 (Toucanne et al., 2015) and the branched and isoprenoid tetraether  
1267 (BIT) index (Ménot et al., 2006). See Fig. 1A for the location of MD01-2461 and MD95-  
1268 2002. North Atlantic IRD episodes are indicated in small letters (d-a) (Bond and Lotti,  
1269 1995), North Atlantic Heinrich events in dark grey bars. Note that the age scale of this  
1270 study was shifted by -1000 years to increase the fit with the data of the other studies  
1271 on the absolute GIIC05 age scale.

1272

1273

1274 Tables

1275

1276 Table 1: Position, data origin and number of accelerator mass spectrometry  
1277 radiocarbon dates of the cores used in this study including the individual original data  
1278 sources.

1279

1280 Table 2: New accelerator mass spectrometry radiocarbon dates for cores MD83,  
1281 MD84 and MD89 including the identified Faroe Marine Ash Zone (FMAZ) II.

1282

1283 Table 3: Overview of the sampling interval, sieving fractions and original references  
1284 of the sediment data used in this study.

1285

1286

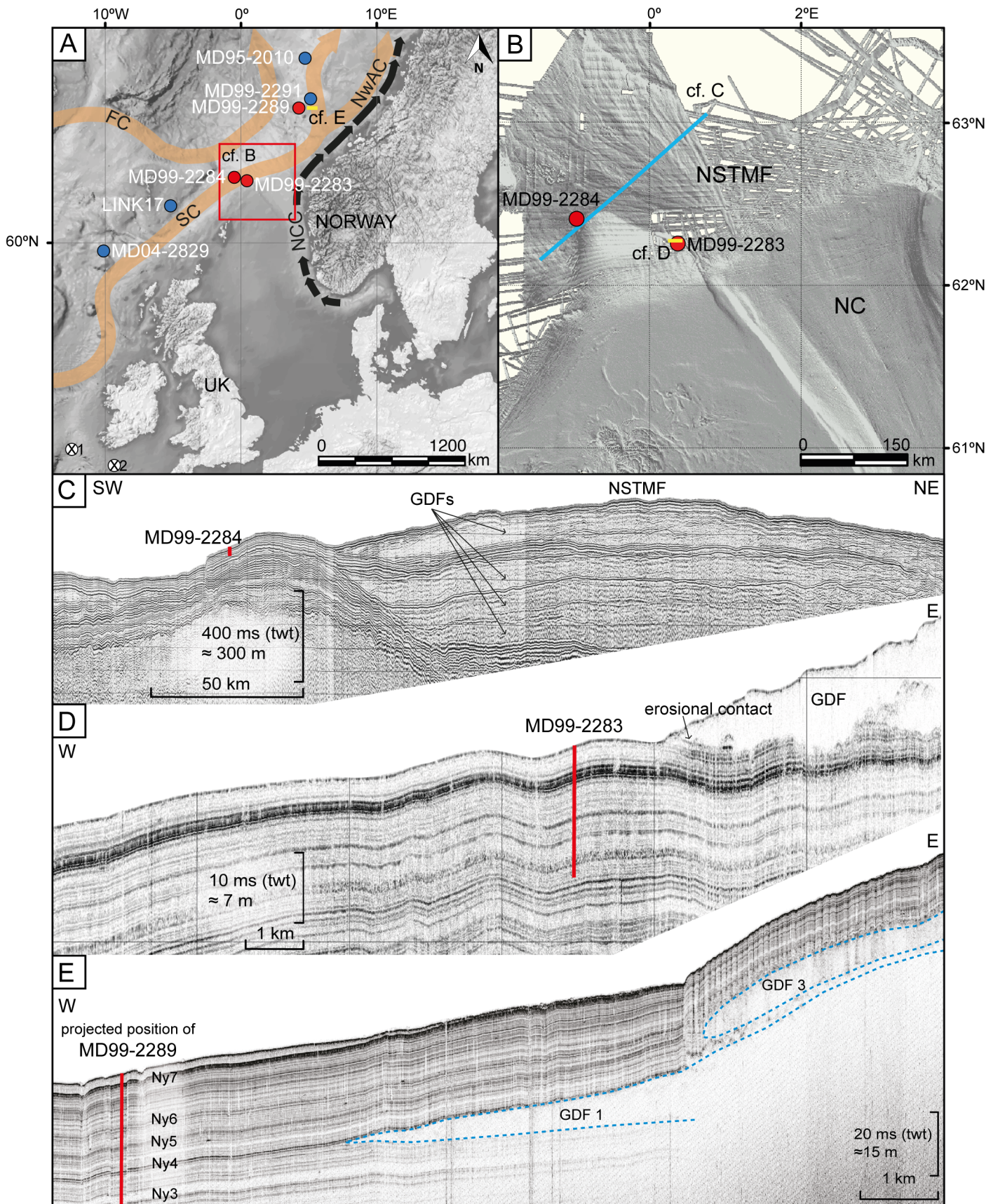
1287 Supplementary material

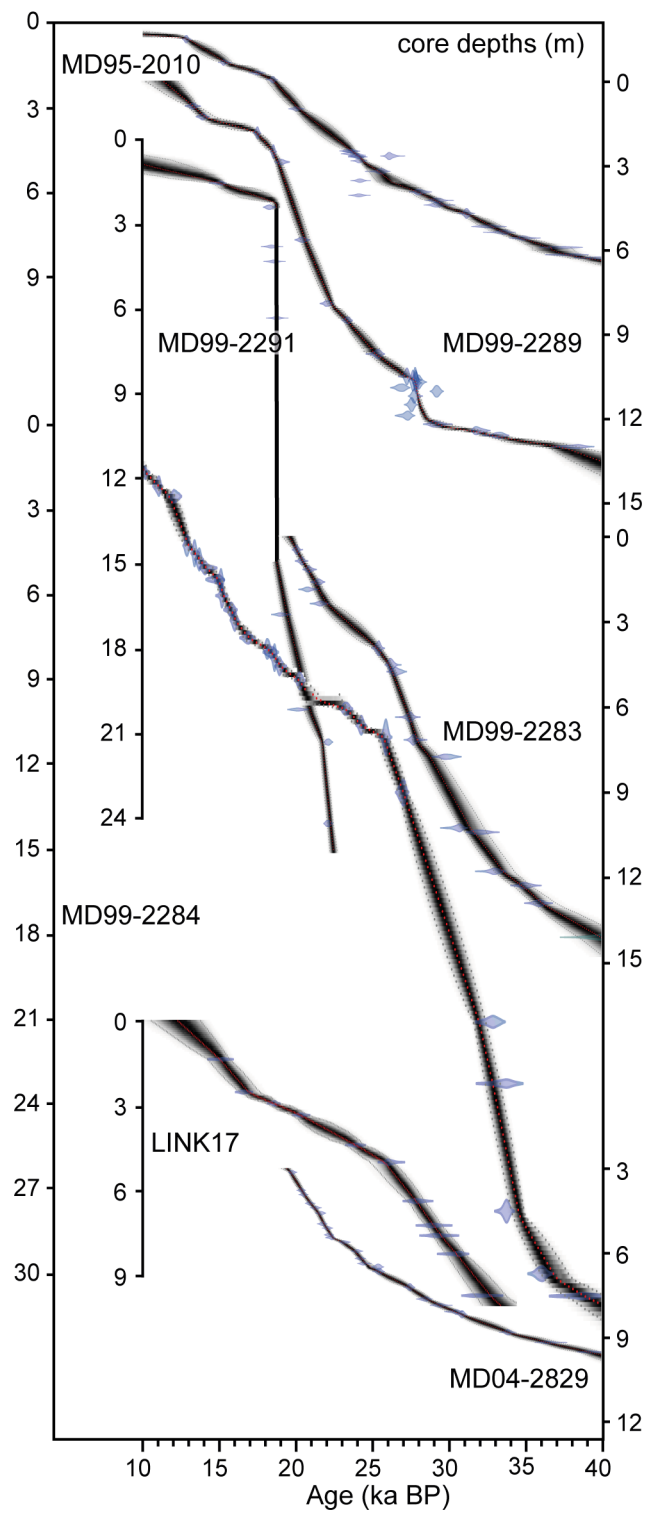
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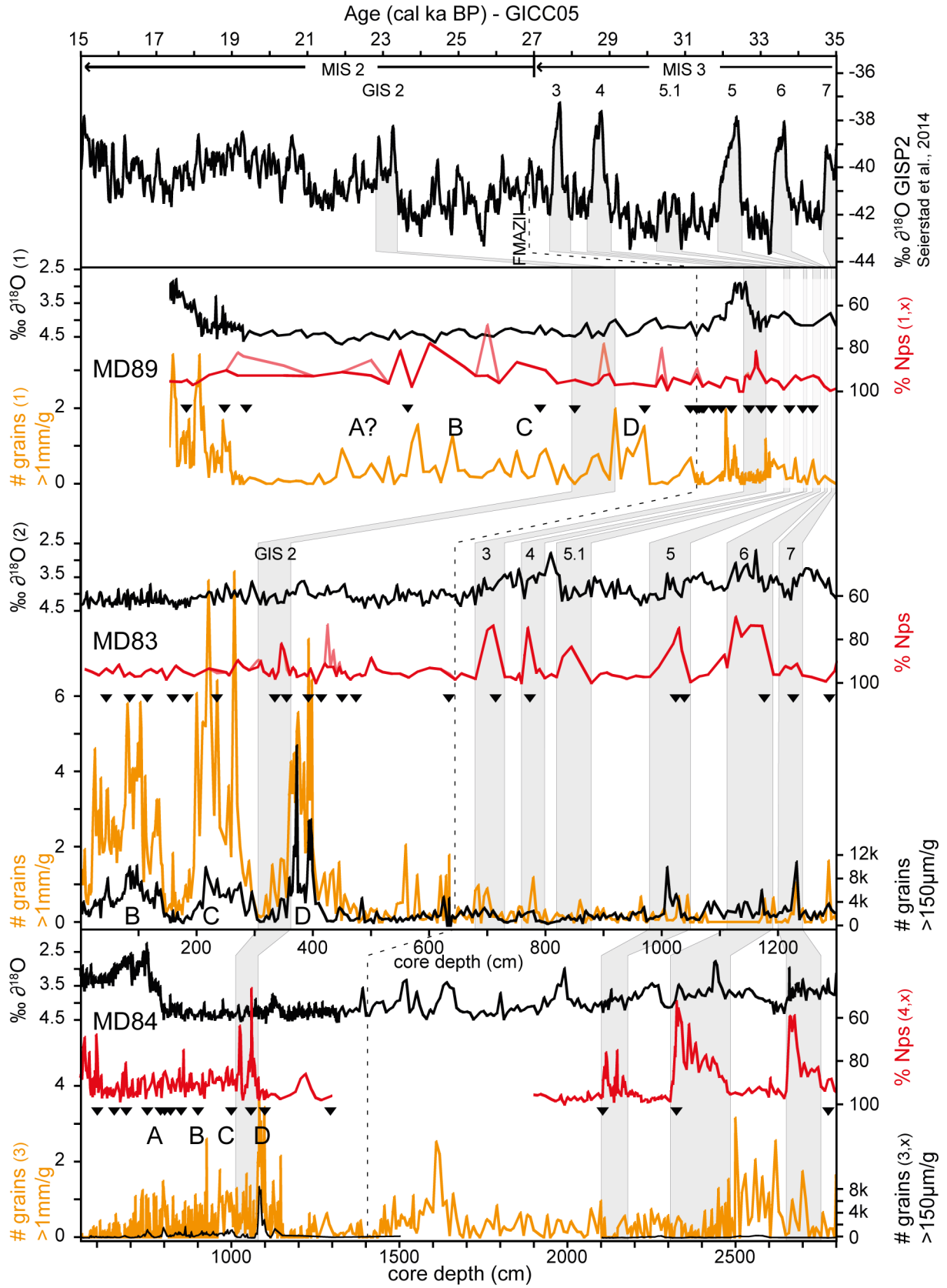
1289 Table S1: All accelerator mass spectrometry radiocarbon dates used in this study  
1290 with the respective original references.

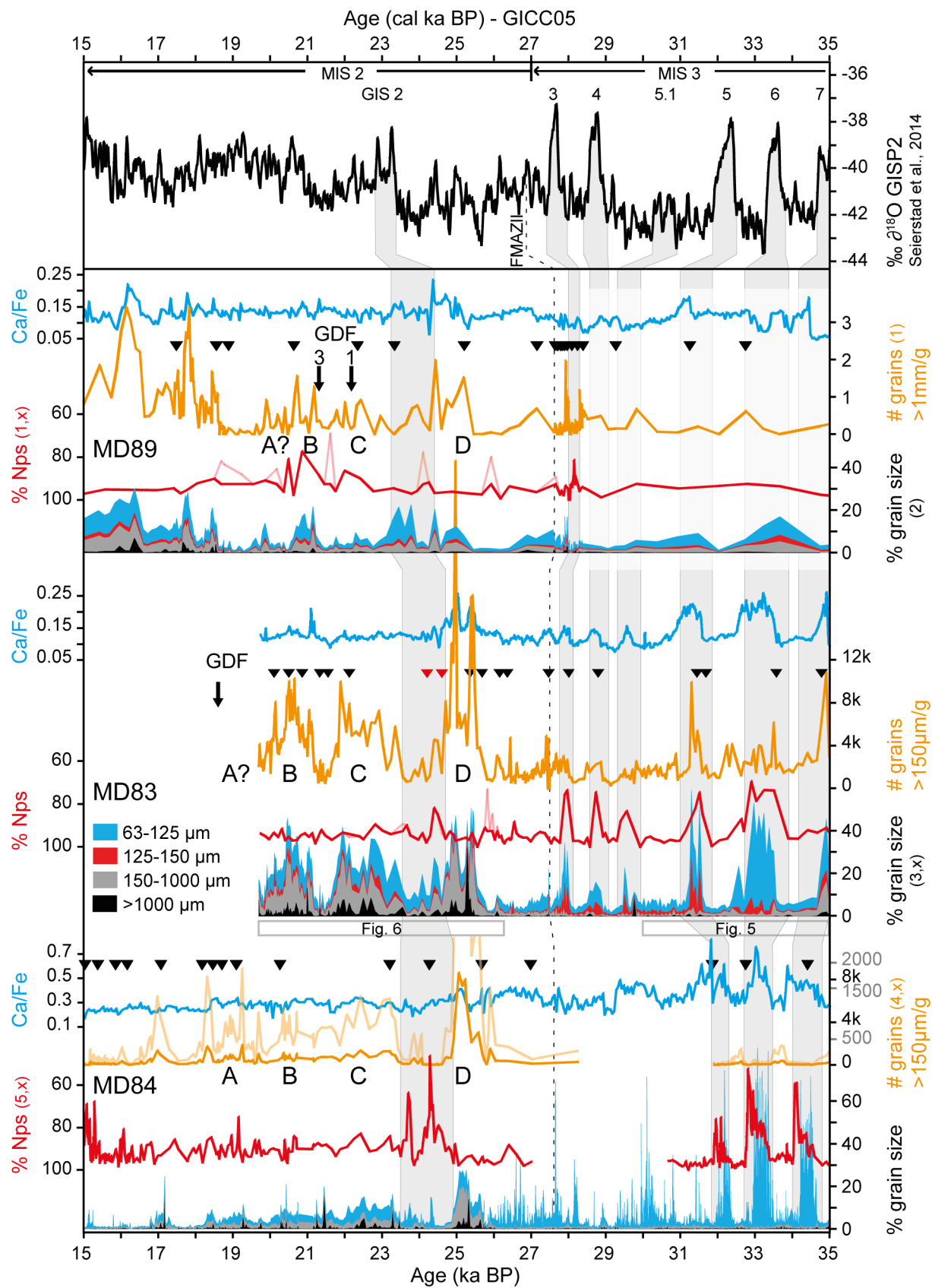
1291

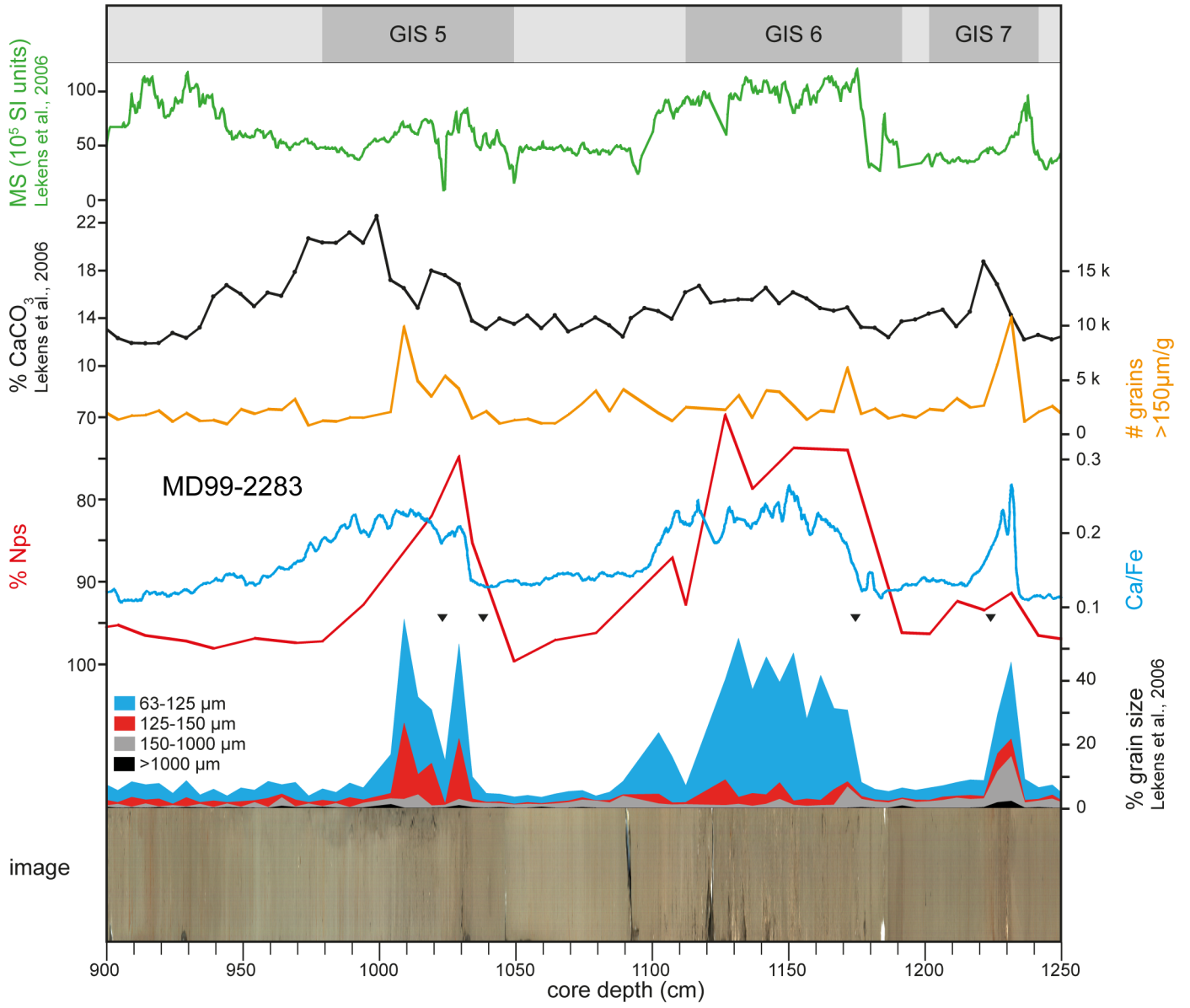


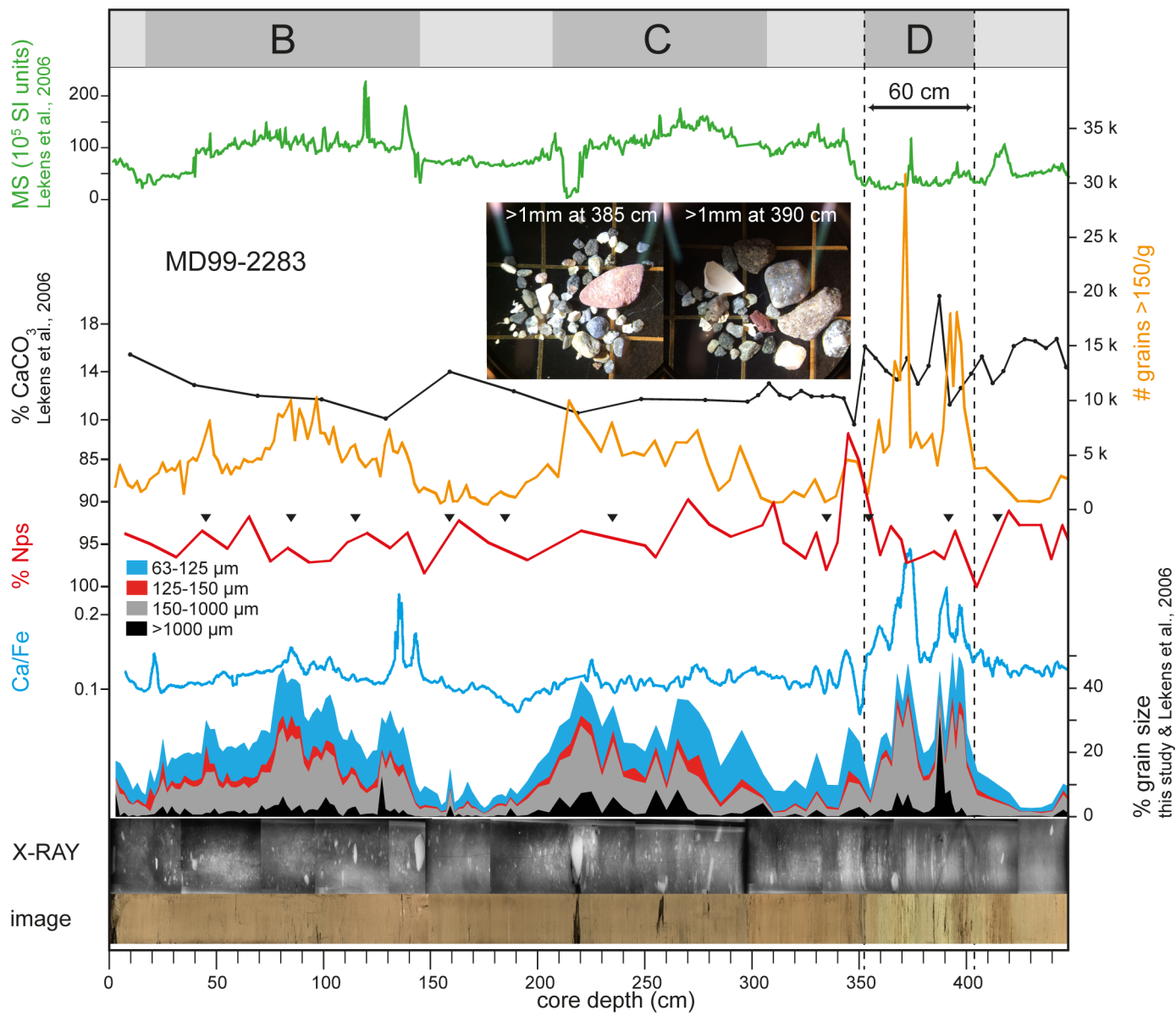


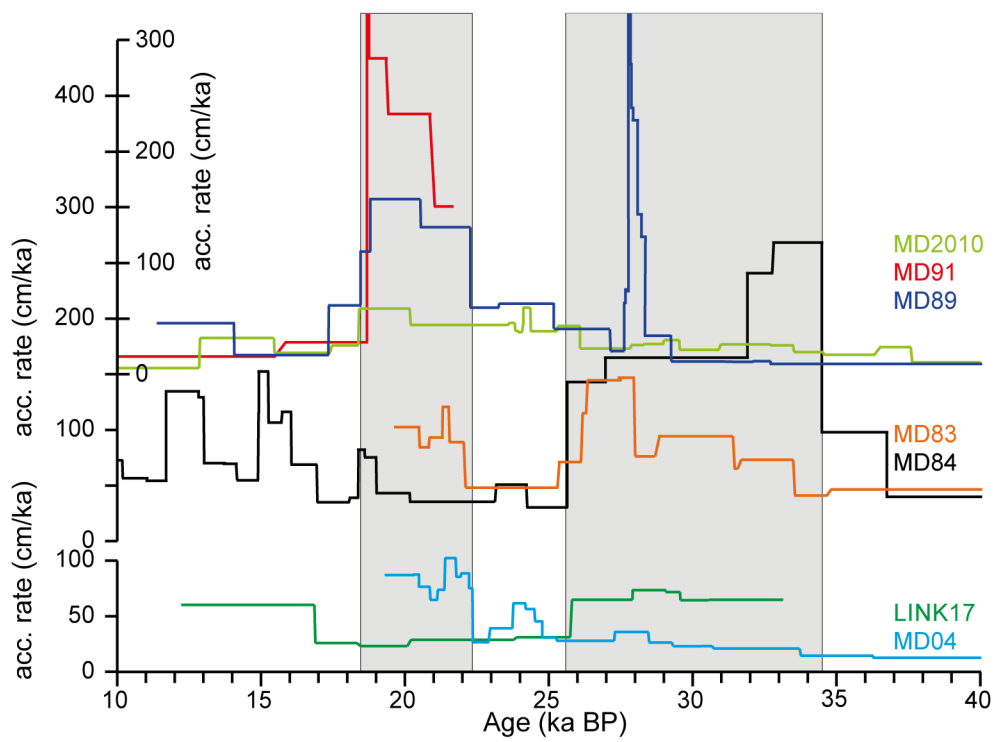


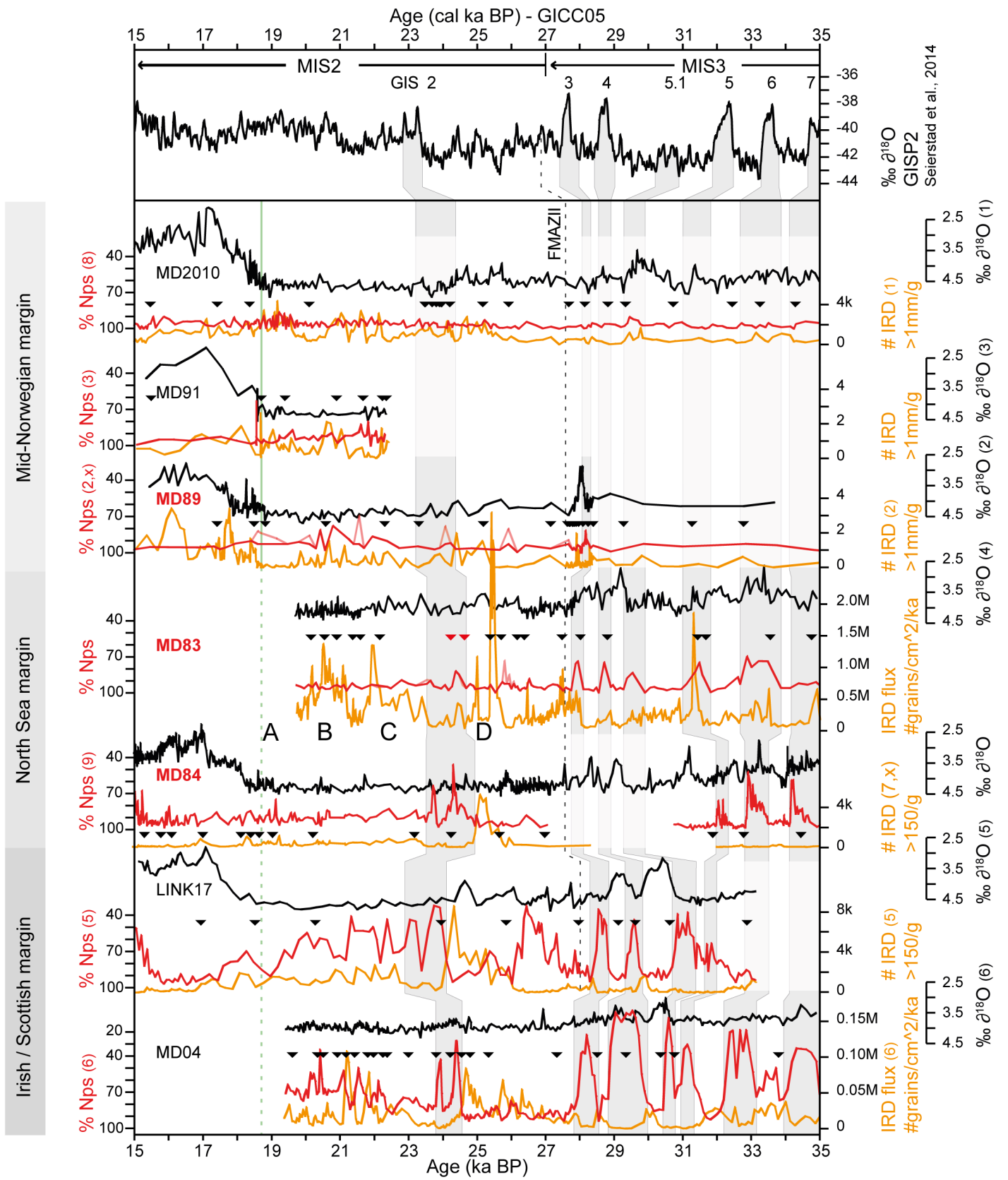




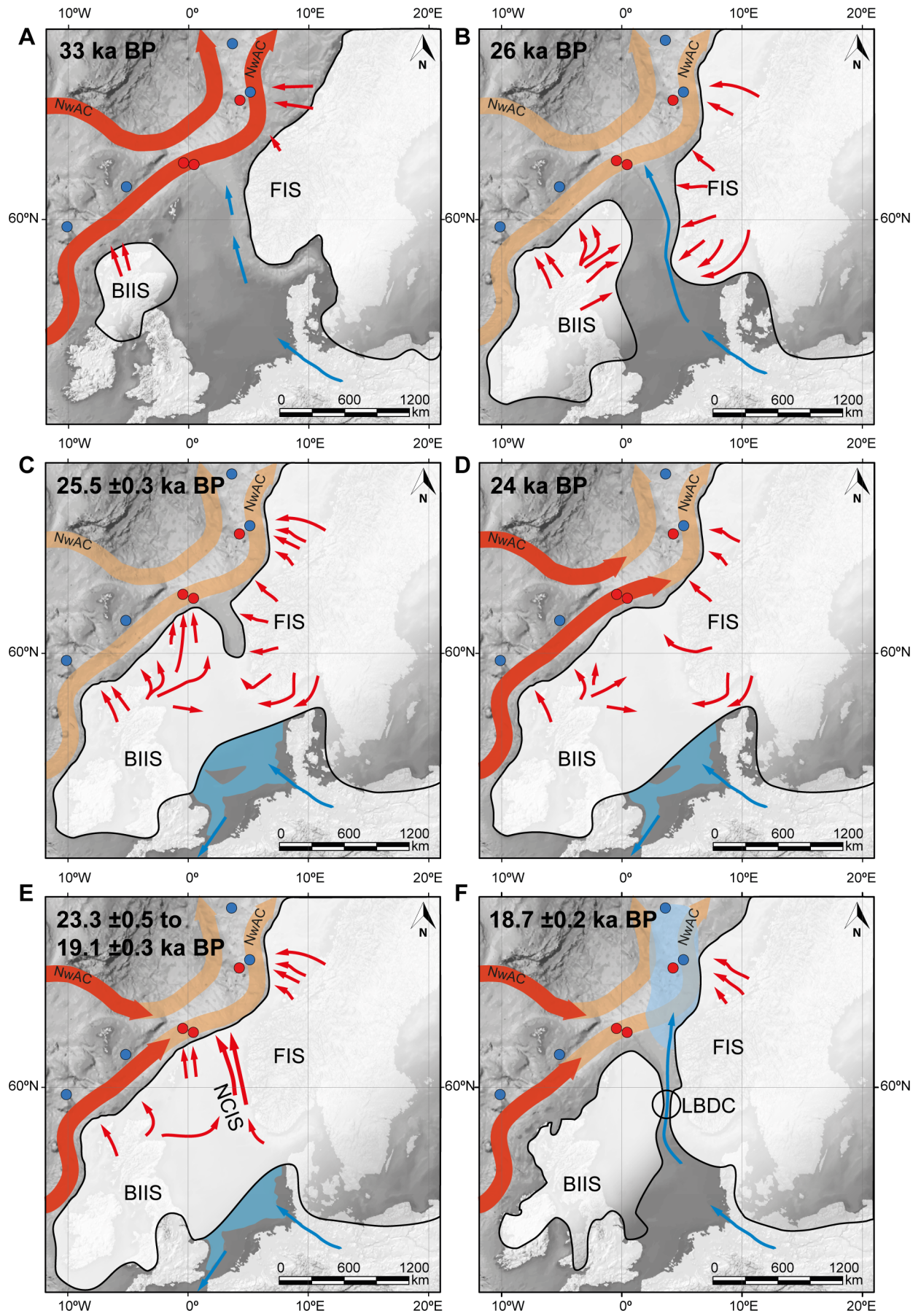


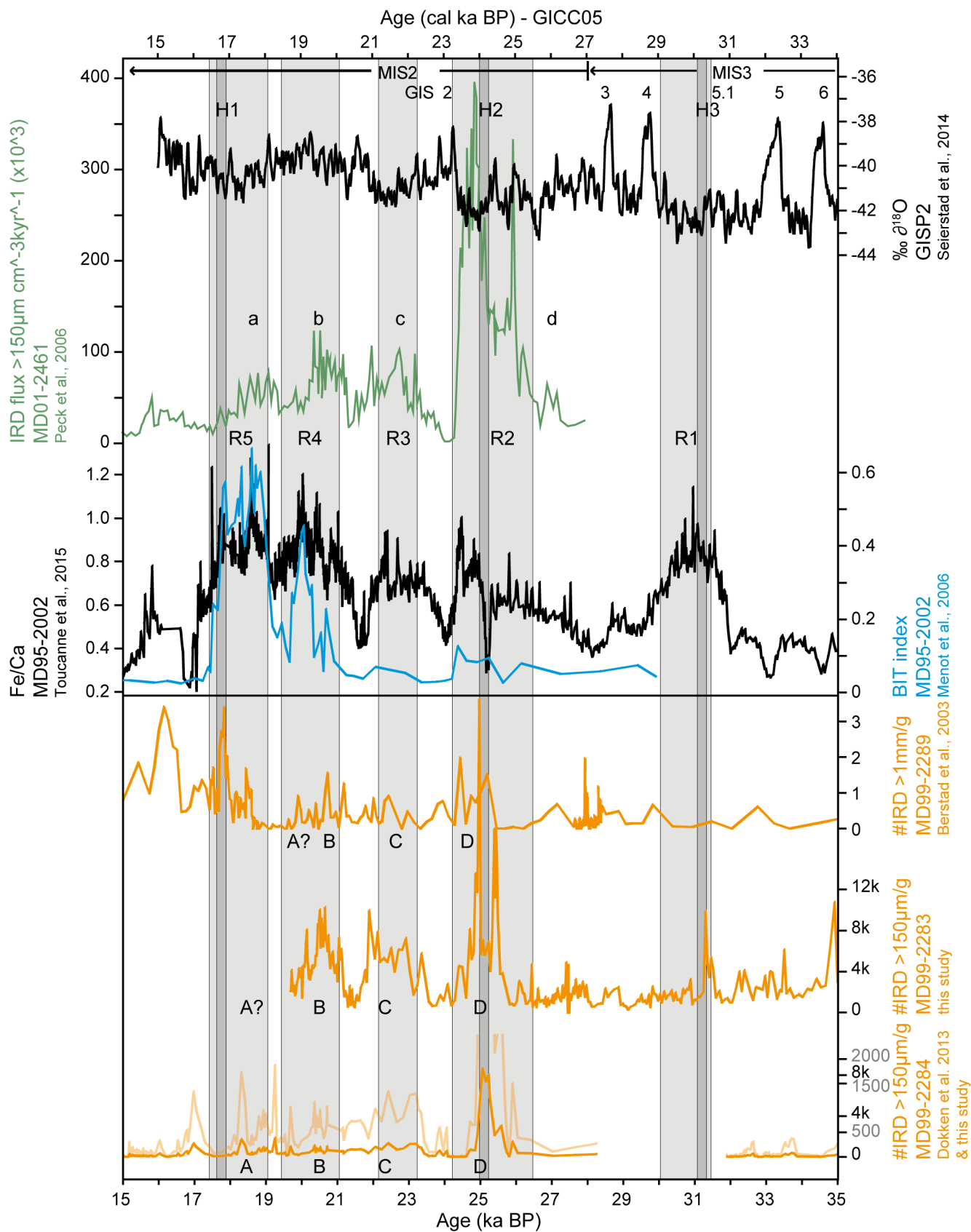












| core             | ID            | position                   | water depth [mbsl] | grain size distribution | IRD counts       | foraminifera counts | isotope ( $\delta^{18}O$ ) sampling | ITRAX data | C14 dating       | number of C14 dates | age model  | references  |
|------------------|---------------|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|------------------|---------------------|------------|---|
| <b>MD95-2010</b> | <b>MD95</b>   | 66.684167°,<br>4.566160°   | 1226               | -                       | (1)              | (2) & this study    | (1)                                 | -          | (1)              | 26                  | this study | (1) Dokken et al., 1999;<br>(2) Dokken et al., 2015a                                    |
| <b>MD99-2291</b> | <b>MD91</b>   | 64.938667°,<br>5.592000°   | 577                | -                       | this study       | (2)                 | (2)                                 | -          | (1 & 2)          | 12                  | this study | (1) Hjelstuen et al., 2004;<br>(2) Lekens et al., 2005                                  |
| <b>MD99-2289</b> | <b>MD89</b>   | 64.6680556°,<br>4.2263889° | 1262               | (1)                     | (2)              | (2) & this study    | (2)                                 | this study | (3) & this study | 25                  | this study | (1) Hafliðason et al., 2003;<br>(2) Berstad et al., 2003;<br>(3) Brendryen et al., 2011 |
| <b>MD99-2283</b> | <b>MD83</b>   | 62.261167°,<br>0.414000°   | 707                | (1) & this study        | this study       | this study          | (1)                                 | this study | (1)              | 21                  | this study | (1) Lekens et al., 2006   |
| <b>MD99-2284</b> | <b>MD84</b>   | 62.374667°,<br>-0.980167°  | 1500               | this study              | (2) & this study | (3) & this study    | this study                          | this study | (1) & this study | 27                  | this study | (1) Risebrobakken et al., 2011;<br>(2) Dokken et al., 2013;<br>(3) Dokken et al., 2015b |
| <b>LINK17</b>    | <b>LINK17</b> | 61.000000°,<br>-5.000000°  | 1500               | -                       | (1)              | (1)                 | (1)                                 | -          | (1)              | 11                  | this study | (1) Rasmussen et al., 2008  |
| <b>MD04-2829</b> | <b>MD04</b>   | 58.948830°,<br>-9.571670°  | 1743               | -                       | (1)              | (1)                 | (1)                                 | -          | (2)              | 24                  | this study | (1) Scourse et al., 2009; (2) Hall et al., 2011   |

| Core      | Lab number  | depth void corrected (cm) | Material              | 14C Age uncorrected (ka BP) | absolute age (ka BP) | S.D. 2 $\sigma$ (ka) | calibrated, modelled age (cal ka BP) | S.D. 2 $\sigma$ (ka) | $\delta$ absolute and modelled age (ka) | S.D. 2 $\sigma$ (ka) | reference           | Info                |
|-----------|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|---|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| MD99-2289 | ETH-55533   | 86.8                      | Nps                   | 11.782                      |                      | 0.184                | 13.2451                              | 0.3618               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2289 | Beta 414663 | 182.0                     | planktic foraminifera | 14.72                       |                      | 0.04                 | 17.3937                              | 0.195                |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2289 | Beta 380040 | 248.8                     | Nps                   | 15.63                       |                      | 0.05                 | 18.4737                              | 0.1437               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2289 | Beta 380041 | 850.1                     | Nps                   | 19.79                       |                      | 0.07                 | 23.2945                              | 0.2784               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2289 | Beta 376421 | 1049.9                    | Nps                   | 23.24                       |                      | 0.1                  | 27.1417                              | 0.3678               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2289 | Beta 376422 | 1059.8                    | Nps                   | 24.08                       |                      | 0.09                 | 27.6353                              | 0.1656               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2289 | Beta 373227 | 1062.8                    | Nps                   | 24.14                       |                      | 0.12                 | 27.682                               | 0.1285               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2289 | FMAZ II     | 1063.8                    | tephra                |                             | 26.69                | 0.39                 | 27.6951                              | 0.1148               | -1.0051                                 | 0.287471             | Nilsen et al., 2014 | not in age model    |
| MD99-2289 | Beta 365943 | 1064.8                    | Nps                   | 23.83                       |                      | 0.11                 | 27.7083                              | 0.1014               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2289 | Beta 376423 | 1069.8                    | Nps                   | 24.4                        |                      | 0.11                 | 27.7754                              | 0.0715               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2289 | Beta 380041 | 1072.8                    | Nps                   | 24.2                        |                      | 0.09                 | 27.7882                              | 0.067                |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2289 | Beta 380043 | 1102.8                    | Nps                   | 25.54                       |                      | 0.11                 | 27.8831                              | 0.0747               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2289 | Beta 380044 | 1171.8                    | Nps                   | 27.79                       |                      | 0.13                 | 28.2375                              | 0.2099               |   |                      | this study          | reworked - removed  |
| MD99-2289 | Beta 380045 | 1242.8                    | Nps                   | 28.5                        |                      | 0.14                 | 31.2674                              | 0.8568               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
|           |             |                           |                       |                             |                      |                      |                                      |                      |   |                      |                     |                     |
| MD99-2283 | ETH-72933   | 334.8                     | Nps                   | 19.898                      |                      | 0.066                | 24.18085                             | 0.6677               |   |                      | this study          | too young - removed |
| MD99-2283 | BETA-429895 | 392.3                     | Nps                   | 21.51                       |                      | 0.07                 | 25.37137                             | 0.2815               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2283 | BETA-429889 | 449.4                     | Nps                   | 22.48                       |                      | 0.08                 | 26.14195                             | 0.2272               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2283 | FMAZ II     | 634.4                     | tephra                |                             | 26.69                | 0.39                 | 27.46892                             | 0.2948               | -0.77892                                | 0.345684             | this study          | not in age model    |
|           |             |                           |                       |                             |                      |                      |                                      |                      |   |                      |                     |                     |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3305    | 450.5                     | Nps                   | 11.955                      |                      | 0.09                 | 13.4228                              | 0.1503               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3987    | 472.5                     | Nps                   | 12.235                      |                      | 0.075                | 13.7328                              | 0.1662               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3988    | 502.5                     | Nps                   | 12.595                      |                      | 0.13                 | 14.1728                              | 0.3537               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3989    | 543.5                     | Nps                   | 12.98                       |                      | 0.13                 | 14.9165                              | 0.2505               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2284 | POZ-10154   | 546.5                     | Nps                   | 13.08                       |                      | 0.06                 | 14.942                               | 0.2331               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2284 | KIA-10678   | 600.5                     | Nps                   | 13.15                       |                      | 0.07                 | 15.2963                              | 0.215                |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3306    | 650.5                     | Nps                   | 13.55                       |                      | 0.1                  | 15.7671                              | 0.2375               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2284 | POZ-10155   | 687.5                     | Nps                   | 13.71                       |                      | 0.06                 | 16.0888                              | 0.1908               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3990    | 749.5                     | Nps                   | 14.315                      |                      | 0.115                | 16.9953                              | 0.3516               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2284 | POZ-10156   | 788.5                     | Nps                   | 15.33                       |                      | 0.07                 | 18.1126                              | 0.2421               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3307    | 800.5                     | Nps                   | 15.55                       |                      | 0.19                 | 18.4063                              | 0.2474               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2284 | POZ-10157   | 819.5                     | Nps                   | 15.73                       |                      | 0.07                 | 18.6378                              | 0.1723               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3991    | 849.5                     | Nps                   | 16.105                      |                      | 0.12                 | 19.0389                              | 0.2413               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3308    | 900.5                     | Nps                   | 17.195                      |                      | 0.09                 | 20.2172                              | 0.2719               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3309    | 1000.5                    | Nps                   | 19.725                      |                      | 0.12                 | 23.1929                              | 0.3852               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2284 | BETA-429891 | 1058.5                    | Nps                   | 20.59                       |                      | 0.08                 | 24.2631                              | 0.2716               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2284 | BETA-429890 | 1295.5                    | Nps                   | 23.02                       |                      | 0.08                 | 26.9947                              | 0.3057               |   |                      | this study          |                     |
| MD99-2284 | FMAZ II     | 1407.5                    | tephra                |                             | 26.69                | 0.39                 | 27.6742                              | 0.4933               | -0.9842                                 | 0.444632             | Dokken et al., 2013 | not in age model    |

| Core ID | core depth (m) | sampling interval (cm) | time covered range (a)                    | average time covered (a) | fractions ( $\mu\text{m}$ )                                | references                |
|---------|----------------|------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| MD83    | 0 - 13         | 2 - 5                  | 50 - 100                                  | 50                       | <63,<br>63 - 125,<br>125 - 150,<br>150 - 1000 and<br>>1000 | Lekens et al. (2006)      |
|         | 3.5 - 4.5      | 2.5                    | 10 - 50                                   | 50                       |  | this study                |
| MD89    | 1.4 - 13       | 2-10                   | 10 - 200<br>(15-25 ka)<br>200 - 1000 (25- | 80                       |  | Hafliadason et al. (2003) |
| MD84    | 5.5 - 30       | 1                      | 5 - 35                                    | 8.7                      | <63,<br>63 - 150,<br>150 - 1000 and                        | this study                |

| Core      | Lab number  | depth, void corrected (cm) | Material              | 14C Age uncorrected (ka BP) | absolute age (ka BP) | S.D. 2 $\sigma$ (ka) | calibrated, modelled age (cal ka BP) | S.D. 2 $\sigma$ (ka) (plus) | S.D. 2 $\sigma$ (ka) (minus) | S.D. 2 $\sigma$ (ka) (average of both errors) | Original reference   | Info     |
|-----------|-------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---|----------------------|----------|
| MD95-2010 | KIA-6550    | 9.5                        | Nps                   | 3.57                        |                      | 0.04                 | 3.00                                 | 0.14                        | 0.12                         | 0.13  | this study           |          |
| MD95-2010 | KIA-6551    | 54.5                       | Nps                   | 11.42                       |                      | 0.06                 | 12.92                                | 0.17                        | 0.15                         | 0.16  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | KIA-6552    | 136.5                      | Nps                   | 13.25                       |                      | 0.06                 | 15.45                                | 0.26                        | 0.22                         | 0.24  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | KIA-6553    | 173.5                      | Nps                   | 14.75                       |                      | 0.11                 | 17.52                                | 0.32                        | 0.34                         | 0.33  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | KIA-6554    | 197.5                      | Nps                   | 15.62                       |                      | 0.07                 | 18.50                                | 0.19                        | 0.23                         | 0.21  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | KIA-6555    | 300.5                      | Nps                   | 16.99                       |                      | 0.11                 | 20.17                                | 0.30                        | 0.31                         | 0.31  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96476  | 449.5                      | Nps                   | 19.83                       |                      | 0.13                 | 23.61                                | 0.23                        | 0.27                         | 0.25  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96477  | 450.5                      | Nps                   | 20.03                       |                      | 0.11                 | 23.63                                | 0.23                        | 0.27                         | 0.25  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96487  | 459.5                      | Nps                   | 19.93                       |                      | 0.12                 | 23.79                                | 0.24                        | 0.25                         | 0.25  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96489  | 464.5                      | Nps                   | 20.34                       |                      | 0.12                 | 24.05                                | 0.15                        | 0.16                         | 0.15  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96683  | 467.5                      | Nps                   | 22.26                       |                      | 0.18                 | 24.21                                | 0.14                        | 0.14                         | 0.14  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96490  | 469.5                      | Nps                   | 20.34                       |                      | 0.13                 | 24.32                                | 0.17                        | 0.17                         | 0.17  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96684  | 470.5                      | Nps                   | 20.39                       |                      | 0.16                 | 24.35                                | 0.18                        | 0.18                         | 0.18  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96492  | 484.5                      | Nps                   | 20.45                       |                      | 0.12                 | 24.45                                | 0.17                        | 0.17                         | 0.17  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96685  | 521.5                      | Nps                   | 21.59                       |                      | 0.19                 | 24.84                                | 0.30                        | 0.21                         | 0.25  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | KIA-6556    | 554.5                      | Nps                   | 20.49                       |                      | 0.14                 | 25.13                                | 0.26                        | 0.23                         | 0.25  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96686  | 594.5                      | Nps                   | 24.33                       |                      | 0.22                 | 26.09                                | 0.51                        | 0.20                         | 0.36  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96491  | 606.5                      | Nps                   | 20.42                       |                      | 0.17                 | 26.16                                | 0.55                        | 0.19                         | 0.37  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96493  | 624.5                      | Nps                   | 25.54                       |                      | 0.20                 | 27.96                                | 0.64                        | 0.39                         | 0.52  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | KIA-6557    | 640.5                      | Nps                   | 25.52                       |                      | 0.24                 | 29.63                                | 0.54                        | 0.43                         | 0.49  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96496  | 670.5                      | Nps                   | 27.45                       |                      | 0.20                 | 31.05                                | 0.33                        | 0.44                         | 0.39  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96497  | 716.5                      | Nps                   | 28.94                       |                      | 0.24                 | 32.74                                | 0.56                        | 0.59                         | 0.58  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96687  | 737.0                      | Nps                   | 29.67                       |                      | 0.26                 | 33.55                                | 0.42                        | 0.51                         | 0.47  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96688  | 757.5                      | Nps                   | 31.24                       |                      | 0.30                 | 34.67                                | 0.55                        | 0.54                         | 0.55  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96494  | 790.5                      | Nps                   | 33.42                       |                      | 0.37                 | 36.70                                | 0.70                        | 0.71                         | 0.70  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96689  | 816.5                      | Nps                   | 33.82                       |                      | 0.39                 | 37.76                                | 0.75                        | 0.82                         | 0.79  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | GifA-96690  | 827.5                      | Nps                   | 35.48                       |                      | 0.55                 | 38.89                                | 0.78                        | 0.79                         | 0.79  | Dokken et al. (1999) | included |
| MD95-2010 | KIA-6558    | 861.5                      | Nps                   | 38.56                       |                      | 0.91                 | 42.06                                | 1.39                        | 1.44                         | 1.41  | Dokken et al. (1999) |          |
| MD95-2010 | KIA-6559    | 903.5                      | Nps                   | 45.94                       |                      | 2.46                 | 46.75                                | 3.33                        | 2.58                         | 2.96  | Dokken et al. (1999) |          |
| MD99-2291 | KIA-18160   | 10.0                       | Npd                   | 15.88                       |                      | 0.10                 | 4.06                                 | 0.92                        | 1.14                         | 1.03  | Lekens et al. (2005) | reworked |
| MD99-2291 | ETH-257121  | 16.5                       | Nps and Npd           | 4.24                        |                      | 0.28                 | 4.48                                 | 0.76                        | 0.75                         | 0.75  | Lekens et al. (2005) |          |
| MD99-2291 | KIA-19317   | 60.8                       | N. labradorica        | 13.02                       |                      | 0.07                 | 7.28                                 | 2.53                        | 2.14                         | 2.34  | Lekens et al. (2005) | reworked |
| MD99-2291 | ETH-25488   | 100.0                      | benthic foraminifera  | 10.74                       |                      | 0.17                 | 9.23                                 | 2.84                        | 2.64                         | 2.74  | Lekens et al. (2005) |          |
| MD99-2291 | ETH-25495   | 180.0                      | benthic foraminifera  | 13.05                       |                      | 0.11                 | 15.48                                | 1.20                        | 0.95                         | 1.08  | Lekens et al. (2005) | included |
| MD99-2291 | ETH-25958   | 280.0                      | benthic foraminifera  | 15.40                       |                      | 0.14                 | 18.69                                | 0.22                        | 0.25                         | 0.23  | Lekens et al. (2005) | included |
| MD99-2291 | Poz-3950    | 367.0                      | Yoldiella lenticula   | 16.12                       |                      | 0.07                 | 18.69                                | 0.20                        | 0.20                         | 0.20  | Lekens et al. (2005) | included |
| MD99-2291 | Poz-3951    | 455.0                      | Yoldiella lenticula   | 16.11                       |                      | 0.07                 | 18.70                                | 0.20                        | 0.20                         | 0.20  | Lekens et al. (2005) | included |
| MD99-2291 | Poz-3952    | 614.5                      | Yoldiella lenticula   | 16.20                       |                      | 0.06                 | 18.70                                | 0.20                        | 0.20                         | 0.20  | Lekens et al. (2005) | included |
| MD99-2291 | ETH-22959   | 1690.0                     | Nps                   | 16.10                       |                      | 0.25                 | 19.39                                | 0.31                        | 0.32                         | 0.32  | Lekens et al. (2005) | included |
| MD99-2291 | ETH-22960   | 2040.0                     | Nps                   | 17.05                       |                      | 0.25                 | 20.88                                | 0.38                        | 0.40                         | 0.39  | Lekens et al. (2005) | included |
| MD99-2291 | Poz-3956    | 2168.0                     | Yoldiella lenticula   | 18.62                       |                      | 0.08                 | 21.66                                | 0.24                        | 0.32                         | 0.28  | Lekens et al. (2005) | included |
| MD99-2291 | Poz-3957    | 2375.0                     | Yoldiella lenticula   | 18.61                       |                      | 0.08                 | 22.23                                | 0.20                        | 0.21                         | 0.21  | Lekens et al. (2005) | included |
| MD99-2291 | ETH-22961   | 2523.0                     | Nps                   | 16.63                       |                      | 0.25                 | 22.35                                | 0.21                        | 0.22                         | 0.21  | Lekens et al. (2005) | included |
| MD99-2289 | ETH-55533   | 86.8                       | Nps                   | 11.78                       |                      | 0.18                 | 13.25                                | 0.35                        | 0.37                         | 0.36  | this study           | included |
| MD99-2289 | AAR-6234    | 124.5                      | Nps                   | 12.41                       |                      | 0.14                 | 14.07                                | 0.59                        | 0.36                         | 0.48  | Reiche et al. (2011) | included |
| MD99-2289 | Beta-414663 | 182.0                      | planktic foraminifera | 14.72                       |                      | 0.04                 | 17.39                                | 0.18                        | 0.21                         | 0.19  | this study           | included |
| MD99-2289 | Beta-380040 | 248.8                      | Nps                   | 15.63                       |                      | 0.05                 | 18.47                                | 0.14                        | 0.14                         | 0.14  | this study           | included |
| MD99-2289 | AAR-6235    | 285.8                      | planktic foraminifera | 16.16                       |                      | 0.17                 | 18.81                                | 0.22                        | 0.21                         | 0.21  | Reiche et al. (2011) | included |
| MD99-2289 | AAR-6236    | 563.2                      | Nps                   | 17.31                       |                      | 0.16                 | 20.57                                | 0.31                        | 0.31                         | 0.31  | Reiche et al. (2011) | included |
| MD99-2289 | ETH-25496   | 790.1                      | Nps                   | 18.56                       |                      | 0.13                 | 22.29                                | 0.20                        | 0.26                         | 0.23  | Reiche et al. (2011) | included |
| MD99-2289 | Beta-380041 | 850.1                      | Nps                   | 19.79                       |                      | 0.07                 | 23.29                                | 0.27                        | 0.29                         | 0.28  | this study           | included |
| MD99-2289 | ETH-25497   | 969.8                      | Nps                   | 21.37                       |                      | 0.16                 | 25.18                                | 0.39                        | 0.49                         | 0.44  | Reiche et al. (2011) | included |
| MD99-2289 | Beta-376421 | 1049.9                     | Nps                   | 23.24                       |                      | 0.10                 | 27.14                                | 0.34                        | 0.40                         | 0.37  | this study           | included |
| MD99-2289 | Beta-376422 | 1059.8                     | Nps                   | 24.08                       |                      | 0.09                 | 27.64                                | 0.13                        | 0.20                         | 0.17  | this study           | included |
| MD99-2289 | Beta-373227 | 1062.8                     | Nps                   | 24.14                       |                      | 0.12                 | 27.68                                | 0.11                        | 0.15                         | 0.13  | this study           | included |
| MD99-2289 | Beta-365943 | 1064.8                     | Nps                   | 23.83                       |                      | 0.11                 | 27.71                                | 0.09                        | 0.11                         | 0.10  | this study           | included |
| MD99-2289 | Beta-376423 | 1069.8                     | Nps                   | 24.40                       |                      | 0.11                 | 27.78                                | 0.07                        | 0.07                         | 0.07  | this study           | included |
| MD99-2289 | Beta-380041 | 1072.8                     | Nps                   | 24.20                       |                      | 0.09                 | 27.79                                | 0.07                        | 0.07                         | 0.07  | this study           | included |
| MD99-2289 | ETH-23313   | 1089.8                     | Nps                   | 22.95                       |                      | 0.20                 | 27.84                                | 0.07                        | 0.07                         | 0.07  | Reiche et al. (2011) | included |
| MD99-2289 | Beta-380043 | 1102.8                     | Nps                   | 25.54                       |                      | 0.11                 | 27.88                                | 0.09                        | 0.06                         | 0.07  | this study           | included |
| MD99-2289 | ETH-25498   | 1119.8                     | Nps                   | 23.99                       |                      | 0.20                 | 27.95                                | 0.14                        | 0.09                         | 0.11  | Reiche et al. (2011) | included |
| MD99-2289 | ETH-23314   | 1150.3                     | Nps                   | 23.69                       |                      | 0.20                 | 28.09                                | 0.19                        | 0.14                         | 0.17  | Reiche et al. (2011) | included |
| MD99-2289 | Beta-380044 | 1171.8                     | Nps                   | 27.79                       |                      | 0.13                 | 28.24                                | 0.23                        | 0.19                         | 0.21  | this study           | reworked |
| MD99-2289 | ETH-25499   | 1189.3                     | Nps                   | 23.32                       |                      | 0.24                 | 28.38                                | 0.24                        | 0.24                         | 0.24  | Reiche et al. (2011) | included |
| MD99-2289 | ETH-23315   | 1219.8                     | Nps                   | 25.46                       |                      | 0.32                 | 29.26                                | 0.75                        | 0.60                         | 0.68  | Reiche et al. (2011) | included |

|           |             |        |                   |       |       |      |       |      |      |      |                             |           |
|-----------|-------------|--------|-------------------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|------|------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| MD99-2289 | Beta-380045 | 1242.8 | Nps               | 28.50 |       | 0.14 | 31.27 | 0.84 | 0.88 | 0.86 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2289 | ETH-24870   | 1259.8 | Nps               | 29.42 |       | 0.27 | 32.77 | 0.74 | 0.75 | 0.75 | Reiche et al. (2011)        | included  |
| MD99-2289 | ETH-24871   | 1299.8 | Nps               | 34.25 |       | 0.43 | 37.01 | 1.35 | 1.30 | 1.32 | Reiche et al. (2011)        | included  |
| MD99-2283 | Poz-3945    | 45.0   | Nps               | 17.08 |       | 0.07 | 20.12 | 0.23 | 0.24 | 0.23 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | included  |
| MD99-2283 | Poz-3946    | 85.0   | Nps               | 17.36 |       | 0.07 | 20.51 | 0.20 | 0.20 | 0.20 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | included  |
| MD99-2283 | Poz-3947    | 115.0  | Nps               | 17.75 |       | 0.08 | 20.86 | 0.23 | 0.22 | 0.22 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | included  |
| MD99-2283 | Poz-3948    | 159.0  | Nps               | 18.19 |       | 0.08 | 21.34 | 0.29 | 0.31 | 0.30 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | included  |
| MD99-2283 | ETH-26404   | 185.0  | Nps               | 17.68 |       | 0.14 | 21.55 | 0.34 | 0.34 | 0.34 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | included  |
| MD99-2283 | ETH-24515   | 235.0  | Nps               | 18.28 |       | 0.13 | 22.11 | 0.46 | 0.42 | 0.44 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | included  |
| MD99-2283 | ETH-72933   | 334.8  | Nps               | 19.90 |       | 0.07 | 24.18 | 0.62 | 0.71 | 0.67 | this study                  | too young |
| MD99-2283 | ETH-26405   | 354.8  | Nps               | 19.74 |       | 0.15 | 24.60 | 0.53 | 0.66 | 0.60 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | too young |
| MD99-2283 | BETA-429895 | 392.3  | Nps               | 21.51 |       | 0.07 | 25.37 | 0.25 | 0.31 | 0.28 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2283 | ETH-24514   | 414.8  | Nps               | 20.87 |       | 0.18 | 25.69 | 0.29 | 0.32 | 0.30 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | included  |
| MD99-2283 | BETA-429889 | 449.4  | Nps               | 22.48 |       | 0.08 | 26.14 | 0.22 | 0.23 | 0.23 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2283 | Poz-7179    | 474.4  | Nps               | 22.74 |       | 0.12 | 26.36 | 0.24 | 0.24 | 0.24 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | included  |
| MD99-2283 | ETH-26406   | 634.4  | Nps               | 23.67 |       | 0.22 | 27.47 | 0.29 | 0.30 | 0.29 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | included  |
| MD99-2283 | ETH-24513   | 714.4  | Nps               | 24.03 |       | 0.21 | 28.01 | 0.44 | 0.35 | 0.39 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | included  |
| MD99-2283 | ETH-24512   | 773.7  | Nps               | 26.13 |       | 0.22 | 28.80 | 0.63 | 0.56 | 0.60 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | included  |
| MD99-2283 | ETH-24511   | 1024.3 | Nps               | 26.82 |       | 0.25 | 31.46 | 0.88 | 0.62 | 0.75 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | included  |
| MD99-2283 | Poz-7180    | 1039.3 | Nps               | 28.60 |       | 0.26 | 31.69 | 0.82 | 0.58 | 0.70 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | included  |
| MD99-2283 | Poz-3953    | 1176.9 | Nps               | 29.24 |       | 0.18 | 33.57 | 0.74 | 0.55 | 0.65 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | included  |
| MD99-2283 | ETH-24516   | 1226.9 | Gastropode        | 31.52 |       | 0.28 | 34.79 | 0.56 | 0.57 | 0.56 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | included  |
| MD99-2283 | Poz-3954    | 1288.9 | Bivalve           | 32.44 |       | 0.23 | 36.13 | 0.91 | 0.59 | 0.75 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | included  |
| MD99-2283 | Laschamp    | 1408.9 | magnetic reversal |       | 40.65 | 0.95 | 39.98 | 1.39 | 1.30 | 1.34 | Lekens et al. (2006)        | included  |
| MD99-2284 | KIA-10676   | 2.5    | Nps               | 1.69  |       | 0.03 | 1.32  | 0.06 | 0.07 | 0.07 | Risebrobakken et al. (2014) |           |
| MD99-2284 | Poz-10150   | 19.5   | Nps               | 3.52  |       | 0.04 | 3.46  | 0.10 | 0.11 | 0.10 | Risebrobakken et al. (2014) |           |
| MD99-2284 | Poz-10151   | 36.5   | Nps               | 5.30  |       | 0.04 | 5.75  | 0.14 | 0.09 | 0.11 | Risebrobakken et al. (2014) |           |
| MD99-2284 | Poz-10157   | 53.5   | Nps               | 7.30  |       | 0.04 | 7.75  | 0.08 | 0.08 | 0.08 | Risebrobakken et al. (2014) |           |
| MD99-2284 | Poz-33098   | 71.5   | Nps               | 7.94  |       | 0.07 | 8.55  | 0.15 | 0.12 | 0.13 | Risebrobakken et al. (2014) |           |
| MD99-2284 | TUa-3301    | 100.5  | Nps               | 8.68  |       | 0.09 | 9.32  | 0.18 | 0.23 | 0.21 | Risebrobakken et al. (2014) |           |
| MD99-2284 | Poz-33098   | 165.5  | Nps               | 9.34  |       | 0.09 | 10.22 | 0.24 | 0.26 | 0.25 | Risebrobakken et al. (2014) | included  |
| MD99-2284 | TUa-3302    | 213.5  | Nps               | 10.05 |       | 0.10 | 11.07 | 0.19 | 0.25 | 0.22 | Risebrobakken et al. (2014) | included  |
| MD99-2284 | TUa-3304    | 249.5  | Nps               | 10.70 |       | 0.09 | 11.73 | 0.39 | 0.34 | 0.37 | Risebrobakken et al. (2014) | included  |
| MD99-2284 | Poz-29526   | 423.5  | Nps               | 11.44 |       | 0.08 | 13.04 | 0.18 | 0.21 | 0.19 | Risebrobakken et al. (2014) | included  |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3305    | 450.5  | Nps               | 11.96 |       | 0.09 | 13.42 | 0.16 | 0.14 | 0.15 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3987    | 472.5  | Nps               | 12.24 |       | 0.08 | 13.73 | 0.16 | 0.17 | 0.17 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3988    | 502.5  | Nps               | 12.60 |       | 0.13 | 14.17 | 0.42 | 0.28 | 0.35 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3989    | 543.5  | Nps               | 12.98 |       | 0.13 | 14.92 | 0.24 | 0.26 | 0.25 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2284 | POZ-10154   | 546.5  | Nps               | 13.08 |       | 0.06 | 14.94 | 0.23 | 0.24 | 0.23 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2284 | KIA-10678   | 600.5  | Nps               | 13.15 |       | 0.07 | 15.30 | 0.24 | 0.19 | 0.22 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3306    | 650.5  | Nps               | 13.55 |       | 0.10 | 15.77 | 0.23 | 0.25 | 0.24 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2284 | POZ-10155   | 687.5  | Nps               | 13.71 |       | 0.06 | 16.09 | 0.18 | 0.20 | 0.19 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3990    | 749.5  | Nps               | 14.32 |       | 0.12 | 17.00 | 0.36 | 0.34 | 0.35 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2284 | POZ-10156   | 788.5  | Nps               | 15.33 |       | 0.07 | 18.11 | 0.24 | 0.25 | 0.24 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3307    | 800.5  | Nps               | 15.55 |       | 0.19 | 18.41 | 0.24 | 0.26 | 0.25 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2284 | POZ-10157   | 819.5  | Nps               | 15.73 |       | 0.07 | 18.64 | 0.16 | 0.19 | 0.17 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3991    | 849.5  | Nps               | 16.11 |       | 0.12 | 19.04 | 0.27 | 0.21 | 0.24 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3308    | 900.5  | Nps               | 17.20 |       | 0.09 | 20.22 | 0.27 | 0.27 | 0.27 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2284 | Tua-3309    | 1000.5 | Nps               | 19.73 |       | 0.12 | 23.19 | 0.38 | 0.39 | 0.39 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2284 | BETA-429891 | 1058.5 | Nps               | 20.59 |       | 0.08 | 24.26 | 0.26 | 0.28 | 0.27 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2284 | TUa-3310    | 1100.5 | Nps               | 21.98 |       | 0.16 | 25.67 | 0.32 | 0.38 | 0.35 | Dokken et al. (2013)        | included  |
| MD99-2284 | BETA-429890 | 1295.5 | Nps               | 23.02 |       | 0.08 | 26.99 | 0.30 | 0.32 | 0.31 | this study                  | included  |
| MD99-2284 | POZ-29522   | 2106.5 | Nps               | 29.10 |       | 0.24 | 31.91 | 0.45 | 0.38 | 0.41 | Dokken et al. (2013)        | included  |
| MD99-2284 | POZ-29523   | 2324.5 | Nps               | 29.90 |       | 0.60 | 32.82 | 0.49 | 0.48 | 0.48 | Dokken et al. (2013)        | included  |
| MD99-2284 | POZ-17620   | 2775.5 | Nps               | 29.92 |       | 0.24 | 34.50 | 0.36 | 0.46 | 0.41 | Dokken et al. (2013)        | included  |
| MD99-2284 | POZ-17621   | 2996.5 | Nps               | 32.50 |       | 0.30 | 36.77 | 0.97 | 0.81 | 0.89 | Dokken et al. (2013)        | included  |
| MD99-2284 | POZ-29524   | 3075.5 | Nps               | 34.60 |       | 0.70 | 38.81 | 1.26 | 1.23 | 1.25 | Dokken et al. (2013)        | included  |
| LINK17    | AAR-7236    | 135.0  | Nps               | 13.16 |       | 0.15 | 15.00 | 0.64 | 0.80 | 0.72 | Rasmussen et al. (2008)     | included  |
| LINK17    | AAR-7237    | 250.0  | Nps               | 14.12 |       | 0.12 | 16.93 | 0.69 | 0.54 | 0.61 | Rasmussen et al. (2008)     | included  |
| LINK17    | AAR-8137    | 290.0  | Nps               | 15.73 |       | 0.11 | 18.52 | 0.35 | 0.43 | 0.39 | Rasmussen et al. (2008)     | included  |
| LINK17    | AAR-7238    | 331.0  | Nps               | 17.28 |       | 0.14 | 20.27 | 0.51 | 0.56 | 0.53 | Rasmussen et al. (2008)     | included  |
| LINK17    | AAR-7239    | 436.5  | Bivalve           | 20.33 |       | 0.19 | 23.93 | 0.63 | 0.69 | 0.66 | Rasmussen et al. (2008)     | included  |
| LINK17    | AAR-8138    | 496.5  | Nps               | 22.30 |       | 0.22 | 25.85 | 0.58 | 0.94 | 0.76 | Rasmussen et al. (2008)     | included  |
| LINK17    | AAR-7240    | 633.0  | Nps               | 24.25 |       | 0.35 | 27.95 | 0.56 | 0.59 | 0.57 | Rasmussen et al. (2008)     | included  |
| LINK17    | AAR-8139    | 718.5  | Nps               | 25.35 |       | 0.30 | 29.11 | 0.54 | 0.54 | 0.54 | Rasmussen et al. (2008)     | included  |
| LINK17    | AAR-8140    | 754.0  | Nps               | 25.65 |       | 0.35 | 29.61 | 0.59 | 0.54 | 0.56 | Rasmussen et al. (2008)     | included  |
| LINK17    | AAR-8141    | 818.5  | Nps               | 26.85 |       | 0.35 | 30.61 | 0.55 | 0.68 | 0.62 | Rasmussen et al. (2008)     | included  |
| LINK17    | AAR-8142    | 965.0  | Nps               | 28.45 |       | 0.45 | 32.87 | 1.02 | 0.99 | 1.01 | Rasmussen et al. (2008)     | included  |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8793  | 312.5  | Nps               | 16.73 |       | 0.07 | 19.60 | 0.17 | 0.16 | 0.16 | Hall et al. (2011)          | included  |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8794  | 376.5  | Nps               | 17.25 |       | 0.07 | 20.33 | 0.15 | 0.16 | 0.16 | Hall et al. (2011)          | included  |

|           |            |       |              |       |  |      |       |      |      |      |                    |          |
|-----------|------------|-------|--------------|-------|--|------|-------|------|------|------|--------------------|----------|
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8795 | 391.5 | Nps          | 17.38 |  | 0.07 | 20.51 | 0.14 | 0.15 | 0.15 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8797 | 422.5 | Nps          | 17.71 |  | 0.07 | 20.91 | 0.16 | 0.16 | 0.16 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8798 | 438.5 | Nps          | 17.99 |  | 0.08 | 21.16 | 0.17 | 0.16 | 0.16 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8799 | 457.5 | Nps          | 18.23 |  | 0.08 | 21.42 | 0.16 | 0.17 | 0.16 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8802 | 495.5 | Nps          | 18.31 |  | 0.08 | 21.79 | 0.14 | 0.15 | 0.15 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8803 | 510.5 | Nps          | 18.57 |  | 0.08 | 21.97 | 0.15 | 0.14 | 0.15 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8804 | 534.5 | Nps          | 18.67 |  | 0.08 | 22.24 | 0.13 | 0.14 | 0.14 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8805 | 544.5 | Nps          | 18.80 |  | 0.08 | 22.37 | 0.12 | 0.13 | 0.12 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8807 | 560.5 | Nps          | 19.60 |  | 0.09 | 22.98 | 0.26 | 0.25 | 0.25 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8808 | 592.5 | Nps          | 20.33 |  | 0.10 | 23.79 | 0.22 | 0.23 | 0.23 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8809 | 618.5 | Nps          | 20.51 |  | 0.10 | 24.21 | 0.21 | 0.20 | 0.20 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8812 | 636.5 | Nps          | 20.70 |  | 0.11 | 24.54 | 0.31 | 0.22 | 0.26 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8813 | 648.5 | Nps          | 21.38 |  | 0.12 | 24.79 | 0.36 | 0.23 | 0.30 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8814 | 664.5 | Nps          | 21.45 |  | 0.12 | 25.31 | 0.26 | 0.27 | 0.27 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8815 | 720.5 | Nps          | 23.51 |  | 0.15 | 27.32 | 0.27 | 0.30 | 0.29 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8816 | 762.5 | Nps          | 24.78 |  | 0.17 | 28.50 | 0.29 | 0.33 | 0.31 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-8817 | 784.5 | G. bulloides | 25.71 |  | 0.20 | 29.34 | 0.38 | 0.39 | 0.38 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-1090 | 807.5 | Nps          | 26.48 |  | 0.15 | 30.35 | 0.31 | 0.38 | 0.35 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-1089 | 816.5 | Nps          | 26.96 |  | 0.15 | 30.74 | 0.25 | 0.29 | 0.27 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-1090 | 880.5 | Nps          | 30.07 |  | 0.22 | 33.79 | 0.43 | 0.48 | 0.45 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-1090 | 916.5 | Nps          | 32.91 |  | 0.31 | 36.33 | 0.81 | 0.70 | 0.75 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |
| MD04-2829 | SUERC-1090 | 950.5 | Nps          | 35.14 |  | 0.40 | 39.04 | 0.87 | 0.83 | 0.85 | Hall et al. (2011) | included |