

1 **Comparative clumped isotope temperature relationships in freshwater carbonates**

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42 **Key Points:**

- 43 • Δ_{47} calibration dataset for 135 freshwater carbonate samples shows evidence for material-
44 specificity in Δ_{47} -temperature dependence.
- 45 • Δ_{47} -derived estimates of source water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ usually within 2‰ of modern values.
- 46 • We evaluate the impact of calibrations and predictions on paleotemperature
47 reconstructions.

48 Abstract

49 Lacustrine, riverine, and spring carbonates are archives of terrestrial climate change and are
50 extensively used to study paleoenvironments. Clumped isotope thermometry has been applied to
51 freshwater carbonates to reconstruct temperatures, however, limited work has been done to
52 evaluate comparative relationships between clumped isotopes and temperature in different types
53 of modern freshwater carbonates. Therefore, in this study, we assemble an extensive calibration
54 dataset with 135 samples of modern lacustrine, fluvial, and spring carbonates from 96 sites and
55 constrain the relationship between independent observations of water temperature and the
56 clumped isotopic composition of carbonates (denoted by Δ_{47}). We restandardize and synthesize
57 published data and report 159 new measurements of 25 samples. We derive a composite
58 freshwater calibration and also evaluate differences in the Δ_{47} -temperature dependence for
59 different types of materials to examine whether material-specific calibrations may be justified.
60 When material type is considered, there is a convergence of slopes between biological carbonates
61 (freshwater gastropods and bivalves), micrite, biologically-mediated carbonates (microbialites
62 and tufas), travertines, and other recently published syntheses, but statistically significant
63 differences in intercepts between some materials, possibly due to seasonal biases, kinetic isotope
64 effects, and/or varying degrees of biological influence. Δ_{47} -based reconstructions of water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$
65 generally yield values within 2‰ of measured water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ when using a material-specific
66 calibration. We explore the implications of applying these new calibrations in reconstructing
67 temperature in three case studies.

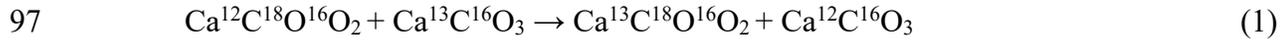
68 1 Introduction

69 Paleoenvironmental reconstructions from freshwater sediments can be used to enhance
70 our understanding of ecosystem and climate change both within the aquatic systems and their
71 proximal terrestrial environments (e.g., Brenner et al., 1999; Xu et al., 2006)). Carbonate-bearing
72 sediments deposited in freshwater systems are widespread and are sensitive to changes in the
73 local environment, tectonic setting, and hydrological conditions, and thus provide a promising
74 archive of continental paleoclimatic information (Arenas-Abad et al., 2010; Gierlowski-
75 Kordesch, 2010; Hren & Sheldon, 2012). However, quantitative terrestrial temperature proxies
76 that can be applied to carbonate sediments are relatively scarce. Of the multiple proxies that have
77 been used to estimate terrestrial temperatures with varying degrees of uncertainty, including soil
78 carbonates, speleothems, fracture veins, ostracods, trace element ratios in lacustrine sediments,
79 tree rings, leaf margin analysis, pollen, biomarkers, and noble gases in groundwater (Boch et al.,
80 2019; Esper et al., 2018; Gallagher & Sheldon, 2013; Kaufman et al., 2020; Meckler et al., 2021;
81 Powers et al., 2010; Stute & Schlosser, 2000; Wilf, 1997; Wrozyna et al., 2022), only the first
82 five types of proxies are carbonate-associated.

83 However, work has shown that multiply-substituted carbonate “clumped” isotope
84 thermometry presents a promising proxy for reconstructing temperature, based on the
85 thermodynamic exchange of isotopes between isotopologues of carbonate-containing groups
86 (Ghosh, Adkins, et al., 2006; Hill et al., 2014; Schauble et al., 2006; Tripathi et al., 2015) with
87 widespread applicability in paleoclimatic, paleohydrological, and paleoelevation contexts (e.g.
88 Csank et al., 2011; Eagle et al., 2013; Hren et al., 2013; Huntington et al., 2010, 2015;
89 Huntington & Lechler, 2015; Santi et al., 2020; Tripathi et al., 2010, 2014). Theoretical
90 calculations indicate that measurements of clumped isotopes can be used for paleothermometry
91 because at equilibrium, the abundance of the multiply-substituted isotopologue $^{13}\text{C}^{18}\text{O}^{16}\text{O}_2$ in

92 carbonates is related solely to the formation temperature of the mineral (Ghosh, Adkins, et al.,
 93 2006; Hill et al., 2014; Schauble et al., 2006; Tripathi et al., 2015), with cooler temperatures
 94 favoring enhanced “clumping” of heavy isotopes within the mineral lattice (e.g., the forward
 95 reaction in Equation 1).

96



98

99 We report the abundance of mass-47 CO₂ liberated from carbonate minerals digested in
 100 phosphoric acid (δ_{47}) compared to a randomized (stochastic) distribution of clumping in a
 101 sample. This excess of ¹³C¹⁸O¹⁶O is denoted as Δ_{47} in Equation 2, where $R^i = (\text{mass } i/\text{mass } 44)$:

102

$$103 \quad \Delta_{47} (\text{‰}) = [(R^{47}/(R^{47}_{\text{stochastic}}) - 1) - (R^{46}/(R^{46}_{\text{stochastic}}) - 1) - (R^{45}/(R^{45}_{\text{stochastic}}) - 1)] \times 1000 \quad (2)$$

104

105 An advantage of carbonate clumped isotope derived temperature estimates is that they are
 106 independent of the ¹⁸O/¹⁶O ratio ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$) of the precipitating fluid, as the relevant isotope
 107 exchange reaction (Equation 1) takes place within a single phase. Carbonate $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ratios are
 108 simultaneously measured during clumped isotope analysis and can be combined with
 109 temperature estimates obtained from Δ_{47} analysis to calculate $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values of water at the time of
 110 carbonate formation (Epstein et al., 1953; Urey, 1947; Vasconcelos et al., 2005).

111 Clumped isotopes have been previously used to constrain past lake and river water
 112 temperature (Cheng et al., 2022; Horton et al., 2016; Hudson et al., 2017; Huntington et al.,
 113 2010, 2015; Kele et al., 2015; H. Li et al., 2021; Petryshyn et al., 2015; L. M. Santi et al., 2020;
 114 Wang et al., 2021). The additional temperature constraint provided from Δ_{47} measurements
 115 allows for a calculation of the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ of meteoric waters, which can provide constraints on past
 116 hydrology. The Δ_{47} -temperature and Δ_{47} -derived water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ in freshwater carbonates and other
 117 types of terrestrial archives have in turn been used to evaluate process depiction in climate
 118 models (Cheng et al., 2022; Eagle, Risi, et al., 2013; L. M. Santi et al., 2020; Tripathi et al., 2014),
 119 constrain hydrologic parameters (L. M. Santi et al., 2020), and to constrain paleoaltimetry (e.g.,
 120 Ghosh, Garziona, et al., 2006; Huntington et al., 2010, 2015; Ingalls et al., 2017; L. Li et al.,
 121 2019).

122 However, the accuracy of these reconstructions is fundamentally underpinned by the
 123 calibration(s) used for calculations. The body of literature for clumped isotope measurements of
 124 modern lacustrine and riverine samples is limited. Only four studies have reported Δ_{47} -T
 125 calibrations (Anderson et al., 2021; Kato et al., 2019; Kele et al., 2015; H. Li et al., 2021), with
 126 three calibrations being solely derived from freshwater sediments (H. Li et al., 2021: n=33, Kele
 127 et al. 2015: n = 24, Kato et al. 2019: n=33). Most clumped isotope studies of freshwater
 128 carbonates have analyzed a small number of samples (Anderson et al., 2021; Grauel et al., 2016;
 129 Horton et al., 2016; Hudson et al., 2017; Huntington et al., 2010, 2015; Kato et al., 2019; Kele
 130 et al., 2015; H. Li et al., 2021; Petryshyn et al., 2015; L. M. Santi et al., 2020; Wang et al., 2021).
 131 Of these 11 studies reporting data for modern freshwater carbonates, five report new data for <5
 132 samples, while eight have data for <11 samples, and the remaining four have data consisting of
 133 25-33 samples. The smaller size of these prior datasets on clumped isotope compositions means

134 that the community has not been able to explore in detail the potential for material-specific
135 calibrations, possible influences of seasonal and temperature bias in carbonate formation, and
136 non-equilibrium kinetic or pH dependent effects which could differentially affect different types
137 of carbonates.

138 Recent work to constrain the Δ_{47} -temperature relationship has suggested that all
139 carbonates have the same temperature dependence (i.e., calibration slope), but the calibration
140 intercept may differ due to mineral-specific phosphoric acid fractionation factors (Müller et al.,
141 2019; van Dijk et al., 2019). Recent efforts have advanced practices and improved
142 interlaboratory consistency (Anderson et al., 2021; Bernasconi et al., 2021; Daëron et al., 2016;
143 Petersen et al., 2019; Upadhyay et al., 2021), and use of consistent approaches for
144 standardization and isotope ratio calculations have reduced many offsets (e.g., Petersen et al.,
145 2019). Petersen et al. (2019) reprocessed 14 calibration studies, encompassing synthetic and
146 natural carbonates, using updated parameter values for clumped isotope calculations and found
147 that use of the IUPAC parameters with identical data processing resulted in increased agreement
148 between calibration lines and a convergence of slopes within many of the individual studies.
149 From this synthesis, the authors proposed a ‘universal’, in which one calibration is derived and
150 applied for all carbonate types. However, it has been acknowledged that it is uncertain if only
151 one relationship exists, since despite improvements in data processing and standardization
152 procedures, differences are still observed (Petersen et al., 2019). Recently, the “InterCarb”
153 project defined new, community-based standard values for carbonate clumped isotope
154 standardization, as well as proposed a new reference frame (I-CDES), which has been shown to
155 help resolve inter-laboratory differences (Bernasconi et al., 2021). The application of carbonate
156 standardization and newly defined carbonate standard values, in concert with developments in
157 data handling procedures (Daëron, 2021), to reprocessed data from four older calibration studies
158 has been shown to help resolve the disagreement between their derived calibration lines
159 (Anderson et al., 2021).

160 A few studies have suggested statistically significant differences between calibrations
161 using different types of carbonates (Davies & John, 2019; Eagle, Eiler, et al., 2013; Henkes et
162 al., 2013; Kele et al., 2015; Kimball et al., 2016; Müller et al., 2019). Factors such as seasonality
163 of carbonate growth, the ecology of shell forming organisms, and kinetic isotope effects relating
164 to different processes in mineral formation have been shown to broadly influence empirical
165 relationships between Δ_{47} measurements and environmental parameters, including in corals (eg.
166 Ghosh, Adkins, et al., 2006; Kimball et al., 2016; Saenger et al., 2012; Spooner et al., 2016),
167 echinoids (Davies & John, 2019), terrestrial gastropods (eg. Dong et al., 2021; Eagle, Eiler, et al.,
168 2013; Zaarur et al., 2013), as well as synthetic carbonates (eg. Tang et al., 2014; Tripathi et al.,
169 2015), with studies of slow growing cave carbonates indicating that many if not most carbonates
170 could express a degree of kinetic isotope effect (Daëron et al., 2019; Kluge et al., 2014; Tripathi et
171 al., 2015).

172 In this work, we discuss clumped isotope data from 135 samples collected from 96 sites
173 in modern lakes, rivers, and springs. At present, due to limited freshwater calibration data, it is
174 unresolved whether the differences in calibration relationships between different types of
175 freshwater carbonate materials exist, and whether synthetically-derived regression parameters are
176 appropriate to use in freshwater samples that are field-collected. The recently published
177 syntheses from Petersen et al. (2019) had no freshwater carbonates, and Anderson et al. (2021)
178 had 16 carbonates (tufas and travertines) of which 7 were between $T < 10$ °C, and 6 were $T > 30$

179 °C. This study augments the literature with 159 new clumped isotope measurements for 25 sites,
180 and additionally incorporates measurements from published datasets, including samples from 59
181 sites that have been recalculated on the new reference frame (Bernasconi et al., 2021). It includes
182 pairs of measurements from 12 sites that have been recently reanalyzed (Anderson et al., 2021)
183 and are recalculated on the new reference frame.

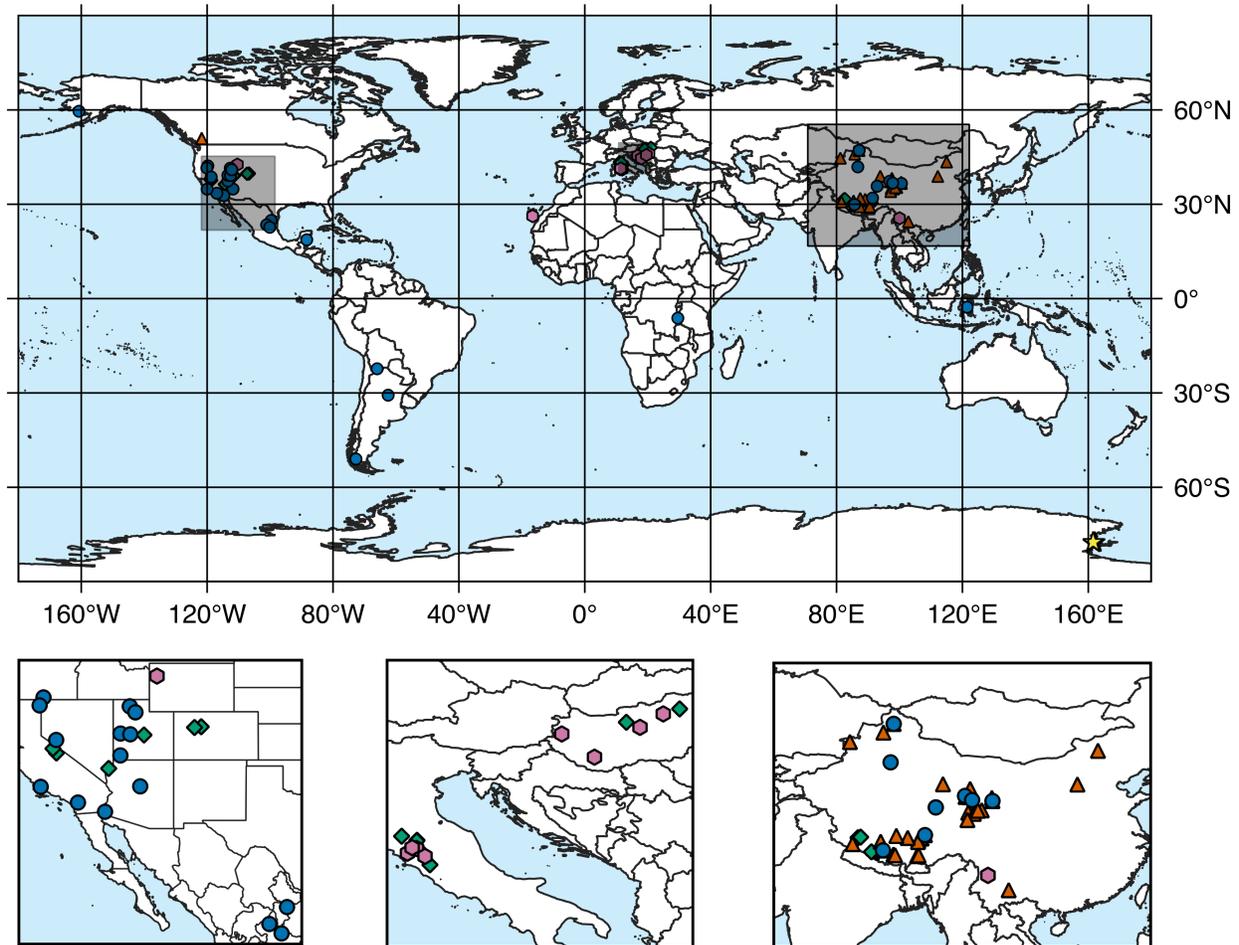
184 This dataset allows us to investigate clumped isotope signatures in travertines, micrites,
185 biotic (freshwater mollusks), and biologically mediated (tufas and microbialites) phases of
186 freshwater carbonate in order to provide a foundation for intercomparison and calibration of
187 carbonate clumped isotope results from freshwater systems. Sample localities within this study
188 are geographically diverse, and include equatorial, mid-latitude, and polar sites at a variety of
189 elevations and climates. We evaluate the seasonality of carbonate formation, and present a
190 composite freshwater calibration and material-specific calibrations. We assess the potential of
191 this proxy to robustly reconstruct water temperature and source water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ in both modern and
192 past contexts.

193 **2 Materials and Methods**

194 2.1 Sample and site selection

195 Samples included in this study are from modern lakes (including playas), rivers, and
196 springs, from geographically and climatically diverse settings (Figure 1; Table 1). Carbonate
197 materials included in this dataset were selected to represent modern lacustrine surface-water
198 conditions. For lakes, biogenic and biologically-mediated samples selected for analysis are types
199 that grow nearshore, or occupy the photic zone above the thermocline; we also selected
200 endogenic carbonate because formation occurs in surface waters, where evaporation and
201 photosynthesis have the strongest effect on water chemistry (Gierlowski-Kordesch, 2010; Hren
202 & Sheldon, 2012; Platt & Wright, 2009).

203 For this work, we only included localities where modern surface water temperatures have
204 been measured (Supplementary Table 1). For sites where multiple years of hydrographic data are
205 available, we report temperature variability of one standard deviation of the monthly average
206 temperatures during the typical season of carbonate formation for each type of carbonate (see
207 Section 3.1). In sites where the average modern water temperature during the interval of
208 carbonate growth was limited to data from a short time interval (i.e., less than one year), given
209 that there is year-to-year variability in temperatures, we report a temperature uncertainty of two
210 standard deviations of the available measurements. Some sites within our study are less studied,
211 and if there was limited temperature information for the water body, such as a ‘summer’ average,
212 or the site has a measured temperature value but uncertainty was not reported, we use the
213 average standard deviation for well constrained sample sites in our study ($\pm 2^\circ\text{C}$).



214

215 **Figure 1: Sample locations used for this study.** We discuss clumped isotope data from 135
 216 samples collected from 96 sites in modern lakes, rivers, and springs. Blue circles indicate
 217 location of samples with new data from the Eagle-Tripati lab ($n = 25$; 159 measurements),
 218 orange triangles indicate data measured in the Eagle-Tripati lab that has been published and was
 219 recalculated onto the I-CDES reference frame for this study ($n = 30$), green diamonds indicate
 220 data from other labs that were recalculated onto the I-CDES reference frame as part of this study
 221 ($n = 29$), pink hexagons denotes sites where samples were analyzed twice, with one set of
 222 measurements being recalculated and the other taken directly from published data ($n = 12$),
 223 yellow stars represent data directly taken from other publications ($n = 3$).

Sample name	Latitude	Longitude	MAAT (°C)	Water temperature (°C)	1 s.d. (°C)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰, VPDB)	$\delta^{18}\text{O}$ (‰, VPDB)	Δ_{47} (‰, I-CDES)	1 s.e.	Data source
Bivalves										
Red Rock	34.8	-111.8	15.3	16.4	1.0	-10.0	-12.0	0.617	0.012	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Colorado River	32.7	-114.7	21.9	20.8	1.3	-9.1	-13.0	0.604	0.016	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Vail Lake	33.5	-117.0	12.3	24.5	1.5	-6.6	-1.1	0.589	0.014	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Wulungu Lake	47.1	87.2	7.0	21.7	2.5	-3.6	-4.3	0.611	0.002	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Gastropods										
Santa Clara River	37.4	-113.5	15.3	13	3.1	-7.1	-14.0	0.619	0.010	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Painter Spring	39.2	-113.4	11.8	12.5	3.1	-10.2	-13.2	0.627	0.007	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Lake Warner	42.2	-119.8	8.3	20	2.0	-10.6	-8.9	0.596	0.006	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Clear Lake	39.1	-112.6	10.4	15	3.0	-7.0	-14.2	0.616	0.002	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Lake Tanganyika	-6.2	29.6	22.3	26.9	2.0	-0.4	1.9	0.581	0.007	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Lake Towuti	-2.8	121.5	23.6	29	1.0	-7.6	-7.2	0.573	0.003	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Nimgun Lake	59.6	-160.8	-1.3	8	3.1	-6.1	-12.2	0.641	0.004	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Fuxian Lake	24.4	102.9	17.3	17.9	3.8	-2.2	-3.5	0.608	0.004	Eagle-Tripati lab ^a
Lake Manasarovar	30.7	81.6	4.0	12.8	2.0	-3.8	-3.3	0.638	0.009	Eagle-Tripati lab ^a
Yamdruk Yumco	29.1	90.4	5.0	11.9	1.5	-6.2	-11.2	0.643	0.010	Eagle-Tripati lab ^a
Yamdruk Yumco	29.2	90.6	5.0	7	1.5	-0.4	-4.5	0.643	0.006	Eagle-Tripati lab ^a
Tso Nag	31.6	82.3	-1.3	12.8	2.0	-2.6	-5.7	0.621	0.010	Eiler lab ^b
Tsangpo	29.6	84.9	-2.4	12.8	2.0	-4.1	-15.9	0.621	0.010	Eiler lab ^b
Zhongba	29.7	84.2	-2.6	12.8	2.0	-5.3	-13.5	0.629	0.011	Eiler lab ^b
Bosten Lake	41.9	86.8	9.5	22.9	2.5	-3.9	-2.4	0.611	0.008	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Cuona Lake	32.0	91.5	-1.1	15.7	2.5	-1.1	-7.1	0.629	0.009	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Dajia Co	29.9	85.7	-2.9	9.8	2.5	0.0	-4.5	0.627	0.005	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Jinzihai Lake	36.7	97.9	4.3	17.4	2.5	-10.5	-8.0	0.596	0.005	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Wulungu Lake	47.1	87.2	7.0	21.7	2.5	-2.3	-3.1	0.613	0.010	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Micrite										
Laguna Pozuelos	-22.4	-66.0	8.6	14.6	2.0	-7.4	0.4	0.625	0.012	Eiler lab (this study)
Mar Chiquita	-30.8	-62.5	18.4	29	2.0	-3.2	-1.1	0.611	0.004	Eiler lab (this study)
El Potosi	24.8	-99.7	21.8	23.6	3.1	-5.3	-7.7	0.599	0.002	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Kusai	35.7	92.9	-4.4	10.5	2.0	3.1	-0.4	0.642	0.003	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Laguna La Salada	23.4	-101.1	14.9	23	3.1	3.3	0.0	0.616	0.001	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Laguna Las Cruces	22.7	-100.1	20.9	19	3.1	-0.7	-4.0	0.625	0.002	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Zaca Lake	34.8	-120.0	13.3	25	2.0	1.5	-1.6	0.598	0.005	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Pipahai Lake	38.9	112.2	4.1	19.3	2.6	1.7	-2.5	0.627	0.015	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Chagan Lake	43.4	115.0	1.9	24	2.6	-2.4	-4.8	0.624	0.010	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Gahai Lake	37.0	100.6	1.3	15.8	2.5	2.2	2.0	0.637	0.004	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c

Qinghai Lake	36.6	100.7	1.9	19.3	2.6	2.9	2.3	0.652	0.007	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Kuhai Lake	35.3	99.2	-5.1	12.5	2.5	2.1	1.4	0.682	0.001	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Eling Lake	35.0	97.7	-4.3	14	2.6	-1.0	-4.3	0.655	0.006	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Zhaling Lake	35.0	97.4	-5.9	16.9	2.6	0.5	-2.7	0.611	0.001	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Xingxinghai Lake	34.9	98.1	-2.7	15.7	2.6	-0.1	-4.4	0.620	0.012	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Koucha Lake	34.0	97.2	-5.3	12.5	2.5	4.6	-5.1	0.638	0.003	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Donggi Cona Lake	35.3	98.7	-1.7	11.3	2.5	1.7	-4.7	0.637	0.013	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Gahai Lake2	37.1	97.6	5.4	18.3	2.5	1.6	0.0	0.605	0.011	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Tuosu Lake	37.2	97.0	5.0	17.7	2.5	1.5	-1.3	0.616	0.013	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Hala Lake	38.2	97.6	-4.1	14	2.6	3.9	1.0	0.657	0.008	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Cuona Lake	32.0	91.5	-1.1	15.7	2.6	2.2	-9.5	0.643	0.004	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Pung Co	31.5	91.0	0.4	15.7	2.6	4.8	-4.1	0.664	0.003	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Jiang Co	31.5	90.8	0.4	13.1	2.5	3.2	-5.6	0.659	0.006	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Bam Co	31.2	90.5	-1.7	12	2.5	3.2	-6.2	0.643	0.014	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Shen Co	31.0	90.5	-1.7	12.2	2.6	3.9	-5.8	0.656	0.004	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Selin Co	31.6	89.1	1.7	12.2	2.6	5.0	-3.5	0.651	0.016	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Dagze Co	31.8	87.6	1.0	12.2	2.6	2.0	-8.6	0.653	0.009	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Zharinanmu Co	31.1	85.4	0.2	14.5	2.6	4.4	-6.6	0.645	0.015	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Dajia Co	29.9	85.7	-2.9	9.8	2.6	3.9	-7.4	0.652	0.007	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Angrenjin Co	29.3	87.2	2.3	15.7	2.6	0.6	-7.4	0.634	0.020	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Lang Co	29.2	87.4	2.3	15.3	2.5	2.9	-5.5	0.634	0.016	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Sailimu Lake	44.6	81.2	-1.5	18.7	2.6	2.7	-1.5	0.641	0.009	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Ailike Lake	45.9	85.8	7.2	25.6	2.5	-3.1	-6.7	0.596	0.009	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Wulungu Lake	47.1	87.2	7.0	21.7	2.6	0.8	-5.1	0.605	0.003	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Sugan Lake	38.9	93.9	0.4	15.7	2.6	0.8	4.4	0.645	0.005	Eagle-Tripati lab ^c
Blue Eagle Lake	39.8	-106.8	5.4	15.6	3.1	-4.4	-14.0	0.663	0.014	Eiler lab ^d
Emerald Lake	39.1	-111.5	5.4	12.5	3.1	-0.3	-11.4	0.663	0.011	Eiler lab ^d
South Grizzly Lake	39.7	-107.3	2.5	11.6	3.1	-3.2	-14.1	0.675	0.021	Eiler lab ^d
Microbialites										
Laguna Bacalar	18.7	-88.4	27.0	29	2.0	-1.8	-6.0	0.585	0.009	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Lago Sarmiento	-51.1	-72.7	6.5	12.2	2.0	4.9	-1.3	0.633	0.016	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
South Arm, Great Salt Lake	41.0	-112.2	8.5	26.1	2.0	3.6	-4.9	0.600	0.003	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
North Arm, Great Salt Lake	41.4	-112.7	11.0	27.7	2.0	4.6	-4.8	0.605	0.006	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Kelly Lake	51.0	-121.8	3.5	17	2.0	-2.5	-16.5	0.636	0.006	Eiler lab ^c
Pavillion Lake	50.9	-121.7	3.5	19	2.0	0.6	-11.3	0.630	0.007	Eiler lab ^c
Ooids										
South Arm, Great Salt Lake	41.4	-112.7	8.5	27.7	2.0	4.0	-4.4	0.599	0.006	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
North Arm, Great Salt Lake	41.0	-112.2	11.0	26.1	2.0	4.3	-4.2	0.603	0.006	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)

Tufas

Lake Surprise	41.5	-120.1	5.6	19	3.8	3.6	-2.7	0.630	0.005	Eagle-Tripati lab ^f
Walker Lake	38.7	-118.8	13.0	24.1	4.2	0.4	-2.8	0.602	0.003	Eagle-Tripati lab (this study)
Cannatoppa*	43.3	11.6	14.4	11	2.0	-4.0	-5.4	0.653	0.006	Bernasconi lab ^g
						-4.1	-5.4	0.628	0.013	Bergmann lab
La Pigna*	43.1	11.3	14.4	12.5	2.0	-11.3	-5.7	0.643	0.008	Bernasconi lab ^g
						-11.4	-5.5	0.621	0.012	Bergmann lab
Sarteano*	43.0	11.9	14.2	20.7	2.0	0.6	-7.4	0.609	0.006	Bernasconi lab ^g
						0.4	-7.3	0.594	0.012	Bergmann lab
Szalajka	48.1	20.4	9.5	12.1	2.0	-9.4	-9.3	0.666	0.007	Bernasconi lab ^g
Szalajka*	48.1	20.4	9.5	11	2.0	-10.2	-8.5	0.642	0.007	Bernasconi lab ^g
						-10.3	-8.3	0.654	0.012	Bergmann lab
Szalajka	48.1	20.4	9.5	10.1	2.0	-9.9	-8.7	0.664	0.006	Bernasconi lab ^g
Kailas	31.7	82.7	-1.2	15	2.0	1.8	-5.2	0.596	0.006	Eiler lab ^h
Lake Crowley	37.6	-118.7	8.4	18.5	3.0	-1.2	-14.9	0.638	0.019	Eiler lab ^d
Lake Mead	36.3	-114.4	17.7	28.2	3.0	-8.9	-8.9	0.622	0.000	Eiler lab ^d
Mono Lake	37.9	-119.0	8.4	19.4	3.0	6.9	-2.2	0.607	0.002	Eiler lab ^d

Travertines

Aqua Borra*	43.3	11.4	14.4	36.1	2.0	2.3	-8.1	0.565	0.012	Bernasconi lab ^g
						1.7	8.4	0.577	0.011	Bergmann lab
Bagnoli	43.4	11.1	14.8	23.7	2.0	5.5	-7.6	0.591	0.008	Bernasconi lab ^g
BSF Fosso Bianco	42.9	11.7	14.4	44.6	2.0	7.4	-9.9	0.542	0.006	Bernasconi lab ^g
Bük*	47.4	16.8	10.6	54.9	2.0	2.2	-15.1	0.530	0.008	Bernasconi lab ^g
						2.2	-15.0	0.541	0.012	Bergmann lab
Madre del Agua*	28.2	-16.6	-	33.8	2.0	0.2	-10.3	0.566	0.010	Bernasconi lab ^g
						0.1	-10.2	0.584	0.013	Bergmann lab
Igal*	46.5	17.9	10.7	75.0	2.0	0.7	-13.6	0.469	0.007	Bernasconi lab ^g
						0.6	-13.5	0.475	0.011	Bergmann lab
Köröm	48.0	21.0	10.2	79.2	2.0	3.6	-22.0	0.461	0.006	Bernasconi lab ^g
Baishuitai - summer*	27.5	100.0	7.2	12.0	2.0	5.5	-14.3	0.637	0.006	Bernasconi lab ^g
						5.4	-14.3	0.633	0.012	Bergmann lab
Baishuitai - winter*	27.5	100.0	7.2	5.0	2.0	5.2	-12.8	0.637	0.008	Bernasconi lab ^g
						5.1	-12.7	0.635	0.011	Bergmann lab
Piscine Carletti	42.4	12.1	14.5	57.9	2.0	7.3	-12.4	0.511	0.007	Bernasconi lab ^g
Rapolano Terme	43.3	11.6	14.4	28.0	2.0	3.8	-7.5	0.574	0.009	Bernasconi lab ^g
Szèchenyi Spa	47.5	19.1	11.0	70.9	2.0	2.9	-20.5	0.473	0.008	Bernasconi lab ^g
Terme Sangiovesi	43.3	11.6	14.4	41.2	2.0	2.6	-8.9	0.580	0.006	Bernasconi lab ^g
Tura*	47.6	19.6	9.9	95.0	2.0	3.7	-23.3	0.416	0.011	Bernasconi lab ^g
						3.7	-23.2	0.409	0.012	Bergmann lab
Narrow Gauge, Yellowstone*	44.6	-110.4	0.0	60.4	2.0	3.8	-24.5	0.504	0.006	Bernasconi lab ^g

224

225 **Table 1: Site information and stable and clumped isotope results for freshwater carbonates**
226 **used in this study.** Mean annual air temperatures (MAAT) are averages of the long-term
227 monthly means from each of our sites from 1981-2010, using the University of Delaware's high
228 resolution gridded air temperature dataset (Willmott & Matsuura, 2001) provided by NOAA
229 (https://psl.noaa.gov/data/gridded/data.UDel_AirT_Precip.html). Samples from Eiler Lab at
230 Caltech were processed in the CDES reference frame and projected into I-CDES following the
231 methodology described in Bernasconi et al. (2021).

232 *Data from the Bernasconi Lab at ETH was recalculated using the methodology described in
233 Bernasconi et al. (2021) and data from the Bergmann Lab at MIT was taken from Anderson et al.
234 (2021).

235 ^a Recalculated from Wang et al. (2021)

236 ^b Recalculated from Huntington et al. (2015)

237 ^c Recalculated from Li et al. (2021)

238 ^d Recalculated from Huntington et al. (2010)

239 ^e Recalculated from Petryshyn et al. (2015)

240 ^f Recalculated from Santi et al. (2020)

241 ^g Recalculated from Bernasconi et al. (2018)

242 2.2 Sample Preparation

243 2.2.1 Biologic carbonates

244 Aquatic gastropod and bivalve shells were first separated by taxon. Organic material was
245 removed from shells by scraping and sonicating in Milli-Q deionized water until clean. Samples
246 were dried overnight at 50°C, and complete shells were powdered using a mortar and pestle, and
247 reacted with 3% hydrogen peroxide for 60 minutes (Eagle, Eiler, et al., 2013) to remove any
248 remaining organic material. Depending on carbonate content of the gastropod and bivalve shells
249 and instrument sensitivity at the time of analysis, samples were weighed out for mass
250 spectrometric analysis, typically in amounts varying between 5 and 10 mg for a single replicate.

251 2.2.2 Fine grained carbonates

252 Samples of unconsolidated calcareous particles, assumed to be micrite, were
253 disaggregated in Milli-Q deionized water, after which the mixture was poured through a 212 µm
254 steel mesh filter and left to settle in a beaker for 10 minutes. The residue was poured into a
255 second beaker after filtration to remove any remaining suspended material, and this process was
256 repeated until virtually no observable settling occurred. The final residue was treated with 3%
257 hydrogen peroxide for 60 minutes to remove any remaining organic material (Eagle, Eiler, et al.,
258 2013). Resulting micrite was collected on a 0.45 µm cellulose nitrate filter membrane and dried
259 at 50°C. Depending on carbonate content and instrument sensitivity, the amount of sample
260 utilized for mass spectrometry varied between 10 and 30 mg for a single replicate.

261 2.2.3 Biologically mediated carbonates

262 Tufas and microbialites were cut perpendicular to laminae, and polished slabs and thin
263 sections were prepared in order to target specific zones for analysis. Samples were ground into a
264 fine powder using a microdrill. To prevent potential bond reordering due to frictional heating, the
265 drilling during this process was limited in duration and speed (rpm). Samples were reacted with
266 3% hydrogen peroxide for 60 minutes to ensure removal of any organics and dried overnight at
267 50°C (Eagle, Eiler, et al., 2013). Drilled samples were weighed out in 5 to 15 mg aliquots for
268 mass spectrometry depending on the carbonate content of the sample and instrument sensitivity
269 at time of analysis.

270 2.3 Stable Isotope Measurements

271 All samples were run at the University of California, Los Angeles on a Thermo 253 Gas
272 Source isotope ratio mass spectrometer in the Eagle-Tripati Laboratory from 2012-2019,
273 primarily between 2013 and 2015. Methods are described in detail in Upadhyay et al. (2021).
274 Briefly, carbonate samples were first reacted with 105% phosphoric acid for 20 minutes on a
275 90°C online common phosphoric acid bath system, whereby solid carbonate reacts to produce
276 CO₂ gas for analysis. Acid temperature was monitored with a thermocouple throughout each
277 analysis and checked daily for drift. Each sample gas was cryogenically purified using an
278 automated purification system that was modeled on the previously described system at the
279 California Institute of Technology (Passey et al., 2010). The liberated gas from each sample
280 passed through two separate gas traps to ensure the removal of water and other compounds: the
281 first (containing ethanol) is kept at -76°C by dry ice, and the second (containing liquid nitrogen)
282 is kept at -196°C. After sample gas undergoes cryogenic purification, the sample gas is passed

283 through silver wool to remove sulfur compounds (e.g. halocarbons and hydrocarbons; Spencer
284 & Kim, 2015) and remaining trace contaminants were separated by moving the resultant gas
285 through a Thermo Trace GC Ultra gas chromatograph column, which is filled with a divinyl
286 benzene polymer trap, Porapak Q at -20°C (L. M. Santi et al., 2020; Tripathi et al., 2015). The
287 purified sample gas was passed on to the mass spectrometer for analysis.

288 Data was collected over nine acquisitions consisting of 10 cycles each to determine $\delta^{13}\text{C}$,
289 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, Δ_{47} , Δ_{48} , and Δ_{49} . During each acquisition on the mass spectrometer, sample isotope values
290 were measured relative to high purity Oztech brand CO_2 reference gas ($\delta^{18}\text{O} = 25.03\text{‰}$
291 VSMOW, $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -3.60\text{‰}$ VPDB). Equilibrated CO_2 gas standards and carbonate standards were
292 typically run every 3-4 analyses and used for standardization. Averages for our standard values
293 can be found in Supplementary Table 2.

294 2.4 Data handling

295 Table 1 reports isotopic data for samples used within this study. Data processing is
296 detailed in Upadhyay et al., 2021. Data are reported on the I-CDES scale which projects values
297 into a 90°C reference frame. Acid digestion fractionation factors used for calcite and aragonite
298 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ are reported in Swart et al. (1991) and Kim et al. (2007), respectively; for calculations of
299 water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, we use the equations of Kim and O'Neil, (1997) for calcite and Kim et al. (2007), for
300 aragonite. For samples measured in the Eagle-Tripathi Lab, raw mass spectrometer data was
301 processed using *Easotope* (Daëron et al., 2016; John & Bowen, 2016). Data is included in the
302 supplement. We excluded replicates if results were consistent with high organic content, as
303 indicated by anomalous Δ_{48} or Δ_{49} for a given correction interval, with samples having values
304 that are more than 3 sigma from the standards being flagged for possible exclusion (Upadhyay et
305 al., 2021). We also exclude replicates with anomalous values of Δ_{47} (I-CDES), $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (VPDB) and
306 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ (VPDB), of more than 3σ from the remaining replicates, which can reflect incomplete
307 digestion or contamination (Tripathi et al., 2015). We performed at least three replicate analyses
308 of each sample unless the amount of material available limited the number of analyses; if less
309 than three replicates were run for a sample, we propagated both the internal reproducibility of the
310 sample and the average external reproducibility of the samples in this study to determine the
311 uncertainty of the reported value.

312 Data from published studies (Anderson et al., 2021; Bernasconi et al., 2018; Huntington
313 et al., 2010, 2015; H. Li et al., 2021; Petryshyn et al., 2015; Wang et al., 2021), were reprocessed
314 using current data handling procedures and projected into the I-CDES reference frame, following
315 methods described in Upadhyay et al. (2021) and Bernasconi et al. (2021). Mean sample values
316 are in Table 1, and the replicate level recalculated values can be found in the Supplementary
317 Material. We included modern authigenic carbonate samples from H. Li et al. (2021) that were
318 previously run in the Eagle-Tripathi Lab, with identical data processing. For samples and
319 locations described in Li et al. (2021), we propagated the standard error of the regression used to
320 constrain water temperatures and the temperature error reported in the original publication in
321 quadrature to estimate error for lake temperature values. Modern gastropod samples from Wang
322 et al. (2021), which were also run in the Eagle-Tripathi Lab, were reprocessed with the Brand
323 parameter set for inclusion in this work. Data from Huntington et al. (2010), Huntington et al.
324 (2015), and Petryshyn et al. (2015) measured in the Eiler Lab at Caltech was reprocessed using
325 *Easotope* (John & Bowen, 2016), and standard values for these analyses are reported in
326 Supplementary Table 2. Tufas from Kele et al. (2015) run in the Bernasconi Lab at ETH Zürich

327 were previously recalculated with the Brand parameter set by Bernasconi et al. (2018), and
328 additional replicates were recently measured for the calibration in Anderson et al. (2021), thus,
329 we include both sets of measurements on identical samples from both studies. These data
330 presented in Bernasconi et al. (2018) are projected into the I-CDES reference frame using the
331 methodology and new ETH values presented in Bernasconi et al. (2021). Methodology for
332 clumped isotope analysis for these datasets can be found in the publication that initially reported
333 the data. Comparisons to previously published calibration equations are also shown, with data
334 brought into the 90°C reference frame here using AFF values reported in Petersen et al. (2019).

335 2.5 Regression Methodology

336 Recent work has shown that models derived using ordinary least squares (OLS) perform
337 better than their error-in-variables counterparts (e.g. York regression, Deming regression), with
338 higher accuracy and precision for regression parameters, and perform similarly to Bayesian tools
339 for both calibration of clumped isotopes and for temperature reconstruction (Román Palacios et
340 al., 2021). In this study, we evaluate the relationship between Δ_{47} and growth temperature using
341 Ordinary Least Square regression models fit in the `lm` R function in the stats package (R Core
342 Team, 2022). To evaluate material specificity within our dataset and compare our derived
343 regression parameters to other studies, we utilize an ANCOVA. Specifically, we evaluate
344 pairwise differences in slopes and intercepts between groups of data. We compare our composite
345 calibration along with our material-specific calibrations to four additional studies: a recently
346 published calibration that includes natural and synthetic samples (Anderson et al., 2021), a
347 ‘universal’ calibration created from a synthesis of clumped isotope calibration studies (Petersen
348 et al., 2019), a calibration derived from authigenic lacustrine carbonates (H. Li et al., 2021), and
349 a recalculated travertine calibration (Bernasconi et al., 2018). All data are either in I-CDES or
350 projected to CDES₉₀ using AFF values in Petersen et al. (2019).

351 3 Results and Discussion

352 3.1 Seasonality of freshwater carbonate formation

353 Carbonates precipitate in many lakes and can form in various freshwater environments
354 with the extent and depth of carbonate deposition determined by seasonal changes in water
355 chemistry, as well as water depth, slope gradient, and circulation within the basin (Gierlowski-
356 Kordesch, 2010; Platt & Wright, 2009). Carbonates that form at the lake margin include ooids,
357 beach rock, shelly accumulations of gastropods and bivalves, microbialites, and tufa, while deep-
358 water deposits are comprised largely of carbonate muds and grains (such as ostracods) that
359 accumulate below the storm wave base (Platt & Wright, 2009). In most cases, carbonate
360 accumulation is controlled by seasonal changes in saturation (Anadón et al., 2009; Hren &
361 Sheldon, 2012; Kelts & Hsü, 1978; Street-Perrott & Harrison, 2013).

362 Therefore, we aim to use data for samples within our study to evaluate the accuracy of
363 reconstructing the seasonality of formation for different carbonate types. We use the recently-
364 derived calibration from Anderson et al. (2021) that uses a combination of both synthetic and
365 field-collected samples to estimate formation temperature (in this case, lake water temperature
366 for lacustrine samples) using the clumped isotope results presented in this study. These estimates
367 were then compared to predicted values of lake water temperatures for each location using the
368 seasonal lake surface water temperature to mean annual air temperature (MAAT) transfer
369 functions from Hren and Sheldon (2012) and warmest month lake surface water-to-air transfer

370 function from Mering (2015). Riverine and spring samples were excluded from this analysis.
371 MAAT estimates used within these transfer functions are averages of the long-term monthly
372 means from each of our sites from 1981-2010, using the University of Delaware's high
373 resolution gridded air temperature dataset (Willmott & Matsuura, 2001) provided by NOAA. The
374 analysis described below suggests that application of the calibration published by Anderson et al.
375 (2021) to modern freshwater carbonates can, in some cases, yield inaccurate temperatures, given
376 what is known about the seasonality of growth for different carbonate types.

377 Figure 2a shows our derived estimates of seasonal lake temperature using the
378 methodology described above for biogenic carbonates. Biogenic taxa precipitate the majority of
379 shell material during a well-defined "growing" season, typically initiating shell calcification
380 during the spring, as long as food availability and water temperature exceed a species-specific
381 threshold value (Gierlowski-Kordesch, 2010; Hren & Sheldon, 2012; Platt & Wright, 2009;
382 Versteegh et al., 2010; Wilbur & Watabe, 1963). Prior research has shown that in the Northern
383 Hemisphere, the April-October interval has been shown to encompass a majority of shell growth
384 for freshwater mollusks (Apolinarska et al., 2015; Versteegh et al., 2010). However, most
385 individual species have a restricted range of water temperatures that they can tolerate and that
386 allows shell formation, thus, it is likely that calcification occurs within a narrower interval
387 sometime between spring and early summer, when water temperatures fall within the species-
388 specific temperature range (Hren & Sheldon, 2012; Versteegh et al., 2010).

389 When applying the calibration of Anderson et al. (2021), our Δ_{47} -derived temperatures
390 suggest that 37% of our biogenic samples reflect only warmest month water temperatures,
391 implying a relatively narrow window of precipitation for shell precipitation (Fig. 2A). Although
392 water temperature is the primary factor that controls carbonate growth in biotic carbonates, shell
393 formation can be influenced by other environmental factors, such as food availability and
394 primary productivity (Dunca & Mutvei, 2001). Therefore, utilizing a calibration based on both
395 synthetic and natural samples may not capture the appropriate seasonality for freshwater
396 mollusks. Specifically, the Anderson et al. (2021) calibration, when applied to biogenic taxa such
397 as gastropods, may overestimate the water temperature in which the organisms formed,
398 particularly at higher latitudes.

399 Temperature reconstructions from endogenic carbonate precipitation are typically biased
400 towards the warmest period of the year, when carbonate precipitation is enhanced due to
401 evaporation increasing carbonate saturation and photosynthetic uptake lowering $p\text{CO}_2$, thereby
402 increasing water pH (Hren & Sheldon, 2012; Oviatt et al., 1994; Platt & Wright, 2009). In the
403 subtropical and polar Northern Hemisphere this corresponds to June – August, while tropical
404 lakes have less variability in lake temperature resulting from decreased seasonality. Although
405 tropical lakes experience decreased seasonality, seasonal changes in rainfall and evaporation
406 within tropical lakes can also play a role in influencing carbonate saturation state.

407 The Δ_{47} -temperature calculated using Anderson et al. (2021) for lower latitude micrite
408 samples imply that early Spring (April - June) is the dominant interval for carbonate precipitation
409 for 35% of the samples, instead of intervals of the most elevated temperatures (Fig. 2b).
410 Estimated temperatures for higher latitudes shows carbonate precipitation mainly occurs during
411 the estimated warmest month, and in some occasions Δ_{47} -temperatures exceed the mean warmest
412 month water temperature value. This could imply that precipitation of endogenic carbonate may
413 be elevated in these settings during short intervals of intense heat and evaporation or indicate that
414 the calibration of Anderson et al. (2021) does not work perfectly for all freshwater carbonates. In

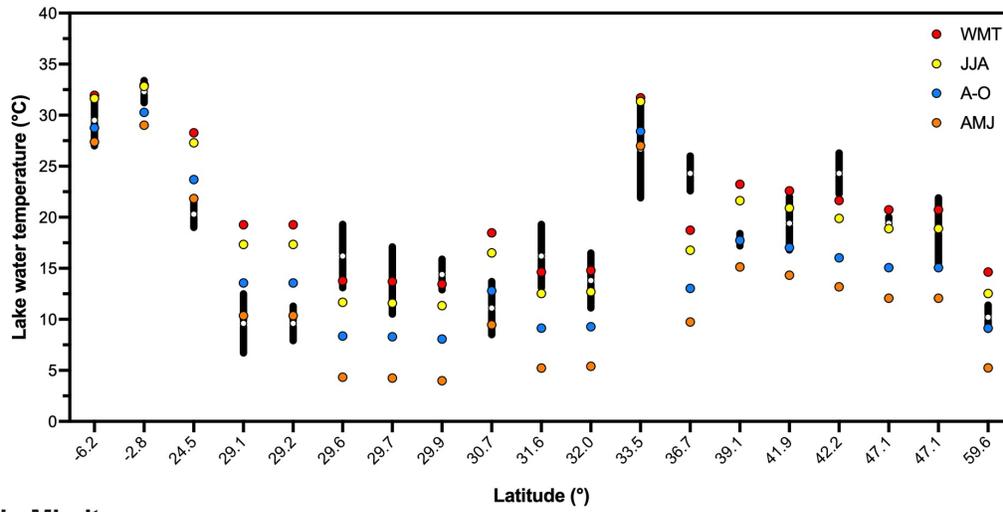
415 total, these observations indicate that the calibration of Anderson et al. (2021) yields
416 temperatures that are broadly consistent with known freshwater carbonate growth seasons and
417 systematics within mid-to-high latitudes, but underestimates lake water temperature in some
418 cases and may not reflect what is known about season of growth in approximately half of the
419 lakes examined here.

420 Biologically-mediated carbonates, including tufas and microbialites, precipitate as a
421 result of local changes in water conditions and biological productivity (Capezzuoli et al., 2014).
422 These carbonates are formed by both abiogenic and biogenic processes, with algae and other
423 aquatic plants influencing their precipitation on organic and inorganic substrates (Capezzuoli et
424 al., 2014; Flügel, 2004). Microbial activity within carbonates can increase rates of
425 photosynthesis, thereby lowering $p\text{CO}_2$ and increasing carbonate saturation state making
426 carbonate mineral precipitation more favorable (Pacton et al., 2015; Platt & Wright, 2009; Solari
427 et al., 2010). Additionally, microbial biomass provides a negatively charged surface to which
428 ions may adhere, which locally increases calcium concentration and promotes the supersaturation
429 of carbonates (Fein, 2017). These conditions are enhanced during the warmest interval of the
430 year, when evaporation also plays a role in increasing carbonate saturation, eventually inducing
431 precipitation of shoreline carbonates. Recent field studies of modern tufas and microbialites have
432 shown elevated growth rates during warmer water temperature conditions (Brady et al., 2014;
433 Marić et al., 2020; Pedley, 1990).

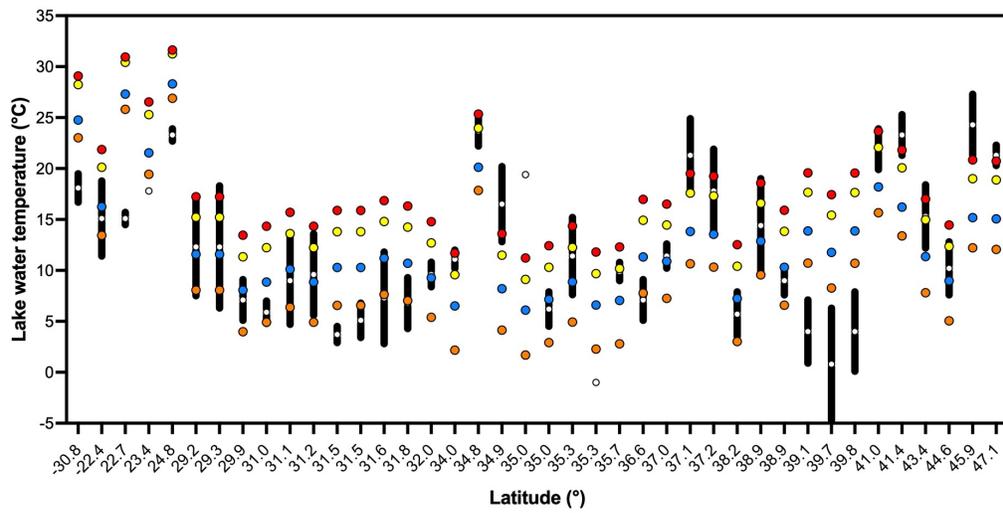
434 Reconstructions of water temperature from biologically-mediated carbonates from this
435 study derived using the calibration of Anderson et al. (2021) (Figure 2c) seem to exceed
436 predictions, with four samples matching or exceeding warmest month water temperatures. Prior
437 work analyzing Δ_{47} in modern tufas in Japan has shown that tufas are able to discern seasonal
438 changes in water temperature (Kato et al., 2019). Given that these carbonates are continuously
439 calcifying (although precipitation amount is dependent on season), it is unlikely that precipitation
440 solely occurred during the warmest water temperature intervals and that Δ_{47} -derived
441 temperatures should be reflecting a maximum. Therefore, the application of the Anderson et al.
442 (2021) calibration does not appear to be capturing temperature variability that is contained within
443 biologically-mediated carbonates.

444 Our analysis, on first order, shows that the lake water temperatures derived using the
445 Anderson et al. (2021) calibration often results in unrealistic temperatures for carbonate
446 precipitation for different types of freshwater carbonates. Our results show that the calibration of
447 Anderson et al. (2021), which is dominated by synthetic precipitates and marine carbonates
448 rather than natural samples, may over or underestimate a reasonable temperature range of
449 carbonate formation and may not be ideal for terrestrial paleotemperature reconstructions for all
450 freshwater carbonates. We note that the transfer function-based approach we used (Hren &
451 Sheldon, 2012) does not, for lacustrine carbonates, take into account the size and setting of the
452 water body and potential influences from snowmelt, both of which would impact the difference
453 in temperatures between lake water and overlying air. Thus, in the next section, we derive
454 calibrations that take these factors into account and are specific to different types of terrestrial
455 freshwater carbonates.

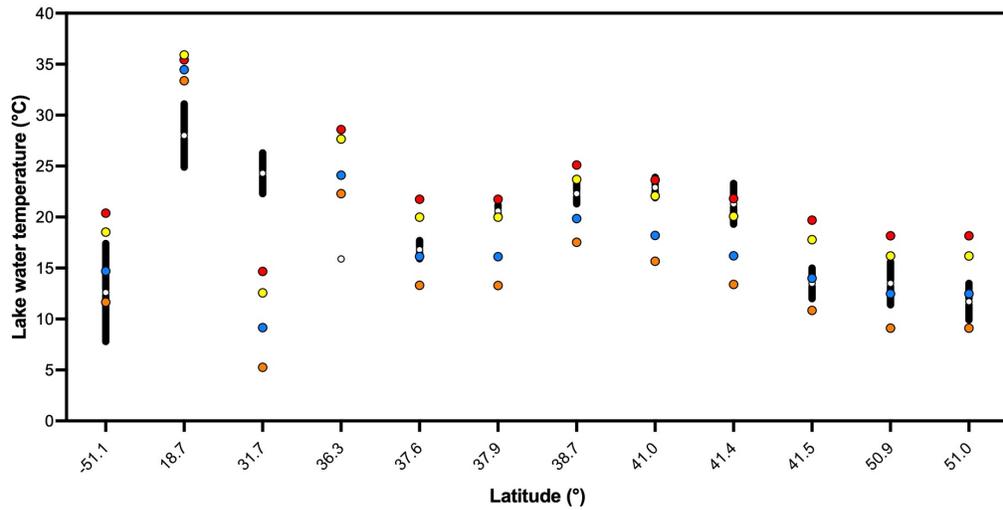
a. Biologic carbonates



b. Micrite



c. Biologically-mediated carbonates

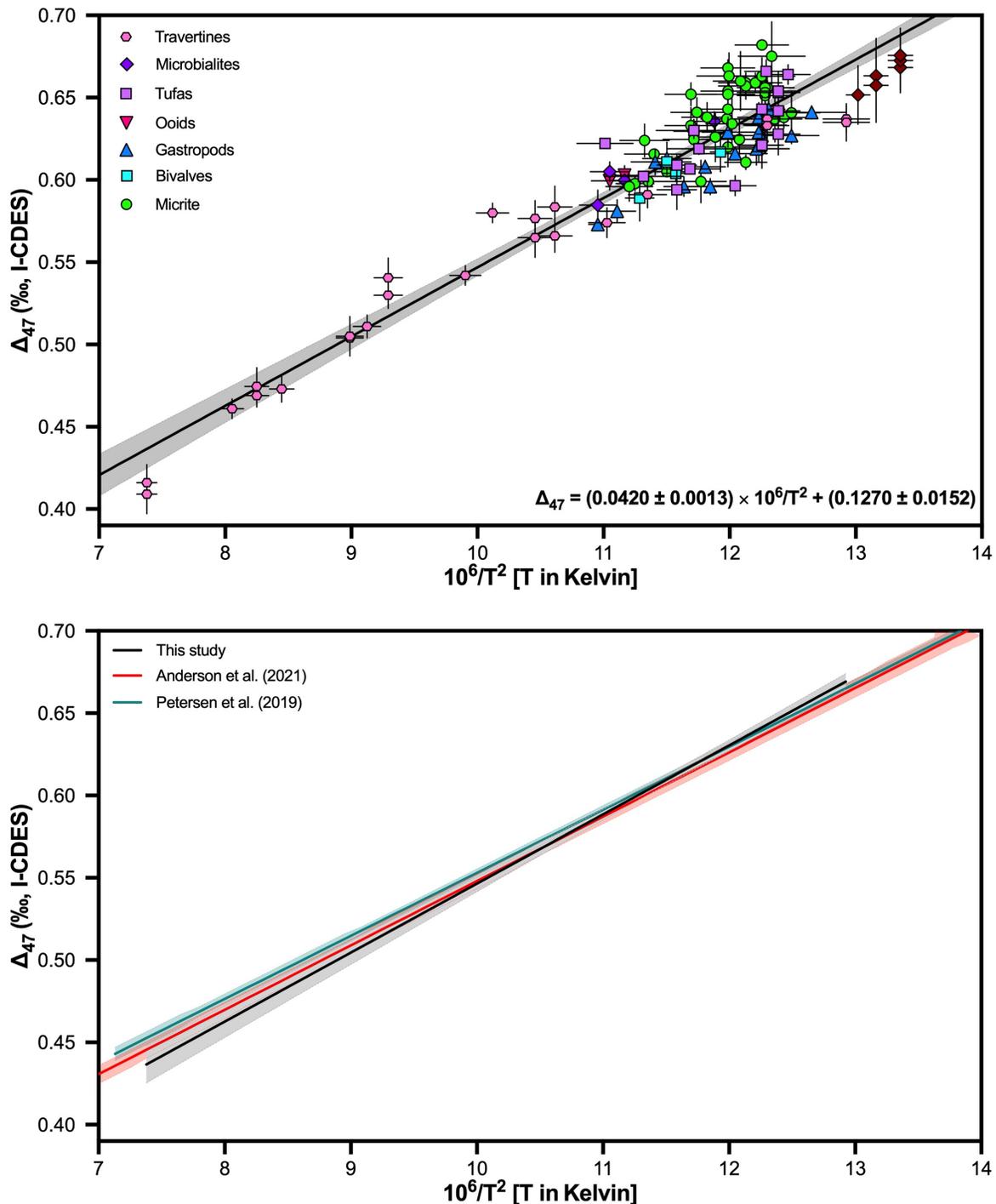


457 **Figure 2: Evaluation of seasonality of carbonate precipitation for biogenic, micrite, and**
458 **biologically mediated lacustrine carbonates using the clumped isotope calibration of**
459 **Anderson et al. (2021).** White circles with black bars are Δ_{47} -derived temperatures and with
460 uncertainties, respectively. Results are compared to projected lake temperatures for different
461 times of year, calculated using relationships from (Hren & Sheldon, 2012) and Mering (2015) in
462 conjunction with MAAT for each location derived from the University of Delaware's high-
463 resolution gridded air temperature dataset (Willmott & Matsuura, 2001) provided by NOAA.
464 Orange circles reflect early spring (Northern Hemisphere April-June (AMJ)) water temperatures,
465 yellow circles indicate summer (Northern Hemisphere June-August (JJA)), blue circles indicate
466 April-October water temperatures (A-O), and red circles indicate warmest month water
467 temperatures (WMT). This comparison shows that for biologic carbonates, there is good
468 agreement between Δ_{47} -T and what is known about typical growth seasons in the Anderson et al.
469 (2021) calibration in lower latitudes. However, the Anderson et al. (2021) calibration results in
470 an overestimation of growth temperature at higher latitudes, with 37% of clumped isotope
471 derived temperatures matching or exceeding estimated lake warmest month temperature, as
472 indicated by the offset between the clumped isotope derived temperatures represented by a white
473 circle with black error bands and the colored data points in panel A. For micrites, the Δ_{47}
474 temperatures derived from the Anderson et al. (2021) calibration are likely underestimated in
475 roughly half of the lakes examined here. Estimated temperatures from biologically mediated
476 carbonates using the Anderson et al. (2021) calibration are reflecting warmest month
477 temperatures in many cases, an overestimation from the projections derived from Hren and
478 Sheldon (2012).

479 3.2 Δ_{47} -Temperature Relationships

480 We utilize calibration data in Table 1 to derive regressions for our entire dataset (a
481 composite freshwater calibration), and material-specific calibrations for biogenic carbonates
482 (bivalves and gastropods), biologically mediated carbonates (microbialites and tufas), micrite,
483 and travertines. Δ_{47} values for samples within this study range from 0.409 to 0.682‰ with
484 independently measured water temperatures ranging from 5 to 95°C. Calibrations derived in this
485 study are presented in Table 2.

486 Performing an ordinary least squares regression through all freshwater carbonate data in
487 this study results in a steeper slope and shallower intercept than Anderson et al. (2021)
488 calibration. Although the 95% confidence intervals on the estimated regression models overlap
489 visually (Fig. 3), an analysis of covariance (ANCOVA) analysis shows that the slopes for the
490 two calibrations are significantly different from each other ($p_{\text{slope}} = 0.0334$; Table 3). The
491 Anderson et al. (2021) calibration includes low temperature Antarctic microbialites that are
492 offset from other data, with half of the samples from a high pH (10.3-10.7; Mackey et al., 2017)
493 environment (Fig. 3 - dark red symbols). Low temperature and high pH are environmental
494 factors that could give rise to potential kinetic isotope effects or DIC speciation effects (Tang et
495 al., 2014; Tripathi et al., 2015). In fact, all of the Antarctic samples are negatively offset from the
496 rest of the data in this study, and thus, we exclude these data from both the composite and the
497 biologically-mediated regressions we report in this study (Table 3). Additionally, we compare
498 our results from the composite calibration to the synthesis of calibration data published in
499 Petersen et al. (2019) that was projected into a 90°C reference frame. Similarly to Anderson et al.
500 (2021), we find that the slope derived within this study yields a statistically significant difference
501 in slope to that of Petersen et al. (2019) ($p_{\text{slope}} = 0.0036$; Table 3). Despite improvements in data
502 handling and standardization procedures that have been shown to resolve disparities in derived
503 regression slopes in two large synthesis studies (Anderson et al., 2021; Petersen et al., 2019), we
504 do not observe convergence between regression parameters derived from these syntheses and our
505 composite freshwater regression (Fig. 3). However, our derived freshwater composite calibration
506 parameters show agreement with two previous calibrations using authigenic lacustrine
507 carbonates (H. Li et al., 2021) and travertines (Bernasconi et al., 2018) (Table 3).



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Figure 3: Top: Δ_{47} -temperature relationship for all 108 freshwater carbonates included in this study. Black line represents a linear, ordinary least squares regression through the data and the gray shaded area represents the 95% confidence interval. We find a strong relationship between Δ_{47} and temperature ($p < 0.0001$; $r^2 = 0.8959$). Red diamonds represent low temperature and/or high pH lacustrine microbialites from Anderson et al. (2021) that have been excluded from the regression. **Bottom: Comparison of our composite freshwater regression to**

515 **previously published clumped isotope calibrations.** ANCOVA results show that the slope
516 derived for our calibration is statistically different from the acid corrected calibration of Petersen
517 et al. (2019) and Anderson et al. (2021), with p_{slope} values of 0.0036 and 0.0334, respectively
518 (Table 3). Our calibration yields higher temperature estimates than Anderson et al. (2021) in the
519 range of natural carbonate growth, but similar temperatures to Petersen et al. (2019)
520 (Supplementary Table 3).

	n	Slope	Intercept	r²	p
Composite	108	0.0420 ± 0.0013	0.1270 ± 0.0152	0.9053	<0.0001
Biologic	23	0.0371 ± 0.0043	0.1739 ± 0.0510	0.7811	<0.0001
Micrite	38	0.0462 ± 0.0074	0.0844 ± 0.0890	0.5170	<0.0001
Bio-mediated	22	0.0345 ± 0.0067	0.2164 ± 0.0798	0.5669	<0.0001
Travertine	23	0.0398 ± 0.0020	0.1450 ± 0.0203	0.9487	<0.0001

521 **Table 2: Derived regression parameters for all freshwater calibration data and material**
 522 **specific calibration data using linear, ordinary least squares regression.**

Regression parameter: slope

	This study: composite	This study: biologic	This study: micrite	This study: bio-mediated	This study: travertine	Bernasconi et al. (2018)a: travertine	Li et al. (2020)b: micrite	Petersen et al. (2019)b	Anderson et al. (2021)
This study: composite	—	—	—	—	—	0.8620	0.3080	0.0036	0.0334
This study: biologic	—	—	0.4880	0.7463	0.6730	0.3217	0.1181	0.9456	0.7660
This study: micrite	—	0.4880	—	0.3785	0.6114	0.8474	0.5534	0.4590	0.4880
This study: bio-mediated	—	0.7463	0.3785	—	0.4580	0.2110	0.1040	0.6770	0.4852
This study: travertine	—	0.6730	0.6114	0.4580	—	0.2810	0.1650	0.3620	0.6320
Bernasconi et al. (2018)a: travertine	0.8620	0.3217	0.8474	0.2110	0.2810	—	0.2530	0.0260	0.0363
Li et al. (2020)b: micrite	0.7100	0.3679	0.5534	0.3190	0.5240	0.6970	—	0.4480	0.4163
Petersen et al. (2019)b	0.0036	0.9456	0.4590	0.6770	0.3620	0.0260	0.1430	—	0.2078
Anderson et al. (2021)	0.0334	0.7660	0.4880	0.4852	0.6320	0.0363	0.0953	0.2078	—

Regression parameter: intercept

	This study: composite	This study: biologic	This study: micrite	This study: bio-mediated	This study: travertine	Bernasconi et al. (2018)a: travertine	Li et al. (2020)b: micrite	Petersen et al. (2019)b	Anderson et al. (2021)
This study: composite	—	—	—	—	—	0.6510	0.2850	—	—
This study: biologic	—	—	0.0000	0.0047	0.6320	0.0082	0.0215	0.0728	0.2710
This study: micrite	—	0.0000	—	0.0379	0.0050	0.0264	0.0014	0.0000	0.0000
This study: bio-mediated	—	0.0047	0.0379	—	0.1140	0.6580	0.4100	0.2540	0.0542
This study: travertine	—	0.6320	0.0050	0.1140	—	0.4570	0.4550	0.0354	0.4440
Bernasconi et al. (2018)a: travertine	0.6510	0.0082	0.0264	0.6580	0.4570	—	0.5110	—	—
Li et al. (2020)b: micrite	0.2850	0.0215	0.0014	0.4100	0.4550	0.5110	—	0.6800	0.2290
Petersen et al. (2019)b	—	0.0728	0.0000	0.2540	0.0354	—	0.6800	—	0.0835
Anderson et al. (2021)	—	0.2710	0.0000	0.0542	0.4440	—	0.2290	0.0835	—

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524 **Table 3: Results of the ANCOVA test for calibration-pairs for slope and intercept.** Red
 525 shading indicates differences in parameters with 95% confidence ($p < 0.05$), yellow shading
 526 indicates differences in parameters with 90% confidence ($0.05 < p < 0.10$), and green shading
 527 indicates no statistically significant difference between parameters. Top: ANCOVA results for
 528 slope. 27 pairs have a p value > 0.1 , demonstrating a convergence of slope when looking at
 529 material-specific groups of data. Bottom: Results of the ANCOVA test for calibration-pairs for
 530 intercept. This analysis is only performed on calibration pairs that had p -values exceeding 0.1 for
 531 the slope analysis. Differences in intercepts between different groups of data in this study were
 532 prevalent in 4 pairwise comparisons ($p < 0.05$), thus, material specific calibrations may be
 533 appropriate for climate reconstructions. * Δ_{47} values were corrected to a 90°C reference frame
 534 using AFF presented in Petersen et al. (2019). ** Δ_{47} values were corrected to I-CDES using
 535 Equation A.7. in Bernasconi et al. (2021).

536 3.2.1 Evidence for material-specificity in regression models

537 Given the finding that the calibration slope of Anderson et al. (2021) does not statistically
538 match the larger composite calibration of freshwater carbonates assembled here (Figure 3; Table
539 3) and also does not fit well with data from freshwater carbonates from certain latitudes and
540 environments (Figure 2), we proceed by testing the hypothesis that there could be material-
541 specific calibrations. We derive calibrations for biologic carbonates (bivalves and gastropods),
542 biologically-mediated carbonates (microbialites and tufas), micrites, and travertines, and test
543 whether regression parameters differed between these groups of materials (Table 2; Figure 3).

544 3.2.1.1 Biogenic Carbonates

545 Our biogenic carbonate calibration was developed using 137 analyses from 23 samples
546 with Δ_{47} values and independently constrained water temperatures ranging from 0.573-0.643‰
547 and 7 - 29°C, respectively. This dataset includes 16 new samples, alongside reprocessed data
548 from Huntington et al. (2015) and Wang et al. (2021) that have been brought onto the I-CDES
549 reference frame. Our calibration shows a significant temperature dependence (Figure 4a; $p =$
550 <0.0001) between the clumped isotope signal and temperature and samples demonstrate
551 agreement with our linear model ($r^2 = 0.7811$).

552 Our results show that biogenic carbonates record more depleted Δ_{47} values relative to
553 other freshwater samples in this study (Fig. 3) and the resulting calibration line has a lower
554 intercept relative to the Petersen and Anderson calibrations (Figure 4A). Despite visually
555 appearing to be offset from the rest of the data (Figure 3), we find no statistical difference in
556 slopes between our Δ_{47} -T regression of biogenic carbonates and other carbonate groups within
557 this study (Table 3). However, an ANCOVA analysis finds significant differences in intercepts
558 between biogenic carbonates and micrite ($p_{\text{intercept}} = <0.0001$) and biologically mediated
559 carbonates ($p_{\text{intercept}} = 0.0047$) (Table 3). When comparing our calibration results to the
560 calibrations presented in Anderson et al. (2021), H. Li et al (2021), Bernasconi et al. (2018), and
561 Petersen et al. (2019), our ANCOVA indicates shows no difference in slope between our
562 biogenic carbonate calibration, but differences in intercept between our study and the authigenic
563 carbonate calibration presented in H. Li et al. (2021) ($p_{\text{intercept}} = 0.0215$) and the ‘universal’
564 calibration derived by Petersen et al. (2019) ($p_{\text{intercept}} = 0.0728$) (Table 3). We find no differences
565 in either slope or intercept between biogenic carbonates and the recent I-CDES calibration of
566 Anderson et al. (2021)

567 The depletion in Δ_{47} observed within these biologic samples relative to micrites,
568 travertines, tufas, and microbialites could stem from changes in growth rate as a function of
569 season, or other unidentified factors. As the sample size requirements for clumped isotopes is
570 relatively large, it often requires the analyses of a complete shell or the majority of a shell for
571 analyses, effectively integrating seasonal signals recorded in the shell and potentially leading to a
572 more muted temperature sensitivity of the calibration than if seasonally resolved sampling could
573 be carried out. Additionally, there is potential for a mismatch of temperature between in-situ
574 measured temperatures, which is representative of a multi-year average, and the temperature
575 range experienced by biologic samples considering that the lifespan when shell growth would
576 occur is limited to a much shorter timeframe. Another possibility is that kinetic isotope
577 fractionations may manifest in freshwater gastropod and bivalve shells, as have been constrained
578 in other biocarbonates such as coral skeletons (Ghosh, Adkins, et al., 2006; Saenger et al., 2012).
579 However, more research is needed to draw this conclusion for freshwater biologic carbonates

580 including potentially performing culturing experiments at controlled temperatures as well as
581 examining other geochemical indicators such as Δ_{48} measurements. We note that although in-
582 depth study of clumped isotope fractionations in aquatic freshwater gastropods is limited to this
583 study, work with modern land snails has shown that a majority of these samples also are offset to
584 lighter Δ_{47} values than the Petersen et al. (2019) calibration (Dong et al., 2021). Culture
585 experiments on species of freshwater gastropods and bivalves may help to better constrain the
586 origin and impact of these effects.

587 3.2.1.2 Micrites

588 In our study we present 2 new samples of micrite, and reprocess data from 33 samples
589 from Li et al. (2021) and 3 samples from Huntington et al. (2010) to be on the I-CDES reference
590 frame. Micrites in this study include water temperatures between 9.8 and 29.0°C and Δ_{47} values
591 from 0.596 to 0.682‰. Micrites evaluated in this study demonstrate a significant temperature
592 dependence ($p < 0.0001$; Figure 4b), however, our samples demonstrate significant variability (r^2
593 = 0.5736).

594 Comparing our derived micrite parameters to other carbonate groups in this study, we
595 find no significant difference in slopes between materials, but find significant differences in
596 intercept between micrites and biogenic carbonates ($p_{\text{intercept}} = <0.0001$), biologically mediated
597 carbonates ($p_{\text{intercept}} = 0.0379$), and travertines ($p_{\text{intercept}} = 0.0050$). Visually, we find that the
598 micrite regression is positively offset relative to both the Anderson et al. (2021) and Petersen et
599 al. (2019) calibrations (Figure 4b). In contrast to the agreements in slope, our ANCOVA analysis
600 finds significant differences in intercept between a published travertine calibration (Bernasconi
601 et al., 2018; $p_{\text{intercept}} = 0.0264$), an authigenic carbonate calibration (H. Li et al., 2021; $p_{\text{intercept}} =$
602 0.0014), a large calibration dataset (Petersen et al., 2019; $p_{\text{intercept}} = <0.0001$), and a recently
603 published calibration on the I-CDES scale (Anderson et al., 2021; $p_{\text{intercept}} = <0.0001$).

604 Prior work analyzing clumped isotope composition suggests that Δ_{47} values of authigenic
605 carbonates precipitate near equilibrium, and are not impacted by disequilibrium fractionations
606 related to carbonate precipitation rate or water chemistry (H. Li et al., 2020). Thus, the variability
607 in Δ_{47} that we observe for micrite is potentially due to uncertainty in the timing of surface
608 carbonate precipitation events at each site. Micrite precipitation is enhanced by biological
609 processes such as algal blooms and temperature effects which can peak at different times
610 throughout the year, and behavior of precipitation events varies depending on characteristics of
611 the lake (i.e. open or closed; location; stratification/ventilation; etc.) (Hren & Sheldon, 2012).
612 Additionally, we note that the samples from UCLA were sieved through 212 μm mesh, which
613 may include juvenile or fragments of mature ostracodes, and it is unclear if any screening for
614 additional fossil material occurred for samples first published in Huntington et al. (2010) was
615 performed. However, the majority of the samples recalculated in this synthesis from H. Li et al.
616 (2021) were filtered through a 45 μm mesh and screened for ostracode valves. Ostracode valves
617 in the sediment may bias temperature estimates derived by clumped isotope analysis, given that
618 different factors control organism growth, thus, the inclusion of potential fragments of fossilized
619 material may be a source of the increased scatter we see in the Δ_{47} -temperature dependence for
620 micrites.

621 3.2.1.3 Biologically Mediated Carbonate

622 The calibration for biologically mediated carbonates is constructed with 255 analyses of
623 24 samples, including 7 new samples, 13 reprocessed samples from Santi et al. (2020), Petryshyn
624 et al. (2015), Huntington et al. (2015), Huntington et al. (2010), and Bernasconi et al. (2018) that
625 were converted into I-CDES, and 4 samples taken from Anderson et al. (2021). Water
626 temperatures for biologically mediated samples span 18.9°C (10.1 - 29.0°C) and Δ_{47} values range
627 between 0.585-0.666‰. We find significant variability in our dataset (Figure 4c; $r^2 = 0.5669$)
628 and a significant relationship between Δ_{47} and temperature ($p = <0.0001$).

629 Although we do not see statistically significant differences in slopes between
630 biologically-mediated carbonates and other freshwater carbonate types, an ANCOVA detects
631 differences in intercept between biologically mediated carbonates and biogenic carbonates
632 ($p_{\text{intercept}} = 0.0047$) and micrite ($p_{\text{intercept}} = 0.0379$). We also find significant differences in
633 intercept between the biologically mediated regression and the I-CDES calibration of Anderson
634 et al. (2021) ($p_{\text{intercept}} = <0.0001$).

635 Overall, the biologically-mediated regression results in warmer temperature predictions,
636 in particular at higher temperatures, relative to biogenic carbonates and travertines analyzed in
637 this study as well as the Anderson calibration (Table 2; Supplemental Table 3), suggesting that
638 biologic processes may influence observed Δ_{47} -temperature relationships (also could be a source
639 of scatter; $r^2 = 0.5669$). Similar discrepancies between tufa and synthetic samples were observed
640 in Kato et al. (2019), who reported values from tufa samples predicted by synthetic calibrations
641 that were higher than modern environmental temperatures. However, the modern tufa data from
642 Kato et al. (2019) is not included in this synthesis due to discrepancies between standard values
643 for Carrara Marble and NBS-19 relative to what was reported by Bernasconi et al. (2021) and
644 Uphadhyay et al. (2021), although we note their calibration falls within our 95% confidence
645 interval of our biologically-mediated calibration.

646 3.2.1.4 Travertines

647 Although we did not add new data, we created a regression for travertine samples
648 containing 543 analyses from 23 samples. The travertine dataset includes data from 15
649 recalculated samples from previous publications to be on the I-CDES reference frame
650 (Bernasconi et al., 2018; Kele et al., 2015) following methodology in Bernsconi et al. (2021) and
651 8 new published measurements (Anderson et al., 2021), to analyze them within the same
652 statistical framework used here. Travertine samples encompass the largest range of
653 independently measured water temperatures (5 - 95°C) and Δ_{47} values (0.409-0.637‰). Similarly
654 to the other groups of carbonate considered in this study, we find a significant temperature
655 dependence (slope; $p = <0.0001$) and a high degree of agreement between the fitted values and
656 calibration data points ($r^2 = 0.9487$). Travertines display the highest r^2 values relative to biogenic
657 carbonates, biologically mediated carbonates, and micrites, which may arise if they have the least
658 complex precipitation mechanism with little biological influence relative to the other groups.

659 ANCOVA tests indicate the travertine linear regression did not have a statistically
660 significant slope compared to other groups of freshwater carbonates in this study, but does
661 indicate a statistically different intercept to the micrite regression ($p_{\text{intercept}} = 0.0050$; Table 3).
662 The newly-derived regression on the updated I-CDES reference frame is statistically
663 indistinguishable from the previous travertine calibration presented in Bernasconi et al. (2018),

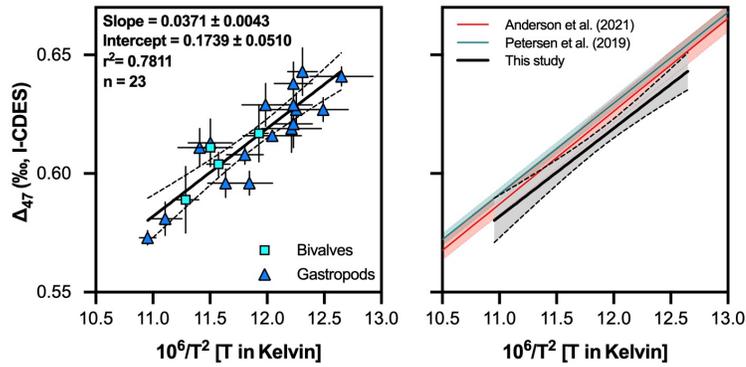
664 but has significant differences in intercept from the calibration presented in Petersen et al. (2019)
665 ($p_{\text{intercept}} = 0.0354$), suggesting that applying a ‘universal’ calibration may not be appropriate.
666 Additionally, we find no significant differences in either slope or intercept between travertines
667 and the Anderson et al. (2021) calibration or authigenic lacustrine carbonate calibration of H. Li
668 et al. (2021) (Table 3).

669 3.2.1.5 Comparison of material-specific and composite calibrations

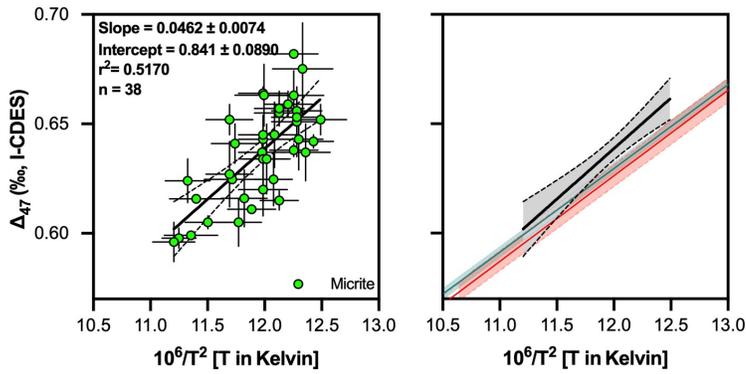
670 Overall, we observe no statistically significant difference between the calibration slopes
671 derived from different materials and previously published calibrations (Table 3) when freshwater
672 carbonates are divided into groups to account for differences in their precipitation (e.g.
673 seasonality, ecology, etc.), calibrations converge on a common temperature dependence (slope)
674 for clumped isotope measurements. A similar convergence of slopes was found in Petersen et al.
675 (2019) when comparing 14 different clumped isotope studies of both biogenic and abiogenic
676 carbonates using updated parameter values for Δ_{47} calculation. Anderson et al. (2021) also found
677 a convergence of slopes between their new data, the Petersen calibration, and recalculated
678 calibration lines using updated carbonate standardization procedures for 4 recent calibration
679 studies. However, our ANCOVA analyses also indicate statistically different intercepts for most
680 of our calibrations from groups of freshwater carbonates (Table 3). Our findings are unchanged
681 if we only consider samples that were analyzed at UCLA.

682 In order to evaluate goodness of fit between the two types of models presented in this
683 study, we use root mean square error (RMSE) to evaluate the differences between our directly
684 measured and Δ_{47} -derived measurements. Applying our composite calibration to biogenic
685 samples results in a RMSE of 4.4°C, while applying the biogenic calibration results in a RMSE
686 of 2.9°C, showing a better fit when using the material-specific calibration. Temperatures derived
687 from a micrite-specific calibration results in a lower RMSE than a composite calibration (3.9°C
688 and 4.6°C, respectively). Contrastingly, the composite calibration outperforms the material
689 specific calibrations for biologically mediated carbonates and travertines, resulting in a lower
690 RMSE than their material specific counterparts (tufa: 4.4°C and 5.1°C, travertine: 6.5°C and
691 7.1°C). Figure 5 shows the impact of the applied calibration on temperature reconstructions
692 using both the composite and material specific calibrations derived in this study, showing a
693 decrease in residuals when utilizing material-specific regressions for all material types. Thus, it
694 may be more appropriate to use material-specific calibrations when reconstructing
695 paleotemperatures. However, we also note that the application of material-specific calibrations
696 will necessitate using fewer data points (minimum $n = 22$) over a more limited temperature range
697 in most cases (except for travertines), both factors of which could increase uncertainty in the
698 calibration. We recommend using material specific calibrations for samples that fall within the
699 original observation range, given that application of material specific calibrations to samples
700 from more extreme temperatures could necessitate calibration extrapolation.

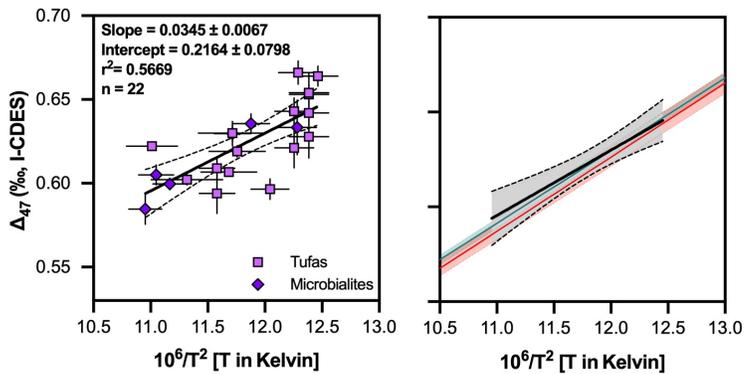
a. Biologic carbonates



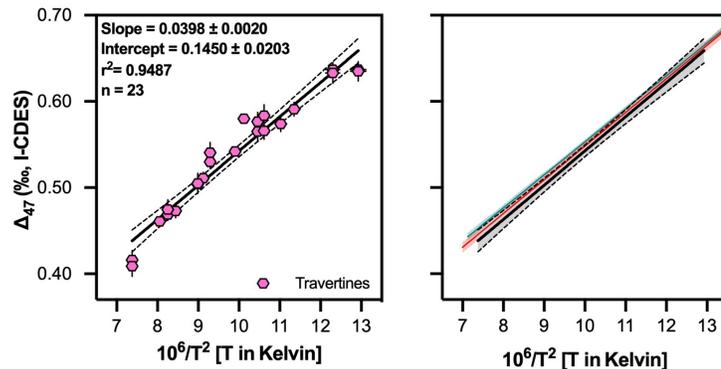
b. Micrite



c. Biologically-mediated carbonates

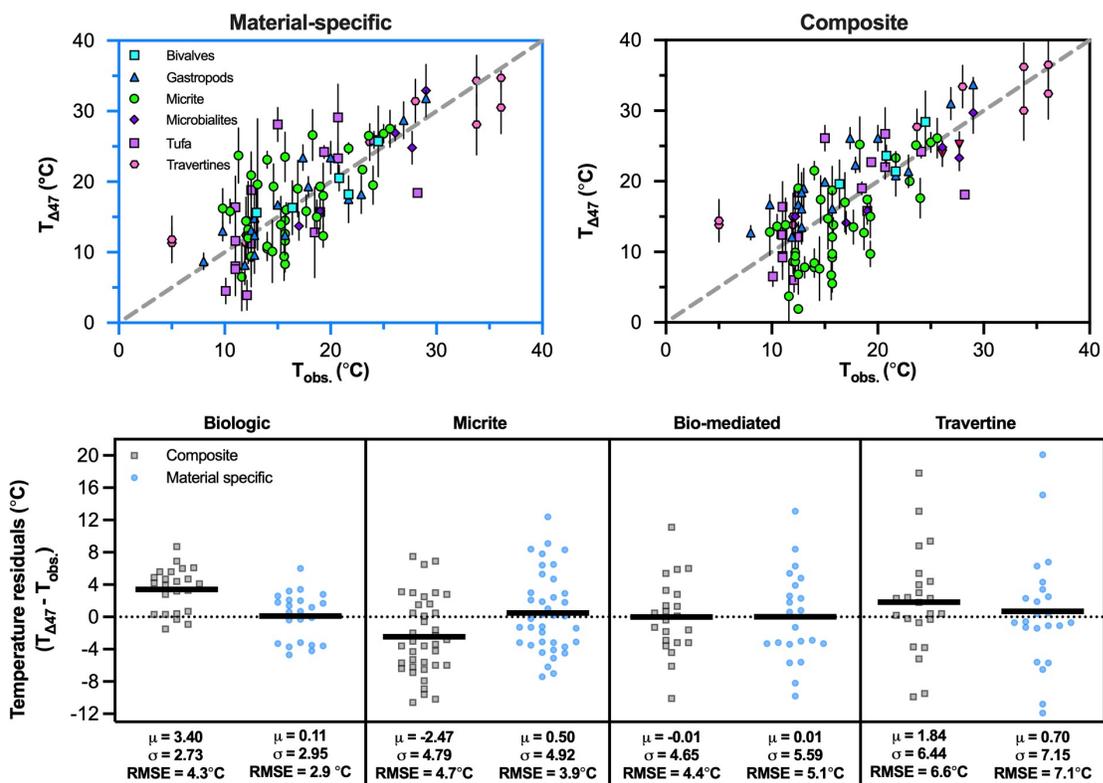


d. Travertines

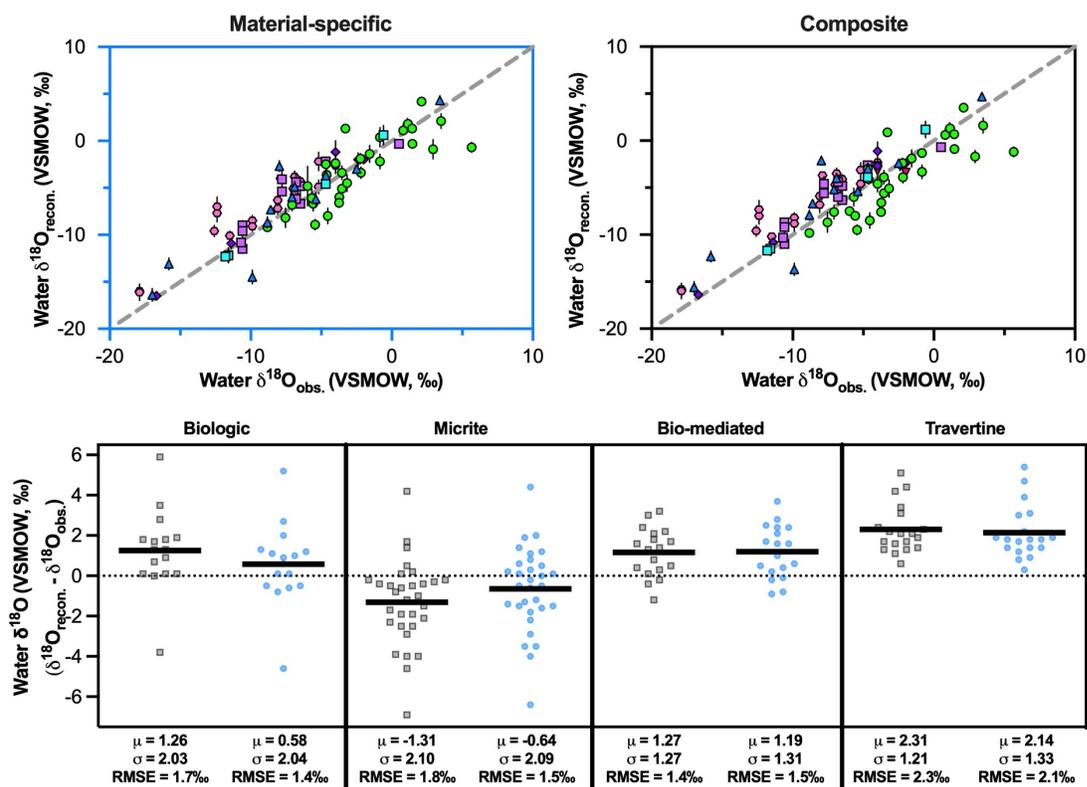


702 **Figure 4: Δ_{47} -temperature relationships for different groups of freshwater carbonates.** Left:
703 Δ_{47} -temperature relationship for all carbonate types included in this study. Black line represents a
704 linear, ordinary least squares regression through the data. We find a strong relationship between
705 Δ_{47} and temperature for each group of data. We find indistinguishable slopes between all groups
706 of data, but find statistically different intercepts between a majority of datasets (Table 3),
707 suggesting that material-specific calibrations may be most appropriate. Right: Derived
708 comparison of our material-specific calibrations to previously published clumped isotope
709 calibrations. We find statistically similar slopes between all of our material-specific regressions
710 and the slopes presented in Petersen et al. (2019) and Anderson et al. (2021), showing a
711 convergence of slope (temperature dependence) throughout the studies. However, we find
712 significant differences in intercept between previously published work and most of our derived
713 calibrations (Table 3), indicating these calibrations are systematically offset from each other.

a. Water temperature



b. Water $\delta^{18}O$



715 **Figure 5: Comparison of reconstructed values of temperature and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ from material-**
716 **specific and composite calibrations from this study to observations.** Use of a composite Δ_{47} -
717 temperature calibration yields less accurate and precise results. A. Comparison of measured
718 temperature ($T_{\text{obs.}}$) to Δ_{47} -derived temperature ($T_{\Delta_{47}}$) values using the material-specific (top row,
719 blue frame) and composite freshwater calibration (top row, black frame). Bottom panel shows a
720 comparison of temperature residuals (reconstructed-observations) using the composite and
721 material-specific calibrations. Values derived using the composite regression are represented
722 using black squares and material-specific calibrations are represented using blue circles.
723 Horizontal black bars represent the mean and values at the bottom of each dataset show the mean
724 value and standard deviation for residuals along with the RMSE for each dataset using the
725 respective calibrations. Our results show improvement in RMSE of reconstructed temperatures
726 for biogenic carbonates and micrites when applying the material specific calibration compared to
727 the composite calibration. Temperature residuals for biologically mediated carbonates are similar
728 between the composite and material specific calibration, however, there is increased spread when
729 applying the material specific calibrations, reflected in the elevated RMSE relative to the
730 composite calibration. Similar to biologically mediated carbonates, the spread in temperature
731 residuals for travertines, and thus RMSE, increases, when using material specific calibrations.
732 However, we note that the overall mean of the residuals is reduced for travertines when applying
733 a material specific calibration relative to the composite calibration. B. Comparison of measured
734 $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{obs.}}$) to Δ_{47} -derived $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ values ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{recon.}}$) using material specific (top row,
735 blue frame) and composite freshwater calibration (top row, black frame). $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ values are
736 calculated using temperatures derived using our composite and material-specific calibrations
737 between Δ_{47} and temperature, and oxygen isotope mineral-water fractionation factors from Kim
738 and O'Neil (1997) (calcite) or Kim et al. (2007) (aragonite). Bottom panel displays $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$
739 residuals (reconstructed-observations) using the composite and material-specific calibrations.
740 Our results show improvement in RMSE for $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ reconstructions for biogenic carbonates,
741 micrites, and travertines. $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ RMSE for biologically-mediated carbonates is similar for both
742 the composite and material specific calibration, however, we note that the mean of the residuals
743 is reduced, and closer to zero, in the material specific calibration.

744 3.3 Reconstructing water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$

745 In addition to providing thermodynamic constraints on the temperature of formation of
746 carbonates, Δ_{47} measurements can be paired with carbonate oxygen isotope ratios to directly
747 calculate source water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$. We compare our clumped-isotope derived estimates of source water
748 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ derived with our temperature predictions ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{w-reconstructed}}$) to measured modern freshwater
749 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{w-measured}}$) values to evaluate if this method can accurately reconstruct the isotopic
750 composition of the water in which the carbonate precipitated. For $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{w-measured}}$, we synthesized
751 any available published measurements for the water bodies examined to compare to
752 reconstructed values. $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{w-measured}}$ data is available for 86 of the 108 sites examined in this study
753 (Supplementary Table 4). Although some sites had long-term measurements of water body
754 oxygen isotope composition, some of the measurements were single point measurements, and
755 thus may not fully represent temporal variability.

756 We used the equation of Kim & O'Neil (1997) for calcite and Kim et al. (2007) for
757 aragonite in order to constrain the relationship between formation temperature, $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}}$, and
758 $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$. We observe a positive relationship between measured and clumped-isotope derived
759 $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{w-reconstructed}}$ derived from the composite freshwater calibration in this study ($p < 0.0001$; $r^2 =$
760 0.7935) and material-specific reconstructed temperatures ($p < 0.0001$; $r^2 = 0.8267$). Figure 4c
761 shows comparison of the residuals for reconstructed $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{w}}$ using both the material specific and
762 composite calibrations developed within this study. RMSE was reduced using the material
763 specific calibration relative to the composite calibration for biogenic carbonates (material
764 specific RMSE = 1.5‰, composite RMSE = 1.8‰), micrites (material specific RMSE = 1.4‰,
765 composite RMSE = 1.7‰), and travertines (material specific RMSE = 2.1‰, composite RMSE
766 = 2.3‰). However, for biologically mediated carbonates, the composite calibration slightly
767 outperforms the material specific calibration (material specific RMSE = 1.4‰, composite RMSE
768 = 1.5‰), although the mean of the residuals is closer to zero.

769 Overall, material-specific calibrations perform better at reconstructing $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{w-measured}}$
770 (Figure 5). Out of the 87 samples from sites with measured $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ values, 33 samples fall
771 within $\pm 1\%$ of hydrographic data when using the material-specific calibrations, a 7%
772 improvement from using the composite calibration (Fig. 5). $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{w-reconstructed}}$ values for biologic
773 samples generally recover $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{w-measured}}$ within 2‰. However, this method yields, for micrites,
774 lower $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ values than observations for more enriched $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{w-measured}}$ values, which could be
775 due to either kinetic effects and/or changes in surface water chemistry during carbonate
776 precipitation events (Fig. 5). If the latter, it is unlikely to be due to evaporative enrichment of
777 $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ which would produce the opposite trend, but it may arise from changes in carbonate
778 chemistry. Biologically-mediated carbonates and travertines show a positive offset from the 1:1
779 line, overestimating $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ relative to the measured value, that may also arise from pH related
780 effects on isotopic fractionation or kinetic isotope effects (e.g., Beck et al., 2005; Tripathi et al.,
781 2015).

782 3.4 Comparison of multiple materials at individual sites

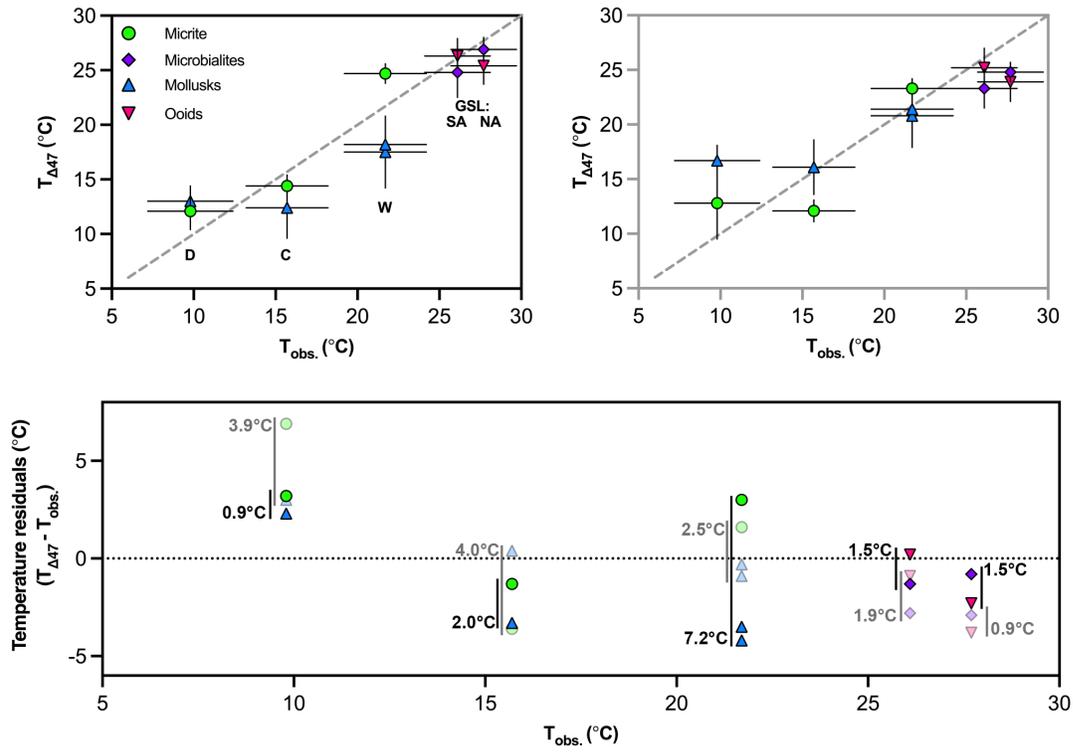
783 Five sites in this study contain a combination of two different types of materials
784 analyzed. Three sites in China (Daija Co, Cuona Lake, and Wulungu Lake) have micrite (Li et
785 al., 2021) and freshwater mollusks (this study), and both the North Arm and the South Arm of
786 the Great Salt Lake in Utah contain modern microbialite and ooid samples (Pace et al., 2016).
787 Comparing results from different carbonate types provides another method of assessing overall

788 calibration performance, therefore we compare clumped isotope-derived water temperature
789 estimates using both material-specific and our composite freshwater calibrations at these sites
790 where different materials are present.

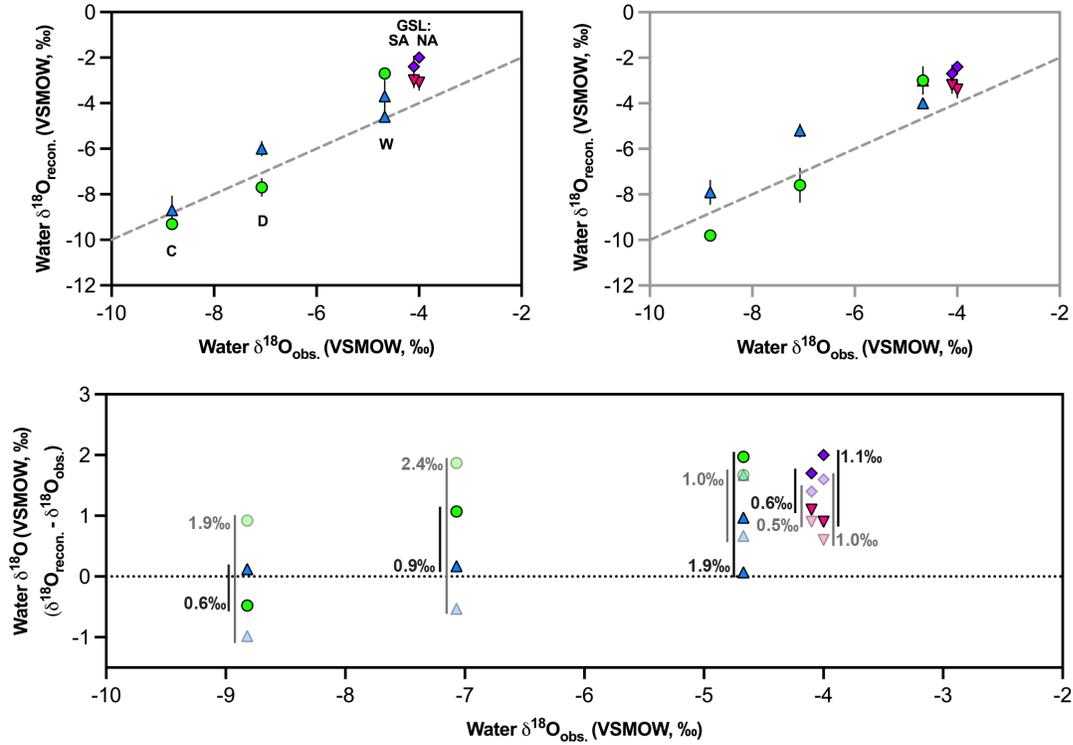
791 Figure 6 shows increased agreement between different sample types for the same location
792 for temperature and water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ in a majority of cases when a material-specific calibration is
793 used. The lakes in China containing dual-materials are terminal lakes where authigenic carbonate
794 precipitation is expected to occur in the later part of summer, when temperatures are most
795 elevated and carbonate supersaturation occurs in the surface waters (Hren & Sheldon, 2012).
796 Both Daija Co and Cuona Lake are high elevation lakes (>4.5 km) where the monthly average air
797 temperature doesn't exceed 0°C until May, thus, temperature requirements for mollusk and
798 micrite growth are met during similar conditions, yielding similar estimated temperatures
799 between both archives when using the material-specific calibrations. However, applying our
800 composite calibration to samples in these lakes results in higher calcification temperatures
801 projected for mollusks relative to the micrite. We find more of a disparity between Δ_{47} -derived
802 and directly measured temperature values when taking into account material type at Wulungu
803 Lake, an inland, low elevation and high latitude (47°N) lake with a large range of intra-annual
804 temperatures (~36°C), however, our estimates of water temperature are in agreement with typical
805 seasonality of precipitation from the two archives given the lake's setting. Our results using a
806 material specific calibration suggest that micrite precipitated during a more narrow interval, with
807 higher temperatures and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values than the mollusk samples, consistent with temperature-
808 induced carbonate precipitation and evaporative enrichment. The temperatures recorded by
809 mollusks at the same lake using the material specific calibrations suggest that the shells may be
810 reflecting dominant calcification during comparatively cooler temperatures in spring or early
811 summer.

812 Modern microbialite and ooid samples from the Great Salt Lake yield similar results,
813 with a 1.5°C difference between archives in both the North and South Arms using the material
814 specific calibration. Both archives in the Northern and Southern arms of the lake are consistent
815 with summer water temperatures when taking into account material type. Furthermore, the
816 separation of the North and South arms of the Great Salt Lake by a causeway results in a more
817 restricted Northern arm with less freshwater input from rivers and more evaporation (Gwynn,
818 2007). Our Δ_{47} -derived temperature data also shows that our carbonate samples from the Great
819 Salt Lake record more elevated heating in the North Arm relative to the South Arm when using
820 the material specific (0.6°C) compared to the composite (0.1°C) calibrations. Further study is
821 needed to fully understand the differences in calcification in between archives in the same
822 settings, but these findings may support the use of a material-specific calibration when
823 developing reconstructions from multiple types of carbonates for ancient freshwater systems.

a. Water temperature



b. Water $\delta^{18}O$



825 **Figure 6: Evaluation of clumped isotope derived temperature and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ for locations**
826 **with dual materials.** A. Clumped-isotope derived temperature reconstructions using material
827 specific calibrations (top row; black frame) and composite freshwater calibration (top row; gray
828 frame). Bottom panel shows residuals for both the material specific calibrations and composite
829 calibrations (semi-transparent symbols), along with the average difference in temperature
830 between the two archives (black and gray numbers and lines for material specific and composite
831 calibration, respectively). Clumped isotope derived temperatures are denoted as $T_{\Delta 47}$, while
832 independently observed water temperatures are denoted as $T_{\text{observations}}$. Sites are labeled on plot:
833 D: Daija Co, C: Cuona Lake, W: Wulungu Lake, GSL NA: North Arm, Great Salt Lake, GSL
834 SA: South Arm, Great Salt Lake. We find a reduction of temperature residuals in most cases
835 using a material specific calibration. We also find more realistic temperature estimates when
836 applying material specific calibrations, given each lake's individual setting. B. Reconstructed
837 water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values using material specific (top row, black frame) and composite (top row, gray
838 frame) calibrations. Clumped isotope based reconstructions of water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and independently
839 measured $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values are denoted as water $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{reconstructed}}$ and water $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{observed}}$, respectively. The
840 residuals from measured values are displayed on the bottom plot, and residuals between different
841 archives are denoted by black and gray bars and values for the material specific and composite
842 calibrations, respectively.

843 3.5 Applications to Paleoclimate Reconstructions

844 3.5.1 Paleoclimatology of Lake Surprise, CA

845 We applied the calibration relationships derived within this study to reconstruct terrestrial
846 paleo-hydroclimate variables, using samples of tufa that are Last Glacial Maximum (LGM;
847 23,000-19,000 years ago) and deglacial (19,000-11,000 years ago) in age from Lake Surprise,
848 California (Egger et al., 2018; Ibarra et al., 2014; Santi et al., 2019; Santi et al., 2020). In the
849 original study from Ibarra et al. (2014), the authors used pollen data to estimate temperature
850 changes during the LGM and deglacial. These estimates were used within an isotope mass
851 balance model to derive evaporation and precipitation rates at Lake Surprise. Santi et al. (2020)
852 expanded on this work by providing further constraints on water temperatures (and air
853 temperatures, by use of a transfer function) and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ for the same sample set and used these
854 updated values within an isotope mass balance modeling framework to derive new estimates of
855 evaporation and precipitation rates. Here, we applied our biologically-mediated and composite
856 calibrations and the recently published calibration by Anderson et al. (2021) to data from tufa
857 samples for Lake Surprise from Santi et al. (2020). Data used from Lake Surprise is identical to
858 the original publication and was reprojected into the I-CDES reference frame following current
859 best practices and standardization procedures (Bernasconi et al., 2021; Upadhyay et al., 2021).
860 Detailed methodology can be found in Santi et al. (2020) and equations used for this analysis can
861 be found in the Supplementary Information.

862 New estimates of Δ_{47} -temperatures, water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, evaporation, and precipitation rates are
863 shown in Supplementary Figure 1, and reported in Supplementary Table 5, 6, and 7 using the
864 material-specific and composite calibrations derived in this study, and the Anderson et al. (2021)
865 calibration, respectively. Updated temperature predictions using our biologically-mediated
866 calibrations generally result in cooler water temperatures throughout the LGM and deglacial at
867 Lake Surprise than the original publication (Table 4). Water temperatures derived using the
868 Anderson et al. (2021) calibration are 1.2 and 1.7°C cooler than the material-specific calibration,
869 during the deglacial and LGM, respectively. Estimates derived using the general calibration are
870 warmer than the material specific calibration, but slightly cooler than the original publication,
871 with water temperatures estimated to be $12.5 \pm 1.1^\circ\text{C}$ during the LGM and $11.4 \pm 0.7^\circ\text{C}$ during
872 the deglacial. Average LGM water temperatures of $11.5 \pm 1.4^\circ\text{C}$ are estimated using the
873 biologically-mediated calibration, which results in temperatures that are 1.2°C cooler than the
874 originally reported value (Santi et al., 2020) of $12.8 \pm 1.4^\circ\text{C}$. Using the same water-to-air
875 temperature transfer function (Hren & Sheldon, 2012) as used in Santi et al. (2020) to translate
876 water temperatures to LGM MAAT, we find a 3.0°C difference between the material-specific
877 values and published values ($1.8 \pm 1.9^\circ\text{C}$ and $4.8 \pm 1.3^\circ\text{C}$, respectively). The composite
878 calibration estimates similar temperatures to the original publication ($3.2 \pm 1.5^\circ\text{C}$), while the
879 Anderson et al. (2021) calibration estimates much cooler temperatures during the LGM ($-0.5 \pm$
880 1.7°C). Our deglacial MAAT estimates follow a similar trend, with estimates from Santi et al.
881 (2020) resulting in the highest MAAT estimates, followed by our composite calibration, the
882 biologically-mediated calibration, and the Anderson et al. (2021) calibration (Table 4).

883 MAAT estimates were used to calculate annual evaporation rate, using a modified
884 Penman equation (Linacre, 1993; Mering, 2015; Santi et al., 2020). Therefore, shifts in
885 temperature will dictate the direction and magnitude of changes in estimated lake evaporation
886 rate. When using temperatures derived from our material-specific calibrations, we observe a 91

887 mm difference in evaporation in our reanalyzed data (981 ± 60 mm/yr) and the original
888 publication (1072 ± 56 mm/yr) during the deglacial. Our estimates during the LGM are 50
889 mm/yr lower than estimates from Santi et al. (2020), with our results suggesting 1103 ± 115
890 mm/yr and 1153 ± 100 mm/yr, respectively. Our derived weighted evaporation rate, which takes
891 into account free evaporation over the lake surface and evapotranspiration over land, differs
892 significantly from Santi et al. (2020), with a 46 mm/yr decrease and 41 mm/yr increase
893 difference between the new and old estimates for the LGM and deglacial, respectively (Table 4).
894 Since we observe general decreases in temperature using the Anderson calibration, overall,
895 weighted and unweighted evaporation values are lower than those derived in the original
896 publication, while the agreement in temperature from the composite calibration derived
897 evaporation estimates are similar to the original publication (Supplementary Tables 6 and 7).

898 Evaporation estimates are used within the hydrological modeling framework of Santi et
899 al. (2020) to reconstruct precipitation that incorporates clumped isotope derived MAAT and
900 $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ and includes basin hypsometry derived from modern topography and watershed
901 delineations (Broecker, 2010; Ibarra et al., 2014, 2018; Jones et al., 2007; McGee et al., 2018).
902 We also incorporate an ice-volume correction for $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ during the LGM and deglacial based
903 on sample age, following the approach used by Tripathi et al. (2014) and estimate anomalies with
904 a revised value for modern annual precipitation rates to account for snowfall. In Santi et al.
905 (2020), modern annual precipitation values used to calculate anomalies used a snow water
906 equivalent of 1:10 mm. However, snow densities vary depending on temperature and location.
907 To account for these changes in snow density, we utilized 10 years of SNOTEL snow density
908 data (USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, 2022) at two stations within the Surprise
909 basin (Cedar's Pass and Dismal Creek) to assess typical modern snow water equivalent in
910 Surprise Valley. The average snow density for the area was 33%, and we combined this value
911 with average snowfall amounts to integrate the contribution derived from snow into our modern
912 precipitation measurements, for an updated modern precipitation value of 630 mm/year (Desert
913 Research Institute; <https://www.dri.edu/western-regional-climate-center/>), a 102 mm/year
914 increase.

915 These updated calculations using the material-specific calibration indicate that during the
916 LGM, precipitation rates were 10% lower than modern, and precipitation increased during the
917 deglacial to values that were 8% lower than today (Table 4). Estimates of precipitation rates
918 using all calibrations are similar, with estimates for the LGM ranging from 551 to 565 mm/yr
919 (Table 4). We observe a slight increase in precipitation rate estimates when applying all
920 calibrations during the deglacial, when Lake Surprise reached its maximum extent, with values
921 using the original published calibration resulting in estimates of 567 mm/yr, which is 16, 1, and 8
922 mm/year lower than estimates derived from our material-specific, composite, and the Anderson-
923 derived values, respectively. Overall, this supports the original findings of Ibarra et al. (2014)
924 and those of Santi et al. (2020) based on clumped isotopes that temperature and evaporation were
925 likely dominant controls on Lake Surprise's transgression and regression, and that increased
926 evaporation relative to precipitation contributed to the eventual disappearance of Lake Surprise.

Hydroclimate reconstruction at Lake Surprise, CA

(41.5°N, 120.0°W)	MAAT (°C)		$\delta^{18}\text{O}_w$ (‰)		Precipitation (mm/yr)		Weighted Evaporation (mm/yr)	
	<u>LGM</u>	<u>Deglacial</u>	<u>LGM</u>	<u>Deglacial</u>	<u>LGM</u>	<u>Deglacial</u>	<u>LGM</u>	<u>Deglacial</u>
	This study - material-specific	1.8 ± 1.9	0.1 ± 1.3	-2.9 ± 0.3	-3.3 ± 0.2	565 ± 50	582 ± 14	635 ± 46
This study - composite	3.2 ± 1.5	1.8 ± 1.0	-2.7 ± 0.3	-3.0 ± 0.2	551 ± 23	566 ± 15	633 ± 46	631 ± 27
Anderson et al. (2021)	-0.5 ± 1.7	-1.6 ± 1.1	-3.3 ± 0.3	-3.6 ± 0.2	558 ± 18	573 ± 12	597 ± 37	593 ± 18
Santi et al. (2020)	4.8 ± 1.3	3.8 ± 0.9	-2.7 ± 0.3	-2.4 ± 0.2	552 ± 24	566 ± 16	647 ± 44	655 ± 27
	Temperature Anomaly (°C)		$\delta^{18}\text{O}_w$ Anomaly (‰)		Precipitation Anomaly (%)		Weighted Evaporation Anomaly (%)	
	<u>LGM</u>	<u>Deglacial</u>	<u>LGM</u>	<u>Deglacial</u>	<u>LGM</u>	<u>Deglacial</u>	<u>LGM</u>	<u>Deglacial</u>
This study - material-specific	-7.4 ± 2.1	-9.1 ± 1.6	11.6 ± 0.7	11.2 ± 0.6	-10 ± 26	-8 ± 26	20 ± 9	19 ± 6
This study - composite	-6.0 ± 1.8	-7.4 ± 1.4	11.8 ± 0.7	11.5 ± 0.6	-12 ± 26	-10 ± 26	20 ± 9	19 ± 5
Anderson et al. (2021)	-9.7 ± 2.0	-10.8 ± 1.5	11.2 ± 0.7	10.9 ± 0.6	-11 ± 26	-9 ± 26	28 ± 6	33 ± 6
Santi et al. (2020)	-4.4 ± 1.6	-5.4 ± 1.3	12.1 ± 0.6	11.8 ± 0.7	-12 ± 26	-10 ± 26	22 ± 9	24 ± 6

Elevation reconstruction in Nangqian Basin, Tibetan Plateau

(32.2°N, 96.5°E)	Unit 1 (mid Cretaceous)		Unit 3 (mid Paleogene; >38 Ma)		Unit 4 (38-37 Ma)		<u>Elevation (km)</u>
	<u>T_w (°C)</u>	<u>$\delta^{18}\text{O}_w$ (‰)</u>	<u>T_w (°C)</u>	<u>$\delta^{18}\text{O}_w$ (‰)</u>	<u>T_w (°C)</u>	<u>$\delta^{18}\text{O}_w$ (‰)</u>	
This study - material-specific	25.1 ± 3.0	-6.0 ± 1.2	39.0 ± 3.7	-5.0 ± 0.8	29.0 ± 3.5	-6.2 ± 1.1	2.9 ± 1.1
This study - composite	23.7 ± 3.3	-6.3 ± 1.0	38.8 ± 4.1	-5.0 ± 0.7	27.9 ± 3.8	-6.5 ± 1.0	2.9 ± 1.1
Anderson et al. (2021)	21.7 ± 3.4	-6.7 ± 1.0	37.7 ± 4.4	-5.2 ± 0.8	26.1 ± 4.0	-6.8 ± 1.0	3.0 ± 1.1
Li et al. (2019)	24.9 ± 2.8	-6.2 ± 1.5	40.9 ± 4.1	-4.6 ± 0.9	29.7 ± 3.7	-6.2 ± 1.4	3.0 ± 1.1

928 **Table 4: Comparison of recalculated Δ_{47} -based proxy reconstructions from this study to**
929 **published values.** Top: Comparison of water temperature, water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, precipitation, and
930 weighted evaporation anomalies at Lake Surprise, CA to published values from Santi et al.
931 (2020). Modern MAAT is $9.2 \pm 1.0^\circ\text{C}$ from Cedarville, CA and modern $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ used for anomaly
932 calculations is $-14.6 \pm 0.6\%$. Modern precipitation used to calculate the anomaly is 630
933 mm/year, including contributions from rainfall and snowmelt, and modern evapotranspiration
934 rates are 528 mm/year. Bottom: Comparison of clumped isotope derived water temperature,
935 water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, and elevation estimates for samples run for clumped isotope analysis from the
936 Nangquian Basin to published values from L. Li et al. (2019).

937 3.6.2. Origin of travertine and tufa deposits in Ainet, Austria

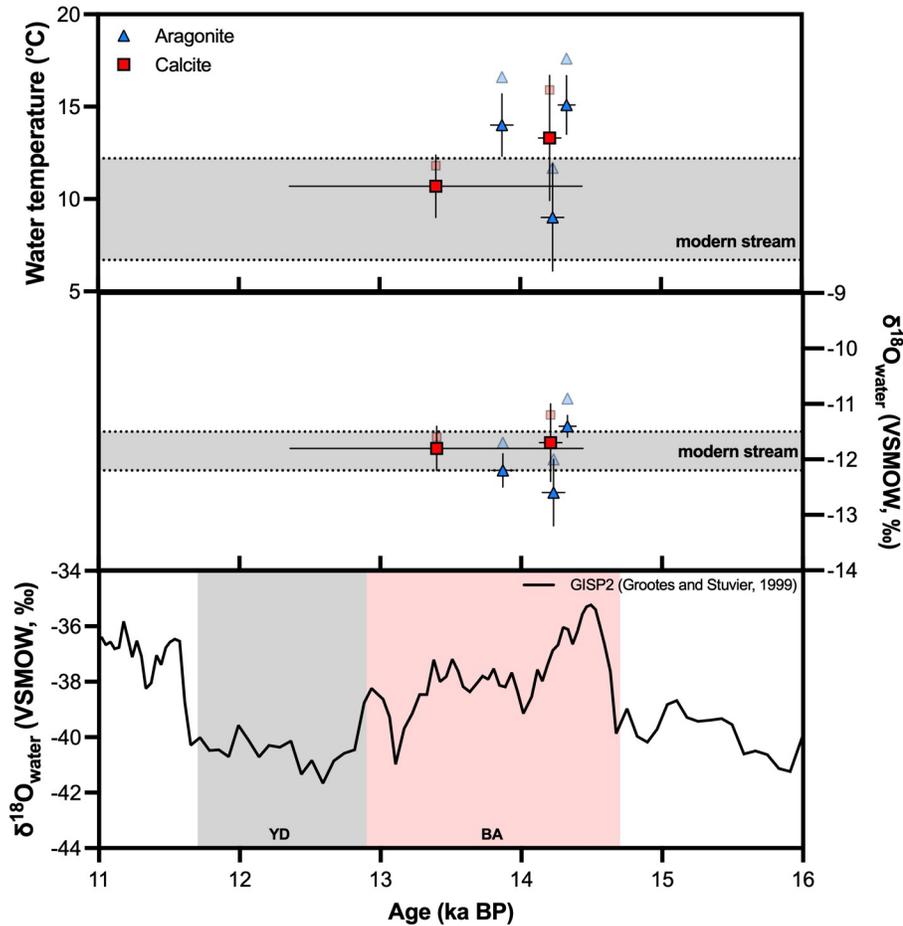
938 We apply our calibrations to study the formation of travertines and tufas in a
939 mountainous region of the Alps. To demonstrate this, we examined a lateglacial sequence of
940 travertine and calcareous tufa from Ainet, Austria that was first described in Boch et al. (2005).
941 It represents the only aragonitic travertine sequence known in the Eastern Alps. This sequence of
942 ~2.7 m thickness formed over the course of ~1,000 years, following the rapid initiation of
943 warming during the Bølling-Allerød (Figure 7). Carbonate deposition within the travertine
944 sequence alternated between aragonite and calcite layers (on mm-scale), which was hypothesized
945 to represent differences in seasonality, with aragonite precipitation occurring during the warm
946 season and calcite precipitation occurring during cooler intervals. Following the deposition of the
947 compact and aragonite dominated travertine (~2.5 m), this sequence was then capped by a highly
948 porous and calcareous tufa layer (~0.2 m) consisting of calcite solely.

949 Here, we constrain formation temperature and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ for these differentiated calcium
950 carbonates using our biologically-mediated and travertine calibrations from this study.
951 Temperature estimates for the tufa and travertine sequence range from 9.0 to 15.1°C, with an
952 average value of 12.7°C for the travertine terrace (Supplementary Table 8). Modern water
953 temperatures taken in May, July, and October range from 6.6 - 12.2°C, similar to our Δ_{47} -derived
954 estimates. Although the initial study suggested a seasonal control on aragonite and calcite
955 formation, with aragonite being precipitated in the warmer months and calcite being precipitated
956 in the cooler months, we do not resolve a clear relationship between temperature and mineralogy
957 within this limited dataset (Figure 7).

958 Our Δ_{47} -temperatures and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ values support the hypothesis that the travertine
959 sequence did not have a hydrothermal origin (thermal water discharge), but are consistent with
960 being derived from rapid CO_2 degassing from groundwater discharge of meteoric origin, with
961 sufficient time for dissolved inorganic carbon equilibration to occur. We observe consistency
962 between modern $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ values measured from a series of nearby streams (-11.5 to -12.1‰
963 VSMOW) and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ estimates derived from clumped isotope analysis (-11.4 to -12.2‰
964 VSMOW). Given this consistency in $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$, we suggest recharged meteoric groundwater
965 (seasonal rainfall, snowmelt) and eventually some contribution from ice melting due to a rapid
966 increase in temperatures during the Bølling-Allerød is likely to have been the surface dominated
967 paleofluid source for carbonate precipitation here. The calcium carbonate source of the
968 freshwater carbonate precipitates is probably manifested in local marble lenses within the
969 prevalent metamorphic rocks and additional CO_2 from underground might have been dissolved
970 in the percolating groundwaters favored by deep-seated slope displacements (as a consequence
971 of glacial ice melting) and faults that have been locally detected (Boch et al., 2005).

972 The analysis of this travertine sequence illustrates the importance of an appropriate
973 calibration selection. While application of our composite freshwater carbonate calibration would
974 yield temperature values 2.5 - 2.7°C higher than modern streamflow, use of the material-specific
975 travertine calibration yields formation temperatures more similar to modern stream temperatures
976 (Supplementary Table 8), which are more likely to be correct for carbonates forming in an
977 interval of distinct relative warmth in the last glacial period. The $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ values reconstructed
978 from the material-specific calibration are within error of modern groundwater values, measured
979 from spring-fed streams, while reconstructed $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ values are 0.5 to 0.6‰ higher when using
980 the composite calibration relative to the material-specific calibration. We note the Anderson et

981 al. (2021) calibration estimates the formation temperature of the calcareous tufa sample to be
982 9.1°C, 1.6°C colder than the temperatures calculated using the biologically mediated calibration.
983 The cooler temperature estimated by Anderson et al. (2021) results in $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ that are 0.4‰
984 more depleted relative to the biologically mediated calibration. Reconstructed temperatures and
985 $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ values for the travertine sequence using the Anderson et al. (2021) calibration result in
986 temperature values that are similar to our travertine calibration (0 - 0.2°C higher) and identical
987 $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ values. Given that the travertine calibration is indistinguishable from the Anderson et al.
988 (2021) calibration according to an ANCOVA test (slope: $p = 0.6320$; intercept: $p = 0.4440$), the
989 similarities in temperatures and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ values between the two calibrations is unsurprising.



990

991 **Figure 7: Clumped isotope derived estimates of temperature and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ for a travertine**
 992 **terrace in Ainet, Austria.** Solid symbols represent estimates derived from material-specific
 993 calibrations, while lighter symbols represent estimates derived from our composite freshwater
 994 calibration. Gray bands represent the range of modern stream values measured in May, July, and
 995 October (Boch et al., 2005) and data for GISP2 ice core record is from Stuiver and Grootes
 996 (2000). Values are broadly consistent with modern temperatures and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ of nearby streams.
 997 Seasonally enhanced percolation of meteoric waters and melting of the last glacial Alpine
 998 glaciers during initiation of the pronounced Bølling-Allerød warm period are hypothesized to
 999 have recharged groundwater via new flow routes (slope failure/graben and faults) opening during
 1000 the melting phase and promoting the relatively short lived discharge and calcium carbonate
 1001 precipitation event.

1002 3.6.3 Application to Paleoaltimetry

1003 Following on stable isotope and leaf margin-based paleoaltimetry (Blisniuk & Stern,
1004 2005; Gregory-Wodzicki, 2000; McElwain, 2004; Rowley & Garzzone, 2007; Wolfe et al.,
1005 1998), clumped isotope analyses have been used to constrain the tectonic history of a region
1006 (Ghosh, Garzzone, et al., 2006; Huntington & Lechler, 2015; L. Li et al., 2019; Quade et al.,
1007 2013). This proxy relies on the premise that lake water temperature is directly related to air
1008 temperature; therefore, as basins undergo surface uplift as a result of large-scale tectonic
1009 processes (e.g., crustal shortening and thickening, convective removal of lower lithosphere, etc.),
1010 the ambient air and water temperature should decrease, as governed by the local lapse rate
1011 (Ghosh, Garzzone, et al., 2006; Huntington & Lechler, 2015; L. Li et al., 2019; Quade et al.,
1012 2013). Reconstructed $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ can provide additional constraints on paleoelevation, because the
1013 stable isotope compositions of meteoric and surface waters decreases as altitude increases
1014 (Chamberlain & Poage, 2000; Poage & Chamberlain, 2001; Rowley & Garzzone, 2007). To
1015 assess the impact of our calibrations on a published paleoelevation reconstruction for the Tibetan
1016 Plateau, we recalculate temperatures and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ estimates from L. Li et al. (2019) using the
1017 micrite, composite, and Anderson et al. (2021) calibration for lacustrine samples in the Nangqian
1018 Basin. We used our clumped-isotope derived results to compare estimates of elevation changes
1019 during the late Eocene following the methodology used in the original publication.

1020 Overall, the micrite calibration equation derives similar temperatures for unaltered
1021 carbonates to those derived in the original publication using the Kelson calibration
1022 (Supplementary Table 9). Mean temperatures for Units 1, 3, and 4 using the new calibration
1023 derived in this study are 25.1 ± 3.0 , 39.0 ± 3.7 , and $29.0 \pm 3.5^\circ\text{C}$. These values are 0.2°C higher,
1024 1.9°C lower, and 0.7°C lower than published results, respectively. The general calibration
1025 estimates slightly cooler values than our material-specific derived results (1.4 , 0.2 , and 1.1°C
1026 lower for Units 1, 3, and 4, respectively). The Anderson calibration projects even cooler values,
1027 with Units 1, 3, and 4 estimates being 3.4 , 1.2 , and 3.4°C lower, respectively.

1028 In the new calibration, samples from Unit 2 yield high temperatures between 44.2 and
1029 67.8°C , which agree with previous observation and interpretation of deep burial diagenetic
1030 alteration of the Unit 2 samples (L. Li et al., 2019). We also note that the previous interpretation
1031 for the new temperatures of Unit 1 still holds, such that the lower temperatures in the Late
1032 Cretaceous represent either less heating of lake water or possibly higher surface elevation in the
1033 Nangqian Basin.

1034 Late Eocene (38-37 Ma) carbonates analyzed from Unit 4 were suggested to be deposited
1035 near-surface and their Δ_{47} -temperature values were used to reconstruct $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ values and
1036 paleoelevation (L. Li et al., 2019). We calculate similar values using our calibration for late
1037 Eocene highland water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values to be -9.4‰ and -9.8‰ , respectively, compared to -9.1‰ and
1038 -9.8‰ in the original study. Following the method in L. Li et al. (2019) where the authors use
1039 different modeling approaches to consider dominant regional moisture sources, the paleo-water
1040 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values correspond to a mean hypsometric paleoelevation of 2.8 ± 1.1 km and 3.1 ± 1.1 km,
1041 which is very similar to the reconstruction that was published (2.8 ± 1.1 km and 3.2 ± 1.1 km), and
1042 ~ 1.3 km lower than the modern hypsometric mean elevation (4.2 km) of the Nangqian Basin.
1043 Given the similarities in projected water temperatures between the material-specific and
1044 composite regressions for the sample used to reconstruct paleoelevation, it is unsurprising that
1045 the projected elevation estimates are identical (Table 4). The cooler temperatures derived using
1046 Anderson calibrations result in more depleted water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values (-9.5‰ and -10.0‰) and

1047 slightly higher estimates of paleoelevation (2.9 ± 1.1 km and 3.2 ± 1.1 km), but still within error of
1048 the original publication and findings in this study.

1049 The basin floor paleoelevation of the Nangqian Basin was estimated from the $T-\Delta_{47}$
1050 values of late Eocene lacustrine carbonates in unit 4. The newly calculated mean $T-\Delta_{47}$ value of
1051 these samples is 29.5°C , 0.5°C higher than what was published. Following the method in Li et al.
1052 (2019), this mean $T-\Delta_{47}$ value is 12.5°C higher than the estimated warm-season lake surface
1053 water temperature ($\sim 17^{\circ}\text{C}$) for an elevation at 3.8 km. Benthic foraminiferal records indicate that
1054 roughly 6°C of the temperature decrease can be attributed to the post-Eocene global cooling
1055 (Hansen et al., 2008), while the remaining 6.5°C reflects paleoelevation increase of the basin
1056 floor after the Eocene. Following the method in L. Li et al. (2019), this indicates 1.1 ± 0.3 km of
1057 post-late Eocene elevation increase, if a lapse rate of $-6.1 \pm 1.0^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{km}$ is applied for lake
1058 surface-water temperature on the Tibetan Plateau (Huntington et al., 2015). Therefore, the late
1059 Eocene elevation of the Nangqian Basin floor is estimated as 2.7 km above sea level, which is
1060 1.1 km lower than the modern elevation of 3.8 km.

1061 4 Conclusions

1062 In order to confidently use proxies to characterize and understand past environments, it is
1063 necessary to have a solid understanding of modern systems. Thus, in this work, we present an
1064 extensive composite dataset of 135 clumped isotope samples of terrestrial freshwater carbonates
1065 from 96 sites, and derive relationships between modern water temperatures and Δ_{47} . These
1066 freshwater Δ_{47} -temperature calibrations are well constrained, encompass a variety of types of
1067 natural lacustrine, fluvial, and spring carbonates, and span a broad range of temperatures,
1068 elevations, and latitudes. As the carbonates presented in this study are taken directly from
1069 modern freshwater settings, they are more representative of real-world systems, and may, in
1070 some circumstances, be more appropriate for application to reconstruct paleotemperatures, than
1071 synthetically-derived Δ_{47} -temperature carbonate calibrations. However, we note that since our
1072 approach utilizes *in-situ* lake water surface temperature data, there is an added uncertainty in the
1073 timing of carbonate formation temperature and calcification timeframe for each of our calibration
1074 samples.

1075 Our results show a convergence of slopes but differences in the intercepts of the Δ_{47} -
1076 temperature relationship between freshwater carbonate groups. Specifically an ANCOVA
1077 analysis shows that material specific calibrations based on grouping freshwater carbonates
1078 (biogenic, biologically mediated, micrite, and travertine) have statistically indistinguishable
1079 slopes between other freshwater carbonate groups and recently published calibration studies, but
1080 in some cases, where there is strong evidence for biogenicity, detects differences in intercepts.

1081 Utilizing a single, composite calibration does not always yield the most accurate results,
1082 while in most cases, implementing material-specific calibrations reduces the magnitude of
1083 residuals (offsets between Δ_{47} -derived temperatures/water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and measured temperature/water
1084 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$) and RMSE, and thus, can provide more robust estimates of temperature. Water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values
1085 derived from utilizing material specific calibrations can recover independently measured water
1086 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values accurately, with 39% and 74% of lakes being within 1‰ and 2‰ of measured water
1087 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, respectively, reflecting a 7% and 10% improvement relative to our composite freshwater
1088 calibration.

1089 Additionally, we explore the application of the new calibration relationships reported in
1090 this study by examining three case studies using Δ_{47} measurements of freshwater carbonates.
1091 First, we utilize the biologically-mediated and composite calibrations to explore hydroclimatic
1092 changes from the LGM and deglacial at Lake Surprise in the Western US and derive cooler
1093 temperatures using material-specific, composite, and Anderson calibrations, but with similar
1094 results for evaporation and precipitation rates. Second, we utilize the micrite calibration to
1095 estimate the Eocene paleoelevation of the Nangqian Basin within the Tibetan Plateau and find
1096 that our material-specific derived elevations are in agreement with the original publication, but
1097 elevations derived from the composite and Anderson calibration suggest a higher degree of
1098 uplift. We also present a new dataset from a travertine sequence in Austria and show that the
1099 origin of the fluid that allowed for carbonate formation was likely derived from groundwater
1100 sources due to increased percolation of meteoric water and glacial melt. Overall, this work
1101 provides a basis for more accurate reconstructions of terrestrial paleoclimate, paleohydrology,
1102 and paleoaltimetry using freshwater archives, and opens the door to more robust understandings
1103 of paleoenvironmental processes.

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1118 1119 **Open Research**

1120 Data will be available in the Earth-Chem database, pending acceptance of manuscript.
1121 Sample and replicate level data for restandardized samples will also be archived in the Earth-
1122 Chem database as well as the NCDC Paleoclimatology Database.

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