

Comparative clumped isotope temperature relationships in freshwater carbonates

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Key Points:

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

Abstract

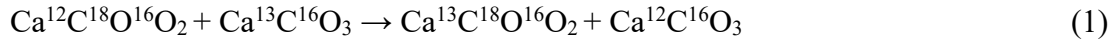
Lacustrine, riverine, and spring carbonates are archives of terrestrial climate change and are extensively used to study paleoenvironments. Clumped isotope thermometry has been applied to freshwater carbonates to reconstruct temperatures, however, limited work has been done to evaluate comparative relationships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

1 Introduction

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

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

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



We report the abundance of mass-47 CO₂ liberated from carbonate minerals digested in phosphoric acid (δ_{47}) compared to a randomized (stochastic) distribution of clumping in a sample. This excess of $^{13}\text{C}^{18}\text{O}^{16}\text{O}$ is denoted as Δ_{47} in Equation 2, where $R^i = (\text{mass } i/\text{mass } 44)$:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2 Materials and Methods

2.1 Sample and site selection

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

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

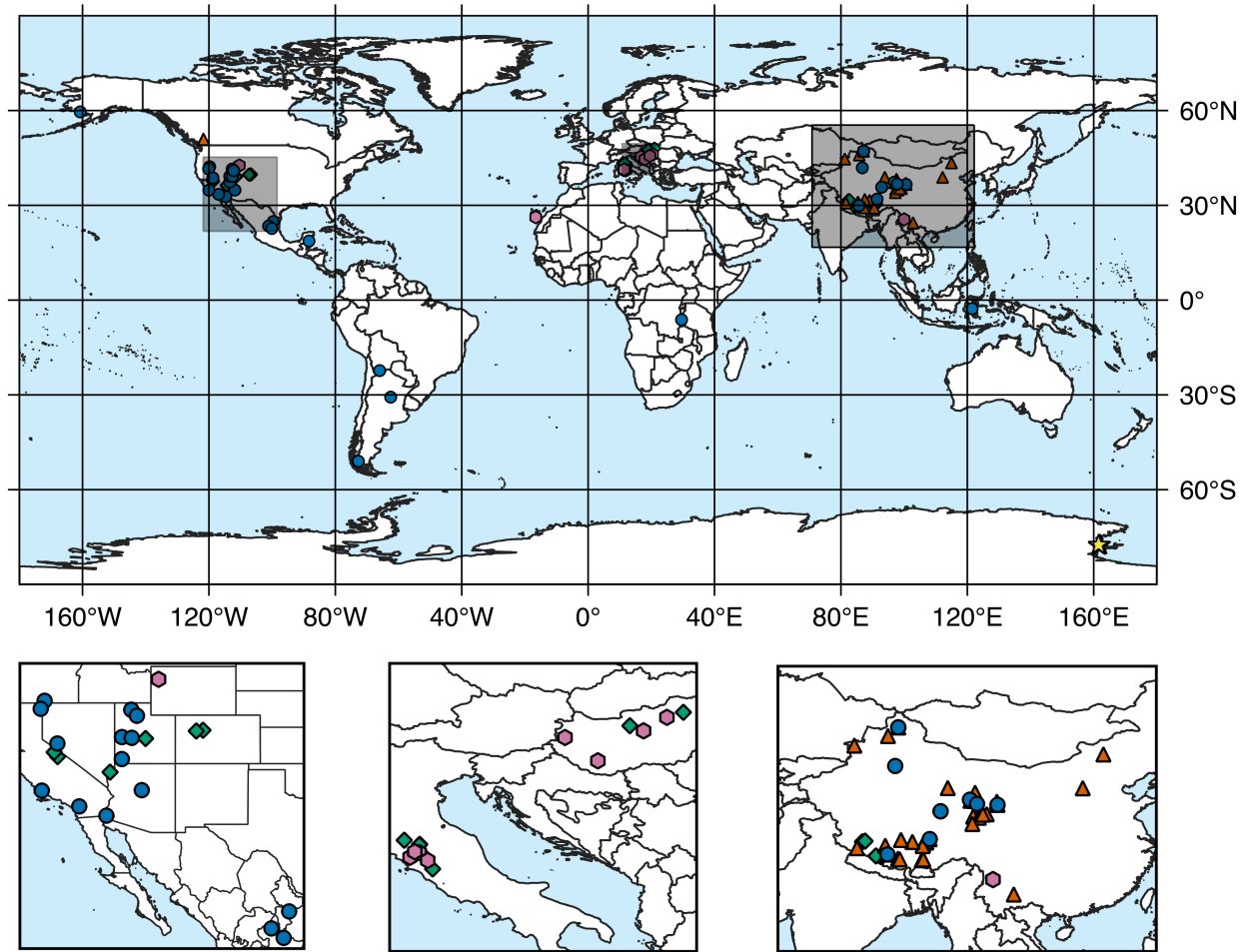


Figure 1: Sample locations used for this study. We discuss clumped isotope data from 135 samples collected from 96 sites in modern lakes, rivers, and springs. Blue circles indicate location of samples with new data from the Eagle-Tripati lab ($n = 25$; 159 measurements), orange triangles indicate data measured in the Eagle-Tripati lab that has been published and was recalculated onto the I-CDES reference frame for this study ($n = 30$), green diamonds indicate data from other labs that were recalculated onto the I-CDES reference frame as part of this study ($n = 29$), pink hexagons denotes sites where samples were analyzed twice, with one set of measurements being recalculated and the other taken directly from published data ($n = 12$), 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
Széchenyi Spa	47.5	19.1	11.0	70.9	2.0	2.9	-20.5	0.473	0.008	Bernasconi lab ^g
Terme Sangiovanni	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)

2.2 Sample Preparation

2.2.1 Biologic carbonates

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

2.2.2 Fine grained carbonates

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

2.2.3 Biologically mediated carbonates

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

2.3 Stable Isotope Measurements

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

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

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

2.4 Data handling

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

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

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

2.5 Regression Methodology

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

3 Results and Discussion

3.1 Seasonality of freshwater carbonate formation

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

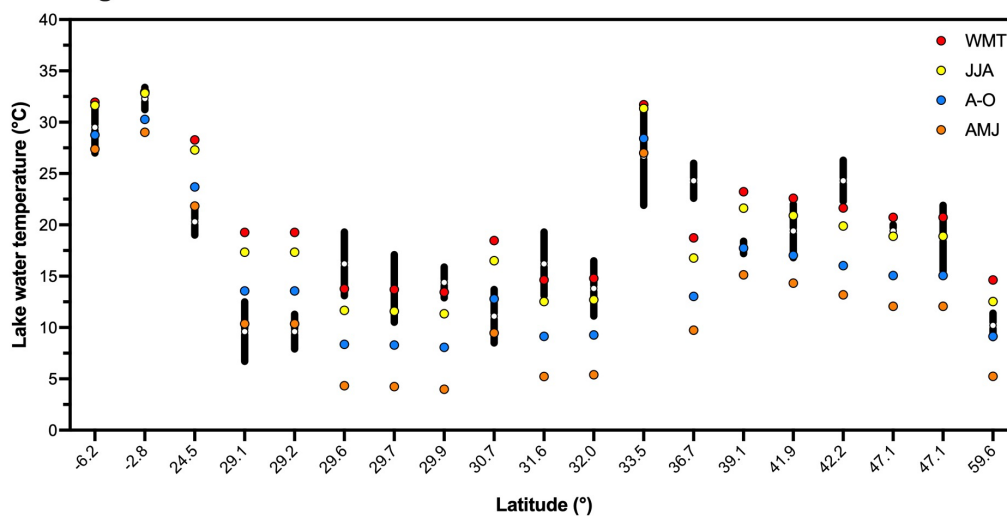
total, these observations indicate that the calibration of Anderson et al. (2021) yields temperatures that are broadly consistent with known freshwater carbonate growth seasons and systematics within mid-to-high latitudes, but underestimates lake water temperature in some cases and may not reflect what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

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

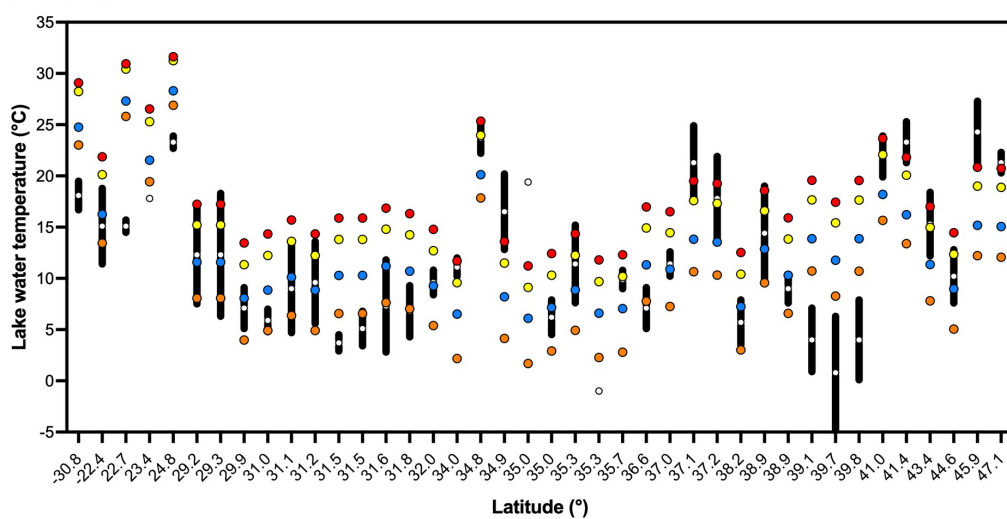
Reconstructions of water temperature from biologically-mediated carbonates from this study derived using the calibration of Anderson et al. (2021) (Figure 2c) seem to exceed predictions, with four samples matching or exceeding warmest month water temperatures. Prior work analyzing Δ_{47} in modern tufas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

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

a. Biologic carbonates



b. Micrite



c. Biologically-mediated carbonates

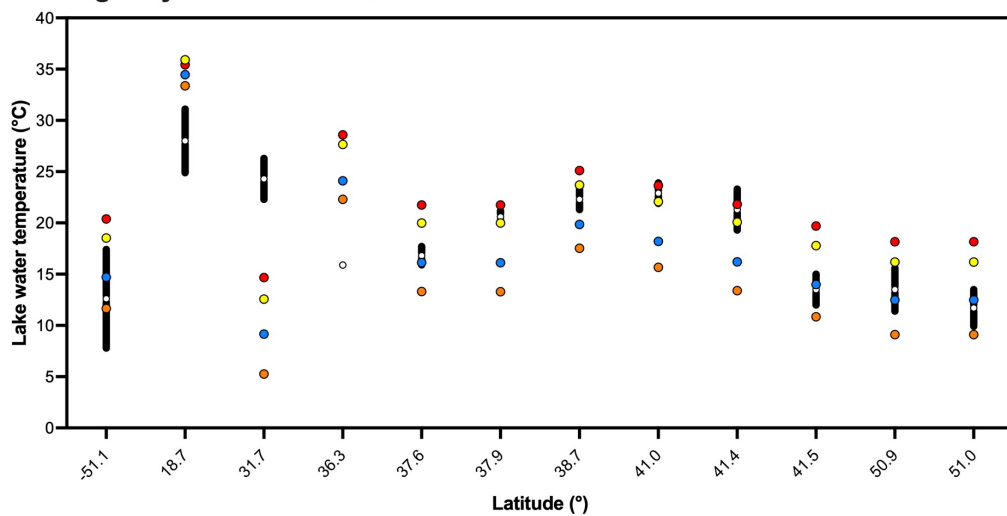


Figure 2: Evaluation of seasonality of carbonate precipitation for biogenic, micrite, and biologically mediated lacustrine carbonates using the clumped isotope calibration of Anderson et al. (2021). White circles with black bars are Δ_{47} -derived temperatures and with uncertainties, respectively. Results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

3.2 Δ_{47} -Temperature Relationships

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

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

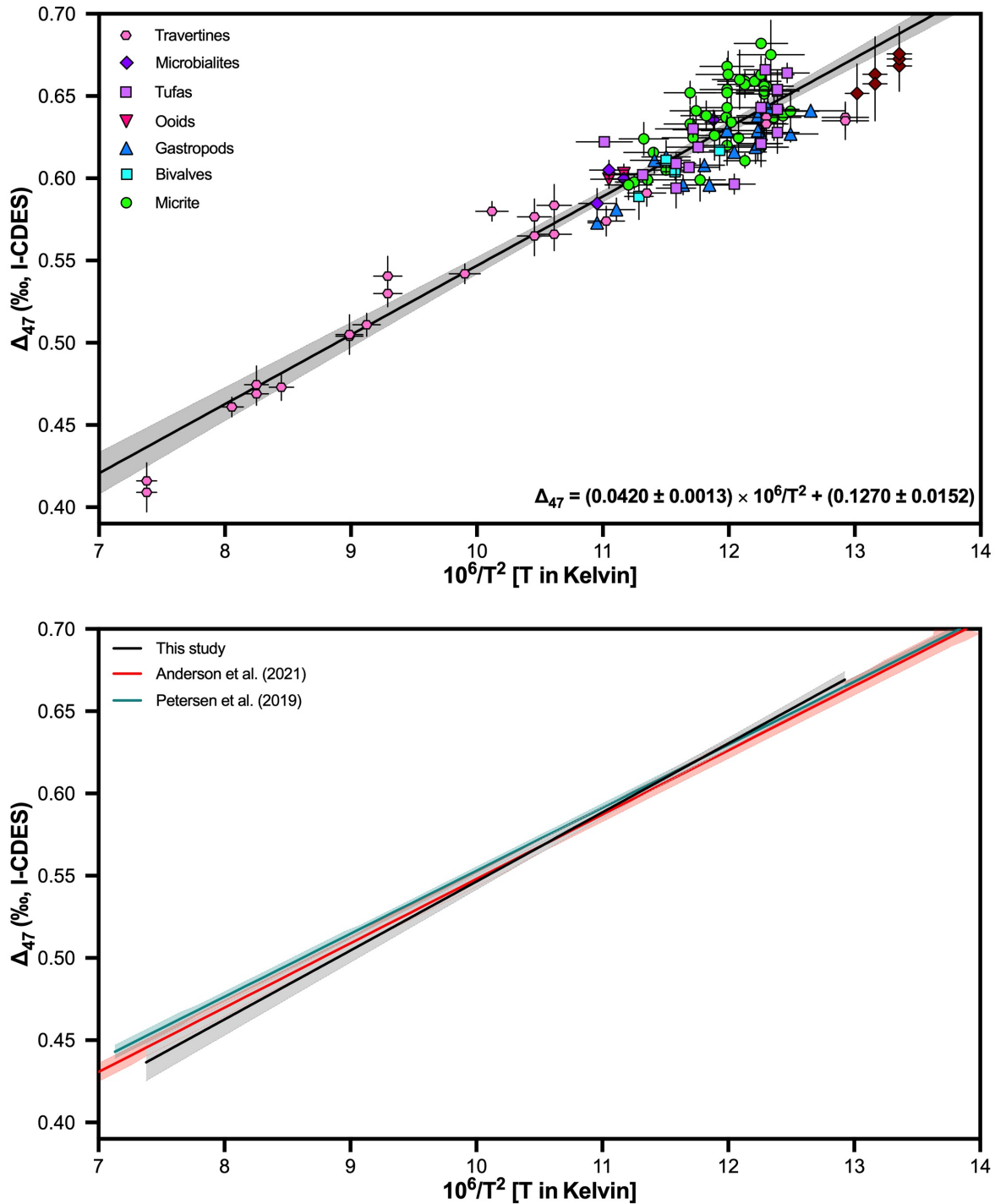


Figure 3: Top: Δ_{47} -temperature relationship for all 108 freshwater carbonates included in this study. Black line represents a linear, ordinary least squares regression through the data and the gray shaded area represents the 95% confidence interval. We find a strong relationship between Δ_{47} and 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	—

523

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
531 for 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).

3.2.1 Evidence for material-specificity in regression models

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

3.2.1.1 Biogenic Carbonates

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

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

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

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

3.2.1.2 Micrites

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

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

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

3.2.1.3 Biologically Mediated Carbonate

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

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

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

3.2.1.4 Travertines

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

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

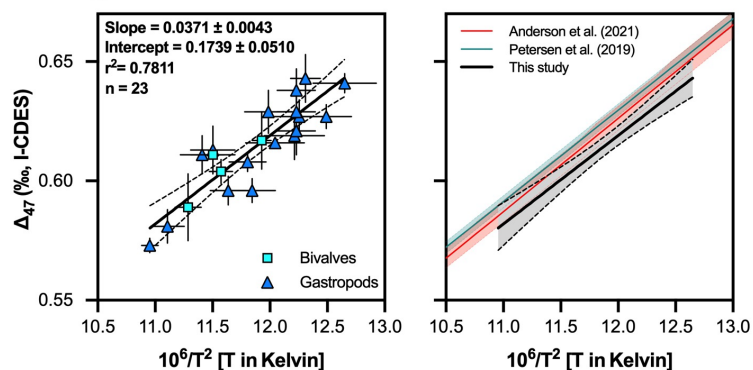
but has significant differences in intercept from the calibration presented in Petersen et al. (2019) ($p_{\text{intercept}} = 0.0354$), suggesting that applying a ‘universal’ calibration may not be appropriate. Additionally, we find no significant differences in either slope or intercept between travertines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

3.2.1.5 Comparison of material-specific and composite calibrations

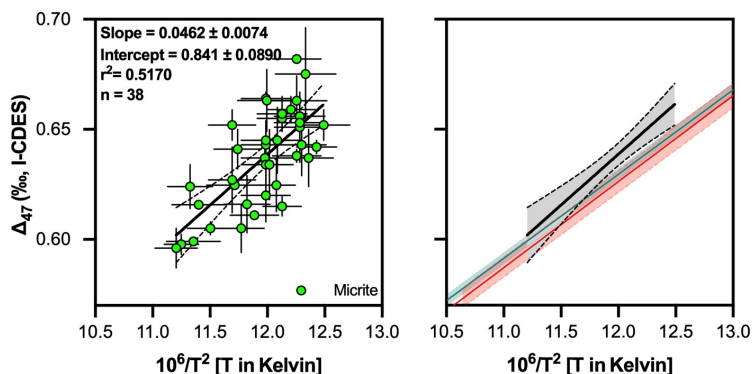
Overall, we observe no statistically significant difference between the calibration slopes derived from different materials and previously published calibrations (Table 3) when freshwater carbonates are divided into groups to account for differences in their precipitation (e.g. seasonality, ecology,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

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

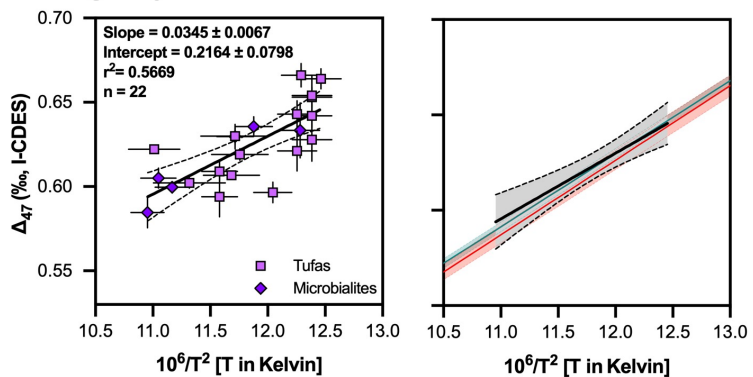
a. Biologic carbonates



b. Micrite



c. Biologically-mediated carbonates



d. Travertines

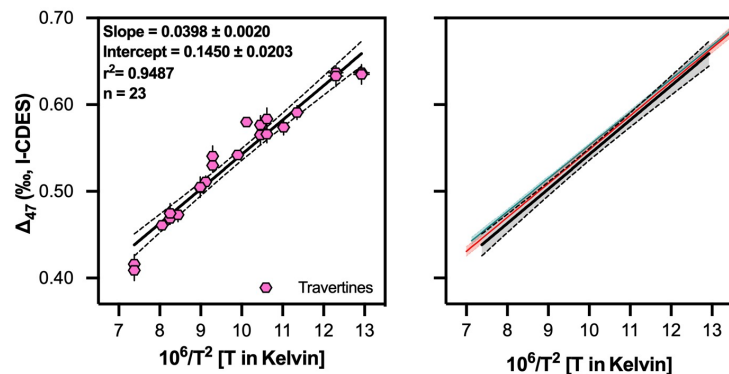


Figure 4: Δ_{47} -temperature relationships for different groups of freshwater carbonates. Left: Δ_{47} -temperature relationship for all carbonate types included in this study. Black line represents a linear, ordinary least squares regression through the data. We find a strong relationship between Δ_{47}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

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

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

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

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

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

3.4 Comparison of multiple materials at individual sites

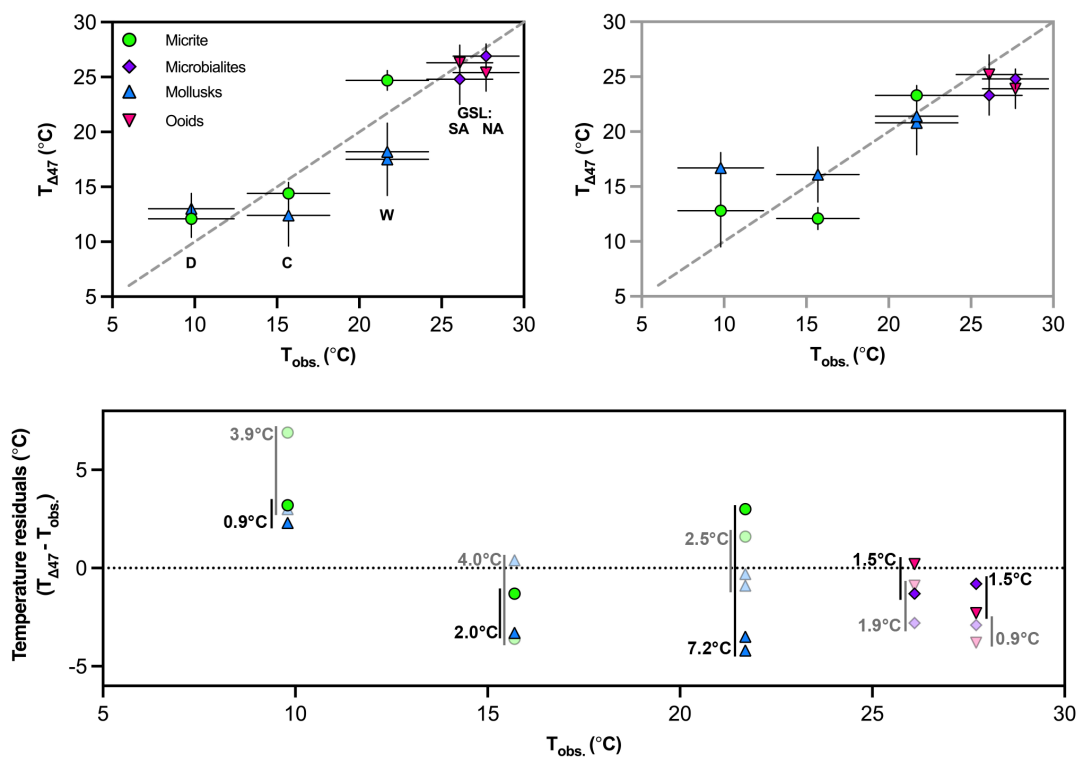
Five sites in this study contain a combination of two different types of materials analyzed. Three sites in China (Daija Co, Cuona Lake, and Wulungu Lake) have micrite (Li et al., 2021) and freshwater mollusks (this study), and both the North Arm and the South Arm of the Great Salt Lake in Utah contain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

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

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

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

a. Water temperature



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

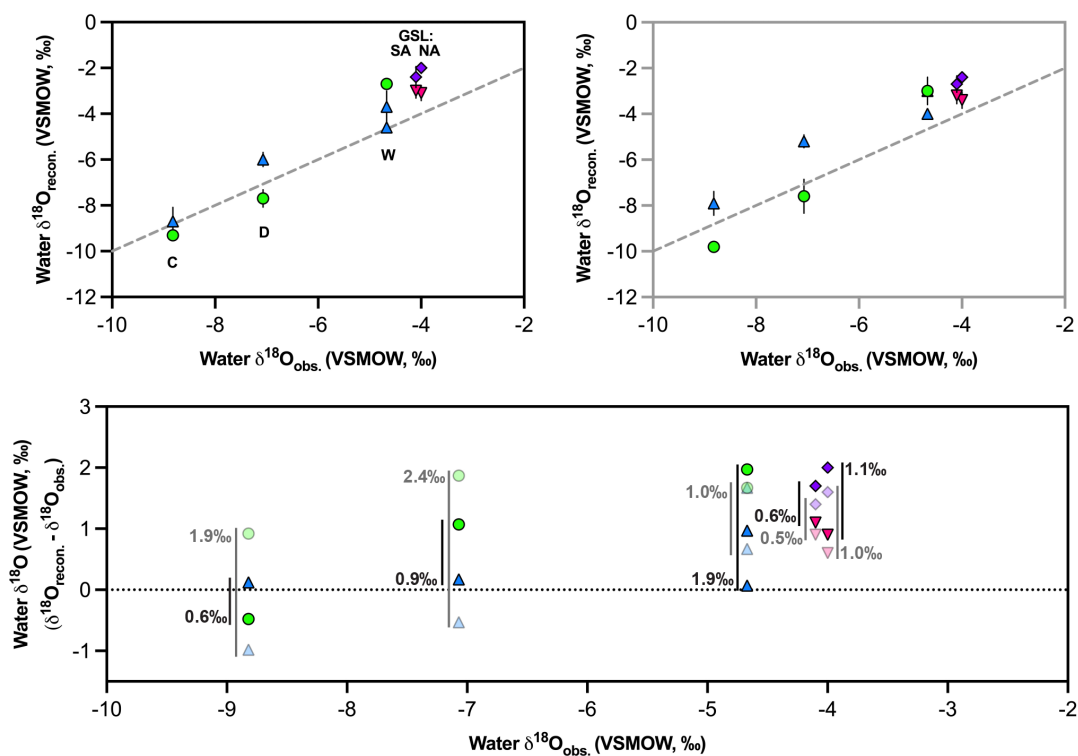


Figure 6: Evaluation of clumped isotope derived temperature and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ for locations with dual materials. A. Clumped-isotope derived temperature reconstructions using material specific calibrations (top row; black frame) and composite freshwater calibration (top row; gray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

3.5 Applications to Paleoclimate Reconstructions

3.5.1 Paleoclimatology of Lake Surprise, CA

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

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

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

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

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

These updated calculations using the material-specific calibration indicate that during the LGM, precipitation rates were 10% lower than modern, and precipitation increased during the deglacial to values that were 8% lower than today (Table 4). Estimates of precipitation rates using all calibrations are similar, with estimates for the LGM ranging from 551 to 565 mm/yr (Table 4). We observe a slight increase in precipitation rate estimates when applying all calibrations during the deglacial, when Lake Surprise reached its maximum extent, with values using the original published calibration resulting in estimates of 567 mm/yr, which is 16, 1, and 8 mm/year lower than estimates derived from our material-specific, composite, and the Anderson-derived values, respectively. Overall, this supports the original findings of Ibarra et al. (2014) and those of Santi et al. (2020) based on clumped isotopes that temperature and evaporation were likely dominant controls on Lake Surprise's transgression and regression, and that increased 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	627 ± 28
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</u>
	<u>T_w (°C)</u>	<u>d¹⁸O_w (‰)</u>	<u>T_w (°C)</u>	<u>δ¹⁸O_w (‰)</u>	<u>T_w (°C)</u>	<u>δ¹⁸O_w (‰)</u>	<u>(km)</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

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

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

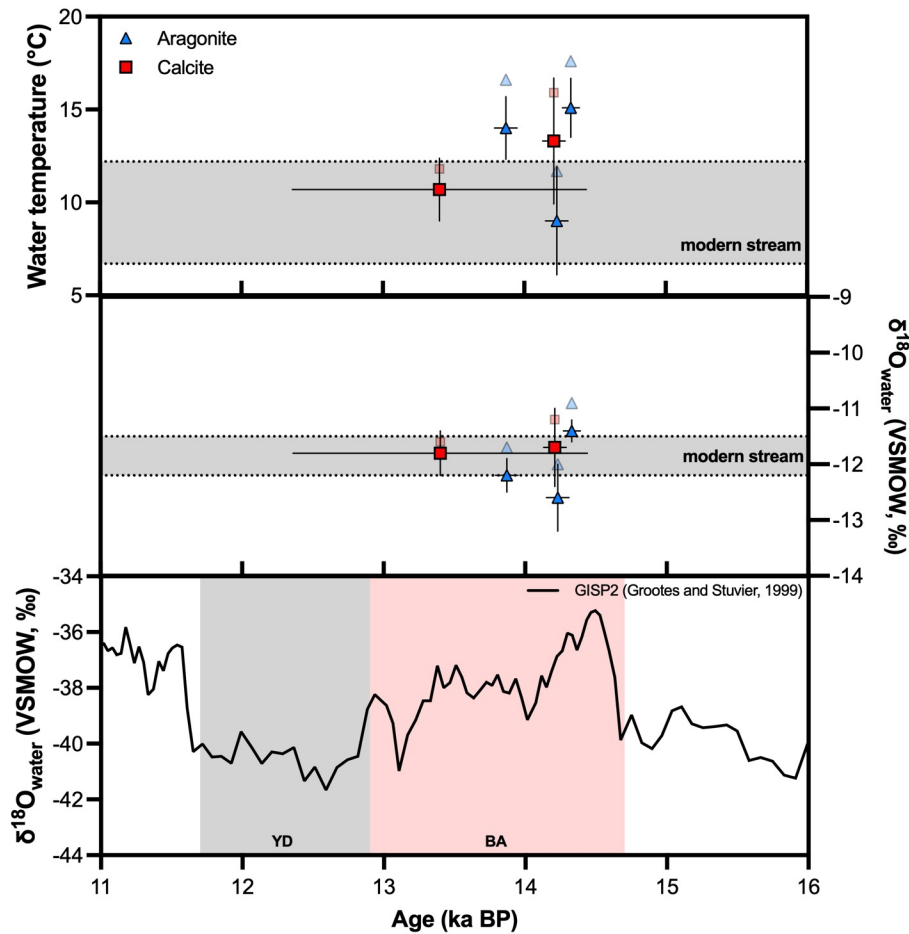
We apply our calibrations to study the formation of travertines and tufas in a mountainous region of the Alps. To demonstrate this, we examined a lateglacial sequence of travertine and calcareous tufa from Ainet, Austria that was first described in Boch et al. (2005). It represents the only aragonitic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

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

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

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

3.6.3 Application to Paleoaltimetry

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

Overall, the micrite calibration equation derives similar temperatures for unaltered carbonates to those derived in the original publication using the Kelson calibration (Supplementary Table 9). Mean temperatures for Units 1, 3, and 4 using the new calibration 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, 1.9°C lower, and 0.7°C lower than published results, respectively. The general calibration estimates slightly cooler values than our material-specific derived results (1.4 , 0.2 , and 1.1°C lower for Units 1, 3, and 4, respectively). The Anderson calibration projects even cooler values, with Units 1, 3, and 4 estimates being 3.4 , 1.2 , and 3.4°C lower, respectively.

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

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

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

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

4 Conclusions

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

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

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

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

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Open Research

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

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