

Assessing the impact of diagenesis on foraminiferal geochemistry from a low latitude, shallow-water drift deposit

Stephanie Stainbank^{a,*}, Silvia Spezzaferri^a, Eva De Boever^{a,1}, Anne-Sophie Bouvier^b, Colin Chilcott^c, Erica S. de Leau^c, Anneleen Foubert^a, Tereza Kunkelova^{c,2}, Laetitia Pichevin^c, Jacek Raddatz^{d,e}, Andres Rüggeberg^a, James D. Wright^f, Siyao M. Yu^f, Manlin Zhang^{c,3}, Dick Kroon^c

^a Department of Geosciences, University of Fribourg, Chemin du Musée 6, 1700 Fribourg, Switzerland

^b Institute of Earth Sciences, University of Lausanne, Géopolis, 1015 Lausanne, Switzerland

^c School of GeoSciences, University of Edinburgh, Grant Institute, The King's Buildings, James Hutton Road, EH9 3FE Edinburgh, United Kingdom

^d Institute of Geosciences, Goethe University Frankfurt, Altenhöferallee 1, 60438 Frankfurt, Germany

^e Frankfurt Isotope and Element Research Center (FIERCE), Goethe University Frankfurt, Altenhöferallee 1, 60438 Frankfurt, Germany

^f Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, Bush Campus, 610 Taylor Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854-8066, USA

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Due to their large heat and moisture storage capabilities, the tropics are fundamental in modulating both regional and global climate. Furthermore, their thermal response during past extreme warming periods, such as super interglacials, is not fully resolved. In this regard, we present high-resolution (analytical) foraminiferal geochemical ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and Mg/Ca) records for the last 1800 kyr from the shallow (487 m) Inner Sea drift deposits of the Maldives archipelago in the equatorial Indian Ocean. Considering the diagenetic susceptibility of these proxies, in carbonate-rich environments, we assess the integrity of a suite of commonly used planktonic and benthic foraminifera geochemical datasets (*Globigerinoides ruber* (white), *Globigerinita glutinata* (with bulla), *Pulleniatina obliquiloculata* (with cortex) and *Cibicides mabahethi*) and their use for future paleoceanographic reconstructions.

Using a combination of spot Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometer, Electron Probe Micro-Analyzer and Scanning Electron Microscope image data, it is evident that authigenic overgrowths are present on both the external and internal test (shell) surfaces, yet the degree down-core as well as the associated bias is shown to be variable across the investigated species and proxies. Given the elevated authigenic overgrowth Mg/Ca ($\sim 12\text{--}22$ mmol/mol) and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values (closer to the benthic isotopic compositions) the whole-test planktonic *G. ruber* (w) geochemical records are notably impacted beyond ~ 627.4 ka (24.7 mcd). Yet, considering the setting (i.e. bottom water location) for overgrowth formation, the benthic foraminifera $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record is markedly less impacted with only minor diagenetic bias beyond ~ 790.0 ka (28.7 mcd). Even though only the top of the *G. ruber* (w) and *C. mabahethi* records (whole-test data) would be suitable for paleo-reconstructions of absolute values (i.e. sea surface temperature, salinity, seawater $\delta^{18}\text{O}$), the long-term cycles, while dampened, appear to be preserved. Furthermore, planktonic species with thicker-tests (i.e. *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c)) might be better suited, in comparison to thinner-test counter-parts (i.e. *G. glutinata* (w/b), *G. ruber* (w)), for traditional whole-test geochemical studies in shallow, carbonate-rich environments. A thicker test equates to a smaller overall bias from the authigenic overgrowth. Overall, if the diagenetic impact is constrained, as done in this study, these types of diagenetically altered geochemical records can still significantly contribute to studies relating to past tropical seawater temperatures, latitudinal scale ocean current shifts and South Asian Monsoon dynamics.

* Corresponding author.

E-mail address: stephanie.hayman@unifr.ch (S. Stainbank).

¹ Present address: TNO, Geological Survey of the Netherlands, Princetonlaan 6, 3584 CB Utrecht, the Netherlands.

² Present address: National Oceanography Centre Southampton, University of Southampton, Waterfront Campus, European Way, SO14 3ZH Southampton, United Kingdom.

³ Present address: Faculty of Life Science, University of Bradford, Richmond Rd, BD7 1DP Bradford, United Kingdom.

1. Introduction

In comparison to deep-sea records, high-resolution (both temporal and analytical) paleoclimate reconstructions for shallow-intermediate, equatorial regions are limited. This is in part due to (i) the drive to reconstruct and model past global ocean circulation patterns, which predominantly use high-temporally resolved deep-sea archives, and which are difficult to recover from lower latitudes and (ii) the increased susceptibility of calcifying organisms to diagenetic overprint in shallow, carbonate-rich environments. The tropics are an integral component of both regional and global climatic systems due to their heat and moisture storage capabilities (Gupta et al., 2010 and references within; Hastenrath et al., 1993; Schott et al., 2009). Yet, notably there is a lack of reliable sea surface temperature (SST) and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records from these equatorial regions, particularly from past extreme warming periods, which would further facilitate the understanding of tropical climatic systems. In this regard, we present a new high-resolution (analytical) tropical record from the Inner Sea of the Maldives archipelago in the equatorial Indian Ocean. We test the suitability of this unique tropical record for paleo-reconstructions given its shallow location, proximity to carbonate banks and the anticipated diagenetic alteration down-core.

Innumerable studies have shown that the geochemistry of foraminiferal tests (shells) are invaluable paleoceanographic, -climatic and -ecological archives (e.g. Birch et al., 2013; Kroon and Ganssen, 1989; Lisiecki and Raymo, 2005; Groeneveld et al., 2008; Raddatz et al., 2017; Stainbank et al., 2019). Yet, many of these geochemical proxies (e.g. Mg/Ca and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$) are susceptible to diagenetic alteration, which calls into question their fidelity (Edgar et al., 2015, 2013; Groeneveld et al., 2008; Panieri et al., 2017). According to Edgar et al. (2015) the foraminifera test wall, texture and morphology are prone to at least three diagenetic processes: overgrowth, partial dissolution and recrystallization. All three have the potential to bias the original test geochemistry and affect the accuracy of paleo-reconstructions. As such, prior to undertaking paleo-reconstructions, it is paramount to establish the diagenetic state of this foraminiferal calcite. This is particularly important within carbonate-rich environments which have high sediment porosity and permeability and thus a higher “diagenetic potential” in comparison to the more impermeable clay-rich sediments (Edgar et al., 2013). Additionally, in comparison to the more robust, heavily calcified benthic foraminifera, planktonic tests are more susceptible to alteration (Edgar et al., 2013). Moreover, as there is a large array of planktonic foraminifera test wall textures; this influence is not necessarily uniform between species. Bé (1977) correlated increased diagenetic resistance for species with smaller pores, thicker walls and larger test size. These considerations are important to aid in the selection of less diagenetically predisposed foraminiferal species, particularly for depth stratified (i.e. studies assessing discrete living and calcification depths within the water column) thermocline reconstructions.

To contribute to an improved understanding of ocean-atmospheric interactions within the tropical Indian Ocean, and the associated foraminiferal diagenetic processes, we present high analytically resolved foraminiferal datasets from the shallow, Maldives Inner Sea. Specifically, our study addresses the following issues: (i) the overall preservation state of the individual long-term geochemical records and their suitability for future paleoceanographic interpretations and (ii) the differential susceptibility to diagenesis for three planktonic foraminiferal species, with discrete wall textures, and a benthic counterpart using a combination of imaging and elemental/isotopic geochemical approaches.

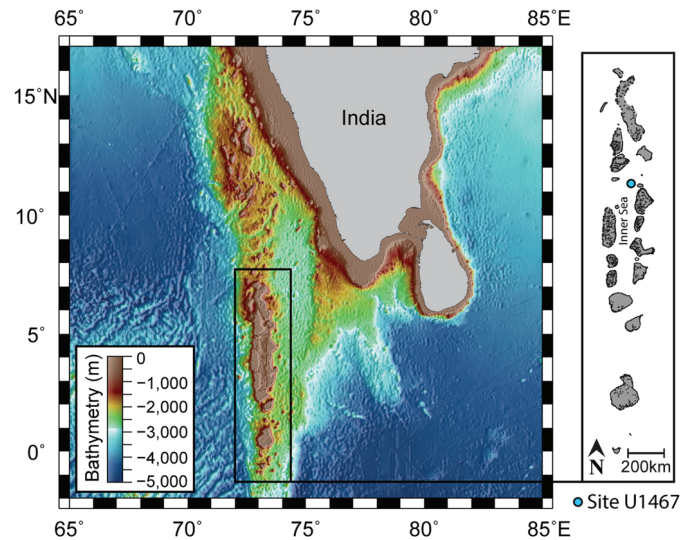


Fig. 1. Study location and position of IODP Expedition 359 Site U1467 in the Inner Sea of the Maldives (blue circle), located in the northern equatorial Indian Ocean (GEBCO Compilation Group, 2019). (For interpretation of the colors in the figure(s), the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

2. Methods

This study uses samples retrieved during the International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP) Expedition 359 in 2015. All samples come from Site U1467 (4°51.0274'N, 73°17.0223'E) drilled at a water depth of 487 m within the drift deposits of the Inner Sea of the Maldives archipelago in the northern equatorial Indian Ocean (Fig. 1) (Betzler et al., 2017). The base of these drift deposits have been biostratigraphically dated to 12.9–13.0 Ma, coinciding with the establishment of the South Asian Monsoon (Betzler et al., 2018, 2016). As such, the drift deposits represent an important paleoceanographic and -monsoon archive due to their unique ability to preserve continuous sediment records by bottom current deposition (Lüdmann et al., 2013). The top 61 meters composite depth (mcd) from Hole U1467A, B, C, composed of unlithified foraminifer-rich wackestone to packstone, were used in this study. The shipboard splice was adjusted after the Expedition based on X-ray fluorescence core scanner data using Fe intensity (counts per second, cps) (Kunkelova et al., 2018).

Long-term, high-resolution (analytical) whole-test (whole-shell) stable isotopic ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$) records are compiled for three planktonic species, *Globigerinoides ruber* (white), *Globigerinita glutinata* (with bulla), *Pulleniatina obliquiloculata* (with cortex) and one benthic representative *Cibicides mabathethi*. In a few cases when the target benthic species is rare, *Cibicides wuellerstorfi* tests are included to ensure enough calcite for the isotopic measurements. Complementary whole-test Mg/Ca ratios are measured for *G. ruber* (w).

A combination of methods is utilized to constrain the influence and susceptibility of diagenetic alteration on the foraminiferal test geochemistry. A visual Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) check is implemented, on selected samples, for both the target planktonic and benthic species. This visual check is then used to define a qualitative Diagenesis Rank (DR) to ascertain and track the down-core change in the preservation state of the foraminiferal tests. Supplementary spot-geochemical (isotopic and elemental) measurements are obtained using a Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometer (SIMS) and Electron Probe Micro-Analyzer (EPMA).

2.1. Site U1467 mineralogy and geochemistry

Site U1467 sediment core interstitial water chemistry and sediment mineralogy are presented in Betzler et al. (2017). Concentrations of Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} and Sr^{2+} were measured from interstitial wa-

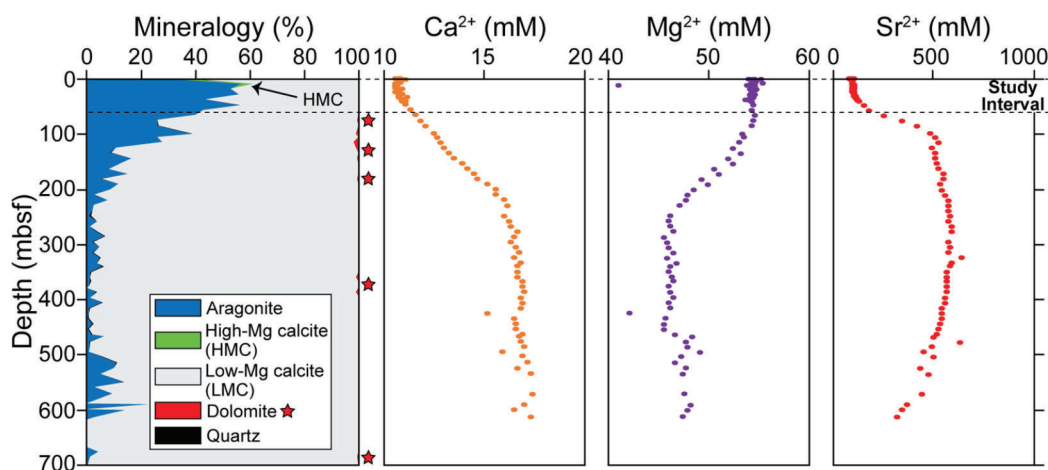


Fig. 2. IODP Expedition 359 Hole U1467B sediment mineralogy and pore water geochemistry (Betzler et al., 2017).

ter (IW) samples either by shipboard Inductively Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectroscopy (ICP-AES) or shore-based ion chromatography (see Betzler et al., 2017; Blättler et al., 2019 for further details). Relative concentrations of aragonite, high-Mg calcite (HMC), low-Mg calcite (LMC), dolomite, and quartz were measured using X-ray powder diffraction (XRD) (see Betzler et al., 2017 for a full overview of the data collection methods). For simplicity we show only the data, reported as mbsf (meters below seafloor), from Hole U1467B as it yielded the most extensive and intact records at this site (Fig. 2).

2.2. Species selection criteria

To explore the susceptibility of different species to diagenetic alteration and the biases on their respective whole-test geochemical compositions, we assess three shallow/intermediate dwelling planktonic foraminiferal species: *G. ruber* (w), *G. glutinata* (w/b) and *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c). These species have reported apparent calcification depths for the northern equatorial Indian Ocean of ~70–77 m, 81 m and 74–104 m, respectively (Stainbank et al., 2019) and have discrete wall textures, thicknesses and porosities (Supplementary Material 1). *Globigerinoides ruber* (w) is chosen as it is the predominant foraminiferal species used for surface/near-surface seawater reconstructions (e.g. Birch et al., 2013; Bunzel et al., 2017; Rebotim et al., 2017; Stainbank et al., 2019). *Globigerinoides ruber* (w) is a spinose, shallow-dweller with a cancellate wall texture and a porosity of ~5 pores/25 x 25 µm (Bé, 1968) (Supplementary Material 1). *Globigerinita glutinata* (w/b) is included as a second shallow-dweller, as it is non-spinose with a smooth, microporiferate wall texture with a porosity of ~112 pores/25 x 25 µm (Bé, 1968; Birch et al., 2013; Stainbank et al., 2019) (Supplementary Material 1). Lastly, the shallow-intermediate dweller *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c) is included as it is non-spinose, with a smooth wall texture (Birch et al., 2013; Stainbank et al., 2019). While the original test has a porosity of ~9 pores/25 x 25 µm, the formation of the smooth, glossy cortex layer drastically reduces the diameter and spherical nature of the pores resulting in a reduction in the overall porosity (Bé, 1968; Steinhart et al., 2015) (Supplementary Material 1). *Cibicides mabahethi*, a calcareous hyaline epibenthic species, is chosen as the benthic representative for this site as it has been shown to accurately record bottom water conditions for the first ~200 kyr (time interval of the study by Bunzel et al., 2017) for the Maldives Inner Sea (Bunzel et al., 2017).

2.3. Traditional whole-test foraminiferal geochemical analysis

Sediment samples were air dried, weighed and washed through a 32 µm sieve to remove the finer silts and clay fraction. They were

then oven-dried at 30°C for 48 hours, weighed and dry sieved into discrete fractions for foraminiferal picking. For all geochemical analyses, species were picked from pre-defined, narrow sieve size fractions, to minimize intra-specific ontogenetic isotopic fractionation effects (Stainbank et al., 2019). Additionally, to remove any adhering particles, and to prevent carbonate contamination, all picked specimens were pre-cleaned in Milli-Q water for a few seconds by ultrasonication.

In total, 3802 traditional whole-test stable oxygen isotopic ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$) measurements were made (data is available on Pangaea. Note: 6 datapoints are from Stainbank et al., 2018). From 0–61 mcd a measurement for *G. ruber* (w: 212–250 µm) was obtained every ~3 cm. Isotopic analyses of *G. glutinata* (w/b: 125–150 µm) and *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c: 355–400 µm), were carried out across three selected intervals with differential diagenetic influences (see Section 3.2 for more details) at a resolution of 3–12 cm; Interval 1 (15.2–20.5 mcd), Interval 2 (31.4–34.5 mcd) and Interval 3 (53.3–56.1 mcd). Benthic isotopic data (*C. mabahethi* > 180 µm) were only generated at a ~3 cm resolution between 0–40.0 mcd as below this interval they become scarce. The *G. ruber* (w) and *C. mabahethi* $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ measurements for the top 6.7 mcd ($n = 441$) were analyzed at Rutgers University on a MicroMass (FISONS) Optima Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometer with an attached multi-prep device. Samples were reacted with 100% phosphoric acid (H_3PO_4) at 90°C for 15 min, and the evolved CO_2 gas collected in a liquid nitrogen coldfinger and analyzed compared to a reference gas. The samples are corrected using an internal laboratory standard (RGF1), which is routinely run against NBS-19 and NBS-18. All other $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ data ($n = 3361$) were obtained at the Grant Institute of the University of Edinburgh on a Thermo Electron Delta+ Advantage Mass Spectrometer integrated with a Kiel carbonate III automated extraction line and corrected using the laboratory's internal standard. Approximately 0.05 mg was required for each measurement with each expressed as parts per mil (‰) relative to Vienna Pee Dee Belemnite (VPDB). Replicate measurements of the standards give the instruments an analytical precision (1σ) of ~0.05 ‰ for $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$. The reproducibility, based on inter-laboratory replicate measurements ($n = 6$), was ~0.20 ‰.

Mg/Ca ratios were measured on 30 pooled *G. ruber* (w: 212–250 µm) tests from a sample every ~3 cm, for the interval 14.8–31.4 mcd ($n = 535$; data is available on Pangaea). All samples were cleaned according to the standard oxidative protocol of Barker et al. (2003). Samples were then leached with a very weak 0.001N HNO_3 acid solution prior to dissolving in 0.075M HNO_3 . The reductive cleaning step was excluded as it has been shown to cause the dissolution of the foraminiferal tests resulting in subsequently lower Mg/Ca values (Barker et al., 2003; Elderfield et al., 2006).

Analyses were conducted at the Institute of Geosciences of the Goethe University of Frankfurt and at the School of GeoSciences at the University of Edinburgh. The former measurements ($n = 232$) were carried out by Inductively Coupled Plasma Optical Emission Spectrometry (ICP-OES) on a Thermoscientific iCap 6300 (dual viewing) and the latter ($n = 303$) on a Vista Pro ICP-OES. Inter-laboratory replicates ($n = 11$) were run to assess potential differences and the reproducibility which was determined to be better than 0.30 mmol/mol (mean difference). In Frankfurt, the final centrifuged sample solutions were diluted with an yttrium solution (1 mg/l) prior to measurement to allow for the correction of matrix effects. Whereas, in Edinburgh a set of six standard solutions (with increasing Ca concentrations from 0 to 100%) were used for matrix and background correction (Sadekov et al., 2013). At both facilities, five calibration solutions were measured before each analysis to allow for intensity ratio calibrations. Element/Ca measurements were standardized using an internal consistency standard (ECRM 752-1, 3.761 mmol/mol Mg/Ca). Replicates of the ECRM at the Edinburgh ($n = 61$) and Frankfurt ($n = 45$) facilities yielded 2σ Mg/Ca uncertainties (SD) of 0.15 and 0.17 mmol/mol, respectively. During all Mg/Ca measurements, the elements Al, Fe, and Mn were screened to check for Mn-Fe oxide coatings and clay mineral contamination. Procedural blanks were routinely run to monitor for potential contamination during the cleaning process.

2.4. Electron Probe Micro-Analyzer (EPMA) analysis

Samples for both EPMA and SIMS (Section 2.5) analyses were selected to provide representatives from the entire length of core including altered versus non-altered portions (see Section 3.2 for sample locations). Polished cross-sections of *G. ruber* (w) ($n = 36$) and *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c) ($n = 6$) tests were prepared by embedding the tests in Struers Epothin epoxy. Briefly, selected tests were (i) cleaned according to the same oxidative protocol (Barker et al., 2003) as for the traditional whole-test Mg/Ca geochemical analyses and (ii) placed umbilical side-down on adhesive film within 1-inch Struers mounting cups, then (iii) embedded in Epothin and degassed under high vacuum for 5 minutes and once set (iv) polished using a successively finer Struers water-based diamond suspension from 9 μm down to 0.25 μm to expose a cross-section of each test (Supplementary Material 2). All EPMA samples were then coated with 5 nm of carbon.

Quantitative Mg and Ca spot analyses and semi-quantitative elemental maps were measured using a JEOL JXA-8530F Electron Probe Micro-Analyzer, equipped with a Schottky field emission gun, at the Faculty of Geosciences and Environment of the University of Lausanne. Calcite, CaCO_3 (Ca = 39.98 wt%) and dolomite, $\text{CaMg}(\text{CO}_3)_2$ (Mg = 13.18 wt%) were used as standards for Ca and Mg, respectively. Spot measurements were acquired using a 10 kV accelerating voltage and probe size of 1–2 μm . Overview elemental maps were carried out with a 0.50 μm step size, an im-

age resolution of 720×600 pixels, 7 kV accelerating voltage, an electron beam current of 10 nA and a dwell time of 50 ms. Additional higher resolution elemental maps were obtained with a 0.23–0.29 μm step size and an image resolution of 256×192 pixels.

2.5. Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometer (SIMS) analysis

Polished cross sections, of selected *G. ruber* individuals ($n = 27$) were prepared for SIMS analyses following the same protocol as for the EPMA samples (Section 2.4), with the exclusion of the initial oxidative cleaning step. *In situ* oxygen isotope analyses were carried out using a Cameca IMS 1280-HR Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometer (SIMS) at the SwissSIMS ion probe facility within the University of Lausanne (Supplementary Material 3). A primary Cs^+ ion beam with an intensity of 1.2 nA was focused to a size of $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$. The secondary ^{16}O and ^{18}O were detected simultaneously on two faraday cups, which were calibrated at the beginning of the session. The mass resolving power was set to 2400 (entrance slit set at 121 μm and multicollection slit 1), in order to fully remove possible ^{17}OH interference on mass 18. A single analysis took ~ 4 min, including 30 sec. of pre-sputtering, automatic centering of secondary deflectors and 20 cycles of 5 sec. of measurements. Calibration was made using an in-house pure calcite standard (UNIL-C1). Six analyses of the standard were made at the beginning of the measurements for each mount, after which UNIL-C1 was measured once every four analyses. Reproducibility of the standard (spot to spot) was 0.4 and 0.3 ‰ (2σ) on the two mounts, respectively. Internal uncertainty (single analysis) was 0.3 to 0.4 ‰ (2σ).

2.6. Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

Thirty-five samples from the top 61 mcd of the core are used to constrain the preservation state of the target planktonic and benthic foraminiferal species. Samples are positioned at regular intervals down-core and include representatives from glacial and interglacial peaks (see Section 3.2 for sample locations). From each sample, three to four *G. ruber* (w), *G. glutinata* (w/b), *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c) and *C. mabahethi/wuellerstorfi* tests were picked from the same size fractions as used for the geochemical analyses. Tests were cleaned for a few seconds by ultrasonication in Milli-Q water, cracked open and mounted on carbon based adhesive discs on standard SEM stubs. Stubs were coated, under vacuum, in 40 nm of gold using a Bal-tec SCD 050 sputter coater and imaged on a Thermo Fisher SEM FEI XL30SFE. The preservation state of each species for each sample is ascertained, using SEM images, according to three categories (i) external test surface, (ii) internal test surface and (iii) test wall texture (Table 1). A ranking is assigned for each category and the sum (total out of 7) used to define the overall qualitative Diagenesis Rank (DR) for each species, with 0 defining 'pristine tests' and 7 the most 'diagenetically altered'.

Table 1
Diagenesis Rank categories and classifications.

Ranking	Category		
	1. External surface	2. Internal surface	3. Wall texture
0	Pristine unaltered surface texture with no authigenic overgrowth crystals present both on the test surface or within the pores		Pristine microgranular wall texture with well-defined pores
1	Small overgrowths present (up to $\sim 0.5 \mu\text{m}$) with a patchy-uniform distribution		Visibly altered wall texture with authigenic crystals within the wall cross sections either due to overgrowth precipitation or partial recrystallization
2	Mostly medium sized overgrowths present (~ 0.5 – $2 \mu\text{m}$) with a uniform distribution		
3	Mostly large sized overgrowths present ($> 2 \mu\text{m}$) with a uniform distribution		

Using the MATLAB v2018a software, a color-map is generated for each species to visualize the down-core evolution in preservation state (i.e. the change in DR). The 35 samples are used to define an initial matrix, and the rankings interpolated between each point using a linear function.

2.7. Age model

The stratigraphic framework for the upper 61 mcd of Site U1467 is established by graphically correlating both our planktonic *G. ruber* (w) and benthic *C. mabahethi* $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records to the stacked reference curve of Ahn et al. (2017) (Prob-stack). Prob-stack was selected as it is based on a compilation of 180 global benthic isotope records and includes the datasets from the frequently used LR04 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack of Lisiecki and Raymo (2005). The age model for our datasets is obtained using Analyseries v2.0.4 (Paillard et al., 1996). To facilitate the tuning process, initially all datasets were linearly detrended and our planktonic and benthic records smoothed (3 pt. running average) to eliminate some of the noise. The main glacial and interglacial peaks are used as the initial tie-points, with additional prominent maxima and minima subsequently correlated to optimize the visual alignment of the datasets (Supplementary Material 4).

3. Results

3.1. Carbonate mineralogy

At IODP Expedition 359 Hole U1467B, LMC is ubiquitous, generally contributed by planktonic foraminifera and coccoliths, making up the bulk of the sediment mineralogy from the core-top down to 700 mbsf (Fig. 2, Betzler et al., 2017). Aragonite is contributed mainly by *Halimeda* fragments, coral fragments and pteropods, and decreases from ~46 % between 0–10 mbsf to only 9% at 200 mbsf. From 200 to 500 mbsf aragonite still has a small, variable contribution (0–9 %). However, a marked increase in the aragonite contribution is noted from 500–600 mbsf (up to 23%) with again a decrease down to 700 mbsf. HMC (with Mg^{2+} concentrations >4 mol%; Morse, 2003), which is contributed predominantly by red coralline algae, benthic foraminifera, bryozoans, and echinoderms, is only present (4–7 %) in the sediments in the top 10 mbsf. Minor peaks in dolomite mainly occur within the top 400 mbsf. The pore-fluid species (Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} and Sr^{2+}) are visibly correlated with the aragonite concentrations (Betzler et al., 2017). Both Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} respectively, increase and decrease concomitantly with a reduction in aragonite percent contribution. Sr^{2+} increases rapidly to peak concentrations around 100 mbsf where it plateaus until ~500 mbsf below which there is a gradual decline.

The study interval (0 to ~61 mbsf), corresponds to Unit I (0–110 mbsf) of the logged lithostratigraphic units (a total of 6 units were identified) at Site U1467 (Betzler et al., 2017). It consists of an unlithified foraminifer-rich wackestone to packstone (very fine to fine grained) with a calcareous ooze matrix (Betzler et al., 2017). As noted, the abundance of aragonite is high in the study interval with HMC present in the first 10 mbsf. The species Ca^{2+} and Sr^{2+} are present in their lowest concentrations (mean Ca^{2+} : 10.61 mM, Sr^{2+} 111.42 mM) whereas, Mg^{2+} is in its highest concentration (mean Mg^{2+} : 53.58 mM) (Betzler et al., 2017).

3.2. Traditional whole-test foraminiferal geochemistry and diagenesis ranks

All geochemical records ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and Mg/Ca) show clear cyclicity down-core (Figs. 3–4). Based on the alignment of the stable isotope stratigraphies, the planktonic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ *G. ruber* (w) record from

0–61.0 mcd represents the time interval 0–1800.0 kyr covering Marine Isotope Stage (MIS) 1–64 (Figs. 3a, 4a–b). The benthic record, spanning 0–40.0 mcd, encompasses the interval 0 to 1179.0 kyr (Figs. 3c, 4a,c), MIS1–35. The sedimentation rate varies down-core between 0.4–16.3 cm/kyr (Fig. 4d).

SEM observations reveal diagenetic alterations are primarily due to the precipitation of authigenic calcite (overgrowth) (Fig. 5). Furthermore, the diagenetic susceptibility of the four investigated species, *G. ruber* (w), *G. glutinata* (w/b), *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c) and *C. mabahethi*, differs down-core (Figs. 5–6). The resultant Diagenesis Rank (DR) values reflect a gradual decline, in the overall preservation state from 0 to 1800.0 kyr (0–61.0 mcd) (sample locations noted on Figs. 3, 6). While this down-core decline is variable across all species, all have pristine, unaltered tests in the core-top samples (359-U1467A, B-Mudline) (Fig. 5). Further down-core, authigenic overgrowths occur both on the internal and external test surfaces and within pores, resulting in a reduction in pore-size until complete infilling is achieved (Fig. 5, Supplementary Material 1). The size of these authigenic overgrowths varies from small and patchy to large (> 2 μm) well-developed, euhedral crystals growing perpendicular to the test wall and covering the entire inner and outer test surfaces (Supplementary Material 1).

Pulleniatina obliquiloculata (w/c) appears to be the most susceptible species to authigenic overgrowth with medium sized, well-developed crystals already observed at ~274.5 ka (11.6 mcd) on the external test surfaces. In contrast, these are first observed on *G. ruber* (w) at ~790.0 ka (28.7 mcd), *G. glutinata* (w/b) at ~558.3 ka (22.2 mcd) and the benthic tests further down core at ~807.9 ka (29.1 mcd). Large well-developed authigenic crystals are evident on tests of *G. ruber* (w), *G. glutinata* (w/b), *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c) and *C. mabahethi* from ~1190.9 ka (40.6 mcd), ~1015.1 ka (36.0 mcd), ~864.7 ka (31.3 mcd) and ~872.0 ka (31.7), respectively (Supplementary Material 1). In addition to size, differences in overgrowth distributions are noted between the planktonic and benthic species. While all species show roughly similar development of overgrowth crystals across their outer test surface, with concentrations of overgrowths in the pores, distinct differences are observed on their inner test surfaces. For the planktonic species, authigenic overgrowths are more or less homogeneous across the surface whereas for the benthic species, they are generally concentrated within the pores and along the sutures with patchy growth across the inner surfaces (Supplementary Material 1).

Intervals 1–3 were specifically selected, with reference to the *G. ruber* (w) DR data, as representative segments with differential diagenetic influences (Fig. 6). Variability between the three planktonic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records does occur across the intervals (Fig. 6). Interval 1, which covers MIS10–13 (354.0–505.0 kyr), has the lowest DR values for all species (0–3). Interval 2, which covers MIS21–26 (866.7–974.0 kyr), is located in the section with a notable increase in the respective DR values (2–4). Finally, Interval 3 covers MIS54–59 (1573.8–1690.9 kyr) in the most altered portion of the records with the highest DR values (> 4). The glacial-interglacial cycles are more prominent across all records in Interval 1. Both *G. ruber* (w) and *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c) display a large amplitude change from the glacial peak MIS12 across the deglaciation to the interglacial peak MIS11 (Δ ~2.20 ‰ and 2.50 ‰, respectively). *Globigerinita glutinata* (w/b) shows a smaller change across MIS12 to MIS11 (Δ 1.41 ‰), and less prominent glacial-interglacial peaks in Interval 2 compared to *G. ruber* (w) and *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c). Interval 3 shows notably higher isotopic values with the glacial-interglacial peaks markedly reduced, although still clearly visible, for all species. Despite the variation and extent of diagenetic alteration, Pleistocene glacial-interglacial cycles can be readily identified in all long-term $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records (Fig. 6). However, beyond ~1300 ka (46.1 mcd), the *G. ruber* (w) data shows a notable down-core trend towards higher $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values (Fig. 6).

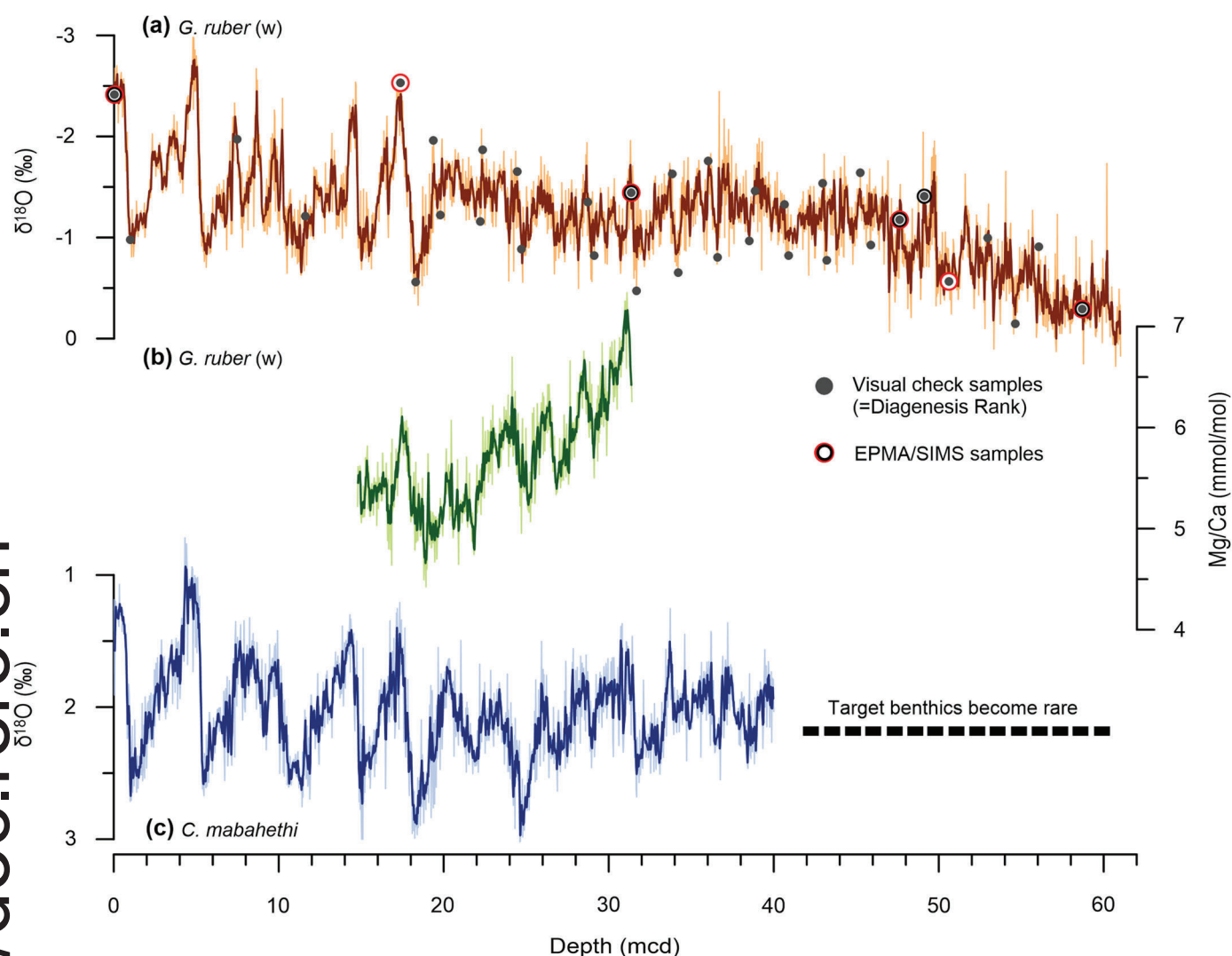


Fig. 3. Long-term geochemical records from IODP Expedition 359 Site U1467 against core depth with (a) the *G. ruber* (w) $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, (b) Mg/Ca records and (c) the *C. mabahethi* $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record. Visual SEM check (grey circles) and EPMA/SIMS (red and black circles, respectively) samples are shown for reference. A 3-pt moving average smoothing was applied to our datasets (thick lines) to highlight the cycles.

3.3. Comparison of biogenic calcite and authigenic overgrowth geochemistry

SIMS spot analyses ($\sim 10\ \mu\text{m}$ diameter) are similar to the *G. ruber* (w) test wall thickness ($\sim 9\text{--}12\ \mu\text{m}$) such that a large proportion of the measurements partly overlapped onto epoxy. The location of these compromised analyses ($n = 35$) was confirmed by SEM observation, and only those measurements which were located solely on the foraminifera test were included in the reported analyses (Fig. 7, Supplementary Material 3). Overall, 16 SIMS and 36 EPMA spot measurements from the F-0 (final), F-1 (penultimate) and F-2 (antepenultimate) chambers were measured on seven samples for *G. ruber* (w), (Fig. 7, Supplementary Materials 2-3). An additional five EPMA spot analyses of large authigenic overgrowths were measured (Fig. 7, Supplementary Material 2). Limited SIMS and EPMA sample sets were obtained due to the limitations of spot size (for SIMS) and epoxy stability (for EPMA). Yet, the datasets are still deemed sufficient to assess overall trends and the application of these micro-analytical techniques in foraminiferal diagenetic studies. Mean values and standard deviations of the measurements along with sample locations (with reference on the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ *G. ruber* (w) curve) are shown in Fig. 7.

Whole-test $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and Mg/Ca values are comparable to SIMS and EPMA spot measurements for core-top Sample 1 at 0 ka (0 mcd) and to EPMA data for Sample 2 at 409.0 ka (17.4 mcd). From Sample 3 (= 864.7 ka, 31.3 mcd) to Sample 7 (= 1743.8 ka, 58.7 mcd) the whole-test *G. ruber* geochemical values are consistently higher than the SIMS ($z = 1.5\text{--}5.2$; $p = 0.9\text{--}1$) and EPMA ($z = 2.7\text{--}8$; $p = 1$) data obtained from individual chambers (Fig. 7a-b). Moreover, the difference varies with the highest values and largest offsets in the deepest, oldest sample. Interestingly, one F-1 SIMS data point for Sample 7 hit substantial diagenetic overgrowths and has a relatively high $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ value of $-1.24\ \text{‰}$ (Supplementary Material 3). The EPMA overgrowth data (Samples 6 and 7) reveals a HMC composition with 3–6 times higher Mg/Ca values than original test compositions. Samples 3–7 cover the interval corresponding to an observed change in the slope of the long-term *G. ruber* (w) $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record with a down-core trend towards higher values. A marked increase in the slope of the long-term *G. ruber* (w) Mg/Ca record is, however, already noted prior to Sample 3 (Fig. 7d). Similar to the EPMA spot analyses (Fig. 7b), the elemental maps of both *G. ruber* (w) and *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c) show clear Mg enrichment in the authigenic overgrowths (Fig. 8). Both species have a LMC test (Figs. 8.a1, 8.b1), whereas *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c) has natural HMC growth bands indicated on Fig. 8 (yellow arrows). Overgrowths, on

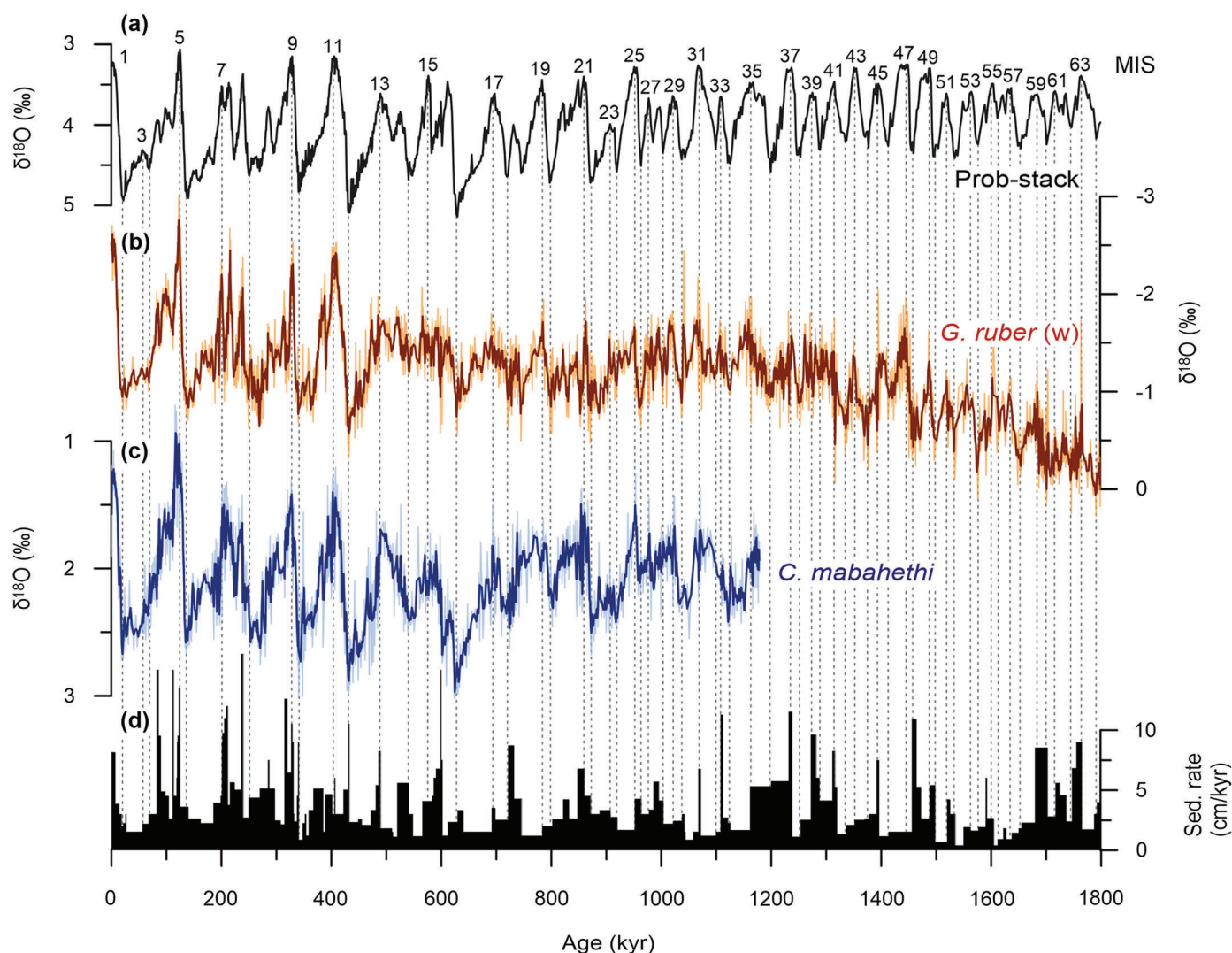


Fig. 4. (a) The benthic foraminifera $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack (prob-stack) of Ahn et al. (2017) is used to obtain the age model for (b) IODP Expedition 359 Site U1467 *G. ruber* (w) and (c) *C. mabahethi* $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records. A 3-pt moving average smoothing was applied to our datasets (b, c: thick lines) to highlight the cycles. Sedimentation rates (Sed. Rate) are referenced as cm/kyr in (d). Marine Isotope Stages (MIS) are shown (vertical dashed lines) and form the main tie-points for the age model (Supplementary Material 4).

both the inner and outer test surfaces, have 4–10 times higher Mg intensities than the biogenic calcite (Figs. 8.a2, 8.b2).

4. Discussion

4.1. Preservation state of the individual long-term geochemical records

The stable oxygen isotope composition ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$) of the original foraminiferal test is a function of the ambient seawater temperature and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ composition during its initial precipitation (Pearson, 2012). Similarly, biogenic test Mg/Ca ratios reflect ambient seawater temperatures (e.g. Raddatz et al., 2017; Rippert et al., 2016). Authigenic overgrowth is anticipated to occur near the sediment/bottom-water interface and down-core (e.g. Regenberg et al., 2007). As such, its oxygen isotope composition is controlled by a variety of factors including thermodynamic fractionation, the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and pH of the precipitating fluid as well as mineralogy and kinetic effects during the precipitation (Kim and O'Neil, 1997; O'Neil et al., 1969; Swart, 2015). The elemental ratio compositions are related to site mineralogy and pore water geochemistry.

From 0 to ~200 kyr (0 to ~7.3 mcd), the cycles and amplitudes of IODP Expedition 359 Site U1467 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ *G. ruber* (w) and *C. mabahethi* records, are comparable to the records produced by

Bunzel et al. (2017) (Fig. 6). Bunzel et al. (2017) compiled stable isotopic datasets from Core SO236-052-4 retrieved from the Maldives Inner Sea (03°55.09'N; 73°08.48'E) at a water depth of 382 m (Note: the slight amplitudinal difference between the benthic datasets is due to differences in study site depths). Notably, Bunzel et al. (2017) used a lower analytical resolution and a larger test size (250–350 μm) for their *G. ruber* (w) record, yet visually the two datasets are nearly identical. This attests to the good preservation state of Site U1467 samples for the first ~200 kyr (7.3 mcd). Furthermore, we can consider the *G. ruber* (w) $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and Mg/Ca records from 0 to ~627.4 kyr (0 to ~24.7 mcd) to be pristine/near-pristine. This is reflected by the low DR values (0–2) and is manifest in the coherence between the SIMS and EPMA spot analyses data (Samples 1 and 2) and the whole-test geochemical datasets. In particular, EPMA data for Sample 2 (Fig. 7b) illustrates that at least up until 409.0 ka (17.4 mcd) the whole-test Mg/Ca values closely reflect the original test geochemistry. While small, patchy HMC overgrowth is present on the internal surfaces (DR = 1), it does not appear to be sufficient to bias the whole-test geochemistry. Calculated SSTs are also notable for being within the modern, seasonal seawater temperature range (Fig. 7d) (Krahmann and Krüger, 2018; Quadfasel, 2017; Reolid et al., 2017).

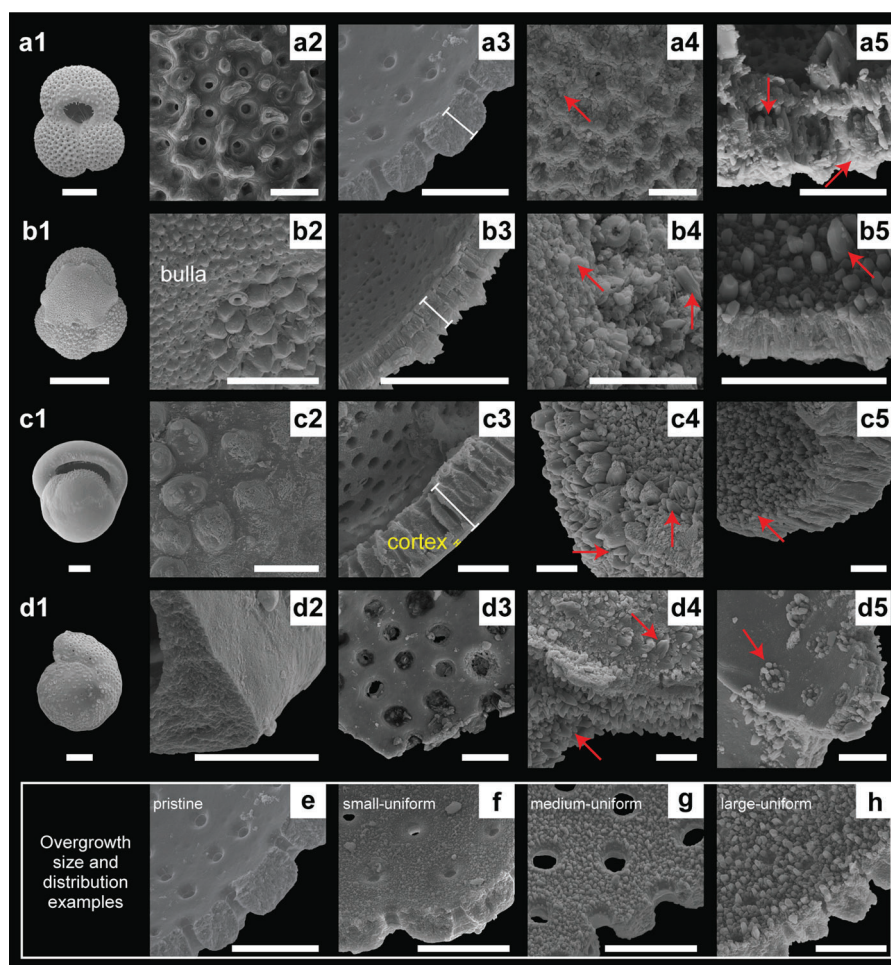


Fig. 5. Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) images of (a) *G. ruber* (w), (b) *G. glutinata* (w/b), (c) *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c) and (d) *C. mabahethi*/*C. wuellerstorfi* showing the outer (1, 2 and 4) and inner test surfaces (3, 5). Images of pristine IODP Expedition 359 Site U1467 tests from the core-top (Sample at 0 ka: A, B-Mudline) are shown in 1-3 and images of diagenetically altered tests (Sample at 1743.8 ka, 58.7 mcd: B-7H-3, 75-76 cm) are shown in 4-5. Representative examples of overgrowth size and distribution are shown for the inner test surfaces of *G. ruber* (w) in (e-h) (Samples: e. B-Mudline; f. B-3H-4, 99-100 cm; g. B-4H-5, 36-37 cm; h. C-6H-5, 57-58 cm). White bars show test wall thicknesses and red arrows indicate representative examples of overgrowth crystals. Whole-test scale bars = 100 μ m and close-up image scale bars = 20 μ m.

The degree of influence of the authigenic overgrowth on whole-test geochemical records can vary significantly and is not necessarily consistent across the various proxies (i.e. $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ versus Mg/Ca). A change in the preservation state of the *G. ruber* (w) tests occurs between ~ 627.4 to 790.0 kyr (24.7–28.7 mcd) onwards (DR values > 2). Discrepancies are also recorded by the SIMS and EPMA data from individual chambers which are significantly lower than respective whole-test geochemical values from Sample 3 ($\Delta \sim 1.1\text{‰}$ and ~ 1.5 mmol/mol, respectively) to Sample 7 ($\Delta \sim 1.8\text{‰}$ and ~ 4.1 mmol/mol, respectively) (Fig. 7a, b). There is a notable down-core increase in the slope of the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ *G. ruber* (w) record. This is captured by SIMS Samples 3–5, which show a $\sim 1\text{‰}$ increase in the whole-test values and Sample 7, the most diagenetically altered, which shows a $\sim 2\text{‰}$ increase. The compositional trends observed in the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ data are notably amplified in the long-term Mg/Ca record, with a steeper down-core slope increase. Considering the original test geochemistry is usually < 6 mmol/mol, only a limited amount of HMC overgrowth ($\bar{x} = 12\text{--}22$ mmol/mol) would be required to bias the whole-test Mg/Ca towards significantly higher values (Fig. 7). This is reflected in EPMA Sample 3 (= 864.7 ka, 31.3 mcd), which has minimal overgrowth present on the external test surface (external category Diagenesis Rank = 1), yet small-medium well-developed euhedral crystals across the entire inner test surface (internal category Diagenesis Rank = 2). This overgrowth, although small, is sufficient to elevate the whole-

test Mg/Ca values and increase the SST reconstruction by $\sim 2^\circ\text{C}$. This is further substantiated by EPMA Samples 4, 6 and 7, which have higher DR values due to poorer preservation states and an increased presence and/or size of overgrowth crystals. All have lower spot F-0 and F-1 chamber Mg/Ca values in comparison to the whole-test data, resulting in progressively larger discrepancies in SST estimates of $\sim 4\text{--}7^\circ\text{C}$.

The precipitation of HMC overgrowths, as opposed to the more stable LMC, could be a function of both the composition and content of the bulk sediment as well as the pore water geochemistry (e.g. Panieri et al., 2017; Regenberg et al., 2007). At Site U1467, HMC is only present in the top 10 mbsf (Fig. 2). Where HMC in the sediment has dissolved, Mg^{2+} is released and may be incorporated (elsewhere) in crystalline overgrowths on biogenic carbonates. Aragonite dissolution and active sulphate reduction were noted below 50 mbsf at this site by Betzler et al. (2017). The former had been noted earlier in a pteropod study by Sreevidya et al. (2019) who reported intense dissolution of aragonitic pteropods beyond ~ 800 ka. As such, an increased saturation state of pore waters, with respect to Mg^{2+} , in combination with active sulphate reduction may have favored HMC over LMC authigenic precipitates (Panieri et al., 2017; Swart, 2015). Higher resolution sediment mineralogy together with petrography and pore water profiles are needed to conclude as to the exact processes behind the depth occurrence and Mg-content of the HMC overgrowths. However, the

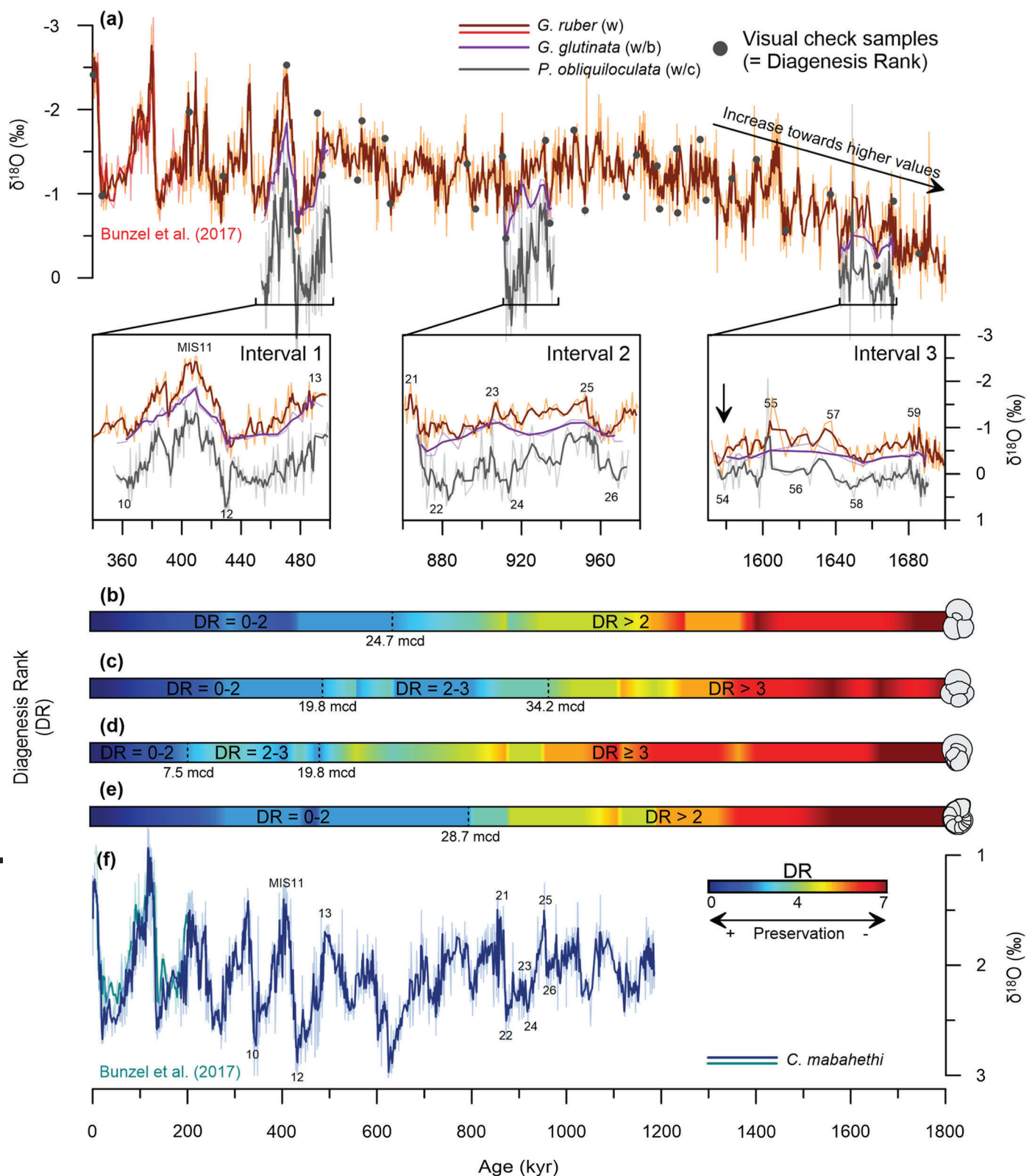


Fig. 6. Long-term stable isotope ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$) records for IODP Expedition 359 Site U1467 for (a) the planktonic species *G. ruber* (w) with intervals 1-3 comparing *G. glutinata* (w/b) and *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c) records (Note: Selected Marine Isotope Stages (MIS) are shown for reference); Diagenesis Rank (DR) color maps are shown for (b) *G. ruber* (w), (c) *G. glutinata* (w/b), (d) *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c) and (e) *C. mabahethi* with (f) the long-term $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record for the benthic species *C. mabahethi*. The samples used for the visual SEM check are also shown as grey circles on (a). Red and teal curves show $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ *G. ruber* (w) and *C. mabahethi* data, respectively from Bunzel et al. (2017). A 3-pt moving average smoothing was applied to the datasets (thick lines) to highlight the cycles.

combined influence of HMC with naturally elevated $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values (Tarutani et al., 1969), with thermodynamic fraction ($\Delta \sim 19^\circ\text{C}$ between the surface seawater and at 487 m depth) and related

fluid geochemistry changes would further justify the precipitation of authigenic overgrowths with elevated $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values. These processes could thus explain the notable biases (stable isotopic and

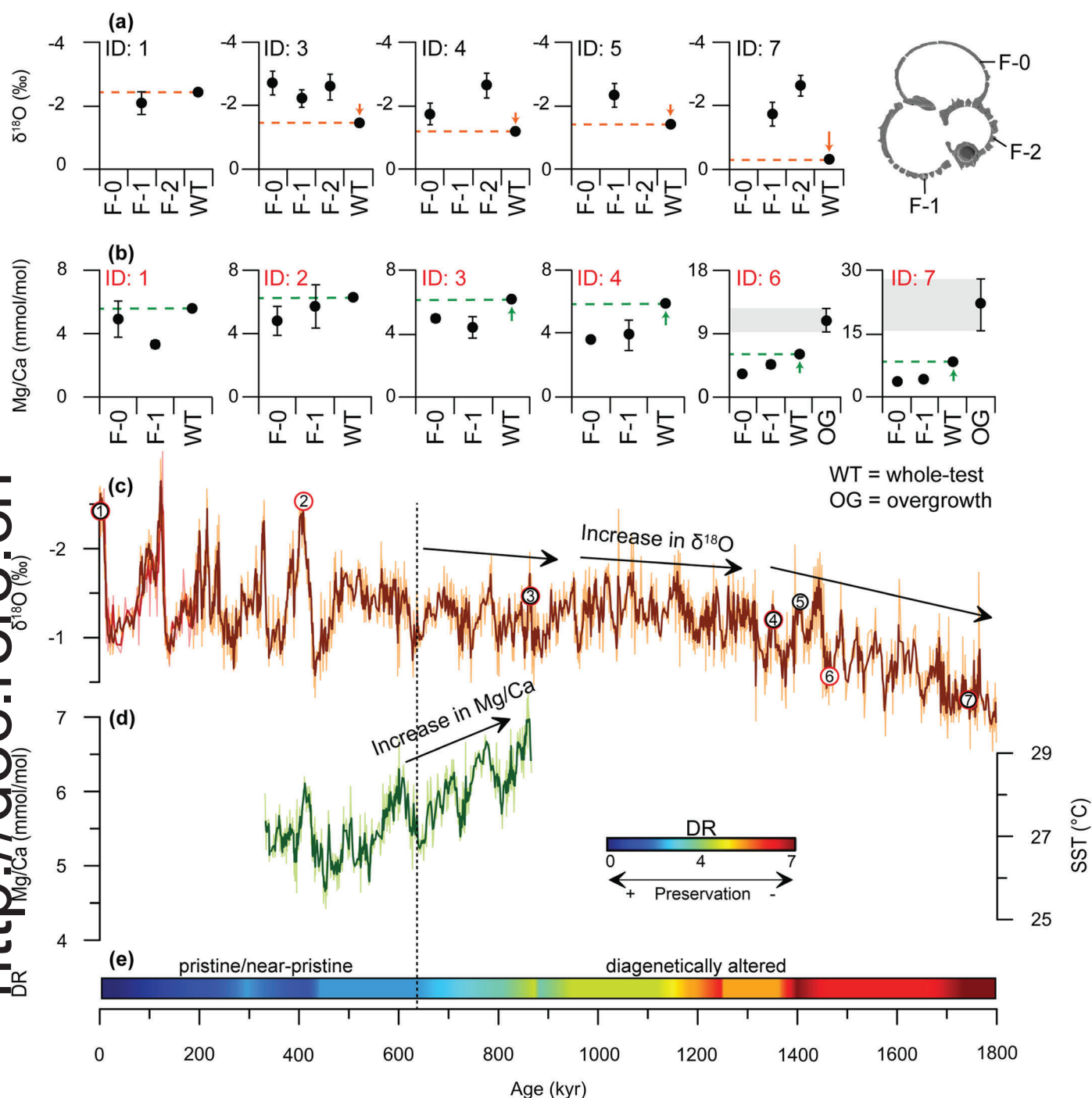


Fig. 7. (a) SIMS and (b) EPMA spot data versus whole-test ICP-MS/ICP-OES measurements for *G. ruber* (w) with the location of the samples (circles with number ID: black = SIMS and red = EPMA samples) referenced on (c) the long-term *G. ruber* (w) $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ curve; (d) *G. ruber* (w) whole-test Mg/Ca data and (e) the *G. ruber* (w) Diagenesis Rank (DR) color map. IODP Expedition 359 Site U1467 sample IDs: (1) A, B-Mudline; (2) B-3H-3, 9-10 cm; (3) B-4H-5, 36-37 cm; (4) B-6H-2, 75-76 cm; (5) B-6H-3, 75-76 cm; (6) B-6H-4, 75-76 cm; (7) B-7H-3, 75-76 cm. Sea surface temperature (SST) calculations are based on the *G. ruber* (w) equation of Anand et al. (2003). Red curve shows $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ *G. ruber* (w) data from Bunzel et al. (2017). A 3-pt moving average smoothing was applied to all datasets (thick lines) to highlight the cycles. Note: F-0 (final), F-1 (penultimate) and F-2 (antepenultimate) chambers, WT = whole-test and OG = overgrowth measurements. WT data in a) and b) for A, B-Mudline Sample 1 is from Stainbank et al. (2019).

elemental) on the planktonic whole-test geochemical data from SIMS/EPMA Sample 3 (= 864.7 ka, 31.3 mcd) to 7 (= 1743.8 ka, 58.7 mcd).

Although no SIMS or EPMA data was collected for the benthic *C. mabahethi* species, a change in preservation state (DR > 2) occurs between ~790.0 to 807.9 kyr (28.7–29.1 mcd). As such, we can surmise the records beyond this interval to have some degree of diagenetic overprint (Figs. 6e–f). This is supported by observations of large, well-developed overgrowth on the internal test surfaces at

872.0 ka (31.7 mcd). Even though minimal overgrowth is present on the external surfaces, it is presumed that the large internal crystals would be sufficient to affect the whole-test geochemical records. However, although the Mg/Ca biases would be similar to that on the *G. ruber* (w) records, the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ influences should be minor considering diagenetic precipitation is anticipated to occur near the sediment/bottom water interface in close proximity to where the original biogenic calcite precipitated (Edgar et al., 2013). This would imply similar seawater temperatures; however, differ-

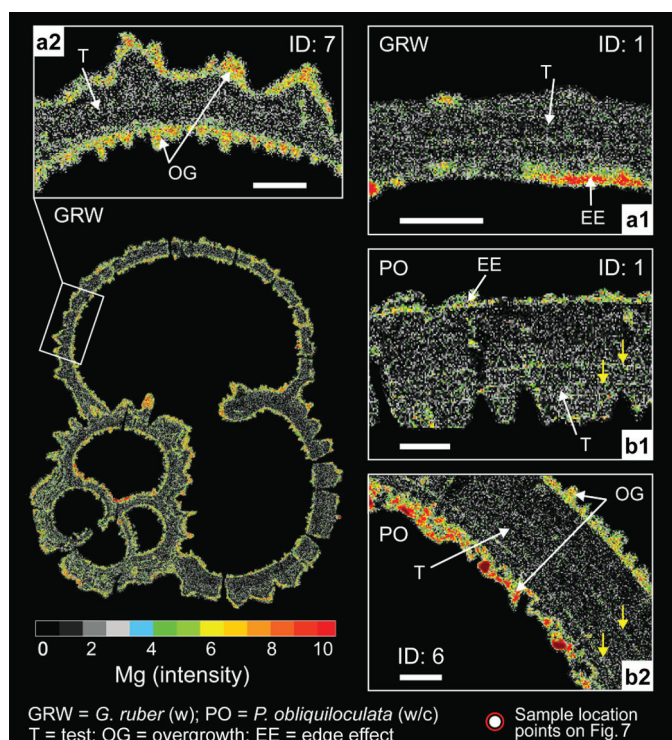


Fig. 8. Mg (intensity) EPMA maps. Examples of IODP Expedition 359 Hole U1467B pristine specimens (Mudline) are shown for (a1) *G. ruber* (w) and (b1) *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c) with diagenetically altered examples shown for (a2) *G. ruber* (w) (7H-3, 75-76 cm) and (b2) *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c) (6H-4, 75-76 cm). T = test, OG = overgrowth, EE = edge effect. Reference to sample locations (ID1, 6 and 7) are shown on Fig. 7. Note the high-Mg (yellow arrows) and low-Mg banding in the *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c) tests. Scale bars = 10 μ m.

ences in pH, mineralogy and kinetic effects during the authigenic overgrowth precipitation cannot be excluded. This hypothesis is supported by the prominent glacial-interglacial cycles with their amplitudes seemingly well preserved for the entirety of the benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record (0-1179.0 kyr) (Figs. 3-4, 6).

4.2. Diagenetic susceptibility of individual planktonic species

We found distinct differences in the preservation state of the three investigated planktonic species. As such, the diagenetic bias on their respective whole-test geochemical compositions varies. This is illustrated in Intervals 1-3 in Fig. 6, with a variable preservation of the glacial-interglacial amplitudinal differences. The whole-test *G. ruber* (w), *G. glutinata* (w/b) and *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c) $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records all reflect clear, large amplitude cycles within Interval 1. However, relative to the thicker-walled *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c), the former two species record dampened signals with the peaks notably less pronounced across Interval 2. Across Interval 3, in the most diagenetically altered portion of the record, all datasets are notably affected with reduced glacial-interglacial maxima and minima and all $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records converge because of increasing whole test $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values.

It might seem contradictory that the species, which appears to be most diagenetically susceptible, would have the best whole-test geochemical preservation across Interval 2. However, as *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c) has the thickest test ($\sim 24 \mu\text{m}$, Figs. 5, 9), the rationale is that a thicker test would equate to more of the whole-test composition being weighted by the biogenic calcite. Therefore, in proportion to the primary signal, the authigenic overgrowth would contribute a smaller percentage and result in a smaller bias compared to *G. ruber* (w) and *G. glutinata* (w/b) which have significantly thinner tests (~ 9 -12 and ~ 6 -10 μm , respectively;

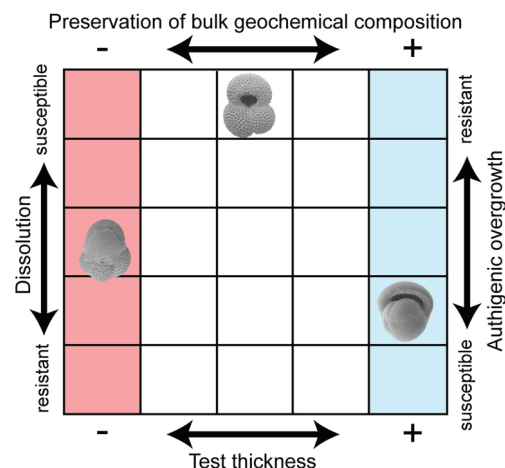


Fig. 9. Interpretations of diagenetic susceptibilities for the whole-test geochemistry of the three investigated planktonic species. Interpretations are based on Diagenesis Rank (DR) values, spot EPMA/SIMS and whole-test geochemistry data from IODP Expedition 359 Site U1467. Interpretations of dissolution susceptibilities after Kucera (2007).

Figs. 5, 9). This is in accordance with observations by Bé (1977) and Kucera (2007). Bé (1977) correlated increased diagenetic resistance for species with smaller pores, thicker walls and larger test size, while Kucera (2007) reports an increase in dissolution resistance for species with a lower porosity (Fig. 9).

5. Conclusions

Foraminiferal geochemical records from shallow, carbonate platforms are integral for understanding global paleoceanographic and -climatic trends but are subject to diagenetic influences. This is the case at IODP Expedition 359 Site U1467, which represents a shallow-intermediate water archive from the equatorial Indian Ocean of importance for South Asian Monsoon (SAM) climatic studies and latitudinal scale shifts of ocean currents. Prior to utilizing our high-analytically resolved geochemical records for paleo-reconstructions, it is important to constrain the influence of diagenetic alteration on both the preservation of the original geochemical compositions and long-term cyclicity.

The presence and influence of authigenic overgrowths on the inside and/or outside of the foraminiferal test as well as through the partial or full recrystallization of the test wall has long been recognised. Importantly, this authigenic calcite is not ubiquitous or uniform in terms of presence, size, distribution or geochemical composition and as such should be assessed on an individual study site basis. For simplicity, ease of use and to facilitate reproducibility in other studies, the qualitative DR detailed and used in this study only constrains the presence of authigenic overgrowths on the test surfaces as well as within the wall structure. However, it is noted that both the primary and authigenic calcite can be susceptible to dissolution, which would further alter the geochemical compositions. These dissolution features, which can include etched surfaces as well as lattice-like calcite structures, as well as partial recrystallization of the wall texture are noted in the deepest, oldest studied samples.

The degree of influence of the authigenic overgrowth on the whole-test geochemistry varies across the foraminiferal species (*G. ruber* (w), *G. glutinata* (w/b), *P. obliquiloculata* (w/c), *C. mabatheti*) and proxies (i.e. $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ versus Mg/Ca). Considering the site mineralogy, whole-test Mg/Ca compositions are notably more impacted than $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records. However, taking into consideration our individual spot analyses (SIMS and EPMA) and DR data, the top ~ 627.4 kyr of the *G. ruber* (w) Mg/Ca and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records are well preserved and largely reflect the primary geochemical compositions. Given

the setting of overgrowth precipitation, the benthic *C. mabahethi* $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record from 0–790.0 kyr (DR = 0–2), if not the entire benthic record, is considered to have pristine/near-pristine preservation of the primary $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ signal. As such, the top portions of both the *G. ruber* (w) (0 to ~627.4 kyr; 0–24.7 mcd) and *C. mabahethi* (0 to ~790.0 kyr; 0–28.7 mcd) records (whole-test data) are suitable for paleoceanographic reconstructions of absolute seawater temperature, salinity and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values. Notwithstanding the down-core diagenetic influences, the glacial-interglacial cyclicity, while dampened, is maintained as attested by the coherence of both the *G. ruber* (w) and *C. mabahethi* $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records with Prob-stack. As such, the complete geochemical records could still be used for cyclostratigraphy to assess long-term orbital scale properties.

Overall, we show foraminiferal species (e.g. *P. obliquiloculata*) with thicker tests are better suited for whole-test geochemical analyses, in diagenetically susceptible settings, as they have a higher proportion of biogenic calcite relative to authigenic overgrowth. Moreover, while only a portion of our whole-test geochemical records reflect the primary compositions, SIMS and EPMA spot measurements can be utilized to overcome biases in diagenetically impacted intervals. Considering the importance of these types of records for tropical temperature studies, it is vital to employ an approach, whether it be spot versus whole-test analyses, the utilization of specimens with thicker tests or a visual DR, which will allow the preservation state to be assessed to obtain more accurate and reliable paleo-reconstructions.

Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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Appendix A. Supplementary material

Supplementary material related to this article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.epsl.2020.116390>. The raw data presented in this article can be found at: <https://doi.org/10.1594/PANGAEA.914883>, <https://doi.org/10.1594/PANGAEA.914882>.

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