

Climate throughout geologic time has been controlled primarily by the balance between abrupt warming caused by voluminous effusive eruptions of basaltic magma over months to hundreds of thousands of years and abrupt cooling caused by major explosive eruptions of evolved magmas over hours to days

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NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

SIMON
WINCHESTER

THE DAY THE WORLD EXPLODED:
AUGUST 27, 1883

Krakatoa

HARPER'S WEEKLY

INDONESIA

613

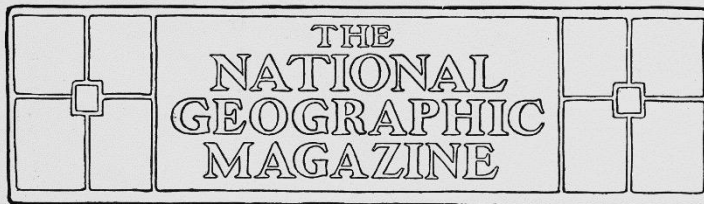


CRATER OF KRAKATOA, STRAIT OF SUNDA, SUBMERGED DURING THE LATE ERUPTION.—[SEE PAGE 614.]

VOL. XXIV, No. 2

WASHINGTON

FEBRUARY, 1913



THE RECENT ERUPTION OF KATMAI VOLCANO IN ALASKA

An Account of One of the Most Tremendous Volcanic
Explosions Known in History

BY GEORGE C. MARTIN

*Mr. Martin is the geologist of the U. S. Geological Survey who directed the
National Geographic Society Alaska volcano researches in 1912*

THE volcanic eruption of Mount
Katmai, Alaska, of June, 1912,
was undoubtedly one of the most
recent eruptions of historic times.

This volcano was one of the least
known of the many Alaskan volcanic
cones, and had been so long dormant
that there were apparently not even local
traditions of its former outbreaks. No
definite warnings of its renewed activity
were given other than copious steaming
and minor earthquakes. These attracted
attention even among the few dwellers
on that thinly settled land, for dozens
of volcanoes along the Alaskan
coast have been active from time to time.
The volcano is usually hidden in the clouds,
and earthquakes are so frequent as to
warrant little comment.

Other people than the few local
residents and the comparatively few
traders who have had occasion to sail
the Bering Sea, the very exist-
ence of Katmai Volcano was doubtless

unknown until, without warning, on the 6th of
June, the Katmai Volcano pro-
duced a violent eruption. All
over the world the news of the event at
once found its way to the ears of the first mighty

explosion carried down the coast as far
as Juneau, 750 miles away, and was even
heard across the Alaska Range at Daw-
son and Fairbanks, distant 650 and 500
miles respectively.

THE FIRST ERUPTION

Those who did not hear the sound
of this first blast, or did not feel the accom-
panying earthquakes, did not have to wait
long for another form of announcement.
The column of steam and ash rose several
miles in the air and was immediately
seen as far away as Clark Lake and
Cook Inlet. This cloud of ash was carried
eastward by the wind and within
a few hours had shed a shower of
ashes over all the east end of the Alaska Pen-
insula, the east half of Kodiak Island,
all of Afognak Island (see map, page
132).

Intense darkness accompanied the
fall of ashes. Midnight blackness in the
time extended as far east as the
Alaskan Peninsula. Darkness lasted for
several hours at Kodiak, 100 miles from the
volcano. Dust fell as far away as Juneau,
Ketchikan, and the Yukon Valley, dis-
tances of 900, and 600 miles. The furthest
reported from points as remote as

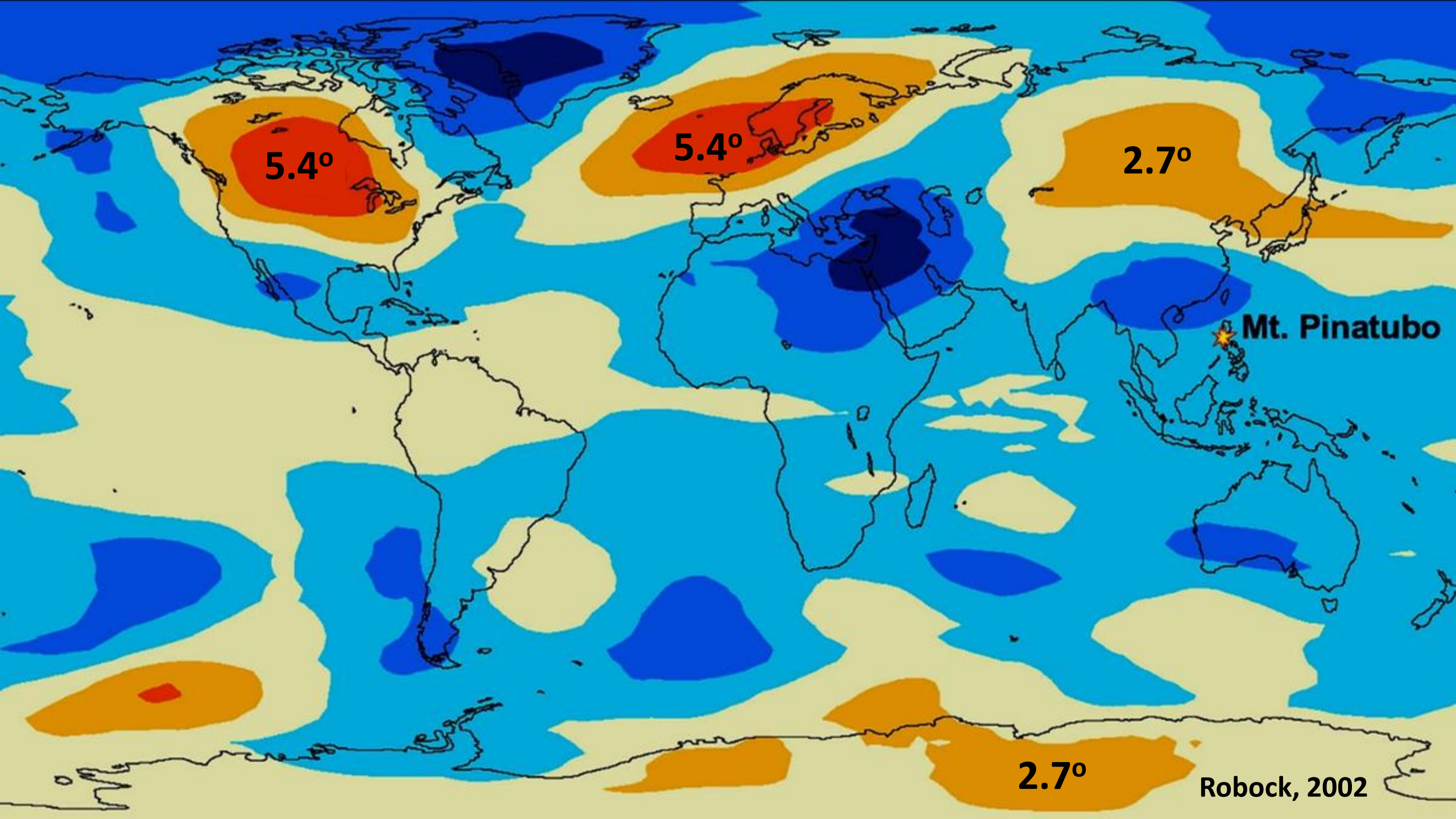


THE YEAR
WITHOUT SUMMER:

1816

AND THE VOLCANO
THAT DARKENED THE WORLD
AND CHANGED HISTORY

WILLIAM K. KLINGAMAN
AND NICHOLAS P. KLINGAMAN





Pinatubo, 1991



Lasting hours

Explosive → Cooling

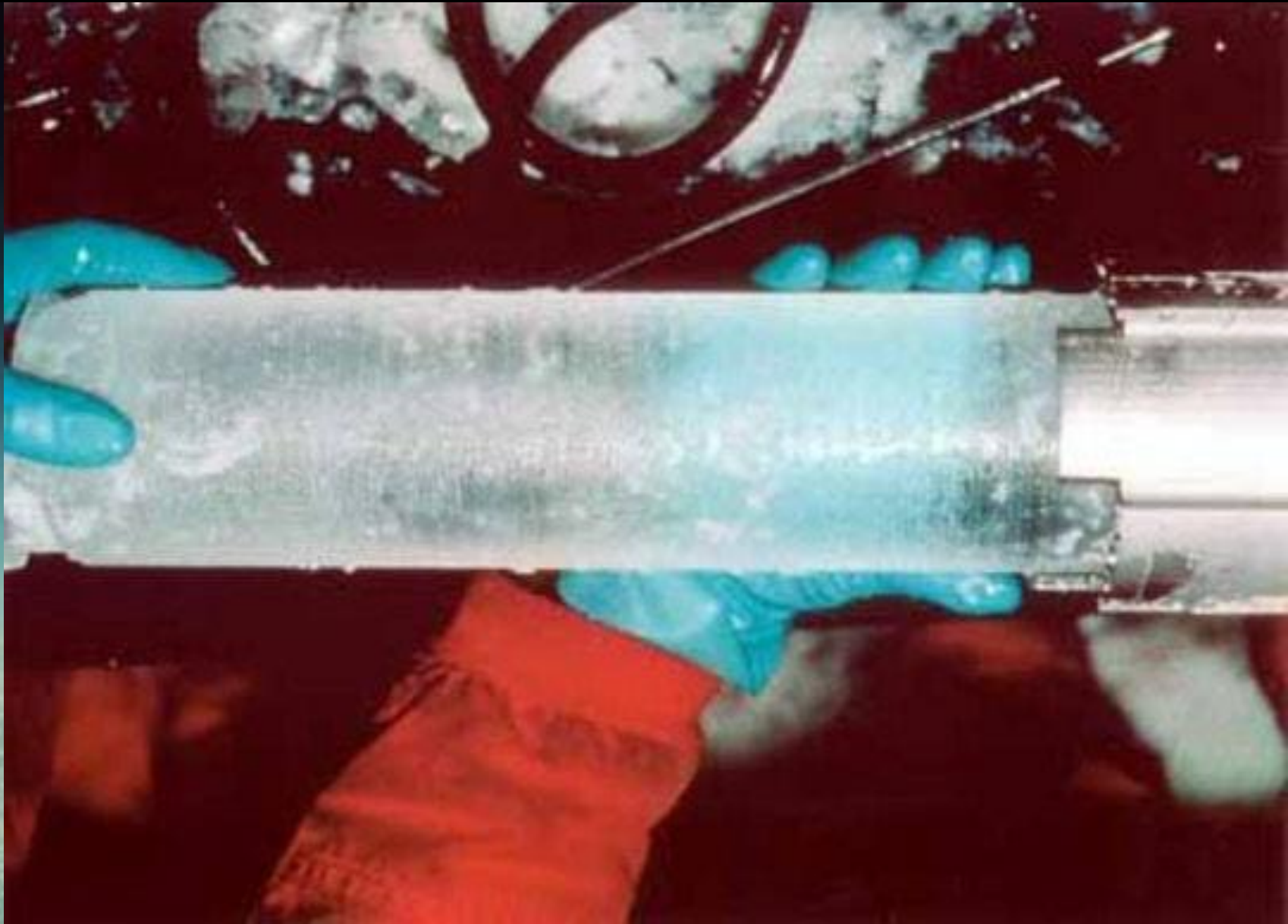
Bárðarbunga, 2014-2015

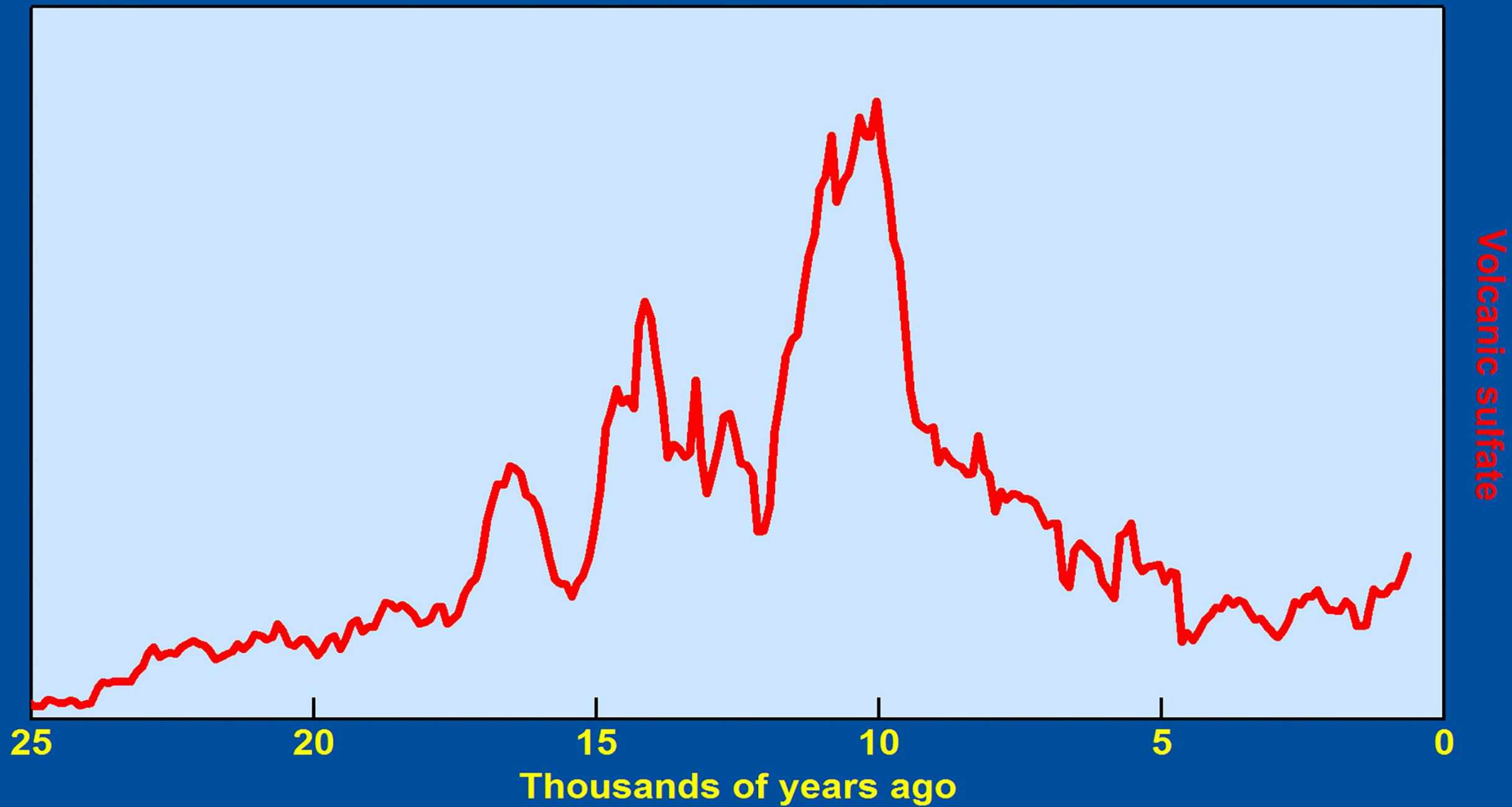


Lasting > months

Effusive → Warming

Greenland Ice Sheet Program Drill Hole 2 (GISP2)





WARM

Temperature

COOL

Preboreal warming

Bølling warming

Volcanic sulfate

25

20

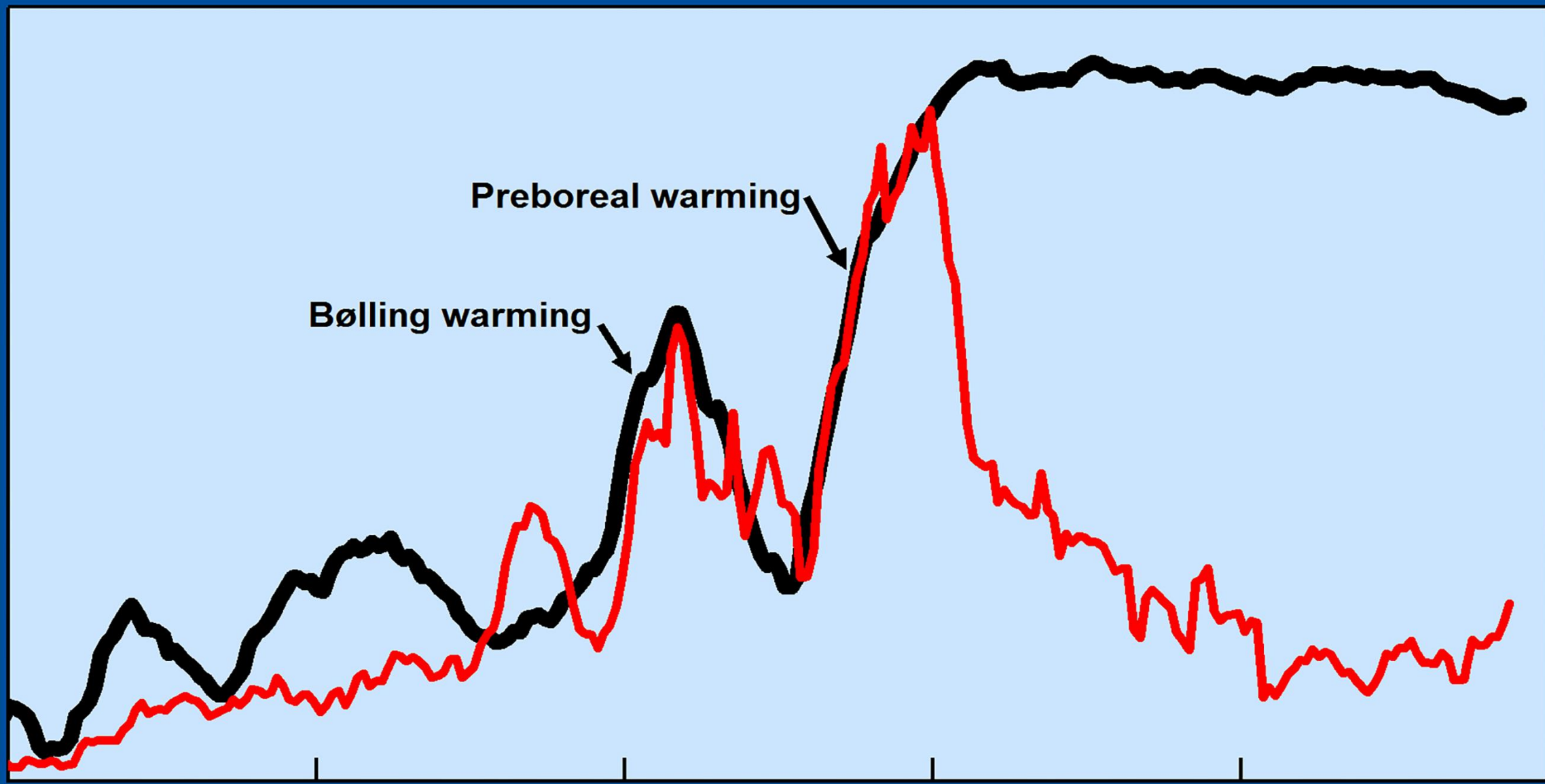
15

10

5

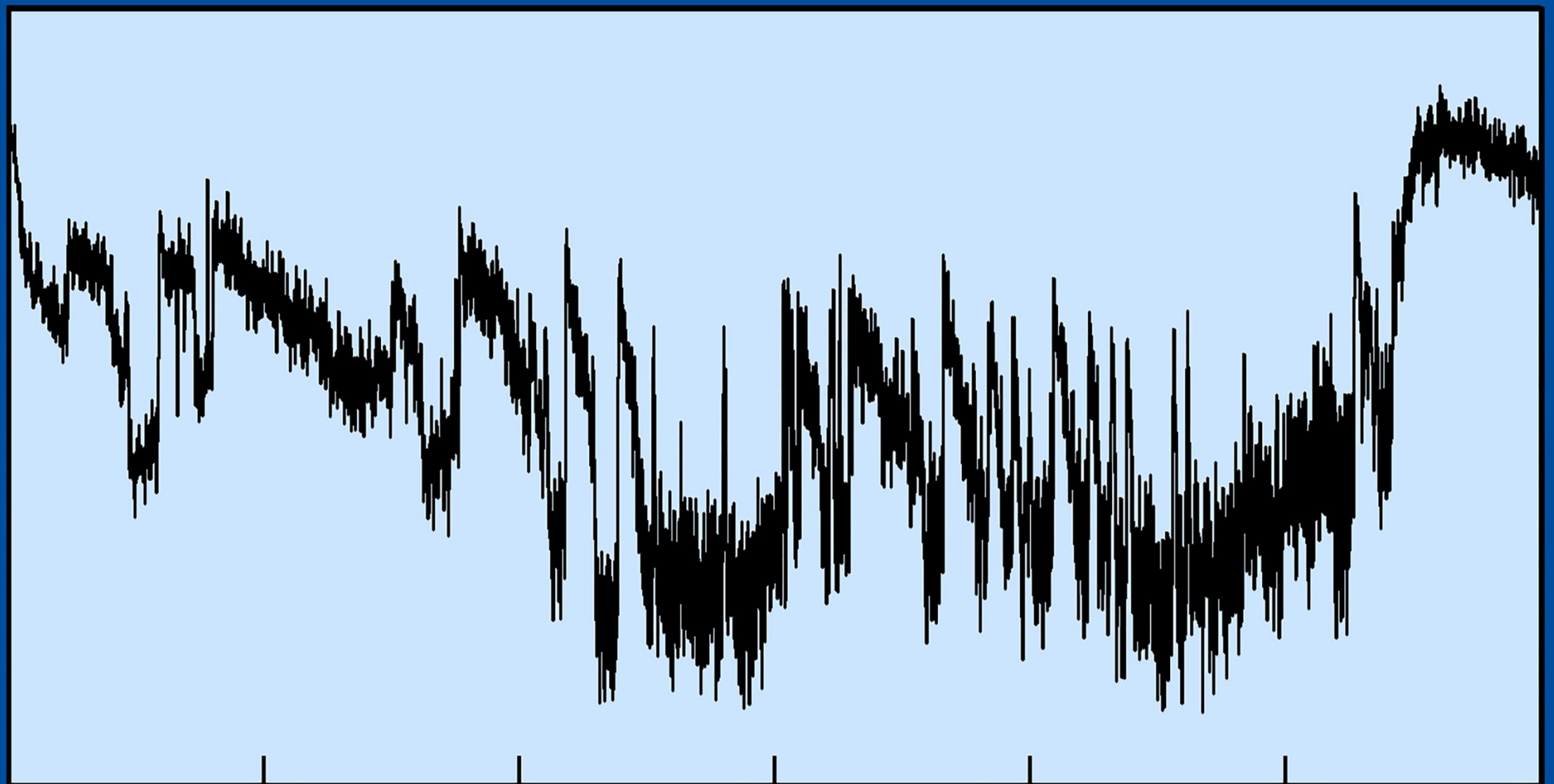
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Thousands of years ago





Warm



Cold

120

100

80

60

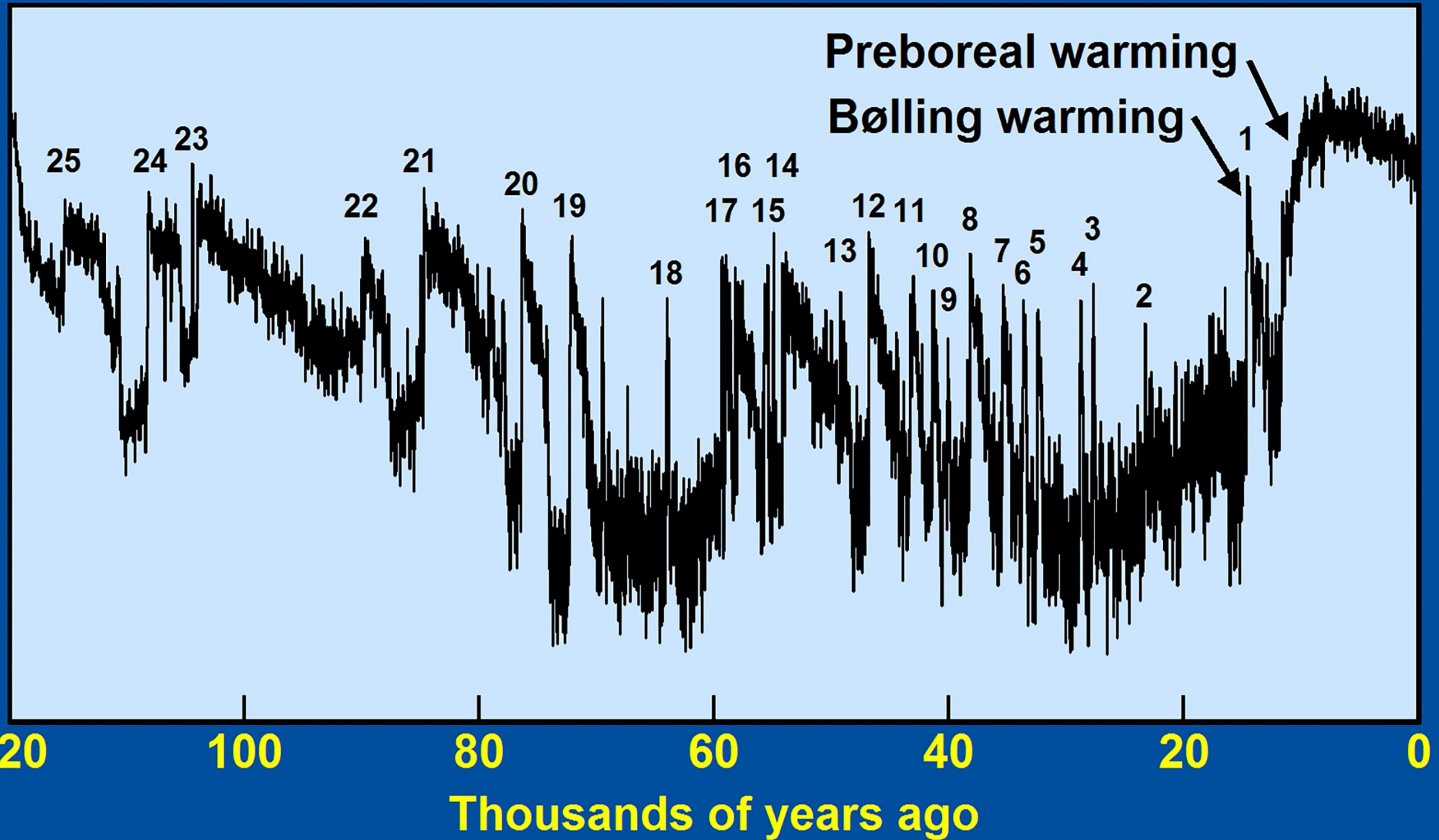
40

20

0

Thousands of years ago

Warm



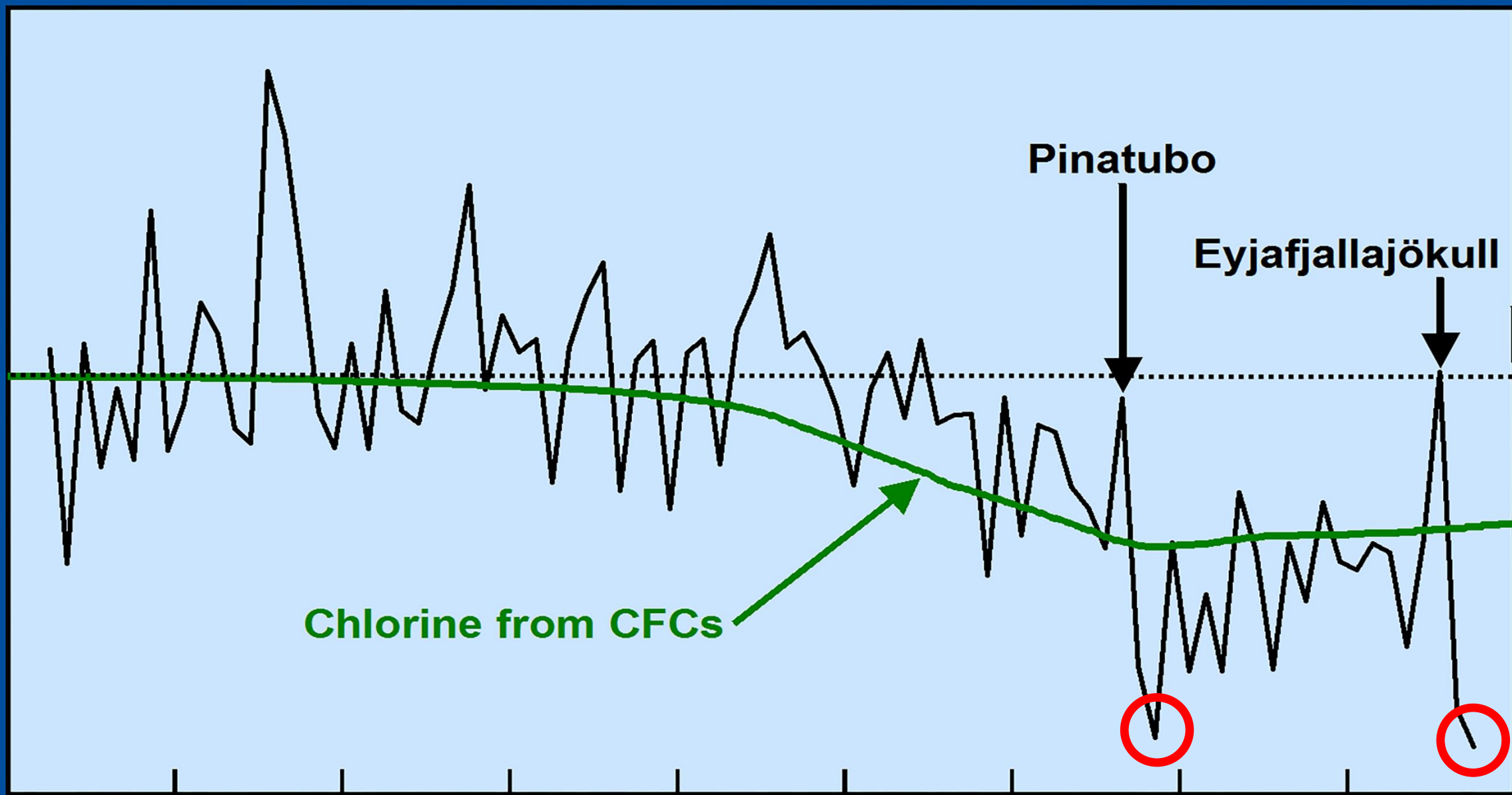
Annual average ozone at Arosa

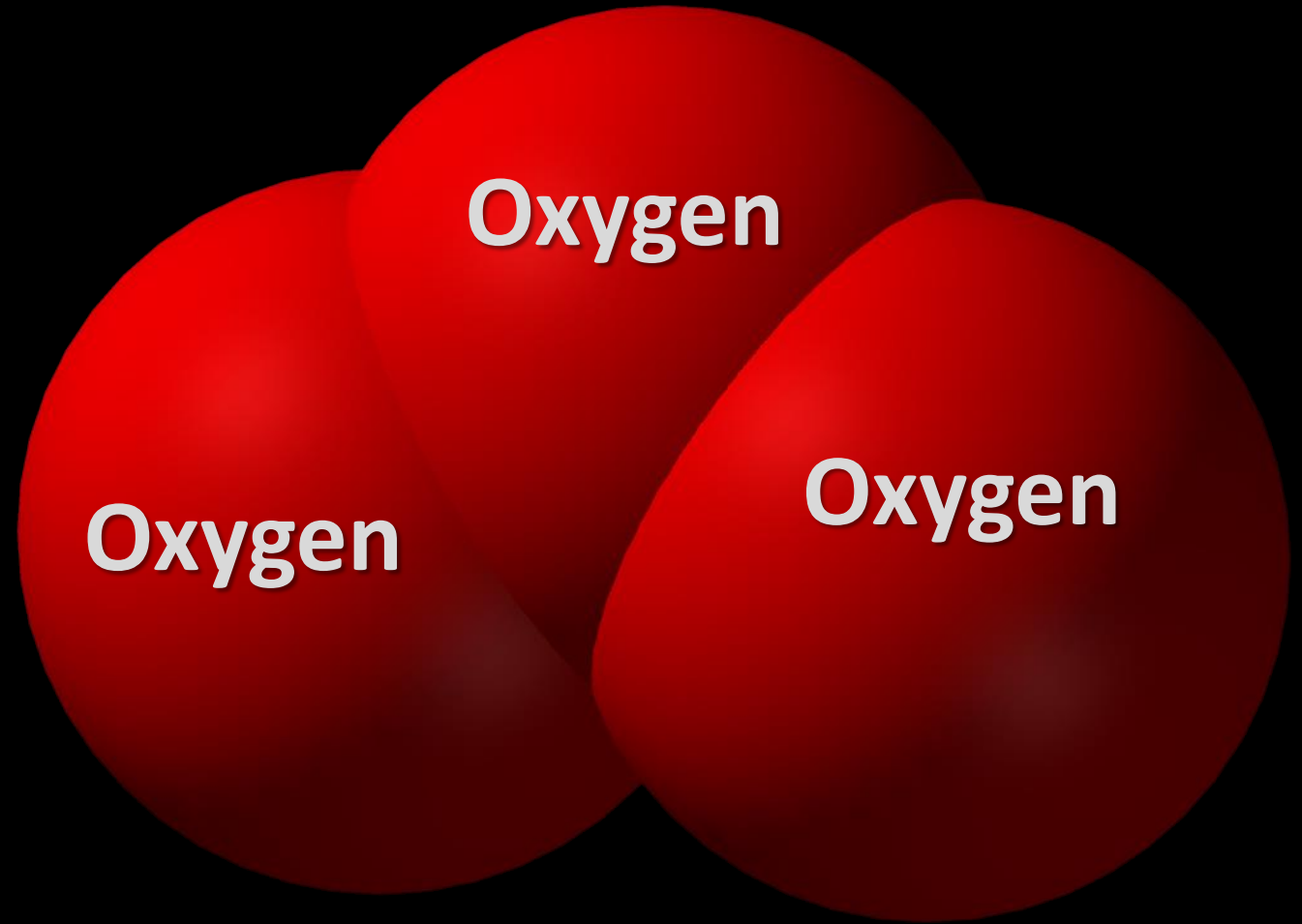
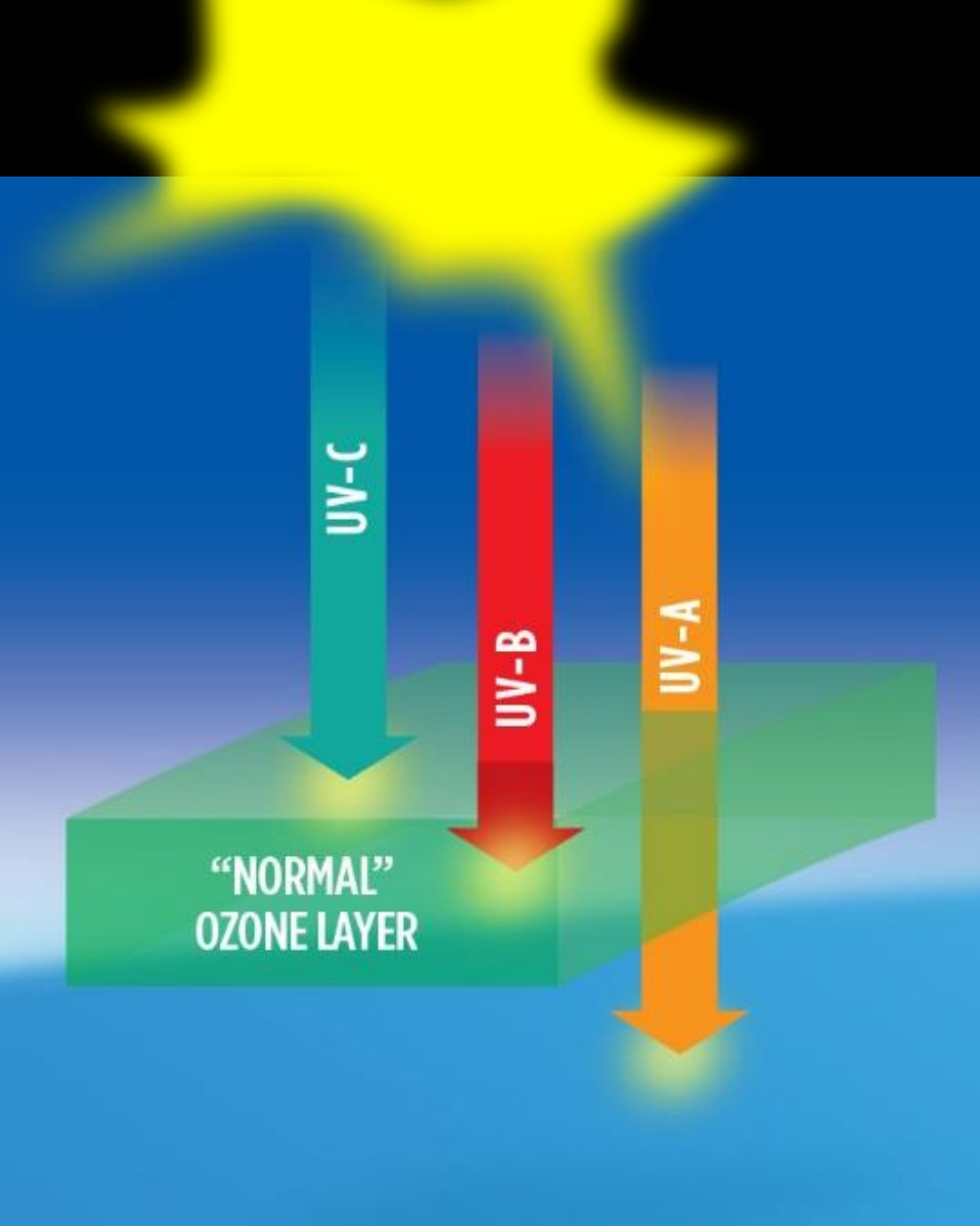
Chlorine from CFCs

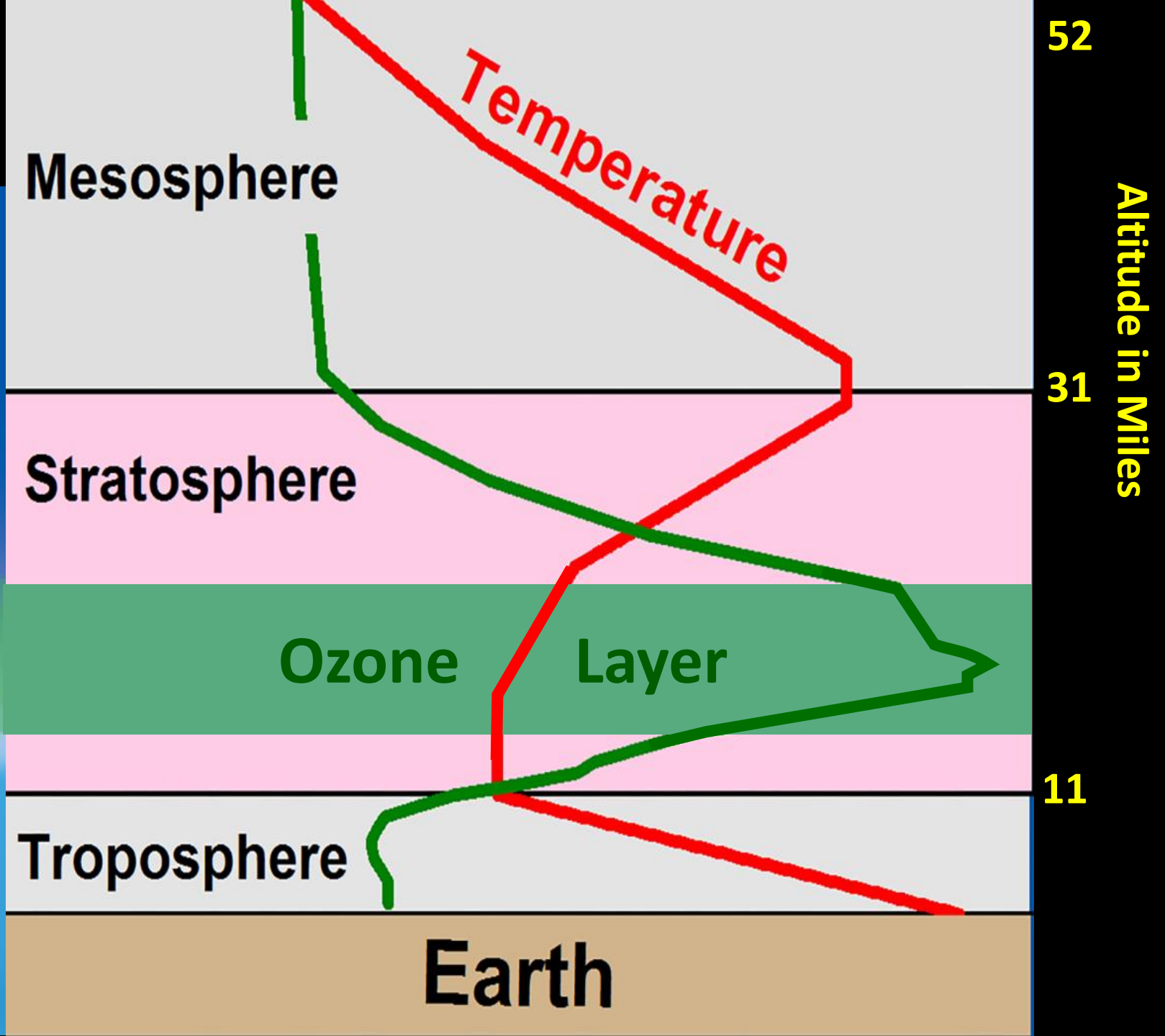
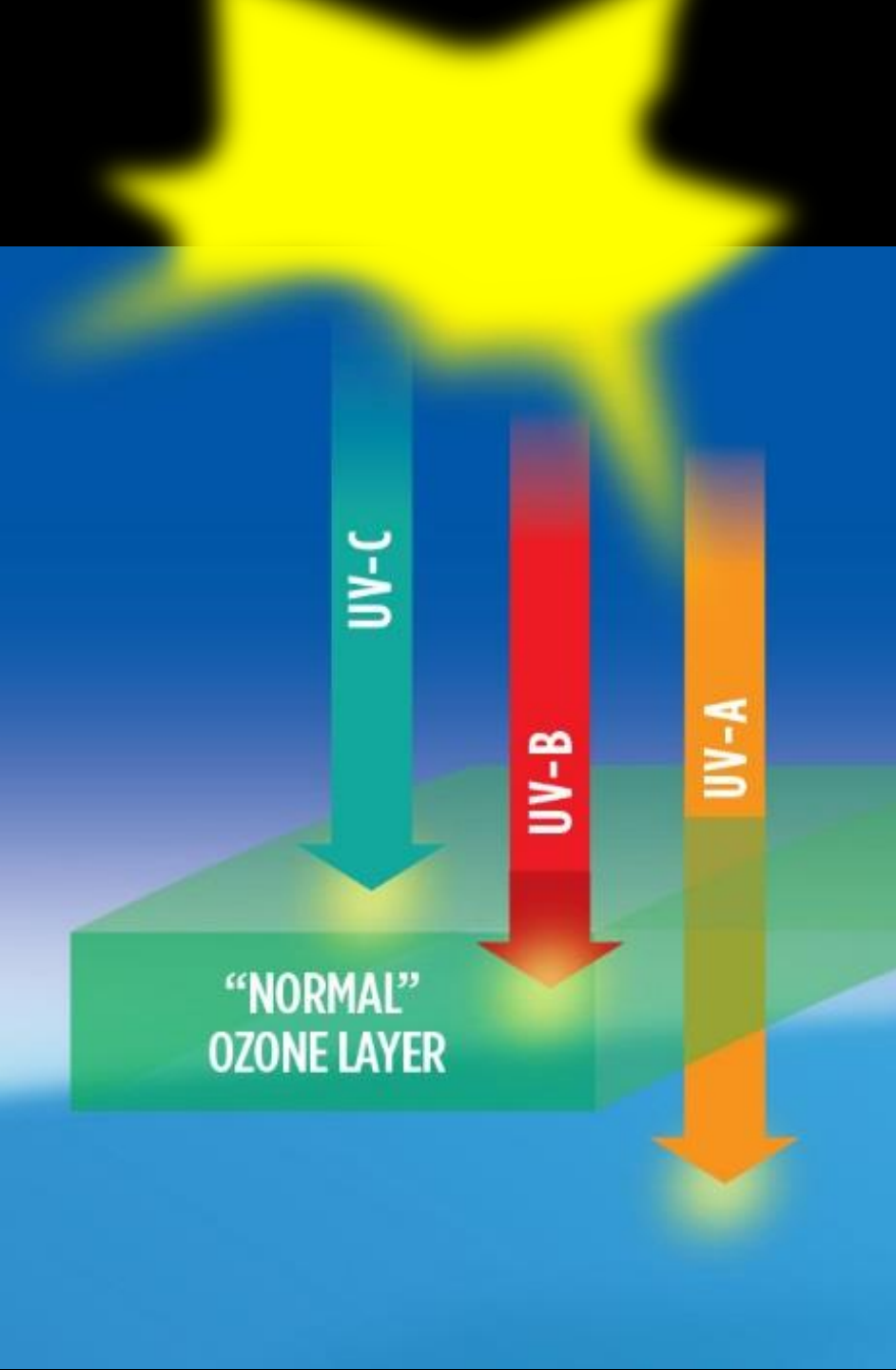
Pinatubo

Eyjafjallajökull

1925 1935 1945 1955 1965 1975 1985 1995 2005 2015

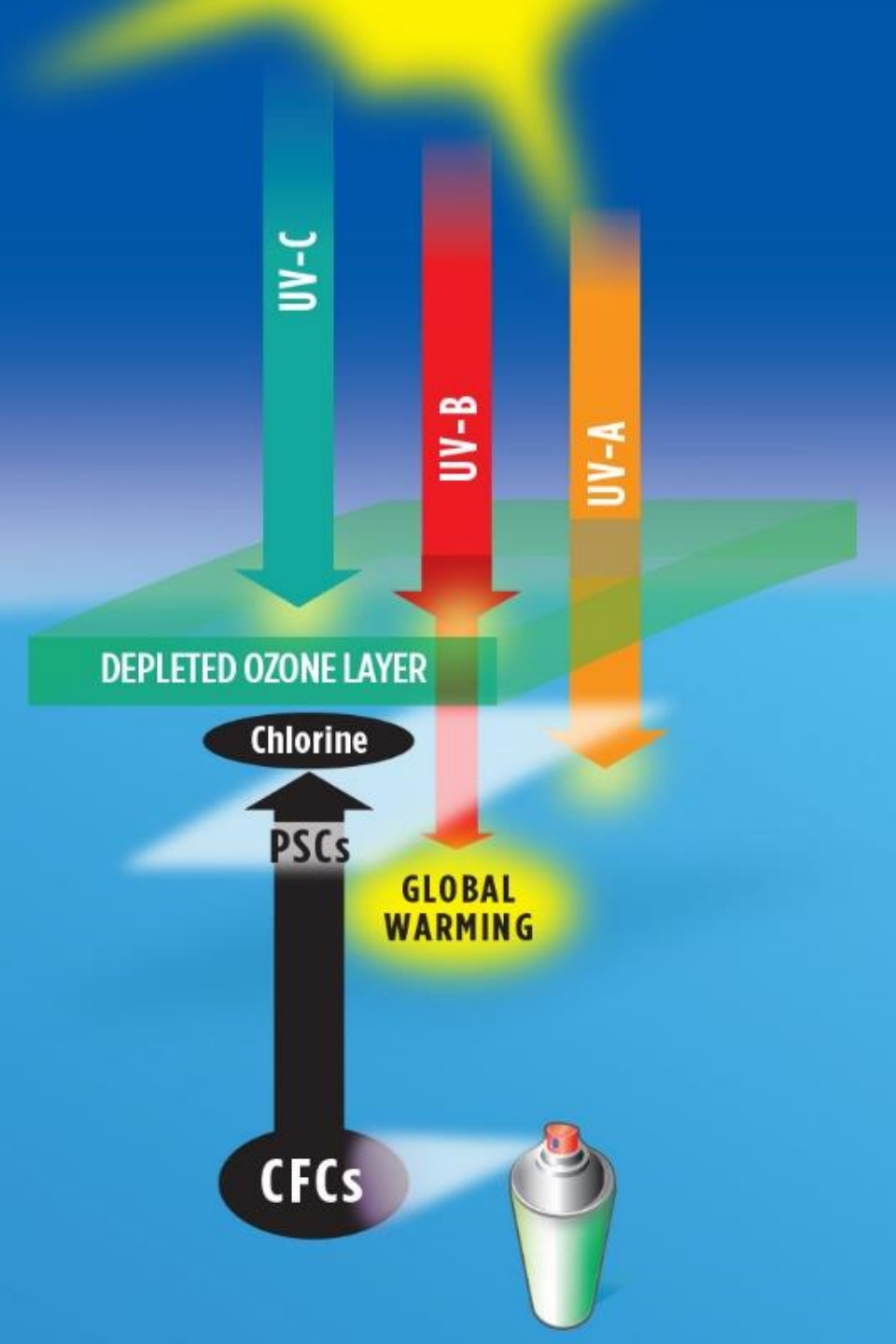






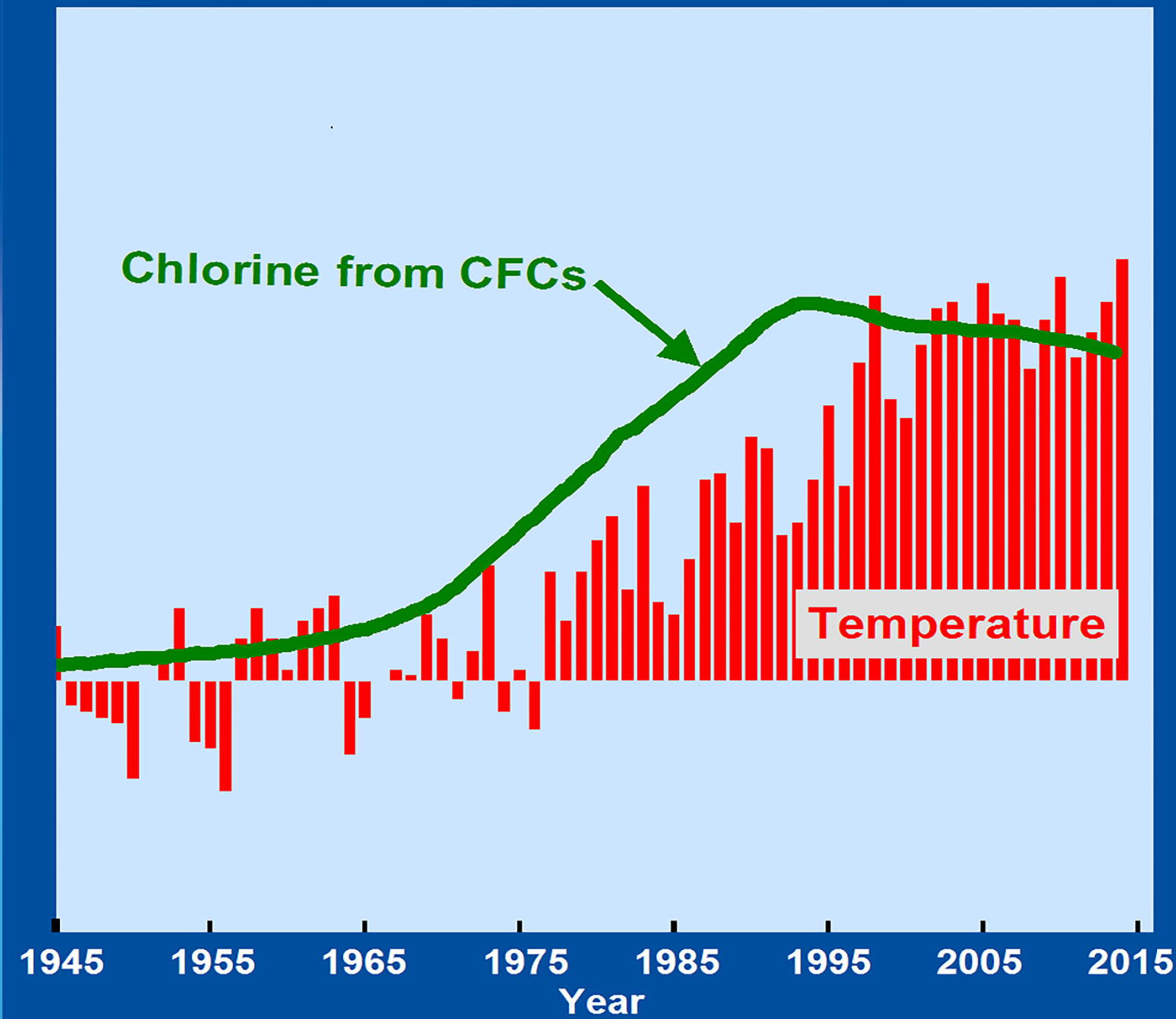
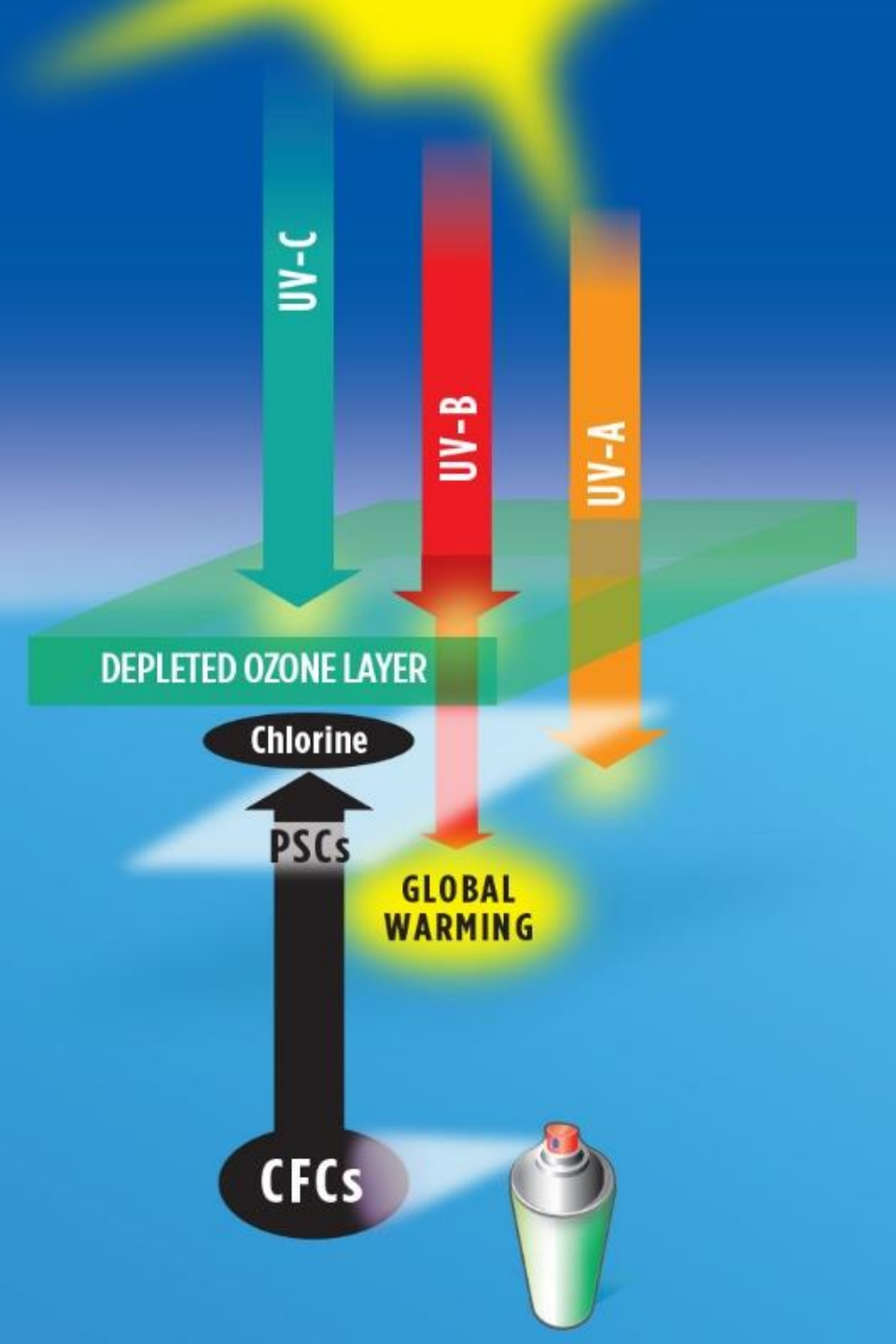
CFCs

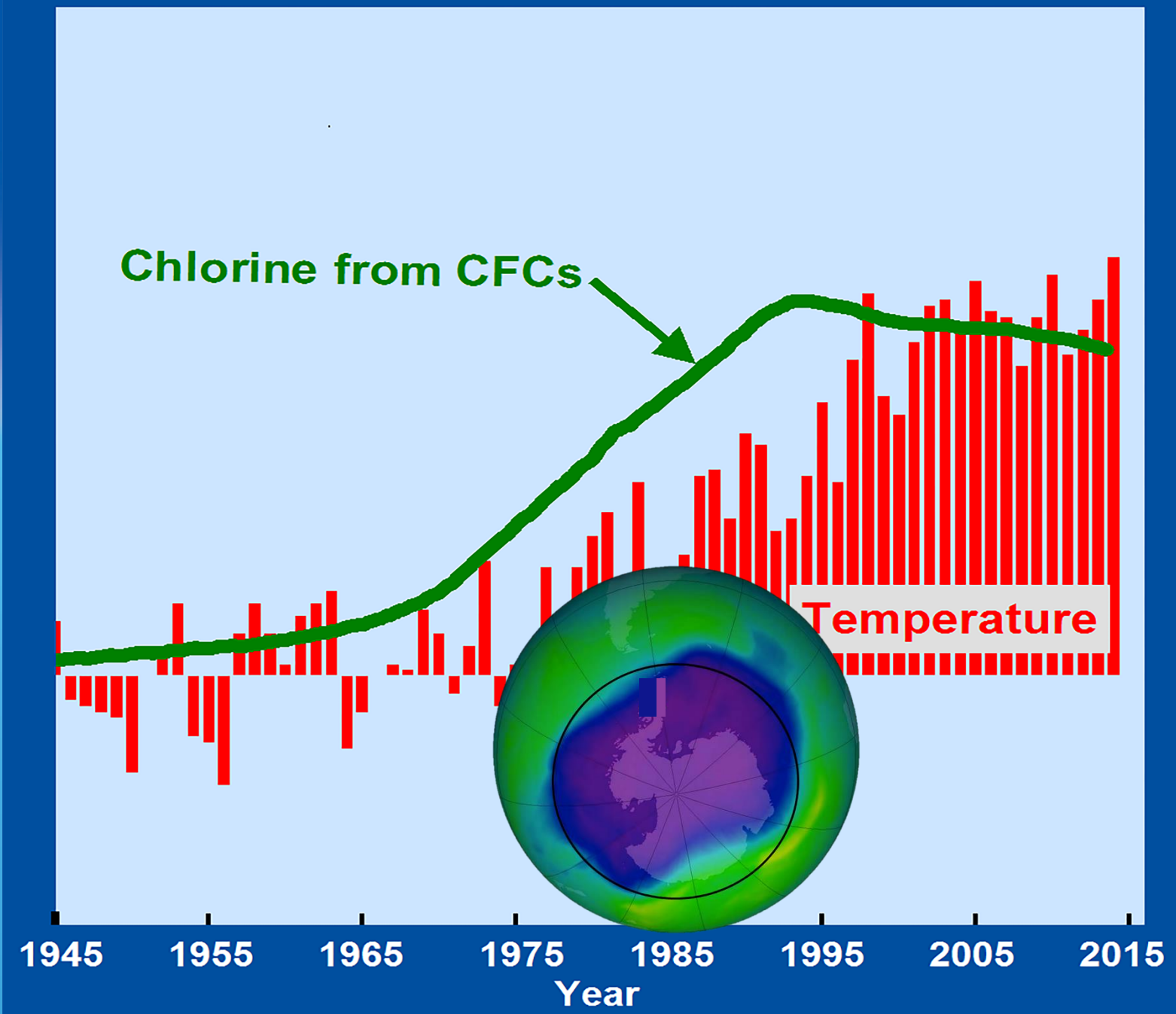
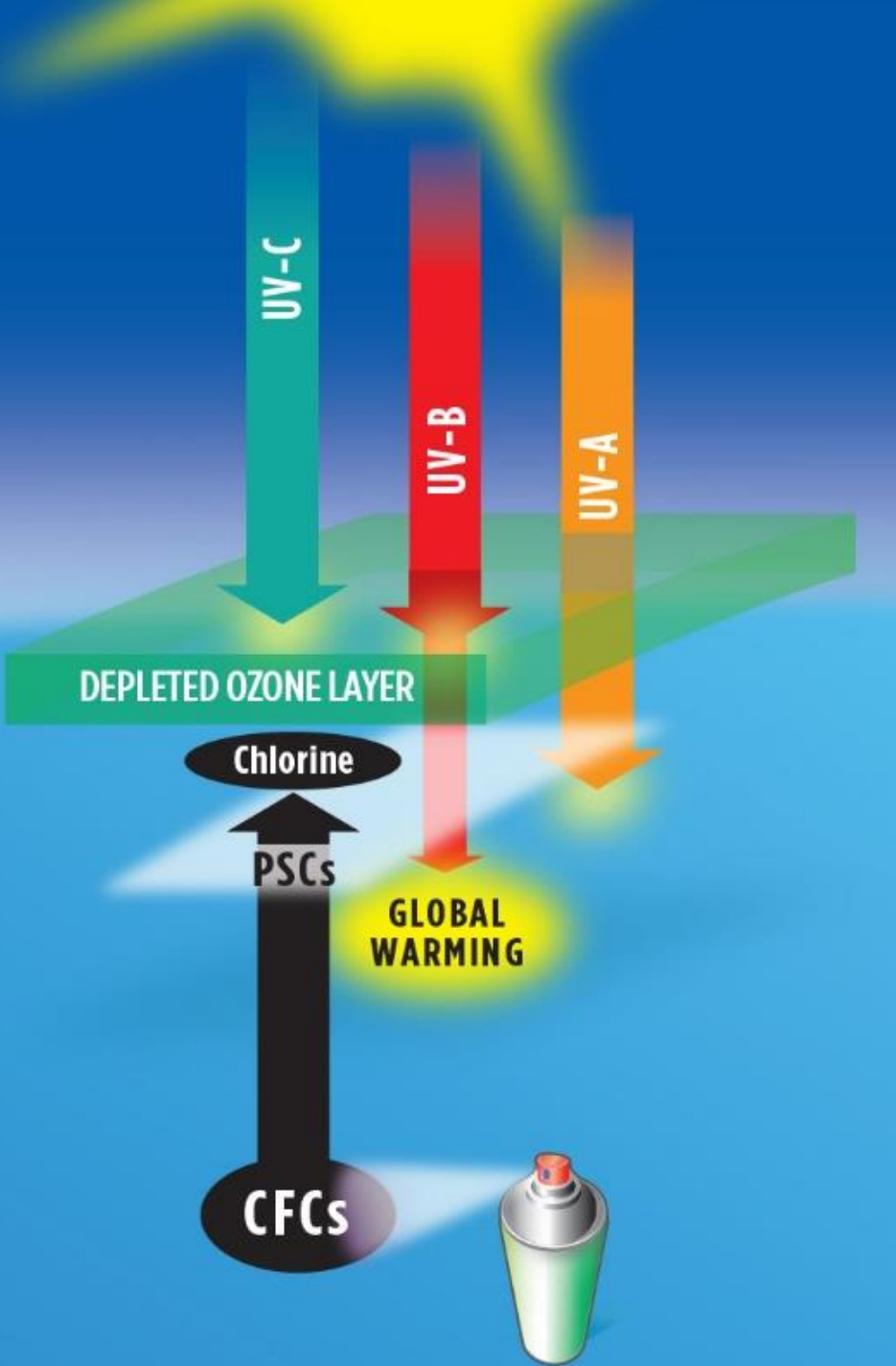


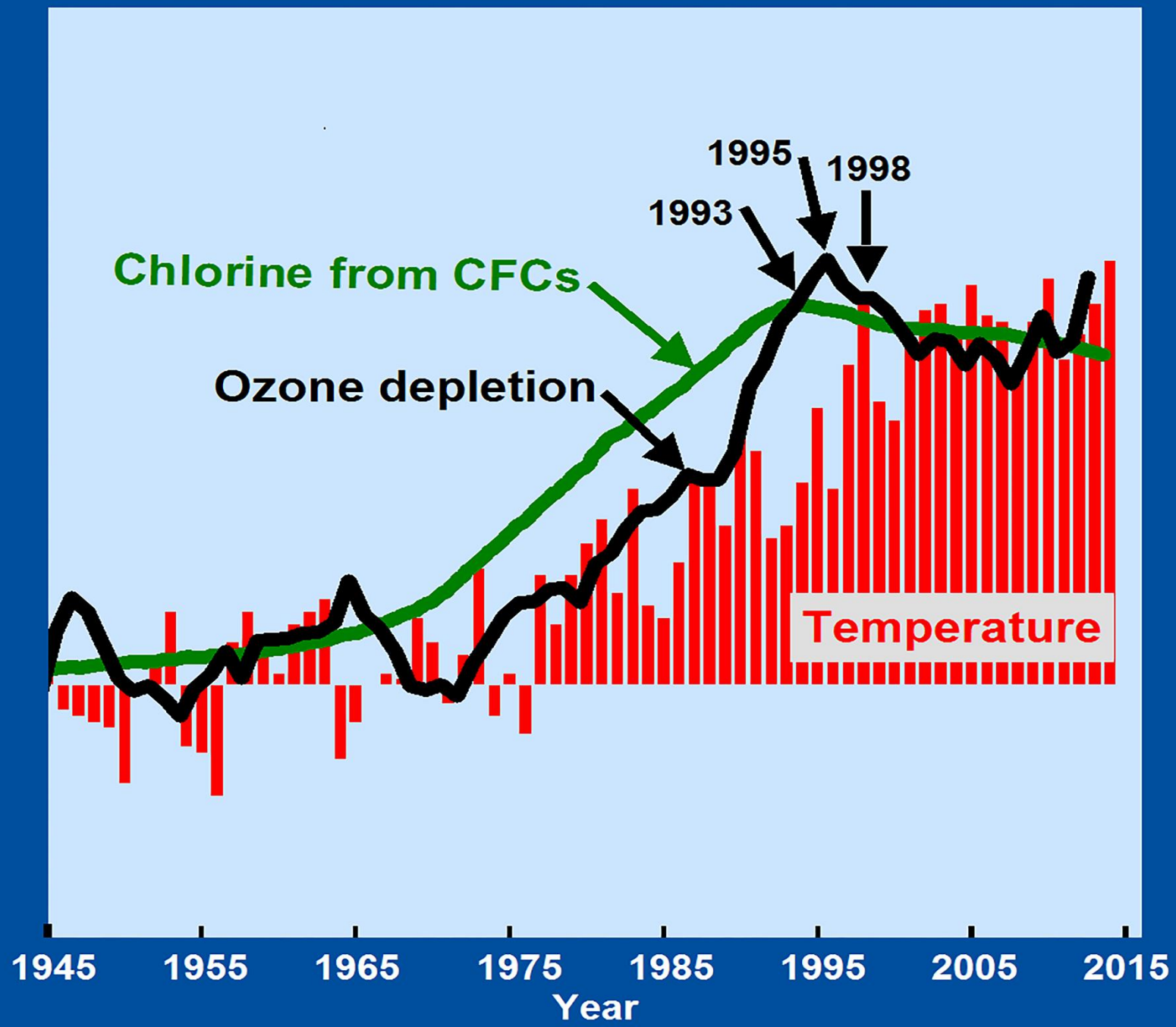
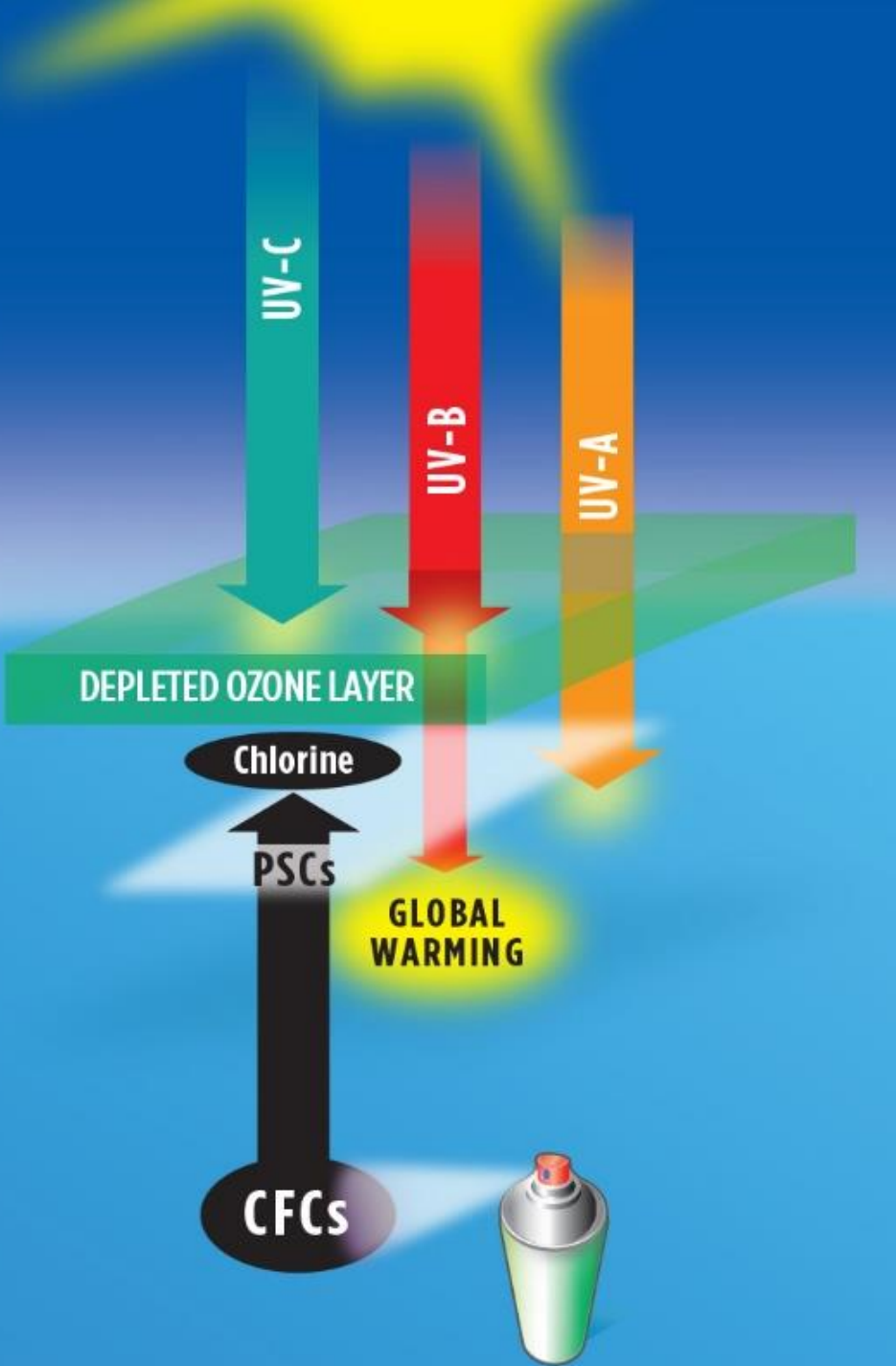


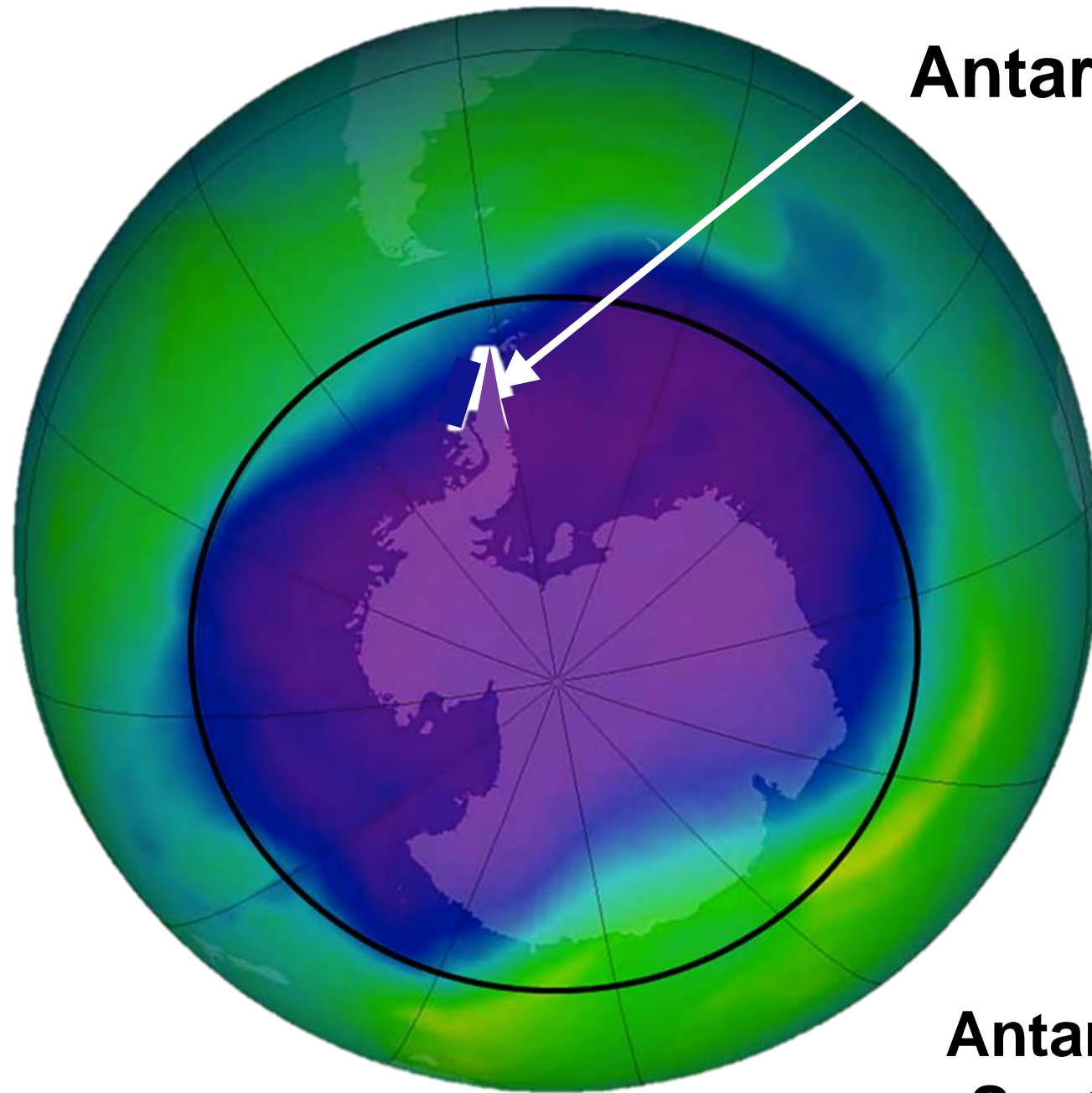
Polar Stratospheric Clouds

Chlorofluorocarbon gases





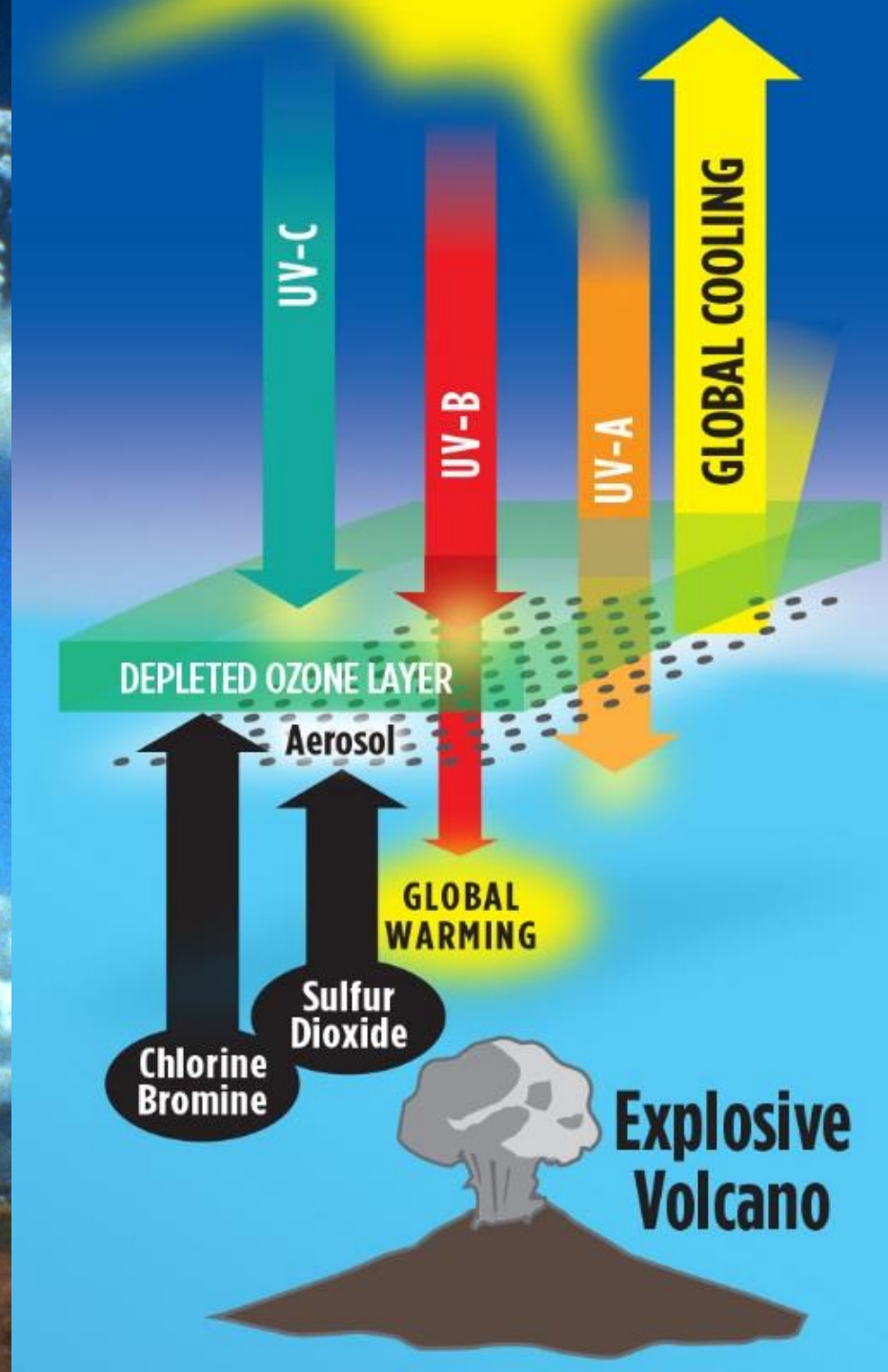


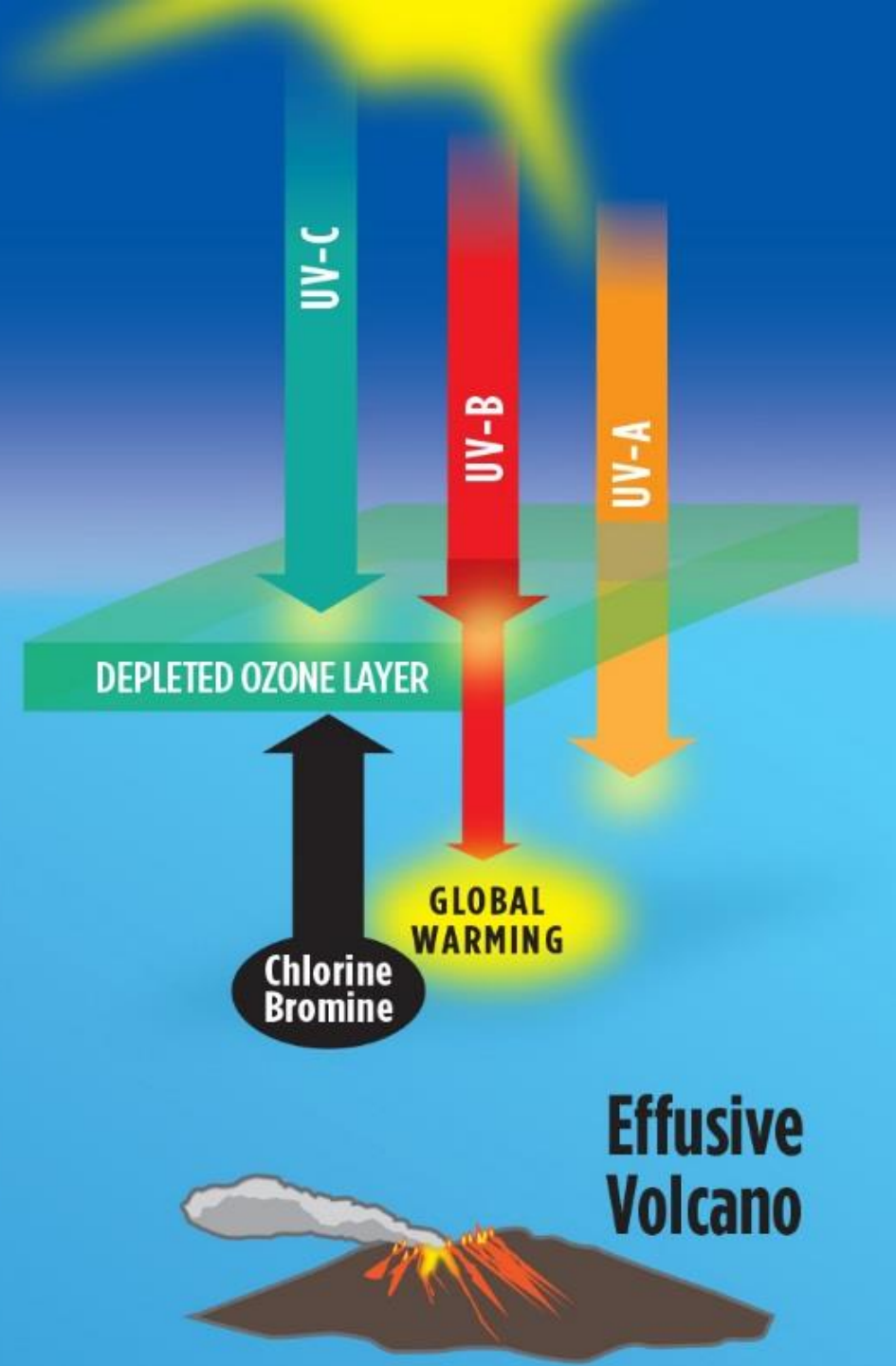


Antarctic Peninsula

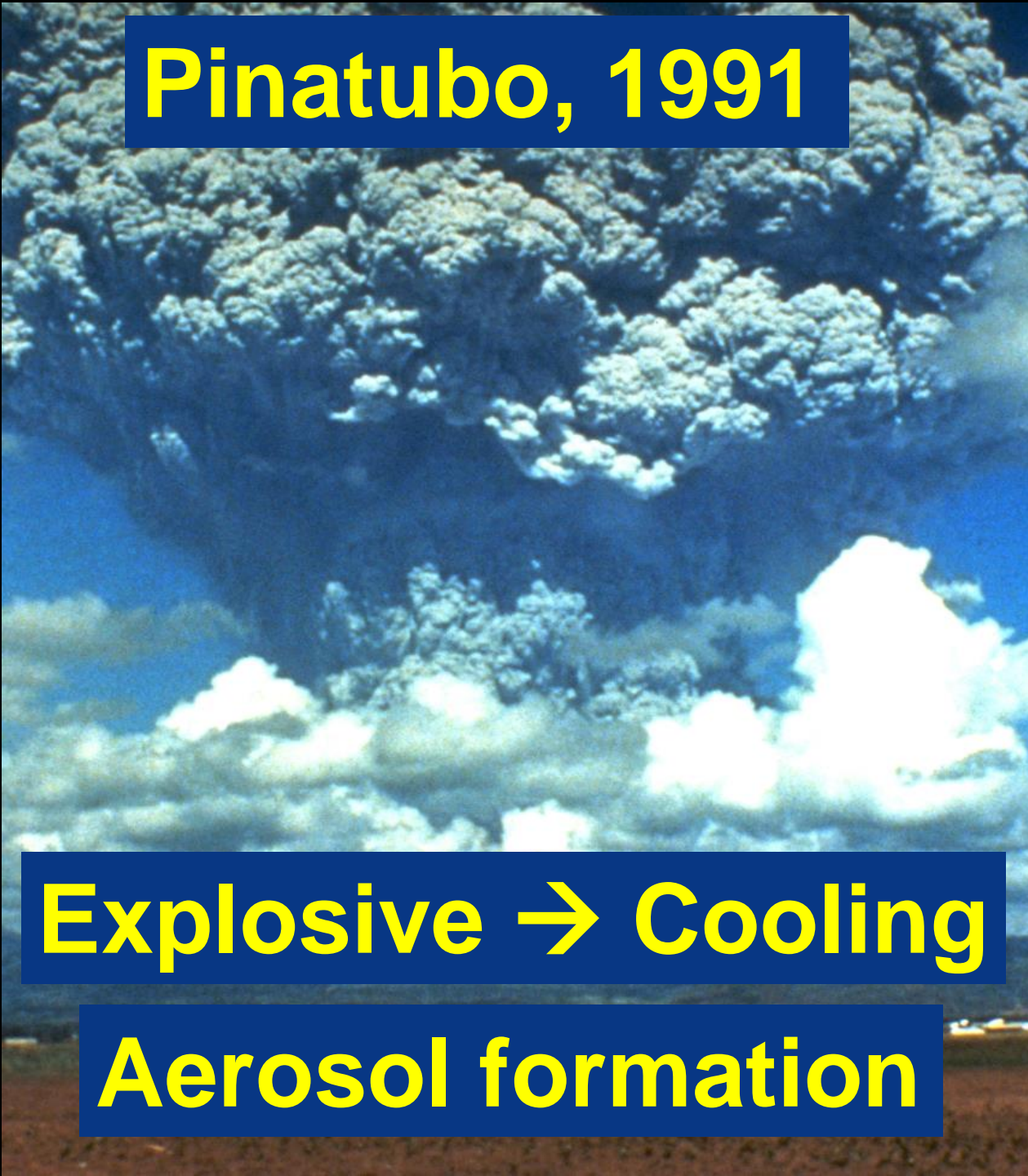
**Antarctic Ozone Hole
September 24, 2006**

NASA





Pinatubo, 1991



Explosive → Cooling

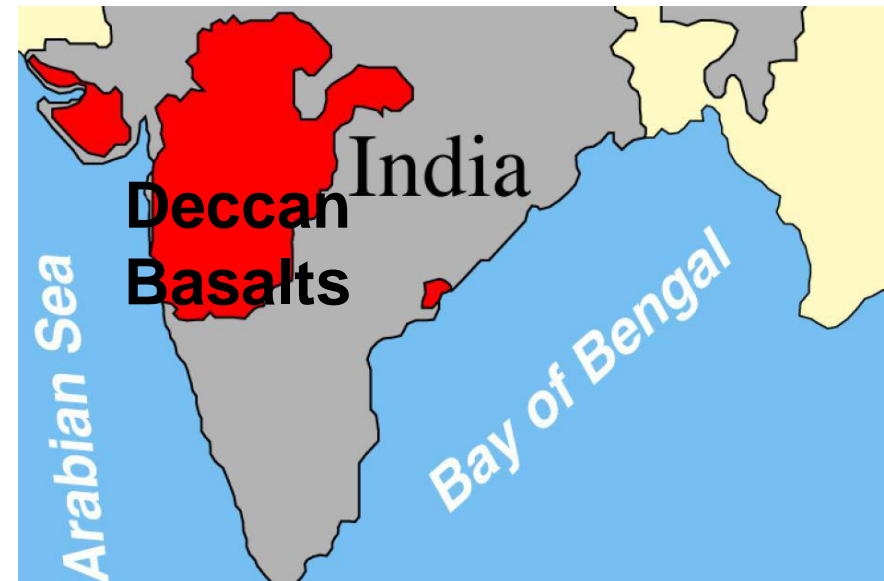
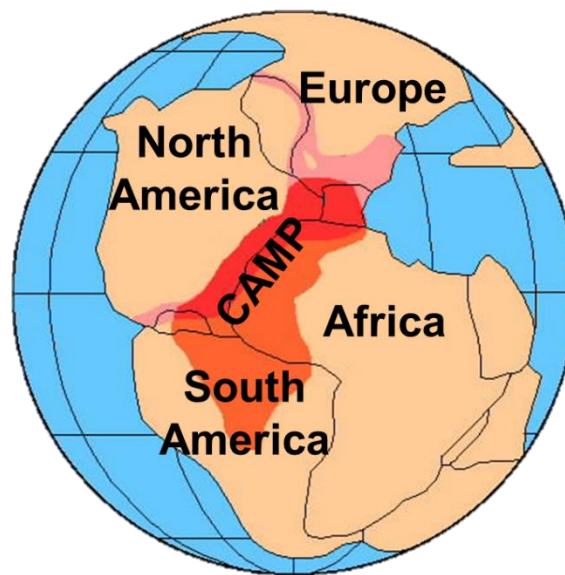
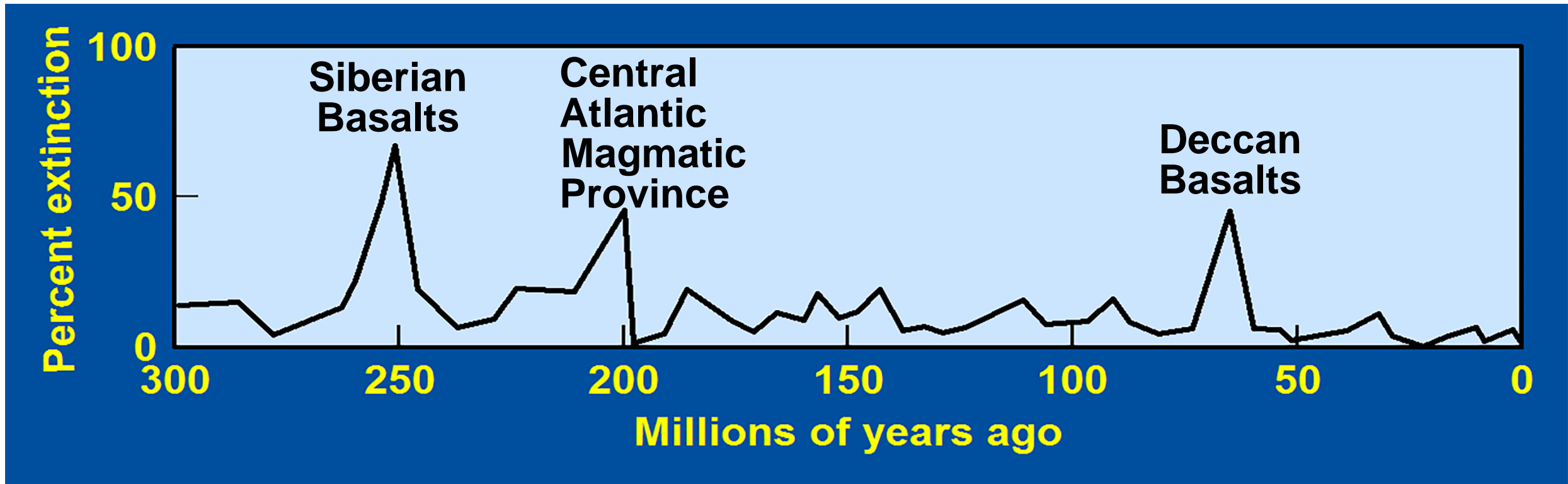
Aerosol formation

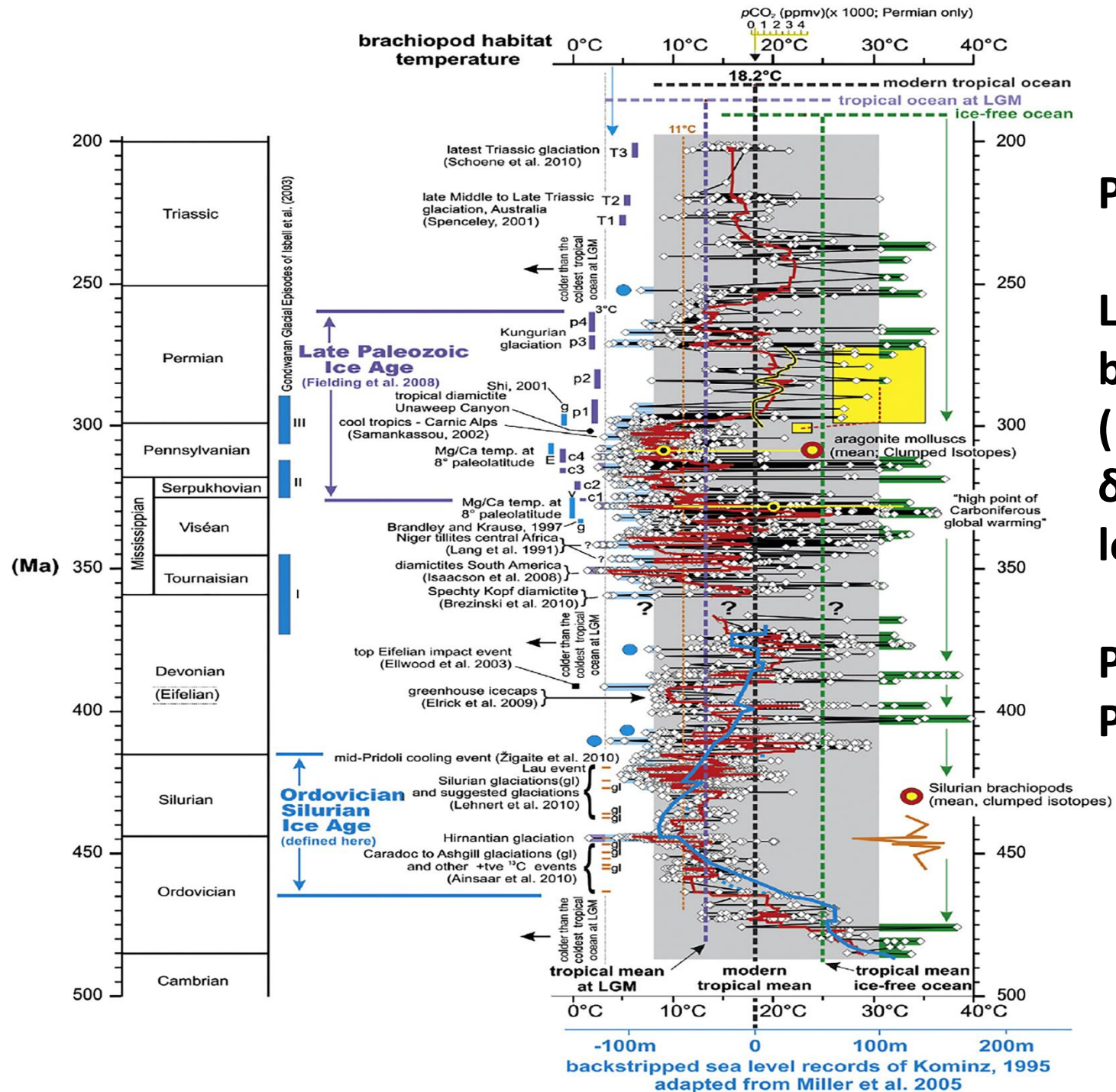
Bárðarbunga, 2014-2015



Effusive → Warming

No aerosol formation





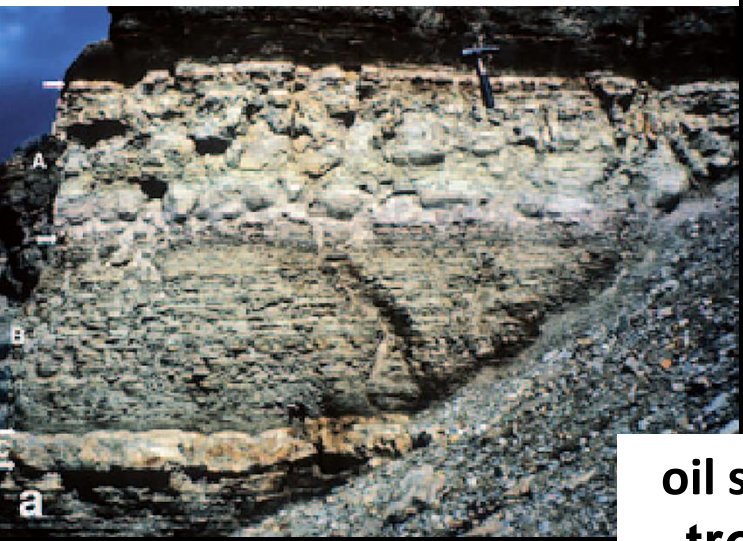
Peter S. Giles, 2012

Low-latitude Ordovician to Triassic brachiopod habitat temperatures (BHTs) determined from $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ [brachiopod calcite]: A cold hard look at ice-house tropical oceans

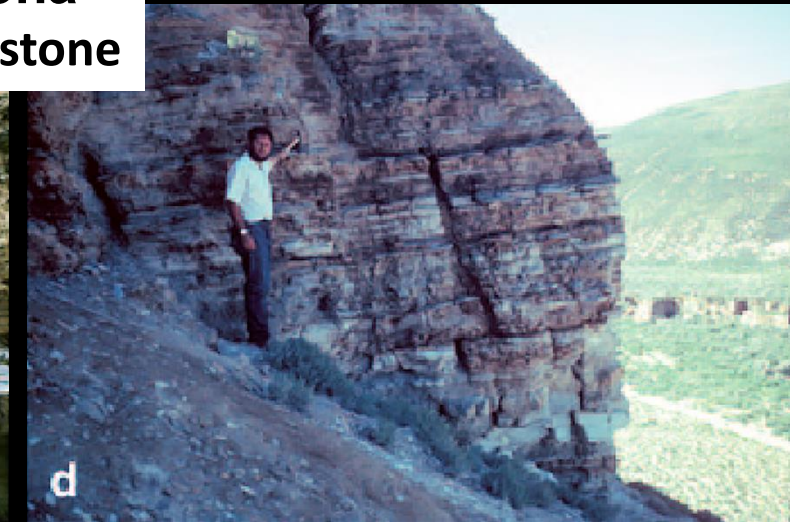
Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology, v. 317-318, p. 134-152.

Eocene Green River Formation in Wyoming

Ronald C. Surdam, 2013, Geological Observations
Supporting Dynamic Climatic Changes, in
Geological CO₂ Storage Characterization, Springer.



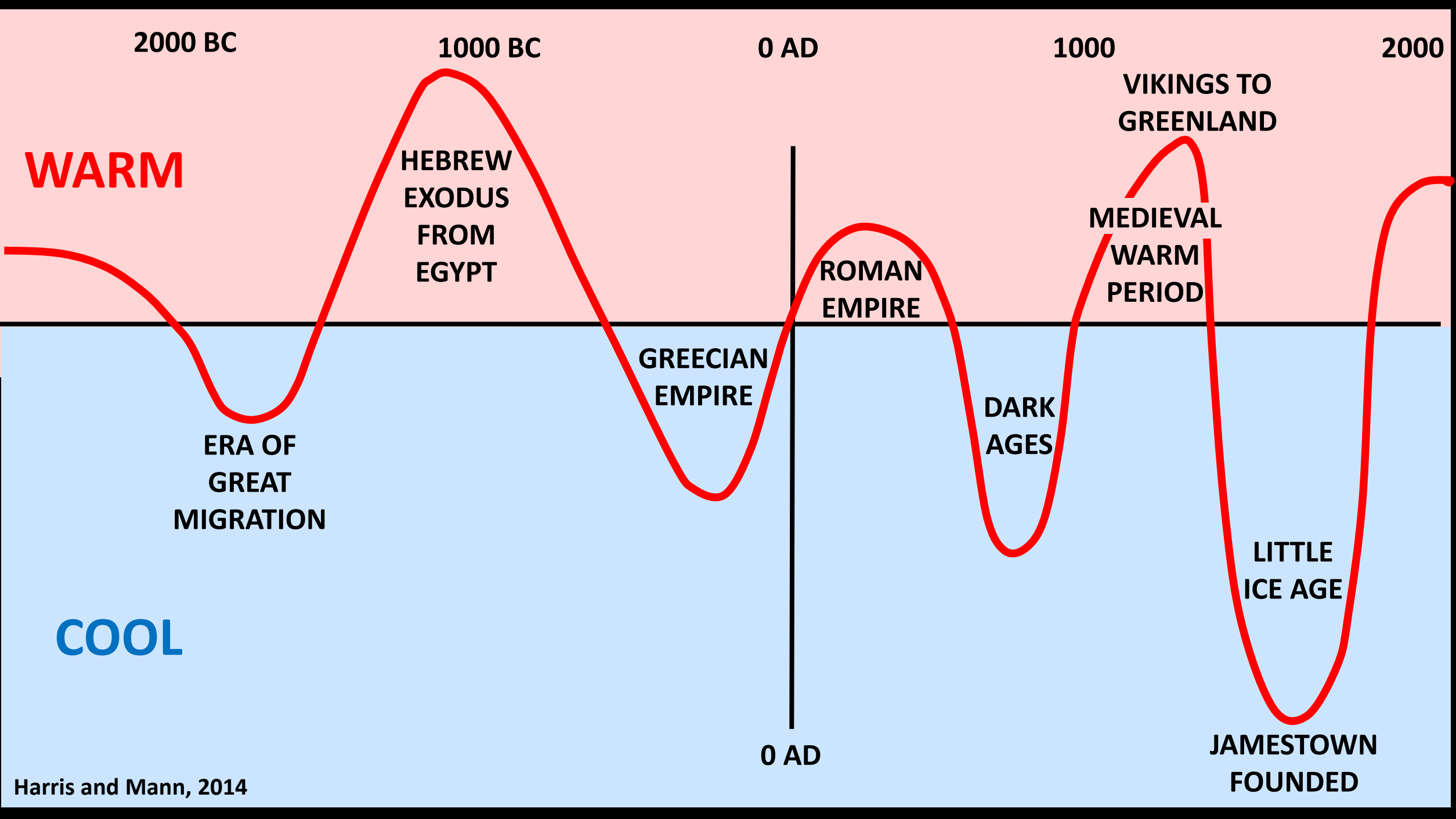
oil shale
trona
dolostone



Mud Lake
Florida
oil shale



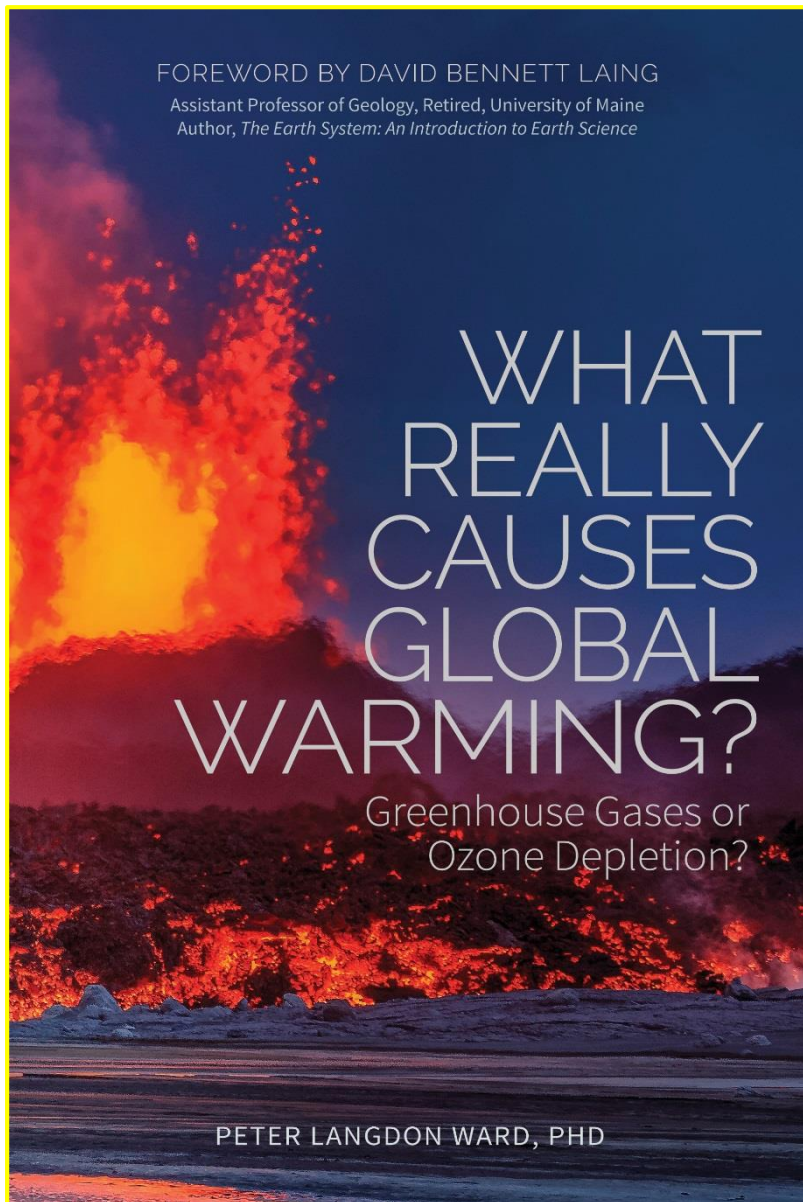
Lake Magadi,
Kenya, Trona



Ozone depletion caused by volcanic eruptions and CFC gases provides a clear and sufficient explanation for warming over the past 100 years and for warming throughout all of geologic time.

What role did greenhouse gases play?

For more information:



New book available in Exhibit Hall

Free pamphlet available at Exhibit

SciencelsNeverSettled.com

WhyClimateChanges.com

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