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Long-term adjustment of the South America Atlantic Forest to atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration

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Abstract

The effect of CO₂ fertilization on tropical forests is uncertain due to a lack of direct data and confounding effects of climate variability. Long-term proxy records could help understand the impact of elevated CO₂ on tropical vegetation. We provide observationally inferred evidence that the evolution of the Atlantic Forest in SE Brazil between ~ 150 and 65 ka was influenced by CO₂ variability rather than temperature or precipitation on both precessional and millennial time scales. Plant wax n-alkanes in a marine core were used to trace forest cover fluctuations and compared with continental records of fossil pollen, revealing a strong correlation with CO₂ levels. This highlights CO₂ fertilization as a key driver of the past Atlantic Forest evolution, emphasizing the need for protection initiatives to preserve its long-term capacity in carbon storage. Further research is needed to understand the long-term effects of CO₂ on tropical forests at the ecosystem scale.

Introduction

The Neotropical Atlantic Forest is one of the world's most biodiverse and endangered ecosystems^{1,2} that originally covered 12 % of Brazil's national territory with a latitudinal range of *ca.* 29° extending into tropical and subtropical regions (Figure 1). The massive agricultural expansion with the arrival of European colonists in the 16th century, followed by intense industrialization and urban development, has resulted in an impressive habitat loss. Currently, the Atlantic Forest is confined to only *ca.* 7 % of its original extent³ and composed of small, isolated, and degraded fragments, making this ecosystem a global priority for biodiversity conservation²⁻⁴.

Tropical forests, like the Atlantic Forest, are characterized by the dominance of tree life forms, creating a closed canopy and complex arrangements that provide diverse ecosystem services⁵. Among these, carbon uptake is the most recognized, with about one-third of anthropogenic carbon dioxide emitted being removed by such forests⁶. Carbon uptake in terrestrial ecosystems seems to have increased globally⁷, likely due to the fertilization effect of rising CO₂ levels. Indeed, one of the primary expected effects of higher atmospheric CO₂ is an increase in the photosynthetic rate and a decrease in the transpiration rate occurring at the enzymatic and stomatal scales, which ultimately regulates C uptake⁸⁻¹⁰. This effect may result in important negative feedback on anthropogenic-induced global warming^{11,12}. Otherwise, studies argue that this capacity is not being sustained because increasing air temperature and reduced water availability would raise plant respiration exponentially, reducing forest productivity^{13,14}. Such conflicting conclusions emphasize our poor understanding of the long-term response of tropical forests to rising CO₂ levels.

In this regard, paleoclimate data may provide relevant insight for investigating past vegetation changes under naturally varying atmospheric CO₂ concentrations at different time scales. Leaf gas-exchange modeling on temperate and tropical fossil flora from the early Miocene suggests enhanced leaf-level productivity and water-use efficiency under elevated CO₂ (~ 450-550 ppm), which likely contributed to

forest survival in climates where currently tropical savannas and grasslands dominate¹⁵. In the Quaternary, the triple isotopic ratio of atmospheric oxygen recovered from Antarctica ice cores indicates that marine and terrestrial biosphere productivity changes coeval to glacial-interglacial variability, with the latter largely driven by atmospheric CO₂¹⁶. In subtropical SE Africa, the main extension of woodlands during the Pleistocene occurred under interglacial conditions of raised CO₂ even though these intervals were regionally drier than glacial periods¹⁷. Likewise, the Pleistocene evolution of NW African savanna ecosystems was strongly controlled by atmospheric pCO₂, whereby rising atmospheric carbon dioxide led to increased woody cover¹⁸. Tropical forests in South America experienced a marked expansion since the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM), leading to a 20%-100% increase in carbon storage¹⁹. For the Atlantic forest realm, the increase in carbon storage was estimated in the order of 4.9 10⁹ tC (55%), making this biome an important locus for atmospheric CO₂ sequestration¹⁹. Changes in past vegetation cover/dynamics of the Atlantic forest have usually been ascribed to climate (i.e., temperature and moisture), while the (possible) control of atmospheric CO₂ has not been strongly explored^{20,21}.

Here, we investigate an 85 kyr time interval from late Marine Isotope Stage (MIS) 6 to early MIS 4, which spans over glacial, transitional, and interglacial climate phases, encompassing a large range of CO₂ conditions (from ~ 200 to ~280 ppm)^{22,23} and includes periods of different monsoonal rainfall regimes in the South America^{24,25}. We provide a record of vegetation changes from plant wax composition and soil-derived discharges based on the abundance of branched glycerol dialkyl glycerol tetraether in a marine sediment core from the continental slope of SE Brazil (GL-1090, 24.92 °S, 42.51 °W, 2225 m water depth)^{26,27}. The core site receives terrestrial inputs through runoff from the adjacent hinterland that hosts the central and south areas of the South American Atlantic Forest²⁸. We discuss our records with regional pollen data, monsoonal precipitation, and global CO₂ concentrations.

Our findings sustain that under natural climate variability, the atmospheric CO₂ concentration is the key driver of the Atlantic Forest changes (arboreal cover) on precessional and millennial time scales. A potential vegetation simulation with the CPTec-PVM2 model²⁹ corroborates this interpretation. Our data support the effect of CO₂ fertilization over the Atlantic Forest and urge protection and reforestation initiatives to preserve its natural long-term capacity in carbon storage.

Results

A suite of long chain odd-carbon numbered homologs dominates the distribution of *n*-alkanes and is typical of inputs from epicuticular waxes of terrestrial higher plants³². Their Average Chain Length (ACL) varies between 29.6 and 30.7 and exhibits glacial-interglacial oscillations (Figure 2a), with generally higher values during full glacial or cold MIS 5 substages (MIS 5d and 5b). The largest ACL change (~ 0.7) occurs at the transition from the penultimate glacial maximum (late MIS 6) to the Last Interglacial (MIS 5e), where relatively steady low ACL values (~ 29.7) dominate the pattern. From early

MIS 5e toward MIS 4, a Mann-Kendall statistically significant increasing trend exists ($p < 0.01$), leading the ACL from its low Last Interglacial to higher full glacial values (~ 30.4). The long-term increasing ACL trend is overprinted by rapid, millennial-scale, negative excursions ($\sim 0.3 - 0.4$), mainly during the warm MIS 5c and 5a substages.

Branched glycerol dialkyl glycerol tetraethers (brGDGTs) concentrations vary between 0 and 250ng/g of dry sediment. Their variations in core GL-1090 follow the ACL pattern (Figure 2a), whereby lower concentrations are generally followed by reduced ACL, with the lowest values observed during MIS 5e. Rapid millennial-scale spikes lead brGDGT from its lower baseline to peaks of $\sim 150 - 200$ ng/g, mainly at the transition from late MIS 6 to 5e, during cold MIS 5 substages (MIS 5d and b), and at the end of MIS 5 (Figure 2b).

Discussion

Plant life form, function, and metabolic pathway have been found to dictate the chain length distribution of leaf waxes (ACL) in terrestrial plants³²⁻³⁴. Several studies have also provided evidence that climate factors (i.e., temperature and moisture) may modulate the ACL, consistent with the role of the leaf wax layer in regulating water loss of the plant. Positive (negative) relations between growth temperature (moisture availability) and *n*-alkane chain length (ACL) have been reported (e.g.,³⁵⁻⁴⁰). In our GL-1090 record, we can readily argue that temperature does not exert a dominant control on leaf wax chain length because higher ACL values are observed during cold glacial climates and not during warm intervals (Figure 2a).

The possible control of moisture on the ACL can be explored by considering long-term variations in rainfall patterns. In SE Brazil, rainfall is strongly controlled by the South American Summer Monsoon (SAMS)^{41,42}, the intensity of which is primarily driven by precession-forced changes in insolation^{24,43}. Accordingly, high austral summer insolation during late MIS6 and Termination II would strengthen SAMS activity and rainfall in SE Brazil (Figure 3b), while the opposite would occur during MIS 5e (Figure 3b and c). Further, abrupt hydroclimate change occurred in the tropics during glacial Terminations, and a strengthening of SAMS rainfall⁴⁴⁻⁴⁶ is largely reported, also linked to a southern placement of the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) and decreased Atlantic cross-equatorial heat transport^{47,48}. Data-model assessments indicate drier austral tropics during the Last Interglacial, with an accentuated decline of summer and spring and almost unchanged autumn/winter rainfall in South America²⁵. Likewise, a speleothem $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record from the Amazon region (and also under the influence of SAMS) shows a relatively weak monsoon during MIS 5e in phase with low austral summer insolation⁴⁹.

In core GL-1090, terrigenous inputs traced with soil-derived brGDGTs (Supplementary material; Supplementary Figure 1) are ultimately controlled by changes in the rainfall rate in SE Brazil. Their pattern indicates stronger runoff (intensified SAMS) during Termination II and lower rainfall (weakened SAMS) during the Last Interglacial (Fig 3d), supported by complementary multi-proxy magnetic and

isotopic studies^{50,51}. Terrigenous supply from runoff is thus consistent with changes in rainfall rates dictated by austral summer insolation patterns (Figure 3b). The inferred decrease in monsoonal rainfall from the end of Termination II to MIS 5e is accompanied by a decrease in ACL values in core GL-1090 (Figure 3b), suggesting that a precipitation deficit is not pressuring plant life forms. This pattern strongly suggests that rainfall changes are unlikely the leading factor behind the observed ACL variation.

Having ruled out temperature and precipitation as the primary controls on ACL variations, we argue that the ACL record likely reflects vegetation changes in the adjacent hinterland. Among C₃ plants, deciduous and evergreen broadleaf trees (angiosperms) show overall lower ACL values (ca. ≤ 29-30) compared to herbaceous and conifer vegetation (ACL > 30), and C₃ savannah plants produce longer-chain *n*-alkanes (higher ACL) than the C₃ rainforest plants^{33,52}. We thus propose that the ACL in core GL-1090 traces changes in the Atlantic Forest in SE Brazil with lower (higher) ACL indicating expansion (retraction) of the forest. A previous record in the study area has suggested using ACL as a proxy for changes in the Atlantic Forest⁵³. In order to further constrain the ACL as a tracer of vegetation (Atlantic Forest) changes, we compared our results with available pollen data from the Colônia crater in SE Brazil located only a few kilometers from the shoreline³⁰. The higher (~ 30.4) ACL values during late MIS 6 are consistent with the dominant presence of grassland vegetation composed of an association of *Poaceae*, conifers (*Araucaria* and *Podocarpus*), and shrubs³⁰ as the ones noted today at high elevation in the state of Paraná (southern Brazil)⁵⁴. Toward the Last Interglacial, the vegetation composition fluctuated with the same species as during the penultimate glacial, except for the *Poaceae*, which decreased sharply, allowing shrubs to expand⁵⁵. During MIS 5e, trees replaced shrubs, as shown in the high arboreal pollen frequencies³⁰, and this trend is mirrored in the concurrent smooth decreasing of ACL (Figures 3c and e).

Such a coherent variation between ACL and arboreal pollen data, already observed in other studies (e.g. ⁵⁶), strengthens our interpretation of ACL as a proxy of Atlantic Forest variations in SE Brazil. In this sense, the Last Interglacial likely shows the largest expansion of the arboreal cover of the Atlantic Forest over the studied period. Upon the demise of the Last Interglacial and towards MIS 4, a linear increasing trend is embedded in our ACL, with values reaching close to those of MIS 6 (Figure 3c). Throughout this interval, an orbital pattern is clearly distinguished following MIS 5 substages, with MIS 5d and b (MIS 5c and a) presenting a pattern toward higher (lower) ACL. Superimposed on this orbital scale, noticeable millennial-scale ACL negative excursions through MIS 5 substages likely indicate periods of short-term Atlantic Forest expansions briefly interrupting this long-term retraction.

Our data require a mechanism to account for the inferred variations of the Atlantic Forest vegetation distribution on orbital and millennial time scales. Here, we propose that these variations were primarily driven by the global atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide, whereby elevated atmospheric CO₂ enhances forest plant growth through the “fertilization” effect (increased photosynthesis) and promotes decreased stomatal conductance that reduces transpiration (water loss)⁸⁻¹⁰. The role of this mechanism and its effect on biomass gains, biodiversity, and mortality rates, mainly over long-term periods, is still uncertain⁵⁷. Modeling results with a potential vegetation model for Brazilian biomes indicated an

increase in humid forest cover for future high-emission scenarios, although this tends to be counteracted by decreasing precipitation and rising temperatures⁵⁷. Based on our record and the complementary pollen data, we argue that raising atmospheric CO₂ during the penultimate deglaciation promoted the expansion of the Atlantic Forest in SE Brazil during MIS5e (Figure 3c). Interestingly, a similar conclusion is drawn by a pollen record combined with leaf wax data from the SE African margin. According to the authors, the development of interglacial woodlands would be primarily favored by higher CO₂ levels that allow decreased stomatal conductivity, relieving drought stress¹⁷.

Aside from orbital variation, the ACL in core GL-1090 also varies on millennial time scales, revealing rapid changes in the SE Brazil biomes. During glacial intervals, the abrupt climate oscillations between the so-called Dansgaard-Oeschger (DO) stadial and interstadial conditions (Figures 3a and f) are linked with precipitation changes in (sub)tropical South America²⁴ that have the potential to promote a vegetation response. However, the wetter climate during Dansgaard-Oeschger (DO) stadials, shown in the Botuvera cave δ¹⁸O record, does not involve lower ACL (i.e., forest expansion) (Figures 3a and c). In contrast, short-term forest expansion, denoted by lower ACL, is observed in DO interstadials (e.g., 19-21 and, to a lesser extent, 23-24 (Figures 3a and c)). The negative ACL excursions are nearly synchronous with millennial-scale CO₂ increments of ~10 – 20 ppm (Figures 3a and c), implying the role of CO₂ in driving a rapid Atlantic Forest response. Furthermore, the link between ACL (Atlantic Forest) and CO₂ is endorsed by the isospectral correlation, which yields a strong significant correlation between them ($R > -0.80$, $p < 0.01$) (Figure 3g).

Further, wavelet coherency analysis between ACL and CO₂ shows a well-defined anti-phased (180 °) signal taking place at precessional variability (~ 20 ka), which means that on orbital time scales, CO₂ and arboreal Atlantic Forest are synchronous. A wide coherency region at ~ 5 – 10 ka time scales could be related to large background changes of global atmospheric CO₂ since they occur at main transition periods (i.e., Termination II and MIS 5/4 boundary) (Figure 3g). The phase-angle during Termination II could still indicate a slight leading of atmospheric CO₂ related to the Atlantic Forest, which aligns with our interpretation.

Biome changes may impact the stability of the underlying soils as increasing vegetation cover (forest expansion) contributes to stabilizing and reducing soil erosion. The main peaks in soil material (brGDGT concentration) occur in periods of reduced arboreal cover (higher ACL) and enhanced precipitation (Figures 3a, c, and d), with this being conditioned by the core stratigraphy, disregarding chronological uncertainties (Figure 2). In this sense, our data highlight the dynamic response of the Atlantic rainforest and underlying soils in SE Brazil induced by global CO₂ changes.

Aiming to quantify the effects of CO₂ over biomass gains, we ran potential vegetation simulations with the CPTEC-PVM2 initialized with the 1961–1990 climatology⁶¹, which reasonably reproduces the main South American biomes²⁹ (Figure 4). We evaluated the distribution of net primary productivity (kgC/m²yr) in experiments where only CO₂ is changed from penultimate glacial (180 ppm) to Last

Interglacial (280 ppm) levels (Figure 4a). Simulations indicate that regions of tropical evergreen forest, which under the current climatology occur in the Amazon region and SE Brazil, suffer a loss in net primary productivity under penultimate glacial CO₂ concentration compared with the present (Figure 4b). Otherwise, when atmospheric CO₂ concentration is set to the Last Interglacial level, it favors a biomass gain of roughly 0.16 – 0.24 kgC/m²yr relative to glacial conditions (Figure 4b).

Future projections of vegetation cover in a range of conditions where only CO₂ or CO₂ and climate (temperature and precipitation) are considered suggest that tropical biomes are maintained or increase their productivity if the long-term CO₂ fertilization effect plays a role²⁹. This positive feedback caused by atmospheric CO₂ is only countered if the dry season is longer than four months²⁹. However, no observational evidence suggests that the CO₂ fertilization effect will likely play an important role in tropical forests on longer time scales²⁹. In this sense, our data will work as long-term evidence that the CO₂ fertilization effect is a pervasive mechanism operating on millennial to orbital time scales. Evidently, the role of precipitation and temperature cannot be neglected²⁹. Monitoring Brazilian non-Amazon tropical forests shows that recent drying and warming trends in the southeastern region have increased the annual carbon loss, turning carbon sink areas into carbon sources⁶². Considering this view, we hypothesize that past millennial-scale decreases in precipitation or even the drier condition of the Last Interglacial for the southern tropics²⁵ still yielded a sufficient rainfall supply to allow the CO₂ fertilization effect to occur. In this scenario, dry seasons likely do not exceed four months, and the range of CO₂ variability is not large enough to cause saturation within enzymatic scales²⁹. Our study sheds light on the role of humid forests as carbon sinks during past periods of natural warming, working likely as negative feedback to slow down global warming and capture carbon released from the deep ocean. Deforestation of remaining Atlantic Forest areas seriously threatens any future carbon-induced biomass gain, urging protection and reforestation initiatives to preserve its natural long-term capacity in carbon storage.

Methods

Core GL-1090 and age model

Sediment core GL-1090 was collected in subtropical western South Atlantic (Santos basin - 24.92 °S, 42.51 °W) by Petrobras at a water depth of 2225 m. GL-1090 consists mostly of greenish to olive glacial sediments somewhat rich in foraminifera-bearing silty clay with Last Interglacial sediments represented by whitish clays²⁶. The uppermost circulation in the region is dominated by the southward-flowing Brazil current that originates at ~ 10 °S from the southern branch of the bifurcation of the South Equatorial Current⁶³. Several minor rivers drain the narrow coastal plain north of the core location, with the Paraíba do Sul the most important. About 10 °S south of the GL-1090 site, the Plata River meets the subtropical Atlantic Ocean, in which the Plata Basin represents the largest source of terrigenous material to the western South Atlantic⁵⁰. The chronology of the 1914 cm sediment length is resolved by radiocarbon dating and benthic foraminifera δ¹⁸O tuning with sediment core MD95-2042. The age model employed

was modified after refs.^{27,64} with a new tie-point collection during Termination II and throughout MIS 5. Final interpolation occurred on Bacon 2.3, which creates a more realistic Bayesian sediment accumulation history⁶⁵.

Average chain length of *n*-alkanes and brGDGT

The *n*-alkanes and brGDGTs were analyzed between 150.51 - 64.86 ka (689 – 1591 cm) along core GL-1090. Lipids were solvent extracted from freeze-dried sediments with sonication and separated into three fractions by silica gel chromatography following the procedures described in ref.⁶⁶. *n*-alkanes were analyzed on an Agilent 6890N gas chromatography coupled to a flame ionization detector (GC-FID) and equipped with a 30 m DB-5 capillary column (0.32 mm internal diameter, 0.25 μm film thickness). The detector was set at 330 °C. The oven temperature program was initiated at 50 °C, increased by a rate of 30 °C min⁻¹ to 120 °C, and subsequently by a rate of 5 °C min⁻¹ until 320 °C (held for 10 min). Helium was used as carrier gas at constant flow (2.0 mL min⁻¹). The individual *n*-alkanes were quantified by comparing their peak area with the area of an internal standard. The average chain length (ACL; ref. ⁶⁷) was calculated using the most abundant C₂₇ to C₃₃ odd-carbon numbered *n*-alkanes; $ACL = \sum (i \cdot X_i) / \sum X_i$, where X is abundance, and i ranges from 27 to 33.

GDGTs (Glycerol dialkyl glycerol tetraethers) were analyzed by high-pressure liquid chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry with an atmospheric pressure chemical ionization source (HPLC-APCI-MS) using a Shimadzu LCMS 2020 in selected ion monitoring mode, equipped with two Acquity UHPLC BEH HILIC columns in tandem (150 mm × 2.1 mm, 1.7 μm; Waters, USA), thermally controlled at 40 °C; following the procedure detailed in ref. ⁶⁸.

Potential Vegetation Model

We used the Center for Weather Forecasting and Climate Studies Potential Vegetation Model version 2 (CPTEC-PVM2). This model is skillful in reproducing the main South American biomes like tropical forests over Amazonia and the Atlantic coastal region, savannas over central Brazil ('cerrado'), dry shrublands ('caatinga') over northeastern Brazil and the Chaco region, grasslands over the Pampas, and semidesert vegetation over Patagonia^{57,29}. CPTEC-PVM2 shows a reasonable performance over South America due to considering seasonality as a factor delimitating savannas and forests. CPTEC-PVM2 takes into account plant physiological responses to this seasonality. The biome allocation rules rely mainly on a given grid cell's optimum net primary productivity values, which demands gross primary productivity and plant respiration calculation. This is done aside with a water balance submodel using 1961 – 1990 surface temperature and precipitation climatologies from http://climate.geog.udel.edu/~climate/html_pages/download.html. Global and especially South American net primary productivity simulated by CPTEC-PVM2 is comparable to that from observations and other models²⁹. In this study, we run a "CO₂-only" experiment with atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations relative to the penultimate glacial maximum (180 ppm) and Last Interglacial (280 ppm) in

which the climate (precipitation and temperature) are kept unchanged as taken from 1961 – 1990 average.

Correlation analysis

Correlation exercises were done in the Python 3.9 application Pyleoclim⁶⁹. Merged atmospheric CO₂ from refs.^{22,23} and GL-1090 ACL were previously interpolated to their mean resolution and standardized with respective Pyleoclim tools. We used time-series correlation with the default isospectral method accompanied by 5,000 Monte Carlo runs. Wavelet coherence analysis was realized over the same data pair with 1,000 Monte Carlo runs.

Declarations

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Author contribution

TPS: Writing - Original Draft, Conceptualization, Formal analysis, Data Curation. IB: Writing - Original Draft, Writing - Review & Editing, Resources, Supervision, Funding acquisition. JFC: Formal analysis, Investigation. AMSR: Formal analysis, Investigation. MPL: Writing - Review & Editing, Data Curation. AH: Writing - Review & Editing, Resources, Supervision, Funding acquisition. MHS: Formal analysis. MRL: Formal analysis. RAN: Writing - Review & Editing. IMV: Writing - Review & Editing. RLS: Writing - Review & Editing, Formal analysis. MCB: Writing - Review & Editing, Formal analysis, Supervision. ALSA: Supervision, Project administration, Funding acquisition.

Data availability statement

Data generated for this study accompanies the submission as supplementary material.

Competing Interests Statement

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Figures

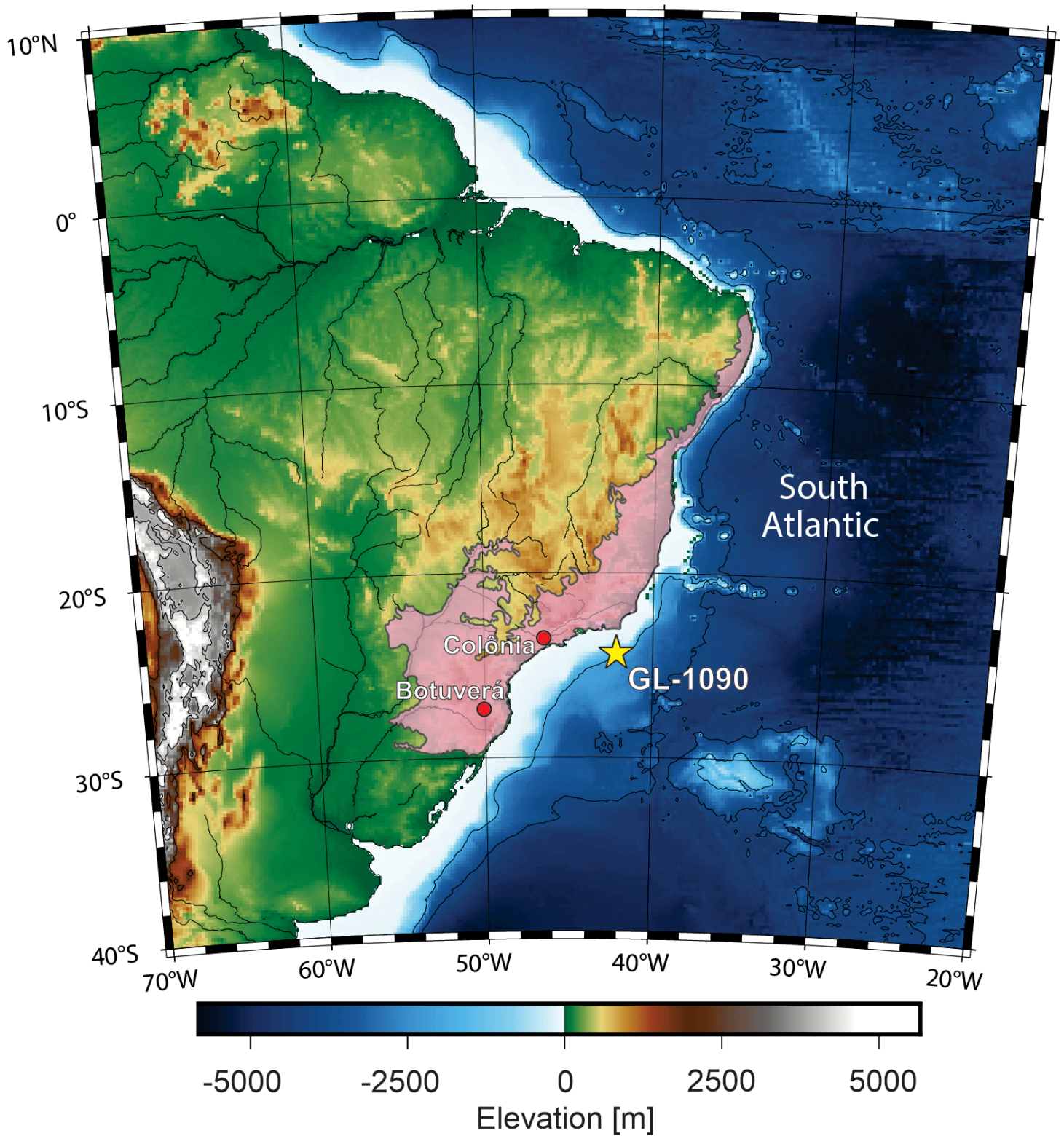


Figure 1

Position of sediment core GL-1090 (yellow star – this study) in the western South Atlantic (Santos basin) and other continental records discussed (red circles - Colônia crater³⁰ and Botuverá cave²⁴). The pink highlighted area presents the original cover of the Atlantic Forest in eastern South America. This figure has been partially done with PyGMT³¹.

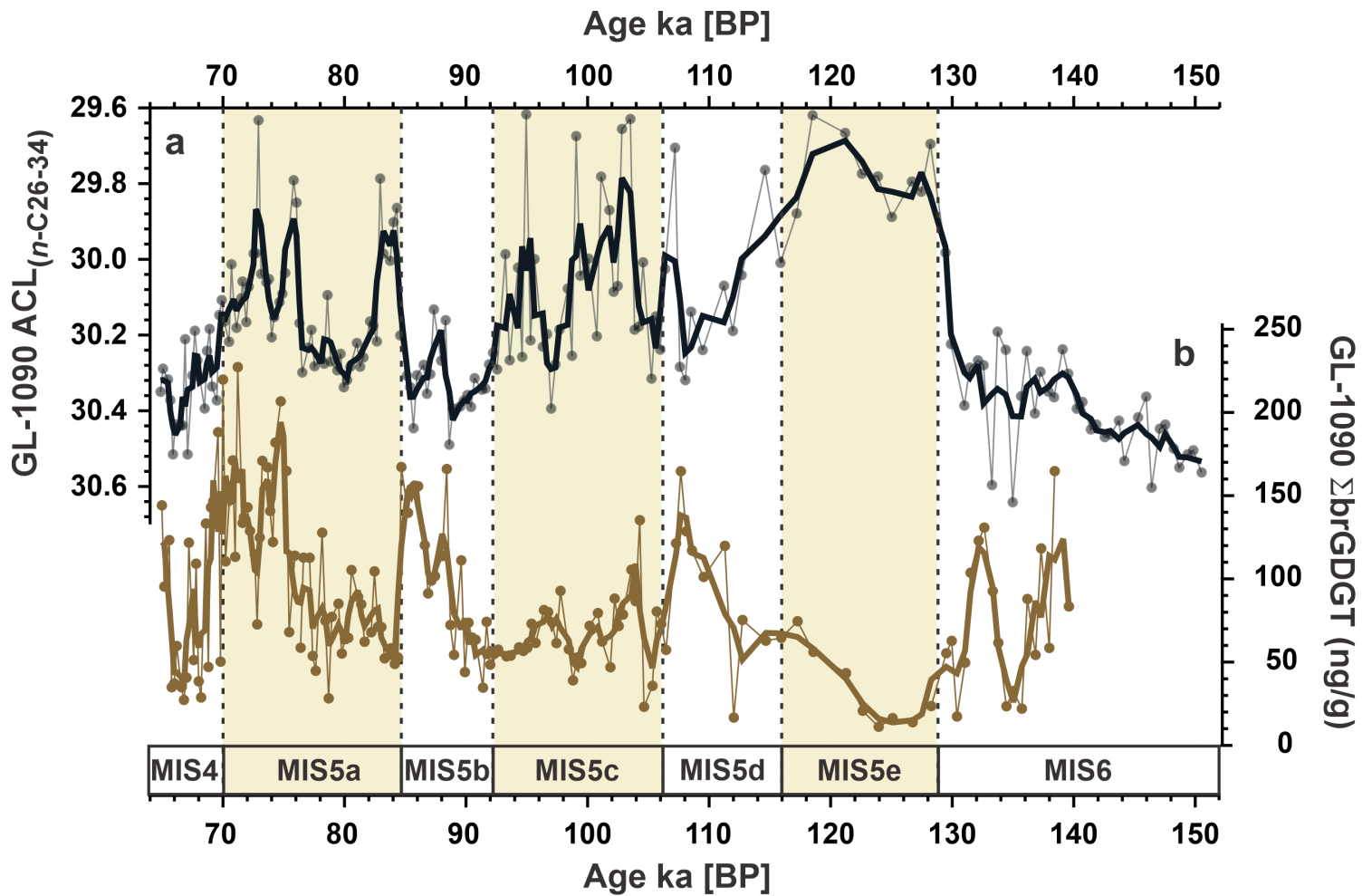


Figure 2

Results of core GL-1090 average chain length (ACL) of n-alkanes and branched glycerol dialkyl glycerol tetraethers (brGDGTs) concentrations from Marine Isotope Stage (MIS) 6 to 4. (a) GL-1090 ACL (thin black line and dots) with 3-points moving average (thick black line). (b) GL-1090 brGDGT (brown line and dots) with 3-point moving average (thick brown line). Vertical yellow bars denote the Last Interglacial and warm MIS 5 substages.

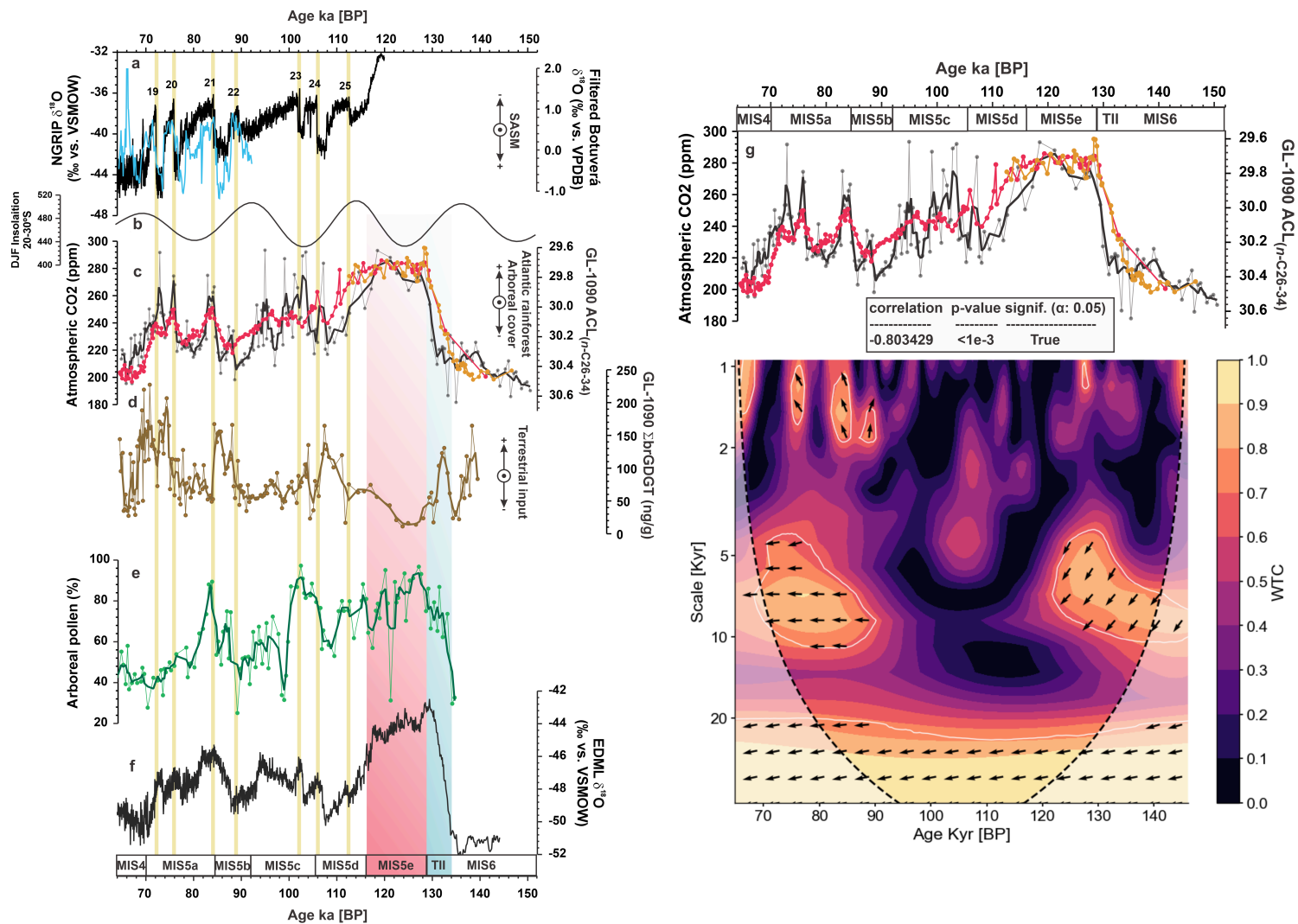


Figure 3

Results of core GL-1090 average chain length (ACL) and branched glycerol dialkyl glycerol tetraether (brGDGT) concentrations in the context of Marine Isotope Stage (MIS) 6 to 4. (a) NGRIP $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ at the AICC2012 time scale^{58,59} (black) and high band-pass filtering of the Botuverá cave $\delta^{18}\text{O}^{24}$ (blue). (b) austral summer insolation between 20 – 30 °S⁶⁰. (c) GL-1090 ACL (thin black line and dots) with 3-point moving average (thick black line) and atmospheric CO₂ from Antarctica ice cores from refs.²³ (orange) and ref.²² (red). (d) GL-1090 brGDGT (brown, black line and dots) with 3-point moving average (thick brown line). (e) Colônia crater arboreal pollen data from ref.³⁰. (f) EDML $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ at the AICC2012 time scale^{58,59}. (g) GL-1090 ACL and atmospheric CO₂ with the isospectral correlation and wavelet transform coherency.

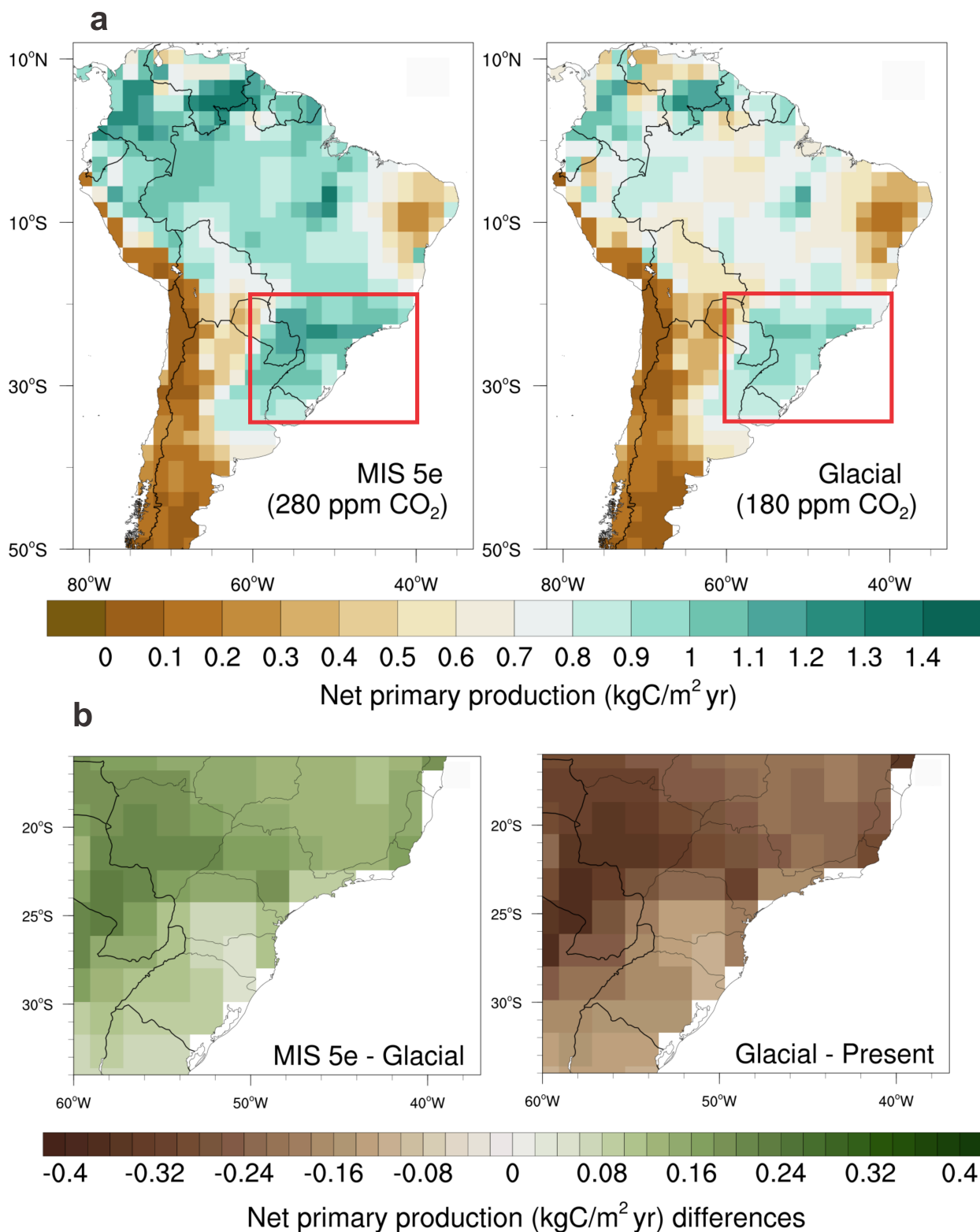


Figure 4

“CO₂-only” experiment conducted with Center for Weather Forecasting and Climate Studies Potential Vegetation Model version 2 (CPTEC-PVM2) in which precipitation and temperature are kept unchanged referent to 1961 – 1990 mean climatology. (a) Net primary productivity under the Last Interglacial (left) and penultimate glacial maximum (right) CO₂ concentrations. (b) Net primary productivity difference

between Last Interglacial and penultimate glacial (left) and penultimate glacial and mean 1961 – 1990 CO₂ concentration (right).

Supplementary Files

This is a list of supplementary files associated with this preprint. Click to download.

- [GL1090data.csv](#)
- [Supplementarymaterial.docx](#)
- [Supplementaryfigure1.tif](#)