

## Palaeotemperature trend for Precambrian life inferred from resurrected proteins

Dirk A. Gaucher<sup>1</sup>, Sridhar Govindarajan<sup>2</sup> & Omprakash Kanani<sup>1</sup>

Nature, Feb., 2008

- More recent work by this group proposes a detailed time scale for surface temperature evolution, based on two different molecular clock techniques
- Ancestral genes were synthesized and cloned into *E. coli* to allow them to be expressed as proteins
- Protein *melting points* were then measured in the lab

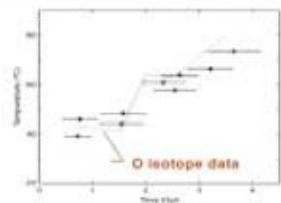


Figure 2 | Plot of ancestral EF melting temperatures against geological time. Molecular clock estimates are shown with their confidence intervals (horizontal bars) from ref. 16, using a 2.5-Ga minimum constraint for the Great Oxidation Event. Solid lines are independent copies of the ancient gene inferred from maximum  $\delta^{18}O$  (light grey), dark grey). Although our dataset, an analogue trend is seen with  $\delta^{18}O$  isotope<sup>16</sup>

## Was the Early Earth Hot?

James F. Kasting  
Department of Geosciences  
Penn State University

1  
00:00:05,269 --> 00:00:03,350  
okay so hello everybody and uh welcome

2  
00:00:08,070 --> 00:00:05,279  
to the university of washington's

3  
00:00:10,150 --> 00:00:08,080  
astrobiology seminar series

4  
00:00:12,470 --> 00:00:10,160  
today our distinguished speaker will be

5  
00:00:13,669 --> 00:00:12,480  
uh professor james casting of penn state

6  
00:00:15,509 --> 00:00:13,679  
university

7  
00:00:16,470 --> 00:00:15,519  
i'm going to give a little intro on on

8  
00:00:19,070 --> 00:00:16,480  
jim here

9  
00:00:22,310 --> 00:00:19,080  
jim got his ab at harvard university in

10  
00:00:24,710 --> 00:00:22,320  
1975 in chemistry and physics

11  
00:00:27,029 --> 00:00:24,720  
he did a master's in both physics and

12  
00:00:29,189 --> 00:00:27,039  
atmospheric chemistry in 1978 and then

13  
00:00:33,270 --> 00:00:29,199

got his phd from the university of

14

00:00:35,670 --> 00:00:33,280

michigan in 1979 in atmospheric science

15

00:00:37,430 --> 00:00:35,680

he is very distinguished scientist he

16

00:00:40,389 --> 00:00:37,440

has been recently elected as a fellow of

17

00:00:42,150 --> 00:00:40,399

the american geophysical union in 2004

18

00:00:44,389 --> 00:00:42,160

and this year he was elected as a fellow

19

00:00:46,869 --> 00:00:44,399

of the geochemical society and of the

20

00:00:48,389 --> 00:00:46,879

american academy of arts and sciences as

21

00:00:49,990 --> 00:00:48,399

well

22

00:00:52,069 --> 00:00:50,000

jim has not only

23

00:00:53,590 --> 00:00:52,079

worked as an academic and a researcher

24

00:00:56,229 --> 00:00:53,600

but he's very active

25

00:00:57,590 --> 00:00:56,239

in helping nasa design some of his

26

00:00:59,590 --> 00:00:57,600

planetary missions in a particular

27

00:01:01,510 --> 00:00:59,600

terrestrial planet finder and he has

28

00:01:04,149 --> 00:01:01,520

served on the nasa terrestrial planet

29

00:01:05,990 --> 00:01:04,159

finder science working group the tpfc

30

00:01:08,230 --> 00:01:06,000

design and technology definition team

31

00:01:11,429 --> 00:01:08,240

which i worked with him on and also the

32

00:01:12,469 --> 00:01:11,439

nasa nsf exoplanet task force which

33

00:01:14,149 --> 00:01:12,479

sounds like it should come with a

34

00:01:15,590 --> 00:01:14,159

special uniform

35

00:01:17,670 --> 00:01:15,600

uh he is

36

00:01:18,789 --> 00:01:17,680

it does okay

37

00:01:20,469 --> 00:01:18,799

he's currently the distinguished

38

00:01:22,390 --> 00:01:20,479

professor of geosciences and meteorology

39

00:01:23,910 --> 00:01:22,400

at penn state university and in his

40

00:01:26,149 --> 00:01:23,920

spare time he works on the editorial

41

00:01:27,830 --> 00:01:26,159

board for astrobiology journal and as a

42

00:01:30,310 --> 00:01:27,840

member of the astrophysics subcommittee

43

00:01:33,109 --> 00:01:30,320

for the nasa advisory committee where he

44

00:01:34,710 --> 00:01:33,119

represents the interests of astrobiology

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00:01:36,230 --> 00:01:34,720

for these large

46

00:01:37,990 --> 00:01:36,240

astrophysical missions that we hope to

47

00:01:40,230 --> 00:01:38,000

fly

48

00:01:42,149 --> 00:01:40,240

he works principally on the geophysical

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00:01:43,510 --> 00:01:42,159

history of the earth focusing on climate

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00:01:45,590 --> 00:01:43,520

and the evolution of planetary

51  
00:01:50,389 --> 00:01:45,600  
atmospheres and today he's going to talk

52  
00:01:55,190 --> 00:01:52,710  
okay thank you vicky and thank you all

53  
00:01:57,030 --> 00:01:55,200  
for inviting me out here i have been to

54  
00:01:58,950 --> 00:01:57,040  
the university of washington a couple of

55  
00:01:59,830 --> 00:01:58,960  
times before i think but not for quite a

56  
00:02:01,429 --> 00:01:59,840  
while

57  
00:02:03,270 --> 00:02:01,439  
i'm trying to remember the last time i

58  
00:02:05,990 --> 00:02:03,280  
was here i think it was maybe 10 years

59  
00:02:09,109 --> 00:02:06,000  
ago uh conway leovey who many of you may

60  
00:02:10,790 --> 00:02:09,119  
know invited me out i had known conway

61  
00:02:13,110 --> 00:02:10,800  
for a long time because he used to come

62  
00:02:15,510 --> 00:02:13,120  
down to nasa ames where i worked before

63  
00:02:17,110 --> 00:02:15,520

i went to penn state he would come down

64

00:02:19,110 --> 00:02:17,120

and work with jim pollock and bob

65

00:02:21,430 --> 00:02:19,120

haverly there on on modeling mars

66

00:02:23,830 --> 00:02:21,440

climate so actually my contacts with

67

00:02:25,670 --> 00:02:23,840

university of washington go back a long

68

00:02:28,150 --> 00:02:25,680

ways uh

69

00:02:29,910 --> 00:02:28,160

the weather here is not the greatest

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00:02:31,990 --> 00:02:29,920

today but let me tell you that in state

71

00:02:34,150 --> 00:02:32,000

college when i left yesterday it was 35

72

00:02:35,990 --> 00:02:34,160

degrees and raining so it's actually a

73

00:02:39,350 --> 00:02:36,000

pleasure to be out here on the

74

00:02:41,589 --> 00:02:39,360

relatively warm west coast

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00:02:44,150 --> 00:02:41,599

what i want to talk today is about the

76

00:02:46,470 --> 00:02:44,160

uh the climate on the early earth some

77

00:02:48,710 --> 00:02:46,480

of you may have heard my my student or

78

00:02:51,110 --> 00:02:48,720

now postdoc sean goldman was here a

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00:02:52,949 --> 00:02:51,120

month ago and he talked about sulfur

80

00:02:54,229 --> 00:02:52,959

photochemistry on the early earth and

81

00:02:56,630 --> 00:02:54,239

the sulfur mass independent

82

00:02:57,990 --> 00:02:56,640

fractionation problem i'm not going to

83

00:02:59,270 --> 00:02:58,000

do that because i didn't want to give

84

00:03:01,270 --> 00:02:59,280

the same talk that's probably what i

85

00:03:03,910 --> 00:03:01,280

would have talked about if sean hadn't

86

00:03:05,990 --> 00:03:03,920

but this is a topic that i'm also uh

87

00:03:08,390 --> 00:03:06,000

very interested in and

88

00:03:10,470 --> 00:03:08,400

uh there's people here that i've been

89

00:03:12,869 --> 00:03:10,480

already chatted with roger buick because

90

00:03:15,030 --> 00:03:12,879

roger out there there's roger up there

91

00:03:17,509 --> 00:03:15,040

uh in particular so i

92

00:03:19,509 --> 00:03:17,519

uh it's a very controversial issue and i

93

00:03:22,390 --> 00:03:19,519

i should say also that

94

00:03:23,430 --> 00:03:22,400

today i'm giving the talk here two days

95

00:03:25,589 --> 00:03:23,440

from now i'm going to go down to

96

00:03:27,270 --> 00:03:25,599

stanford where don lowe and norm sleep

97

00:03:29,270 --> 00:03:27,280

have been arguing about the climate of

98

00:03:32,949 --> 00:03:29,280

the early earth for the past five years

99

00:03:34,390 --> 00:03:32,959

or so maybe more than that so anyway i i

100

00:03:36,390 --> 00:03:34,400

thought this would be a good topic for

101  
00:03:37,350 --> 00:03:36,400  
both audiences

102  
00:03:39,750 --> 00:03:37,360  
just to

103  
00:03:41,750 --> 00:03:39,760  
introduce you here the the climate of

104  
00:03:43,990 --> 00:03:41,760  
the early earth obviously has varied

105  
00:03:46,470 --> 00:03:44,000  
with time sometimes it's been warmer

106  
00:03:49,350 --> 00:03:46,480  
sometimes it's been colder in general

107  
00:03:51,750 --> 00:03:49,360  
though we think that the early earth

108  
00:03:53,190 --> 00:03:51,760  
prior to now is usually warmer than it

109  
00:03:55,509 --> 00:03:53,200  
is today

110  
00:03:57,910 --> 00:03:55,519  
here's a slide that shows the

111  
00:04:00,630 --> 00:03:57,920  
temperatures and other events during the

112  
00:04:03,750 --> 00:04:00,640  
phanerozoic the last 540 million years

113  
00:04:09,270 --> 00:04:07,270

we're in an ice age right now by by my

114

00:04:11,110 --> 00:04:09,280

definition of an ice age

115

00:04:13,910 --> 00:04:11,120

normally we think we're not in an ice

116

00:04:16,710 --> 00:04:13,920

age that was 10 20 000 years ago we're

117

00:04:19,189 --> 00:04:16,720

in interglacial between ice ages but

118

00:04:21,590 --> 00:04:19,199

from a long-term perspective there's ice

119

00:04:24,230 --> 00:04:21,600

on the on the poles and so we're in an

120

00:04:26,870 --> 00:04:24,240

ice age there has been ice on antarctica

121

00:04:29,270 --> 00:04:26,880

since about 35 million years ago so

122

00:04:31,510 --> 00:04:29,280

we've been in an ice age for the last uh

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00:04:34,150 --> 00:04:31,520

35 million years and call it the

124

00:04:36,310 --> 00:04:34,160

pleistocene ice age or the late cenozoic

125

00:04:40,310 --> 00:04:36,320

ice age if you like

126  
00:04:42,230 --> 00:04:40,320  
prior to that the mesozoic era was warm

127  
00:04:43,830 --> 00:04:42,240  
for a long time this was the era when

128  
00:04:45,270 --> 00:04:43,840  
the dinosaurs were running around you

129  
00:04:47,749 --> 00:04:45,280  
probably know there were

130  
00:04:49,749 --> 00:04:47,759  
dinosaurs up in alaska north of the

131  
00:04:51,990 --> 00:04:49,759  
arctic circle there were alligators at

132  
00:04:54,070 --> 00:04:52,000  
crocodiles in siberia

133  
00:04:56,790 --> 00:04:54,080  
so we think the earth was considerably

134  
00:04:59,189 --> 00:04:56,800  
warmer than today at that time

135  
00:05:01,510 --> 00:04:59,199  
prior to that there was this long about

136  
00:05:03,830 --> 00:05:01,520  
80 million year long promo carboniferous

137  
00:05:05,990 --> 00:05:03,840  
ice age which was another sort of

138  
00:05:07,909 --> 00:05:06,000

conventional ice age like the one that

139

00:05:09,749 --> 00:05:07,919

we're in right now where you get ice

140

00:05:11,110 --> 00:05:09,759

sheets at the poles that occasionally

141

00:05:13,749 --> 00:05:11,120

expand

142

00:05:17,189 --> 00:05:13,759

prior to that the uh most of the early

143

00:05:19,590 --> 00:05:17,199

paleozoic was warm uh this whole period

144

00:05:21,590 --> 00:05:19,600

here seems to be warm except there was

145

00:05:24,550 --> 00:05:21,600

an ice age pretty good pretty good one

146

00:05:26,870 --> 00:05:24,560

at the in the late ordovician where the

147

00:05:29,029 --> 00:05:26,880

continents became deeply glaciated but

148

00:05:31,510 --> 00:05:29,039

that's a weird one it lasted uh less

149

00:05:33,830 --> 00:05:31,520

than a million years it defines a single

150

00:05:36,790 --> 00:05:33,840

stage in the geologic record and it's in

151

00:05:39,029 --> 00:05:36,800

a period uh that is otherwise warm

152

00:05:40,950 --> 00:05:39,039

so that that one's a curious one these

153

00:05:43,029 --> 00:05:40,960

two the one that we're in right now and

154

00:05:45,029 --> 00:05:43,039

the promo carboniferous i would argue

155

00:05:47,749 --> 00:05:45,039

are probably caused by changes in

156

00:05:49,749 --> 00:05:47,759

atmospheric co2 you know the sun is

157

00:05:52,070 --> 00:05:49,759

slowly brightening that's not a huge

158

00:05:53,990 --> 00:05:52,080

factor in the phanerozoic but co2 goes

159

00:05:56,469 --> 00:05:54,000

up and down because it's controlled

160

00:05:59,029 --> 00:05:56,479

mostly by the carbonate silicate cycle

161

00:06:01,830 --> 00:05:59,039

and bob burnier at yale has run models

162

00:06:04,309 --> 00:06:01,840

for many years that sort of explain the

163

00:06:06,550 --> 00:06:04,319

co2 variations based on motions of the

164

00:06:08,870 --> 00:06:06,560

continents and when you get lots of

165

00:06:11,029 --> 00:06:08,880

weathering and changes in seafood

166

00:06:14,150 --> 00:06:11,039

spreading rates

167

00:06:15,270 --> 00:06:14,160

if we go and look at the more

168

00:06:17,350 --> 00:06:15,280

vast

169

00:06:20,150 --> 00:06:17,360

expanse of earth history go back through

170

00:06:22,230 --> 00:06:20,160

geologic time the phanerozoic is now

171

00:06:24,710 --> 00:06:22,240

compressed up here at the top

172

00:06:26,550 --> 00:06:24,720

and the rest of this time back to four

173

00:06:28,790 --> 00:06:26,560

and a half billion years used to just be

174

00:06:31,029 --> 00:06:28,800

called the precambrian but of course we

175

00:06:32,830 --> 00:06:31,039

divide it subdivide it now into the

176

00:06:35,990 --> 00:06:32,840

adian and the archaean and the

177

00:06:37,909 --> 00:06:36,000

proterozoic eons

178

00:06:39,830 --> 00:06:37,919

at the end of the proterozoic just

179

00:06:42,309 --> 00:06:39,840

before the cambrian explosion there were

180

00:06:44,230 --> 00:06:42,319

some very deep glaciations at least two

181

00:06:45,909 --> 00:06:44,240

of them which many of you have probably

182

00:06:47,909 --> 00:06:45,919

heard about these are the ones that joe

183

00:06:49,909 --> 00:06:47,919

kershwink and paul hoffman have

184

00:06:51,830 --> 00:06:49,919

popularized as being snowball earth

185

00:06:53,670 --> 00:06:51,840

episodes i think they're right i think

186

00:06:55,909 --> 00:06:53,680

the earth probably was frozen over

187

00:06:57,670 --> 00:06:55,919

entirely at that point although maybe

188

00:06:59,430 --> 00:06:57,680

the ice was thin in the tropics so

189

00:07:01,270 --> 00:06:59,440

there's you've got to explain how the

190

00:07:04,309 --> 00:07:01,280

biota get through that

191

00:07:06,469 --> 00:07:04,319

i'm not going to talk about that today

192

00:07:08,710 --> 00:07:06,479

prior to that the most of the middle

193

00:07:11,029 --> 00:07:08,720

proterozoic was warm the earth was

194

00:07:13,270 --> 00:07:11,039

evidently ice free for

195

00:07:15,350 --> 00:07:13,280

almost a billion and a half years and

196

00:07:17,670 --> 00:07:15,360

that's probably real because the

197

00:07:19,510 --> 00:07:17,680

geologic record is relatively good

198

00:07:21,589 --> 00:07:19,520

during the proterozoic at least compared

199

00:07:23,430 --> 00:07:21,599

to the archaean

200

00:07:25,670 --> 00:07:23,440

i am going to talk about these two ice

201  
00:07:28,790 --> 00:07:25,680  
ages there's a very well documented ice

202  
00:07:31,110 --> 00:07:28,800  
age at 2.4 billion years or thereabouts

203  
00:07:33,430 --> 00:07:31,120  
which happens to correspond with the

204  
00:07:35,830 --> 00:07:33,440  
rise of atmospheric oxygen and that's a

205  
00:07:37,909 --> 00:07:35,840  
major theme of my talk today i don't

206  
00:07:40,150 --> 00:07:37,919  
think that that's an accident and so

207  
00:07:43,110 --> 00:07:40,160  
either one of the either the rise of

208  
00:07:46,870 --> 00:07:43,120  
oxygen caused the ice age or vice versa

209  
00:07:49,189 --> 00:07:46,880  
the ice age caused the rise of oxygen

210  
00:07:52,309 --> 00:07:49,199  
the archaean in general now the geologic

211  
00:07:54,070 --> 00:07:52,319  
record gets pretty spotty as you go back

212  
00:07:56,150 --> 00:07:54,080  
earlier but

213  
00:07:57,110 --> 00:07:56,160

we think it was probably warm however

214

00:08:00,150 --> 00:07:57,120

there's

215

00:08:03,430 --> 00:08:00,160

evidence for an ice age here at 2.8

216

00:08:05,510 --> 00:08:03,440

maybe to between 2.8 and 3 billion years

217

00:08:07,830 --> 00:08:05,520

and there may be ice

218

00:08:09,749 --> 00:08:07,840

even prior to that although it's not

219

00:08:10,550 --> 00:08:09,759

nothing has been published

220

00:08:12,309 --> 00:08:10,560

so

221

00:08:14,230 --> 00:08:12,319

that's important because the rest of

222

00:08:16,309 --> 00:08:14,240

this talk is

223

00:08:18,070 --> 00:08:16,319

well the next part of it is all these

224

00:08:21,270 --> 00:08:18,080

people who've been saying that the early

225

00:08:26,629 --> 00:08:24,150

so they in the last four or five years

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00:08:28,469 --> 00:08:26,639

and in fact going back prior to that

227

00:08:30,950 --> 00:08:28,479

actually for the last 20 or 30 years

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00:08:33,509 --> 00:08:30,960

there have been various people like paul

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00:08:36,949 --> 00:08:33,519

canal at uh arizona state who have

230

00:08:39,190 --> 00:08:36,959

argued that the uh the early earth both

231

00:08:42,630 --> 00:08:39,200

in the archaean and the proterozoic was

232

00:08:45,269 --> 00:08:42,640

was actually quite high maybe 70 degrees

233

00:08:48,310 --> 00:08:45,279

60 to 70 degrees during the archaean in

234

00:08:51,430 --> 00:08:48,320

fact paul actually likes 85 degrees for

235

00:08:52,310 --> 00:08:51,440

the archaean if you press him on it

236

00:08:53,110 --> 00:08:52,320

why

237

00:08:55,110 --> 00:08:53,120

do

238

00:08:57,509 --> 00:08:55,120

people argue that the early earth was

239

00:09:00,230 --> 00:08:57,519

hot well a lot of it comes from isotope

240

00:09:03,829 --> 00:09:00,240

records and i'm going to just briefly go

241

00:09:06,070 --> 00:09:03,839

through uh some of the isotopic data

242

00:09:07,590 --> 00:09:06,080

if you look at the most recent ice age

243

00:09:09,750 --> 00:09:07,600

that we're in the pleistocene you know

244

00:09:11,590 --> 00:09:09,760

the glaciers have been coming and going

245

00:09:13,430 --> 00:09:11,600

we know most of what we know about that

246

00:09:15,030 --> 00:09:13,440

comes from oxygen isotopes and

247

00:09:16,470 --> 00:09:15,040

carbonates

248

00:09:17,430 --> 00:09:16,480

if you have

249

00:09:20,150 --> 00:09:17,440

more

250

00:09:22,550 --> 00:09:20,160

$\delta^{18}$  in the carbonates that means that

251

00:09:25,350 --> 00:09:22,560

the climate is colder

252

00:09:27,590 --> 00:09:25,360

here's a delta o18 is a measure of

253

00:09:29,990 --> 00:09:27,600

relative to standard mean ocean water

254

00:09:32,949 --> 00:09:30,000

that's the relative amount of o 18 in

255

00:09:35,269 --> 00:09:32,959

carbonates as that gets higher than the

256

00:09:38,230 --> 00:09:35,279

climate is cold and as that gets lower

257

00:09:40,230 --> 00:09:38,240

the climate is warm today that happens

258

00:09:42,949 --> 00:09:40,240

because of two main things one is the

259

00:09:43,750 --> 00:09:42,959

buildup of ice on the poles which is low

260

00:09:45,829 --> 00:09:43,760

in

261

00:09:47,590 --> 00:09:45,839

o18 and the other is that there's a

262

00:09:49,430 --> 00:09:47,600

fractionation between sea water and

263

00:09:50,389 --> 00:09:49,440

carbonates and the colder the water gets

264

00:09:52,150 --> 00:09:50,399

the more

265

00:09:53,430 --> 00:09:52,160

enriched the carbonates get in o

266

00:09:56,150 --> 00:09:53,440

eighteen

267

00:09:58,470 --> 00:09:56,160

well that that's not controversial or at

268

00:10:00,470 --> 00:09:58,480

least not very controversial on the the

269

00:10:01,990 --> 00:10:00,480

recent glacial interglacial time scale

270

00:10:04,150 --> 00:10:02,000

but if you try to go back even through

271

00:10:05,750 --> 00:10:04,160

the phanerozoic then it becomes

272

00:10:09,030 --> 00:10:05,760

controversial because there's a big

273

00:10:10,870 --> 00:10:09,040

trend in oxygen isotope data as john

274

00:10:12,790 --> 00:10:10,880

visor and graham shields and their

275

00:10:13,670 --> 00:10:12,800

collaborators have been arguing for many

276

00:10:16,069 --> 00:10:13,680

years

277

00:10:18,389 --> 00:10:16,079

this is visor's uh

278

00:10:21,350 --> 00:10:18,399

shields and visors

279

00:10:23,990 --> 00:10:21,360

oxygen isotope database from carbonates

280

00:10:26,069 --> 00:10:24,000

basically all their data going back from

281

00:10:28,790 --> 00:10:26,079

the present to three and a half billion

282

00:10:31,430 --> 00:10:28,800

years ago the dots are different data

283

00:10:33,269 --> 00:10:31,440

points and then this line is a drawn

284

00:10:35,670 --> 00:10:33,279

through the middle you can see that

285

00:10:37,829 --> 00:10:35,680

there's a very steep falloff you're

286

00:10:41,350 --> 00:10:37,839

going down towards lighter

287

00:10:43,190 --> 00:10:41,360

isotopically depleted carbonates

288

00:10:45,030 --> 00:10:43,200

much of the drop-off happens during the

289

00:10:47,910 --> 00:10:45,040

phanerozoic here and then it sort of

290

00:10:50,949 --> 00:10:47,920

levels out by the time you get that back

291

00:10:53,910 --> 00:10:50,959

to the archaean back in here the

292

00:10:56,949 --> 00:10:53,920

carbonates are at least 10 maybe 15 per

293

00:10:58,949 --> 00:10:56,959

mil lighter than they are today and that

294

00:11:01,350 --> 00:10:58,959

taken at face value that means high

295

00:11:04,230 --> 00:11:01,360

temperatures here's a

296

00:11:07,190 --> 00:11:04,240

calibration scale for how this works

297

00:11:08,470 --> 00:11:07,200

this is uh the delta  $\delta^{18}$  of calcite

298

00:11:09,829 --> 00:11:08,480

versus

299

00:11:12,550 --> 00:11:09,839

relative to the

300

00:11:14,150 --> 00:11:12,560

pd belluminite and this is temperature

301  
00:11:16,230 --> 00:11:14,160  
these are for different amounts of

302  
00:11:19,269 --> 00:11:16,240  
different concentrations of

303  
00:11:20,630 --> 00:11:19,279  
uh oxygen 18 and seawater i'm going to

304  
00:11:22,470 --> 00:11:20,640  
talk one of the variables here is

305  
00:11:24,630 --> 00:11:22,480  
whether seawater has remained constant

306  
00:11:27,509 --> 00:11:24,640  
but if you just stay up here at the top

307  
00:11:29,670 --> 00:11:27,519  
where seawater is at zero per ml on the

308  
00:11:32,550 --> 00:11:29,680  
on the small scale standard mean ocean

309  
00:11:35,110 --> 00:11:32,560  
water then it's sort of a linear almost

310  
00:11:37,750 --> 00:11:35,120  
a linear relationship and what about

311  
00:11:40,710 --> 00:11:37,760  
written 10 a change in 10 per ml in

312  
00:11:44,230 --> 00:11:40,720  
delta o 18 corresponds to a temperature

313  
00:11:46,870 --> 00:11:44,240

increase of some 54 degrees celsius

314

00:11:49,910 --> 00:11:46,880

that's a lot so if the archaean really

315

00:11:52,150 --> 00:11:49,920

was 10 per ml lower in delta O18 if that

316

00:11:54,550 --> 00:11:52,160

was all temperature today the mean

317

00:11:56,550 --> 00:11:54,560

temperature is about 15 celsius so that

318

00:11:58,949 --> 00:11:56,560

would put you to about 70 c for the

319

00:12:01,269 --> 00:11:58,959

archaean

320

00:12:02,710 --> 00:12:01,279

all right now there's lots of criticisms

321

00:12:04,710 --> 00:12:02,720

to that uh

322

00:12:08,230 --> 00:12:04,720

what's the the main one the one that's

323

00:12:11,590 --> 00:12:08,240

been argued for a long time is that

324

00:12:13,829 --> 00:12:11,600

you may be affected by diagenesis when

325

00:12:16,629 --> 00:12:13,839

sediments carbonates in particular when

326

00:12:19,350 --> 00:12:16,639

they're deposited at the sea floor they

327

00:12:21,910 --> 00:12:19,360

can continue to exchange oxygen with

328

00:12:24,150 --> 00:12:21,920

seawater and as they get more deeply

329

00:12:27,190 --> 00:12:24,160

buried and warmed up but just by the

330

00:12:28,949 --> 00:12:27,200

geothermal gradient then the extra as

331

00:12:31,509 --> 00:12:28,959

long as the sea water is still in

332

00:12:34,230 --> 00:12:31,519

contact with the carbonates you can get

333

00:12:35,910 --> 00:12:34,240

exchange of isotopes and that tends to

334

00:12:37,990 --> 00:12:35,920

make the carbonates remember they're

335

00:12:39,670 --> 00:12:38,000

enriched in o-18 to begin with so that

336

00:12:42,310 --> 00:12:39,680

tends to deplete them and makes them

337

00:12:43,910 --> 00:12:42,320

isotopically lighter so this is what i

338

00:12:46,949 --> 00:12:43,920

always used to think that that whole

339

00:12:48,710 --> 00:12:46,959

oxygen isotope trend was just

340

00:12:51,110 --> 00:12:48,720

just diagenetic and therefore we could

341

00:12:52,710 --> 00:12:51,120

afford to ignore all those data which

342

00:12:55,910 --> 00:12:52,720

was very convenient because they're hard

343

00:12:57,910 --> 00:12:55,920

to explain if you don't ignore them

344

00:13:00,389 --> 00:12:57,920

however there's lots of people that have

345

00:13:01,509 --> 00:13:00,399

argued the opposite paul canal theon

346

00:13:02,470 --> 00:13:01,519

visor

347

00:13:04,629 --> 00:13:02,480

linda

348

00:13:07,030 --> 00:13:04,639

k mike arthur who's in our department at

349

00:13:09,110 --> 00:13:07,040

penn state lots of the you know

350

00:13:11,670 --> 00:13:09,120

carbonate the isotope g chemists have

351

00:13:13,829 --> 00:13:11,680

always argued that that's not the case

352

00:13:16,389 --> 00:13:13,839

now there's also evidence from silicon

353

00:13:19,269 --> 00:13:16,399

isotopes this paper by roberan chosidon

354

00:13:22,069 --> 00:13:19,279

from a couple years ago that seems to

355

00:13:26,310 --> 00:13:22,079

corroborate the oxygen isotope data and

356

00:13:29,670 --> 00:13:26,320

uh i will talk about that in a moment

357

00:13:31,670 --> 00:13:29,680

there is another explanation for the uh

358

00:13:33,750 --> 00:13:31,680

trend in the carbonates that is even

359

00:13:36,230 --> 00:13:33,760

more controversial and that's that the

360

00:13:37,910 --> 00:13:36,240

isotopic composition of seawater has

361

00:13:40,790 --> 00:13:37,920

changed with time

362

00:13:42,230 --> 00:13:40,800

now uh this is something that i've uh

363

00:13:44,150 --> 00:13:42,240

the last part of my talk will be

364

00:13:45,910 --> 00:13:44,160

concerned about this because i've

365

00:13:48,470 --> 00:13:45,920

now that i've gotten re-interested in

366

00:13:51,030 --> 00:13:48,480

the in the data i've ventured into this

367

00:13:53,590 --> 00:13:51,040

frame myself but there's a

368

00:13:55,990 --> 00:13:53,600

been a running debate for 30 or 40 years

369

00:13:58,069 --> 00:13:56,000

ever since oxygen isotopes

370

00:14:00,310 --> 00:13:58,079

were first measured as to whether the

371

00:14:01,910 --> 00:14:00,320

ocean stays constant and there's there

372

00:14:04,230 --> 00:14:01,920

are actually a lot of geochemists who

373

00:14:06,230 --> 00:14:04,240

would argue that that's the case i'm

374

00:14:08,389 --> 00:14:06,240

going to argue in this talk that it that

375

00:14:10,310 --> 00:14:08,399

it's not the case that the seawater

376

00:14:13,590 --> 00:14:10,320

changes with time

377

00:14:15,910 --> 00:14:13,600

however there is a and obviously if the

378

00:14:19,110 --> 00:14:15,920

ocean was isotopically lighter back in

379

00:14:20,870 --> 00:14:19,120

the past then you know that 10 ml change

380

00:14:23,110 --> 00:14:20,880

in the carbonates could just be due to a

381

00:14:25,430 --> 00:14:23,120

change of 10 per ml in seawater and have

382

00:14:27,829 --> 00:14:25,440

nothing to do with surface temperature

383

00:14:28,550 --> 00:14:27,839

however there's a way of checking this

384

00:14:31,110 --> 00:14:28,560

and

385

00:14:33,509 --> 00:14:31,120

that's uh comes from this very new

386

00:14:35,670 --> 00:14:33,519

technique which is uh from john eiler's

387

00:14:38,069 --> 00:14:35,680

group down at caltech he calls it the

388

00:14:41,030 --> 00:14:38,079

clumped isotope technique there's a

389

00:14:42,790 --> 00:14:41,040

paper by rosemary kame at owl in nature

390

00:14:44,949 --> 00:14:42,800

last year

391

00:14:46,790 --> 00:14:44,959

and what this is this is something i

392

00:14:48,310 --> 00:14:46,800

just learned about this from hearing

393

00:14:49,990 --> 00:14:48,320

john eiler talk at the goldschmidt

394

00:14:50,870 --> 00:14:50,000

conference in melbourne a couple years

395

00:14:54,069 --> 00:14:50,880

ago

396

00:14:56,790 --> 00:14:54,079

he's looking at carbonates again here

397

00:14:58,870 --> 00:14:56,800

but he's measuring

398

00:15:02,230 --> 00:14:58,880

measuring carbonates that have that are

399

00:15:05,350 --> 00:15:02,240

multiply substituted with rare isotopes

400

00:15:08,870 --> 00:15:05,360

so for instance here suppose you've got

401  
00:15:11,590 --> 00:15:08,880  
on this side here the normal carbonate

402  
00:15:13,910 --> 00:15:11,600  
has a carbon-12 and

403  
00:15:17,110 --> 00:15:13,920  
three o sixteens in it

404  
00:15:20,550 --> 00:15:17,120  
right but this carbonate here has both a

405  
00:15:23,030 --> 00:15:20,560  
carbon 13 and an oxygen 18 along with

406  
00:15:25,590 --> 00:15:23,040  
two of the normal o sixteens this is a

407  
00:15:28,230 --> 00:15:25,600  
very rare isotope very difficult to

408  
00:15:31,269 --> 00:15:28,240  
measure because you know that what the

409  
00:15:33,590 --> 00:15:31,279  
one percent of carbon is is

410  
00:15:36,710 --> 00:15:33,600  
c13 i think and about one or two percent

411  
00:15:38,949 --> 00:15:36,720  
of oxygen is o18 so this is it's very

412  
00:15:39,750 --> 00:15:38,959  
tricky to measure the concentration of

413  
00:15:42,069 --> 00:15:39,760

this

414

00:15:45,829 --> 00:15:42,079

but here he's written out

415

00:15:47,910 --> 00:15:45,839

an equilibrium reaction this is 13 c

416

00:15:49,670 --> 00:15:47,920

o 3

417

00:15:52,710 --> 00:15:49,680

double minus plus

418

00:15:55,269 --> 00:15:52,720

this carbonate ion here has

419

00:15:58,069 --> 00:15:55,279

an o 18 in it and then they're reacting

420

00:16:00,230 --> 00:15:58,079

to form this one this is what uh eiler

421

00:16:02,389 --> 00:16:00,240

calls a clumped isotope he's got the

422

00:16:03,749 --> 00:16:02,399

both of the heavy isotopes in the same

423

00:16:05,430 --> 00:16:03,759

species here

424

00:16:07,910 --> 00:16:05,440

and the nice thing about this if you can

425

00:16:10,629 --> 00:16:07,920

measure the abundances of all all four

426

00:16:12,949 --> 00:16:10,639

of these species that that equilibrium

427

00:16:15,590 --> 00:16:12,959

depends on temperature cold temperatures

428

00:16:17,350 --> 00:16:15,600

favor the heavy the clumped isotope here

429

00:16:19,110 --> 00:16:17,360

and it's independent of the uh

430

00:16:21,189 --> 00:16:19,120

concentration of

431

00:16:23,110 --> 00:16:21,199

o 18 in seawater

432

00:16:24,949 --> 00:16:23,120

right so that's the real nice thing

433

00:16:26,629 --> 00:16:24,959

about it that gets you away from this

434

00:16:29,749 --> 00:16:26,639

question of whether sea water varies

435

00:16:34,710 --> 00:16:32,629

so the uh comedy adult paper came out by

436

00:16:36,550 --> 00:16:34,720

the way john visor was a co-author on

437

00:16:38,389 --> 00:16:36,560

this john is one of the people who's

438

00:16:40,870 --> 00:16:38,399

argued vociferously that seawater

439

00:16:43,350 --> 00:16:40,880

composition does change with time but

440

00:16:44,790 --> 00:16:43,360

eiler got him in and you know john has

441

00:16:46,949 --> 00:16:44,800

at least given in

442

00:16:50,150 --> 00:16:46,959

partly on this they've

443

00:16:52,550 --> 00:16:50,160

used this technique then to look at uh

444

00:16:55,269 --> 00:16:52,560

at ancient carbonates in a couple

445

00:16:58,189 --> 00:16:55,279

periods from the phanerozoic one is the

446

00:17:00,150 --> 00:16:58,199

carboniferous which is uh during that

447

00:17:02,069 --> 00:17:00,160

thermocarboniferous ice age when it's

448

00:17:03,829 --> 00:17:02,079

cold and another

449

00:17:05,590 --> 00:17:03,839

that's this sample right here and

450

00:17:07,669 --> 00:17:05,600

there's another sample from the early

451

00:17:10,470 --> 00:17:07,679

silurian when it's warm

452

00:17:12,870 --> 00:17:10,480

so that's these data here this is ocean

453

00:17:16,069 --> 00:17:12,880

temperature inferred from the clumped

454

00:17:17,110 --> 00:17:16,079

isotope technique the diamonds are their

455

00:17:19,350 --> 00:17:17,120

data

456

00:17:22,390 --> 00:17:19,360

here cold and the carboniferous warm in

457

00:17:24,870 --> 00:17:22,400

the early salarian this solid curve is

458

00:17:26,710 --> 00:17:24,880

bob burner's theoretical curve where

459

00:17:28,950 --> 00:17:26,720

he's running his carbon cycle model and

460

00:17:31,190 --> 00:17:28,960

trying to fit the climate and then this

461

00:17:33,110 --> 00:17:31,200

is uh i think this is

462

00:17:35,270 --> 00:17:33,120

vice or wallman's

463

00:17:36,710 --> 00:17:35,280

john vicer and klaus wallman's oxygen

464

00:17:38,870 --> 00:17:36,720

isotope curve where they're trying to

465

00:17:42,950 --> 00:17:38,880

let sea level uh see

466

00:17:44,230 --> 00:17:42,960

seawater isotopic composition vary

467

00:17:46,150 --> 00:17:44,240

over here

468

00:17:47,830 --> 00:17:46,160

what they once you've once you if you

469

00:17:50,950 --> 00:17:47,840

think you know the temperature you can

470

00:17:52,549 --> 00:17:50,960

then infer what seawater oxygen isotope

471

00:17:55,669 --> 00:17:52,559

composition is

472

00:17:57,830 --> 00:17:55,679

and here we are today at zero there the

473

00:18:00,150 --> 00:17:57,840

clumped isotope technique says that

474

00:18:01,190 --> 00:18:00,160

seawater hasn't changed by more than two

475

00:18:03,750 --> 00:18:01,200

per mil

476

00:18:05,669 --> 00:18:03,760

back to this uh back as

477

00:18:07,909 --> 00:18:05,679

as early as the uh

478

00:18:09,990 --> 00:18:07,919

the early silurian

479

00:18:12,630 --> 00:18:10,000

these this curve right here this solid

480

00:18:15,510 --> 00:18:12,640

curve is how jan visser thinks the

481

00:18:17,590 --> 00:18:15,520

seawater composition has varied and this

482

00:18:20,230 --> 00:18:17,600

lighter curve i think is klaus wallman's

483

00:18:22,070 --> 00:18:20,240

curve both of these they both models

484

00:18:25,110 --> 00:18:22,080

they assume that it varies

485

00:18:27,990 --> 00:18:25,120

so the point is is of the comma at our

486

00:18:31,029 --> 00:18:28,000

paper is that seawater hasn't changed by

487

00:18:33,669 --> 00:18:31,039

nearly enough to explain the uh oxygen

488

00:18:37,350 --> 00:18:33,679

isotope data meaning that it really was

489

00:18:39,909 --> 00:18:37,360

warm back in the early silurian

490

00:18:42,470 --> 00:18:39,919

and back to where we were

491

00:18:44,870 --> 00:18:42,480

that one of the the cold data point was

492

00:18:47,350 --> 00:18:44,880

during this ice age so that that uh

493

00:18:50,870 --> 00:18:47,360

makes sense the warm data point is from

494

00:18:53,270 --> 00:18:50,880

the it's between 443 and 423 million

495

00:18:55,270 --> 00:18:53,280

years ago so it's right here it's right

496

00:18:57,350 --> 00:18:55,280

after this late ordovician ice age but

497

00:19:00,310 --> 00:18:57,360

that as i said that ice age is an

498

00:19:01,830 --> 00:19:00,320

anomaly it's a very quick uh ice age

499

00:19:03,750 --> 00:19:01,840

that happened in the midst of an

500

00:19:06,390 --> 00:19:03,760

otherwise warm period

501  
00:19:08,150 --> 00:19:06,400  
and uh the clumped isotope data indicate

502  
00:19:10,630 --> 00:19:08,160  
that the temperatures here were

503  
00:19:12,630 --> 00:19:10,640  
something like 5 to 11 degrees celsius

504  
00:19:13,590 --> 00:19:12,640  
warmer than today

505  
00:19:16,070 --> 00:19:13,600  
so

506  
00:19:18,150 --> 00:19:16,080  
at any weight that

507  
00:19:20,870 --> 00:19:18,160  
that round has gone to those that think

508  
00:19:22,470 --> 00:19:20,880  
that seawater composition stays constant

509  
00:19:24,549 --> 00:19:22,480  
or more or less

510  
00:19:26,310 --> 00:19:24,559  
back to the oxygen isotope data the

511  
00:19:29,110 --> 00:19:26,320  
other thing that you can look at is

512  
00:19:31,750 --> 00:19:29,120  
cherts which are  $\text{SiO}_2$

513  
00:19:34,150 --> 00:19:31,760

uh church tend to be better preserved

514

00:19:36,390 --> 00:19:34,160

over longer time periods than carbonates

515

00:19:37,990 --> 00:19:36,400

are and so this is what paul canal has

516

00:19:40,710 --> 00:19:38,000

used for a long time he's measured

517

00:19:41,909 --> 00:19:40,720

oxygen isotopes in church and used this

518

00:19:44,470 --> 00:19:41,919

to infer

519

00:19:48,470 --> 00:19:44,480

things about pre-cambrian climates these

520

00:19:51,430 --> 00:19:48,480

are paul canales data from a 2005 review

521

00:19:52,789 --> 00:19:51,440

paper that he wrote this is dell o18 of

522

00:19:55,430 --> 00:19:52,799

the church

523

00:19:57,270 --> 00:19:55,440

and uh you can see that this is time

524

00:19:58,470 --> 00:19:57,280

going back to three and a half billion

525

00:20:00,549 --> 00:19:58,480

years ago

526

00:20:02,630 --> 00:20:00,559

uh what paul likes to do is he looks at

527

00:20:04,710 --> 00:20:02,640

there's a big spread in the data which

528

00:20:06,950 --> 00:20:04,720

come from all sorts of processes he

529

00:20:08,630 --> 00:20:06,960

likes to look at the upper envelope of

530

00:20:11,669 --> 00:20:08,640

the spread which paul would argue are

531

00:20:15,510 --> 00:20:11,679

the least altered least uh

532

00:20:17,590 --> 00:20:15,520

effect or the most representative of the

533

00:20:20,549 --> 00:20:17,600

ocean conditions and you can see that

534

00:20:23,110 --> 00:20:20,559

these also become lighter in o-18 as you

535

00:20:25,029 --> 00:20:23,120

go back then there's a big drop-off

536

00:20:27,350 --> 00:20:25,039

right around the archaean proterozoic

537

00:20:29,510 --> 00:20:27,360

boundary and then the archaean back here

538

00:20:30,789 --> 00:20:29,520

all the church are really light and this

539

00:20:32,710 --> 00:20:30,799

is what paul

540

00:20:34,789 --> 00:20:32,720

where these data have been around most

541

00:20:38,310 --> 00:20:34,799

of them for a long time this is where he

542

00:20:41,029 --> 00:20:38,320

gets his 70 degree archaean temperatures

543

00:20:43,430 --> 00:20:41,039

so that's the published uh figure there

544

00:20:46,710 --> 00:20:43,440

was a paper in gsa bulletin by paul

545

00:20:50,390 --> 00:20:46,720

knouth and don lowe in 2003 they

546

00:20:54,630 --> 00:20:50,400

published 70 degrees plus or minus 15 at

547

00:20:56,470 --> 00:20:54,640

about 3.3 billion years ago

548

00:20:58,470 --> 00:20:56,480

the carbonate data you know the

549

00:20:59,909 --> 00:20:58,480

carbonate data are not exactly the same

550

00:21:01,510 --> 00:20:59,919

because the biggest change in the

551  
00:21:03,430 --> 00:21:01,520  
carbonates actually occurs during the

552  
00:21:05,990 --> 00:21:03,440  
phanerozoic whereas the bigger change in

553  
00:21:07,990 --> 00:21:06,000  
the church occurs back uh between the

554  
00:21:09,990 --> 00:21:08,000  
archaeon and the protozoa

555  
00:21:12,310 --> 00:21:10,000  
but the carbonate data

556  
00:21:14,789 --> 00:21:12,320  
say that uh ocean temperatures remained

557  
00:21:16,789 --> 00:21:14,799  
warm until fairly recently you know only

558  
00:21:19,270 --> 00:21:16,799  
400 million years ago

559  
00:21:22,070 --> 00:21:19,280  
so in fact this hypothesis predicts that

560  
00:21:24,070 --> 00:21:22,080  
the earth was warm all the way up until

561  
00:21:26,870 --> 00:21:24,080  
fairly recent history

562  
00:21:28,470 --> 00:21:26,880  
70 degrees in the archaeon but still 55

563  
00:21:32,070 --> 00:21:28,480

degrees or so at the beginning of the

564

00:21:33,750 --> 00:21:32,080

Cambrian if you take it at face value

565

00:21:36,310 --> 00:21:33,760

now

566

00:21:37,990 --> 00:21:36,320

neither of those techniques

567

00:21:40,390 --> 00:21:38,000

neither of the carbonate techniques

568

00:21:41,909 --> 00:21:40,400

rules out diagenesis

569

00:21:43,750 --> 00:21:41,919

but

570

00:21:45,750 --> 00:21:43,760

you can also get

571

00:21:46,950 --> 00:21:45,760

you well you can have various factors

572

00:21:49,830 --> 00:21:46,960

that affect the

573

00:21:52,230 --> 00:21:49,840

the church but what has uh happened

574

00:21:53,830 --> 00:21:52,240

recently is that uh this paper that i

575

00:21:56,390 --> 00:21:53,840

mentioned at the outset by Robert and

576

00:21:59,430 --> 00:21:56,400

chozidon they have looked at the silicon

577

00:22:01,990 --> 00:21:59,440

isotope composition of church normal

578

00:22:04,149 --> 00:22:02,000

silicon it's mostly silicon 28 but

579

00:22:07,270 --> 00:22:04,159

there's a certain amount of silicon 30

580

00:22:10,070 --> 00:22:07,280

in there and you can measure chert is

581

00:22:13,350 --> 00:22:10,080

siO<sub>2</sub> so you can measure both its oxygen

582

00:22:15,270 --> 00:22:13,360

and silicon isotopic composition

583

00:22:19,110 --> 00:22:15,280

here's a plot

584

00:22:22,630 --> 00:22:19,120

of delta 30 s i in parts per mil versus

585

00:22:26,710 --> 00:22:22,640

age and it's kind of complicated because

586

00:22:29,750 --> 00:22:28,789

these authors would argue just ignore

587

00:22:31,270 --> 00:22:29,760

them

588

00:22:33,430 --> 00:22:31,280

and the reason is because at the

589

00:22:35,669 --> 00:22:33,440

beginning of the phanerozoic silica

590

00:22:37,669 --> 00:22:35,679

precipitating organisms evolved and that

591

00:22:38,710 --> 00:22:37,679

became a biological influence on the

592

00:22:42,070 --> 00:22:38,720

silicon

593

00:22:44,390 --> 00:22:42,080

cycle but prior to the beginning of the

594

00:22:46,470 --> 00:22:44,400

phanerozoic there were no such organisms

595

00:22:48,950 --> 00:22:46,480

so you had a lot more amorphous silica

596

00:22:51,430 --> 00:22:48,960

that built up in seawater and then

597

00:22:53,510 --> 00:22:51,440

there's a trend this is my red line

598

00:22:55,990 --> 00:22:53,520

going through here but there's a trend

599

00:22:59,270 --> 00:22:56,000

that silicon isotopes become

600

00:23:00,950 --> 00:22:59,280

lighter delta 30 s i is lighter as you

601  
00:23:02,870 --> 00:23:00,960  
go back in time

602  
00:23:05,590 --> 00:23:02,880  
and what they've then done on the right

603  
00:23:06,390 --> 00:23:05,600  
hand plot is they've plotted delta 30 s

604  
00:23:10,149 --> 00:23:06,400  
i

605  
00:23:12,070 --> 00:23:10,159  
versus delta o18 from the same data from

606  
00:23:13,510 --> 00:23:12,080  
the from the same church

607  
00:23:15,750 --> 00:23:13,520  
and you can see that there's a big

608  
00:23:18,149 --> 00:23:15,760  
scatter plot but you can draw a line

609  
00:23:20,870 --> 00:23:18,159  
through that the silicon isotopes

610  
00:23:23,510 --> 00:23:20,880  
correlate with the oxygen isotopes

611  
00:23:25,590 --> 00:23:23,520  
reasonably well and then

612  
00:23:28,310 --> 00:23:25,600  
these authors say that rules out

613  
00:23:30,549 --> 00:23:28,320

diagenesis as a uh

614

00:23:34,230 --> 00:23:30,559

as a cause for the the variation in the

615

00:23:36,630 --> 00:23:34,240

silicon isotopes think about shirts or

616

00:23:39,190 --> 00:23:36,640

silica deposits they also connects if

617

00:23:40,630 --> 00:23:39,200

they have water flowing through them

618

00:23:42,950 --> 00:23:40,640

when they're down in the sediments they

619

00:23:45,270 --> 00:23:42,960

can exchange oxygen isotopes with the

620

00:23:47,669 --> 00:23:45,280

water but there's not enough silicon in

621

00:23:49,750 --> 00:23:47,679

the water to exchange silicon isotopes

622

00:23:52,870 --> 00:23:49,760

and so these are authors argue that the

623

00:23:54,230 --> 00:23:52,880

silica does silicon doesn't get reset

624

00:23:56,070 --> 00:23:54,240

and therefore the fact that it

625

00:23:57,990 --> 00:23:56,080

correlates with the oxygen means that

626

00:23:59,590 --> 00:23:58,000

not all of the oxygen data are getting

627

00:24:02,390 --> 00:23:59,600

reset either

628

00:24:04,230 --> 00:24:02,400

i think that's a reasonable argument but

629

00:24:06,549 --> 00:24:04,240

i mean this is one of the first papers

630

00:24:08,710 --> 00:24:06,559

that i've seen on silicon isotopes the

631

00:24:10,070 --> 00:24:08,720

fractionation in silicon isotopes by the

632

00:24:11,830 --> 00:24:10,080

way depend

633

00:24:14,549 --> 00:24:11,840

silica is coming out of the mid-ocean

634

00:24:17,510 --> 00:24:14,559

ridge hydrothermal vents it's either

635

00:24:18,870 --> 00:24:17,520

removed by precipitation on the basalts

636

00:24:21,350 --> 00:24:18,880

as it flows through the hydro

637

00:24:23,590 --> 00:24:21,360

hydrothermal vents or it's removed by a

638

00:24:26,149 --> 00:24:23,600

lot biologically

639

00:24:29,269 --> 00:24:26,159

or just from precipitation in

640

00:24:31,269 --> 00:24:29,279

of a more amorphous silica in sea water

641

00:24:33,190 --> 00:24:31,279

and according to robert and shoshido

642

00:24:35,510 --> 00:24:33,200

fractionation occurs

643

00:24:37,590 --> 00:24:35,520

when it comes out by interacting with

644

00:24:39,430 --> 00:24:37,600

the basalts so the fractionation that

645

00:24:41,110 --> 00:24:39,440

you get depends on the temperature

646

00:24:44,630 --> 00:24:41,120

difference between the hydrothermal

647

00:24:45,990 --> 00:24:44,640

vents and seawater in their model

648

00:24:47,510 --> 00:24:46,000

i'm going to go through this kind of

649

00:24:48,549 --> 00:24:47,520

quickly because i've got a lot of things

650

00:24:50,870 --> 00:24:48,559

to say

651  
00:24:52,630 --> 00:24:50,880  
uh but that's

652  
00:24:54,870 --> 00:24:52,640  
that's the argument here and then what

653  
00:24:56,789 --> 00:24:54,880  
they've done is they uh

654  
00:24:58,390 --> 00:24:56,799  
they've plotted the silicon

655  
00:25:00,870 --> 00:24:58,400  
the temperatures from the silicon

656  
00:25:02,549 --> 00:25:00,880  
isotopes this is now age again going

657  
00:25:05,430 --> 00:25:02,559  
back to three and a half billion years

658  
00:25:07,510 --> 00:25:05,440  
ago the solid curve is the temperatures

659  
00:25:09,909 --> 00:25:07,520  
inferred from the oxygen isotopes in

660  
00:25:11,510 --> 00:25:09,919  
church this gray area here is the

661  
00:25:14,230 --> 00:25:11,520  
temperatures that they infer from the

662  
00:25:16,230 --> 00:25:14,240  
silicon isotopes and church they more or

663  
00:25:18,549 --> 00:25:16,240

less agree although there's a lot of

664

00:25:20,789 --> 00:25:18,559

scatter in the silicon data but then

665

00:25:22,549 --> 00:25:20,799

they say this supports the idea that the

666

00:25:25,430 --> 00:25:22,559

early earth was hot

667

00:25:28,630 --> 00:25:25,440

and and may rule out diagenesis as being

668

00:25:31,190 --> 00:25:28,640

the cause of that variations okay so

669

00:25:33,269 --> 00:25:31,200

that's all geochemists and isotope stuff

670

00:25:34,470 --> 00:25:33,279

the biologists have been getting into

671

00:25:37,350 --> 00:25:34,480

this too

672

00:25:39,269 --> 00:25:37,360

and uh there's several recent papers

673

00:25:40,870 --> 00:25:39,279

saying that the biological record says

674

00:25:44,149 --> 00:25:40,880

the same thing

675

00:25:46,549 --> 00:25:44,159

this is not a new idea either uh here's

676  
00:25:49,110 --> 00:25:46,559  
a ribosomal rna tree how many people

677  
00:25:52,070 --> 00:25:49,120  
here have seen such a tree

678  
00:25:53,669 --> 00:25:52,080  
uh so this is washington so you all most

679  
00:25:56,789 --> 00:25:53,679  
of you have seen this this comes from

680  
00:25:59,990 --> 00:25:56,799  
looking doing sequencing of ribosomal

681  
00:26:02,470 --> 00:26:00,000  
rna or the dna analog thereof

682  
00:26:05,830 --> 00:26:02,480  
and you get the three domains of life

683  
00:26:08,149 --> 00:26:05,840  
the archaea the bacteria and the eukarya

684  
00:26:11,269 --> 00:26:08,159  
this is a way one way of looking deep

685  
00:26:13,430 --> 00:26:11,279  
into evolutionary history and what has

686  
00:26:15,430 --> 00:26:13,440  
been the root of the tree it's shown

687  
00:26:16,950 --> 00:26:15,440  
here is an unrooted tree but various

688  
00:26:18,870 --> 00:26:16,960

arguments would place

689

00:26:20,549 --> 00:26:18,880

most biologists i think would place the

690

00:26:22,470 --> 00:26:20,559

root of the tree somewhere down near the

691

00:26:24,950 --> 00:26:22,480

base of the bacteria

692

00:26:27,430 --> 00:26:24,960

most of the most or all of the organisms

693

00:26:30,070 --> 00:26:27,440

near that root are hyperthermophiles

694

00:26:32,390 --> 00:26:30,080

that is organisms that live at

695

00:26:34,310 --> 00:26:32,400

preferred growth temperatures above 80

696

00:26:36,230 --> 00:26:34,320

celsius and that's been very

697

00:26:38,470 --> 00:26:36,240

controversial in the biological

698

00:26:42,149 --> 00:26:38,480

literature for a long time exactly what

699

00:26:47,590 --> 00:26:44,310

four years ago there was another paper

700

00:26:50,310 --> 00:26:47,600

that came out by eric uh gautier

701  
00:26:52,310 --> 00:26:50,320

i haven't met eric but he's a

702  
00:26:54,789 --> 00:26:52,320

was a member of steve benner's group at

703  
00:26:56,710 --> 00:26:54,799

the university of florida and they

704  
00:26:58,789 --> 00:26:56,720

looked at what they call resurrected

705  
00:27:01,830 --> 00:26:58,799

proteins so they're now looking at

706  
00:27:03,269 --> 00:27:01,840

different genes and in this paper what

707  
00:27:05,029 --> 00:27:03,279

they did is they're looking at a

708  
00:27:07,830 --> 00:27:05,039

particular

709  
00:27:11,830 --> 00:27:07,840

gene set of genes that codes for this

710  
00:27:13,510 --> 00:27:11,840

elongation factor protein eftu which i'm

711  
00:27:15,590 --> 00:27:13,520

not a very good biologist so i don't

712  
00:27:19,590 --> 00:27:15,600

even know what the tu stands for but

713  
00:27:21,830 --> 00:27:19,600

this is the most common protein in

714

00:27:23,830 --> 00:27:21,840

in e coli which is you know the standard

715

00:27:25,909 --> 00:27:23,840

laboratory bacterium

716

00:27:29,029 --> 00:27:25,919

and it's these elongation factor

717

00:27:30,789 --> 00:27:29,039

proteins are present in in all organisms

718

00:27:32,789 --> 00:27:30,799

in large abundances so you can do

719

00:27:34,549 --> 00:27:32,799

comparisons with these

720

00:27:37,029 --> 00:27:34,559

what they've done then is they they do

721

00:27:40,230 --> 00:27:37,039

molecular phylogeny on this gene try to

722

00:27:41,430 --> 00:27:40,240

decide which protein sequences or the

723

00:27:44,470 --> 00:27:41,440

sequences

724

00:27:45,269 --> 00:27:44,480

uh which genes are common to the

725

00:27:48,149 --> 00:27:45,279

uh

726  
00:27:49,590 --> 00:27:48,159  
last common ancestor of these different

727  
00:27:52,310 --> 00:27:49,600  
existing

728  
00:27:54,149 --> 00:27:52,320  
bacteria and then they look at that

729  
00:27:56,149 --> 00:27:54,159  
protein and in this paper they just

730  
00:27:58,789 --> 00:27:56,159  
tried to estimate what the temperature

731  
00:28:01,190 --> 00:27:58,799  
stability of that protein was

732  
00:28:04,470 --> 00:28:01,200  
here in this upper graph they've looked

733  
00:28:07,990 --> 00:28:04,480  
at uh organisms that ren expand the

734  
00:28:10,389 --> 00:28:08,000  
range from mesophiles that live at 0 to

735  
00:28:13,269 --> 00:28:10,399  
40 degrees thermophiles that live from

736  
00:28:15,830 --> 00:28:13,279  
40 to 80 and hyper thermophiles so they

737  
00:28:18,870 --> 00:28:15,840  
basically all organisms

738  
00:28:21,510 --> 00:28:18,880

and they found that if you do that the

739

00:28:24,230 --> 00:28:21,520

the two dark curves the yellow or the

740

00:28:25,430 --> 00:28:24,240

blue and the green are their

741

00:28:26,149 --> 00:28:25,440

estimated

742

00:28:27,750 --> 00:28:26,159

uh

743

00:28:31,110 --> 00:28:27,760

temperatures this is the melting

744

00:28:33,269 --> 00:28:31,120

temperature of the protein

745

00:28:36,070 --> 00:28:33,279

for these ancient organisms and this red

746

00:28:37,350 --> 00:28:36,080

curve that's thermos that's a that's a

747

00:28:40,149 --> 00:28:37,360

thermophilic

748

00:28:42,070 --> 00:28:40,159

existing bacteria so that if you look at

749

00:28:43,590 --> 00:28:42,080

all organisms with this technique you

750

00:28:46,470 --> 00:28:43,600

find out that they look like they have a

751  
00:28:47,590 --> 00:28:46,480  
thermophilic common ancestor in the

752  
00:28:49,909 --> 00:28:47,600  
bottom

753  
00:28:51,990 --> 00:28:49,919  
panel here they they've excluded

754  
00:28:54,470 --> 00:28:52,000  
present-day thermophilic organisms they

755  
00:28:56,630 --> 00:28:54,480  
just look at mesophiles organisms that

756  
00:28:57,909 --> 00:28:56,640  
live below 40 degrees

757  
00:29:00,870 --> 00:28:57,919  
and they've done the same type of

758  
00:29:02,630 --> 00:29:00,880  
analysis and they find that even modern

759  
00:29:05,269 --> 00:29:02,640  
day mesophiles appear to have a

760  
00:29:08,950 --> 00:29:05,279  
thermophilic ancestor so for instance e

761  
00:29:10,389 --> 00:29:08,960  
coli here is a mesophile which

762  
00:29:13,350 --> 00:29:10,399  
has a

763  
00:29:16,789 --> 00:29:13,360

protein this elongation factor uh

764

00:29:18,870 --> 00:29:16,799

tends to melt at a at about 240 degrees

765

00:29:20,870 --> 00:29:18,880

or less or i guess that's the preferred

766

00:29:22,389 --> 00:29:20,880

growth temperature i'll probably garble

767

00:29:24,470 --> 00:29:22,399

this part because i'm not a very good

768

00:29:26,389 --> 00:29:24,480

biologist but that's the preferred

769

00:29:29,029 --> 00:29:26,399

growth temperature for e coli

770

00:29:31,590 --> 00:29:29,039

whereas the ancestor of e coli and other

771

00:29:34,870 --> 00:29:31,600

mesophiles had a preferred growth

772

00:29:37,110 --> 00:29:34,880

temperature around 55 celsius so that's

773

00:29:39,110 --> 00:29:37,120

sort of consistent well it's slightly

774

00:29:40,789 --> 00:29:39,120

different from what we just looked at on

775

00:29:43,350 --> 00:29:40,799

the last slide because the argument of

776

00:29:45,029 --> 00:29:43,360

this paper was the last common ancestor

777

00:29:47,830 --> 00:29:45,039

was a thermophile but not a

778

00:29:49,430 --> 00:29:47,840

hyperthermophile

779

00:29:51,350 --> 00:29:49,440

all right i had missed that paper when

780

00:29:54,149 --> 00:29:51,360

it came out but then i didn't miss this

781

00:29:56,230 --> 00:29:54,159

one this is one that came out same group

782

00:29:58,549 --> 00:29:56,240

or at least gaucher is still the first

783

00:30:00,950 --> 00:29:58,559

author this is just a from

784

00:30:02,789 --> 00:30:00,960

in nature in february of this year

785

00:30:05,029 --> 00:30:02,799

they're now looking at resurrected

786

00:30:07,909 --> 00:30:05,039

proteins and they're doing this uh more

787

00:30:10,230 --> 00:30:07,919

elaborately they actually

788

00:30:13,029 --> 00:30:10,240

figure out the pro the gene sequence for

789

00:30:16,230 --> 00:30:13,039

these ancient proteins they synthesize

790

00:30:19,510 --> 00:30:16,240

that gene and then they inject it into a

791

00:30:21,350 --> 00:30:19,520

e coli and the e coli produces the

792

00:30:23,110 --> 00:30:21,360

protein then they take that protein and

793

00:30:24,230 --> 00:30:23,120

measure its melting temperature in the

794

00:30:25,510 --> 00:30:24,240

lab

795

00:30:27,750 --> 00:30:25,520

and then they've

796

00:30:30,470 --> 00:30:27,760

done this for various organisms and they

797

00:30:32,950 --> 00:30:30,480

use molecular clocks they take published

798

00:30:35,029 --> 00:30:32,960

molecular clock estimates one of them by

799

00:30:37,029 --> 00:30:35,039

my colleague blair hedges at penn state

800

00:30:39,750 --> 00:30:37,039

where he's tried to place

801  
00:30:41,750 --> 00:30:39,760  
dates on the evolutionary time scale and

802  
00:30:44,070 --> 00:30:41,760  
they've they've got temperatures for

803  
00:30:46,310 --> 00:30:44,080  
organisms of different ages and here

804  
00:30:48,549 --> 00:30:46,320  
they've they've done these uh

805  
00:30:50,310 --> 00:30:48,559  
these dots with error bars are their

806  
00:30:52,789 --> 00:30:50,320  
biological estimate temperature

807  
00:30:55,110 --> 00:30:52,799  
estimates from resurrected proteins and

808  
00:30:56,950 --> 00:30:55,120  
they plotted that the the light curve

809  
00:30:58,389 --> 00:30:56,960  
these two light curves are different

810  
00:31:00,310 --> 00:30:58,399  
estimates of the temperature from the

811  
00:31:02,549 --> 00:31:00,320  
oxygen isotope data

812  
00:31:05,269 --> 00:31:02,559  
and so sure enough they their

813  
00:31:07,350 --> 00:31:05,279

resurrected proteins fall on the same

814

00:31:08,149 --> 00:31:07,360

thing so

815

00:31:24,310 --> 00:31:08,159

the

816

00:31:26,070 --> 00:31:24,320

natural and physical sciences suggests

817

00:31:27,990 --> 00:31:26,080

that ancient life has continually

818

00:31:30,310 --> 00:31:28,000

adapted to changes in environmental

819

00:31:32,630 --> 00:31:30,320

temperatures throughout its evolutionary

820

00:31:34,789 --> 00:31:32,640

history in other words the whole

821

00:31:36,470 --> 00:31:34,799

biological evolutionary history of the

822

00:31:38,549 --> 00:31:36,480

earth is being driven by these

823

00:31:40,630 --> 00:31:38,559

constantly decreasing temperatures

824

00:31:42,149 --> 00:31:40,640

throughout geologic time

825

00:31:44,070 --> 00:31:42,159

and if

826

00:31:45,909 --> 00:31:44,080

my good colleague david schwartzman has

827

00:31:48,389 --> 00:31:45,919

written a book on this he actually wrote

828

00:31:50,950 --> 00:31:48,399

his book i think 15 years ago making the

829

00:31:53,509 --> 00:31:50,960

same argument that biological evolution

830

00:31:54,789 --> 00:31:53,519

is driven by a cooling temperature on

831

00:31:57,830 --> 00:31:54,799

the earth

832

00:31:59,590 --> 00:31:57,840

so i i don't agree with that and and i

833

00:32:01,110 --> 00:31:59,600

want to give you my reasons but what

834

00:32:02,870 --> 00:32:01,120

prompts the talk is that there's now

835

00:32:04,710 --> 00:32:02,880

this string of recent papers in the

836

00:32:07,029 --> 00:32:04,720

literature claiming that all the

837

00:32:09,190 --> 00:32:07,039

evidence point in that direction

838

00:32:11,269 --> 00:32:09,200

so let's think about it the way i think

839

00:32:13,509 --> 00:32:11,279

about it i'm a theoretician so let's

840

00:32:14,389 --> 00:32:13,519

think about it first from a theoretical

841

00:32:16,389 --> 00:32:14,399

standpoint

842

00:32:18,710 --> 00:32:16,399

we're pretty sure that the sun was less

843

00:32:21,830 --> 00:32:18,720

bright back in the past

844

00:32:24,230 --> 00:32:21,840

here's a published solar evolution curve

845

00:32:27,590 --> 00:32:24,240

an old one from douglas gough published

846

00:32:29,830 --> 00:32:27,600

in 1981 but it hasn't really changed

847

00:32:32,149 --> 00:32:29,840

very much since then the standard solar

848

00:32:33,430 --> 00:32:32,159

model is pretty much the same if you go

849

00:32:35,190 --> 00:32:33,440

back to four

850

00:32:37,350 --> 00:32:35,200

this is time running from four and a

851  
00:32:40,230 --> 00:32:37,360  
half billion years up to the present and

852  
00:32:42,630 --> 00:32:40,240  
this is solar luminosity relative today

853  
00:32:44,789 --> 00:32:42,640  
we're at one today the early sun was

854  
00:32:46,789 --> 00:32:44,799  
about 30 percent less luminous that's

855  
00:32:48,870 --> 00:32:46,799  
because it's converting hydrogen to

856  
00:32:51,750 --> 00:32:48,880  
helium in its core and as it does so the

857  
00:32:54,870 --> 00:32:51,760  
core becomes denser it shrinks and heats

858  
00:32:57,909 --> 00:32:54,880  
up and the fusion reactions go faster

859  
00:33:00,070 --> 00:32:57,919  
just to calibrate here at 3.3 billion

860  
00:33:02,710 --> 00:33:00,080  
years ago that's when enough and low

861  
00:33:05,750 --> 00:33:02,720  
think it was 70 degrees celsius the sun

862  
00:33:08,149 --> 00:33:05,760  
at that point was about 77 as bright as

863  
00:33:10,070 --> 00:33:08,159

it is today so you have to have a big

864

00:33:12,789 --> 00:33:10,080

greenhouse effect and really over

865

00:33:14,310 --> 00:33:12,799

compensate for this uh decrease in solar

866

00:33:16,950 --> 00:33:14,320

luminosity

867

00:33:18,549 --> 00:33:16,960

uh what are the most likely gases for

868

00:33:20,389 --> 00:33:18,559

causing the greenhouse effect on the

869

00:33:21,990 --> 00:33:20,399

early earth i think sean goldman

870

00:33:24,310 --> 00:33:22,000

probably talked some about this so i'm

871

00:33:25,430 --> 00:33:24,320

going to be rather brief about it co2 is

872

00:33:27,669 --> 00:33:25,440

one of them

873

00:33:30,070 --> 00:33:27,679

the big greenhouse gases today are co2

874

00:33:31,830 --> 00:33:30,080

and water vapor co2 is largely

875

00:33:34,310 --> 00:33:31,840

controlled by the carbonate silicate

876

00:33:35,669 --> 00:33:34,320

cycle shown here co2 comes out of

877

00:33:37,909 --> 00:33:35,679

volcanoes

878

00:33:39,190 --> 00:33:37,919

it's consumed by silicate weathering on

879

00:33:41,669 --> 00:33:39,200

the continents and then there's

880

00:33:43,750 --> 00:33:41,679

carbonate precipitation in the oceans

881

00:33:45,430 --> 00:33:43,760

the carbonates get dragged down and they

882

00:33:47,990 --> 00:33:45,440

get heated up

883

00:33:50,389 --> 00:33:48,000

and they undergo metamorphism so co2 is

884

00:33:52,310 --> 00:33:50,399

cycling through here if the early earth

885

00:33:55,509 --> 00:33:52,320

was colder than the weathering would

886

00:33:57,669 --> 00:33:55,519

slow down so volcanic co2 would build up

887

00:34:00,789 --> 00:33:57,679

so there is a mechanism for

888

00:34:02,389 --> 00:34:00,799

forcing co2 to build up if when the sun

889

00:34:04,630 --> 00:34:02,399

was less bright this is something that

890

00:34:07,590 --> 00:34:04,640

i've worked on for a long time

891

00:34:09,349 --> 00:34:07,600

if volcanism was faster on the early

892

00:34:11,349 --> 00:34:09,359

earth because the interior was hotter

893

00:34:13,750 --> 00:34:11,359

then you'd expect more co2 to come out

894

00:34:15,829 --> 00:34:13,760

of volcanoes so you you might i mean

895

00:34:17,669 --> 00:34:15,839

there's reasons to think that co2 could

896

00:34:19,750 --> 00:34:17,679

have been quite high

897

00:34:22,069 --> 00:34:19,760

but then you can do the types of things

898

00:34:24,710 --> 00:34:22,079

that that we do we build climate models

899

00:34:27,750 --> 00:34:24,720

you can say okay well uh suppose the

900

00:34:30,310 --> 00:34:27,760

archaeon earth was 70 degrees at 3.3

901  
00:34:31,109 --> 00:34:30,320  
billion years how much co2 would that

902  
00:34:33,430 --> 00:34:31,119  
take

903  
00:34:35,669 --> 00:34:33,440  
well that's a that's a doable problem so

904  
00:34:37,829 --> 00:34:35,679  
we take our climate model which we've

905  
00:34:41,510 --> 00:34:37,839  
carefully constructed and deconstructed

906  
00:34:43,909 --> 00:34:41,520  
over the past 20 years and we put in co2

907  
00:34:45,669 --> 00:34:43,919  
this is a one-dimensional climate model

908  
00:34:47,909 --> 00:34:45,679  
what we call a radiative convective

909  
00:34:49,829 --> 00:34:47,919  
climate model where you average out

910  
00:34:51,589 --> 00:34:49,839  
temperatures over the earth that's

911  
00:34:53,349 --> 00:34:51,599  
probably just fine when you're going to

912  
00:34:55,750 --> 00:34:53,359  
a dense co2 atmosphere because the

913  
00:34:57,190 --> 00:34:55,760

latitudinal gradients would be rather

914

00:34:59,349 --> 00:34:57,200

small

915

00:35:03,030 --> 00:34:59,359

we run that model for

916

00:35:03,910 --> 00:35:03,040

77 solar luminosity and these curves

917

00:35:06,950 --> 00:35:03,920

here

918

00:35:11,190 --> 00:35:06,960

this is the co2 partial pressure in bars

919

00:35:12,870 --> 00:35:11,200

on this axis today we're at 300 ppms

920

00:35:15,750 --> 00:35:12,880

a little higher than that or about 3

921

00:35:17,670 --> 00:35:15,760

times 10 to the minus 4 bars down here

922

00:35:19,990 --> 00:35:17,680

this is going up to ten bars on the

923

00:35:21,910 --> 00:35:20,000

right these curves are for different

924

00:35:23,349 --> 00:35:21,920

amounts of methane and don't pay too

925

00:35:24,950 --> 00:35:23,359

much attention to those because we

926  
00:35:27,109 --> 00:35:24,960  
recently found a problem with the

927  
00:35:29,190 --> 00:35:27,119  
methane part and so the the methane

928  
00:35:30,870 --> 00:35:29,200  
greenhouse was overestimated in this

929  
00:35:32,710 --> 00:35:30,880  
model

930  
00:35:36,550 --> 00:35:32,720  
if you want to get to

931  
00:35:39,510 --> 00:35:36,560  
70 degrees celsius that's about 340

932  
00:35:41,349 --> 00:35:39,520  
a little over 340 kelvin

933  
00:35:44,230 --> 00:35:41,359  
according to these calculations if you

934  
00:35:47,510 --> 00:35:44,240  
had a thousand ppms of methane you would

935  
00:35:49,270 --> 00:35:47,520  
need about three bars of co2 and we as i

936  
00:35:51,270 --> 00:35:49,280  
said we actually overestimated the

937  
00:35:53,510 --> 00:35:51,280  
methane greenhouse effect so probably

938  
00:35:55,670 --> 00:35:53,520

need more than three bars of co2 in

939

00:35:58,069 --> 00:35:55,680

order to get to be that warm

940

00:36:00,470 --> 00:35:58,079

that by itself is not impossible uh it

941

00:36:03,109 --> 00:36:00,480

depends how you think the the carbonate

942

00:36:04,790 --> 00:36:03,119

silica cycle ran on the early earth as i

943

00:36:06,870 --> 00:36:04,800

said different people have different

944

00:36:09,190 --> 00:36:06,880

ideas about that norm normsleep and

945

00:36:10,950 --> 00:36:09,200

kevin's only think all the earth's co2

946

00:36:13,829 --> 00:36:10,960

was in the mantle at that time and so it

947

00:36:15,910 --> 00:36:13,839

was really cold

948

00:36:18,310 --> 00:36:15,920

recently sean goldman may have showed

949

00:36:20,310 --> 00:36:18,320

this slide we've redone climate

950

00:36:23,190 --> 00:36:20,320

calculations this is for a slightly

951  
00:36:26,470 --> 00:36:23,200  
later period in the late archaean 2.8

952  
00:36:28,470 --> 00:36:26,480  
billion years so luminosity is 80 of

953  
00:36:30,230 --> 00:36:28,480  
present we found that we've been

954  
00:36:31,589 --> 00:36:30,240  
overestimating the methane greenhouse

955  
00:36:33,510 --> 00:36:31,599  
effect just because the absorption

956  
00:36:36,069 --> 00:36:33,520  
coefficients were stuck in the wrong

957  
00:36:37,990 --> 00:36:36,079  
wavelength bin so we fixed that

958  
00:36:40,630 --> 00:36:38,000  
but then we also put in some additional

959  
00:36:42,710 --> 00:36:40,640  
things there's there's ethane in this

960  
00:36:44,710 --> 00:36:42,720  
model that we can predict from this form

961  
00:36:47,030 --> 00:36:44,720  
photochemically from the methane and

962  
00:36:49,270 --> 00:36:47,040  
there are hydrocarbon particles and if

963  
00:36:51,750 --> 00:36:49,280

you get the methane to co2 ratio

964

00:36:53,589 --> 00:36:51,760

anywhere near one then you start even

965

00:36:55,470 --> 00:36:53,599

above a few tenths you start forming

966

00:36:57,990 --> 00:36:55,480

hydrocarbon particles and those give you

967

00:37:01,109 --> 00:36:58,000

anti-greenhouse cooling and so when we

968

00:37:03,750 --> 00:37:01,119

put that all in and just try to

969

00:37:06,390 --> 00:37:03,760

make the bring the earth above freezing

970

00:37:07,750 --> 00:37:06,400

at the lake in the later ken we find

971

00:37:09,750 --> 00:37:07,760

that you need

972

00:37:12,630 --> 00:37:09,760

well here's a plausible radar key on

973

00:37:15,030 --> 00:37:12,640

earth here this has a few a few

974

00:37:18,550 --> 00:37:15,040

hundredths of a bar of co2 and a

975

00:37:19,990 --> 00:37:18,560

temperature today's temperature is 288 k

976  
00:37:21,349 --> 00:37:20,000  
on this scale

977  
00:37:23,589 --> 00:37:21,359  
so

978  
00:37:26,069 --> 00:37:23,599  
you can you can still warm the earth

979  
00:37:28,390 --> 00:37:26,079  
with co2 and methane but you don't get

980  
00:37:29,510 --> 00:37:28,400  
as much warming out of the methane as we

981  
00:37:31,990 --> 00:37:29,520  
had uh

982  
00:37:33,510 --> 00:37:32,000  
found earlier the co2 greenhouse effects

983  
00:37:35,270 --> 00:37:33,520  
have not changed

984  
00:37:37,589 --> 00:37:35,280  
the reason i put this up here is that if

985  
00:37:39,910 --> 00:37:37,599  
you if you eliminate the methane the

986  
00:37:42,870 --> 00:37:39,920  
temperatures will drop still by

987  
00:37:45,589 --> 00:37:42,880  
12 or 15 degrees c so this is a good way

988  
00:37:47,510 --> 00:37:45,599

of getting that glaciation when oxygen

989

00:37:50,310 --> 00:37:47,520

goes up

990

00:37:52,870 --> 00:37:50,320

all right so to get to that point almost

991

00:37:55,430 --> 00:37:52,880

all of us agree that oxygen went up at

992

00:37:57,349 --> 00:37:55,440

2.4 billion years except for my

993

00:37:58,550 --> 00:37:57,359

colleague hiroshimoto who still doesn't

994

00:38:01,109 --> 00:37:58,560

agree with that

995

00:38:02,310 --> 00:38:01,119

and sean sean talked about it i'm just

996

00:38:05,990 --> 00:38:02,320

going to

997

00:38:08,310 --> 00:38:06,000

show you a little bit of the evidence

998

00:38:12,150 --> 00:38:08,320

remember this is this there's an ice age

999

00:38:14,470 --> 00:38:12,160

here right when oxygen goes up

1000

00:38:16,390 --> 00:38:14,480

the standard geologic evidence for the

1001

00:38:18,390 --> 00:38:16,400

rise of oxygen there's a lot of

1002

00:38:20,470 --> 00:38:18,400

different things most suggested

1003

00:38:23,430 --> 00:38:20,480

originally by preston cloud way back in

1004

00:38:25,589 --> 00:38:23,440

the late 60s and early 70s

1005

00:38:27,430 --> 00:38:25,599

dick holland who's retired from harvard

1006

00:38:29,829 --> 00:38:27,440

now worked on this problem for a long

1007

00:38:31,670 --> 00:38:29,839

time so this is one of his slides

1008

00:38:33,750 --> 00:38:31,680

without going through it the red boxes

1009

00:38:36,150 --> 00:38:33,760

are evidence of high oxygen the blue

1010

00:38:38,310 --> 00:38:36,160

boxes are evidence for low oxygen

1011

00:38:40,790 --> 00:38:38,320

there's a big change in this figure

1012

00:38:42,550 --> 00:38:40,800

somewhere around 2.2 billion years the

1013

00:38:44,829 --> 00:38:42,560

age dates have gotten a little better

1014

00:38:51,030 --> 00:38:44,839

since then so that might be should be

1015

00:38:54,150 --> 00:38:51,040

2.4 red beds this is uh oxidized iron in

1016

00:38:56,550 --> 00:38:54,160

soils and cliffs it's mostly

1017

00:38:59,750 --> 00:38:56,560

the mineral hematite they come in around

1018

00:39:02,230 --> 00:38:59,760

2.2 so that's evidence for high oxygen

1019

00:39:04,950 --> 00:39:02,240

uranium ores it's all the same reduced

1020

00:39:06,710 --> 00:39:04,960

uranium mineral uraninite but there's

1021

00:39:09,430 --> 00:39:06,720

two different types there's detrital

1022

00:39:12,069 --> 00:39:09,440

uraninite and uh uraninite that

1023

00:39:15,190 --> 00:39:12,079

precipitated out of seawater this the

1024

00:39:16,950 --> 00:39:15,200

tridite uraninite was weathered out of the

1025

00:39:19,270 --> 00:39:16,960

parent rock and carried down and

1026

00:39:21,349 --> 00:39:19,280

deposited in sediments without ever

1027

00:39:23,750 --> 00:39:21,359

oxidizing so that's considered to be

1028

00:39:26,069 --> 00:39:23,760

evidence of low oxygen and there's also

1029

00:39:28,950 --> 00:39:26,079

detrital pyrite and siderite which are

1030

00:39:30,630 --> 00:39:28,960

other minerals so those have been with

1031

00:39:33,990 --> 00:39:30,640

standard arguments for a change in

1032

00:39:35,990 --> 00:39:34,000

oxygen at about 2.2

1033

00:39:40,230 --> 00:39:36,000

if you then looked at the geologic

1034

00:39:41,430 --> 00:39:40,240

record one of the places where the this

1035

00:39:44,069 --> 00:39:41,440

late

1036

00:39:47,349 --> 00:39:44,079

early proterozoic glaciation paleo

1037

00:39:49,190 --> 00:39:47,359

proterozoic glaciation it's called is well

1038

00:39:52,069 --> 00:39:49,200

preserved it's in the huronian super

1039

00:39:54,790 --> 00:39:52,079

group north just north of lake huron

1040

00:39:57,270 --> 00:39:54,800

it's in southern canada was mapped by a

1041

00:39:59,750 --> 00:39:57,280

canadian geologist named stu roscoe back

1042

00:40:02,630 --> 00:39:59,760

in the late 60s and

1043

00:40:06,390 --> 00:40:02,640

this sequence goes it's bounded in age

1044

00:40:08,390 --> 00:40:06,400

by 2.2 billion years at the top and 2.45

1045

00:40:10,950 --> 00:40:08,400

billion years at the bottom there's

1046

00:40:13,430 --> 00:40:10,960

three glacial diamictites in here the

1047

00:40:16,230 --> 00:40:13,440

gauganda the bruce and the ramsay lake

1048

00:40:18,390 --> 00:40:16,240

below the bottom most one in this

1049

00:40:20,950 --> 00:40:18,400

matanenda formation you find detrital

1050

00:40:23,349 --> 00:40:20,960

uranonite and pyrite and above the

1051  
00:40:25,349 --> 00:40:23,359  
gauganda in the lorraine formation

1052  
00:40:29,030 --> 00:40:25,359  
that's a red bed formation

1053  
00:40:32,069 --> 00:40:29,040  
so roscoe pointed out way back 40 years

1054  
00:40:34,150 --> 00:40:32,079  
ago or so that hmm this this to him was

1055  
00:40:36,230 --> 00:40:34,160  
the first set of glaciations in earth

1056  
00:40:37,190 --> 00:40:36,240  
history said isn't that interesting that

1057  
00:40:39,829 --> 00:40:37,200  
happened

1058  
00:40:41,430 --> 00:40:39,839  
right at the same time as oxygen went up

1059  
00:40:43,109 --> 00:40:41,440  
because preston cloud had already

1060  
00:40:44,950 --> 00:40:43,119  
published his theory of the rise of

1061  
00:40:47,030 --> 00:40:44,960  
oxygen by that time

1062  
00:40:49,510 --> 00:40:47,040  
and roscoe didn't have an explanation

1063  
00:40:51,270 --> 00:40:49,520

for that but if you believe the methane

1064

00:40:53,349 --> 00:40:51,280

greenhouse story then it actually makes

1065

00:40:56,069 --> 00:40:53,359

sense because when oxygen goes up

1066

00:40:57,510 --> 00:40:56,079

methane goes down you lose 10 or 15

1067

00:40:59,510 --> 00:40:57,520

degrees of warming so it's not

1068

00:41:01,829 --> 00:40:59,520

surprising that earth went into a

1069

00:41:03,990 --> 00:41:01,839

glaciation

1070

00:41:06,230 --> 00:41:04,000

but there's other ways to explain that

1071

00:41:09,430 --> 00:41:06,240

and so that

1072

00:41:12,390 --> 00:41:09,440

the first way is that the rise of oxygen

1073

00:41:13,750 --> 00:41:12,400

causes the glaciation the second way you

1074

00:41:17,510 --> 00:41:13,760

can invert that and you can say the

1075

00:41:20,470 --> 00:41:17,520

glaciation cause the rise of oxygen that

1076

00:41:23,589 --> 00:41:20,480

logically is also self-consistent

1077

00:41:26,150 --> 00:41:23,599

this has been published by uh low entice

1078

00:41:28,550 --> 00:41:26,160

in pre-cambrian research last year so

1079

00:41:31,349 --> 00:41:28,560

their argument is that cyanobacteria had

1080

00:41:33,750 --> 00:41:31,359

evolved cyanobacteria are the organisms

1081

00:41:35,430 --> 00:41:33,760

that produce the first oxygen they have

1082

00:41:37,910 --> 00:41:35,440

most of them have a maximum growth

1083

00:41:40,069 --> 00:41:37,920

temperature of 60 degrees there's one

1084

00:41:43,109 --> 00:41:40,079

species which name i forget right now

1085

00:41:44,630 --> 00:41:43,119

that can live up to 72 or 73 degrees

1086

00:41:46,230 --> 00:41:44,640

celsius

1087

00:41:47,750 --> 00:41:46,240

they're studied in places like

1088

00:41:50,470 --> 00:41:47,760

yellowstone where you have these hot

1089

00:41:52,790 --> 00:41:50,480

spring pools and so in the low entice

1090

00:41:55,030 --> 00:41:52,800

model they say well the archaean was 60

1091

00:41:57,190 --> 00:41:55,040

or 70 degrees when the temperatures

1092

00:41:59,430 --> 00:41:57,200

finally got down low enough for

1093

00:42:02,950 --> 00:41:59,440

cyanobacteria to thrive then they

1094

00:42:06,390 --> 00:42:02,960

produced a lot of oxygen and that

1095

00:42:09,349 --> 00:42:06,400

caused the rise of oxygen right

1096

00:42:12,150 --> 00:42:09,359

so here's a figure from their paper

1097

00:42:13,910 --> 00:42:12,160

that does this this is time running from

1098

00:42:17,109 --> 00:42:13,920

three and a half to two billion years

1099

00:42:19,750 --> 00:42:17,119

ago the solid curve is co2 in their

1100

00:42:22,950 --> 00:42:19,760

model and so in order they have to have

1101  
00:42:24,790 --> 00:42:22,960  
everything driven by co2 that methane

1102  
00:42:27,430 --> 00:42:24,800  
also varies but that's really not that

1103  
00:42:30,470 --> 00:42:27,440  
important in their model so here back in

1104  
00:42:32,230 --> 00:42:30,480  
the arc early archaean co2 was high

1105  
00:42:34,309 --> 00:42:32,240  
notice that there's no real numbers on

1106  
00:42:36,630 --> 00:42:34,319  
this scale but we just looked at that

1107  
00:42:38,710 --> 00:42:36,640  
you need three bars of co2 or more to

1108  
00:42:40,150 --> 00:42:38,720  
make it hot back then

1109  
00:42:42,630 --> 00:42:40,160  
then

1110  
00:42:44,230 --> 00:42:42,640  
the continents start to grow and that's

1111  
00:42:46,710 --> 00:42:44,240  
plausible they we know there was a lot

1112  
00:42:50,150 --> 00:42:46,720  
of continental growth along here that

1113  
00:42:53,030 --> 00:42:50,160

sucked down co2 by silicate weathering

1114

00:42:54,790 --> 00:42:53,040

co if co2 got low the temperatures

1115

00:42:57,190 --> 00:42:54,800

dropped they agree that there's a

1116

00:43:00,150 --> 00:42:57,200

glaciation around three billion years or

1117

00:43:01,990 --> 00:43:00,160

so then i oh this is where i always

1118

00:43:03,829 --> 00:43:02,000

forget this part of the story they ran

1119

00:43:05,190 --> 00:43:03,839

out of continents to weather or

1120

00:43:08,710 --> 00:43:05,200

something and so

1121

00:43:12,470 --> 00:43:08,720

uh co2 went back up in the later ken

1122

00:43:14,950 --> 00:43:12,480

back up to 60 or 70 degrees then

1123

00:43:17,109 --> 00:43:14,960

co2 dropped again for some reason and

1124

00:43:19,430 --> 00:43:17,119

that causes the rise of oxygen at that

1125

00:43:22,230 --> 00:43:19,440

point so you can do this whole thing by

1126  
00:43:23,910 --> 00:43:22,240  
having co2 go up and down but even

1127  
00:43:26,150 --> 00:43:23,920  
though i read this paper recently i

1128  
00:43:29,349 --> 00:43:26,160  
can't remember anything except for the

1129  
00:43:32,150 --> 00:43:29,359  
first reason why it changes maybe

1130  
00:43:33,990 --> 00:43:32,160  
somebody here remembers that

1131  
00:43:36,790 --> 00:43:34,000  
so any of the the problem with that is

1132  
00:43:37,990 --> 00:43:36,800  
you have to really you need huge swings

1133  
00:43:40,470 --> 00:43:38,000  
if you're going to drive the whole

1134  
00:43:42,950 --> 00:43:40,480  
climate by co2 you need huge swings to

1135  
00:43:45,430 --> 00:43:42,960  
make it warm you need three or more bars

1136  
00:43:47,270 --> 00:43:45,440  
of co2 to get down to glacial conditions

1137  
00:43:49,030 --> 00:43:47,280  
you've got to be well below one bar you

1138  
00:43:51,349 --> 00:43:49,040

probably need to be down to a few tenths

1139

00:43:53,670 --> 00:43:51,359

of a bar so it's got to be going up and

1140

00:43:55,589 --> 00:43:53,680

down and it's doing it multiple times

1141

00:43:57,270 --> 00:43:55,599

and if you find any other evidence for

1142

00:43:59,750 --> 00:43:57,280

glaciation in the archaean then you

1143

00:44:02,069 --> 00:43:59,760

would have to do it yet again

1144

00:44:04,309 --> 00:44:02,079

so that's you know i'm a theoretician

1145

00:44:05,750 --> 00:44:04,319

that's difficult for us theoreticians to

1146

00:44:07,109 --> 00:44:05,760

explain

1147

00:44:09,109 --> 00:44:07,119

if you go

1148

00:44:11,190 --> 00:44:09,119

if you have three but another thing that

1149

00:44:13,589 --> 00:44:11,200

is testable from the geologic record is

1150

00:44:14,950 --> 00:44:13,599

if you had three bars of co2 and 70

1151  
00:44:17,750 --> 00:44:14,960  
degrees celsius

1152  
00:44:20,870 --> 00:44:17,760  
rain water would be both hot and very

1153  
00:44:23,430 --> 00:44:20,880  
acidic because three bars of co2 is 10

1154  
00:44:26,230 --> 00:44:23,440  
000 times the current concentration the

1155  
00:44:28,470 --> 00:44:26,240  
ph of rain water drops about a log one

1156  
00:44:31,910 --> 00:44:28,480  
unit for every factor of 100 increase in

1157  
00:44:34,230 --> 00:44:31,920  
co2 so this three bar atmosphere at 70

1158  
00:44:37,750 --> 00:44:34,240  
degrees c the ph of rain water instead

1159  
00:44:39,670 --> 00:44:37,760  
of being 5.7 it'd be 3.7 and that would

1160  
00:44:41,910 --> 00:44:39,680  
really weather the heck out of anything

1161  
00:44:43,510 --> 00:44:41,920  
that was exposed to it and then if you

1162  
00:44:45,990 --> 00:44:43,520  
look in the literature there's arguments

1163  
00:44:48,550 --> 00:44:46,000

as to whether that weathering was going

1164

00:44:51,670 --> 00:44:48,560

on at that rate norm sleep and don lowe

1165

00:44:55,430 --> 00:44:51,680

have been publishing published arguments

1166

00:44:57,270 --> 00:44:55,440

about that uh in the past few years

1167

00:44:58,470 --> 00:44:57,280

okay so i'm not going to take a side on

1168

00:45:01,190 --> 00:44:58,480

that although

1169

00:45:04,069 --> 00:45:01,200

i i don't think that dick collins if you

1170

00:45:05,030 --> 00:45:04,079

read his 84 book he also cites evidence

1171

00:45:06,870 --> 00:45:05,040

in there he doesn't think that

1172

00:45:09,510 --> 00:45:06,880

weathering in the archaean was all that

1173

00:45:11,190 --> 00:45:09,520

rapid compared to today

1174

00:45:13,589 --> 00:45:11,200

all right well then this brings me to

1175

00:45:15,190 --> 00:45:13,599

the last part of the talk here if you

1176

00:45:17,670 --> 00:45:15,200

i'm going to argue that the temperature

1177

00:45:20,069 --> 00:45:17,680

was not hot but then you have to how do

1178

00:45:22,390 --> 00:45:20,079

you explain the oxygen and silicon

1179

00:45:24,150 --> 00:45:22,400

isotope data which are sitting around

1180

00:45:25,990 --> 00:45:24,160

there and if you can't explain them then

1181

00:45:28,150 --> 00:45:26,000

you've got a problem

1182

00:45:30,790 --> 00:45:28,160

so let's think about what controls the

1183

00:45:33,750 --> 00:45:30,800

oxygen isotope composition of seawater

1184

00:45:35,750 --> 00:45:33,760

was very nice paper by carlos muellenbox

1185

00:45:38,950 --> 00:45:35,760

and bob clayton

1186

00:45:40,950 --> 00:45:38,960

back in the mid-1970s clayton of course

1187

00:45:43,109 --> 00:45:40,960

is the famous geochemist who was one of

1188

00:45:46,470 --> 00:45:43,119

the first people to measure oxygen

1189

00:45:48,309 --> 00:45:46,480

isotopes and meteorites and so he's a

1190

00:45:50,790 --> 00:45:48,319

big star in the field

1191

00:45:52,950 --> 00:45:50,800

they publish what i think is still you

1192

00:45:55,270 --> 00:45:52,960

know what is still the accepted

1193

00:45:57,670 --> 00:45:55,280

explanation for what controls the oxygen

1194

00:46:00,150 --> 00:45:57,680

isotope composition of seawater it's

1195

00:46:02,069 --> 00:46:00,160

mostly controlled by cycling of water

1196

00:46:03,109 --> 00:46:02,079

through the mid-ocean ridge hydrothermal

1197

00:46:05,990 --> 00:46:03,119

vents

1198

00:46:08,550 --> 00:46:06,000

and the way this works is that the sea

1199

00:46:10,630 --> 00:46:08,560

water if we if we work on a small scale

1200

00:46:12,790 --> 00:46:10,640

standard standard mean ocean water sea

1201

00:46:16,230 --> 00:46:12,800

water is at zero per mil

1202

00:46:19,190 --> 00:46:16,240

basalts are at about 5.7 per ml

1203

00:46:22,230 --> 00:46:19,200

and uh this is these are data from owned

1204

00:46:24,630 --> 00:46:22,240

in a mule and box science 93 paper

1205

00:46:27,670 --> 00:46:24,640

they're looking at an ophelinite which is

1206

00:46:29,109 --> 00:46:27,680

a preserved section of oceanic crust

1207

00:46:32,470 --> 00:46:29,119

going down

1208

00:46:34,150 --> 00:46:32,480

from zero to five kilometers this is uh

1209

00:46:35,990 --> 00:46:34,160

they argue is they're they're looking at

1210

00:46:37,670 --> 00:46:36,000

the the effects of one of these

1211

00:46:40,470 --> 00:46:37,680

hydrothermal weathering systems

1212

00:46:42,470 --> 00:46:40,480

hydrothermal circulation systems

1213

00:46:45,190 --> 00:46:42,480

at high temperatures deep within the

1214

00:46:47,190 --> 00:46:45,200

vents the seawater is trying to come to

1215

00:46:50,230 --> 00:46:47,200

the same isotopic composition of the

1216

00:46:52,950 --> 00:46:50,240

rock so that the sea water is getting

1217

00:46:54,309 --> 00:46:52,960

heavier because it's extracting o-18

1218

00:46:56,550 --> 00:46:54,319

from the rock

1219

00:46:59,349 --> 00:46:56,560

at low temperatures in the upper parts

1220

00:47:01,589 --> 00:46:59,359

there then you're depositing uh

1221

00:47:03,430 --> 00:47:01,599

exchanging of

1222

00:47:06,790 --> 00:47:03,440

oxygen isotopes with the rock and the

1223

00:47:09,030 --> 00:47:06,800

oxy o18 goes back into the basalts so

1224

00:47:12,150 --> 00:47:09,040

the upper the upper portions of the

1225

00:47:13,990 --> 00:47:12,160

ophiolite are enriched in o-18 and the

1226

00:47:16,710 --> 00:47:14,000

lower portions of the ophiolite are

1227

00:47:18,790 --> 00:47:16,720

depleted in o-18 and it's this bow this

1228

00:47:20,230 --> 00:47:18,800

is more important there's also exchange

1229

00:47:22,230 --> 00:47:20,240

that occurs during continental

1230

00:47:24,470 --> 00:47:22,240

weathering but the water fluxes through

1231

00:47:28,230 --> 00:47:24,480

the mid-ocean ridges are so large that

1232

00:47:30,790 --> 00:47:28,240

that's what dominates the uh the budget

1233

00:47:32,710 --> 00:47:30,800

now and and then these same authors then

1234

00:47:35,190 --> 00:47:32,720

have argued that this process has been

1235

00:47:36,950 --> 00:47:35,200

going on plate tectonics has been going

1236

00:47:39,589 --> 00:47:36,960

on throughout the year's history

1237

00:47:41,430 --> 00:47:39,599

therefore seawater isotopic composition

1238

00:47:42,630 --> 00:47:41,440

doesn't change with time that's the

1239

00:47:44,069 --> 00:47:42,640

argument

1240

00:47:45,990 --> 00:47:44,079

but

1241

00:47:47,910 --> 00:47:46,000

that's only true if the vent systems

1242

00:47:50,309 --> 00:47:47,920

operated the same way in the past as

1243

00:47:52,390 --> 00:47:50,319

they do today and so you have to ask

1244

00:47:54,630 --> 00:47:52,400

whether or not that's the case

1245

00:47:57,030 --> 00:47:54,640

well as i mentioned at the outset we've

1246

00:48:00,150 --> 00:47:57,040

been working on this and wrote a paper

1247

00:48:02,309 --> 00:48:00,160

in epsl a couple of years ago giving one

1248

00:48:04,790 --> 00:48:02,319

suggested reason for why things might

1249

00:48:07,510 --> 00:48:04,800

change maybe plate tectonics hasn't

1250

00:48:09,349 --> 00:48:07,520

always been operating the same as today

1251  
00:48:11,030 --> 00:48:09,359  
one thing that we another point that we

1252  
00:48:12,550 --> 00:48:11,040  
all agree with i think this one there's

1253  
00:48:14,630 --> 00:48:12,560  
no dissenters

1254  
00:48:16,790 --> 00:48:14,640  
geothermal heat flow was higher in the

1255  
00:48:18,870 --> 00:48:16,800  
past because there was more there were

1256  
00:48:20,950 --> 00:48:18,880  
more radioactive elements in the crust

1257  
00:48:23,190 --> 00:48:20,960  
and mantle giving off more heat there's

1258  
00:48:25,430 --> 00:48:23,200  
also more energy left over from

1259  
00:48:27,829 --> 00:48:25,440  
accretion so there's more

1260  
00:48:29,910 --> 00:48:27,839  
geothermal heat coming out

1261  
00:48:31,990 --> 00:48:29,920  
then you get how does that affect plate

1262  
00:48:33,510 --> 00:48:32,000  
tectonics here the models are all over

1263  
00:48:35,510 --> 00:48:33,520

the place

1264

00:48:37,670 --> 00:48:35,520

i'm going to quote a model here by

1265

00:48:39,589 --> 00:48:37,680

eldridge morris but norm sleep has a

1266

00:48:41,190 --> 00:48:39,599

model plate tectonics model that

1267

00:48:43,030 --> 00:48:41,200

predicts the same thing

1268

00:48:44,950 --> 00:48:43,040

both of these models say that the

1269

00:48:47,109 --> 00:48:44,960

oceanic crust would have been thicker in

1270

00:48:48,790 --> 00:48:47,119

the past because the heat is getting you

1271

00:48:51,510 --> 00:48:48,800

would get a greater depth of partial

1272

00:48:53,910 --> 00:48:51,520

melting at the ridges and um

1273

00:48:56,230 --> 00:48:53,920

because of the increased heat flow so in

1274

00:48:58,309 --> 00:48:56,240

in eldridge moore's model the oceanic

1275

00:49:00,870 --> 00:48:58,319

crust today is about seven or eight

1276  
00:49:02,470 --> 00:49:00,880  
kilometers thick but as you go back into

1277  
00:49:05,109 --> 00:49:02,480  
the archaean

1278  
00:49:06,549 --> 00:49:05,119  
the crust could have been 20 to 25

1279  
00:49:09,190 --> 00:49:06,559  
kilometers thick

1280  
00:49:11,670 --> 00:49:09,200  
and then plate tectonics itself might

1281  
00:49:13,589 --> 00:49:11,680  
operate very differently in particular

1282  
00:49:15,829 --> 00:49:13,599  
this thick oceanic crust is still

1283  
00:49:18,069 --> 00:49:15,839  
lighter than the underlying mantle and

1284  
00:49:20,549 --> 00:49:18,079  
so it should float isostatically and it

1285  
00:49:22,309 --> 00:49:20,559  
should displace seawater

1286  
00:49:25,190 --> 00:49:22,319  
and that would mean that the mid-ocean

1287  
00:49:26,950 --> 00:49:25,200  
ridges would be less deeply submerged

1288  
00:49:29,109 --> 00:49:26,960

than they are today

1289

00:49:30,549 --> 00:49:29,119

well why does that matter

1290

00:49:32,630 --> 00:49:30,559

it turns out

1291

00:49:34,710 --> 00:49:32,640

and this is something that john gross i

1292

00:49:37,510 --> 00:49:34,720

think has worked out on here out at

1293

00:49:39,910 --> 00:49:37,520

university of washington in many of the

1294

00:49:41,589 --> 00:49:39,920

mid-ocean ridge vent systems the water

1295

00:49:44,069 --> 00:49:41,599

going through those vents is in what we

1296

00:49:45,589 --> 00:49:44,079

call the super convective regime you may

1297

00:49:48,150 --> 00:49:45,599

know that the water coming out of a

1298

00:49:49,910 --> 00:49:48,160

typical black smoker at least on a

1299

00:49:52,790 --> 00:49:49,920

fast spreading ridge is coming out right

1300

00:49:54,710 --> 00:49:52,800

near the critical point for seawater

1301

00:49:56,710 --> 00:49:54,720

and so that means that below that you're

1302

00:49:58,950 --> 00:49:56,720

in the supercritical regime where the

1303

00:49:59,750 --> 00:49:58,960

heat transport properties of water are

1304

00:50:03,270 --> 00:49:59,760

very

1305

00:50:06,710 --> 00:50:03,280

this is a graph that i actually made a

1306

00:50:08,950 --> 00:50:06,720

long time ago that graphs a combination

1307

00:50:10,069 --> 00:50:08,960

of seawater parameters that go into heat

1308

00:50:12,309 --> 00:50:10,079

transport

1309

00:50:16,549 --> 00:50:12,319

alpha is the coefficient of thermal

1310

00:50:18,309 --> 00:50:16,559

expansion rho is density cp is the

1311

00:50:21,030 --> 00:50:18,319

specific heat of constant pressure of

1312

00:50:22,710 --> 00:50:21,040

water and nu is the kinematic viscosity

1313

00:50:25,270 --> 00:50:22,720

if you combine these things and make a

1314

00:50:27,510 --> 00:50:25,280

contour map you see that

1315

00:50:29,990 --> 00:50:27,520

going pressure in bars

1316

00:50:32,950 --> 00:50:30,000

from 0 to 600 and temperature from 0 to

1317

00:50:34,549 --> 00:50:32,960

600 you see that things peak here's the

1318

00:50:36,950 --> 00:50:34,559

critical point this is done for pure

1319

00:50:39,750 --> 00:50:36,960

water the critical point is that 220

1320

00:50:43,670 --> 00:50:39,760

bars and 3 7

1321

00:50:46,150 --> 00:50:43,680

374 celsius so right here and so the uh

1322

00:50:48,150 --> 00:50:46,160

the vents if you just follow an adiabat

1323

00:50:50,470 --> 00:50:48,160

down there it's going right through this

1324

00:50:51,910 --> 00:50:50,480

supercritical regime this is something

1325

00:50:54,390 --> 00:50:51,920

if you look at the literature on this

1326  
00:50:56,630 --> 00:50:54,400  
there's a whole big literature that goes

1327  
00:50:58,630 --> 00:50:56,640  
back 20 or 30 years people

1328  
00:51:01,349 --> 00:50:58,640  
oceanographers pointing out that that's

1329  
00:51:03,670 --> 00:51:01,359  
very special properties and what we did

1330  
00:51:05,990 --> 00:51:03,680  
is just a simple 1d

1331  
00:51:08,470 --> 00:51:06,000  
analysis that says

1332  
00:51:10,549 --> 00:51:08,480  
suppose you reduce the uh the depth

1333  
00:51:13,030 --> 00:51:10,559  
above the mid-ocean ridges then you

1334  
00:51:14,549 --> 00:51:13,040  
can't get into that supercritical regime

1335  
00:51:16,549 --> 00:51:14,559  
water won't be as effective at

1336  
00:51:18,390 --> 00:51:16,559  
transporting out the heat and therefore

1337  
00:51:21,349 --> 00:51:18,400  
the hydrothermal penetration depth

1338  
00:51:22,549 --> 00:51:21,359

actually would have to be much shallower

1339

00:51:24,630 --> 00:51:22,559

um

1340

00:51:27,510 --> 00:51:24,640

so for instance if you go down along an

1341

00:51:30,069 --> 00:51:27,520

adiabat within the vents here and graph

1342

00:51:31,829 --> 00:51:30,079

this water properties parameter it peaks

1343

00:51:34,150 --> 00:51:31,839

at the critical point and then goes back

1344

00:51:36,150 --> 00:51:34,160

down and this was what our 1d model

1345

00:51:37,829 --> 00:51:36,160

predicts on hydrothermal penetration

1346

00:51:40,790 --> 00:51:37,839

depth that

1347

00:51:42,549 --> 00:51:40,800

when when you have a

1348

00:51:45,510 --> 00:51:42,559

shallowly submerged ridges the

1349

00:51:46,950 --> 00:51:45,520

penetration would be not nearly as deep

1350

00:51:49,030 --> 00:51:46,960

and so you wouldn't have that high

1351  
00:51:51,349 --> 00:51:49,040  
temperature interaction zone between the

1352  
00:51:53,190 --> 00:51:51,359  
water and the basalts and that will then

1353  
00:51:55,349 --> 00:51:53,200  
change the balance that is uh

1354  
00:51:58,309 --> 00:51:55,359  
controlling the isotopic composition of

1355  
00:52:00,870 --> 00:51:58,319  
seawater i'm going through this too fast

1356  
00:52:02,950 --> 00:52:00,880  
to do it in detail but the the basic

1357  
00:52:05,270 --> 00:52:02,960  
point here is that you can think of

1358  
00:52:06,549 --> 00:52:05,280  
plausible changes that will that will

1359  
00:52:08,230 --> 00:52:06,559  
change the you know even though you've

1360  
00:52:10,790 --> 00:52:08,240  
got the same mechanism controlling

1361  
00:52:12,790 --> 00:52:10,800  
seawater isotopic composition if you

1362  
00:52:16,069 --> 00:52:12,800  
change the boundary conditions on it

1363  
00:52:17,270 --> 00:52:16,079

then you can get very different results

1364

00:52:19,990 --> 00:52:17,280

there's a couple other things if you've

1365

00:52:21,990 --> 00:52:20,000

got shallower water it'll boil in the

1366

00:52:24,309 --> 00:52:22,000

vent systems and the brine is enriched

1367

00:52:26,230 --> 00:52:24,319

in o-18 and that will be interacting

1368

00:52:28,870 --> 00:52:26,240

with the rock whereas the isotopically

1369

00:52:29,750 --> 00:52:28,880

light lighter vapor escapes

1370

00:52:32,309 --> 00:52:29,760

so

1371

00:52:34,950 --> 00:52:32,319

know we argued in this paper then that

1372

00:52:36,950 --> 00:52:34,960

you can still reproduce the the what you

1373

00:52:39,190 --> 00:52:36,960

see in the ophelites it doesn't

1374

00:52:42,549 --> 00:52:39,200

necessarily mean that seawater isotopic

1375

00:52:43,670 --> 00:52:42,559

composition has been the same

1376

00:52:45,430 --> 00:52:43,680

finally the

1377

00:52:48,309 --> 00:52:45,440

last point you also have to be able to

1378

00:52:50,390 --> 00:52:48,319

explain silicon isotope data but

1379

00:52:52,870 --> 00:52:50,400

remember the silicon isotope data in the

1380

00:52:54,790 --> 00:52:52,880

robaran chosidon paper are determined

1381

00:52:56,390 --> 00:52:54,800

that fractionation is determined by the

1382

00:52:57,750 --> 00:52:56,400

difference between the temperatures

1383

00:53:00,549 --> 00:52:57,760

within the vent systems and the

1384

00:53:02,230 --> 00:53:00,559

temperature of seawater in their model

1385

00:53:03,990 --> 00:53:02,240

they assume that the vent systems were

1386

00:53:06,470 --> 00:53:04,000

the same temperatures today and sea

1387

00:53:08,630 --> 00:53:06,480

water was much warmer thereby reducing

1388

00:53:10,309 --> 00:53:08,640

the temperature difference in our model

1389

00:53:12,470 --> 00:53:10,319

we assumed the sea water was the same

1390

00:53:14,710 --> 00:53:12,480

temperatures today but the vent systems

1391

00:53:17,190 --> 00:53:14,720

were much cooler and that reduced it

1392

00:53:19,270 --> 00:53:17,200

goes the same direction so arguably the

1393

00:53:21,109 --> 00:53:19,280

same mechanism could explain the silicon

1394

00:53:22,870 --> 00:53:21,119

isotope data

1395

00:53:25,030 --> 00:53:22,880

all right

1396

00:53:27,030 --> 00:53:25,040

so that let me leave you then

1397

00:53:28,390 --> 00:53:27,040

that's a lot of stuff in a short period

1398

00:53:31,510 --> 00:53:28,400

of time but i'll leave you then with

1399

00:53:34,230 --> 00:53:31,520

some speculative conclusions uh i think

1400

00:53:36,390 --> 00:53:34,240

it's unlikely in spite of all that

1401

00:53:39,349 --> 00:53:36,400

isotopic and biological data i think

1402

00:53:41,430 --> 00:53:39,359

it's unlikely that that model is correct

1403

00:53:42,390 --> 00:53:41,440

we think the early earth was

1404

00:53:47,270 --> 00:53:42,400

more

1405

00:53:49,589 --> 00:53:47,280

partially because the sun was less cold

1406

00:53:51,190 --> 00:53:49,599

the biological data you know rather than

1407

00:53:52,870 --> 00:53:51,200

representing the temperature of the

1408

00:53:55,750 --> 00:53:52,880

entire earth maybe that just means that

1409

00:53:57,670 --> 00:53:55,760

organisms migrated from predominantly

1410

00:54:00,470 --> 00:53:57,680

hot springs environments to a more

1411

00:54:02,870 --> 00:54:00,480

general cooler environment

1412

00:54:05,990 --> 00:54:02,880

are these large multiball

1413

00:54:08,150 --> 00:54:06,000

oscillations in co2 are hard to explain

1414

00:54:10,710 --> 00:54:08,160

the paleo proterozoic glaciations are

1415

00:54:13,430 --> 00:54:10,720

nicey explained by the rise of oxygen

1416

00:54:15,190 --> 00:54:13,440

and the loss of methane and then finally

1417

00:54:17,190 --> 00:54:15,200

there's still a lot of disagreement on

1418

00:54:19,270 --> 00:54:17,200

this so my main purpose in giving this

1419

00:54:21,829 --> 00:54:19,280

talk is just to raise these issues and

1420

00:54:32,309 --> 00:54:21,839

see if any of you have ideas on how to

1421

00:54:32,319 --> 00:54:40,390

questions for jim

1422

00:54:44,390 --> 00:54:41,990

roger

1423

00:54:46,470 --> 00:54:44,400

is there any way of independently

1424

00:54:48,230 --> 00:54:46,480

measuring um

1425

00:54:50,710 --> 00:54:48,240

the temperature of

1426

00:54:53,910 --> 00:54:50,720

archaean hydrothermal system

1427

00:54:57,990 --> 00:54:53,920

that doesn't rely on oxygen isotopes

1428

00:55:09,109 --> 00:54:59,750

maybe you can use

1429

00:55:13,750 --> 00:55:10,710

that's recently been discovered at

1430

00:55:16,549 --> 00:55:13,760

issuer to measure both penetration depth

1431

00:55:18,069 --> 00:55:16,559

and temperature of the water

1432

00:55:19,829 --> 00:55:18,079

right that's a that's a very good

1433

00:55:21,990 --> 00:55:19,839

question i mean and this is something

1434

00:55:23,589 --> 00:55:22,000

that i looked into carefully because i

1435

00:55:26,150 --> 00:55:23,599

was worried when we were writing this

1436

00:55:27,990 --> 00:55:26,160

paper that just such data might exist

1437

00:55:29,910 --> 00:55:28,000

somewhere that you know if you have a

1438

00:55:31,990 --> 00:55:29,920

mineral assembly suppose you find an

1439

00:55:34,069 --> 00:55:32,000

ophelite and you see some mineral

1440

00:55:37,270 --> 00:55:34,079

assemblage out there that you know for

1441

00:55:40,549 --> 00:55:37,280

sure what temperature it came out at

1442

00:55:43,190 --> 00:55:40,559

then you can test the model and as far

1443

00:55:45,589 --> 00:55:43,200

as i'm aware this has not been done i

1444

00:55:47,270 --> 00:55:45,599

mean i've i've certain i'm not really in

1445

00:55:48,950 --> 00:55:47,280

this field but i've searched as well as

1446

00:55:50,950 --> 00:55:48,960

i can and i had a big email

1447

00:55:52,230 --> 00:55:50,960

correspondence with carlos muellenbox

1448

00:55:55,270 --> 00:55:52,240

and paul canal

1449

00:55:57,270 --> 00:55:55,280

last fall and bob gregory and you know i

1450

00:55:59,670 --> 00:55:57,280

don't think you know i i've not been

1451  
00:56:01,829 --> 00:55:59,680  
shown any data from the ophelites or

1452  
00:56:04,549 --> 00:56:01,839  
anywhere else that really

1453  
00:56:05,990 --> 00:56:04,559  
constrain that interaction temperature

1454  
00:56:07,589 --> 00:56:06,000  
so i think they've been over

1455  
00:56:09,270 --> 00:56:07,599  
interpreting their data they're simply

1456  
00:56:12,150 --> 00:56:09,280  
assuming the same interaction

1457  
00:56:15,670 --> 00:56:12,160  
temperature and and that's you know that

1458  
00:56:19,910 --> 00:56:15,680  
really then fixes the result

1459  
00:56:23,349 --> 00:56:21,430  
what was the early temperature if it

1460  
00:56:24,710 --> 00:56:23,359  
wasn't 75 what would you guess the

1461  
00:56:26,710 --> 00:56:24,720  
temperature was

1462  
00:56:28,789 --> 00:56:26,720  
i was just chatting with roger about

1463  
00:56:30,950 --> 00:56:28,799

this there there is a published estimate

1464

00:56:33,510 --> 00:56:30,960

you can use uh the pr

1465

00:56:36,230 --> 00:56:33,520

gypsum apparently evaporated well

1466

00:56:38,309 --> 00:56:36,240

precipitated back in the archaean and

1467

00:56:39,750 --> 00:56:38,319

this is something that roger published

1468

00:56:40,549 --> 00:56:39,760

many years ago

1469

00:56:46,470 --> 00:56:40,559

uh

1470

00:56:50,789 --> 00:56:48,630

it started off life as gypsum and the

1471

00:56:53,270 --> 00:56:50,799

published uh that gives an upper limit

1472

00:56:55,990 --> 00:56:53,280

on temperature the published upper limit

1473

00:56:57,829 --> 00:56:56,000

was 60 degrees but you and david

1474

00:57:00,549 --> 00:56:57,839

cattling have looked at this more

1475

00:57:02,470 --> 00:57:00,559

recently and it depends on salinity and

1476  
00:57:04,789 --> 00:57:02,480  
and so actually i mean what would you

1477  
00:57:06,470 --> 00:57:04,799  
say roger what what's the uh

1478  
00:57:08,549 --> 00:57:06,480  
what is the gypsum

1479  
00:57:10,549 --> 00:57:08,559  
20

1480  
00:57:12,549 --> 00:57:10,559  
all right so this is i had actually

1481  
00:57:14,470 --> 00:57:12,559  
forgotten that before i came out here

1482  
00:57:16,230 --> 00:57:14,480  
and i was chatting with roger earlier if

1483  
00:57:18,630 --> 00:57:16,240  
you believe that gypsum argument then

1484  
00:57:20,470 --> 00:57:18,640  
that may be able to constrain

1485  
00:57:22,470 --> 00:57:20,480  
if you know if the temperature is below

1486  
00:57:25,990 --> 00:57:22,480  
20 it can't be much below 20 or you'll

1487  
00:57:27,990 --> 00:57:26,000  
go glacial we're at 15 today 15 degrees

1488  
00:57:29,430 --> 00:57:28,000

c global average today and it's a

1489

00:57:31,270 --> 00:57:29,440

glacial climate

1490

00:57:33,030 --> 00:57:31,280

so that would say that temperatures

1491

00:57:34,870 --> 00:57:33,040

would have been

1492

00:57:40,390 --> 00:57:34,880

like today or maybe just a little bit

1493

00:57:43,990 --> 00:57:41,750

so you mentioned the the carbon and

1494

00:57:47,109 --> 00:57:44,000

silicon site that's sort of enshrined in

1495

00:57:49,750 --> 00:57:47,910

but

1496

00:57:51,349 --> 00:57:49,760

i guess i don't understand how if you

1497

00:57:52,549 --> 00:57:51,359

believe that the carbon silicon cycle is

1498

00:57:55,109 --> 00:57:52,559

happening

1499

00:57:57,670 --> 00:57:55,119

why would you have three bars of co2 at

1500

00:57:59,349 --> 00:57:57,680

such a warm temperature that

1501  
00:58:02,309 --> 00:57:59,359  
by invoking the carbon and silicon cycle

1502  
00:58:03,030 --> 00:58:02,319  
draw down co2 to more clement levels

1503  
00:58:04,630 --> 00:58:03,040  
well

1504  
00:58:06,309 --> 00:58:04,640  
in that picture that i showed you the

1505  
00:58:08,549 --> 00:58:06,319  
silicate weathering is happening on the

1506  
00:58:10,950 --> 00:58:08,559  
continents so suppose the continents

1507  
00:58:13,430 --> 00:58:10,960  
were much smaller early on jim walker

1508  
00:58:15,750 --> 00:58:13,440  
published a model like this back in 19

1509  
00:58:18,069 --> 00:58:15,760  
mid 1980s so he said consider an ocean

1510  
00:58:19,670 --> 00:58:18,079  
covered earth where it is and he said

1511  
00:58:21,589 --> 00:58:19,680  
let's let's say that the amount of

1512  
00:58:25,589 --> 00:58:21,599  
carbon at earth's surface is the same as

1513  
00:58:27,910 --> 00:58:25,599

today about 60 or 80 bars of co2

1514

00:58:30,069 --> 00:58:27,920

in that case it can only be removed by

1515

00:58:32,150 --> 00:58:30,079

weathering of the sea floor

1516

00:58:33,670 --> 00:58:32,160

and so jim did a little back of the en

1517

00:58:35,589 --> 00:58:33,680

he thought that process was very

1518

00:58:37,910 --> 00:58:35,599

inefficient and he concluded that you'd

1519

00:58:39,430 --> 00:58:37,920

get 10 bars of co2 in the atmosphere in

1520

00:58:41,430 --> 00:58:39,440

steady state

1521

00:58:44,789 --> 00:58:41,440

now since that time kevin's only and

1522

00:58:46,630 --> 00:58:44,799

norm sleep have written a paper in jgr

1523

00:58:48,710 --> 00:58:46,640

they add something to it they think you

1524

00:58:50,549 --> 00:58:48,720

know they argue pretty convincingly that

1525

00:58:52,549 --> 00:58:50,559

carbon is being exchanged between the

1526

00:58:55,190 --> 00:58:52,559

crust and the mantle and so in their

1527

00:58:57,270 --> 00:58:55,200

model the co2 forms carbonate veins in

1528

00:58:59,589 --> 00:58:57,280

the ocean and those carbonate veins are

1529

00:59:01,589 --> 00:58:59,599

subducted into the mantle so they think

1530

00:59:03,270 --> 00:59:01,599

that all the sea most of the co2 was

1531

00:59:05,109 --> 00:59:03,280

originally an earth

1532

00:59:06,870 --> 00:59:05,119

mantle and they argue that the early

1533

00:59:09,109 --> 00:59:06,880

earth was cold

1534

00:59:11,270 --> 00:59:09,119

so you know my take home

1535

00:59:13,190 --> 00:59:11,280

view of that is that from a theoretical

1536

00:59:14,870 --> 00:59:13,200

standpoint you can get almost any answer

1537

00:59:16,710 --> 00:59:14,880

you want depending on the assumptions

1538

00:59:20,069 --> 00:59:16,720

that you make i don't think any of the

1539

00:59:21,829 --> 00:59:20,079

arguments are particularly strong

1540

00:59:23,910 --> 00:59:21,839

the problem with with theirs actually is

1541

00:59:25,109 --> 00:59:23,920

that they they they say that you know

1542

00:59:27,670 --> 00:59:25,119

you would be

1543

00:59:29,670 --> 00:59:27,680

uh very cold in fact you'd be snowball

1544

00:59:31,349 --> 00:59:29,680

earth that cuts off the atmosphere from

1545

00:59:33,510 --> 00:59:31,359

the ocean so there's no way to get the

1546

00:59:35,270 --> 00:59:33,520

ocean if you have subaerial volcanoes

1547

00:59:37,670 --> 00:59:35,280

there's no way to get the co2 down to

1548

00:59:44,150 --> 00:59:37,680

the sea floor so you have to do a couple

1549

00:59:44,160 --> 00:59:54,150

christmas

1550

00:59:57,670 --> 00:59:56,630

right so what we do for for water clouds

1551

00:59:58,950 --> 00:59:57,680

is we

1552

01:00:01,030 --> 00:59:58,960

we we

1553

01:00:04,069 --> 01:00:01,040

we don't exactly neglect them we put

1554

01:00:05,750 --> 01:00:04,079

them at the surface because we're

1555

01:00:08,230 --> 01:00:05,760

clouds are very important part of the

1556

01:00:10,390 --> 01:00:08,240

climate in fact there's a literature out

1557

01:00:12,470 --> 01:00:10,400

there if you go look people suggesting

1558

01:00:14,549 --> 01:00:12,480

that you can solve the faint young sun

1559

01:00:16,789 --> 01:00:14,559

problem by just having lower cloudiness

1560

01:00:18,630 --> 01:00:16,799

on the early earth you know the sun was

1561

01:00:21,270 --> 01:00:18,640

30 percent less bright early in the

1562

01:00:23,670 --> 01:00:21,280

earth's history earth's albedo is about

1563

01:00:26,069 --> 01:00:23,680

30 percent and most of that is clouds so

1564

01:00:28,069 --> 01:00:26,079

then if you have no clouds on the early

1565

01:00:29,430 --> 01:00:28,079

earth that exactly compensates for the

1566

01:00:31,589 --> 01:00:29,440

faint young sun

1567

01:00:33,510 --> 01:00:31,599

but then you get to this question though

1568

01:00:35,109 --> 01:00:33,520

if temperatures were warm and if the

1569

01:00:37,750 --> 01:00:35,119

most of the earth's surface was covered

1570

01:00:39,270 --> 01:00:37,760

by water how could there not be clouds

1571

01:00:42,549 --> 01:00:39,280

uh you know i just don't think that

1572

01:00:44,789 --> 01:00:42,559

that's a self-consistent answer if you

1573

01:00:46,230 --> 01:00:44,799

want to do better than this then you

1574

01:00:48,230 --> 01:00:46,240

know so we put the cloud layer at the

1575

01:00:50,069 --> 01:00:48,240

ground we tune the climate model so that

1576

01:00:52,549 --> 01:00:50,079

we get the right answer for present

1577

01:00:54,630 --> 01:00:52,559

earth we tune the surface albedo which

1578

01:00:56,710 --> 01:00:54,640

which simulates a cloud layer and then

1579

01:00:59,109 --> 01:00:56,720

we just hold that fixed as we go back in

1580

01:01:00,870 --> 01:00:59,119

time essentially assuming zero cloud

1581

01:01:02,230 --> 01:01:00,880

feedback

1582

01:01:03,990 --> 01:01:02,240

and so it depends what you think the

1583

01:01:05,589 --> 01:01:04,000

early if the early earth was cold then

1584

01:01:07,270 --> 01:01:05,599

cloudiness might have been less but if

1585

01:01:11,109 --> 01:01:07,280

it was warmer than today i don't see how

1586

01:01:15,829 --> 01:01:13,589

i'm trying to imagine the biology

1587

01:01:17,910 --> 01:01:15,839

side you only have the one liner there

1588

01:01:19,589 --> 01:01:17,920

so is the idea that the life was

1589

01:01:21,750 --> 01:01:19,599

huddling around the

1590

01:01:23,510 --> 01:01:21,760

warm places

1591

01:01:25,589 --> 01:01:23,520

and then only

1592

01:01:28,150 --> 01:01:25,599

was forced to adapt

1593

01:01:29,829 --> 01:01:28,160

when things got cooler

1594

01:01:31,430 --> 01:01:29,839

well you know i went over the biology

1595

01:01:33,589 --> 01:01:31,440

part pretty quickly because i don't know

1596

01:01:34,710 --> 01:01:33,599

how to explain that there's been the you

1597

01:01:36,870 --> 01:01:34,720

know

1598

01:01:39,670 --> 01:01:36,880

the argument about hyperthermals in the

1599

01:01:41,349 --> 01:01:39,680

rna tree has been around for a long time

1600

01:01:43,670 --> 01:01:41,359

and there's been a whole literature of

1601  
01:01:47,030 --> 01:01:43,680  
people trying to one explanation for

1602  
01:01:49,670 --> 01:01:47,040  
that is that it's uh just survive you

1603  
01:01:51,190 --> 01:01:49,680  
you had life originated at cooler

1604  
01:01:53,750 --> 01:01:51,200  
temperatures but then you had a giant

1605  
01:01:56,309 --> 01:01:53,760  
impact and uh raised temperatures and

1606  
01:01:59,510 --> 01:01:56,319  
only the therma hyper thermophilic

1607  
01:02:00,390 --> 01:01:59,520  
organisms lived through the giant impact

1608  
01:02:03,670 --> 01:02:00,400  
right

1609  
01:02:05,510 --> 01:02:03,680  
but this latest one with the the gaucher

1610  
01:02:08,470 --> 01:02:05,520  
thing with the biological you know the

1611  
01:02:10,069 --> 01:02:08,480  
resurrected proteins and the molecular

1612  
01:02:12,069 --> 01:02:10,079  
clock dating

1613  
01:02:13,270 --> 01:02:12,079

i'm not the best person to address that

1614

01:02:15,910 --> 01:02:13,280

although i know there are a lot of

1615

01:02:18,549 --> 01:02:15,920

people who don't like molecular clocks

1616

01:02:19,670 --> 01:02:18,559

and so you can go after that

1617

01:02:21,589 --> 01:02:19,680

i i

1618

01:02:22,870 --> 01:02:21,599

my colleague you know blair hedges at

1619

01:02:24,549 --> 01:02:22,880

penn state is one of the people that

1620

01:02:26,150 --> 01:02:24,559

does these things and

1621

01:02:28,150 --> 01:02:26,160

you know so you can go after that part

1622

01:02:30,069 --> 01:02:28,160

of the argument i kind of like the

1623

01:02:31,670 --> 01:02:30,079

resurrected protein thing it was really

1624

01:02:33,109 --> 01:02:31,680

clever and i you know

1625

01:02:34,549 --> 01:02:33,119

could hardly believe when i read the

1626  
01:02:36,230 --> 01:02:34,559  
details that you know how they're

1627  
01:02:38,069 --> 01:02:36,240  
actually doing that recreating the

1628  
01:02:40,470 --> 01:02:38,079  
proteins and measuring their melting

1629  
01:02:45,829 --> 01:02:40,480  
point temperatures

1630  
01:02:45,839 --> 01:02:52,750  
is anybody here want to explain that for

1631  
01:03:01,030 --> 01:02:55,829  
us is it easy to maintain high levels of

1632  
01:03:04,309 --> 01:03:02,870  
well no that's that's actually i didn't

1633  
01:03:06,549 --> 01:03:04,319  
give that part but

1634  
01:03:08,230 --> 01:03:06,559  
when oxygen is low then that's exactly

1635  
01:03:10,150 --> 01:03:08,240  
what we do with our photochemical model

1636  
01:03:11,510 --> 01:03:10,160  
if you put in the same flux of methane

1637  
01:03:13,510 --> 01:03:11,520  
that you have today

1638  
01:03:15,829 --> 01:03:13,520

you get the the lifetime of methane is

1639

01:03:17,589 --> 01:03:15,839

about a thousand times longer so you get

1640

01:03:19,670 --> 01:03:17,599

instead of one part per million you get

1641

01:03:21,510 --> 01:03:19,680

a thousand parts per million

1642

01:03:24,069 --> 01:03:21,520

and then i had a phd student a few years

1643

01:03:26,870 --> 01:03:24,079

ago pushkar karecha who did some simple

1644

01:03:28,630 --> 01:03:26,880

ecological models of the the archaean

1645

01:03:30,150 --> 01:03:28,640

and anaerobic archaean ocean we think

1646

01:03:31,670 --> 01:03:30,160

that methanogens would be living

1647

01:03:33,990 --> 01:03:31,680

throughout the water column and in

1648

01:03:36,069 --> 01:03:34,000

sediments and we we constructed a little

1649

01:03:38,150 --> 01:03:36,079

model and we're able to show to my

1650

01:03:39,750 --> 01:03:38,160

satisfaction that the fluxes of methane

1651

01:03:41,910 --> 01:03:39,760

coming out of that would be sort of

1652

01:03:43,109 --> 01:03:41,920

within a factor of three of the present

1653

01:03:44,870 --> 01:03:43,119

value

1654

01:03:46,789 --> 01:03:44,880

so no i mean one of the reasons we

1655

01:03:48,630 --> 01:03:46,799

believe in the methane greenhouse is not

1656

01:03:51,270 --> 01:03:48,640

because we need the methane it's just

1657

01:03:53,270 --> 01:03:51,280

hard to avoid the methane

1658

01:03:56,630 --> 01:03:53,280

only way to avoid it is if methanogens

1659

01:03:58,230 --> 01:03:56,640

evolve very late in evolutionary history

1660

01:04:02,710 --> 01:03:58,240

which there are some supporters of that

1661

01:04:07,990 --> 01:04:06,950

oh what would 75 uh see earth be like in

1662

01:04:09,750 --> 01:04:08,000

terms of

1663

01:04:13,349 --> 01:04:09,760

albedo you know

1664

01:04:22,630 --> 01:04:14,309

rain

1665

01:04:24,630 --> 01:04:22,640

very close no it's not enormous this was

1666

01:04:26,230 --> 01:04:24,640

it's about the same as today

1667

01:04:28,789 --> 01:04:26,240

and this is something that i didn't

1668

01:04:29,670 --> 01:04:28,799

realize dick holland educated me on this

1669

01:04:32,549 --> 01:04:29,680

uh

1670

01:04:34,470 --> 01:04:32,559

some time ago the the amount of rainfall

1671

01:04:37,109 --> 01:04:34,480

is limited by the amount of sunlight

1672

01:04:39,670 --> 01:04:37,119

that hits the ocean surface so you know

1673

01:04:42,470 --> 01:04:39,680

today about half the energy of the

1674

01:04:44,390 --> 01:04:42,480

sunlight that hits the surface goes into

1675

01:04:45,190 --> 01:04:44,400

evaporation of seawater

1676

01:04:47,190 --> 01:04:45,200

and

1677

01:04:49,190 --> 01:04:47,200

thus you know there's no way you can

1678

01:04:51,029 --> 01:04:49,200

increase the amount of evaporation by

1679

01:04:52,390 --> 01:04:51,039

more than a factor of two compared to

1680

01:04:54,390 --> 01:04:52,400

today

1681

01:04:56,309 --> 01:04:54,400

regardless of how hot it is

1682

01:04:58,710 --> 01:04:56,319

now you can ask how do you how do you

1683

01:05:00,470 --> 01:04:58,720

resolve that well the evaporation rate

1684

01:05:03,829 --> 01:05:00,480

is a function of three things one is

1685

01:05:05,029 --> 01:05:03,839

temperature the uh relative humidity and

1686

01:05:09,190 --> 01:05:05,039

wind speed

1687

01:05:10,870 --> 01:05:09,200

because that's hard to know but what

1688

01:05:13,109 --> 01:05:10,880

happens if you had a three bar

1689

01:05:15,029 --> 01:05:13,119

atmosphere or a 10 bar co2 atmosphere

1690

01:05:17,029 --> 01:05:15,039

the temperature would be very high

1691

01:05:18,950 --> 01:05:17,039

but the evaporation rate is constrained

1692

01:05:20,950 --> 01:05:18,960

by energy balance and therefore the

1693

01:05:23,109 --> 01:05:20,960

relative humidity would rise to the

1694

01:05:24,710 --> 01:05:23,119

point where evaporation was cut down to

1695

01:05:26,870 --> 01:05:24,720

about its present rate

1696

01:05:29,510 --> 01:05:26,880

i think that argument is right

1697

01:05:32,789 --> 01:05:29,520

so is arizona not houston

1698

01:05:34,870 --> 01:05:32,799

yeah it's it's surprisingly well it's no

1699

01:05:37,270 --> 01:05:34,880

it's not arizona it's human right but

1700

01:05:38,630 --> 01:05:37,280

it's not raining that that much in terms

1701

01:05:39,829 --> 01:05:38,640

of uh

1702

01:05:41,589 --> 01:05:39,839

volume

1703

01:05:50,230 --> 01:05:41,599

because there just is enough energy to

1704

01:05:52,549 --> 01:05:51,109

okay