

Reconstruction of anthropogenic environmental changes from a Cuban coral over the last 175 years

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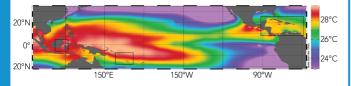
Make Our Planet Great Again

The OASIS project is part of 55 research projects from the joint-initiative "Make Our Planet Great Again" in France and Germany. We are one out of 13 projects in Germany from the Cluster Earth System functioning. The Geran projects are shown on the map below.



OASIS

Ocean Acidification CriSIS (OASIS) researches Ocean Acidification in the tropical oceans using coral archives. The Indonisian Through Flow (ITF), the South West Pacific, and the Caribbean Sea are regions of interests. The SST map below shows the regions of interest in black squares.



Methods



Figures A - C: A - Extraction of mini-core from coral. B - After drilling powder from Coral core the C - sample powders are dissolved for trace element analysis.

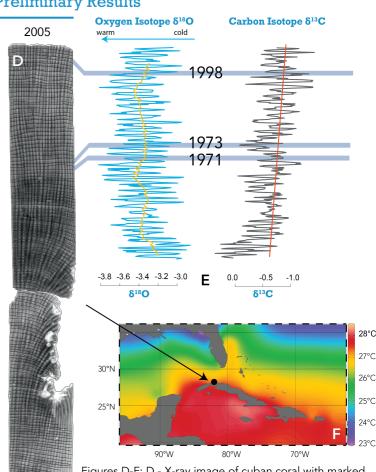




Coral Cores as Climate Archives

Ocean warming and ocean acidification (OA) are increasingly influencing marine life. A percentage of the increasing amount of CO2 in the atmosphere will eventually be absorbed by the ocean, which changes the ocean's carbonate chemistry and threatens the ecological competitiveness of calcareous marine organisms. Here we present results from a multi-proxy approach for the reconstruction of environmental change and natural climate variability from a North Cuban Siderastrea siderea coral. The sub-seasonally resolved records indicate interannual to decadal changes in SST and seawater carbonate chemistry since 1963 CE. The record will be extended in the course of the project.

Preliminary Results



Figures D-F: D - X-ray image of cuban coral with marked density bands indicating chronology of coral growth. E -Oxygen isotope (%) with a 30 point moving average (ca. 3 years) and, carbon isotope (‰) with the linear trend possibly indicating Suess Effect. F - Surface Temperature map of Caribbean Sea with Cuba in its center, from World Ocean Atlas 2018 (ODV) showing where the coral core was retrieved in 2005 (black dot).

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