



*Supplement of*

## **Spatiotemporal Intertropical Convergence Zone dynamics during the last 3 millennia in northeastern Brazil and related impacts in modern human history**

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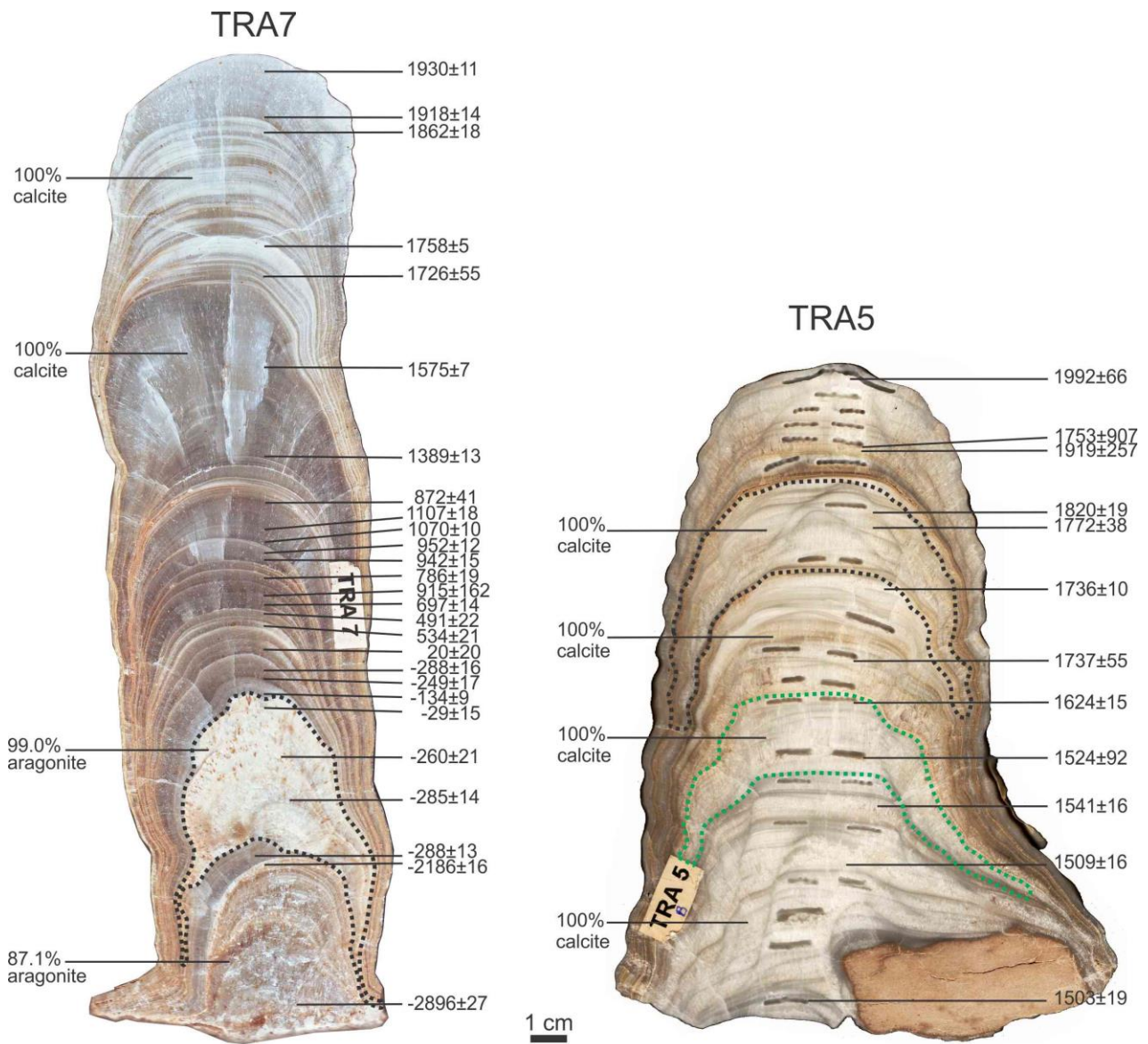


Figure S1 – TRA7 and TRA5 speleothem images indicating results of U/Th ages in BCE/CE and mineralogical composition. Outlines indicate the portions according to mineralogy. TRA7 ages and mineralogy obtained by Utida et al. (2020).

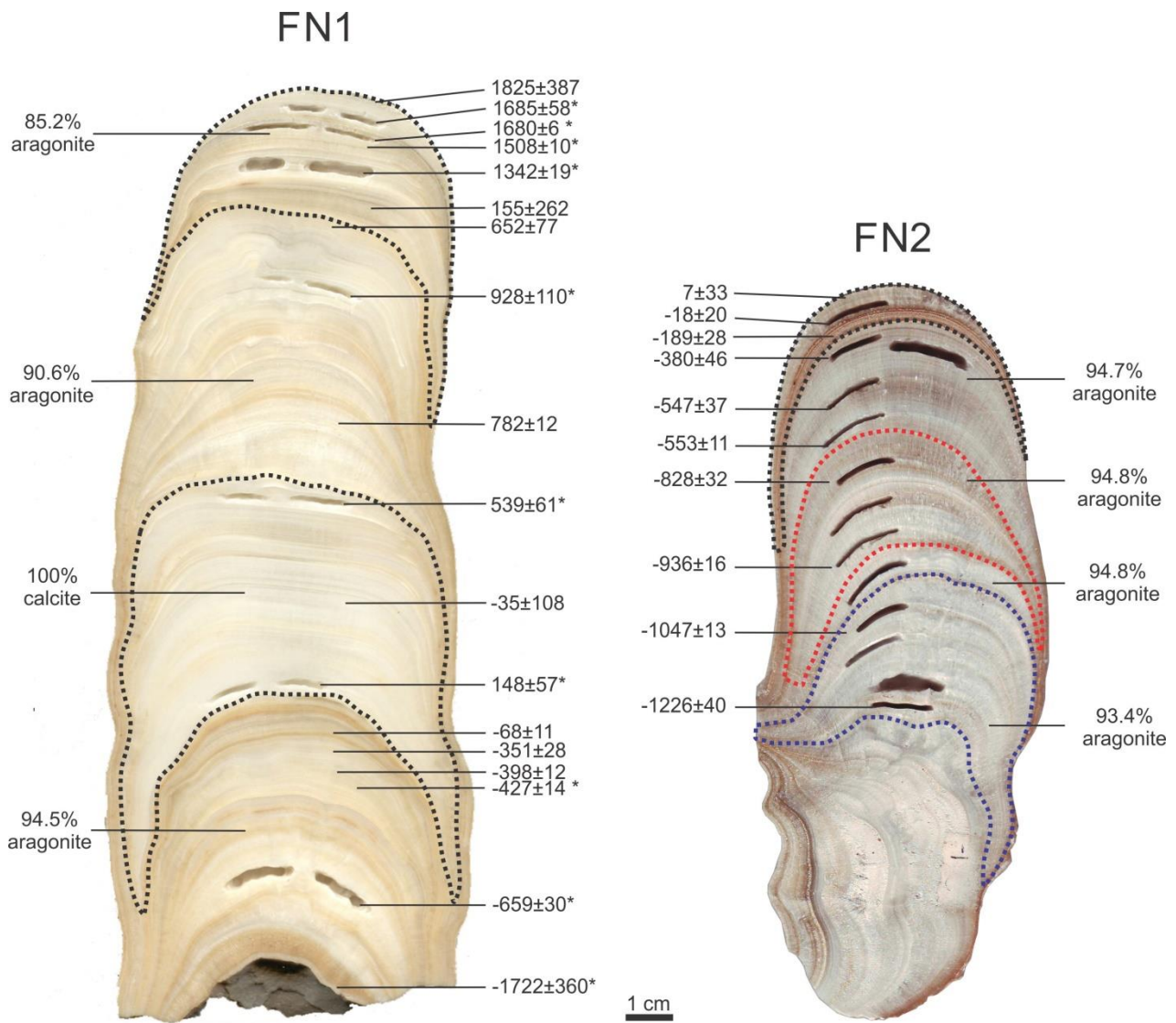


Figure S2 – Speleothem FN1 and FN2 images indicating results of U/Th ages BCE/CE. Outlines indicate the portions according to mineralogy. \* FN1 ages obtained by Cruz et al. (2009). FN1 mineralogy obtained by Utida et al. (2020).

Table S1 – Chronological results. U/Th results obtained from speleothem FN1 and FN2. <sup>1</sup>Data obtained by Cruz et al. (2009).

| Sample Number         | Depth (mm) | <sup>238</sup> U (ppb) | <sup>232</sup> Th (ppt) | <sup>230</sup> Th / <sup>232</sup> Th (atomic x10 <sup>-6</sup> ) | d <sup>234</sup> U* (measured) | <sup>230</sup> Th / <sup>238</sup> U (activity) | <sup>230</sup> Th Age (yr) (uncorrected) | <sup>230</sup> Th Age (yr) (corrected) | δ <sup>234</sup> U <sub>initial</sub> ** (corrected) | <sup>230</sup> Th Age (yr BP)*** (corrected) | Age BCE/CE |
|-----------------------|------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|------------|
| <b>FN1 speleothem</b> |            |                        |                         |   |                                |   |  |  |  |  |            |
| FN1-1                 | 1          | 214 ± 1                | 3825 ± 18               | 5.8 ± 2   | -60 ± 4                        | 0.0064 ± 0.00232                                | 739 ± 271                                | 183 ± 387                              | -60 ± 4  | 125 ± 387                                    | 1825       |
| FN1-a <sup>1</sup>    | 5          | 119 ± 0                | 228 ± 2                 | 28 ± 4  | -68 ± 3                        | 0.0033 ± 0.00043                                | 383 ± 50                                 | 323 ± 58                               | -68 ± 3  | 265 ± 58                                     | 1685       |
| FN1-b <sup>1</sup>    | 9          | 4134 ± 16              | 698 ± 2                 | 280 ± 5   | -58 ± 1                        | 0.0029 ± 0.00005                                | 333 ± 6                                  | 328 ± 6                                | -58 ± 1  | 270 ± 6                                      | 1680       |
| FN1-B1 <sup>1</sup>   | 12         | 7837 ± 26              | 3878 ± 10               | 148 ± 2   | -58 ± 2                        | 0.0044 ± 0.00006                                | 515 ± 7                                  | 500 ± 10                               | -58 ± 2  | 442 ± 10                                     | 1508       |
| FN1-T <sup>1</sup>    | 16         | 1152 ± 4               | 1256 ± 3                | 91 ± 1  | -61 ± 2                        | 0.0060 ± 0.00007                                | 700 ± 9                                  | 666 ± 19                               | -61 ± 2  | 608 ± 19                                     | 1342       |
| FN1-22                | 22         | 701 ± 2                | 8378 ± 169              | 26 ± 1  | -58 ± 2                        | 0.0191 ± 0.00013                                | 2234 ± 17                                | 1864 ± 262                             | -58 ± 2  | 1795 ± 262                                   | 155        |
| FN1-T2                | 29         | 812 ± 1                | 2425 ± 49               | 69 ± 2  | -56 ± 1                        | 0.0125 ± 0.00034                                | 1453 ± 40                                | 1360 ± 77                              | -57 ± 1  | 1298 ± 77                                    | 652        |
| FN1-2 <sup>1</sup>    | 41         | 48 ± 0                 | 151 ± 2                 | 54 ± 5  | -53 ± 2                        | 0.0102 ± 0.00089                                | 1180 ± 100                               | 1080 ± 110                             | -53 ± 2  | 1022 ± 110                                   | 928        |
| FN1-2A                | 72         | 5814 ± 36              | 1171 ± 6                | 868 ± 7   | -57 ± 4                        | 0.0106 ± 0.00009                                | 1232 ± 12                                | 1226 ± 12                              | -57 ± 4  | 1168 ± 12                                    | 782        |
| FN1-3 <sup>1</sup>    | 88         | 85 ± 0                 | 209 ± 1                 | 90 ± 3  | -56 ± 2                        | 0.0133 ± 0.00041                                | 1545 ± 48                                | 1469 ± 61                              | -56 ± 2  | 1411 ± 61                                    | 539        |
| FN1-106               | 106        | 508 ± 1                | 2506 ± 50               | 63 ± 1  | -52 ± 2                        | 0.0190 ± 0.00014                                | 2205 ± 16                                | 2054 ± 108                             | -52 ± 2  | 1985 ± 108                                   | -35        |
| FN1-4 <sup>1</sup>    | 127        | 75 ± 0                 | 97 ± 1                  | 210 ± 7   | -53 ± 3                        | 0.0164 ± 0.00046                                | 1899 ± 54                                | 1860 ± 57                              | -53 ± 3  | 1802 ± 57                                    | 148        |
| FN1-4.1               | 137        | 13580 ± 49             | 2593 ± 53               | 1535 ± 31   | -62 ± 2                        | 0.0178 ± 0.00008                                | 2086 ± 10                                | 2080 ± 11                              | -62 ± 2  | 2018 ± 11                                    | -68        |
| FN1-140               | 140        | 12302 ± 97             | 9588 ± 208              | 433 ± 9   | -57 ± 3                        | 0.0205 ± 0.00017                                | 2394 ± 22                                | 2370 ± 28                              | -57 ± 3  | 2301 ± 28                                    | -351       |
| FN1-4.2               | 145        | 15185 ± 51             | 4074 ± 82               | 1271 ± 26   | -57 ± 2                        | 0.0207 ± 0.00008                                | 2418 ± 10                                | 2410 ± 12                              | -57 ± 2  | 2348 ± 12                                    | -398       |
| FN1-4A <sup>1</sup>   | 147        | 17533 ± 81             | 3486 ± 7                | 1734 ± 6  | -55 ± 2                        | 0.0209 ± 0.00011                                | 2441 ± 14                                | 2435 ± 14                              | -56 ± 2  | 2377 ± 14                                    | -427       |
| FN1-B <sup>1</sup>    | 187        | 20240 ± 200            | 2847 ± 8                | 2680 ± 12   | -55 ± 3                        | 0.0229 ± 0.00024                                | 2671 ± 30                                | 2667 ± 30                              | -55 ± 3  | 2609 ± 30                                    | -659       |
| FN1-4B <sup>1</sup>   | 202        | 7297 ± 22              | 165820 ± 830            | 27 ± 1  | -52 ± 2                        | 0.0377 ± 0.00076                                | 4435 ± 91                                | 3730 ± 360                             | -52 ± 2  | 3672 ± 360                                   | -1722      |
| <b>FN2 speleothem</b> |            |                        |                         |   |                                |   |  |  |  |  |            |
| FN2-1                 | 1          | 4480 ± 13              | 7017 ± 142              | 197 ± 4   | -1 ± 2                         | 0.0187 ± 0.00007                                | 2058 ± 8                                 | 2012 ± 33                              | -1 ± 2   | 1943 ± 33                                    | 7          |
| FN2-4                 | 4          | 5566 ± 15              | 4344 ± 12               | 392 ± 3   | -4 ± 2                         | 0.0185 ± 0.00000                                | 2052 ± 16                                | 2030 ± 20                              | -4 ± 2   | 1968 ± 20                                    | -18        |
| FN2-6                 | 6          | 5161 ± 31              | 5881 ± 123              | 294 ± 6   | 0 ± 3                          | 0.0203 ± 0.00013                                | 2241 ± 16                                | 2208 ± 28                              | 0 ± 3  | 2139 ± 28                                    | -189       |
| FN2-2                 | 10         | 4525 ± 17              | 9648 ± 196              | 172 ± 4   | 1 ± 2                          | 0.0223 ± 0.00010                                | 2454 ± 14                                | 2392 ± 46                              | 1 ± 2  | 2330 ± 46                                    | -380       |
| FN2-20                | 20         | 6588 ± 15              | 11520 ± 232             | 222 ± 5   | -4 ± 2                         | 0.0236 ± 0.00008                                | 2610 ± 10                                | 2559 ± 37                              | -4 ± 2   | 2497 ± 37                                    | -547       |
| FN2-27                | 27         | 8524 ± 23              | 1698 ± 35               | 1918 ± 39   | -5 ± 2                         | 0.0232 ± 0.00008                                | 2571 ± 10                                | 2565 ± 11                              | -5 ± 2   | 2503 ± 11                                    | -553       |
| FN2-3                 | 45         | 4895 ± 20              | 6182 ± 126              | 338 ± 7   | -2 ± 2                         | 0.0259 ± 0.00010                                | 2867 ± 18                                | 2830 ± 32                              | -2 ± 2   | 2768 ± 32                                    | -818       |
| FN2-52                | 52         | 9454 ± 30              | 3965 ± 80               | 1041 ± 21   | -11 ± 2                        | 0.0265 ± 0.00010                                | 2960 ± 13                                | 2948 ± 16                              | -11 ± 2  | 2886 ± 16                                    | -936       |
| FN2-74                | 74         | 16129 ± 50             | 3438 ± 70               | 2131 ± 43   | -6 ± 2                         | 0.0275 ± 0.00009                                | 3065 ± 12                                | 3059 ± 13                              | -6 ± 2   | 2997 ± 13                                    | -1047      |
| FN2-6                 | 90         | 21367 ± 213            | 2993 ± 17               | 3410 ± 23   | -11 ± 6                        | 0.0289 ± 0.00031                                | 3242 ± 40                                | 3238 ± 40                              | -11 ± 6  | 3176 ± 40                                    | -1226      |

U decay constants:  $\lambda_{238} = 1.55125 \times 10^{-10}$  (Jaffey et al., 1971) and  $\lambda_{234} = 2.82206 \times 10^{-6}$  (Cheng et al., 2013). Th decay constant:  $\lambda_{230} = 9.1705 \times 10^{-6}$  (Cheng et al., 2013). \* $\delta^{234}\text{U} = ([^{234}\text{U}/^{238}\text{U}]_{\text{activity}} - 1) \times 1000$ . \*\*  $\delta^{234}\text{U}_{\text{initial}}$  was calculated based on <sup>230</sup>Th age (T). i.e.  $\delta^{234}\text{U}_{\text{initial}} = \delta^{234}\text{U}_{\text{measured}} \times e^{\lambda_{234} \times T}$ . Corrected <sup>230</sup>Th ages assume the initial <sup>230</sup>Th/<sup>232</sup>Th atomic ratio of  $4.4 \pm 2.2 \times 10^{-6}$ . Those are the values for a material at secular equilibrium, with the bulk earth <sup>230</sup>Th/<sup>238</sup>U value of 3.8. The errors are arbitrarily assumed to be 50%. \*\*\*B.P. stands for “Before Present” where the “Present” is defined as the year 1950 A.D.

Table S2 – Chronological results. U/Th results obtained from speleothem TRA5.

| Sample Number          | Depth (mm) | <sup>238</sup> U (ppb) | <sup>232</sup> Th (ppt) | <sup>230</sup> Th / <sup>232</sup> Th (atomic x10 <sup>-6</sup> ) | d <sup>234</sup> U* (measured) | <sup>230</sup> Th / <sup>238</sup> U (activity) | <sup>230</sup> Th Age (yr) (uncorrected) | <sup>230</sup> Th Age (yr) (corrected) | δ <sup>234</sup> U <sub>initial</sub> ** (corrected) | <sup>230</sup> Th Age (yr BP)*** (corrected) | Age BCE/CE |
|------------------------|------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|------------|
| <b>TRA5 speleothem</b> |            |                        |                         |   |                                |   |  |  |  |  |            |
| TRA5-2                 | 7          | 1411 ± 2               | 3788 ± 76               | 6 ± 1   | -145 ± 2                       | 0.0009 ± 0.00009                                | 119 ± 12                                 | 27 ± 66                                | -145 ± 2   | -42 ± 66                                     | 1992       |
| TRA5-18                | 18         | 2035 ± 4               | 76686 ± 1543            | 5 ± 0   | -139 ± 2                       | 0.0121 ± 0.00019                                | 1541 ± 25                                | 259 ± 907                              | -139 ± 2   | 197 ± 907                                    | 1753       |
| TRA5-20                | 20         | 1915 ± 4               | 20400 ± 410             | 6 ± 0   | -145 ± 2                       | 0.0036 ± 0.00010                                | 463 ± 12                                 | 100 ± 257                              | -145 ± 2   | 31 ± 257                                     | 1919       |
| TRA5b-37               | 37         | 1977 ± 2               | 612 ± 13                | 89 ± 8  | -139 ± 1                       | 0.0017 ± 0.00014                                | 211 ± 18                                 | 200 ± 19                               | -139 ± 1   | 130 ± 19                                     | 1820       |
| TRA5-41                | 41         | 1889 ± 5               | 2858 ± 58               | 25 ± 1  | -138 ± 2                       | 0.0023 ± 0.00008                                | 291 ± 10                                 | 240 ± 38                               | -138 ± 2   | 178 ± 38                                     | 1772       |
| TRA5-58                | 58         | 1921 ± 3               | 585 ± 12                | 122 ± 4   | -142 ± 2                       | 0.0022 ± 0.00006                                | 286 ± 7                                  | 276 ± 10                               | -142 ± 2   | 214 ± 10                                     | 1736       |
| TRA5-71                | 71         | 2371 ± 14              | 5165 ± 108              | 21 ± 1  | -147 ± 5                       | 0.0028 ± 0.00012                                | 356 ± 16                                 | 282 ± 55                               | -147 ± 5   | 213 ± 55                                     | 1737       |
| TRA5b-90               | 90         | 2031 ± 2               | 256 ± 6                 | 413 ± 18  | -139 ± 1                       | 0.0032 ± 0.00011                                | 401 ± 14                                 | 396 ± 15                               | -139 ± 1   | 326 ± 15                                     | 1624       |
| TRA5-104               | 104        | 2018 ± 14              | 7328 ± 155              | 22 ± 1  | -141 ± 6                       | 0.0049 ± 0.00023                                | 618 ± 29                                 | 495 ± 92                               | -141 ± 6   | 426 ± 92                                     | 1524       |
| TRA5-116               | 116        | 1785 ± 4               | 912 ± 18                | 124 ± 4   | -139 ± 2                       | 0.0038 ± 0.00008                                | 488 ± 10                                 | 471 ± 16                               | -139 ± 2   | 409 ± 16                                     | 1541       |
| TRA5-132               | 132        | 2699 ± 5               | 1549 ± 31               | 118 ± 3   | -140 ± 2                       | 0.0041 ± 0.00006                                | 522 ± 8                                  | 503 ± 16                               | -140 ± 2   | 441 ± 16                                     | 1509       |
| TRA5b-169              | 169        | 1969 ± 2               | 108 ± 5                 | 1237 ± 73   | -136 ± 1                       | 0.0041 ± 0.00015                                | 519 ± 19                                 | 517 ± 19                               | -136 ± 1   | 447 ± 19                                     | 1503       |

U decay constants:  $\lambda_{238} = 1.55125 \times 10^{-10}$  (Jaffey et al., 1971) and  $\lambda_{234} = 2.82206 \times 10^{-6}$  (Cheng et al., 2013). Th decay constant:  $\lambda_{230} = 9.1705 \times 10^{-6}$  (Cheng et al., 2013). \* $\delta^{234}\text{U} = ([^{234}\text{U}/^{238}\text{U}]_{\text{activity}} - 1) \times 1000$ . \*\*  $\delta^{234}\text{U}_{\text{initial}}$  was calculated based on <sup>230</sup>Th age (T). i.e.,  $\delta^{234}\text{U}_{\text{initial}} = \delta^{234}\text{U}_{\text{measured}} \times e^{\lambda_{234} \times T}$ . Corrected <sup>230</sup>Th ages assume the initial <sup>230</sup>Th/<sup>232</sup>Th atomic ratio of  $4.4 \pm 2.2 \times 10^{-6}$ . Those are the values for a material at secular equilibrium with the bulk earth <sup>232</sup>Th/<sup>238</sup>U value of 3.8. The errors are arbitrarily assumed to be 50%. \*\*\*B.P. stands for “Before Present” where the “Present” is defined as the year 1950 A.D.

1 Table S3 – Parameters used to establish the composite record of Trapiá and Furna Nova  
 2 stalagmites with *iscam* programming (Fohlmeister, 2012)

| Parameter | Range  | Description   |
|-----------|--------|---|
| nrAR1     | 2000   | Number of AR1 simulations                                 |
| nrAR1_MC  | 1000   | Number of MC runs for each AR1                            |
| nrMC      | 100000 | Number of MC simulations for measured data sets           |
| nrSMOOTH  | 10     | Number of years used for smoothing before the correlation |
| CUT       | 1      | Extrapolation of isotope data allowed beyond dated depths |
| GAUSS     | 0      | MC simulations with Gaussian distribution                 |
| Interpol  | -1     | Pointwise linear interpolation between dated depths       |
| Detrend   | 2      | Detrending and normalizing before running the method      |

3

4 Calcite-Aragonite fractionation

5 We use the aragonite-calcite fractionation offset described by Zhang et al. (2014) obtained  
 6 for stalagmites from China. We used the equation 1 below to consider the proportion between  
 7 calcite and original aragonite for each stalagmite interval of RN stalagmites, according to the Table  
 8 S3. We included the mean  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  for each interval before and after C-A correction in Table S3.

9

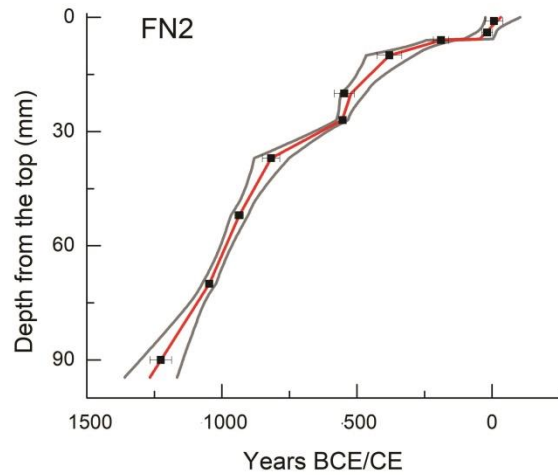
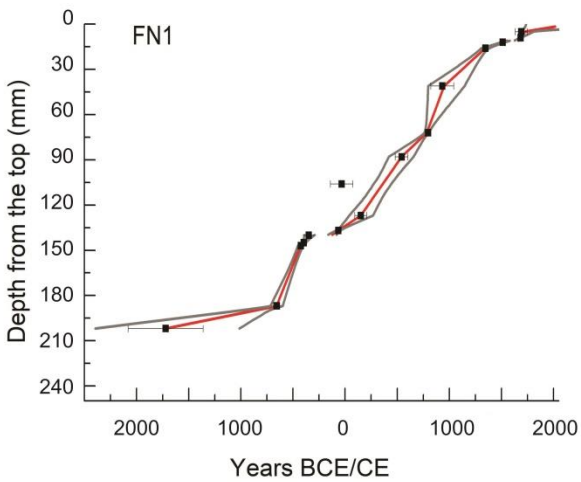
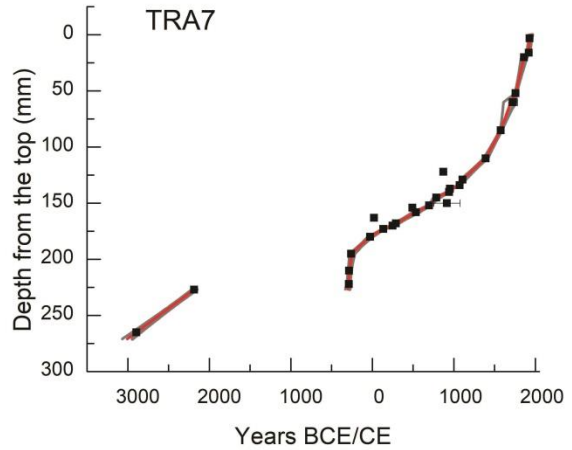
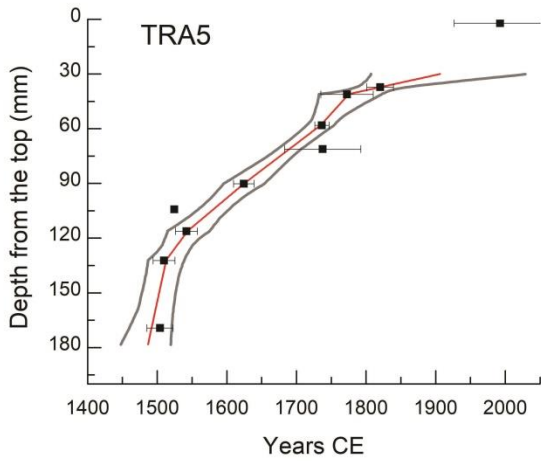
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$$\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{C-A corr}} = \frac{\text{sample calcite \%}}{100\% \text{ original aragonite}} \times \text{calcite fractionation offset} \quad \text{Equation (1)}$$

11

12 Table S4 – Speleothem intervals according to texture and mineral weight proportion (wt).  
 13 Texture description: A - crystals with mosaic and columnar fabrics; B - interbedded needle-like  
 14 crystals. \*Obtained by Utida et al. (2020). C-A: calcite-aragonite correction

| Speleothem Mineralogy |               |                    |         |                  |                |                                     |                      |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------|------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Sample                | Interval (mm) | Age (yr BCE/CE)    | Texture | Aragonite (wt %) | Calcite (wt %) | $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ mean (‰ VPDB) |                      |
|                       |               |                    |         |                  |                | before C-A correction               | after C-A correction |
| TRA5                  | 30-54         | 1745 to 1855 CE    | A       | 0.0              | <b>100.0</b>   | -3.50                               | -2.65                |
|                       | 54-87         | 1640 to 1745 CE    | A       | 0.0              | <b>100.0</b>   | -3.56                               | -2.71                |
|                       | 87-108        | 1565 to 1640 CE    | A       | 0.0              | <b>100.0</b>   | -3.58                               | -2.73                |
|                       | 108-178       | 1490 to 1565 CE    | A       | 0.0              | <b>100.0</b>   | -3.40                               | -2.55                |
| TRA7*                 | 0-173         | 130 BCE to 1940 CE | A       | 0.0              | <b>100.0</b>   | -2.80                               | -1.95                |
|                       | 173-215       | 290 to 130 BCE     | B       | <b>99.0</b>      | 1.0            | -2.14                               | -2.13                |
|                       | 215-270       | 3000 to 290 BCE    | B       | <b>87.1</b>      | 12.9           | -3.12                               | -3.01                |
| FN1*                  | 0-27          | 1170 to 1790 CE    | B       | <b>85.2</b>      | 14.9           | -2.14                               | -2.01                |
|                       | 27-83         | 610 to 1170 CE     | B       | <b>90.6</b>      | 9.4            | -2.87                               | -2.78                |
|                       | 83-128        | 80 to 610 CE       | A       | 0.0              | <b>100.0</b>   | -1.87                               | -1.03                |
|                       | 128-202       | 1730 BCE to 80 CE  | B       | <b>94.5</b>      | 5.5            | -2.54                               | -2.49                |
| FN2                   | 6-31          | 660 to 189 BCE     | B       | <b>94.7</b>      | 5.3            | -1.20                               | -1.15                |
|                       | 31-56         | 960 to 660 BCE     | B       | <b>94.8</b>      | 5.2            | -1.56                               | -1.52                |
|                       | 56-63         | 1005 to 960 BCE    | B       | <b>94.8</b>      | 5.2            | -2.03                               | -1.99                |
|                       | 63-95         | 1265 to 1005 BCE   | B       | <b>93.4</b>      | 6.6            | -1.94                               | -1.88                |

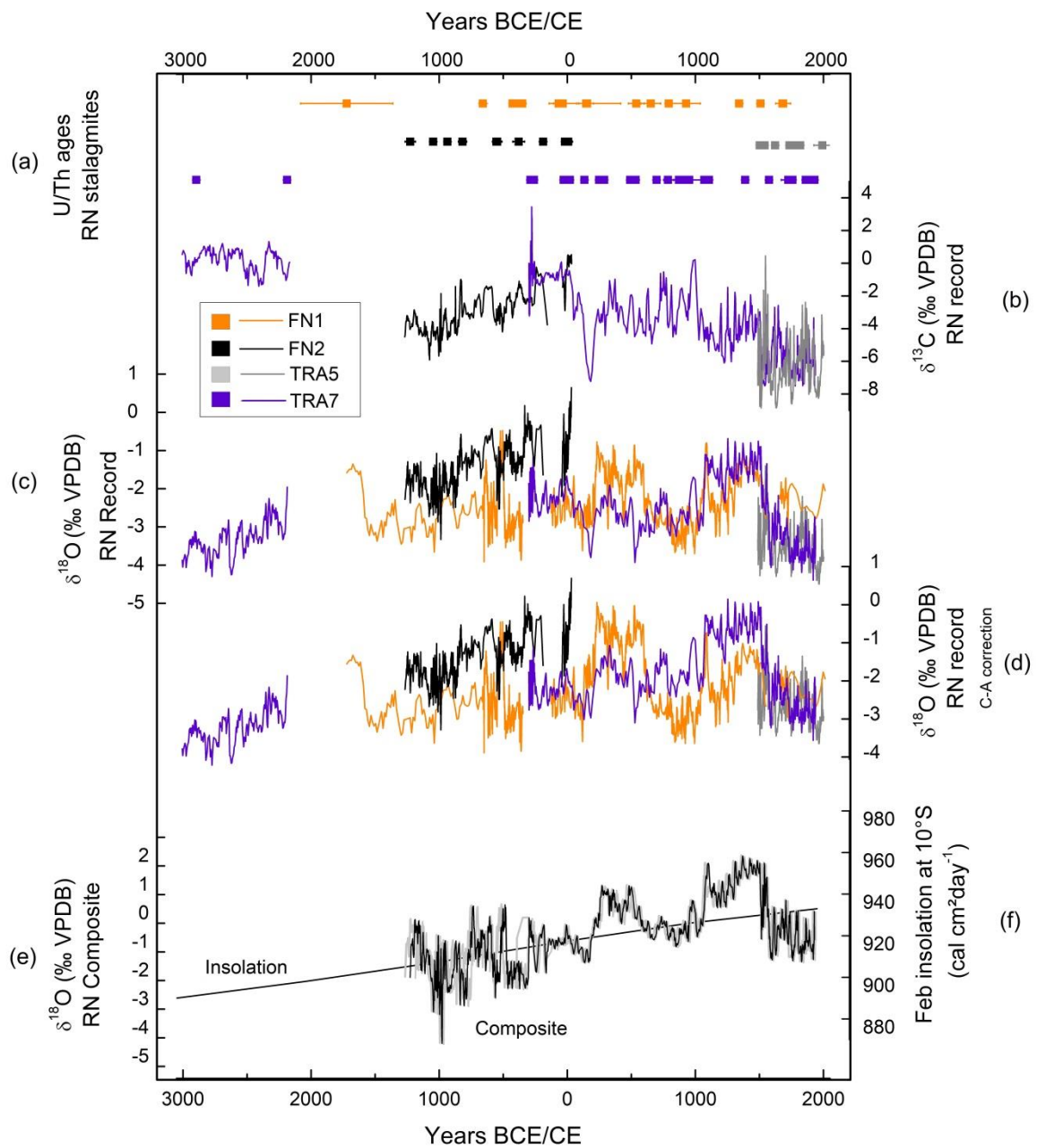
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17 Figure S3 – Age models of each stalagmite from Rio Grande do Norte. Age models were  
 18 calculated using COPRA (Breitenbach et al., 2012) through a set of 2.000 Monte Carlo simulations.  
 19 The COPRA age model was produced for each sample and covers the entire stalagmite. Squares  
 20 and horizontal bars: age results with error bars. Red line: COPRA average age model. Grey line:  
 21 age model errors considering 95% confidence interval.





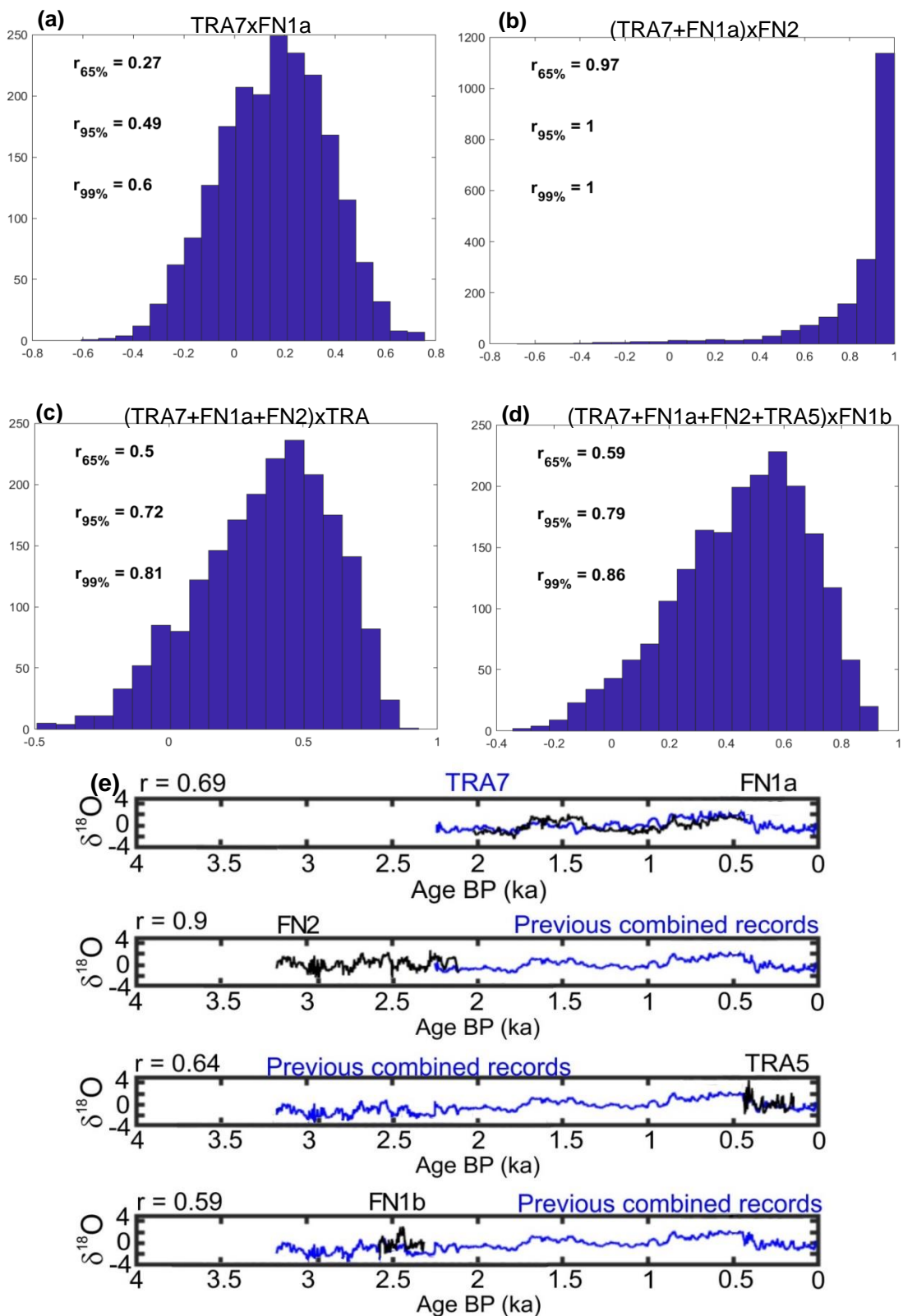
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24 Figure S4 – Rio Grande do Norte stalagmite isotope record. (a) U/Th ages for RN  
 25 stalagmites. (b) Raw data of  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ . (c) Oxygen isotope results for RN record. (d) Oxygen isotope  
 26 results corrected for calcite-aragonite fractionation ( $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{C-A}}$ ), according to weight proportion of  
 27 mineralogical results. (e)  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  RN Composite constructed using stalagmite records from NEB  
 28 (black line). Grey lines denote the age model confidence interval of 99%. (f) February insolation  
 29 curve at  $10^\circ\text{S}$  (Berger and Loutre, 1991).

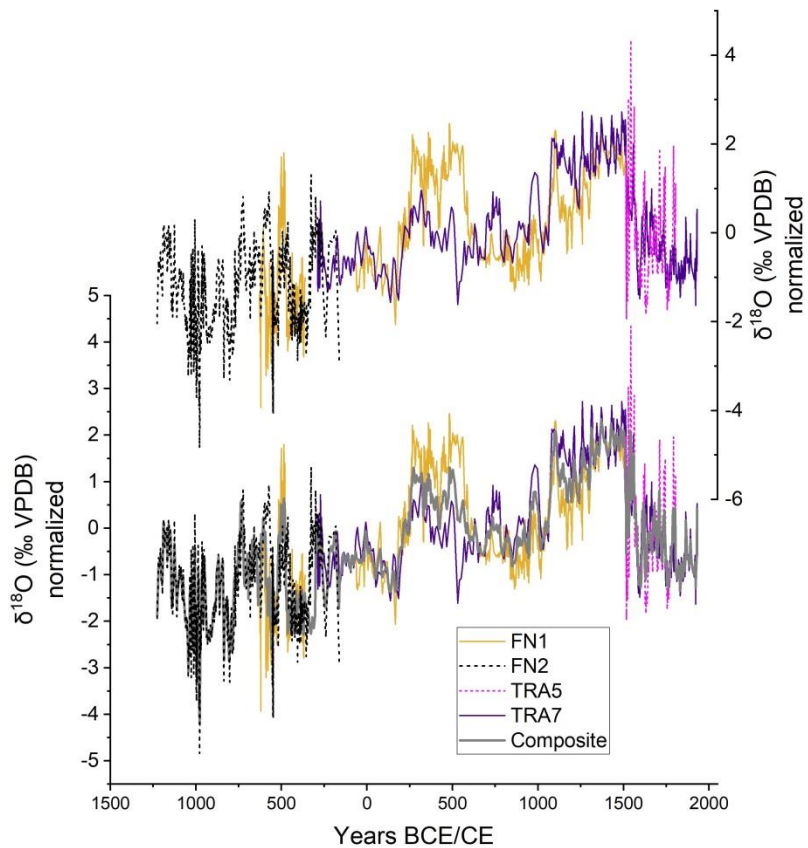
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32 Figure S5 – Distribution of maximum correlation coefficients for 2000 pairs of AR1 time  
 33 series with the same characteristics as the measured  $\delta^{18}O$  stalagmite time series. a) distribution for  
 34 TRA7 and FN1a; b) distribution for TRA7+FN1a and FN2; c) distribution for TRA7+FN1a+FN2 and  
 35 TRA5; d) distribution for TRA7+FN1a+FN2+TRA5 and FN1b. e) Best time series results for the  
 36 individual steps *iscam* performs for the composite time series construction. Highest correlation  
 37 coefficient is indicated for each correlation step. All established time series are significant at the  
 38 95% confidence limit.



39

40 Figure S6 – Oxygen isotopes plotted according to age model results calculated by ISCAM  
 41 for RN record and RN Composite. The normalization of data is made by ISCAM (Fohlmeister,  
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43

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