

A sub-fossil coral Sr/Ca record documents northward shifts meridional variability of the TInter-tropical Convergence Zone in the eastern Indian Ocean

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Abstract. Sea surface temperature (SST) variability in the south-eastern tropical Indian Ocean is crucial for rainfall variability in Indian Ocean rim countries. A large body of literature has focused on zonal variability associated with the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), which peaks in austral spring. In today's climate, but it is unclear whether northward meridional shifts in the position of the Tropical Convergence Zone (TCZ), which at present co-vary with the IOD, and it is unclear whether these shifts may also occur independently. We have developed a new, monthly resolved Sr/Ca record from a sub-fossil coral cored at Enggano Island (Sumatra, Indonesia, 5° S, 102° E). Core sections containing diagenetic phases are omitted from the SST reconstruction. U/Th dating shows that the Sr/Ca-based SST record extends from 1868-1917-1868 and from 1864-1823-1861 with a relative age uncertainty of ± 2.4 years (2σ). At Enggano Island, coastal upwelling and cooling in austral spring impacts SST seasonality and is coupled to the latitudinal position of the TCZ is coupled to the position of the TCZ, and impacts SST seasonality. The sub-fossil coral indicates an increase in SST seasonality due to enhanced austral spring cooling between 1855 and 1917 relative to the 1930-2008 period and 1855. Which we attribute this to enhanced cooling due to stronger SE winds driven by a northward shift of the southern boundary of the TCZ to the north of 5°S in austral spring to stronger SE winds and a northward shift in the position of the ITCZ in austral spring. A nearby sediment core indicates colder SSTs indicates SST cooling and a shallower ring of the thermocline prior to ~ 1930 . These results are consistent with an increase in the North-South SST gradient in the eastern Indian Ocean calculated from historical temperature data, that is not seen in the zonal SST gradient.

We conclude that the relationship between meridional and zonal variability in the eastern Indian Ocean is non-stationary and modulated influenced by the long-term evolution of temperature gradient trends.

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1 Introduction

Sea surface temperature (SST) variability in the south-eastern (SE) tropical Indian Ocean is crucial for rainfall variability in Indian Ocean rim countries (Weller et al., 2014; Cai et al., 2013). A large body of literature has focused on the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) (Saji et al., 1999; Webster et al., 1999; Ummenhofer et al., 2009a; Ummenhofer et al., 2009b; Cai et al., 2013; Saji and Yamagata, 2003; Behera et al., 2005; Ashok et al., 2003; Abram et al., 2020), a zonal mode characterized by a reversal of the east-west SST gradient in the tropical Indian Ocean, causing droughts in Indonesia and Australia, and enhanced rainfall and flooding in equatorial East Africa (Ummenhofer et al., 2009a; Ummenhofer et al., 2009b; Saji et al., 1999; Behera et al., 2005; Ashok et al., 2003). Comparatively little attention has been paid to meridional (North-South) SST gradients and related circulation anomalies over the SE tropical Indian Ocean in austral spring, although these can also induce significant droughts in Indonesia, and flooding in southern India and Sri Lanka (Weller and Cai, 2014; Weller et al., 2014). An stronger North-South SST gradient in September-November shifts the southern boundary via northward shifts of the Tropical Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ; see Geen et al., (2020)) northwards in austral spring (Fig. 1) (Weller et al., 2014; Weller and Cai, 2014) (Fig. 1, Fig. A1).

The eastern Indian Ocean north of 10°S features the most intense atmospheric convection in the Indian Ocean basin (Fig. 1, Fig. A1) (Schott et al., 2009). In austral spring, meridional displacements of the ITCZ are driven by ocean-atmosphere interactions in the SE tropical Indian Ocean, which include monsoon-induced coastal upwelling in austral spring (September-November) and active SST-thermocline feedbacks (Susanto et al., 2001; Webster et al., 1999; Cai et al., 2013; Saji and Yamagata, 2003; Weller et al., 2014). Coastal upwelling is driven by strong, southeasterly (SE) winds along the coasts of Java and Sumatra associated with the South Asian Summer Monsoon (Susanto et al., 2001) (Fig. 2, Fig. A2). Anomalous strong SE winds enhance coastal upwelling and cooling, which may shift the southern boundary of the ITCZ to the north of 5°S, and in extreme cases, to the equator (Fig. 1, Fig. A1). The cooling in the SE equatorial Indian Ocean, and may trigger a reversal of the zonal SST gradient in the tropical Indian Ocean and the development of that is, a positive IOD (positive IOD event) (Saji et al., 1999; Fischer et al., 2005). In the satellite era, the occurrence of positive IOD events and northward displacements of the southern boundary of the ITCZ are tightly coupled (Weller et al., 2014; Weller and Cai, 2014) and the latter and northward shifts of the ITCZ may be seen as a characteristic of positive IOD events (Fig. 1). However, future projections suggest that northward meridional shifts of the southern boundary in the position of the ITCZ may uncouple from the IOD due to the rapidly warming Asian landmass in response to greenhouse warming and, as a result, faster warming rates in the north-eastern Indian Ocean relative to the south-east (Weller and Cai, 2014; Weller et al., 2014). This could induce extreme northward shifts of the TCZ that are not associated with an increased frequency of pIOD events (Weller et al., 2014).

SST variability in the SE equatorial Indian Ocean is poorly represented in historical, gridded data of SSTs, which do not adequately capture the non-linear ocean-atmosphere feedbacks in the region (Yang et al., 2020; Pfeiffer et al., 2022; Cai et al., 2013). Therefore, observational studies on the relationship between meridional and zonal SST variability are limited to the last ~40 years in which we have satellite data of SST (Weller et al., 2014; Weller and Cai, 2014). Coral Sr/Ca ratios measured at monthly resolution were shown to provide a realistic representation of SST variability in the SE tropical Indian Ocean, as, unlike historical SSTs interpolated from sparse data, the coral proxy data is not compromised by non-linear ocean-atmosphere feedbacks (Yang et al., 2020; Pfeiffer et al., 2022; Cahyarini et al., 2021). To date, however, coral studies of historical variability in the SE tropical Indian Ocean have mainly focused on zonal variability associated with the IOD (Abram et al., 2015; Abram et al., 2008; Abram et al., 2007; Abram et al., 2020).

Here, we present a new, monthly-resolved Sr/Ca record from a sub-fossil *Porites* coral drilled at Enggano Island (Sumatra, Sumatra, Indonesia). Our new coral Sr/Ca record derives from a large massive colony found in a dead, partially bio-eroded reef (Fig. 3). U/Th dating indicates that the base of the coral record is 1823 ± 2.4 (2σ) years old and the youngest sections

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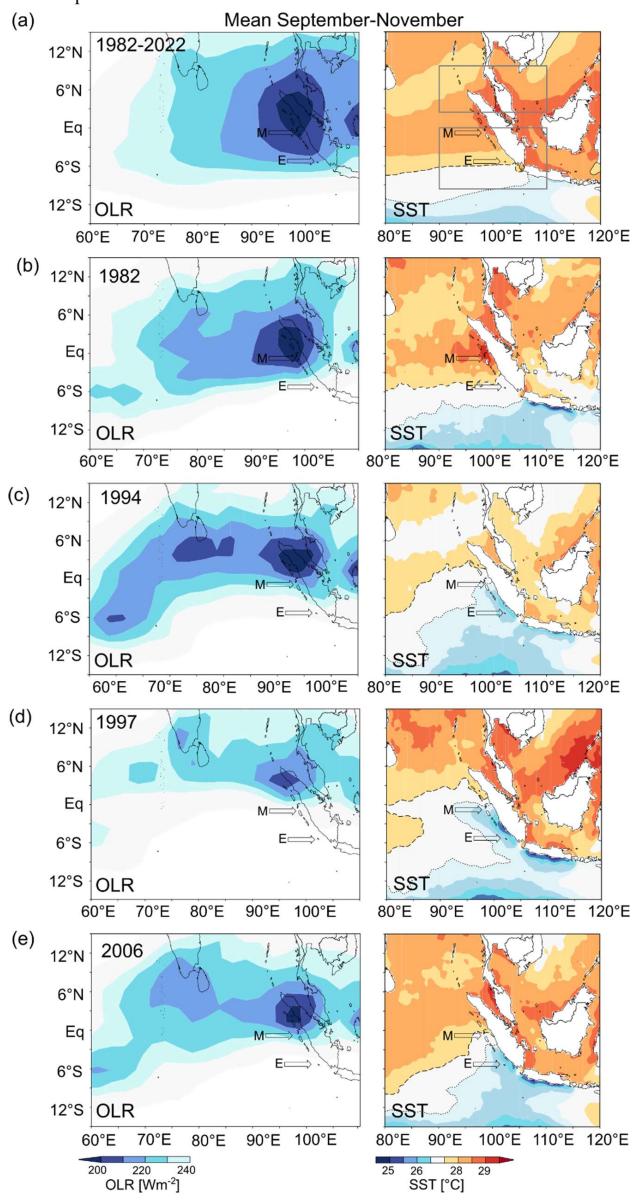
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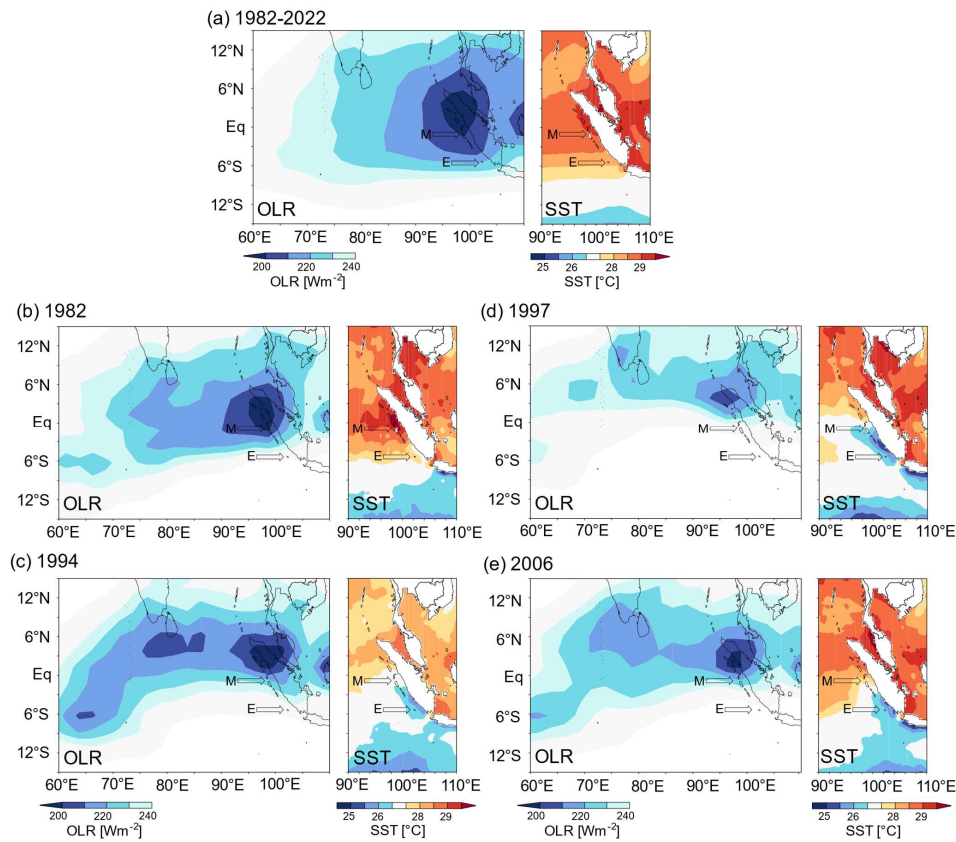
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85 extend to the early 20th century. Extensive screening with a state-of-the-art Hitachi SU 3900 Scanning electron microscope (SEM) was performed to identify and omit intervals with minor early marine diagenesis and to ensure the reliability of the Sr/Ca data. Combining our new coral data with previously published coral Sr/Ca records from Enggano Island that extend from 1930-2008-1930 (Pfeiffer et al., 2022), we investigate the relationship between meridional and zonal SST variability in the SE Indian Ocean prior to the satellite era-

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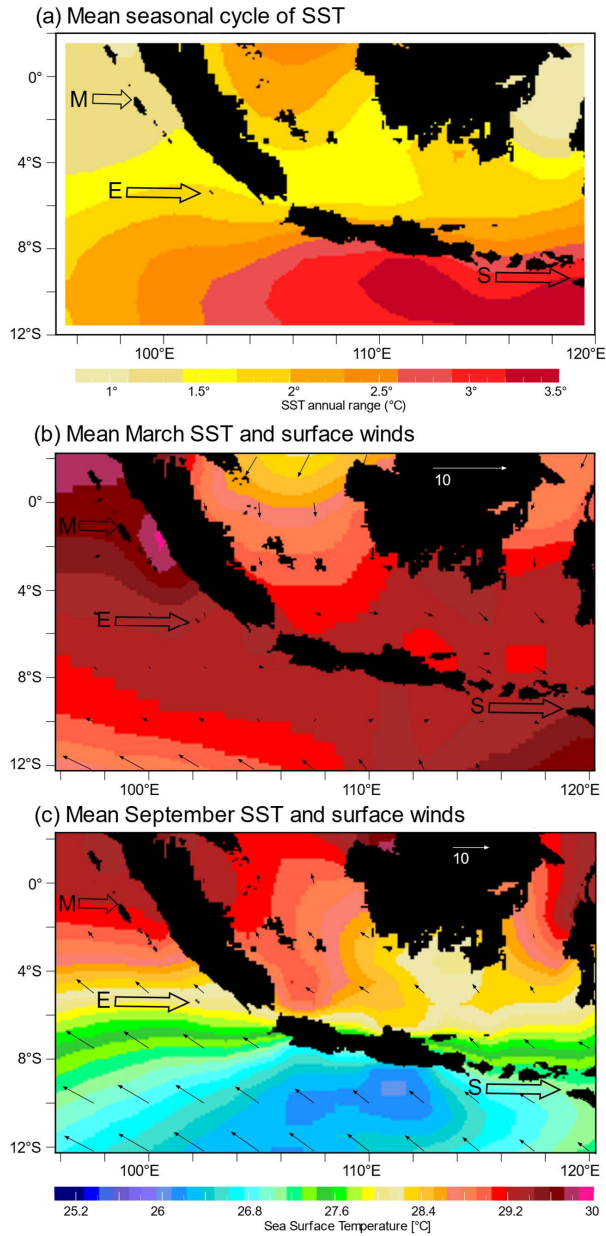
90 Figure 1: Austral spring outgoing longwave radiation (OLR) and SST in the eastern Indian Ocean. (a) Mean September–November OLR (left) (Schreck et al., 2018) and AVHRR OI SST (right) (Huang et al., 2021) from 1982–2022. (b) September–November OLR (left) and SST (right) for the moderate positive-IOD event of 1982. (c) Same as (b) but for the extreme positive-IOD event of 1994 (d) Same as (b) for the extreme positive-IOD event of 1997, (e) same as (b) for the extreme positive-IOD event of 2006. OLR $\leq 240 \text{ W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}$ countour (light blue) indicates the boundaries position of the ITCZ. Note the close correspondence of the $27.5 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ (stipled) and $28 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ (dashed) countours offat the coast of Sumatra and the latitude of the southern boundary of the ITCZ. Arrows mark location of Enggano (E) and Mentawai (M). Grey boxes in (a) indicate area of NE ($2.5\text{--}7.5 \text{ }^\circ\text{N}$, $90\text{--}110 \text{ }^\circ\text{E}$) and SE ($0\text{--}10 \text{ }^\circ\text{S}$, $90\text{--}110 \text{ }^\circ\text{E}$) Indian Ocean SST indices used to calculate the North-South SST gradient in the eastern Indian Ocean as in (Weller and Cai (2014) and; Weller et al., (2014). Charts computed at the knmi climate explorer (<https://climexp.knmi.nl>).

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Figure 2: SST seasonality and surface winds in the SE Indian Ocean. (a) The amplitude of the mean seasonal cycle of SST (in °C) decreases from >3 °C to 1 °C from Java to Sumatra. (b) In austral fall, mean SSTs (colors) are warm and uniform, and surface winds (vectors) are weak. (c) In austral spring, strong, alongshore SE winds (vectors) lead to cooling off the coast to Java and Sumatra, and large meridional differences in mean SSTs (colors). Open arrows in (a) and (b) mark location of Enggano (E), northern Mentawai (M), and Sumba Island (S). Note the steep **austral spring** SST gradients **around south of** Enggano. SST data from OI SST (Reynolds et al., 2002), wind data from (Kalnay et al., 1996). Charts computed at <https://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/>.

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2 Study area

Enggano Island lies ~200 km off the coast of south-eastern Sumatra at 5.22 °S, 102.14 °E (Fig. 3). It is the southernmost island on the fore-arc ridge offshore Sumatra, which also comprises the Mentawai Island chain located further north (3-1 °S, 98-100 °E). In austral spring, SE winds associated with the South Asian summer monsoon generate coastal upwelling and cooling off Java and Sumatra (Fig. 2) (Susanto et al., 2001). The standard deviation of monthly mean SST reveals the centers of upwelling (Fig. 3, Fig. A24). Upwelling first develops off the coast of Java in June, and then propagates north-westwards (Fig. A24). It reaches Enggano in July, and extends to the northern Mentawai Islands in October (Fig. A24). In November-December, westerly winds terminate coastal upwelling and SE Indian Ocean SSTs are generally warm with comparatively little spatial variability in austral fall (Fig. 2).

The strength of the SE winds in austral spring thus primarily determines the seasonal cycle of SSTs in the SE Indian Ocean, seen in causing a decrease steep gradients of seasonality, from > 3 °C off Java to ~1.5-1.0 °C off Sumatra, which reflects spatial variations in the frequency of occurrence of coastal upwelling and cooling in August-October-September-November (Fig. 2, Fig. 3). At Enggano, austral spring SSTs are colder than at the northern Mentawai Islands, SST seasonality is larger, and annual mean SSTs are lower (Fig. 2, Fig. 3). Furthermore, Enggano Island is situated in a region where the magnitude of cooling during the SE monsoon (and, as a result, the amplitude of the mean seasonal cycle) changes profoundly over short distances meridional gradients in the magnitude of August-October cooling are particularly steep, which translates into steep meridional gradients in SST seasonality near Enggano Island (Fig. 2). This means that relatively small changes in the strength/extend of the SE winds should be seen in the magnitude of austral spring cooling and the amplitude of the mean seasonal cycle at Enggano Island.

Off the coast of Java, the SE winds cause strong upwelling and cooling every year (Susanto et al., 2001), and mean August-October-September-November SSTs are low (<27 °C) (Fig. 2, Fig. 3). The distribution of mean August-September SSTs is symmetric (Fig. 3). On interannual time scales, stronger-than-normal SE winds lead to an anomalous strengthening of coastal upwelling and cooling off Sumatra that may lead to (I) a northward shift of the southern boundary of the ITCZTCZ, which then lies north of Enggano Island in austral spring (Fig. 1, Fig. A1) (Weller et al., 2014), and (II) a reversal of the zonal SST gradient in the tropical Indian Ocean and the development of a positive-IOD event (Saji et al., 1999; Yang et al., 2020; Ng et al., 2015). During extreme positive-IOD events, coupled with a strong northward shift of the southern boundary of the ITCZTCZ shifts to the north of 5°S (Weller et al., 2014), i.e. to the north of Enggano Island. In these years, lead to a cooling of SSTs down to 25 °C can reach that extends to the equator (Fig. 1, Fig. A2). The occasional occurrence of extreme positive-IOD events in an equatorial region featuring warm surface waters in normal years is reflected in a strong negative skewness of August-October-September-November SSTs off Sumatra (Fig. 3) (Yang et al., 2020) and an enhanced seasonal cycle in these years. In contrast, anomalous austral spring cooling during moderate positive-IOD events is weaker and spatially restricted to the south-eastern coast of Sumatra, where Enggano is located, and the Java and Timor Sea (Fig. 1, Fig. A2). In addition to IOD-related SST variability (Pfeiffer et al., 2022), the corals from Enggano Island should therefore be sensitive recorders of changes in the strength of the SE winds and the latitudinal position of the southern boundary position of the ITCZTCZ (Fig. 1, Fig. 2, Fig. A1).

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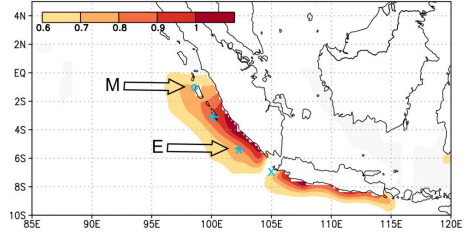
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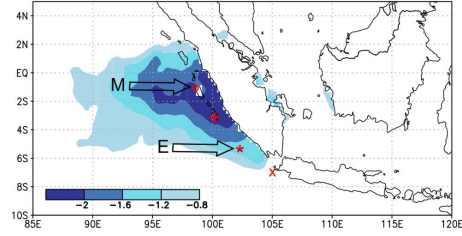
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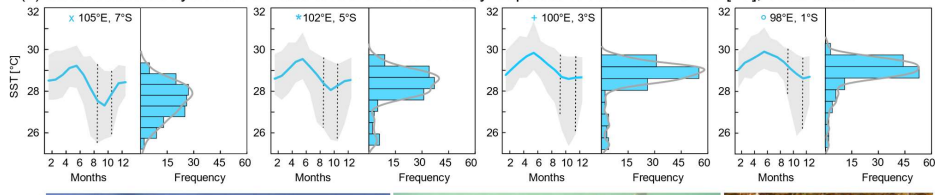
(a) Standard deviation, Sep-Nov OI SST [$^{\circ}\text{C}$], 1982-2022

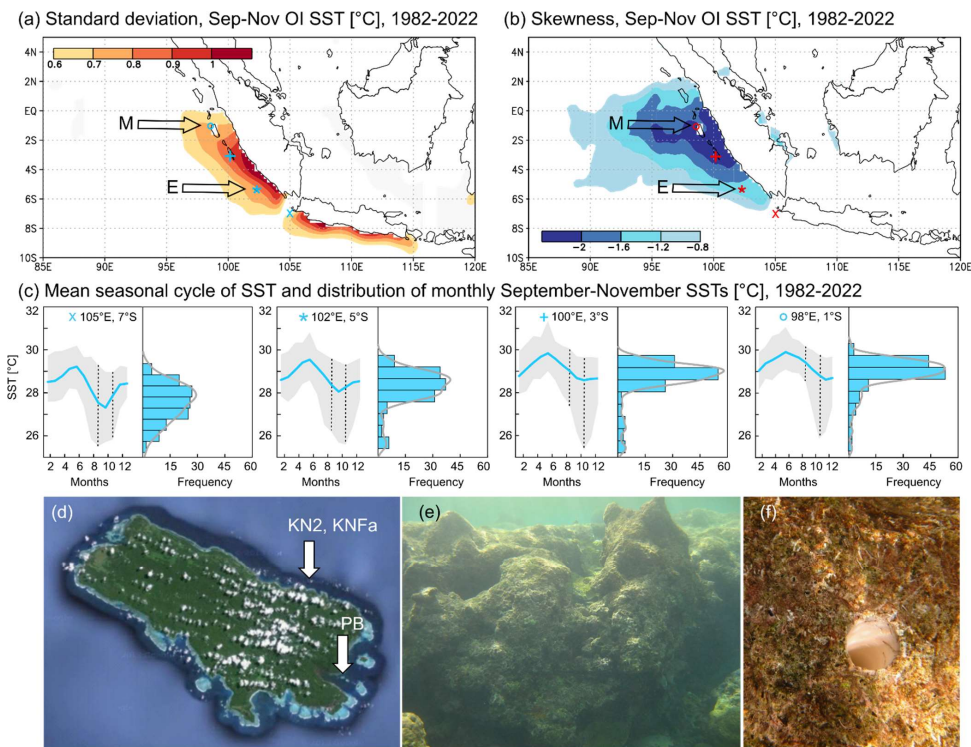


(b) Skewness, Sep-Nov OI SST [$^{\circ}\text{C}$], 1982-2022



(c) Mean seasonal cycle of SST and distribution of monthly September-November SSTs [$^{\circ}\text{C}$], 1982-2022





145 Figure 3: Location and climatic setting of Enggano Island. (a) The standard deviation of September–November SST indicates areas of coastal upwelling off the coast of Java and Sumatra. (b) The skewness of September–November SSTs reflects interannual coastal upwelling events. Arrows in (a) and (b) mark location of Enggano Island (E) and northern Mentawai Island (M). Charts were computed at the knmi climate explorer (<https://climexp.knmi.nl>). (c) Mean seasonal cycles of satellite SST (thick blue lines) from northern Java to central Sumatra with 99 % confidence levels (grey shading). SST grids are selected with a latitudinal spacing of 2°, symbols indicate their position in (a) and (b). Histograms show the distribution of monthly mean SSTs in the August–October–September–November season. At all sites, SST minima are ~25 °C, but progressively higher mean August–October–September–November SSTs occur at sites north of 7°S, where only extreme positive IOD events cause intense coastal upwelling. This results in a negative skewness is indicated by the 99% confidence levels around the August–October–September–November SSTs (indicated by dashed black lines), and seen in the histograms of mean August–October–September–November SSTs, and in (b). Histograms were computed using PAST (Hammer et al., 2001). SST data is from AVHRR OI SST (1/4° grids) (Huang et al., 2021). (d) Satellite image of Enggano Island showing the fringing reefs surrounding the island from Google Earth. At its longest section, Enggano Island is 35 km long. Modern cores were drilled at the southeastern (PB: 5°27.888'S, 102°22.218'E) and northeastern (KN2: 05°21.713'S, 102°21.511'E) coast. A subfossil coral (KNFa) was drilled next to core KN2. (e) Dead reef on the northeastern coast of Enggano Island and (f) bio-eroded surface of sub-fossil coral colony with open borehole with a diameter of 4 cm. Photos from S.Y. Cahyarini.

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3 Methods and data

3.1 Coral collection

In an August 2008 field campaign, sub-fossil, dead fringing reefs were discovered around Enggano Island (Sumatra, Indonesia) in a water depth of ~3m (Fig. 3). A large massive *Porites* coral was found and a 1.83 m coral core (KNFa) was drilled using a pneumatic drill powered by Scuba tanks. After drilling, the core KNFa was cut into 5 mm thick slabs and prepared for subsampling following standard procedures (Cahyarini et al., 2014a). X-rays (Fig. 4) and luminescence scans (Fig. A43) were made at the Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ) on untreated coral slabs to reveal the coral's seasonal banding pattern and to indicate potential zones of diagenesis. The KNFa core shows multiple density bands per year that do not allow

a precise chronology based on annual bands, but a good correlation of corresponding sections on adjacent coral slabs (Fig. 4, Fig. A43).

Two modern *Porites* corals (KN2 and PB) were collected from living corals during the same field campaign, and their Sr/Ca records were published previously (Pfeiffer et al., 2022). The two modern corals extend from 2008-1930-2008, and are used here for comparison with the sub-fossil coral data. See Figure 3 for the exact location of the coral cores.

3.2 Diagenetic screening

Based on X-ray images and luminescence scans (Fig. 4, Fig. A43), potential diagenetic alteration was assessed, using representative samples for mineralogical and microscopic analysis. Conventional, destructive analysis, including powder X-ray diffraction (XRD, n=3), thin-section (n=3) and scanning electron microscopy (SEM, n= 5) on gold-coated coral blocks (see Fig. 4 for sample location) were carried out.

Furthermore, we conducted higher resolution, non-destructive mineralogical and microscopic analysis directly on the coral slabs, parallel to the proxy sampling tracks. The 2-D-XRD system Bruker D8 ADVANCE GADDS was used for non-destructive XRD point-measurements with a calcite detection limit of ~ 0.2 % (Smodej et al., 2015). The nineteen 2-D-XRD measurements resulted in a sampling resolution of one spot analysis every ~ 7 cm. Sections showing a mottled appearance on the luminescence scans were selected for non-destructive SEM analysis with the Hitachi SU3900 system. The extra-large chamber of this SEM system can accommodate coral slabs up to 30 cm in length (Fig. A54, A65). The analyses were carried out in low vacuum mode (30 and 50Pa) using an ultra-variable-pressure detector (UVD) and a backscattered electron detector (BSE). This low vacuum mode allows the coral slabs to be analyzed continuously and directly along the proxy sample track without the need for coating with conductive materials such as gold.

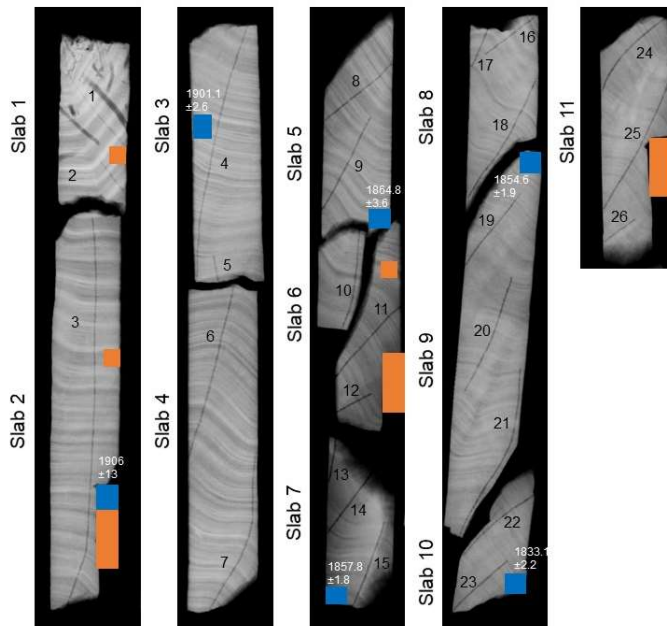


Figure 4: X-ray image of the sub-fossil coral core KNFa from Enggano Island. Core slabs and sampling transects for Sr/Ca analysis are numbered (data see Fig. 5). Blue squares indicate samples taken for U/Th dating and their ages. Note: the core shows prominent sub-annual bands that allow a good match between different slabs. Some sections of the core were cut off to assess preservation using conventional, destructive methods (powder XRD, thin section and SEM analysis using gold-coated stubs of coral). Small orange boxes indicate locations for SEM samples. Large orange boxes indicate locations for combined powder-XRD, SEM and thin-section samples. See text for discussion.

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3.3 Sr/Ca analysis

195 The KNFa core was subsampled for Sr/Ca analysis at 1 mm intervals, i.e. at approximately monthly resolution. For each subsample, we extracted 0.1-0.2 mg of coral powder for Sr/Ca analysis using a hand-held drill. Sr/Ca ratios were measured at Kiel University using a Spectro Ciros CCD SOP inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometer (ICP-OES). Elemental emission signals were simultaneously collected and subsequently processed following a combination of techniques described by (Schrag, 1999) and (Villiers et al., 2002). Average analytical precision of Sr/Ca measurements as estimated from
200 sample replicates was typically around 0.08 % RSD or less than 0.1 °C ($n > 180$). All coral Sr/Ca ratios were normalized to an in-house standard calibrated against JCp-1 (8.838 mmol mol⁻¹) (Hathorne et al., 2013). Measurements of JCp-1 had a median of 8.832 mmol mol⁻¹, and a standard deviation of 0.009 (1σ) or 0.10 % RSD.

The chronology of the coral Sr/Ca records presented in this study is developed by using anchor points following the approach of Cahyarini et al. (2021): we assigning mid-ed-September (on average the coldest month) to the Sr/Ca maxima (on average the coldest month). The data is then linearly interpolated to 12 monthly values per year. Average coral growth rates estimated from trace element data are larger than 10mm/year in all cores (Table A1).

3.4 U/Th Dating and chronology

The age of KNFa was estimated by U/Th dating at National Taiwan University, following the methods of (Shen et al., 2012). After chemical separation for U and Th isotopes in a clean room, the samples were analysed with a multi-collector inductively
210 coupled plasma mass spectrometer (MC-ICP-MS, NEPTUNE). Results are shown in Table A2+.

A floating chronology was estimated following the approach of (Dominguez-Villar et al., 2012) (Fig. A7). The age of the coral record was estimated from the intercept of the linear regression between the U/Th ages and the annual cycles of Sr/Ca (Fig. 5), assuming that the slope of this regression is one, using Eq. 1:

$$215 \quad \text{No. of annual cycles} = U - \text{Th age} * m + b, \quad (1)$$

where "b" is the floating age. With this regression, the differences between U/Th ages and corresponding Sr/Ca ages are minimal (0.1 years for the overall time series). The age uncertainty of the floating chronology was estimated with a Monte Carlo approach (20,000 loops) using the 2σ U/Th error. The base of the KNFa Sr/Ca record is dated to 1823 ± 2.4 (2σ) years CE.

220 Combining the U/Th ages with the coral density banding and growth rates suggest that the coral died in the early 1930s, although the exact timing cannot be determined due to extensive bioerosion at the top of the coral. It is unclear what caused the death of the sub-fossil coral (and the fringing reef where the core was taken), but possible candidates include several major earthquakes centered on Enggano island in the 1930s with magnitudes ≥ 7 (Newcomb and McCann, 1987), or severe cold anomalies, possibly coupled with red tides, due to extreme IOD-induced upwelling events (Abram et al., 2003).

225 3.5 Coral Sr/Ca-SST conversion

To avoid biases from so-called 'vital effects' that affect mean coral Sr/Ca ratios (e.g. (Cahyarini et al., 2011; Ross et al., 2019)), all coral Sr/Ca records were centered to their mean and converted to SST units assuming a coral Sr/Ca-SST relationship of -0.06 mmol mol⁻¹ per 1 °C (Corrège, 2006; Ross et al., 2019; Watanabe and Pfeiffer, 2022), hereafter referred to as SST_{center}. This slope is consistent with the coral Sr/Ca-SST calibrations of the two modern corals KN2 and PB from Enggano Island with satellite SST data (Pfeiffer et al., 2022), which is available since 1982. SST_{center} inferred from KN2 and PB Sr/Ca data shows the same distribution as satellite SSTs in the grid including Enggano Island (Pfeiffer et al., 2022) (Fig. A87).

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3.6 Statistics

Distributions were visualized and compared using PAST (Hammer et al., 2001). Histograms, box- and violin-plots were calculated using measured Sr/Ca data prior to processing, and compared with interpolated, monthly Sr/Ca data and SST_{centre} inferred from coral Sr/Ca ratios. As age model development/interpolation does not influence the spread of measured Sr/Ca data, this allows a comparison between raw and processed Sr/Ca records. The distribution of SST_{centre} inferred from coral Sr/Ca was compared to satellite SST (centered to its mean) using histograms, box- and violin-plots, again circumventing potential mis-alignments arising from uncertainties of sub-seasonal age assignments. To test for equality of distributions, we used the two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov-test in PAST (Hammer et al., 2001). Means were compared using a two-sided students t-test in PAST (Hammer et al., 2001).

Mean seasonal cycles of SST were calculated from the coral data by averaging the monthly SST_{centre} records. The uncertainties of this 'coral climatology' were calculated using a Monte Carlo approach based on an R script (R core team, 2023) developed by (Watanabe and Pfeiffer, (2022) and expanded in (Zinke et al., (2022), and include the analytical uncertainties of the Sr/Ca measurements (0.08 %RSD for monthly values) and the calibration uncertainty of the Sr/Ca-SST slope (± 0.01 mmol/mol per 1°C) in addition to the spread of the monthly mean data.

Wavelet Power Spectra (Torrence and Compo, 1998) were calculated using the "biwavelet" package and the R software (R core team, 2023). All wavelet analyses were based on the Morlet Wavelet. The significance of power spectra was tested using the χ^2 test with a 95% significance level. The Mann-Kendall test was carried out to test the significance of trends using R software (R core team, 2023). The trend change point (Toms and Lesperance, 2003) was estimated using the "SiZer" package (Chaudhuri and Marron, 1999) in R (R core team, 2023). The 95% confidence level of trend change point was generated based on a bootstrap test (n = 1000).

4. Results

4.1 Coral preservation

The three conventional powder and nineteen 2D-XRD-analysis (see Fig. 4 for location) indicate that the subfossil core KNFa is purely aragonitic and does not contain any calcitic phases. The analysis of the conventional SEM samples and thin-sections (see Fig. 4 for location) indicates a generally excellent preservation with pristine, smooth skeletal surfaces, except for the SEM sample near the top of the coral core, which shows minor (< 5 μm -long) but pervasive aragonite cementation. To evaluate the extent of potential diagenetic alteration we scanned the entire length of the Sr/Ca sampling tracks on slabs 1 and 2, using the uncoated coral slabs (see Methods and Fig. A54, A65). This analysis confirmed that minor fibrous aragonite cements (5 to 10 μm long) and incipient dissolution are restricted to the upper ~ 14 cm of the coral core, which also shows abundant bioerosion traces (Fig. 4: Slab 1), and a dull to mottled appearance in luminescence scans (Fig. A43). We therefore subsequently used the SEM to scan all core intervals that show similar dull colors in luminescence scans. After the proxy measurements, we additionally checked all intervals containing prominent Sr/Ca anomalies for diagenetic changes based on SEM observations directly on the coral slabs. Using this method, we were able to identify patches of aragonite needle cements (5 to 10 μm long) (Fig. A65), that had escaped detection with our previous standard screening protocol. Sr/Ca data from all intervals showing patchily distributed aragonite cements (sampling transects 1, 2, top of 3, base of 9 to top of 15, see Fig. 4 and 5) were excluded from further interpretation, since even light levels of aragonite cementation may lead to higher bulk Sr/Ca-values and consequently a cold bias in temperature reconstructions (Enmar et al., 2000; Allison et al., 2007; Hendy et al., 2007; Sayani et al., 2011).

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4.2 The sub-fossil coral Sr/Ca record

Figure 5 shows the coral Sr/Ca data as measured along the maximum growth axis of core KNFa, prior to interpolation to monthly values and prior to omitting intervals affected by diagenesis. Therefore, each dot represents one Sr/Ca measurement of a discrete subsample. Also indicated are the slabs of the coral core and the sampling transects of Sr/Ca analysis (in color, numbers of slabs and transects are also shown on the x-ray images, see Fig. 4). Data from overlapping transects are shown on top of each other. The first Sr/Ca measurement on each new slab is marked as 'slab boundary'; note that this data overlaps with data from the previous slab due to the coral's growth. After measuring the Sr/Ca ratios along the entire core at 1 mm intervals, we subsequently omit data from transects where early marine diagenesis was detected by non-destructive SEM analysis from further processing (see 'coral preservation'). These sections are masked out in grey in Figure 5.

In the intervals not affected by diagenesis, the Sr/Ca record of KNFa shows clear seasonal cycles which can be counted visually to develop an age model. By combining this internal coral chronology with the U/Th ages (see methods), we estimate that the KNFa Sr/Ca record extends from 1917-1868 and 1823-1861-1823 and 1868-1917 (Fig. S5, Fig. A7, AS97, Fig. 6), i.e. it encompasses a total of 94 years with 87 years of record, with a relative age uncertainty of ± 2.4 years (2σ). The Sr/Ca data from well-preserved sections of the core show an excellent reproducibility between sampling transects (note that slight offsets along the X-axis reflect differences in coral growth), i.e. the means and variations of measured Sr/Ca ratios are consistent throughout the core (Fig. 5).

The distribution of the measured Sr/Ca data of KNFa is investigated in intervals representing approximately equal amounts of data points. The Sr/Ca distribution is symmetric with a standard deviation of 0.05 to 0.053 mmol mol⁻¹ in the upper sections of the coral core (slab 3 to top of slab 8), symmetric with a standard deviation of 0.035 mmol mol⁻¹ from slab 8 to 9, and positively skewed with a standard deviation of 0.044 mmol mol⁻¹ from slab 10 to 11. Note, however, that the positive skewness of Sr/Ca data from slab 10 and 11 is due to only four consecutive Sr/Ca data of up to 9.148 mmol mol⁻¹ on slab 11 (which cannot be attributed to diagenesis). The reduction in standard deviation is due to a persistent change in the nature of the Sr/Ca record that occurs ~850 mm below the top of the coral (Fig. 5).

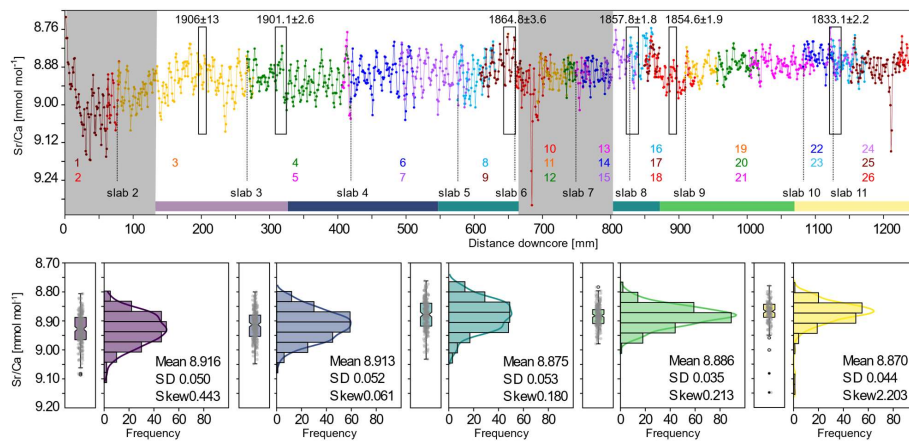


Figure 5: Sub-fossil coral Sr/Ca data of core KNFa. Top panel: Measured Sr/Ca data of core KNFa vs. distance downcore (in mm). Each dot corresponds to one Sr/Ca measurement. Sampling transects are highlighted by different colors and numbered (bottom) (see Fig. 4 for location of transect). Grey shading marks intervals discarded from further interpretation as diagenetic alterations have been detected. Sections sampled for U/Th ages are shown by black rectangles. Color bars at the bottom indicate data included in the histograms, box- and jitter-plots shown in the bottom panel. Note the reduction in the standard deviation of measured Sr/Ca data at a depth of ~860 mm. Histograms computed using PAST (Hammer et al., 2001).

5. Discussion

5.1 Sub-fossil coral Sr/Ca data and diagenesis

305 Sub-fossil corals are an important archive to extend the instrumental record back into pre-industrial periods (Abram et al., 2020; Cobb et al., 2013; Sanchez et al., 2020). Living corals may grow continuously for more than 300 years (Zinke et al., 2004; DeLong et al., 2013; Linsley et al., 2000), but in many key regions of climate variability, extreme climate disturbances can contribute to their demise (Abram et al., 2003). However, applying the coral Sr/Ca thermometer to sub-fossil corals is challenging as relatively minor amounts of diagenetic alteration can already significantly distort the Sr/Ca thermometer (Allison et al. 2007 (Sayani et al., 2011; Sayani et al., 2022)). Standard screening protocols based on destructive analysis of discrete samples by thin-section, XRD and SEM are not always sufficient to map out the often patchily distributed diagenetic phases in corals. In this study, only the diagenetic alteration at the top of the core was identified using conventional methods, while other patches of aragonite cements in slabs 5 to 7 were not detected. A way to circumvent this problem are non-destructive methods that can be used to screen coral slabs for diagenetic phases at high spatial resolution (Murphy et al., 2017).

310 2D-XRD analysis non-destructively quantifies the amount of calcite cements directly on the coral slab with mm-scale spatial resolution (Smodej et al., 2015; Leupold et al., 2021). However, other types of diagenetic alteration such as aragonite dissolution or aragonite cements cannot be detected by XRD (Allison et al., 2007; McGregor and Abram, 2008). Typically, aragonite cements are patchily distributed (Nothdurft and Webb, 2009; Sayani et al., 2011; Sayani et al., 2022; Smodej et al., 2015), while adjacent areas of the coral's skeleton are unaffected (Zinke et al., 2016). Such local concentrations of diagenetic phases could introduce spikes in the Sr/Ca data or other proxy records, that could be misinterpreted as climate events (Quinn and Taylor, 2006). Use of an SEM with an extra-large chamber in combination with an ultra-variable pressure detector (Fig. A54), allowed us to scan entire core slabs along the proxy sampling tracks without the need for a conductive coating. Our record showed an extreme spike with a Sr/Ca ratio of $9.32 \text{ mmol mol}^{-1}$ on transect 10 of slab 6 (Fig. 5). We were able to attribute this extreme Sr/Ca spike to a patch of aragonite cement and to omit this 'false alarm' spike from further interpretation. This is important as at Enggano Island, such a spike would indicate an extreme positive- IODpIOD event with a cooling exceeding -5°C . Events of this magnitude do not occur in recent time periods captured in the satellite record, and including this Sr/Ca data would have significantly impacted the climatic interpretation of core KNFa. Furthermore, the interval from the base of transect 9 to the top of transect 15 lacks clear seasonal variability in coral Sr/Ca, which is normally indicative of irregularly distributed patches of diagenetic cements impacting the Sr/Ca proxy, but since Enggano Island lies in a region with low seasonality, confirmation by SEM is important to map the extent of this zone. We conclude that it is important to clearly identify and delimit zones of even minor, early marine diagenesis in young, sub-fossil corals, preferable directly adjacent to the sampling transect of Sr/Ca analysis, as a basis for a subsequent climatic interpretation of the Sr/Ca data from sub-fossil corals (Sayani et al., 2022).

5.2 SST_{center} inferred from Enggano coral Sr/Ca data since 1823

335 Two modern coral Sr/Ca records (KN2 and PB) from Enggano Island were shown to closely track satellite SSTs that extend back to 1982 and to reliably record IOD variability, while gridded SST products interpolated from sparse historical data systematically underestimated extreme positive- IODpIOD events, even in the time period covered by satellites (Yang et al., 2020; Pfeiffer et al., 2022). This has been attributed to non-linear ocean atmosphere feedbacks in the south-eastern equatorial Indian Ocean that are not captured in the statistical methods used to interpolate historical SSTs from sparse observational data (Ng et al., 2015; Yang et al., 2020).

340 In this study, we re-evaluate the two single-core modern coral Sr/Ca records as a basis for the interpretation of the sub-fossil KNFa Sr/Ca record. We limit the interpretation of KNFa on aspects clearly seen in each single modern coral record. A composite computed from both cores provides an improved quantitative SST reconstruction (Pfeiffer et al., 2022), but for the

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345 ~~interpretation of KNFa, this would be misleading.~~ Figure A8A9 compares the coral Sr/Ca records of the two modern corals from Enggano Island with the sub-fossil record of KNFa after interpolation to monthly resolution. The most notable feature of the two modern coral Sr/Ca records are large positive Sr/Ca anomalies during the extreme ~~positive- IODpIOD~~ events of ~~1961, 1963, 1967, 1994, 1997 and 2006~~ ~~1997, 1994, 1967, 1963 and 1961~~ (Fig. A8A9, Fig. 6) (Pfeiffer et al., 2022).

Violin and box plots of the monthly Sr/Ca data from each Enggano coral record are computed in time intervals spanning approximately 20 years (note that some variations arise from the total length of the time periods covered by the coral records).

350 The median Sr/Ca ratios of KN2 and PB are offset by ~ 0.065 by ± 0.0156 mmol mol⁻¹ (1σ) (Fig. A8A9), which would correspond to a difference >1 °C assuming a Sr/Ca-SST relationship of -0.06 mmol mol⁻¹ °C⁻¹ (Corrège, 2006; Watanabe and Pfeiffer, 2022), if temperature related. However, offsets in mean or median coral Sr/Ca ratios from different coral colonies are ~~likely~~ due to so-called 'vital effects' (Villiers et al., 1994; Watanabe and Pfeiffer, 2022; Ross et al., 2019) and have been seen even in coral Sr/Ca records from adjacent colonies growing next to temperature loggers (Leupold et al., 2019). For climate reconstructions from corals, it is important that this offset remains constant within a coral core, which has been demonstrated in numerous calibration studies (Ross et al., 2019). The constant difference in median Sr/Ca ratios between KN2 and PB supports the use of Enggano coral Sr/Ca ratios as indicators of SST variability (Fig. A8A9). ~~(Fig. A8).~~

Both modern coral cores show similar distributions of monthly Sr/Ca data in each ~ 20 -year time interval, with a strong positive skewness in time periods with extreme ~~positive- IODpIOD~~ events (~~1950-1969; 2008-1990-2008; 1969-1950~~) and a symmetric distribution in periods without extreme ~~positive- IODpIOD~~ events (Fig. A8A9). This includes the number and spread of outliers (which reflect extreme ~~positive- IODpIOD~~ events). The KNFa record, in contrast, shows symmetric distributions, albeit with a larger spread around the median (indicating a larger standard deviation of the Sr/Ca data) in all time windows between ~~1917-1855-1917~~. This is also seen in the raw, un-interpolated Sr/Ca data of KNFa (Fig. 5). Between ~~1823 and 1854 and 1923~~, the spread of coral Sr/Ca around the median reduces again to ranges seen in the modern cores, with outliers arising from a few extreme positive Sr/Ca values in 1825 indicating an extreme ~~positive- IODpIOD~~ event. The reduction in the standard deviation prior to 1855 is also seen in the raw, un-interpolated Sr/Ca data of core KNFa (Fig. 5).

Recent extreme ~~positive- IODpIOD~~ events (~~1961, 1963, 1967, 1994, 1997 and 2006, 1997, 1994, 1967, 1963 and 1961~~) are ~~recored~~ in the SST_{center} records inferred from KN2 and PB Sr/Ca data, ~~which~~ each indicate a cooling of ~ -4 °C at Enggano Island (Fig. 6, Pfeiffer et al., 2022). These extreme events also impacted the meridional SST gradient in the eastern equatorial Indian Ocean, with warm anomalies in the north and cold anomalies in the south, ~~causing and caused~~ a northward ~~shift of the southern boundary-contraction~~ of the ITCZTCZ (Fig. 1, Fig. A9A10). ~~August-October~~ ~~September-November~~ mean SST_{center} data of KN2 and PB is highly correlated with the meridional SST gradient in the eastern Indian Ocean (Fig. A9A10).

The sub-fossil coral KNFa shows only one large Sr/Ca anomaly in 1825, near the end of the coral record, which is on par with these recent extreme events (Fig. 6). SEM images confirm that the 1825 event cannot be attributed to diagenetic changes and we therefore attribute it to an extreme ~~positive- IODpIOD~~ event – the only one in the interval from ~~1823 to 1854 to 1823~~ recorded at Enggano Island. Between ~~1917-1855-1917~~, KNFa shows several cold anomalies in ~~the~~ austral spring (Fig. 6, Fig. A8A9), the largest of which (~~1881, 1885, 1889, 1907, 1916, 1907, 1889, 1885, 1881~~) are comparable to 2006, a slightly weaker extreme ~~positive- IODpIOD~~ event in the modern record (Pfeiffer et al., 2022; Yang et al., 2020).

To better characterize the changes in SST variability inferred from coral Sr/Ca over time, we computed wavelet power spectra. In the two modern records, extreme ~~positive- IODpIOD~~ events are clearly seen as ~~localized~~ concentrations of power at sub-seasonal to interannual periodicities (Fig. 6). ~~Seasonal variability is not persistent much weaker than interannual variability.~~ This changes in the sub-fossil record of KNFa between ~~1917-1855-1917~~. In this period, seasonal variability is ~~at the dominant persistent~~ signal, while interannual variability is ~~not significant weaker than in the modern data~~ (Fig. 6). ~~Prior to 1855, seasonal variability is again not persistent reduces again, and the single extreme positive- IODpIOD event in 1825 is again seen as a localized concentration of power at sub-seasonal to interannual periodicities (Fig. 6). These results suggest changes~~

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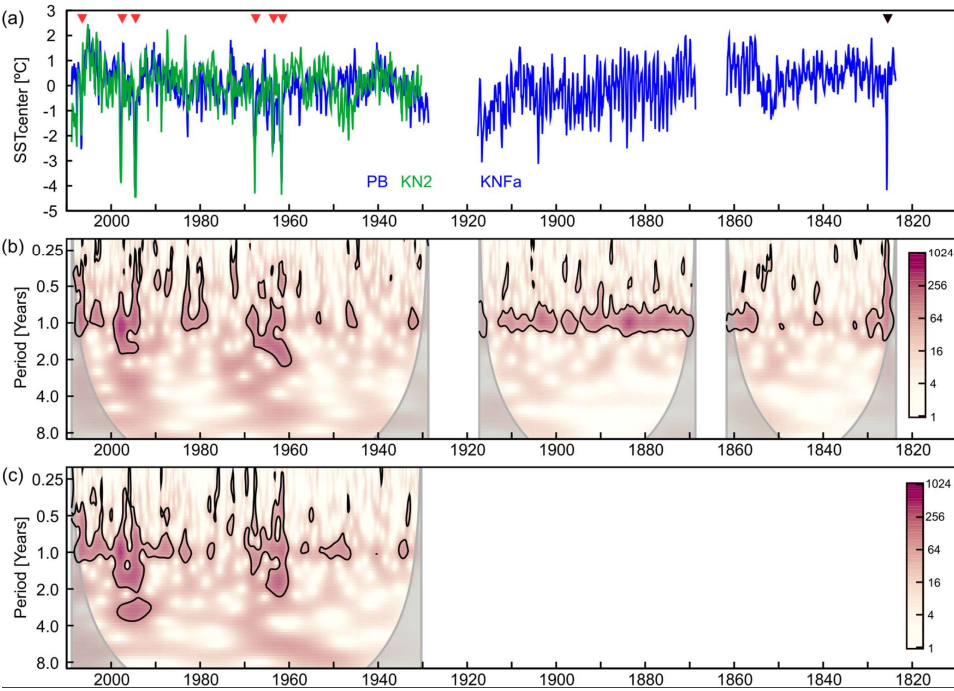
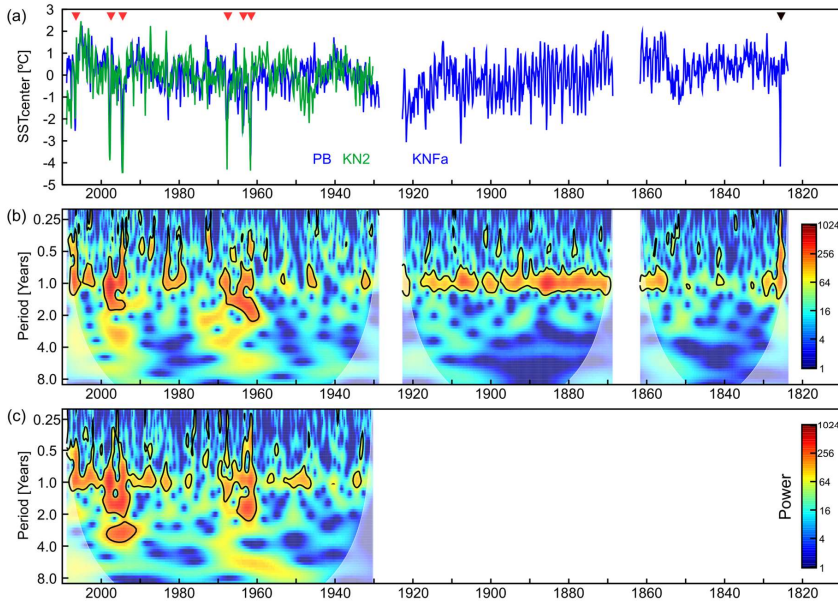
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in the SST variability in the SE Indian Ocean that include changes in seasonality in addition to interannual variability associated with the IOD.



as a concentration of power at seasonal to interannual periodicities (Fig. 6). These results suggest changes in the SST variability

390 in the SE Indian Ocean that include changes in seasonality in addition to interannual variability associated with the IOD.

395 **Figure 6: Modern and sub-fossil, monthly SST_{centre} inferred from Enggano coral Sr/Ca ratios. (a) The monthly SST_{centre} record from Enggano comprises two modern (PB, KN2) and one sub-fossil core (KNFa) and extends from 2008-1930-2008, 1917-1869-1917 and 1823-1861-1823. Thin blue and green lines are monthly data, thick red solid and dashed lines are 10-year running means. Note that the sub-fossil coral chronology is based on U/Th dating with an age uncertainty of ±2.4 years (2σ). Extreme positive IODpIOD events lead to cooling of ≥ -4 °C in 2006, 1997, 1994, 1967, 1963 and 1961, 1963, 1967, 1994, 1997 and 2006 (red arrows). The sub-fossil core KNFa shows an extreme positive IODpIOD event on par with the event in the 1997 in -1825 (black arrow). (b) Wavelet power spectra of SST_{centre} time series of core PB and KNFa. (c) same as (b) but for core KN2. Power spectra of PB and KN2 are dominated by extreme positive IODpIOD events (red arrows in a). SST_{centre} of KNFa shows enhanced seasonal variability between 1917 and 1855 and 1917. Prior to 1855, seasonal variability is comparable to PB and KN2, with one extreme positive IOD event in 1823. Wavelet Power spectra were computed in R using the Morlet Wavelet. Thick black lines indicate significant periodicities at a certain time (p<0.05). Grey shading indicates cone of influence.**

400 5.3 SST seasonality between 1917-1855 and 1855-1917

405 Based on the evolution of SST seasonality at Enggano Island portrayed in T the wavelet power spectra (Fig. 6) of the subfossil coral shows persistent SST seasonality between 1855 and 1917, while the modern corals (and the sub-fossil coral prior to 1855) show localized concentrations of power during extreme pIOD events. To further investigate these changes, we computed mean seasonal cycles of SST_{centre} and their 99 % confidence intervals for the time periods from 2008-1930-2008 (KN2 and PB), 1917-1855-1917 (KNFa) and 1823-1854 (KNFa)-1823 (Fig. 7). These time periods were chosen in order to compare periods with weak and strong SST seasonality. Modern SST_{centre} seasonality inferred from coral Sr/Ca varies from 410 1.1 °C (KN2) to 1 °C (PB) between 2008 and 1930 and 2008, consistent with satellite data of SST that is available since 1982 (Fig. 7). SST_{centre} seasonality increases to ~1.9 °C between 1917-1855-1917 and then decreases again to modern values (~1 °C) between 1823 and 1854 and 1823. The difference in the mean seasonal cycles between 2008-1930-2008 and 1855-1917-1855 is statistically significant at the 99% confidence level, while the mean seasonal cycles between 1930-2008-1930 and 415 1823-1854-1823 are statistically indistinguishable (Fig. 7). In the two modern SST_{centre} records from Enggano Island, the extreme positive IODpIOD events (2006, 1997, 1994, 1967, 1963 and 1961, 1963, 1967, 1994, 1997 and 2006) cause a strong skewness (Fig. 8, Fig. A87, Fig. A8A9). This skewness is reflected in the 99 % confidence intervals around August-October-September-November mean SST_{centre} in Figure 7, and that is also seen in present-day satellite SSTs centered at Enggano Island (Fig. 3).

420 In contrast, in the time period from 1917-1855-1917, when SST_{center} seasonality is significantly enhanced, the distribution of August-October-September-November SST_{center} is symmetric (Fig. 7, Fig. 8), and significantly differs from the modern data (based on a Kolmogorov-Smirnov test, see Table A3). In this period, strong August-October-September-November cooling occurs in almost every year (Fig. 6), although there is also some interannual variability. The magnitude of the mean seasonal SST_{center} cycle as well as the distribution of August-October-September-November SST_{center} are eomparecomparable to much 425 better to satellite SSTs seen today at ~7°S, i.e. off northern Java (Fig. 8, Table A4). Furthermore, maximum SSTs occur 1-2 months earlier than in modern coral SST_{center} and satellite SSTs, suggesting an early onset of austral spring cooling. Our results suggest stronger SE winds extending further to the northwest along the Java-Sumatra coast, and an expansion of the region with strong wind- and upwelling-induced cooling in austral spring. We therefore believe that the increase in the seasonal cycle of SST_{center} between 1855-1917 reflects an earlier onset coupled with an increased-in-the strength of the SE winds in July-October, which then penetrated further north along the Java-Sumatra coast in almost every year, and led to stronger cooling at 430 Enggano Island. This would imply a northward shift in the mean position of the southern boundary of the HCZTCZ to the north of Enggano Island in austral spring, and a northward contraction of the eastern Indian Ocean Warm Pool coupled with a stronger meridional SST gradient in the eastern Indian Ocean (Weller and Cai, 2014; Weller et al., 2014). We favor this interpretation over a change in zonal variability associated with the IOD, as the IOD is by definition an interannual phenomenon of climate variability. At present, positive IODpIODs are relatively rare, impacting the 99 % confidence levels 435 around the August-October-September-November mean SSTs, rather than the monthly mean values of August-October-September-November SSTs (i.e. the mean seasonal cycle itself). Seasonality in the eastern tropical Indian Ocean,

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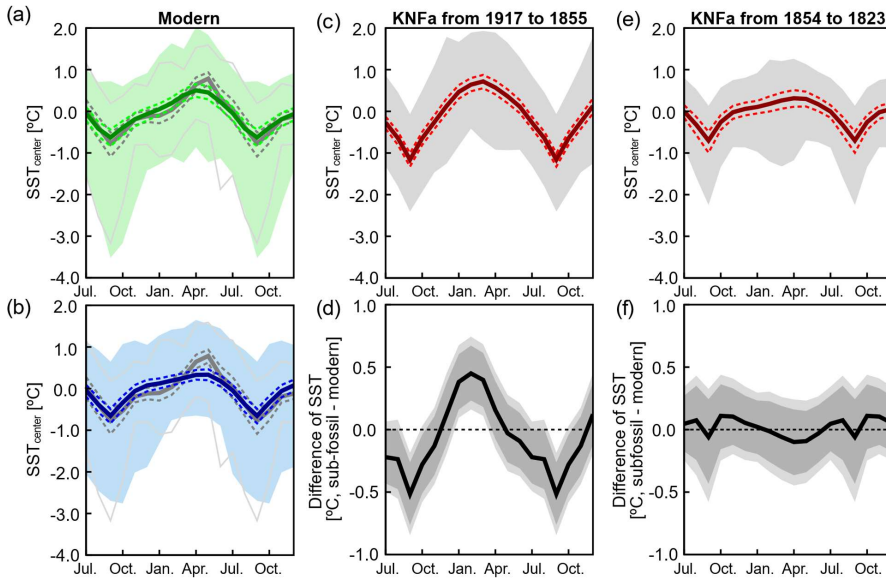
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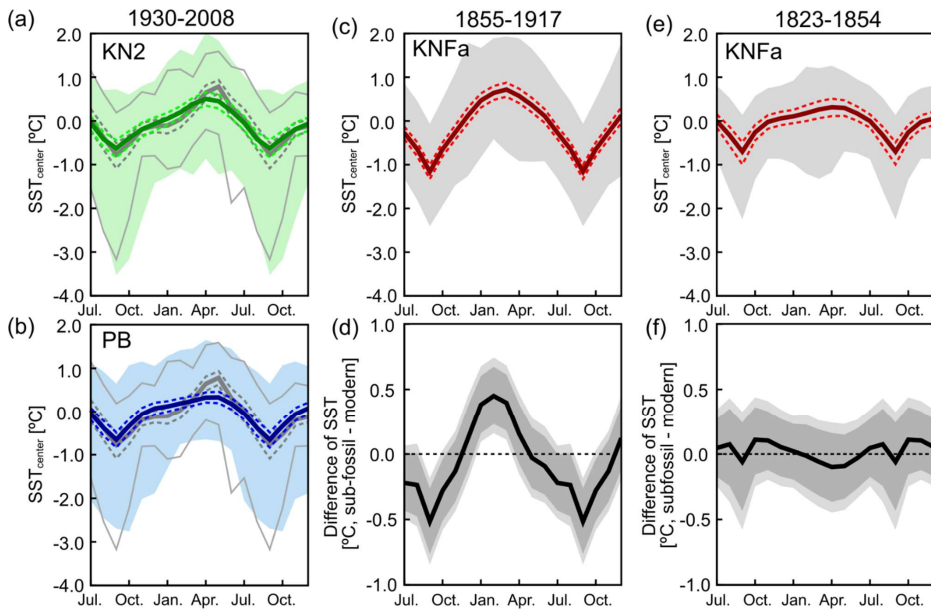
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including the onset of the SE winds of Java and Sumatra, is primarily driven by the Asian summer monsoon, and changes in the mean state of the monsoon may impact and the position of the latitudinal position of the southern boundary of the ITCZTCZ in austral spring (Fig. 1, Fig. 2) (Weller et al., 2014). An analysis of the Australian-Asian monsoon using 43-years of ERA-40 data does show long-term trends in onset/retreat dates and duration in each of the two monsoon seasons (Zhang, 2010), suggesting that this scenario is plausible.

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445 Figure 7: Mean seasonal cycles of SST_{center} derived from modern and sub-fossilhistorical Enggano corals. (a) 2008-1930-2008, core
 KN2 (in green; solid line is monthly mean, dashed green lines are $\pm 1\sigma$, green shading indicates 99 % percentiles of monthly means).
 Satellite SST data (Huang et al., 2021) (mean removed, dark thick grey line is monthly mean, and dashed grey lines are $\pm 1\sigma$; thin
 450 grey lines are 99 % percentiles of monthly means) are shown for comparison. (b) Same as (a), but for core PB (in blue; solid line is
 monthly mean, dashed bluegreen lines are $\pm 1\sigma$, blue shading indicates 99 % percentiles of monthly means). (c) Same as (a) but for
 core KNFa in the time period from 1917-1855-1917 (in red; solid line is monthly mean, dashed redgreen lines are $\pm 1\sigma$, grey shading
 indicates 99 % percentiles of monthly means), (d) Difference of mean seasonal cycles: (2008-1930-2008 monthly average data of KN2
 and PB) minus (1917-1855-1917 of monthly average data of KNFa), with 95 and 99 % confidence levels (dark and light shading,
 respectively) based on a 20 000 sample Monte Carlo. Note the inflated y-axis. (e) and (f) same as (c) and (d) for ~~core~~ KNFa in
 455 the time period from 1823-1854 (KNFa)-1823.

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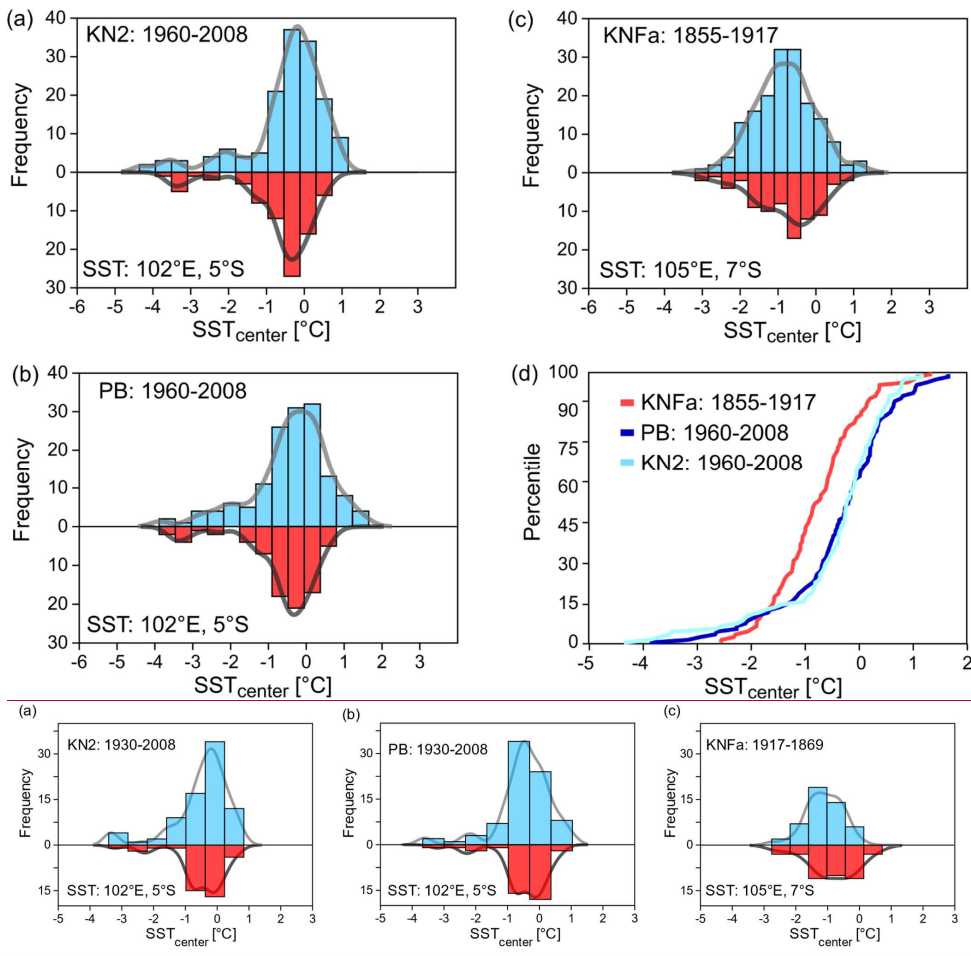


Figure 8: (a)-(c): Distribution of August-October/September-November monthly mean SST_{center} inferred from the Enggano Sr/Ca records (in blue) compared to satellite SSTs (in red, 0.1° grid, 1982-2008, centred to its mean) (Huang et al., 2021), centred to its mean. Thick grey lines are the Kernel density functions of the histograms. (a, b) Modern September-November SST_{center} (KN2 and PB) from 2008-19630-2008 shows the same distribution as SSTs in the grid centred at Enggano island. The negative skewness reflects the occurrence of extreme positive IODpIOD events. Between the time period of 1917-1855-1917, September-November SST_{center} (KNFa) shows a symmetric distribution, comparable to the August-September SST distribution seen today at 7°S. Histograms computed using PAST (Hammer et al., 2001). (d) Percentiles of SST_{center} shown in (a), (b) and (c). See Table A3 and A4 for a comparison of the distributions using a Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. Histograms and percentiles were computed using PAST (Hammer et al., 2001).

5.4 Meridional and zonal Indian Ocean SST gradients in historical data

In this section, we assess how changes in the meridional and zonal SST gradients across the tropical Indian Ocean may have contributed to the change in mean climate inferred from the Enggano corals. We first confirm that the corals from Enggano Island track meridional changes in the North-South-temperature gradient in the eastern Indian Ocean using satellite data. Following (Weller et al., 2014), the meridional temperature gradient is calculated as the difference between SST averaged over (90-110°E, 2.5-7.5°N) and (90-110°E, 10°S-Equator). This index correlates negatively with September-November SST at Enggano Island (satellite SST, 1982-2024) and coral SST_{center} in the period of overlap (1982-2008) (Fig. A10). The North-

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475 South SST gradient calculated from satellite SST correlates with the North-South temperature gradient calculated from HadCRUT5 (Morice et al., 2021), which extends back to historical periods with a resolution of 5 x 5° grids. HadCRUT5 blends SST and surface air temperatures, but does not use spatial interpolation to fill data gaps (Morice et al., 2021), providing the best coverage of actual historical temperature data. Note that the northern box of HadCRUT5 is averaged from the equator to 10°N due to the lower spatial resolution of the dataset, and slightly underestimates the magnitude of interannual variability (Fig. A10). Between 1930 and 2008, September-November SST_{centre} inferred from the modern Enggano corals correlates negatively with the meridional temperature gradient calculated from HadCRUT5 (Fig. A10).

480 In the satellite era, interannual variations of meridional and zonal SST gradients across the tropical Indian Ocean are coupled, i.e. a northward contraction of the Indian Ocean Warm Pool is typically also associated with a reversal of the zonal SST gradient, resulting in a positive IODpIOD event (Weller and Cai, 2014). Only few strong IOD events, such as the event of 1982, feature large zonal anomalies while the southern boundary of the TCZ remains south of Enggano Island (Weller et al., 2014). To further assess this relationship on historical time scales, we have compared imputed meridional and zonal temperature gradients across the tropical Indian Ocean from historical data using We have used HadCRUT5, a dataset that blends SST and surface air temperatures, but does not use spatial interpolation to fill data gaps (Morice et al., 2021), providing the best coverage of actual temperature measurements before 1900. Note, however, that these long-term temperature SST gradients may still be affected by sparse observations in the Indian Ocean prior to the satellite era (Gopika et al., 2020). The zonal temperature SST gradient is calculated as the temperature difference between (50-70°E, 10°S-10°N) and (90-110°E, 10°S-Equator). The zonal gradient in the equatorial Indian Ocean shows a long-term increase reflecting the continuous warming of the western Indian Ocean, which appears to have started before the beginning of historical records (Fig. 9) (Roxy et al., 2014; Gopika et al., 2020; Pfeiffer et al., 2017), at rates exceeding eastern Indian Ocean warming (Gopika et al., 2020).

485 In contrast, the meridional temperature SST gradient, calculated from HadCRUT5 in contrast, does not show a significant long-term trend, but multidecadal variations. It reverses in sign and diverges from the zonal SST gradient prior to 1925, with a warmer north-eastern Indian Ocean relative to the south-eastern tropical Indian Ocean (Fig. 9). In this period, the meridional SST gradient may have even exceeded present-day values. Taken together, this suggests a warmer eastern Indian Ocean (relative to the west) with a stronger north-south meridional temperature SST gradient in the east. Similar results (not shown) where obtained using GISS Surface Temperature data (GISTEMP v4, 250 km smoothing) (Lenssen et al., 2019). Thus, the positive linear relationship between meridional and zonal SST gradients seen in the satellite era on interannual time scales (Weller and Cai, 2014) does not hold on historical multidecadal periods. The positive north-south SST gradient prior to ~1930 should have driven stronger SE winds off Java and Sumatra in austral spring, which may have shifted and shift the mean

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position of the southern boundary-mean position of the ITCZ to the north of Enggano Island in September-November, supporting our interpretation of the Enggano coral Sr/Ca data.

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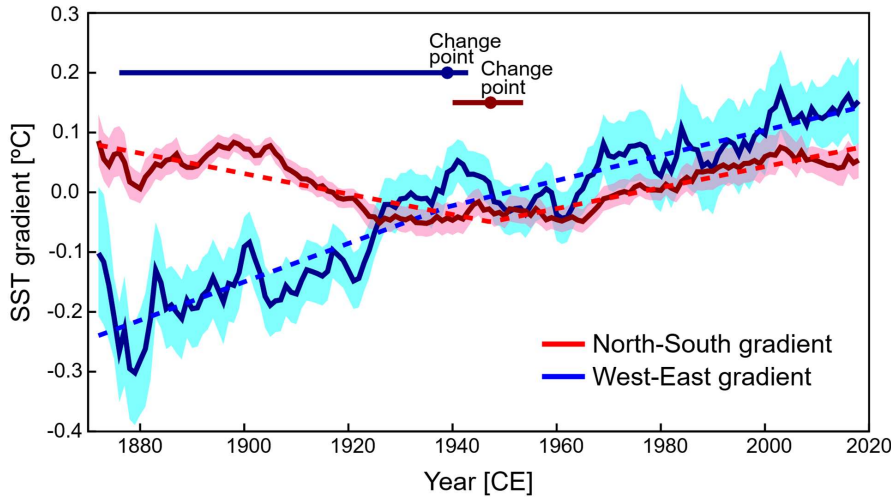


Figure 9: Temperature gradients in the tropical Indian Ocean. North-South (red; $-90-110^{\circ}\text{E}$, $02.5-107.5^{\circ}\text{N}$ minus $90-110^{\circ}\text{E}$, 10°S -Equator) and West-East (blue; $50-70^{\circ}\text{E}$, $10^{\circ}\text{S}-10^{\circ}\text{N}$ minus $90-110^{\circ}\text{E}$, 10°S -Equator) Indian Ocean temperature gradients using HadCRUT5 (Morice et al., 2021). Temperature gradients shown are smoothed using 21 year moving averages. Pink and blue shades indicate uncertainty (1σ) calculated using bootstrap methods. The West-East Indian Ocean temperature gradient increases steadily since 1880 ($p < 0.01$, Mann-Kendall test), but possibly decelerates after 1939 (95%CI: 1876-1943 CE, SiZer test (Chaudhuri and Marron, 1999), blue horizontal line with circle). The exact onset of the deceleration cannot be determined (note the large 95% confidence levels of the SiZer test). The North-South Indian Ocean temperature gradient does not show a significant long-term trend ($p > 0.1$, Mann-Kendall test) and reverses prior to 1947 (95%CI 1940-1953 CE, red horizontal line with circle).

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5.5 Comparison with other proxy records from the SE tropical Indian Ocean

An annual mean warm pool SST reconstruction based on corals from various sites of the West Pacific Warm Pool and tree rings from Java extends back to the late 18th century (D'Arrigo et al., 2006). This reconstruction shows cooling prior the 1930s, which would be consistent with stronger SE trade winds and greater cooling seen at Enggano Island in austral spring. Warm intervals interrupted by short cold spells between 1815-1850 correspond to the section of 'modern' SST seasonality that is seen in the Enggano record between 1823 and 1854.

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The first coral reconstruction of coastal upwelling associated with the IOD eastern Indian Ocean climate variability derives from a coral $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record from the northern Mentawai Islands, located approximately 4° further north of Enggano Island (Fig. 2, Fig. 3, Fig. A24, Fig. A32) (Abram et al., 2008). The record lies at the northern edge of the Sumatra upwelling zone and extends from 1997 to 1858 to 1997 (Fig. 10), i.e. it overlaps with the two modern Enggano coral Sr/Ca records and the upper third of the sub-fossil coral KNFa). The northern Mentawai coral records the most extreme positive-IODpIOD events in 1961, 1994 and 1997, when the boundary of the ITCZ shifted far northwards, but not the events of 1963 and 1967 that are seen in the modern Enggano Sr/Ca records (Fig. 10). Wind-induced coastal upwelling did not extend that far north during these events (Abram et al., 2015). The northern Mentawai record thus provides constraints on the northward shift in the position of the southern boundary of the ITCZ in austral spring. The northern Mentawai coral record does not show the increase in SST seasonality between 1817 and 1855 and 1917 seen in the KNFa coral record (Fig. 10, Fig. A11), which is attributed to a strengthening of the SE winds off Java and Sumatra in austral spring driven by the Asian monsoon. This would suggest that the boundary of the ITCZ did not shift beyond the northern Mentawai Islands in this period. Prior to 1961, the northern Mentawai record shows one extreme positive-IODpIOD event in 1877 that coincided with the very strong El

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535 Nino of 1877/78 (Abram et al., 2008). This event caused record drought and famine in much of Asia (Davis, 2002) and strong warming in the western tropical Indian Ocean (Pfeiffer and Dullo, 2006; Charles et al., 1997). The Mentawai record thus suggests that one extreme positive IOD pIOD event occurred between 1917 and 1855 and 1917 which was at least on par with the devastating event of 1997.

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540 A reconstruction of the Indian Ocean Dipole Mode Index using a network of coral oxygen isotope records from the tropical Indian Ocean comprising the northern Mentawai record, Bali (Charles et al., 2003) and the Seychelles (Pfeiffer and Dullo, 2006; Charles et al., 1997) suggests that two additional pIOD events occurred between 1855 and 1917 (Abram et al., 2008; Abram et al., 2020). Note, however, that these events are not seen in the northern Mentawai record and may also be driven by warming in the western Indian Ocean, rather than cooling in the east (Jiang et al., 2022). Regardless of this, the low number of pIOD events between 1855-1917 would support the interpretation that the Enggano Sr/Ca record shows a mean state change between 1855-1917 in response to an enhanced meridional SST gradient in the eastern Indian Ocean, rather than an increase in IOD frequency. This de-coupling between meridional and zonal variability has no analogue in the reliable instrumental record. However, future projections also suggest that meridional and zonal variability may de-couple depending on the long-term evolution of the temperature gradients in the Indian Ocean (Weller et al., 2014).

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545 New coral proxy data from South Pagai, which is part of the Southern Mentawai Islands and lies approximately halfway between the northern Mentawai Islands and Enggano, could help to further constrain the relationship between meridional and zonal variability in the Indian Ocean. South Pagai is likely the best candidate for a stationary IOD teleconnection (Abram et al., 2015). A modern coral $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record from South Pagai extends back to 1959 and records all pIOD events seen in the modern Enggano Sr/Ca record (Pfeiffer et al., 2022). Unfortunately, there is no record from South Pagai that overlaps with the Enggano Sr/Ca data from 1855-1917. A sub-fossil coral $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record from South Pagai that extends from 1770-1820 shows 6 pIOD events in 50 years. This record pre-dates the 1823-1854 section of the Enggano record, where seasonality again compares with the modern Enggano corals KN2 and PB.

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550 Unfortunately, given the age uncertainty of the sub-fossil Enggano coral Sr/Ca record, it is not possible to unequivocally identify this event in core KNFa. At present, extreme positive IOD events, like the one in 1877 recorded at Mentawai, are less pronounced and more difficult to identify at sites south of 7°S, due to the strong August-October cooling seen there in every year (note that coastal upwelling cools SSTs to ~25 °C at all sites off Java and Sumatra (Fig. 3), so that anomalously strong upwelling is better recorded at sites with weaker seasonal upwelling and warmer mean August-October SSTs). Therefore, it is still difficult to relate the changes in meridional variability inferred from the Enggano corals to zonal variability associated with the IOD.

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555 Another independent source of information on low-frequency climatic changes in the SE tropical Indian Ocean is provided by sediment cores. Their temporal resolution and age control are much lower when compared to sub-fossil coral records, but their record is more continuous and covers longer time periods. (Steinke et al., 2014a; Steinke et al., 2014b) investigated a sediment core in the Timor Sea, north-west of Sumba Island (Fig. 11) spanning the last 2000 years (Fig. 11). Sumba Island is located south-east of the main upwelling zone off the coast of Java (Fig. 2). In this region, moderate and extreme positive IOD pIOD events cause anomalous cooling of SSTs (note that moderate pIODs tend to cause even stronger cooling than strong ones) (Fig. A32). A modern coral Sr/Ca record from nearby Timor Island (10 °S, 123 °E), which extends from 2004 to 1914 to 2004, shows that decadal SST variability in this region tracks decadal IOD variability (Cahyarini et al., 2014b). The top of the sediment core from Sumba Island is dated to 1984 ± 6 years CE (Steinke et al., 2014a) (Fig. 11). The record includes mixed layer temperatures inferred from foraminiferal Mg/Ca ratios with a temporal resolution of ~5 years, and relative abundances of mixed layer and thermocline dwelling foraminifera, with a temporal resolution of ~10 years (Fig. 11). Unfortunately, a turbidite limits the overlap with the Enggano Sr/Ca record to 1845 ± 9 years BP (Steinke et al., 2014a), which hampers a comparison with the shift back to modern SST seasonality between 1822 and 1854 seen in the coral record. Nevertheless, the sediment core data shows a cooling of SSTs from a mean of 25.0 °C between 1932-1984-1932 to a mean of

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23.8 °C between 1845 and 1928 and 1845, i.e. the difference exceeds -1 °C, which is statistically significant based on a two-sided students t-test ($p < 0.05$). The inferred decrease in mean SST is accompanied by an increase of thermocline dwelling foraminifera (Fig. 11), while mixed-layer foraminifera abundance remained fairly constant (Fig. 11). This indicates that a shallowing of the thermocline in the SE tropical Indian Ocean prior to ~1930, favoring increased upwelling of cold water, was the most likely driver of the inferred cooling trend seen at Sumba Island. Steinke et al. (2014b) linked this decrease in mean SST and thermocline depth to stronger SE trade winds in the SE tropical Indian Ocean, which is fully consistent with our interpretation of the Enggano Sr/Ca record. Furthermore, (Steinke et al., 2014b) suggest that these changes are part of a longer-term trend to cooler temperatures and a shallower thermocline during the Little Ice Age, despite some modulation by low-frequency multi-decadal variability. During the medieval warm period, SE Indian Ocean SSTs warmed again and the thermocline deepened, which should have reduced upwelling of cold water off Java and Sumatra (Steinke et al., 2014b). Interestingly, a 40-year sub-fossil coral Sr/Ca record from Lampung Bay, located between Java and Sumatra, suggests reduced seasonal and interannual (IOD) variability during the medieval warm period (Cahyarini et al., 2021), consistent with the record of (Steinke et al., 2014b). Thus, the study of Steinke et al. (2014a,b) lends support to the changes in mean climate in the eastern equatorial Indian Ocean inferred from the Enggano Sr/Ca record, and suggests that it may be part of a centennial trend modulated by multi-decadal variability that extends beyond the time period covered by the instrumental and coral SST record from the SE tropical Indian Ocean.

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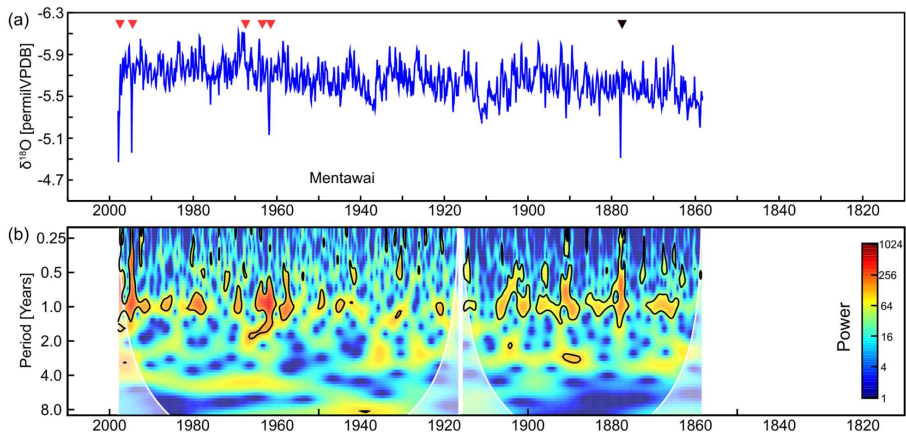
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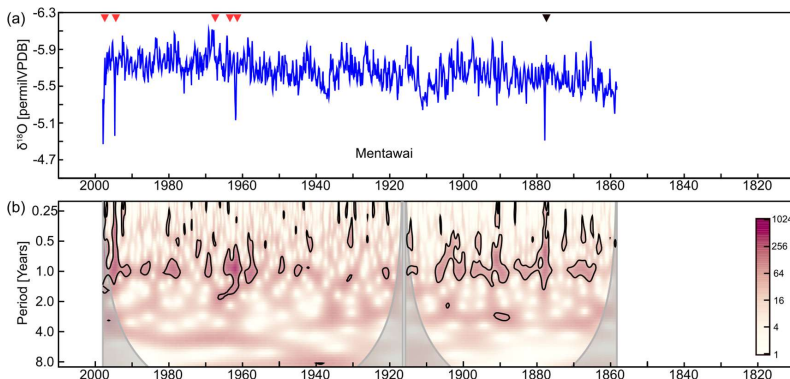


Figure 10: Monthly coral $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record from northern Mentawai from (Abram et al., 2008). (a) monthly mean coral $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ (thin blue lines) and ten-year running averages (thick red line) from 1858-1997. The data is scaled so that one tick mark corresponds to 1°C assuming a coral $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ -SST relationship of $-0.2 \text{ permil } 1^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ (Watanabe and Pfeiffer, 2022). Red arrows mark extreme positive IODplOD events seen in the Sr/Ca record from Enggano (Pfeiffer et al., 2022). Note: The Mentawai coral record does not record the events of 1963 and 1967. One extreme positive IODplOD event is recorded in 1877 (black arrow). (b) Wavelet Power spectrum of the Mentawai record, with largest variability on interannual periodicities. Wavelet Power spectrum was computed in R using the Morlet Wavelet. Thick black lines indicate significant periodicities at a certain time ($p < 0.05$). Grey shading indicates cone of influence.

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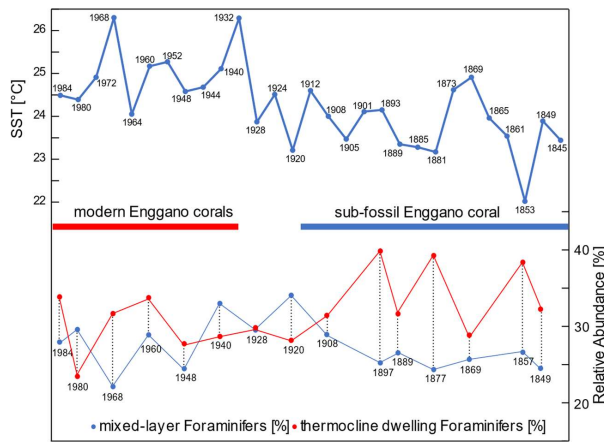


Figure 11. Top: Mean SSTs inferred from Foraminiferal Mg/Ca ratios from a sediment core taken off Sumba Island (Steinke et al., 2014a; Steinke et al., 2014b). Each dot represents one measurement, with estimated ages of (Steinke et al., 2014b). Red (blue) horizontal bars indicate time period covered by modern (sub-fossil) coral records from Enggano Island. Bottom: Relative abundance of mixed layer (blue dots) and thermocline dwelling (red dots) foraminifers foraminifera (Steinke et al., 2014b). See text for discussion.

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6 Summary and Conclusions

The Enggano Sr/Ca record reveals changes in SST seasonality in the SE tropical Indian Ocean on historical time scales. A period with enhanced seasonality occurs between 1917 and 1855 and 1917 due to a cooling of mean August-October/September-November SSTs. This indicates an early onset of the Asian summer monsoon coupled with a northward expansion and strengthening of the SE winds off Java and Sumatra, qualitatively consistent with low-frequency, centennial-scale changes inferred from high-resolution sediment core data (Steinke et al., 2014a,b). We attribute the enhanced seasonality to an enhanced meridional temperature gradient in the eastern tropical Indian Ocean, with warming in the north relative to the

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south, and a ~~northward~~-shift of the ~~southern boundary of the ITCZ~~TCZ to the north of 5°S in austral spring due to a stronger ~~Asian summer monsoon~~. We note that the positive correlation between the meridional and the zonal SST gradient in the tropical Indian Ocean seen on interannual time scales does not hold on ~~historical-multi-deadal~~ time periods. Between ~~1917 and 1855 and 1917~~, the magnitude of the mean ~~September~~August-~~November~~ cooling at Enggano Island is comparable to the cooling seen today during ‘weaker’ extreme and moderate ~~positive-IO~~pIOD events. As even moderate IOD events may have significant climatic impacts in Indian Ocean rim countries, this warrants further investigation, especially since our data indicate quite abrupt transitions in seasonality on historical time ~~periods~~seales. We conclude that meridional variability in the SE tropical Indian Ocean needs to be better understood. An array approach combining coral proxy data and high-resolution sediment core records along the coasts of Java and Sumatra would be ideal to better capture the full spectrum of climate variability in the SE tropical Indian Ocean. ▲

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Author contribution: M.P. conceived the study and wrote the paper. H.T. measured and interpreted the Sr/Ca data, L.R. assessed the preservation of the coral samples. ~~T.K.W. helped with statistical analysis.~~ L.R., T.K.W., S.I., D.G.-S. and S.Y.C. contributed to data analysis and interpretation. ~~D.G.-S. supported the Sr/Ca analysis.~~ T.K.W., C.C.W., C.-C.S., ~~J.Z. and G.-J.B. helped dated~~ing the samples and ~~helped~~ with the development of the age models. ~~J.Z. and G.-J.B. developed the method of coral luminescence scanning and helped with the interpretation of the data.~~ S.Y.C. selected the study area and led the fieldwork. ~~All authors contributed to writing the manuscript.~~

Competing interests: The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Data and materials availability: All methods needed to evaluate the conclusions in the paper are present in the paper and/or the supplementary material. The Sr/Ca will be archived at the Paleoclimatology Branch of NOAA's National Center for Environmental Information (NCEI) (<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/data-access/paleoclimatology-data>) after acceptance of the manuscript. The raw materials are stored at BRIN (Indonesia).

Acknowledgments: We thank Karen Bremer for laboratory assistance and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) for funding the projects 468545728, ~~468545267- SPP 2299/Project number 441832482, as well as~~ 260218773 and 39931928. S.Y.C. acknowledges support from the Indonesia Toray Science Foundation Research Grant 2007 and the Alexander von Humboldt Georg Forster Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers (Ref 3.5 - IDN - 1158893 - GF-E). H.T. and T.W. were supported by the program ‘Multiple approaches for understanding earth environmental changes using biogenetic carbonates’, Strategic Young Researcher Overseas Visits Program for Accelerating Brain Circulation, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan. ▲

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We acknowledge the Indonesia Government Research Permit No: 46/SIP/IV/FR/5/2022. U/Th dating was supported by grants from the National Taiwan University (NTU) Core Consortiums Project (112L894202), Higher Education Sprout Project of the Ministry of Education (112L901001) and the National Science and Technology Council (111-2116-M-002-022-MY3).

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Appendices

Table A1: Coral growth rates

Coral core	Growth rate (mm/year)	Standard deviation (1σ)
PB	14.3	3.6
KN2	10.3	2.5
KNFa (1855-197)	10.8	2.4
KNFa (1823-1854)	11.4	2.2

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655 **Table A2: Uranium and Thorium isotopic compositions and ²³⁰Th ages of core KNFa by MC-ICPMS, Thermo Electron Neptune, at National Taiwan University.**

Sample ID	Weight g	²³⁸ U ppb ^a	²³² Th ppt	d ²³⁴ U measured ^b	[²³⁰ Th/ ²³² Th] activity	[²³⁰ Th/ ²³² Th] ppm ^c	Age uncorrected	Age corrected ^{c*}	d ²³⁴ U _{initial} corrected ^b	AD uncorrected	AD corrected
KNFa(2/11)	0.1785	1870.4 ± 2.0	2115.3 ± 5.7	146.2 ± 1.8	0.001395 ± 0.000030	20.33 ± 0.44	132.8 ± 2.9	107 ± 13	146.2 ± 1.8	1,881 ± 3	1,907 ± 13
KNFa(3/11)*	0.2028	2553.4 ± 2.1	494.8 ± 2.4	143.2 ± 1.3	0.001241 ± 0.000013	105.6 ± 1.2	118.4 ± 1.3	113.9 ± 2.6	143.2 ± 1.3	1,897.1 ± 1.3	1,901.6 ± 2.6
KNFa(5/11)	0.1815	1845.4 ± 1.7	521.5 ± 2.7	143.1 ± 1.8	0.001621 ± 0.000015	94.6 ± 1.0	154.7 ± 1.4	148.2 ± 3.6	143.2 ± 1.8	1,859.0 ± 1.4	1,865.5 ± 3.6
KNFa(7/11)*	0.2011	2565.9 ± 2.1	330.6 ± 2.3	143.8 ± 1.2	0.001713 ± 0.000013	219.2 ± 2.2	163.4 ± 1.2	160.4 ± 1.9	143.8 ± 1.2	1,852.1 ± 1.2	1,855.1 ± 1.9
KNFa(8/11)	0.2092	1842.3 ± 2.2	224.9 ± 2.2	144.9 ± 1.6	0.001658 ± 0.000011	223.9 ± 2.7	158.0 ± 1.1	155.2 ± 1.8	144.9 ± 1.6	1,855.7 ± 1.1	1,858.5 ± 1.8
KNFa(10/11)	0.1965	1791.0 ± 2.0	260.4 ± 2.4	145.7 ± 1.7	0.001923 ± 0.000014	218.2 ± 2.6	183.2 ± 1.4	179.9 ± 2.2	145.7 ± 1.7	1,830.5 ± 1.4	1,833.8 ± 2.2

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^aChemistry was performed on Sep. 15th, 2013.

^bChemistry was performed on Jul. 2nd, 2015.

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Analytical errors are 2σ of the mean

$$\alpha^{238}\text{U} = [^{238}\text{U}] \times 137.77 (\pm 0.11\%) \text{ for marine samples (Hiess et al., 2012); } \delta^{234}\text{U} = ([^{234}\text{U}/^{238}\text{U}]_{\text{activity}} - 1) \times 1000$$

^b $\delta^{234}\text{U}_{\text{initial}}$ corrected was calculated based on ²³⁰Th age (T), i.e., $\delta^{234}\text{U}_{\text{initial}} = \delta^{234}\text{U}_{\text{measured}} \times e^{\lambda^{234}\text{T}}$, and T is corrected age.

$$\alpha^{230}\text{Th}/^{238}\text{U}_{\text{activity}} = 1 - e^{-\lambda^{230}\text{T}} + (\delta^{234}\text{U}_{\text{measured}}/1000)[\lambda^{230}/(\lambda^{230} - \lambda^{234})](1 - e^{-(\lambda^{230} - \lambda^{234})\text{T}}), \text{ where T is the age.}$$

665 Decay constants are 9.1705 x 10⁻⁶ yr⁻¹ for ²³⁰Th, 2.8221 x 10⁻⁶ yr⁻¹ for ²³⁴U (Cheng et al., 2012), and 1.55125 x 10⁻¹⁰ yr⁻¹ for ²³⁸U (Jaffey et al., 1971)

^dThe degree of detrital ²³⁰Th contamination is indicated by the [²³⁰Th/²³²Th] atomic ratio instead of the activity ratio.

^eAge corrections for samples were calculated using an estimated atomic ²³⁰Th/²³²Th ratio of 4 ± 2 ppm (Shen et al., 2008).

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670 **Table A3: Results of Kolmogorov-Smirnov test (two samples) comparing the distributions of monthly September, October and November coral Sr/Ca data. D: distance between the empirical distribution functions. The null hypothesis that the samples are drawn from the same distribution is rejected if p<0.01 (bold numbers).**

coral	PB	KN2	KNFa (1855-1917)
PB	x	D: 0.075	D: 0.3
KN2	p: 0.80	x	D: 0.36
KNFa (1855-1917)	p: 0.001	p: 0.001	x

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675 **Table A4: Results of Kolmogorov-Smirnov test (two samples) comparing the distributions of monthly September, October and November satellite SSTs from 1982-2008 at 5°S and 7°S (centered) with SST_{centred} inferred from the corals. The null hypothesis that the samples are drawn from the same distribution is rejected if p<0.01 (bold numbers).**

	PB	KN2	KNFa (1855-1917)
SST 102°E, 5°S	p: 0.066	p: 0.127	p: 0.001
SST 105°E, 7°S	p: 0.005	p: 0.001	p: 0.0358

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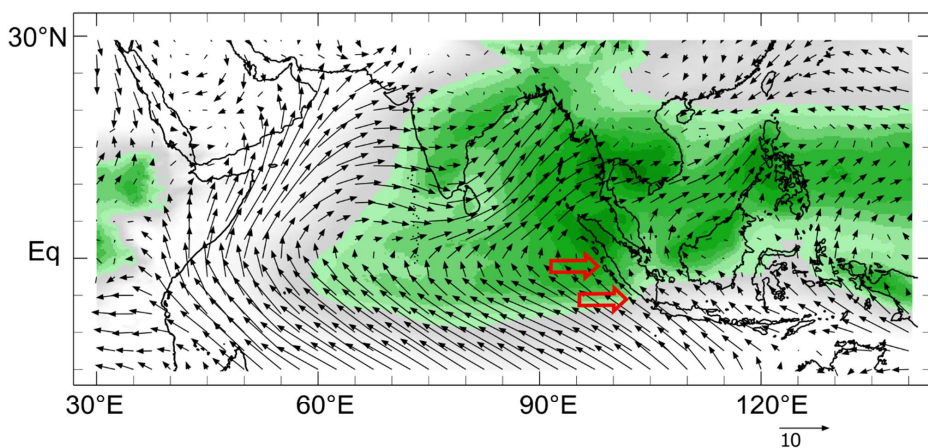
Figure A1: Mean September outgoing longwave radiation (OLR, colors) (Schreck et al., 2018) and surface winds (vectors) (Kalnay et al., 1996) in the tropical Indian Ocean. (a) 1991-2023 average (b) composite of extreme pIOD events (1994, 1997, 2006, 2019, 2023). OLR ≤ 240 Wm⁻² (green shading) indicates the TCZ. Red arrows indicate position of Enggano Island at 5°S and northern Mentawai at 1°S. Note that the boundary of the TCZ shifts to the north of Enggano Island during extreme pIOD events. Charts computed at <https://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/>.

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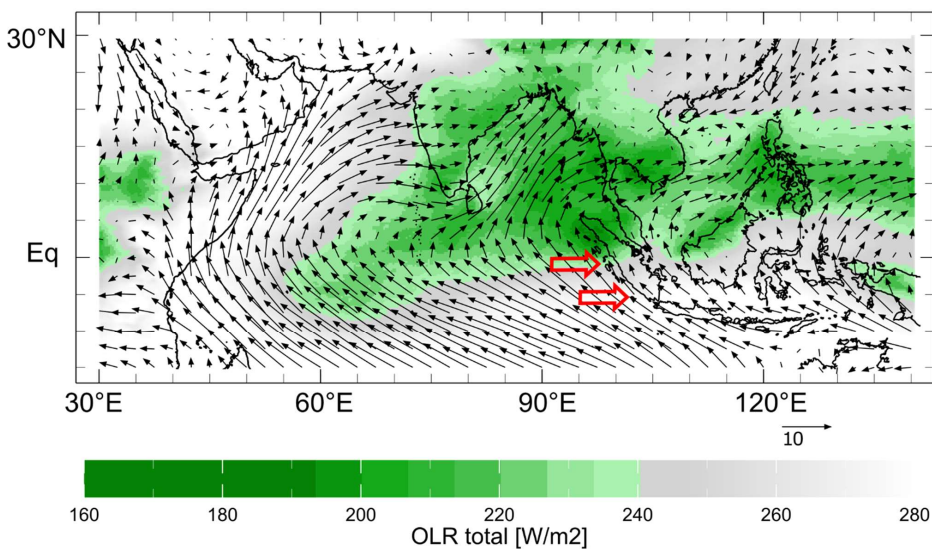
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(a) Mean September OLR and surface winds, 1991-2023

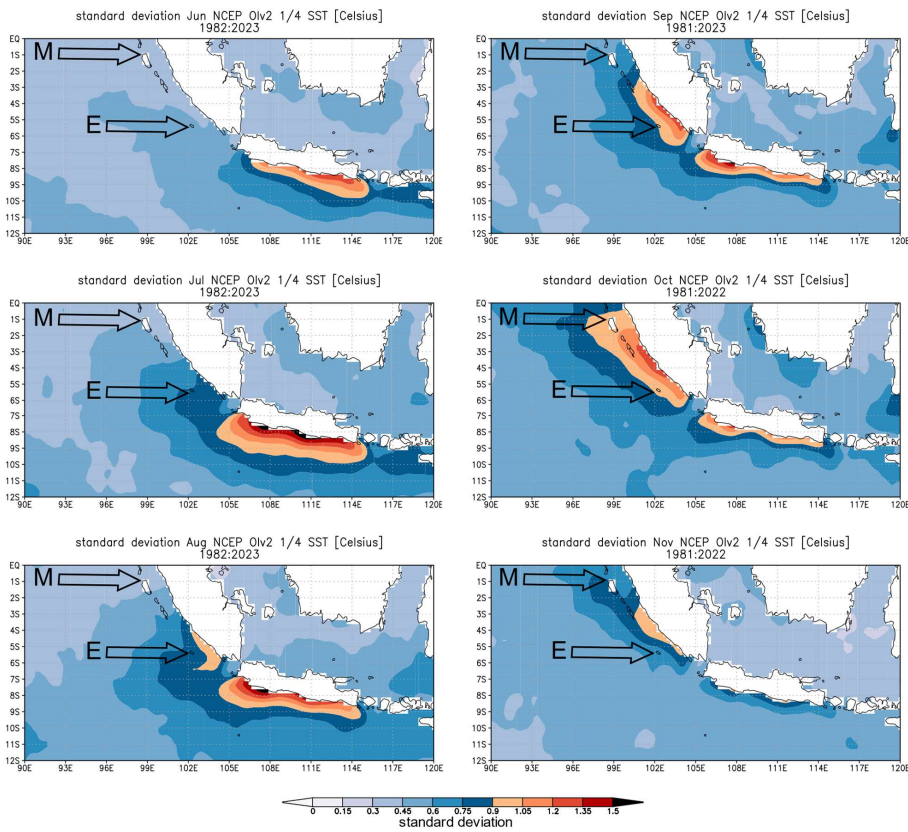


(b) Mean September OLR and surface winds during extreme pIOD events



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695 **Figure A21:** Evolution of coastal upwelling off Java and Sumatra in austral spring (June–November) as expressed in the standard deviation of monthly mean SST (colors). Coastal upwelling starts off Java in June, strengthens in July and spreads to southern Sumatra in July/August. In September/October, upwelling reaches the Mentawai islands located between 3° S and the equator. Coastal upwelling subsides in November. Arrows mark position of Enggano (E) and Mentawai (M). Charts were computed at the knmi climate explorer (<https://climexp.knmi.nl>)

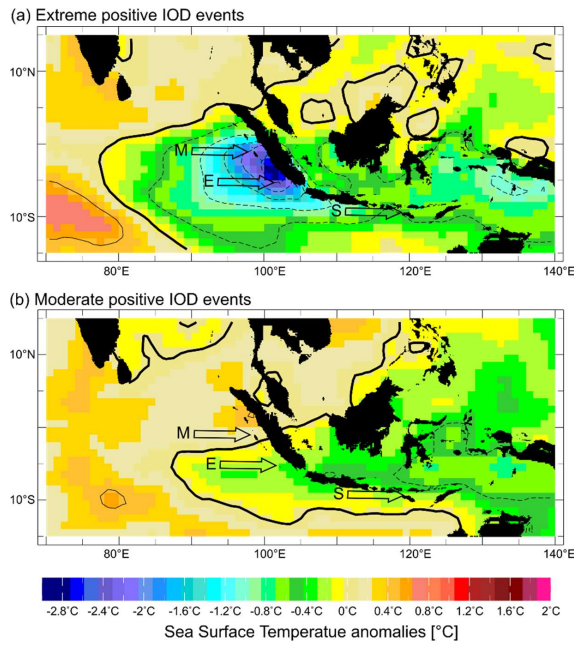
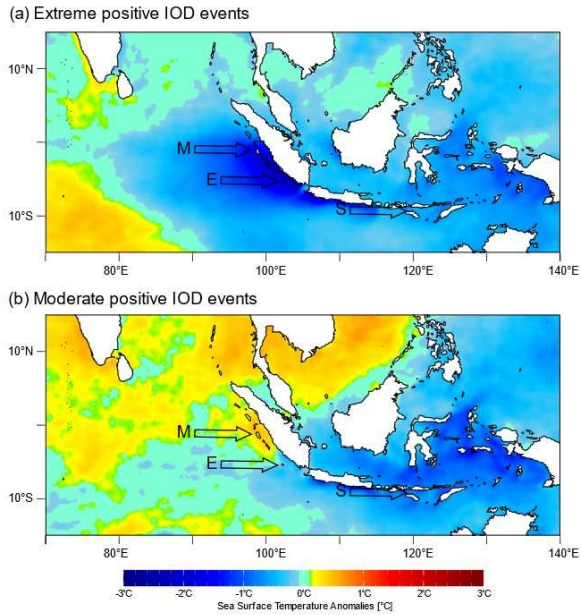


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Figure A32: Composite maps of **September-August-November** SST anomalies during (a) extreme **positive-IOpIOD** events (1994, 1997, 2006, 2019, 2006, 1997, 1994) and (b) moderate **positive-IOpIOD** events (1982, 1983, 2012, 2015, 2012, 1982, 1983). Arrows mark position of Enggano (E), Mentawai (M) and Sumba (S). **Thick black lines mark zero contours, thin solid lines positive anomalies and thin dashed lines negative anomalies at 0.5° C steps.** Data from AVHRR-OI SST (1/4° grids, 1982-2022) (Huang et al., 2021). Charts computed at <https://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/>.

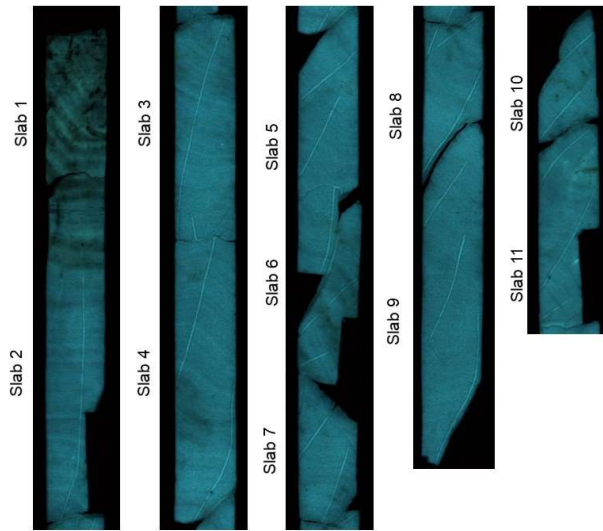
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Figure A43: Luminescence scan of the sub-fossil coral core KNFa from Enggano. Core slabs are numbered. Note the dull, mottled appearance of the core top, which extends to the top of slab 2 and indicates potential secondary alteration. Parts of slab 6 look similar, although the effect is not as pronounced. These parts and adjacent transects were investigated using the Hitachi SU3900 Scanning electron microscope (SEM) with extra-large chamber. Slab 10 and 11 show localized alterations which occur in areas affected by bioerosion.

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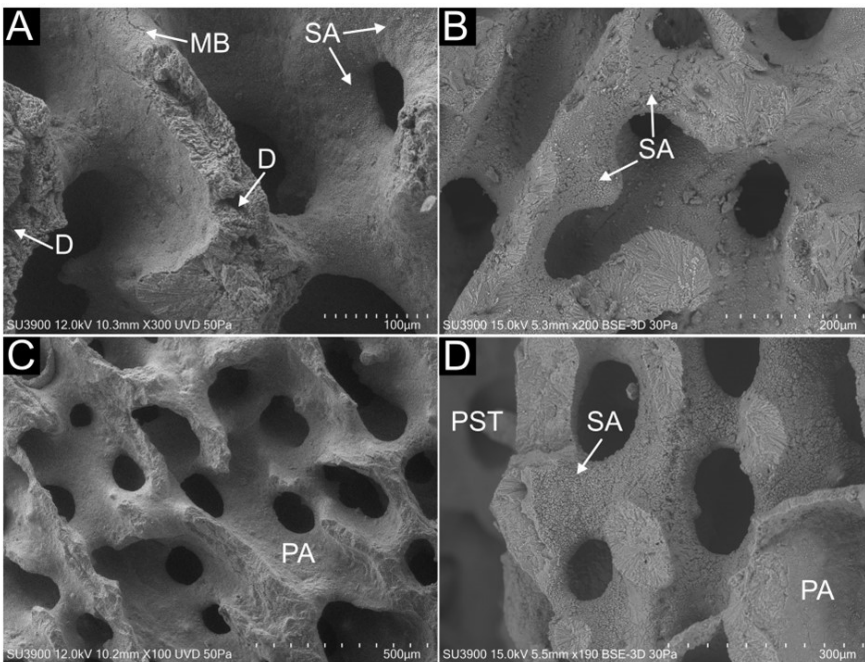
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Figure A54: Hitachi SU3900 Scanning electron microscope with extra-large chamber. The sample holder has a diameter of 28 cm, shown here with slab 6 of core KNFa.

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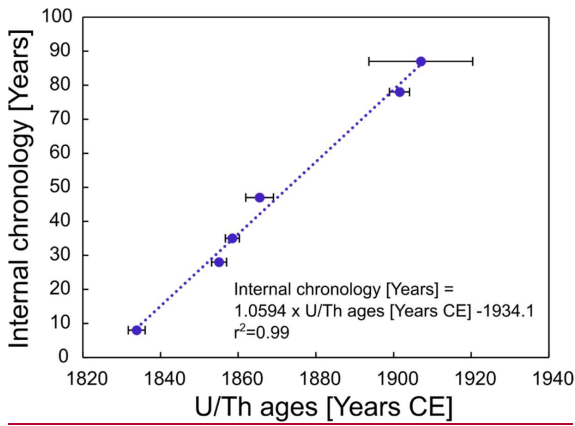
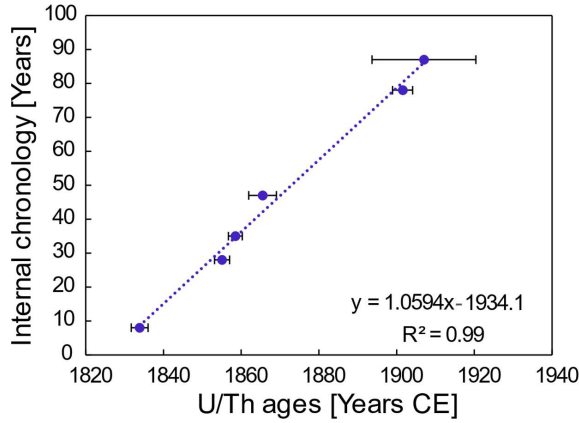


Figure A65: Scanning electron microscopy images showing pristine and diagenetic altered parts of sub-fossil coral KNFa. The top 14 cm of the core shows several macroscopic bioerosion traces on x-ray images (Fig. 4). This interval (a and b) is characterized by filamentous microborings (MB), dissolution (D) of centers of calcification and secondary aragonite (SA) cement. The degree of cementation is variable, ranging from (a) pristine coral skeletons and traces of cement to (b) more pervasive fibrous aragonite cement (5 to 10 μm -length). The interval below 14 cm is generally pristine (c) showing smooth primary aragonite (PA) skeletal surfaces. The only exception occurs in an interval from the base of slab 5 to the top of slab 7 (Fig. 5). A patch of secondary aragonite cement on transect 10 of slab 6 caused an extreme spike in the proxy record with unusually low Sr/Ca ratio of 9.32 mmol/mol. This 'false alarm' spike escaped detection by our first standard diagenetic screening, but was identified by our semi contentious SEM screening along the proxy sampling track.



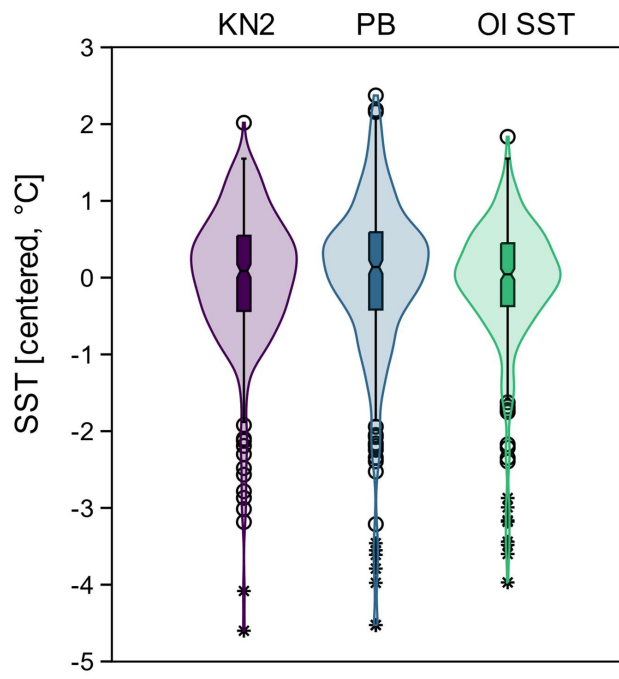
740 | **Figure A76:** Corrected U/Th ages of core KNFa with 2σ uncertainties vs. the number of years estimated from seasonal cycles in coral Sr/Ca. The oldest year of KNFa is year 1. The age of the coral core was estimated from the intercept of the linear regression between the U/Th ages and the annual cycles of Sr/Ca (Fig. 5), assuming that the slope of this regression is one (i.e. assuming that the U/Th ages agree with the number of annual cycles seen in coral Sr/Ca) (Dominguez-Villar et al., 2012). The base of KNFa is dated to 1823 ± 2.4 (2σ). The floating age uncertainty was estimated with a Monte Carlo approach (20,000 loops) using the 2σ U/Th error.

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745 | **Figure A87:** Violin and boxplots showing the distribution of monthly mean SSTs inferred from the modern Enggano corals (PB, KN2) compared with satellite SST (OI SST, $1/4^\circ$ grid) from 2008-1982 (Huang et al., 2021). Coral Sr/Ca has been centered to its mean and converted to SST assuming a Sr/Ca-SST relationship of $-0.06 \text{ mmol mol}^{-1} \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$. Open circles (stars) indicate outliers exceeding ± 1 (± 1.5) standard deviations of the interquartile range. Violin plots computed using PAST (Hammer et al., 2001).

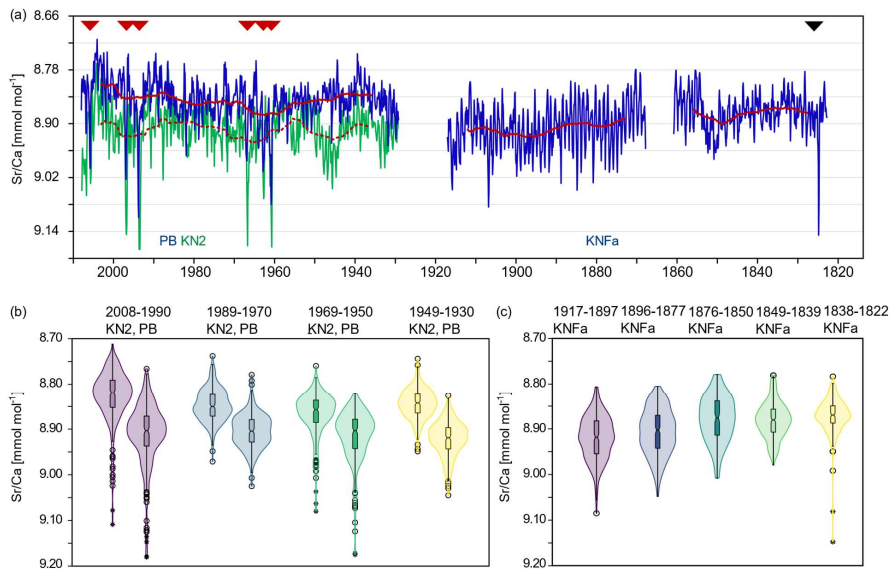
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750 Figure **AA98**: Modern and sub-fossil, monthly interpolated coral Sr/Ca time series from Enggano. (a) The complete Enggano Sr/Ca record comprises two modern (PB, KN2) and one sub-fossil core (KNFa) and extends from **1930-2008-1930**, **1917-1869-1917** and **1823-1861-1823**. Thin blue and green lines are monthly data, thick red solid and dashed lines are 10-year running means. Note that the sub-fossil record has a floating chronology based on U/Th dating with an age uncertainty of ± 2.4 years (2σ). Relative changes in Sr/Ca reflect temperature variations with a mean Sr/Ca-SST relationship of $-0.06 \text{ mmol mol}^{-1} \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ (Watanabe and Pfeiffer, 2022), which corresponds to one tick mark on the y-axis. Positive Sr/Ca anomalies in 2006, 1997, 1994, 1967, 1963 and 1961 indicate extreme **positive-10DpIOD** events (red arrows). The sub-fossil record from KNFa indicates an extreme **positive-10DpIOD** event in ~1825 (black arrow). Events in 1907 and 1916 may be comparable with the comparatively weaker, but still extreme **positive-10DpIOD** of 2006. (b) and (c) distribution of monthly coral Sr/Ca data in ~20-year bins shown as violin and boxplots. Values >1 standard deviation (>1.5 standard deviations) above or below the 1.5 % interquartile range are plotted as open circles (stars). Outliers reflect extreme **positive-10DpIOD** events. (ba) Cores PB and KN2, **2008-1930-2008**. The Sr/Ca distributions are negatively skewed in **1990-2008-1990** and **1950-1969-1950** due to the occurrence of extreme **positive-10DpIOD** events. Note the consistent shift in the medians of PB and KN2 Sr/Ca data, indicating that vital effects remained stable over time. (c) Data from KNFa shows a symmetric distribution between **1917-1855-1917**, with a larger spread around the median and few outliers. Between **1923 and 1854 and 1923**, the Sr/Ca distribution is comparable to modern values. Violin plots computed using PAST (Hammer et al., 2001).

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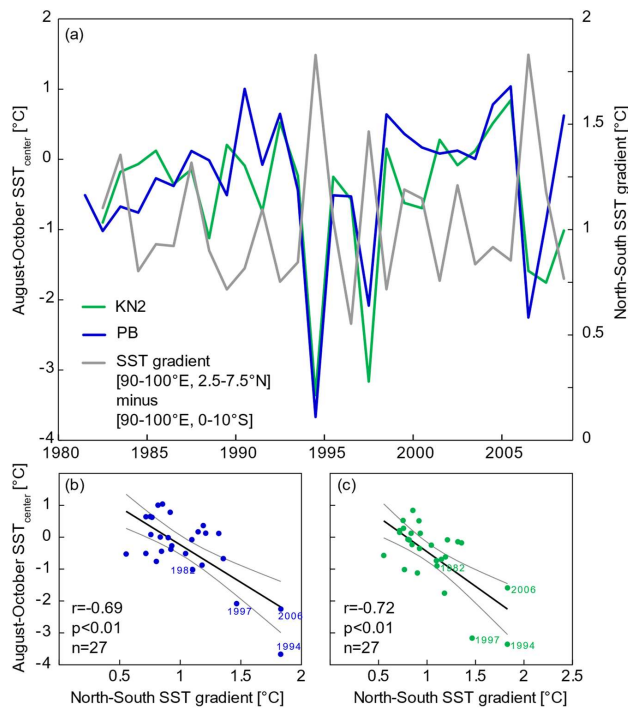
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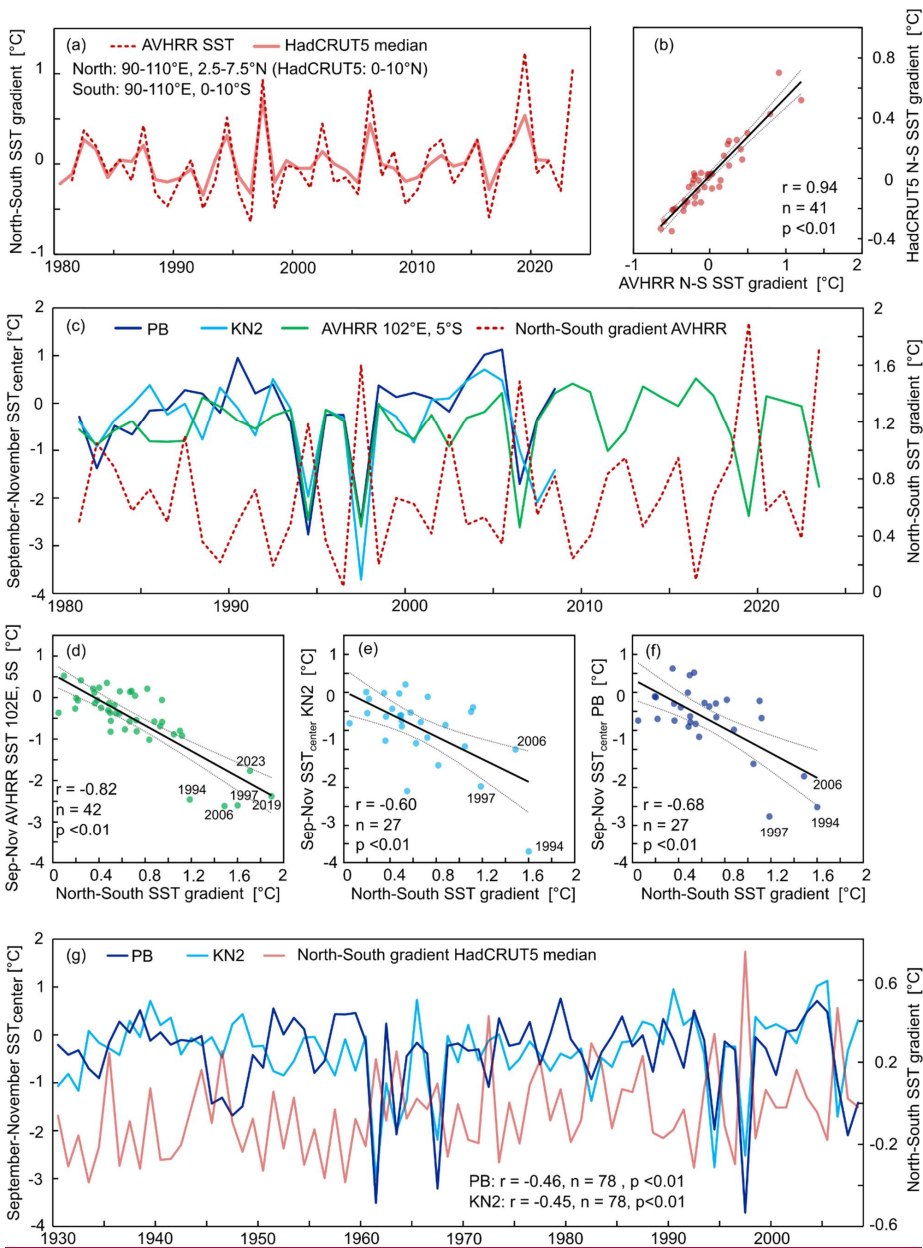
Figure AA109: North-South temperature gradients in the tropical Indian Ocean from 1930-2023 and September-October SST at Enggano. (a) and (b) North-South temperature SST gradient in the eastern Indian Ocean calculated from satellite SST (AVHRR) SST, $\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ grid, available since 1982 (Huang et al., 2021) compared with HadCRUT5 temperatures (Morice et al., 2021). (c) with Mean August-October-September-November SST at Enggano (AVHRR) and SST_{centre} inferred from KN2 and PB compared with the North-South SST gradient calculated from AVHRR. (d-f) Linear regression of August-October-September-November SST (AVHRR) at Enggano, SST_{centre} inferred from core KN2 (e) and PB (d) with the North-South SST gradient (AVHRR). (g) Same as (c) using the HadCRUT5 North-South temperature gradient. SST at Enggano but for core KN2. SST_{centre} correlates negatively with the meridional temperature SST gradient (colder SSTs at Enggano Island correspond to a stronger meridional SST gradient).

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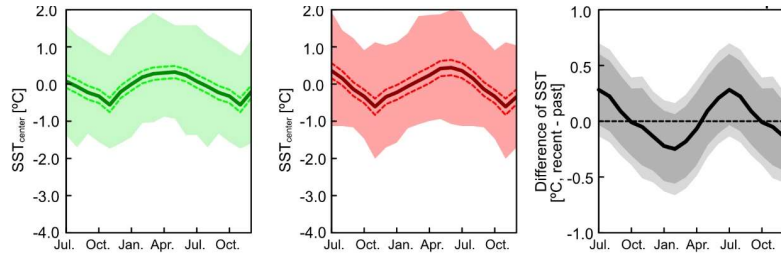
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Figure A11: Mean seasonal cycle of SST inferred from the from Mentawai coral $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record (Abram et al., 2008). Left: 1918-1997, Middle: 1860 (end of record)-1917. Right panel: the difference between the mean seasonal cycles (thick black line) in (a) and (b) is not significant. 95% (dark grey) and 99% confidence levels (light grey) overlap with the zero line. Significance was assessed with Monte Carlo as in Pfeiffer et al., 2022.



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