

**Supplementary Figures and Tables to:**

*Oligocene-early Miocene paradox of  $pCO_2$  inferred from alkenone carbon isotopic fractionation and sea surface temperature trends*

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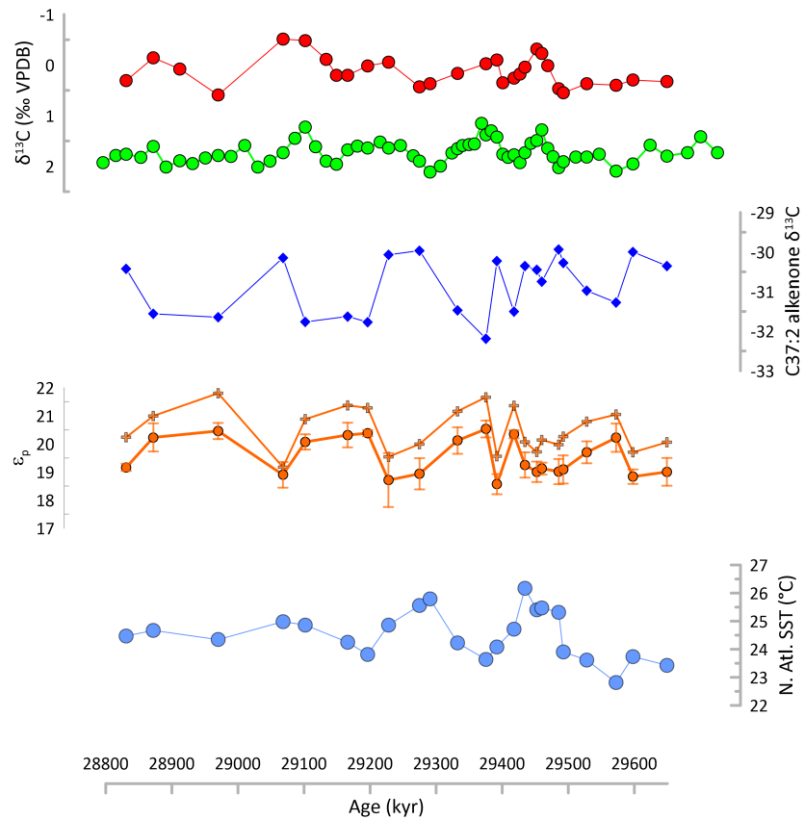
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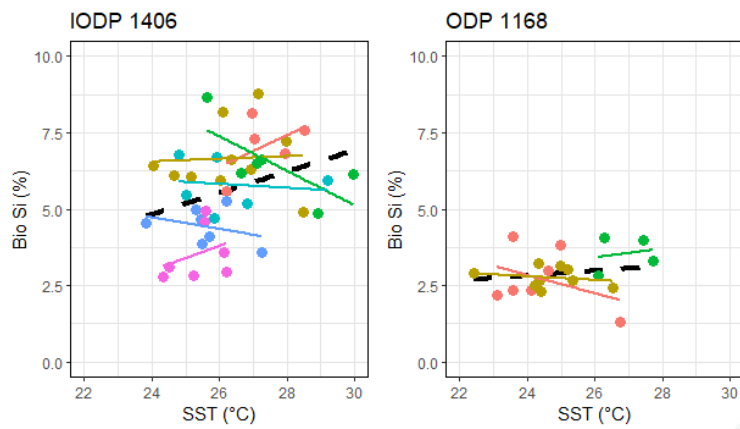
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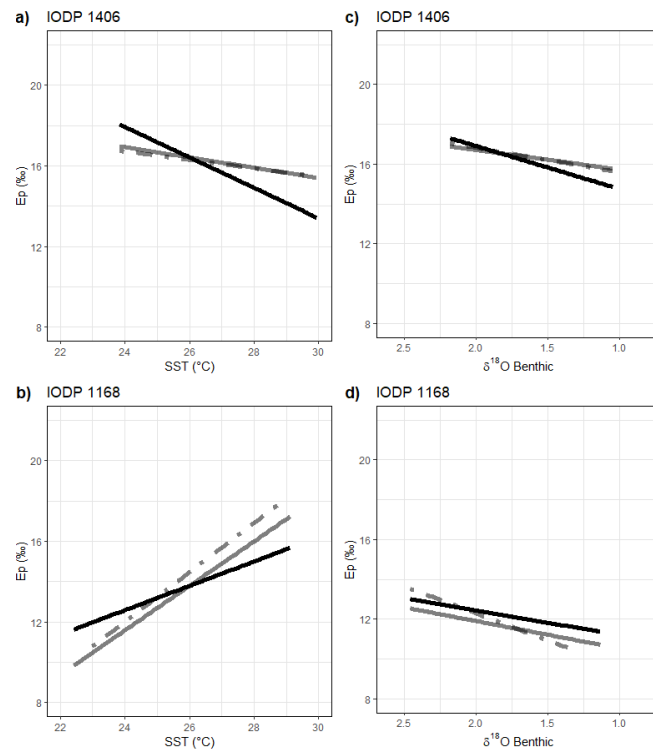
**Figure S1. High resolution IODP 1406 subset of measured  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  benthic foraminifera, bulk carbonate,  $\text{C}_{37:2}$  alkenone, calculated  $\epsilon_p$ , and SST.**



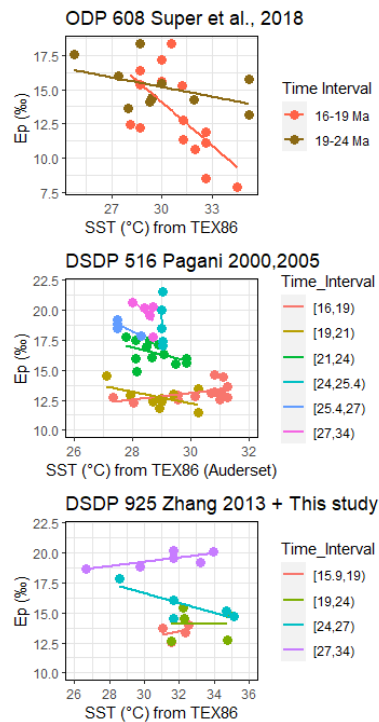
**Figure S2. Measured biogenic silica vs SST from the same samples of IODP 1406 and ODP 1168. Colour code shows time intervals as main Figure 6. Dashed black line overall relation.**



**Figure S3.** Entire studied period correlation regression lines, for the measured ep (solid), ep without the theoretical temp effect (transparent), and ep without the temp and size effect (dashed). R2-values: a (-0.43\*\*, -0.16, -0.09); b (0.58\*\*, 0.78\*\*, 0.73\*\*); c (0.25, 0.13, 0.15); d (0.29, 0.25, 0.48), \*\* *p* value < 0.05.



**Figure S4.** Relation between published  $\epsilon_p$  estimates recalculated as described in text, and existing GDGTs-derived temperature reconstructions for same or nearby samples.



**Table S1.**  
Differences between SST proxy between ZB-1 column and RTX-200 column measurement

	Proxy	av. diff. (°C)	Stdv.
IODP 1406 (subset)	$U_{37}^{k'}$	-0.6	0.4
	$U_{38ME}^{k'}$	-0.8	1.9
ODP 1168 <22.4 Ma	$U_{37}^{k'}$	-0.5	1.2
	$U_{38ME}^{k'}$	-1	0.7
ODP 1168 >22.4 Ma	$U_{37}^{k'}$	-1.8	1.7
	$U_{38ME}^{k'}$	-2.8	1.8

Differences between  $\delta^{13}C$  alkenone between ZB-1 column and RTX-200 column measurement

		av. diff. (‰)	Stdv.
IODP 1406 (subset)	$\delta^{13}C$ alk	-0.2	0.9
ODP 1168 <22.4 Ma	$\delta^{13}C$ alk	-1.1	1
ODP 1168 >22.4 Ma	$\delta^{13}C$ alk	-3.7	1.6

**Table S2**

Site	Source age model	Source SST	Source $\delta^{13}C_{alk}$	Source $\delta^{13}C_{DIC}$
ODP 1168	Stoll <i>et al.</i> , (2024)	Miocene = $U_{37}^{k'}$ This study Oligocene = $U_{38ME}^{k'}$ This study	This study	Bulk sed. -0.5 ‰
IODP 1406	Stoll <i>et al.</i> , (2024)	$U_{37}^{k'}$ This study	This study	Bulk sed. -0.5 ‰
DSDP 516	Guitian <i>et al.</i> , (2020)	TEX <sub>86</sub> Auderset <i>et al.</i> , (2022)	Pagani <i>et al.</i> , (2005)	Miocene = Planktic foram. Oligocene = Benthic foram. + 2 ‰
ODP 608	CenCO2PIP Consortium, (2023)	TEX <sub>86</sub> Super <i>et al.</i> , (2018)	Super <i>et al.</i> , (2018)	Planktic foram.
ODP 925	Guitian <i>et al.</i> , (2020)	TEX <sub>86</sub> Zhang <i>et al.</i> , (2013) and this study	Zhang <i>et al.</i> , (2013) and this study	Bulk sed. -0.5 ‰

**Table S3**

Slopes		IODP 1406							
		SST				Benthic			
Interval (Ma)	$\epsilon_p$ measured	$\epsilon_p$ temp	$\epsilon_p$ size	$\epsilon_p$ sum	$\epsilon_p$ measured	$\epsilon_p$ temp	$\epsilon_p$ size	$\epsilon_p$ sum	
30 to 27	0.5	1	0.2	0.7	-0.5	-1	2	1.49	
27 to 25.4	0.7	1.1	1	1.5	-2.8	-3.1	-3.7	-4.03	
25.4 to 24	-0.2	0.3	-0.1	0.4	0.1	-0.9	1.8	0.70	
24 to 22.5	-0.3	0.2	-0.7	-0.2	0.5	-1.2	1.9	0.14	
22.5 to 19	0	0.5	-0.2	0.3	0.4	0.1	2.7	1.82	
19 to 16	0.2	0.7	0.9	1.4	0.8	1.6	6.3	7.21	
All	-0.75	-0.25	-0.71	-0.21	2.16	0.98	2.53	1.24	

Slopes		ODP 1168							
		SST				Benthic			
Interval (Ma)	$\epsilon_p$ measured	$\epsilon_p$ temp	$\epsilon_p$ size	$\epsilon_p$ sum	$\epsilon_p$ measured	$\epsilon_p$ temp	$\epsilon_p$ size	$\epsilon_p$ sum	
30 to 27	0.5	1	0.5	1					
27 to 25.4									
25.4 to 24	0.6	1.1	1.5	2					
24 to 22.5	-0.3	0.3	-1	-0.5					
22.5 to 19	-0.4	0.1	-0.9	-0.4					
19 to 16	-0.3	0.2	-0.3	0.2	-0.7	-0.2	-0.9	-0.4	
All	0.6	1.1	0.7	1.2					