



Bundesministerium  
für Bildung  
und Forschung

**TERENO**  
TERRESTRIAL ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATORIES

# ***TERENO CT Palaeoclimate***

## ***The role of palaeoclimate data for future projections***

The Geoarchive Team



## Human perception of time

> few decades



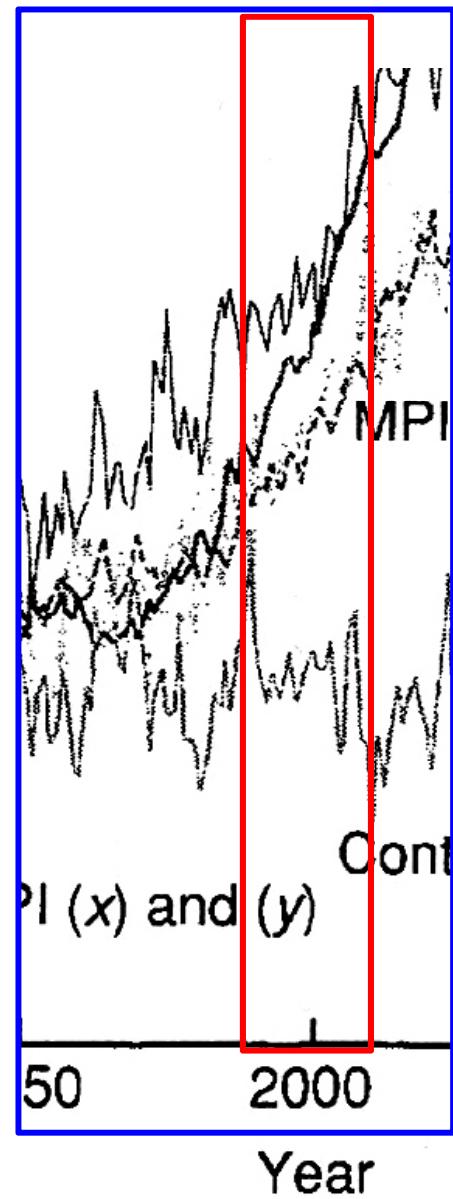
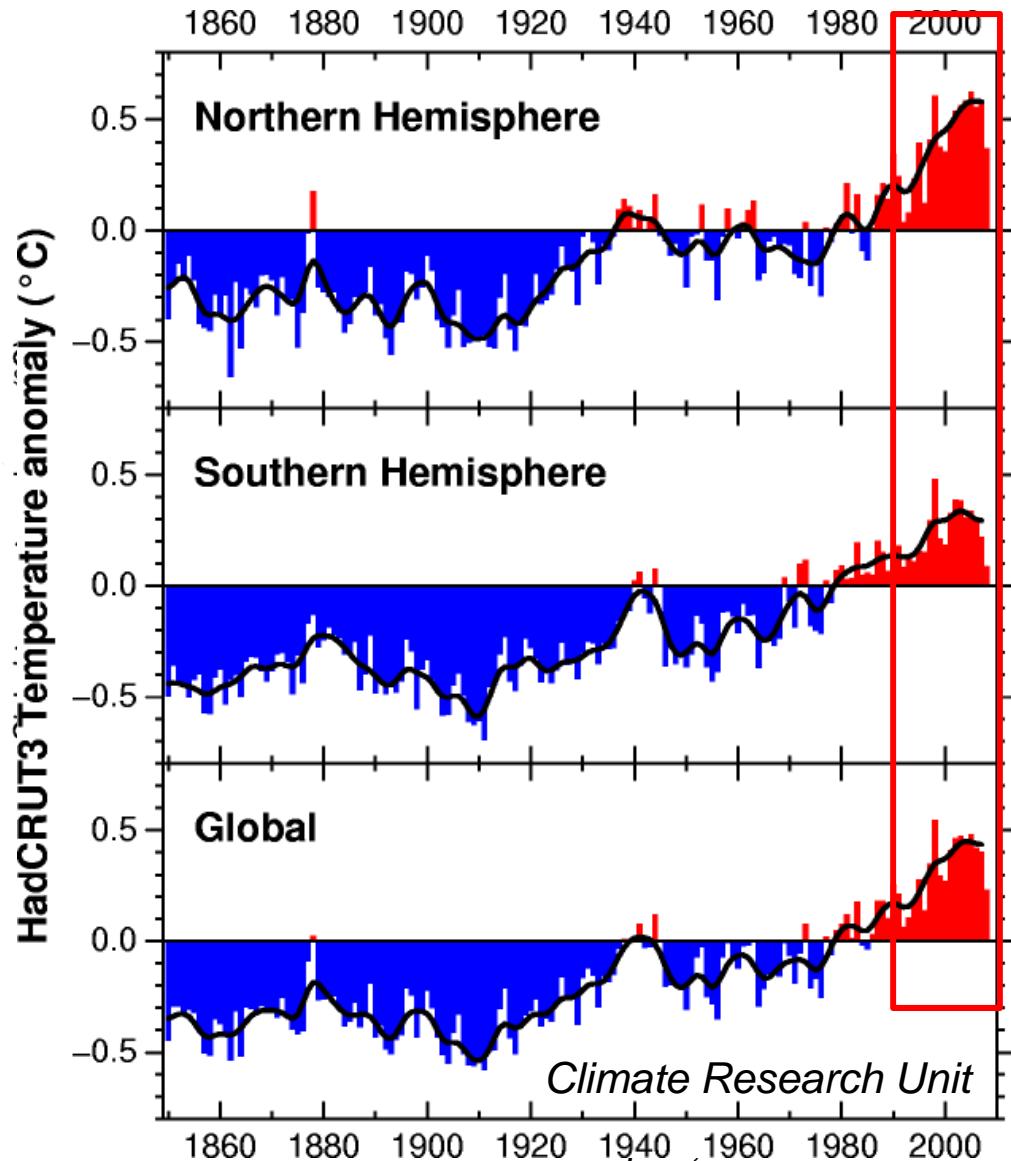
< few seconds



→ limits process understanding

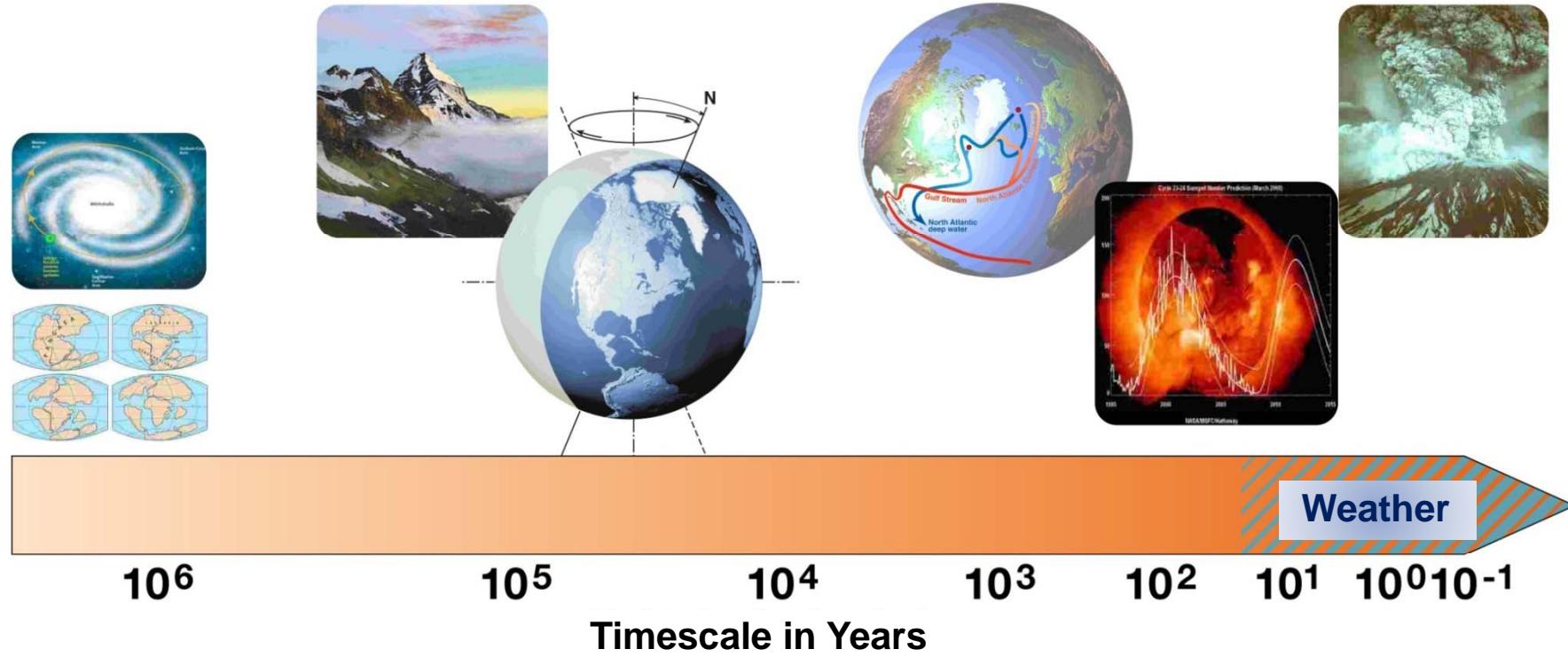


## Future Climate Projections



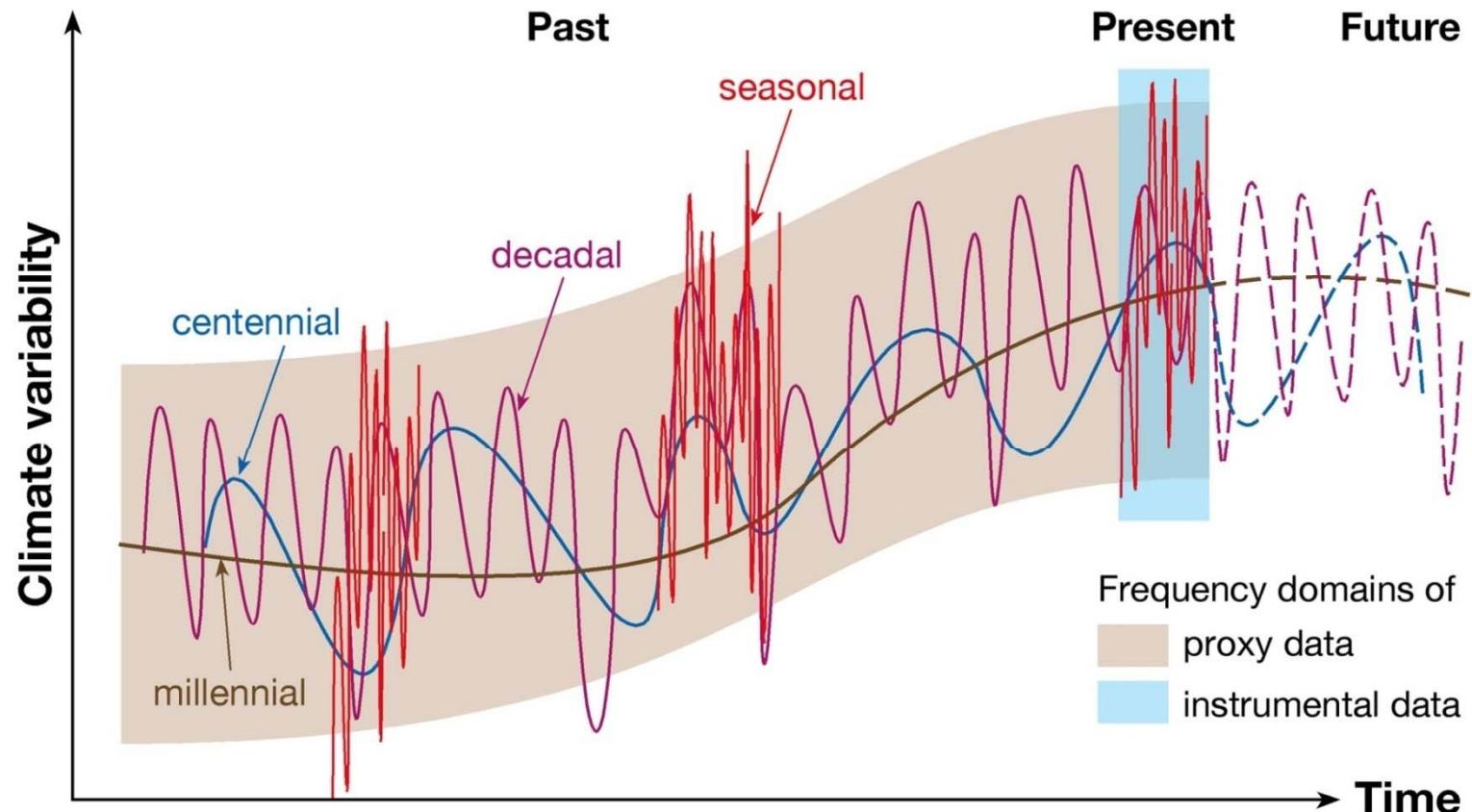


## Processes and time scales





## The role of time scales





## Sources for palaeoclimate data

**A multi-archive approach:**

Lake Sediments, Tree Rings, Soils, Peat Bogs, Morphology  
**in combination with** monitoring hydrology, lakes, trees



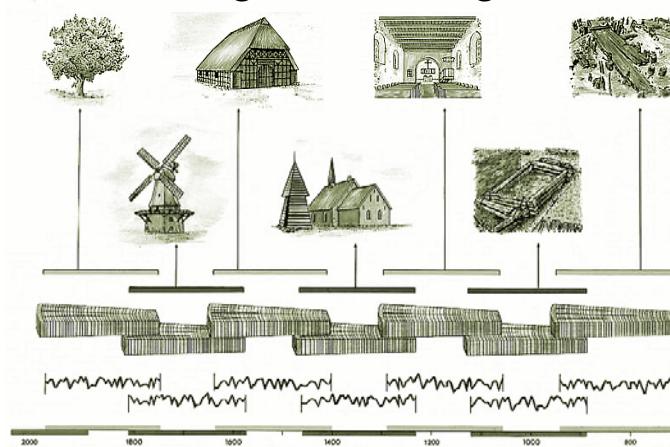


## Reading palaeoclimate information

Old living trees



Crossdating of tree ring time series



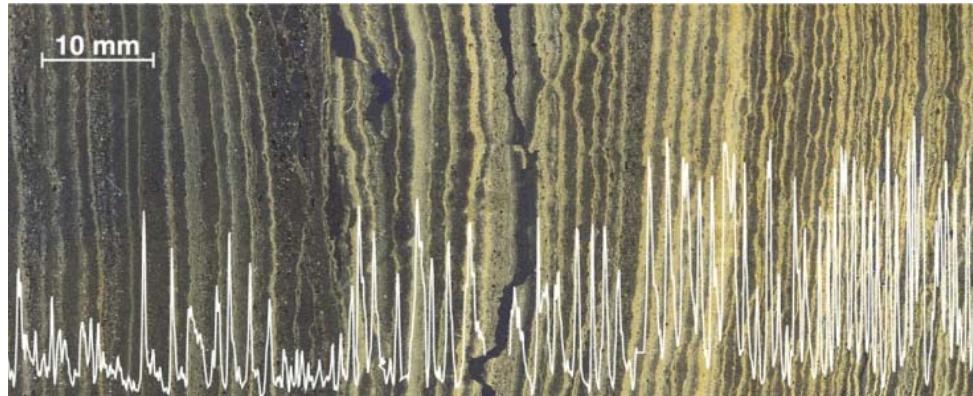
Historical Buildings



**Long and well-dated tree ring chronologies from archaeological sources available for the last 1000 years from our cooperation partner DAI (German Archaeological Institute)**



## Merging Instrumental and Geological Times



**Novel Concept:  
Reducing Time Resolution in  
Geoarchives:  
Seasonal Resolution in Varved  
Lake Sediments and Tree Rings**

**Cell Sizes as Hydrological Proxy**

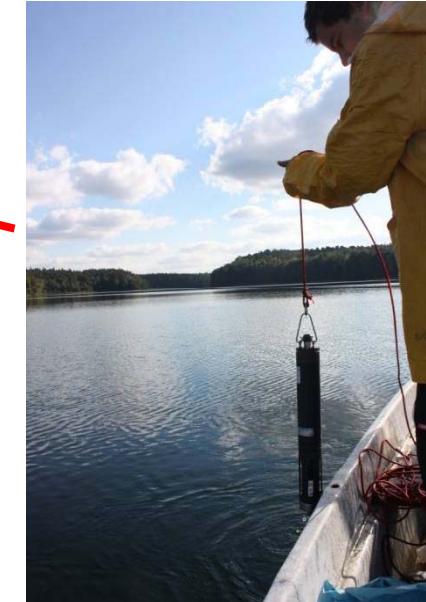
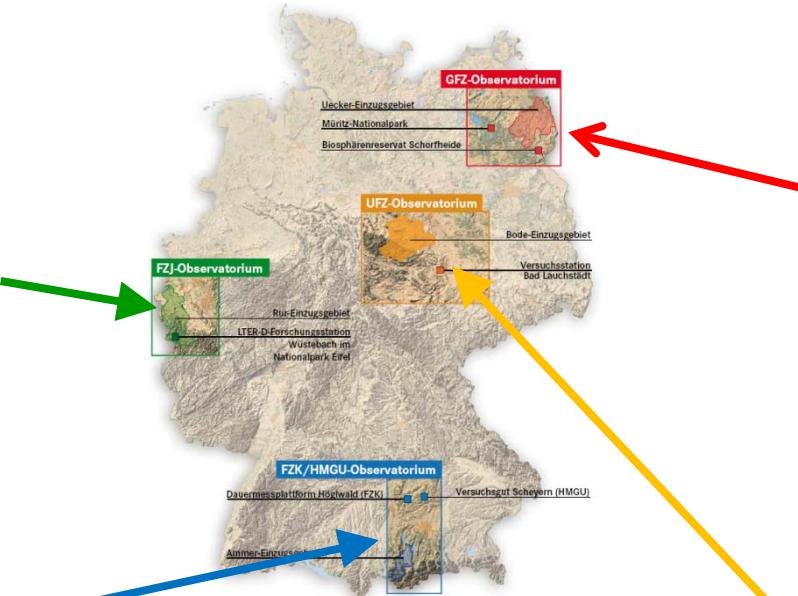




## TERENO Network of 'Palaeo-stations'

NE German Lakes

Eifel Maar Lakes



Ammersee

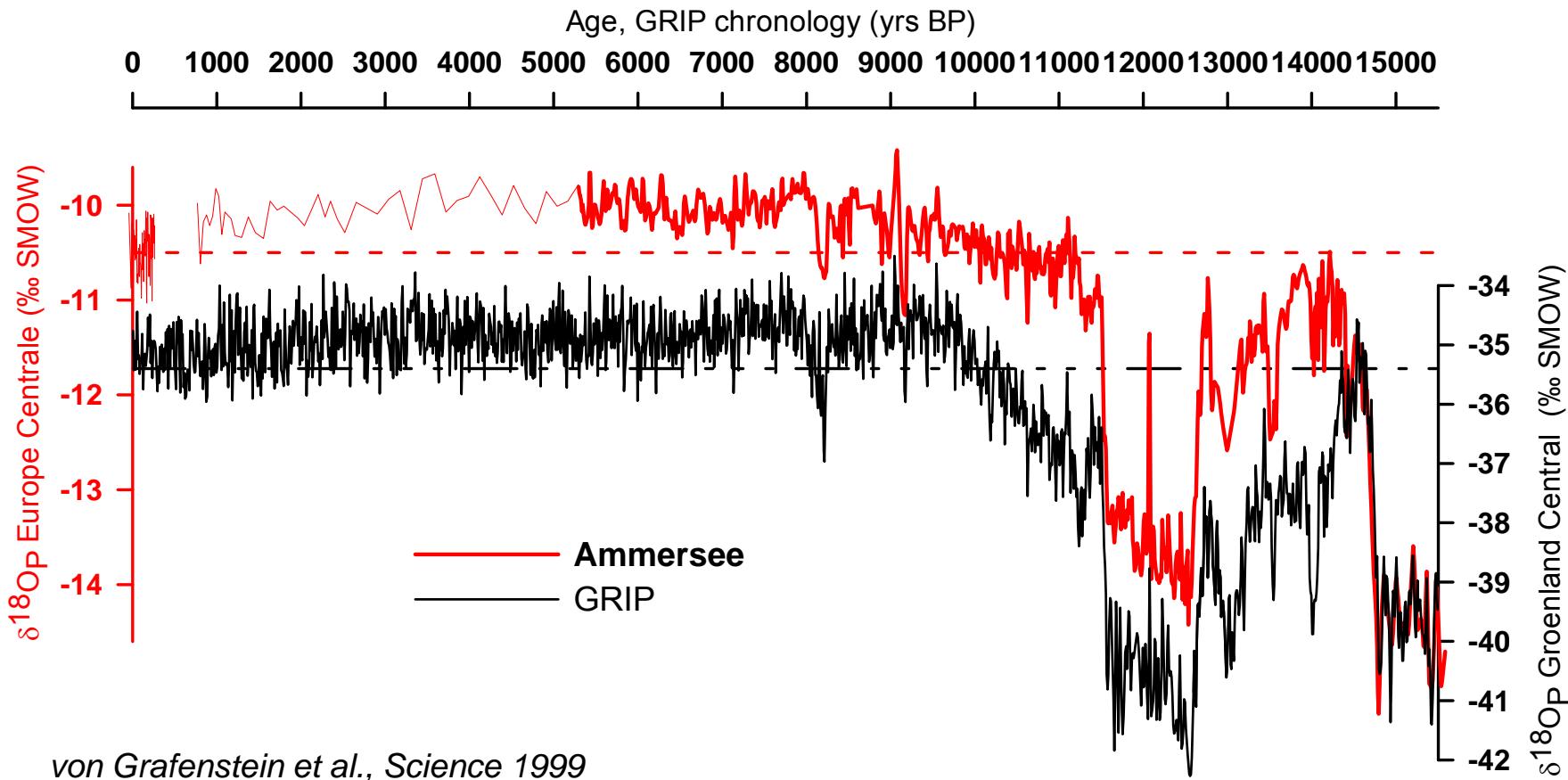


Jues-See, Harz



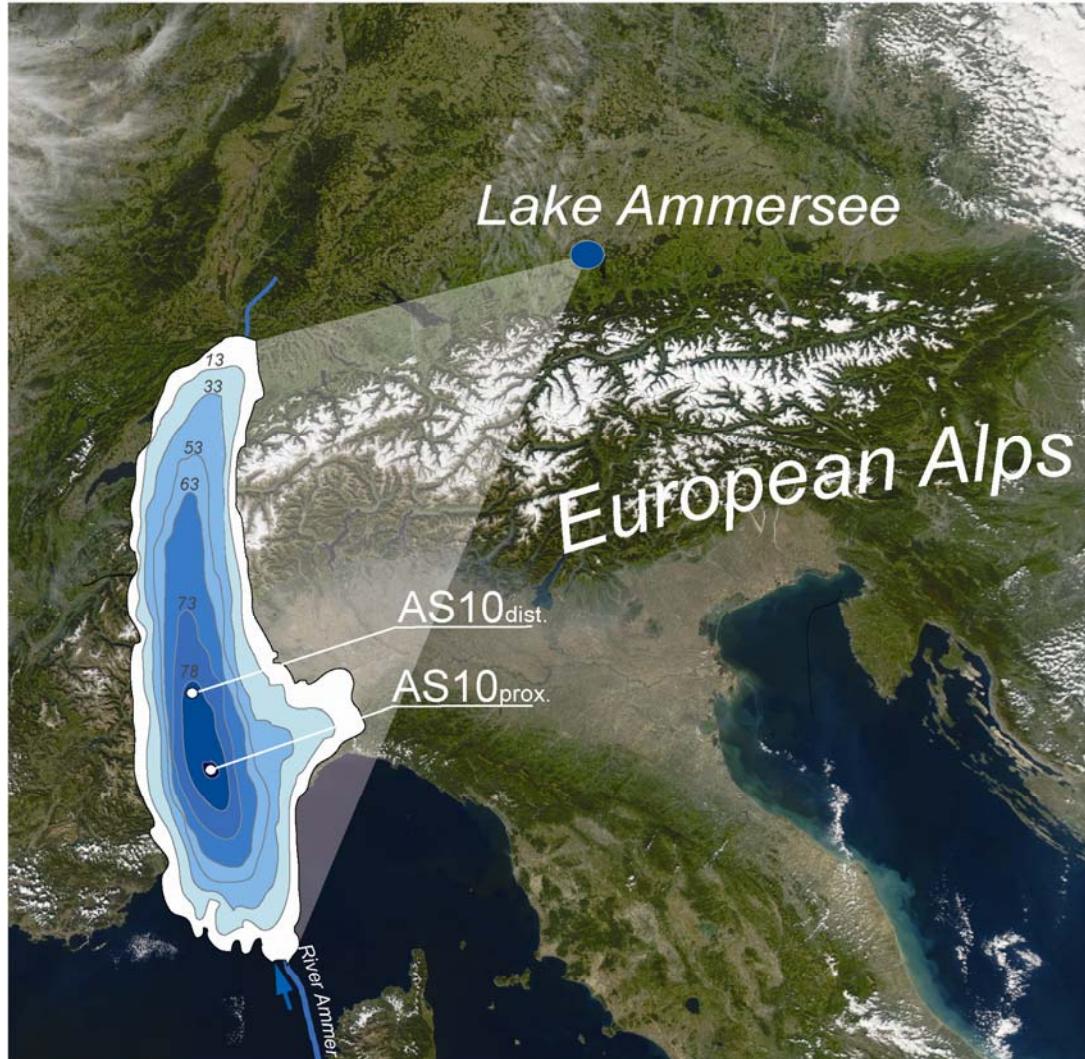


## The Lake Ammersee Palaeotemperature Record



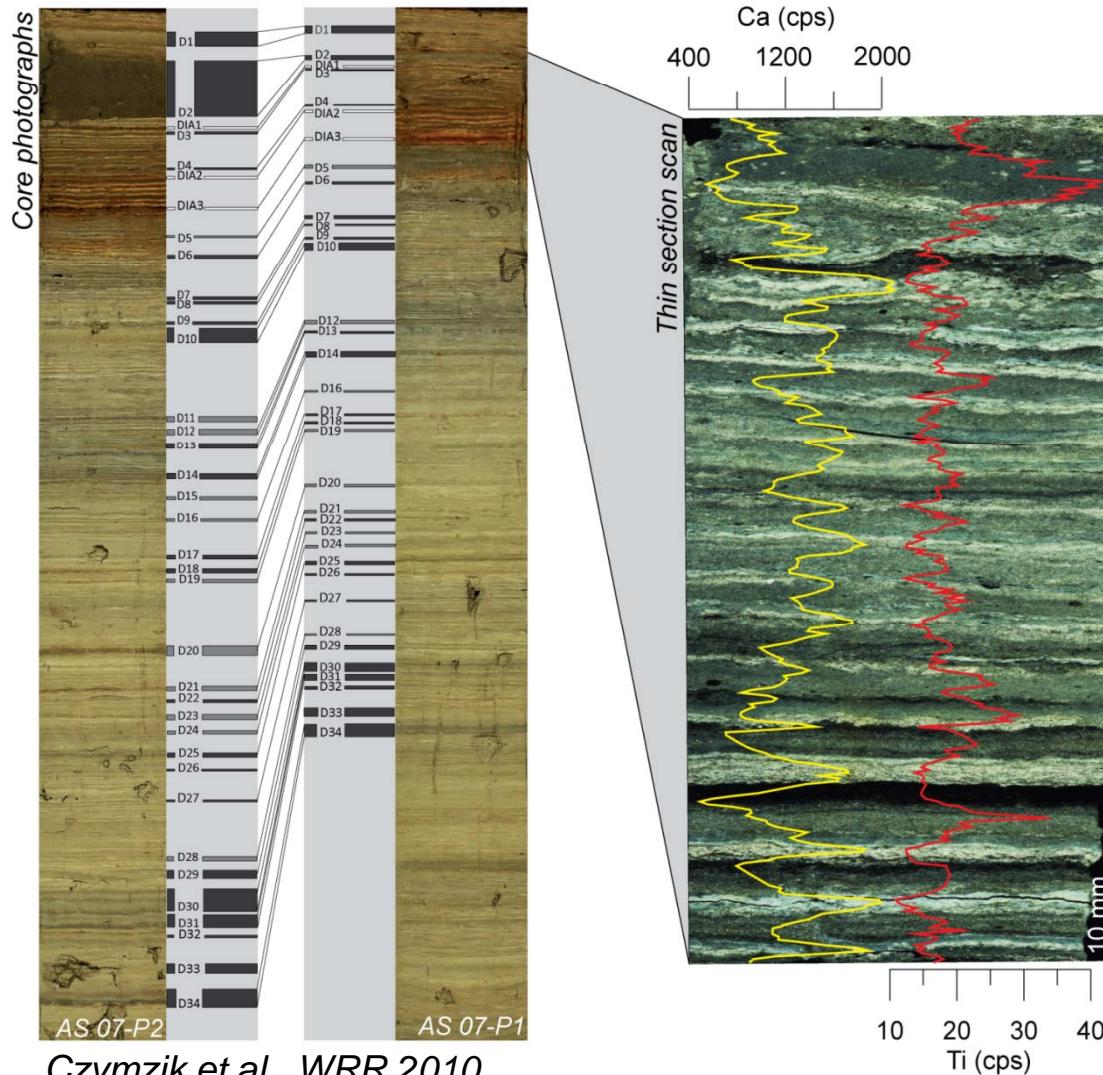


## Lake Ammersee: An excellent Palaeoflood Archive





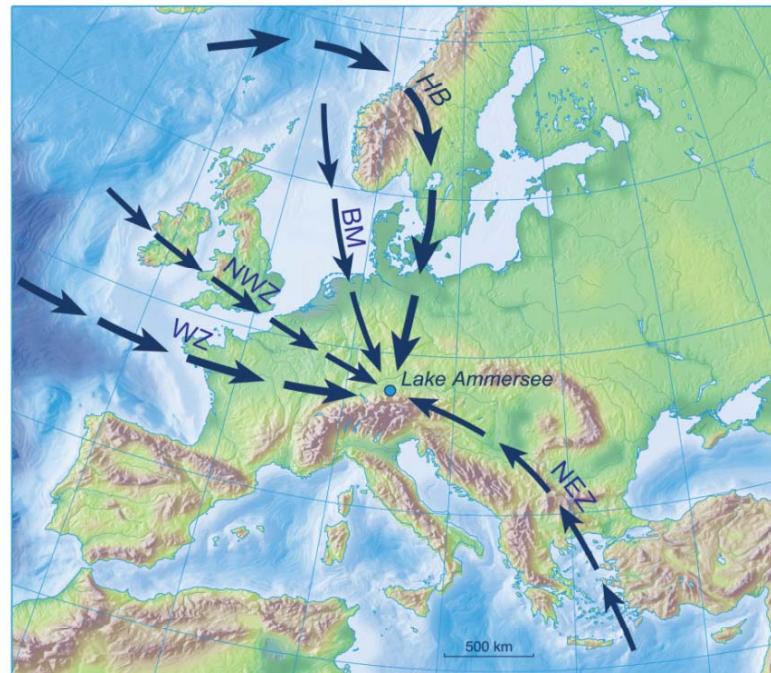
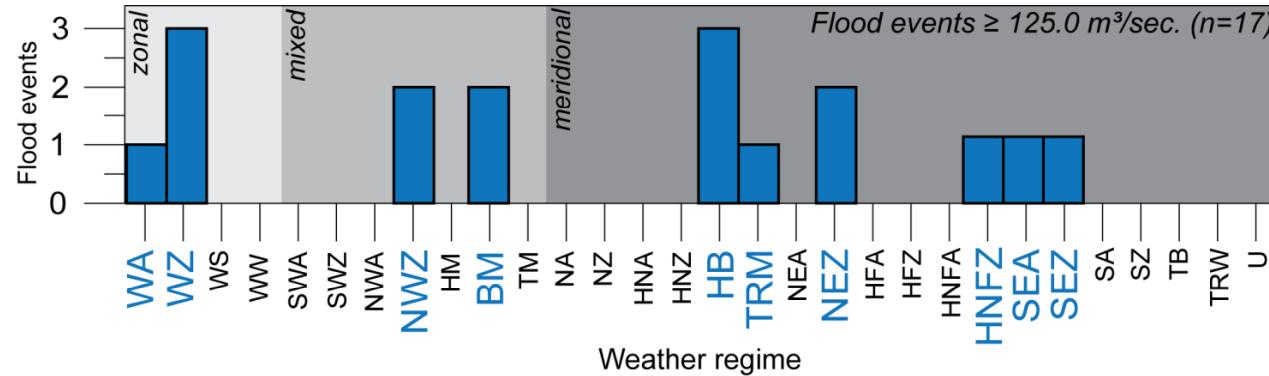
## Lake Ammersee: An excellent Palaeoflood Archive



Czymzik et al., WRR 2010



## The Ammersee Palaeoflood Archive: Calibration



Czymzik et al., WRR 2010



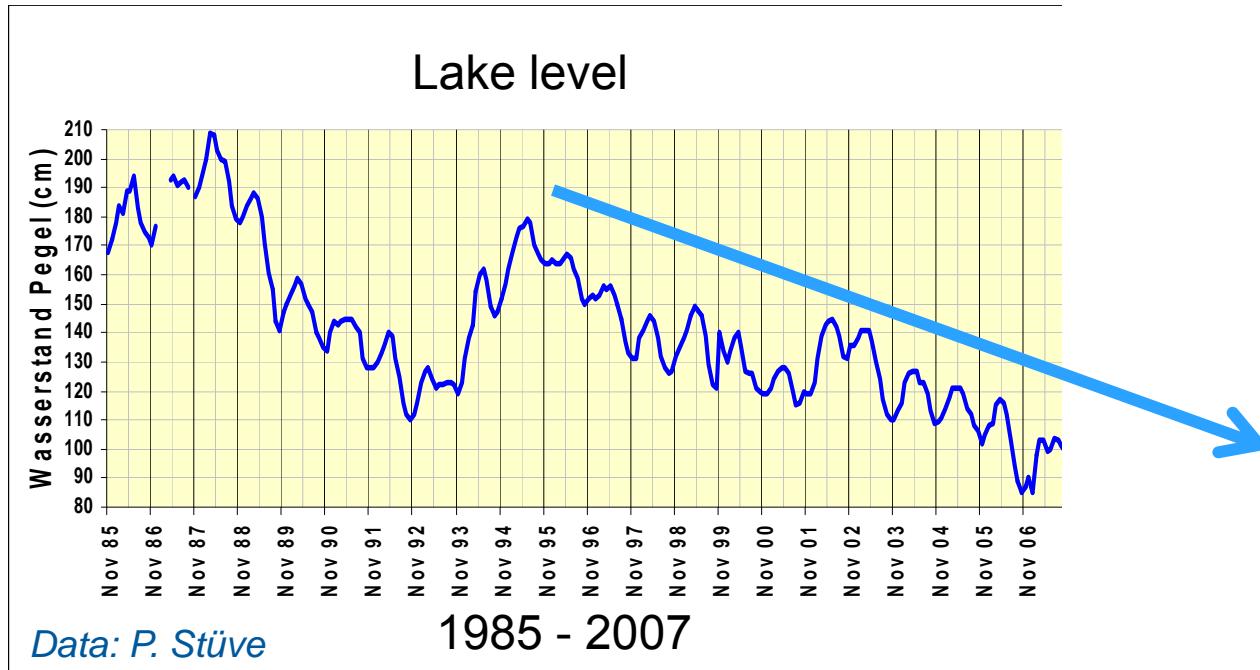
## Links to the Eifel: Lake Meerfelder Maar sediment data





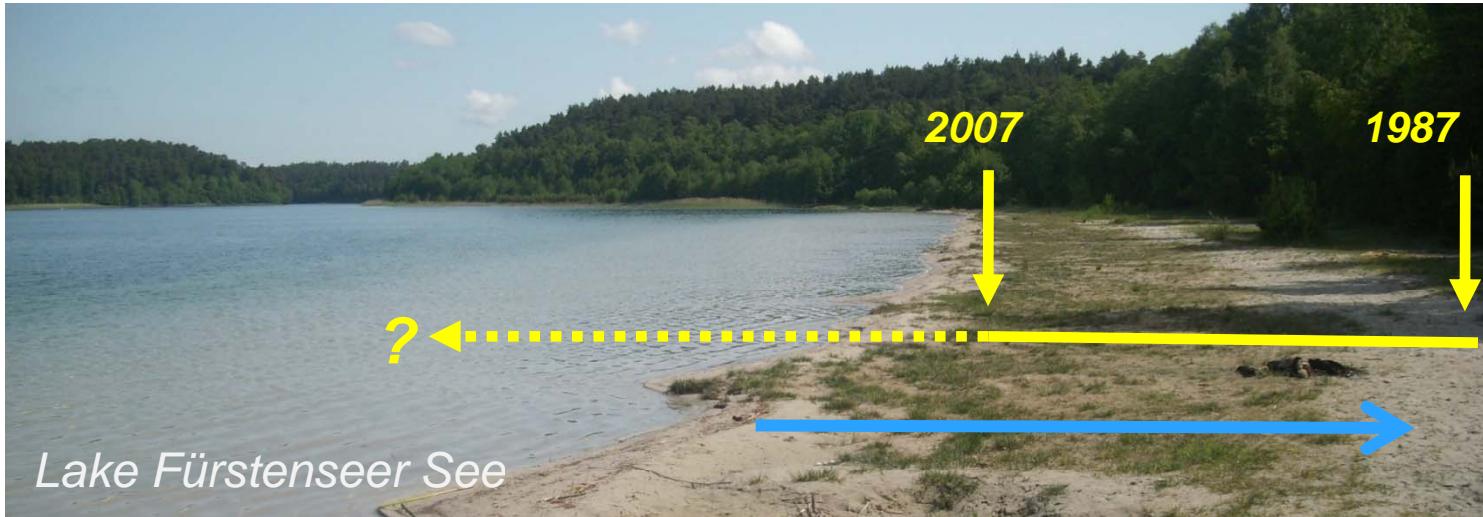
## Lake Level Changes in TERENO NE

Lake Fürstenseer See



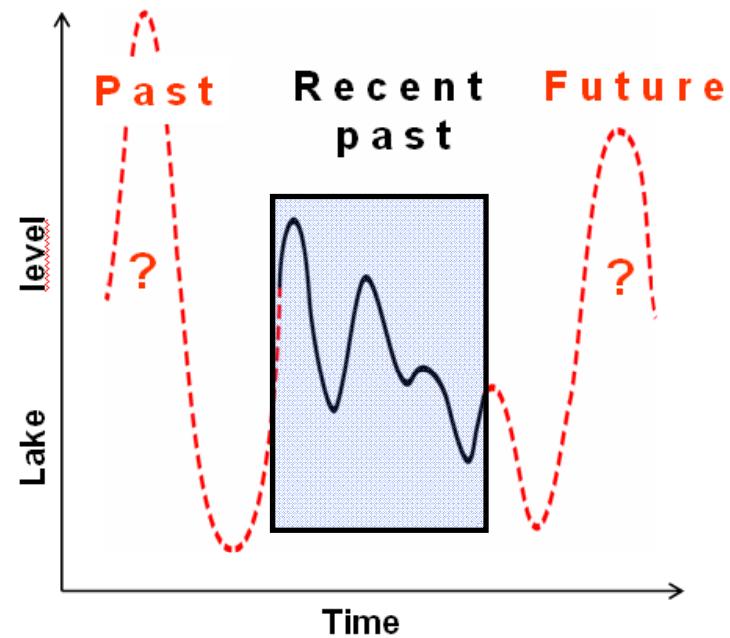
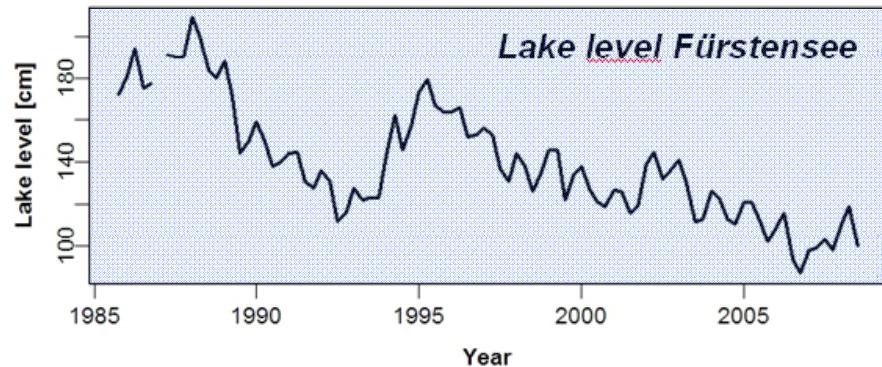


## Lake Level Changes in TERENO NE





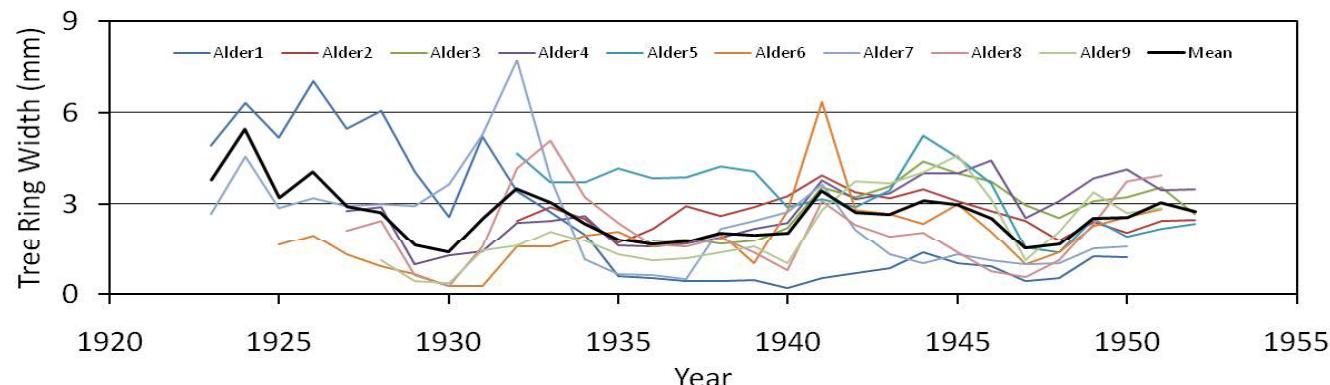
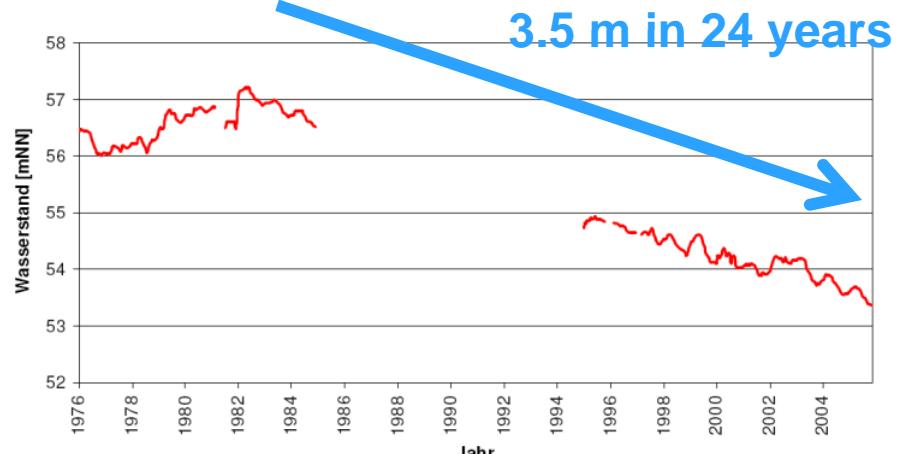
## Lake Level Changes in TERENO NE



In order to provide  
**meaningful** future projections  
we must understand  
the driving mechanisms  
and the variability of the system



## Lake Level Changes in TERENO NE

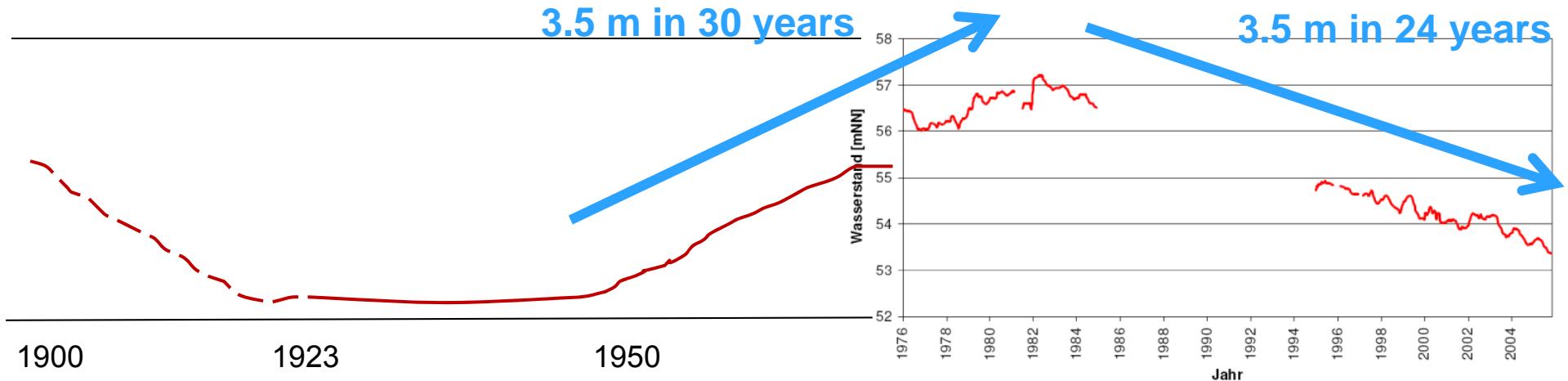


Tree ring analyses: Growth period (= life time) 1923 – 1952



## Lake Level Changes in TERENO NE

Extending the time series into the recent past



- Highly dynamic hydrological system: 3.5 m sea level rise and fall in 60 years!
- Mechanisms not understood
- Simple explanations are misleading



## Lake Level Changes in TERENO NE

### Influencing factors: Working Hypothesis

- Climate/weather (precipitation, summer temperatures)
- Catchment vegetation
- Man-made hydrological changes (since 13<sup>th</sup> century)

### Scientific Questions

- How do these factors interact?
- What are the dominating factors?
- What are the potential amplitudes of lake level changes?
- What is the potential dynamics/velocity of change?

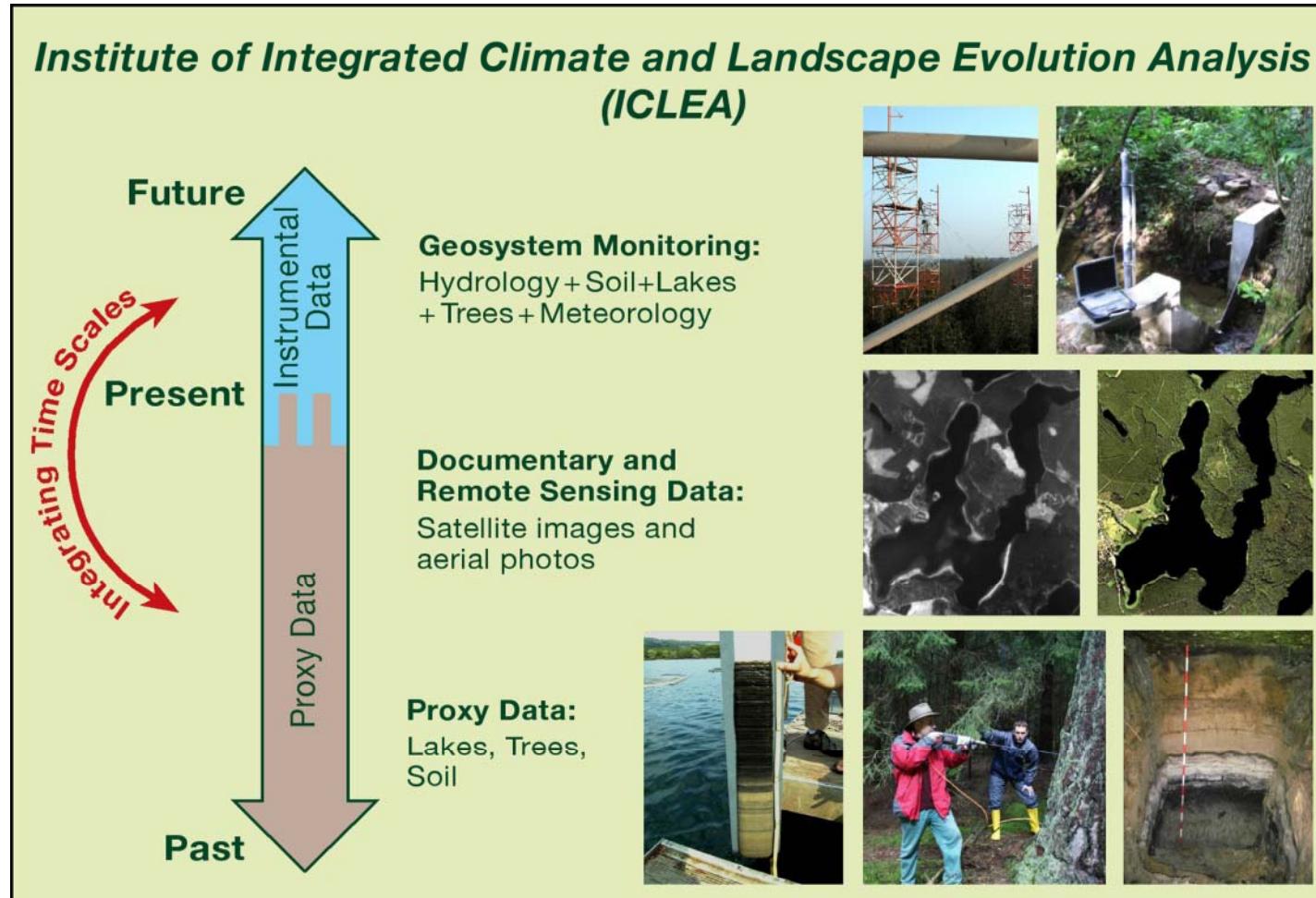


## Contribution and goals of the CT Palaeoclimate

- **to provide information about medium to long term processes**
- **to establish a palaeo-station network for all four TERENO sites**
- **to combine palaeo data with recent monitoring**
  - *to extend time series into the past*
  - *to calibrate palaeo data*



## News from fund raising: HGF Virtual Institute 2012-2016





## New Geoarchives

Discovery of 2 new lakes with annually laminated lake sediments



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## Present coring campaign

Lake Fürstenseer See, September 25<sup>th</sup> 2011

