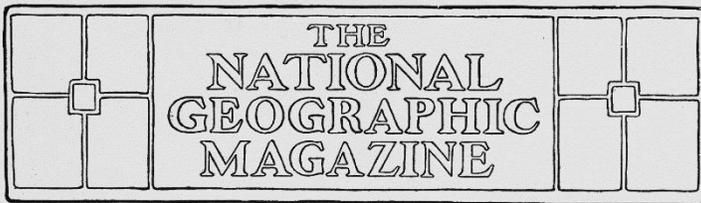


**Climate throughout geologic time has been controlled primarily by the balance between abrupt warming caused by voluminous effusive eruptions of basaltic magma over months to hundreds of thousands of years and abrupt cooling caused by major explosive eruptions of evolved magmas over hours to days**

**Peter L. Ward, US Geological Survey, retired  
peward@wyoming.com**





### THE RECENT ERUPTION OF KATMAI VOLCANO IN ALASKA

An Account of One of the Most Tremendous Volcanic Explosions Known in History

BY GEORGE C. MARTIN

*Mr. Martin is the geologist of the U. S. Geological Survey who directed the National Geographic Society Alaska volcano researches in 1912*

THE volcanic eruption of Mount Katmai, Alaska, of June, 1912, was undoubtedly one of the most recent eruptions of historic times.

This volcano was one of the least known of the many Alaskan volcanic cones, and had been so long dormant there were apparently not even local legends of its former outbreaks. No definite warnings of its renewed activity were given other than copious steaming and minor earthquakes. These attracted attention even among the few dwellers in that thinly settled land, for dozens of volcanoes along the Alaskan coast have been active from time to time. The volcano is usually hidden in the clouds, and earthquakes are so frequent as to require little comment.

Other people than the few local residents and the comparatively few whalers who have had occasion to sail through the Bering Strait, the very existence of Katmai Volcano was doubtless unknown to the world.

Without warning, on the 6th of June, 1912, the Katmai Volcano produced a violent eruption. All the world knew of the event at the beginning of the first mighty

explosion carried down the coast as far as Juneau, 750 miles away, and was even heard across the Alaska Range at Dawson and Fairbanks, distant 650 and 500 miles respectively.

#### THE FIRST ERUPTION

Those who did not hear the sound of this first blast, or did not feel the accompanying earthquakes, did not have to wait long for another form of announcement. The column of steam and ash rose several miles in the air and was immediately seen as far away as Clark Lake and Cook Inlet. This cloud of ash was carried eastward by the wind and within a few hours had shed a shower of ash over all the east end of the Alaska Peninsula, the east half of Kodiak Island, and all of Afognak Island (see map page 132).

Intense darkness accompanied the eruption of ashes. Midnight blackness in the time extended as far east as the Alaska Peninsula. Darkness lasted for several hours at Kodiak, 100 miles from the volcano. Dust fell as far away as Juneau, Fairbanks, and the Yukon Valley, distant 900, and 600 miles. The furthest reported from points as remote

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

# SIMON WINCHESTER

THE DAY THE WORLD EXPLODED:  
AUGUST 27, 1883

# Krakatoa

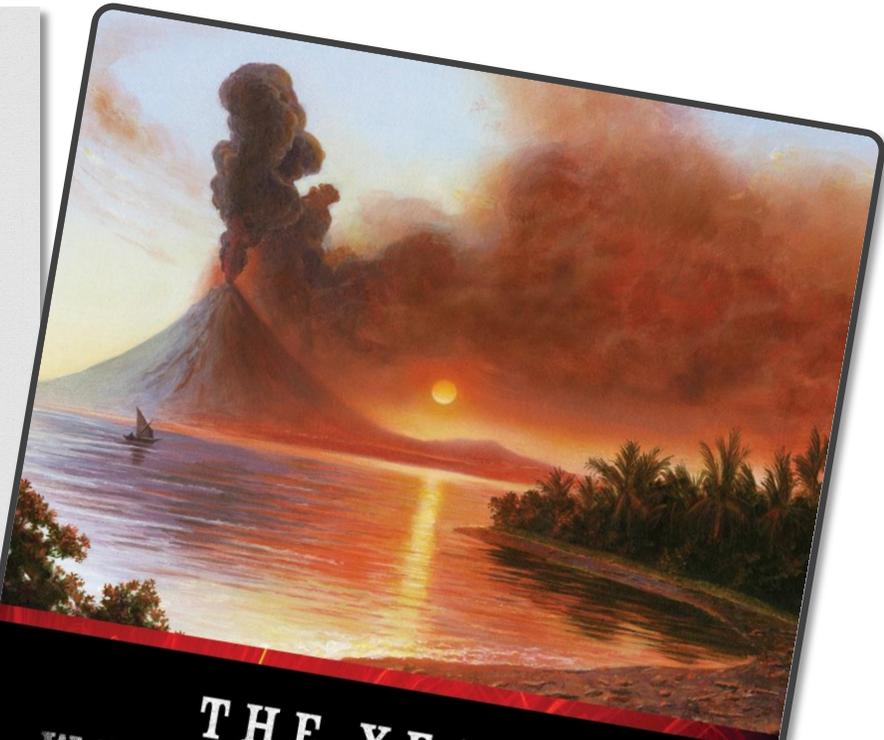
HARPER'S WEEKLY

INDONESIA

613



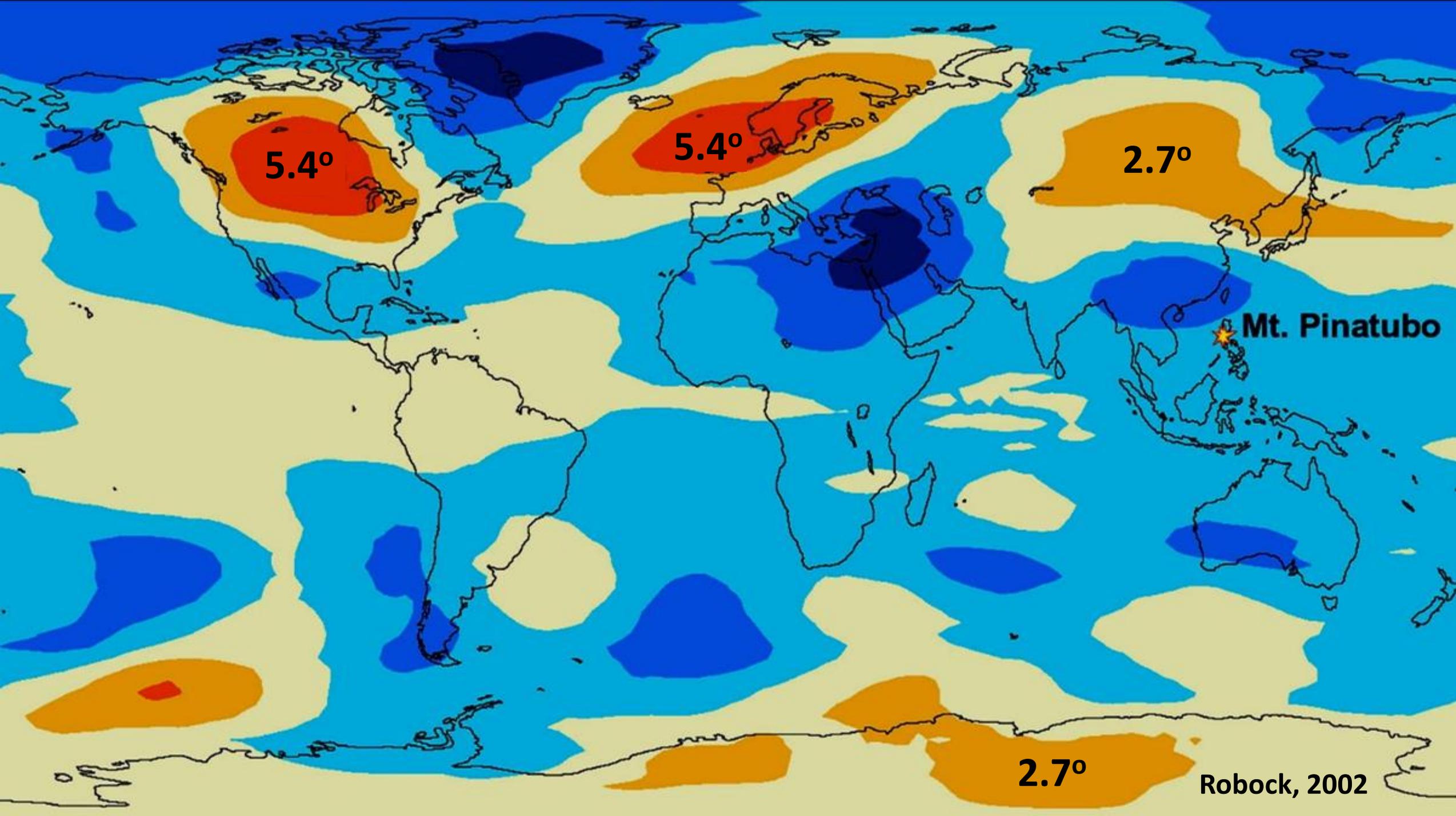
VOLCANO OF KRAKATOA, STRAIT OF SUNDA, SUBMERGED DURING THE LATE ERUPTION.—[See Page 614.]



# THE YEAR WITHOUT SUMMER: 1816

## AND THE VOLCANO THAT DARKENED THE WORLD AND CHANGED HISTORY

WILLIAM K. KLINGAMAN  
AND NICHOLAS P. KLINGAMAN



$5.4^{\circ}$

$5.4^{\circ}$

$2.7^{\circ}$

Mt. Pinatubo

$2.7^{\circ}$

Robock, 2002



**Pinatubo, 1991**



**Lasting hours**

**Explosive → Cooling**

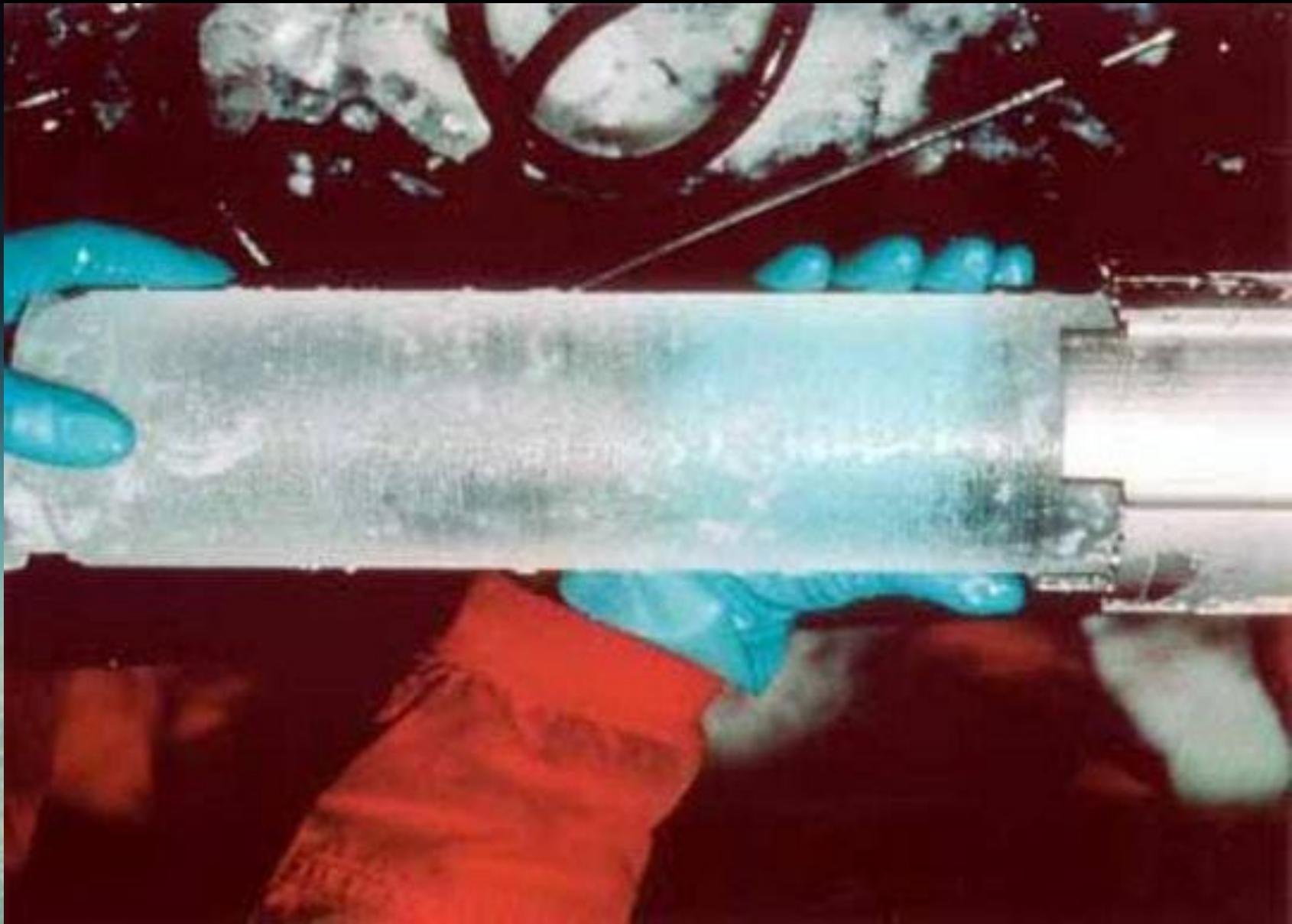
**Bárðarbunga, 2014-2015**

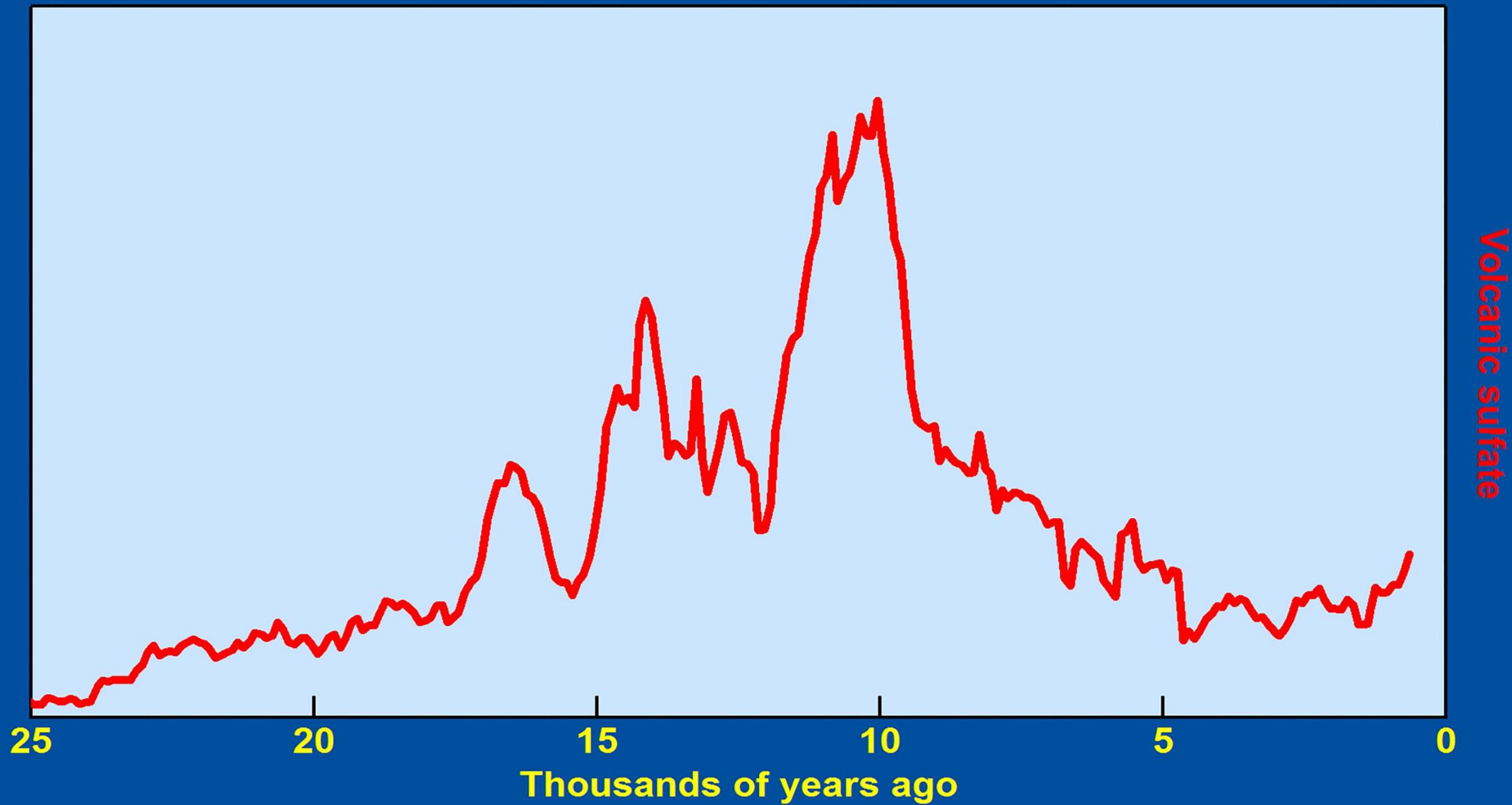


**Lasting > months**

**Effusive → Warming**

# Greenland Ice Sheet Program Drill Hole 2 (GISP2)





WARM

Temperature

COOL

Preboreal warming

Bølling warming

Volcanic sulfate

25

20

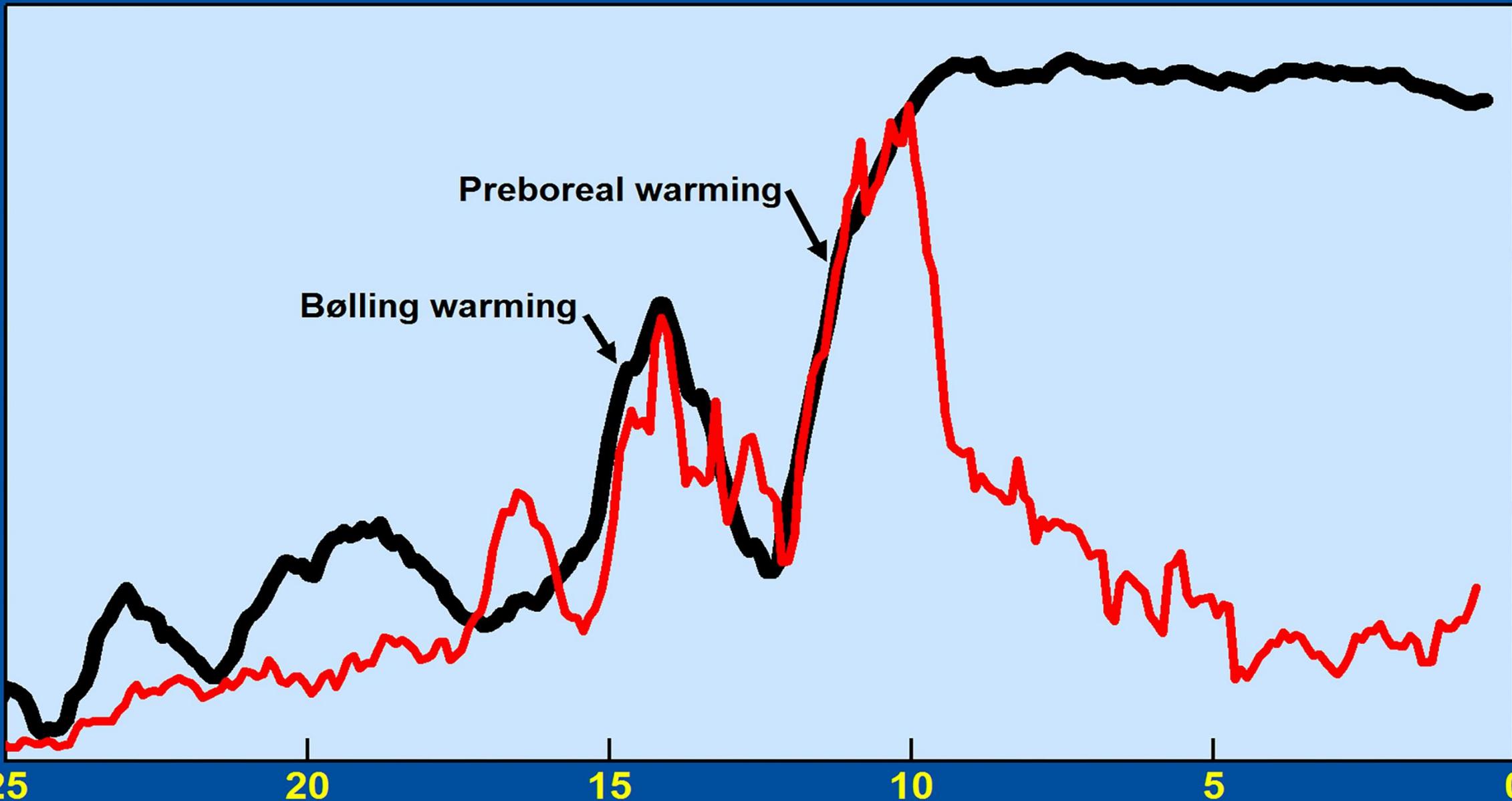
15

10

5

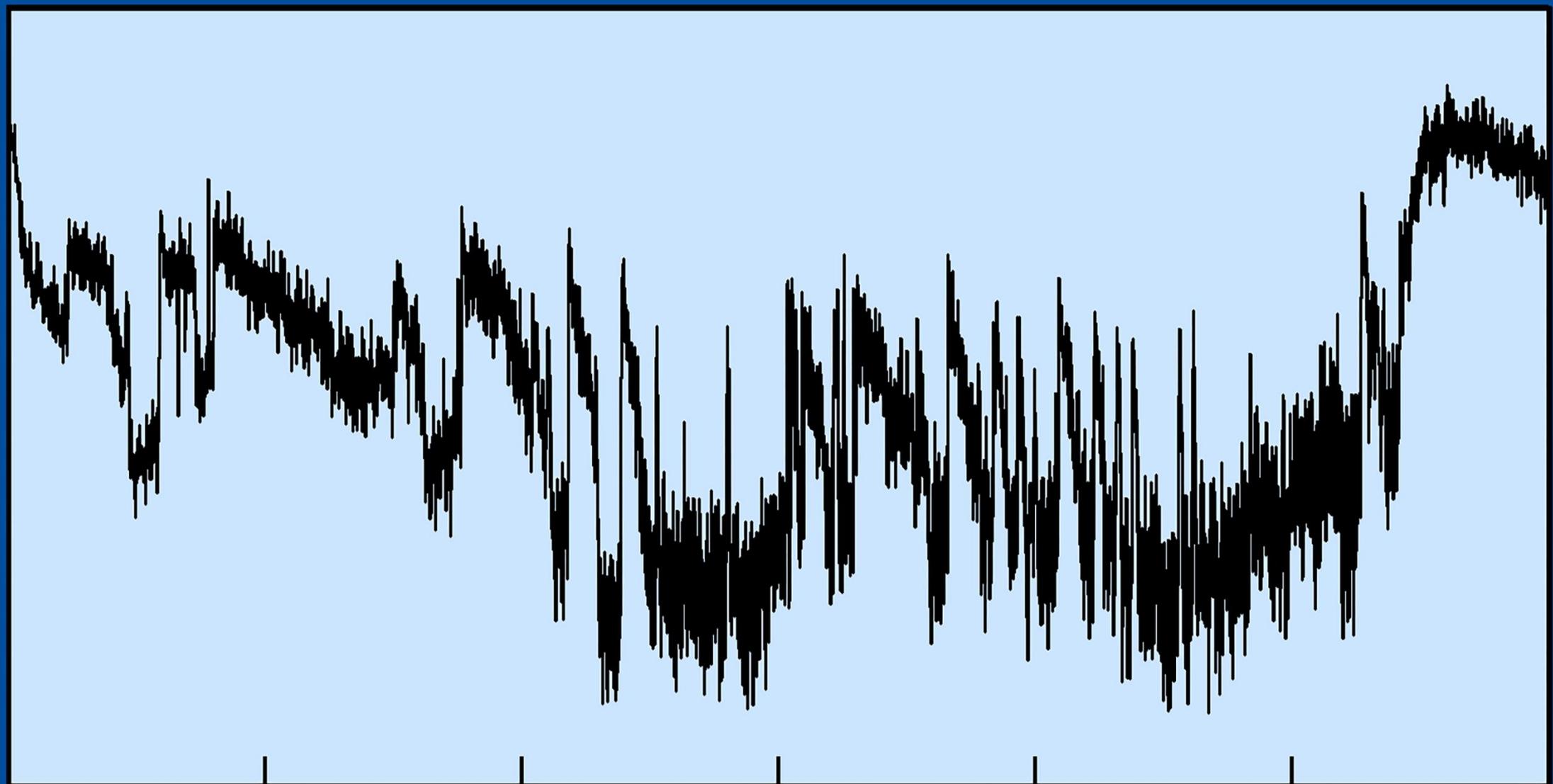
0

Thousands of years ago





**Warm**



**Cold**

**120**

**100**

**80**

**60**

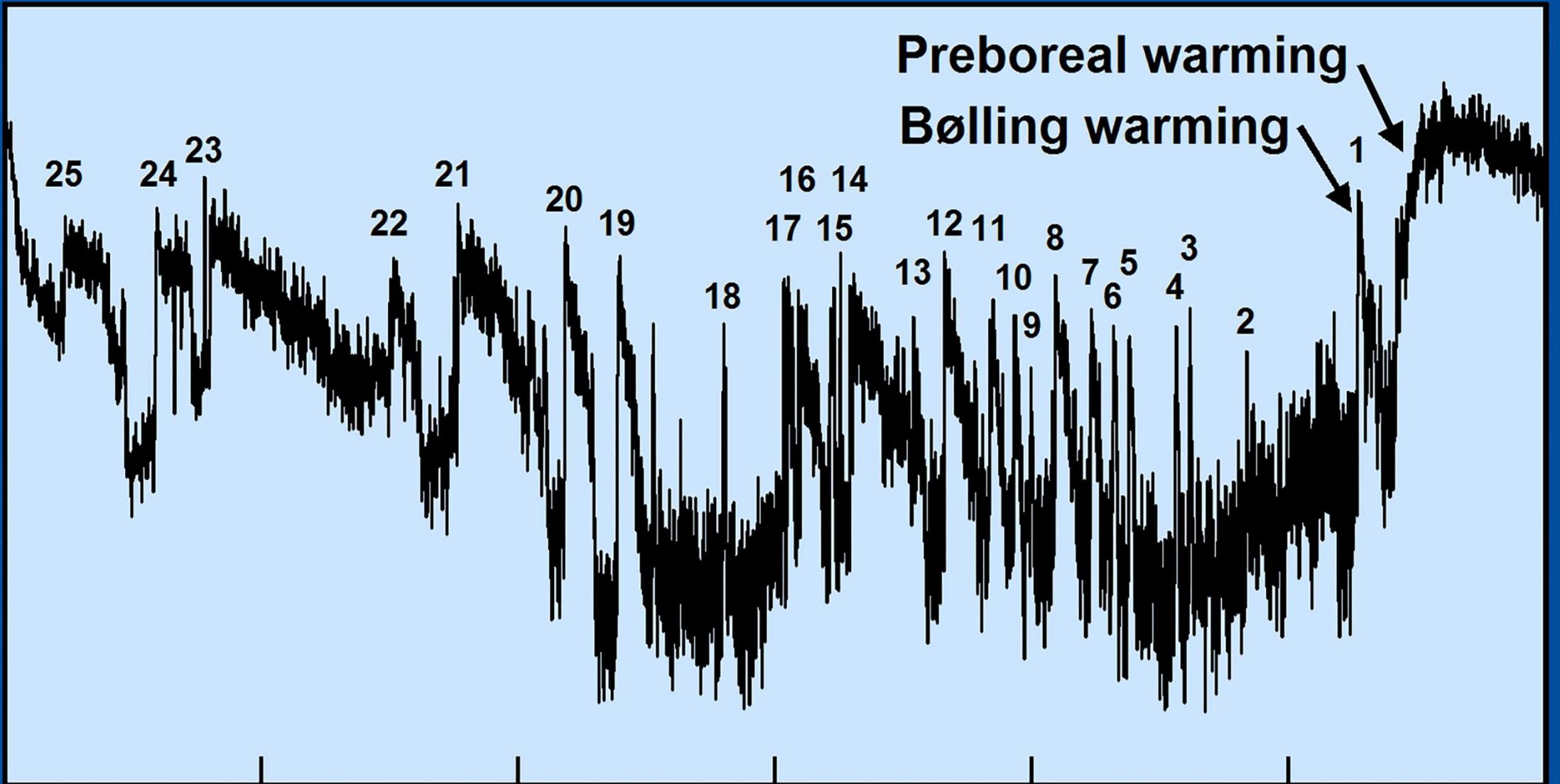
**40**

**20**

**0**

**Thousands of years ago**

**Warm**



**Preboreal warming**

**Bølling warming**

25

24

23

22

21

20

19

18

16

14

17

15

12

11

8

7

5

6

3

4

2

1

120

100

80

60

40

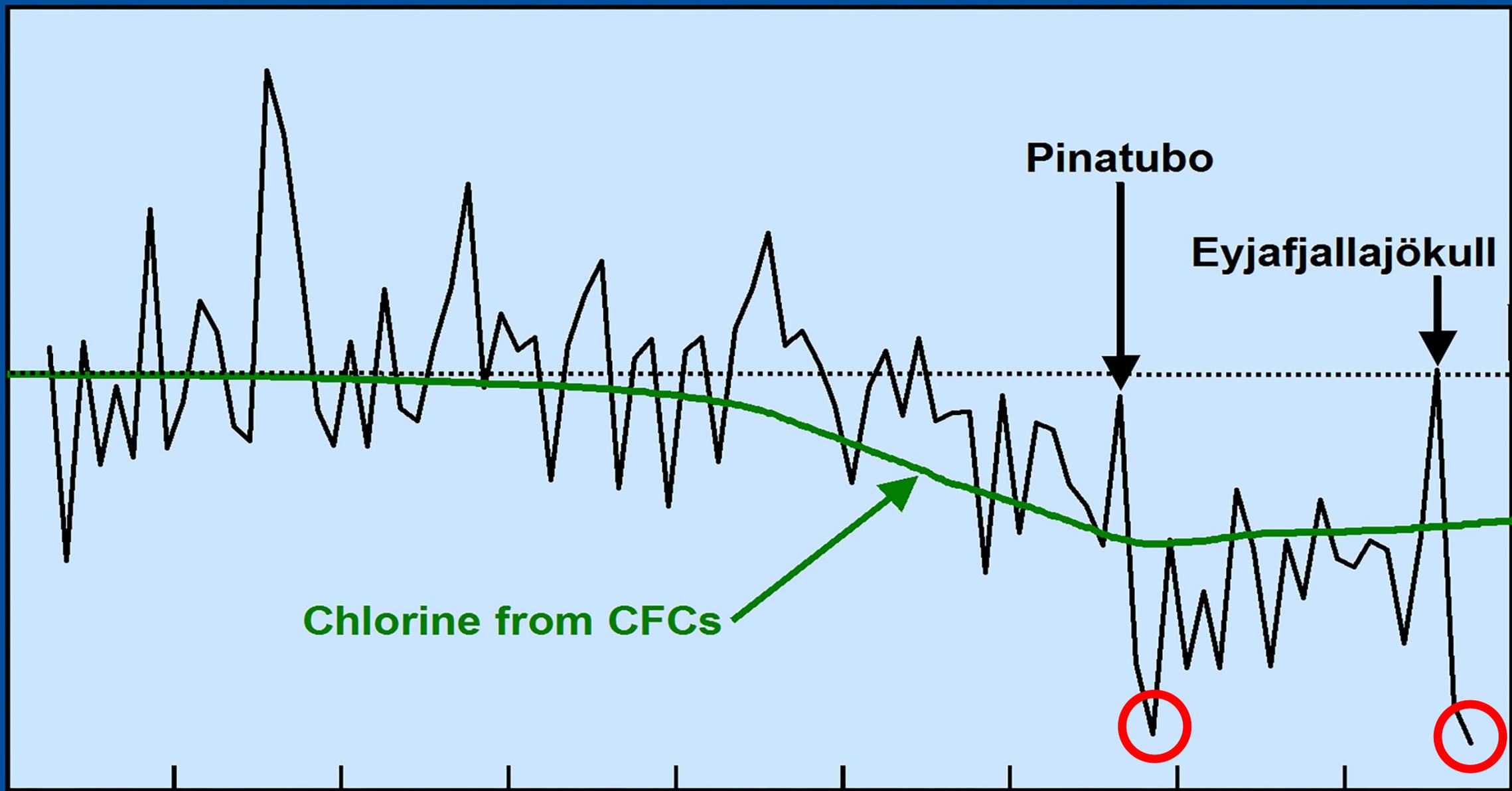
20

0

**Thousands of years ago**

**Cold**

Annual average ozone at Arosa

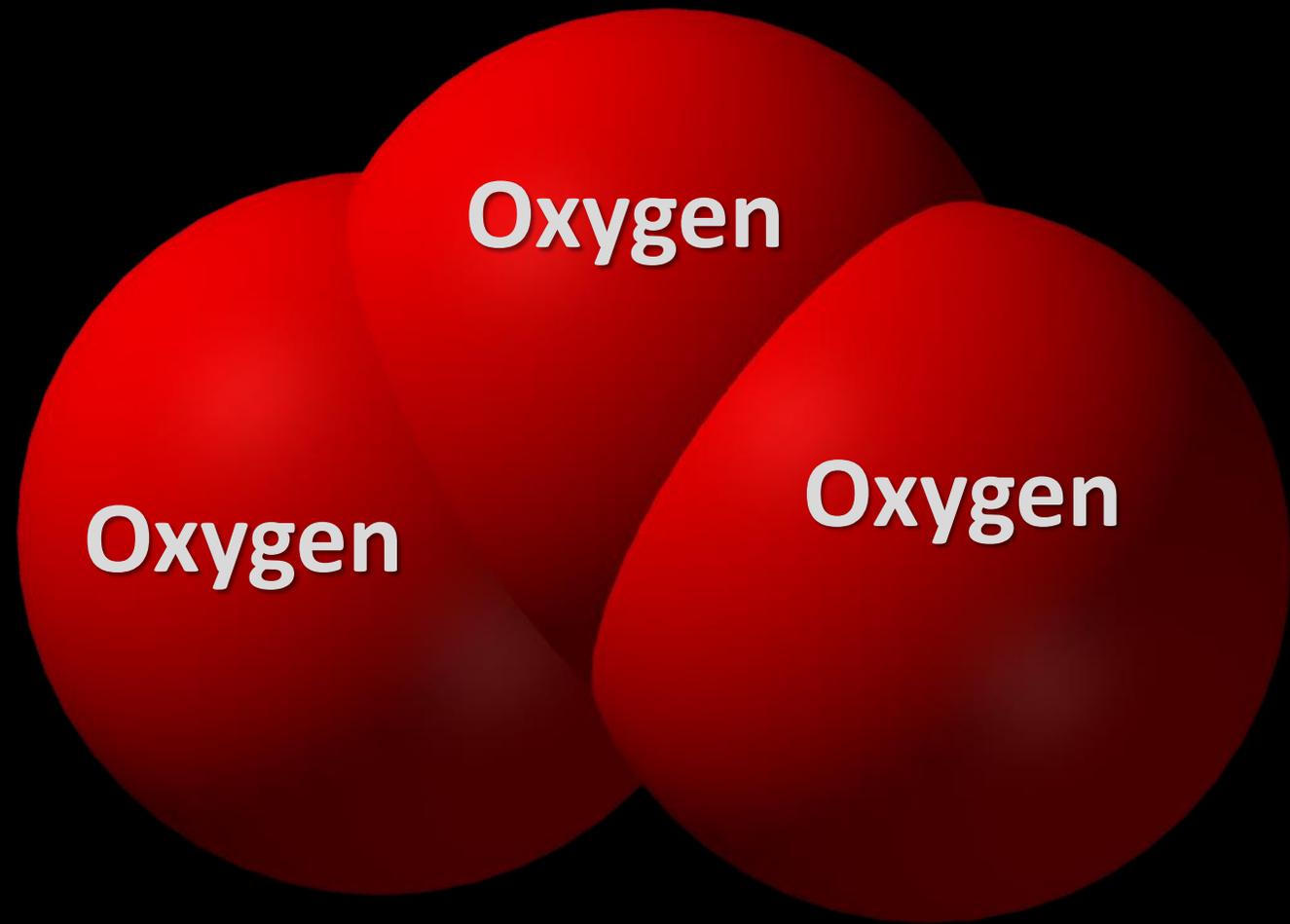
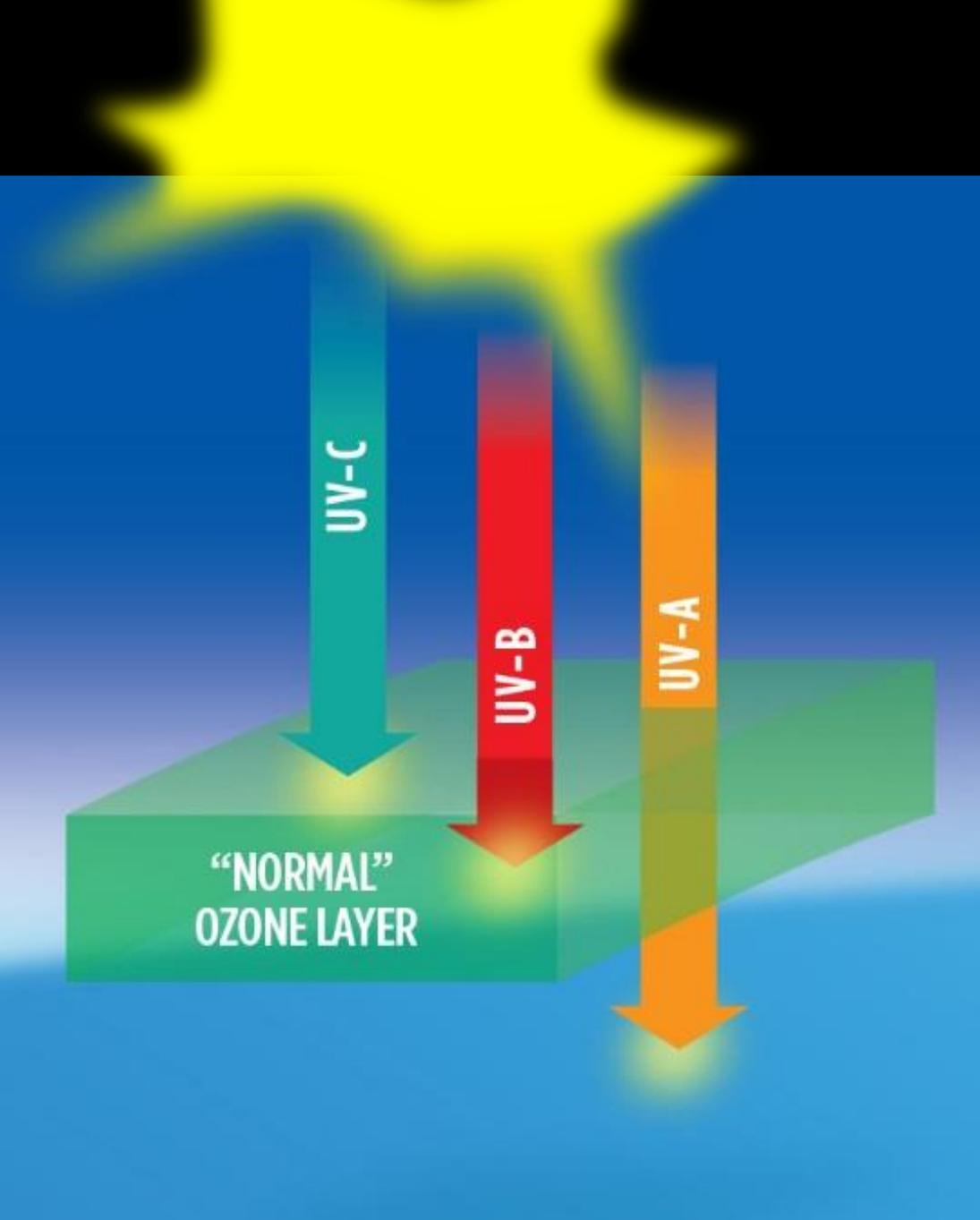


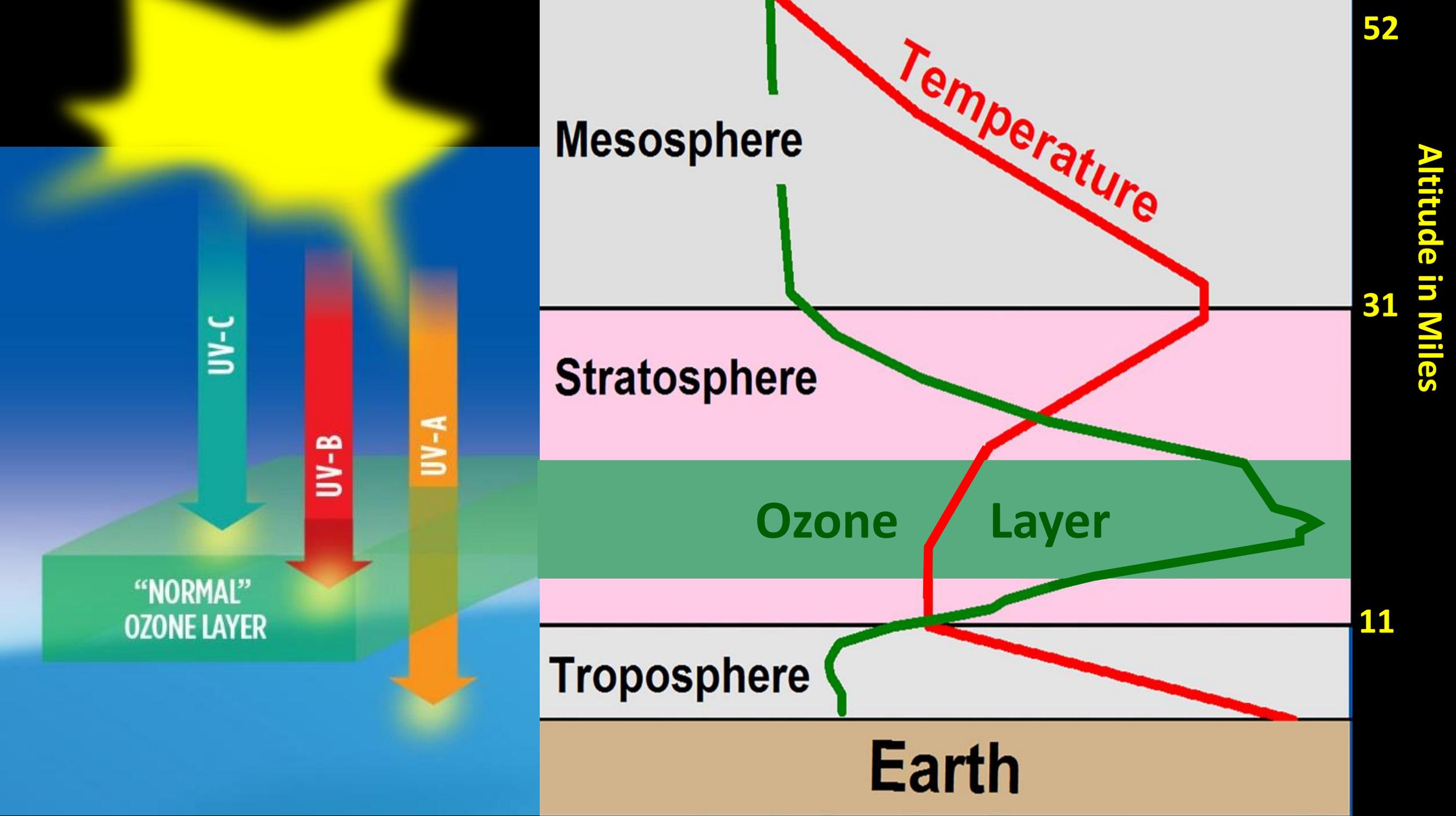
Pinatubo

Eyjafjallajökull

Chlorine from CFCs

1925 1935 1945 1955 1965 1975 1985 1995 2005 2015





52

Altitude in Miles

31

11

Mesosphere

Stratosphere

Troposphere

Earth

Temperature

Ozone Layer

UV-C

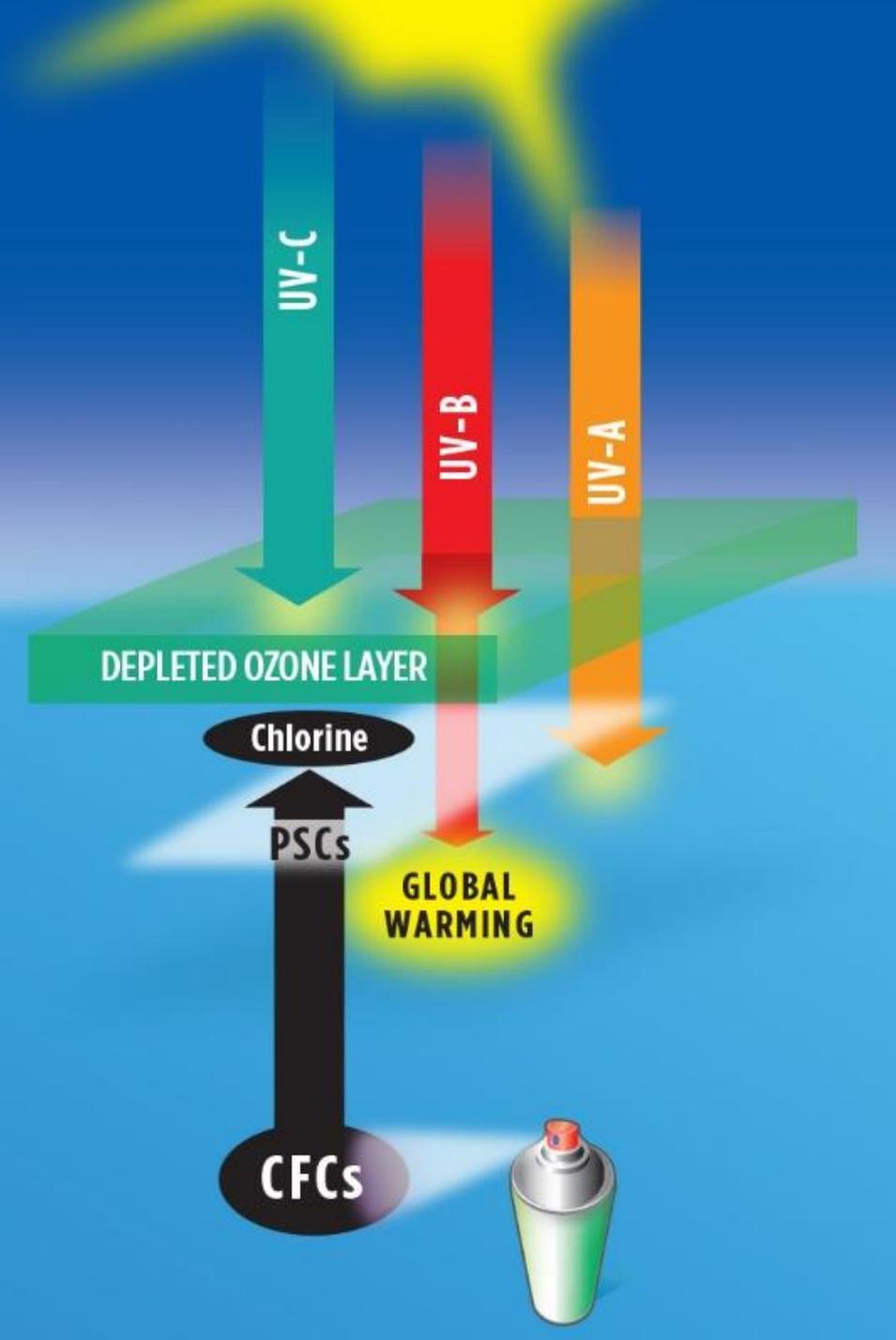
UV-B

UV-A

"NORMAL"  
OZONE LAYER

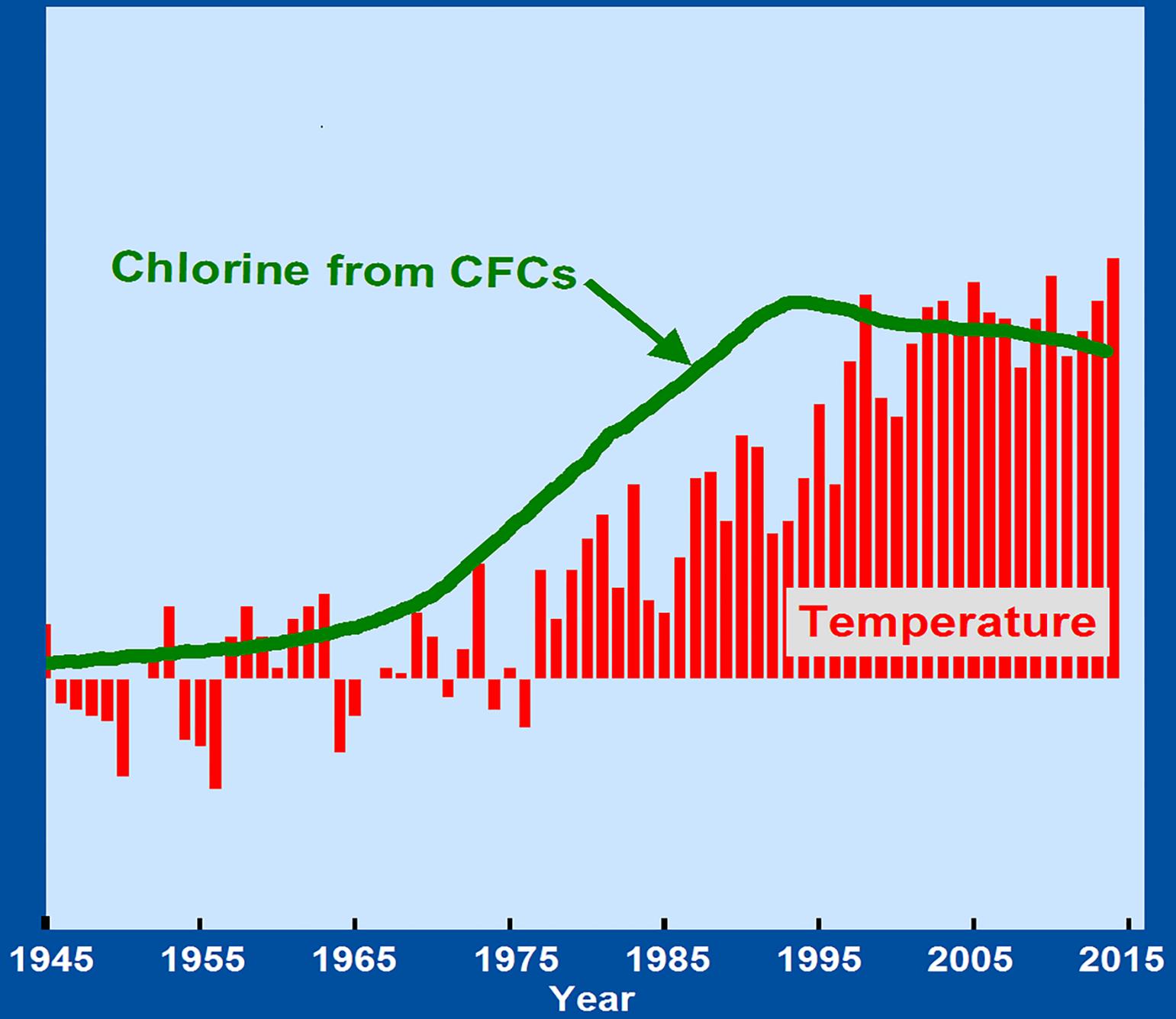
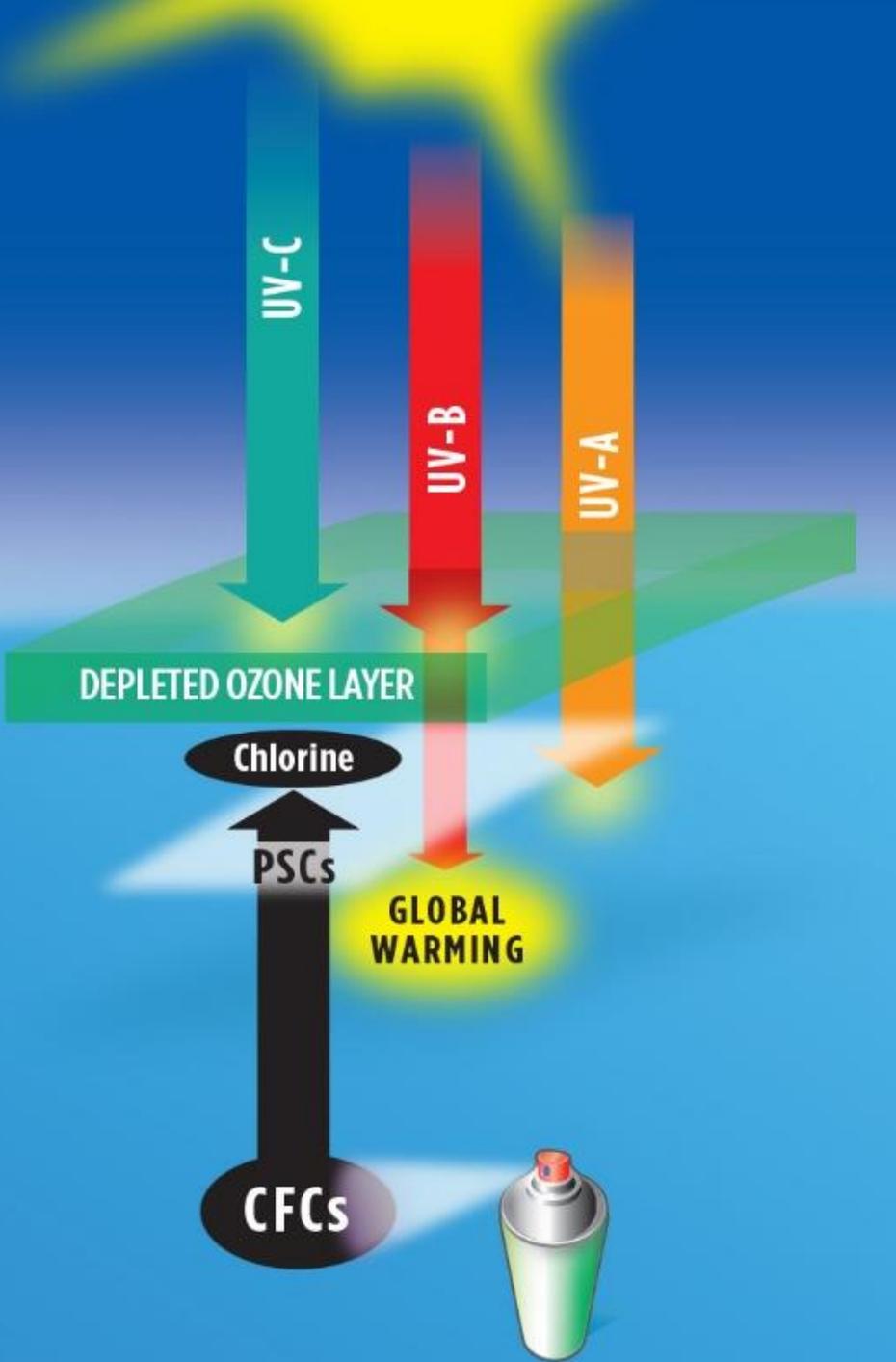
**CFCs**

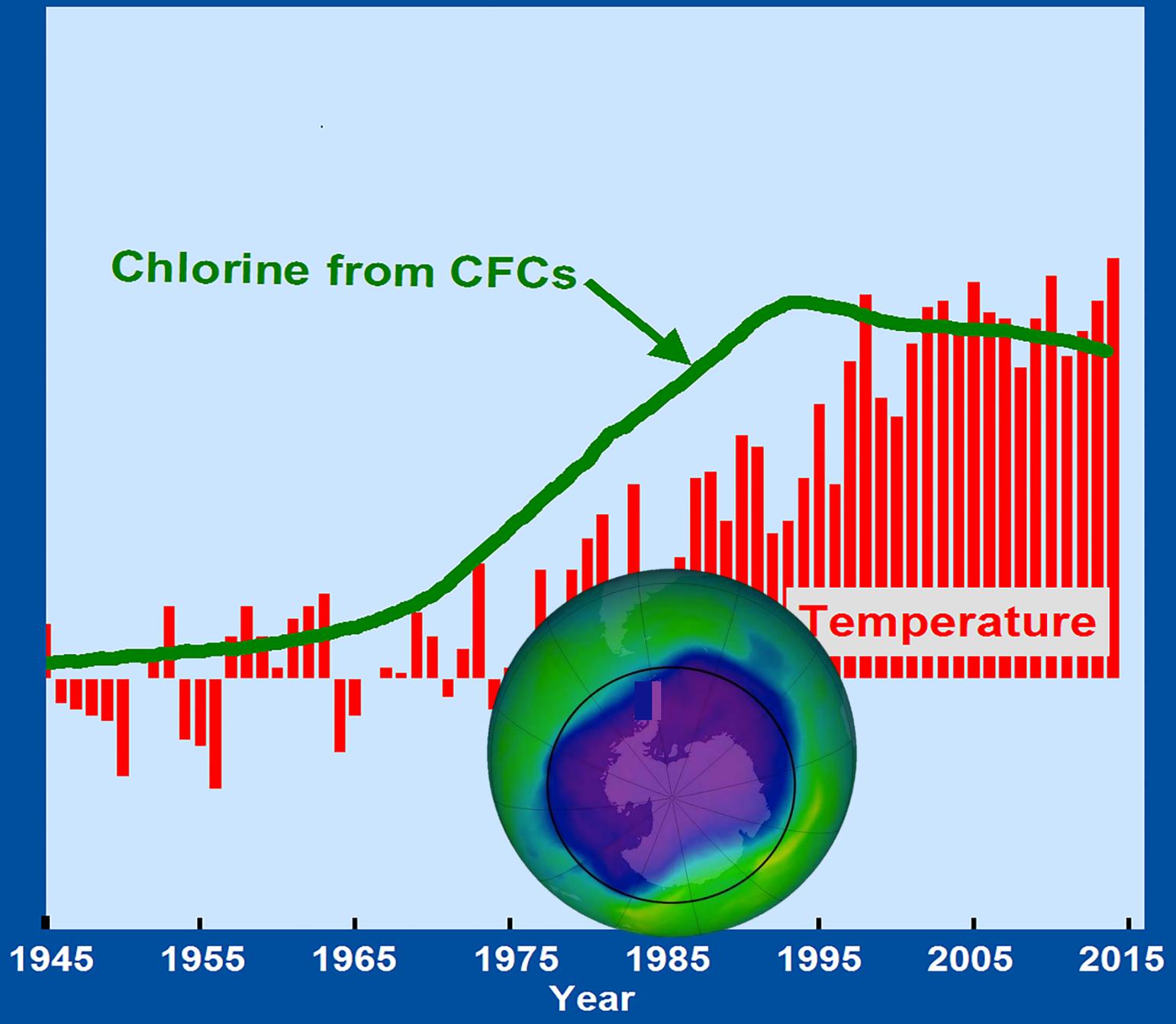
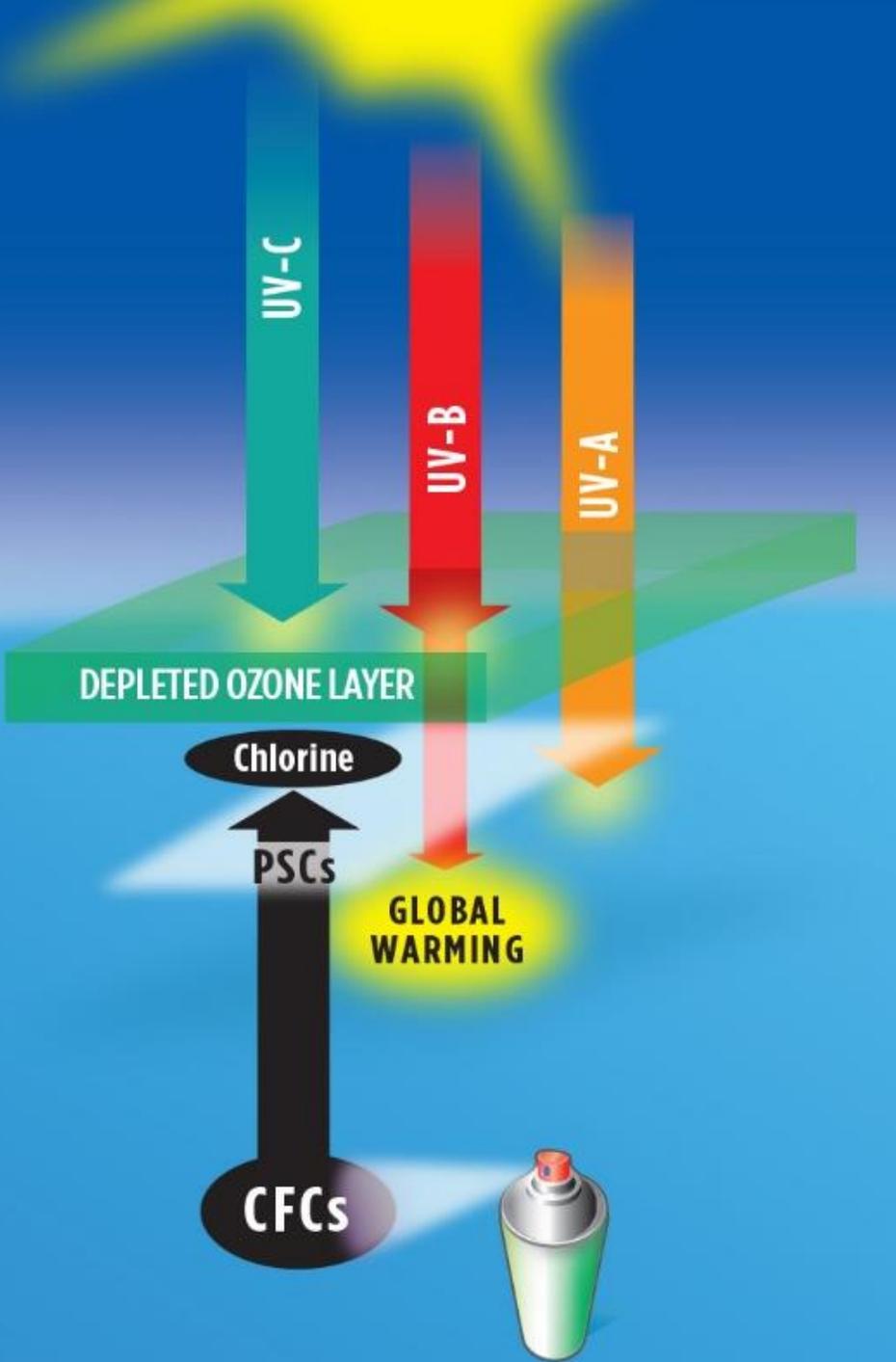


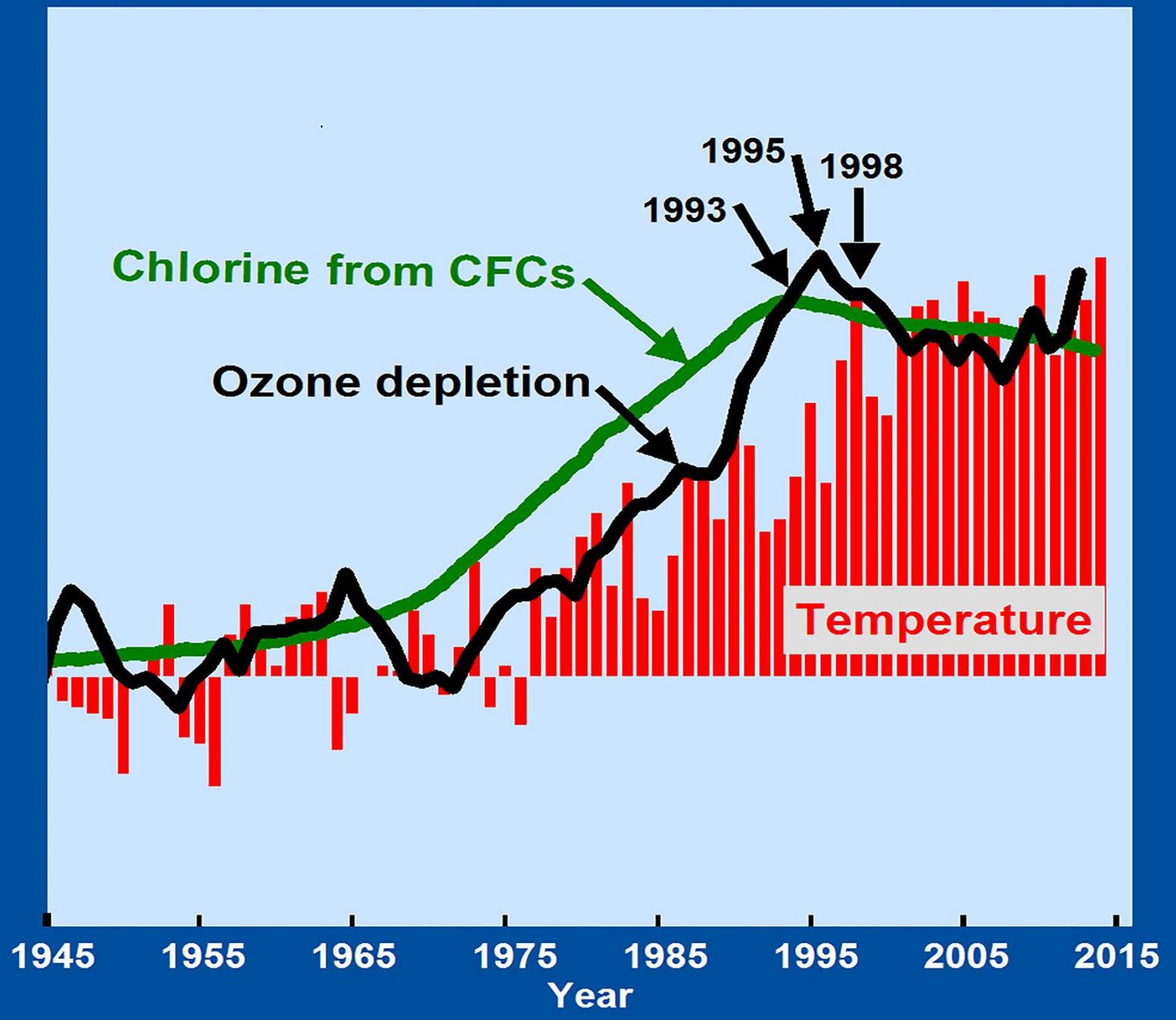
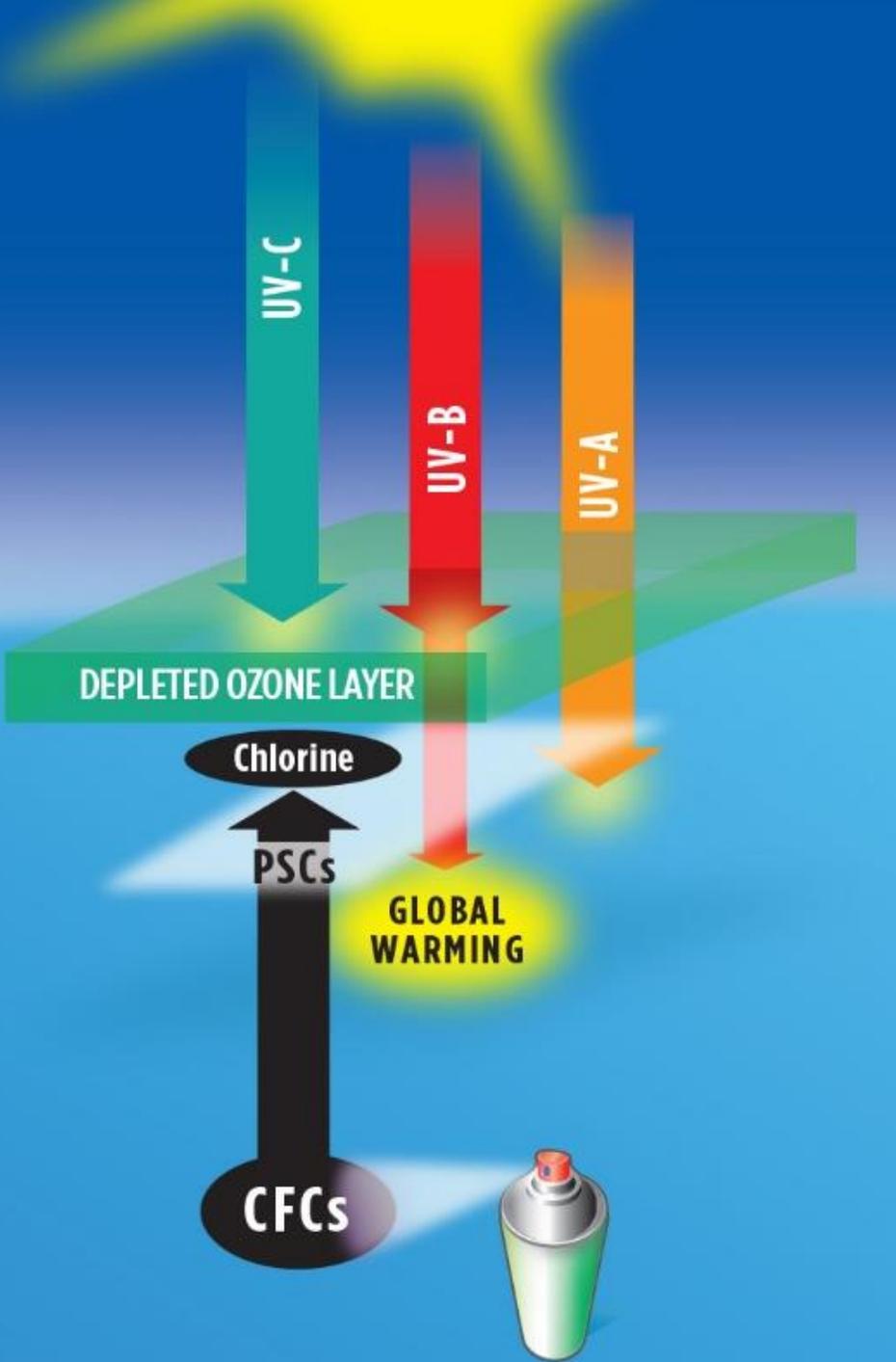


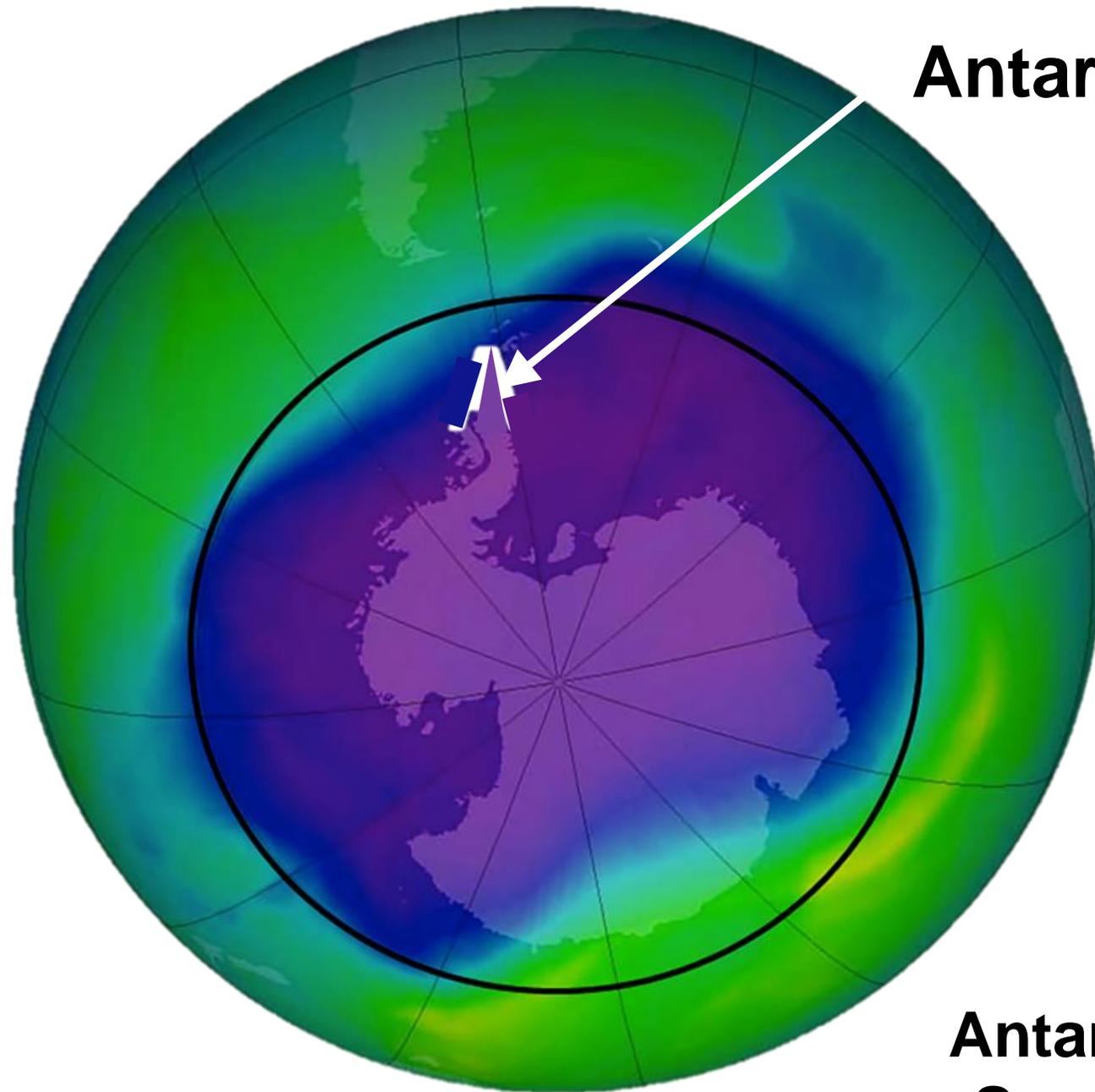
**Polar Stratospheric Clouds**

**Chlorofluorocarbon gases**





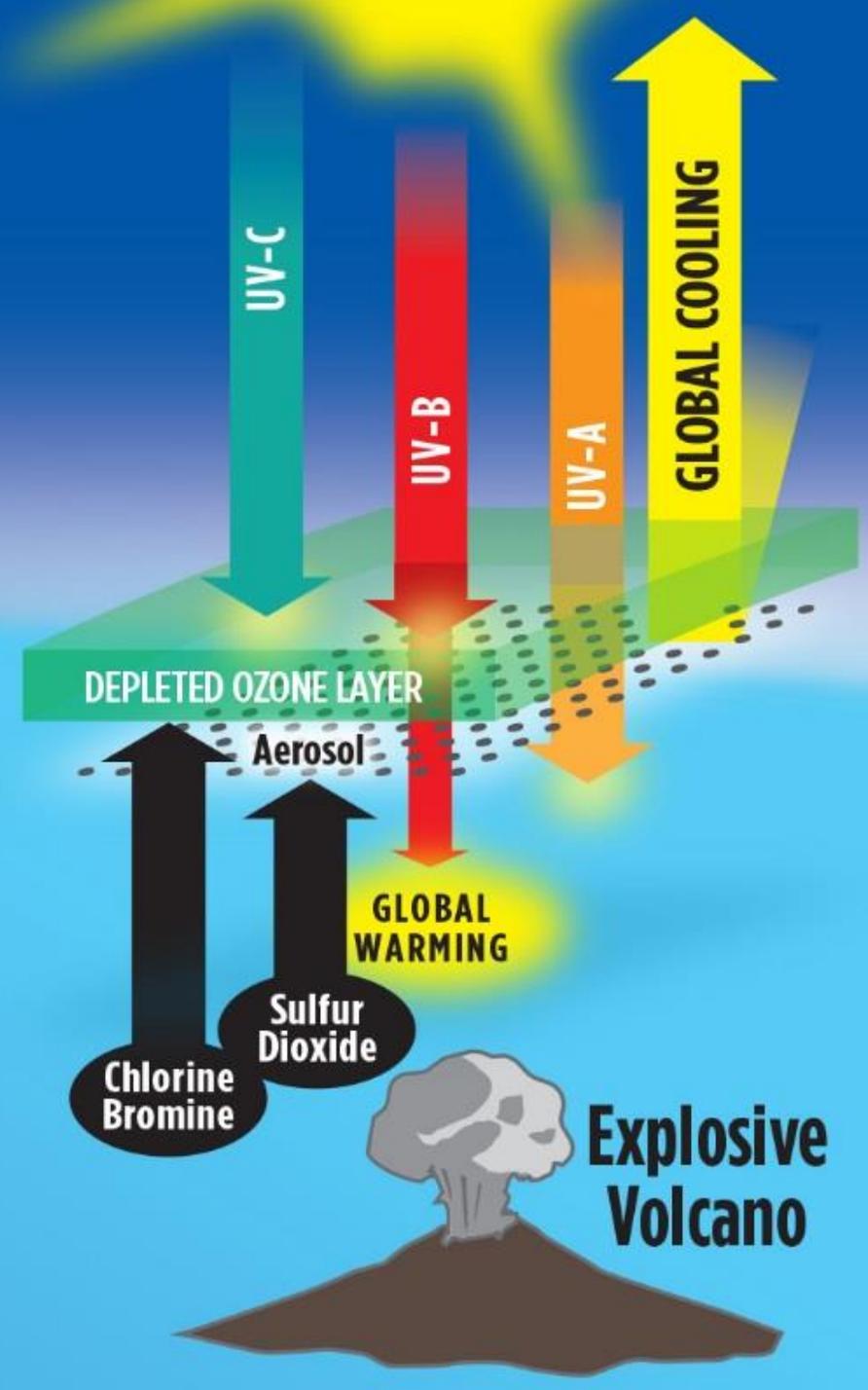


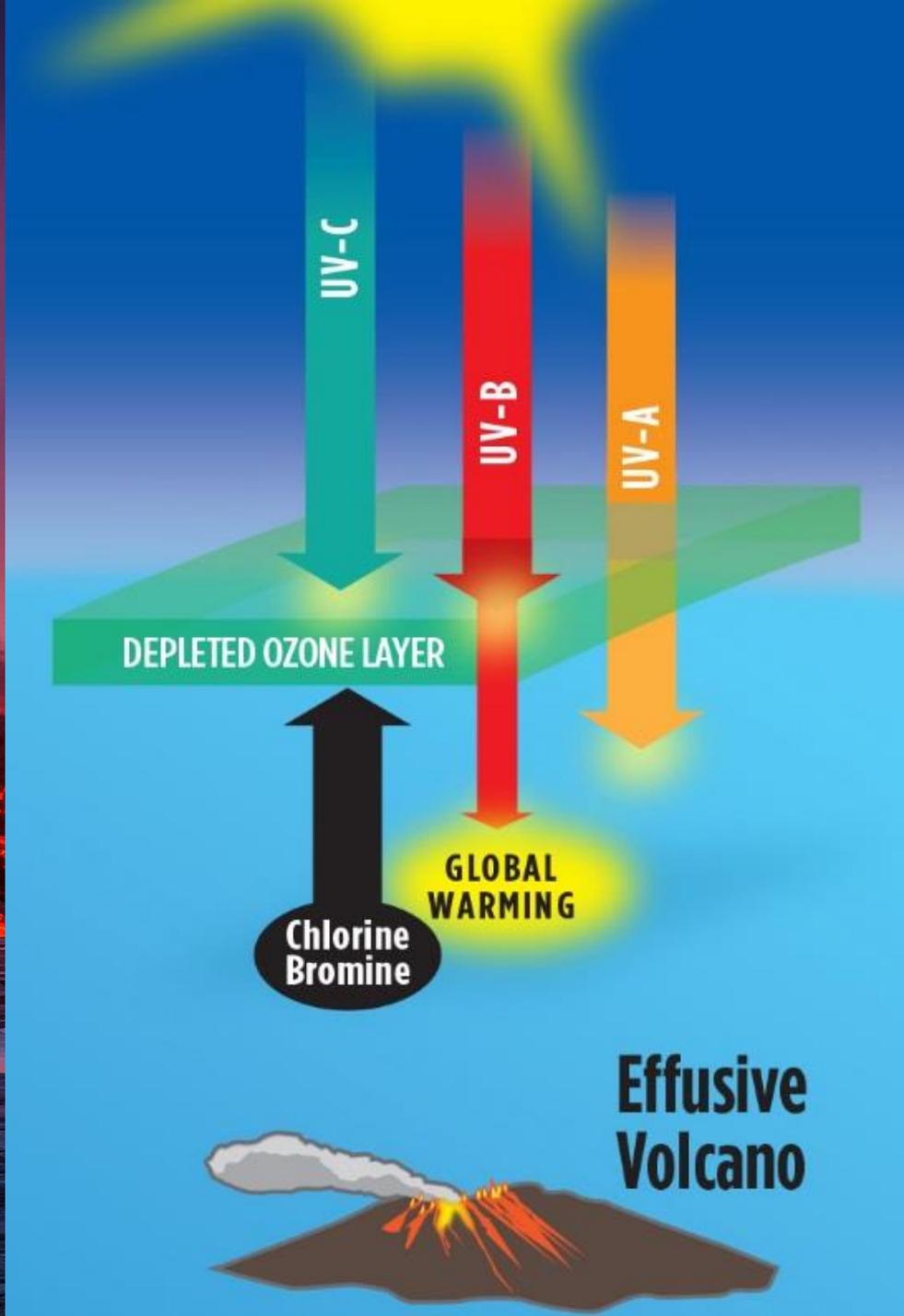


**Antarctic Peninsula**

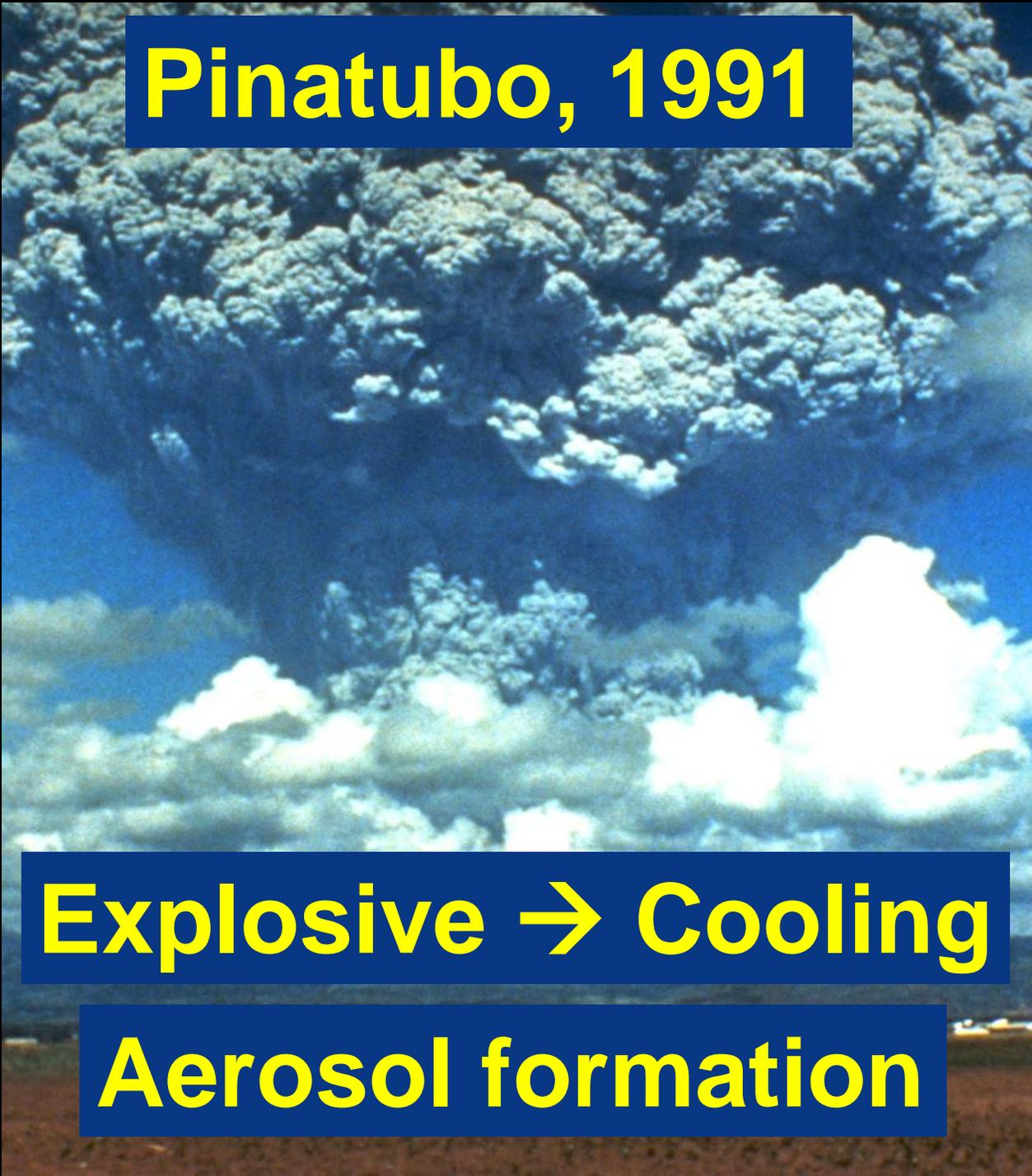
**Antarctic Ozone Hole  
September 24, 2006**

NASA





# Pinatubo, 1991



**Explosive → Cooling**

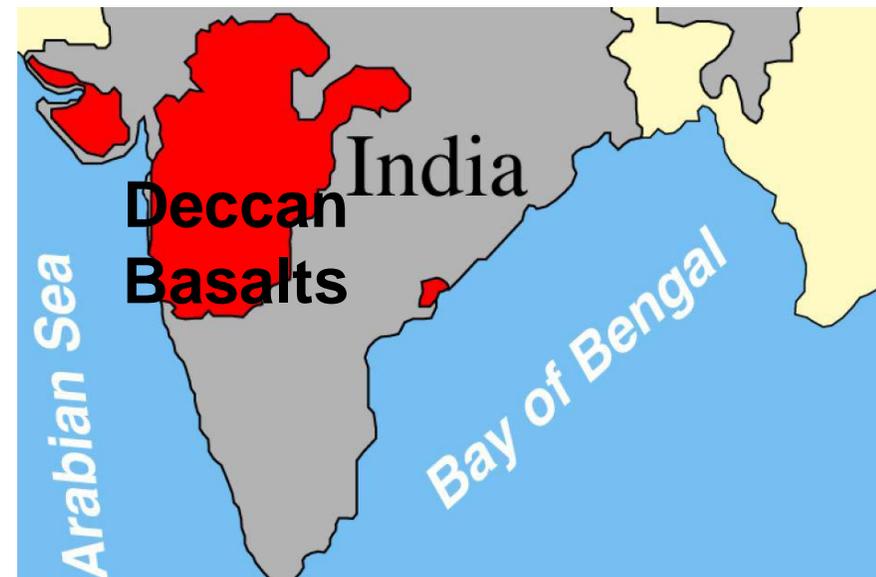
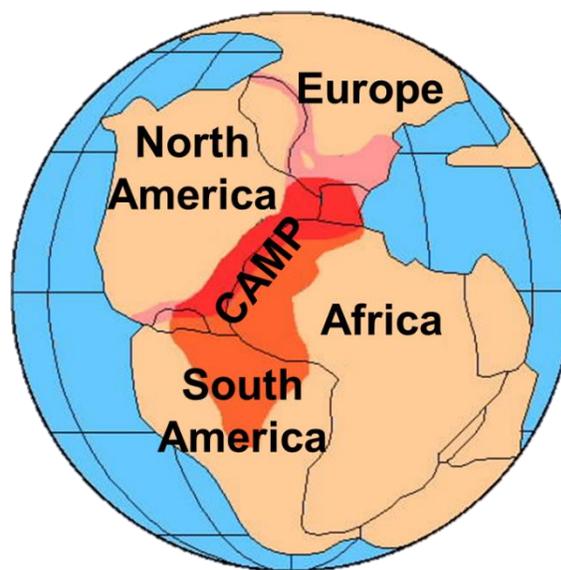
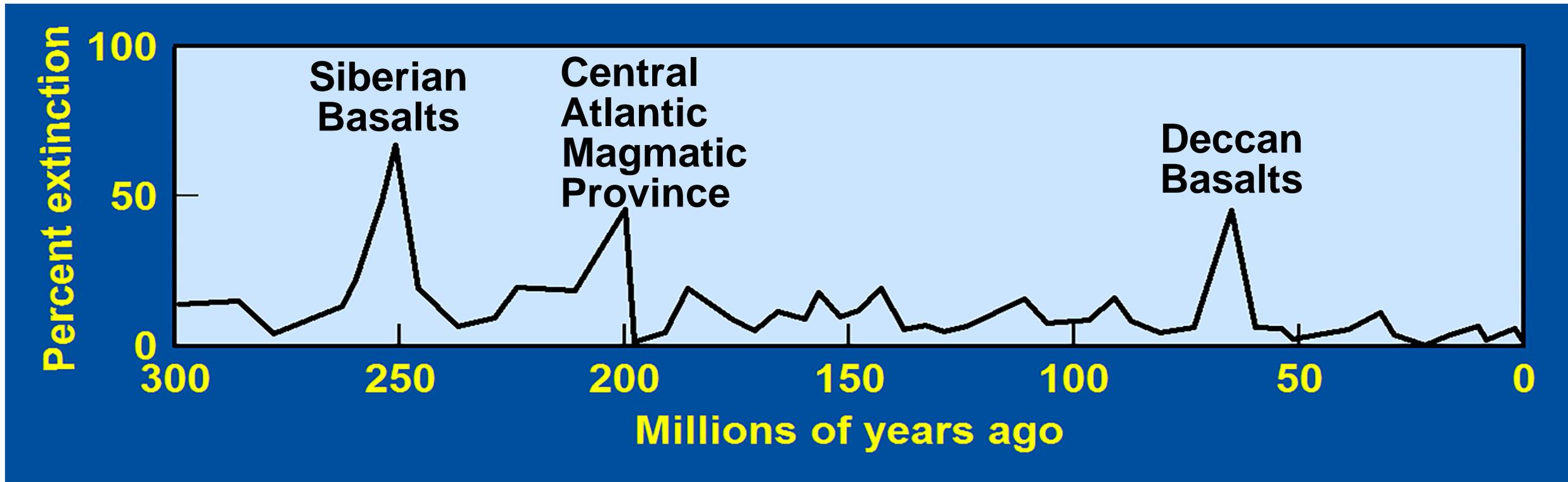
**Aerosol formation**

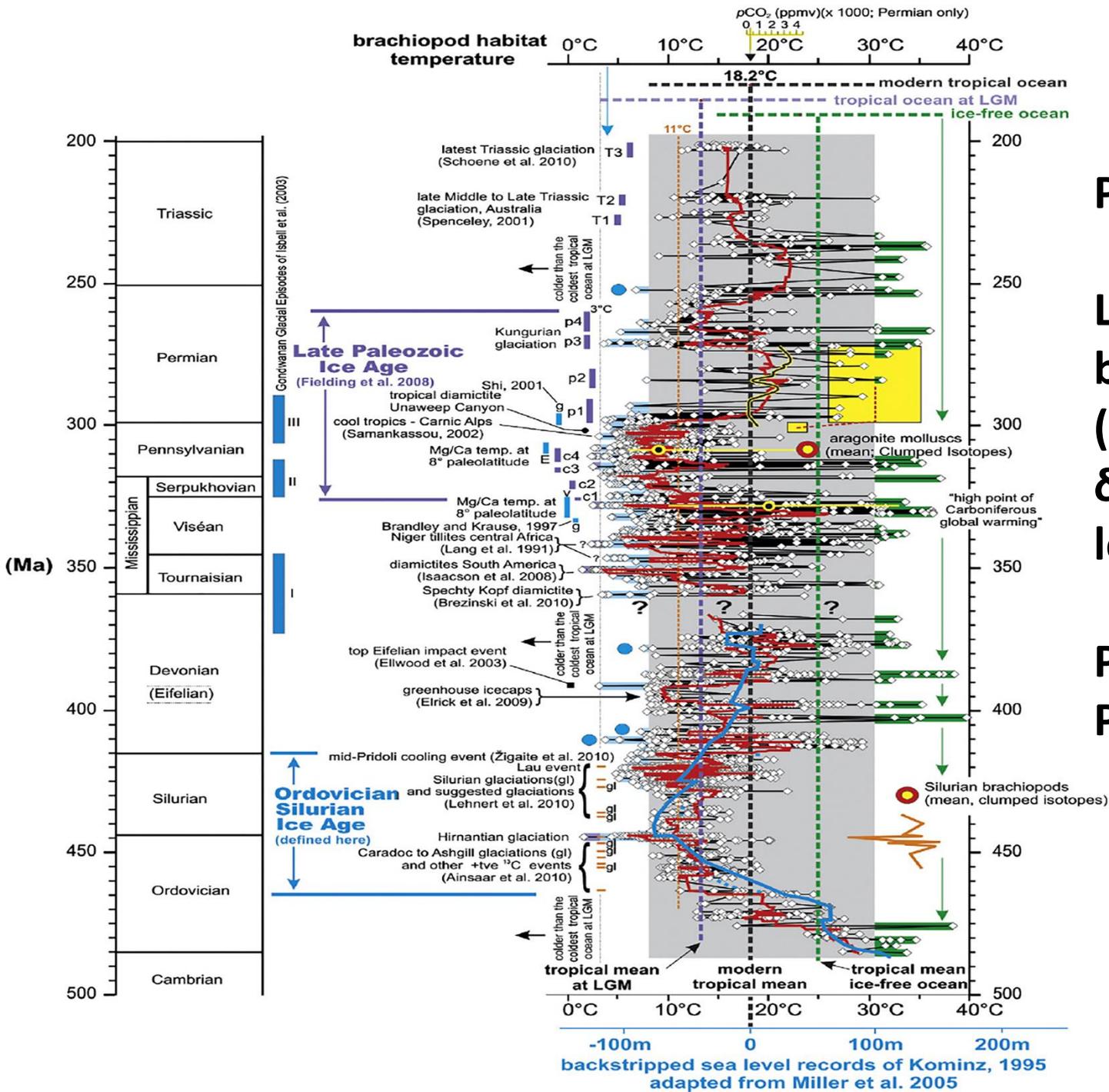
# Bárðarbunga, 2014-2015



**Effusive → Warming**

**No aerosol formation**





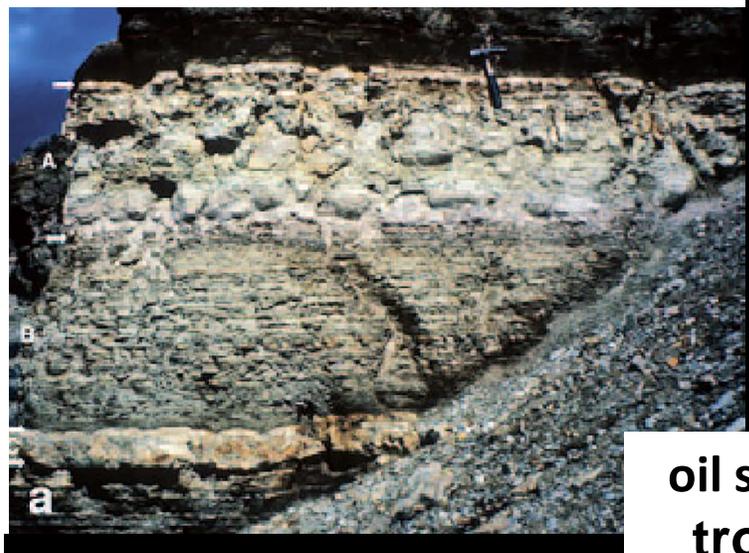
Peter S. Giles, 2012

Low-latitude Ordovician to Triassic brachiopod habitat temperatures (BHTs) determined from  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ [brachiopod calcite]: A cold hard look at ice-house tropical oceans

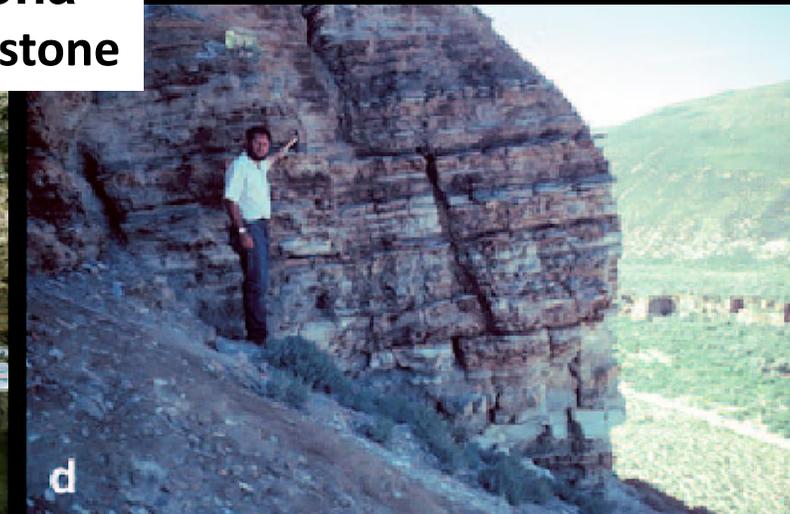
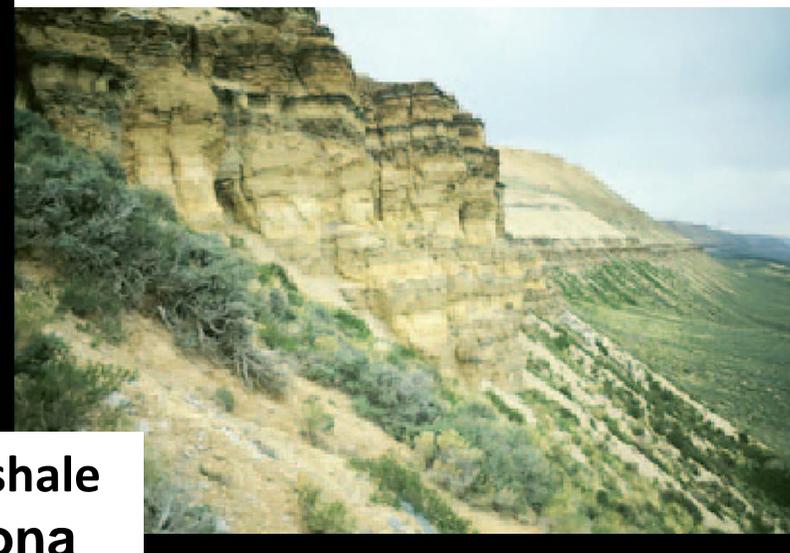
Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology, v. 317-318, p. 134-152.

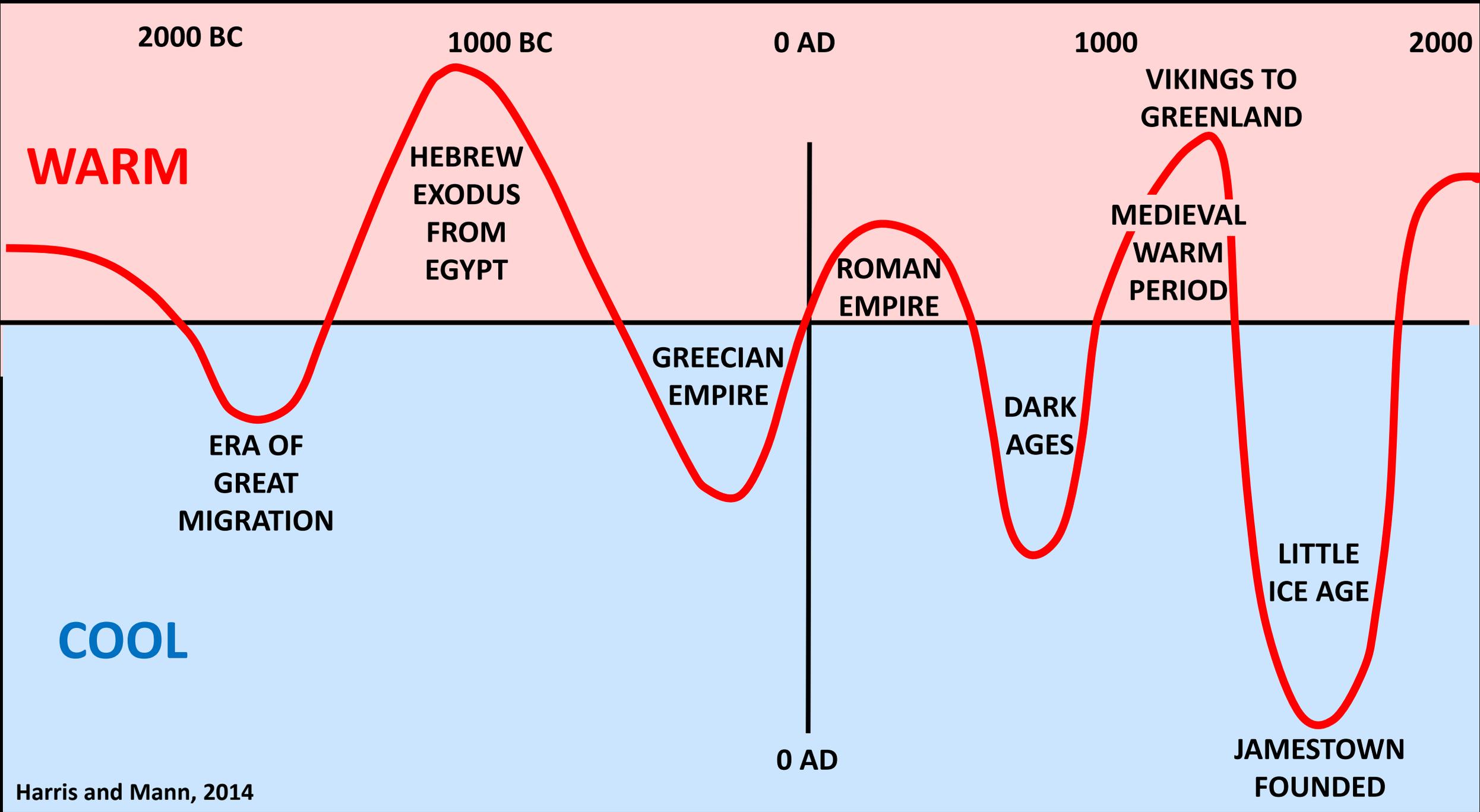
# Eocene Green River Formation in Wyoming

Ronald C. Surdam, 2013, Geological Observations Supporting Dynamic Climatic Changes, in Geological CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Characterization, Springer.



oil shale  
trona  
dolostone

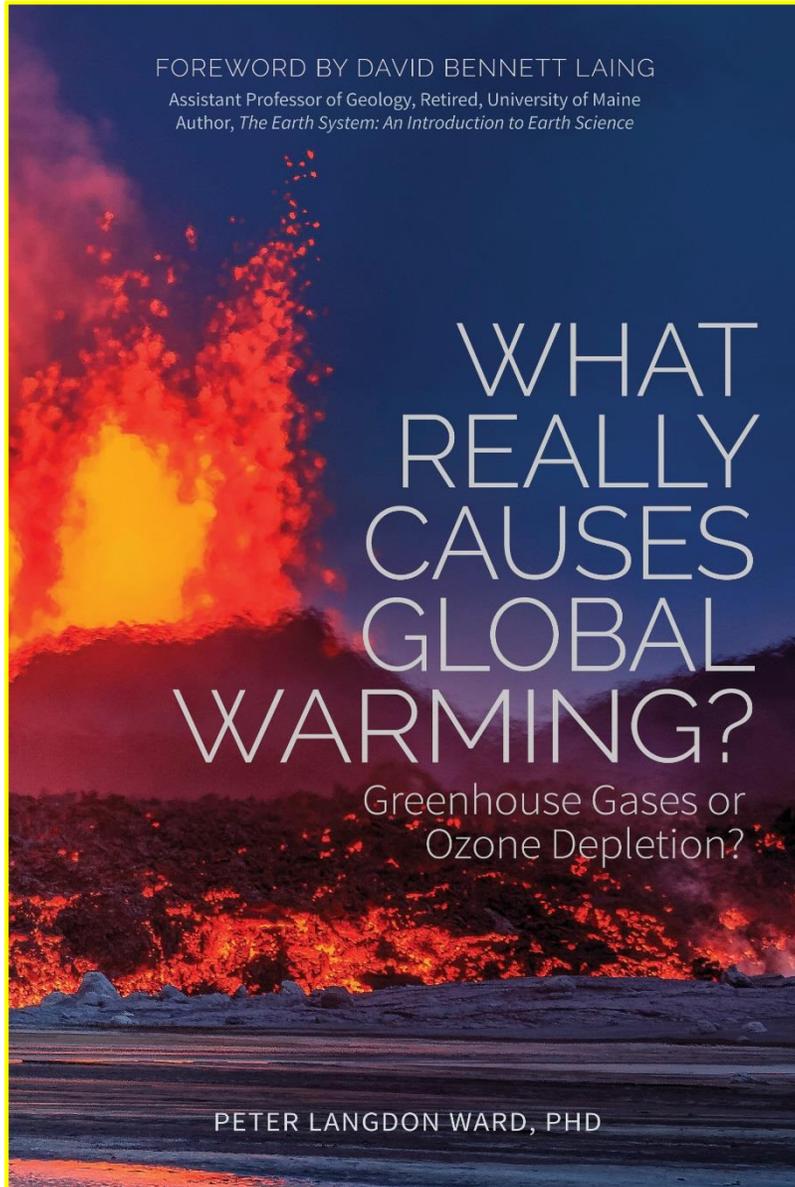




**Ozone depletion caused by volcanic eruptions and CFC gases provides a clear and sufficient explanation for warming over the past 100 years and for warming throughout all of geologic time.**

**What role did greenhouse gases play?**

# For more information:



**New book available in Exhibit Hall**

**Free pamphlet available at Exhibit**

**SciencelsNeverSettled.com**

**WhyClimateChanges.com**

**#WhyClimateChanges**

**peward@Wyoming.com**