

1 **Reconstruction of the Holocene seismotectonic activity of the Southern Andes from**
2 **seismites recorded in Lago Icalma, Chile, 39°S**

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14

15 **Abstract**

16 South-central Chile is one of the most geodynamically active areas in the world, characterised
17 by frequent volcanic eruptions and numerous earthquakes, which are both recorded in lake
18 sediments. In Lago Icalma (39°S), long piston and short gravity coring, as well as 3.5 kHz
19 high-resolution seismic profiling, has been carried out in order to study the Holocene
20 sedimentary infill of the lake, with a special focus on earthquake-triggered deposits.
21 Macroscopic description of sediment cores and detailed grain-size analyses allow us to
22 identify four types of seismically-induced deposits, or “seismites”: slump deposits, chaotic
23 deposits, turbidites s.s. and homogenites. Homogenites are characterized by the occurrence of
24 three distinct units on grain-size profiles (coarse base, thick homogenous unit topped by a thin
25 layer of very fine sediment) and by the typical distribution of the grain-size parameters in a
26 skewness-sorting diagram, while turbidites s.s. are characterized by a continuous fining
27 upward trend.

28 Radiocarbon, ^{210}Pb dating, and tephrochronology allow us to demonstrate that the regional
29 seismotectonic activity was probably very high between 2200 and 3000 cal. yr. BP as well as
30 between 7000 and 8000 cal. yr. BP and that none of the historically documented earthquakes
31 have triggered any seismite in Lago Icalma. The most recent seismite recognized in the
32 sediments of Lago Icalma is a slump deposit dated at 1100 ± 100 AD, i.e. older than the
33 period covered by historical records. The remarkable record of seismites between 2200 and
34 3000 cal. yr. BP is probably influenced by a major eruption of Sollipulli volcano at 3000 cal.
35 yr. BP, which has rejuvenated the stock of terrigenous particles available for erosion, by
36 depositing a thick layer of pumices all over the watershed of Lago Icalma and by clearing the
37 vegetation covering the volcanic ash soils. This paper demonstrates that the record of
38 seismically-triggered deposits in lake sediments is not only controlled by the intensity of the
39 triggering earthquake and the occurrence of unstable sediment along the lake slopes but also
40 by the presence of particles available for erosion/remobilisation in the watershed.

41

42 Keywords: Seismite, turbidite, homogenite, geodynamic activity, lake sediments

43

44 **1. Introduction**

45 Due to its location near the subduction zone of the Nazca plate under the South American
46 plate, south-central Chile is characterized by a strong geodynamic activity. This characteristic
47 is responsible for intense earthquakes and major volcanic eruptions. Since 1520 AD, 22
48 earthquakes with an estimated magnitude > 7 have been recorded in the Lake District region
49 between 37 and 42°S (Lomnitz, 1970, 2004; Lorca and Recabarren, 1997), causing
50 destruction of buildings, triggering volcanic eruptions and generating landslides in the Andes,
51 tsunamis in the Pacific Ocean and seiches in regional lakes (Rothé, 1961; Silgado, 1985; Beck
52 et al., 1998) (Fig. 1). The strongest earthquake ever recorded occurred in Chile on 22 May

53 1960 off Valdivia (Cisternas et al., 2005). This 9.5 magnitude earthquake killed more than
54 2000 people, left 2 million homeless, caused heavy damage in several coastal cities and
55 triggered a tsunami in the Pacific Ocean that caused destruction as far as Hawaii and Japan
56 (Cisternas, 2005 and references therein). Inland, this earthquake triggered numerous
57 landslides in the Southern Cordillera de Los Andes, as well as a seiche with a 60 cm high
58 wave in Lago Puyehue (40°S). It was also responsible for the eruption of the Puyehue-Cordon
59 de Caulle volcano (Tazieff, 1960, 1962; Rothé, 1961; Veyl, 1961; Lara et al., 2004).

60 It is now well known that such earthquakes with a magnitude ≥ 6 can trigger *in situ*
61 deformation and/or destabilization of lake sediments (Inouchi et al., 1996; Lignier, 2001),
62 especially in basins dominated by high inputs of terrigenous and volcanoclastic material
63 (Einsele et al., 1996). In consequence, lake sediments have frequently and successfully been
64 used as archives of past seismic activity (Doig, 1986, 1990, 1991; Inouchi et al., 1996;
65 Siegenthaler et al., 1987; Hibsich et al., 1997; Chapron et al., 1999; Shiki et al., 2000;
66 Schnellmann et al., 2002). Moreover, Cisternas et al. (2005) have recently demonstrated that
67 accurate reconstructions of the recurrence time and magnitude of the earthquakes preceding
68 the giant 1960 earthquake of Chile are essential to infer the magnitude of future seismic
69 events in the area.

70 In this paper, we analyze high resolution grain-size data obtained on sediment cores and 3.5
71 kHz seismic profiles from Lago Icalma (Southern Chile, 39°S) in order to reconstruct the
72 Holocene seismotectonic activity of the Southern Andes. Combined with mineralogical data,
73 these results allow us to infer the origin of the remobilized sediment and to reconstruct the
74 depositional pattern of the seismites.

75

76 **2. Location**

77 Lago Icalma is a small (11.65 km²) but deep (135 m) oligotrophic lake from the IX region of
78 Chile (Parra *et al.*, 1993), located in the Cordillera de Los Andes at an elevation of 1140 m
79 (Fig. 1). This lake is believed to occupy a glacial over-deepened valley and its main basin is
80 delimited by glacial rock-bars to the West and by moraines to the East (Mardones *et al.*,
81 1993). The lake catchment covers 147 km² and is surrounded by several active volcanoes (i.e.,
82 Llaima, Lonquimay and Sollipulli), with Llaima volcano being one of the most active volcano
83 of South America (González-Ferrán, 1994). The lake catchment has been shaped by north-
84 south tectonic faults, volcanism and glaciations (Mardones *et al.*, 1993; Suárez and Emparan,
85 1997). The bedrock is characterized by Jurassic granodiorites, basalts and sedimentary rocks,
86 covered by soft Holocene volcanic ashes, several meters thick and intercalating two pumice
87 layers emitted by Llaima volcano (Llaima pumice) in 10,000 cal. yr. BP and by Sollipulli
88 volcano (Alpehue pumice) in 3000 cal. yr. BP (Naranjo and Moreno, 1991; Naranjo *et al.*,
89 1993; Suárez and Emparan, 1997; De Vleeschouwer *et al.*, 2005). The catchment area above
90 the N-W flank of the lake is an unstable area (Mardones *et al.*, 1993) characterized by steep
91 and deeply scoured canyons (Fig. 2).

92 Lago Icalma is fed by Rio Icalma in the South, forming the main delta, and by Rio Huillinco
93 in the West, flowing into the Laguna Chica de Icalma (Fig. 2). The outlet of Lago Icalma (Rio
94 Rucanuco) cross-cuts a small dump moraine and forms, together with the outlet of Lago
95 Galletue, the source of Biobio river (Fig. 1). Annual regional precipitation varies between
96 1180 and 3000 mm/yr and the area is characterized by high temperature changes, with
97 extremes of -6°C during the winter and 29°C during the summer (Mardones *et al.*, 1993; Parra
98 *et al.*, 1993).

99 Due to the geographical setting of Chile and to the concentration of the population in the
100 central valley and in a few coastal cities, earthquakes that hit the Andes are poorly known.

101 Except for the last decades, the magnitude of past Chilean earthquakes is derived from
102 damages that affected coastal cities but many more historical events are believed to have
103 occurred in remote and unpopulated areas (Lomnitz, 2005).

104

105 **3. Material**

106 *3.1. Coring and core processing*

107 After a preliminary seismic investigation of the whole sedimentary infill of Lago Icalma
108 (Charlet et al., 2003), two sites were selected for the collection of both long and short
109 sediment cores. The first coring site (ICA-I) is located at 77.3 m depth, north of the main
110 glacial rock-bar that divide the lake into two sub basins (Fig. 2). The ICA-II site is located in
111 the central and deepest part of the lake, at a depth of 134.7 m (Fig. 2). In 2001-2002, a coring
112 campaign, using a 3 m long piston coring system operated from an Uwitec platform, collected
113 a series of 6 cm inner diameter cores at ICA-I and ICA-II sites. Moreover, a classical short
114 gravity coring device was used to collect 5 short cores at each coring site. Core sections were
115 then opened, photographed, described (colour, grain-size, structure and contacts) and scanned
116 for magnetic susceptibility with a Bartington MS2E point sensor every 5 mm. Once all
117 processed, the 3 m long sections were correlated using magnetic susceptibility results and
118 distinct layers described macroscopically. The composite lithological columns (ICA-I: 776.9
119 cm, ICA-II: 816.15 cm) were then used for sampling: the working half of each composite core
120 was subsampled in 1 cm thick slices for a multi-proxy study while the archive halves have
121 been used for grain-size analyses.

122

123 *3.2 Lithology*

124 The sediment of ICA-I and ICA-II cores is composed of olive grey to dark yellowish brown
125 silts alternating with coarse and dark sandy material (Fig. 3). The silty sediment is rich in

126 diatoms and has a homogeneous to slightly laminated texture. In ICA-I core, the total
127 thickness of the coarse deposits reaches 345 cm, i.e. 45% of the total length of the core, while
128 the dark coarse particles constitute 23% of ICA-II core. Both cores also contain macroscopic
129 wood remains and pumices (Fig. 3).

130 Microscopically, the coarse fraction ($> 250 \mu\text{m}$) of the sediment contains volcanic scoriae,
131 opaque minerals, volcanic glasses and organic remains. Particles with a size between 250 and
132 $50 \mu\text{m}$ are dominated by volcanic scoriae, volcanic glasses and various volcanic minerals
133 (plagioclase, pyroxene, olivine ...). The finest ($< 50 \mu\text{m}$) fraction of the sediment contains
134 volcanic glasses, allophane, diatoms and minerals superficially altered into allophane.

135

136 *3.3 Radiocarbon, ^{210}Pb dating and tephrochronology*

137 In order to date the main event deposits in each of the cores, ten samples (bulk samples and
138 wood remains, Tab. 1 and Fig. 3) were AMS radiocarbon dated at the Poznan Radiocarbon
139 Laboratory (Czernik and Goslar, 2001). Moreover, an *in situ* pumice layer recognized in both
140 cores (ICA-I, 398-409 cm and ICA-II, 513-531 cm) has been used as a tephrochronologic
141 marker. After a detailed mineralogical and geochemical study, these pumices have been
142 attributed to the Alpehue eruption of Sollipulli volcano at 3000 cal. yr. BP (Naranjo et al.,
143 1993; De Vleeschouwer et al., 2005). The volcanic ash soils around Lago Icalma contain a
144 second pumice layer, attributed to an eruption of Llaima volcano at 10,000 cal. yr. BP
145 (Naranjo and Moreno, 1991; De Vleeschouwer et al., 2005). This pumice layer, with its
146 typical mineralogy and geochemistry, has not been found in our sediment cores, arguing that
147 the base of the cores is younger than 10,000 cal. yr. BP.

148 To accurately date the recentmost deposits, ^{210}Pb and ^{137}Cs concentrations were analysed in
149 short cores ICA-I-P2 and ICA-II-P1 (Arnaud et al., in press). Because ^{210}Pb profiles are
150 disturbed by event deposits, data corresponding to disturbed layers were removed from ^{210}Pb

151 profiles and a simple ^{210}Pb decay model (CFCS) has been used to infer the mean
152 accumulation rate of the continuous sedimentation (Arnaud et al., in press). This method,
153 providing an accurate age-depth model for the last 150 yrs, has been extended to the base of
154 the pilot cores, with the aim to estimate the age of the numerous historical instantaneous
155 deposits (e.g., Arnaud et al., 2002; Nomade et al., 2005) (Fig. 3)

156

157 **4. Methods**

158 *4.1 Grain-size*

159 Grain-size measurements were performed every 2 cm on bulk sediment using a laser
160 diffraction particle analyser Malvern Mastersizer 2000 which has a detection range of 0.02-
161 2000 μm . Samples were introduced into a 100 ml deionised water tank free of additive
162 dispersant, split with a 2000 rpm stirrer and disaggregated by sonication (Hydro S dispersion
163 cell). Sample quantity was adjusted in order to obtain a laser beam obscuration between 10
164 and 20 %. Grain-size parameters are averaged over 10,000 scans. Samples containing grains
165 coarser than 420 μm have been analysed by a combination of laser diffraction and sieving
166 methods. Distribution parameters have been calculated following Folk and Ward (1957):

167 ➤ Mean: $M_z = \frac{\phi_{16} + \phi_{50} + \phi_{84}}{3}$

168

169 ➤ Sorting: $\sigma_I = \frac{\phi_{84} - \phi_{16}}{4} + \frac{\phi_{95} - \phi_5}{6,6}$

170

171 ➤ Skewness: $Sk_1 = \frac{\phi_{16} + \phi_{84} - 2(\phi_{50})}{2(\phi_{84} - \phi_{16})} + \frac{\phi_5 + \phi_{95} - 2(\phi_{50})}{2(\phi_{95} - \phi_5)}$

172

173 ➤ Kurtosis: $K_G = \frac{\phi_{95} - \phi_5}{2.44(\phi_{75} - \phi_{25})}$

174

175

176 *4.2 Mineralogy*

177 Bulk and clay mineralogy were analysed by X-ray diffraction (XRD) on a Bruker D8-
178 Advance diffractometer with CuK α radiations. Bulk samples taken every 10 cm were
179 powdered to 100 μ m using an agate mortar. An aliquot was separated and mounted as
180 unoriented powder by the back-side method (Brindley and Brown, 1980). The powder was
181 submitted to XRD between 2° and 45° 2 θ . The data were analysed in a semi-quantitative way
182 following Cook *et al.* (1975). The intensity of the principal peak of each mineral was
183 measured and corrected by a multiplication factor. For amorphous material, a mean correction
184 factor was obtained from diffraction results on mixtures of known quantities of amorphous
185 material and quartz. We calculated a mean correction factor of 75, applied to the maximum of
186 the broad diffraction band at 3.7 Å. For clay mineralogy, oriented mounts were realized by the
187 "glass-slide method" (Moore and Reynolds, 1989) and subsequently scanned on the
188 diffractometer. Slides containing crystallised clays after air drying were scanned two times
189 more, once after ethylene-glycol solvation during 24 h and once after heating at 500°C for 4
190 h. As amorphous clays are abundant in the samples, only the presence or absence of
191 crystalline clays is indicated.

192

193 *4.3 Seismic reflection data acquisition*

194 In Lago Icalma, about 75 km of very high resolution reflection seismic profiles (Fig. 2) were
195 recorded using a GeoAcoustics 3.5 kHz subbottom profiler, essentially in the main basin, but
196 also on the central platform (PU-I coring site) and in the adjacent western basin (Charlet *et al.*,
197 2004). Moreover, two dense grids were acquired at the two main coring sites. The 3.5 kHz
198 seismic profiler was composed of a 132B transducer array, a 5430A transmitter and a 5210A
199 receiver, and it was mounted on a specifically designed cataraft that was towed behind the
200 Huala-2 research vessel (Universidad Austral de Chile, Valdivia). Data were recorded
201 digitally using an Elies Delph-2 seismic acquisition system, and seismic interpretation was

202 done on an SMT Kingdom Suite system. The 3.5 kHz source penetrated the upper 15 m of
203 sediment with a resolution of about 20 cm. Several seismic facies have been identified
204 according to the seismic parameters (amplitude, frequency) and to the continuity and
205 geometry of the reflections.

206

207 **5. Results**

208 *5.1 Grain-size*

209 Grain-size distributions of the sediment from ICA-I and ICA-II cores are characterized by a
210 very low proportion of clay ($< 2 \mu\text{m}$) (Figs 4 and 5). The percentages of silt (2-63 μm) and
211 sand ($> 63 \mu\text{m}$) reflect the different lithologies that can be grouped into two populations: (1)
212 fine lake sediment (mean 20-25 μm), dominated by silt (80-95 %) and containing 5 to 20 % of
213 sand; and (2) coarse sediment (mean 100-500 μm) characterized by a low proportion of silt ($<$
214 30 %) and by a high proportion of sand.

215

216 *5.2 Magnetic susceptibility*

217 Magnetic susceptibility values are generally high for the sediments of ICA-I core ($391 \pm$
218 $266 \cdot 10^{-6}$ S.I.). Extreme values are 28 and $1378 \cdot 10^{-6}$ S.I., with the maxima being related to
219 sand layers, especially between 150 and 400 cm (Fig. 4). In ICA-II core, magnetic
220 susceptibility values are in general lower than in ICA-I core ($254 \pm 142 \cdot 10^{-6}$ S.I.). Lower and
221 upper limits are 16 and $959 \cdot 10^{-6}$ S.I., respectively. As in ICA-I core, the highest values are
222 related to sand layers (Fig. 5).

223

224 *5.3 Mineralogy*

225 The bulk mineralogy of ICA-I core (Fig 4) is dominated by amorphous particles ($52 \pm 13 \%$)
226 and plagioclase ($29 \pm 9 \%$). Secondary minerals are pyroxene ($8 \pm 3 \%$), quartz ($4 \pm 4 \%$),

227 olivine (3 ± 2 %) and amphibole ($3 \pm 3\%$). The bulk mineralogy of ICA-II core is relatively
228 similar (Fig. 5): amorphous particles (64 ± 9 %), plagioclase (24 ± 7 %), pyroxene (8 ± 3 %)
229 and traces of quartz (2 ± 1 %) and olivine (2 ± 2 %). Amphibole has only been detected in one
230 sample (465 cm). In both cores, the amorphous particles comprise amorphous clays
231 (allophanes), volcanic glasses, amorphous silica and organic matter.
232 Clay diffractograms have revealed the omnipresence of non-crystallised clay particles
233 (allophanes). Crystallised clay minerals, containing kaolinite, illite and vermiculite, only
234 occur in very low proportion (max. 25 cps on diffractograms). In ICA-I core, the samples
235 containing crystallised particles are located between 200 and 400 cm, in relation with the
236 decrease of total amorphous particles in bulk mineralogy. In ICA-II core, only two samples
237 contain crystallised clay minerals (455 and 465 cm).

238

239 **6. Recognition and characterization of event deposits**

240 *6.1 Event deposits recognized in the sediment cores of Lago Icalma*

241 Except for *in situ* tephras, which are characterized by their sharp contact with the host
242 sediment and by their generally homogenous grain-size throughout the deposit, four types of
243 event deposits can be identified. These deposits, intercalated in silty host sediments, have
244 been identified on the basis of their typical structural and textural characteristics:

- 245 - Slump deposit (S): sediment layer of distinct lithology, with oblique and/or curved
246 bedding configuration, included in a silty matrix. This deposit is not characterized by a
247 typical grain-size distribution nor by a typical magnetic susceptibility signature. The
248 main criterion for recognition is the structure of the slumped layer (Typical examples:
249 ICA-I-P2, 39 – 43 cm and ICA-II-P1, 38 – 43 cm, Fig. 3).
- 250 - Turbidite s.s. (T): fining upward deposit composed of 2 units: (1) a dark and fining
251 upward sandy base, grading into an overlying (2) silty fining upward unit. The coarse

252 sandy base, sometimes bounded to the underlying host sediment by an erosive contact,
253 shows high magnetic susceptibility values. The typical recognition criterion is the
254 fining upward of the entire sequence. (Typical example: ICA-I, 469-480 cm).

255 - Homogenite (H): sedimentary sequence composed of 3 units: (1) a coarse, dark and
256 fining upward base, sometimes containing mud pebbles, pumices or wood fragments.
257 This unit overlies the host sediment across an erosive contact and is gradually overlain
258 by (2) a homogenous silty layer. This unit, remarkably free of sedimentary structures,
259 sometimes contains macro-debris of organic matter. The thickness of this unit
260 generally reaches half of the whole sequence. The sequence is capped by (3) a thin
261 layer of very fine sediment, generally characterized by a light colour. The magnetic
262 susceptibility profiles are generally conform to the mean grain-size curves. This
263 definition of the homogenite is in agreement with the original description by Kastens
264 and Cita (1981) and with that of Sturm et al. (1995). The main recognition criterion is
265 the occurrence of the three units, easily differentiated by grain-size analyses. (Typical
266 examples: ICA-I 100-155 cm, ICA-I 640-675 cm and ICA-II 108-313 cm).

267 - Chaotic deposits (C): this term is used for describing highly disturbed deposits
268 consisting of a mixture of sandy layers included in a finer matrix. They have no
269 typical sedimentary structure. The grain-size and magnetic susceptibility values are
270 highly variable and depend on the proportions of coarse particles (Typical example:
271 ICA-I, 314.3 - 326.8 cm).

272 273 *6.2 Details of the textural properties of homogenites and turbidites*

274
275 The homogenites are the best developed event deposits recorded in the sediment cores of
276 Lago Icalma. In order to discuss their depositional pattern, their textural characteristics are
277 detailed in figures 6, 7 and 8 and compared to those of turbidites (fig. 9).

278 *6.2.1 Homogenites*

279 The H₁ and H₂ homogenites, both recorded in ICA-I core (Fig. 6), show the three units typical
280 for homogenites: (1) a coarse fining upward black sandy base in erosive contact with the
281 underlying host sediment, (2) a thick homogenous silty unit with a very constant grain-size
282 and (3) a thin layer of fine clayey silts. These three units clearly stand out in macroscopic
283 descriptions and in the mean-grain size profiles. In these two examples, the magnetic
284 susceptibility curve is roughly similar to the sand content and can be used as a first rapid
285 criterion to recognize homogenites (Fig. 6). The only exception occurs at the very bottom of
286 the homogenites, where low magnetic susceptibility values are reflecting the high porosity of
287 the coarse-grained deposits. Textural parameters show that the coarse sand at the base of the
288 sequences has been deposited rapidly under high velocity and turbulent currents (high values
289 of mean and kurtosis and positive skewness). The high variability of the sorting at the base of
290 H₁ homogenite could reflect different pulses of the gravity current. In the homogenous unit,
291 the skewness values stabilize near 0, indicating a stabilisation of the energy of the
292 depositional environment. The fine particles deposited in the last unit are characterized by a
293 very low mean grain-size and a negative skewness, arguing for a slow settling. In a skewness-
294 sorting diagram, the values corresponding to the three units are typically grouped into three
295 distinct populations, what seems to be a typical characteristic for homogenites. The evolution
296 of these values in the skewness-sorting diagram argues for an energy of the depositional
297 environment that is decreasing by steps, with a long stabilization phase during the deposition
298 of the homogenous unit.

299 The H₀ homogenite (ICA-II) is the thickest event deposit (205 cm) described in the Icalma
300 sediment cores (Figs. 7 and 8). Its important thickness allows a very detailed study of its
301 textural parameters. The coarse sandy base of the H₀ homogenite contains debris of pumices
302 and wood fragments, the size of which reaches 3 cm. This unit is overlain by a 1 m thick silty
303 homogenous unit containing some organic debris. The sequence is topped by a 5 cm thick

304 layer of clayey silt. These three units are clearly differentiated by grain-size and magnetic
305 susceptibility, except for the basal unit showing low MS values for the samples containing
306 highly vesiculated pumices and wood fragments. As for the H₁ and H₂ homogenites, the
307 textural parameters agree for a sequence deposited in an environment of step-wise decreasing
308 energy. The only exception to this observation is the sorting and skewness values related to
309 the pumice-rich sediments at the base of the sequence. In a skewness-sorting diagram (Fig. 8),
310 the representative points are clearly grouped, one of the most striking features being the dense
311 grouping of data representing the homogenous unit. The only exception to the overall trend
312 from high values of skewness and sorting to negative values of skewness and low values of
313 sorting is the very high sorting values of the pumice-rich sediments. This is due to the settling
314 properties of pumices, which need to be water-saturated before sinking. Because small
315 pumices are faster saturated with water than coarser ones, pumice deposits generally shows a
316 coarsening upward texture (White et al., 2001).

317 *6.2.2 Turbidites*

318 In the previous paragraph, we demonstrated that the typical criteria to distinguish
319 homogenites are: (1) 3 characteristic units that clearly stand out in macroscopic descriptions
320 and grain-size profiles, and (2) the identification of these 3 units when representative points
321 are plotted in a skewness-sorting diagram, with an impressively dense grouping of the points
322 representing the homogenous unit. To compare these results with event deposits identified as
323 turbidites, the figure 9 shows the textural parameters of T₁ and T₂ turbidites, described in
324 ICA-I (469-480 cm) and ICA-II (718-734 cm) cores, respectively.

325 Macroscopic description and mean grain-size show a gradual evolution from a coarse sandy
326 base to fine silts, especially for T₁ (Fig. 9). The transition between the two units is sharper in
327 T₂ than in T₁ and a thin fine silt layer occurs at the top of the T₂ sequence, making it
328 intermediate between a typical turbidite s.s. and a homogenite. Sorting and skewness are

329 decreasing upward, except for T_2 for which sorting increases in the second unit. The most
330 striking difference between T_1 turbidite and the homogenites described in the previous
331 paragraph is the continuity of the representative points in a skewness-sorting diagram, arguing
332 for a sequence deposited in an environment with a gradually decreasing energy (velocity and
333 turbulence). In the skewness-sorting diagram, the T_2 turbidite also seems intermediate
334 between a turbidite s.s. and a homogenite.

335

336 *6.3 Geometries of the event deposits*

337 In order to investigate the spatial distribution of the thickest event deposits, the remarkable
338 seismic reflections observed on seismic profiles passing through ICA-I and ICA-II coring
339 sites (Figs 10 and 11) have been compared with the lithology of the sediment cores. The cores
340 were tied to the seismic profiles assuming an acoustic velocity of 1450 m/s. The resolution of
341 the seismic cross-sections obtained with the pinger source (3.5 kHz) being ~ 20 cm (Charlet et
342 al., 2004), only the sedimentary events thicker than ~ 50 cm can be accurately detected and
343 mapped. In general, a structurally homogenous deposit appears on a seismic profile as a unit
344 with a transparent seismic facies, or as low-amplitude reflections (Siegenthaler et al., 1987,
345 Chapron et al., 1999, van Rensbergen et al., 1999; Schnelmann et al., 2002).

346 On the seismic profile ical73 passing through ICA-I coring site, several lithological units are
347 discerned (Fig. 10). The two homogenites H_1 and H_2 are represented by low amplitude
348 reflections, and extend over most of the deepest part of the sub basin. An intermediate low
349 amplitude reflection with a slightly chaotic pattern covering continuous high amplitude
350 reflections in the deepest part of the sub basin seems to correlate with a succession of chaotic
351 deposits in ICA-I between 250 and 350 cm (Figs. 4 and 10). These reflections are laterally
352 evolving into lens-shaped bodies containing contorted to chaotic reflections that are
353 interpreted as a mass flow deposit (MFD5). In the middle of the core, the *in situ* pumice layer,

354 related to the Alpehue eruption of Sollipulli caldera in 3000 cal. yr. BP is associated with
355 poorly continuous low amplitude reflections that are slightly contorted.

356 On the seismic cross-section ical88 passing through ICA-II coring site (Fig. 11), the low
357 amplitude facies due to the homogenous unit of H_0 turbidite (H_{0h} in figure 7) is clearly
358 distinguished and followed laterally in the deep basin. This thick facies in the deepest part of
359 the basin is quickly pinched-out laterally in all directions. The coarse sandy base of the
360 homogenite corresponds to several locally wavy high amplitude reflections in the centre of
361 the basin but becomes more chaotic towards the central basin edges. Finally, the two other
362 low-amplitude reflections observed on the ical88 profile are caused by the *in situ* Alpehue
363 pumice deposit and by the numerous turbidites and chaotic deposits occurring at the base of
364 ICA-II core (Figs 5 and 11).

365 The dense grid of seismic profiles in Lago Icalma (approximately 75 km of profiles in the
366 main basin of the lake (9.8 km²) – Charlet et al., 2004) allows to laterally follow the
367 reflections corresponding to the two thickest units of the H_0 homogenite (H_{0b} and H_{0h}) and to
368 map their spatial distribution. The 3D mapping using the seismic data demonstrates that the
369 H_0 homogenite (in ICA-II) is the lateral continuity of the H_1 homogenite (in ICA-I), however
370 better developed because of its location in the central and deepest part of the lake. The
371 relatively small thickness of the H_1 homogenite (55 cm) does not allow to differentiate the
372 coarse basal and the homogenous units on the seismic data. Where the thickness of both units
373 was sufficient to be accurately distinguished on seismic profiles, these two units were picked
374 and their thickness was mapped. This mapping indicates that the sediments constituting the H_1
375 homogenite originate from the northern slopes of the basin, probably in continuity of the
376 canyons draining this part of the catchment (Figs. 12 and 2). The coarse basal unit of the H_0
377 homogenite (H_{0b}) develops several depocenters at the foothill of the steep sublacustrine slopes
378 and occurs nearly everywhere below 120 m depth, with a minimum thickness in the central

379 and deepest part of the lake (Fig. 12). Its thickness reaches more than 6 ms TWT (4.8 m) at
380 the foothill of the steep sublacustrine slopes. The isopach map in Fig. 12 also shows that the
381 homogeneous H_{0h} unit is confined to the deepest part of the lake, where its maximum
382 thickness reaches more than 2.5 ms TWT (2 m). The total volume of the homogenous unit has
383 been calculated as 463.000 m³.

384 These characteristics of the spatial distribution of the H_0 homogenite are very similar to the
385 observations made in the Mediterranean Sea by Cita and Rimoldi (1997) during the seismic
386 mapping of the 3500 yr. BP tsunami-induced homogenite. The coarse basal unit being the
387 thickest nearby the steep slopes of the lake bottom could indicate both sub aerial and sub
388 aquatic sediment sources for this major event (Fig. 12). The most complete sequence of the
389 H_0 homogenite is recorded in the central and deepest part of the lake where the coarse basal
390 unit and the homogenous unit have approximately the same thicknesses.

391

392 **7. Chronology of the event deposits**

393 For the upper part of the sedimentary section, the extrapolation of the ²¹⁰Pb CFCS age-depth
394 model gives an age for the first event deposit (slump deposit) occurring at ~ 40 cm in ICA-I
395 and ICA-II cores of 1200 ± 200 AD and 1400 ± 100 AD, respectively (Fig. 3). For the same
396 slump deposit, the interpolation of the first radiocarbon date with the age of the top of the core
397 (2001 AD) gives an age of 1060 ± 60 BP (ICA-I) and 1000 ± 50 BP (ICA-II). Even if the
398 dates obtained for both events, and by both dating methods, are not in perfect agreement,
399 several observations evidence that this event deposit is synchronous in both cores: (1) the
400 visual lithostratigraphic correlations (Fig. 3); (2) the tephrostratigraphic correlations between
401 ICA-I and ICA-II short cores (De Vleeschouwer, 2002); (3) the similar depth of this event in
402 both cores, as well as in other short cores collected all over Lago Icalma (Bertrand, 2005); (4)
403 its large spatial distribution (Bertrand, 2005); and (5) its uniqueness in Lago Icalma

404 sediments. We can thus assume that this unique key horizon has been deposited in 1100 ± 100
405 AD, which is older than the period covered by historical records. This age is strikingly
406 consistent with the date obtained by Cisternas et al. (2005) on a tsunami sand layer recorded
407 in Rio Maullin Estuary (Chile, 42°S).

408 The age of the older sedimentary events recorded in the ICA-I and ICA-II long cores was
409 carefully estimated using the radiocarbon dates and the tephrochronological marker at 3000
410 cal. yr. BP (Alpehue pumice). A continuous age-depth model based on these dates can not be
411 applied because of the large number of instantaneous deposits (both gravity reworked and
412 fallout tephra deposits) affecting the sedimentation rates.

413 When comparing the stratigraphic relationships between the Alpehue pumice layer and the
414 nearest radiocarbon dates (Fig. 3), an incompatibility between both dating methods is
415 highlighted. The *in situ* pumice layer is stratigraphically encompassed by two samples dated
416 at 4760 ± 110 cal. yr. BP (40 cm under the pumice layer in ICA-I core) and 3690 ± 140 cal.
417 yr. BP (above the pumice layer in ICA-II core). Radiocarbon ages are several hundreds years
418 older than the well-constrained true age of the pumice layer (3000 cal. yr. BP, Naranjo et al.,
419 1993; De Vleeschouwer et al., 2005). It seems that this difference is due to an ageing of the
420 radiocarbon dates obtained on lake sediments, probably due to the incorporation of juvenile
421 carbon emitted by the highly active regional volcanoes (Hajdas, 1993; Calderoni and Turi,
422 1998). When there is an incompatibility between the age of the pumice layer and the
423 radiocarbon dates, the age of the pumice layer is preferentially used (Fig. 3).

424 Also, we have discarded the radiocarbon dates obtained on bulk sediment and on the organic
425 macro-debris in the H_0 and H_1 homogenites because of their reworked origin (ICA-I 131.5
426 cm, ICA-II 140 cm and ICA-II 236.5 cm). Finally, we have used the absence of the Llaima
427 pumice layer in both cores (Naranjo and Moreno, 1991; De Vleeschouwer et al., 2005) as an
428 indicator that the base of the cores is younger than 10,000 cal. yr. BP.

429 Considering these remarks, an age has been attributed to each sedimentary event described in
430 Lago Icalma sediment cores, taking into account the mean sedimentation rates of the
431 sediments deposited continuously between the dated samples (Fig. 3). The thickness of these
432 deposits has been plotted against their calculated age, allowing us to compare the event
433 stratigraphy of both cores (Fig. 13).

434 Figure 13 clearly demonstrates that both cores have recorded a large number of sedimentary
435 events between 3000 and 2200 cal. yr. BP, with the thickest event deposit of each core (H_1
436 and H_0 homogenites) dated at 2200 cal. yr. BP. The latter observation supports the idea that
437 emerged from the interpretation of the seismic profiles, stating that the H_0 and H_1
438 homogenites are contemporaneous. Figure 13 also shows that ICA-I site has recorded several
439 relatively thin turbidites at 4000 and 5000 cal. yr. BP, that do not have any equivalent in ICA-
440 II core. In addition, between 8000 and 7000 cal. yr. BP, one turbidite and two chaotic deposits
441 have been recorded in ICA-II core. Given the error on the age-depth model at the base of the
442 cores, one of them can be contemporaneous with the H_2 homogenite recorded in ICA-I core.

443

444 **8. Discussion**

445 *8.1 Sediment origin*

446 Because of the small size of allophane and diatoms, the mineralogy of the sediment largely
447 depends on its grain-size, the finest fraction being enriched in amorphous particles (Fig. 4 and
448 5). The bulk mineralogy of both cores, dominated by amorphous particles and plagioclases, is
449 typical for the regional Holocene volcanic ash soils (Laugenie, 1982; Bertrand, 2005),
450 evidencing that these soils constitute the main source of sediments to the lake.

451 *8.1.1. Difference between ICA-I and ICA-II*

452 While the mineralogy of the ICA-II core is composed for 98 % of amorphous particles,
453 plagioclase and pyroxene, the mineralogy of ICA-I core is more diversified, with significant

454 amounts of quartz, olivine, amphibole and crystallised clay minerals, especially in the coarse
455 layers (Figs 4 and 5). However, quartz, amphibole and crystallised clay minerals are not
456 typical for the regional volcanism and do not occur in the regional volcanic ash soils. The
457 only places where amphibole, quartz and crystallised clay minerals occur in the watershed of
458 Lago Icalma are (1) the pre-Holocene coarse and relatively soft moraine deposits, which are
459 covered by several meters of volcanic ashes and (2) some rocks constituting the substratum of
460 the watershed (Bertrand, 2002). In consequence, while sediments from the ICA-II coring site
461 only originate from the thick cover of regional volcanic ash soils, the source of sediment for
462 ICA-I coring site is a mixture of moraine sediments and volcanic ash soils. This difference
463 between the two coring sites is due to the proximity of ICA-I to the sediment sources in the
464 watershed (see Fig. 2), making the sediments of ICA-I core coarser than in ICA-II. This
465 coarser grain-size of ICA-I sediments implies a higher contribution of the coarse moraine
466 sediment, that, compared to the light volcanic ash sediments, are too heavy to reach ICA-II
467 site.

468 *8.1.2 Sources of H_0 – H_1 homogenite sediments*

469 Smear slides from the homogeneous unit of the H_0 homogenite have demonstrated the
470 presence of diatoms, evidencing that the major part of these fine sediments originate from the
471 reworking of previously deposited lake sediments. Their main source is probably located in
472 the north-western part of the lake, where the lake bottom is characterized by slopes reaching
473 20° . This interpretation is in agreement with the isopach map of the H_{0b} unit (Fig. 12).

474 Radiocarbon ages obtained on organic-rich samples from the H_0 and H_1 homogenites agree
475 with this hypothesis. Indeed, the H_0 – H_1 homogenite, dated at 2200 cal. yr. BP, contains two
476 types of organic matter: (1) wood remains dated at 2270 ± 90 and 2535 ± 185 cal. yr. BP, i.e.
477 wood that died before the deposition of the homogenite and that was included in soil
478 sediments, and (2) organic-rich sediment, dated at 4190 ± 110 cal. yr. BP, i.e. reworked from

479 previously deposited lake sediment. These data confirm that the sediment constituting the H₀-
480 H₁ homogenite is a mixture of particles coming from the watershed and from previously
481 deposited lake sediment, and this is probably the case for most of the sedimentary events
482 recorded in Lago Icalma.

483

484 *8.2 Triggering mechanisms and timing of the regional seismotectonic activity*

485 Because gravity reworking in lakes could be initiated by different processes, one of the
486 strongest argument to assign a seismic triggering to a sedimentary event characterized by
487 specific grain-size and geometrical signatures is to correlate it with a well-documented
488 historical earthquake (Siegenthaler et al., 1987; Doig, 1990; Shiki, 1996; Inouchi et al., 1996;
489 Chapron et al., 1999; Schnellmann et al., 2002; Arnaud et al., 2002; St-Onge et al., 2004;
490 Nomade et al., 2005). In that case, paleo-earthquakes can then be proposed as a triggering
491 mechanism for similar gravity reworked deposits (i.e. seismites) occurring further back in
492 time, when no more historical data is available. The second strong argument to assess a
493 seismic triggering to a slope failure and the development of gravity reworking is the
494 concomitant occurrence of related deposits in several basins or sub basins (Doig, 1991;
495 Schnellmann et al., 2002).

496 In this study, some of the thick sedimentary events of Lago Icalma are bearing striking
497 similarities with previously documented earthquake-triggered homogenites and turbidites in
498 marine and lacustrine environments (Kastens and Cita, 1981; Siegenthaler et al., 1987;
499 Inouchi et al., 1996; Chapron et al., 1999; Cita and Aloisi, 2000). These sedimentary events in
500 Lago Icalma are older than available historical chronicles (Lorca and Recabarren, 1997;
501 Lomnitz, 2005) and therefore they can not be directly correlated to any former earthquakes
502 documented in the Chilean Lake District. However, given (i) the strong geodynamic setting of
503 the study area, (ii) the synchronous development of these sedimentary events in both sub

504 basins of Lago Icalma and (iii) the similarities of some of these sedimentary events with well-
505 documented seismites in the literature, we interpret synchronous sedimentary events retrieved
506 at coring sites ICA-I and ICA-II as seismites. While all the homogenites, slump and chaotic
507 deposits retrieved at our coring sites can be interpreted as seismites, only the thick turbidites
508 have an obvious seismic origin (Fig. 13). Thinner turbidites at site ICA-I (at 5000 and 6000
509 cal. yr. BP) may therefore result from other processes restricted to certain locations of the lake
510 such as heavy rainfalls reactivating the steep canyons at the NW slopes of the lake catchment.
511 If these thick and synchronous deposits are true seismites directly linked to the regional
512 seismic activity, their occurrence in Lago Icalma indicate that this part of the Southern Andes
513 has been affected by a strong event in 1100 ± 100 AD, an intense seismotectonic activity
514 between 3000 and 2200 cal. yr. BP, and a slightly less important one between 8000 and 7000
515 cal. yr. BP. These data therefore demonstrate that none of the numerous and intense historical
516 earthquakes that affected the Chilean Lake District (see Fig. 1) has triggered a seismite in
517 Lago Icalma. This can be explained either by (1) the unavailability of sediment available for
518 remobilisation or by (2) the nature of regional earthquakes that affected Chile during the last
519 500 years.

520 However, the good record of the seismites between 3000 and 2200 cal. yr. BP could also be
521 influenced by the Alpehue eruption of the Sollipulli volcano at 3000 cal. yr. BP, which
522 rejuvenated the erodible stock of detrital particles, and hence, provided a lot of fresh material
523 available for generating seismites. In addition, pumice fallouts due to this eruption, which are
524 characterized by a thickness of 30 cm to 1 m in the watershed of Lago Icalma (Naranjo et al.,
525 1993; De Vleeschouwer, 2002), have probably affected the regional vegetation, clearing the
526 soil of most of its vegetal cover. Finally, the volcanic activity is probably not the only factor
527 influencing the record of seismites in Lago Icalma. One must keep in mind that the suggested
528 intense seismic activity that occurred between 3000 and 2200 cal. yr. BP has probably

529 destabilized a large volume of soft sediment in the lake watershed, that has accumulated at the
530 foot of the steep slopes, and was readily available for remobilisation in response of an intense
531 earthquake in 2200 cal. yr. BP (H_0 - H_1 homogenite). Since the sedimentary events are
532 resulting from the destabilisation of soils and lake sediments, the size and the frequency of the
533 seismites in Lago Icalma are not only related to the intensity of the seismo-tectonic activity,
534 but they may also reflect the intensity of the volcanic eruptions in the study area.

535

536 *8.3 Depositional history of the $H_0 - H_1$ homogenite: a conceptual model*

537 For the deposition of the $H_0 - H_1$ homogenite, we propose that an intense earthquake has
538 triggered the following processes (Fig. 14):

- 539 (1) The instable soft sediments accumulated at the foothills of the NW flank of the
540 watershed (or higher up along the steep aerial slopes) and on the central peninsula are
541 destabilized and move downslope as a massive landslide, right into the lake.
- 542 (2) The earthquake and/or the massive landslide provoke the destabilization of lake
543 sediments previously deposited on steep slopes. These sediments generate a high
544 density flow and the finest particles are resuspended, forming a suspension cloud.
- 545 (3) The earthquake, the impact of the landslide or the sublacustrine slope failure trigger a
546 seiche (as it was observed in Lago Puyehue during the 1960 earthquake by Veyl
547 (1961)). The seiche maintains the silty and clayey particles in suspension by
548 oscillating the suspension cloud back and forth (Siegenthaler et al., 1987). The seiche
549 is also capable of creating an underwater current able to transport sand size particles
550 (Siegenthaler et al., 1987; Chapron et al., 1999). During this time, the high density
551 flow slows down and most of the coarse particles settle down, with a fining upward
552 and fining basinward texture. This deposit forms the coarse base of the homogenite,
553 with pumices and wood fragments being included depending on their density.

554 (4) When the lake water oscillation wanes, the suspension cloud moves towards the centre
555 part of the basin, where most of the the particles that were maintained in suspension
556 settle down (Siegnethaler et al., 1987; Chapron et al., 1999). This produces a massive
557 and homogenous deposit of silty particles characterized by a symmetrical grain-size
558 distribution.

559 (5) Only the very fine particles ($< 10 \mu\text{m}$) remain in suspension in the water column

560 (6) The fine particles settle down, either after a relatively long time or during the turnover
561 of the water column (Sturm and Matter, 1978), depending on the limnological
562 conditions.

563 The mechanism that caused the seismo-turbidites in Lago Icalma is probably very similar,
564 with as main difference that it did not create a seiche, leading to the absence of a typical
565 homogenous unit. Moreover, due to the influence of lake geometry and water depth on the
566 energy and amplitude of seiche waves (Sieghentaler, et al., 1987; Schnellmann et al., 2002),
567 homogenites may laterally evolve to seismo-turbidites (e.g., H₂ homogenite at ICA-I site and
568 T₂ turbidite at ICA-II site, which is texturally intermediate between homogenite and turbidite
569 s.s.). Lateral differences can also be explained by variations in the velocity of the bottom
570 current produced by the seiche waves, which is inversely proportional to the water depth
571 (Sieghentaler, et al., 1987; Chapron et al., 1999).

572

573 **9. Conclusions**

574 Lago Icalma sediments contain a large number of seismites. Their occurrence is due to the
575 highly active regional geodynamic setting, to the morphology of the lake basin, and to the
576 high amount of frequently rejuvenated volcanoclastic particles, which are available for
577 erosion/remobilisation in the watershed.

578 According to radiocarbon and ^{210}Pb dating, the youngest seismite recorded in Lago Icalma
579 sediments is dated at ~ 1100 AD evidencing that no historical earthquake has triggered a
580 seismite in the core sediments. Between 3000 and 2200 cal. yr. BP and during 8000-7000 cal.
581 yr. the seismotectonic activity of the southern Andes was probably more intense, as evidenced
582 by the numerous seismites recorded in Lago Icalma during these periods. However, the
583 occurrence of several seismites in 2200-3000 cal yr. BP could also be influenced by a major
584 eruption of Sollipulli volcano in 3000 cal. yr. BP that has increased the stock of erodible
585 terrigenous particles by cleaning the soils from most of its vegetal cover and by depositing a
586 30 cm to 1 m thick pumice layer in the lake catchment.

587 Our results therefore show that the record of regional seismicity in Lago Icalma sediments
588 and probably in lake systems in general, is not only controlled by the intensity of the
589 seismotectonic activity and the stability of the subaqueous sediments, but also by the
590 availability of erodible soft sediments in the watershed.

591

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602

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751

Coring site	Depth	Laboratory n°	Dated material	¹⁴ C age ± 1σ (yr BP)	Calibrated ages with 2 σ error range (cal. yr. BP)
ICA-I	96.5 cm	Poz-7659	Bulk sediment	2195 ± 35	2110 – 2330 (95.4%)
ICA-I	131.5 cm	Poz-5927	Bulk sediment	3800 ± 35	4080 – 4300 (93.3%)
ICA-I	448 cm	Poz-1407	Wood	4255 ± 35	4650 – 4870 (95.4%)
ICA-I	694.5 cm	Poz-1426	Charcoal	6520 ± 45	7310 – 7560 (95.4%)
ICA-II	104 cm	Poz-7656	Bulk sediment	2140 ± 30	2000 – 2310 (95.4%)
ICA-II	140 cm	Poz-1411	Wood	2450 ± 35	2350 – 2720 (95.4%)
ICA-II	236.5 cm	Poz-1436	Wood	2315 ± 30	2180 – 2360 (95.4%)
ICA-II	352.7 cm	Poz-2203	Bulk sediment	3325 ± 35	3460 – 3640 (95.4%)
ICA-II	508 cm	Poz-7657	Bulk sediment	3410 ± 35	3550 – 3830 (95.4%)
ICA-II	720 cm	Poz-1414	Bulk sediment	6640 ± 50	7430 – 7590 (95.4%)

752

753

Table 1 - AMS radiocarbon dates obtained for ICA-I and ICA-II long cores. The range of

754

calibrated ages has been calculated with OxCal 3.9 (Bronk Ramsey, 2001) using atmospheric

755

data of Stuiver et al. (1998).

756

757 Figure captions

758 Figure 1 - Location of the Chilean Lake District in south-central Chile (left) and detailed map
759 of the lakes in their highly active geodynamic setting (right). Epicentres of historical
760 earthquakes with a magnitude > 7 are indicated by a star and labelled with the year of
761 occurrence (Lorca and Recabarren, 1997). LOF: Liquiñe-Ofqui fault and BAF: Biobío-
762 Aluminé fault.

763

764 Figure 2 - Position of the coring sites (ICA-I and ICA-II) and location of the seismic profiles
765 shown in this paper (figs. 10 and 11) on the bathymetric map of Parra et al. (1993). Contours
766 are in meters. Note the presence of deeply scoured canyons at the NW flank of the lake
767 watershed.

768

769 Figure 3 – Lithology and age-depth models of ICA-I and ICA-II long and short cores. For the
770 short cores, the age-depth models are based on the mean sedimentation rates calculated from
771 ^{210}Pb concentrations (CFCS decay model – Arnaud et al., in press), taking into account the
772 instantaneous deposition of the sedimentary events. The age of the thickest event deposit of
773 each short core has then been calculated by extrapolation of the ^{210}Pb age-depth model (ages
774 labelled ^{210}Pb) and by interpolation of the first radiocarbon date with the top of the core,
775 assuming constant sedimentation rates in-between (ages labelled ^{14}C). For the long cores, the
776 age-depth models are based on 10 AMS radiocarbon dates (table 1) and on a
777 tephrochronological marker previously radiocarbon dated (Alpehue pumice – Naranjo et al.
778 (1993); De Vleeschouwer et al. (2005)). Except for the Alpehue pumice, tephra have been
779 considered as part of the continuous background sedimentation. Grey-shaded bars indicate the
780 presence of seismites. High sedimentation rates above the Alpehue pumice are due to the
781 occurrence of numerous sedimentary events and tephra layers between 3000 and 2200 cal. yr.
782 BP. For details, see table 1 and chapter 7.

783

784 Figure 4 – Results obtained on ICA-I long core. (1) grain-size: content in sand ($> 63 \mu\text{m}$), silt
785 ($2\text{-}63 \mu\text{m}$) and clay ($< 2 \mu\text{m}$); (2) magnetic susceptibility (9-points running average) and (3)
786 bulk mineralogy with a star indicating the presence of crystallised clay minerals. Four types
787 of event deposits have been described: slump (S), turbidite (T), homogenite (H) and chaotic
788 deposit (C) (see text) and a total of 12 event deposits have been recognized in ICA-I long
789 core: S: 39 – 43 cm; T: 170.5 – 182.5 cm; 460 – 464.8 cm; 469 – 480 cm; 526.5 – 532 cm;
790 532 – 536 cm; H: 100.3 – 155.5 cm; 640 – 674.7 cm; C: 210.5 – 232.5 cm; 274 – 308.5 cm;
791 314.3 – 326.8 cm; 331.8 – 367.8 cm. Their cumulative thickness reaches 236.2 cm, i.e. 30%
792 of the length of ICA-I core. T₁ turbidite as well as H₁ and H₂ homogenites are highlighted and
793 their textural characteristics are detailed in figures 6 and 9.

794

795 Figure 5 – Results obtained on ICA-II long core. (1) grain-size: content in sand ($> 63 \mu\text{m}$), silt
796 ($2\text{-}63 \mu\text{m}$) and clay ($< 2 \mu\text{m}$); (2) magnetic susceptibility (9-points running average) and (3)
797 bulk mineralogy with a star indicating the presence of crystallised clay minerals. Four types
798 of event deposits have been described: slump (S), turbidite (T), homogenite (H) and chaotic
799 deposit (C) (see text) and a total of 10 event deposits have been recognized in ICA-II long
800 core: S: 38 – 43 cm; T: 376 – 384 cm; 406 – 422 cm; 422 – 445 cm; 460 – 478.5 cm; 487 –
801 495 cm; 717.5 – 734 cm; H : 107.5 – 313 cm; C : 734.15 – 773.15 cm; 789.65 – 804.15 cm.
802 Their cumulative thickness reaches 354 cm, i.e. 43 % of ICA-II long core sediments. H₀
803 homogenite and T₂ turbidite are highlighted and their textural characteristics are detailed in
804 figures 7, 8 and 9.

805

806 Figure 6 - Grain-size parameters and magnetic susceptibility results of H₁ and H₂
807 homogenites (ICA-I long core, see Fig 4).

808

809 Figure 7 - Grain-size parameters and magnetic susceptibility results of H₀ homogenite (ICA-II
810 long core). The three theoretical units of homogenites are clearly distinguished (from base to
811 top: 1-coarse and poorly sorted base, 2-homogeneous unit and 3-thin layer of clayey
812 sediment).

813

814 Figure 8 – Textural characterization of H₀ homogenite: sorting versus skewness diagram. The
815 3 typical units of homogenites defined in figure 7 are clearly identifiable.

816

817 Figure 9 - Grain-size parameters and magnetic susceptibility results of T₁ and T₂ turbidites.
818 The mean grain-size profiles show typical fining upward trends. When plotted in a sorting-
819 skewness diagram, the data show a gradual evolution towards better sorting values (compare
820 to fig. 8).

821

822 Figure 10 - High resolution (3.5 kHz) seismic cross-section of ICA-I coring site (ical73). The
823 core ICA-I has been projected using a p-wave velocity in the sediment of 1450 m/s. MFD =
824 mass flow deposit. For location, see figure 2. Homogenites H₁ and H₂ are identified by light
825 reflections.

826

827 Figure 11 - High resolution (3.5 KHz) seismic cross-section of ICA-II coring site (ical88).
828 The core ICA-II has been projected using a p-wave velocity in the sediment of 1450 m/s. For
829 location, see figure 2. The two thickest units of the homogenite H₀ are identified: its coarse
830 base H_{0b} and the homogenous unit H_{0h}, identified as a light reflection.

831

832 Figure 12 - Isopaque map of the two main units of H_0 homogenite: coarse and disturbed base
833 (H_{0b}) and homogeneous unit (H_{0h}). The arrows indicate the main mass-flow directions. At site
834 ICA-I the two units of H_0 homogenite are too thin to be accurately mapped. Approximately,
835 3ms TWT = 2.4m and 1.25ms TWT = 1m.

836

837 Figure 13 – Thickness of the sedimentary events identified in ICA-I and ICA-II cores, plotted
838 against their calculated age. The nature of the sedimentary events is indicated: (S) slump
839 deposit, (H) homogenite, (T) turbidite, (C) chaotic deposit. Note the change of scale for the
840 ICA-II thickness axis. The volcano represents the Alpehue eruption of Sollipulli volcano in
841 3000 cal. yr. BP.

842

843 Figure 14 – Sedimentary processes occurring during the deposition of H_0 and H_1
844 homogenites. See text for details. Illustration inspired from the figure 11 of Shiki et al.
845 (2000).

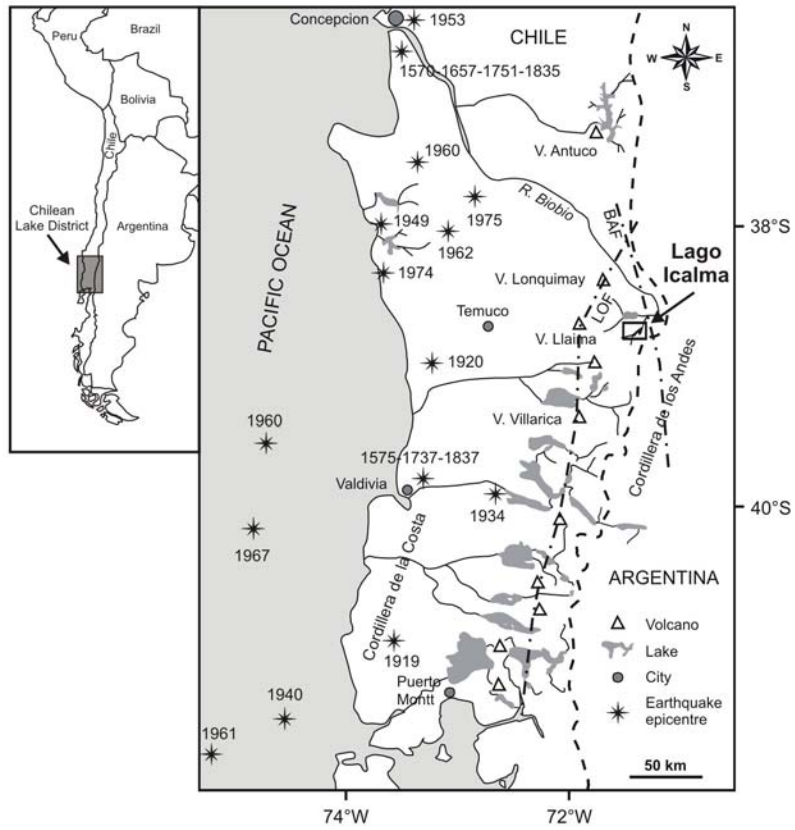


Figure 1 - Bertrand et al.

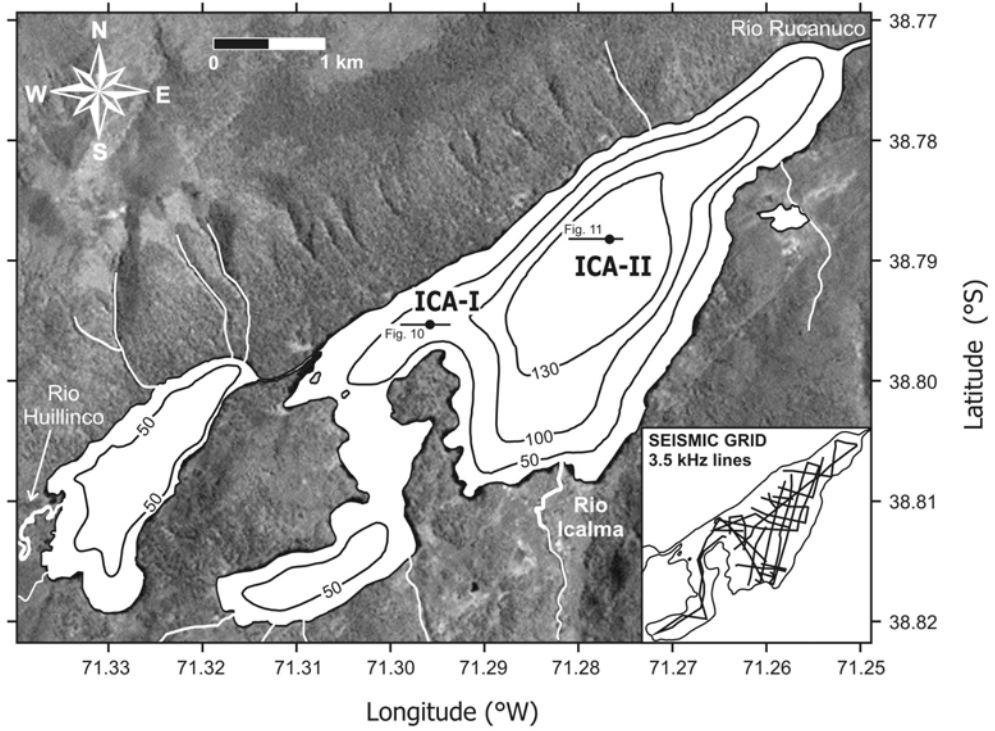


Figure 2 - Bertrand et al.

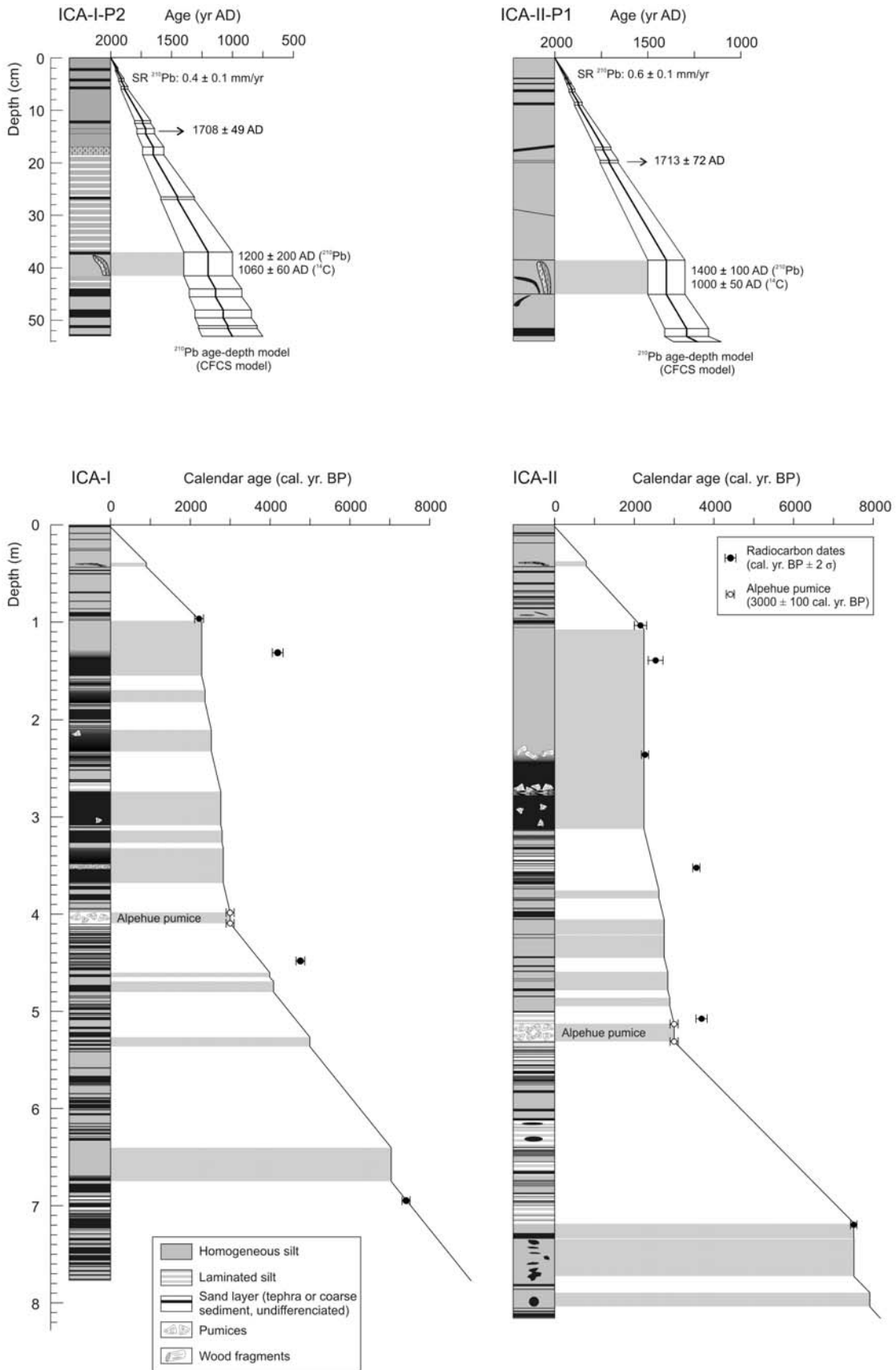


Figure 3 - Bertrand et al

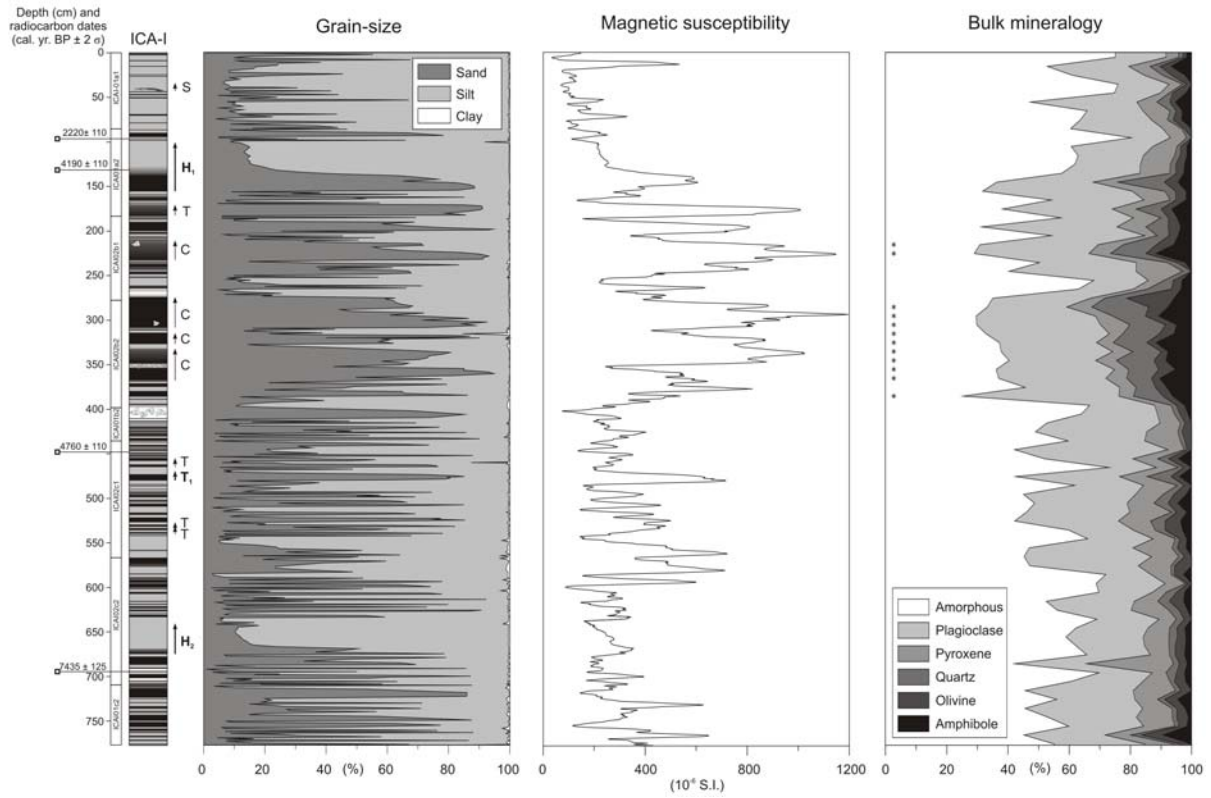


Figure 4 – Bertrand et al.

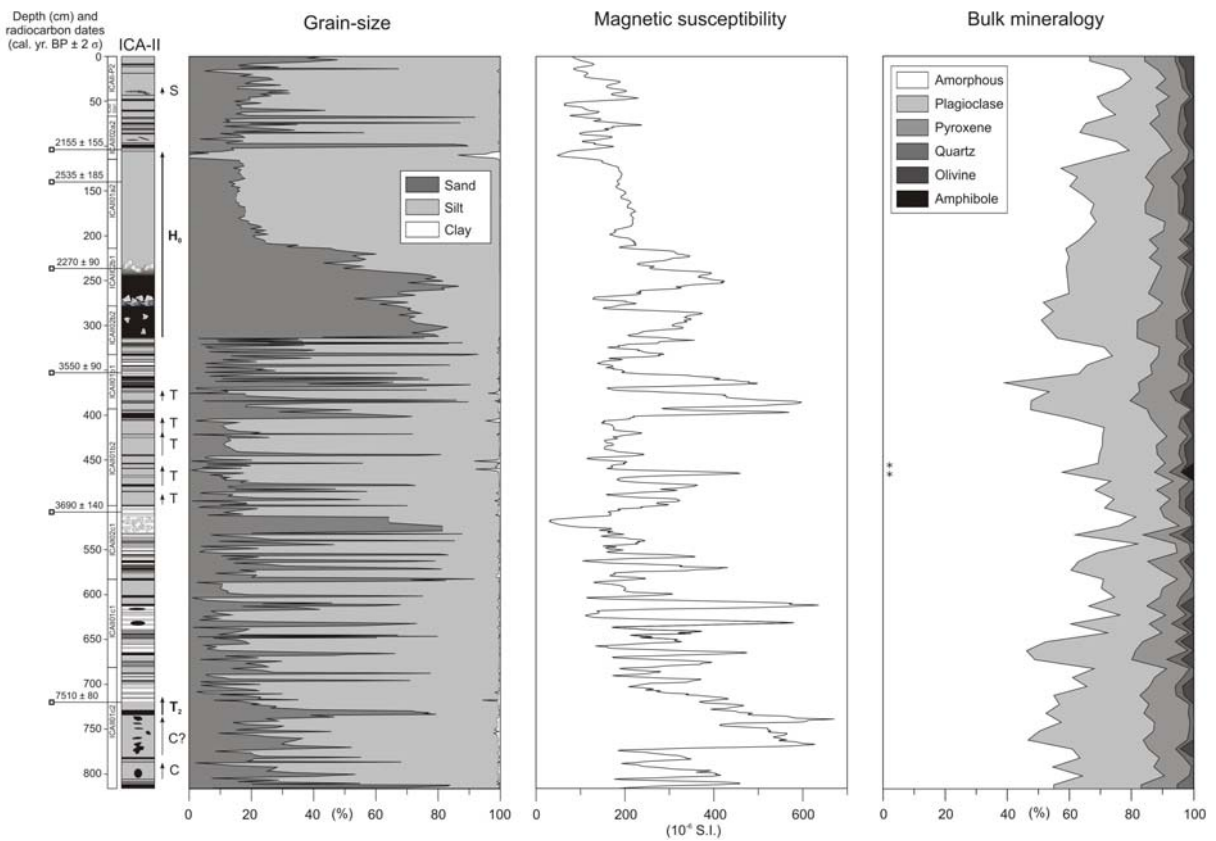


Figure 5 – Bertrand et al

H₁ and H₂ homogenites (ICA-I core, 100-155 cm and 640-675 cm)

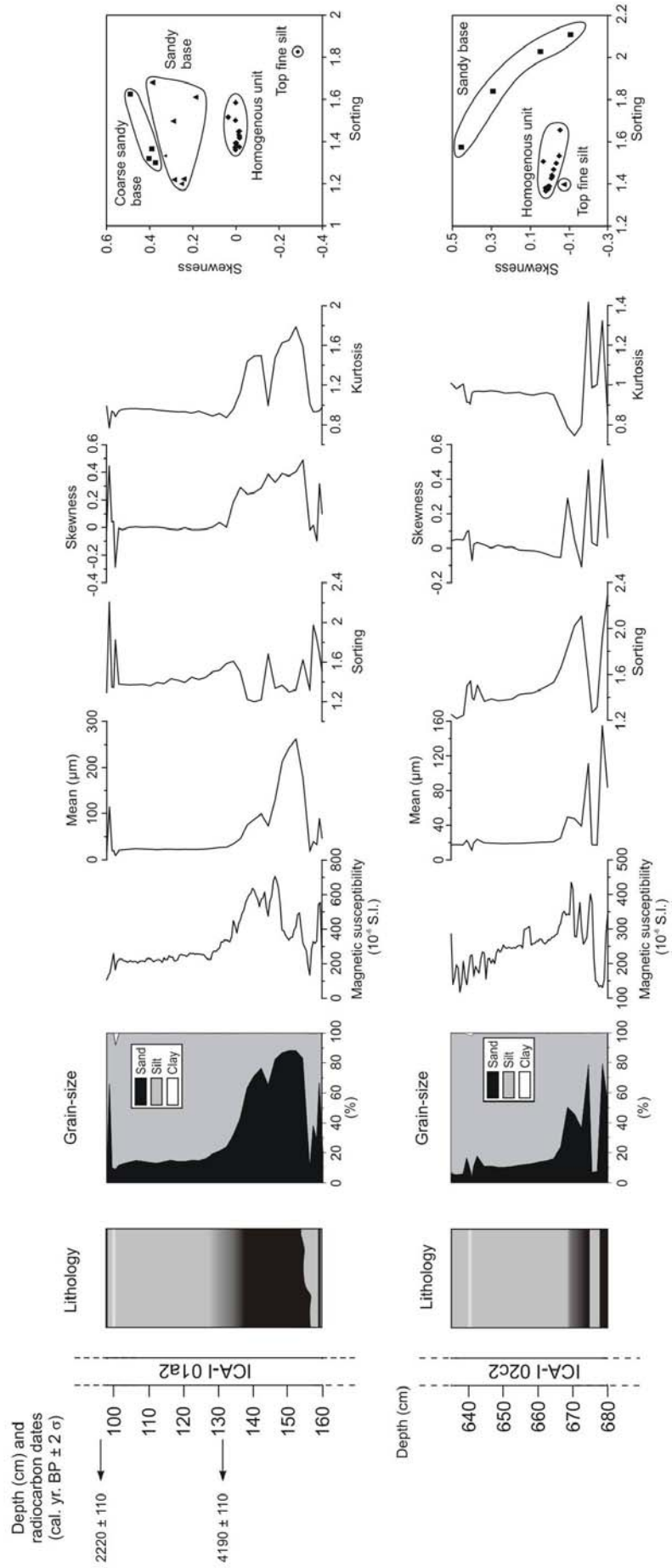


Figure 6 – Bertrand et al.

H₀ homogenite (ICA-II core, 108 - 313 cm)

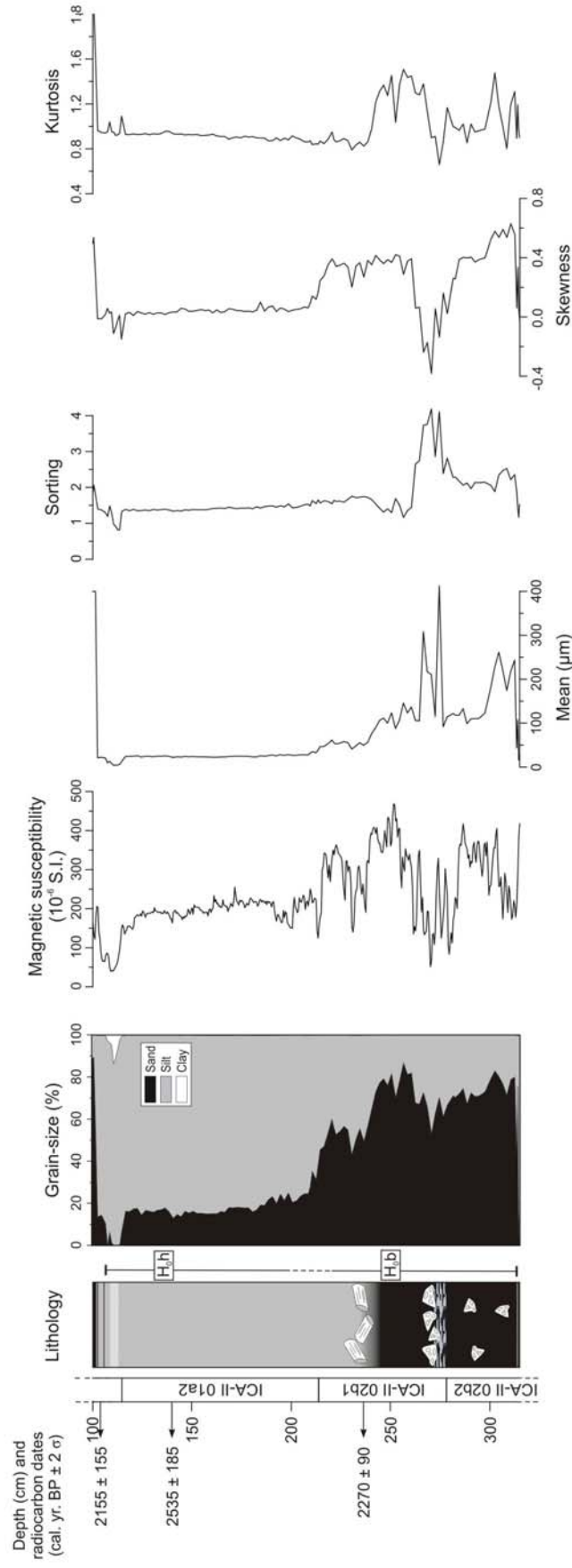


Figure 7 – Bertrand et al.

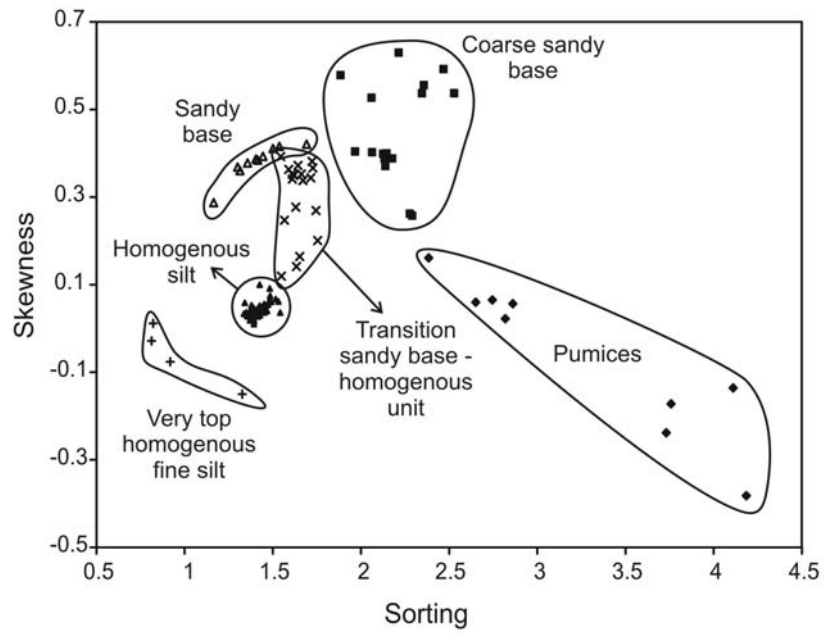


Figure 8 – Bertrand et al.

T₁ and T₂ turbidites (ICA-I core, 469-480 cm and ICA-II core, 718-734 cm, respectively)

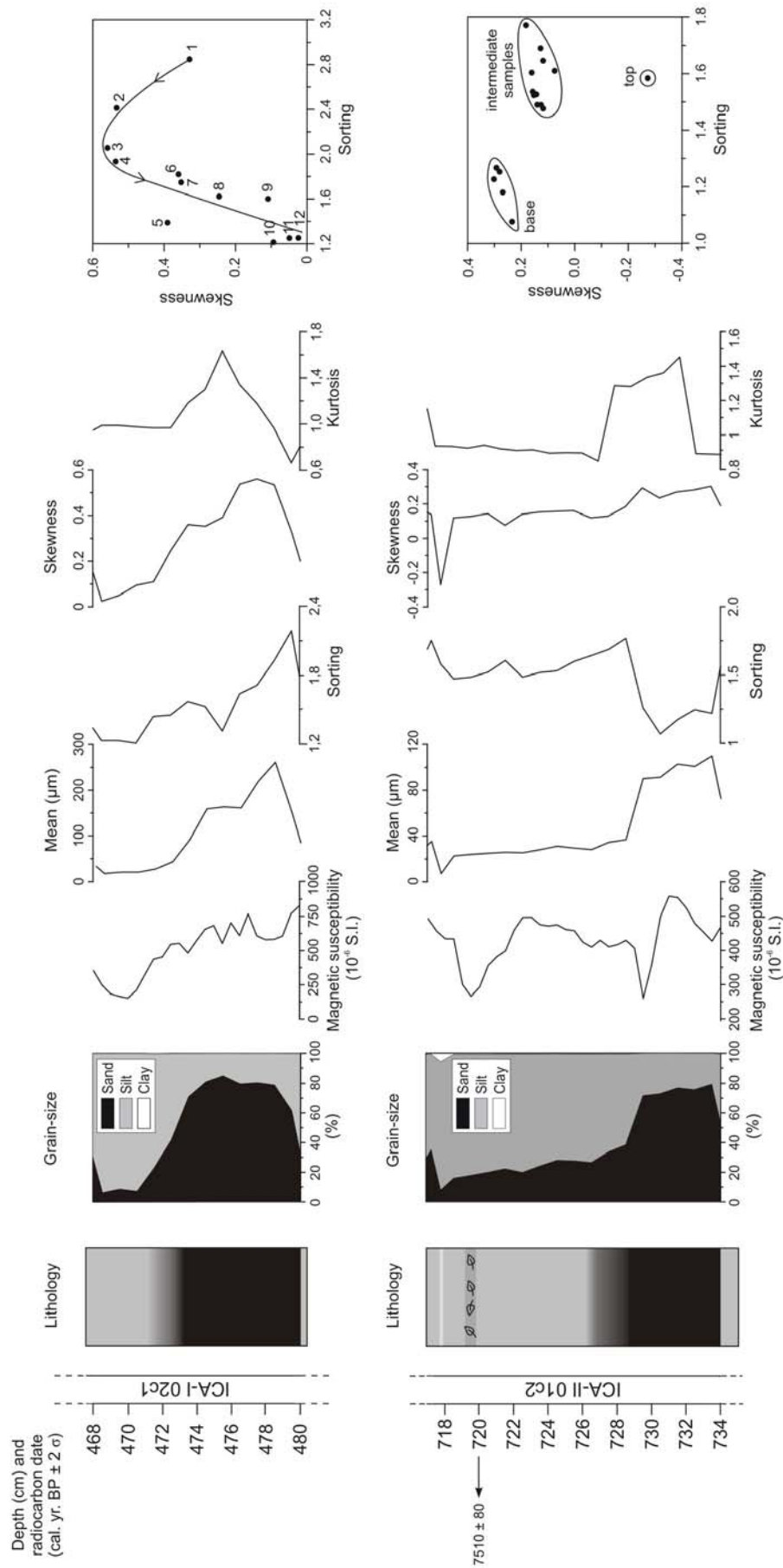


Figure 9 – Bertrand et al.

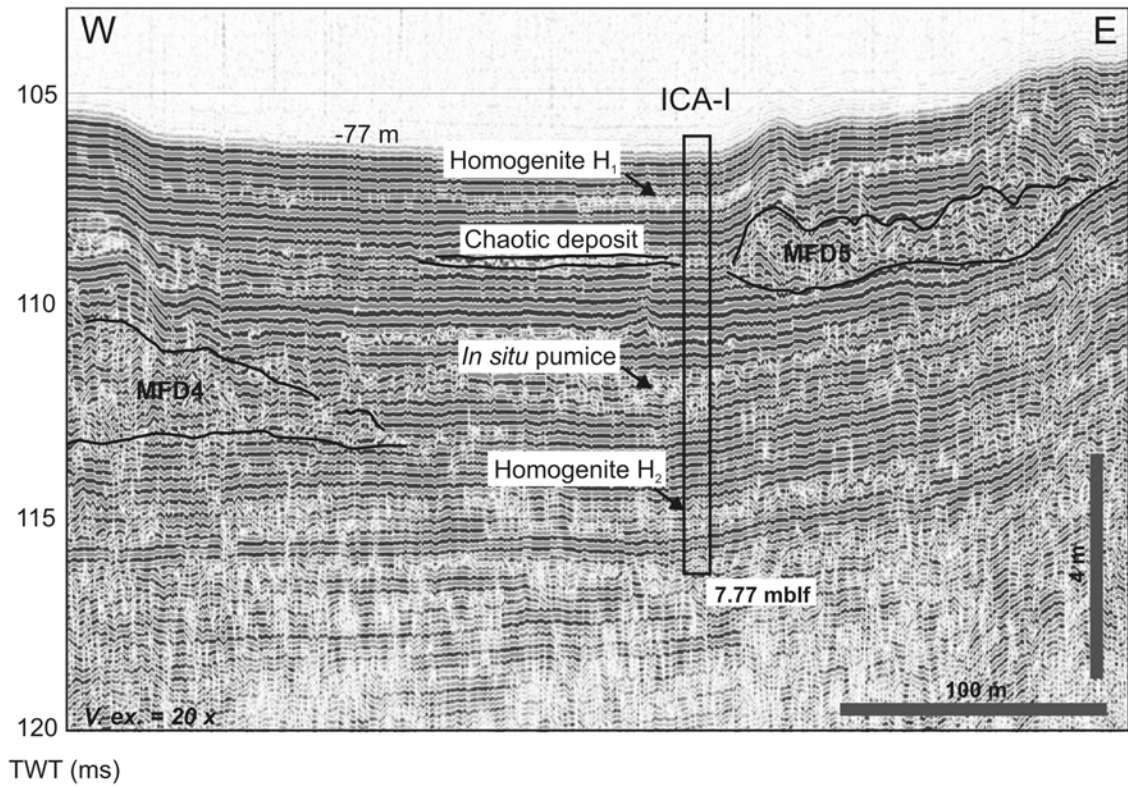


Figure 10 – Bertrand et al.

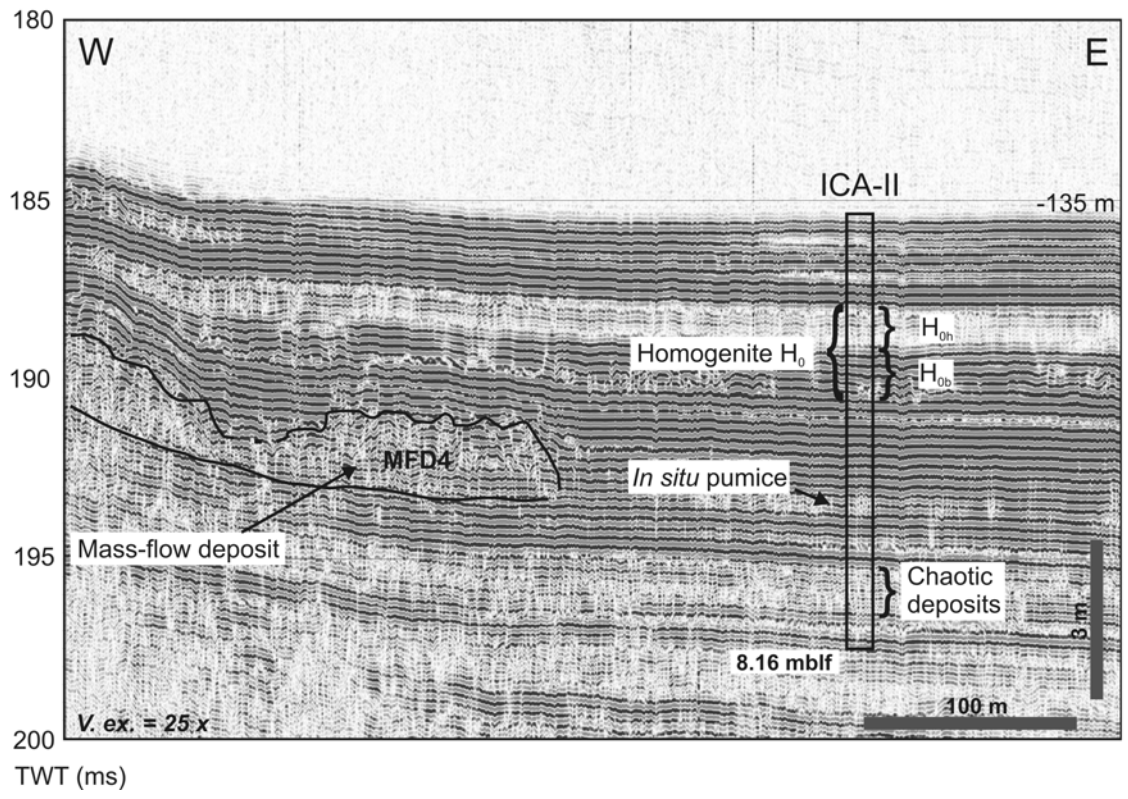


Figure 11 – Bertrand et al.

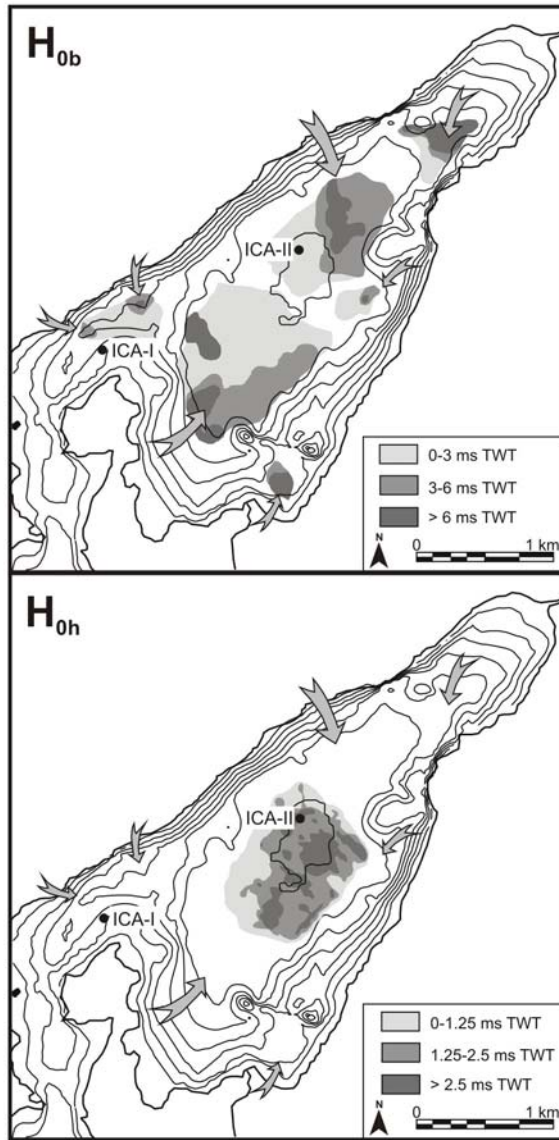


Figure 12 – Bertrand et al.

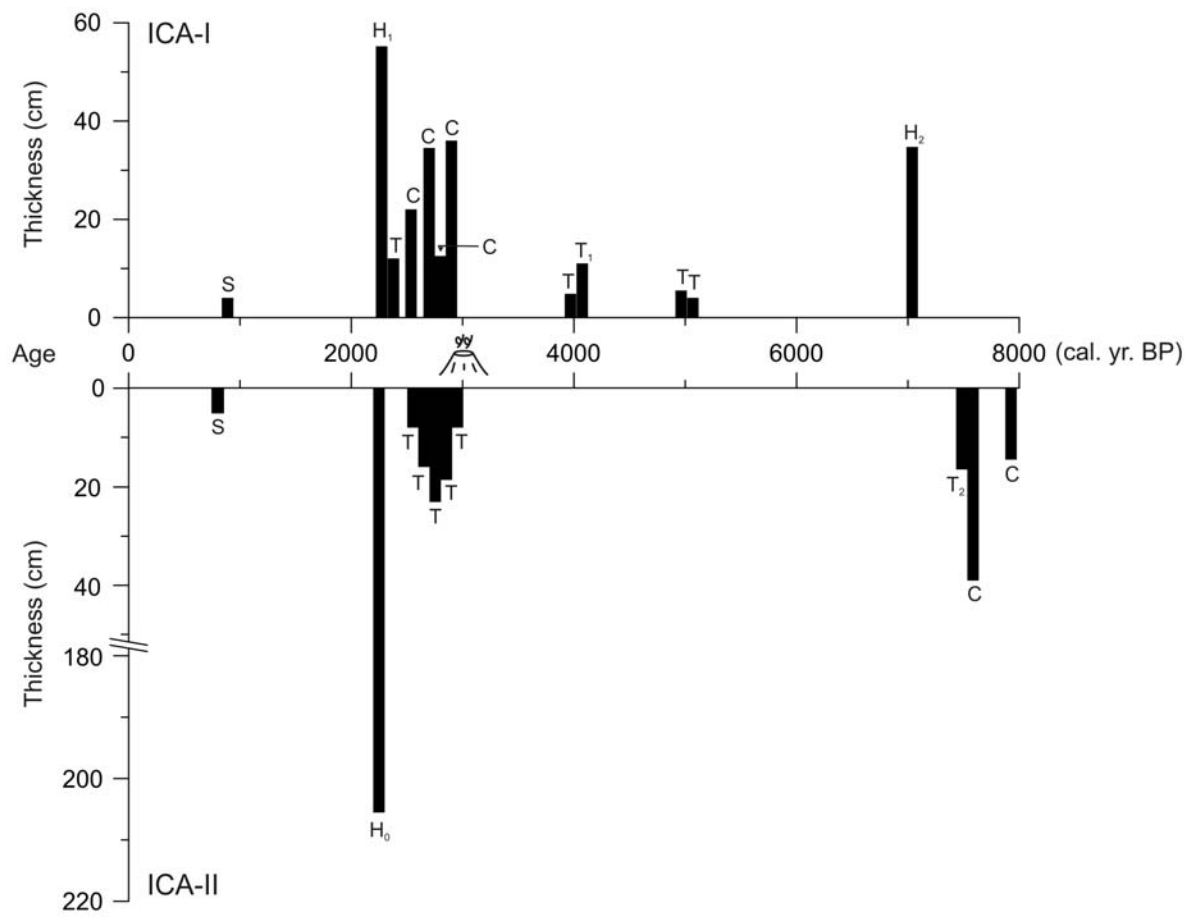


Figure 13 – Bertrand et al.

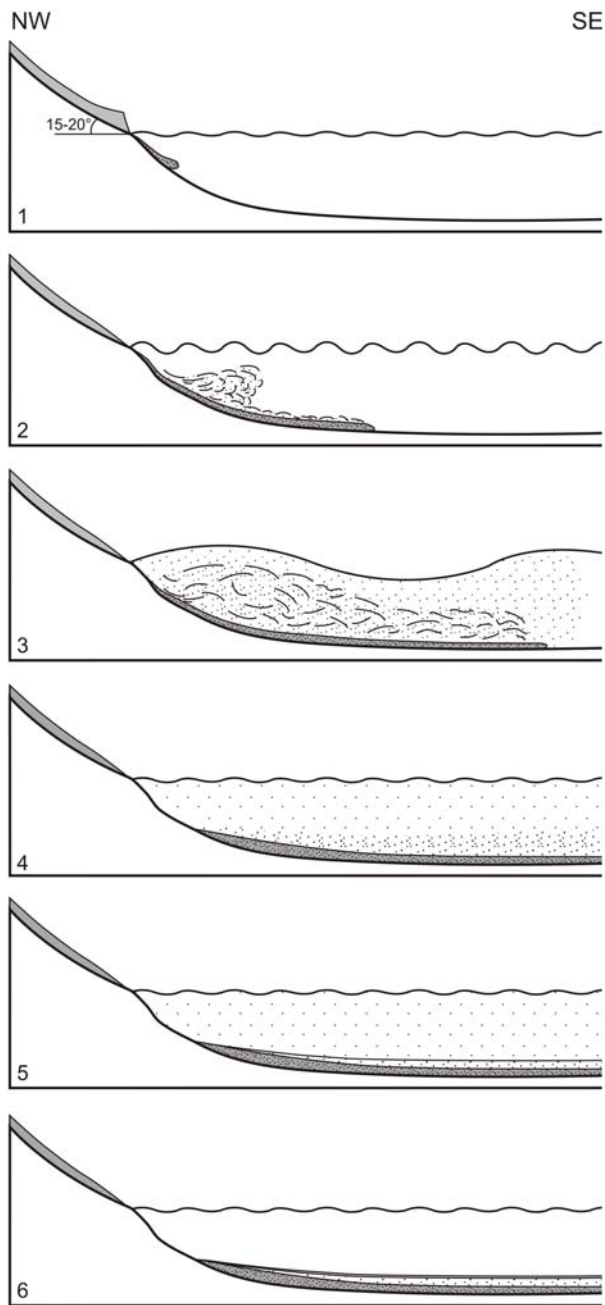


Figure 14 – Bertrand et al.