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1 **Beyond the 100-kyr and 41-kyr dichotomy: ~76- and**
2 **~52-kyr signals and forbidden periodicities in**
3 **Quaternary glacial cycles**

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7 **While the Mid-Pleistocene Transition (MPT) is often termed a shift from**
8 **41-kyr to ~100-kyr glacial cycles, this binary perspective fails to capture the**
9 **nuanced spectral evolution of Quaternary climate. Using weighted wavelet spec-**
10 **tral analysis of benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records, we identified previously underappreciated**
11 **signals—~52 kyr before 1.2 Ma and ~76 kyr thereafter—marking the MPT’s**
12 **onset. These timescales primarily correspond to integer multiples (n) of the cli-**
13 **matic precession period (T_p), with modulation by obliquity. We find that when**
14 **T_p falls within an intermediate range (20.5–22 kyr), high eccentricity triggers**
15 **deglaciation, precluding cycles of 60–65 kyr and 100–110 kyr. These findings re-**
16 **fine the conventional dichotomy of the “41-kyr and 100-kyr worlds,” revealing**
17 **that the pre-MPT regime—~41-kyr but including ~52-kyr cycles—evolved into**
18 **a post-MPT sequence of quantized ~76, ~95, and ~120-kyr cycles. Ultimately,**
19 **our results restore precession-based pacing as a fundamental driver throughout**
20 **the Quaternary, showing that glacial dynamics are consistently governed by the**
21 **interplay between precession and obliquity.**

22 INTRODUCTION

23 Glacial–interglacial cycles are the dominant mode of Quaternary climate variability, characterized
24 by substantial fluctuations in temperature (1, 2), global ice volume (3), and atmospheric greenhouse
25 gas concentrations (4, 5). Benthic oxygen isotope ratios ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$) from marine sediments record past
26 ice volume variations, although they are also influenced by deep-sea temperature and salinity (6)
27 (Fig. 1d). Over the course of long-term Cenozoic cooling, the dominant periodicity of these cycles
28 shifted from ~ 41 kyr to ~ 100 kyr, accompanied by an increase in amplitude—a reorganization
29 known as the Mid-Pleistocene Transition (MPT; 1.25–0.7 Ma) (7–9).

30 While the astronomical influence on glacial cycles via insolation forcing was proposed as early
31 as the mid-19th century, it lacked robust observational support until the late 20th century (14).
32 Hays et al. (1976) (15) provided a breakthrough by performing spectral analysis of marine $\delta^{18}\text{O}$
33 records, identifying ~ 19 - and ~ 23 -kyr peaks corresponding to climatic precession (Fig. 1b) and
34 a ~ 41 -kyr peak corresponding to obliquity (Fig. 1a) (10, 16). This provided compelling evidence
35 that glacial cycles are paced by orbital forcing. However, the ultimate pacemaker of the ~ 100 -kyr
36 cycles remains controversial; high-latitude summer insolation, considered crucial for the waxing
37 and waning of continental ice sheets, lacks significant power within the ~ 100 -kyr band (14, 15).
38 Consequently, the ~ 100 -kyr cycles are often interpreted as nonlinear responses occurring once every
39 four or five precession cycles (17–19) or every two or three obliquity cycles (20–22). It remains
40 a matter of active debate whether precession (19, 23–26), obliquity (20, 21), or a combination of
41 both (13, 22, 27–29) predominantly governs their timing, rhythm, and amplitude.

42 Many studies have investigated the triggers of deglaciations by relating their timing to the phases
43 of obliquity, precession, and various insolation metrics (19, 22, 26, 27, 30). However, uniquely
44 defining the timing of deglaciations is inherently challenging, as the process sometimes spans
45 multiple precession cycles and involves several discrete stages of ice-sheet retreat (see below).
46 Although spectral analysis avoids these timing ambiguities, it often lacks the resolution required
47 to distinguish spectral peaks necessary to address the precession-versus-obliquity debate at the
48 ~ 100 -kyr scale.

49 Here, we revisit the spectral analysis of glacial-interglacial cycles using a weighted wavelet
50 spectral analysis method, originally developed by Foster (1996) as the Weighted Wavelet Z-

51 transform (31) and refined by Kirchner and Neal (2013) (32). This approach estimates spectral
52 power via a localized weighted least-squares projection (see Materials and Methods). Implemented
53 via the Python package Pyleoclim (33), this method resolves both the time-evolving nature of
54 dominant periodicities (scalogram) and the overall power spectral density (PSD) without requiring
55 prior interpolation or detrending. Beyond well-established spectral components, our analysis re-
56 veals a distinct ~76-kyr peak (post-1.25 Ma) and a 52-kyr power band (pre-1 Ma) across multiple
57 benthic stacks—findings further corroborated by conventional spectral estimators. Drawing on the
58 theoretical framework of Tzedakis et al. (2017) (13), we interpret these periodicities as robust ev-
59 idence of nonlinear subharmonic (many-to-one) responses of glacial cycles to climatic precession
60 forcing.

61 RESULTS

62 Weighted wavelet spectral analysis of benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records

63 We performed weighted wavelet spectral analysis on seven benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records (Fig. S1) to
64 investigate their periodicities under varying age-modeling constraints (see Materials and Methods).
65 First, we include the orbitally-tuned LR04 stack (6) (Fig. 1d) and its orbital-tuning-free counterpart
66 in Lisiecki (2010) (34). Second, we analyze recent stack records in Zhou et al. (2026) (35):
67 $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{mixed}}$ uses speleothem-based age constraints for 0–654 ka and tuning to an ice-sheet
68 model for earlier intervals; $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{magrev}}$ is primarily constrained by paleomagnetic events
69 to minimize orbital circularity; and $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{auto}}$ is generated using an automated optimization
70 algorithm (36) to minimally tune to the pervasive 41-kyr obliquity cycle, while avoiding assumptions
71 about astronomical phase relationships. Additionally, we utilize the orbitally-untuned benthic stack
72 record in Huybers (2007) (37) and the paleomagnetically-constrained record U1476pMag from
73 IODP Site U1476 (25). To ensure the robustness of the detected periodicities, we primarily focus
74 on results from records with minimal or no orbital tuning (Lisiecki 2010, $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{magrev}}$, Huybers
75 2007, and U1476pMag), while using the fully tuned records as supplementary evidence.

76 The result of time-frequency analysis for the orbitally tuned LR04 record is shown in Fig. 1e,
77 with the yellow line tracking the instantaneous period at which the wavelet amplitude is maximized

78 (see Figs. S2–S7 for the other records). The evolution of the dominant period in the seven records
79 compared in Fig. 2 exhibits a broadly similar pattern across all analyzed records, although the MPT
80 epoch (0.7–1.25 Ma) is notably complex, with marked discrepancies between records.

81 Prior to the MPT, the dominant period remains centered near 41 kyr, although most records
82 show transient increases in the primary period between 1.8 and 2.1 Ma (Fig. 2), with some
83 variability in timing among the stacks. At the onset of the MPT, the dominant period increases
84 up to ~76 kyr by ~1.2 Ma, a feature robust across records. However, this increase is interrupted
85 around 1.1 Ma, and the subsequent evolution of the dominant period during 1.1–0.7 Ma varies
86 significantly among the records. Notably, the dominant period retreats to ~22 kyr in the tuned and
87 untuned LR04 records and to ~41 kyr in the other records at least once during 1.1–0.9 Ma. This
88 transient reduction in period coincides with the strongest eccentricity maximum of the Quaternary.
89 While the emergence of strong ~100-kyr power after ~700 ka is well documented (38–40), our
90 analysis uncovers a more nuanced progression. Specifically, the dominant period remains centered
91 near ~95 kyr over 700–300 ka, after which it lengthens toward ~120 kyr (Fig. 2). The temporal
92 evolution of the dominant period of ice age cycles closely follows that of eccentricity, excluding
93 the ~400-kyr component, suggesting the establishment of frequency locking between ice volume
94 and ~100-kyr-scale eccentricity cycles after the end of the MPT (~700 ka) (Fig. 2c).

95 To assess the statistical significance of the observed periodicities, we calculated power spectral
96 densities (PSDs) for the intervals before and after the MPT. For the mid-to-late Pleistocene (the past
97 1.25 Myr), 95-kyr, 41-kyr, and 23-kyr periodicities generally exhibit significant power at the 95%
98 confidence level, although the latter two do not reach this level in the U1476 record (Fig. 3). Notably,
99 we identify a spectral peak near ~76 kyr, which is significant in all records—including the orbitally
100 tuned LR04 (at the 90% level) and U1476—except for the untuned LR04. However, conventional
101 periodograms (Fig. S9) reveal significant ~76-kyr peaks across all records, including the untuned
102 LR04. While this peak is less defined in Lomb–Scargle periodograms over the last 1.25 Myr, it
103 becomes significant when the analysis is extended to the full Quaternary (2.6 Myr) except the
104 untuned LR04 (Fig. S10). During the early-to-mid Pleistocene (1.0–2.6 Ma), the 41-kyr spectral
105 peak is prominent across all records (Fig. 4). The tuned LR04 record further exhibits a significant
106 peak at ~52 kyr, while the PSDs of BIGSTACK_{magrev} and Huybers (2007) show a significant
107 shoulder extending from the 41-kyr peak toward this periodicity. A similar, though non-significant

108 (< 95%), feature is present in the untuned LR04. In contrast, no comparable 52-kyr power is
109 observed in BIGSTACK_{mixed}, BIGSTACK_{auto}, and U1476pMag. Given that BIGSTACK_{auto} and
110 BIGSTACK_{magrev} share the same $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values but employ different age-modeling strategies, it is
111 possible that the ~52-kyr power was suppressed or lost during the orbital tuning process to the
112 41-kyr obliquity cycles. Regarding U1476pMag, the absence of ~52-kyr power likely stems from
113 its relatively short record length (786.5 kyr), which limits the spectral resolution required to resolve
114 such components. Consistently, alternative estimators—specifically conventional (Fig. S9) and
115 Lomb-Scargle periodograms (Fig. S10)—detect the ~52-kyr feature in most records, reinforcing
116 its robust presence.

117 In summary, spectral power near ~76 kyr and ~52 kyr is reproducible across multiple datasets
118 and estimation methods, though detectability varies with age modeling and tuning strategies. The
119 ~76-kyr peak is a consistent feature of late Pleistocene variability, while the ~52-kyr feature—
120 despite less consistent expression—appears to be a real component of early-to-mid Pleistocene
121 variability rather than an analytical artifact. The lack of detection in the untuned LR04 likely
122 reflects its conservative age constraints using only three tie points over the 2.6 Myr (34) (Materials
123 and Methods), which may dampen these specific periodicities.

124 **Interpretation of ~76-kyr and ~52-kyr components**

125 We interpret the periodicities detected in the PSD in relation to insolation cycles, using the the-
126 oretical framework of interglacial spacing proposed by Tzedakis et al. (2017) (13) (T17). In this
127 model, an interglacial occurs when the caloric summer half-year insolation peak at 65°N exceeds a
128 threshold that declines with the time elapsed since the previous interglacial, reflecting the accumu-
129 lated instability during the glacial period (Materials and Methods). Using this criterion, the model
130 predicts which insolation peaks lead to interglacials over the Quaternary (Fig. 1, vertical dashed
131 lines). Though BIGSTACK was recently published (35) as an update to LR04, we use LR04 in the
132 following analysis because the T17 model was calibrated using that stack.

133 We calculate proxy-based deglaciation spacings and insolation-based interglacial spacings,
134 demonstrating their overall consistency. Following T17, interglacials are identified in the LR04
135 record when $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values fall below a predefined threshold (see Materials and Methods). Near

136 each threshold-crossing timing of $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, the timing of deglaciation is specified as the peak in the
137 derivative of the 10-kyr smoothed LR04 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record (Figs. S11–S13). Some deglaciations span
138 multiple precession cycles, leaving multiple peaks in $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ derivative (e.g., deglaciations leading to
139 MIS 13a near 500 ka as well as MIS 17 near 700 ka in Fig. S11). We select the largest derivative peak
140 within a window of either ± 10 kyr or ± 15 kyr around each threshold-crossing point. The ± 10 -kyr
141 window tends to capture the later peak within a deglaciation sequence, whereas the ± 15 -kyr window
142 captures the earlier peak (Figs. S11–S13). The resulting spacings between deglaciations, denoted
143 T_{later} and T_{earlier} , are shown in Fig. 5. Furthermore, we define insolation-based interglacial spacing
144 (T_{ins}) as the intervals between successive caloric summer insolation peaks that ultimately induced
145 each interglacial (*I3*) (Fig. 5; Fig. 1e, green dots). The $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ -derivative-based intervals may tightly
146 couple with the periodicities detected in the PSD, but their values rely on an assumed age model.
147 In contrast, the insolation-based intervals are relatively free from chronological uncertainties and
148 can be directly linked to orbital cycles. See Supplementary Data S1 for the values of T_{later} , T_{earlier} ,
149 and T_{ins} .

150 The high consistency among T_{later} , T_{earlier} , and T_{ins} shown in Fig. 5a ($r \gtrsim 0.95$, $\text{RMSE} \lesssim 6.5$ kyr)
151 supports T_{ins} as a reliable basis for analyzing glacial-cycle periodicities. Although discrepancies
152 of up to ~ 20 kyr exist for certain deglaciations—likely reflecting the inherent uncertainty in
153 deglaciation timing and the simplified nature of the T17 model—the overall robustness of the
154 correlation supports using T_{ins} for interpreting the periodicities in the PSD.

155 The distribution of T_{ins} shows clear clustering around 90–93 kyr and 73–76 kyr (Fig. 5e). A
156 similar, albeit weaker, clustering is preserved in T_{earlier} (Fig. 5d). We, therefore, attribute the ~ 95 -kyr
157 spectral peak to the cluster of 90–93 kyr spacings, and the ~ 76 -kyr spectral peak to the 73–76 kyr
158 cluster. Before the MPT (~ 1.2 Ma), T_{ins} is distributed around the 41-kyr obliquity period with a
159 mean of 41.2 kyr, contributing to the dominant 41-kyr peak. However, its standard deviation is
160 substantial (± 10 kyr). Indeed, four spacings fall within 51–53 kyr (Figs. 1e, 5e), contributing to the
161 significant ~ 52 -kyr peak in the PSD of the LR04 record over 1.0–2.6 Ma (Fig. 4a).

162 Once linked with T_{ins} , the observed spectral peaks can be traced back to their physical origins
163 by decomposing the insolation forcing into climatic precession and obliquity components. A key
164 factor in considering the variability of T_{ins} is that the duration of climatic precession cycles varies
165 widely between 14 and 31 kyr when eccentricity is low, whereas it remains relatively stable around

166 22.1 kyr when eccentricity is high (Fig. S14) (42). Indeed, the length of the late-Pleistocene glacial
 167 cycles is explained with the varying durations of climatic precession cycles (19). Building on this,
 168 we derive more refined relationships between T_{ins} and the evolving durations of precession and
 169 obliquity cycles.

170 For each glacial cycle, we approximate the local variations in the caloric summer half-year
 171 insolation as $f(t) = A_p \cos(\omega_p t + \varphi_p) + A_o \cos(\omega_o t + \varphi_o)$, accounting for the respective positive
 172 contributions of climatic precession and obliquity to the insolation. Here, $A_{p,o}$ are the local-mean
 173 amplitudes, $\omega_{p,o}$ are the angular frequencies (corresponding to local-mean periods $T_{p,o}$), and $\varphi_{p,o}$
 174 are the local phases of climatic precession and obliquity cycles. Unless otherwise noted, we can
 175 choose $A_{p,o} = 1$ for 65°N caloric summer insolation, as climatic precession and obliquity contribute
 176 nearly equally to the total variance (11). The local-mean periods T_p (T_o) are calculated from the time
 177 intervals between successive precession minima (obliquity maxima) associated with deglaciations
 178 (Figs. S15–S18; Data S1). The local phases $\varphi_{p,o}$ are chosen from the discrete set $\{0, \pm\pi/2, \pi\}$ for
 179 simplicity, to best capture local insolation variations. Then, we obtain approximation formulae for
 180 T_{ins} as follows.

Here we present two representative cases (all derivations are provided in the Supplementary
 text). When the peaks of climatic precession and obliquity nearly coincide and collectively induce an
 interglacial, we define this peak time as $t = 0$ by setting $\varphi_p = \varphi_o = 0$ (Fig. S19a). If the spacing T_{ins}
 between the peak at $t = 0$ and a subsequent interglacial-inducing peak is close to the n -th multiple
 of the local-mean precession period T_p , it can be expressed as $T_{\text{ins}} = nT_p + \delta$. Here, δ represents
 a small temporal shift relative to the nominal insolation peak, originating from the modulation by
 obliquity. By linearizing the peak condition as $f'(nT_p + \delta) \approx f'(nT_p) + f''(nT_p)\delta = 0$, we obtain
 approximation formulae for T_{ins} ($n = 2, 3, 4, 5$), called type-a:

$$T_{\text{ins}} \approx nT_p - \frac{A_o \omega_o \sin(n\omega_o T_p)}{A_p \omega_p^2 + A_o \omega_o^2 \cos(n\omega_o T_p)}.$$

181 An example of type-a is the ~76-kyr spacing between interglacials MIS 11c and MIS 9e (Fig. S15),
 182 where the corresponding insolation peaks are separated by approximately four precession cycles
 183 ($n = 4$), and the local-mean precession period is $T_p = 18.25$ kyr. Furthermore, the local-mean
 184 obliquity period is $T_o = 41.5$ kyr. The type-a formula then predicts $T_{\text{ins}} = 74.3$ kyr. This value is
 185 closer to the actual value of 76 kyr than the simple multiple of precession, $nT_p = 73$ kyr, obtained

186 without the shift $\delta = 1.43$ kyr.

The second case occurs when a glacial cycle spans roughly three precession cycles ($n = 3$); here, the insolation is locally approximated as $f(t) = -A_p \cos(\omega_p t) - A_o \cos(\omega_o t)$ over the interval $-\frac{3}{2}T_p \lesssim t \lesssim \frac{3}{2}T_p$ corresponding to $\varphi_p = \varphi_o = \pi$ (Fig. S19b). For this case, we assume that deglaciations occur at $t = \pm(\frac{3}{2}T_p + \delta)$, with δ being a small obliquity-induced shift. Following a derivation similar to that of the type-a formulae, T_{ins} is given by the following formula (type-3b):

$$T_{\text{ins}} \approx 3T_p + \frac{2A_o\omega_o \sin\left(\frac{3}{2}\omega_o T_p\right)}{A_p\omega_p^2 - A_o\omega_o^2 \cos\left(\frac{3}{2}\omega_o T_p\right)}.$$

187 An example of type-3b is the spacing between interglacials MIS 37 and MIS 35 (Fig. S16). The
 188 corresponding insolation peaks are separated by approximately three precession cycles, and the
 189 local-mean precession period is $T_p = 19$ kyr. Furthermore, the local-mean obliquity period is
 190 $T_o = 39$ kyr. Then, the type-3b formula predicts $T_{\text{ins}} = 54.2$ kyr. This value is closer to the actual
 191 value of 53 kyr than the simple multiple of precession, $nT_p = 57$ kyr, obtained without the shift
 192 $\delta = -2.8$ kyr.

193 In this manner, by varying the number of precession cycles (n) and the local phases $\varphi_{p,o}$, we
 194 derive twelve distinct formulae (e.g., types 2a–5a, 1b–4b, 1c–2c, 2d, and pp). The detailed derivation
 195 of each formula is presented in the Supplementary text, along with a one-to-one correspondence
 196 to each individual glacial cycle (Table S1). These analytical expressions account for nearly 50
 197 interglacial spacings identified throughout the Quaternary. While we generally use a fixed amplitude
 198 ratio of $A_p/A_o = 1$ for simplicity, we explicitly consider the relative amplitudes in two specific cases
 199 of extremely low eccentricity (MIS 99–97 and MIS 97–95). Similarly, the intervals MIS 95–93 and
 200 MIS 93–91 represent epochs in which eccentricity remains near zero. The aforementioned formulae
 201 are inapplicable to these events as deglaciation aligns with the obliquity maximum at 2386 ka, where
 202 eccentricity is virtually zero. For these two cases, we employ exceptional but simplified estimates
 203 for T_{ins} , the details of which are described in the Supplementary text. The validity of this analytical
 204 framework is confirmed by its high predictive power; across the entire Quaternary, these formulae
 205 approximate T_{ins} with a mean absolute error of only 0.8 kyr (Fig. 5b).

206 Precession phase-locking and forbidden periodicities

207 It is found that the shift δ in the approximation $T_{\text{ins}} = nT_p + \delta$ has standard deviation of only 2.7 kyr.
208 Consequently, the insolation-based interglacial spacings T_{ins} cluster along the lines $T_{\text{ins}} = nT_p$
209 ($n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$) as functions of the local-mean precession period T_p (Fig. 6a). The number of
210 precession cycles within each interglacial spacing, n , can be explained by the T17 theory (13), where
211 a longer spacing $T_{\text{ins}} (\approx nT_p)$ facilitates crossing the deglaciation threshold due to the accumulated
212 instability of the ice sheet–climate system (see Materials and Methods). After the onset of the MPT
213 around 1.2 Ma, n statistically increases as a result of an elevated deglaciation threshold, and the
214 points (T_p, T_{ins}) tend to cluster along higher branches with $n \geq 3$.

215 Figure 6a reveals that similar interglacial spacings (T_{ins}) can arise from different precession-
216 cycle lengths (T_p). For instance, the 90–93 kyr spacings comprise either four precession cycles
217 with a mean period of $T_p \approx 23$ kyr or five cycles with a mean period of $T_p \approx 19$ kyr. Similarly,
218 the 73–76-kyr spacings comprise either three precession cycles with a mean period of $T_p \approx 24$ kyr
219 or four precession cycles with a mean period of $T_p \approx 19$ kyr. A similar bifurcation is observed for
220 the 51–53-kyr spacings, which split into two distinct solutions: three multiples of precession cycles
221 with a mean period of $T_p \approx 19$ kyr and two multiples of precession cycles with a mean period of
222 $T_p \approx 26.5$ kyr. The points in ~ 41 -kyr cluster distribute along $T_{\text{ins}} = 2T_p$ (Fig. 6a, the second dashed
223 line from the bottom), showing the persistent influence of precession cycles across the MPT, as
224 suggested in previous studies (25, 43–45).

225 Interestingly, when the mean climatic precession period T_p falls between 20.5 and 22 kyr, glacial
226 cycles longer than 50 kyr are notably absent (shaded region, Fig. 6a). This gap occurs because this
227 intermediate T_p range coincides with periods of high mean eccentricity ($\bar{e} > 0.04$) both after and, in
228 many cases, before the MPT’s onset (~ 1.2 Ma) (Fig. 6b). Under these conditions of high eccentricity,
229 the amplified climatic precession forcing ensures that summer insolation remains sufficiently high
230 to trigger deglaciation within one or two precession cycles (Fig. 6c), thereby precluding longer
231 cycles. This orbital constraint provides a physical basis for the distinct gaps observed in the spacing
232 histograms (Figs. 5c–5e), explaining why certain durations— ~ 60 – 66 kyr (3×20 to 3×22) and
233 ~ 100 – 110 kyr (5×20 to 5×22)—are effectively precluded.

DISCUSSION

We show that glacial cycles evolved from a quasi-41-kyr regime characterized by large variability—including ~ 52 -kyr cycles—to quantized ~ 76 , ~ 95 , and ~ 120 -kyr cycles. This points to precession-based pacing as a persistent feature of glacial dynamics throughout the Quaternary. Following the onset of the MPT (~ 1.2 Ma), ~ 76 -kyr cycles emerged, coinciding with the disappearance of the ~ 52 -kyr periodicity. After the first ~ 92 -kyr cycle appeared at ~ 0.9 Ma, the dominant period stabilized around ~ 95 kyr from ~ 700 to ~ 300 ka, before eventually lengthening toward ~ 120 kyr. This temporal evolution of the dominant period closely tracks the ~ 100 -kyr eccentricity component (excluding the 400-kyr cycle), suggesting that frequency-locking between ice volume and eccentricity was established after the end of the MPT (~ 700 ka; Fig. 2c). Such resonance between the internal climate response and orbital forcing may explain the abrupt increase in 100-kyr cycle amplitude observed at approximately 650 ka (38).

While the prominence of the ~ 76 -kyr periodicity has been noted in several studies (19, 46, 47), its physical origin has remained elusive. For instance, Bolton et al. (1995) (46) identified ~ 75 -kyr power around 750 ka but attributed it to internal variability, citing the lack of a corresponding periodicity in the astronomical forcing. Rial (1999) (47) proposed that the ~ 75 -kyr peak is a sideband frequency ($1/77 \approx 1/95 + 1/413$) generated by frequency modulation of the 95-kyr cycle by the 413-kyr eccentricity component; however, the physical basis for such modulation remains elusive. In contrast, our results demonstrate that the ~ 76 -kyr spectral power arises from subharmonic phase-locking to either three precession cycles (mean period $T_p \approx 24$ kyr) or four precession cycles ($T_p \approx 19$ kyr), with minor modulation by obliquity. Consistently, Blackburn et al. (2024) (19) attributed the spacings from MIS 13a to 11c and 11c to 9e to the 76-kyr mode of four precession cycles. This precession-based 76-kyr mode is distinct from the previously proposed ~ 70 -kyr variability, which was interpreted as a beat frequency between obliquity and eccentricity ($1/70 \approx 1/41 - 1/100$) (41). Within our present framework, the ~ 95 -kyr spectral power can also be explained as a result of subharmonic phase-locking to either four ($T_p \approx 23$ kyr) or five ($T_p \approx 19$ kyr) precession cycles (17–19, 23, 26, 48).

While the dominant power prior to the MPT is often characterized as ~ 41 kyr (49), this represents only a statistical average. In reality, interglacial spacings exhibit large variations of ~ 10

263 kyr around this mean because they correspond to either two or three multiples of climatic precession
264 cycles, whose periods themselves vary significantly. Such variability in glacial duration is indeed
265 reproduced in a mathematical model or a climate-ice sheet model (44, 50). Our analysis identifies
266 the ~ 52 -kyr-scale spectral shoulder extending from the 41-kyr peak as a diagnostic signature of this
267 precessional influence prior to the onset of the MPT (~ 1.2 Ma). Previous research (41) attributed
268 the spectral peaks near 50 kyr and 55 kyr to an eccentricity overtone ($1/50 = 2/100 \text{ kyr}^{-1}$) and an
269 obliquity sideband, respectively. In contrast, we focus on the 51–53 kyr band and attribute its origin
270 to a nonlinear subharmonic response. This is characterized by two distinct solutions: the system
271 responding once for every three precessional cycles of a mean period of $T_p \approx 19$ kyr or once for
272 every two cycles of a mean period of $T_p \approx 26.5$ kyr.

273 The presence of bundles of precession cycles— ~ 52 -kyr cycles before ~ 1.2 Ma, ~ 76 -kyr cycles
274 after ~ 1.2 Ma, and ~ 95 -kyr cycles after ~ 0.9 Ma—throughout the Pleistocene suggests that the
275 MPT was not a disappearance of the obliquity-driven 41-kyr world, but rather a progressive shift
276 in the skipping behavior of precession-paced deglaciations. This persistent influence of precession
277 cycles both before and after the MPT is consistent with recent findings (25, 43–45, 51).

278 Consequently, the MPT can be understood as a period-adding process in precession phase-
279 locking, driven by a gradual increase in the deglaciation threshold in the coupled ice-sheet–ocean–carbon
280 system. The threshold likely increased gradually through long-term global cooling, declining atmo-
281 spheric CO_2 toward critical minima (52–54), and structural changes in the cryosphere system includ-
282 ing progressive removal of subglacial regolith beneath Northern Hemisphere ice sheets (54–56),
283 expansion of marine-based Antarctic ice sheets (57), long-term AMOC slowdown (58), and en-
284 hanced stratification of the Southern Ocean (59). These processes may have contributed to increasing
285 the intrinsic timescale of the climate–ice-sheet system (28, 60), although their relative roles and
286 interactions remain poorly constrained. Identifying the underlying physical mechanisms of the MPT
287 is beyond the scope of this study.

288 We found that when the local-mean precession period T_p falls within this intermediate range
289 (20.5–22 kyr), high eccentricity triggers deglaciation, precluding the emergence of ~ 100 –110-kyr
290 and ~ 60 –65-kyr cycles. This is consistent with previous findings of an anticorrelation between
291 ~ 100 -kyr eccentricity power and ~ 100 -kyr ice-age power (44, 61). Our analysis shows that mean
292 eccentricity does not exceed 0.04 during the observed ~ 100 -kyr cycles (Fig. 6c). This implies that

293 the development of ~100-kyr cycles was precluded during the high-eccentricity interval between
294 ~950 and 1100 ka. Consequently, the onset of the MPT—specifically the lengthening of glacial
295 cycles—appears to have been constrained by the long-term evolution of eccentricity (9, 44).

296 Our findings refine the conventional paradigm of a simple transition from a 41-kyr world to a
297 100-kyr world across the MPT. Instead, we propose a more nuanced evolution: from a quasi-41-kyr
298 regime characterized by high orbital variability to a suite of quantized cycles (~76, ~95, and ~120
299 kyr) linked to precession phases. In this framework, obliquity determines which climatic precession
300 peaks are skipped, as suggested in several studies (13, 19, 27, 28).

301 MATERIALS AND METHODS

302 Benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records

303 We analyze seven benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records (Fig. S1) categorized by their degree of orbital tuning. The
304 first is the standard, orbitally-tuned LR04 stack (6) (Fig. 1d). The second is the tuning-free version
305 of the LR04 stack from Lisiecki (2010) (34), which assumes a constant sedimentation rate between
306 three primary tie points: the core top (0 ka) and the geomagnetic reversals at 0.78 and 2.58 Ma.
307 Third through fifth, we utilize three versions of the BIGSTACK from Zhou et al. (2026) (35):
308 $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{mixed}}$ integrates 221 global records using speleothem-based age constraints for 0–
309 654 ka and ice-sheet model tuning for earlier intervals. $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{magrev}}$ (comprising 33 records)
310 is constrained by 15 paleomagnetic events over the last 2.606 Ma to minimize orbital circularity.
311 $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{auto}}$ is derived from $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{magrev}}$ by applying the eTimeOpt algorithm (36, 62)
312 to minimally tune the pervasive 41-kyr obliquity signal without assuming astronomical phase
313 relationships. The sixth record is the depth-derived stack of Huybers (2007) (37). While the original
314 study focuses on the last 2 Ma, the dataset provides a tuning-free chronology anchored to the 2.58 Ma
315 geomagnetic boundary (<https://doi.org/10.25921/d1zr-t492>, last accessed 8 April 2026).
316 Lastly, we include the single-site benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record from IODP Site U1476, anchored to an
317 independent paleomagnetic age model (U1476pMag) (25). Because this record spans only the last
318 1786.542 kyr, its coverage of the pre-MPT interval (1.0–1.79 Ma) is relatively short. Consequently,
319 the presence or absence of periodicities in this specific epoch should be interpreted with caution

320 due to the limited duration of the time series.

321 In our spectral analysis, periodicities are primarily accepted based on the tuning-free records
322 (Lisiecki 2010, Huybers 2007, and U1476pMag) and the minimally-tuned BIGSTACK_{magrev}. The
323 orbitally-tuned records (standard LR04, BIGSTACK_{mixed}, and BIGSTACK_{auto}) are used as supple-
324 mentary evidence to support the robustness of the detected signals.

325 **Weighted wavelet spectral analysis**

326 Paleoclimate time series are commonly unevenly sampled, which complicates the application
327 of conventional spectral estimators, such as the periodogram (63) and the multitaper method
328 spectrum (64). Standard approaches often rely on interpolation to a regular time grid prior to
329 analysis; however, such interpolation acts as a low-pass filter, leading to a reddening of the power
330 spectrum and, consequently, spurious results in hypothesis testing (65). While the Lomb–Scargle
331 periodogram (66,67) avoids interpolation, it is known to overestimate power at high frequencies (65).
332 Moreover, Fourier-based methods, which assume stationarity, necessitate data detrending (68).
333 However, even with recent methodological advances, identifying and removing a trend without
334 inadvertently compromising the underlying climate signal remains an inherently difficult task (69).

335 To overcome these difficulties, we employ a weighted wavelet spectral analysis method. This
336 approach, originally developed by Foster (1996) (31) as the Weighted Wavelet Z-transform (WWZ)
337 and subsequently refined by Kirchner and Neal (2013) (32), estimates spectral power via weighted
338 least-squares projection. This approach, implemented in the Python package Pyleoclim (33),
339 enables the resolution of both the time-evolving nature of dominant periodicities (scalograms) and
340 the overall frequency content (power spectral density; PSD) without requiring prior interpolation
341 or detrending.

342 The method estimates time-dependent harmonic amplitudes (a_1, a_2) through localized fits of
343 sinusoidal functions and a constant to the data using weighted least squares (32). Specifically, for
344 each center time t^* and angular frequency ω , the coefficients a_1 and a_2 are obtained by fitting:
345 $x_i = a_0 + a_1 \cos[\omega(t_i - t^*)] + a_2 \sin[\omega(t_i - t^*)]$, where each observation x_i at time t_i is weighted by a
346 Gaussian weight $w_i = \exp[-c\omega^2(t_i - t^*)^2]$, with a decay constant c controlling the time-frequency
347 resolution trade-off. However, when the data are unevenly sampled in time, the basis functions

348 can be non-orthogonal (e.g., $\sum_i \cos[\omega(t_i - t^*)] \sin[\omega(t_i - t^*)] \neq 0$), which can lead to significant
 349 errors in estimating the coefficients. To address this, Kirchner and Neal (2013) employ shifted basis
 350 functions such that: $x_i = b_0 + b_1 \cos[\omega(t_i - \tau)] + b_2 \sin[\omega(t_i - \tau)]$, where the time shift τ is chosen
 351 to ensure that the basis functions 1, $\cos[\omega(t_i - \tau)]$, and $\sin[\omega(t_i - \tau)]$ are mutually orthogonal. The
 352 coefficients b_0 , b_1 , and b_2 obtained via weighted regression are then converted back to the original
 353 coefficients a_0 , a_1 , and a_2 by accounting for the phase shift $\omega(t^* - \tau)$.

354 The local spectral power, or scalogram, is calculated at each t^* as: $S_{\text{loc}}(t^*, \omega) = \frac{1}{2}(a_1^2 +$
 355 $a_2^2)(t_{\text{max}} - t_{\text{min}}) \frac{n_{\text{eff}}}{n}$, where $t_{\text{max}} - t_{\text{min}}$ is the total time interval covered by the n samples, and
 356 $n_{\text{eff}} = (\sum_i w_i)^2 / \sum_i w_i^2$ represents the effective number of points. Finally, a robust global estimate of
 357 the Power Spectral Density (PSD) is obtained by averaging the local spectral power over the entire
 358 time interval, as $S(\omega) = \sum_{t^*} v_{\text{eff}}(t^*) S_{\text{loc}}(t^*, \omega) / \sum_{t^*} v_{\text{eff}}(t^*)$, where $v_{\text{eff}}(t^*) = \max\{0, n_{\text{eff}} - 3\}$ is the
 359 effective degrees of freedom (32).

360 The decay constant c determines the frequency resolution in the spectral analysis and balances
 361 the frequency and time resolution in the time-frequency analysis. For the time-frequency analysis
 362 (scalogram), we adopt $c = 1/(8\pi^2)$, the standard value for this analysis in `Pyleoclim` (33), which
 363 provides a balanced resolution for identifying transient shifts in ice age periodicity. For the global
 364 spectral analysis (PSD), we set $c = 0.0005$. This corresponds to a broader effective time window
 365 (slightly smaller than the default value 0.001 in `Pyleoclim`) to prioritize high frequency resolution.

366 To check the sensitivity of our results, we conduct spectral analyses using multiple estimators:
 367 the conventional periodogram (63) and the Lomb-Scargle periodogram (66, 67). For the former, the
 368 time series is interpolated at 1-kyr intervals. In both cases, the series are linearly detrended over
 369 the analysis period. All analyses are performed using the `pyleoclim` (version 1.2.0) (33).

370 **Interglacial spacings in Tzedakis et al. (2017)**

371 Tzedakis et al. (2017) proposed a simple rule to determine which insolation peaks trigger inter-
 372 glacial (13). In their model, 51 interglacials are identified over the Quaternary based on the LR04
 373 benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack (6), supported by additional composite records from Eastern Equatorial Pacific
 374 sites. An interglacial onset is defined when the detrended $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ value falls below a lower threshold
 375 of 3.68 after having exceeded a higher threshold of 3.92. To apply this criterion consistently, $\delta^{18}\text{O}$

376 values prior to 1.5 Ma are detrended as $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{detrended}} = \delta^{18}\text{O} + 3.296 \times 10^{-4}(t - 1500)$, where t is the
 377 time in kyr, while values after 1.5 Ma remain unchanged. This trend is attributed to the long-term
 378 cooling of deep-water temperatures or an increase in Antarctic ice volume.

379 The T17 model predicts interglacial onsets based on caloric summer half-year insolation. This
 380 measure represents the total insolation integrated over the caloric summer half-year, which is defined
 381 such that every day within this period receives more insolation than any day in the winter half (11, 12).
 382 At 65°N, the variance of this insolation measure receives approximately equal contributions from
 383 climatic precession and obliquity. In the T17 framework, an interglacial is triggered when a peak
 384 in the 65°N caloric summer insolation exceeds a threshold that decreases as a function of the time
 385 elapsed since the previous interglacial (Δt), reflecting the accumulation of glacial instability. This
 386 condition can be expressed as the effective energy, defined as $E(I_{\text{peak}}, \Delta t) = I_{\text{peak}} + b\Delta t$, exceeding
 387 a constant deglaciation threshold $I_{\text{threshold}}$. Here, $b = 0.0021 \pm 0.0001 \text{ GJ m}^{-2} \text{ kyr}^{-1}$, and $I_{\text{threshold}}$
 388 is defined to ramp up from 6.02 GJ m^{-2} to 6.14 GJ m^{-2} over the interval from 1.55 Ma to 0.61 Ma.
 389 Using this criterion, the model can predict most of 51 interglacial onsets, with only two false
 390 negatives (MIS 59 and 63). For these false negatives, the insolation peaks immediately preceding
 391 their respective isotopic minima are assumed to be the trigger. In the present work, the interglacial
 392 spacings (T_{ins}) are defined as the durations between successive caloric summer insolation peaks that
 393 finally induced each interglacial. Using the T17, the interglacial spacing T_{ins} is determined as the
 394 minimal peak-to-peak spacing that satisfies the condition $E(I_{\text{peak}}, T_{\text{ins}}) = I_{\text{peak}} + bT_{\text{ins}} > T_{\text{threshold}}$.
 395 Therefore, $n = \text{argmin}_{\tilde{n} \geq 1} \{I_{\text{peak}} + b(\tilde{n}T_p + \delta) > T_{\text{threshold}}\}$.

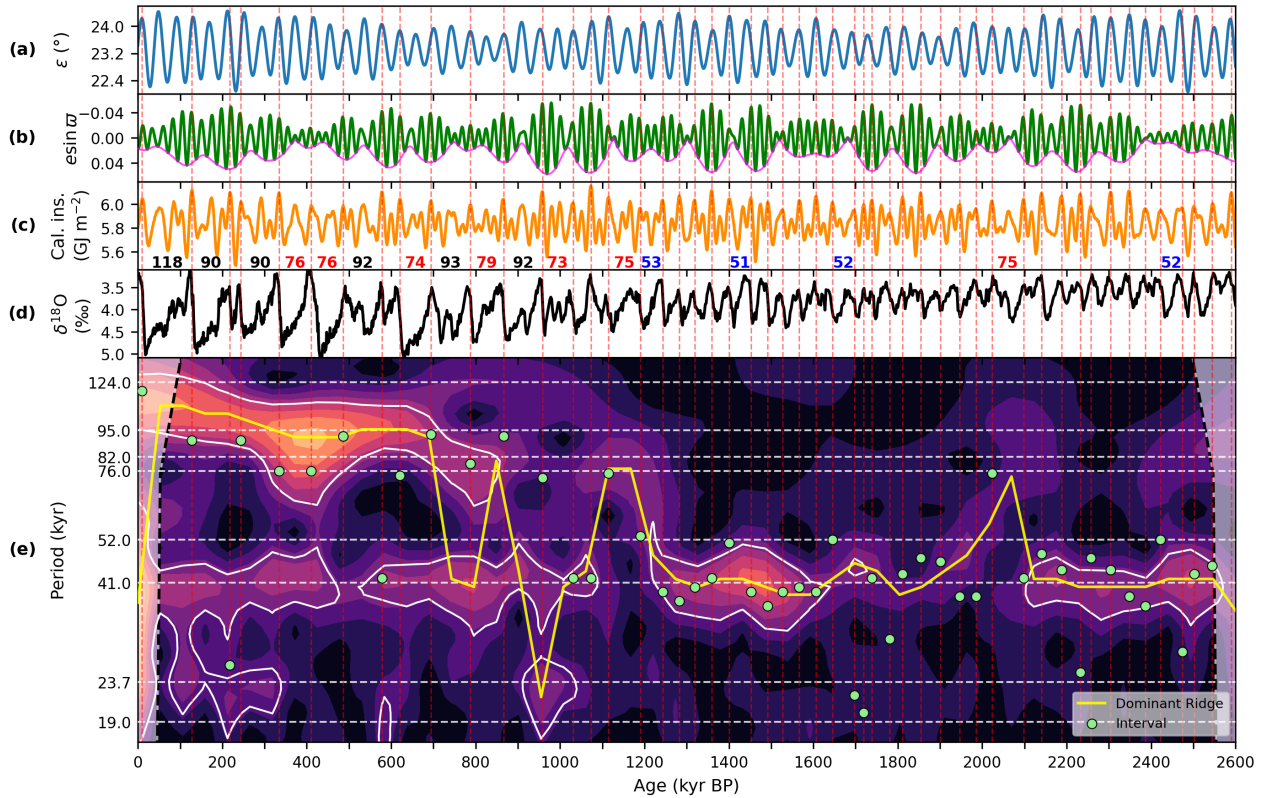


Figure 1: Orbital forcing and wavelet analyses of the LR04 benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack record over the last 2.6 Myr. (a) Obliquity (ε) (10). (b) Climatic precession ($e \sin \varpi$, green) and its eccentricity envelope (e , magenta) (10). Note that negative values of climatic precession correspond to positive anomalies in Northern Hemisphere summer insolation. (c) Caloric summer half-year insolation at 65°N (11, 12). (d) LR04 benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack record (6). Higher $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values indicate larger ice volume and lower deep-ocean temperatures. (e) Wavelet power scalogram of the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record. The yellow line indicates the ridge of maximum wavelet power. Areas enclosed by white dashed lines indicate power significant at the 95% confidence level against an AR(1) benchmark. Horizontal dashed lines denote major astronomical periodicities, including the 76-kyr and 52-kyr scales discussed in this study. The vertical dashed lines indicate the timings of insolation peaks associated with interglacial onsets, as defined in Tzedakis et al. (2017) (13), across all panels. Spacings longer than 50 kyr between successive interglacial-inducing insolation peaks are labeled in panel (c). In panel (e), the green dots indicate the insolation-based interglacial spacing (T_{ins}) derived from these peaks.

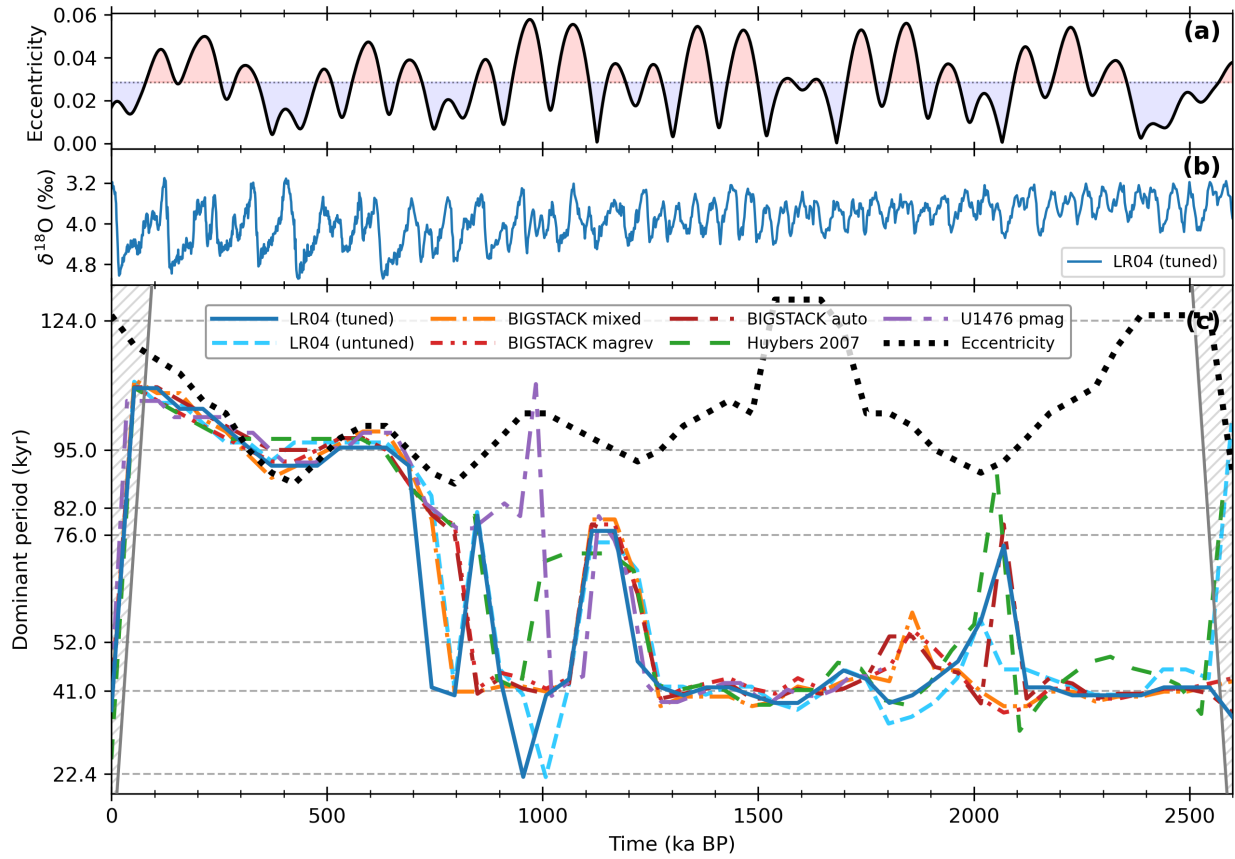


Figure 2: Evolution of the dominant timescale of glacial cycles and that of eccentricity. (a) Eccentricity. The horizontal is the average. (b) LR04 benthic $\delta^{18}O$ stack. (c) Dominant timescale corresponding to the maximum wavelet amplitude at each time. Horizontal dashed lines denote major astronomical periodicities, including the 76-kyr and 52-kyr scales discussed in this study.

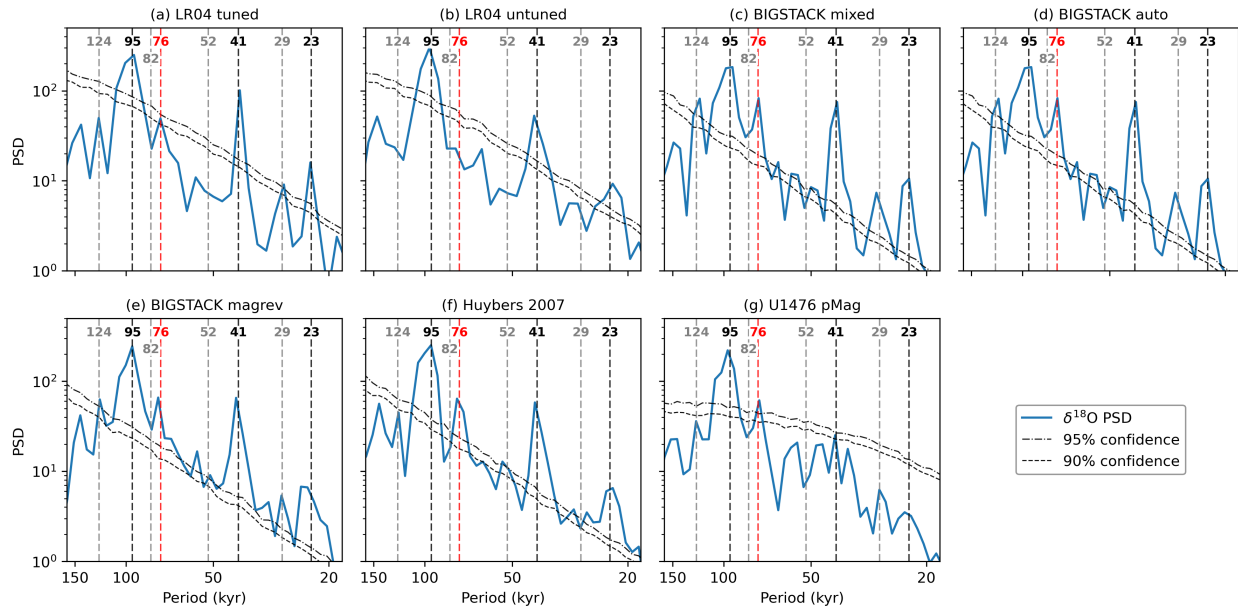


Figure 3: Power spectral densities (PSD) of benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records over the last 1.25 Myr. (a) the tuned LR04 stack (6), (b) the untuned LR04 stack (34), (c) $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{mixed}}$ (35), (d) $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{auto}}$ (35), (e) $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{magrev}}$ (35), (f) the untuned record from Huybers (2007) (37), and (g) the U1476 record (25). Solid blue lines denote the PSD of the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records, and dashed/dotted black lines indicate the 95% and 90% confidence levels against an AR(1) benchmark. Vertical dashed lines highlight key periodicities: eccentricity (124 and 95 kyr), obliquity (41 kyr), and climatic precession (23 kyr). Also indicated are the subharmonic of 41 kyr (82 kyr), the combination tone (29 kyr; $1/29 \approx 1/41 + 1/95$) (41), and specific timescales of interest in this study (76 and 52 kyr).

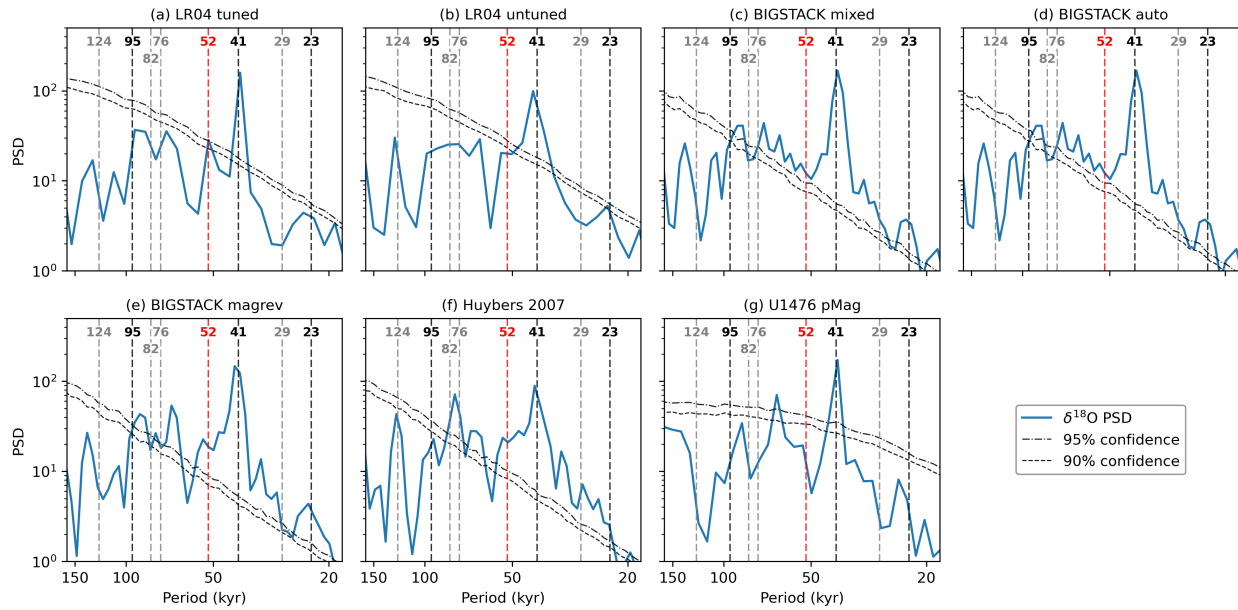


Figure 4: Power spectral densities (PSD) of benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records over 1.0–2.6 Ma. (a) the tuned LR04 stack (6), (b) the untuned LR04 stack (34), (c) $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{mixed}}$ (35), (d) $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{auto}}$ (35), (e) $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{magrev}}$ (35), (f) the untuned record from Huybers (2007) (37), and (g) the U1476 record (25). Solid blue lines denote the PSD of the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records, and dashed/dotted black lines indicate the 95% and 90% confidence levels against an AR(1) benchmark. Vertical dashed lines highlight key periodicities: eccentricity (124 and 95 kyr), obliquity (41 kyr), and climatic precession (23 kyr). Also indicated are the subharmonic of 41 kyr (82 kyr), the combination tone (29 kyr; $1/29 \approx 1/41 + 1/95$) (41), and specific timescales of interest in this study (76 and 52 kyr).

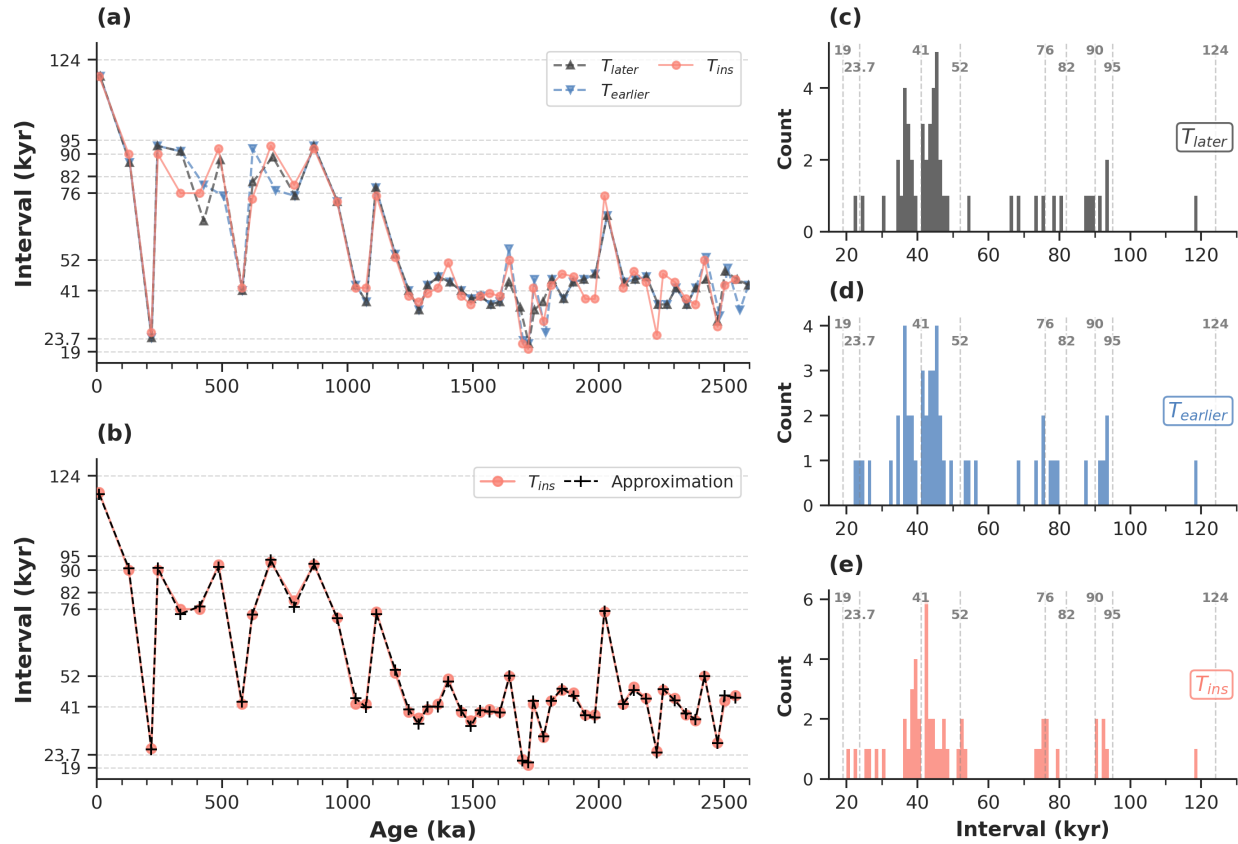


Figure 5: Comparison of proxy-based deglaciation spacings and insolation-based interglacial spacings. (a) Time series of spacings over the past 2600 kyr. These intervals are defined by three different metrics: orbital insolation peaks (T_{ins} , salmon circles) and the timing of peak deglaciation rates (T_{later} , dark blue triangles; $T_{earlier}$, light blue inverted triangles). Horizontal dashed lines indicate key orbital periodicities and the sub-harmonic periodicities discussed in this study (52, 76, and 82 kyr). (b) Comparison between the insolation-based spacings (T_{ins}) and their theoretical approximation (black crosses). (c)–(e) Frequency distributions (histograms) of (c) T_{later} , (d) $T_{earlier}$, and (e) T_{ins} . The insolation-based distribution (e) exhibits distinct clustering around 73–76 kyr and 90–93 kyr; this pattern is partially reflected in the $T_{earlier}$ and T_{later} metrics. All proxy-based metrics align well with T_{ins} ($r \gtrsim 0.95$, $RMSE \lesssim 6.5$ kyr), justifying the use of T_{ins} as a robust theoretical framework for spectral analysis.

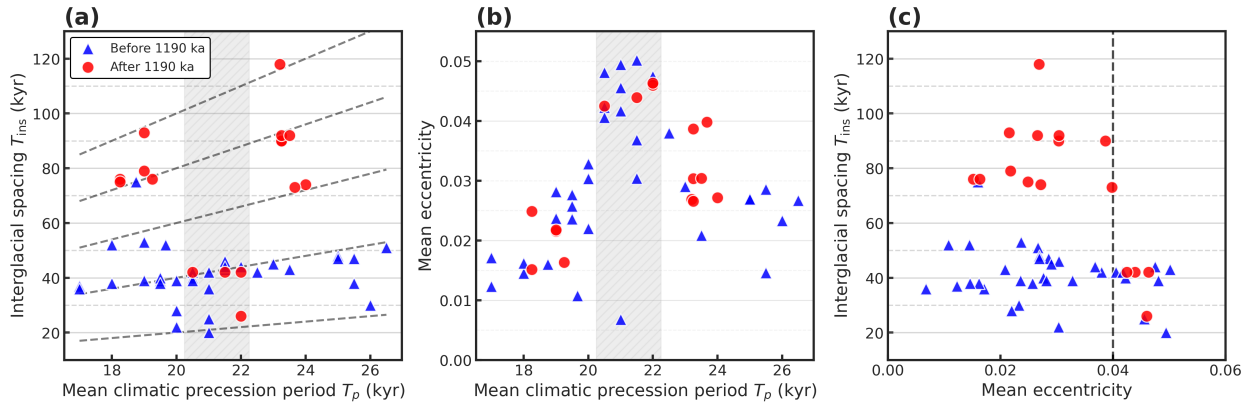


Figure 6: Orbital constraints on interglacial spacing and the role of eccentricity. (a) Mean climatic precession period (T_p) versus the insolation-based interglacial spacing (T_{ins}). T_p is defined as the average duration of climatic precession cycles within each interglacial spacing. Dashed lines represent integer multiples of T_p ($T_{\text{ins}} = nT_p$ for $n = 1, \dots, 5$), showing the clustering of interglacial spacing. (b) T_p versus the mean eccentricity (\bar{e}), averaged over the full duration of each interglacial spacing. In (a) and (b), the vertical hatched area (20.25–22.25 kyr) indicates the range of T_p where high mean eccentricity generally precludes glacial cycles longer than 50 kyr. (c) Mean eccentricity versus T_{ins} . The vertical dashed line at $\bar{e} = 0.04$ indicates the threshold above which high eccentricity constrains T_{ins} to values below 50 kyr by facilitating deglaciation. In all panels, blue triangles and red circles represent intervals before and after 1190 ka, respectively.

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557 **Data and materials availability:** The one-to-one correspondence between each glacial cycle
558 and the insolation-based interglacial spacing (Table S1) is provided in `Data_S1_formula.xlsx`
559 at <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.19534114>. All the other data used in this study are
560 publicly available from the original sources cited in the main text and Supplementary materials.

561 **Supplementary materials**

562 Supplementary Text

563 Figs. S1 to S19

564 Tables S1

565

566 **Supplementary Materials for**

567 **Beyond the 100-kyr and 41-kyr dichotomy: ~76- and ~52-kyr**
568 **signals and forbidden periodicities in Quaternary glacial cycles**

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571 **This PDF file includes:**

572 Supplementary Text

573 Figs. S1 to S18

574 Tables S1

575
576 **Other Supplementary Materials for this manuscript:**

577 Electronic version of Table S1: Data_S1_formula.xlsx available at

578 <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.19534114>

Supplementary text

Derivation of the approximation formulae of interglacial spacings

Following Tzedakis et al. (2017) (13), we assume that each interglacial onset can be linked with a specific peak in the caloric summer half-year insolation at 65°N (11, 12). Thus, the insolation-based interglacial spacings (T_{ins}) are defined between successive caloric summer half-year insolation peaks that finally induced each interglacial (13) (Figs. S11a–S13a). Here we derive approximate formulae for T_{ins} of each glacial cycle based on local information on climatic precession and obliquity (10) (Fig. S15–S18).

It is known that the caloric summer half-year insolation, especially at 65°N, is well approximated by a superposition of standardized indices of climatic precession and obliquity (11, 70). Since the climatic precession oscillates more rapidly than obliquity, the insolation peak closest to the deglaciation isotopic change is more tightly linked with a climatic precession peak (minimum). Indeed, the link between the length of glacial cycles and the durations of astronomical cycles—particularly precession—has been noted in various studies (19, 23, 24, 26). On the other hand, the duration of climatic precession cycles varies widely (between 14 and 31 kyr) when eccentricity is low, whereas it remains relatively stable around 22.1 kyr when eccentricity is high (Fig. S14) (19, 42). Building on this, we here derive finer relationships between T_{ins} and the evolving durations of precession and obliquity cycles.

For each glacial cycle, we approximate the local variations in the caloric summer half-year insolation as $f(t) = A_p \cos(\omega_p t + \varphi_p) + A_o \cos(\omega_o t + \varphi_o)$, accounting for the respective positive contributions of climatic precession and obliquity to the insolation. Here, $A_{p,o}$ are the local-mean amplitudes, $\omega_{p,o}$ are the angular frequencies (corresponding to local-mean periods $T_{p,o}$), and $\varphi_{p,o}$ are the local phases of climatic precession and obliquity cycles. Note that the maxima of $A_p \cos(\omega_p t + \varphi_p)$ correspond to the minima of the climatic precession cycles, as precession minima contribute to maximal insolation. Then, we can derive analytical expressions for T_{ins} . A complete correspondence between individual glacial cycles and their respective formulae is provided in Table S1.

Formula type 2a, 3a, 4a and 5a. When the peaks of climatic precession and obliquity nearly coincide and collectively induce an interglacial, we define this peak time as $t = 0$ by setting

$\varphi_p = \varphi_o = 0$ (Fig. S19a). If the spacing T_{ins} between the peak at $t = 0$ and a subsequent interglacial-inducing peak is close to the n -th multiple of the local-mean precession period T_p , it can be expressed as $T_{\text{ins}} = nT_p + \delta$, where the small shift δ reflects the phase modulation by obliquity. By linearizing the peak condition $f'(nT_p + \delta) = 0$ as $f'(nT_p + \delta) \approx f'(nT_p) + f''(nT_p)\delta = 0$, we obtain approximation formulae for T_{ins} ($n = 2, 3, 4, 5$), called type-a:

$$T_{\text{ins}} \approx nT_p - \frac{A_o\omega_o \sin(n\omega_o T_p)}{A_p\omega_p^2 + A_o\omega_o^2 \cos(n\omega_o T_p)}.$$

606 An example of type-a is the ~ 76 -kyr spacing between interglacials MIS 11c and MIS 9e (Fig. S15),
 607 where the corresponding insolation peaks are separated by approximately four precession cycles
 608 ($n = 4$), and the local-mean precession period is $T_p = 18.25$ kyr. Furthermore, the local-mean
 609 obliquity period is $T_o = 41.5$ kyr. The type-a formula then predicts $T_{\text{ins}} = 74.3$ kyr. This value is
 610 closer to the actual value of 76 kyr than the simple multiple of precession, $nT_p = 73$ kyr, obtained
 611 without the shift $\delta = 1.43$ kyr.

Formulae type 1b and 3b. The second case occurs when a glacial cycle spans roughly one or three precession cycles (i.e., $n = 1$ or 3), with the insolation locally approximated as $f(t) = -A_p \cos(\omega_p t) - A_o \cos(\omega_o t)$ over the interval $-\frac{n}{2}T_p \lesssim t \lesssim \frac{n}{2}T_p$ (corresponding to $\varphi_p = \varphi_o = \pi$). For this case, we assume that deglaciations occur at $t = \pm(\frac{n}{2}T_p + \delta)$, with δ being a small obliquity-induced shift. By linearizing the peak condition $f'(\frac{n}{2}T_p + \delta) \approx f'(\frac{n}{2}T_p) + f''(\frac{n}{2}T_p)\delta = 0$, we obtain approximation formulae for T_{ins} ($n = 1, 3$), called type-1b or 3b:

$$T_{\text{ins}} \approx nT_p + \frac{2A_o\omega_o \sin(\frac{n}{2}\omega_o T_p)}{A_p\omega_p^2 - A_o\omega_o^2 \cos(\frac{n}{2}\omega_o T_p)}.$$

612 An example of type-3b is the spacing between interglacials MIS 37 and MIS 35 (Fig. S16). The
 613 corresponding insolation peaks are separated by approximately three precession cycles ($n = 3$), and
 614 the local-mean precession period is $T_p = 19$ kyr. Furthermore, the local-mean obliquity period is
 615 $T_o = 39$ kyr. Then, the type-3b formula predicts $T_{\text{ins}} = 54.2$ kyr. This value is closer to the actual
 616 value of 53 kyr than the simple multiple of precession, $nT_p = 57$ kyr, obtained without the shift
 617 $\delta = -2.8$ kyr.

Formulae type 2b. Consider a case where a glacial cycle spans approximately two precession cycles, in which the central precession peak is counteracted by an obliquity minimum, while the outer precession peaks are enhanced by adjacent obliquity maxima. This situation is approximated

as $f(t) = A_p \cos(\omega_p t) - A_o \cos(\omega_o t)$ over the interval $-T_p \lesssim t \lesssim T_p$ (corresponding to $\varphi_p = 0$ and $\varphi_o = \pi$). In a similar manner to the derivation of the formulae type-1b and 3b, T_{ins} is given by formula called type-2b:

$$T_{\text{ins}} \approx 2T_p + \frac{2A_o\omega_o \sin(\omega_o T_p)}{A_p\omega_p^2 - A_o\omega_o^2 \cos(\omega_o T_p)}.$$

Formulae type 4b. Consider a case where a glacial cycle spans approximately four precession cycles, in which the central precession peak is enhanced by an obliquity maximum, while the outer precession peaks are also enhanced by adjacent obliquity maxima. This situation is approximated as $f(t) = A_p \cos(\omega_p t) + A_o \cos(\omega_o t)$ over the interval $-2T_p \lesssim t \lesssim 2T_p$ (corresponding to $\varphi_p = \varphi_o = 0$). In a similar manner to the derivation of the formulae type-2b, T_{ins} is given by formula called type-4b:

$$T_{\text{ins}} \approx 4T_p - \frac{2A_o\omega_o \sin(2\omega_o T_p)}{A_p\omega_p^2 + A_o\omega_o^2 \cos(2\omega_o T_p)}.$$

Formulae type 1c and 2c. Consider a case where a glacial cycle spans roughly one or two precession cycles ($n = 1$ or 2), with the insolation locally approximated as $f(t) = A_p \cos(\omega_p t) - A_o \sin(\omega_o t)$ over the interval $0 \leq t \lesssim nT_p$ (corresponding to $\varphi_p = 0$ and $\varphi_o = \frac{\pi}{2}$). In this case, the deglaciations occur at $t = 0$ and $t = nT_p + \delta$, where δ is a small shift. By linearizing the peak condition $f'(nT_p + \delta) \approx f'(nT_p) + f''(nT_p)\delta = 0$, we obtain approximation formulae for T_{ins} ($n = 1, 2$), called type-1c or 2c:

$$T_{\text{ins}} \approx nT_p - \frac{A_o\omega_o \cos(n\omega_o T_p)}{A_p\omega_p^2 - A_o\omega_o^2 \sin(n\omega_o T_p)}.$$

Formula 2d. Consider a case where a glacial cycle spans roughly two precession cycles, with the insolation locally approximated as $f(t) = A_p \cos(\omega_p t) + A_o \sin(\omega_o t)$ over the interval $0 \leq t \lesssim 2T_p$ (corresponding to $\varphi_p = 0$ and $\varphi_o = -\frac{\pi}{2}$). In this case, the deglaciations occur at $t = 0$ and $t = 2T_p + \delta$, where δ is a small shift. By linearizing the peak condition $f'(2T_p + \delta) \approx f'(2T_p) + f''(2T_p)\delta = 0$, we obtain the approximation formula for T_{ins} , called type-2d:

$$T_{\text{ins}} \approx 2T_p + \frac{A_o\omega_o \cos(2\omega_o T_p)}{A_p\omega_p^2 - A_o\omega_o^2 \sin(2\omega_o T_p)}.$$

Formula type pp. In this case, the interglacial spacing is primarily determined by the spacing between precession peaks; while obliquity cycles may shift the timing of both deglaciations, they do so by the same amount, leaving the net spacing almost unchanged. Therefore,

$$T_{\text{ins}} \approx nT_p.$$

618 **Choice of amplitude $A_{p,o}$.** Climatic precession and obliquity contribute nearly equally to the
619 total variance in the caloric summer half-year insolation at 65°N (11, 12). Therefore, for simplicity,
620 we set $A_{p,o} = 1$ for 65°N caloric summer half-year insolation except for the following two cycles.
621 However, the cycle from MIS 99 to 97 as well as the cycle from MIS 97 to 95 are characterized
622 by low eccentricity (i.e., low precession amplitude) and high obliquity amplitude. Assessing their
623 variances locally, we took $A_o/A_p = 3$ and $A_o/A_p = 2.5$ for the former and the latter, respectively.

624 **Two exceptions** The spacings MIS 95–93 and MIS 93–91 represent epochs during which
625 eccentricity remains near zero. The aforementioned formulae are inapplicable to these events
626 because deglaciation coincides with the obliquity maximum at 2386 ka, where eccentricity is
627 virtually zero. For these cases, we adopt simplified estimates for T_{ins} . The MIS 95–93 interval is
628 assumed to be initiated by an insolation peak occurring midway between the obliquity maximum at
629 2426 ka and the precession minimum at 2419 ka, and is finalized by the obliquity maximum at 2386
630 ka. Consequently, the spacing is estimated as $(2426 + 2419)/2 - 2386 = 36.5$ kyr. Similarly, the
631 MIS 93–91 interval is initiated by the 2386-ka obliquity maximum and finalized by an insolation
632 peak midway between the obliquity maximum at 2348 ka and the precession minimum at 2347 ka.
633 The spacing is thus estimated as $2386 - (2348 + 2347)/2 = 38.5$ kyr.

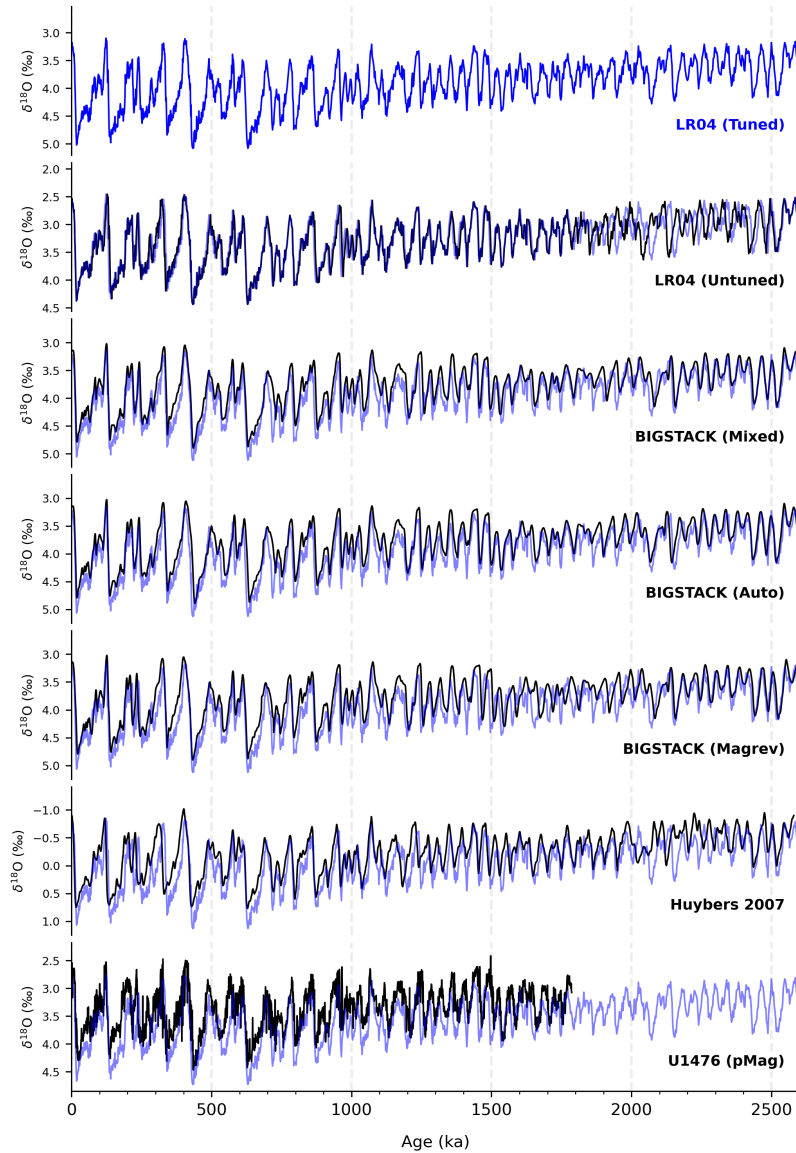


Figure S1: Benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stacks and an individual record analyzed in this study. (a) The LR04 tuned stack (6). In the subsequent panels, the LR04 stack is shown as a blue background reference, vertically shifted to match the mean $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ value of each target record (black). (b) The tuning-free version of the LR04 stack from Lisiecki (2010) (34). (c) The $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{mixed}}$ record using speleothem-based age constraints for 0–654 ka and ice-sheet model tuning for earlier intervals (35). (d) The $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{auto}}$ record obtained from $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{magrev}}$ (below) by applying the eTimeOpt algorithm (36,62) to minimally tune the pervasive 41-kyr obliquity signal. (e) The $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{magrev}}$ record constrained by paleomagnetic events over the last 2.606 Ma to minimize orbital circularity. (f) The depth-derived stack of Huybers (2007) (37). (g) The single-site benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record from IODP Site U1476, anchored to an independent paleomagnetic age model (U1476pMag) (25). This record spans only the last 1786.542 kyr.

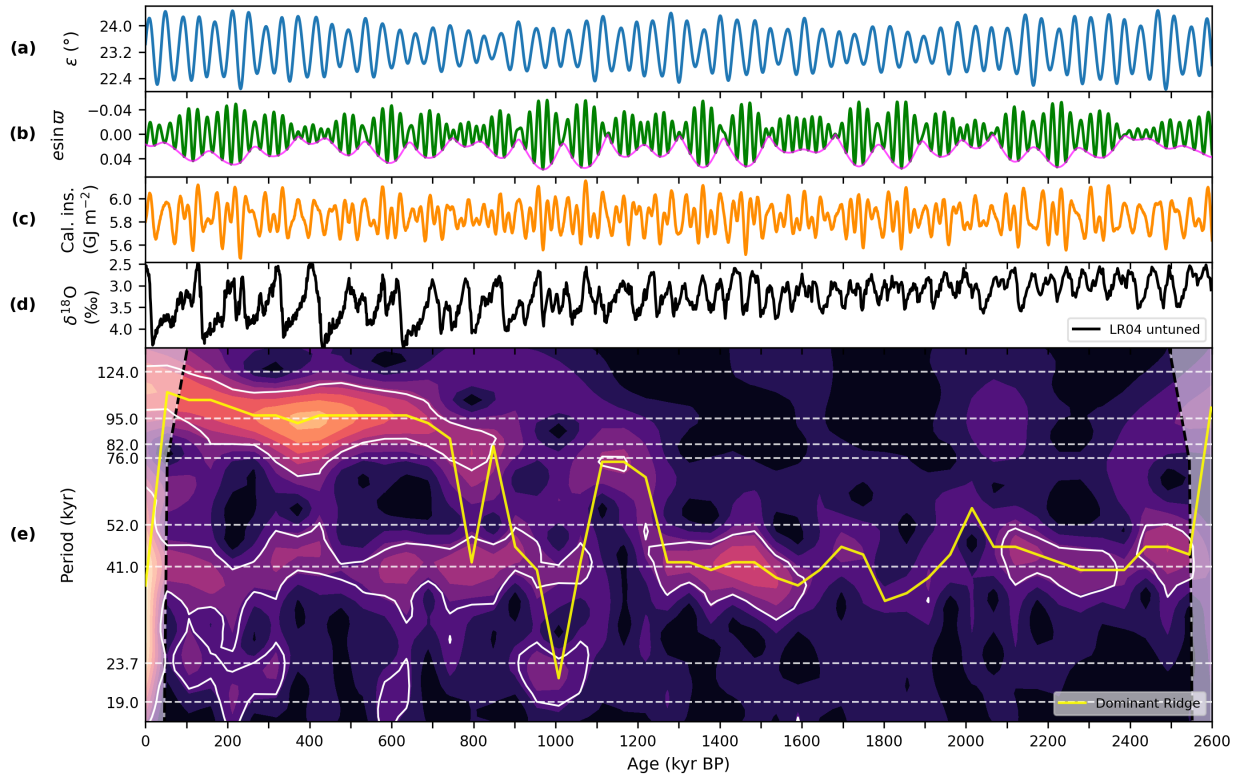


Figure S2: Time-series and wavelet analyses of the LR04 benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack record free from orbital tuning (34), aligned with astronomical forcing (10) over the last 2.6 Myr. (a) Obliquity (ε). (b) Climatic precession ($e \sin \varpi$, green) shown with its eccentricity envelope (e , magenta). (c) Caloric summer half-year insolation at 65°N (11, 12). (d) LR04 benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack record without orbital tuning. (34) (e) Wavelet power scalogram of the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record. The yellow line indicates the ridge of maximum wavelet power. Areas enclosed by white dashed lines indicate power significant at the 95% confidence level against an AR(1) benchmark. Horizontal dashed lines denote major astronomical periodicities, including the 76-kyr and 52-kyr scales discussed in this study.

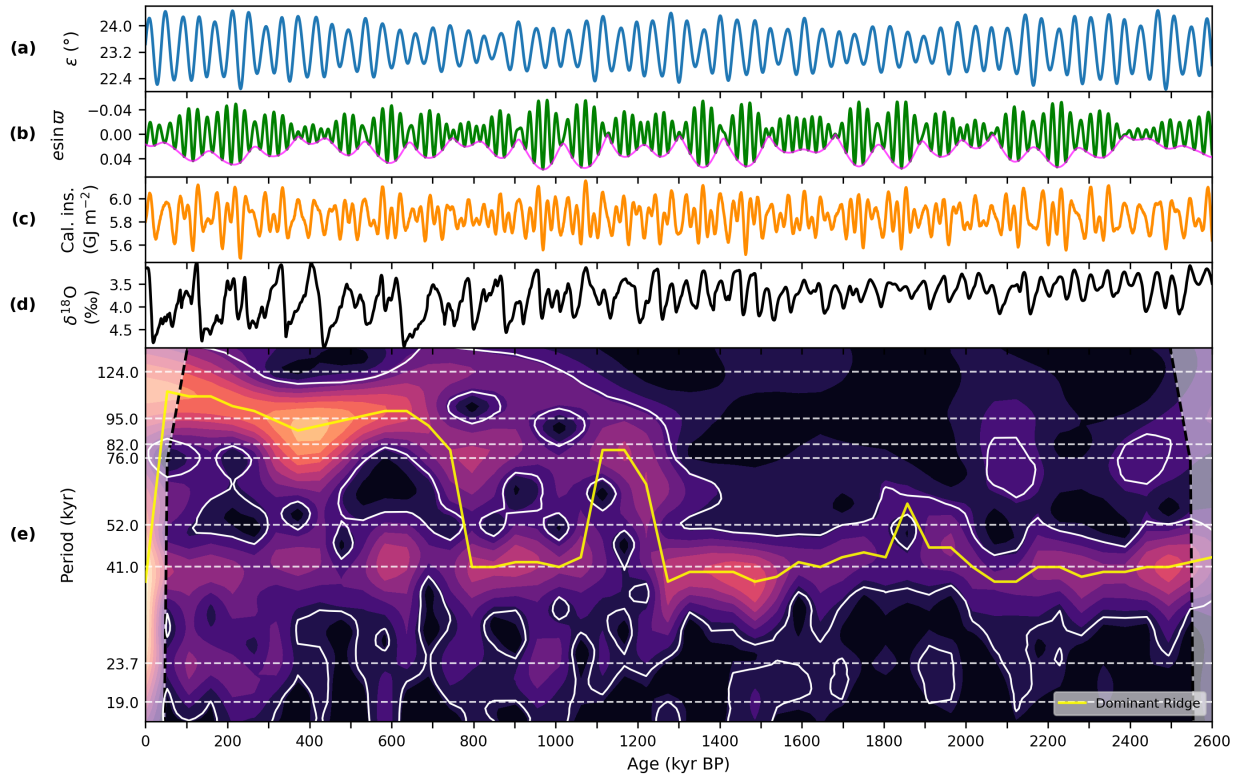


Figure S3: Time-series and wavelet analyses of the benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack record of $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{mixed}}$ (35), aligned with astronomical forcing (10) over the last 2.6 Myr. (a) Obliquity (ϵ). (b) Climatic precession ($e \sin \omega$, green) shown with its eccentricity envelope (e , magenta). (c) Caloric summer half-year insolation at 65°N (11, 12). (d) The benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack record of Huybers (2007) (37). (e) Wavelet power scalogram of the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record. The yellow line indicates the ridge of maximum wavelet power. Areas enclosed by white dashed lines indicate power significant at the 95% confidence level against an AR(1) benchmark. Horizontal dashed lines denote major astronomical periodicities, including the 76-kyr and 52-kyr scales discussed in this study.

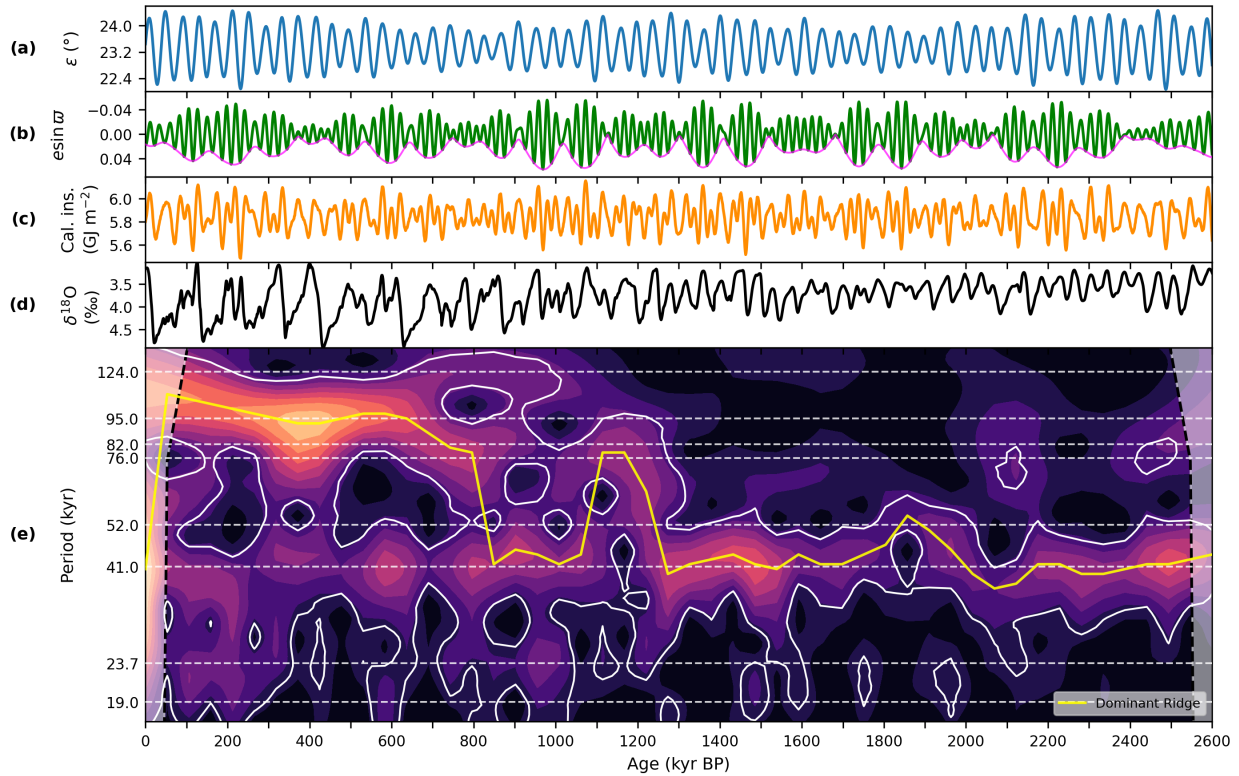


Figure S4: Time-series and wavelet analyses of the benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack record of $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{magrev}}$ (35), aligned with astronomical forcing (10) over the last 2.6 Myr. (a) Obliquity (ϵ). (b) Climatic precession ($e \sin \omega$, green) shown with its eccentricity envelope (e , magenta). (c) Caloric summer half-year insolation at 65°N (11, 12). (d) The benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack record of Huybers (2007) (37). (e) Wavelet power scalogram of the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record. The yellow line indicates the ridge of maximum wavelet power. Areas enclosed by white dashed lines indicate power significant at the 95% confidence level against an AR(1) benchmark. Horizontal dashed lines denote major astronomical periodicities, including the 76-kyr and 52-kyr scales discussed in this study.

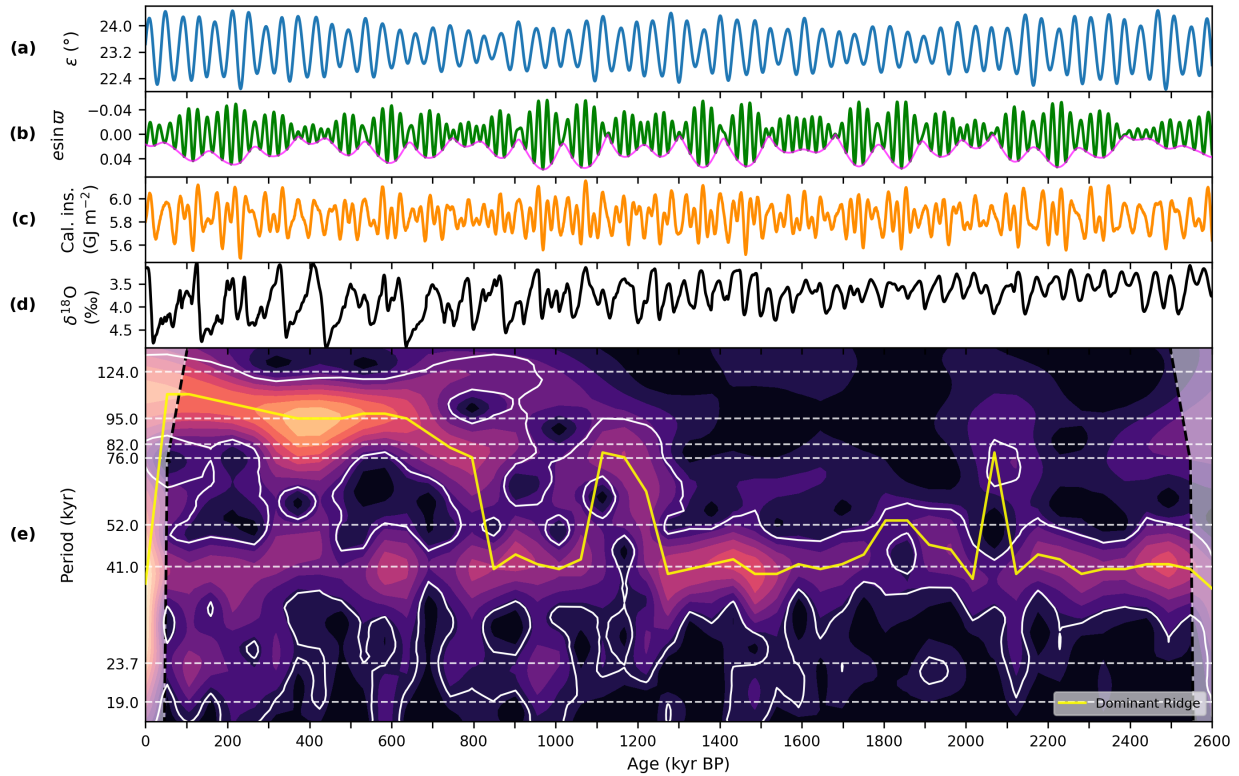


Figure S5: Time-series and wavelet analyses of the benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack record of $\text{BIGSTACK}_{\text{auto}}$ (35), aligned with astronomical forcing (10) over the last 2.6 Myr. (a) Obliquity (ϵ). (b) Climatic precession ($e \sin \omega$, green) shown with its eccentricity envelope (e , magenta). (c) Caloric summer half-year insolation at 65°N (11, 12). (d) The benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack record of Huybers (2007) (37). (e) Wavelet power scalogram of the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record. The yellow line indicates the ridge of maximum wavelet power. Areas enclosed by white dashed lines indicate power significant at the 95% confidence level against an AR(1) benchmark. Horizontal dashed lines denote major astronomical periodicities, including the 76-kyr and 52-kyr scales discussed in this study.

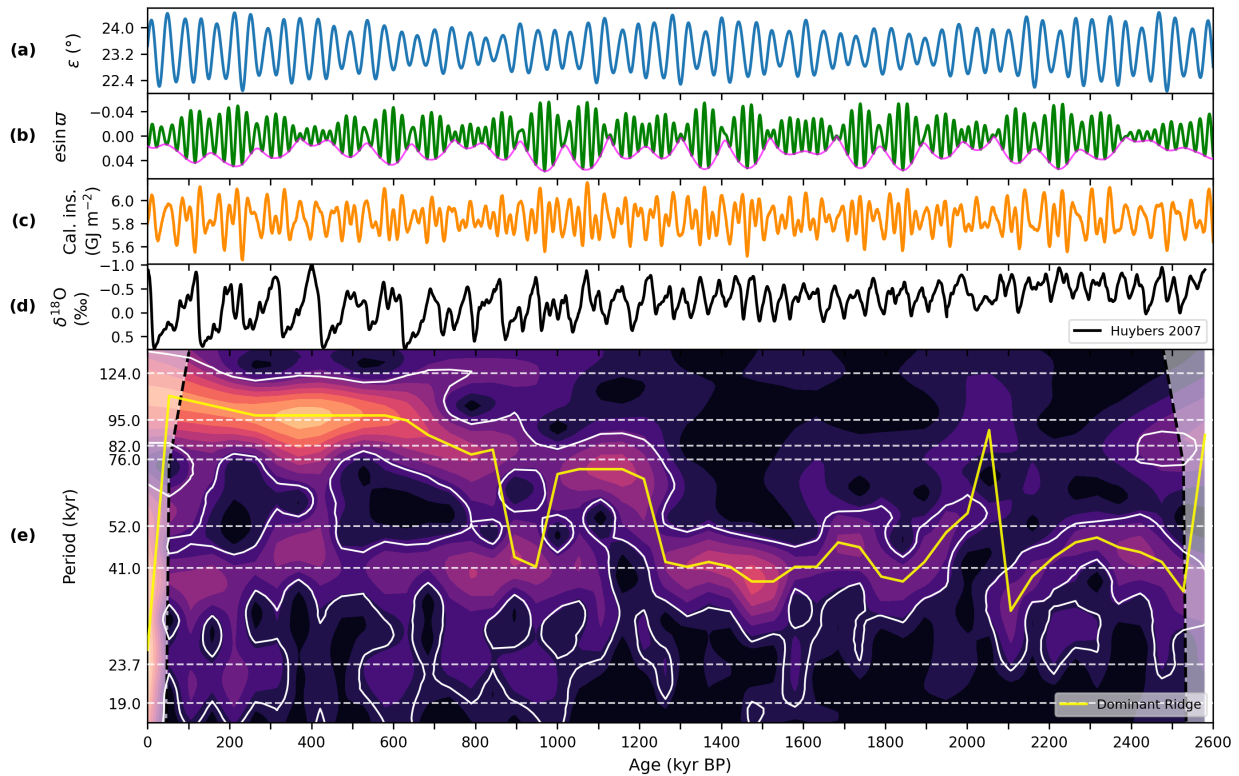


Figure S6: Time-series and wavelet analyses of the benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack record of Huybers (2007) (37), aligned with astronomical forcing (10) over the last 2.6 Myr. (a) Obliquity (ϵ). (b) Climatic precession ($e \sin \omega$, green) shown with its eccentricity envelope (e , magenta). (c) Caloric summer half-year insolation at 65°N (11, 12). (d) The benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack record of Huybers (2007) (37). (e) Wavelet power scalogram of the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record. The yellow line indicates the ridge of maximum wavelet power. Areas enclosed by white dashed lines indicate power significant at the 95% confidence level against an AR(1) benchmark. Horizontal dashed lines denote major astronomical periodicities, including the 76-kyr and 52-kyr scales discussed in this study.

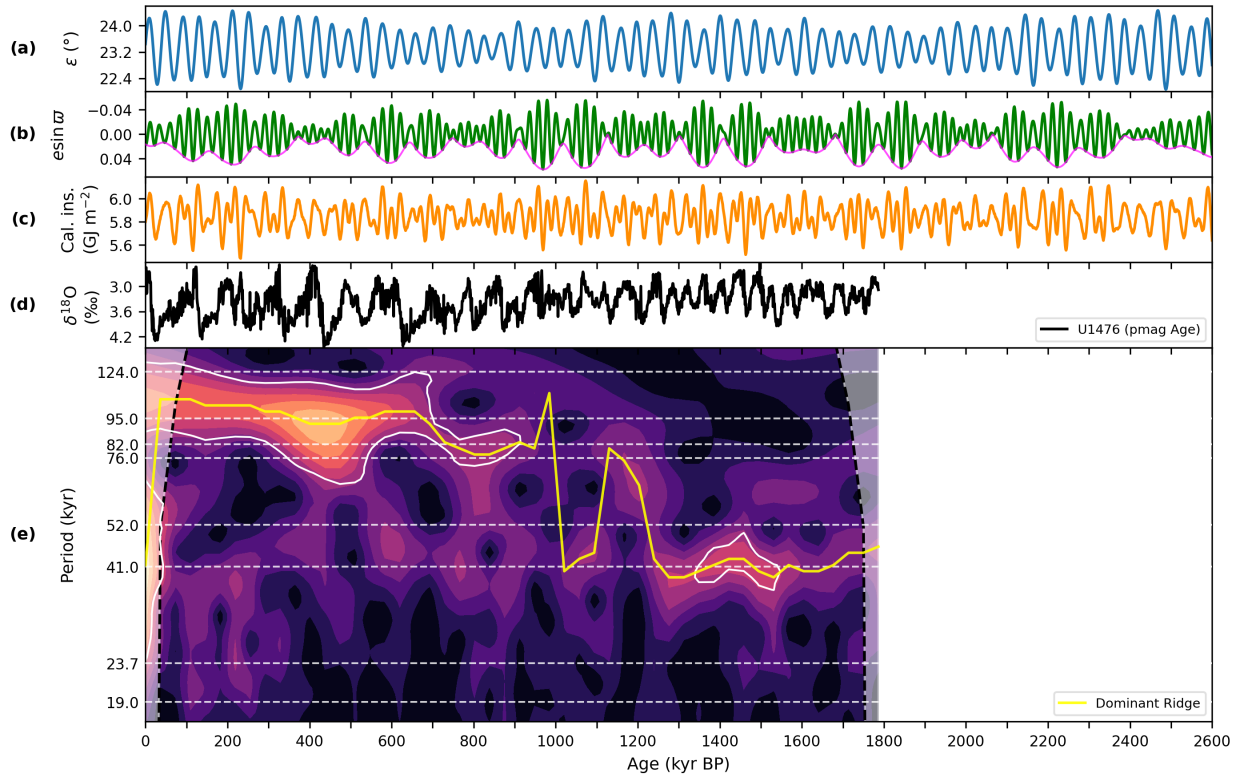


Figure S7: Time-series and wavelet analyses of the benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record from U1476pMag (25), aligned with astronomical forcing (10) over the last 2.6 Myr. (a) Obliquity (ϵ). (b) Climatic precession ($e \sin \omega$, green) shown with its eccentricity envelope (e , magenta). (c) Caloric summer half-year insolation at 65°N (11, 12). (d) The benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record from U1476pMag (25). (e) Wavelet power scalogram of the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record. The yellow line indicates the ridge of maximum wavelet power. Areas enclosed by white dashed lines indicate power significant at the 95% confidence level against an AR(1) benchmark. Horizontal dashed lines denote major astronomical periodicities, including the 76-kyr and 52-kyr scales discussed in this study.

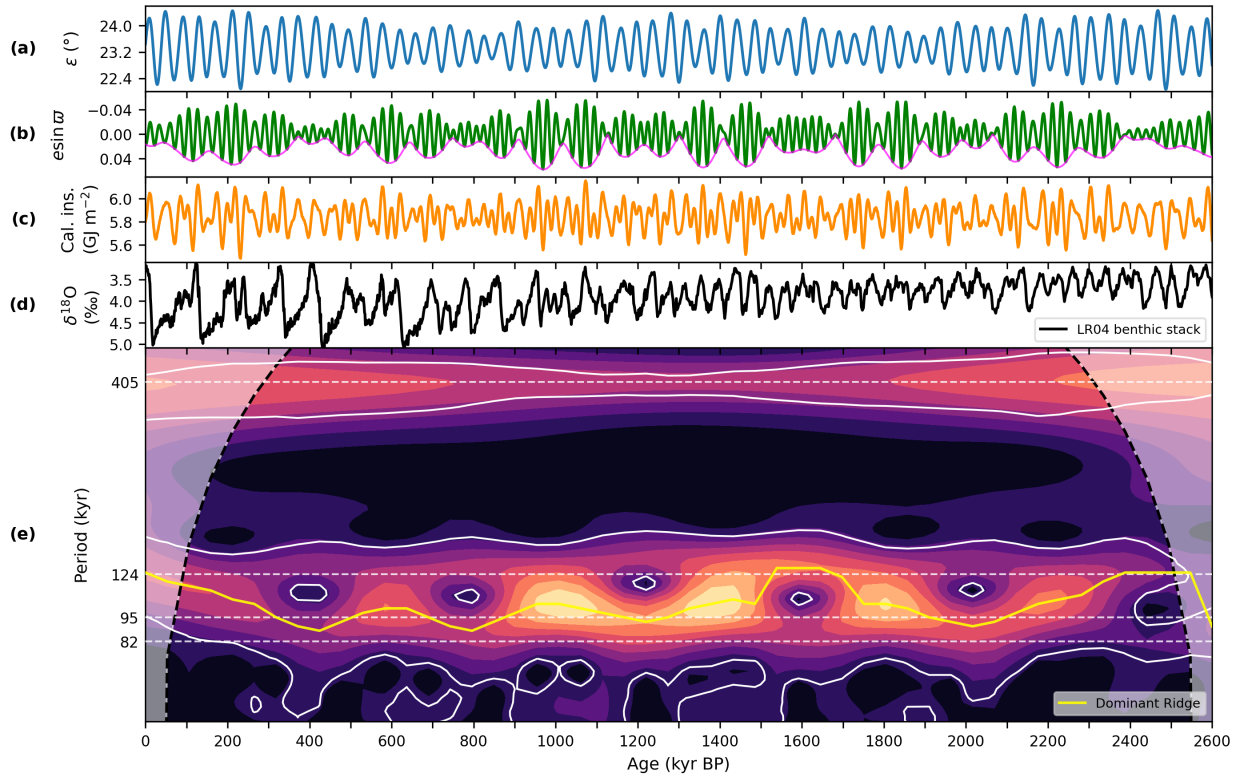


Figure S8: Time-series and wavelet analyses of eccentricity, aligned with other astronomical elements (10) and the LR04 benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack record over the last 2.6 Myr. (a) Obliquity (ϵ). (b) Climatic precession ($e \sin \omega$, green) shown with its eccentricity envelope (e , magenta). (c) Caloric summer half-year insolation at 65°N (11, 12). (d) LR04 benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack record without orbital tuning. (34) (e) Wavelet power scalogram of eccentricity. The yellow line indicates the ridge of maximum wavelet power obtained by omitting the 405-kyr band. Areas enclosed by white dashed lines indicate power significant at the 95% confidence level against an AR(1) benchmark. Horizontal dashed lines denote major astronomical periodicities of eccentricity.

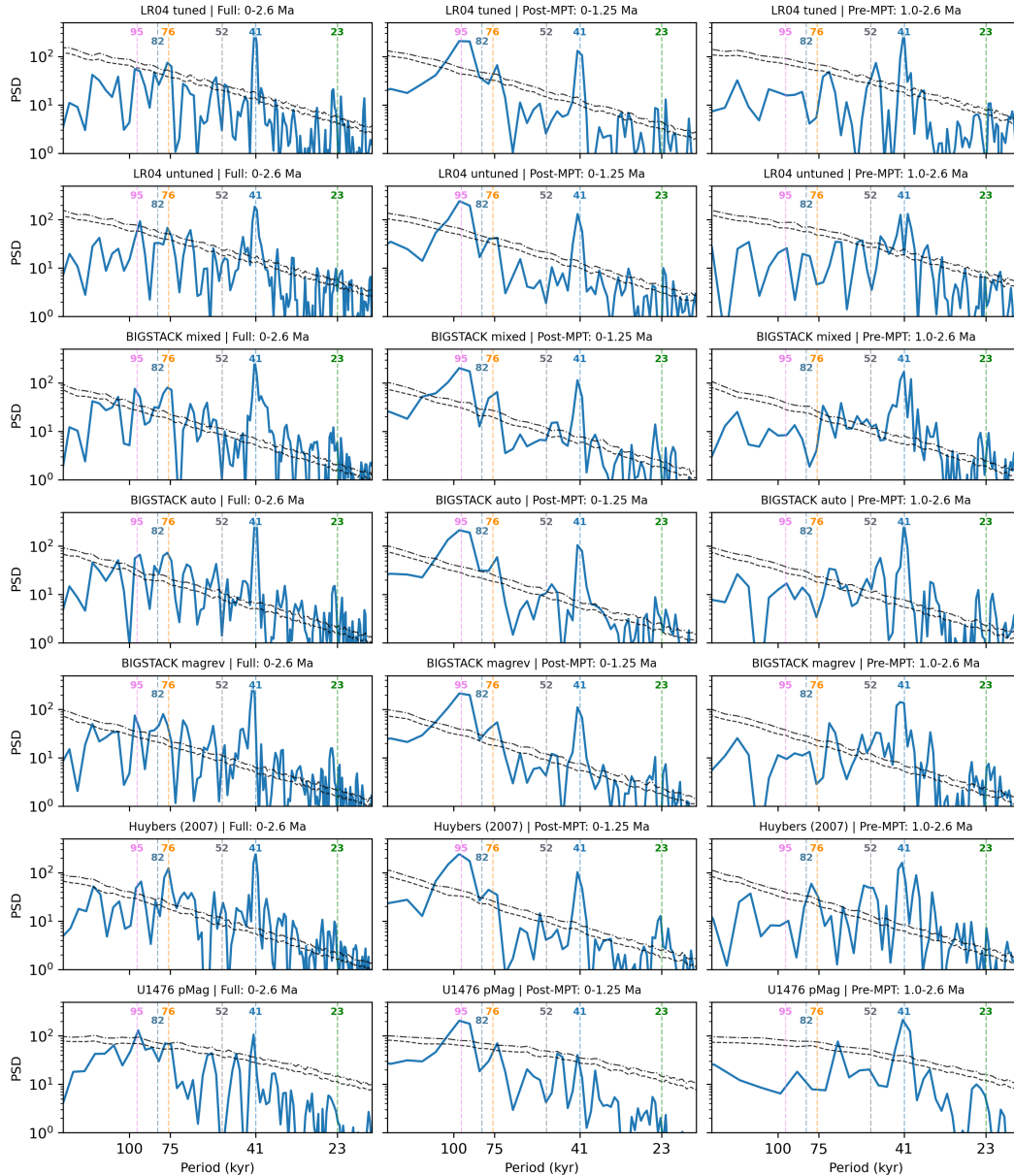


Figure S9: Comparison of conventional periodograms across multiple benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records in Supplementary Information Fig. 1. Each column represents a specific time interval: the entire Quaternary (0–2.6 Ma; left), the mid-to-late Pleistocene (0–1.25 Ma; center), and the early Pleistocene (1.0–2.6 Ma; right). Blue lines indicate the PSD of the standardized $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records, while dashed and dotted black lines denote the 95% and 90% confidence levels, respectively, against an AR(1) benchmark. Vertical dashed lines highlight key periodicities: the canonical eccentricity (95 kyr), obliquity (41 kyr), and precession (23 kyr) cycles, as well as the sub-harmonics analyzed in this study (82, 76, and 52 kyr). The time series is interpolated at 1-kyr intervals before the analysis and then linearly detrended over the analysis period. All analyses are performed using the `pyleoclim` (version 1.2.0) (33).

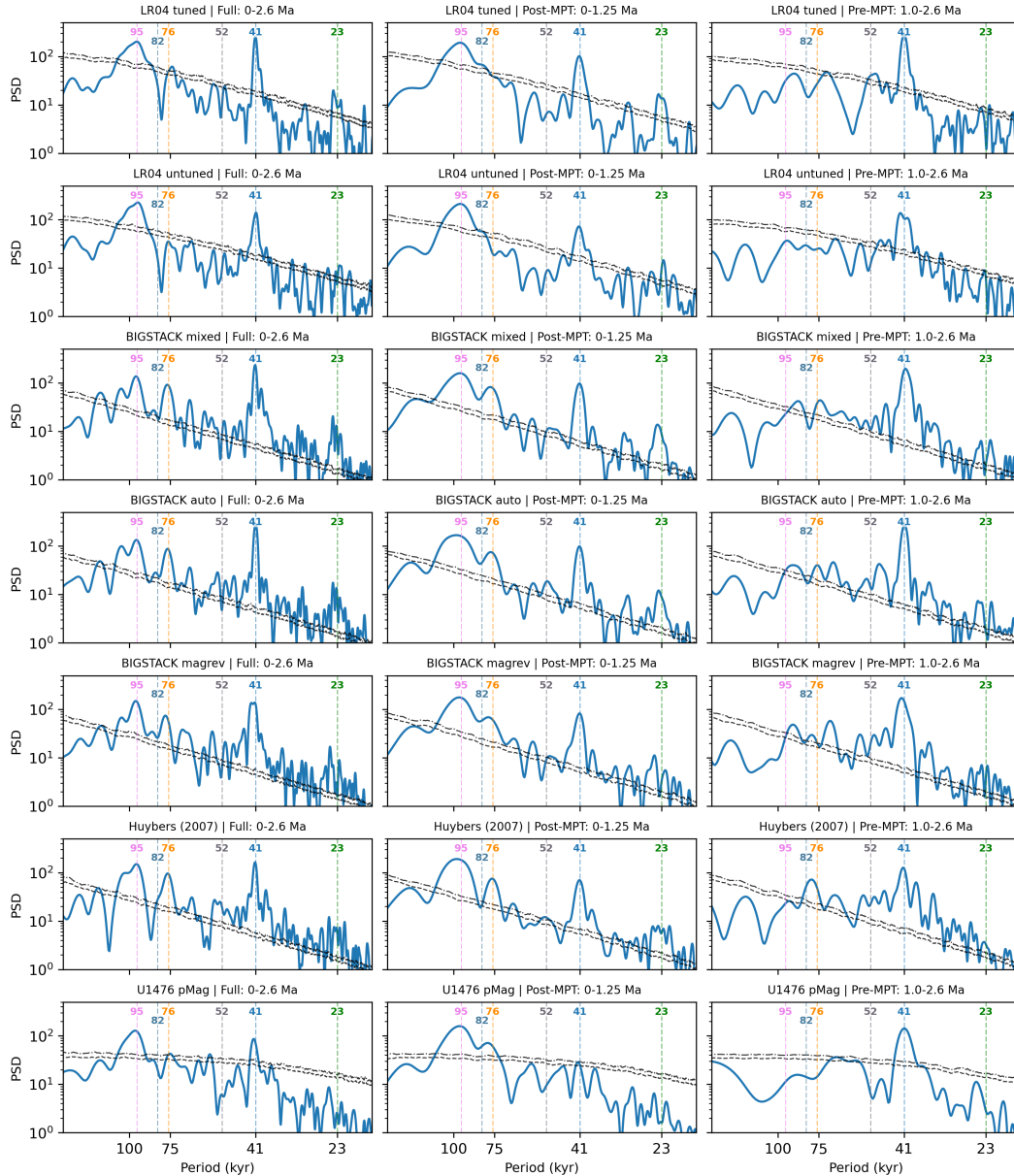


Figure S10: Comparison of Lomb-Scargle spectra across multiple benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records in Supplementary Information Fig. 1. Each column represents a specific time interval: the entire Quaternary (0–2.6 Ma; left), the mid-to-late Pleistocene (0–1.25 Ma; center), and the early Pleistocene (1.0–2.6 Ma; right). Blue lines indicate the PSD of the standardized $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records, while dashed and dotted black lines denote the 95% and 90% confidence levels, respectively, against an AR(1) benchmark. Vertical dashed lines highlight key periodicities: the canonical eccentricity (95 kyr), obliquity (41 kyr), and precession (23 kyr) cycles, as well as the sub-harmonics analyzed in this study (82, 76, and 52 kyr). The series are linearly detrended over the analysis period. All analyses are performed using the `pyleo` (version 1.2.0) (33).

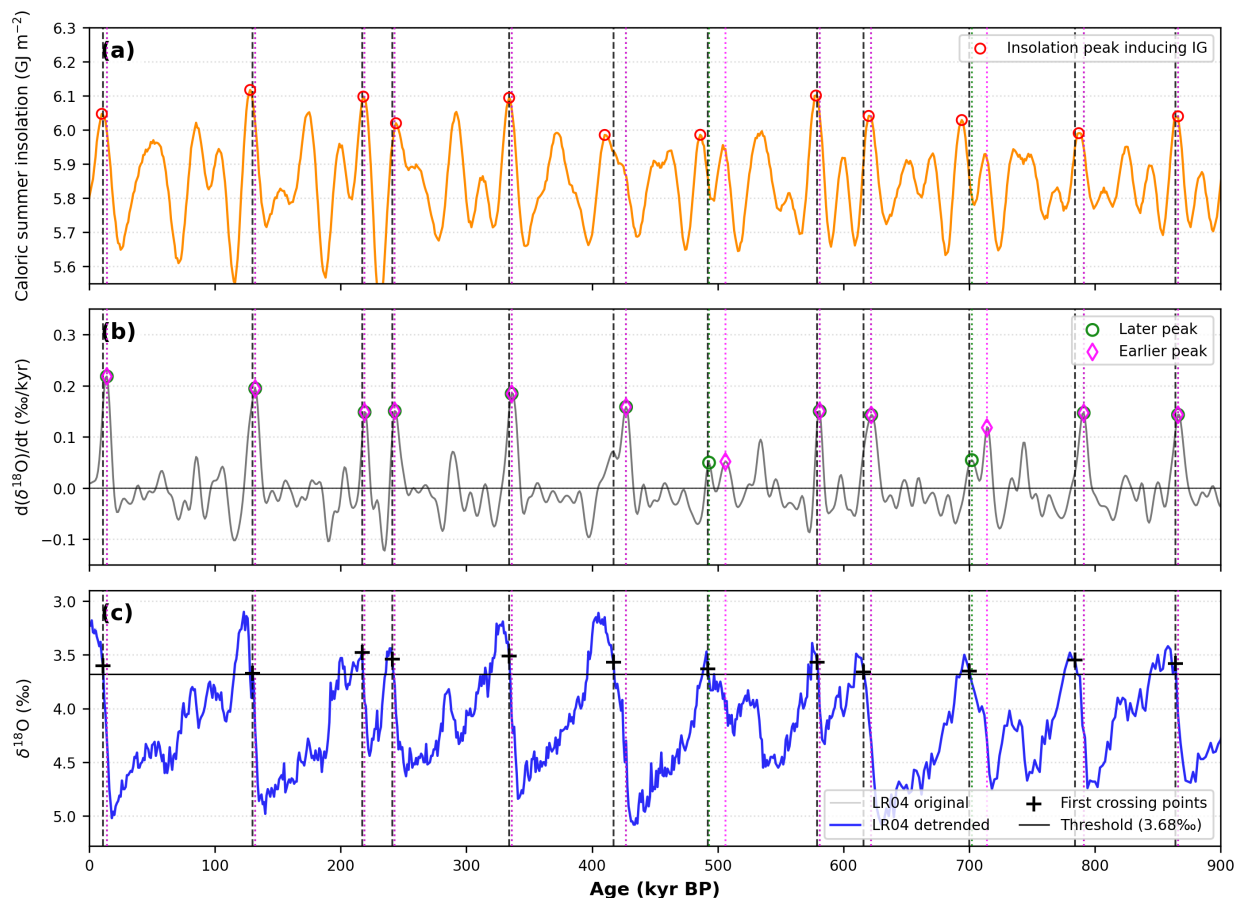


Figure S11: Detailed deglaciation analysis and timing of interglacial onsets (0–900 ka). (a) Caloric summer insolation at 65°N (11, 12). Red open circles denote the interglacial-inducing insolation peaks (13) (see Materials and Methods). (b) The rate of change in benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ($d(\delta^{18}\text{O})/dt$) derived from the 10-kyr smoothed LR04 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record. Green circles and magenta diamonds highlight the local maxima in the deglaciation rate, representing later and earlier phases of ice-sheet retreat, respectively. (c) Benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records from the LR04 stack. The original record (light gray) is shown alongside the detrended series (13) (blue line) used for threshold analysis (see Materials and Methods). Black crosses ('+') mark the first crossing points where the detrended $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values exceed the 3.68‰ threshold, defining the onset of interglacial conditions. Vertical dashed lines (black) and dotted lines (green and magenta) indicate the timings of threshold crossings and peak deglaciation rates, respectively, highlighting the phase relationship between each insolation peak and climate response.

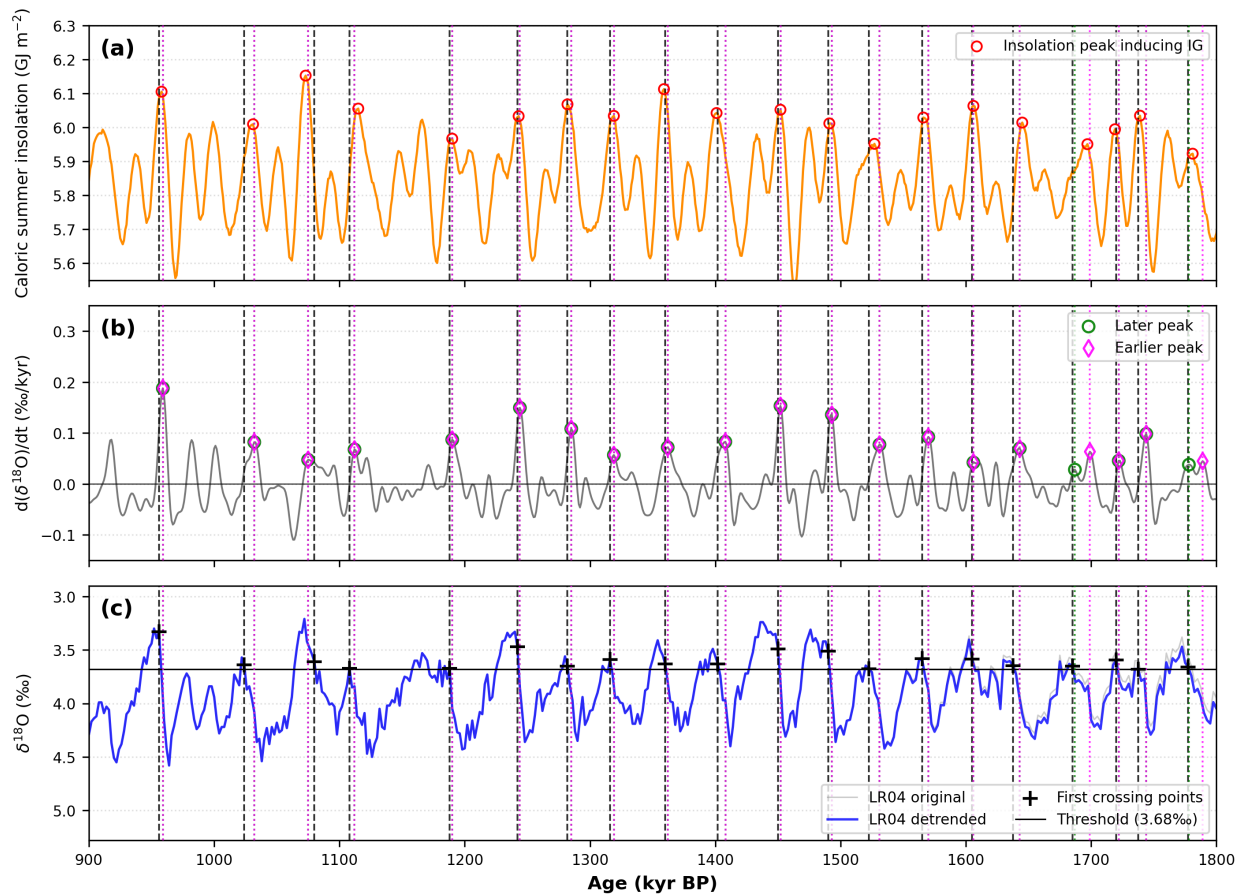


Figure S12: Detailed deglaciation analysis and timing of interglacial onsets (900–1800 ka). (a) Caloric summer insolation at 65°N (11, 12). Red open circles denote the interglacial-inducing insolation peaks (13) (see Materials and Methods). (b) The rate of change in benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ($d(\delta^{18}\text{O})/dt$) derived from the 10-kyr smoothed LR04 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record. Green circles and magenta diamonds highlight the local maxima in the deglaciation rate, representing later and earlier phases of ice-sheet retreat, respectively. (c) Benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records from the LR04 stack. The original record (light gray) is shown alongside the detrended series (13) (blue line) used for threshold analysis (see Materials and Methods). Black crosses ('+') mark the first crossing points where the detrended $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values exceed the 3.68‰ threshold, defining the onset of interglacial conditions. Vertical dashed lines (black) and dotted lines (green and magenta) indicate the timings of threshold crossings and peak deglaciation rates, respectively, highlighting the phase relationship between each insolation peak and climate response.

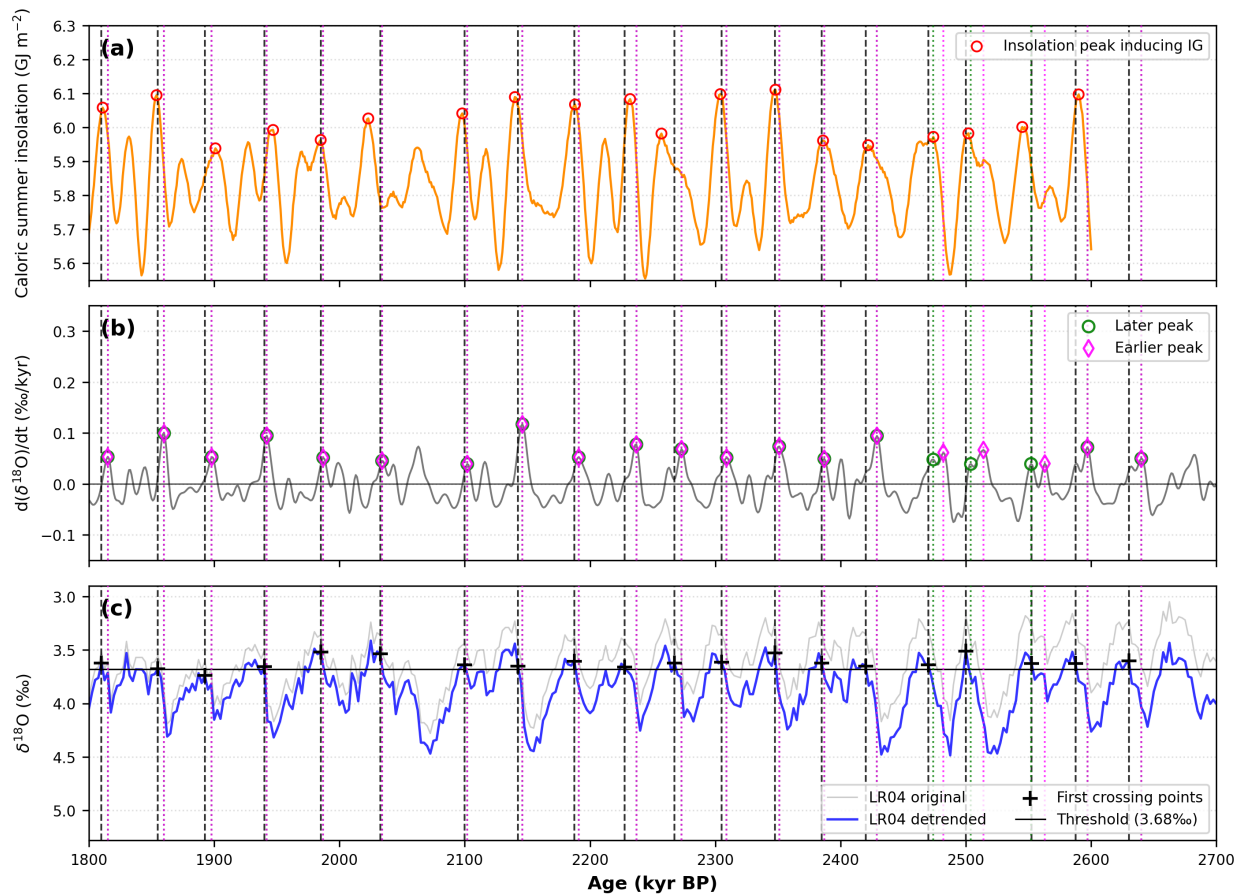


Figure S13: Detailed deglaciation analysis and timing of interglacial onsets (1800–2700 ka). (a) Caloric summer insolation at 65°N (11, 12). Red open circles denote the interglacial-inducing insolation peaks (13) (see Materials and Methods). (b) The rate of change in benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ($d(\delta^{18}\text{O})/dt$) derived from the 10-kyr smoothed LR04 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record. Green circles and magenta diamonds highlight the local maxima in the deglaciation rate, representing later and earlier phases of ice-sheet retreat, respectively. (c) Benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records from the LR04 stack. The original record (light gray) is shown alongside the detrended series (13) (blue line) used for threshold analysis (see Materials and Methods). Black crosses ('+') mark the first crossing points where the detrended $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values exceed the 3.68‰ threshold, defining the onset of interglacial conditions. Vertical dashed lines (black) and dotted lines (green and magenta) indicate the timings of threshold crossings and peak deglaciation rates, respectively, highlighting the phase relationship between each insolation peak and climate response.

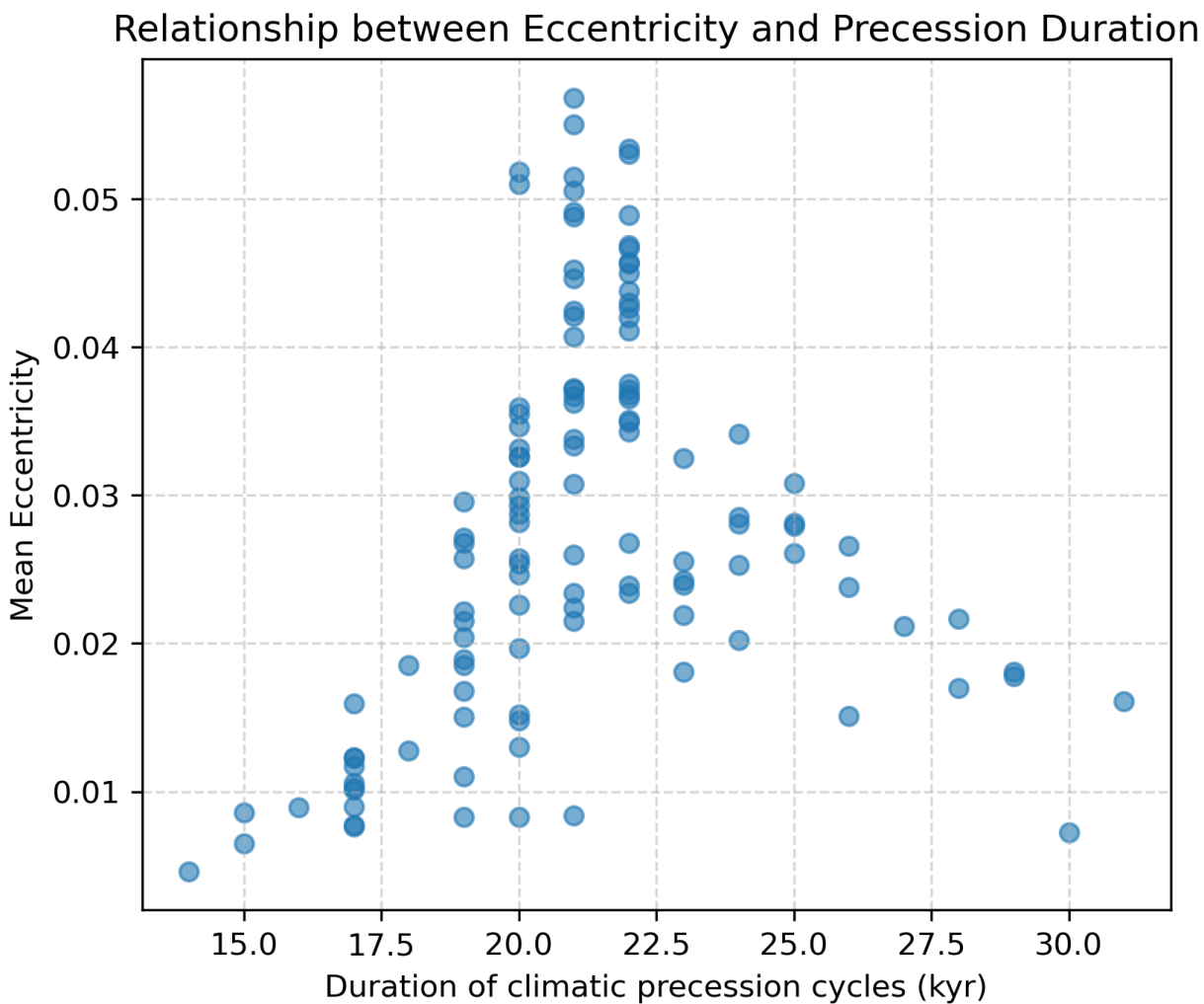


Figure S14: Relationship between eccentricity and the duration of climatic precession cycles.

The duration of climatic precession cycle is calculated from the spacing between successive precession minima. The local mean of eccentricity is calculated over successive precession minima.

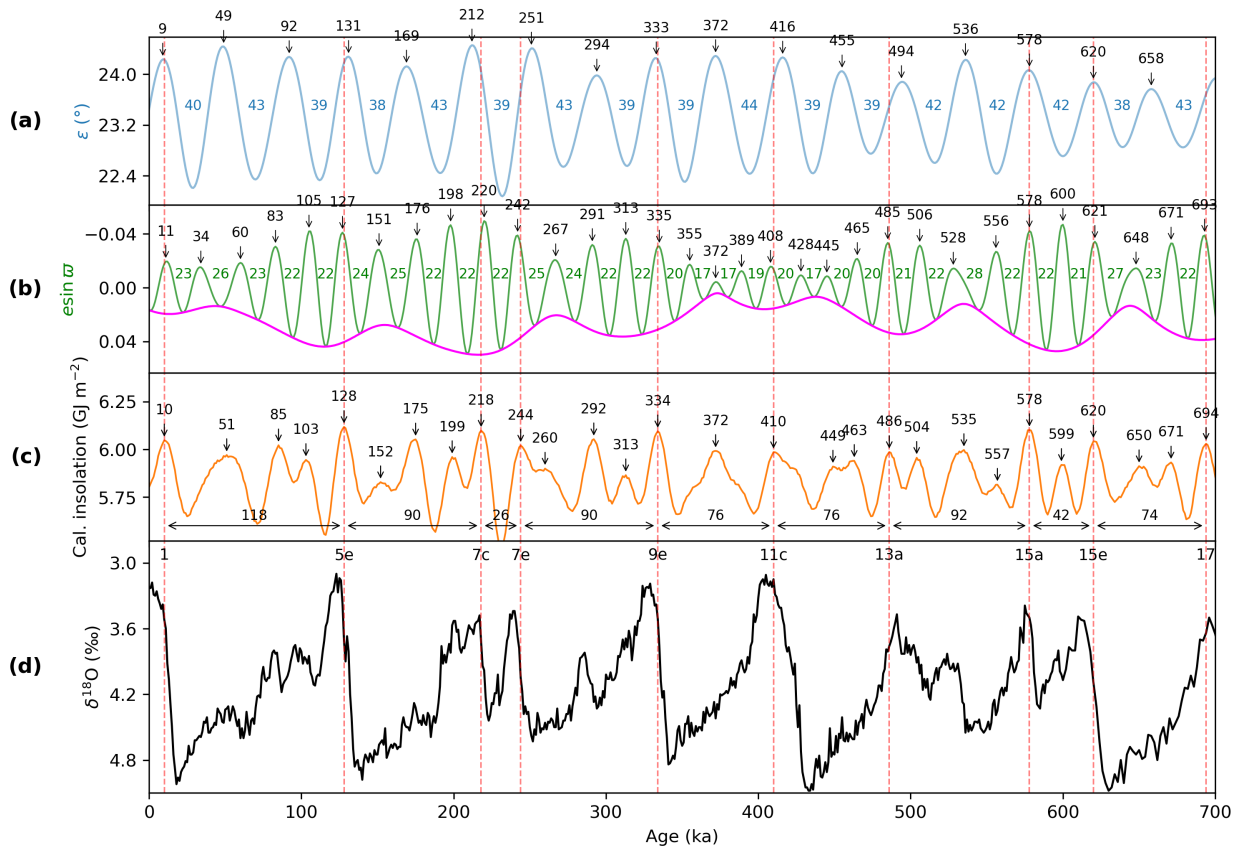


Figure S15: Orbital forcing and glacial-interglacial cycles over the last 700 kyr. (a) Obliquity (ϵ) with peak ages (ka) indicated by arrows. Peak-to-peak spacings are shown in blue between consecutive peaks. (b) Climatic precession ($e \sin \varpi$, green) and eccentricity (e , magenta). Note that the $e \sin \varpi$ axis is inverted to align with insolation peaks. Peak-to-peak spacings are shown in green between consecutive minima. (c) Caloric summer half-year insolation at 65°N (11, 12). Horizontal double-headed arrows indicate the interglacial spacings (T_{ins}), where values correspond to the spacings between interglacial-inducing insolation maxima. (d) LR04 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack (6). Numbers at the top denote Marine Isotope Stages (MIS). Vertical red dashed lines across all panels mark the timing of insolation peaks that induced interglacials (13). The orbital solutions are from Laskar et al. (2004) (10).

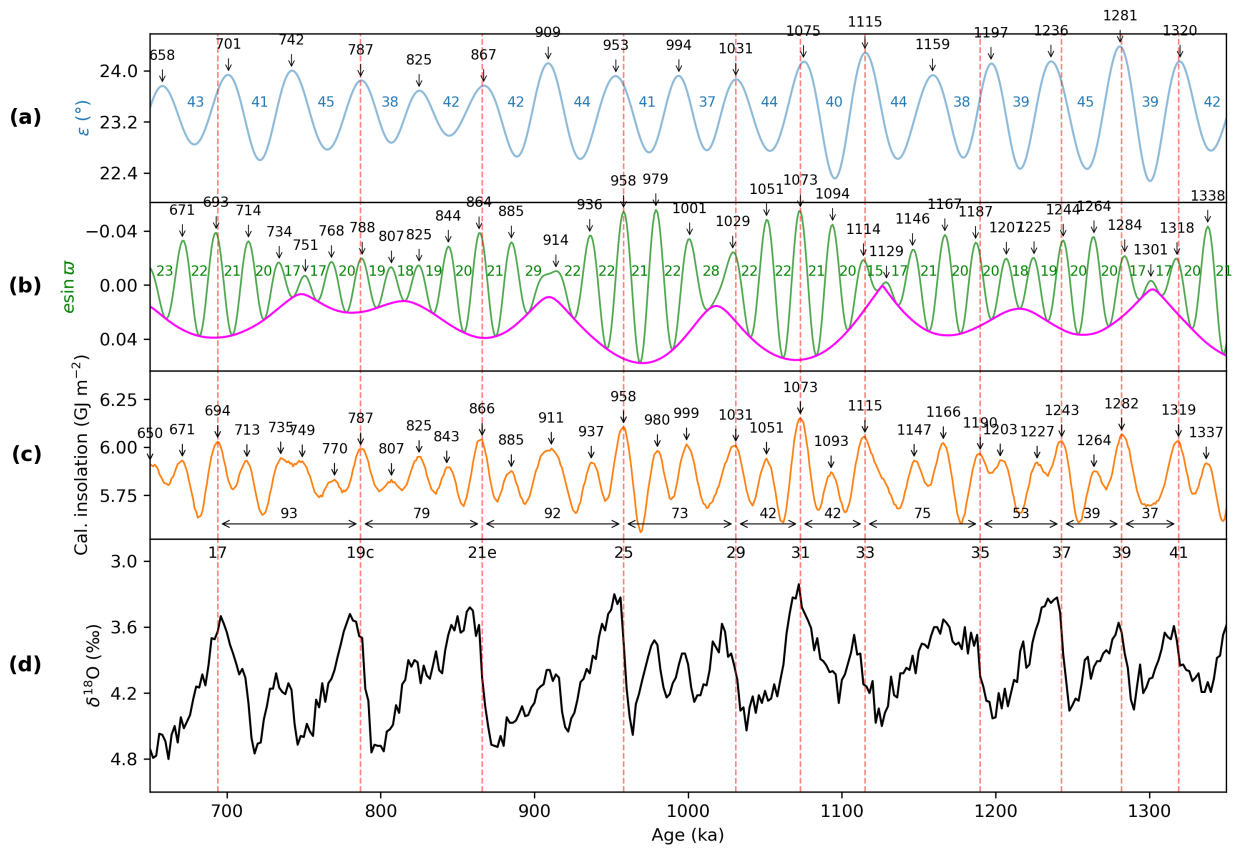


Figure S16: Orbital forcing and glacial-interglacial cycles from 650 to 1350 ka. (a) Obliquity (ϵ) with peak ages (ka) indicated by arrows. Peak-to-peak spacings are shown in blue between consecutive peaks. (b) Climatic precession ($e \sin \varpi$, green) and eccentricity (e , magenta). Note that the $e \sin \varpi$ axis is inverted to align with insolation peaks. Peak-to-peak spacings are shown in green between consecutive minima. (c) Caloric summer half-year insolation at 65°N (11, 12). Horizontal double-headed arrows indicate the interglacial spacings (T_{ins}), where values correspond to the spacings between interglacial-inducing insolation maxima. (d) LR04 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack (6). Numbers at the top denote Marine Isotope Stages (MIS). Vertical red dashed lines across all panels mark the timing of insolation peaks that induced interglacials (I3). The orbital solutions are from Laskar et al. (2004) (10).

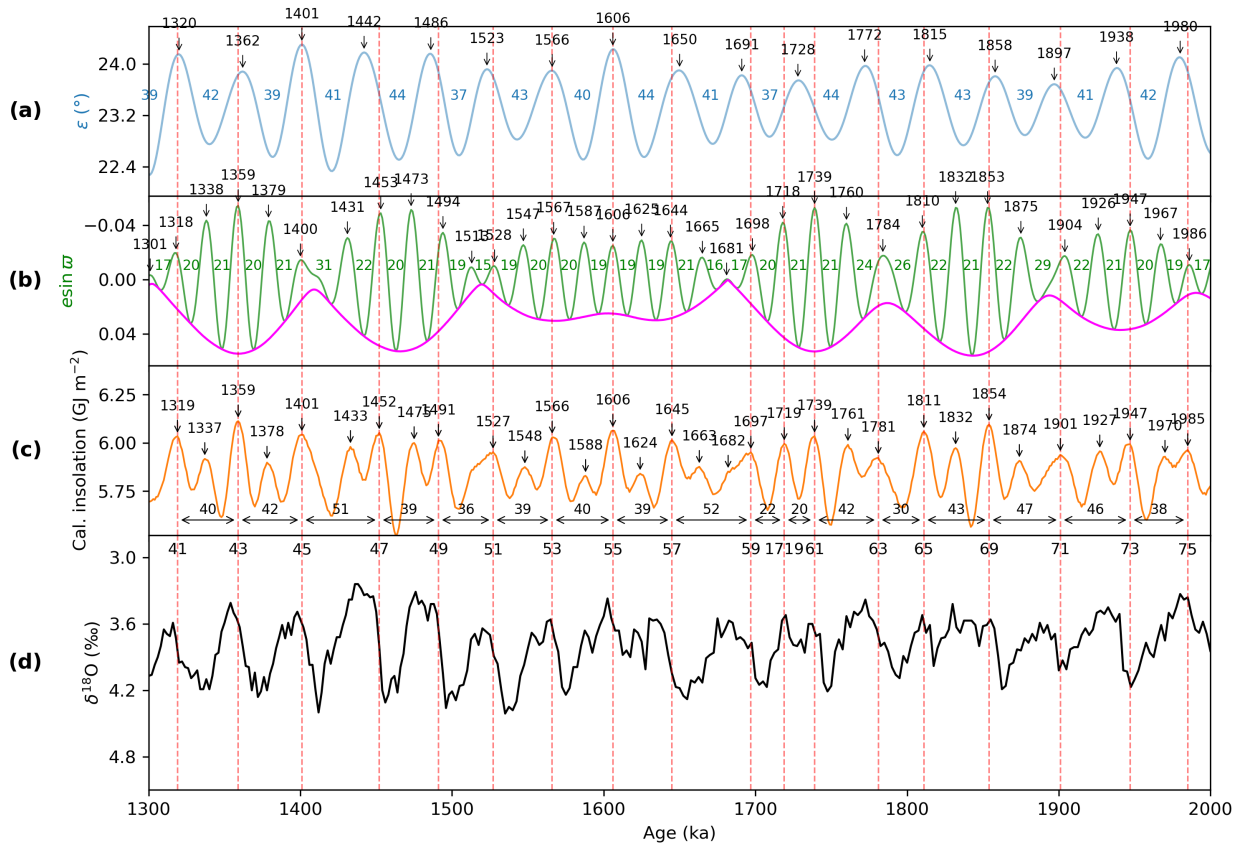


Figure S17: Orbital forcing and glacial-interglacial cycles from 1300 to 2000 ka. (a) Obliquity (ϵ) with peak ages (ka) indicated by arrows. Peak-to-peak spacings are shown in blue between consecutive peaks. (b) Climatic precession ($e \sin \varpi$, green) and eccentricity (e , magenta). Note that the $e \sin \varpi$ axis is inverted to align with insolation peaks. Peak-to-peak spacings are shown in green between consecutive minima. (c) Caloric summer half-year insolation at 65°N (11, 12). Horizontal double-headed arrows indicate the interglacial spacings (T_{ins}), where values correspond to the spacings between interglacial-inducing insolation maxima. (d) LR04 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack (6). Numbers at the top denote Marine Isotope Stages (MIS). Vertical red dashed lines across all panels mark the timing of insolation peaks that induced interglacials (13). The orbital solutions are from Laskar et al. (2004) (10).

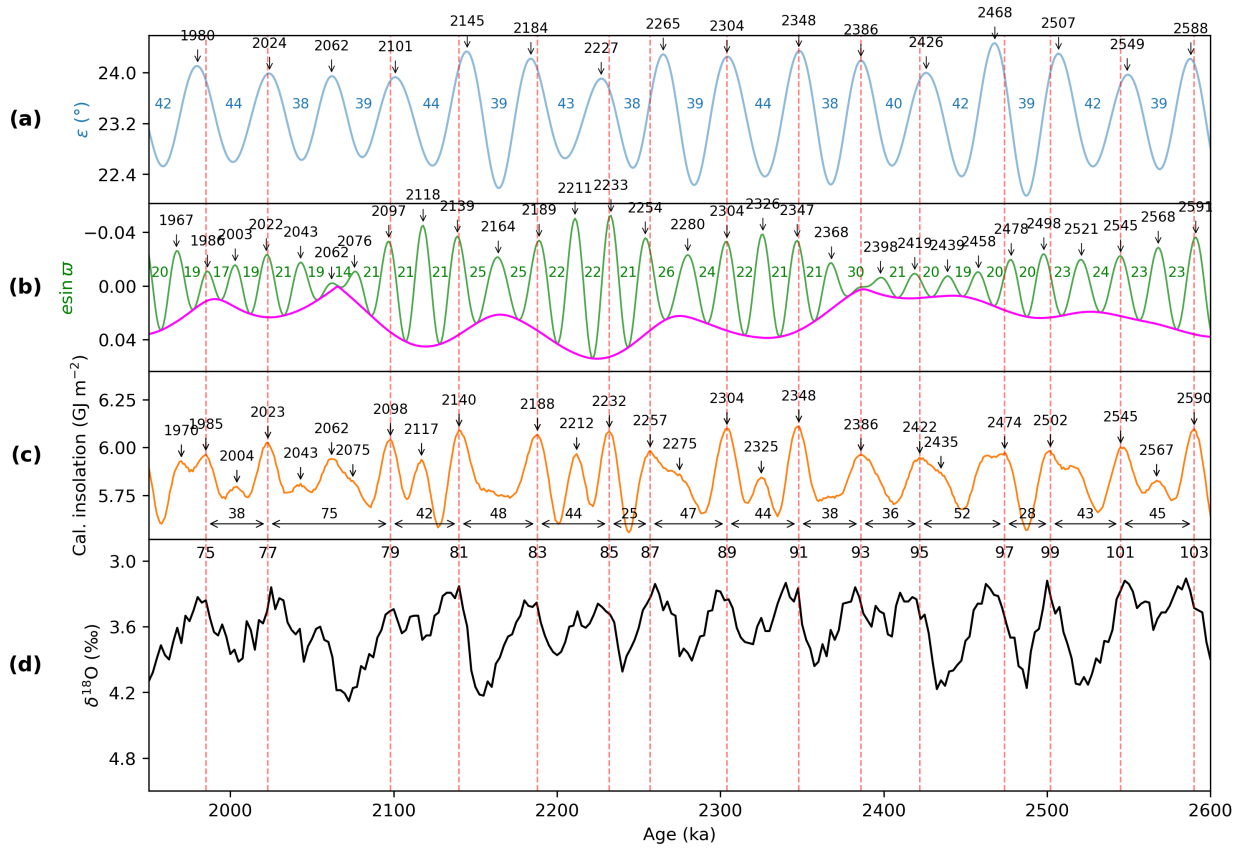


Figure S18: Orbital forcing and glacial-interglacial cycles from 1950 to 2600 ka. (a) Obliquity (ϵ) with peak ages (ka) indicated by arrows. Peak-to-peak spacings are shown in blue between consecutive peaks. (b) Climatic precession ($e \sin \varpi$, green) and eccentricity (e , magenta). Note that the $e \sin \varpi$ axis is inverted to align with insolation peaks. Peak-to-peak spacings are shown in green between consecutive minima. (c) Caloric summer half-year insolation at 65°N (11, 12). Horizontal double-headed arrows indicate the interglacial spacings (T_{ins}), where values correspond to the spacings between interglacial-inducing insolation maxima. (d) LR04 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ stack (6). Numbers at the top denote Marine Isotope Stages (MIS). Vertical red dashed lines across all panels mark the timing of insolation peaks that induced interglacials (13). The orbital solutions are from Laskar et al. (2004) (10).

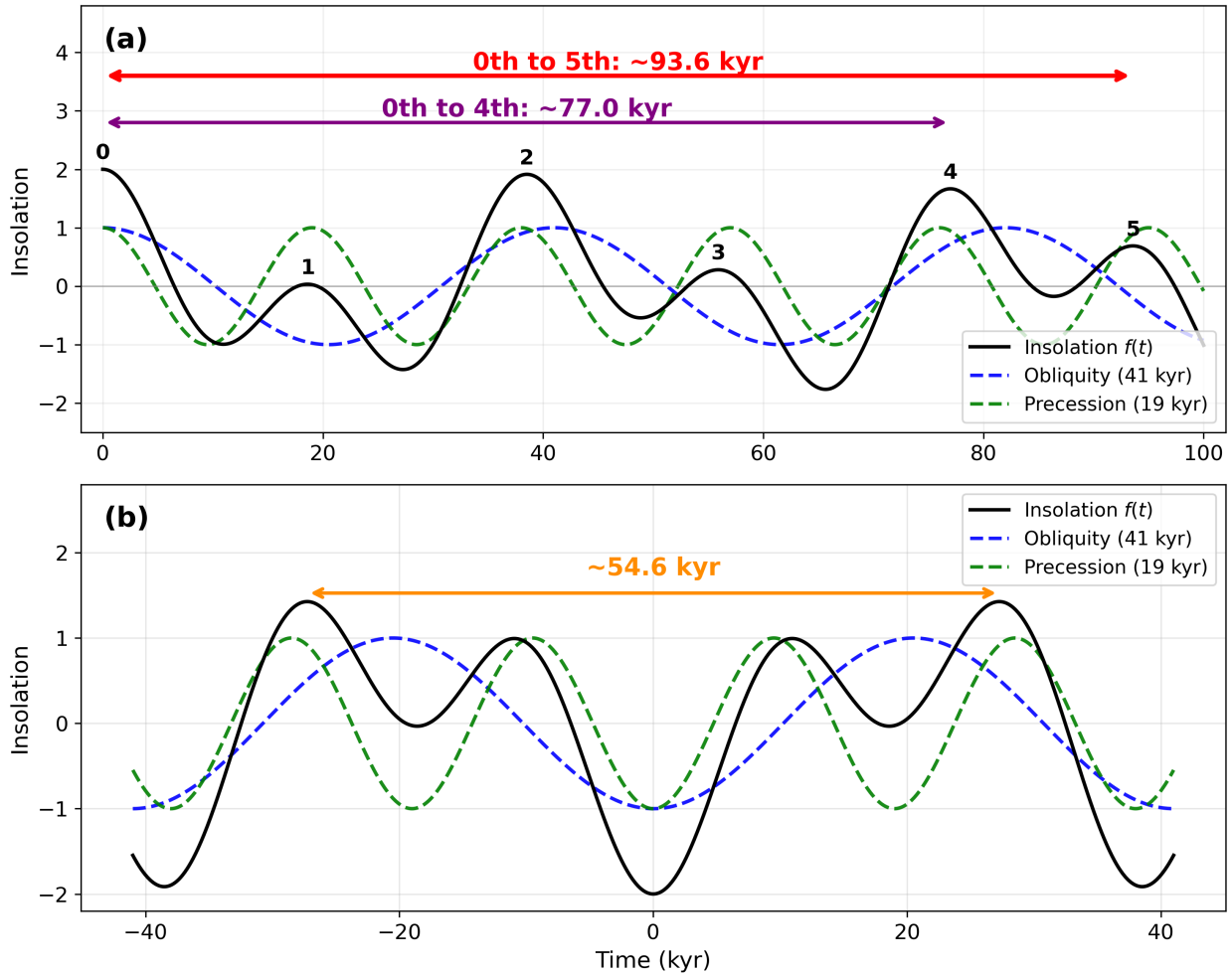


Figure S19: Schematic representation of an insolation curve approximated by two harmonic components. The insolation curve is assumed to be represented as the sum of two harmonic components: $\cos(2\pi t/19)$ (climatic precession) and $\cos(2\pi t/41)$ (obliquity). (a) The insolation curve is given by $f(t) = \cos(2\pi t/19) + \cos(2\pi t/41)$. (b) The insolation curve is given by $f(t) = -\cos(2\pi t/19) - \cos(2\pi t/41)$.

Supporting Information Table S1 for "Beyond the 100-kyr and 41-kyr dichotomy: ~76- and ~52-kyr signals and forbidden periodicities in Quaternary glacial cycles" by Takahito Mitsui

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Date: 2 April 2026

Description:

This sheet shows the calculation of the insolation-based inter-deglaciation intervals (T_{ins}) by using the approximation formulae described in Supporting Information document.

The colitic summer half-year insolation at 65N is chosen as the insolation metric following Tzedakis et al. Nature (2017). It is calculated based on the orbital solution of Laskar et al. A&A (2004) using R-package 'Palinsol' created by Michel Crucifix.

The insolation-based inter-deglaciation interval (T_{ins}) between two interglacials (called "start" and "end" below) is approximately given by the spacing between two insolation peaks that induce interglacials.

Marine Isotope Stage (MIS) of interglacial "end"	Marine Isotope Stage (MIS) of interglacial "start"	Insolation peak "end" (ka)	Insolation peak "start" (ka)	Actual inter-deglaciation interval (T_{ins}) (kyr)	Precession (esin) peak "end" (ka)	Precession (esin) peak "start" (ka)	Number of precession cycles	Local-mean precession period T_p (kyr)	Obliquity peak "end" (ka)	Obliquity peak "start" (ka)	Number of obliquity cycles	Local-mean obliquity period (kyr)	Formula type	Predicted Inter-deglaciation interval (T_{ins}) (kyr)	Difference = predicted T_{ins} - actual T_{ins} (kyr)	T_{later} (kyr)	$T_{earlier}$ (kyr)
1	5e	10	128	118	11	127	5	23.2	9	131	3	40.66666667	5a	117.4095046	-0.590495389	118	118
5e	7c	128	218	90	127	220	4	23.25	131	212	2	40.5	4a	90.75253717	0.752537167	87	87
7c	7e	218	244	26	220	242	1	22	212	251	1	39	1b	25.63885892	-0.36114108	24	24
7e	9e	244	334	90	242	335	4	23.25	251	333	2	41	4a	90.8365547	0.83655466	93	93
9e	11c	334	410	76	335	408	4	18.25	333	416	2	41.5	4a	74.26141357	-1.738586426	91	91
11c	13a	410	486	76	408	485	4	19.25	416	494	2	39	pp	77	1	66	79
13a	15a	486	578	92	485	578	4	23.25	494	578	2	42	4a	91.13043353	-0.86956647	88	75
15a	15e	578	620	42	578	621	2	21.5	578	620	1	42	2a	42.7926566	0.792656604	41	41
15e	17	620	694	74	621	693	3	24	620	701	2	40.5	3a	74.10102939	0.101029386	80	92
17	19c	694	787	93	693	788	5	19	701	787	2	43	5a	93.76811957	0.768119566	89	77
19c	21e	787	866	79	788	864	4	19	787	867	2	40	4b	76.73089134	-2.26910866	75	75
21e	25	866	958	92	864	958	4	23.5	867	953	2	43	4a	92.31555016	0.315550159	93	93
25	29	958	1031	73	958	1029	3	23.66666667	953	1031	2	39	3a	72.7835095	-0.216490502	73	73
29	31	1031	1073	42	1029	1073	2	22	1031	1075	1	44	2a	44	2	43	43
31	33	1073	1115	42	1073	1114	2	20.5	1075	1115	1	40	2a	40.79230366	-1.207696343	37	37
33	35	1115	1190	75	1114	1187	4	18.25	1115	1197	2	41	4a	74.22310319	-0.776896814	78	78
35	37	1190	1243	53	1187	1244	3	19	1197	1236	1	39	3b	54.1564265	1.156426499	54	54
37	39	1243	1282	39	1244	1284	2	20	1236	1281	1	45	pp	40	1	41	41
39	41	1282	1319	37	1284	1318	2	17	1281	1320	1	39	2b	34.78698727	-2.213012733	34	34
41	43	1319	1359	40	1318	1359	2	20.5	1320	1362	1	42	pp	41	1	43	43
43	45	1359	1401	42	1359	1400	2	20.5	1362	1401	1	39	pp	41	-1	46	46
45	47	1401	1452	51	1400	1453	2	26.5	1401	1442	1	41	2a	50.04423465	-0.955765345	44	44
47	49	1452	1491	39	1453	1494	2	20.5	1442	1486	1	44	2c	39.73163334	0.731633338	41	41
49	51	1491	1527	36	1494	1528	2	17	1486	1523	1	37	pp	34	-2	38	38
51	53	1527	1566	39	1528	1567	2	19.5	1523	1566	1	43	2a	39.6628726	0.662872597	39	39
53	55	1566	1606	40	1567	1606	2	19.5	1566	1606	1	40	2a	39.19168569	-0.808314308	36	36
55	57	1606	1645	39	1606	1644	2	19	1606	1650	1	44	2a	38.87946221	-0.12053779	37	37
57	59	1645	1697	52	1644	1698	3	18	1650	1691	1	41	3b	52.08886632	0.088866322	44	56
59	1719	1697	1719	22	1698	1718	1	20	1691	1728	1	37	1c	21.5508926	-0.449107399	35	23
1719	61	1719	1739	20	1718	1739	1	21	1728	1728	0	#DIV/0!	pp	21	1	22	22
61	63	1739	1781	42	1739	1784	2	22.5	1728	1772	1	44	2c	43.11739279	1.117392788	34	45
63	65	1781	1811	30	1784	1810	1	26	1772	1815	1	43	1b	30.23605565	0.236055654	37	2
65	69	1811	1854	43	1810	1853	2	21.5	1815	1858	1	43	pp	43	0	45	45
69	71	1854	1901	47	1853	1904	2	25.5	1858	1897	1	39	2b	47.48572001	0.485720005	38	38
71	73	1901	1947	46	1904	1947	2	21.5	1897	1938	1	41	2d	44.86553125	-1.134468748	44	44
73	75	1947	1985	38	1947	1986	2	19.5	1938	1980	1	42	2c	37.81281134	-0.187188656	45	45
75	77	1985	2023	38	1986	2022	2	18	1980	2024	1	44	2b	37.11082651	-0.889173493	47	47
77	79	2023	2098	75	2022	2097	4	18.75	2024	2101	2	38.5	4b	75.38269763	0.382697632	68	68
79	81	2098	2140	42	2097	2139	2	21	2101	2145	1	44	pp	42	0	44	44
81	83	2140	2188	48	2139	2189	2	25	2145	2184	1	39	2b	46.86370843	-1.136291572	45	45
83	85	2188	2232	44	2189	2233	2	22	2184	2227	1	43	2b	43.79261153	-0.207388473	46	46
85	87	2232	2257	25	2233	2254	1	21	2227	2265	1	38	1b	24.46929504	-0.53070496	3	36
87	89	2257	2304	47	2254	2304	2	25	2265	2304	1	39	2a	47.27718819	0.277188193	36	36
89	91	2304	2348	44	2304	2347	2	21.5	2304	2348	1	44	2a	43.19246791	-0.807532094	42	42
91	93	2348	2386	38	2347	2398	2	25.5	2348	2386	1	38	O2-(P1+C)	38.5	0.5	36	36
93	95	2386	2422	36	2398	2419	1	21	2386	2426	1	40	(O2+P2)/	36.5	0.5	42	42
95	97	2422	2474	52	2419	2478	3	19.66666667	2426	2468	1	42	3b*	51.96142631	-0.038573691	45	53
97	99	2474	2502	28	2478	2498	1	20	2468	2507	1	39	1b*	27.94484616	-0.055153836	30	32
99	101	2502	2545	43	2498	2545	2	23.5	2507	2549	1	42	2c	45.05090417	2.050904171	48	49
101	103	2545	2590	45	2545	2591	2	23	2549	2588	1	39	2b	44.21662793	-0.78337207	45	34

Note: Special rules are employed for MIS 99-97, 97-95, 95-93, and 93-91, where eccentricity is particularly low. See Supplementary Note.