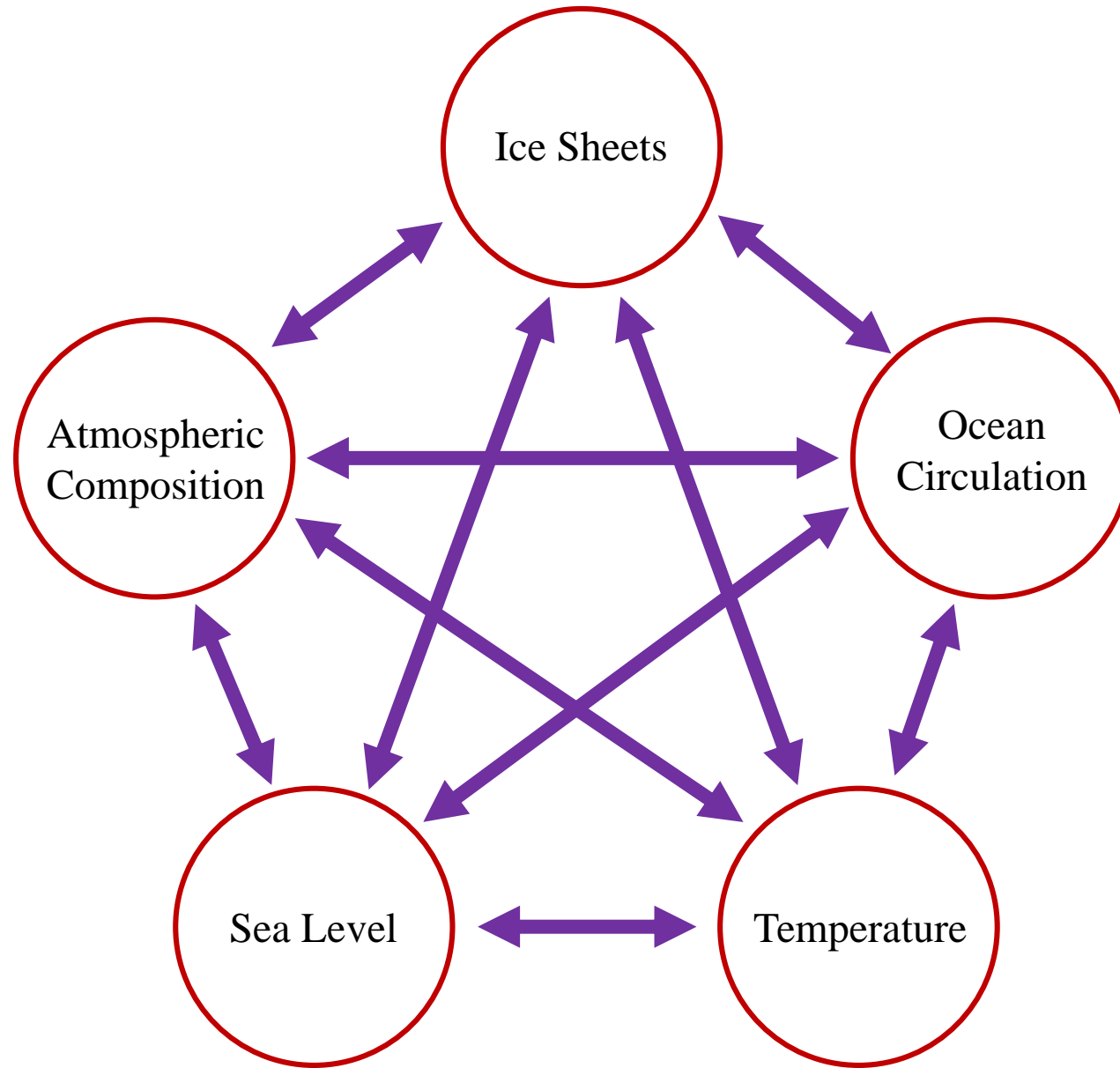


An aerial photograph of a rugged mountain range. The foreground shows a steep, rocky slope with a large, irregular patch of snow. In the distance, a valley is visible, with more snow patches on the surrounding peaks and ridges. The sky is overcast with grey clouds.

Determining the Timing and Rate of Laurentide Ice Sheet Thinning During the Last Deglaciation in New England with ^{10}Be Dipsticks

Chris Halsted
Advisor: Dr. Jeremy Shakun



Background



Method



Expected Results



Paleo Reconstructions

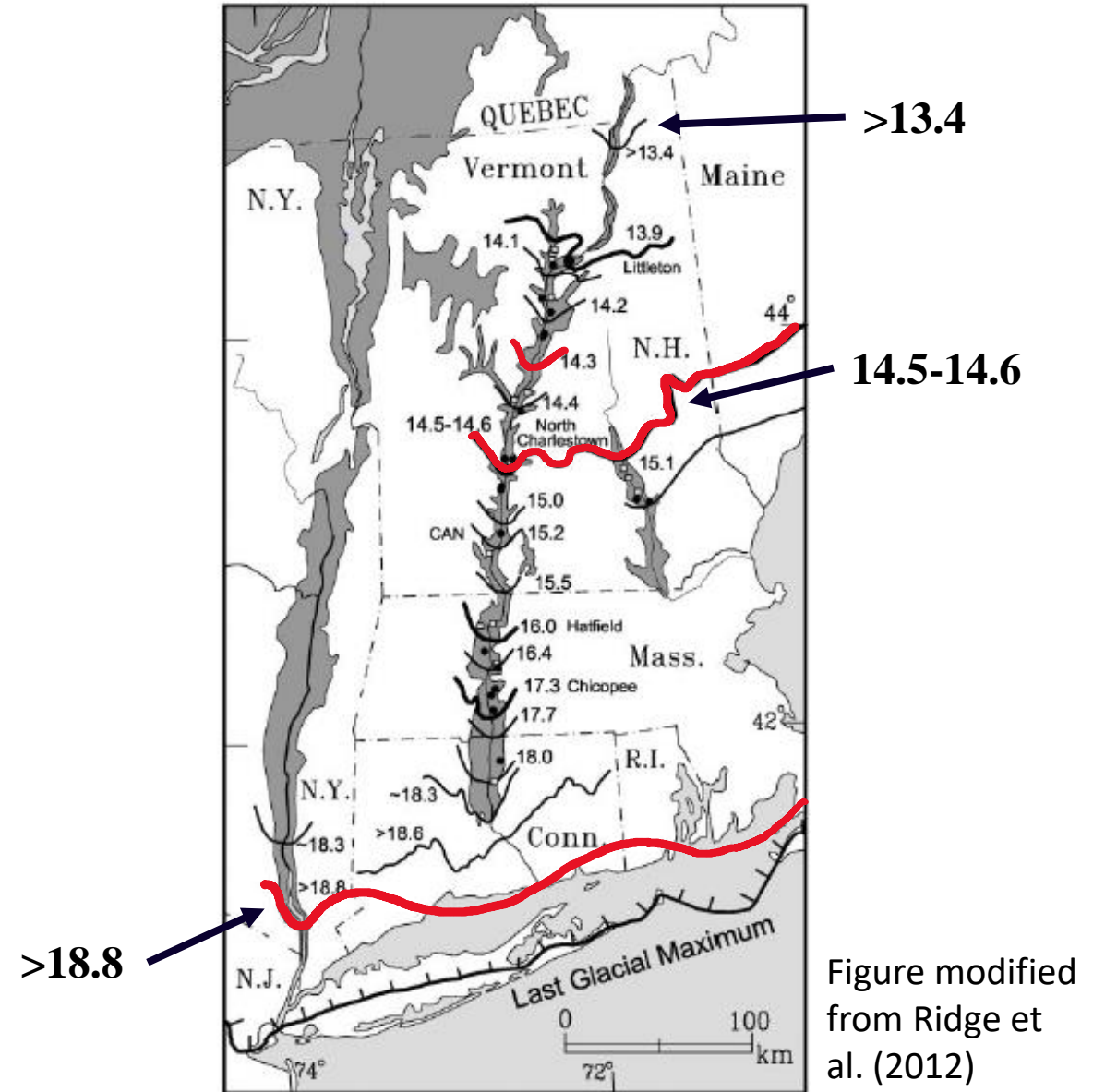


Figure modified from Ridge et al. (2012)

Research Objective:

- Construct ^{10}Be dipsticks using mountains throughout New England to constrain the timing and rate of ice thinning at these locations

Motivating Questions:

- Did thinning occur predominately during the Oldest Dryas/Heinrich Stadial I cold period or during the Bølling-Allerød warm period?
- Do the timing and rate of southeastern Laurentide thinning indicate that this ice mass contributed to MWP-1A?
 - If not, did it respond to the abrupt warming after this event?
- How accurately do current deglacial models depict ice thinning in New England?

Background



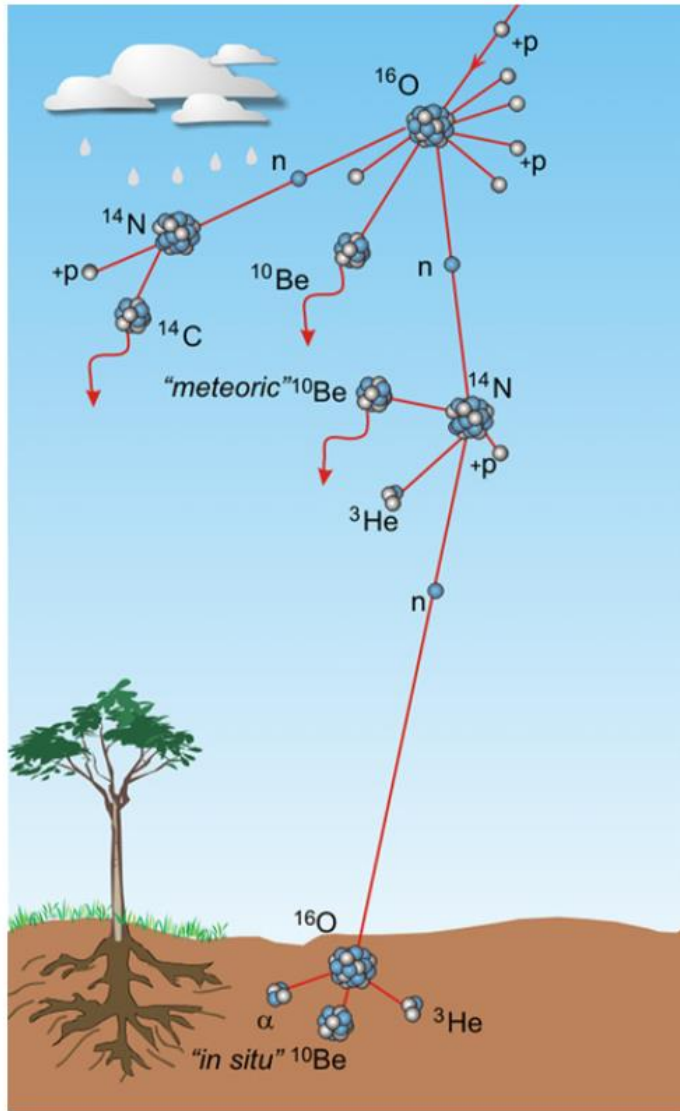
Method



Expected Results



^{10}Be Dipsticks: Concept and Creation



^{10}Be concentration in quartz (atoms g^{-1} ; N_{10})

^{10}Be production rate in quartz at the sample site (atoms $\text{g}^{-1} \text{yr}^{-1}$; P_{10})

^{10}Be decay constant (yr^{-1} ; λ_{10})

- $4.99 \times 10^{-7} \text{ yr}^{-1}$

$$N_{10} = \frac{P_{10}}{\lambda_{10}} \left[1 - e^{-\lambda_{10}t} \right] \quad \text{From Balco (2011)}$$

t = Amount of time that the surface has been exposed to cosmic rays!!

Figure from von Blanckenburg and Willenbring (2014)

Background ● ● ●

Method ● ● ● ●

Expected Results ● ●

^{10}Be Dipsticks: Concept and Creation

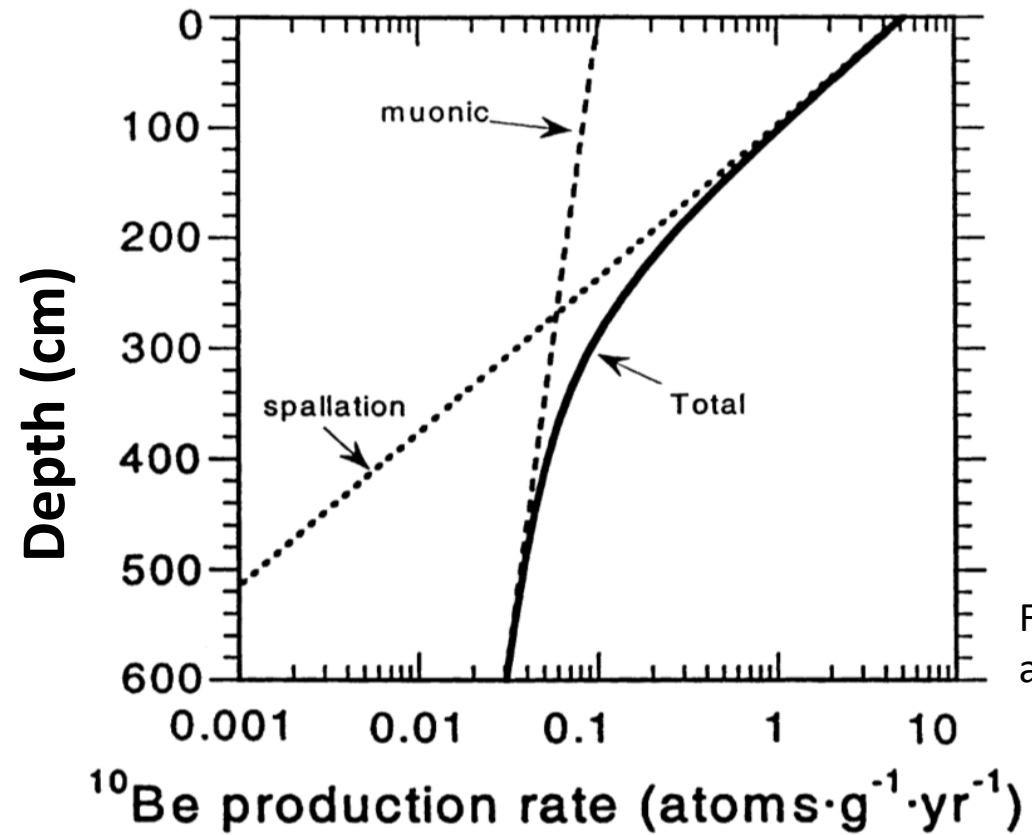
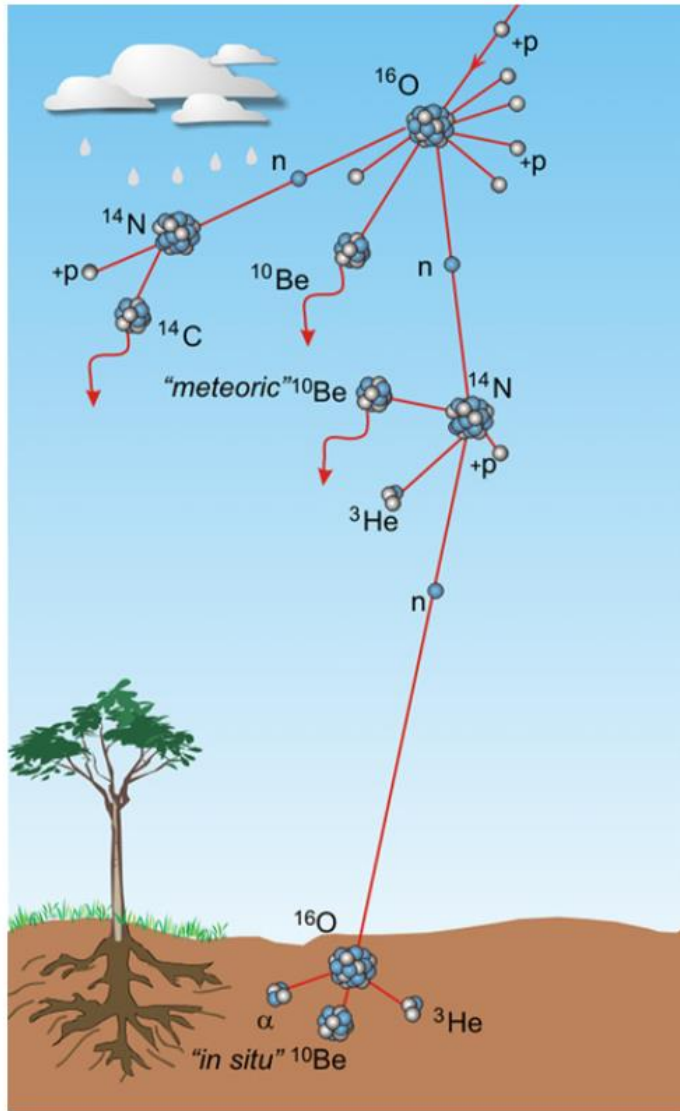


Figure from Gosse and Phillips (2001)

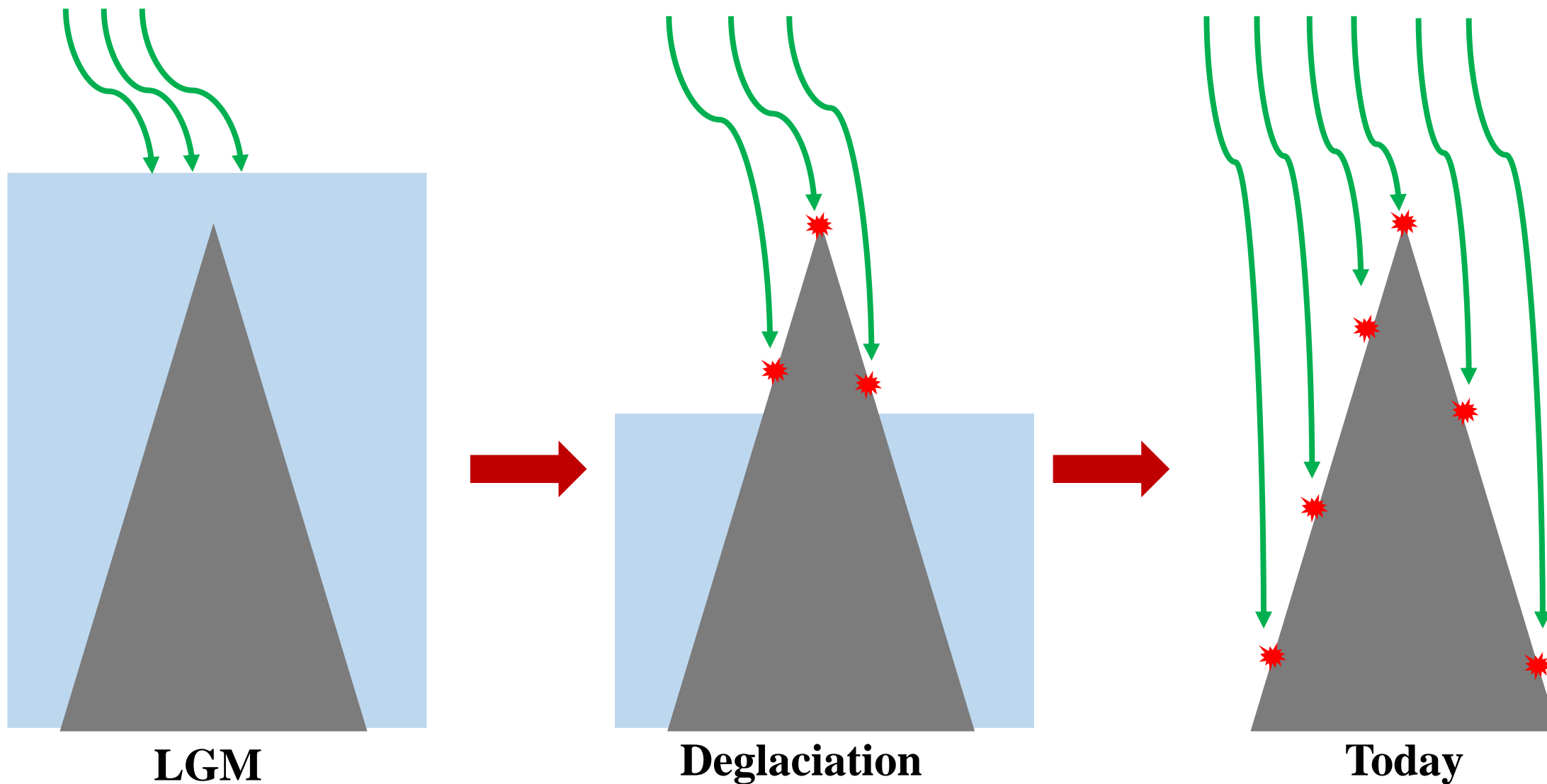
Figure from von Blanckenburg and Willenbring (2014)

Background ● ● ●

Method ● ● ●

Expected Results ● ●

^{10}Be Dipsticks: Concept and Creation



Background



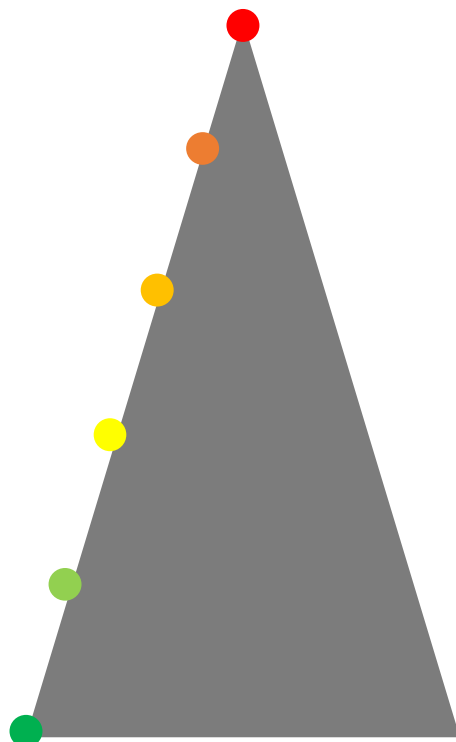
Method



Expected Results

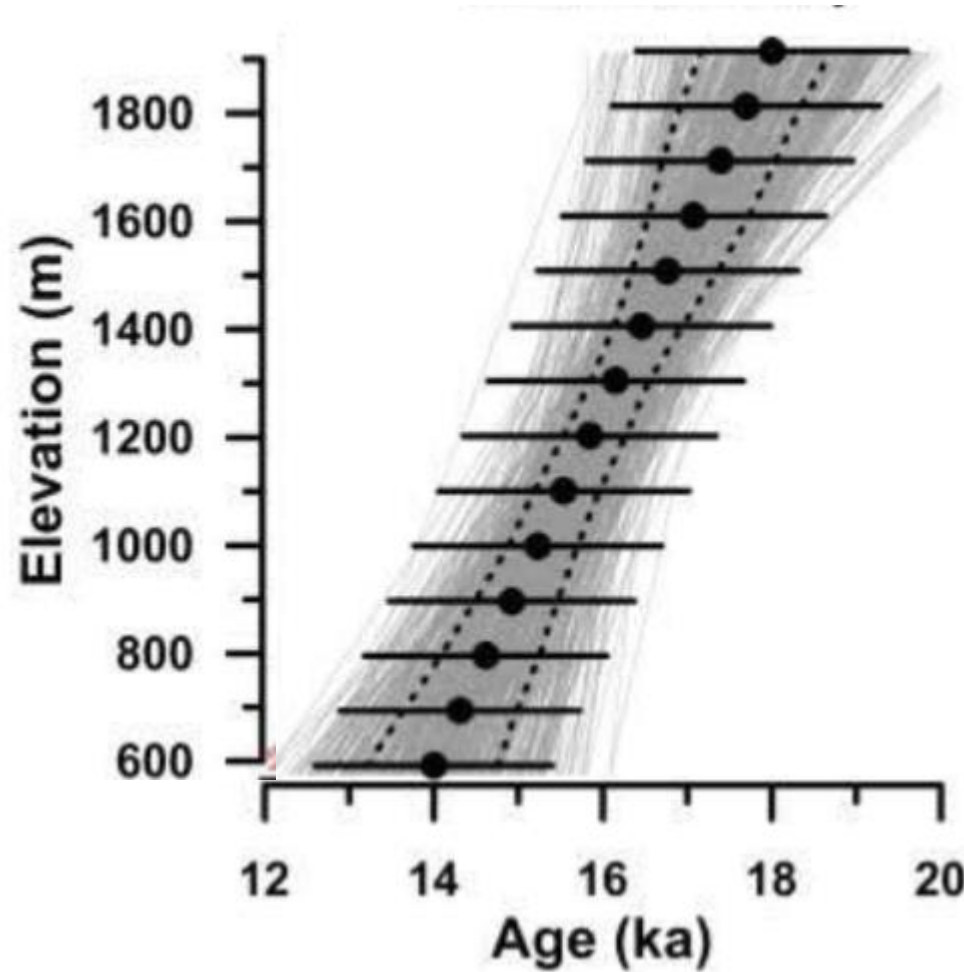


^{10}Be Dipsticks: Concept and Creation



Old \longrightarrow Young

Exposure Age



Modified from NSF proposal #1602280

Background



Method

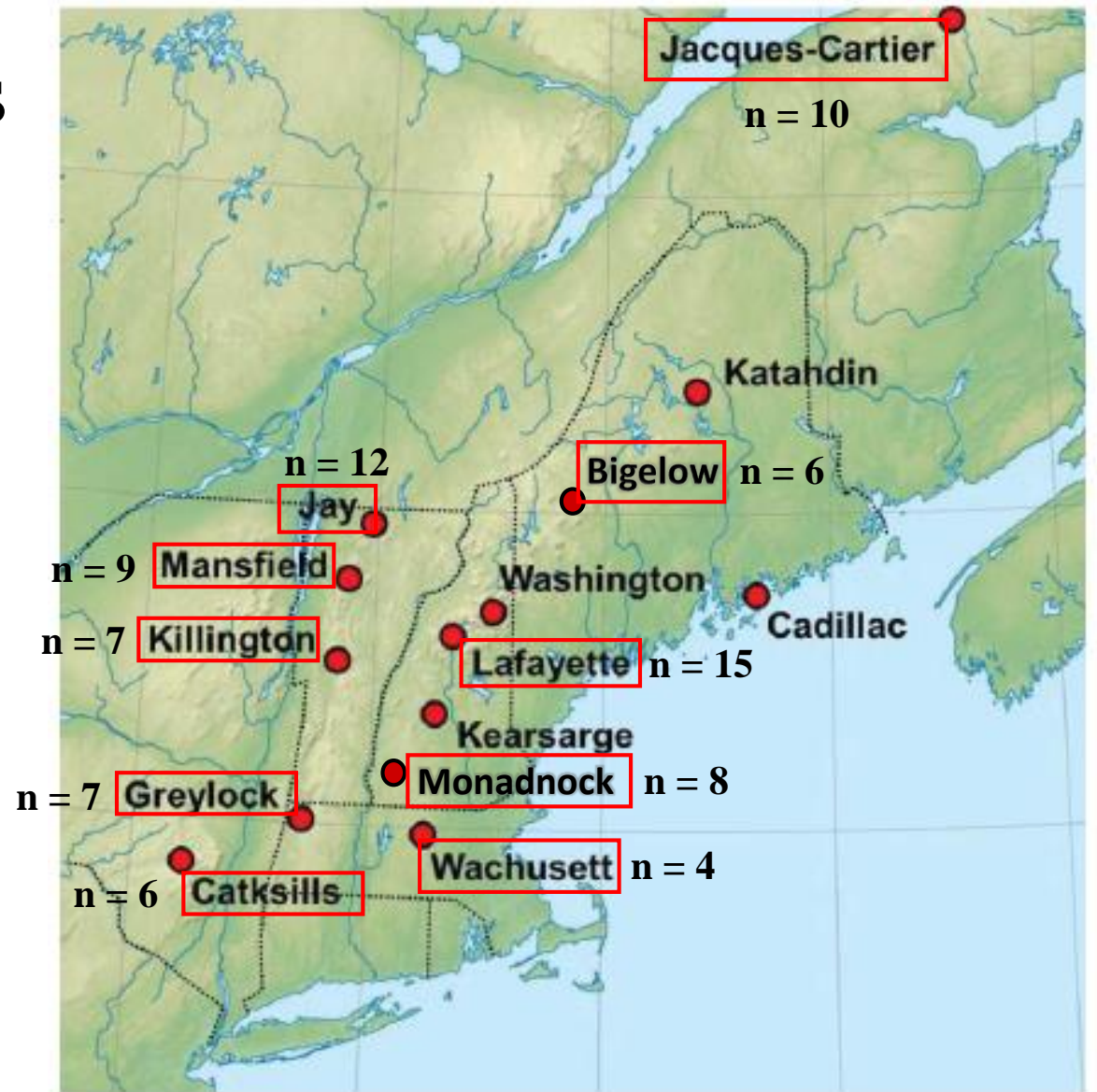


Expected Results



More Data = Better Histories

Goal is to create dipsticks at locations shown to constrain the timing and rate of Laurentide thinning at each location



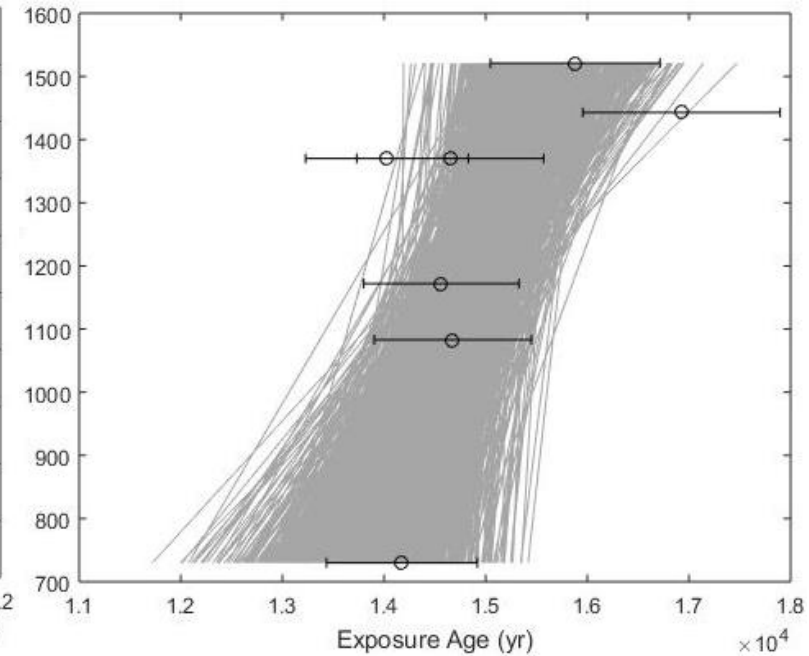
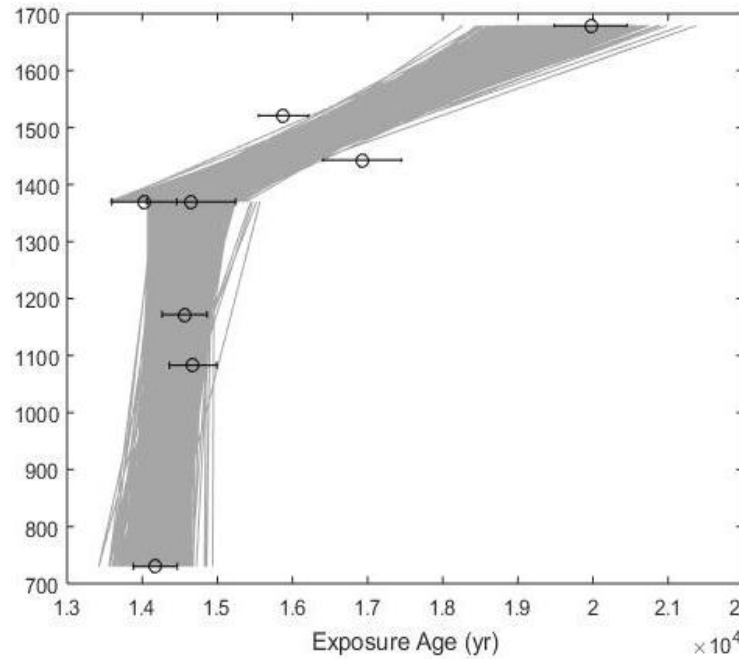
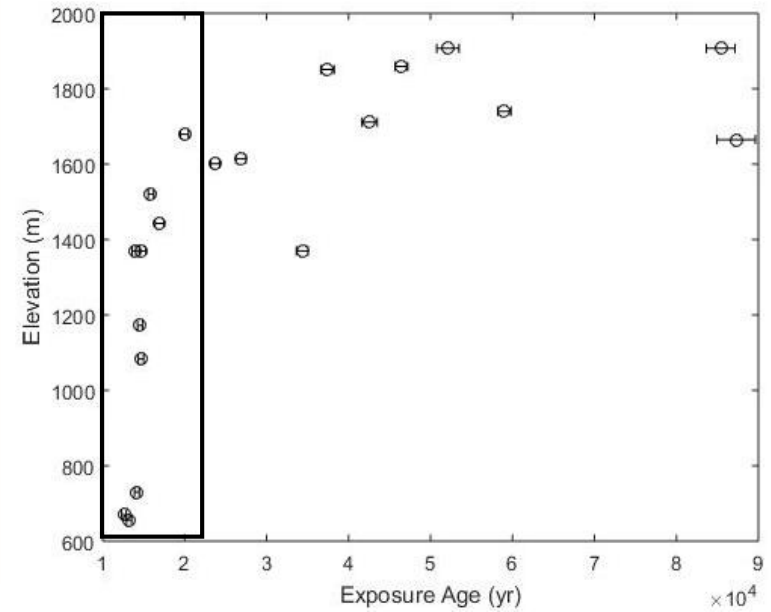
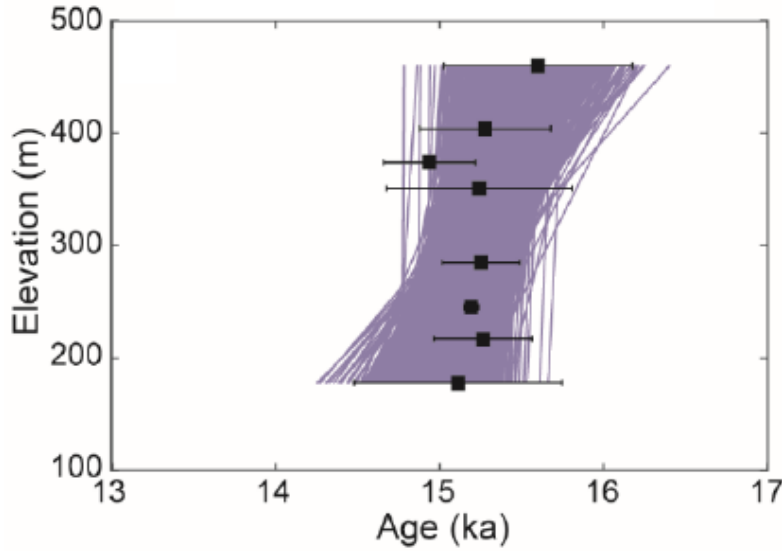
Background ● ● ●

Method ● ● ● ●

Expected Results ● ●

Existing New England Dipsticks:

- Central Maine (Mt. Katahdin): Rapid thinning between 16-15 ka (Davis et al., 2015)
- Coastal Maine (Acadia): Rapid thinning around 15.2 ± 0.7 ka (Koester et al., 2017a)
- Mt. Washington, NH (Koester et al., 2017b): Difficult to fully assess

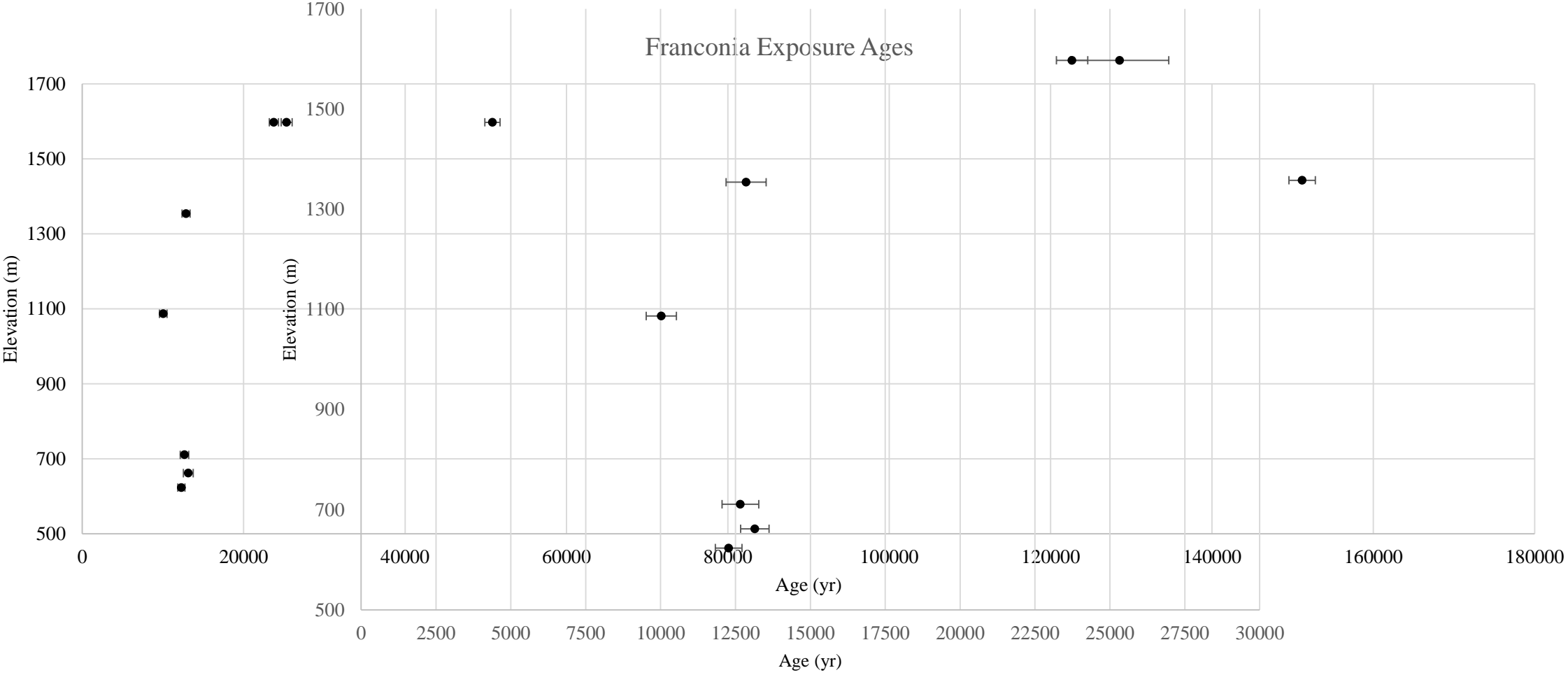


Background ● ● ●

Method ● ● ● ●

Expected Results ● ●

Franconia Exposure Ages



Field Photos!

Sampling in Northern VT in November...



Glacially-deposited boulders



References Cited

- Davis, P.T., Bierman, P.R., Corbett, L.B., and Finkel, R.C., 2015, Cosmogenic exposure age evidence for rapid Laurentide deglaciation of the Katahdin area, west-central Maine, USA, 16 to 15 ka: *Quaternary Science Reviews*, v. 116, p. 95-105.
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