Journal Pre-proof

The Cuban staircase sequences of coral reef and marine terraces:
A forgotten masterpiece of the Caribbean geodynamical puzzle

Leandro Peñalver, Kevin Pedoja, Denyse Martin-Izquierdo,
Christine Authemayou, Arelis Nuñez, Denovan Chauveau, Gino
de Gelder, Pedro Davilan, Laurent Husson

PII: S0025-3227(21)00157-2

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.margeo.2021.106575>

Reference: MARGO 106575

To appear in: *Marine Geology*

Received date: 20 April 2021

Revised date: 22 July 2021

Accepted date: 23 July 2021

Please cite this article as: L. Peñalver, K. Pedoja, D. Martin-Izquierdo, et al., The Cuban staircase sequences of coral reef and marine terraces: A forgotten masterpiece of the Caribbean geodynamical puzzle, *Marine Geology* (2018), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.margeo.2021.106575>

This is a PDF file of an article that has undergone enhancements after acceptance, such as the addition of a cover page and metadata, and formatting for readability, but it is not yet the definitive version of record. This version will undergo additional copyediting, typesetting and review before it is published in its final form, but we are providing this version to give early visibility of the article. Please note that, during the production process, errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.

The Cuban staircase sequences of coral reef and marine terraces : a forgotten masterpiece of the Caribbean geodynamical puzzle

Leandro Peñalver¹, Kevin Pedoja^{2,*} kevin.pedoja@unicaen.fr , Denyse Martin-Izquierdo¹, Christine Authemayou³ Arelis Nuñez¹, Denovan Chauveau³, Gino de Gelder⁵, Pedro Davilan⁴, Laurent Husson⁵

¹Institute of Geology and Paleontology, La Habana, Cuba,

²Normandie Univ, Unicaen, Unirouen, CNRS, M2C, 14 000 Caen, France.

³LGO, IUEM, CNRS, UMR 6538, Université de Bretagne Occidentale, UBO, Plouzané, France

⁴Univ Moa, Moa, Cuba

⁵Univ. Grenoble Alpes, CNRS, ISTerre, Grenoble, France.

*Corresponding author.

Abstract

The emerged sequences of coral reef and marine terraces of the Cuban Archipelago have been recognized since the end of the 19th century but with noticeable exceptions, their bio-constructions and/or deposits are not dated. The northern Caribbean islands and associated archipelagos are located in a left-lateral strike-slip tectonic setting, at the boundary between the North America and Caribbean plates. Cuba is the only landmass located on the American Plate directly adjacent to this transform fault zone. Quantifying upper Pleistocene coastal uplift is thus key to elucidate the recent vertical deformation of the Caribbean geodynamic puzzle with regards to the active tectonic segmentation of this area. We compiled bibliographic data and present new measurements concerning the Cuban sequences of coral reef and marine terraces; maximum elevations, minimum

number of successive strandlines and elevation of the lowermost terrace. The Cuban Archipelago exhibits five main uplifting coastal stretches separated by subsiding areas, with at least 23 emerged staircase sequences of coastal terraces. At four sites, the lowest coral reef terrace has been previously correlated to the Last Interglacial Maximum (MIS 5e, 122 ± 6 ka). At nine sites, we extended the morpho-stratigraphy to derive Upper Pleistocene apparent and eustasy-corrected uplift rates. Alongshore Cuba, MIS 5e coastal terraces and associated shoreline angles occur at elevations ranging from 7 m to 40 m, yielding eustasy-corrected uplift rates ranging from 0.06 ± 0.01 mm.yr⁻¹ (NW Cuba) to 0.33 ± 0.01 mm.yr⁻¹ (SE Cuba). More than 400 km northward of the transform fault, eustasy-corrected uplift rates (0.13 mm.yr⁻¹) suggest that the whole Cuban Archipelago is affected by the North America/Caribbean plate motion, with a partitioned compressive component resulting in block tectonics with tilting controlled by regional faults.

Keywords: glacial cycle; Pleistocene; Caribbean; Cuba; marine and coral reef terraces

1 Introduction

Sequences of marine and coral reef terraces, herein called coastal terraces, are widespread indicators of Late Cenozoic coastal tectonics and sea levels (e.g. Lyell, 1830; Darwin, 1842; Davis, 1915; Daly, 1925; Berry et al., 1966; Broecker et al., 1968; Montaggioni and Braithwaite, 2009; Pedoja et al., 2011; 2014; Murray-Wallace and Woodroffe, 2014; Hibbert et al., 2016). Within the Caribbean Sea, islands and archipelagos exhibit emerged sequences of coastal terraces. Most studied are the coastal landforms correlated to Marine Isotopic Stage 5e (MIS 5e, 122 ± 6 ka); for instance in the West Indies (Feuillet et al., 2004; Léticée et al., 2019), in Curacao, Bonaire, Aruba (Alexander, 1961; Hippolyte and Mann, 2011) and in Jamaica (e.g. Horsfield, 1975; Szabo, 1979; Mitchell et al., 2000, 2001). The island of Barbados displays one of the most studied

sequence of coral reef and marine terraces (Mesolella, 1967; Broecker et al., 1968; James et al., 1971, Schellmann and Radtke, 2004a,b) which constitutes a benchmark for sea level and climate studies over the last 1 Ma (Murray-Wallace and Woodroffe, 2014). The Late Cenozoic sequences of coastal terraces of the two largest Caribbean islands and archipelagos, Cuba and Hispaniola, have been recognized since a long time (Crosby, 1883; Darwin, 1890; Agassiz, 1894; Spencer, 1895), and considered as an "ensemble" together with Barbados, Jamaica (Jones, 1918; Trechmann, 1933) and the Cayman Islands (Matley, 1926; Brunt et al., 1973; Emery, 1981; Woodroffe et al., 1983; Spencer, 1985; Coyne et al., 2007). The formation of such sequences is related to vertical deformation associated with the *Great Antillean/Northern Caribbean* fault zone (Taber, 1922; Woodring, 1954), at the boundary between the North American and Caribbean plates. Recent studies including absolute dating are rather scarce, for example for Haiti (Dumas et al., 2006; Hearty et al., 2007), for the Dominican Republic (Diaz de Neira et al., 2015, 2017; Escuder – Viruelte et al., 2020), and for Cuba (Toscano et al., 1999; Pajon et al., 2006; De Waele et al., 2017, 2018; Muhs et al., 2018; Schielien et al., 2020).

For the Cuban Archipelago, descriptions of the coastal landforms are abundant and contain quantified geomorphic data (e.g. Vaughan and Spencer, 1902; Meinzer, 1933; Massip, 1936; Marie-Victorin and Léon, 1942; Ducloz, 1963; Iturralde-Vinent, 1967, 1969a,b; 1977, 1981, 1982, 1994, 2003; Kartashov and Mayo, 1974; Kartashov et al., 1976; 1981; Shantzer et al., 1976; Peñalver et al., 1982a, b and c; 1997; 1998; Franco, 1983; Puschcharovski, 1988; Salomon, 1995; Cabrera and Peñalver, 2001; Perez-Aragon et al., 2001). Combining field observations with a synthesis of previous literature, we describe the distribution of the Cuban staircase sequences of coastal terraces and propose quantitative morphometrics, such as their maximum elevations and the minimum number of successive terraces. Studies including U/Th (Toscano et al., 1999; Pajon et al., 2006; De Waele et al., 2017, 2018; Muhs et al., 2018), ESR (Schielien et al., 2020) or

paleomagnetic dating (Pérez Lazo, 1986; Peñalver et al., 2003), all correlated the lowermost terrace (T1) to the Last Interglacial Maximum (MIS 5e; 122 +/- 6 ka). In the following, we assume this morpho-stratigraphy (T1 = MIS 5e) is correct for sequences of coastal landforms including a single terrace or for sequences for which we know the elevation of the lowermost terrace, although we specify the cases in which this is directly confirmed by dating. Using five sea-level curves, we derive 15 relative and absolute Upper Pleistocene uplift rates at 13 sites. This approach allows us to discuss the coastal tectonics of the Cuban archipelago located in the vicinity of the left-lateral Transform Fault Zone between the North American and Caribbean plates.

2 Settings

2.1 Geodynamics, geology, hydrodynamics

The Caribbean and Central American region contains two subduction zones, the Lesser Antilles Trench to the East and the Central America Trench to the West, connected through a large transform fault zone (Mann and Burke, 1984; Fig.1). The transform boundary between the Caribbean plate and North American plate is partitioned into two major active E-W left lateral strike-slip fault zones (Mann et al., 1991; Calais and de Lépinay, 1995). These strike-slip fault zones, seismically active, are located North and South of the Cayman Trough (Perrot et al., 1997; Calais and de Lépinay, 1992). They extend over ~ 2000 km and are named the Oriente Transform Fault to the North and the Enriquillo-Plantain-Garden Transform Fault to the South (Calais et al., 1998; Prentice et al., 2010; Le Roy et al., 2015). To the East, the two fault zones bound the Gonave-Hispanolia microplate (Fig.1), and accommodate the strike-slip component of the oblique convergence between the Caribbean and North American plates at a rate of $19 \text{ mm} \cdot \text{a}^{-1}$ (Symithe et al., 2005; Calais et al., 2016; Fig. 1). The Gonave Hispaniola Block is also

affected by shortening, both due to the convergence obliquity of the plate boundary associated with the Bahamas platform collision to the North, and due to the Beata ridge indentation to the South (Mann et al., 2002; Calais et al., 2016; Rojas-Agramonte et al., 2005; Corbeau et al., 2019). South of Cuba Island (Figs.1, 2, 3, 4), the Oriente Transform Fault includes various segments with transtensive and transpressive relay zones and parallel offshore thrusts named the Santiago Deformed Belt (Calais and Mercier de Lépinay, 1995; Le Roy et al., 2015; Corbeau et al., 2016; Wessels et al., 2019).

The Cuban archipelago includes a main island and more than 4000 associated islands, islets and cayos, all located on a continental platform (Fig. 2). The island belongs to the Great Arc of the Caribbean, which initially formed by subduction along an inter-American Transform Fault at ~135 Ma, during Cretaceous times (Burke, 1988; Pindell et al., 2012; Hastie et al., 2013). During the late Upper Cretaceous, this arc became inactive, collided with the Bahamas carbonate platform and subsequently fragmented to form the Greater Antilles islands (Mann et al., 1995; Cruz-Orosa et al., 2012; Leroy et al., 2000). In Cuba, the Paleocene-Eocene collision between the island arc of the Caribbean plate and Bahamas platform of the North American plate resulted in an ENE-WSW and NW-SE trending orogenic belt (Gordon et al., 1997). This orogenic belt is associated with synorogenic basins and ENE-WSW-trending regional normal and strike-slip faults (Pinar Fault, Trocha Fault, Cauto-Nipe Fault, on Fig. 4) that bound several tectonics blocks and accommodate a part of the westward offshore NW-SE-trending and then NE-SW-trending Yucatan basin opening (Le Roy et al., 2000; Pindell et al., 2005; Cruz-Orosa et al., 2012). During the arc/platform collision, the obliquity of the North American/Caribbean plate convergence increased (Gordon et al., 1997; Cruz-Orosa, et al., 2012). Since Oligocene time, plate motion is mainly accommodated along the Oriente Transform Fault, South of Cuba Island (Iturralde-Vinent, 1996; Pindell et al., 2005; Rodríguez-Cotilla, 2014; Calais et

al., 2016; Alvarez et al., 2017). A vertical motion component along this fault is revealed by pervasive uplifting coastal stretches (Peñalver et al., 2003) and associated sequences of fossil shorelines studied herein (Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5).

The Cuban archipelago is located in a semi-diurnal, micro-tidal area, with tidal ranges from 0.4 to 0.8 m. Ground swell, mostly coming from the Atlantic Ocean, is consistent only in winter and the wave-height rarely exceeds two meters as the swell is dampened by the Bahamas platform (Colas and Shuterland, 2001). The South part of Cuba Main Island is occasionally subjected to the Antarctic groundswell and affected by hurricanes (Colas and Shuterland, 2001).

2.2 Previous studies of the Cuban coastal terraces

The first mention of the emerged sequences of coastal terraces of Cuba seems to have been by Crosby (1883), who described emerged fossil reefs near La Habana (NE) and Baracoa (SE; Figs. 2, 3, 4). At the latter site, he described coral limestone up to ~ 243 m in elevation. By analogy with Jamaica, he proposed that emerged reefs could be present up to ~ 610 m. Crosby (1883) proposed a 'general' sequence of coastal terraces including four successive reefs with the lowest one found at ~ 9 m at various sites on the island and the upper one at ~ 243 m at the mouth of the Rio Yumuri, near Baracoa (Fig. 2; Table 1). Darwin (1890) discussed the possible origin of the South Cuban and Haitian sequences of coastal terraces. Agassiz (1894) sketched some South Cuban sequences. Then Hill (1894, 1895) proposed correlation of some *elevated reefs* across the Island. Spencer (1895) described coastal uplift at Matanzas. Vaughan and Spencer (1902) reported coastal terraces near La Habana - Matanzas, Cabo Cruz, and Punta de Maisi (Table 1). Based on

paleontological evidence, Vaughan and Spencer (1902) proposed an Oligocene age for the upper reefal terraces at Punta de Maisi and noted that the fossil coral colonies from the lowermost terrace are similar to the one found in modern reefs. Jennings (1913) briefly described the emerged reef at Isle of Pines (now renamed Isla de la Juventud, Fig. 2, Table 1). Vaughan (1914) compared the modern and emerged reefs of Florida with some Cuban sites. The Cabo Cruz sequence, at the SW tip of Cuba Island (Figs. 2, 3, 4), was interpreted by Taber (1931) as evidence for the protracted uplift of the Sierra Maestra. Later, the Punta de Maisi (Figs. 2, 3, 4, Table 1), at the SE tip of Cuba Island raised, again, attention and was considered as Plio-Pleistocene (Woodring, 1954). The post 1960 literature concerning the Cuban sequences of coastal terraces consisted mainly of geomorphic studies (e.g. Ducloz, 1963; Iturralde-Vinent, 1967, 1969a,b; 1977, 1981, 1982, 1994, 2003, 2013; Franco, 1983; Kartashov and Mayo, 1974; Kartashov et al., 1976; 1981; Shantzer et al., 1976; Peñalver et al., 1982a, b and c; 1997; 1998; Puschcharovski, 1988; Cabrera and Peñalver, 2001; Perez-Aragon et al., 2001), or focused on specific landforms such as karstified notches (Molerio-León, 2003) or on archaeology (Pajon et al., 2006).

Geologically speaking, the reefal bioconstructions of the lowermost terrace (T1) are grouped into the Late Pleistocene Jaimanitas Formation (Naprstek, 1978; Salomon, 1995; Toscano et al., 1999; Pajon et al., 2006; see map in Muhs et al., 2018). Regressive, coastal clastic deposits overlying the bioconstructions are defined as the La Cabaña Formation (Peñalver et al., 2003). The Jaimanitas Formation consists of shallow marine, lagoonal, and reef carbonates (Cabrera and Peñalver, 2001; 2003; Perera and Rojas, 2005; Toscano et al., 1999; Peñalver et al., 2003). The Jaimanitas Formation is widely present along the coast of the Cuba Island and constitutes the foundation for the cities of La Habana and Santiago de Cuba (Figs. 2, 3, 4). The first attempts at absolute dating of the deposits and bioconstructions from the lower T1 coastal terrace, i.e. the Jaimanitas Formation, started

during the late-70s with ^{14}C dating, which yielded results beyond the limit of the method (Naprstek, 1978; Glushankova et al., 1980). Paleomagnetic dating on the Jaimanitas formation as well as on higher and older terraces has been carried out at Punta de Maisi (Pérez Lazo, 1986; Peñalver et al., 2003) and yielded normal polarities compatible with the correlation of the MIS 5 and MIS 7 highstands with the two lowermost coastal terraces. Older terraces have been dated at 0.8 to 3 Ma (Pérez Lazo, 1986; Peñalver et al., 2003). Coral colonies of the Jamainitas Fm. from coral reef terraces were U/Th dated and correlated to the last interglacial maximum at Matanzas (Toscano et al., 1999) as well as on the NW tip of the Island (Pajon et al., 2006). In NE Cuba, at Matanzas, the Jamainitas Fm (T1) was, again, dated by U/Th and ESR and correlated to MIS 5e in studies of karst systems (De Waele et al., 2017, 2018; Schielien et al., 2020). Finally, in SE Cuba, to the South of the 116 km² Guantanamo American Naval Base, fossil coral-colonies forming the bio-constructed part of the lowest coastal terrace, i.e. the Jamainitas Fm., were massively sampled and U/Th dated (> 50 samples). Thirteen dates were considered as reliable and correlated T1 to the last interglacial maximum (MIS 5e; see Table 1 in Muhs et al., 2018).

3 Methods

3.1 Emerged sequences of tropical coastal terraces and uplift estimates

Coastal terraces such as marine, sedimentary, and coral reef terraces forming emerged sequences are stacked fingerprints of the course of sea-level changes on rising coastal realms (Guilcher, 1969; Mesosella, 1969; Lajoie, 1986; Pedoja et al., 2011, 2014; Murray-Wallace and Woodroffe, 2014; Rovere et al., 2016). These terraces are, to the first order, associated with Quaternary interglacial sea-level high-stands (Murray-Wallace and

Woodroffe, 2014). The shoreline angle is defined as the break of slope between the rocky shore platform or the reef flat and the fossil sea-cliff associated with the terrace (e.g. Lajoie, 1986; Jara-Muñoz et al., 2019), and usually provides a good estimate for the position of the sea level when the terrace was formed (Bull, 1985; Speed and Cheng, 2004).

In tropical environments, coral reef crests and reef flats are not always present alongshore. Some stretches are carved into notches and shore platforms, whereas others include beaches, estuaries and/or mangroves. When present, coral reefs display a variety of morphologies that record the interplay between sea level oscillations and vertical land motion (e.g. Montaggioni and Braithwaite, 2009; Huscson et al., 2018; Pastier et al., 2019). Modern and ancient coastal records usually exhibit alongshore variations of erosional landforms, deposits and bio-constructions (Speed and Cheng, 2004; Pedoja et al., 2018). The lowest Cuban coastal terrace T1 perfectly illustrates the interplay between constructional, erosional and depositional processes (Crosby, 1883; Agassiz, 1894; Iturarralde Vinent, 2013). The coastal terrace (Fig. 5) comprises an upgrading fossil reefal unit, the Jamainitas Fm. which is frequently truncated by an erosive surface and overlain by the regressive shingle or sandy beach deposits of the La Cabaña Fm. (Peñalver et al., 2003; Muhs et al., 2018). Such composite landforms are also described at la Désirade (Léticée et al., 2019) and Haiti (Jones, 1918; Woodring, 1964).

We mapped the Cuban sequences of coral reef and marine terraces based on our field observations complemented by the analysis of literature and maps. We measured the elevations of the fossil shoreline angles from topographic maps and/or by the use of various barometrical altimeters. Besides instrumental errors, we assigned a margin of error to all field measurements. The natural rugosity of the landforms is the main source of error;

far beyond instrumental errors. The roughness of the landforms increases with elevation and age. For low-standing landforms, the margin of error is set to ± 1 m whereas for upper strandlines it reaches ± 10 m because of increased erosion and karstification with age and elevation, as observed in the field.

3.2 Pleistocene sea-level curves, uplift rates, Holocene relative sea-level

Taking into account previous dating, we derive Upper Pleistocene uplift rates (Table 2) based on the elevation of the coastal terraces allocated to the Last Interglacial Maximum, MIS 5e (122 ± 6 ka). Eustasy-corrected or absolute uplift rates are given by dividing the difference between the present elevation of the shoreline angle and the eustatic sea-level at its formation time by the age of the terrace (LeBlond, 1986).

Apparent (or relative) uplift rates neglect *a priori* eustatic correction (as in Pedoja et al., 2011; 2014; 2018; Yildirim et al., 2013; Authemayou et al., 2016). Correcting for eustasy requires some knowledge of the absolute sea level at the time of construction of the marine terrace. Many sea-level curves have been derived from the oxygen isotopic records (Shackleton, 1987; Vaelbroeck et al., 2002; Lisiecki and Raymo, 2005; Bintanja and Van de Waal, 2008; Zachos et al., 2008; Rohling et al., 2009, see de Gelder et al., 2020 for details on these curves), but also from -or combined to- the geomorphologic record (Siddall et al., 2006; Murray-Wallace and Woodroffe, 2014). These sea-level curves frequently present discrepancies in the ages and elevation of MIS highstands (Table 2; see Caputo, 2007; Murray-Wallace and Woodroffe, 2014; de Gelder et al., 2020), but there is a relative consensus on the succession of the most recent high-stands. The most common high-stands in the geomorphological record are those related the last interglacial period, MIS 5 (Johnson and Libbey, 1997; Stirling et al., 1998; Pedoja et al., 2011; Murray-Wallace and Woodroffe, 2014), which includes three relative high-stands, MIS 5a (85 ± 5

ka), MIS 5c (105 ± 5 ka) and MIS 5e (128 ka to 116 ka). The MIS 5e highstand corresponds to the last interglacial maximum; it displays one to three coastal terraces in nearly all the studied sequences worldwide and constitutes a common benchmark (Pedoja et al., 2011; 2014; Murray-Wallace and Woodroffe, 2014).

In order to account for the variability of sea-level curves, we analyzed the sequences of the Cuban Archipelago considering a recent compilation of geomorphic indicators (Murray-Wallace and Woodroffe, 2014) but also five eustatic curves (Table 2, Waelbroeck et al., 2002; Bintanja and Van der Wal, 2008; Grant et al., 2014; Shakun et al., 2015; Spratt and Lisiecki, 2016). Murray-Wallace and Woodroffe, (2014) consider that MIS 5e, MIS 7, MIS 9, and MIS 11 highstands were respectively at 6 ± 4 m, -8 ± 12 m, 3 ± 2 m, and 9.5 ± 3.5 m with respect to present-day sea level (Table 2). The five sea-level curves (see Table 2 for more details) were selected to encompass five different reconstruction methods, to cover the time-range of interest and to have quantified uncertainties (Waelbroeck et al., 2002; Bintanja and Van der Wal, 2008; Grant et al., 2014; Shakun et al., 2015; Spratt and Lisiecki, 2016). These different estimates of past sea levels convert into different estimates of uplift rates (e.g. de Gelder et al., 2020).

Contrarily, to the Indo-Pacific, the Caribbean has no mid-Holocene highstand (Fig. 5C) as evidenced by the documented monotonic rise in Holocene sea level and explained by Glacial Isostatic Adjustment models (Fairbridge, 1961; Clark et al., 1978; Kahn et al., 2017).

4 The Cuban sequences of coastal terraces

The Cuban archipelago and continental platform (Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5) exhibit five main areas of

emerged coastal terrace sequences (Table 1). These uplifting coastal stretches are separated by subsiding areas (Iturralde-Vinent, 2013; Fig. 5). In total, we collected quantitative data for 23 sequences (Fig. 3, Table 1) that generally correspond to staircase coastal landscapes including up to four successive strandlines¹. The most complete sequences, in terms of successive fossil shorelines, are preserved on the SE and SW tips of Cuba Island (sequences I and V, VI, VII Table 1 Figs. 3, 4). Submerged sequences of terraces are mentioned to the N and SE of the Cuban Archipelago (Fig. 5).

The uplifting coastal stretch n°1 (sequences I to VIII, Table 1, Figs. 3, 4) corresponds to the whole southern coast of Cuba Island, from Nibujón (Baracoa district) in the East, to Cabo Cruz in the West. Along this ~ 500 km long coastal stretch, we identified eight sequences. In agreement with previous observations (e.g. Pérez et al., 2011), we observed that the lowest coastal terrace (T₁) is almost continuous over 350 km, from Santiago de Cuba to Baracoa (Figs. 2, 3, 4). Between West Santiago de Cuba and East Cabo Cruz (Fig. 2), the coast is characterized by plunging sea-cliffs and no sequences of coral reef and marine terraces are present (Cabrera et al., 2003; Iturralde Vinent, 2013). At the Guantanamo USA naval base, coral colonies from the lowermost terrace were previously U/Th dated and correlated to the last Interglacial (sequence n°IV, Table 1 and section 2.2). Nevertheless, all along South Cuba, the shoreline angle of the lowermost coastal terrace, that we infer to relate to MIS 5e, is emplaced at elevations that still have to be determined more accurately, and needs to be dated to confirm this inference (Muhs et al., 2018). The SW and SE tips of Cuba Island, Cabo Cruz and Punta de Maisi

1

respectively, exhibit well-preserved sequences of marine and coral reef terraces (Fig. 6). To the SW, the Cabo Cruz sequence (sequence I, Table 1, Figs. 3, 4) reaches 263 ± 10 m and includes 13 coastal terraces and an unknown number of associated notches. Cabo Cruz is referred to as a major natural site for world heritage by UNESCO² but the bioconstructions associated to the successive terraces of this impressive sequence^{3,4} are not yet dated. On Punta de Maisi (sequence VI, Table 1, Figs. 3, 4, 6), the sequence reaches a maximum elevation of 560 ± 10 m, includes 24 coastal terraces and an unknown number of associated notches. There, the two lowermost coastal terraces are raised at elevations ranging from 15 to 40 m for T1 and from 20 to 60 m for T2 and have been correlated to MIS 5 and MIS 7 highstands in paleomagnetic studies (section 2.2.). Here, we assign the lowest terrace T1 to MIS 5e, as in other Cuban coastal sites, and also because it yields the lowest, or minimum uplift rates for the last interglacial as the last interglacial maximum is the oldest highstand of this MIS with the highest eustatic sea-level. At other sites of the Cuban South shore, such as Siboney and Juragua, the sequences include 3 to 4 successive shorelines^{5,6,7} (sequence II, III, V Table 1, Figs. 3, 4). The uplifting southern shore of Cuba (area 1) is delimited to the North by the subsiding Guacanoyabo-Nipe tectonic corridor (Fig. 4).

The uplifting coastal stretch n°2 (sequences IX to XII Table 1, Figs. 3, 4) is ~ 420 km long and includes the rocky islets (cayos) of the Sabana - Camaguey Archipelago (Fig. 2) as well as a part of the NW-SE trending shore of the NE side of Cuba island (sequence XII,

² <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/889/>

³ https://youtu.be/7I9mK8a_bI8

⁴ https://youtu.be/vW_zErZWMDc

⁵ <https://youtu.be/hFLFR8i4kyo>

⁶ <https://youtu.be/6HwpmNV5538>

⁷ <https://youtu.be/GDuZqlRjNpk>

Table 1, Figs. 3, 4). In this area, a single terrace has its shoreline angle raised at elevations ranging from 8 ± 1 m to 15 ± 1 m (Table 1, Fig. 3). Northwards, the uplifting coastal stretch ends on the Caibarién Fault, which separates it from the second subsiding area. Northwards, this subsiding area is limited by another major fault: the NS trending Cochinos - Cardenas Fault which also affects the fifth area exhibiting emerged coastal sequences (Figs. 3, 4).

The uplifting coastal stretch n°3 extends from Varadero to Bahía Onda (sequences XIV to XVIII, Table 1, Figs. 2, 3) over ~ 240 km and includes the Matanzas sequence (n°XV Fig. 3, Table 1). The central part of this coastal stretch exhibits sequences with up to 3 coastal terraces, reaching maximum elevations of 100 ± 10 m. The sequences located eastwards (sequence XIV) and westwards (sequence XVIII) of the central part exhibit only a single coastal terrace. The shoreline angle of T1 is emplaced at higher elevation (19 ± 1 m at sequence XIV) in the East than in the West (7 ± 1 m at sequence XVIII). At Matanzas, the lowest T1 terrace, dated and correlated to MIS 5e (section 2.2.) has its shoreline angle raised at 16 ± 1 m. This uplifting coastal stretch is parallel to the Pinar Fault and separated from the fourth area of coastal sequences by the subsiding Batanao Gulf (Figs. 3, 4).

The 240 km long uplifted coastal stretch n°4 festoons the NW tip of Cuba island (sequence XIX, Table 1, Figs. 3, 4) as well as the southern shore of La Juventud Island (sequence XX, Table 1, Fig. 3). On the NW tip of Cuba (sequence XIX and XX, Table 1, Fig. 3), the sequences include two successive coastal terraces up to 20 ± 1 m in elevation whereas on La Juventud Island a single terrace is preserved at 10 ± 1 m (Table 1, Fig. 3).

The subsiding Batanao Gulf (Fig. 4) delimits, to the NW, the uplifting coastal stretch n° 5

(sequence XXI to XXIII, Table 1, Fig. 3) which extends on the central part of South Cuba over 200 km. Within this area, the Cochinos - Cardenas Fault perpendicularly crosscuts the modern coastline. To the West of the fault, sequence XXI includes a single coastal terrace for which the shoreline angle is preserved at 15 ± 1 m, while eastwards, the sequences XXII and XXIII include up to three successive shorelines, and reaches 78 ± 1 m at sequence XXIII (Table 1, Fig. 3). At sequence XXI, the distribution of the coastal terrace suggests the occurrence of a paleo-gulf as the fossil shoreline enters inland, unlike its modern counterpart. To the East, the fifth uplifting coastal stretch ends at the La Trocha Fault (Fig. 4), which borders the SW subsiding areas of the Cuban Archipelago.

The elevation and distribution of the coastal sequences of the Cuban archipelago depict nine units with different tectonic behavior intimately related with onshore and offshore faults (Fig. 4). Five blocks are uplifting and four subsiding. The blocks are generally delimited by onshore faults associated with a vertical component, generally normal except the Cochinos-Cardenas reverse fault, and for some with strike-slip component, particularly Cauto-Nipe and La Trocha (Fig. 4; Garcia, 2001). The uplifted sections are characterized by coastal sequences with different morphologies revealing variable Upper Pleistocene (MIS 5e) uplift rates and Late Cenozoic emersion histories (Fig. 4).

5 Discussion

5.1 Estimates of Upper Pleistocene uplift rates and timing for the emersion of some sequences of coastal terraces

Most of the Cuban coastal terraces allocated to the Last Interglacial Maximum (MIS 5e)

are found at lower elevations than 20 m (Table 2), which implies low to very low apparent uplift rates (Class C and D, Fig. 4 in Pedoja et al., 2011) ranging from $0.06 \pm 0.01 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$ on the NW tip of Cuba main island (sequence XIX) to $0.13 \pm 0.01 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$ at Matanzas (sequence XV, Table 1, Fig. 4). At Punta de Maisi (sequence VI, Table 1), the shoreline angle of the MIS 5e reefal terrace is emplaced at a maximum elevation of $40 \pm 1 \text{ m}$ (Pérez Lazo, 1986; Peñalver et al., 2003) which implies a moderate apparent coastal uplift rate of $0.33 \pm 0.01 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$ (Class B on Fig. 4 in Pedoja et al., 2011). On the southern part of the US Naval base of Guantanamo Bay, MIS 5e apparent uplift rates are low with values of $0.12 \pm 0.02 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$ (Guantanamo Lighthouse Table 1) in the exposed area and of $0.09 \pm 0.02 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$ in the protected area (Guantanamo Bay Table 1).

As the MIS 5e landform is generally low ($< 20 \text{ m}$), eustasy-corrected uplift rates are more variable since the rates largely depend on the correction applied (Table 2). Within the Guantanamo embayment, the shoreline angle of the reefal terrace correlated to the MIS 5e is emplaced at $10.8 \pm 1 \text{ m}$ which yields uplift rates of $0.05 \pm 0.12 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$ (following Waelbroeck et al., 2002) or $0.13 \pm 0.10 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$ (following Shakun et al., 2015). Upon some sea-level curves and taking into account the large margins of error, uplift rates can even be negative, and therefore the MIS 5e terrace interpreted as evidence of subsidence (Table 2), although this would be at odds with the accompanying sequences of coastal landforms that attest for an overall uplift.

Assuming constant apparent uplift rates, we extrapolated the apparent MIS 5e uplift rates to propose a possible age for the uppermost shorelines of some sequences (as in Lajoie, 1986). These extrapolations provide an indicative chronological framework. Extrapolating eustasy-corrected uplift rates would yield older emersion age for the considered sequences. Extrapolating an apparent MIS 5e uplift rate of $0.13 \pm 0.01 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$, the

summit of the Matanzas sequence (n° XV Fig. 3) at 100 ± 10 m would have emerged between 640 ka and 910 ka, during middle or early Pleistocene time (Fig. 4). The more complete sequences of Maisi (560 ± 10 m) and Cabo Cruz (263 ± 10 m) seem to represent longer periods of time, probably since Pliocene in agreement with paleomagnetic dating indicating ages of 3 Ma at Punta de Maisi (section 2.2). Consequently at Maisi and Cabo Cruz, the long-lasting records of sea-level fluctuations are intermediary steps between the ~ 1 Ma coastal sequences preserved on Barbados or Sumba island (Indonesia) and the long lasting sequence of Buton Island (SE Sulawesi, Indonesia) which probably record 3.8 ± 0.6 Ma (Fig. 15 Pedoja et al., 2018a for a graphical representation of the long lasting reefal sequences mentioned here).

5.2 Tectonic implications

Within the current state of the art regarding Cuban coastal sequences, as intuitively suspected the highest apparent or eustasy-corrected Upper Pleistocene coastal uplift rates from dated reefal terraces (maximum of 0.33 ± 0.01 mm.yr⁻¹) are located next to the transform zone, at Punta de Maisi (sequence V, Table 1, Fig. 3). We stress that there are no dating and/or elevations measurements for the Cabo Cruz sequence (sequence I, Table 1, Figs. 3, 4) also located next to the Transform Fault Zone and which might reveal similar or stronger Upper Pleistocene uplift rates than at Punta de Maisi.

Cuban coastal sequences evidence non-negligible uplift of NW Cuba Island (sequences XV, Fig. 2B), more than 400 km to the North of the Oriente Transform Fault Zone. Such coastal uplift is probably the aftermath of the tilting of tectonic blocks, associated with E-W-trending faults crossing the Cuban platform (Figs. 1, 4). Some uplifting coastal stretches are obviously tilted or warped like Area 3 (Fig. 3) and the Punta de Maisi. Within the uplifting coastal stretch n°3, the T1 shoreline angle elevation yields higher apparent uplift

rates in the East (sequence XIV, $0.16 \pm 0.02 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$) than in the West (sequence XVIII, $0.06 \pm 0.01 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$). Not taking into account the Punta de Maisi, the highest Upper Pleistocene apparent coastal uplift rates are those determined some 190 km North of the Transform Fault Zone at or near Matanzas (sequence XIV and XV, respectively $0.16 \pm 0.02 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$ and $0.13 \pm 0.01 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$, Tables 1, 2, Fig. 3), similar or slightly higher than the uplift rates experienced by the south coast of Guantanamo U.S. Military Naval Base ($0.12 \pm 0.02 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$), 35-km North of the Oriente Transform Fault.

In the eastern part of the northern Caribbean transform plate boundary, shortening occurs due to the obliquity of plate convergence. The transition from a transform to a subduction plate boundary implies the Bahamas bank collision to the North and the Beata ridge indentation to the South (Mann and Burke, 1984; Mann et al., 1995, 2005; Rojas agramonte et al. 2005; Symithe et al., 2015; Calais et al., 2016; Corbeau et al., 2019; Wessels et al., 2019) (Fig. 1). Uplift of some stretches of the Cuban coasts suggests that compression might affect areas located as far as 400 km North of the Transform Fault, probably through (re-)activation of Paleocene-Eocene strike-slip faults with some vertical motion components, like the Coute-Nipe, La Trocha and Pinar Faults. Major sinistral transpressive deformation associated with folding and thrusting has been described all across Hispaniola island with various proxies: bathymetry and seismic reflection profiles across the western basins (Calais and de Lépinay, 1995; Le Roy et al., 2015; Corbeau et al., 2016), geological cross-sections (Pubellier et al., 2000; Escuder-Viruet and Pérez, 2020), seismicity (Calais et al., 2010; Possee et al., 2018; Cordeau et al., 2019), paleoseismicity (Bakun et al., 2012; Prentice et al., 2010); and GPS networks (Benford et al., 2012; Symithe et al. 2005; Calais et al. 2016). Coastal uplift seems to be higher in Haiti, where impressive sequences are present in the Northwest of Hispaniola Island (Dodge et al., 1983). In NW Haiti, the shoreline angle of MIS 5e coral reef terrace reaches 60 m

which yields an apparent uplift rate of $\sim 0.5 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$ (Dumas et al., 2006) although these results have been commented (Hearty et al., 2007).

East of the Caribbean area, the most studied sequence of coastal terraces is the one present on Barbados Island located $\sim 1700 \text{ km}$ SE of SE Cuba (Fig. 1). The island, an uplifting accretionary prism at the front of the Lesser Antilles subduction zone, exhibits a staircase sequence which reaches $300 \pm 10 \text{ m}$ in elevation, includes 13 main coastal terraces, and represents $\sim 1 \text{ Ma}$ of sea-level fluctuations. The MIS 5e shoreline angle is raised at a maximum elevation of $41 \pm 1 \text{ m}$ (Radtke & Schellmann, 2006; Potter et al., 2004; Schellmann & Radtke, 2004a,b; Thompson et al., 2003; Villemant & Feuillet, 2003; Gallup et al., 2002; Johnson, 2001; Muhs, 2001), yielding apparent uplift rates of $0.33 \pm 0.01 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$. Such rates are comparable to those determined herein, for the Punta de Maisi, in SE Cuba, just in front of the Transform Fault Zone. However, at la Desirade Island, in front of the Caribbean subduction zone at a location where the accretionary prism is less developed, the shoreline angle of the coastal terrace allocated to the last interglacial maximum (MIS 5e, $12.2 \pm 6 \text{ ka}$) lies at $10 \pm 1 \text{ m}$ (Léticée et al., 2019). This yields an apparent uplift rate of $0.08 \pm 0.01 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$ equivalent to the upper Pleistocene coastal uplift rates in NE Cuba, $\sim 190 \text{ km}$ from the Transform Fault Zone. The scarcity of dating of Pleistocene coastal landforms for the impressive sequences of South Cuba and West Haiti, which are higher in elevation and more complete in terms of successive terraces than the canonical Barbados sequence, avoid us from having detailed Pleistocene vertical motions and, overall, better constrained coastal uplift rates for the Caribbean area.

Considering a database made by members of our team (Pedoja et al., 2014), at a global scale, within transform tectonics settings, the MIS 5e benchmark is recorded at **i)** 121 sites

of which 3 are submerged, **ii**) MIS 5e shoreline angles are found at elevations ranging from -5 ± 5 m (Belize Island) to 275 ± 25 m (at Smith Gulf, California) with a mean of $\sim 30.5 \pm 3$ m, and **iii**) the mean Late Pleistocene apparent uplift rate of Transform settings is 0.25 ± 0.02 mm.yr⁻¹. Such values would be probably slightly different considering more recent databases on the MIS 5e shoreline elevation and other sea level proxies in the Caribbean area (Rubio-Sandoval et al., 2021; Simms 2021) but the latter do not include geodynamical data. Nevertheless, in theory, purely transform settings do not cause vertical land motion, which is in practice seldom observed. On coasts located in front of intra-oceanic subduction zones, the elevation of MIS 5e shorelines range from -85 ± 2.5 m to 240 ± 3 m with a mean of $\sim 51.3 \pm 3.1$ m. The mean Late Pleistocene apparent coastal uplift rate is 0.42 ± 0.03 mm.yr⁻¹ (Pedoja et al., 2014). The Lesser Antilles Fault Zone exhibits relatively low Upper Pleistocene uplift rates when compared to similar settings (subduction Mariana type). The apparent Late Pleistocene uplift rates experienced at the SE tip of Cuba (Maisi Peninsula, 0.33 ± 0.01 mm.yr⁻¹) or Haiti, are typical of Transform Fault Zone settings. Transform Fault zones frequently experience positive vertical deformations in relation to, among other, plate convergence obliquity, mantle flow and/or the rotation of crustal blocks. The relative contribution of these processes responsible for the Late Cenozoic uplift of the Cuban coasts still has to be determined.

Conclusion

The Late Cenozoic coastal evolution of the Cuban Archipelago includes the uplift of five coastal stretches, recorded by 23 emerged sequences of coastal terraces. MIS 5e terraces (122 ± 6 ka) are found at elevations lower than 20 m, except at Punta de Maisi in front of the Oriente Transform Fault Zone where it is raised at a maximum elevation of 40 ± 1 m.

Consequently, upper Pleistocene apparent coastal uplift rates range from 0.06 ± 0.01 mm.yr⁻¹ to the NW of Cuba Island to 0.33 ± 0.01 mm.yr⁻¹ in front of the Oriente Transform Fault Zone. Coastal uplift distribution shows that deformation is active up to 400 km North of the Transform Fault Zone. Long lasting sequences of notches, marine and coral reef terraces are preserved on the southern tips of Cuba Island at Punta de Maisi (SE) and Cabo Cruz (SW), in front of the Transform Fault Zone. At Maisi the sequence of 24 coastal terraces reaches 560 ± 10 m in elevation and represent a ~ 3 Ma record of sea-level fluctuations assuming constant uplift rates. On Cabo Cruz, the poorly studied sequence of 13 coastal terraces reaches 263 ± 10 m in elevation but there are no dating nor precise elevations of the successive terraces and notches. Future dating of the Cuban coastal terraces will shed light on regional tectonics and on Pleistocene coastal morphogenesis in an area, *a priori* less exposed to Holocene sea level variations than other regions.

Acknowledgments

This work was supported by ISblue project, Interdisciplinary graduate school for the blue planet (ANR-17-EURE-0015) and co-funded by a grant from the French government under the program "Investissements d'Avenir" (VuCoREm, Authemayou) and the CNES TOSCA program (CETTROPIC, C. Authemayou). We thank Mary Elliot for her polishing and bettering of our manuscript. We thank all the coastal dwellers who shared their knowledge with us.

Declaration of interest: None

Figure 1: The Caribbean geodynamical puzzle. MIS 5e data is from Pedoja et al. (2011, 2014), geodynamics and tectonics redrawn from Symithe et al., (2005) and Wessels et al., (2019),

Figure 2: The Cuban archipelago and toponymy used herein.

Figure 3: Distribution of the coastal sequences. Elevations below 30 m have a margin of error of ± 1 m, those above ± 10 m.

Figure 4: Coastal uplift and main onshore and offshore faults of the Cuban Archipelago.

The possible timing for the emersion of the uplifted coastal stretch of the Cuba Archipelago come from the extrapolation of MIS 5e coastal uplift rates (see text for more details).

Tectonics information compiled from Gordon et al., 1997 and Alvarez et al., 2017.

Figure 5: The lowermost coastal terrace (T1) near Imias **A)** General view of the composite landform **B)** Zoom on the distal edge of the coastal terrace. The coastal terrace consist of a reefal limestone unit (Jamainitas Fm.) u. coformably overlain by regressive clastic conglomerates (Cabañas Fm.). **C)** Comparison of the Indo-Pacific and Caribbean Holocene sea-levels and influence on the processes resulting in coastal terraces formation.

Figure 6: The coastal sequences between Imias and Baracoa, Oriente, Cuba. **A)** Toponymy **B)** Sequences distribution **C)** The Punta Caleta sequence **D)** The lowest coastal terrace at Jauco **E), F)** Incised sequence **G)** The Punta Caleta sequence **H)** The Punta de Maisi sequence as seen from the lighthouse **I)** The East Baracoa sequence. **J)** The lower terrace at Baracoa. **CRT** coral reef terrace, **Pta** Punta, **Sequ.** Coastal sequence.

Table 1: The coastal sequences of the Cuba Archipelago.

Zo ne	n°	sequence name	Minimum n° level	maximum elevation sequence	Maximum elevation T1	M o E	Dating
1	I	Cabo Cruz	13	263	-	-	-
1	II	West Santiago	2	30	-	-	-
1	III	East Santiago / Siboney/ San Antonio del Sur	4	200	-	-	-
1	IV	Guantanamo Bay	3	> 40	15	1	15 U/Th dating of corals color
1	V	Imias	5	240	-	-	-
1	VI	Maisi	24	560	15 to 40	1	paleomagnetism
1	VII	Yumuri	5	304	-	-	-
1	VII I	Baracoa	2	30	-	-	-
2	IX	Banes	1	15	15	1	inferred
2	X	Ciego de Avila SE	1	10	10	1	inferred
2	XI	Ciego de Avila Cayos	1	8	8	1	inferred
2	XII	Ciego de Avila NE	1	10	10	1	inferred
2	XII I	Cayo Santa Maria	1	12	12	1	inferred
3	XI V	Varadero – Carbonera	1	19	19	1	inferred
3	X V	Matanzas	3	10	16	1	XX U/Th speleothem in sea-c and 3 U/Th dating of fossil co
3	X VI	Santa Cruz del Norte	3	23	-	-	-
3	X VII	La Habana	2	26	-	-	-
3	X VII I	Mariel- Harlem – Bahia Honda	1	7	7	1	inferred
4	XI X	Peninsula de Guanahacabibes / Cabo Corrientes	2	20	7	1	1 U/Th on coral
4	X X	Isla de la Juventud	1	10	10	1	inferred
5	X XII	Playa Larga	1	15	15	1	inferred
5	X XII	Playa Gijon	2 ?	19	-	-	-
5	X XII I	Cienfuego	3	78	-	-	-

Table 2: Apparent and eustasy-corrected corrected uplift rates of the Cuban Archipelago.

All the rates and associated errors are in mm.yr^{-1} or m.ka^{-1} . The estimates vary in function of the eustatic range yielded by various methods. **Es** elevation strandline. **Age MIS** : age of the marine isotopic stage. **e** : eustatic correction. **U max** :maximal uplift rate. **U min** : minimal uplift rate. **U mean** : mean uplift rate.

n°	Area	Sequence n°	Site name	Terrace	Chrono-stratigraphy	Dating Method	Reference	Elevation Strandline / landform		Age MIS		Apparent uprates		
								Es	MoE	age	MoE	U max	U min	U mean
1	1	IV	Guantanamo light house	T1	MIS 5e	U/Th on coral	Muhs et al., 2018	15	1	122	6	0.14	0.11	0.12
2	1	IV	Guantanamo bay	T1	MIS 5e	U/Th on coral	Muhs et al., 2018	10.8	1	122	6	0.1	0.08	0.09
3	1	VI	Península Maisí	T1	MIS 5e	paleomagnetism	Pérez Lazo, 1986; Peñalver et al., 2001; 2003	15	1	122	6	0.14	0.11	0.12
4	1	VI	Península Maisí	T1	MIS 5e	paleomagnetism	Pérez Lazo, 1986; Peñalver et al., 2001; 2003	40	1	122	6	0.35	0.3	0.33
5	2	IX	Banes	T1	MIS 5e	inferred	this study	15	1	122	6	0.14	0.11	0.12
6	2	X	Ciego de Avila SE	T1	MIS 5e	inferred	this study	10	1	122	6	0.09	0.07	0.08
7	2	XI	Ciego de Avila Cayos	T1	MIS 5e	inferred	this study	8	1	122	6	0.08	0.05	0.07
8	2	XII	Ciego de Avila NE	T1	MIS 5e	inferred	this study	10	1	122	6	0.09	0.07	0.08
9	2	XIII	Cayo Santa	T1	MIS 5e	inferred	this study	12	1	122	6	0.11	0.09	0.1

			Maria											
10	3	XIV	Varadero – Carbonera	T1	MIS 5e	inferred	this study	19	1	122	6	0.17	0.14	0.16
11	3	XV	Matanzas	T1	MIS 5e	U/Th on speleothem	De Waele et al., 2017 ; 2018	16	1	122	6	0.15	0.12	0.13
12	3	XVIII	Mariel-Harlem	T1	MIS 5e	inferred	this study	7	1	122	6	0.07	0.05	0.06
13	4	XIX	Cabo Corrientes	T1	MIS 5e	U/Th on coral	Pajon et al., 2006	7	1	122	6	0.07	0.05	0.06
14	4	XX	Isla de la Juventud	T1	MIS 5e	inferred	this study	10	1	122	6	0.09	0.07	0.08
15	5	XXI	Camilo Cienfuegos	T1	MIS 5e	inferred	this study	15	1	122	6	0.14	0.11	0.12

References

- Agassiz, A. (1894). A reconnaissance of the Bahamas and of the elevated reefs of Cuba in the steam yacht "Wild duck", January to April 1893, Museum.
- Alexander, C. S. (1961). The Marine Terraces of Aruba, Bonaire, and Curacao, Netherlands Antilles." Annals of the Association of American Geographers **51**(1): 102-123.
- Alvarez, L., C. Lindholm and M. Villalon (2017). "Seismic Hazard for Cuba: A New Approach" Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America **107**(1): 229-239.
- Authemayou, C., K. Pedroja, A. Heddar, S. Molliex, A. Boudiaf, B. Ghaleb, B. V. V. Lanoe, B. Delcaillau, H. Djellit and K. Yelles (2016). "Coastal uplift west of Algiers (Algeria): pre-and post-Messinian sequences of marine terraces and rasas and their associated drainage pattern." International Journal of Earth Sciences: 1-23.
- Bakun, W. H., C. H. Flores and U. S. ten Brink (2010). "Significant earthquakes on the Enriquillo fault system, Hispaniola, 1500-2010: Implications for seismic hazard." Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America **102**(1): 18-30.
- Benford, B., C. DeMets and E. Calais (2012). "GPS estimates of microplate motions, northern Caribbean: Evidence for a Hispaniola microplate and implications for earthquake hazard." Geophysical Journal International **191**(2): 481-490.

- Berry, L., J. Whiteman and S. V. Bell (1966). "Some radiocarbon dates and their geomorphological significance, emerged reef complex of the Sudan." Zeitschrift für Geomorphologie **10**: 119-143.
- Bintanja, R. and R. S. W. Van de Wal (2008). "North American ice-sheet dynamics and the onset of 100,000-year glacial cycles." Nature **454**(7206): 869-872.
- Broecker, W. S., D. L. Thurber, J. Goddard, T.-I. Ku, R. K. Matthews and K. J. Mesolella (1968). "Milankovitch Hypothesis Supported by Precise Dating of Coral Reefs and Deep-Sea Sediments." Science **159**(3812): 297-300.

- Brunt, M. A., M. E. C. Giglioli, J. D. Mather, D. J. W. Piper and H. G. Richards (1973). "The Pleistocene rocks of the Cayman Islands." Geological Magazine **110**(3): 209-221.
- Bull, W. B. (1985). Correlation of flights of global marine terraces. 15 th Annual Geomorphology Symposium, State University of New York at Binghamton, Hemel Hempstead.
- Burke, K. (1988). "Tectonic evolution of the Caribbean." Annual Review of Earth and Planetary Sciences **16**(1): 201-230.
- Cabrera, M. (2011). "Los depositos cuaternarios del territorio marino de Cuba." Mineria y Geologia **27**(3): 1-25.
- Cabrera, M., L. Orbera, A. Nuñez, G. Pantaleon, K. Nuñez, J. Triff, C. M. Pérez, M. R. Santos, M. E. Chavez and D. Gonzalez (2011). "Movimientos neotectonicos y ascenso del nivel medio del mar en Cuba." Boletín trimestral publicado por el Centro Nacional de Información Geológica del Instituto de Geología y Paleontología **2**: 1-16.
- Cabrera, M. and L. Peñalver (2001). "Contribucion a la estratigrafia de los depositos cuaternarios de Cuba." Revista Cuaternario y Geomorfologia **15**(3-4): 37-49.
- Cabrera, M. and L. L. Peñalver (2003). "Contribucion a la estratigrafia de la formacion Jaimanitas y su relacion estratigrafica con las demas formaciones del Pleistoceno superior." Memorias GEOMIN: 11-17.
- Calais, E., T. Camelbeeck, S. Stein, M. Liu and T. J. Craig (2016). "A new paradigm for large earthquakes in stable continental plate interiors." Geophysical Research Letters **43**(20): 10,621-10,637.
- Calais, E., A. Freed, G. Mattioli, F. Amelung, S. J. Jonsson, P. Jansma, S.-H. Hong, T. Dixon, C. Prépetit and R. Momplaisir (2010). "Transpressional rupture of an unmapped fault during the 2010 Haiti earthquake." Nature Geoscience **3**(11): 794-799.
- Calais, E., Mercier de Lépinay, B., Saint-Marc, P. I. E. R. R. E., Butterlin, J., & Schaaf, A. N. D. R. É. (1992). La Limite de plaques décrochante nord caraibe en Hispanolia; evolution paleogeographique et structurale cenozoique. Bulletin de la Société Géologique de France, 163(3), 309-324.
- Calais, E. and B. Mercier De Lépinay (1995). "Strike-slip tectonic processes in the northern Caribbean between Cuba and Hispaniola (Windward Passage)." Marine Geophysical Research **17**(1): 63-95.
- Caputo, R. (2007). "Sea-level curves: Perplexities of an end-user in morphotectonic applications." Global and Planetary Change **57**(3-4): 417-423.
- Clark, J. A., W. E. Farrell and W. R. Peltier (1978). "Global changes in postglacial sea level: A numerical calculation." Quaternary Research **9**(3): 265-287.
- Colas, A. and B. Sutherland (2001). The world stormrider guide, Low Pressure.
- Corbeau, J., O. L. Gonzalez, V. Clouard, F. Rolandone, S. Leroy, D. Keir, G. Stuart, R. Momplaisir, D. Boisson and C. Prépetit (2019). "Is the local seismicity in western Hispaniola (Haiti) capable of imaging northern Caribbean subduction?" Geosphere **15**(6): 1738-1750.
- Corbeau, J., F. Rolandone, S. Leroy, B. Meyer, B. Mercier de Lépinay, N. Ellouz-Zimmermann and R. Momplaisir (2016). "How transpressive is the northern Caribbean plate boundary?" Tectonics **35**(4): 1032-1046.
- Coyne, M. K., B. Jones and D. C. Ford (2007). "Highstands during marine isotope stage 5 : evidence from the Ironshore formation of Gran Cayman, British West Indies." Quaternary Science Reviews **26**: 536-559.
- Crosby, W. O. (1883). "Elevated coral reefs of Cuba." Annals and Magazine of Natural History **12**(70): 283-284.

- Cruz-Orosa, I., F. Sabat, E. Ramos and Y. M. Vazquez-Taset (2012). "Synorogenic basins of central Cuba and collision between the Caribbean and North American plates." International Geology Review **54**(8): 876-906.
- Daly, R. A. (1925). "Pleistocene changes of level." American Journal of Science - fifth serie **X**(58): 281-313
- Darton, N. H. (1926). "Geology of the Guantanamo Basin, Cuba." Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences **16**(12): 324-333.
- Darwin, C. (1890). On the structure and distribution of coral reefs: also geological observations on the volcanic islands and parts of South America visited during the voyage of HMS Beagle, Ward, Lock.
- Darwin, C. R. (1842). The structure and distribution of coral reefs. Being the first part of the geology of the voyage of the Beagle, under the command of Capt. Fitzroy, R.N. during the years 1832 to 1836. London, Smith Elder and Co.
- Davis, W. M. (1915). "A Shaler Memorial study of coral reefs." American Journal of Science(237): 223-271.
- de Gelder, G., J. Jara-Muñoz, D. Melnick, D. Fernandez-Blanco, H. Rouby, K. Pedoja, L. Husson, R. Armijo and R. Lacassin (2020). "How do sea-level curves influence modeled marine terrace sequences?" Quaternary Science Reviews **229**: 106-132.
- De Waele, J., I. M. D'Angeli, T. Bontognali, P. Tuccimei, D. Scholz, K. P. Jochum, A. Columbu, S. M. Bernasconi, J. J. Fornas and E. P. Grau Gonzalez (2018). "Speleothems in a north Cuban cave register sea-level changes and Pleistocene uplift rates." Earth Surface Processes and Landforms **43**(11): 2313-2326.
- De Waele, J., I. M. D'Angeli, N. Tisato, P. Tuccimei, M. Soligo, J. Gines, A. Gines, J. J. Fornas, I. M. Villa, E. R. Grau Gonzalez, S. M. Barnasconi and T. R. R. Bontognali (2017). "Coastal uplift rate at Matanzas (Cuba) inferred from MIS 5e phreatic overgrowths on speleothems." Terra nova **29**(2): 98-105.
- del Busto Alvarez, R. (1975). "Las terrazas marinas de Maisi." Ciencia : serie 7 Geografia **10**: 1-12.
- Diaz de Neira, J. A., J. C. Braga, J. Mediato, E. Lasseur, J. Monthel, P. P. Hernaiz, F. Perez-Cerdon, E. Lopera and A. Thomas (2015). "Plio-Pleistocene palaeogeography of the Planura Costera del Caribe in eastern Hispaniola (Dominican Republic): Interplay of geomorphic evolution and sedimentation." Sedimentary Geology **325**: 90-105.
- Diaz de Neira, J. A., J. C. Braga, F. Perez-Cerdon and E. Lopera (2017). "Marine terraces of the Promontorio de Cabrera (Pleistocene, northern Dominican Republic)." Boletín Geológico y Minero **128**(3): 657-674.
- Diaz-Guanche, C., R. Denis-Valle, R. Ramirez-Hernandez, C. R. Rosa-Saavedra, E. Estevez-Cruz and A. Ordaz-Hernandez (2014). "Caracterización geológica y geomorfológica de la península de Guanahacabibes, Cuba." Minería y Geología **30**(4): 21-37.
- Dodge, R. E., R. G. Fairbanks, L. K. Benninger and F. Maurrasse (1983). "Pleistocene Sea Levels from Raised Coral Reefs of Haiti." Science **219**(4591): 1423-1425.
- Dominguez-Gonzalez, L., A. Rodriguez-Infante, F. Wobbe, K. P. Stanek and R. Gloaguen (2007). "Morfoalineamientos en la zona costera entre el poblado de Yamanigüey y la ciudad de Baracoa." Minería y Geología **23**(3): 17.
- Ducloz, C. (1963). "Etude géomorphologique de la région de Matanzas, Cuba: avec une contribution à l'étude des dépôts quaternaires de la zone Habana-Matanzas." Archives des Sciences **16**(2): 351-402.
- Dumas, B., C. T. Hoang and J. Raffy (2006). "Record of MIS 5 sea-level highstands based on U/Th dated coral terraces of Haiti." Quaternary International **145-146**: 106-118.
- Emery, K. O. (1981). "Low marine terraces of Grand Cayman Island." Estuarine, Coastal

and Shelf Science **12**: 569-578.

- Escuder-Virujete, J., A. Beranoaguirre, P. Valverde-Vaquero and F. McDermott (2020). "Quaternary deformation and uplift of coral reef terraces produced by oblique subduction and underthrusting of the Bahama Platform below the northern Hispaniola forearc." Tectonophysics **796**: 228631.
- Fairbridge, R. W. (1961). "Eustatic changes in sea level." Physics and Chemistry of the Earth **4**: 99-185.
- Feuillet, N., P. Tapponnier, I. Manighetti, B. Villemant and G. King (2004). "Differential uplift and tilt of Pleistocene reef platforms and Quaternary slip rate on the Morne-Piton normal fault (Guadeloupe, French West Indies)." Journal of Geophysical Research **109**(B2): B02404.1-B02404.18.
- Franco, G. F. (1983). Observaciones sobre el Neogeno-Cuaternario de la franja marina costera del extremo oriental de Cuba. Contribucion a la geologia de Cuba oriental. E. Nagy. La Havana, Editorial Cientifico-Tecnica
- Gallup, C. D., H. Cheng, F. W. Taylor and R. L. Edwards (2002). "Direct Determination of the Timing of Sea Level Change During Termination II." Science **295**(5553): 310-313.
- Garcia, J. A. (2001). Seismic hazard assessment for Cuba and the surrounding area, Research Report, ICTP, Trieste, Italy, 1–80.
- Glushankova, N., I. O. B. Parunin, T. A. Timashkova, V. Z. Khait and A. I. Shlukov (1980). "Moscow MV Lomonosov State University Radiocarbon dates I." Radiocarbon **22**(1): 82-90.
- Gordon, M. B., P. Mann, D. Caceres and R. Flores (1997). "Cenozoic tectonic history of the North America-Caribbean plate boundary zone in western Cuba." Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth **102**(B5): 10055-10082.
- Grant, K. M., E. J. Rohling, C. B. Ramsey, H. Cheng, R. L. Edwards, F. Florindo, D. Heslop, F. Marra, A. P. Roberts and M. E. Tamisiea (2014). "Sea-level variability over five glacial cycles." Nature communications **5**(5076).
- Guilcher, A. (1969). "Pleistocene and Holocene sea level changes " Earth Sciences Review **5**: 69-97.
- Hastie, A. R., S. F. Mitchell, P. J. Treloar, A. C. Kerr, I. Neill and D. N. Barford (2013). "Geochemical components in a Cretaceous island arc: the Th/La-(Ce/Ce*) Nd diagram and implications for subduction initiation in the inter-American region." Lithos **162**: 57-69.
- Hearty, P. J., A. C. Neumann and M. J. O'Leary (2007). "Comment on "Record of MIS 5 sea-level highstands based on U/Th dated coral terraces of Haiti" by Dumas et al. [Quaternary International 2006 106-118]." Quaternary International the Soil Record of Quaternary Climate Change **162-163**: 205-208.
- Hibbert, F. D., E. J. Rohling, A. Dutton, F. H. Williams, P. M. Chutcharavan, C. Zhao and M. E. Tamisiea (2016). "Coral indicators of past sea-level change: A global repository of U-series dated benchmarks." Quaternary Science Reviews **145**: 1-56.
- Hippolyte, J.-C. and P. Mann (2011). "Neogene–Quaternary tectonic evolution of the Leeward Antilles islands (Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao) from fault kinematic analysis." Marine and Petroleum Geology **28**: 259-277.
- Horsfield, W.T. (1975). "Quaternary vertical movements in the greater Antilles." Geological Society of America Bulletin **86**: 933-938.
- Husson, L., A.-M. Pastier, K. Pedoja, M. Elliot, D. Paillard, C. Authemayou, A.-C. Sarr, A. Schmitt and S. Y. Cahyarini (2018). "Reef carbonate productivity during Quaternary sea level oscillations." Geochemistry, Geophysics, Geosystems **19**(4): 1148-1164.
- Iturralde-Vinent, M. (1967). "Estudio geologico preliminar del Municipio de Manguito, Provincia de Matanzas, Cuba." Instituto Nacional de Recursos Hidraulicos, Publ. Esp. **4**: 11-22.

- Iturralde-Vinent, M. (1969). "El Neogeno en la provincia de Matanzas, Cuba." Parte General. Publicacion Especial del Instituto Nacional de Recursos Hidraulicos **7**: 3-30.
- Iturralde-Vinent, M. (2013). Tipologia y evolucion de las zonas costeras de Cuba. V convencion Cubana de Ciencias de la Tierra, La Havana.
- Iturralde-Vinent, M. A. (1969). "Principal characteristics of Cuban Neogene stratigraphy." AAPG Bulletin **53**(9): 1938-1955.
- Iturralde-Vinent, M. A. (1975). "Problems in application of modern tectonic hypotheses to Cuba and Caribbean region." AAPG Bulletin **59**(5): 838-855.
- Iturralde-Vinent, M. A. (1977). "Los movimientos tectonicos de la etapa de desarrollo plataformico en Cuba." Informes Cientifico-Tecnicos Academia de Ciencias de Cuba **20**: 3-24.
- Iturralde-Vinent, M. A. (1981). "Nuevo modelo interpretativo de la evolucion geologica de Cuba."
- Iturralde-Vinent, M. A. (1982). "Aspectos geologicos de la biogeografia de Cuba." Revista de Ciencias de la Tierra y del Espacio **5**: 85-100.
- Iturralde-Vinent, M. A. (1994). "Cuban geology: A new plate-tectonic synthesis." Journal of Petroleum Geology **17**(1): 39-69.
- Iturralde-Vinent, M. A. (1996). "Cuba: el arco de islas volcanicas del Cretacico." Ofiolitas y arcos volcanicos de Cuba. IGCP project **364**: 173-189.
- Iturralde-Vinent, M. A. (2003). Ensayo sobre la paleogeografia del Cuaternario de Cuba. V Congreso de Geologia y Minería, La Habana.
- James, N. P., E. W. Mountjoy and A. Omura (1971). "An early Wisconsin reef terrace at Barbados, West Indies, and its climatic implications." Geological Society of America Bulletin **82**(7): 2011-2017.
- Jara-Muñoz, J., D. Melnick, K. Pedoja and M. R. Strecker (2019). "TerraceM-2: A Matlab® Interface for Mapping and Modeling Marine and Lacustrine Terraces." Frontiers in Earth Science **7**: 255.
- Jennings, O. E. (1913). "Note on the Geology of the Isle of Pines, Cuba." The Journal of Geology **21**(4): 367-369.
- Johnson, M. E. and L. K. Libbey (1997). "Global review of upper Pleistocene (substage 5e) rocky shores: Tectonic segregation, substrate variation, and biological diversity." Journal of Coastal Research **13**(2): 297-307.
- Johnson, R. G. (2001). "Last interglacial sea stands on Barbados and an early anomalous deglaciation timed by differential uplift." Journal of Geophysical Research **106**(C6): 11 543-11 551.
- Jones, W. F. (1918). "A Geological Reconnaissance in Haiti a Contribution to Antillean Geology." The Journal of Geology **26**(8): 728-752.
- Kartashov, I. P., A. Cherniajovski and L. L. Peñalver (1981). "El Antropogeno de Cuba." Edit. Nauka. Moscu **356**: 1-145.
- Kartashov, I. P. and N. Mayo (1976). "Descripcion de algunas formaciones geologicas del sistema Cuaternario de Cuba, reconocidas recientemente." Academia de Ciencia Cuba : Serie Geologica **26**: 1-12.
- Kartashov, I. P. and N. A. Mayo (1974). "Principales rasgos del desarrollo geologico de Cuba Oriental en el Cenozoico tardio." Contribucion a la Geologia de Cuba, Publicacion Especial(2): 165-174.
- Khan, N. S., E. Ashe, B. P. Horton, A. Dutton, R. E. Kopp, G. Brocard, S. E. Engelhart, D. F. Hill, W. R. Peltier and C. H. Vane (2017). "Drivers of Holocene sea-level change in the Caribbean." Quaternary Science Reviews **155**: 13-36.
- Lajoie, K. R. (1986). Coastal Tectonics. Active tectonic. N. A. Press. Washington D,C, National Academic Press: 95-124.

- Leroy, S., N. Ellouz-Zimmermann, J. Corbeau, F. Rolandone, B. M. de Lepinay, B. Meyer, R. Momplaisir, J. L. Granja Bruja, A. Battani and C. Baurion (2015). "Segmentation and kinematics of the North American-Caribbean plate boundary offshore Hispaniola." Terra Nova **27**(6): 467-478.
- Leroy, S., A. Mauffret, P. Patriat and B. Mercier de Lépinay (2000). "An alternative interpretation of the Cayman trough evolution from a reidentification of magnetic anomalies." Geophysical Journal International **141**(3): 539-557.
- Léticée, J.-L., J.-J. Cornée, P. Münch, J. Fietzke, M. Philippon, J.-F. Lebrun, L. De Min and A. Randrianasolo (2019). "Decreasing uplift rates and Pleistocene marine terraces settlement in the central lesser Antilles fore-arc (La DÃ©sirade Island, 16° N)." Quaternary International **508**: 43-59.
- Lisiecki, L. E. and M. E. Raymo (2005). "A Pliocene-Pleistocene stack of 57 globally distributed benthic $\delta^{18}O$ records." Paleoceanography **20**: PA1003.
- Lyell, C. (1830). Principles of geology, being an attempt to explain the former changes of the earth's surface, by reference to causes now in operation. London, John Murray.
- Mann, P., J.-C. Hippolyte, N. R. Grindlay and L. J. Abrams (2005). "Neotectonics of southern Puerto Rico and its offshore margin." Active tectonics and seismic hazards of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and offshore areas **385**: 173-214.
- Mann, P., & Burke, K. (1984). Neotectonics of the Caribbean. Reviews of Geophysics, **22**(4), 309-362.
- Mann, P., Tyburski, S. A., & Rosencrantz, E. (1991). Neogene development of the Swan Islands restraining-bend complex, Caribbean Sea. Geology, **19**(8), 823-826.
- Mann, P., C. Schubert and K. Burke (1990). "Review of Caribbean neotectonics." gna **1990**: 307-338.
- Mann, P., F. W. Taylor, R. L. Edwards and T.-L. Ku (1995). "Actively evolving microplate formation by oblique collision and sideways motion along strike-slip faults: An example from the northeastern Caribbean plate margin." Tectonophysics **246**(1-3): 1-69.
- Marie-Victorin, F. and F. Léon (1956). Itinéraires botaniques dans l'île de Cuba. Montréal, Canada, Institut botanique de l'Université de Montréal.
- Massip, S. (1936). "Estructura y Relieve de Cuba " Boletín de la Sociedad Geológica Mexicana **IX**(4): 177-190.
- Matley, C. A. (1926). "The Geology of the Cayman Islands (British West Indies), and their Relation to the Bartlett Trough." Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society **82**(1-4): 352-387.
- Meinzer, O. E. (1933). "Geologic reconnaissance of a region adjacent to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba." Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences **23**(5): 246-263.
- Mesoella, K. J. (1967). "Zonation of uplifted Pleistocene coral reefs on Barbados, West Indies." Science **156**(3775): 638-640.
- Mesoella, K. J., R. K. Matthews, W. S. Broecker and D. L. Thurber (1969). "The Astronomical Theory of Climatic Change: Barbados Data." The Journal of Geology **77**(3): 250-274.
- Mitchell, S. F., R. K. Pickerill, B. A. B. Blackwell and A. R. Skinner (2000). "The age of the Port Morant formation, south-eastern Jamaica." Caribbean Journal of Earth Science **34**: 1-4.
- Mitchell, S. F., R. K. Pickerill and T. A. Stemmann (2001). "The Port Morant Formation (Upper Pleistocene, Jamaica): high resolution sedimentology and paleoenvironmental analysis of a mixed carbonate clastic lagoonal succession." Sedimentary Geology **144**(3-4): 291-306.
- Molerio-Leon, L. F. (2005). "Los nichos de marea karsticos en Cuba y las fluctuaciones del nivel del mar en el cuaternario." Boletín de la Sociedad Venezolana de Espeleología **39**: 16-20.

- Molerio-Léon, L. F. (2017). "Neotectonica y patrones de cavernamiento en Punta Guanós, Matanzas, Cuba I : el entorno geológico." Gota a Gota **14**: 11-20.
- Molerio-Léon, L. F. (2017). "Neotectonica y patrones de cavernamiento en Punta Guanós, Matanzas, Cuba III . El desarrollo del Karst " Gota a Gota **14**: 11-20.
- Montaggioni, L. and C. J. R. Braithwaite (2009). Quaternary coral reef systems : history, development processes and controlling factors. Amsterdam, Elsevier.
- Muhs, D. R. (2001). "Evolution of Soils on Quaternary Reef Terraces of Barbados, West Indies." Quaternary Research **56**(1): 66-78.
- Muhs, D. R., E. S. Schweig, K. R. Simmons and R. B. Halley (2018). "Late Quaternary uplift along the North America-Caribbean plate boundary: Evidence from the sea level record of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba." Quaternary Science Reviews **178**: 54-76.
- Murray-Wallace, C. and C. Woodroffe (2014). Quaternary sea level : a global perspective. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.
- Naprstek, V. (1978). "Radiometric age and genesis of the Jaimanitas formation in the Rincon de Guanabo region, Cuba." Vestník Ustřední a Ustavu Geologického **53**(1): 19-28.
- Pajon, J. M., I. Hernandez and Y. Estevez (2006). Paleoregistros de las variaciones del nivel del mar en el Caribe durante el Pleistoceno-Plioceno. Conexión con problemas de la Arqueología cubana. Memorias de la VIII Conferencia Internacional Antropología 2006 La Antropología ante los Nuevos Retos de la Humanidad, La Habana.
- Pastier, A. M., L. Husson, K. Pedoja, A. Bézous, C. Authemayou, C. AriasRuiz and S. Y. Cahyarini (2019). "Genesis and architecture of sequences of quaternary coral reef terraces: Insights from numerical models." Geochemistry, Geophysics, Geosystems **20**(8): 4248-4272.
- Pedoja, K., L. Husson, A. Bezous, A.-M. Pastier, A. M. Imran, C. Arias-Ruiz, A.-C. Sarr, M. Elliot, E. Pons-Branchu and M. I. Nèser (2018). "On the long-lasting sequences of coral reef terraces from SE Sulawesi (Indonesia): Distribution, formation, and global significance." Quaternary Science Reviews **188**: 37-57.
- Pedoja, K., L. Husson, M. E. Johnson, D. Melnick, C. Witt, S. Pochat, M. Nexer, B. Delcaillau, T. Pinegina, Y. Poprawski, C. Authemayou, M. Elliot, V. Regard and F. Garestier (2014). "Coastal staircase sequences reflecting sea-level oscillations and tectonic uplift during the Quaternary and Neogene." Earth-Science Reviews **132**: 13-38.
- Pedoja, K., L. Husson, V. Regard, P. R. Cobbold, E. Ostanciaux, M. E. Johnson, S. Kershaw, M. Saller, J. Martinod, L. Furgerot, P. Weill and B. Delcaillau (2011). "Relative sea-level fall since the last interglacial stage: Are coasts uplifting worldwide?" Earth-Science Reviews **108**(1-2): 1-15.
- Peñalver, L. L. (1982). "Correlación estratigráfica entre los depósitos cuaternarios de la plataforma noroccidental de Pinar del Río y las zonas emergidas próximas." Revista de Ciencias de la Tierra y del Espacio **5**: 63-84.
- Peñalver, L. L., A. Barrientos, L. Orbera, C. Hernández, V. Estrada, E. Napoles, J. Álvarez, J. Pérez Laso, A. Méndez and M. Fundora (1998). Versión actualizada del mapa de depósitos Cuaternarios de Cuba y su plataforma insular a escala 1: 500 000. Geología y Minería **98**, Memorias, Tomo 1. **1**: 559-561.
- Peñalver, L. L., A. Barrientos Duarte and J. R. Oro Alfonso (1982). "Las secuencias terrigenas del Plioceno Superior-Pleistoceno "humedo" de Cuba occidental." Revista de Ciencias de la Tierra y del Espacio **5**(43-62).
- Peñalver, L. L., E. Castellanos, R. Pérez and R. Rivada (2003). Las terrazas marinas de Cuba y su correlación con algunas del área circumcaribe. Geología del Cuaternario, geomorfología y carso. La Habana, Memorias Geominerales 1-10.

- Peñalver, L. L., R. Lavandero and A. Barriando (1997). Sistema cuaternario. Estudios sobre Geología de Cuba. G. Furrázola-Bermudez and Nunez-Cambra. La Habana, Instituto de Geología y Paleontología: 165-178.
- Peñalver, L. L., J. R. Oro Alfonso and A. Barrientos Duarte (1982). "Las secuencias carbonatadas del Plioceno-Pleistoceno" humedo" de Cuba occidental." Revista de Ciencias de la Tierra y del Espacio **5**(24-42).
- Perera, Y. and C. Rojas (2005). Distribucion facial de los corales de la formacion Jaimanitas en una area al oeste de Cojimar, ciudad de la Habana. VI congreso de Geologia (Geologia 2005) : Geologia del Cuaternario y Carsologia, La Habana, Geosciencias.
- Pérez, C., L. Peñalver and R. Rivada (2011). San Antonio del Sur : Paleobahia de bolsa durante el Pleistoceno Superior. IX congreso Cubano de Geología: Geología regional y Tectónica, La Habana.
- Pérez, C. M., L. L. Peñalver, M. Cabrera and R. Denis (2003). Algunas consideraciones acerca de la evolucion tectonica del extremo occidental de Pinar del Rio, Cuba. Memorias del V Congreso Internacional de Geología y Minería. CD GEOMIN-2003, La Habana.
- Pérez Lazo, J. (1986). Escala paleomagnética condicional para los depositos del intervalo Plioceno-Cuaternario de Cuba. La Habana, ISPJ, F.
- Perez-Aragon, R., O., L. Peñalver, J. Triff-Oquendo and R. Rivada-Suaez (2001). Nuevos datos sobre la geomorfologia de las terrazas marinas de la region Habana-Matanzas. IV Congreso de Geología y Minería La Habana.
- Perrot, J., Calais, E., & De Lepinay, B. M. (1997). Tectonic and kinematic regime along the Northern Caribbean Plate Boundary: new insights from broad-band modeling of the May 25, 1992, Ms= 6.9 Cabo Cruz, Cuba, earthquake. Pure and applied Geophysics, 149(3), 475-487.
- Pindell, J., L. Kennan, W. V. Maresch, K. Stanek, G. Draper and R. Higgs (2005). "Plate-kinematics and crustal dynamics of circum-Caribbean arc-continent interactions: Tectonic controls on basin development in Proto-Caribbean margins." Special Papers-Geological Society of America **394**: 7.
- Pindell, J., W. V. Maresch, U. Mortens and K. Stanek (2012). "The Greater Antillean Arc: Early Cretaceous origin and proposed relationship to Central American subduction mélanges: implications for models of Caribbean evolution." International Geology Review **54**(2): 131-143.
- Possee, D., D. Keir, N. Harman, C. Rychert, F. Rolandone, S. Leroy, J. Corbeau, G. Stuart, E. Calais and F. Illsley-Kemp (2018). "The tectonics and active faulting of Haiti from seismicity and tomography." Tectonics **38**(3): 1138-1155.
- Potter, E.-K., T. M. Esat, G. Schellmann, U. Radtke, K. Lambeck and M. T. McCulloch (2004). "Suborbital-period sea-level oscillations during marine isotope substages 5a and 5c." Earth and Planetary Science Letters **225**(1-2): 191-204.
- Prentice, C. S., P. Mann, A. J. Crone, R. D. Gold, K. W. Hudnut, R. W. Briggs, R. D. Koehler and P. Jean (2010). "Seismic hazard of the Enriquillo-Plantain Garden fault in Haiti inferred from palaeoseismology." Nature Geoscience **3**(11): 789-793.
- Pubellier, M., A. Mauffret, S. Leroy, J. M. Vila and H. Amilcar (2000). "Plate boundary readjustment in oblique convergence: Example of the Neogene of Hispaniola, Greater Antilles." Tectonics **19**(4): 630-648.
- Pushcharovski, Y. (1988). Mapa geológico de la Republica de Cuba, escala 1: 250,000. Ciudad de La Habana and Moscow, Academies of Sciences of Cuba and the USSR.
- Radtke, U. and G. Schellmann (2006). "Uplift history along the Clermont Nose Traverse on the west coast of Barbados during the last 500,000 years - implications for paleo-sea level reconstructions." Journal of Coastal Research **22**(2): 350-356.

- Richards, H. G. (1935). "Pleistocene mollusks from western Cuba." Journal of Paleontology: 253-258.
- Rodriguez- Cotilla, M. O. (2014). "Alternative interpretation for the active zones of Cuba." Geotectonics **48**(6): 459-482.
- Rohling, E. J., K. Grant, M. Bolshaw, A. P. Roberts, M. Siddall, C. Hemleben and M. Kucera (2009). "Antarctic temperature and global sea level closely coupled over the past five glacial cycles." Nature Geosciences **2**: 500-504.
- Rojas, R., E. Abreu, C. Diaz-Guanche and J. Pajon (2017). Paleovientos intensos del Este-Noreste durante el Pleistoceno temprano memorizados en las eolianitas de la formacion Guanabo, La Habana, Cuba occidental. XII Congreso de Geología : Estratigrafía y Paleontología, La Habana.
- Rojas-Agramonte, Y., F. Neubauer, R. Handler, D. E. Garcia-Delgado, G. Friedl and R. Delgado-Damas (2005). "Variation of palaeostress patterns along the Oriente transform wrench corridor, Cuba: significance for Neogene-Quaternary tectonics of the Caribbean realm." Tectonophysics **396**(3-4): 161-180.
- Rovere, A., M. E. Raymo, M. Vacchi, T. Lorscheid, P. Stocchi, L. Gomez-Pujol, D. L. Harris, E. Casella, M. J. O'Leary and P. J. Hearty (2016). "The analysis of Last Interglacial (MIS 5e) relative sea-level indicators: Reconstructing sea-level in a warmer world." Earth-Science Reviews **159**: 401-427.
- Salomon, J.-N. (1995). "Relations entre karsts, aquifères et niveaux de la mer à Cuba." Hommes et terres du Nord **1**(1): 82-96.
- Schellmann, G. and U. Radtke (2004). "A revised morpho- and chronostratigraphy of the Late and Middle Pleistocene coral reef terraces on Southern Barbados (West Indies)." Earth-Science Reviews **64**(3-4): 157-187.
- Schellmann, G., U. Radtke, E.-K. Potter, T. M. Esat and M. T. McCulloch (2004). "Comparison of ESR and TIMS U/Th dating of marine isotope stage (MIS) 5e, 5c, and 5a coral from Barbados-implications for palaeo sea-level changes in the Caribbean." Quaternary International Coastal Environmental Change during Sea-Level Highstands, IGCP 437 Symposium, Barbados **120**(1): 41-50.
- Schielein, P., C. Burow, J. Pajon, R. P. Consuegra, J.-x. Zhao and G. Schellmann (2020). "ESR and U-Th dating results for Last Interglacial coral reef terraces at the northern coast of Cuba." Quaternary International **256**: 216-229.
- Shackleton, N. J. (1987). "Oxygen Isotopes, Ice Volume and Sea Level." Quaternary Science Reviews **6**: 183-190.
- Shakun, J. D., D. W. Lea, L. E. Lisiecki and M. E. Raymo (2015). "An 800-kyr record of global surface ocean $\delta^{18}O$ and implications for ice volume-temperature coupling." Earth and Planetary Science Letters **426**: 58-68.
- Shantzer, E. V., O. M. Petrov and G. F. Franco (1976). "Sobre las terrazas marinas costeras y los depósitos relacionados con ellas (en ruso)." Acumulacion de sedimentos cuaternarios y formacion del relieve **Edit. Nauka, Moscow**: 34-80.
- Siddall, M., J. Chappell and E.-K. Potter (2006). Eustatic sea level during past interglacials. The Climate of Past Interglacials. F. Sirocko, M. Claussen, M. F. Sanchez Goñi and T. Litt. Amsterdam, Elsevier: 75-92.
- Speed, R. C. and H. Cheng (2004). "Evolution of marine terraces and sea level in the last interglacial, Cave Hill, Barbados." Geological Society of America Bulletin **116**(1-2): 219-232.
- Spencer, T. (1985). "Marine erosion rates and coastal morphology of reef limestones on Grand Cayman Island, West Indies." Coral Reefs **4**(2): 59-70.
- Simms, A. R. (2021). "Last interglacial sea levels within the Gulf of Mexico and northwestern Caribbean Sea." Earth System Science Data **13**(3): 1419-1439.
- Spencer, J. W. (1895). "Geographical evolution of Cuba." Bulletin of the Geological Society of America **7**(1): 67-95.

- Spratt, R. M. and L. E. Lisiecki (2016). "A Late Pleistocene sea level stack." Climate of the Past **12**(4): 1079.
- Stirling, C. H., T. M. Esat, K. Lambeck and M. T. McCulloch (1998). "Timing and duration of the Last Interglacial: evidence for a restricted interval of widespread coral reef growth." Earth and Planetary Science Letters **160**(3-4): 745-762.
- Symithe, S., E. Calais, J. B. De Chabaliér, R. Robertson and M. Higgins (2005). "Current block motions and strain accumulation on active faults in the Caribbean." Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth **120**(5): 3748-3774.
- Szabo, B. J. (1979). "230Th, 231Pa, and open system dating of fossil corals and shells." Journal of Geophysical Research **84**(C8): 4927-4930.
- Taber, S. (1922). "The great fault troughs of the Antilles." The Journal of Geology **30**(2): 89-114.
- Taber, S. (1931). "The structure of the Sierra Maestra near Santiago de Cuba." The Journal of Geology **39**(6): 532-557.
- Thompson, W. G., M. W. Spiegelman, S. L. Goldstein and R. C. Speed (2003). "An open-system model for U-series age determinations of fossil corals." Earth and Planetary Science Letters **210**(1-2): 365-381.
- Toscano, M. A., E. Rodríguez and J. Lundberg (1999). Geologic investigation of the late Pleistocene Jaimanitas Formation: Science and society in Castro's Cuba. Proceedings of the 9th symposium on the geology of the Bahamas and other carbonate regions, San Salvador, Bahamas. Bahamian Field Station.
- Trechmann, C. T. (1933). "The uplift of Barbados." Geological Magazine **70**(1): 19-47.
- Valle, R. D., L. L. Peñalver, M. Cabrera and C. Pérez (2003). Consideraciones acerca de algunos ambientes marinos litorales del Cuaternario en el occidente de Cuba y sus implicaciones estratigráficas. V Congreso de Geología y Minería : Geología del Cuaternario, Geomorfología y Carso, La Habana.
- Vaughan, T. W. (1914). "Sketch of the geologic history of the Florida coral reef tract and comparisons with other coral reef areas." Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences **4**(2): 26-34.
- Vaughan, T. W. and A. C. Spencer (1902). "The geography of Cuba." Bulletin of the American Geographical Society **34**(2): 105-116.
- Villemant, B. and N. Feuillet (2003). "Dating open systems by the 238U-234U-230Th method: application to Quaternary reef terraces." Earth and Planetary Science Letters **210**(1-2): 105-115.
- Viruete, J. E. and Y. Pérez (2020). "Neotectonic structures and stress fields associated with oblique collision and forearc sliver formation in northern Hispaniola: Implications for the seismic hazard assessment." Tectonophysics: 228452.
- Waelbroeck, C., L. D. Labeyrie, E. Michel, J. C. Duplessy, J. F. McManus, K. Lambeck, E. Balbon and M. Labracherie (2002). "Sea-level and deep water temperature changes derived from benthic foraminifera isotopic records." Quaternary Science Reviews **21**: 295-305.
- Wessels, R. J. F., N. Ellouz-Zimmermann, N. Bellahsen, Y. Hamon, C. Rosenberg, R. Deschamps, R. Momplaisir, D. Boisson and S. Leroy (2019). "Polyphase tectonic history of the Southern Peninsula, Haiti: from folding-and-thrusting to transpressive strike-slip." Tectonophysics **751**: 125-149.
- Woodring, W. P. (1954). "Caribbean land and sea through the ages." Geological Society of America Bulletin **65**(8): 719-732.
- Woodroffe, C. D., D. R. Stoddart, R. S. Harmon and T. Spencer (1983). "Coastal morphology and late quaternary history, Cayman Islands, West Indies." Quaternary Research **19**(1): 64-84.
- Yildirim, C., D. Melnick, P. Ballato, T. F. Schildgen, H. Echtler, A. E. Erginal, N. Kayak and M. R. Strecker (2013). "Differential uplift along the northern margin of the Central

Anatolian Plateau: inferences from marine terraces." Quaternary Science Reviews **81**: 12-28.

Zachos, J. C., G. R. Dickens and R. E. Zeebe (2008). "An early Cenozoic perspective on greenhouse warming and carbon-cycle dynamics." Nature **451**(7176): 279-283.

Highlights

- First distribution of the Cuban emerged sequence of coral reef and marine terraces
- The Cuban Archipelago, located in a transform setting, is affected by a partitioned compressive component resulting in block tectonics with tilting controlled by regional faults
- Upper Pleistocene apparent uplift rates ranging from $0.06 \pm 0.01 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$ (NW Cuba) to $0.33 \pm 0.01 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$ (SE Cuba) in front of the main transform fault.