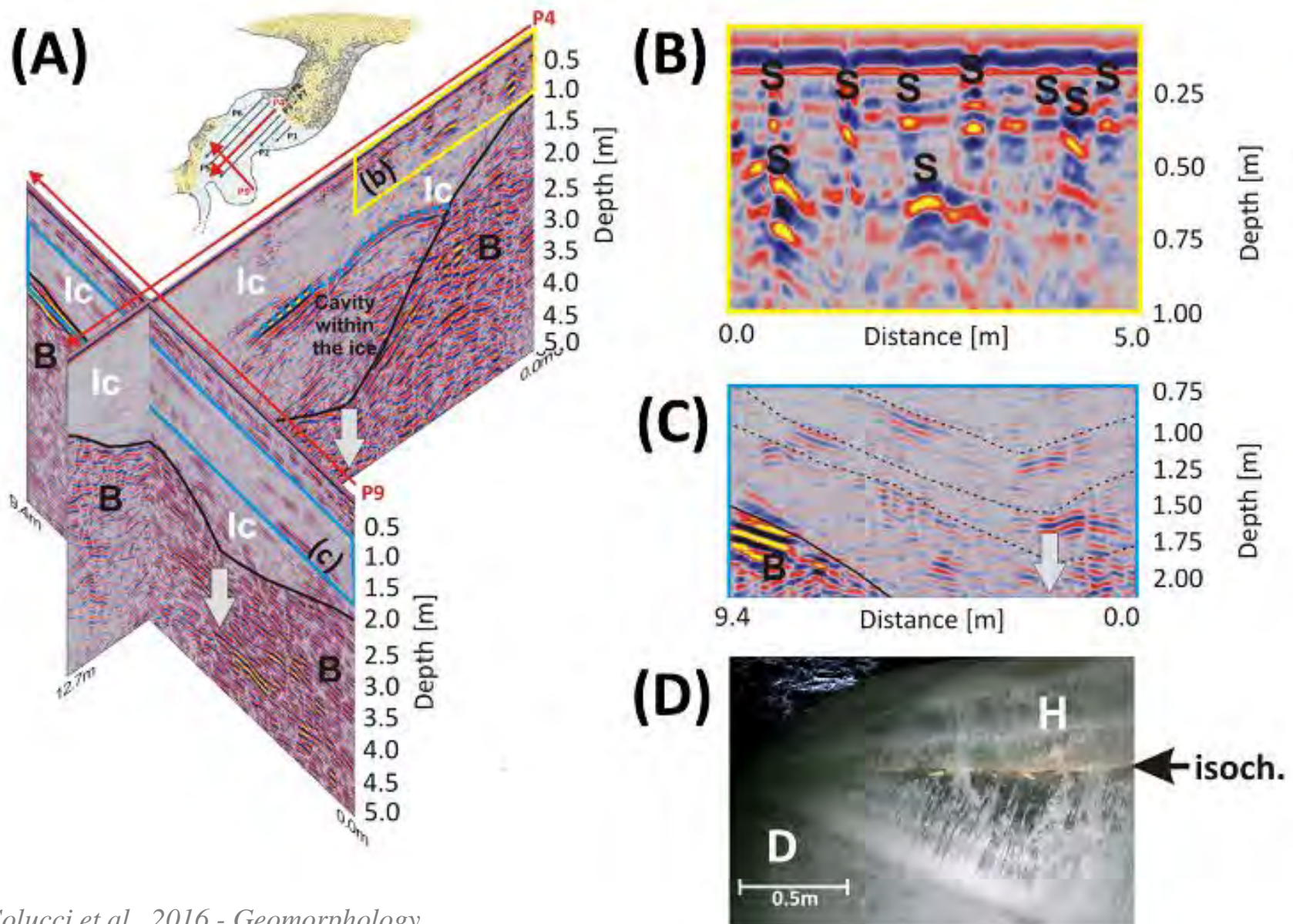




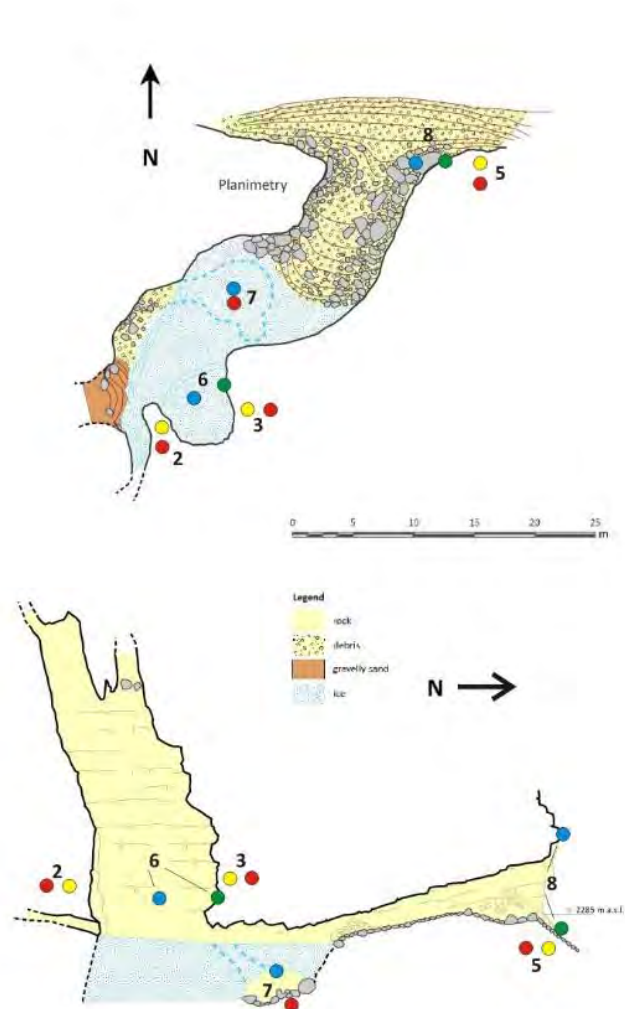


LEUPA Ice Cave





LEUPA Ice Cave

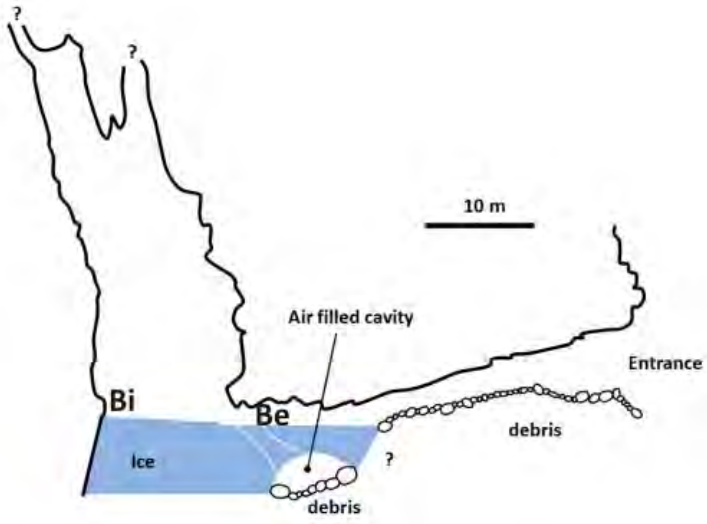


Microclimatology

- 14 temperature monitoring sites since summer 2011 → Tinytag® dataloggers (rock, ice, air)
- MAAT = -1.4°C
- Rock in Permafrost (always $<0^{\circ}\text{C}$; $t > 2$ years)



LEUPA Ice Cave Mass balance

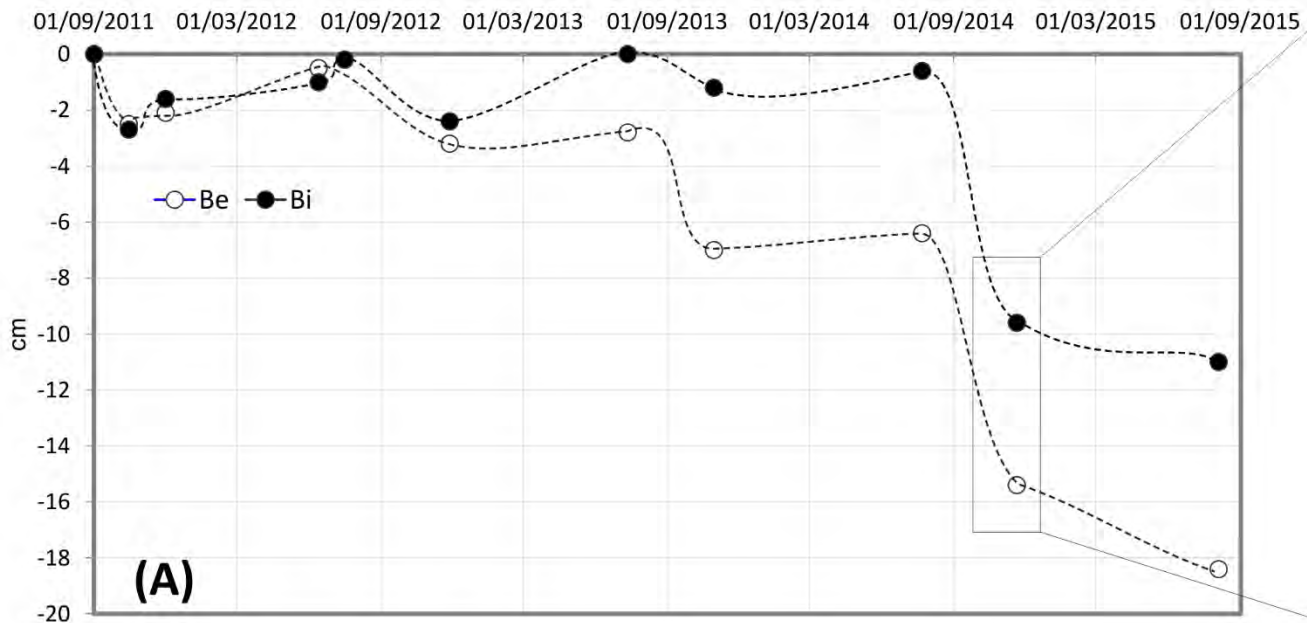
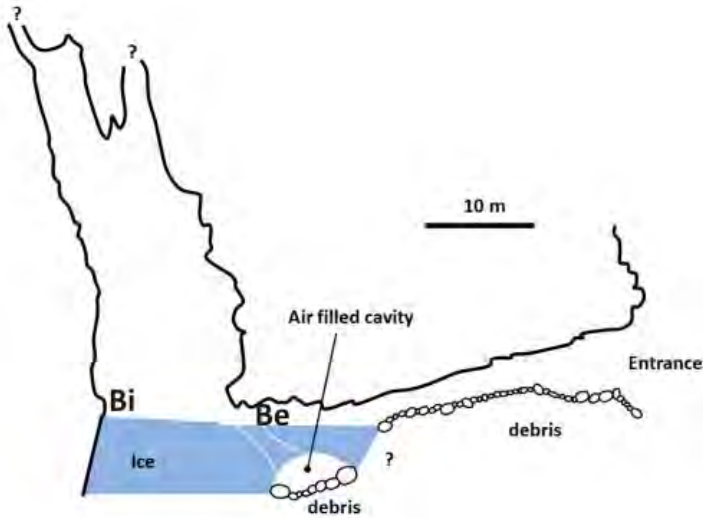




LEUPA Ice Cave Mass balance

Bi = slight increase until 2014

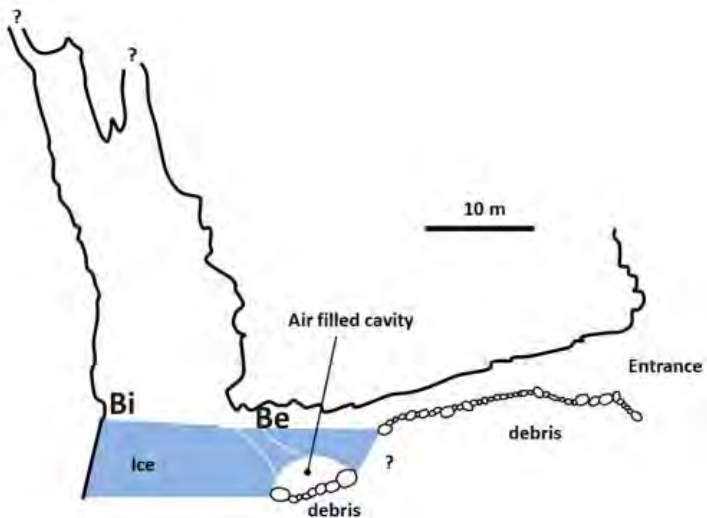
- Annual cycle (autumn minima, summer maxima... 2-3-cm)
- - 9 cm 22 Jul 2014 – 20 Nov 2014



(A)



LEUPA Ice Cave Mass balance

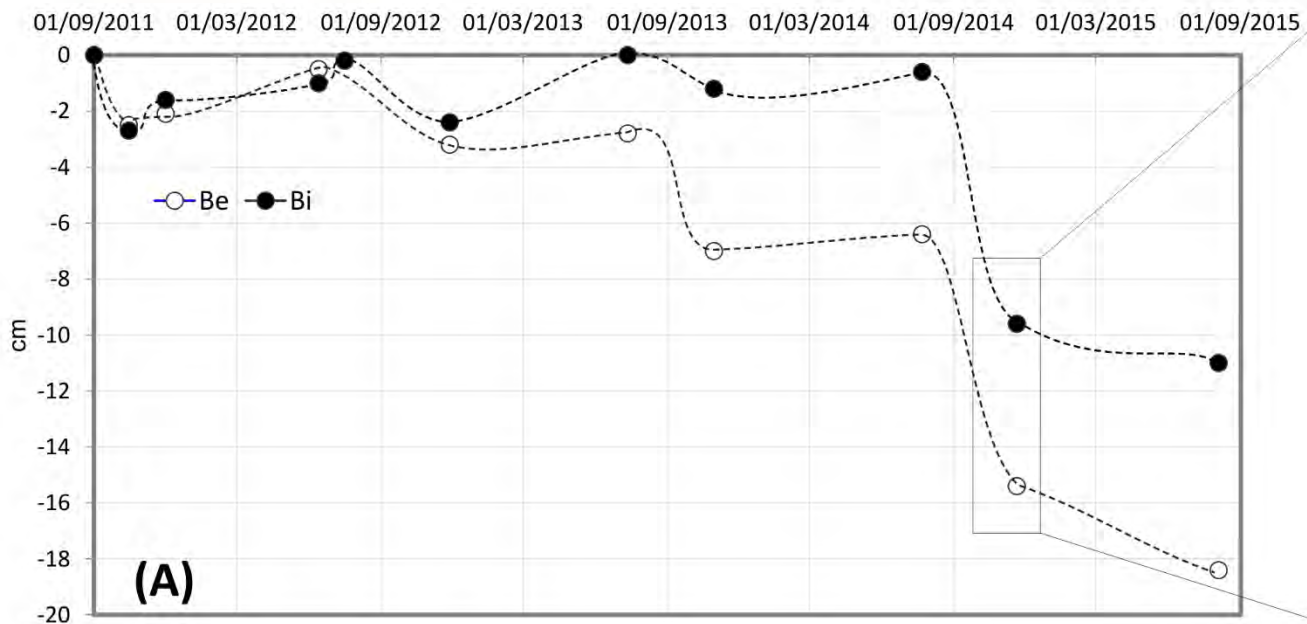


Bi = slight increase until 2014

- Annual cycle (autumn minima, summer maxima... 2-3-cm)
- - 9 cm 22 Jul 2014 – 20 Nov 2014

Be = slight increase until 2014

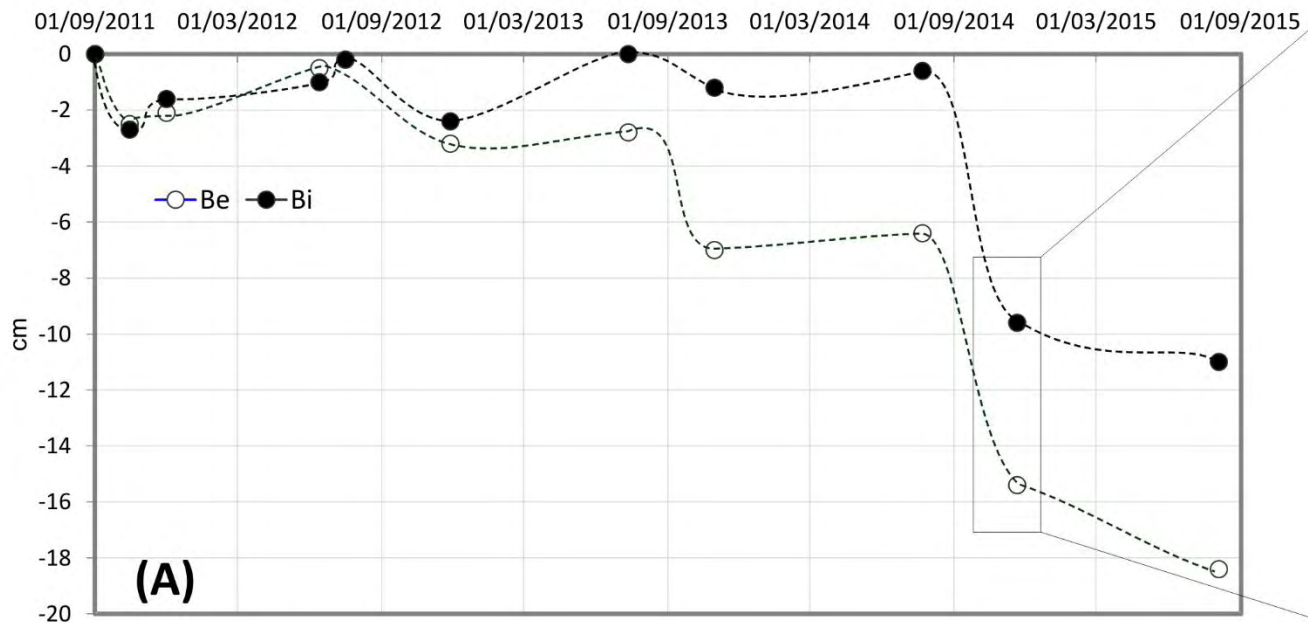
- Decrease already since 2013
- - 9 cm 22 Jul – 20 Nov 2014
- -4.2 cm 12 Jul – 30 Oct 2013



(A)



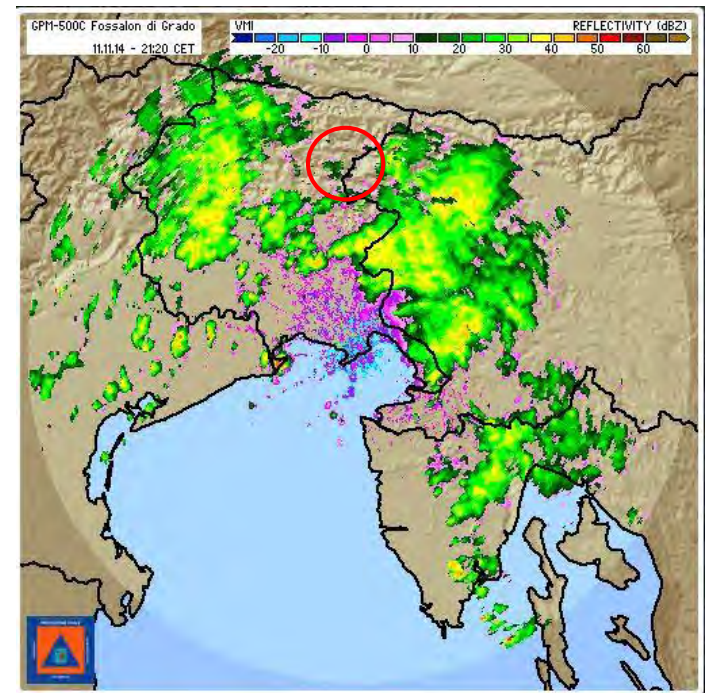
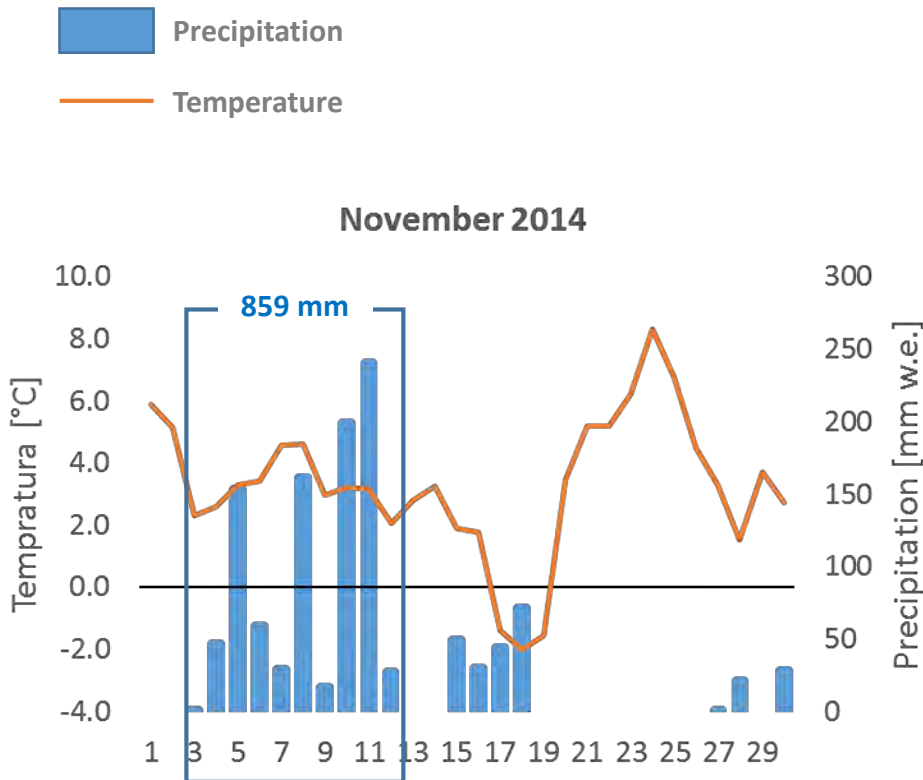
LEUPA Ice Cave





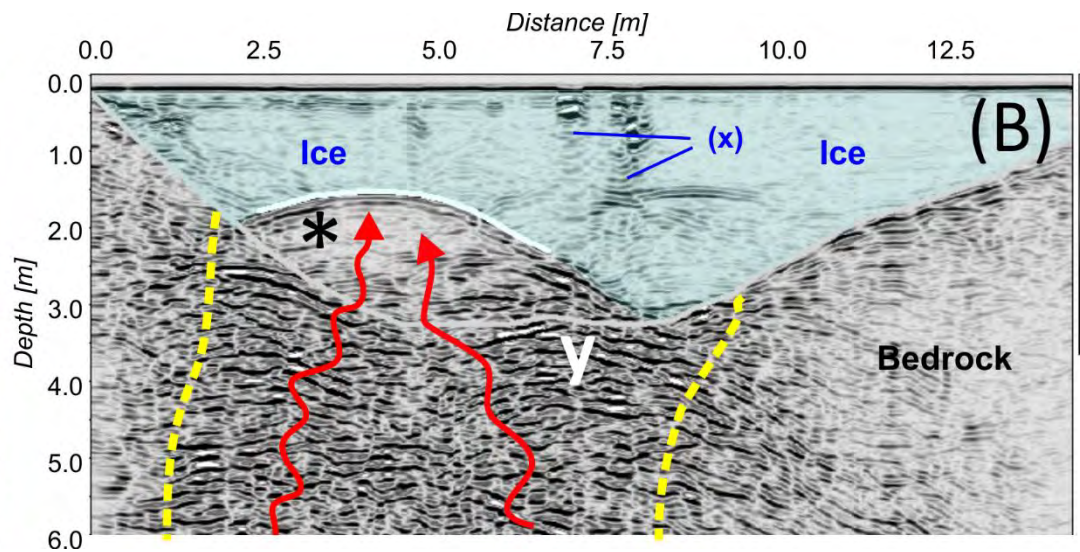
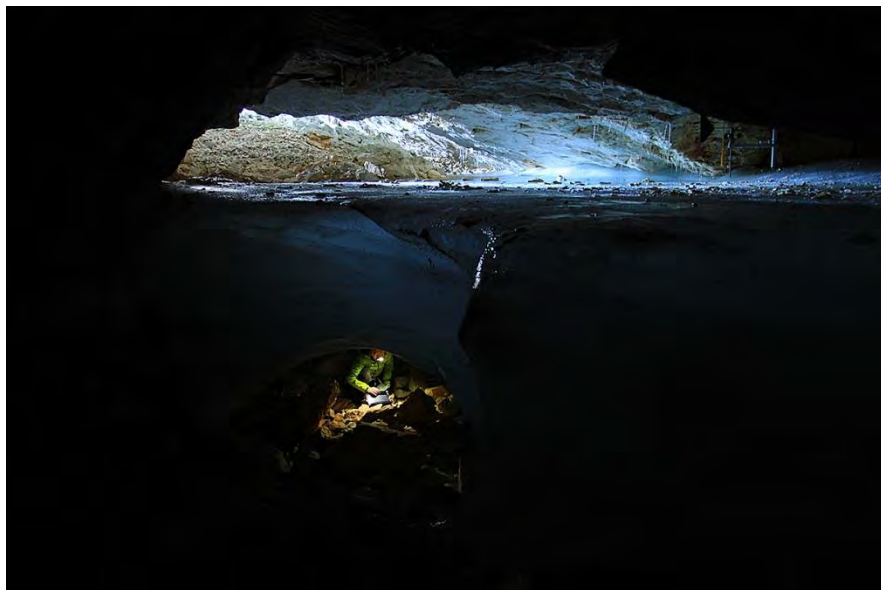
LEUPA Ice Cave

heavy precipitation events in autumn are a normal characteristic of the area (e.g., Manzato, 2007), but a higher than average ML produces heavy rainfalls at altitudes normally interested by snowfalls





LEUPA Ice Cave





VASTO Ice Cave

- MAX ice thickness 8.5 m
- High debris concentration within the first 2 m
- Weak reflection coefficient at the bottom → possible frozen ground at the bottom ? (Koh et al. 1996)

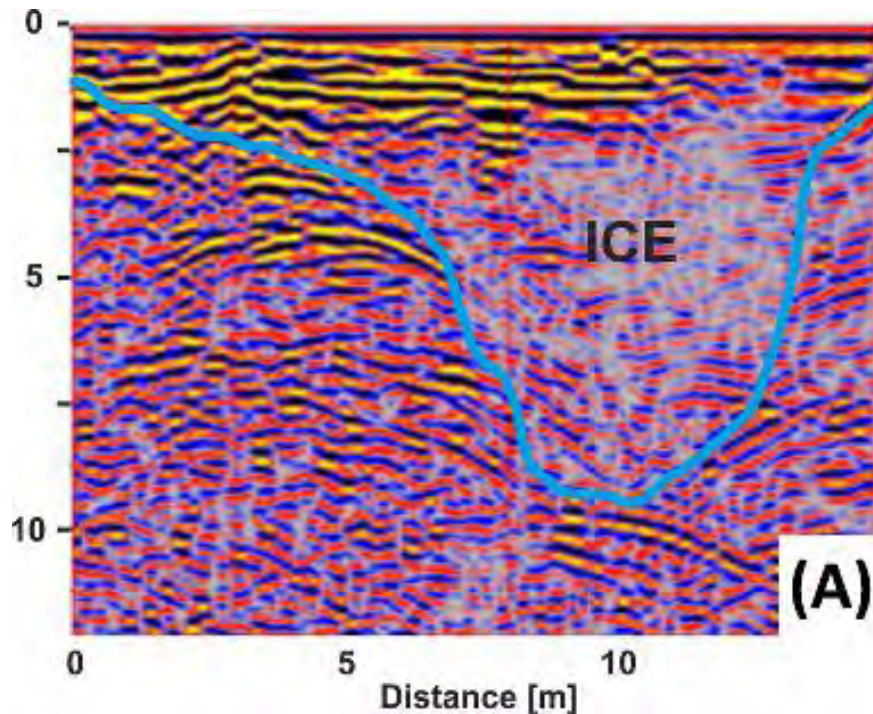




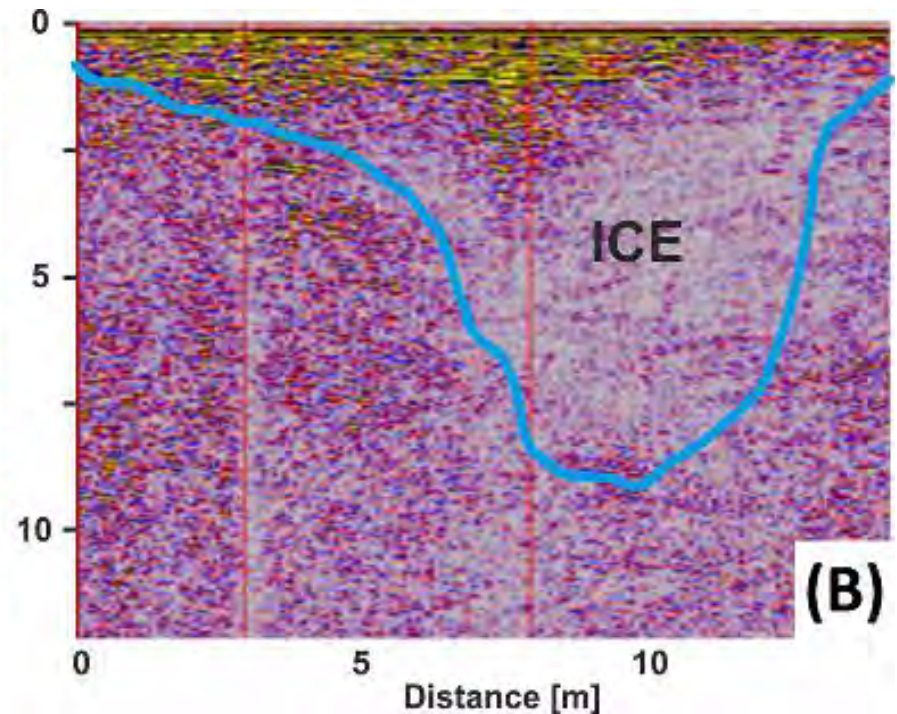
VASTO Ice Cave

- MAX ice thickness 8.5 m
- High debris concentration within the first 2 m
- Weak reflection coefficient at the bottom → possible frozen ground at the bottom ? (Koh et al. 1996)

250 MHz



800 MHz

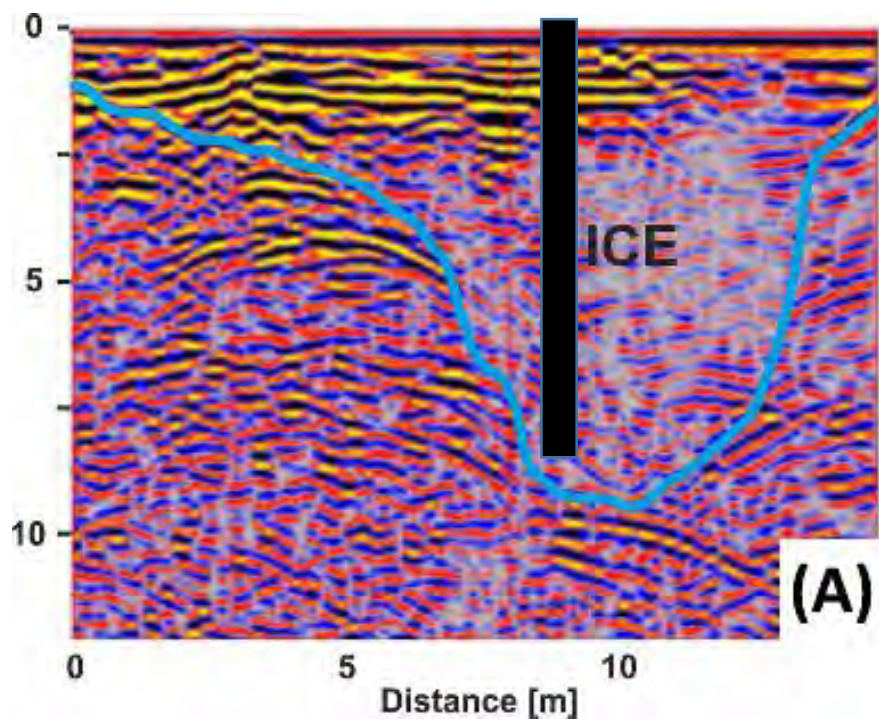




VASTO Ice Cave

Colucci et al., 2014, 2016

7.8 m ice core

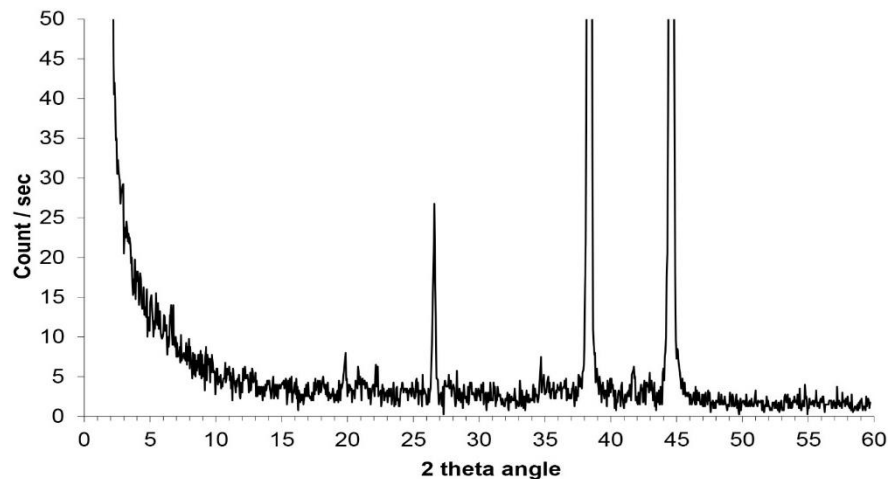
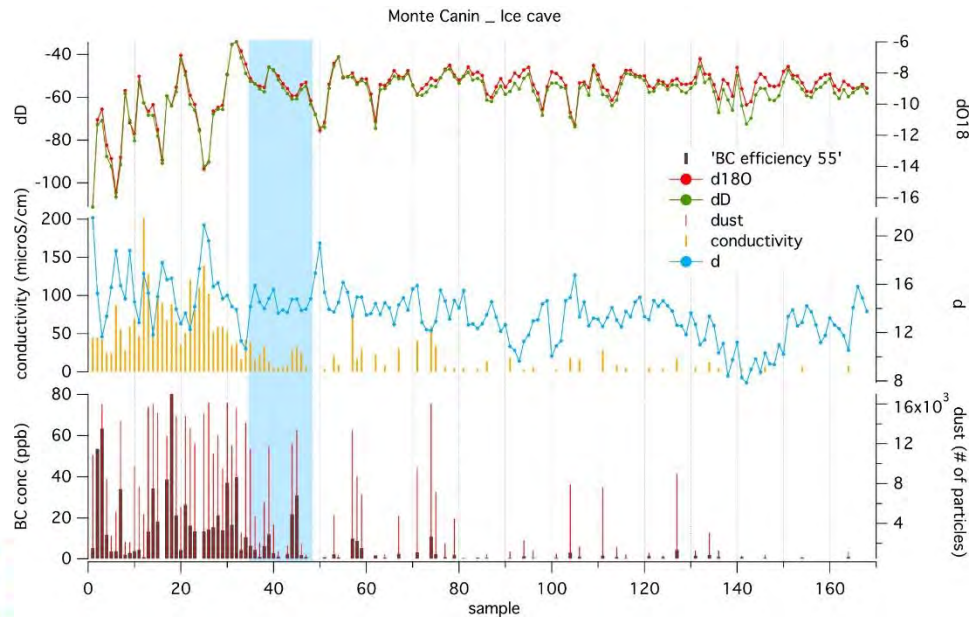
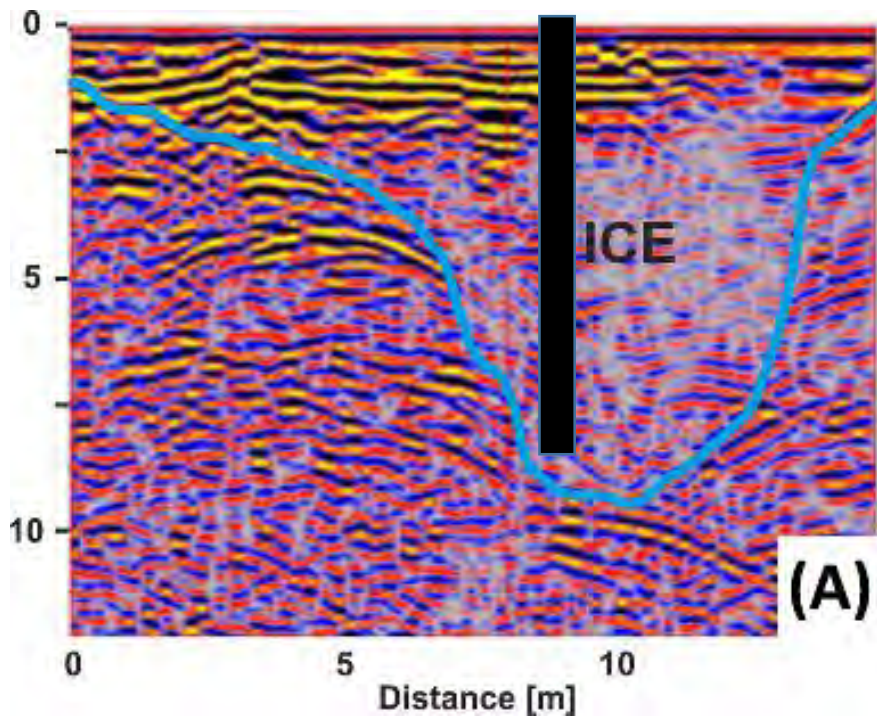




VASTO Ice Cave

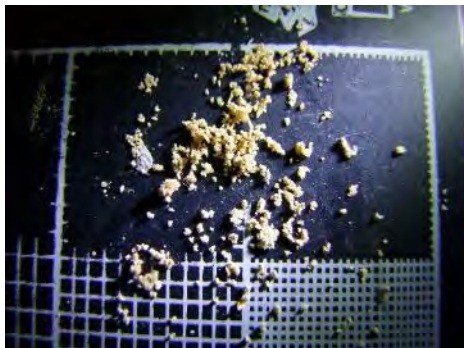
Colucci et al., 2016
The Vasto ice cave in the south-eastern Alps, Europe:
preliminary results from an ice core analysis
IWIC VII Postojna (Slo)

7.8 m ice core





Cryogenic calcite



Cryogenic calcite deposits

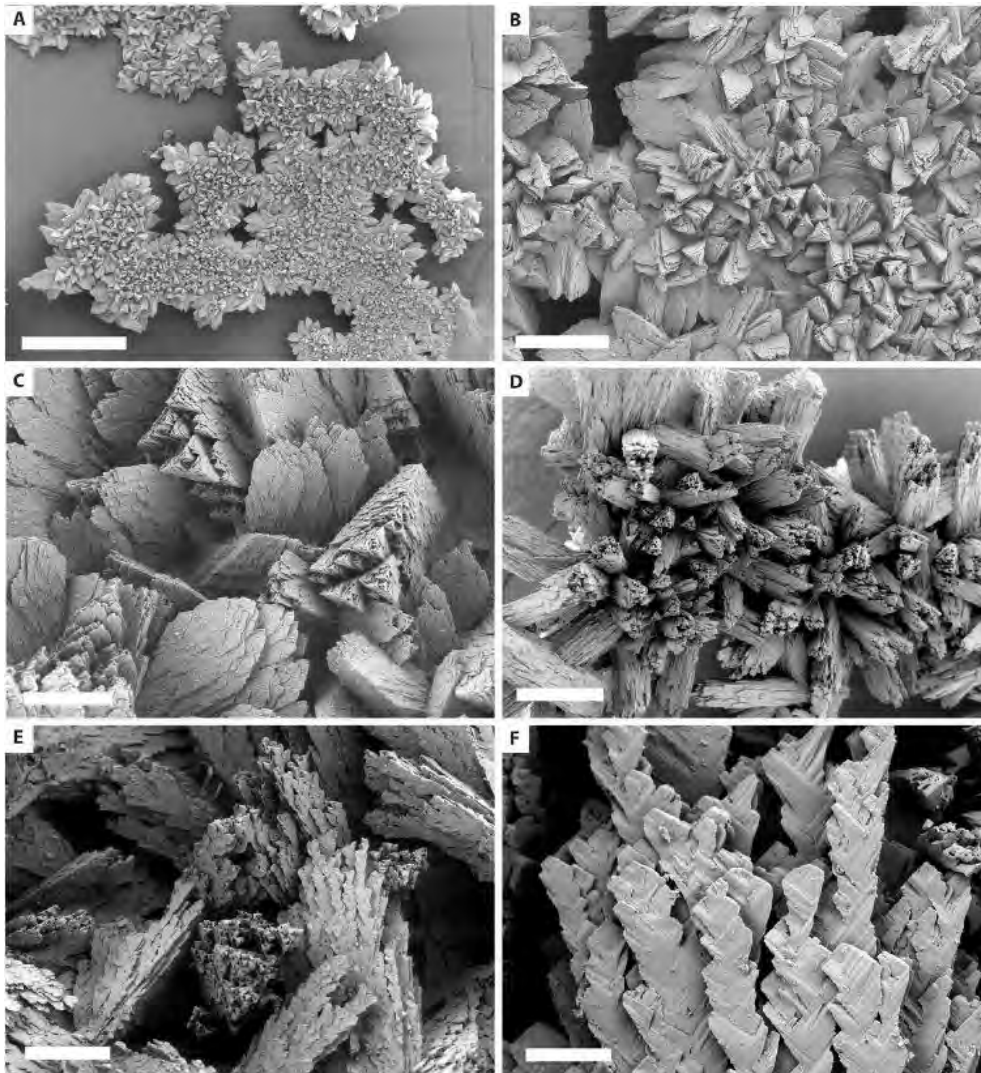
(a) Typical occurrence of heaps of loose crystal aggregates (arrows)

(b) Close-up of cryogenic deposit consisting of brown and white crystal aggregates. Width of image 5 cm.

(c) Occurrence of loose brownish crystal aggregates intermixed with a few angular rock flakes on a boulder. Width of image 25 cm.



Cryogenic calcite



Morphology of cryogenic calcite crystals seen under the FE-SEM.

(a) Calcite raft

(b) Closeup of (a). Scale bar 0.2 mm

(c) Stepped faces on individual rhombohedral crystals. Scale bar 0.1 mm

(d) White crystal Aggregate. Scale bar 0.2 mm

(e) Details of white crystal morphology. Scale bar 0.1 mm

(f) Close-up of (e), revealing chevron-type crystal habits. Scale bar 0.02 mm