

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	7
Chapter 1: Introduction	9
1.1. Research Questions and Objectives of the Thesis	9
1.2. Structure of the Thesis	12
Chapter 2: Archaeological Background	13
2.1. Introduction	13
2.1.1. Different Approaches to the Neolithic Transition	13
2.2. Neolithic Dispersal into the Aegean: Mechanisms and Models	14
2.3. Theoretical Framework	16
2.4. Climate	18
2.4.1. Modern Climate in Greece	18
2.4.2. Early Holocene in the Eastern Mediterranean	20
2.4.3. Prehistoric Environment	21
2.5. History of Research	22
2.5.1. The Late Upper Palaeolithic	22
2.5.2. The Mesolithic	22
2.5.3. The Neolithic	25
2.6. Franchthi	27
2.6.1. Introduction	27
2.6.2. History of Research	27
2.6.3. Surrounding Landscape	28
2.6.4. General Overview of the Site	30
2.6.5. Stratigraphy	32
2.6.6. Pottery	33
2.6.7. Lithics	35
2.6.8. Subsistence Remains	37
2.6.9. Shell Assemblage	40
Chapter 3: Methods and Materials	43
3.1. Background of the Methods	43
3.1.1. Sclerochronology	43
3.1.2. Stable Isotopes	44
3.1.3. Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy	48
3.1.4. Amino Acid Racemisation Analysis	53
3.1.5. Validating Methodologies	56
3.1.6. Combined Methodologies	60
3.2. Modern Samples	62
3.2.1. Introduction	62
3.2.2. Description	64
3.3. Archaeological Samples	73
3.3.1. Introduction	73
3.3.2. Description	73
3.3.3. Summary	78

Chapter 4: Results	81
4.1. Modern Samples	81
4.1.1. Main Results	81
4.1.2. Elemental Analysis Overview	103
4.1.3. Oxygen Isotope Analysis	106
4.1.4. Summary	113
4.2. Archaeological Samples	114
4.2.1. Main Results	114
4.2.2. Oxygen Isotope Analysis	156
4.2.3. AAR Analysis	163
4.2.4. Summary	167
Chapter 5: Discussion	169
5.1. Introduction	169
5.2. Seasonality	170
5.2.1. Season of Collection	170
5.2.2. Past and Current Results Comparisons	175
5.2.3. Analyses on Size and Biological Age	179
5.2.4. Coeval Specimens	183
5.2.5. Seasonality Studies in the Eastern and Central Mediterranean	186
5.3. Palaeoclimatic Record	190
5.3.1. Long-Term Sea Surface Temperature	190
5.3.2. Direct Climate-Subsistence Comparisons	197
5.4. Resilience in the Face of Climatic Change	207
Chapter 6: Conclusions	209
6.1. Future Research	211
Bibliography	213

Appendices (DOI: 10.11588/propylaeum.1770c26319)

Appendix I: Modern and Archaeological Samples	233
Modern Samples	233
Archaeological Samples	365
Appendix II: Tables and Figures	547