

Reconstruction of snow algal variations from an ice core drilled on an ice cap in Kyrgyz Tien Shan

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Snow algae are photosynthetic microorganisms and are living on the surface of glaciers. They grow on melting surface from spring to summer and their biomass and community structure are changed with physical and chemical conditions on glaciers. Ice cores drilled from glaciers also contain snow algae that grew in the past. Studying biomass and community structure of snow algae in ice cores could reveal the temporal variation in snow algae in the past, and also environmental conditions relating propagation of snow algae. In this study, we analyzed snow algae preserved in an ice core of Grigoriev Ice cap located in eastern Kyrgyzstan of the central Asia, and to describe their temporal variations for the last 200 years.

Microscopy revealed that the ice core contained three taxa of filamentous cyanobacteria, an unicellular cyanobacterium, and two green algae. They were also found on the ice or snow surface of the ice cap.

The quantitative analyses of the algae in the part of upper 64 m of the ice core revealed that the algal biomass varied significantly and showed many peaks. Furthermore, the biomass profile differed among the taxa.

Annual variation of the algal biomass was found to be significantly correlated with air temperature at the nearest observing station from the ice cap and hydrogen stable isotope in the ice core. The results suggest that the algal growth is more preferable in warmer year.

Keywords: ice core, glacier, snow algae, microbes, climate warming

Reconstructions of past flora using DNA analysis from ice core samples on Gregoriev Glacier, Kyrgyz Tienshan

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Analyses of ice cores have often been used as a means to reconstruct past environments. The species composition of the organism such as microorganism and plant in the ice cores could reflect the environmental condition at that time. Thus, organisms in ice cores could be useful to reconstruct past environments. However, analysis of the biological contents in ice cores is still highly limited.

We report results of metagenomic analyses of genomic DNA collected from the ice core sample (about 8,000 and 12,500 years old) collected on Gregoriev Glacier, Kyrgyz Tienshan. The ice core samples were melted using a device that enabled us to obtain water only from the inner portion of the cores. Complete separation of the inner and outer cores is required to avoid contamination by bacteria that can adhere to the cores during drilling and storage. We carried out taxonomic and functional binning of the metagenomic DNA by utilizing sequences generated by the 454 FLX sequencer, and attempted to reconstruct the organisms and their interactions within the community and with the environment on the sampled sites. The results implied genomic information used as an environmental marker for past environmental studies.

Keywords: ice core, genome analysis, metagenome, past environmental study, microorganisms

Variations in pollens, dissolved ions, Oxygen isotopes, and Snow algae in a shallow ice core of No.31 Glacier, Suntar-Kh

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We investigated glaciers in the Suntar-khayata mountain range located in far east Russia from July to September, 2012, and drilled two shallow ice core on the glaciers.

We analyzed pollens, dissolved ions, oxygen isotopes and snow algae to examine possibilities of dating of the ice core and of reconstruction of past environment.

There was no clear seasonal change in stable isotope. The chemical analysis showed that there was a positive correlation among Cl, Na, NH₄, K and Mg and between NO₃ and SO₄. This suggested that there is two different sources of the chemical species.

Pollen analysis showed that the ice core contained the grains of Betulaceae, Pinaceae and Artemisia, which agreed with the vegetation around the region. Their variation seemed to show annual layers, indicating that they are possible to use dating of the ice core.

Causes of Greenland temperature variability over the past 4000 years: Implications for Northern Hemispheric temperature

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A new Greenland temperature record reconstructed from argon and nitrogen isotopes from trapped air in a GISP2 ice core, provides high resolution (less than 20 years) and precise annual average temperature estimates for the past 4000 years. Due to tight age controls and abundant paleoclimatic information from the ice core, the temperature record provides an exceptional opportunity to investigate the late Holocene climate in a multidecadal to millennial time scale. To investigate causes of Greenland temperature variability over the past 4000 years, we calculated high latitude (70 to 80N) temperature change using a one dimensional energy balance model with reconstructed climate forcings including orbital, solar, volcanic, and greenhouse gas forcings. Greenland temperature was calculated from the high latitude temperature, considering Greenland negative temperature responses to solar variability due to associated changes in atmospheric and oceanic circulations. The calculated Greenland temperature was significantly correlated with the ice core derived Greenland temperatures with the 97 percent confidence level. Therefore, the past variability of climate forcings can explain at least 10 percent of the multidecadal to millennial variability in Greenland temperature over the past 4000 years. An average temperature trend for the Northern Hemisphere (NH) over the past 4000 years was also inferred from the ice core derived Greenland temperatures. Lines of evidence indicate that the current decadal average temperature of NH is likely warmer than at any time over the past 4000 years. Sequential cooling events starting around 800 B.C.E. (the 2.8ka event), which were induced by several large volcanic eruptions as well as low solar activity, had similar magnitude with the Little Ice Age cooling.

Keywords: Greenland, Temperature, Paleoclimate, Climate change, Ice core

Climate and environment in north Greenland during the last interglacial reconstructed from the NEEM ice core

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A 2540m-long ice core was drilled during 2008-2012 by an international ice coring project NEEM (North Greenland Eemian Ice Drilling). Though the ice below 2206m was disturbed and folded, the international team has successfully reconstructed the climate and ice sheet elevation during the Eemian interglacial (130.000 to 115.000 years ago). The climate around 126.000 years ago in North Greenland was about 8 degrees Celsius warmer than at present, which led to extensive surface melt as was observed in July 2012. Despite the strong warming during the Eemian, the surface in the vicinity of NEEM was only a few hundred meters lower than its present level. These results have been published in Nature as the first NEEM community paper. Here we report the results described in this paper, introduce the NEEM core analyses carried out by the Japanese team, and discuss the future direction of the analyses.

Keywords: Greenland, NEEM, last interglacial, ice core, climate and environment

Non-destructive magnetic detection of thin ash layers in ice cores

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We will make a presentation on the results of non-destructive magnetic detection of ash layers in ice core samples with an LTS-SQUID gradiometer developed for non-destructive evaluation. The LTS-SQUID gradiometer have a planar pickup coil with 1.5 mm x 1.5 mm area and the baseline of 3 mm. Volcanic ash sample collected from 2008 eruption of Sakurajima volcano at Sakurajima and AT tephra sample collected in Hokkaido were used to imitate ash layers in ice cores. Both of the model ice core samples gave reasonable signals by artificial magnetization. Preliminary estimate of the detection limit for the current system and configuration is of the order of $\sim 1 \times 10^{-4}$ A/m. The sensitivity is very much enhanced when the magnetic sensor is lowered just above the model ice cores. High sensitivity non-destructive magnetic detection of ash layers will be an important method to identify stratigraphic horizons of volcanic activities combined with electrical conductivity signals related to sulfate supplied at the time of volcanic eruptions.

Keywords: ice core, tephra, nondestructive measurement, SQUID gradiometer, magnetic mineral, age model

SO₂ photoexcitation mechanism links sulfur MIF in polar sulfate to climate-impacting volcanism

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Natural climate variation such as that due to volcanoes is the basis for identifying anthropogenic climate change. However, knowledge of the history of volcanic activity is inadequate, in particular concerning the explosivity of specific events. Stable sulfur isotope abundances contain additional information and recent studies show a correlation between volcanic plumes that reach the stratosphere and mass-independent anomalies in sulfur isotopes in glacial sulfate. We describe a new mechanism, photoexcitation of SO₂, links the two yielding a useful metric of explosivity of historic volcanic events. A plume model of SO₂ to sulfate conversion was constructed including photochemistry, entrainment of background air and sulfate deposition. Isotopologue-specific photoexcitation rates were calculated based on the UV absorption cross sections of ³²SO₂, ³²SO₂, ³²SO₂ and ³²SO₂ from 250 to 320 nm. The model demonstrates that UV photoexcitation is enhanced by altitude while mass-dependent oxidation such as SO₂ + OH is suppressed by in situ plume chemistry, allowing the production and preservation of a mass-independent sulfur isotope anomaly in the sulfate product. The model accounts for the amplitude, phases and time development of $\Delta^{33}\text{S} / \delta^{34}\text{S}$ and $\Delta^{36}\text{S} / \Delta^{33}\text{S}$ found in glacial samples. For the first time we are able to identify the process controlling mass-independent sulfur isotope anomalies in the modern atmosphere. This mechanism is the basis of identifying the magnitude of historic volcanic events.

Sulfate-climate coupling over the past 300,000 years in inland Antarctica

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Sulfate aerosols, particularly micrometer-sized particles of sulfate salt and sulfate-adhered dust, can act as cloud condensation nuclei, leading to increased solar scattering that cools Earth's climate. Evidence for such a coupling may lie in the sulfate record from polar ice cores, but previous analyses of melted ice-core samples have provided only sulfate ion concentrations, which may be due to sulfuric acid. Here we present profiles of sulfate salt and sulfate-adhered dust fluxes over the past 300,000 years from the Dome Fuji ice core in inland Antarctica. Our results show a nearly constant flux of sulfate-adhered dust through glacial and interglacial periods despite the large increases in total dust flux during glacial maxima. The sulfate salt flux, however, correlates inversely with temperature, suggesting a climatic coupling between particulate sulfur and temperature. For example, the total sulfate salt flux during the Last Glacial Maximum averages $5.78\text{mgm}^{-2}\text{yr}^{-1}$, which is almost twice the Holocene value. Although it is based on a modern analogue with considerable uncertainties when applied to the ice-core record, this analysis indicates that the glacial-to-interglacial decrease in sulfate would lessen the aerosol indirect effects on cloud lifetime and albedo, leading to an Antarctic warming of 0.1 to 5 kelvin.

Keywords: sulphate aerosols, cloud condensation nuclei, polar ice core, ice sublimation method

Reconstruction of Blake excursion using the cosmogenic radio nuclide Beryllium-10 in Antarctic Dome Fuji ice core

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An important development in the field of geomagnetism is the recognition of excursions that serve as chronostratigraphic tools for the dating and correlation of marine and lacustrine sediment cores. Here, we reconstruct the Blake excursion from 127ka to 101ka by analyzing ¹⁰Be in the second Dome Fuji deep ice core. We focus attention on the Blake excursion because it occurs during Marine Isotope Stage (MIS) 5, during the last interglaciation, beyond the range of radiocarbon dating. ¹⁰Be and other cosmogenic radionuclides, such as ¹⁴C, ²⁶Al, and ³⁶Cl are good proxies for geomagnetic field intensity because atmospheric production increases during periods of low intensity during excursions, and ¹⁰Be is particularly well suited due to its long half life, high production rate, and well understood fallout process. While the accumulation of ¹⁰Be in sediments is complicated due to enrichment from sources other than direct atmospheric fallout, polar ice cores are remarkable archives of ¹⁰Be, especially those from Antarctica, which is isolated from other continents. Ice cores drilled at Dome Fuji also have the advantage of a well dated chronology using the O₂/N₂ ratios (Kawamura, et al., 2007). Results indicate there are five discrete peaks in ¹⁰Be flux during the Blake excursion that will allow export of the Dome Fuji chronology to the MIS5 intervals of sediment cores.

Keywords: ice core, cosmogenic radio nuclide, Blake excursion, Dome Fuji

Measurement of nitrogen and oxygen isotope ratios of nitrate in a shallow ice core drilled in the vicinity of Dome Fuji

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Knowledge of the variability of solar activity is important for astrophysics and geoscience. Ice core samples have been considered that they preserve astronomical events as well as various information on the history of the earth involving climate change and so on. In previous studies, it is reported that nitrate concentration in Antarctic ice core can be a proxy of solar activity [Traversi *et al.*, 2012]. We have focused on nitrogen and oxygen isotope ratios of nitrate expected to be used as archives of isotope fractionations by photochemical reaction in the stratosphere.

In 2010, a shallow ice core was obtained in the vicinity of Dome Fuji station, Antarctica. Dome Fuji is regarded as an ideal site for research of atmospheric reactions because chemical components are directly transported from the stratosphere. In this study, we analyzed nitrogen and oxygen isotope ratios in or near nitrate spikes by using a denitrifier method [Casciotti *et al.*, 2002]. The denitrifier method is based on the isotopic analysis of nitrous oxide generated from nitrate by denitrifying bacteria (*Pseudomonas aureofaciens*).

The fluctuations of nitrogen and oxygen isotope ratios are larger than that of nitrate concentration. The range of nitrogen isotope ratio is similar to that found in previous studies of snow pit samples from Dome C. The changes of nitrogen and oxygen isotope ratios are different in each spike. Precious studies inferred that nitrogen isotope ratio contains NO_x signature and oxygen isotope ratios is dependent upon the oxidation pathway that produces nitrate from NO_x in the atmosphere [e.g. Hastings *et al.*, 2003]. Our results suggest that it is possible to reveal hidden signature of solar activity with considering chemical reactions in the stratosphere.

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Keywords: ice core, nitrate isotopes, solar activity

A new dating method for Dome Fuji ice core using data assimilation]

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Using Data Assimilation, we try to make a new dating method but based on the glaciological dynamics of Parrenin et al. (2004, 2007). Through filtering and smoothing method, we could gain a better tacking of the age of ice using high-resolution age makers for the deep part. It is still in the experimental stage but we will introduce the method and indicate the results using Kalman Filtering method. We gained similar results of estimated ages of ice and optimized parameters for dating model as well as Parrenin et al.(2007). Moreover, our calculation method has a substantial advantage for the calculating cost. In the future, we plan to make an improved dating model with other data assimilation method which could carry out a detailed ice chronology.

Keywords: Data Assimilation, Ice Core

An updated chronology and inference of climate evolution for the GISP2 ice core from Summit, Greenland

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Accurate chronologies are paramount for properly assessing the timing of past climate events. The GISP2 ice core has been updated to the Greenland Ice Core Chronology (GICC05) for 840 sparse volcanic tie points. Using the thickness evolution for the GISP2 site from the three-dimensional dynamic/thermodynamic ice sheet model SICOPOLIS (sicopolis.greveweb.net), we determine a more continuous GISP2 chronology. The associated accumulation-rate history is determined for a suite of thickness reconstructions. The implications of this work include aligning the GISP2 ice core chronology and climate record with other Greenland ice cores (NEEM, NGRIP, and GRIP), improving our understanding of the Arctic climate from a suite of deep ice cores. Improving the GISP2 Greenland chronology has implications for both polar regions. Antarctic ice cores (Byrd, Siple) have been dated from the GISP2 record through inflection points in the well-mixed methane record.

Keywords: Greenland, Ice sheet, Ice core, Climate change, Modeling

The topographic and albedo effect of ice sheets on surface wind stress with implications for glacial ocean circulation

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In the previous presentation of Abe-Ouchi et al. (2012, JpGU), they pointed out that the Atlantic meridional overturning circulation (AMOC) was strongly controlled by the ice sheet and greenhouse gases (GHGs). By comparing the results from a coupled atmosphere ocean general circulation model (AOGCM) with and without glacial ice sheets, they showed that the ice sheets had a large influence on the glacial AMOC. The process behind this is not fully understood, but may be related to atmospheric circulation change due to the presence of huge ice sheets. Some studies have shown that during the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM), the atmospheric circulation was very different to that of today mainly due to the presence of the huge ice sheet, especially in the North Atlantic. These atmospheric circulation differences would cause some changes in wind stress and should therefore affect AMOC. Thus in this study, we investigate the potential/possible influence of the ice sheets on glacial AMOC through wind stress. Here we use an atmosphere general circulation model (AGCM), which is the atmospheric part of MIROC climate model for sensitivity experiments. As ice sheet has two effects (topography effect and albedo effect) on atmospheric circulation, we separate each effect as well. In the North Atlantic, consistent with previous studies, differences between the wind stresses of the modern climate and LGM were mainly explained by the presence of the LGM ice sheets, i.e., Laurentide and Fenno-Scandian ice sheets. Anomalies induced by the ice sheets were a southward wind stress anomaly in the Greenland Sea and the Baffin Bay, and anti-cyclonic wind stress anomaly at mid and low latitudes. It was also found that at high latitudes, the topography effect was dominant and the albedo effect played a secondary role. On the other hand, at mid-latitudes, the albedo effect was dominant and the topography effect played an opposite role compared to the total ice sheet effect. In the zonal mean, there were also net westward and eastward anomalies at mid and low latitudes, respectively.

Keywords: Ice sheet, LGM, wind stress, AMOC