

Variation in Asian monsoon intensity during the last interglacial deduced from grain-size analysis of the Japan Sea sediments

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It is likely that the early part of the last interglacial (Eemian) was warmer than present. Paleoenvironment reconstruction during Eemian is important with this respect because it could be an analog for the future environment. Climate in Japan is strongly influenced by Asian Monsoon, so it is important to reconstruct its variability during this time. The Japan Sea sediments contain significant amount of eolian dust from inland Asia. In this study, we use piston core KT94-15 PC-5 retrieved from 200km off Akita, and reconstruct Asian monsoon intensity based on grain size analysis of the detrital component. The result indicates that variation of Asian monsoon intensity during the last interglacial period is similar to that of $\delta^{18}O$ records from GRIP ice core, showing large and abrupt changes.