

Distributional features of sterol molecules in Lake Baikal sediments over the past 230 kyrs and the controlling factors.

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In the cold and warm terms represented by glacial and interglacial periods, of course, the climatic and environmental factor of atmospheric temperature is clearly different. At the same time, it has become apparent that other factors, such as oceanic and atmospheric carbon dioxide levels and their circulations, humidity, vegetation and so on, also show distinct difference between two periods.

We have investigated the distributional features of various organic molecules during cold and warm cycles recorded in a Lake Baikal sediment core over the past 230 kyr B.P. and the controlling factors. In this presentation, we will demonstrate the features of sterol compounds which have a variety of structures and compositions characteristic of individual living organisms, and then discuss paleoenvironmental information which they provide.