

Sea-level rise in the Pleistocene sequence off Tahiti inferred from larger foraminiferal results: IODP Exp. 310, Tahiti Sea-Level

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To reconstruct sea-level fluctuations in the Pleistocene, larger benthic foraminiferal assemblages were examined for sedimentary rock samples obtained from the Pleistocene sequence at Site M0005D (water depth: 60 mbsl) off Maraa, Tahiti Island (French Polynesia). Lithofacies variations and larger foraminiferal results (changes in taxonomic composition, test morphology and a preservation state of common larger foraminifers) indicate a deepening upward sequence in a section from cores 26R (core depth: 135 mbsl) through 15R (core depth: 105 mbsl). Reconstructions of sea-level fluctuations based on our paleobathymetric estimations with a correction of subsidence rates at Tahiti, suggest a sea-level rise of about 100 m in this section, which is possibly correlated to the penultimate deglaciation (Termination II; MIS 6 to 5e).