

Did the western equatorial Pacific contribute to atmospheric CO₂ rise during the last deglaciation?

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During the last deglaciation (ca. 19 – 11 ka), partial pressure of CO₂ ($p\text{CO}_2$) of the atmosphere increased by ~80 μatm . Many paleoceanographers point out that the ocean had played an important role in atmospheric CO₂ rise, since the ocean have 60 times larger capacity to store carbon compared to the atmosphere. However, evidence on where carbon was transferred from the ocean to the atmosphere is still lacking, hampering our understanding of global carbon cycles in glacial-interglacial timescales. Boron isotope of skeletons of marine calcifying organisms such as corals and foraminiferas can pin down where CO₂ source/sink existed, because boron isotopes of marine calcium carbonates is dependent on seawater pH, from which $p\text{CO}_2$ of the past seawater can be reconstructed. In previous studies using the boron isotope technique, Martinez-Boti *et al.* (2015, *Nature*) and Kubota *et al.* (2014, *Scientific Reports*) revealed that central and eastern parts of the equatorial Pacific acted as a CO₂ source (i.e., CO₂ emission) during the last deglaciation, suggesting the equatorial Pacific's contribution to atmospheric CO₂ rise. However, some conflicting results have been confirmed in a marine sediment record from the western part of the equatorial Pacific (Palmer & Pearson, 2003, *Science*), making the conclusion elusive. In this presentation, we will show new results of Mg/Ca and boron isotope measurements during the last 35 ka on two species of surface dwelling foraminiferas (*Globigerinoides ruber* and *G. sacculifer*) which was hand-picked separately from a well-dated marine sediment core recovered from the West Caroline Basin (KR05-15 PC01) (Yamazaki *et al.*, 2008, *GRL*). From the new records, we will discuss how the equatorial Pacific behaved during the last deglaciation and how it related to the global carbon cycles.