上総層群の Matuyama-Brunhes 地磁気逆転:千年スケールの特徴

兵頭 政幸 [1]; 高崎 健太 [2]; 松下 隼人 [2]; 加藤 茂弘 [3]; 北場 育子 [4]; 北村 晃寿 [5]; Dettman David L.[6]; 林 広樹 [7]; 岡田 誠 [8]

[1] 神戸大・内海域; [2] 神戸大・理・惑星; [3] 人と自然博; [4] 立命館大・古気候; [5] 静岡大・地球; [6] Dept. of Geology, Univ. Arizona; [7] 島根大・地球資源環境; [8] 茨城大・地球環境

Millenial scale features of the Matuyama-Brunhes transition from the Kazusa Group, central Japan

Masayuki Hyodo[1]; Kenta Takasaki[2]; Hayato Matsushita[2]; Shigehiro Katoh[3]; Ikuko Kitaba[4]; Akihisa Kitamura[5]; David L. Dettman[6]; Hiroki Hayashi[7]; Makoto Okada[8]

[1] Research Center for Inland Seas, Kobe Univ.; [2] Planetology, Kobe Univ.; [3] Museum of Human and Nature Activities, Hyogo; [4] Plaeoclimatology, Ritsumeikan Univ.; [5] Geosciences, Shizuoka Univ.; [6] Dept. of Geology, Univ. Arizona; [7] Dept. of Geoscience, Shimane Univ.; [8] Earth Science Course, Ibaraki Univ.

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A 54-m oriented core of the Kokumoto Formation in the Kazusa Group drilled along the Yoro River at Tabuchi, Chiba Prefecture reveals detailed features of the Matuyama-Brunhes (MB) transition. The core mostly consists of silts. One meter long u-channel samples were prepared from 3 to 52 m depth. Discrete samples were also collected at 2 cm to 50 cm intervals. Magnetizations were measured every 1 cm using a 2G cryogenic magnetometer for u-channel samples, subjected to alternating field demagnetizations (AFD), while both AFD and thermal demagnetization was used for discrete samples. Preliminary oxygen isotope data on planktonic foraminifera (Globorotalia inflata) suggest that the main MB polarity boundary, just underlain by the Byakubi-E tephra layer, lies between the sea-level highstand of marine isotope stage (MIS) 19.3 and the MIS 19.2 lowstand. Characteristic remanent magnetizations of u-channel samples calculated by principal component analysis reveal a multiple rapid reversal interval (MRI), a very important feature characteristic of the final stage of the MB transition, which lies between depths correlated with highstand 19.3 and lowstand 19.2. The MRI spans about 1.7 m in depth, during which the virtual geomagnetic pole crossed the geographic equator at least 11 times. An astronomical age model suggests that the MRI was ca 2 kyr in duration, predating 776 ka and postdating 779 ka. The relative paleointensity proxies from the core show quite similar variations with the global paleointensity stack Sint-800, especially the post-reversal intensity recovery from both records exhibits a high degree agreement. The MRI just coincides with the lowest intensity interval of Sint-800, and can be correlated with similar intervals observed in the Osaka Group, Chinese loess-paleosols, and deep-sea sediments. The MRI may be a useful tool for correlation in high-resolution magneto-climatostratigraphy.