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Data report: Site U1448 Pleistocene benthic foraminiferal stable isotopes, Andaman Sea, IODP Expedition 353¹

S.C. Clemens²

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² Department of Earth, Environmental, and Planetary Sciences, Brown University, USA. steven_clemens@brown.edu

Abstract

This data report presents the benthic foraminiferal oxygen and carbon isotope records for International Ocean Discovery Program Site U1448 in the Andaman Sea. The record includes 1764 analyses spanning from the core top to 203.19 m core composite depth below the seafloor, Method D. This depth interval spans the past 2.755 My with an average temporal resolution of ~1.9 ky (14 cm sample interval).

1. Introduction

Site U1448 is located atop a rise at 1091 meters below sea level (mbsl) ~44 km offshore Little Andaman Island (Clemens et al., 2016). The interval cored reached 420.6 m core depth below seafloor, Method A (CSF-A), recovering Miocene to recent sediments for use in reconstructing changes in regional monsoon circulation and ocean circulation at tectonic to suborbital time-scales. The stable isotope data presented here spans the very latest Pliocene through Holocene, providing the chronostratigraphic control, sea level, and carbon isotopic information required to meet expedition objectives.

2. Methods and materials

2.1. Stable benthic foraminiferal isotopes

Site U1448 was sampled at 14 cm resolution from 0 to 203.19 m core composite depth below seafloor, Method D (CCSF-D). The CCSF-D depth scale designation denotes that samples were taken along a splice composed of Holes U1448A–U1448C designed to account for (avoid) missing sediment sections between cored intervals at each individual hole.

Samples were freeze-dried, wet sieved at 63 μm , and dried in an oven at 50°C. The >63 μm fraction was sieved into four size fractions: 63–150, 150–250, 250–355, and >355 μm . *Uvigerina* spp. was primarily utilized due to abundance, and *Cibicidoides wuellerstorfi*, *Cibicidoides mundulus*, and *Bolivinita quadrilatera* were utilized as necessary when *Uvigerina* was absent or low in abundance. Anywhere from 1 to 12 specimens were picked, predominantly from the 250–355 μm fraction, and the >150 and >250 μm fractions were utilized as necessary.

Samples were analyzed using a MAT252 isotope ratio mass spectrometer coupled to a Kiel III carbonate device, reacted by individual acid addition (99% H_3PO_4 at 70°C). A total of 1764 samples were analyzed, including replicates (Table T1).

Table T1. Benthic stable isotopes, Site U1448. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Table T2. Benthic stable isotopes with species offsets applied to match *C. wuellerstorfi* and replicates averaged, Site U1448. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Table T3. Benthic isotope age model, Site U1448. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

A total of 230 in-house standards were analyzed in the course of the sample analyses. Multiple analyses of BYM ($n = 90$) yield -2.25 ± 0.02 (1σ) for $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and -6.44 ± 0.07 (1σ) for $\delta^{18}\text{O}$. Multiple analyses of Carrara marble ($n = 141$) yield 2.05 ± 0.02 (1σ) for $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and -1.87 ± 0.05 (1σ) for $\delta^{18}\text{O}$.

Isotopic offsets (Tables T1, T2) between *C. wuellerstorfi* and *Uvigerina* spp. are accounted for by subtracting 0.51 (± 0.17 ; 1σ ; $n = 134$) from *Uvigerina* spp. values for $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and adding 0.93 (± 0.24 ; 1σ ; $n = 134$) to *Uvigerina* spp. values for $\delta^{13}\text{C}$. Isotopic offsets between *C. wuellerstorfi* and *B. quadrilatera* are accounted for by subtracting 0.53 (± 0.12 ; 1σ ; $n = 12$) from *B. quadrilatera* values for $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and adding 1.01 (± 0.19 ; 1σ ; $n = 12$) to *B. quadrilatera* values for $\delta^{13}\text{C}$. No offsets are applied to *C. mundulus*. All results are calibrated to National Institute of Standards and Technology carbonate isotope standard NBS19 and are reported as parts per thousand Vienna Pee Dee belemnite (‰VPDB).

2.2. Chronology

Biostratigraphic analyses (Clemens et al., 2016) provided the initial age control, followed by correlating structure in the benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ record to the LR04 (Lisiecki and Raymo, 2005) global benthic stack using AnalySeries software (Paillard et al., 1996). The resulting 100 age control tie points include the base of the Toba ash (74.5 ka in Section 353-U1448A-2H-3, 45 cm [6.04 m CCSF-D]) (Table T3).

3. Results

The benthic carbon and oxygen isotopic records are plotted as a function of depth (Figure F1) and age (Figure F2), displaying clear orbital-scale structure. The average temporal resolution is 1.9 ± 0.64 ky (1σ).

Cross-spectral analysis (Paillard et al., 1996) confirms the high correlation between the global benthic stack and Site U1448 benthic $\delta^{18}\text{O}$. The coherence and phase results are as follows: at the eccentricity (100 ka), band coherence is 0.97 and phase is 0.56 ± 1.46 ky; at the obliquity (41 ka), band coherence is 0.98 and phase is 0.52 ± 0.48 ky; at the precession (23 ka), band coherence is 0.89 and phase is 0.2 ± 0.67 ky; and at the precession (19 ka), band coherence is 0.89 and phase is -0.69 ± 0.56 ky. All phase results are less than our average 1.9 ky sample interval.

Structural match to the global benthic stack is excellent with the exception of structure at 2070–2104 ka (146.1–148.8 m CCSF-D). This occurs at a splice tie point (Section 353-U1448B-15H-6, 88.2 cm, tied to Section 353-U1448A-16H-1, 109.7 cm) in the postcruise revision of the splice dated 2 February 2016 that is based on X-ray fluorescence scanning data. The splice table can be accessed at <https://web.iodp.tamu.edu/filesR/FileGet-LORE?recordid=2108752>. Re-examination of the splice on the basis of this anomalous structure did not reveal an obvious error, but additional examination is warranted.

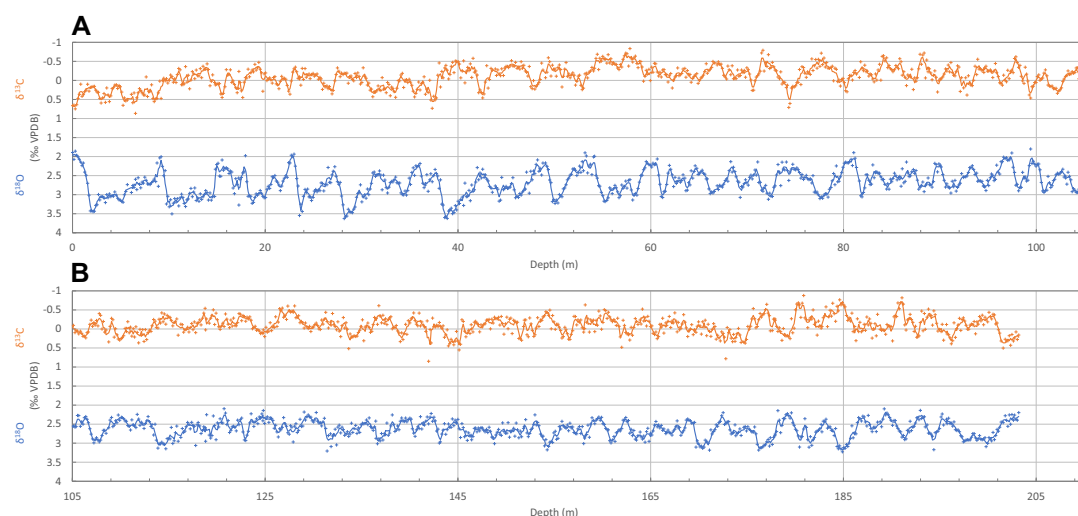


Figure F1. Benthic foraminiferal carbon and oxygen isotopic data plotted as a function of depth with 3 point Gaussian smooth (solid lines), Site U1448. A. 0–105 m CCSF-D. B. 105–210 m CCSF-D.

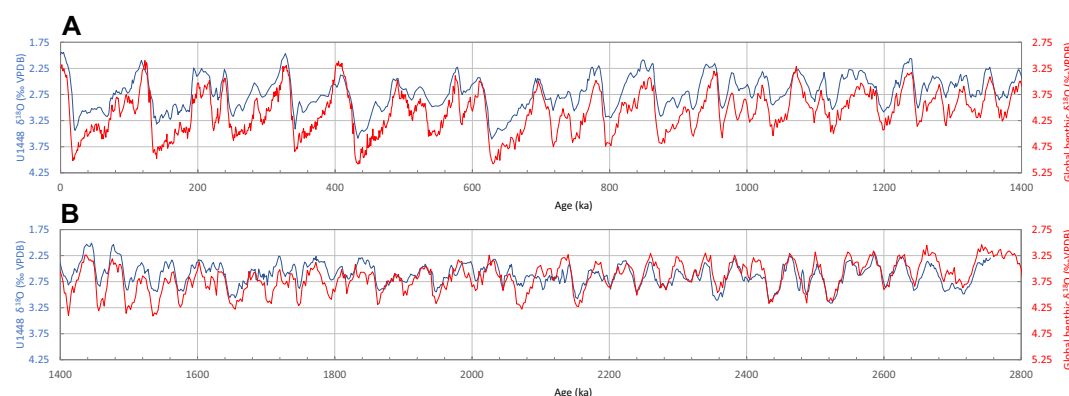


Figure F2. Benthic foraminiferal oxygen isotopic record with 3 point Gaussian smooth plotted as a function of age, derived by correlation to the global benthic oxygen isotope stack (Lisiecki and Raymo, 2005), Site U1448. A. 0–1400 ka. B. 1400–2800 ka.

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