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# Last-glacial to postglacial climate formation in the continental interior inferred from multi-proxy records of Lake Hovsgol, Mongolia

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### Abstract

Knowledge of the evolution of arboreal forests is necessary to interpret the cause of climate formation in intracontinental regions. Paleoproxy records of sediment cores from Lake Hovsgol, Mongolia show that watershed conditions have fluctuated widely during the last 20 ke because of changing orbital parameters. Termination of glassical cooling

- the last 30 ka because of changing orbital parameters. Termination of glacial cooling and the subsequent prevalence of deglacial warming were consequences of solar forcing. Arboreal forests exerted an important influence on the atmospheric moisture cycle at high latitudes. Air pressure decreased because of raised humidity from water vapor penetration into inland regions that occurred along with summer monsoons. Data
- showing utilization of solar energy are necessary for establishing climate conditions. Atmospheric warming under increased insolation caused a shift of the monsoon limit to the north, amplifying the summer moisture supply to the watershed. That amplification engendered the appearance of the maximum vegetation in the Hovsgol drainage basin at the beginning of the Holocene. The retreat of arboreal forests that occurred
- <sup>15</sup> along with decreased solar energy shrank the humidification-vegetation feedback loop, thereby decreasing the atmospheric humidity. The consequently lowered vapor pressure contributed to the incursion of cool air masses from the north.

### 1 Introduction

Southwest of Lake Baikal in Mongolia lies Lake Hovsgol, the second largest and sec ond deepest lake in the Baikal watershed. The lake's north-south axis is 136 km, varying between 15 and 35 km from east to west. The maximum water depth is 262 m (Kozhova et al., 1989). However, the temporal sequence of terrace deposits shows fluctuation of the lake level on a tens-of-meter scale in response to Late Quaternary climate changes (Krivonogov, 2006). The Hovsgol Basin, which formed under a strike slip tectonic regime in the Baikal Rift System (San'kov et al., 2003), is separated from the Baikal depression by east-west-trending mountain ranges (Fig. 1). Fedotov et





al. (2004) proposed that the rift system became activated and a mantle plume intrusion occurred between ca. 9.5 Ma and 0.4 Ma. Since then, the rifting has slowed, and fine-grained terrigenous materials have gradually filled the basin.

- The water surface of Lake Hovsgol is at 1667 m.a.s.l. (Kozhova et al., 1989); high dividing ridges surround the narrow catchment of the northern part of the basin. The modern climatic conditions, cold, dry winters and mildly wet summers specialize the water circulation in this high-altitude watershed (Namkhaijantsan, 2006). The runoff originates in mountainous regions of the basin, and water is apparently supplied to the lake mostly by precipitation, which, totaling as much as 350 mm annually, occurs mostly as rain in summer (Batsyk et al., 1976). Evaporation is a major cause of water loss in the basin: nearly 90% of rainfall is lost to evaporation (Namkhaijantsan, 2006).
- loss in the basin; nearly 90% of rainfall is lost to evaporation (Namkhaijantsan, 2006). The Siberian High dominates the climate in winter: cold dry air masses cover the basin and the air temperature decreases to as low as -50 °C (Kozhova et al., 1989). The extreme climate has greatly influenced the lake evolution. Paleoclimate proxy records
- <sup>15</sup> from the lake are expected to reflect stadial-interstadial changes in the atmospheric moisture supply directly to the continental interior. Such knowledge is useful to interpret the feedback effect of terrestrial processes on the continental climate. Considering the active hydrologic budget in the watershed, it is reasonable to interpret that the lake level changed greatly during the last glacial-interglacial transition. Prokopenko et al. (2005)
- estimated that a lake-level rise extending to 100 m took place at around 15.4 cal ka BP. Large fluctuations of air mass movements have occurred in Central Asia throughout the Late Quaternary (Herzschuh, 2006), and changes in atmospheric humidity are crucial for elucidation of mechanisms triggering climatic cooling or warming. Herein, we present last-glacial to postglacial records of paleoclimate proxies from Lake Hov-
- 25 sgol. The summer monsoon developed because increased solar-energy absorption of the ocean surface transported moisture from oceans onto continents, thereby producing warm, wet climatic conditions in the Asian interior as orbital-scale insolation gradually increased (e.g. Dykoski et al., 2005). Associating this response with highaltitude terrestrial processes via changing atmospheric desiccation-precipitation re-





actions, we suggest that the enhanced solar radiation activity accelerated deglacial warming through feedback from increasing vegetation.

### 2 East asian meteorological features

- The Siberian High affects atmospheric circulation in regions at middle latitudes of East-<sup>5</sup> ern Asia; prevailing winds bring cool dry air masses that strongly influence regional climate formation (Herzschuh, 2006). The climatic data of air temperature and precipitation (Kozhova et al., 1989) and the oxygen isotope values of lake water (refer to Sect. 4.4.3, Lake water isotopes) indicate that summertime precipitation is the main source of water to the continental interior.
- <sup>10</sup> Figure 1 portrays the distribution of oxygen isotope ratios ( $\delta^{18}$ O; ‰ SMOW, Standard Mean Ocean Water) in summer (June–September) and winter (November-March) precipitation in Eastern Asia. The ratios are averaged values of long-term (1960–2001) International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) data. The averaged oxygen isotope ( $\delta^{18}$ O) values of precipitation in Siberia are –10‰ in summer and –25‰ in winter. A large
- amplitude of fluctuation, ca. 15‰, is also suggested by the δ<sup>18</sup>O range (ca. 5‰) of modern equid teeth (Fowell and Peck, 1997). Because of the location of continental interior, the watershed receives isotopically light precipitation from cool air masses in winter. The small isotope fractionation in summertime precipitation reflects the major influence of the SE Asian monsoon in the extensive area of Eastern Asia when solar
   radiation is increased. Wintertime precipitation is slight, and the lake water oxygen
- isotopes are a signal of net effective precipitation from warm air masses.

The circulation of humid air masses during the Siberian summer is controlled considerably by the SE Asian monsoon and partly by the prevailing westerly winds (Herzschuh, 2006); the atmospheric moisture supply to the northern region beyond the average monsoon limit (Fig. 1) depends substantially on the reinforced monsoon.



### 3 Materials

We studied three short cores (X103, X106, X107) drilled in the central area of Lake Hovsgol with no sediment loss or mixing (Fig. 2; X103, 50°53'180" N, 100°27'837" E; X106, 50°53'018" N, 100°21'371" E; X107, 51°11'526" N, 100°24'990" E). The Hov-sgol Basin is divided into north and south areas by a well at around 51° N. Cores X103 and X106 were recovered from the south basin, and core X107 from the north basin. Each core consisted of two major lithological units separated by a transitional unit. The lower unit was composed of dark, olive-gray laminated silty clay; the upper unit consisted of olive-gray diatomaceous mud (Fig. 2). The transitional unit comprised massive, dark gray, marly clay, and displayed weak sediment disturbance by infaunal burrowing. Calcareous horizons in the lower unit yielded well-preserved fossil ostracod shells belonging to three major genera: *Candona, Cytherissa*, and *Limnocythere*. Ostracod fossils did not occur in diatomaceous horizons. Underwater bacterial degradation of accumulated organic remnants of algal blooms released interstitial carbonate

- and bicarbonate ions, which dissolved shell calcite in the initial stage of sediment burial. In Lake Baikal, diatomaceous layers are characteristics for interglacial and interstadial intervals (Prokopenko et al., 2006), although sediment layers without frustules and organic remains were formed under cold-climate conditions (Sakai et al., 2005). Strata with ostracods are therefore distinctive for a depositional environment of lowered pro-
- <sup>20</sup> ductivity resulting from the reduction in nutrient input. We subsampled sediments from cores at intervals of about 1.5 cm for analyses of sediment grain-size composition, clay mineralogy, biogenic silica concentration, and pollen and diatom paleontology.



### 4 Methods and results

### 4.1 Grain size

About 40 mg of wet sediments were dispersed in a liter of de-ionized water. Then we analyzed the solution suspending sediment grains using an automatic grain-size anaIyzer with a laser diffraction system (SALD 3000 J; Shimadzu Corp., Japan). The analytical data were expressed as volume-percent distributions with 51 logarithmic scales of grain size ranging from 0.1 μm to 2000 μm. The volumes of clay (finer than 2 μm), silt (2–62 μm), and sand (coarser than 62 μm) fractions were calculated as the sums of grains. The calibrated results for clay (0.33–2.00 μm) concentration are given in Table 1.

Fine silt and clay are the major components of the X103 sediments. From the concentration of clay-sized grains, core X103 was separated into three stratigraphic sections: the lower (deeper than 61.25), middle (61.25–13.75 cm), and upper (shallower than 13.75 cm). In the lower section, the quantity of clay was generally high: 16.82% on average. The middle section showed an upward decreasing trend in the clay concentration. The upper section was characterized by a high silt content of 97–98% on average, and very low sand and clay contents. The silt fraction consisted of frustules and their fragments, which clearly designated the lithological difference of this section (upper unit) from the middle section (transitional unit). The major components of

- <sup>20</sup> core X106 were fine silt and clay. Considering the quantity of clay-sized fractions, the core was separable into three sections: the lower (deeper than 79.75), middle (79.75–45.75 cm), and upper (shallower than 45.75 cm). The clay content of the lower section was higher than 15%, with an average value of 20.12%. The middle section exhibited an upward decrease in clay concentration. The upper section displayed an extremely
- low clay-content with values of 0.48% on average. The silt fraction, which was the major grain component of the upper section, was made up of siliceous shells and shell fragments of diatoms, showing that the base of the upper section corresponded with the top of the transitional unit. Core X107 was composed mostly of clay and fine silt.

The core components were classified into three sections based on the clay concentration: the lower (deeper than 76.75), middle (76.75–53.50 cm), and upper (shallower than 53.50 cm). The lower section was rich in clay-sized particles; clay fractions were higher than 20%, accompanied by large fluctuations exceeding 6% at some horizons.

<sup>5</sup> The middle section exhibited an upward decreasing trend of clay concentration. The upper section was distinctive for high silt content of 99.5% on average, and the silt fraction was composed of frustules and their fragments. The dominance of skeletal frameworks as sediment grains of the upper section presented a marked contrast to the middle section, displaying that the top of the middle section corresponded with the top of the transitional unit.

### 4.2 Mineralogy

Clay-sized grains finer than 2μm were separated in a water column by allowing coarse sediments to settle. About 2 ml of clay solution was dropped onto a glass slide; oriented clay samples were made with drying at room temperature. The slide samples
<sup>15</sup> were examined using X-ray diffraction with a diffractometer (CuK*α* radiation, 40 kV, 45 mA, PW 1821; Philips Co., Netherlands). We measured the full width at half maximum (FWHM) of the 10-Å illite peaks on the resulting diffractograms between 2° and 18° with a step size of 0.02°. We also examined changes in the diffractograms after Mg-saturation and K-saturation of clays, ethylene glycol-solvation of Mg-saturated samples, and one-hour-heating of K-saturated samples to 300 and 550°C to check the clay minerals in detail (Moore and Reynolds, 1997).

The FWHM of a 10-Å peak from the X-cores is presented in Table 1. In the case of core X103, the peak width was mostly constant through the section with the average of 0.34. In the stratigraphic interval deeper than 97.75 cm of core X106, the peak width exhibited upward widening from 0.31 to 0.45. In the upper part of the core shallower than 97.75 cm depth, the peak width showed a gradual decrease upward from 0.45 to 0.13 with small fluctuations. In the stratigraphic section deeper than 104.25 cm of core X107, the peak width fluctuated between 0.35 and 0.42. The upper 104.25 cm part of



the core exhibited an upward decrease in the peak width from 0.43 (bottom) to 0.24 (top). These mineralogical tests included a common result of upward decreasing illite peak-width through the diatomaceous mud, implying enhancement of chemical and biochemical weathering of the crustal surface during increased surface productivity.

### 5 4.3 Paleontology

### 4.3.1 Fossil pollen

Terrestrial vegetation is an important proxy reflecting continental climate fluctuations. To clarify the response of flora for changing climatic elements, we investigated the concentrations and compositions of fossil pollen grains in the sediment samples of core
 X107. Approximately 1 cm<sup>3</sup> wet subsamples were analyzed using the standard KOH-HF-acetolysis procedure and heavy-liquid (ZnCl<sub>2</sub> solution with a specific gravity of 1.68) separation method (Faegri et al., 1989) after addition of 1 ml of marker liquid containing 40 000 grains of plastic microspheres (25 µm diameter) (Gordon, 1986). The pollen grains were counted on a glass slide under an optical microscope at ×400 magnifi cation after chemical processing. The pollen concentration was calculated using the following equation.

### $Nc = Npp \cdot Cm / Nm / V$

Therein, *Nc* is the pollen concentration (grains/cm<sup>3</sup>), and *Npp* is the number of pollen grains counted. In addition, *Cm* is the marker concentration (40 000 grains/cm<sup>3</sup>), and *Nm* is the number of markers counted; *V* is the sediment volume (cm<sup>3</sup>). The total amount of pollen was 5000 grains/cm<sup>3</sup> or less. Therefore, we measured fossil pollen in the visual field until the counts of microspheres reached 200 grains. All pollen grains in 5 mm<sup>3</sup> of sediment were counted in this case. When the total amount of pollen in the sediment exceeded 5000 grains/cm<sup>3</sup>, 200 grains of pollen fossils in the visual field, where at least 40 grains of microspheres were included, were counted. In such a case, it follows that the fossil pollens in sediment samples of 1–5 mm<sup>3</sup> were counted.

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(1)

Throughout the lower unit, the pollen concentration was less than 6500 grains/cm<sup>3</sup>, with an average of 4320 grains/cm<sup>3</sup>. The pollen grains occurred slightly from the transitional unit, and reached the maximum at around the base of the upper unit (903750 grains/cm<sup>3</sup>). Above this level, the palynological data showed tapering concentration.

- *Pinus* and *Larix* were the major coniferous pollens, with occasional *Picea*. The major broad-leaved trees and shrubs were *Betula*, *Corylus*, *Alnus*, and *Salix*; Ephedra were rare. The herbaceous pollens consisted mainly of Gramineae, *Artemisia*, Chenopodiaceae, and *Alisma*. The *Pinus* concentration was very low in the lower unit (<2500 grains/cm<sup>3</sup>). Immediately above the base of the upper unit, however, *Pinus* showed its peak concentration of 225 940 grains/cm<sup>3</sup>; then decreased upward. The
- showed its peak concentration of 225940 grains/cm<sup>3</sup>, then decreased upward. The stratigraphic fluctuation of *Pinus* pollens correlated with that of the total pollen concentration, suggesting that *Pinus* was representative of the flora in the watershed. The *Betula* concentration was very low (<2000 grains/cm<sup>3</sup>) in the middle horizon of the transitional unit, above which *Betula* pollen started to increase. After reaching the maximum
- (about 350 000 grains/cm<sup>3</sup>) at 46.25 cm depth, *Betula* decreased rapidly upward to 6930 grains/cm<sup>3</sup>. The pollen concentration of *Alnus* was quite low (<1000 grains/cm<sup>3</sup>) through the transitional unit of the core. *Alnus* started to increase in concentration through the middle half of the transitional unit, and reached the maximum (<12 000 grains/cm<sup>3</sup>) at the lower horizon of the upper unit (50–30 cm depth), then exhibited a
- decreasing trend upward. Salix began to appear at the lower part of the transitional unit (ca. 70 cm depth), and reached the peak concentration (3830 grains/cm<sup>3</sup>) just above the base of the upper unit (46.25 cm depth). It decreased abruptly upward with two disappearances at 41.25 and 18.75 cm depths. Fossil pollen Artemisia occurred throughout the core section of X107; however, the pollen concentration was very low
- (less than 1000 grains/cm<sup>3</sup>) in the lower unit (less than 80 cm depth). In the transitional unit, the concentration slightly increased upward as much as 5000 grains/cm<sup>3</sup>, and reached the highest value of 38 290 grains/cm<sup>3</sup> at the base of the upper unit (46.25 cm depth). Above the maximum, *Artemisia* decreased in concentration upward.



### 4.3.2 Fossil diatoms

5

Photosynthetic organisms in aquatic environments are dependent on insolation and the nutrient influx. Planktonic diatoms are the most representative autotrophs in aquatic environments (Prokopenko et al., 2007); their remains are preserved in sediment records as fossil frustules (Khursevich and Prokopenko, 2009).

To prepare the glass slides for the observation of fossil diatoms, a ca. 0.1 cm<sup>3</sup> (10– 15 mg) wet sediment sample was dried at 60 °C for 24 h; then 6 ml of ion-exchanged water was added to the dry sample. The mixture was shaken until all sediments were in suspension. Quantitative drops of the suspension were spilled onto an 18 mm·18 mm cover glass and stirred to spread the suspension evenly over a cover glass; then the cover glass was dried on a hot plate at moderate temperature. After the suspension dried, the cover glass was fixed with mount media. Diatom valves were measured under an optical microscope at 1000× magnification. Samples were rich in frustules: more than 200 valves were analyzed on each slide. When diatoms were scarce on the

15 sample slides, measurement was continued until 9.0 mm<sup>2</sup> of the slide area (5 lines on the cover glass) was scanned. Diatom concentration (valves/g) was calculated using the following equation.

 $Ng = Nvp \cdot (1/D) \cdot (Sc/S)$ 

In that equation, Ng is the number of valves (valves/g), Nvp is the number of valves identified, D is the dry weight (g) of the sample dropped on the cover glass, S is the scanning area (mm<sup>2</sup>), and Sc is the area of the cover glass (18 mm·18 mm).

The frustule occurrence showed that the fossil diatom assemblages consisted mainly of three Centrales genera (*Cyclotella*, *Stephanodiscus*, and *Aulacoseira*) and some Pennales species. Genus *Cyclotella* was classified into six species (*C. ocellata*, *C. sibirica*, *C. bodanica*, *C. minuta*, *C*. sp. A, and *C*. sp. B), and genus *Stephanodiscus* four species (*S. jamsranii*, *S. mongolicus*, *S.* sp. A, and *S*. sp. B). Genus *Aulacoseira* included a single species (*A*. sp.).



(2)

Diatom fossils did not occur from the lower unit. More than 90% of the fossil diatoms from the X-cores were *C. ocellata*, which began to appear at the unit boundary between the lower and the transition of cores X106 and X107. The total diatom abundance increased upward through the transitional unit, and reached the maximum  $(1.7 \times 10^8 \text{ valves/g})$  in the middle of the upper unit. Above this, the frustule concentration was reduced by half, and fluctuated widely between  $1.3 \times 10^8$  and  $10 \times 10^8 \text{ valves/g}$ . *C. bodanica* did not occur from the uppermost part of the cores. Core X103 was characteristic for insignificant frustule occurrence.

### 4.4 Geochemistry

### 10 4.4.1 Biogenic silica

We measured biogenic silica concentrations in sediment samples using a rapid wetalkaline extraction method that was slightly modified from the procedure of Mortlock and Froelich (1989) to enable determination of accurate values despite small sample volumes.

Each of the ca. 0.5 cm<sup>3</sup> wet sediment samples was dried at 20 °C. After treating the homogenized sample with 0.5 N HCl for 24 h to remove carbonates, the solution was centrifuged and decanted. The residual products collected using a filter paper were washed several times with ion-exchanged water; then dried at 60 °C. The dried residues were used for quantitative analyses of biogenic silica. Biogenic silica (BioSi)
 was analyzed using inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectrometry (ICP–AES; ICAP 61E Trace, Thermo Jarrell Ash, USA). The silica concentration was calculated from the silica and aluminum levels in the sample solution as shown below.

BioSi (weight%) =  $2.4 \cdot (Si - 1.77 \cdot AI)$ 

In that equation, Si is the amorphous silica concentration (weight %), and AI is the aluminum concentration (weight %) in the solution (contamination with clay-derived



(3)

silica was corrected for by ICP-AES measurement data of aluminum). The results of the biogenic silica analysis of X-cores are presented in Table 1.

In the lower unit, the biogenic silica content was very low, with an average value of about 2.5 weight % or less, which was the limit of detection. Biogenic silica gradually

<sup>5</sup> increased upward throughout the lower unit and the lower part of the transitional unit, and reached the highest value at the basal part of the upper unit (15.30 weight % at the 32.25 cm depth of Core X106; 12.61 weight % at the 46.25 cm depth of Core X107). The silica abruptly decreased above the horizon of maximum concentration and maintained an average level of ca. 8.5 weight % afterwards, with slight fluctuations.

### 10 4.4.2 Ostracod shell calcite isotopes

To estimate aquatic productivity and the evaporation and precipitation of the lake, we measured stable oxygen and carbon isotope anomalies ( $\delta^{18}$ O and  $\delta^{13}$ C) of the ostracods' calcite shells. Well-preserved ostracod carapaces without adhesive materials were analyzed using an automated carbonate device (Kiel III; Finnigan MAT, USA) attached to a mass spectrometer (Delta S; Finnigan MAT, USA). *Candona, Cytherissa,* and *Limnocythere* were the common ostracod genera in Lake Hovsgol (Poberezhnaya

- et al., 2006); *Cytherissa lacustris* occurred successively from the calcareous horizons of the lower unit. Therefore, we selected calcite shells of *Cytherissa lacustris* as the object of study.
- The sediments adopted for isotope analysis were sampled at intervals of 1.5 cm from cores X103 and X106, and at intervals of 2.5 cm from X107. After macerating sediments in distilled water at room temperature, the slime was wet-sieved through a 250-mesh screen (63 μm opening) and then air-dried. At least 0.2 mg of fossil homogeneous ostracod carapaces without accretion was subsampled from dried residues
- <sup>25</sup> under a stereomicroscope. A subsample of about 0.2 mg was reacted with phosphoric acid at a constant temperature of 70 °C in an individual reaction vessel. Isotopic ratios were corrected for <sup>17</sup>O interferences using equations presented by Santrock et al. (1985). Results are reported in the conventional  $\delta$  notation relative to the Vienna





Peedee Belemnite (PDB) international standard and calibrated using the NBS-19 international standard. The precision, deduced from daily replicate measurements of an internal laboratory calcite standard (MACS1;  $\delta^{13}C = 1.18\%$ ,  $\delta^{18}O = -4.72\%$ ), was better than 0.06‰ for  $\delta^{13}C$  and 0.07‰ for  $\delta^{18}O$  (±1 s). The oxygen fractionation factor (1.01025) at 25.0°C for calcite (Sharma and Clayton, 1964; Friedman and O'Neil, 1977) was adopted.

The isotopic results of *Cytherissa lacustris* shell calcite are presented in Table 1. Within the lower unit,  $\delta^{13}$ C was 0.5%–2.0% with the average of 1.25%, whereas  $\delta^{18}$ O fluctuated between –7.0% and –6.0%, averaging –6.5%. The  $\delta^{13}$ C values increased upward from the middle of the lower unit to the lower part of the transition unit to a maximum of about 3.0%, then decreased abruptly to the middle of the transitional unit. The  $\delta^{18}$ O values, in contrast, showed an abrupt increase throughout the upper part of the lower unit, and reached the maximum of about –5.2% at the middle of the transitional unit.

#### 15 4.4.3 Lake water isotopes

10

For evaluating the meteoric water contribution, we conducted an isotopic analysis of lake water recovered from water depth of 1 m at several kilometers offshore. For the isotopic measurement of inorganic carbon in lake waters, dissolved carbonates were fixed in barium carbonate by adding barium hydroxide to water samples immediately after recovery from a water sampler. The barium carbonate, filtered out of the samples, was prepared for  $\delta^{13}$ C measurement. The oxygen isotope ratio of water was measured following Yoshida and Mizutani (1986) with slight modification. A 10 ml of water sample was extracted into a polypropylene syringe through a needle. After removal of air bubbles, the volume of sample water was adjusted to 2.0 ml; then 8.0 cm<sup>3</sup> (at 1 atm.) of CO<sub>2</sub> was introduced into a syringe. The syringe was maintained in a cool incubator

at 25 °C for 12 h. The gas phase in the syringe was transferred into the evacuated line; then the  $CO_2$  was condensed using liquid nitrogen. Oxygen isotopes included in the condensed  $CO_2$  were measured using a mass spectrometer (Delta S; Finnigan MAT,





USA) in the manner described for the analysis of ostracod shell calcite isotopes.

The results of stable carbon and oxygen isotopic analysis of dissolved total carbon and water samples from Lake Hovsgol are as follows.

$$(\delta^{13}C_{\text{PDB}}, \delta^{18}O_{\text{SMOW}}) = (-5.67, -8.53), (-5.61, -8.50), (-4.74, -8.47)$$
(4)

#### 5 5 Age model

Sediment samples from organic-rich horizons in the cores were submitted for accelerator mass spectrometer (AMS) radiocarbon dating. To avoid chemical and biological contamination, the samples were frozen immediately after the core was split. The <sup>14</sup>C/<sup>13</sup>C ratio of sample graphite was determined using a tandetron accelerator mass spectrometer (AMS, 4130; High Voltage Engineering Europa B.V.) at the Dating and Material Research Center of Nagoya University. After correction using the  $\delta^{13}$ C value of the sample, the <sup>14</sup>C/<sup>13</sup>C ratio was converted to <sup>14</sup>C age. Watanabe et al. (2009) reported the AMS results. In this study, we used those radiocarbon ages to construct age models.

Some problems in the interpretation of radiocarbon ages of organic carbon are noteworthy. Three potential sources of error exist in the core ages: deposition of reworked organic materials, post-depositional contamination of the samples with younger or older carbon, and a reservoir effect caused by disequilibrium between the atmosphere and the water in which the organic carbon was produced. The sedimentary organic carbon was derived mostly from autochthonous algae (Nara et al., 2005). For that reason, the amount of terrestrial organic remnant material transported from the watershed was negligible. Considering the geological evidence of sediment lamination in the lower unit and the prevalence of oxygen deficiency because of the degradation of organic remains during increased surface productivity, it is probable that physical reworking and biological contamination of sediments was slight. We have no accurate information related to the reservoir effect. The lake water is well mixed because of sea-



sonal cooling (Hayami et al., 2006), and the mixable situation of water column might have been retained during the interval of high surface productivity (upper unit). We interpreted that the reservoir effect in the lake was small.

- The surface layer of core X106 yielded a non-zero age (710±32<sup>14</sup>C cal yr BP). Top-<sup>5</sup> most sediment loss during the core recovery was negligible in this case. It follows that the non-zero surface data might result from sediment grain motion by bottom surface currents. Prokopenko et al. (2007) recommended that age correction of around 500 years should be applied to obtain a reliable chronostratigraphy. Near surface samples of X103 dated 2482±28<sup>14</sup>C cal yr BP, suggesting the occurrence of post-depositional <sup>10</sup> erosion of surface sediments. For this study, we converted all results of conventional <sup>14</sup>C ages to calendar years using the INTCAL04 dataset (Reimer et al., 2004). We applied a 500-yr correction prior to calibration of AMS <sup>14</sup>C ages; the results are shown in Table 3.
- The ages of cores X103, X106, and X107 increase linearly with increasing burial depth (linear depth–age relations) except for the interval of 21.5–22.0 cal ka BP, during which the sedimentation rates increased suddenly (Fig. 3b). Marked changes in paleoproxies such as stable isotopes and biogenic silica content cannot be identified at this time interval, and clay mineralogy and grain composition did not undergo changes. Consequently, the short-term rise in sedimentation rate implies that physical erosion
- of crustule surfaces by motion of glaciers increased greatly at this time period because of glacial development in mountainous regions. This implication suggests that the glaciation reached the maximum at around 22 cal ka BP in the provenance of runoff. Considering the linear sediment age-depth relation in the stratigraphic column deeper than 100 cm on core X106, we assumed the sedimentation rate of the layers underlying
- the horizon of increased sediment supply to have been the same as that of the layers overlying this event horizon. In Fig. 3, the chronostratigraphic profiles of the analytical data that were constructed are presented based on the age model using calibrated ages with age correction (Fig. 3c–k).

### 6 Discussion

Chemical and biochemical processes in soil environments are affected by climatic conditions, which therefore influence the rate of weathering as well as the weathering pathway. Biotite, an important precursor of the secondary clay minerals, changes into

- <sup>5</sup> illite, vermiculite, and smectite during weathering (Buol and Weed, 1991). The mineralogical results suggest that biotite derived from the metamorphic basement rocks progressively weathered to vermiculite and then to illite and smectite, a progression typical of arid and semi-arid regions (Ismail, 1970). Under warm and humid conditions, biotite is transformed to kaolinite via hydrobiotite or vermiculite (Buol and Weed,
- 10 1991). The weathering of biotite in the Baikal drainage basin followed the pathway from biotite to smectite through illite and vermiculite, and finally to kaolinite (Solotchina et al., 2009). Increased 10-Å peak widths at half height on X-ray diffractograms were attributable to an abundance of illite produced from altered biotite from metamorphic rocks (Sakai et al., 2005). We therefore interpret the calculated FWHM of 10-Å illite
- peaks as indicative of weathering under climate changes. The peak width of illite in the short cores from the southern basin shows a decreasing tendency from around 20 cal ka BP (Fig. 3e), indicating the prevalence of humid conditions in the watershed in response to rising summer insolation (Fig. 3a). Clay-sized grains of well-crystallized minerals including quartz and biotite were the products of physical erosion of exposed
- <sup>20</sup> rock surface by moving glaciers. Increased amounts of biotite and high clay content were characteristic of cold climate conditions (Sakai et al., 2005). Hydrolytic weathering prevailed in watersheds under warm and wet climate conditions, causing lowered clay contents and increased amounts of illite with decreased 10-Å peak width. The slight occurrence of clays (less than 1.0 weight %) reflects the marked disappearance of glaciers at around 10 cal ka BP.

The oxygen isotopic results on ostracod shell calcite provide useful information for elucidating the reaction of Lake Hovsgol to changing water budget, water temperature, and aridification or humidification processes. Seasonal precipitation and glacial

meltwaters are the main contributors of waters in the lake. Furthermore,  $\delta^{18}$ O ratios of source water are known to exert a great effect on oxygen isotopic composition of lake waters. Air temperatures and atmospheric pathways probably exert a heavy impact on oxygen isotopic composition of local precipitation in the continental interior. Lake water cooling and warming are important factors influencing the mineralogical

- <sup>5</sup> Lake water cooling and warming are important factors influencing the mineralogical fixation of oxygen isotopes in waters. Water temperature, together with isotopic composition of source water, controls oxygen isotope fractionation on the occasion of carbonate deposition. The  $\delta^{18}$ O values of shell calcite increased rapidly during the last glacial-postglacial transition (Fig. 4g). Given the drastic lake-level rise at 15.4 cal ka BP
- (Prokopenko et al., 2005), the positive isotopic shift extending to 1.5 ‰ does not reflect the net evaporative loss of lake water, but a decrease in temperature of lake water or supply of source water rich in heavy oxygen. The large south-north contrast in oxygen isotope ratios of winter precipitation reflects that the atmospheric moisture depleted in heavy oxygen is supplied by cooler air masses from the north (Siberian monsoon;
- Fig. 1). Seasonal warm air masses (SE Asian monsoon) carry moisture that is rich in heavy oxygen to the continental interior.

A difference in isotopic response existed between the south (cores X103 and X106) and north (core X107) of the lake. The effect of heavy oxygen enrichment appeared in the southern lake ca. 3000 years earlier than in the case of northern lakes. Cores

- X103 and X106 show the occurrence of an abrupt decrease in clay concentrations at ca. 22 cal ka BP (immediately after the period of maximum glaciation), although the profile of the clay concentration in core X107 exhibits that high sediment influx was retained as late as ca. 16 cal ka BP in the northern lake (Fig. 4d). The supply of finegrained sediments reflects crustal denudation by moving glaciers. We interpreted that
- fully developed glaciers existed in the provenance of runoff of the northern lake extending for more than 6000 years after the onset of glacial retreat in the drainage of the southern lake. This interpretation is consistent with the delivery of illite with broad 10-Å peak width into the northern lake down to ca. 16 cal ka BP (Fig. 4e). High and steep ridges surround the northern lake, although dissected landforms are characteristic for

the catchment of the southern lake (Fig. 2). Consequently, the most plausible mechanism to explain the delay in isotopic response of the northern lake is the prolonged duration of developed glaciers in upstream areas. Considering the gradual narrowing of illite peak width (soilification) and the continuing supply of clastic minerals (glacial

<sup>5</sup> retreat), as well as the occurrence of arboreal pollens (forestation), the heavy oxygen enrichment excludes the potential of lake-water cooling. Summertime precipitation from warm air masses is likely to favor the sufficient supply of water rich in <sup>18</sup>O. Taken together, the positive shift in  $\delta^{18}$ O of the lake can be ascribed to the increased precipitation from air masses delivered by SE Asian monsoons. Our scenario is consistent with the conclusion of Prokopenko et al. (2009), who designated that the positive  $\delta^{18}$ O

shift is a signal of atmospheric moisture supply from warmer air masses.

The oxygen isotope ratio of calcite equilibrated with modern lake water (ca. 8.2–ca. 8.6‰ SMOW) at 4.0 °C worked out at -5.6 to -6.0% PDB (Fig. 4g), which is very close to the values of present summer precipitation (Fig. 2). Given that the reaction

- of the lake to precipitation rich in heavy oxygen was responsible for summer insolation changes, it is suggested that the seasonal prevalence of warm air masses to the water-shed reached the maximum at around 10 cal ka BP. In Fig. 4g, we propose a downward tending profile of shell calcite δ<sup>18</sup>O ratios, which implies a prevailing condition of seasonal cooler air masses through the middle to late Holocene time. The negative ca.
   1‰ shift in δ<sup>18</sup>O might be ascribed to the net decrease in seasonal precipitation from
- $_{20}$  1‰ shift in  $\delta$   $_{10}$  might be ascribed to the net decrease in seasonal precipitation from warm air masses.

The calcite carbon isotopes, which reflect the <sup>12</sup>C concentration at the lake bottom, showed a somewhat different trend in concentration. The  $\delta^{13}$ C enrichment occurred in the southern lake immediately after the period of high sedimentation rate, approxi-

<sup>25</sup> mately 4000 years earlier than the onset of a  $\delta^{13}$ C rise in the northern lake. The  $\delta^{13}$ C ratios reached the maximum at around 17 cal ka BP. The total carbonate  $\delta^{13}$ C ratios of modern lake water are -4.7--5.7% PDB. It might be expected that a large depression of carbon isotope ratios occurred as a result of the increased light carbon (<sup>12</sup>C) budget. Considering the increase in biogenic silica concentration after the carbon isotope shift



at 17–18 cal ka BP, the <sup>12</sup>C enrichment in ostracod shells signifies enhanced aquatic production. This consequence demonstrates that the positive shift of  $\delta^{12}$ C signifies a net productivity loss in the lake, reflecting the overall decline of productivity there. Before the occurrence of the carbon isotope shift, the  $\delta^{13}$ C ratios of core X107 remained

at a low level (ca. 1‰ PDB), suggesting that algal production was somewhat maintained in the northern lake. No frustule occurrence and extremely low biogenic-silica concentration (ca. 2.5%: limit of detection) in core X107 reflect the surface productivity in the northern lake as contributed by phytoplankton without a skeletal framework.

The parallel trend of fluctuations in biogenic silica concentration (Fig. 4c) and total

- frustules (Fig. 4h) suggests that the opaline silica originated mostly from diatoms. After reaching the maximum at 8–10 cal ka BP, these two records showed a downturn, and remained at a certain level since 7 cal ka BP. The trend of aquatic production represented by the silica concentration is generally parallel to the reconstructed profile of summer insolation. It follows simply that algal blooming was responsible for the vari-
- ation of solar energy. The narrowing of 10-Å illite peak width continued for more than 7000 years after the carbon isotope shift, during which the peak width was reduced from 0.32 to 0.25 (Fig. 4e). Later, the full width fluctuated around 0.20, which is mostly the same as values of illite included in highly weathered part of gravels in illuvial soils underlying the Selenga delta (Sakai et al., 2005). This mineralogical result indicates
- <sup>20</sup> progressive weathering of the watershed surface through the Holocene. The less advanced weathering in the catchment of the northern lake, as suggested by wider peaks of illite from core X107 than those of core X106, is attributable to the shorter approach to the site of grains settling from the source of clastics.

In reference to the carbon isotope shift to light carbon enrichment (Fig. 4f), the nutrients attributable to enhanced terrestrial weathering were introduced into the lake since 17–18 cal ka BP. However, biological silica fixation was restricted in the latter half of the stage of the nutrient supply. Mechanical denudation and annual melting of mountain glaciers in the drainage basin provided Fe-rich and Mg-rich mica minerals to the lake. Iron is an indispensable element for photosynthetic metabolism and respiratory



electron transport (e.g., nitrate reduction, chlorophyll synthesis, and detoxification of reactive oxygen species). Franck et al. (2000) ascertained using laboratory experiments that the silicate uptake ratio is lower in iron-rich incubation medium. It was interpreted that Fe addition promotes the growth of non-siliceous phytoplankton and

- protoplasts of diatoms. Nara et al. (2005) investigated photosynthetic pigments in core 5 samples from the Hovsgol Lake. Their analytical data suggest that the biomarkers that are indicative of green algae and cyanobacteria were present in the stage of non frustule-occurrence. Consequently, the increased input of mafic minerals produced by glacial denudation inhibited silica uptake by the phytoplankton group. The switch to major production of diatoms was consistent with the reduction of sediment supply and 10

the increased weathering of clays.

The pollen grains started to increase rapidly after 11 cal ka BP. They reached the maximum during the ensuing 1000 years (Fig. 4i and j). Subsequently, the pollen concentration exhibited a steady decline towards the middle Holocene and remained low

- thereafter, during which time the progressive chemical and biochemical weathering ex-15 tended to the watershed. The rankness of herbaceous plants was inhibited until the maximum vegetation (Fig. 4k), although terrestrial weathering prevailed in the watershed (Fig. 4e). The integrated information related to paleoproxies reveals why the terrestrial and aquatic flora underwent explosive growth at the beginning of the Holocene.
- In view of the response of plants to changes in summer insolation and nutrient supply, 20 we infer that the leading cause of vegetation in the watershed was the utilization of solar energy, which affected the rate of weathering as well as the weathering pathway in soil layers through chemical and biochemical actions by terrestrial plants. This inference is supported by the assessment of the growth reaction of terrestrial flora for changing summer insolation. 25

The atmospheric moisture is supplied to inland areas beyond the average monsoon limit (Fig. 1), strongly depending on seasonal warming. Consequently, the enlargement of forests reflects a prevalence of vegetational merits in the watershed resulting from the extent of monsoonal circulation. The oxygen isotope results imply that the influence



of Asian monsoons on the watershed reached a maximum value at around 10 cal ka. BP and exhibited a decline thereafter. The moisture supply and consequent climatic amelioration promoted arboreal growth, and tree-covered lands stimulated the absorption of radiative energy. The positive feedback of solar energy utilization accelerated atmospheric warming. Early in the Holocene, the pollen concentration decreased to one-third of the maximum, and remained at a very low level through the late Holocene. In view of the declining tendency of Holocene summer insolation, this scenario might explain the cause of floral retreat and the control of aquatic productivity.

Why were arboreal forests limited to growth before the Holocene? The record of ostracod  $\delta^{18}$ O reveals the background of air mass movement. It is likely that atmospheric warming and wetting resulting from the seasonal extension of the SE Asian monsoon started at ca. 19 cal ka BP and continued afterward. Based on the analogy of the proposed shell-calcite  $\delta^{18}$ O-trend (Fig. 4g), summer precipitation increased quickly thereafter. However, the development of arboreal forests was extremely limited before the Holocene. The paleoproxy records from Lake Baikal reveal that arboreal forests started to growth at around ca. 19 cal ka BP in the Baikal drainage basin (Horiuchi et al., 2000). Thus the limited growth of forests might have been attributable to vege-

tational acclimatization of arboreal tress to severe atmospheric conditions at elevated places. It is inferred from stratigraphic details of biogenic silica uptake that the aquatic productivity was responsible to some degree for the atmospheric humidity increase.

The water areas were affected only slightly by atmospheric fluctuations caused by the seasonal intrusion of cool air masses. The phytoplankton group in the surface layer was able to use enhanced radiation depending on the nutrient supply. Activated seasonal blooming might have accelerated vapor emissions on the lake surface in re-

sponse to increasing summer radiation. It is likely that the net evaporative gain of atmospheric moisture from the expanded water surface during a high lake-level stand engender increasing vapor pressure of water. High dividing ridges surround the west and north of the narrow catchment, and the lake surface has an altitude greater than 1600 m. The humidity increase probably caused atmospheric pressure lowering in this



semi-closed basin at high altitudes, which allowed the summer monsoon to penetrate into the continental interior from the south, amplifying summer moisture supply to the watershed. The amplification improved the seasonal growth of arboreal trees under elevating summer insolation. The most probable scenario explaining the explosive expansion of forests in the Hovsgol watershed is the atmospheric humidity – pressure

feedbacks under the influence of the summer insolation increase.

The retreat of arboreal forests, together with the diminishing algal production, implies that the northern extent of monsoonal circulation receded in response to the decrease of Holocene summer insolation (Herzschuh, 2006). The decreased utilization of solar

energy reduced the atmospheric vapor pressure, which enhanced the seasonally advancing potential of cool air masses from the north. Furthermore, we suspect that the increased pressure gradient between north and south in the continental interior was the proximate cause of continental cooling in Eastern Asia.

### 7 Concluding remarks

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The proxy records in cored sediments from Lake Hovsgol show that lacustrine conditions have fluctuated widely during the last 30 ka. The termination of glacial and stadial cooling and the subsequent prevalence of interglacial and interstadial warming in the watershed are consequences of solar forcing. The limnological evolution of the catchment area was linked closely with the mode of glacial retreat, which was consistent with the glacial–deglacial changes in summer insolation.

The oxygen isotope records of the ostracod shell calcite from the deglacial stratigraphic interval provide information related to the water budget and water temperature of the lake and source water characteristics. The  $\delta^{18}$ O values of shell calcite increased rapidly at the last glacial–postglacial transition. The narrowing 10-Å illite peak width (soilification) and the decreasing sediment supply (glacial retreat) exclude the possibil-

<sup>25</sup> (sollification) and the decreasing sediment supply (glacial retreat) exclude the possibility that cooling did not extend to the lake during this time interval. Given the occurrence of a drastic lake-level rise, the positive 1.5‰ shift in  $\delta^{18}$ O of ostracod calcite shells rec-





ognized at the transition implies a supply of heavy-oxygen-rich source water. As the present atmospheric circulation in the continental interior suggests, it is likely that cool air masses from the north supply isotopically light precipitation. Summertime atmospheric moisture transports isotopically heavy precipitation from the south to the conti-

<sup>5</sup> nental interior. It is our interpretation that the positive shift in  $\delta^{18}$ O of the lake resulted from the increased precipitation from warm air masses delivered by the SE Asian monsoon. The proposed shell calcite  $\delta^{18}$ O profile, presenting a changing condition of air masses through the middle to late Holocene time, includes a negative ca. 1% isotopic shift, which can be ascribed to the net decrease in isotopically heavy precipitation from warm air masses.

A difference was apparent in the isotopic response between the southern and northern areas of the lake, and in the effect of heavy oxygen enrichment that appeared in the southern lake ca. 3000 years earlier than in the northern lake. The supply of finegrained sediments reflects crustal denudation by moving glaciers. We interpreted that

- <sup>15</sup> fully developed glaciers existed in the provenance of the runoff of the northern lake, extending for more than 6000 years after the onset of glacial retreat in the drainage of the southern lake. This interpretation is consistent with the delivery of illite with broad 10-Å peak width into the northern lake down to ca. 16 cal ka BP. The most plausible mechanism to explain the delay in the isotopic response of the northern lake is the
- <sup>20</sup> prolonged duration of mountain glaciers in upstream areas. In view of the advancing soilification and retreating glaciers, the heavy oxygen enrichment excludes the possibility of lake-water cooling. Summertime precipitation from warm air masses is likely to favor the sufficient supply of water rich in <sup>18</sup>O. Consequently, the positive shift in  $\delta^{18}$ O of the lake can be ascribed to the increased summer precipitation from air masses delivered by the SE Asian monsoon.

Arboreal forests at high latitudes exerted an important influence on the atmospheric moisture cycle, possibly driving a positive feedback loop of humidification as radiation increased. The coniferous forest canopy can increase solar energy absorption. In addition, the seasonal growth of arboreal forests promoted the supply of moisture to the



atmosphere, thereby elevating the water vapor level in air masses and lowering the air pressure. The deglacial retreat of cool air masses resulting from that atmospheric pressure decrease allowed the summer monsoon to penetrate into the continental interior, thereby amplifying the moisture supply. Our palynological data imply that the feedbacks

<sup>5</sup> between moisture and vegetation were greatest at the beginning of the Holocene. It is inferred from the Holocene record of terrestrial flora that the rapid reduction of arboreal forests provoked the retreat of the northern extent of monsoonal circulation. The decreased solar energy utilization reduced the moisture supplied to the atmosphere, which allowed cool air masses to move south, giving rise to continental cooling in East <sup>10</sup> ern Asia.

Arboreal forests were limited to growth before the Holocene, even though atmospheric warming and wetting attributable to the seasonal extension of summertime monsoon prevailed in the watershed. The rising lake-level caused expansion of the lake surface, leading to the evaporative input of moisture to the atmospheric in response to

- enhancing summer insolation. The humidity increase lowered the atmospheric pressure in the semi-closed basin at high altitudes, which allowed the summer monsoon to penetrate into the continental interior from the south, thereby amplifying the summer moisture supply to the watershed. That amplification improved the seasonal growth of arboreal trees under bright sunlight. The most probable scenario explaining the explo-
- <sup>20</sup> sive expansion of forests in the Hovsgol watershed is the humidity-vegetation feedback under the control of the summer insolation increase.

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Table 1. Mineralogical and geochemical results on cores X103, X106, and X107. BioSi: biogenic silica, FWHM: full width at half maximum of 10-Å illite peaks.

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<u> </u>			BioSi	Clay		Ostracod shell	
Core and sample	Depth	Age	content	FWHM	calcite isotope	-13	-18
	cm	years B.P.	weight %	volume %	A	δ <sup>···</sup> C‰ PDB	δ <sup></sup> 0‰ PDB
X103-1-01	1.25	1939.00	5.34	1.37			
X103-1-02	3.75	9460.59	4.99	0.86			
X103-1-03	6.25	10420.69	3.49	1.98			
X103-1-04	8.75	11380.80	3.01	3.69			
X103-1-05	11.25	12340.90	3.33	2.67			
X103-1-06	13.75	13301.00	3.09	3.22			
X103-1-07	16.25	14121.40	3.00	10.01	0.3076		
X103-1-08	18.75	14941.80	2.84	11.23			
X103-1-09	21.25	15762.20	2.67	10.27	0.3075		
X103-1-10	23.75	16582.60	2.33	11.06			
X103-1-12	28.75	17815.55	2.18	10.18			
X103-1-13	31.25	18228.10	2.54	7.71	0.3519		
X103-1-14	33.75	18640.65	2.23	8.13			
X103-1-15	36.25	19053.20	2.30	11.41	0.3266		
X103-1-16	38.75	19465.75	2.25	11.21			
X103-1-17	41.25	19878.30	2.32	14.50	0.3609		
X103-1-18	43.75	20290.85	2.69	13.65			
X103-1-19	46.25	20703.40	2.09	11.88	0.3689		
X103-1-20	48.75	21115.95	2.43	14.23			
X103-1-22	53.75	21595.51	2.27	15.82			
X103-1-23	56.25	21662.52	2.43	16.03	0.3429		
X103-1-24	58.75	21729.53	2.27	15.12			
X103-1-25	61.25	21796.54	2.45	19.64	0.3480		
X103-1-26	63.75	21863.55	2.19	19.88		1.514	-6.270
X103-1-27	66.25	21930.56	2.47	19.12	0.3348	1.306	-6. 342
X103-1-28	68.75	21997.57	2.40	19.19		1.211	-6. 437
X103-1-29	71.25	22064.58	2.67	17.17	0.3382	1.408	-6. 427
X103-1-30	72.75	22104.78	2.60	17.24			
X103-2-01	74.25	22144.99	2.39	12.03	0.3260	1.074	-6. 590
X103-2-02							
X103-2-03	79.25	22624.55	2.42	18.26	0.3666	0.656	-6. 825
X103-2-04	81.75	23037.10	2.60	19.89		1.127	-6, 763
X103-2-05	84.25	23449.65	3.41	18.19	0.2964	1.037	-6.862
X103-2-06	86.75	23862.20	2.66	16.70		1.305	-6.316
X103-2-07	89.25	24274.75	2.41	16.39	0.3025	1.806	-6.020
X103-2-08	91.75	24687.30	2.19	18.93		1.160	-6, 130
X103-2-09	94.25	25099.85	2.16	18.68	0.3250	1.087	-6, 548
X103-2-10	96.75	25512.40	2.28	17.59		0.980	-6.355
X103-2-11	99.25	25924.95	2.68	17.03	0.3338	0.720	-6, 893
X103-2-12							
X103-2-13	104.25	26750.05	2.88	19.85	0.3508	1.527	-6.266
X103-2-14	106.75	27162.60	2.72	16.49			
X103-2-15	109.25	27575.15	2.47	14.35	0.3445	1.652	-6.236
X103-2-16	111.75	27987.70	2.07	16.97		1.092	-6.867
X103-2-17	114.25	28400.25	1.94	17.80		1.274	-6.404
X103-2-18							
X103-2-19	118.60	29118.09	3.07	15.58		1.533	-6.005

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### Last-glacial to postglacial climate formation





#### Table 1. Continued.

			Blank s	space: no	ot determined	Cytheris	sa lacustris
X106-1-01	0.75	149.50	7.50	0.01	0.1331		
X106-1-02	2.25	419.63	10.02	0.42			
X106-1-03	3.75	689.75	9.53	0.52	0.2096		
X106-1-04	5.25	959.88	7.67				
X106-1-06	8.25	1598.55	8.38	0.47	0.1457		
X106-1-07	9.75	1967.10	6.54		0.1661		
X106-1-08	11.25	2335.65	8.81	0.43			
X106-1-09	12.75	2704.20	8.58	0.20	0.1870		
X106-1-10	14.25	3072.75	9.72	0.41			
X106-1-11	15.75	3441.30	8.68	0.20	0.1794		
X106-1-12	17.25	3809.85	7.58	0.01			
X106-1-13	18.75	4178.40	7.73	0.05	0.1803		
X106-1-14	20.25	4546.95	8.14	0.29			
X106-1-15	21.75	4915.50		0.32			
X106-1-16	23.25	5331.60	8.59	0.32	0.2364		
X106-1-17	24.75	5747.70	9.67	0.33	0.2127		
X106-1-18	26.25	6163.80	8.35	0.40			
X106-1-19	27 75	6579.90	9.97	0.44	0 2046		
X106-1-20	29.25	6996.00	11.38	0.36	0.2010		
X106-1-21	30 75	7412 10	9 75	0.49			
X106-1-22	32 25	7828 20	8 12	0.28			
X106-1-23	33.75	8244.30	12.42	0.59	0.1756		
X106-1-24	35.25	8660.40	15.30	0.65			
X106-1-26	38.25	9522.60	12.39	1.03	0.2321		
X106-1-27	39.75	9968.70	10.91	0.72	0.2296		
X106-1-28	41.25	10414.80	9.80	0.89			
X106-1-29	42.75	10860.90	4.11	1.44	0.2842		
X106-1-30	44.25	11307.00	7.13	0.92			
X106-1-31	45.75	11753.10	4.24	1.25	0.2283		
X106-1-32	47.25	12199.20	4.10	3.66			
X106-1-33	48.75	12645.30	3.63	3.69	0.3058		
X106-1-34	50.25	13091.40	3.74	4.75	0.2733		
V106-1-26	<b>53 25</b>	14016 55	2.07	4 15			
X100-1-30 X106 1 27	55.25	14010.55	0.97	4.15	0 2200	1 022	4 765
X100-1-37	54.75	14495.00	9.11	7.19	0.3399	1.952	-4.765
X100-1-30	50.25	14974.03	2.01	7.39	0 2242	2 502	E 02E
X100-1-39 X106 1 40	57.75	15455.70	0.24	7.01	0.3242	2.092	-5.035
X100-1-40 X106 1 41	60 7E	16411 90	2.94	6.74	0 2020	0 704	E 1E7
X100-1-41 X106 1 40	60.75	16900.95	2.40	0.74	0.3239	2.794	-5.157
X100-1-42 X106 1 42	62.20	17260.00	2.40	0.07	0.2074	2 025	E 04E
X100-1-43	65.75	17040.05	2.27	7.01	0.3074	0.000	-5.045
X100-1-44 X106-1-46	69.25	19604 79	2.01	9.03	0.2605	2.722	-5.556
X100-1-40 X106 1 47	60.25	10094.76	2.49	0.93	0.3005	2.070	-0.343
X100-1-47 X106-1-49	71 25	10/28 25	2.04	9.00	0.3273	2.090	-0.209
X100-1-40 X106-2-01	73.75	20017 64	2.40	9.62	0 3712	2 188	-6.441
X100-2-01	75.75	20017.04	2.72	16.02	0.0712	1 706	6 20/
X100-2-02	76.75	20000.01	2.19	12.00	0.2621	0.017	-0.394
X100-2-03	79.75	21030.39	2.97	17.02	0.3021	2.217	-0.334
A100-2-04	10.25	21030.70	2.04	17.93			

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### Last-glacial to postglacial climate formation





#### Table 1. Continued.

X106-2-05	79.75	21379.13	2.73	20.16	0.4068	1.710	-6.525	
X106-2-07	82.75	21782.65	3.05	18.05	0.3859	1.653	-6.497	
X106-2-08	84.25	21845.80	2.87	19.04		1.357	-6.345	
X106-2-09	85.75	21908.95	3.13	19.05	0.3395	1.590	-6.443	
X106-2-10	87.25	21972.10	2.74	18.77		1.655	-6.145	
X106-2-11	88.75	22035.25	2.97	21.76	0.3962	1.134	-6.116	
X106-2-12	90.25	22098.40	2.83	20.78				
X106-2-13	91.75	22161.55	3.05	21.27	0.3566	1.790	-6.364	
X106-2-14	93.25	22224.70	2.82	21.74		1.660	-6.387	
X106-2-15	94.75	22287.85	3.08	21.73	0.3832	1.123	-6.542	
X106-2-17	97.75	22695.35	2.62	20.73	0.4501	1.484	-6.387	
X106-2-18	99.25	23039.70	3.06	23.02		0.536	-6.687	
X106-2-19	100.75	23384.05	2.95	22.70	0.4045			
X106-2-20	102.25	23728.40	3.21	22.58		0.790	-6.472	
X106-2-21	103.75	24072.75	2.78	21.42	0.4243	0.344	-6.648	
X106-2-22	105.25	24417.10	2.81	22.93		1.086	-6.504	
X106-2-23	106.75	24761.45	2.57	20.65	0.3572	1.507	-6.019	
X106-2-24	108.25	25105.80	2.47	18.15				
X106-2-25	109.75	25450.15	2.69	19.04	0.3950	0.799	-6.483	
X106-2-27	112.75	26134.87	2.44	19.78	0.3910	0.355	-6.278	
X106-2-28	114.25	26475.24	2.66	19.87		0.536	-6.498	
X106-2-29	115.75	26815.61	2.49	17.08	0.3980	0.427	-6.807	
X106-2-30	117.25	27155.99	2.80	22.13		0.335	-6.690	
X106-2-31	118.75	27496.36	2.57	22.06	0.3461	1.022	-6.201	
X106-2-32	120.25	27836.73	2.40	15.20		2.018	-5.948	
X106-2-33	121.75	28177.10	2.41	17.02	0.3748	1.722	-5.900	
X106-2-34	123.25	28517.47	2.25	20.45		0.996	-6.192	
X106-2-35	124.75	28857.84	2.34	20.42	0.3550	1.127	-6.217	
X106-2-36	126.25	29198.21	2.08	18.40	0.3062	1.260	-6.103	
	127.75	29538.59		17.59				
X106-2-38	129.40	29912.99	2.05			0.827	-6.143	
			Blank	space: not o	determined	Cytherissa lacustris		
			BioSi	Clay		Ostracod shell		
Core and sample	Depth	Age	content	FWHM	calcite isotope			
	cm	years B.P.	weight %	volume %	Å	$\delta^{13}$ C‰ PDB	$\delta^{18}$ O‰ PDB	
X107-1-01	1.25	200.90	9.98					
X107-1-02	3.75	602.71	9.40	0.21				
X107-1-03	6.25	1004.52	9.30	0.75				
X107-1-04	8.75	1406.33	10.13	0.36	0.2371			
X107-1-05	11.25	1808.14	10.05	0.08				
X107-1-06	13.75	2209.95	8.87	0.41	0.2954			
X107-1-07	16.25	2611.76	8.40	0.05				
X107-1-08	18.75	3013.57	8.63	0.80	0.2398			
X107-1-09	21.25	3415.38	7.97	0.29				
X107-1-10	23.75	3817.19	7.13	0.29	0.2969			
X107-1-11	26.25	4219.00	7.70					
X107-1-12	28.75	4920.52	8.45	0.53	0.2447			
X107-1-13	31.25	5622.03	8.82	0.2				
X107-1-14	33.75	6323.55	8.25	0.63	0.2602			

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### Last-glacial to postglacial climate formation





#### Table 1. Continued.

X107-1-15 36.25 7025	.06 5.85	0.69			
X107-1-16 38.75 7726	.58 8.97	0.28			
X107-1-17 41.25 8428	.09 9.36	0.58			
X107-1-18 43.75 9129	.61 11.69	0.65 0	.2353		
x107-1-19 46.25 9831	.12 12.61	1.05			
x107-1-20 48.75 10532	2.64 10.65	0.35 0	.2751		
x107-1-21 51.25 11218	3.82 9.95				
x107-1-22 53.25 1165	7.41 5.63	1.20 0	.2888		
x107-1-23 56.25 1231	5.30 5.00	3.43			
x107-1-24 58.75 12863	3.54 6.14	2.64 0	.3496		
x107-1-25 61.25 1341	1.78 5.06				
x107-1-26 63.75 13960	0.02 5.00	4.25 0	.3087		
x107-1-27 66.25 14508	3.25 4.50	7.16			
x107-1-28 68.75 15056	6.49 4.31	6.32		1.993	-4.956
x107-1-29 71.50 15659	9.55 2.30	0	.3274	2.773	-5.143
x107-2-01 74.25 16262	2.62 2.97	15.11 0	.3798	2.182	-6.283
x107-2-02 76.75 16810	0.85 1.86	19.39		3.173	-6.320
x107-2-03 79.25 17359	9.09 2.86	19.51 0	.4100	1.919	-6.684
x107-2-04 81.75 17907	7.33 3.19	20.19		1.466	-6.499
x107-2-05 84.25 1845	5.57 3.19	19.48 0	.4168	1.239	-6.699
x107-2-06 86.75 19003	3.81 3.59	21.12		1.198	-6.491
x107-2-07 89.25 19552	2.05 3.45	20.55 0	.4043	0.846	-6.647
x107-2-08 91.75 20100	0.28 3.59	15.17		1.025	-6.726
x107-2-09 94.25 20648	3.52 3.33	20.94 0	.3904	1.186	-6.446
x107-2-10 96.75 21196	6.76 3.79	21.73		1.365	-6.554
x107-2-11 99.25 2174	5.00 3.42	0	.4245	0.459	-6.629
x107-2-12 101.75 2182	1.04 3.54	21.54		0.697	-6.686
x107-2-13 104.25 21893	7.08 3.16	17.08 0	.4260	1.757	-6.130
x107-2-14 106.75 21973	3.12 3.02	17.02		1.611	-6.148
x107-2-15 109.25 22049	9.16 3.29	21.01		0.935	-6.452
x107-2-16 111.75 2212	5.20 2.93	22.21 0	).3717	0.906	-6.371
x107-2-17 114.25 2220	1.24 2.86	20.79 0	.3809	0.603	-6.561
x107-2-18 116.75 2227	7.28 2.95	23.85		0.776	-6.372
x107-2-19 119.25 2282	5.52 2.89	23.29 0	.3485	1.549	-5.899
x107-2-20 121.75 23373	3.76 2.49	18.64		1.064	-6.246
x107-2-21 124.25 23922	2.00 2.63	0	.4239	1.014	-6.240
x107-2-22 126.75 24470	).24 3.11	23.61 0	.4090	0.736	-6.216
x107-2-23 129.25 25018	8.48 2.84	22.70		0.686	-7.029
x107-2-24 131.75 25566	6.72 3.05			1.018	-6.457
x107-2-25 131.75 25566	6.72 2.73			0.284	-6.694
	Blank sp	pace: not det	termined	Cytherissa	a lacustris

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### Last-glacial to postglacial climate formation





**Table 2.** Calibrated ages of AMS radiocarbon isotope dates reported by Watanabe et al. (2009). Conventional <sup>14</sup>C ages were converted to calendar years using the INTCAL04 dataset (Reimer et al., 2004) after correcting the AMS dates by 500 years. \*: wood fragment.

			Core dept	th	AMS	Calibrated age*** (cal BP)		
San	Sample No.		(cm)		<sup>14</sup> C age**	(500 yrs adjustment)		
(Wat	anabe et		. ,		-	yrs cal BP		
al.	, 2009)					range at 1 sigma		
		top	bottom	center	Yrs BP, ± 1 sigma	upper	lower	median
						range	range	
X1	03-1-1	0.0	2.5	1.25	$2482 \pm 28$	1893	1985	1939.0
X1	03-1-3*	-	-	3.00	$7825 \pm 34$	8559	8634	8596.5
X1	03-1-6	12.5	15.0	13.75	11954± 42	13257	13345	13301.0
X10	03-1-11	25.0	27.5	26.25	$14974 \pm 50$	17183	17623	17403.0
X10	03-1-21	50.0	52.5	51.25	18618 ± 58	21305	21752	21528.5
X1	03-2-2	75.5	78.0	76.75	19122 ± 59	22141	22283	22212.0
X10	03-2-12	100.5	103.0	101.75	21883 ± 70	-	-	_
X10	03-2-18	115.5	118.0	116.75	23919± 82	-	_	-
X1	06-1-1	0.0	1.5	0.75	710± 32	< 0	299	
X1	06-1-5	6.0	7.5	6.75	1791 ± 30	1182	1278	1230.0
X10	06-1-15	21.0	22.5	21.75	$4865 \pm 36$	4869	4962	4915.5
X10	06-1-25	36.0	37.5	36.75	$8662 \pm 37$	9023	9130	9076.5
X10	06-1-35	51.0	52.5	51.75	12192± 43	13463	13612	13537.5
X10	06-1-45	66.0	67.5	66.75	15503± 49	18126	18530	18328.0
X10	06-1-49	72.0	73.0	72.50	$17134 \pm 61$	19589	19879	19734.0
X1	06-2-6	80.5	82.0	81.25	18718± 60	21522	21917	21719.5
X10	06-2-16	95.5	97.0	96.25	19312± 66	22278	22424	22351.0
X10	06-2-26	110.5	112.0	111.25	21871±213	25604	25985	25794.5
X10	06-2-37	127.0	128.5	127.75	$23989 \pm 87$	-	_	-
X1	07-1-11	25.0	27.5	26.25	4327± 32	4153	4285	4219.0
X10	07-1-21	50.0	52.0	51.00	10207± 38	11127	11201	11164.0
X10	07-2-11	98.0	100.5	99.25	18736± 57	21552	21938	21745.0
X10	07-2-21	123.0	125.5	124.25	$20467 \pm 66$	23799	24045	23922.0
X1	07-2-24	130.5	133.0	131.75	$22661 \pm 81$	-	-	-

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### Last-glacial to postglacial climate formation







**Fig. 1.** Distribution of oxygen ( $\delta^{18}$ O) isotope ratios ( $\infty$  SMOW, Standard Mean Ocean Water) of summer (May–September) and winter (November–March) precipitation, based on the averaged values of long term (1960–2001) International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) data (http://nucleus.iaea.org/NUCLEUS/nucleus/Content/index.jsp). The present-day average limits of the summer monsoons and the winter polar front, which are based on results reported by Gao (1962), Porter and An (1995), Dykoski et al. (2005), and Herzschuh (2006), are also shown.





Fig. 2. Location map of Lake Hovsgol. The coring sites are given in the map. Core lithology is shown in the lower right.

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### Last-glacial to postglacial climate formation







**Fig. 3.** Chronostratigraphic profiles on summer insolation changes (a) calculated using the data table provided by Laskar et al. (2004), age model (b), aquatic (biogenic silica) productivity (c), clay content (d), illite mineralogy (e), ostracod (*Cytherissa lacustris*) shell calcite  $\delta^{13}$ C (f) and  $\delta^{18}$ O (g) in PDB scale, total frustules (h), and pollen concentration (I, conifers; J, broad-leaved tress and shrubs; K, herbs). Oxygen isotopes of lake water are shown in panel G ( $\delta^{18}$ O PDB). PDB denotes Peedee Belemnite Standard.

Interactive Discussion