Comparison of different radionuclide dating models for estimating the ages of sediments from Lakes Shinji-ko and Nakaumi, Japan

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Abstract: Understanding the history and processes of sediment accumulation in lakes and estuaries is fundamental for evaluating environmental changes in water bodies. This study presents the spatial distribution of excess ²¹⁰Pb (²¹⁰Pb_{ex}) and ¹³⁷Cs concentrations (activities) in sediment cores from 41 sites in Lake Shinji-ko and seven sites in Lake Nakaumi, which together form the largest brackish water body in Japan. These data provide significant information on sediment age, essential for paleoenvironmental research and lake conservation. ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} and ¹³⁷Cs can provide very effective estimates of sediment ages over the past 100 years; however, their improper use or interpretation may result in incorrect age estimates. We review this problem by comparing various dating models, using data collected from the two lakes and evaluating their potential for sediment dating. The key requirement for accurate sediment dating is to examine the depth distribution of ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} before selecting the dating model. Additional recommendations for the effective dating of sediments are provided.

Key words: Sediment dating, ²¹⁰Pb, ¹³⁷Cs, Dating models, Shinji-ko, Nakaumi

Introduction

Bottom sediments in lakes and estuaries are useful for evaluating environmental changes in water bodies. A fundamental prerequisite for such studies is an understanding of the sediment accumulation history and sedimentary processes. Atmospheric ²¹⁰Pb (halflife = 22.3 years) has often been used in sedimentation research in various environments. Since Goldberg (1963) developed a ²¹⁰Pb decay model for glaciers, and Krishnaswamy et al. (1971) and Koide et al. (1972) applied this method to lake and marine varve sediments, respectively, many researchers have recognized the importance of sediment dating using ²¹⁰Pb. Due to its half-life, ²¹⁰Pb is a useful tracer of sedimentation histories spanning the last 120–150 years (e.g., Swarzenski, 2014). The artificial ¹³⁷Cs (half-life = 30.2 years) is another good tracer, because large amounts of this isotope were

受付日: 2019年8月30日, 受理日: 2019年11月21日, WEB 掲載日: 2019年12月31日

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Fig. 1 Sampling sites in Lakes Shinji-ko and Nakaumi. ²¹⁰Pb geochronology sites are indicated by squares.

released into the environment during atmospheric nuclear tests conducted in the 1950s and early 1960s (particularly in 1963), and during the Chernobyl reactor accident in 1986 (e.g., Cambray et al., 1976; Andersen, 2017).

Regarding dating techniques, conceptual models such as the constant initial concentration (CIC; Robbins, 1978) and the constant rate of supply (CRS; Robbins, 1978; Appleby and Oldfield, 1978) have traditionally been used by researchers (e.g., Oldfield and Appleby, 1984; Carroll and Lerche, 2003; Sanchez-Cabeza and Ruiz-Fernández, 2012). The reliability and effectiveness of dating estimates generated by these models strongly depend on the depositional processes of sediments and are often influenced by model adaptability. Thus, their applications to geochronology and sedimentology are still under debate (Carroll and Lerche, 2003; Abril, 2015).

The ²¹⁰Pb decay model was first applied to the sedimentation rate in Lake Shinji-ko by Matsumoto (1975) at four sites. Kanai et al. (1998) increased the

number of study sites in Shinji-ko. They also conducted similar research in Lake Nakaumi and included ¹³⁷Cs concentrations (Kanai et al., 2002). Based on these dating informations, research projects using dated sediments cores from Lakes Shinji-ko and Nakaumi have expanded into a range of fields, such as water pollution (Sugiura, 1992; Matsunaga et al., 2001; Chanrajith et al., 2001), ecology (Kusunoki et al., 2012), and environmental change (Nomura, 2003; Yamamuro et al., 2005). In this report, data on ²¹⁰Pb and ¹³⁷Cs concentrations collected from Lakes Shinji-ko and Nakaumi are presented for future research. In addition, the data from these two sites were used to determine the effectiveness of major data models for sediment dating.

Study area and methods

Lake Shinji-ko and Lake Nakaumi study areas

The lakes Shinji-ko and Nakaumi are located in eastern

Shimane Prefecture, southwestern Japan (Fig. 1). The respective areas of Lakes Shinji-ko and Nakaumi are 79.1 km² and 86.2 km², with average water depths of 4.5 m and 5.4 m and maximum depths of 6.0 m and 8.4 m. Both lakes were formed as downstream water bodies of the Hii-gawa River. They are both brackish lakes connected by the Ohashi-gawa River, and Lake Nakaumi is also connected to the Sea of Japan through the Sakaisuido Channel. Thus, salinity of the water ranges from oligohaline to polyhaline, depending on the inflow of freshwater from the Hii-gawa River and seawater from the Sea of Japan. Salinities of surface and deep waters are 1-5 psu and 5-10 psu, respectively, in Lake Shinjiko, and 10-20 psu and 30 psu in Lake Nakaumi (Izumo Work Office, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of Japan, 2019). In both lakes, the bottom sediments below 3.5 m water depth are composed of silt and clay, whereas those in less than 2.0 m depth are mostly sand (Mitsunashi and Tokuoka, 1988).

Core sites and sediment sampling

The core sampling sites in Shinji-ko and Nakaumi are presented in Fig. 1 and Appendix 1. We collected sediment cores at 41 sites in water depths of 1.0-5.6 m from Lake Shinji-ko from April 2011 to July 2016, and at seven sites in water depths of 4.5-6.8 m from Nakaumi from April to December 2016. All sediment cores were taken using a push-in device with a 1-m-long acrylic pipe with a diameter of 6 cm. Cores measuring ~50-80 cm in length were carefully extracted, avoiding any physical damage. Core samples were typically collected at 2-5 sites each day. After the cores were sampled, they were sliced into sections within one or two days to avoid shrinking and chemical decomposition of the sediment. Each sediment core was cut into sections of 0.5 or 1.0cm thickness by extruding up the sediment. Each core section was then divided into two parts. After measuring the wet weights of both parts, one part was washed through a sieve with a mesh size of 75 μ m for microfossil analysis and the other one was dried to measure the water content, and subsequently powdered for γ -spectrometry.

γ-spectrometry

Powdered sediment samples of 2 g each were sealed in a sample tube for approximately three weeks to reach equilibrium between ²²⁶Ra and its ²²²Rn granddaughters. Subsequently, γ -spectrometry was performed on all sediment samples using two well-type Ge-detectors—an EGPC 150-P16 (Canberra-Eurysis) and a Broad Energy (BE) spectrometer, GX4019 (Canberra)—for 20 counting hours. The detection characteristics of the former are as follows; full width at half maximum (FWHM) 1.95 keV for ⁶⁰Co at 1332 keV, peak to Compton 58, and relative efficiency 37.9 %. The detection characteristics of the latter instrument are as follows; FWHM 1.73 keV for ⁶⁰Co at 1332 keV, peak to Compton 72, and relative efficiency 42.8%.

As the measured value of ²¹⁰Pb (46 keV) is composed of both supported and unsupported ²¹⁰Pb, the supported ²¹⁰Pb is ascribed to production from the parent ²²⁶Ra in sediment. Therefore, the supported ²¹⁰Pb concentration, calculated from the γ -peaks of ²¹⁴Pb (295 and 352 keV), was subtracted from the total ²¹⁰Pb concentration to obtain the unsupported (i.e., excess) ²¹⁰Pb (²¹⁰Pb_{ex}, hereafter) concentration. ²¹⁰Pb, ²²⁶Ra, and ¹³⁷Cs (662 keV) concentrations in sediment samples were calibrated using a standard material, New Brunswick Laboratory (NBL), USA, CMS 42A-2.

Core depth and Inventory

There are two criteria for deposit thickness and weight when analyzing sediment samples in relation to time; the core depth, expressed as the sedimentation rate (cm/year), and the mass depth, expressed as the mass accumulation rate (g/cm²/year). The mass depth m (g/cm²) is calculated as follows:

$$m = \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i \, \rho_{ds}$$

where x_i is the thickness of the *i*-th core section (cm) and (ρ_{ds} is the bulk density of the sectioned sediment. The bulk density (ρ_{ds} : g/cm³) is given by the following formula introduced by Walling et al. (2002):

$$\rho_{ds} = \frac{\rho_s f}{f + (1 - f) \cdot \rho_s / \rho_w}$$

where *f* is the dry-weight fraction of sectioned sediment, i.e. the ratio of dry mass to wet mass, ρ_s is the solid density, which is typically $\rho_s = \sim 2.5$, and ρ_w is the density of water (1 g/cm³).

The core depth is the cumulative length of sectioned core sediments under compression. The corrected core



Fig. 2 Piecewise linear analyses showing the sediment accumulation rate in the CFCS model at sites Shinji-ko-15 and Nakaumi-N3.

depth is the length of the sediment without compression (x'), which is calculated as follows:

$$\Delta = (\phi_0 - \phi)/(1 - \phi_0),$$
$$x' = x + \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta_i$$

where ϕ_0 and ϕ are the porosities of sediments at the topmost core section and at depth *x*, respectively. Δ is the compression difference for the sediment and Δ_i is that of the *i*-th core section (Matsumoto, 1975).

The inventory (I) is calculated as follows:

$$I = \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i (1 - \phi_i) \rho_s A_i$$

where x_i is the thickness of the *i*-th core section, ϕ_i is the water content, ρ_s is the solid density, and A_i is the *i*-th ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} or ¹³⁷Cs concentration.

Dating models

In this study, we examined the following six dating models that have been proposed to date: the CIC, CFCS, CRS, composite CRS with time marker, SIT, and the TERESA (definitions of abbreviations are shown below). In addition to these models, we referred to the Excelbased program provided by Binford (1990) and Sanchez-Cabeza and Ruiz-Fernández (2012). (1) The Constant Initial Concentration (CIC) model is as follows:

$$C_{i} = C_{0}e^{-\lambda t},$$
$$t = \frac{1}{\lambda}\ln\left(\frac{C_{0}}{C_{i}}\right)$$

where C_0 is the ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} concentration in the surface sediment and C_i is the concentration in the *i*-th core section. λ is the ²¹⁰Pb decay-constant and t is the age of the sediment. This model, which assumes a variable sedimentation rate and constant initial ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} concentration with time, is also widely known as the Constant Specific Activity (CSA) or Constant Activity (CA) model (e.g., Appleby and Oldfield, 1978; Robbins, 1978; Sanchez-Cabeza and Ruiz- Fernández, 2012). The age uncertainty was calculated using the formula of Sanchez-Cabeza and Ruiz-Fernández (2012). This model is strongly influenced by the initial ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} concentration estimate, i.e. the concentration at zero year. We determined the initial concentration from the slope that showed a high correlation between ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} concentration vs. depth plot in the upper several cm of sediment, excluding those layers that indicated sediment mixing.

(2) The Constant Flux Constant Sedimentation (CFCS) model was first presented by Krishnaswami et al.

(1971) and is known as a simple model (Robins, 1978). Matsumoto (1975) previously used this model for ²¹⁰Pb concentrations in the sediments in Lake Shinji-ko. This model is as follows:

$$C_i = C_0 e^{-\lambda m_i/r},$$
$$C_0 = F/r$$

where F is the ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} flux (Bq/cm²/year) and r is the mass accumulation rate (g/cm²/year). The sedimentation rate is determined from the mean slope by exponential linear fitting of the ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} concentration vs. depth plot. However, because changes in flux may occur, a piecewiselinear approach is used to determine if intervals with differing sedimentation rates exist. At site Shinji-ko-15, for example, four different piecewise-linear segments were defined, in which high regression coefficients were exhibited. At Nakaumi-N3, five intervals with different regression lines were observed. Of these, the upper 2 cm exhibited notably lower concentrations of ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} (Fig. 2), which has often been observed in previous studies of ²¹⁰Pb geochronology (Koide et al., 1973; Robbins and Edginton, 1975; Oguri et al., 2003). According to Robbins and Edginton (1975), Osaki et al. (1997), and Dellapenna et al. (1998), this may be due to postdepositional redistribution of the sediment, possibly caused by bioturbation and/or physical mixing at the sediment-water interface. In the case of organic rich sediments such as peat, ²¹⁰Pb is immobile (MacKenzie et al., 1997; Vile et al., 1999), and the diffusional mobility of total ²¹⁰Pb results from redox conditions occurring in pore water (Nittrouer, et al., 1984; Binford et al., 1993; von Gunten and Moser, 1993; Hancock et al., 2002). Consequently, we exclude this sediment interval from dating. Lastly, the age uncertainty is determined by using the formula of Sanchez-Cabeza and Ruiz-Fernández (2012).

(3) The Constant Rate of Supply (CRS) model is presented by the following formulae:

$$A_{(i)} = A_{(0)}e^{-\lambda t},$$
$$t = \frac{1}{\lambda} \ln \left(\frac{A_{(0)}}{A_{(i)}}\right)$$

where $A_{(0)}$ is the total inventory of ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} in the sediment column and $A_{(i)}$ is the cumulative inventory according to the sediment depth of the *i*-th core section. This model, which assumes a constant flux of ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} to the sediments and variable sedimentation rates, is most widely used in ²¹⁰Pb geochronology and is sometimes also referred to as the constant flux (CF) model (Appleby and Oldfield, 1978; Robbins, 1978; Sanchez-Cabeza and Ruiz-Fernández, 2012) or the constant flux lead-210 model (CFL: Lu and Matsumoto, 2005). To calculate $A_{(0)}$, we used the method of Appleby (2001), who applied the trapezium rule to calculate the cumulative ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} inventories. The formula to calculate the uncertainty of age was also derived from Appleby (2001). To compare the dating results, we also used a program developed by Sanchez-Cabeza and Ruiz-Fernández (2012), which utilizes the sediment weight per core volume to calculate the bulk density.

(4) The composite model, in which the known dates in specific depths are incorporated into the CRS model, was developed by Appleby (1998; 2001). The global fallout-derived ¹³⁷C_s concentrations from 1963 are typically applied to this model. The changes in the ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} supply rate (*P*) are calculated as follows:

$$P = \frac{\lambda \Delta A}{e^{-\lambda t_1} - e^{-\lambda t_2}}$$

where ΔA is the ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} inventory between depths x_1 and x_2 , with known dates t_1 and t_2 , respectively. The time between x_1 and x_2 is determined by the following formula:

$$t = \frac{1}{\lambda} \ln \left(\frac{P/\lambda}{P/\lambda - \hat{A}} \right)$$

where \hat{A} is the ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} inventory between depth x_1 and x_2 , and the age below depth x_2 is calculated as follows:

$$t = t_1 + \frac{1}{\lambda} \ln\left(1 + \frac{A_{(i)}}{\hat{A}}\right)$$

where $A_{(i)}$ is the cumulative inventory from depths x_2 to x_i and \hat{A} is the total inventory below depth x_2 .

(5) The Sediment Isotope Tomography (SIT) model (Carroll and Lerche, 2003) was developed considering that both, sediment accumulation rates and ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} fluxes vary with time (Liu et al., 1991). It represents changes of ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} concentration C(x) with sediment depth (*x*) by the following two terms (the former is referred to as sedimentation term and the latter as source term):

$$C(x) = C_0 \cdot \exp\left[\left(-Bz + \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{a_n}{n\pi} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi z}{x_{max}}\right)\right) + \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{b_n}{n\pi} \left(1 - \cos\left(\frac{n\pi z}{z_{max}}\right)\right)\right],$$

where C_0 is the initial ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} concentration (Bq/cm³); x_{max} is the greatest depth of measurement; *B* represents slowness (year/cm) related to the average sedimentation rate (*v*), *B*=1/*v*; *z* is the relative depth, *z*=*x*/*x_{max}*; *a_n* and *b_n* are the best parameters of Fourier series coefficients from a ²¹⁰Pb_{ex}-depth data set. The age (*t*) is determined based on the sedimentation term as follows:

$$t = x_{max} \left[Bz + \sum_{n=1}^{N} \frac{a_n}{\pi n} \sin(n\pi z) \right].$$

This method is unique in that it uses a Fourier series instead of describing the sedimentation process by applying an exponential decay model.

(6) The Time Estimates from Random Entries of Sediments and Activities (TERESA) model is based on the independent variability and approximate normal distribution of both, mass flow and initial ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} concentrations. Consequently, a linear correlation can be applied to the ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} fluxes and sediment accumulation rates (SAR), which allows for the use of the chronological model (Abril Hernández, 2016):

$$F_i = A_{0,i} \cdot w_i$$

where F_i is the ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} flux, $A_{0,i}$ is the initial concentration, and w_i is the sediment accumulation rate.

Results and Discussion

The depositional processes of 210 Pb_{ex} and 137 Cs varied clearly between sites in both Shinji-ko and Nakaumi. The concentrations of these radionuclides across sediment depths (cm) and mass depths (g/ cm²) are shown in Appendices 4-11. Four distinctive patterns were recognized among the depth profiles of 210 Pb_{ex} concentrations. The first was observed at site Shinji-ko-15, where 210 Pb_{ex} concentrations decreased exponentially with core depth (Appendix 6). The second pattern is more common and was observed at many sites, where 210 Pb_{ex} concentrations also decreased following an

exponential function, but the curve showed breakpoints at several depth intervals; e.g., sites Shinji-ko -3, -5, -6 (Appendix 4), -7, -8, -10 (Appendix 5), -19, -23 (Appendix 7), -30 (Appendix 8), -34, -35 (Appendix 9), -37, -39 (Appendix 10), at site Nakaumi N2 (Appendix 11). The third pattern was found at sites Shinji-ko-13 (Appendix 6), -21 (Appendix 7), -27, -30 (Appendix 8), and -32, -36 (Appendix 9). At these sites, 210 Pb_{ex} concentrations remained approximately constant over several cm of the top sediment layer. Contrarily, no regular pattern was observed at site Shinji-ko-16 (Appendix 6). Of these four observed patterns, the first three correspond to the A, B, and C types described by Goldberg and Koide (1962), who examined the depth profiles of ionium/thorium ratios in deep-sea sediments.

In addition to our findings on $^{210}Pb_{ex}$, a clear peak in concentrations of ^{137}Cs was typically observed at various depths at each site. No clear patterns could be observed for both, however, ^{210}Pb and ^{137}Cs in cores from shallower depths of less than approximately 3.7 m. This can be explained by higher ^{210}Pb and ^{137}Cs concentrations in mud-dominated sediments (Andersen, 2017) that occurred only at greater depths at our study sites.

The geographic distributions of the ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} inventories and ¹³⁷Cs peak depth in the cores from Lake Shinji-ko are presented in Fig. 3. The inventories of ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} were < 1–6 Bq/cm² and exhibited higher values on the west side of the lake, particularly near the mouth of the Hiigawa River, and lower values in the east (Fig. 3a). Depth distribution of ¹³⁷Cs peak concentrations showed a similar pattern, ranging from < 1 to ~30 cm depth (Fig. 3b). Similar distributions in Shinji-ko were described by Kanai et al. (1998). The higher inventories near the river mouth suggest that the deposition of ²¹⁰Pb and ¹³⁷Cs is increased by the Hii-gawa River.

To compare the results from the six different dating models, we took two representative cores from Lakes Shinji-ko (site 15) and Nakaumi (site N3) as examples. The differences between estimated age and mass depth in the CIC (CA), CFCS, CRS (CF), composite CRS, SIT, and TERESA models are shown in Fig. 4 and Appendices 2 and 3. The CRS model, which includes the CF model of Sanchez-Cabeza and Ruiz-Fernández (2012), substantially underestimated sediment age for lower mass depths and overestimated it for high mass depth values (Fig 4). This issue has previously been



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Fig. 3 ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} inventories showing differences in the east and west of Shinji-ko and depth distribution of ¹³⁷Cs peaks occurring in the cores. a. ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} inventory (Bq/cm²); b. Peak depth (cm) of ¹³⁷Cs.

reported as a weakness of the CRS model (Binford, 1990; Turner and Delorme, 1996; Tylmann et al., 2013). This is ascribed to underestimation of the total inventory and could be improved by adjusting the detection limit of ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} concentrations at greater core depths using a low background detector (MacKenzie et al., 2011). The other models (CIC, CFCS (the piecewise method), composite CRS, SIT, and TERESA) generated similar age estimates, at least for low to medium mass depths. Their differences remained within 10 years for the upper two-third of the Shinji-ko core and within 11 years for the upper half of the Nakaumi core. However, variation across models increased at greater depths.

We observed a pronounced peak of ¹³⁷Cs at a core depth of 14.0–14.5 cm at site Shinji-ko-15 (Appendix 3) and 7.5–8.5 cm at site Nakaumi-N3 (Appendix 8). Significant fallout of artificial radionuclides, such as ¹³⁷Cs and ⁹⁰Sr, was observed in rain and the atmosphere in 1963–1964 across Europe, the Arctic (Cambray et al., 1976; Wright et al., 1999), and Japan (Katsuragi, 1983; Aoyama, 2006). These radionuclide concentration peaks in sediment cores are well reflected by the 1963 time marker. The composite CRS model, using the 1963 time marker, significantly underestimated sediment ages until the depth of the 1963 time marker, after that the estimation error gradually decreased with depth. Using the sediment accumulation rates estimated by the piecewise linear regression (in this case, the upper depth distribution of ²¹⁰Pb_{ex}), the TERESA model was in close agreement with the 1963 time marker. However, it should be noted that the accurate estimation of sediment accumulation rates is critical and greatly affects the dating results of this model. The results of the CFCS model using piecewise linear analysis were also in agreement with the 1963 time marker at both sites. This model represented by one regression fitting of the ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} concentration-depth relationship, however, resulted in significant differences in age estimates (Fig. 2; Appendices 2 and 3). Although the SIT model requires relatively complex calculations to determine the best parameter for the Fourier series, it produced a smooth curve for the age-depth relationship without producing unacceptable outliers for age estimation (Fig. 4). Based on these results, it is evident that sediment dating using a single model is undesirable and that a comparison of multiple calculation models is extremely important, as pointed out previously (e.g., Oldfield and Appleby, 1984; Appleby, 1998; Tylmann et al., 2016; Córdoba, et al., 2017; Andersen, 2017). We recognized that the ²¹⁰Pb dating method is more effective when an additional, independent time marker such as



Fig. 4 Geochronological comparison of major dating models: (1) CIC (Constant Initial Concentration), (2) piecewise CFCS (Constant Flux Constant Sedimentation), (3) CRS (Constant Rate of Supply), (4) composite CRS, (5) SIT (Sediment Isotope Tomography), and (6) TERESA (Time Estimates from Random Entries of Sediments and Activities).

¹³⁷Cs (Kirchner and Ehlers, 1998; Miguel et al., 2003; Abril, 2004; Kirchner, 2011; Putyrskaya et al., 2015) is accurately determined in the sediment core, although a post-depositional immobility of ¹³⁷Cs is a prerequisite for reliable sediment dating. A peak of ¹³⁷Cs concentration was clearly detected for cores that were sliced into 0.5cm and 1.0-cm thickness (particularly 0.5-cm thickness) in most Shinji-ko and Nakaumi cores. On the other hand, ¹³⁷Cs concentration peaks were not well defined in some

cores, for example at sites Shinji-ko-3, -7, -30, and -40 (Appendix 4, 5, 8, 10), showing the masses of several higher peaks instead. These vertical distributions of ¹³⁷Cs concentration are predominantly reflecting the difference of sedimentation rate at each site. It is considered that finer resolution analysis is required to evaluate how to determine the core depth of time markers and to decrease the uncertainty for sediment dating if multiple or broad peaks of ¹³⁷Cs concentration are present. If we refer to

the composite CRS model at Shinji-ko-15 for example, a 1-cm core thickness (14.75-13.75 cm in depth) resulted in about 5.8-years uncertainty (Appendix 2). Sediment dating using unreliable peak position may limit the effectiveness of ¹³⁷Cs as a time marker.

Recommendations for the effective dating

Any dating model based on assumptions, such as a constant sedimentation rate or radionuclide flux, will generate uncertainties. Consequently, reliable dating techniques require incorporating the characteristics of each model effectively. Comprehensive reviews on procedures and analyses for dating estuarine and marine sediments have recently been provided by Swarzenski (2014) and Andersen (2017). Whereas sediment cores with higher sedimentation rates (> ~0.3 cm/year) can be sectioned into 1-cm thickness, it is recommendable to use 0.5-cm thickness for samples with lower sedimentation rates (< ~0.2 cm/year). Detailed examinations of the depth distribution of ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} concentrations are required for selecting the dating model and accurate sediment dating.

All data of ²¹⁰Pb and ¹³⁷Cs sediment concentration from Shinji-ko and Nakaumi can be found at the following website: http://www.jaes.shimane-u.ac.jp/?page_id=31. Sediment samples stocked in the Estuary Center of Shimane University can be provided upon researcher's request.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank Dr. Akira Tsujimoto, Shimane University, for his assistance. Dr. Abril Hernandez, J.-M., Spain, provided instructive comments on the TERESA model. This work was supported by a Japanese Grant-in Aid for Scientific Research (B) (R. Nomura, Nos. 21340147, 25287138) and (C) (R. Nomura, No. 17K02110).

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Appendix 1 List of sampling sites.

			water	Date of
Sites	Longitude	Latitude	depth (m)	sampling
Shinji-ko	-			
1	133.0122	35.4631	4.2	2011.4.9
2	133.0140	35.4460	4.6	2011.4.9
3	132,9864	35.4663	4.7	2012.4.16
4	132,9771	35,4395	5.2	2012.4.16
5	132.9026	35.4496	4.4	2012.8.6
6	132.9113	35.4230	4.4	2012.8.6
7	132,9595	35.4603	5.2	2012.11.18
8	132.9281	35.4600	4.9	2012.11.18
9	132.9379	35.4260	5.1	2012.11.18
10	132,9569	35.4298	5.1	2012.11.18
11	133.0214	35.4559	4.3	2013.5.1
12	133.0217	35.4655	4.0	2013.5.1
13	133.0292	35.4439	3.7	2013.7.7
14	132 9991	35 4534	4.8	2013.8.3
15	132.9723	35 4507	4.8	2013.8.3
16	133 0199	35 4371	1.0	2013.11.8
17	133.0431	35 4469	2.6	2013.11.8
18	132 9450	35 4450	2.0 5.4	2013.12.15
19	132.9450	35 4412	53	2013.12.15
20	132.9200	35 4338	4.6	2013.12.15
20	132.0900	35,4330	3.7	2013.12.13
21	132.9997	35 4397	4.8	2013.12.23
22	132.9941	35 4521	- .0 5 3	2013.12.23
23	132.9807	35.4521	3.3	2013.12.23
24	133.0384	35.4381	3.3	2014.0.1
25	132.0027	35.4/15	3.2	2014.0.1
20	132.9922	35.4000	4.0	2014.0.1
21	132.9030	35.4/41	4.0	2014.0.1
20	132.9420	35.4078	4.2	2014.8.28
29	132.9373	35.4550	5.5	2014.8.28
21	132.9115	25 4552	4.5	2014.9.10
22	132.8905	25 4532	3.4	2014.9.10
22	132.0793	25 4204	5.2	2014.9.10
24	132.9099	25 4224	5.1	2015.3.27
24 25	132.9233	25 4227	3.1	2015.3.27
- 35	132.09/0	35.4239	4.4	2015.3.27
30 27	132.9038	33.4148 25 1201	5.4 5.2	2015.8.9
3/ 20	132.9337	25 1202	5.5 5.4	2015.8.9
38 20	132.93/9	33.4382 25 4657	5.4 5.0	2013.8.9
39	132.9/33	35.465/	5.0	2016.7.16
40	132.9958	35.4465	4.9	2010./.10
41 N-1	132.9551	35.4459	5.6	2010./.10
Nakaumi	- 122 1469	25 4507	15	2016 7 21
IN I NO	133.1408	33.439/ 25.4627	4.5	2010./.31
INZ	133.1/00	33.403/ 25.4654	0.1	2010./.31
N3	133.18/8	35.4654	0.5	2016.7.31
N4	133.2145	35.4591	6.3	2016.7.31
<u>N5</u>	133.2083	35.4644	6.7	2016.7.31
N6	133.2016	35.4692	6.7	2016.12.17
N7	133.1963	35.4752	6.8	2016.12.17

Appendix 2 Sediment age estimates for the models used for site Shinji-ko-15. Shaded rows indicate the 14.0–14.5 cm core section with the ¹³⁷Cs 1963 time marker. * indicates the results obtained with the Excel application by Sanchez-Cabeza and Ruiz-Fernández (2012). CIC: Constant Initial Concentration, CFCS: Constant Flux Constant Sedimentation, CRS: Constant Rate of Supply, SIT: Sediment Isotope Tomography, TERESA: Time Estimates from Random Entries of Sediments and Activities, CA: Constant Activity, CF: Constant Flux.

Shinji-ko- 15		(1)		(2)		(2')		(3)		(4)		(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Core Depth (cm)	Mass Depth	CIC (age)	±	CFCS (age) piecewise	±	CFCS (age) non- piecewise	±	CRS (age)	±	Composite CRS (age)	±	SIT (age)	TERESA (age)	CA * (age)	CF* (age)
0.25	0.09	2.0	0.9	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.5	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.9	0.9	2.1	1.1
0.50	0.17	2.1	1.0	2.4	1.0	1.5	1.0	1.5	0.1	1.7	0.1	2.7	1.8	2.2	1.1
1.00 1.25	0.25	3.1	1.0	3.6	1.0	2.3	1.0	2.5	0.1	2.9	0.2	4.4	3.5	3.1	2.1
1.50 1.75	0.34	5.6	1.0	4.8	1.0	3.1	1.0	3.5	0.1	4.0	0.2	6.2	4.6	5.7	3.2
2.00	0.43	6.8	14	62	1 4	4.0	14	47	0.2	53	0.2	8.0	5.8	69	4.3
2.50	0.52	10.2	1.4	0.2	1.4	4.0	1.4		0.2	5.5	0.2	0.7		10.4	5.1
2.75	0.53	10.3	1.0	7.5	1.0	4.9	1.0	5.8	0.2	6.6	0.3	9.7	6.7	10.4	6.2
3.25	0.63	10.3	1.2	9.0	1.2	5.9	1.2	6.9	0.2	7.9	0.3	11.5	7.5	10.4	73
3.75	0.73	8.8	1.0	10.4	1.0	6.8	1.0	8.1	0.2	9.3	0.3	13.3	9.3	8.9	7.5
4.00 4.25	0.84	11.5	1.1	12.0	1.1	7.8	1.1	9.4	0.2	10.8	0.4	15.1	10.8	11.6	8.6
4.50 4.75	0.95	13 3	1.0	13.5	1.0	8.8	1.0	10.6	03	12.3	04	16.8	12.1	13.4	9.7
5.00					<u></u>	0.0	1.0	10.0		12.5	0.1	10.0			11.0
5.25 5.50	1.07	15.3	1.2	15.3	1.2	10.0	1.2	12.0	0.3	14.0	0.4	18.6	13.1	15.4	12.6
5.75	1.19	19.7	1.1	17.0	1.1	11.1	1.1	13.4	0.3	15.5	0.5	20.4	14.3	19.8	13.9
6.25	1.32	18.7	1.0	18.8	1.0	12.3	1.0	14.7	0.3	17.2	0.5	22.1	16.1	18.8	15.5
6.50 6.75	1.45	24.8	1.1	20.8	1.0	13.6	1.0	16.1	0.3	18.9	0.5	23.9	17.3	24.9	15.3
7.00	1.60	23.8	1 1	22.8	1 1	14.9	1 1	17.5	0.4	20.7	0.6	25.7	19.0	23.9	16.7
7.50	1.00	25.0	1.1	22.0	1.1	160	1.1	10.0	0.1	20.7	0.0	25.7	20.2	25.9	18.2
8.00	1.74	25.7	1.0	24.9	1.0	16.3	1.0	19.0	0.4	22.5	0.6	27.5	20.3	25.9	19.7
8.25	1.88	25.9	1.2	26.9	1.2	17.6	1.2	20.5	0.4	24.3	0.7	29.2	22.2	26.1	21.1
8.75	2.03	31.8	1.1	29.0	1.1	19.0	1.1	22.0	0.4	26.2	0.7	31.0	24.6	32.0	21.1
9.00 9.25	2.19	35.0	1.4	31.3	1.4	20.5	1.4	23.4	0.4	28.1	0.8	32.8	28.4	35.1	22.5
9.50 9.75	2 34	28.8	13	33.4	13	21.8	13	24.8	0.5	30.0	0.8	34.5	31.2	28.0	24.1
10.00	2.34	20.0	1.5		1.5	21.0	1.5	24.0	0.5		0.0			20.7	25.7
10.25 10.50	2.50	35.5	1.2	35.0	1.2	23.4	1.2	26.6	0.5	32.3	0.9	36.3	32.5	35.7	27.7
10.75	2.66	38.2	1.5	36.6	1.5	24.9	1.5	28.1	0.5	34.4	1.0	38.1	35.0	38.3	20.6
11.25	2.83	39.6	1.5	38.3	1.5	26.4	1.5	29.6	0.5	36.4	1.1	39.9	37.0	39.7	29.0
11.50 11.75	2.99	39.7	1.3	40.0	1.3	28.0	1.3	31.1	0.6	38.6	1.2	41.6	38.5	39.8	31.3
12.00	3 17	43.0	17	41.7	17	29.6	17	32.7	0.6	40.9	13	13.1	40.4	13.2	32.8
12.50	3.17	43.0	1.7	41.7	1.7	29.0	1.7	32.7	0.0	40.9	1.5	43.4	40.4	43.2	34.6
$\frac{12.75}{13.00}$	3.33	41.7	1.6	43.4	1.6	31.2	1.6	34.3	0.6	43.3	1.6	45.2	42.9	41.9	36.2
13.25	3.51	46.6	1.4	45.2	1.4	32.8	1.4	36.0	0.6	45.8	1.9	46.9	44.9	46.8	27.7
13.30	3.67	43.6	1.4	46.8	1.4	34.3	1.4	37.6	0.7	48.2	2.7	48.7	46.2	43.7	57.7
14.00 14.25	3.85	54.7	2.1	48.6	2.1	36.0	2.1	39.2	0.7	50.8		50.5	48.0	54.9	39.5
14.50	4.02	40.7	1.5	50.4	1.6	27.6	1.0	40.9	0.7	54.0	0.2	52.2	51.0	49.0	41.2
14.75	4.03	48./	1.5	50.4	1.0	37.0	1.0	40.8	0./	54.0	0.3	32.3	51.0	48.9	43.1
15.25 15.50	4.22	53.1	2.2	52.3	2.2	39.4	2.2	42.5	0.8	55.8	0.3	54.0	53.6	53.4	45.0
15.75	4.42	55.1	2.2	54.3	2.2	41.3	2.2	44.3	0.8	57.6	0.4	55.8	55.8	55.3	

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Appendix 2 Continued.

16.00															46.9
16.25	4.61	58.3	2.8	56.3	2.8	43.1	2.8	46.1	0.9	59.3	0.4	57.6	58.2	58.5	
16.50															48.5
16.75	4.81	60.7	2.5	58.3	2.5	45.0	2.5	47.7	0.9	61.0	0.5	59.3	61.4	60.9	
17.00															50.4
17.25	5.01	62.6	2.1	60.4	2.1	46.9	2.1	49.4	0.9	62.7	0.5	61.1	64.0	62.9	
17.50															52.0
17.75	5.21	57.8	1.9	62.4	1.9	48.7	1.9	51.3	1.0	64.5	0.6	62.9	66.1	58.0	
18.00															53.8
18.25	5.42	62.9	2.7	64.5	2.7	50.7	2.7	53.3	1.0	66.6	0.6	64.6	68.7	63.2	
18.50															55.7
18.75	5.64	69.8	2.5	66.7	2.5	52.7	2.5	55.2	1.1	68.4	0.7	66.4	71.2	70.1	
19.00															57.4
19.25	5 86	66.0	3.0	68.0	3.0	54 7	3.0	57.1	12	70.3	0.8	68.2	73.4	66.2	5711
19.50	2.00	0010	510	0010	510	5,	210	0/11		1015	0.0	0012	/511	0012	59.6
19.50	6.08	67.8	2.4	69.5	2.5	56.8	2.5	59.2	12	72.5	0.8	69.9	77 7	68.1	57.0
20.00	0.00			03.0			210	07.2		, 2.0	0.0			0011	61.8
20.50	6 53	63.4	2.9	72.4	2.9	61.0	29	64.2	14	77.5	1.0	72.6	84.6	63.6	0110
21.00	0.000		219				219	0.12		,,,	110	, 210	0.110	0010	68.2
21.50	7.01	73.9	3.7	75.5	3.7	65.6	3.7	70.1	1.6	83.4	1.3	76.1	91.0	74.2	
22.00				,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,								,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			74.2
22.50	7.52	73.8	3.7	78.7	3.7	70.3	3.7	76.2	1.8	89.5	1.5	79.7	96.4	74.1	
23.00															80.7
23.50	8.03	80.5	3.5	82.0	3.5	75.0	3.5	83.2	2.0	96.5	1.8	83.2	105.2	80.8	
24.00															86.8
24.50	8.54	81.2	4.5	85.2	4.5	79.8	4.5	90.9	2.4	104.2	2.2	86.7	110.6	81.5	
25.00															94.7
25.50	9.06	80.6	3.3	91.6	3.3	84.7	3.3	101.5	2.9	114.8	2.6	90.3	125.4	80.9	
26.00															105.4
26.50	9.60	95.5	4.6	98.0	4.6	89.7	4.6	114.0	3.6	127.4	3.5	93.8	137.3	95.9	
27.00															115.0
27.50	10.15	95.6	4.6	104.7	4.7	94.9	4.7	129.5	5.1	142.9	4.9	97.4	145.4	96.0	
28.00															132.9
28.50	10.70	104.0	8.3	111.3	8.3	100.0	8.3	155.1	9.0	168.5	8.8	100.9	168.1	104.4	
29.00															156.3
29.50	11.27	109.7	9.1	118.2	9.1	105.4	9.1					104.4	173.4	110.1	

Comparison of different radionuclide dating models for estimating the ages of sediments from Lakes Shinji-ko and Nakaumi, Japan

Appendix 3 Sediment age estimates for the models used for site Nakaumi-N3. Shaded rows indicate the 7.5–8.5 cm core section with the ¹³⁷Cs 1963 time marker. * indicates the results obtained with the Excel application by Sanchez-Cabeza and Ruiz-Fernández (2012). CIC: Constant Initial Concentration, CFCS: Constant Flux Constant Sedimentation, CRS: Constant Rate of Supply, SIT: Sediment Isotope Tomography, TERESA: Time Estimates from Random Entries of Sediments and Activities, CA: Constant Activity, CF: Constant Flux.

Nakaumi- N3		(1)		(2)		(2')		(3)		(4)		(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Core Depth (cm)	Mass Depth	CIC (age)	±	CFCS (age) piecewise	±	CFCS (age) non- piecewise	±	CRS (age)	±	Composite CRS (age)	±	SIT (age)	TERESA (age)	CA * (age)	CF* (age)
0.25	0.25	19.3	1.3					1.5	0.0	1.9	0.1	1.6	1.9	15.4	1.0
0.50 0.75	0.32 0.38	21.0	1.4					3.2	0.2	3.8	0.4	4.9	5.8	17.5	1.8
1.00	0.45	19.2	1.0					5.0	03	60	0.4	82	8 1	15.4	3.1
1.50	0.52	17.2	1.0					5.0	0.5	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.1	13.4	5.9
1.75	0.67	20.1	1.1					7.1	0.3	8.6	0.5	11.5	11.2	16.5	8.1
2.25	0.82	18.0	1.2	17.0	1.2	7.8	1.3	9.4	0.4	11.6	0.6	14.8	14.6	14.4	
2.50 2.75	0.89 0.97	25.8	1.0	20.2	1.0	9.5	1.3	11.8	0.4	14.7	0.7	18.1	16.8	22.4	10.3
3.00	1.05	 	1.2	22.5	1 2	11.2	1.0	14.1	0.4	17.9	07	21.2	18.0	10.5	13.2
3.23	1.13	23.5	1.5	23.3	1.5	11.2	1.0	14.1	0.4	17.0	0.7	21.5	18.9	19.5	15.5
3.75	1.28	26.0	1.4	26.7	1.4	13.0	1.1	16.7	0.5	21.3	0.8	24.6	20.8	22.8	18.0
4.25	1.44	30.3	1.4	30.1	1.4	14.8	1.2	19.3	0.5	24.8	0.9	27.8	24.0	26.9	10.0
4.50 4.75	1.53 1.61	38.1	1.6	33.5	1.6	16.6	1.0	21.6	0.5	28.2	1.0	31.1	29.1	35.4	19.8
5.00	1.69														23.2
5.25 5.50	1.77 1.85	37.2	1.9	36.9	1.9	18.5	1.3	23.8	0.6	31.5	1.1	34.3	32.3	34.5	25.1
5.75	1.93	45.5	1.5	40.3	1.5	20.3	1.4	26.0	0.6	34.8	1.2	37.5	35.3	43.6	
6.00 6.25	2.02	44.8	1.8	43.7	1.8	22.2	1.4	28.0	0.6	38.1	1.4	40.6	37.7	43.0	27.4
6.50 6.75	2.18	52.1	17	47.2	17	24.1	16	20.1	0.7	41.5	1.6	12.0	167	51.0	29.7
7.00	2.35	32.1	1./	47.5	1./	24.1	1.0	50.1	0.7	41.5	1.0	43.8	40.7	51.0	31.7
7.25	2.44	50.1	1.6	50.8	1.6	26.0	1.9	32.0	0.7	45.0	2.0	46.9	49.5	49.1	34.4
7.75	2.61	48.6	1.9	52.8	1.9	28.0	1.5	34.3	0.7	49.2	3.0	50.1	52.1	47.5	
8.00 8.25	2.70 2.79	53.3	1.8	54.7	1.8	30.0	1.8	36.7	0.8	53.9		53.2	55.0	51.9	36.8
8.50	2.88	52.0	2.2	5(7	2.2	22.0	17	20.2	0.0	5()	0.2	5()	57.4	52.2	39.4
9.00	3.06	53.9		56./	2.2	32.0	1./	39.2	0.8	56.3	0.3	56.2	57.4	53.3	42.4
9.25	3.15	56.5	2.3	58.8	2.3	34.0	1.6	41.7	0.8	58.8	0.4	59.3	59.3	55.8	15 5
9.75	3.34	57.8	1.9	60.8	1.9	36.1	1.9	44.2	0.9	61.4	0.5	62.3	66.0	57.8	45.5
10.00 10.25	3.43 3.52	60.1	2.0	62.8	2.0	38.1	1.8	46.8	0.9	64.0	0.6	65.3	70.0	60.4	49.0
10.50	3.61		2.0	02.0											51.6
$\frac{10.75}{11.00}$	3.70	61.6	2.2	64.9	2.2	40.2	2.2	49.5	1.0	66.7	0.6	68.3	73.3	62.3	55.0
11.25	3.89	67.7	3.1	66.4	3.1	42.3	2.3	52.2	1.0	69.4	0.7	71.3	76.3	70.0	-0.1
11.50 11.75	3.99 4.09	68.3	2.5	68.1	2.5	44.6	1.9	55.0	1.1	72.2	0.8	74.2	81.0	70.8	58.1
12.00	4.19		27	(0.(2 7	16.9	2.0	57 0	1.2	75.0		77.1		74.1	61.6
12.25	4.29 4.39	/1./	2.7	09.0	2.7	40.8	2.0	57.8	1.2	/3.0	0.9	//.1	83.2	/4.1	64.7
12.75	4.48	71.4	2.7	71.2	2.7	49.0	2.1	60.7	1.3	77.9	0.9	80.0	86.6	73.6	68 5
13.00	4.69	75.7	3.8	72.9	3.8	51.2	3.1	63.8	1.3	81.0	1.0	82.9	89.2	80.7	00.5
13.50 13.75	4.78 4.88	75 5	3.9	74 5	3.9	53 5	2.5	67.0	14	84.2	1.1	85.8	91 9	80.2	72.1
14.00	4.99	, 5.5		, т											76.4
14.25 14.50	5.09 5.22	76.6	3.0	76.1	3.0	55.7	2.7	70.5	1.5	87.7	1.3	88.6	96.9	82.5	81.0
14.75	5.35	70.2	3.8	79.5	3.8	58.7	2.7	76.3	1.8	93.5	1.5	91.4	101.1	73.1	

89.4														5.45	15.00
	81.7	105.4	94.3	1.6	98.7	1.8	81.5	3.8	61.0	3.1	82.1	3.1	76.8	5.55	15.25
97.0														5.65	15.50
	87.6	109.5	97.0	1.8	104.0	2.0	86.8	3.9	63.3	3.5	84.7	3.5	81.0	5.76	15.75
104.3														5.86	16.00
	98.4	113.2	99.8	2.1	109.5	2.3	92.3	3.0	65.6	6.2	87.3	6.2	85.4	5.96	16.25
110.9														6.07	16.50
	93.1	115.9	102.6	2.3	116.0	2.5	98.8	3.8	68.0	3.6	90.1	3.6	84.2	6.18	16.75
119.6														6.28	17.00
	118.2	121.3	105.3	2.7	123.1	2.8	105.8	3.1	70.4	4.9	92.8	4.9	93.9	6.39	17.25
125.4														6.49	17.50
	105.0	123.9	108.1	3.2	131.3	3.4	114.1	3.5	72.7	6.5	95.5	6.5	88.4	6.60	17.75
135.5														6.70	18.00
	107.5	127.2	110.8	3.6	142.4	3.7	125.1	6.2	75.0	4.5	98.1	4.5	92.8	6.80	18.25
149.6														6.91	18.50
	131.1	131.1	113.5	4.8	156.1	4.9	138.8	3.6	77.3	8.1	100.7	8.1	99.1	7.01	18.75
160.4														7.11	19.00
	116.7	136.5	116.3	5.7	178.1	5.8	160.8	4.9	79.6	5.2	103.3	5.2	95.7	7.21	19.25
186.7														7.31	19.50
	126.6	139.5	119.0					6.5	81.9	6.1	105.9	6.1	99.3	7.41	19.75

Appendix 3 Continued.

Appendix 4-11 Depth distributions of ²¹⁰Pb_{ex} and ¹³⁷Cs at sites Shinji-ko-1–41 and Nakaumi-N1–N

Comparison of different radionuclide dating models for estimating the ages of sediments from Lakes Shinji-ko and Nakaumi, Japan



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