

High resolution OSL and post-IR IRSL dating of the last interglacial eglacial cycle at the Sanbahuo loess site (northeastern China) - DTU Orbit (08/11/2017)

High resolution OSL and post-IR IRSL dating of the last interglacial cycle at the Sanbahuo loess site (northeastern China)

Northeastern China is located in the East Asian monsoon region; it is sensitive to both high and low latitude global climate systems. Loess deposits in the region have considerable potential as sensitive archives of past climate changes. However, research into loess deposition and climate change in this region is restricted by the lack of independent age control. In this study, coarse-grained quartz SAR OSL and K-feldspar post-IR infrared (IR) stimulated luminescence (post-IR IRSL; pIRIR $_{290}$) methods have been used to date the Sanbahuo loess site in northeastern China. The quartz OSL characteristics are satisfactory. The measured pIRIR $_{290}$ D $_{\rm e}$'s do not vary significantly with IR stimulation temperatures between 50 °C and 260 °C; a first IR stimulation temperature of 200 °C was adopted. Dose recovery tests were performed by adding different laboratory doses to both laboratory bleached (300 h SOL2) samples and natural samples; the results are satisfactory up to ~800 Gy. Resulting quartz OSL and feldspar pIRIR $_{290}$ ages are in good agreement at least back to ~44 ka; beyond this feldspar pIRIR $_{290}$ ages are older. The feldspar ages are consistent with the expected age of the S1 palaeosol (MIS 5). There appears to have been a period of fast loess deposition at ~62 ka, perhaps indicative of winter monsoon intensification with a very cold and dry climate that lead to a serious desertification of dunefields in northeastern China. © 2015 Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved.

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