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# The geomagnetic dipole moment variation between 250 and 800 ka BP reconstructed from the authigenic  $10_{\text{Be}}/9_{\text{Be}}$  signature in West Equatorial Pacific sediments

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### *Keywords:*

## marine sediment geochemistr,  $10$ Be cosmogenic production, geomagnetic dipole moment, Brunhes paleomagnetic excursions Brunhes/Matuyama transition

The authigenic  ${}^{10}Be/{}^{9}Be$  ratio, proxy of the cosmogenic radionuclide  ${}^{10}Be$  production rate in the atmosphere, was measured in sediments deposited in the West Equatorial Pacific (Gulf of Papua; 10°25 S; 146° 15 E), in order to reconstruct the geomagnetic dipole moment variations in the 250–800 ka time

interval, independently from paleomagnetic methods. The pelagic clayey-carbonate muds continuously deposited between marine isotope stages 8 and 20 were subsampled every 10 cm. The <sup>10</sup>Be production rate record reconstructed for the 250–800 ka interval is described and compared over the same time interval with global paleomagnetic stacks (SINT-2000 and PISO-1500). The highlighted cosmogenic <sup>10</sup>Be overproductions appear to be triggered by the series of Geomagnetic Dipole Lows (GDL) that have occurred since the Brunhes–Matuyama reversal. Calibration using absolute values of the geomagnetic dipole moment drawn from a paleomagnetic database produces a new record of the dipole moment variations over the 250–800 ka time interval. The timing and amplitude of the GDL succession revealed by such records will contribute to improving knowledge of the geodynamo rhythms and rate of changes at millennial to million year scales.

#### **1. Introduction**

Reconstructing past intensity variations in the Earth's magnetic field over the last million years is necessary in order to better understand planetary magnetic field dynamics, and hence the processes that govern the geodynamo. Accurate records of past geodynamo rhythms are also fundamental to understand present-day geomagnetic field behaviour, and thus to better predict its future dynamics and adapt our societal responses. Current knowledge about the geomagnetic dipole moment variation at millennial or longer time scales has until now been deduced mainly from paleomagnetic investigations. Relative PaleoIntensity (RPI) variations recorded in sediment archives provide nearly continuous time series of the Virtual (Axial) Dipole Moment (V(A)DM), while paleointensity determinations performed on lava flows provide discontinuous series of absolute V(A)DM values (see Tauxe, 1993 and Valet, 2003 for comprehensive reviews).

Sedimentary paleomagnetic records can, however, be biased by magnetization acquisition processes such as delayed remanence acquisition and/or progressive magnetization lock-in after sediment deposition (e.g. Coe and Liddicoat, 1994; Roberts and Winklhofer, 2004). Normalized intensity records can also be affected

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by paleoclimatic and paleoenvironmental contamination. This has led to questioning of the geomagnetic significance of relative paleointensity records (e.g. Channell et al., 1998; Guyodo et al., 2000; Xuan and Channell, 2008) and to the development of strategies to reduce such influences (e.g. Tauxe et al., 2006; Hofmann and Fabian, 2009).

The most common strategy consists in compiling single RPI records obtained from several varied sediment sequences, and using statistical filtering and smoothing methods to produce mean normalized RPI records of regional or global significance. Such regional stacks (e.g. Laj et al., 2000; Stoner et al., 2002; Thouveny et al., 2004; Yamazaki and Oda, 2002) or global stacks (e.g. Guyodo and Valet, 1999; Laj et al., 2004; Valet et al., 2005; Channell et al., 2009) are generally calibrated using absolute VDM (or VADM) values obtained from absolute paleointensity data sets and are thus expressed in  $10^{22}$  Am<sup>2</sup>. These stacks produce consistent dipole moment variations over the last million years that satisfactorily correlate with the series of magnetic anomalies recorded from the South-East Pacific seafloor by Gee et al. (2000) (e.g. Fig. 2 of Thouveny et al., 2008). Furthermore, the chronological agreement between minimum dipole moment signals and well-known excursions and reversals (e.g. Valet, 2003; Laj and Channell, 2007; Thouveny et al., 2008) confirms their accuracy as proxies of the geomagnetic dipole lows. Spectral analyses of these stacks reveal periods in the same range as orbital parameters, reintroducing

the hypothesis of an orbital influence on the geodynamo (e.g. Xuan and Channell, 2008; Fuller, 2006; Thouveny et al., 2008; Saracco et al., 2009). However, detailed comparison between the different dipole moment reconstructions points out noticeable amplitude discrepancies and chronological mismatches.

The current debates surrounding these results, as well as the limited understanding of the physical processes controlling magnetization acquisition in sediments and lavas, highlight the need to reconstruct dipole field intensity variations using an independent approach, integrating the global-scale magnetospheric signal.

For these purposes, studies of the variations of the cosmogenic nuclide Beryllium-10 (<sup>10</sup>Be, half-life ~ 1.4 Ma) atmospheric production rate have recently been performed. At millennial or

longer timescales, the geomagnetic dipole moment that modulates the galactic cosmic ray flux penetrating the Earth's environment undoubtedly constitutes the main modulation factor of the global atmospheric <sup>10</sup>Be production rate (e.g. Elsasser et al., 1956; Lal, 1988; Wagner et al., 2000; Masarik and Beer 1999, 2009). Once atmospherically produced, <sup>10</sup>Be is rapidly transferred through precipitations to the Earth's surface (Raisbeck et al., 1981; Bourlès, 1992; Baroni et al., 2011), where it accumulates in natural archives that thus record the production rate variations. Using <sup>10</sup>Be atmospheric transport modelling, Heikkilä et al. (2009, 2013) have shown that the stratospheric, well-mixed fraction of <sup>10</sup>Be is always dominant in worldwide <sup>10</sup>Be depositional fluxes. These results have been reinforced by the reproducibility and synchronicity of <sup>10</sup>Be production records in Greenland ice and in mid- to low-latitude marine sediments over the 20–50 ka time interval (Ménabréaz et al., 2012), further strengthening the earlier assumption that long-term changes in  $^{10}$ Be fluxes recorded in ice sheets reflect a geomagnetic signal modulation (e.g. Muscheler et al. 2004, 2005; Wagner et al., 2000). Evidence of this modulation over the past million years are documented by <sup>10</sup>Be fluxes in ice cores (e.g. Raisbeck et al., 1992; Finkel and Nishiizumi, 1997; Yiou et al., 1997; Muscheler et al., 2005; Raisbeck et al., 2006) and in marine sediments, using either  ${}^{10}$ Be/ ${}^{230}$ Th<sub>xs</sub> (e.g. Frank et al., 1997; Christl et al. 2003, 2007, 2010; Ménabréaz et al., 2011; Fig. 1A) or  ${}^{10}$ Be/<sup>9</sup>Be of the authigenic fraction – i.e. fraction due to the adsorption onto settling particles – (e.g. Raisbeck et al., 1985; Henken-Mellies et al., 1990; Robinson et al., 1995; Carcaillet et al. 2003, 2004a, 2004b; Ménabréaz et al., 2011, 2012; Fig. 1A) in order to correct for the environmental biases due to oceanic transport processes. The fundamentals of these two normalization methods, as well as their possible associated biases, have been discussed in e.g. François et al. (2004) and Ménabréaz et al. (2011, 2012), respectively. In the latter studies, it has been proven that the authigenic  ${}^{10}$ Be/<sup>9</sup>Be methodology, notably confirmed by a  ${}^{10}$ Be/<sup>230</sup>Th<sub>xs</sub> cross-evaluation, reliably corrects for ocean secondary contributions. Most of the available records span the last 250–300 ka, as the use of  $^{230}Th_{xs}$  as a constant flux proxy is limited to 350 ka due to the <sup>230</sup>Th half-life (75 690 yr; e.g. Henderson and Anderson, 2003). This is not the case for the authigenic  ${}^{10}$ Be/ ${}^{9}$ Be method, which is limited, at most, to the last  $14$  Ma due to  $^{10}$ Be radioactive decay. Authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be studies are, however, scarce, and there are no data documenting the cosmogenic nuclide production rate variations during the 300–500 ka time period, and a few measurement data points were obtained over the 500–800 ka time period (Carcaillet et al., 2003).

Here, we present an authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be record from a deep-sea sediment core which documents <sup>10</sup>Be global atmospheric production rate changes between 250 and 800 ka (and which thus includes the last geomagnetic reversal at about 780 ka) and we aim to reconstruct the associated dipole moment variations, notably those accompanying excursions and reversal. The studied core was retrieved near the equator, where the geomagnetic modulation of the galactic cosmic ray flux is the most effi cient. The choice of a

study area on a continental margin (Gulf of Papua; Fig. 1) is justified by a high vertical particle flux not only minimizing the Be residence time with respect to scavenging, but also reducing the effects of mixing in the water column and the influence of bioturbation processes, and hence of  $^{10}$ Be signal attenuation and shifting (see for example Christl, 2007; Ménabréaz et al., 2012).

#### **2. Materials and methods**

#### *2.1. Environmental setting of core MD05-2930*

The Gulf of Papua (GOP) comprises an  $\sim 150000 \text{ km}^2$ area south of Papua New Guinea, east of the Torres Strait (Fig. 1B and C). The GOP continental shelf is wide to the West and Northwest (∼ 200 km) and narrows to the Northeast (∼ 10–30 km). Several major rivers drain southern Papua New Guinea Island, of which the Fly, Kikori and Purari Rivers currently discharge 200 to 400 megatons per year of terrigeneous siliciclastic material, mainly deposited onto the inner shelf of the GOP (Harris et al., 1993; Milliman, 1995). To this large volume of siliciclastic sediments are added important sources of neritic carbonates (see Francis et al., 2008 and references therein) that can produce up to 10 to 20 Mt per year of carbonate detrital particles (Dickens et al., 2006). Car-bonate sedimentation in the GOP originates firstly from the north-ern extension of the Great Barrier Reef, which covers the western GOP shelf. This reef system is at present composed of a nearly continuous barrier reef along the shelf break, with patch reefs in the inner and middle shelves toward the southern Fly River delta. Secondly, isolated Miocene carbonate platforms evolved into large atolls during the Pleistocene (Ashmore, Boot, Portlock and East-ern Fields Reefs). Given the continental margin's shallow water depth (0 to 125 m), the Pleistocene sea-level fluctuations influenced the nature and rhythm of the GOP sedimentation (see Jorry et al., 2008). During sea-level lowstands (Glacials), the continental shelf was subaerially exposed, the main rivers extended to the present shelf edge and reef systems karstified. This led to an increased dilution of the carbonate fluxes by the siliciclastic fluxes.

The MD05-2930 core  $(10^{\circ}25 \text{ S}; 146^{\circ}15 \text{ E}; \text{Fig. 1C})$  was collected at 1490 m water depth on an intra-slope bathymetric plateau (Eastern Plateau,  $\sim 25000 \text{ km}^2$ ; see Francis et al., 2008), dominated by a siliciclastic sedimentation, with less than 40% carbonates dur-

ing the last glacial–interglacial cycles (e.g. McFadden et al., 2006). This 36.88 m long core was retrieved using a giant CALYPSO piston corer on board of the R/V *Marion Dufresne* (MD-148 PECTEN Cruise, 2005). The sediment sequence is mainly composed of homogeneous grey–green clayey and silty clayey muds, rich in foraminifera (Beaufort et al., 2005). *2.2. Chronostratigraphic framework*

Benthic foraminifera, *Cibicidoides wuellerstorfi* and *Uvigerina peregrina*, were picked at each 20 cm interval from the 250– 355 mm size-fraction. All benthic foraminiferal *δ* <sup>18</sup>O measurements were carried out at CEREGE using a mass spectrometer (Finnigan Delta Advantage) equipped with a carbonate preparation device. The measured isotopic values have been normalized against NBS19. Mean external reproducibility is better than <sup>0</sup>*.*05h. The *C. wuellerstorfi*  $\delta^{18}$ O values were corrected by  $+0.64$ h to fit the *U. peregrina* d18O values (Shackleton, 1974). The glacial/interglacial amplitude of benthic foraminiferal  $\delta^{18}$ O variations in core MD05-2930 (Fig. 2a) is very close to that of the benthic stack LR04. The chronology of the whole sediment sequence was obtained by correlating the MD05-2930 benthic foraminiferal *δ* <sup>18</sup>O record with the LR04 reference benthic stack (Lisiecki and Raymo, 2005) (Fig. 2b). This correlation places the MD05-2930 core bottom



**Fig. 1.** (A) Location of the studied site among several recently published <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be and <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>230</sup>Th<sub>xs</sub> high-resolution marine records spanning the past ∼ 300 ka (yellow) and older (red). 1: Carcaillet et al. (2004b); Ménabréaz et al. (2011). 2: Ménabréaz et al. (2012). 3: Carcaillet et al. (2003). 4, 5: Christl et al. (2010); Knudsen et al. (2008). 6: Christl et al. (2007). The star represents the location of core MD05-2930. (B) precise core location and (C) bathymetry of the Gulf of Papua. The contour lines represent the lines of equal intensity of cosmic rays at sea level (after Legrand, 1984). (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

(3670 cm depth) in Marine Isotope Stage (MIS) 20. This is in agreement with the identification of a paleomagnetic reversal recorded at 3610 cm in MIS 19, corresponding to the Brunhes–Matuyama (B/M) polarity transition (Thouveny et al., in preparation) dated between 773 and 781 ka by absolute datings on lava flows (e.g. Singer and Pringle, 1996; Quidelleur et al., 2003) or by astronomical tuning of sediment sequences (e.g. Bassinot et al., 1994; Tauxe et al., 1996; Channell et al., 2010). According to these chronological constraints, the average sedimentation rate of the MD05-2930 sedimentary sequence is about 4.6 cm/ka (Fig. 2c).

## *2.3. Sampling and chemical procedures for authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be and <sup>9</sup>Be extraction, and authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be and <sup>9</sup>Be measurements*

The sampling of core MD05-2930 was performed from 1400 to 3670 cm depth, which corresponds to the 250–800 ka time interval (Fig. 2b). Since the upper part of core MD05-2930 is affected by artefacts due to piston coring, the last 250 ka are presently studied on core MD05-2920, collected on the Northern Papua margin (see Ménabréaz et al., 2012 for the 20–50 ka time interval). Sediment slices measuring 1cm thick were extracted every 10 cm besides u-channels collected for paleomagnetic sampling and X-ray fluorescence measurements. <sup>A</sup> total of 224 sediment samples were taken and were chemically treated to extract and analyse Beryllium isotopes in their authigenic phase.

All samples were processed for the Be isotopes analysis at the CEREGE National Cosmogenic Nuclides Laboratory, France. Already summarized by Carcaillet et al. (2003, 2004a, 2004b) and Ménabréaz et al. (2011, 2012), the chemical procedure is detailed below. Several procedural blanks and replicates were performed along with the samples in order to assess both cleanliness and reproducibility during the chemical extraction.

<sup>10</sup>Be and its stable isotope <sup>9</sup>Be were co-extracted with the authigenic phase of sediments using  $20 \text{ ml/g}_\text{sediment}$  of  $0.04M$  hydroxylamine (NH2OH-HCl) in a 25% acetic acid leaching solution at  $(95 \pm 5)$ <sup>o</sup>C for 7 hr (Bourlès et al., 1989). A 2 ml aliquot of the resulting leaching solution was taken for flameless Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometry (AAS) measurement of the natural <sup>9</sup>Be



**Fig. 2.** Stable isotopes record of core MD05-2930 used for the time scale reconstruction: (a) benthic foraminifera *C. Wuellerstorfi* and *Uvigerina sp*. *δ* <sup>18</sup>O records on the depth scale; black triangles locate the tie-points used for the correlation with the reference record LR04 of Lisiecki and Raymo (2005). (b) Benthic  $\delta^{18}$ O record (pink) on the time scale established by correlation with the dated benthic stack LR04 (blue); black triangles locate the correlation tie points. The green bar indicates the interval 250–800 ka sampled for the Be isotopes analysis. (c) depth-age relationship used to transfer all studied parameters to the time scale. The red vertical line situates the stratigraphic position of the Brunhes–Matuyama reversal (see text). (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

concentration. The remaining solution was spiked with 300 μl of a  $10^{-3}$  g/g<sup>9</sup>Be-carrier before the chemical extraction that was to be performed prior to the AMS measurement of the resulting  $10Be/9Be$  ratio. The spiked solution was then evaporated to dryness the residues dissolved in HNO<sub>3</sub> and diluted with distilled water. The thus-solubilised Beryllium was then chelated at pH 7 by adding 2 ml of acetylacetone in the presence of EDTA 50%. The obtained Be-acetylacetonates were separated by organic solvent extraction using CCl<sub>4</sub>, and heat decomposed in HCl. The solid residues resulting from the evaporation of the HCl – acidified extracted organic fraction were dissolved in a 4 ml  $HNO<sub>3</sub> - 2$  ml HClO<sup>4</sup> acidic solution that was brought to dryness. The obtained residues were dissolved in ultra-pure HNO<sub>3</sub>, the resulting solution was again evaporated to dryness and the solid residues were finally dissolved in ultra-pure HCl. Be oxy-hydroxides were precipitated at pH 8 from this final solution by adding NH4OH. The

precipitate was separated by centrifugation and rinsed twice by re-suspension and centrifugation in pH 8 ultra-pure water. After dissolution of this rinsed precipitate in HCl, the previously described precipitation and rinse steps were repeated. These purified Beryllium oxy-hydroxides were solubilised in  $HNO<sub>3</sub>$  and the resulting solution was transferred into  $\|\mathbf{a}\|$  quartz crucible where it was gently evaporated to dryness at 200 °C. Finally, the Beryllium oxyhydroxides deposit was fully converted to BeO by oven heating at  $800^{\circ}$ C for 1 hr in order to condition it for AMS measurements.

 $10$ Be concentration measurements were performed at the French AMS national facility ASTER (CEREGE) operating at 5MV. Once an aliquot is taken for natural authigenic  $9B$ e measurements, the addition of an accurately and precisely known concentration of <sup>9</sup>Be-carrier to the leaching solutions before any chemical handling allows to accurately determine <sup>10</sup>Be sample concentrations from the measured  ${}^{10}$ Be $/{}^{9}$ Be ratios, normalized to the



Table 1<br>AMS measurements, authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be and <sup>9</sup>Be concentrations, and authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be ratios of core MD05-2930 samples.











**Table 1** (*continued*)

Sample: depth in core MD05-2930 (cm)	Age (ka BP)	Sample weight (g)	Measured $^{10}$ Be/ <sup>9</sup> Be $(10^{-11})$	$[$ <sup>10</sup> Be] <sub>auth.</sub> corrected from radioactive decay $(10^{-15} \text{ g/g})^*$	Authigenic $[{}^{9}Be]$ $(10^{-7} \text{ g/g})^*$	Authigenic $^{10}$ Be/ <sup>9</sup> Be $(10^{-8})^*$
MD05-2930 3621	780	0.78	$1.400 \pm 0.011$	$6.00 \pm 0.07$	$2.53 \pm 0.03$	$2.37 \pm 0.04$
MD05-2930 3631	782	1.05	$1.794 \pm 0.010$	$5.71 \pm 0.06$	$2.60 \pm 0.12$	$2.20 \pm 0.10$
MD05-2930 3641	784	0.61	$1.074 \pm 0.013$	$5.88 \pm 0.06$	$2.94 \pm 0.09$	$2.00 \pm 0.07$
MD05-2930 3651	786	0.57	$1.130 \pm 0.011$	$6.65 \pm 0.06$	$2.81 \pm 0.04$	$2.37 \pm 0.05$
MD05-2930 3661	789	0.84	$2.163 \pm 0.009$	$8.50 \pm 0.06$	$3.04 \pm 0.08$	$2.80 \pm 0.08$
MD05-2930 3671	791	1.09	$2.589 \pm 0.008$	$7.98 \pm 0.06$	$3.12 \pm 0.04$	$2.56 \pm 0.04$
mean $\pm$ std. dev.				$7.71 \pm 1.65$	$3.12 \pm 0.46$	$2.51 \pm 0.58$
mean $\pm$ SDOM				$7.71 \pm 0.11$	$3.12 \pm 0.03$	$2.51 \pm 0.04$

\* 1-sigma uncertainties rounded to the higher value.

NIST 4325 Standard Reference Material  $((2.79 \pm 0.03) \times 10^{-11})$ ; Nishiizumi et al., 2007). The measured ratios and their uncertainties are presented in Table 1. Chemistry blank ratios range from  $5.01 \times 10^{-15}$  to  $4.82 \times 10^{-14}$ , which is at least 3 orders of magnitude lower than the sample  ${}^{10}$ Be/ ${}^{9}$ Be ratios. The precision (from statistical and instrumental uncertainties) of the measured  ${}^{10}$ Be/ ${}^{9}$ Be ratios ranges from 0.5% to 4%. Decay-corrected  ${}^{10}$ Be concentrations have been computed using the <sup>10</sup>Be half-life of 1*.*387 ±0*.*012 Ma (Chmeleff et al., 2010; Korschinek et al., 2010).

<sup>9</sup>Be concentrations were measured at the CEREGE National Cosmogenic Nuclides Laboratory, France, using a graphite-furnace Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer (AAS) with a Zeeman effect background correction (Thermo Scientific ICE 3400). The standardadditions method was used to eliminate the matrix effects during the absorption and to allow measurements near the detection limit. <sup>9</sup>Be sample concentrations (Table 1) were determined from repeated absorbance measurements (4 times) performed on each of the four 200 μl aliquots of the sample solution, three of them being spiked with increasing amount of a Sharlau <sup>9</sup>Be-carrier diluted to  $0.34 \times 10^{-8}$  g/g using HNO<sub>3</sub> 0.2%. Procedure blanks were, in addition, processed for each sample run. The standard deviation of repeated absorbance measurements for each aliquot must be less than 1% to be considered. <sup>9</sup>Be concentrations of the unspiked sample aliquot were measured in the  $10^{-10}$  g/g range. After correcting for sample dilution, the authigenic <sup>9</sup>Be sample concentrations along core MD05-2930 cluster around  $10^{-7}$  g/g (Table 1). Associated uncertainties ( $1\sigma$ ) vary from 0.01 to 7%.

#### **3. Results**

The authigenic Be concentrations presented in Fig. 3 along with the  $\delta^{18}$ O profile (Fig. 3a) on the depth scale show that the authigenic <sup>9</sup>Be concentrations vary from 2.09 to  $4.48 \times 10^{-7}$  g/g and that the authigenic  $10$ Be concentrations vary from 2.61 to 12.31  $\times$  10<sup>-15</sup> g/g (Fig. 3b, c). It should be noted that the authigenic  $10$ Be and  $9$ Be concentrations are most likely influenced by the sedimentary particles adsorption effi ciency depending, in particular, on their chemical composition and grain size distribution. Thus, contrary to the  ${}^{10}Be/{}^{9}Be$  ratio, some of the  ${}^{10}Be$  and <sup>9</sup>Be concentration variations may theoretically be attributable to environmental effects. However, the authigenic <sup>9</sup>Be variability is approximately twice as low as that of authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be, and most of the resulting <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be variability is thus carried by the authigenic  $10$ Be signal (Fig. 3d). Comparison of the authigenic  $10$ Be/ $9$ Be profile with the  $\delta^{18}$ O paleoclimate proxy does not show any strong similarity (Fig. 3), which could be interpreted as a clue for a dependence of the <sup>10</sup>Be sedimentary fluxes on the glacial/interglacial cycles alternation.

The authigenic  ${}^{10}$ Be/<sup>9</sup>Be ratios vary between 1.18 and 4.28  $\times$  $10^{-8}$ . The  $10^{10}$ Be/<sup>9</sup>Be peaks are labelled from VIII to XXI, in accordance with the nomenclature introduced by Carcaillet et al.

(2004a) for the authigenic  $10Be/9Be$  ratio peak series of the Portuguese margin. All peaks recorded in core MD05-2930 represent 1.4 to 2 times the values of the framing depth intervals, and exceed the value defined by "mean  $+1\sigma$ ", except for numbers XIII, XVI, XIX and XX. The average of the highest  ${}^{10}$ Be/ ${}^{9}$ Be values (above "mean  $+1\sigma$ ") is  $3.37 \times 10^{-8}$ , and corresponds to a doubling of the average of the lowest values (below "mean  $-1\sigma$ ") (1.68  $\times 10^{-8}$ ).

The most prominent <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be ratio peak, recorded at 3550-3600 cm, documents a 1.7-fold increase compared to the average ratio  $(2.51 \times 10^{-8})$  calculated over the whole studied time interval. The second major feature, recorded at 2530–2570 cm, documents a 1.55-fold increase compared to the long-term mean value. All the <sup>10</sup>Be/ <sup>9</sup>Be enhancement factors are listed in Table 2.

## **4. Interpretation of the <sup>10</sup>Be/ <sup>9</sup>Be dataset on a chronological scale: Global character and implications for the cosmogenic nuclides production during the B/M reversal and early Brunhes excursions**

After being transferred to a time scale (cf. Section 2.2), the se-ries

of <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be ratio peaks can be correlated with the series of the Geomagnetic Dipole Lows (GDL) documented in the SINT-2000 (Valet et al., 2005) and PISO-1500 (Channell et al., 2009) paleomagnetic reference records (Fig. 4).

The general correspondence between these time series confirms that the  ${}^{10}$ Be/ ${}^{9}$ Be ratio variations recorded between 250 and 800 ka reflect the variation of the global <sup>10</sup>Be atmospheric production rate modulated by the magnetospheric shielding created by the geomagnetic dipole field. The events of cosmogenic Be overproduction recorded between 250 and 800 ka undoubtedly correspond to the series of Geomagnetic Dipole Lows evidenced in the SINT-2000 and PISO-1500 stacks, that are generally associated to paleomagnetic excursions (e.g. Channell et al., 2012) or to the Brunhes/Matuyama reversal (Table 2).

(1.5-fold) increase of the <sup>10</sup>Be global production rate (Table 2) – Between 280 and 290 ka, interval VIII documents a significant correlated with GDL g in both SINT-2000 and PISO-1500. GDL g was also reported at ∼ 290 ka as an RPI low, inducing a <sup>10</sup>Be enhancement associated with the *Portuguese Margin* excursion

(Thouveny et al., 2004; Carcaillet et al., 2004a). The new results presented herein are the first confirmation at low latitude of the occurrence of a global <sup>10</sup>Be overproduction at ~ 290 ka.

– Interval IX documents at ∼ 313 and ∼ 326 ka two events (~ 1.3-fold increases) of enhanced <sup>10</sup>Be global production rate corresponding to GDL h characterized by a double VDM min-

imum in PISO-1500. GDL h is associated with excursions reported at 310–330 ka (Langereis et al., 1997; Lund et al., 2001; Channell et al., 2012).

- Interval X documents several rapid and significant <sup>10</sup>Be overproduction events ( $\sim$  1.2- to  $\sim$  1.3-fold increases) between 350 and 380 ka (Fig. 4). Between 395 and 415 ka, interval XI

documents a <sup>10</sup>Be overproduction event centred at 406 ka



**Fig. 3.** Geochemical and paleomagnetic proxies measured along core MD05-2930 depth scale: (a) benthic *δ* <sup>18</sup>O record with identified Marine Isotope Stages (MIS). (b) authigenic <sup>9</sup>Be concentrations with 1σ uncertainty. (c) Decay-corrected authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be concentrations with 1σ uncertainty. (d) Decay-corrected authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be ratios with 1*σ* uncertainty. Dotted lines delimit the ±1-sigma envelope of the distribution around the long-term mean value ((2.51±0.04)×10<sup>-8</sup>). Authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be enhancements are highlighted by the vertical yellow bars and numbered from VIII to XXI, following the labelling system proposed by Carcaillet et al. (2004<sup>4</sup>) (Interval VIII has been correlated with GDL "g"). (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

**Table 2**

∼ **61**



According to a nomenclature proposed by Thouveny et al. (2008).

**5** (∼ 1.5-fold increase). These two intervals match~ **7the 0** double structure of GDL i documented in PISO-1500 ( $F_{1}^{0}g_{71}^{3}$ ) **5** and agree with repeated RPI minima documented at 368, at <sup>77</sup></sup> 402 and at 413 ka in equatorial Pacific sediments (Valet and Meynadier, 1993). Although GDL i consists of a single VDM depletion in SINT-2000, the multiple structure of intervals <sup>X</sup> and XI is compatible with the identification of several excursions in the 360–0420 ka interval (Langereis et al., 1997; Lund et al., 2001; Channell et al., 2012).

 $-$  Interval XII documents two  $^{10}$ Be production rate enhancements (1.3-fold increase) at ~435 and ~450 ka, respectively, which confirm the double structure of GDL j in PISO-1500 (j1 at 430–445 ka and j2 at 455–460 ka), instead of a single GDL j, as reported in SINT-2000.

– Interval XIII at ∼ 490–500 ka is hardly significant compared with the long-term average, but correlates with GDL k, a wide GDL of small amplitude in  $SINT-2000$  and a narrow GDL of

large amplitude in PISO-1500. It is emphasized by the weakest  ${}^{10}$ Be/ ${}^{9}$ Be ratio value of the whole record, at 485 ka, which

Geomagnetic Dipole Lows (GDL) in the MD05-2930 record (expressed as <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be increases), and corresponding GDL in the SINT-2000 and/or in the PISQ-1500 records.



**Fig. 4.** Comparison of the MD05-2930 authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be record with VADM reconstructions obtained from RPI stacks. All records are plotted on their own respective time scales. (a) MD05-2930 authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be record; (b) SINT-2000 (Valet et al., 2005) and (c) PISO-1500 (Channell et al., 2009). Authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be enhancements (numbered from VIII to XXI) are highlighted by the vertical yellow bars and correspond to Geomagnetic Dipole Lows (GDL) identified in the VADM records. The GDL nomenclature established for SINT-800 in Thouveny et al. (2008) has been applied to PISO-1500. (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

documents a high transient VDM phase recorded in PISO immediately after GDL k.

– Three Intervals have been identified in a massive structure recorded between 520 and 560 ka and have been labelled XIV (*522–529* ka), XV (*539–544* ka) and XVI (*554* ka). They document three distinct <sup>10</sup>Be overproductions responding to GDL 1 and m in SINT-2000, and to GDL 11, 12, and m in PISO-1500 at ∼ 520 ka, ∼ 540 ka and ∼ 560 ka, respectively. Interval XV is among the three highest  $10Be$ overproductions of the

250–800 ka time interval (1.55-fold increase compared to the long term average). It responds to GDL 12 of PISO-1500, the most pronounced GDL of the whole Brunhes epoch.

Excursions recorded between 480 and 520 ka in oceans sediments (Langereis et al., 1997; Lund et al., 2001; Channell et al. 2004, 2012), and in lava flows from the Eifel volcanic field (Germany) (Schnepp and Hradetzky, 1994; Singer et al., 2008) correlate with intervals XIV and XV and GDL I1 and l2.

Between 550 and 575 ka a short reversed event recorded in lava flows from Idaho was dated at  $565 \pm 14$  ka (Champion et al., 1988), then at  $550 \pm 10$  ka (Champion et al., 1996), and finally at  $558 \pm 20$  ka (Lanphere, 2000). Low paleointensities and anomalous paleomagnetic directions were also recorded in lavas from the Eifel (Germany), dated at  $555±4$  ka (Singer et al., 2008). ODP sites 1060 to 1063 (northwest Atlantic) also revealed excursions at ∼ 575 ka (Lund et al., 2001; Channell et al., 2012).

– Interval XVII at *585–590* ka documents a 1.4-fold enhanced  $10B$ e production rate emerging from a massive signature. This sharp signal at ∼ 588 ka correlates with GDL n documented at 590–600 ka in both SINT-2000 and PISO-1500. Excursional di-

rections and RPI lows at roughly this age were reported from

ODP sites 983 and 984 (Channell et al., 2004) and ODP leg 172 (Lund et al., 2001) sediments. Other evidences of excursion were reported from lavas of La Palma (Canary) Island, dated at 602  $\pm$  24 ka (Quidelleur et al., 1999) and at 580  $\pm$  8 ka (Singer et al., 2002), and from lavas of the Eifel (Germany) and from Tahiti, dated at 578  $\pm$  8 and 579  $\pm$  6 ka, respectively (Singer et al., 2008).

 $-$  Interval XVIII at 610–625 ka documents a 1.25-fold <sup>10</sup>Be production rate increase event centred at  $61\frac{1}{2}$  ka that responds to a GDL recorded sharply at 615 ka in PISO-1500 and expressed smoothly at ∼ 625 ka in SINT-2000. The only evidences of an excursion at this age come from anomalous directions in a loess sequence (Liu et al., 1988). The secondary dipole low (unlabelled) recorded at 635 ka in the PISO-1500 and absent

from SINT-2000 is not confirmed by the cosmogenic Be record.

- $-$  Interval XIX documents a small  $^{10}$ Be overproduction between 670 and 705 ka which is maximized at 700 ka, and which may respond to GDL q in both SINT-2000 and PISO-1500. There is no significant <sup>10</sup>Be enhancement at 670–680 ka that could be related to GDL p. Interval XIX and GDL q can be related to a double excursional feature recorded in sediments deposited during MIS 17 in Osaka Bay (Biswas et al., 1999) and also reported from ODP sites 983 and 984 (Channell et al., 2004).
- Interval XX at 715–725 ka is hardly significant and has no counterpart in SINT-2000 and in PISO-1500, where GDL r is recorded at 730 ka.
- Last but not least, Interval XXI documents the largest <sup>10</sup>Be enhancement of the whole record. Its closeness to the largest RPI low and the declination swing helps to unambiguously identify it with the cosmogenic response to the GDL s, i.e. the dipole field collapse linked with the Brunhes–Matuvama (B/M) reversal. It consists of a 1.7-fold increase of the <sup>10</sup>Be production

#### **Table 3**

Average values of the clusters computed from GDM and  ${}^{10}$ Be/ ${}^{9}$ Be datasets using 3 strategies.



 $(\mu_c; \sigma_c)$ : parameters of the cosmogenic distribution (Be ratios)

 $(\mu_{\rho}; \sigma_{\rho})$ : parameters of the geomagnetic distribution (absolute GDM values)

For each strategy,  $\mu_{g,c}$  are given in the text with their associated uncertainty (standard deviation of the mean), and  $\sigma_{g,c}$ 

are the standard deviation of the distributions.

BM: Brunhes–Matuyama transition.

rate compared to the long-term average. The production rate maximum recorded at ∼ 773 ka coincides perfectly with the minimum of PISO-1500 at ∼ 770–775 ka and agrees satisfac-torily with the minimum of SINT-2000 at ∼ 777 ka. The am-plitude of the presented  ${}^{10}$ Be/ ${}^{9}$ Be peak is consistent with a doubling of the  $10Be$  production rate during the B/M transi-

tion reported from marine sediments (Raisbeck et al., 1985; Carcaillet et al., 2003) and from an ice sheet (Raisbeck et al., 2006). The MD05-2930 record stops at 791 ka and thus does not cover the period preceding the B/M polarity transition, and notably the GDL precursor of the B/M revealed by several studies (e.g. Channell et al., 2009; Singer et al., 2005), among which the MD97-2140  $^{10}$ Be/ $^{9}$ Be record (Carcaillet et al. 2003, 2004b) showed a maximum centred at ∼ 772 ka and a second and less pronounced peak at ∼ 795 ka, relative to this precursor.

The authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be record of core MD05-2930 suggests that numerous <sup>10</sup>Be overproduction events occurred throughout the 250–800 ka time period. Eight of these events (occurring at ∼ 285 ka, ∼ 320 ka, ∼ 370 ka, ∼ 410 ka, ∼ 445 ka, ∼ 540 ka, ∼ 590 ka) represent 70 to 90% of the overproduction recorded during the B/M reversal. The presented record indicates that the global cosmogenic nuclide production rate increases by a factor

of 1.6 to 2 during major dipole moment collapses (at ∼ 540 and  $∼ 773$  ka). All <sup>10</sup>Be production enhancements represent 1.4 to 2-fold increases compared to the values of the framing depth inter-vals. It should be emphasized that these  ${}^{10}$ Be/ ${}^{9}$ Be increase factors

were obtained with a temporal resolution of one measurement every 2000 yr, which implies that even the sharpest signatures are p**5**robably smoothed (see Christl, 2007; Ménabréaz et al., 2012). **. Calibration and transfer to <sup>10</sup>Be-derived Dipole Moments**

The obtained authigenic  ${}^{10}$ Be/ ${}^{9}$ Be ratio record results at the first order from variations of the atmospheric cosmogenic  $10Be$  production, modulated at the global scale by the Geomagnetic Dipole Moment (GDM) variations. Calibration of the <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be ratio scale using the absolute GDM values that modulated production over the studied time period (see also Ménabréaz et al., 2011 and 2012) is therefore justified.

The absolute GDM values consist of 437 Virtual Dipole Moments (VDM) or Virtual Axial Dipole Moments (VADM) extracted from the absolute paleointensity database PINT-08 (Biggin et al., 2010, http://earth.liv.ac.uk/pint/) for the studied time period. This calibration procedure must account for uncertainties inherent to

volcanic paleomagnetic data, thus we have associated clusters of high, intermediate and low GDM values with clusters of low, medium and high values of the <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be ratio using different strategies. The cluster data are listed in Table 3 and presented in Fig. 5.

Strategy 1 excludes the data of the Brunhes–Matuyama transition. This leads to the following time-averaged values:  $GDM =$  $(7.93 \pm 0.17) \times 10^{22}$  Am<sup>2</sup>; authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be = (2.48  $\pm$  0.04)  $\times$ 10 −8 . These time-averaged values are used to discriminate the data that are comprised between "mean  $\pm 2\sigma$ " from data that are either higher than "mean  $+2\sigma$ " or lower than "mean  $-2\sigma$ " (Table 3).

Strategy 2 concentrates on the Brunhes–Matuyama transition: an average GDM value of  $(5.27 \pm 0.37) \times 10^{22}$  Am<sup>2</sup> and an average authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be value of  $(2.80 \pm 0.17) \times 10^{-8}$  were calculated over the 700–800 ka time interval, which accounts for dating uncertainties of the volcanic records and incorporates a suffi cient number of data points to be representative. The clusters were defined using the "mean  $\pm 1\sigma$ " limits (Table 3) because no <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be values were lower than "mean −2*σ* ".

Finally, these two calibration approaches separating non-transitional from transitional geomagnetic states were compared using Strategy 3, established over the whole studied time interval, which leads to the following time-averaged values: GDM =  $(7.32 \pm 0.18) \times 10^{22}$  Am<sup>2</sup>; <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be = (2.51  $\pm$  0.04) × 10<sup>-8</sup> (Table 3).

The calibration points obtained using all cluster strategies are used to construct an empirical calibration curve (Fig. 5A). Since the relationship between geomagnetic field modulation and <sup>10</sup>Be production rate is non-linear, the calculation of arithmetic means inside the clusters introduces slight errors that are probably included in the error bars expressed in Fig. 5. Time-averaged GDM values including and excluding the B/M transition values  $((7.32 \pm$  $(0.18) \times 10^{22}$  Am<sup>2</sup> and  $(7.93 \pm 0.17) \times 10^{22}$  Am<sup>2</sup> respectively) are also represented in Fig. 5A. The polynomial regression that provides the best fit through the calibration points (Fig. 5A) agrees with the calibration curve previously obtained over the 20–50 ka interval, including the <sup>10</sup>Be overproduction produced by the GDL of the Laschamp excursion (Ménabréaz et al., 2012) (Fig. 5B). Even if this agreement confirms that the signal recorded in different sediment archives results from a global-scale modulation, the most reliable inter-calibration will be furnished by the direct comparison of the cosmogenic production signatures obtained for the same geomagnetic event at different sites: the future study of the upper part of the MD05-2930 sequence will allow us to compare and better calibrate the records of the overproduction due to the Laschamp GDL.



Fig. 5. Calibration method of the authigenic  $10$ <sup>9</sup>Be record (proxy of the global <sup>10</sup>Be production rate variations) using absolute VADM values extracted from the PINT-08 database. (A) Average VADM (10<sup>22</sup> A m<sup>2</sup>) and Authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be (10<sup>-8</sup>) values computed for the different clusters (see text). White circles represent the cluster values computed over the complete time interval studied (strategy 3). Red squares are the calibration clusters obtained over the studied time interval, excluding Brunhes–Matuyama (strategy 1). Green diamonds represent the cluster values computed over the Brunhes–Matuyama transition only (strategy 2). Associated error bars correspond to the standard deviation of the values used in each cluster. The polynomial fit between these calibration points is used to compute the Be-derived Geomagnetic dipole moment record:  $VADM = 27.70 - 10.93 \times \frac{^{10}Be^{9}Be}{+ 1.075 \times 10^{10}Be}$  $10\text{Be}/\text{Be}$ )<sup>2</sup>. The small yellow diamonds mark the  $10\text{Be}/\text{Be}$  and VADM time averages calculated over the whole studied time interval. (B) The calibration curve of the MD05-2930 (GOP = Gulf of Papua) (red line and symbols) plotted beside the calibration curve of the 20–50 ka time interval (black line and symbols) computed from the Portuguese margin and Papua New Guinea margin records, including the Laschamp excursion (Ménabréaz et al., 2012). The authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be/ <sup>9</sup>Be ratios measured along core MD05-2930 were normalized to their own average value (*(*2*.*51 ± 0*.*04*)* × 10−<sup>8</sup> *)*. (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)



**Fig. 6.** Paleomagnetic VADM (black curves) and cosmogenic-derived GDM (red curve) reconstructions of the 250–800 ka interval plotted on their own respective time scales. The <sup>10</sup>Be-derived GDM record is compared to (A) the PISO-1500 VADM record (Channell et al., 2009) and (B) the SINT-2000 VADM record (Valet et al., 2005). The geomagnetic dipole lows (GDL) documented by the <sup>10</sup>Be-derived VADM reconstruction are labelled from G to S and highlighted by the yellow vertical bars. (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)



**Table 4** Virtual Axial Dipole Moments (VADM) between 250 ka and 800 ka, reconstructed from the Authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be/ <sup>9</sup>Be ratios measured along Core MD05-2930.



 $*$  Uncertainties ( $2\sigma$ ) result from the propagation of analytical uncertainties only, and are rounded to the higher value.

The application of the equation derived from Fig. 5A to the  $10\text{Be}/9\text{Be}$  ratio record provides the  $10\text{Be}$ -derived GDM record presented in Fig. 6 and Table 4.

## **6. Discussion**

#### *6.1. Time-varying dipole moment between 250 and 800 ka*

The obtained <sup>10</sup>Be-derived GDM (Fig. 6) oscillates around an average value of  $7.4 \times 10^{22}$  Am<sup>2</sup> (standard deviation: 3.1  $\times$ 10<sup>22</sup> Am<sup>2</sup>), close to the present dipole field strength value of  $7.78 \times 10^{22}$  Am<sup>2</sup>, and consistent with the average value of  $(7.5 \pm 1)$  $1.7) \times 10^{22}$  Am<sup>2</sup> calculated by Valet et al. (2005) for the Brunhes Chron. The <sup>10</sup>Be-derived GDM varies from 0.7 to  $16.3 \times 10^{22}$  Am<sup>2</sup>.

Over the  $250-800$  ka interval, the  $^{10}$ Be-derived GDM can be compared with the paleomagnetic reference records SINT-2000 (Valet et al., 2005) and PISO-1500 (Channell et al., 2009) (Fig. 6). It presents a series of Geomagnetic Dipole Lows (GDL), labelled from "G" to "S", in agreement with the paleomagnetic GDL labelled from

"g" to "s" discussed in Section 4 and related to paleomagnetic excursions.

Despite independent methodologies applied to very different archives and using different calibration procedures (see Valet et al., 2005 and Channell et al., 2009 for details about the stack calibrations), the results are highly compatible. This strongly supports the global validity of the <sup>10</sup>Be-reconstruction, via a common primary signal modulation by the geomagnetic dipole. The amplitude of the <sup>10</sup>Be-derived GDM signal is similar to that of PISO-1500, i.e. higher than that of SINT-2000, itself higher than that of the PAD2M2 (Ziegler et al., 2011, data not shown here). Over this time interval, the detailed features visible in PISO-1500 are broadly confirmed in our record, with some chronological offsets and slightly lower VADM values before 450 ka. Possible age offsets may only result from individual age model uncertainties, and/or variable magnetization lock-in depths. Indeed, in such high particle flux environment, an assumed mean oceanic residence time of Be of about 600 yr (e.g. Raisbeck et al., 1980; Von Blanckenburg et al., 1996) do not allow to explain the observed offsets on the order of 5000–10 000 yr. Similarly, in such high sedimentation rate envi-

ronment, according to Christl (2007), an integration time of the Be signal over 1000 yr due to bioturbation would lead to time lags of about 600 yr. Consequently, the  $^{10}$ Be signal does not suffer from delays as significant as suspected for magnetization lock-in depths, and the age of the main features linked to GDL recorded by the authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be must be considered as more reliable.

The limited amplitude of several GDL is supported in this record. Indeed, the <sup>10</sup>Be-derived GDM values hardly ever appear lower than ~  $5 \times 10^{22}$  Am<sup>2</sup> for GDL P, Q and R between 750 and 600 ka and for GDL <sup>K</sup> at ∼ 490 ka. It should be mentioned that the <sup>10</sup>Be production record resolution may be improved, although

bioturbation may impose a limit by dampening the signal over its effi cient depth.

<sup>A</sup> critical value of GDM that trigger excursions or reversals was estimated by Channell et al. (2009) at ~ 2.5  $\times$  10<sup>22</sup> A m<sup>2</sup>, i.e. 30% of the present GDM value. In the <sup>10</sup>Be-derived GDM record, only a few GDL reach this critical value: GDL G (∼ 285 ka),

GDL I2 (390–410 ka), GDL <sup>L</sup> (520–550 ka) and the Brunhes– Matuyama transition (773 ka), which is characterized by a nearzero GDM value. The other GDL leading to excursions reached  $\sim$  3–4  $\times$  10<sup>22</sup> Am<sup>2</sup>, i.e. 50% of the present VDM value. Further cal-ibration improvements will allow to refine these quantifications,

and to establish a classification of critical GDM states required to trigger reversals, to trigger globally recorded excursions, or to allow the emergence of strong non-dipole field anomalies. *6.2. Chronological implications of <sup>10</sup>Be-derived dipole moment records*

The age of  $\sim$  773 ka obtained for the <sup>10</sup>Be-derived GDM min-imum related to the B/M reversal is consistent with the ages de-rived from astronomical calibrations of RPI records in sediment se-quences: 775±2 ka (Bassinot et al., 1994), ∼ 775 ka (Channell and Klevein, 2000), and is slightly younger than ∼ 780 ka (Shackleton

et al., 1990) and 778*.*0 ±1*.*7 ka (Tauxe et al., 1996). It is also fully consistent with both the most recent <sup>40</sup>Ar/<sup>39</sup>Ar age of 772  $\pm$ 11 ka obtained from Hawaiian lava flows (Singer et al., 2012), and with the age of  $773 \pm 1$  ka  $(2\sigma)$  derived from the astronomical calibration of high-deposition rate sedimentary sequences from the North Atlantic ODP cores (Channell et al., 2010).

Since enhancements of the  $10$ Be production rate occur globally and are simultaneously recorded in natural archives, the <sup>10</sup>Bederived GDL signatures can be used as tie points between sediment cores from all regions and between marine and polar icesheet records (e.g. Raisbeck et al., 2006; Dreyfus et al., 2008). In this scope, it is worth noting that in the MD05-2930 record, the <sup>10</sup>Be production maximum linked with the dipole moment minimum is recorded at the end of the MIS 19 benthic  $δ$ <sup>18</sup>O expression (Fig. 3).

The community working with *in-situ*-produced cosmogenic nuclides for dating Earth's surface processes will be able to use <sup>10</sup>Bederived GDM records for the correction of production rates. Indeed, due to their common dependence on the cosmic ray flux, the use of atmospheric <sup>10</sup>Be-derived GDM reconstructions would enable to link Terrestrial Cosmogenic Nuclides (TCN) production rate variations to the geomagnetic field strength. We thus suggest the adoption of the <sup>10</sup>Be-derived GDM reconstruction presented in this paper for the extrapolation of recent TCN production rates back into the geological past.

#### **7. Conclusions and perspectives**

The authigenic <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be ratio record of core MD05-2930 reveals the variation of the atmospheric  $^{10}$ Be global production rate between 250 and 800 ka, modulated by magnetospheric shielding. Calibration using absolute VADM values provides a continuous record of the <sup>10</sup>Be-derived geomagnetic dipole moment (GDM)

variation covering the Brunhes–Matuyama transition, and the early to mid Brunhes epoch. The <sup>10</sup>Be-derived geomagnetic dipole lows (GDL) series is compatible with those derived from paleomagnetic reconstructions, confirming the occurrence and global influence of recurrent dipole lows, and their link with paleomagnetic excursions documented and dated in sedimentary and/or volcanic archives. This study allows to better evaluate the critical states of the geomagnetic moment triggering global excursions and/or reversals. For example, it shows that the geomagnetic dipole lows that triggered the excursions at  $~\sim$  285 ka, at 390–410 ka, and at 520–550 ka, all reached the critical value of ~  $2 \times 10^{22}$  Am<sup>2</sup>, i.e. the threshold reached at 41 ka at the time of the Laschamp event

(Ménabréaz et al., 2012), whereas the Brunhes–Matuyama reversal was triggered by a near-zero GDM value. All other GDL over the 250–800 ka interval reached only half of the present VDM value  $(\sim 3-4 \times 10^{22} \text{ A m}^2).$ 

Since the authigenic  ${}^{10}$ Be/ ${}^{9}$ Be signatures are recorded without significant delays, the <sup>10</sup>Be-derived GDL series constitute accurate and precise geomagnetic markers for construction of global scale correlations between paleoclimatic/paleoenvironmental time series. They also provide an appropriate tool for studying the phase relationships between geomagnetic dipole moment variations and orbital, or paleoclimatic, variations. For example, our results reveal the <sup>10</sup>Be signature of the Brunhes/Matuyama transition at ~ 773 ka, near the end of MIS 19.

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