

## Interdisciplinary Research

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Contemporary archaeology is highly interactive with social, natural, and engineering sciences, and therefore archaeology itself is interdisciplinary. Recently in Japan, an increasing number of multidisciplinary projects have been launched to research the global environment and human evolution with innovative approaches to create a new domain of research, into which archaeology is incorporated. Along with this trend, internationalization of archaeological research is also ongoing. It is noted, for example, by the special issue of *Quaternary International* Volume 248, focusing on palaeoenvironmental changes and human dispersals in North and East Asia during MIS3 and MIS2, edited by ONO Akira, and by the dual symposia on the emergence and diversity of modern human behavior in Palaeolithic Asia, held at Tokyo, from November 26 to December 1, 2011. Among the remarkable publications of the year, KUDO Yuichiro's *Environment and Culture History of the Upper Palaeolithic and the Jomon Period* (Tokyo: Shinsensha) is a synthesis of radiocarbon dates in Japan during the Last Glacial and Post-glacial periods. In archaeobotanical research, SHODA Shin'ya and his team presented an integrative approach to the charred incrustation of Yayoi pottery by means of a combination of SEM-based observation, carbon-nitrogen isotope ratio, and starch residue, which shows potential to reconstruct diet (*Japan Journal of Historical Botany*, 20(1): 41-52).

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