



学术报告

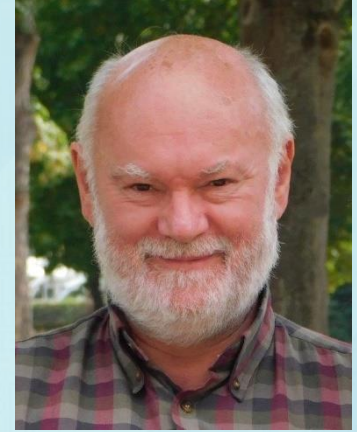
Hiding in plain sight: Patterns and processes under global biodiversity curves for the largest marine animal radiation

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报告及报告人简介:

Many palaeobiodiversity curves have been generated for the Early Paleozoic radiations under the banner of the Cambrian Explosion and Great Ordovician Biodiversification Event. Various databases have been analysed by increasingly sophisticated techniques to both enhance and smooth the track of the biodiversification. A closer look under the curves indicates that many diachronous and heterogeneous agents combine to construct a global curve, not least variable preservation and sampling together with ecosystem change. Moreover, key biotic groups, the phyto- and zooplankton forming the base of the food chain are virtually invisible in data sets, the rise in invertebrates acting as proxies for their increasing abundance and diversity. Clearly a focus on the 'top line' is only part of the picture, with processes and patterns at regional levels demanding much more attention.

David Harper, a professor emeritus at Durham University and a guest research professor at NIGPAS, is an internationally well known geologist and palaeontologist specialized in Early Palaeozoic brachiopods, stratigraphy, and beyond. He is one of the major initiators of the famous and very useful software package PAST. When he was working at Copenhagen University, he was elected as a foreign member of the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences. He was former President of the International Paleontological Association (IPA) (2010-2014), Chair of the International Commission on Stratigraphy (ICS) (2016-2024), and Chair of the International Subcommittee on Ordovician Stratigraphy (ISOS) (2012-2020). Prof. Harper started his collaborations with Chinese colleagues in 1980s, and has published over 30 collaborative papers and monographs since then. He was honored an Einstein Professorship by the Chinese Academy of Sciences in 2012.

