

и крайний север района отличается высокими значениями TRI, а следовательно, высоким эрозионным потенциалом.

Таким образом, данные SRTM и возможности их обработки в различных геоинформационных системах открывают огромные возможности для анализа рельефа с географических и геоэкологических позиций. Освоение и свободное владение ГИС должно быть неотъемлемым компонентом компетенций любого специалиста в области наук о Земле.

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PILOT CHIRONOMID STUDY IN LATE GLACIAL AND HOLOCENE LAKE SEDIMENTS OF LITHUANIA

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Впервые в Литве были проведены исследования хирономид в отложениях палеоозера, расположенного в северной части Литвы. Исследованный разрез включает отложения Голоцена и Познеледникового время. Изменение состава таксонов по разрезу показали колебания температурного режима и палеогеографических условий.

The Late Glacial and Holocene period was characterized by several rapid and extreme shifts in climate across the North Atlantic region. The magnitude of these shifts has been recognized from sediment records using various proxies. For the past 20 years, subfossil chironomids have started to be used in paleolimnology.

Chironomidae is a family of two-winged flies (Insecta: Diptera), often referred to as non-biting midges. It is the most ubiquitous and usually the most abundant insect group in all types of freshwater. About 5 000 species [7] have been described world-wide, although it is estimated that up to 15 000 species may exist in total [8]. Approximately 1000 species are known from Europe [9].

Chironomidae are cosmopolitan and distributed globally, even to Antarctica, where they include the southernmost holometabolous insects. The larvae occur in a wide range of biotopes but most species are aquatic. There are a few fresh or brackish waters that do not support chironomid population.

Subfossil larval head capsules are well-preserved in lake sediments. Their short life cycles, ability to disperse rapidly over long distances and independence from pedogenic processes enable them to respond to changing climate and environment more rapidly than terrestrial vegetation [1]. Recent work on subfossil chironomids has focused on quantifying environmental change by developing inference models based on modern calibration set. This technique has been used successfully to develop quantitative models to infer temperature [12, 4], total phosphorus [6, 3], anoxia [10], chlorophyll a [2] and salinity [11] from subfossil chironomid assemblages.

In Lithuania, the first attempts on chironomid assemblage studies were carried out on core sediments, situated in a boggy meadow surrounded by open fields at the present day. This site is located in the northern part of Lithuania on the southwestern edge of Šiauliai city. Sedimentation of the studied section, according to the radiocarbon dating, took place during the Late glacial period and the beginning of the Holocene.

7 cores were made for complex analysis. The analyses of LOI (loss on ignition), magnetic susceptibility, $\delta^{18}\text{O}\%$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}\%$, plant macro remains and pollen, radiocarbon dating (AMS), diatom and chironomids of the sediments have been carried out.

Sediment samples for subfossil chironomid analyses were prepared, applying standard methods [5]. The dry sediment was treated with warm 10% KOH and sieved through a 90- μm sieve. The treated sediment was examined under a stereomicroscope to extract the subfossil remains with fine forceps. The remains were mounted permanently in Euparal on microscope slides and identified under a light microscope. A minimum of 50 chironomid head capsules were enumerated from the surface samples and identified, based mainly on the identification guides of Brooks et al. 2007 [5], following the nomenclature used.

A rich Chironomidae fauna, more than 30 taxa were found in the studied sediments, and the taxa *Corynocera ambigua* (Fig.1), *Microtendipes* sp. (Fig.2), *Glyptotendipes* sp. were dominant. Some changes in Chironomidae fauna composition were noticed throughout the sediment section. In the middle part of the section, *Corynocera ambigua* was the dominant taxon. This taxon thrives in cold, oligotrophic conditions. The same environmental conditions are proved by appearance of diatom representatives of *Staurosira* genus and *Chara* macrofossils (comments by D. Kisielienė and V. Šeirienė). Obtained data indicate the initial stages of lake development.

In the uppermost part of the section, the rise of the trophic status of the lake is indicated by the increase of the taxa *Cricotopus* sp., *Dicrotendipes* sp., *Glyptotendipes* sp. In the top of the section, Chironomidae fauna almost disappeared, and it can be due primarily to the formation of oxygen deficiency in bottom water layers in deep-water zones of lakes accompanied by the development of eutrophication processes, which cause gradual suppression of chironomid larvae in the top layer [11].

The change in species composition indicates change of the ecological situation in the palaeolake: oligotrophic environment was replaced to eutrophic. It should be noticed that recent Chironomidae studies are not complete, and hopefully further investigations will give more detail information on environmental changes.

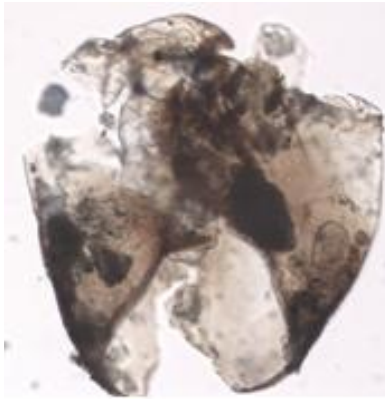


Figure 1 – *Corynocera ambigua*

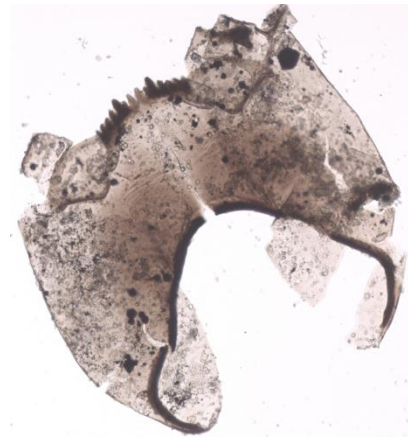


Figure 2 – *Microtendipes pedellus-type*

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ИЗУЧЕНИЕ ВЛИЯНИЯ МОРФОМЕТРИЧЕСКИХ ПОКАЗАТЕЛЕЙ НА ВЛАЖНОСТЬ ПОЧВ

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The article considers a possibility of using digital elevation models to calculate morphometric parameters in order to specify the data that depend on topography of soil moisture. Correlation analysis of influence of morphometric characteristics on soil moisture was carried out on the basis of GRID-models of morphometric parameters.

Целью данной работы было выявить влияние морфометрических характеристик рельефа на влажность почв. Расчет показателей проводился с использованием цифровой модели местности участка пахотных земель площадью около 24 га, расположенного около г. Минска. ЦММ была создана на основе данных тахеометрической съемки территории с пространственным разрешением 0,5 м. Разница абсолютных высот максимальной и минимальной точек данного участка составляет 22,87 м. Для исследуемого района характерны дерново-палево-подзолистые суглинистые почвы на мощных пылеватых (лессовидных) легких суглинках. В ходе исследования были рассчитаны следующие морфометрические показатели: средняя кривизна (рис. 1), крутизна склонов (рис. 2) и экспозиция склонов (рис.3).