

## 9. AN INTEGRATED BIOCHEMICAL, GEOCHEMICAL, AND SEDIMENTOLOGICAL STUDY OF ORGANIC DIAGENESIS IN SEDIMENTS FROM LEG 112<sup>1</sup>

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### ABSTRACT

Organic-rich diatomaceous muds from Ocean Drilling Program Leg 112 (offshore Peru) are the subject of a comprehensive organic diagenetic study covering the burial interval, <1 to >100 m. The organic matter has been classified in terms of its elemental, biochemical, and geochemical compositions. About 60% of the organic carbon in sediments from <1 m can be attributed to hydrolyzable, biochemical constituents, while at 22 m this figure decreased to 20%. Pyrolysis-gas chromatography and gas chromatography-mass spectrometry chromatograms of these same sediments contain mainly hydrocarbons and nitrogenous compounds, with low amounts of other heteroatomic compounds, even though the total organic matter is rich in oxygen (about 35 atoms per 100 carbon atoms) and sulfur (1 to 5 atoms per 100 C atoms). Overall, the organic matter in these sediments, even at these shallow depths and young ages, has many of the geochemical features of far more deeply buried sediments, providing further strong evidence for the claim that "kerogen-formation" is a very early diagenetic process.

### INTRODUCTION

The diagenesis of organic matter in modern sediments has been the topic of a great number of studies over the years. This subject has been approached from many different angles, such as (1) the fate of biochemical influxes, notably amino acids and carbohydrates; (2) changes in the distributions of specific lipid classes such as sterols and hydrocarbons; (3) changes in elemental composition; (4) the origin of the so-called humic compounds; and (5) the formation of (proto-)kerogen. Readers are referred to Romankevich (1984) for a general review of many such studies and to Tissot and Welte (1984) for a general discussion of organic diagenesis. This body of published work has contributed substantially to our understanding of diagenetic processes, yet there is one approach that has rarely been discussed. Perhaps mainly for logistical reasons, nearly all diagenetic studies have concentrated on only a fraction of the organic matter (e.g., amino acids). A few previous studies tried to characterize all of the organic matter in a surface sediment (e.g., Klok et al., 1983, 1984; Bhosle and Dhople, 1988), while others have reported the diagenesis of either individual biochemical classes (e.g., amino acids, Brown et al., 1972; sugars, Vallentyne, 1963) or the total hydrolyzable fraction (Bordovskiy, 1965; Huc et al., 1978). None, to our knowledge, has investigated diagenetic changes in composition, for all the major biochemical classes separately, over a range of burial depths and at the same site.

We have tried to fill this gap by applying a number of analytical techniques, both biochemical and geochemical, to organic-rich sediments from the Peru upwelling region, which

was cored during Leg 112. In this way, we hope to gain a clearer picture of the processes that occur during kerogen formation. Biochemical methods were applied to categorize these sediments in terms of the three major fractions used to classify living organisms (lipids, proteins, and carbohydrates). A combination of elemental analysis, pyrolysis (py), py-gas chromatography (pyGC), and pyGC-mass spectrometry (pyGCMS) was used to derive standard geochemical information about the organic matter, while solid-state <sup>13</sup>C nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>13</sup>C-NMR) spectroscopy provided general structural information about aromaticity and organic oxygen functionality. Finally, elemental analysis and sophisticated scanning electron microscopy (SEM) were used in tandem to locate and quantify the organic matter in individual, lamina-scale samples.

### EXPERIMENTAL METHODS

#### Preparation of Samples

With the exception of those used for SEM analysis, all samples arrived frozen and were freeze-dried before storage as dry powders in a nitrogen atmosphere. The samples used for elemental, biochemical, geochemical, and NMR analyses are described in Table 1. The SEM samples, and the technique itself, are described in the "Scanning Electron Microscopy" section (this chapter).

#### Elemental Analysis

Acid-soluble material was removed by treating with concentrated HCl at room temperature. The residue was washed with water and dried, and the elemental composition determined as follows:

CHN analyses for carbon, hydrogen, and nitrogen were conducted using a Carlo Erba 1106 elemental analyzer. Pyrolyzable oxygen was also determined using the same instrument, but under pyrolysis conditions. Complete experimental conditions are given in the Appendix.

All other elements were determined by X-ray fluorescence (XRF) smear analysis, using a Phillips wavelength dispersive XRF spectrophotometer, model PW1400.

Elemental compositions then were adjusted to account for the weight loss as a result of acid treatment.

<sup>1</sup> Suess, E., von Huene, R., et al., 1990. *Proc. ODP, Sci. Results*, 112: College Station, TX (Ocean Drilling Program).

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**Table 1. Depth and lithological descriptions for the bulk samples.**

Core, section, interval (cm)	Depth (mbsf)	Lith. unit	Epoch	Lithology
112-679D-1-1, 25-35	0.25-0.35	I	Holocene-Pleistocene	Diatomaceous/foraminiferal mud.
1-1, 73-83	0.73-0.83	I		
1-2, 131-141	2.81-2.91	I		
1-4, 88-98	5.38-5.48	I		
2-2, 48-58	9.88-9.98	I		
5-2, 111-123	39.01-39.13	I		
9-1, 59-71	74.99-75.11	II	Pleistocene-Pliocene	Diatomaceous mud.
17X-1, 108-116	143.48-143.56	III	early Pliocene-late Miocene	Interbedded diatomaceous mud/silt/sand.
12X-1, 88-96	347.68-347.76	V	middle Miocene	Laminated black shale.
112-680B-1-1, 29-41 <sup>a</sup>	0.29-0.41	I	Holocene-latest Pleistocene	Diatomaceous/foaminiferal mud.
1-1, 70-82 <sup>a</sup>	0.70-0.82	I		
1-4, 26-34	4.76-4.84	I		
2-3, 29-37	8.79-8.87	I		
3-5, 129-139	22.29-22.39	I		
10-6, 88-100	89.88-90.00	IIIC	Pleistocene-lower Pliocene	Diatomaceous mud.
112-681B-1-1, 36-44	0.36-0.44	I	Holocene-Pleistocene	Diatomaceous mud.
1-1, 81-89	0.81-0.89	I		
2-2, 83-91	8.23-8.31	I		
2-5, 34-42	12.24-12.32	I		
5-5, 57-69	40.97-41.09	II	Pleistocene	Interbedded diatomaceous mud and terrigenous sequences.
10-2, 120-131	84.60-84.71	II		
13X-5, 100-112	112.50-112.62	III	Pleistocene	Diatomaceous mud.
112-686B-1-1, 30-39	0.30-0.39	I	Holocene-Pleistocene	Sandy diatomaceous mud—some burrowing.
1-1, 87-96	0.87-0.96	I		
1-3, 79-89	3.79-3.89	I		
1-5, 80-90	6.80-6.90	I		
3-2, 33-45	19.83-19.95	I		
9X-5, 30-44	80.08-80.22	II	Pleistocene	Burrowed sandy diatomaceous muds, silts sands.
112-686B-15X-5, 32-42	138.32-138.42	III	Pleistocene	Laminated diatomaceous muds.

<sup>a</sup> Drilling disturbance and soupy mud in first meter.

## Biochemical Analysis

### Extraction Scheme

All extractions and hydrolyses were performed in centrifuge tubes having ground glass joints to minimize the need for transferring the solutions and sediments.

### Aqueous Extraction

The freeze-dried sediment (about 1 g) was weighed into a centrifuge tube and extracted with water (2 times 10 mL). For each extraction, the sample was agitated at room temperature using a Miximatic (Jencons) (4 min) and then centrifuged (3000 rpm; 5 min). The supernatants were transferred to a measuring cylinder (25 mL), mixed and divided into three aliquots: the first was adjusted to pH 9 to 10 with 0.1 mol/L KOH and kept for volatile fatty acid (VFA) analysis (these results are not available here). The second was freeze-dried and then hydrolyzed with 6 mol/L HCl (10 mL) for 22 hr. The hydrolyzate was freeze-dried, redissolved in a known volume of 0.1 mol/L KOH and analyzed for amino acid content (see Appendix). The third aliquot was also freeze-dried and then hydrolyzed with 1 mol/L H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (10 mL) for 22 hr. The hydrolysate was freeze-dried, redissolved in a known volume of 0.1 mol/L KOH and analyzed for monosaccharide content (see Appendix).

The residue after the aqueous extraction was then dried *in vacuo* at 40°C.

### Solvent Extraction

Free lipids were obtained by solvent extraction. The solvent system used was methanol (2 times 10 mL); dichloromethane/methanol (DCM/MeOH; 1:1) (10 mL); DCM (2 times 10 mL); DCM/MeOH (1:1) (4 times 10 mL), with mixing and centrifugation periods as for aqueous extraction.

After extraction, the supernatants were combined and transferred to a round-bottomed flask, and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. This extract was transferred to a 1-dram vial and dried under nitrogen. Lipids were quantified initially by weight, and these results then checked by the Iatroscan method (see Appendix).

The residue from the solvent extraction was dried *in vacuo* at 40°C, then weighed and divided into three portions, which were treated as described next.

### The "Bound" Fraction

One portion of the dried residual sediment was hydrolyzed (6 times) under reflux with 6 mol/L HCl (10 mL) for 4 hr per hydrolysis. After each hydrolysis, the tube was centrifuged and the supernatants combined and transferred to a round-bottomed flask. After the sixth hydrolysis, the sediment was washed with water (2 times 10 mL) and the washings combined with the hydrolysate. This solution was then divided into two equal aliquots. One was adjusted to pH 9 to 10 and kept for VFA analysis. The second portion was freeze-dried and then redissolved in a known volume of 0.1 mol/L KOH, ready for amino acid analysis.

The second portion of the dried residual sediment was hydrolyzed under reflux with 1 mol/L H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> in an identical manner to that described above, and used for the carbohydrate determination (see Appendix).

The third portion of the dried residual sediment was saponified by refluxing with 0.5 mol/L KOH in MeOH (10 mL) for 4 hr. After acidification with 6 mol/L HCl to pH <5, the solution was centrifuged and the aqueous layer transferred to a second tube. The residual sediment was extracted with DCM (2 times 10 mL) and the aqueous layer with DCM (3 times 10 mL). The organic solvent extracts were combined in a round-bottomed flask and rotary evaporated to dryness. The

extract was transferred to a 1-dram vial and dried under nitrogen for lipid determination.

### Conversion to Sediment Concentrations

Concentrations of lipids, carbohydrates, and proteins were obtained in a variety of units. Lipids were quantified as milligrams of total lipid, carbohydrates as milligrams of glucose equivalents, and proteins as millimoles of glycine equivalents. These were converted to the percentage of organic carbon in each biochemical fraction as a function of the total organic carbon present in the sediment, using the following calculations:

1. Lipids: the weight of each lipid fraction was converted to a weight of organic carbon by assuming that lipids contain 75% (by weight) carbon (e.g., palmitic acid). This weight was then converted to a percentage, knowing the weight of sediment sample from which it came and by dividing the lipid carbon weight by the calculated sediment organic-carbon weight.

2. Carbohydrates: we assumed that glucose is a representative monosaccharide, thus the weight obtained was converted to a weight of organic carbon from the knowledge that glucose contains 40% (by weight) carbon. This weight was converted to a percentage as for the lipids.

3. Proteins: these were quantified as millimoles of glycine equivalents. However, the molecular weight of glycine is not typical of the protein amino acids, in that it is too low. A value of 122.5 was used to represent an average amino acid; this was calculated from data in Klok et al. (1983), who identified individual amino acids in sediments from the Namibian shelf region off west Africa. The weight of proteins thus obtained was converted to weight of organic carbon by assuming that an average amino acid contains 45% (by weight) carbon. The remainder of the calculation was performed as above.

### Geochemical Analysis

Pyrolysis yields ( $S_1$  and  $S_2$ ) of whole sediments were obtained by heating at 250°C for 3 min ( $S_1$ ), followed by heating at 30°C/min from 250° to 550°C ( $S_2$ ). Pyrolyzed and volatilized products were detected by flame ionization detector (FID).

For pyGC, the above pyrolysis conditions were also used; the  $S_2$  products were chromatographed on an aluminum-clad BP-1 fused silica column (25 m × 0.53 mm internal diameter, SGE Co.). The column temperature was programmed from -80° to 0°C at 16°C/min, followed by 0° to 300°C at 8°C/min. Helium was used as the carrier gas and detection was by FID.

PyGCMS was performed on both extracted and nonextracted samples. Extraction was performed with ultrasonication using a sequential extraction system essentially the same as used for the biochemical study: MeOH (3 times) DCM/MeOH (1:1) (3 to 10 times, until colorless); DCM (3 times). The pyrolysis system used a CDS pyroprobe with a platinum coil that was inserted directly into the heated (200°C) injection port of the GC. Pyrolysis occurred for 20 s at a maximum temperature of 610°C. GCMS was performed on a Carlo Erba Mega GC, coupled to a Kratos MS-25 mass spectrometer. The GC was fitted with a DB5-fused silica column (30 m × 0.32 mm internal diameter). The column temperature was initially held constant at 40°C for 5 min and then increased to 300°C at 5°C/min. Electron impact mass spectra (mass range  $m/z$  50 to 500) were acquired at an ionization voltage of 38 eV and an emission current of 400  $\mu$ A.

### Solid-State $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR

Whole-round samples were analyzed by solid-state cross-polarization/magic angle spinning (CP/MAS)  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR using a

Bruker MSL100 spectrometer. This procedure used an experimental recycle time of 3 s, CP contact time of 1 ms, and decoupling radio-frequency field strength of 60 kHz. About 40,000 transients were recorded for each sample, and then Fourier transformed to give a  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum. Each spectrum was integrated with 165 and 95 ppm as the dividing lines to give the aromaticity value ( $f_a$ ).

### Scanning Electron Microscopy

#### Preparation of Samples

Samples were prepared from wet, cold, but unfrozen, cores. The samples (burial depths, lithologies) are briefly described in Table 2, and the detailed textures and their interpretation are discussed by Kemp and Kearsley (this volume). For each sample, a slab approximately 5 mm thick was cut from the entire vertical surface of the specimen and stained with osmium tetroxide ( $\text{OsO}_4$ ) by vapor impregnation of the wet specimen. This generates an osmium metal label on reactive organic matter. Samples were then placed in an ice-cube mold and vacuum-dried for 36 hr in a Logitech 10-20 impregnator. Epotec 301 epoxy resin was vacuum evacuated for 20 min and then gently released upon the now-dry specimen slab. When returned to atmospheric pressure, the resin successfully impregnated nearly all the pore space and was allowed to cure for 24 hr. The impregnated chip was then cut using a Microtec saw, and polished thin sections prepared for electron imagery.

#### SEM Methodology and Applications

Polished thin sections were carbon coated and examined in a JSM 840 electron microscope. Backscattered electron imagery (BEI) was employed to produce compositional contrast images of the fine textures. The simple relationship between mineral compositions and gray tones in a backscattered image allows for easy distinction of the differing clastic, bioclastic, cement, and impregnating resin materials. Sedimentary organic matter appears black and is distinguished easily from inorganic components, unless the particle size is smaller than the effective electron-beam interaction volume (<1  $\mu$ m). In this case, osmium-staining can be used. Impregnating resin may be confused with sedimentary organic matter, but the two can be distinguished by the characteristic chlorine content of the resin, using energy dispersive X-ray (EDS) microanalysis. The combined BEI and EDS technique is successful for locating small amounts of organic matter in clay mineral-rich sedimentary rocks. Digital X-ray mapping was used to produce osmium maps that demonstrated the distribution of osmium-reactive organic matter. Test samples of pure inorganic materials (silica, feldspars, sulfides, carbonates, phosphates, and clay minerals) did not react with  $\text{OsO}_4$  vapor.

Low magnification mosaics were compiled for each sample, providing the basic information for distinction of different lamina types and for the physical isolation of individual laminae for further study. Analyses performed were for total, organic, and carbonate carbon by CHN analyzer described above; identification of separated foraminifers and diatom species by SEM; complete palynological examination by SEM; and optical microscopy after HCl/HF digestion of the laminae.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Distribution of Organic Carbon

#### Bulk Samples

The organic-carbon contents of bulk samples (Table 3) show no particular depth trends for any site (Fig. 1). This is



Table 2. Depth and lithological descriptions for the lamina-scale samples.

Core, section, interval (cm)	Lith. Unit	Epoch	Lithology
112-680B-1H-4, 43-45	I	Quaternary	Dark gray, homogeneous, bioturbated silty diatomaceous mud; diatoms of meroplanktic, upwelling flora; <i>Cyclotella striata</i> , <i>Actinopterychus senarius</i> . Abundant foraminifers of <i>Bolivina seminuda humilis</i> Assemblage, including common large <i>Ellipsopolymorphina</i> spp.
112-680B-2H-1, 103-105	I	"	Finely laminated, alternating 1-2 mm laminae of (1) dark brown, homogenous, silty diatomaceous mud with common foraminifers, and (2) pale buff diatom-rich composite laminae (Type I of Kemp and Kearsley, this volume); diatoms of meroplanktic, upwelling flora: <i>C. striata</i> , <i>A. senarius</i> , <i>Chaetoceras</i> , <i>Coscinodiscus</i> cf. <i>radiatus</i> . Foraminifers of <i>B. seminuda humilis</i> Assemblage: <i>Cassidella</i> , <i>Nonionella</i> .
112-680B-2H-4, 88-90	I	"	Pale gray silt, rich in quartz, rhyolite and acid volcanic glass grains, coarse phosphatic fish debris, diatoms of mixed open-ocean and upwelling floras: <i>Thalassiosira oestrupii</i> , <i>Thalassionema nitzschioides</i> .
112-680B-2H-5, 89-91	I	"	Dark olive green laminated diatomaceous mud with thin (200 µm) silt laminae. Diatoms of mixed open-ocean and upwelling flora: <i>T. nitzschioides parva</i> , <i>T. nitzschioides</i> , <i>Chaetoceras</i> , <i>A. senarius</i> . Foraminifers of <i>B. seminuda humilis</i> Assemblage.
112-680B-2H-6, 114-116	I	"	Dark brown, homogeneous diatomaceous mud; diatoms of upwelling flora; abundant foraminifers of <i>B. seminuda humilis</i> Assemblage including common and large <i>Ellipsopolymorphina</i> spp. and <i>Nonionella</i> spp.
112-680B-2H-6, 116-118	I	"	Finely laminated, alternating 1-2 mm laminae of (1) dark olive gray-green homogeneous clay-rich diatomaceous mud (with abundant foraminifers) and (2) pale diatom-rich composite laminae (Type I); diatoms of meroplanktic, upwelling assemblage: <i>A. senarius</i> , <i>Rhizosolenia</i> spp.; foraminifers of <i>B. seminuda humilis</i> Assemblage.
112-680B-6H-7, 13-15	II	"	Mid-brown, poorly laminated, diatomaceous mud; dark brown anastomosing, subvertical veins disrupt fabric; diatoms broken: <i>Thalassiosira oestrupii</i> open-ocean assemblage; rare foraminifers of <i>B. seminuda humilis</i> Assemblage.
112-680B-7H-3, 18-20	II	"	Pale brown and buff poorly-laminated diatom-rich mud; disrupted by dark gray-green, anastomosing, subvertical veins; diatoms of meroplanktic, upwelling flora: <i>A. senarius</i> , <i>Thalassiosira</i> spp.; foraminifers of <i>B. seminuda humilis</i> Assemblage rare, partly dissolved.
112-680B-7H-6, 37-39	III	Pliocene	Mid-brown, homogeneous feldspathic silt; poikilotopic gypsum abundant; diatoms rare: open-ocean assemblage? Foraminifers rare and poorly preserved: <i>B. seminuda humilis</i> and <i>Nonionella</i> spp.
112-680B-9H-6, 78-80	III	"	Coarsely laminated (10 mm) dark brown and dark gray diatomaceous mud with 100 µm diameter pellets, fabric disrupted by dark brown anastomosing veins. Poikilotopic gypsum abundant; diatoms of meroplanktic, upwelling assemblage, <i>A. senarius</i> ; foraminifers lost by dissolution.
112-680B-10H-5, 50-52	III	"	Finely laminated, alternating 1-2 mm laminae of (1) mid to dark olive gray-green, clay and silt-rich diatomaceous mud and (2) pale gray-green diatom-rich composite laminae (Type I). Diatoms of meroplanktic, upwelling flora: <i>A. senarius</i> , <i>T. nitzschioides</i> , <i>Nitzschia</i> spp., <i>Delphineis</i> spp.; foraminifers partially dissolved, only poorly preserved <i>B. seminuda humilis</i> and organic inner walls.

more apparent when looking at trends within the same sediment unit. For example, there is no systematic increase or decrease for the top six samples from Hole 679D, nor the top five samples from Hole 680B (all from lithologic Unit I: Table 1). This suggests that the variation is related primarily to conditions prevailing at the time of sediment deposition, rather than diagenetic effects. This idea is enforced by the observed variation in organic-carbon contents for surface samples from site to site. In particular, organic-carbon contents tend to be lower at Sites 681 and 686 than at Sites 679 and 680 (Table 3). Similar wide variations in organic carbon content of the Peru upwelling region sediments were noted previously (Poutanen and Morris, 1983 and references therein).

#### Lamina-Scale Samples

Most of the samples studied were olive gray-green or dark brown, laminated diatomaceous muds (described more completely by Kemp and Kearsley, this volume). A summary of the general lithology for each of the samples is given in Table 2.

Results of the textural, chemical, and micropaleontological characterizations of the individual laminae for each of the laminated samples and those results for single representative samples of the unlaminated samples are shown in Table 4.

Individual laminae of the shallow samples (<15 m) alternated between (1) dark, low porosity, clay-(and scattered silt)-rich diatomaceous muds containing abundant diatom debris and foraminifer tests, a relatively high percentage of organic-carbon and moderate diagenetic carbonate content; and (2) pale, high porosity, clay-poor diatom "framework" oozes containing a high proportion of complete, well-preserved articulated diatom frustules, moderate organic-carbon contents, and slightly higher diagenetic carbonate contents.

Both lithologies present in the laminated samples contain a diatom flora of predominantly meroplanktic upwelling centric diatoms comparable to those described by Schuette and Schrader (1979), Whiting and Schrader (1985), and Uribe et al. (1982). Characteristic taxa include *Cyclotella striata*, *Actinopterychus senarius*, oval *Delphineis* spp., *Chaetoceros* bristles and spores, *Thalassiosira* of the *eccentrica* group, elongate *Thalassionema nitzschioides*, and diverse *Rhizosolenia* spp.

The characteristic foraminiferal fauna seen throughout all the samples studied is the *Bolivina seminuda humilis* assemblage, which denotes an outer-shelf, upper bathyal oxygen-minimum zone similar to the interpretation of Funnell et al. (this volume). Characteristic taxa include dominant *Bolivina*

Table 3. Elemental composition of the bulk samples.

Core, section, interval (cm)	HCl Sol	Elemental composition <sup>a</sup> (wt %)														
		C <sub>org</sub>	H	O <sub>org</sub>	O <sub>inorg</sub>	N	S	Na	Mg	Al	Si	Cl	K	Ca	Ti	Fe
112-679D-1-1, 25-35	35.8	10.3	1.2	5.0	18.5	1.2	0.9	1.0	0.4	4.4	17.3	0.5	1.5	1.0	0.1	0.8
112-679D-1-1, 73-83	18.5	5.9	0.7	4.8	29.6	0.9	1.1	1.5	0.7	6.4	23.6	0.3	2.6	1.1	0.5	1.4
112-679-1-2, 131-141	21.5	7.1	0.9	5.4	27.4	0.9	1.5	1.6	0.7	6.4	21.2	0.7	2.4	0.7	0.2	1.4
112-679D-1-4, 88-98	28.1	12.7	1.4	5.9	18.7	1.2	2.2	1.4	0.5	5.0	18.7	0.6	1.7	0.7	0.1	1.1
112-679D-2-2, 48-58	18.5	10.9	1.4	6.0	26.4	1.0	2.5	1.1	0.6	5.8	20.4	0.9	2.1	1.0	0.2	1.2
112-679D-5-2, 111-123	27.7	2.9	0.6	3.5	27.8	0.3	1.7	0.9	0.7	4.8	24.6	0.2	2.0	0.9	0.1	1.3
112-679D-9-1, 59-71	12.0	6.2	1.0	4.9	30.6	0.5	2.8	1.2	0.8	4.5	30.8	0.3	1.5	1.1	0.1	1.7
112-679D-17X-1, 108-116	15.3	0.6	0.2	2.5	38.1	0.3	1.4	2.4	0.8	5.5	27.1	0.0	2.0	1.8	0.3	1.6
112-679D-12X-1, 88-96	18.4	2.4	0.5	3.4	30.9	0.1	2.6	1.1	1.1	6.0	28.6	0.0	1.7	0.5	0.2	2.5
112-680B-1-1, 29-41	32.2	11.0	1.4	5.8	18.7	1.0	1.2	0.7	0.5	4.2	19.7	0.8	1.4	0.4	0.2	0.8
112-680B-1-1, 70-82	38.3	9.0	1.1	4.6	18.2	0.8	1.1	0.7	0.4	3.7	19.1	0.6	1.2	0.4	0.1	0.7
112-680B-1-4, 26-34	26.2	5.0	0.7	3.8	27.5	0.4	1.6	1.0	0.6	4.4	25.8	0.0	1.4	0.5	0.1	1.0
112-680B-2-3, 29-37	28.6	6.1	0.9	4.1	22.6	0.4	2.5	1.0	0.6	4.4	24.3	1.0	1.7	0.6	0.1	1.1
112-680B-3-5, 129-139	27.1	8.5	1.2	4.2	23.0	0.4	3.2	0.9	0.4	3.4	24.0	0.8	1.2	0.7	0.1	0.9
112-680B-10-6, 88-100	11.5	1.9	0.5	3.9	33.4	0.1	2.9	1.3	1.1	6.7	30.1	0.4	2.4	0.6	0.4	2.3
112-681B-1-1, 36-44	23.4	5.1	0.8	4.6	28.7	0.5	1.1	0.9	0.6	4.0	26.8	0.5	1.3	0.5	0.2	1.0
112-681B-1-1, 81-89	19.0	4.0	0.6	3.2	32.7	0.3	1.0	1.4	0.6	5.5	27.5	0.0	1.9	1.0	0.2	1.1
112-681B-2-2, 83-91	29.6	2.4	0.4	3.0	33.0	0.1	1.5	1.0	0.6	3.9	21.1	0.3	1.3	0.6	0.1	1.1
112-681B-2-5, 34-42	17.3	1.6	0.4	3.2	33.6	0.1	2.3	1.1	0.7	4.0	32.2	0.2	1.5	0.4	0.2	1.2
112-681B-5-5, 57-69	37.5	2.6	0.6	3.2	20.7	0.2	1.4	0.7	0.6	2.2	27.5	0.2	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.8
112-681B-10-2, 120-131	28.3	4.0	0.6	3.3	23.3	0.3	1.7	1.3	1.0	6.5	24.4	0.0	2.6	0.6	0.3	1.8
112-681B-13X-5, 100-112	28.2	2.9	0.6	3.4	25.4	0.2	1.9	0.8	0.6	3.4	30.0	0.0	1.3	0.2	0.1	1.0
112-686B-1-1, 30-39	16.1	3.4	0.7	4.2	31.1	0.6	1.3	1.8	1.0	6.4	27.7	0.0	2.5	1.3	0.3	1.6
112-686B-1-1, 87-96	13.9	1.8	0.4	3.0	34.6	0.4	1.5	2.0	1.0	6.5	28.4	0.0	2.5	1.9	0.3	1.8
112-686B-1-3, 79-89	15.5	4.4	0.7	4.0	34.0	0.6	1.9	1.8	0.8	5.4	26.2	0.0	2.2	1.1	0.3	1.4
112-686B-1-5, 80-90	20.3	1.3	0.2	1.8	33.3	0.2	1.1	2.5	0.9	6.5	25.5	0.0	2.3	2.2	0.3	1.6
112-686B-3-2, 33-45	25.3	1.8	0.4	3.4	27.9	0.4	1.8	1.6	1.0	5.3	26.1	0.0	2.0	1.0	0.3	1.7
112-686B-9X-5, 30-44	12.3	2.5	0.5	3.9	35.1	0.4	1.5	2.0	0.9	5.1	30.7	0.3	1.9	1.3	0.2	1.4
112-686B-15X-5, 32-42	13.5	4.7	0.8	4.8	31.9	0.6	1.8	1.4	0.8	5.0	29.4	0.5	1.7	1.3	0.2	1.6

<sup>a</sup> HCl sol indicates sediment soluble in cold 6 mol/L HCl (e.g., carbonate, phosphate, chloride). Abundances of individual elements do not include any species soluble in 6 mol/L HCl. O<sub>org</sub> = pyrolyzable oxygen (organic O plus H<sub>2</sub>O plus ?), O<sub>inorg</sub> = total oxygen less O<sub>org</sub> (mainly silicates). Elemental composition is normalized to 100%.

*seminuda humilis*, *Cassidella* spp., *Nonionella* cf. *miocenica*, and *Ellipsopolymorphina* spp.

The palynological assemblage from the laminated samples is massively dominated by fine aggregates of "amorphous" organic matter. There are also common organic coatings on framboidal sulphides and scattered smooth dinoflagellate cysts of the *Brigantedinium* group, tintinnid loricae, and well-preserved foraminiferal organic wall linings, including thin-walled *Cassidella* spp. (Fig. 2). This assemblage contains no observable terrigenous influx of either vascular or reproductive materials, and is thus similar to that noted throughout the Quaternary sequence, as described by Dodge et al. (this volume).

The organic-carbon contents of the diatom framework laminae tend to be lower than those of the lower porosity, clay-rich mud laminae (Table 4). This is more clearly demonstrated by the mosaic from Sample 112-680A-2H-1, 103-105 cm (Fig. 3; Table 5). This mosaic shows that higher organic-carbon content occurs in the laminae having lower porosity and vice versa. This is at first sight puzzling, because diatoms are largely organic and thus the diatom-rich layers potentially have a higher organic influx. Possibly this indicates that large amounts of organic carbon are also supplied to the sediment associated directly with the clays. Alternatively, it may be the result of differential preservation of organic material. The potentially higher organic influx to the diatom-dominant layer may be subject to a greater degree of microbial degradation and remobilization owing to the much greater (up to 60%) porosity of the framework. The apparent inverse relationship of nonbioclastic carbonate to organic-carbon content (i.e., low organic-carbon-content laminae tend to have higher carbonate percentages; Tables 5 and 6) also suggests biological conver-

sion of organic carbon to carbonate, with the process being controlled on a lamina-scale, and progressing further in the framework. Diagenetic sulfide, predominantly in the form of pyrite, is not abundant in these laminae, which would encourage carbonate precipitation during bacterial sulfate reduction (Coleman, 1985). Stable isotope studies of the carbonate and detailed geochemical analysis of the residual organic carbon should help to confirm this.

In contrast to the above mosaic, laminated Sample 112-680B-10H-5, 50-52 cm (Fig. 4) contains low organic-carbon contents and low carbonate (Table 6). However, diagenetic sulfide is abundant in these samples, probably because more Fe<sup>2+</sup> was available, associated with the higher clay content. Pyrite precipitation during sulphate reduction may have been sufficient to tip the carbonate equilibrium toward dissolution, rather than precipitation, as observed in the shallower samples (Coleman, 1985). The few poorly preserved foraminifers present show partial dissolution of the carbonate test. Figure 5 shows the effect of this dissolution on the thick-walled *Bolivina* spp. Voids and the remains of the partially dissolved tests indicate the initial presence of a typical *B. seminuda humilis* assemblage, but with destruction of calcite following burial. Although the carbonate of the test may be completely dissolved, the organic inner test wall is sometimes preserved (Fig. 5C).

Sample 112-680A-2H-1, 103-105 cm, is from lithologic Unit I, of Quaternary age, from a sequence having an estimated mean deposition rate of 55 m/m.y., whereas Sample 112-680B-10H-5, 50-52 cm, is from lithologic Unit III, Pliocene age and from a sequence with a deposition rate of about 22 to 30 m/m.y. (Suess, von Huene, et al., 1988). It seems possible that the low organic-carbon content and loss of

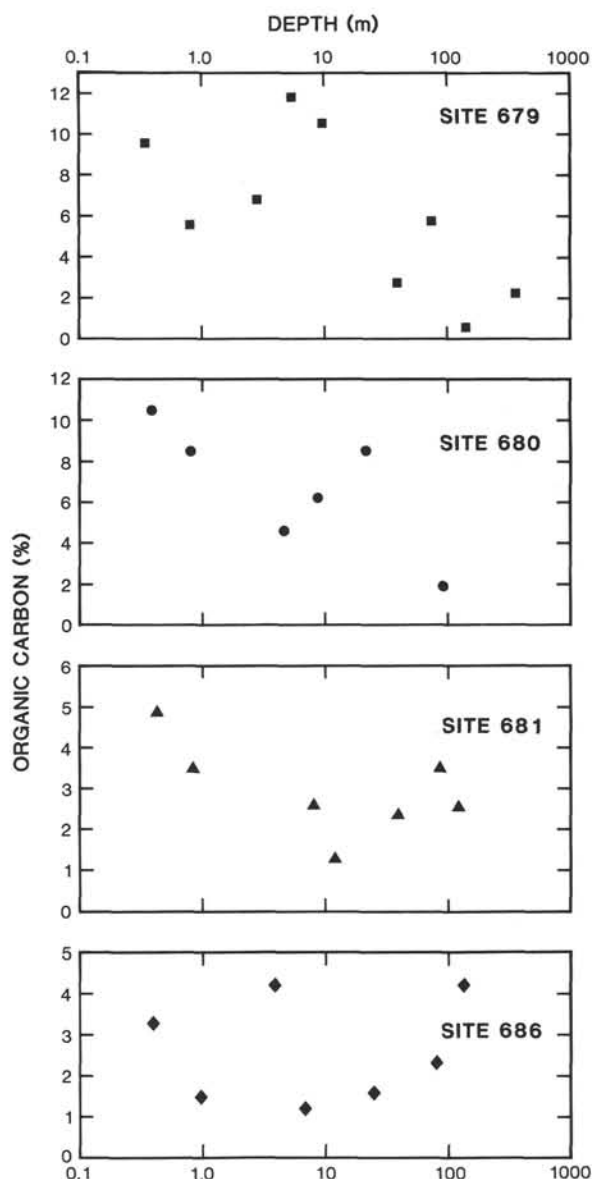


Figure 1. Variations in organic-carbon content with depth for bulk samples.

carbonate in the 112-680B-10H-5 samples reflect prolonged sulfate diffusive access to the sediment (as a consequence of low sedimentation rate) and therefore more extensive bacterial oxidation in the sulfate reduction zone (Coleman, 1985). Changes in organic composition associated with this contrast in diagenetic regime will be investigated.

Samples 112-680B-2H-4, 88-90 cm, and 112-680B-7H-6, 37-39 cm, are pale, silty, and feldspathic unlaminated samples. These samples reflect low-density bottom current (turbidity flow?) deposition of terrigenous volcanic materials (Scheidegger and Krissek, 1982; Yerin and Maynard, 1984). They contain low organic-carbon and carbonate contents (Table 4) and have a diatom flora of predominantly non-upwelling type with abundant *Thalassiosira oestrupi*. Rare fragments of vascular plant tissue are also present. Foraminiferal faunas are sparse, possibly owing to rapid deposition. However, the fauna present indicates a *B. seminuda humilis* dysaerobic assemblage.

## Composition of Organic Matter

### Elemental Analysis

The elemental compositions of bulk samples from four sites (679, 680, 681, and 686) were determined, with the exception of material that was soluble in concentrated HCl. (This is presented simply as "HCl soluble" in Table 3.) From these analyses, the elemental compositions of the organic matter were deduced; these are discussed below. However, most of each sediment is inorganic, and its composition is mentioned briefly first. The HCl-soluble material represents between 12% and 38% of the total sediment weight. The major elements (by weight) in the remaining, HCl-insoluble sediments are "inorganic" oxygen and silicon (presumably as silica/silicates), which together constitute a further 35% to 65% of the total. These inorganic substances are followed in abundance by organic carbon (typically 2% to 12%), "organic" oxygen (which includes water bound onto silica) (2% to 6%), and aluminum (2% to 6%). There are lesser amounts (0.5% to 3%) of hydrogen, nitrogen, sulfur, calcium, potassium, and iron. All these data confirm that the sediments are organic-rich, silica-rich, and clastic-poor. The inorganic constituents of the sediments are considered in more detail by Mossman et al. (this volume).

Five ratios of elements, which are main constituents of the organic matter, were calculated to investigate its nature and diagenesis. These were hydrogen/organic-carbon ( $H/C_{org}$ ), "organic" oxygen/organic-carbon ( $S/C_{org}$ ) and organic-sulfur/organic-carbon ( $S_{org}/C_{org}$ ) (Table 7). A plot of  $H/C_{org}$  vs.  $O_{org}/C_{org}$  (a van Krevelen-type diagram) for all samples (Fig. 6) demonstrates that a strong linear correlation exists between these two ratios, but that absolute values are so high that all the hydrogen and oxygen cannot be organic. Clearly, there is water still associated with the samples (presumably bound onto the silica), despite the fact that the samples were freeze-dried. However, the lowest  $H/C_{org}$  (1.36) and  $O_{org}/C_{org}$  (0.35) ratios are associated with the highest % $C_{org}$  sediments, and it seems reasonable to suppose that these values are approaching true ratios for the organic matter alone. This approach does not allow one to pick out any changes in organic H/C or O/C with depth or from site to site, although from Figure 6 it appears that these changes are unlikely to be large.

Individual organic O/C ratios for four samples from Site 680 were determined from solid-state  $^{13}C$ -NMR data (Table 8). This technique provides data for the amount (wt.%) of organic-carbon attached to three oxygen-containing functional groups (C = O, COOR, and C-O). The weight percent of oxygen in the organic matter can be estimated by assuming that (1) in C = O groups one carbon atom is attached to one oxygen atom, (2) in COOR groups one carbon atom is attached to two oxygen atoms, and (3) in C-O groups, two carbon atoms are attached to one oxygen atom (this is true when C-O represents an ether, but is not true when C-O is a hydroxyl). Atomic O/C ratios thus calculated vary from 0.30 to 0.37 (Table 8), which, allowing for experimental error, are not statistically different from the value of 0.35 obtained from extrapolation of the elemental analysis data (Fig. 6). Individual O/C results from NMR for Site 680 (Table 8) suggest that no pronounced change occurs in organic O/C with depth in these sediments. This confirmation of the extrapolated O/C value from elemental analysis supports the validity of the organic H/C ratio (1.36) obtained in the same manner. These two average values for organic matter classify the ODP samples as "immature type II" on a van Krevelen diagram.



Table 4. Lithologies and carbon contents of the lamina-scale samples.

Core, section interval (cm)	Depth (mbsf)	Sub-sample	C <sub>total</sub> (%)	C <sub>org</sub> (%)	Carbonate (%)	Lithology
112-680B-1H-4, 43-45	4.93		7.2	n.d.	n.d.	Dark brown homogeneous diatom mud.
112-680A-2H-1, 103-105	9.33	A	8.4	6.4	9.8	Dark brown homogeneous diatom mud.
		B	6.5	3.7	13.8	Pale buff laminated diatom framework.
		C	7.1	5.4	8.7	Mid-brown laminated diatom framework.
		D	8.3	6.7	8.2	Dark brown poorly laminated mud.
112-680B-2H-4, 88-90	10.88	G	1.4	1.2	0.78	Pale gray silt.
112-680B-2H-5, 89-91	12.39	G	4.4	n.d.	n.d.	Dark olive green laminated diatom mud.
112-680B-2H-6, 114-116	14.14	G	9.9	n.d.	n.d.	Dark brown homogeneous diatom mud.
112-680B-2H-6, 116-118	14.16	A	7.3	5.1	10.6	Pale olive green diatom framework.
		B	7.7	5.4	11.4	Mid-olive green diatom mud.
		C	6.6	4.6	10.2	Dark olive green diatom mud.
		D	8.1	6.1	10.2	Pale to mid-olive green diatom mud.
		E	9.1	7.3	9.1	Dark olive green diatom mud.
112-680B-6H-7, 13-15	52.63	A	5.6	n.d.	n.d.	Dark brown vein.
		B	5.4	n.d.	n.d.	Mid-brown laminated diatom mud.
112-680B-7H-3, 18-20	56.18	A	3.7	n.d.	n.d.	Pale buff laminated diatom rich mud.
		B	4.8	n.d.	n.d.	Dark gray-green vein.
112-680B-7H-6, 37-39	69.37	G	1.0	n.d.	n.d.	Mid-brown homogeneous feldspathic silt.
112-680B-9H-6, 78-80	80.28	A	1.4	n.d.	n.d.	Dark gray-green vein.
		B	0.6	n.d.	n.d.	Mid-gray-green homogeneous diatom mud.
112-680B-10H-5, 50-52	88.00	A	1.8	1.7	0.56	Dark olive green diatom framework.
		B	1.7	1.6	0.36	Mid-olive green diatom mud.
		C	1.6	1.5	0.21	Pale → dark olive green pelleted diatom framework.
		D	1.4	1.3	0.27	Banded mid and pale olive green diatom framework.
		E	1.8	1.7	0.54	Dark olive green diatom framework.

n.d. = Not determined.

Atomic N/C<sub>org</sub> ratios decline with depth in Holes 679D and 680B (Table 7); in Holes 681B and 686B, there is no clear trend with depth, although samples from within the same unit do decline (e.g., Unit I in Hole 681B: Table 1). In Hole 680B, values decline from approximately 0.08 at the surface to 0.04 at 22.39 m (Fig. 7). (Note that the nitrogen concentration is for total, nonacid leachable, nitrogen, i.e., potentially organic and inorganic. Any significant inorganic contribution is unlikely, since nitrogen concentrations were determined after HCl extraction, which would remove ammonium or nitrate-bearing salts. Confirmation of this was provided by X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy, which did not detect any inorganic nitrogen. Thus the N/C<sub>org</sub> ratio is that of the organic matter.)

Variations in N/C<sub>org</sub> with depth have been used in the literature to indicate the origin and extent of degradation of organic matter as a whole (e.g., Walsh et al., 1981). The surface ratios examined here are typical of marine sediments (Stevenson and Cheng [1972] reported typical atomic N/C<sub>org</sub> values of 0.05 to 0.09 in Argentine Basin sediments, for example). These values are lower than the Redfield ratios for marine plankton (C/N = 5.7 by weight; N/C atomic = 0.15: Mueller et al., 1986) and are suggestive of organic matter degradation. An exception is at Site 686, where two surface (<1 m) values were measured at 0.15 and 0.19 (Table 7). Further decrease in N/C<sub>org</sub> ratios with depth at Sites 679 and 680 is an indication of microbial degradation during burial and that organic nitrogen is being metabolized more rapidly than organic carbon (Rosenfeld, 1979). Again, Site 686 is an exception; samples show no decrease in N/C ratios with depth, perhaps an indication that little organic matter is metabolized before or after sedimentation at this site. Possibly this is related to the faster sedimentation rate in these sediments.

Conversely to the N/C results, S<sub>org</sub>/C<sub>org</sub> increases at Site 680B (Fig. 7—data from Mossman et al., this volume) and S/C<sub>org</sub> generally increases at Sites 680B, 679D, and 681B (Table 7). As with the trend for N/C<sub>org</sub>, Site 686B does not show any clear trend for S/C<sub>org</sub> (Table 7). Nevertheless, all

these data support the concept of very early sulfurization of the sediment as a whole and the organic matter in particular. Mossman et al. (this volume) discuss this subject at greater length.

#### Biochemical Analyses

The composition of a living organism is frequently presented in terms of its lipid, carbohydrate, and protein contents. These are components having reasonably well-defined chemical structures, at least in general terms. Proteins are composed of (via amide linkages) a limited number (20) of main amino acids, the structures of which are all known. Carbohydrates (polysaccharides) are formed from a smaller number of sugars (monosaccharides) having the general formula, CH<sub>2</sub>O. Lipids are less well-defined chemically, as their definition is physical, namely solubility in an organic solvent. However, the term is used ubiquitously to cover a wide range of structures, which have in common the fact that they are hydrocarbons with or without a functional group (typically containing oxygen) in the molecule (e.g., sterols, fatty acids, alkanes). These three biochemical terms have been taken and applied to the total organic matter in the sediments. "Protein" is used to refer to both free (water-soluble) proteins and amino acids, as well as amino acids released only by acid hydrolysis (bound). "Carbohydrate" is used in an identical fashion to cover mono- and polysaccharides. "Lipid" is used according to its biochemical definition; free lipids are solvent-soluble, and bound lipids are soluble after base hydrolysis.

The sedimentary protein contribution to the total C<sub>org</sub> declines with depth from about 17% to 5% for Hole 680B (Table 9, Fig. 8). This is in agreement with the decline in the N/C<sub>org</sub> ratio (Table 7, Fig. 7) and supports our assertion that the change in the latter results from a decrease in the abundance of organic nitrogen and that this organic nitrogen is tied up mainly in amide linkages. The bulk of the proteins is present as "bound" material, i.e., it is water-insoluble but HCl-hydrolyzable. Approximately 45% of the total nitrogen in

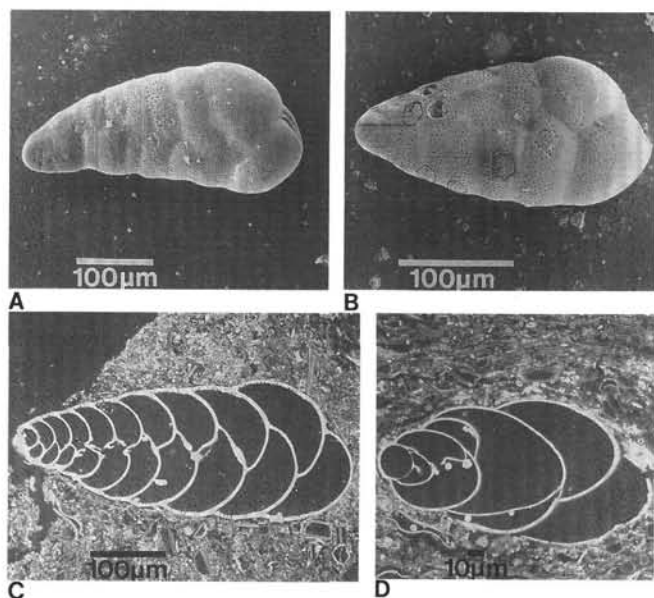


Figure 2. Secondary electron images. A. Well-preserved *B. seminula humilis* (200 $\times$ ). B. As in A, except with circular dissolution rings (300 $\times$ ). C. BEIs of (A) section through well-preserved *B. seminula humilis* (note thick calcite wall) (200 $\times$ ). D. Well-preserved *Cassidella* sp. (note thin calcite wall) (400 $\times$ ). All from mosaic of Sample 112-680A-2H-1, 103–105 cm.

the surface sediments is present in proteins, compared with about 25% in the two deepest samples. These values are comparatively large for aquatic sediments (see data summarized in Whelan, 1977), but they are similar to the 40% to 70% range for surface sediments from the Peru region calculated by Henrichs and Lee (1984).

There is a similar decrease in the abundance of carbohydrates, from over 8% of the organic carbon at the surface to 3.5% at 22.39 m (Table 9, Fig. 8). Again, the bulk of this biochemical class is present in a "bound" form. Although carbohydrates contain more oxygen than other biochemical classes (general formula =  $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ), there is no indication that their decreased abundance accompanies a decrease in the organic O/C ratio calculated from NMR data (Table 8). This suggests that other fractions (i.e., the lipids or the biochemically uncharacterized fraction) must have O/C ratios near the value for the whole (i.e., 0.35). The abundance of the total lipids also decreases with depth (Table 9, Fig. 8). In this case, roughly 30% to 40% of the total lipid is defined as "free" (i.e., no hydrolysis is required before extraction), which is much higher than for the carbohydrates or proteins. The general decrease in lipid content is reversed by the increase in the deepest sample (112-680B-10H-6); this sample is in a different sediment unit (Table 1) and thus it may not be reasonable to compare it with the five shallower samples. One must also remember that the two most shallow samples are from a burial depth of less than 1 m; in view of the drilling disturbance in the top meter, and the nature of these samples ("soupy mud"), we do not find it realistic to interpret differences in results for samples from 0.41 and 0.82 m in terms of diagenetic causes. The general decrease in all three biochemical classes with depth (from about 60% of the total organic carbon at the surface, decreasing to about 20% at 22 m; Table 9) is in close agreement with diagenetic trends reported for other marine sediments (Romankevich, 1984) for amino acids (Brown et al., 1972) sugars (Vallen-

tyne, 1963) and total (HCl) hydrolyzable organics (Huc et al., 1978).

#### Geochemical Analysis

Two basic geochemical parameters were calculated from a combination of the percentage of  $\text{C}_{\text{org}}$  and pyrolysis data. Hydrogen indexes ( $\text{HI} = 100 \cdot \text{S}_2/\% \text{C}_{\text{org}}$ ) vary from 280 to 450 over the four sites (Table 10). The major difference arises from the lower values obtained for samples from Site 686 (280 to 330). For the other three sites (679, 680, and 681), values range from 300 to 450, although most samples fall between 350 and 400. The reason for the lower values at Site 686 is not clear. In general, Site 686 sediments have a higher contribution from terrigenous material, as evidenced by higher iron, aluminum, potassium, calcium, and sodium levels (Table 3), and this may also be true of the organic matter. Lower HI values may be a reflection of this, plus the lack of sediment microbial reworking indicated by the constancy of N/C ratios with depth (Table 7). Gas/oil ratios (the ratio of  $\text{C}_{1-5}/\text{C}_6$  components, or "GOGI") determined from pyGC vary between 0.19 and 0.28, with no obvious intersite differences (Table 10). Despite the young age of these sediments, for most of the samples these two parameters fall within the range of values typical of Type II kerogen.

It was not possible to correlate the pyGC and pyGCMS data completely because pyGC uses a two-stage furnace pyrolysis technique and BP-1 GC stationary phase, while pyGCMS was performed on solvent extracted sediments using a one-stage CDS filament pyrolysis method and DB-5 GC stationary phase. The pyGC method gives the most reproducible recovery of the volatile products, but identification of these relies solely on the GC retention time. On the other hand, pyGCMS allows a much better identification of pyrolysis products, but the quantitative recovery of the more volatile compounds is less reproducible, even with the modified apparatus used here.

Chromatograms obtained from pyGC of Site 680 samples show a complex distribution of components. A key point is that these distributions are characteristic of *sedimentary* organic matter and not living organisms (cf. the chromatogram obtained from pyrolysis of cultured *Thalassiosira eccentrica*, a diatom) (Fig. 9). The main change with depth is the relative disappearance of a single major compound (Fig. 9). These components were identified by pyGCMS as dominantly aromatic and aliphatic hydrocarbons, with toluene as the major one. PyGCMS of solvent-extracted Site 680 samples shows abundant aromatic and aliphatic hydrocarbons (e.g., alkylbenzenes, alkyl-naphthalenes, and alkyl-indenes) and nitrogenous compounds (e.g., alkylpyridines, alkylpyrroles, and alkyl-indoles). Although alkylphenols are abundant, there are surprisingly low amounts of other oxygen-containing compounds given the high abundance of organic oxygen in the samples. The aromatic components (including the alkylphenols) are all typical products of the pyrolysis of proteins (e.g., see Klok et al., 1984). The relative decrease of toluene with depth is accompanied by a decrease in proteins (Fig. 8), suggesting a relationship between the two. Alkylthiophenes and alkylfurans, which are expected pyrolysis products of sulfur-containing compounds and carbohydrates respectively, were present in only minor amounts. This is somewhat surprising, given the high  $\text{S}_{\text{org}}/\text{C}_{\text{org}}$  ratios in the deeper samples (Table 7) and the carbohydrate contents of up to 8.7% (Table 9). However, note that pyGCMS did not allow detection of the most volatile compounds, and it is possible that, for example,  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  or furan may not have been detected by our methods.

In addition to a homologous series of n-alkanes and several isoprenoids, a series of alkylbenzenes ( $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{R}$ ), extending up to  $\text{R} = \text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{27}$ , was identified by mass fragmentography. Similar distributions have been identified in Namibian shelf diatomaceous ooze (Klok et al., 1983). Differences were noted



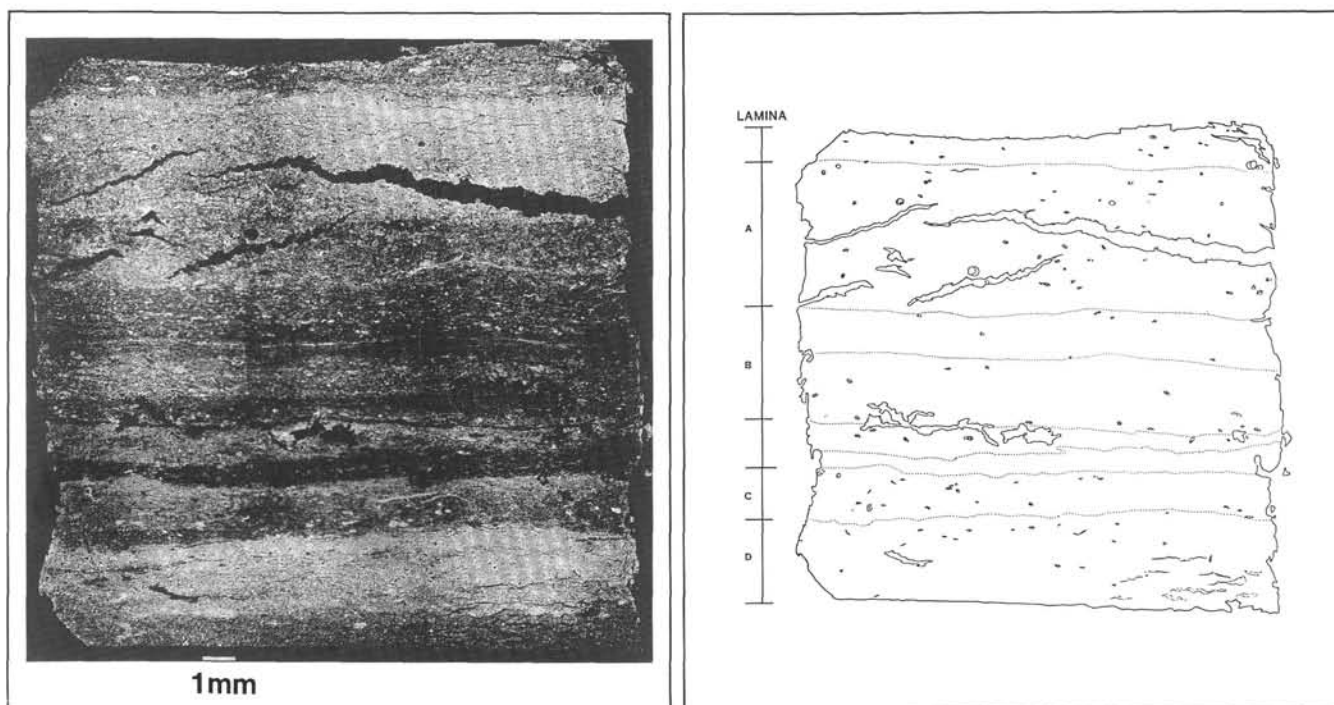


Figure 3. BEI mosaic and outline sketch of polished thin section through impregnated chip of Sample 112-680A-2H-1, 103–105 cm, showing composite laminations type I of Kemp and Kearsley, this volume). Tone represents contrast between low porosity/high clay content (bright) and high porosity/high value diatom content (dark) (7.5 $\times$ ). Labels on sketch outline correspond to positions of subsamples taken for geochemical analysis.

Table 5. Lithological, paleontological, and chemical compositional data for the mosaic, Sample 112-680A-2H-1, 103–105 cm.

	Colour	BEI tone	Texture	Diatom/foraminifer content	Organic carbon (%)	Carbonate (%)
A	Dark brown	Light gray	Low porosity. No internal lamination. Individual pellets common. Medium clay.	<i>Coscinodiscus radiatus</i> group dominant. <i>Chaetoceras</i> bristles and spores abundant. <i>Bolivina seminuda humilis</i> Assemblage.	6.4	9.8
B	Buff with brown patches	Mid-gray	Medium porosity. Internal lamination. Pelleted. Sharp based. Medium clay	<i>C. c.f. radiatus</i> group dominant. <i>T. nitzchioides parva</i> common. <i>Chaetoceras</i> bristles and spores abundant. <i>Bolivina seminuda humilis</i> Assemblage.	3.7	13.8
C	Mid-brown	Mid-gray	Medium porosity. Internal lamination. Pelleted. Sharp base. Low clay.	<i>C. c.f. radiatus</i> group v. abundant. <i>Chaetoceras</i> bristles and spores v. abundant. <i>Cyclotella striata</i> v. common. <i>Bolivina seminuda humilis</i> Assemblage.	5.4	8.7
D	Dark brown ↑  darkens upwards	Light gray Poor internal lamination.	Low porosity. <i>Chaetoceras</i> bristles and spores v. abundant.  Some pellets present. Base not seen. Medium clay.	<i>C. c.f. radiatus</i> group v. abundant.   <i>Cyclotella striata</i> v. abundant. <i>Bolivina seminuda humilis</i> Assemblage.	6.7	8.2

in the distributions of some alkylbenzene isomers with depth (e.g.,  $R = C_5H_{11}$ ; Fig. 10A) and also in isomers of some minor components (e.g., 2- and 3-methylthiophenes; Fig. 10B). The reasons for these differences are not known at present, but will be the subject of further study.

The absence of substituted methoxyphenols is evidence that lignin is not a major contributor to the organic matter in the Site 680 sediments. This is consistent with previous and present data from palynofacies analyses (Powell et al., this

volume, and references therein). It would appear, therefore, that pyGC and pyGCMS products are generated from either lipids and proteins or the residual, biochemically uncharacterized "kerogen" (or both). The kerogen must be lipidic and proteinaceous in origin. A commonly assumed mechanism for the formation of humic substances, which are thought to be the precursors of kerogen, is that phytoplankton-derived proteins and carbohydrates may undergo the "Maillard" reaction in sediments to produce acidic melanoidins whose

Table 6. Lithological, paleontological, and chemical compositional data for the mosaic, Sample 112-680A-10-5, 52–52 cm.

	Colour	BEI tone	Texture	Diatom/foraminifer content	Organic carbon (%)	Carbonate (%)
A	Dark olive green	Dark gray	High porosity. Fine internal lamination. Planar and pelleted. Sharp base. Low clay.	<i>Chaetoceras</i> bristles and spores v. abundant. <i>Delphineis</i> spp. common. <i>T. nitzschioides</i> v. common. Foraminifers lost.	1.7	0.56
B	Mid-olive green	Light gray	Low porosity. Poor internal lamination. Some pellets present. Sharp base. High clay.	<i>Chaetoceras</i> bristles and spores v. abundant. <i>Delphineis</i> spp. common. <i>T. nitzschioides</i> v. common. Foraminifers lost.	1.6	0.36
C	Dark ↑ pale ↑ mid-olive green	Dark gray light in veins	High porosity, low in veins. Disrupted laminae. Pelleted and planar. Sharp base. Low to medium clay.	<i>Chaetoceras</i> bristles and spores v. abundant. <i>Delphineis</i> spp. common. <i>T. nitzschioides</i> common. <i>Bolivina seminuda humilis</i> only.	1.55	0.21
D	Banded mid- and pale ↑ pale ↑ mid-olive green	Dark gray light in veins	High porosity, low in veins. Disrupted laminae, planar. Sharp base. Low to medium clay.	<i>Chaetoceras</i> bristles and spores dominant. <i>Delphineis</i> spp. common. <i>T. nitzschioides</i> common. Foraminifers lost.	1.3	0.27
E	Dark olive green ↑ darkens upward	Mid to light gray	Low porosity. Some pelleted, fine internal lamination. Base not seen. High clay.	<i>Chaetoceras</i> bristles and spores v. abundant. <i>Delphineis</i> spp. v. common. <i>A. senarius</i> v. common. Foraminifers lost.	1.7	0.27

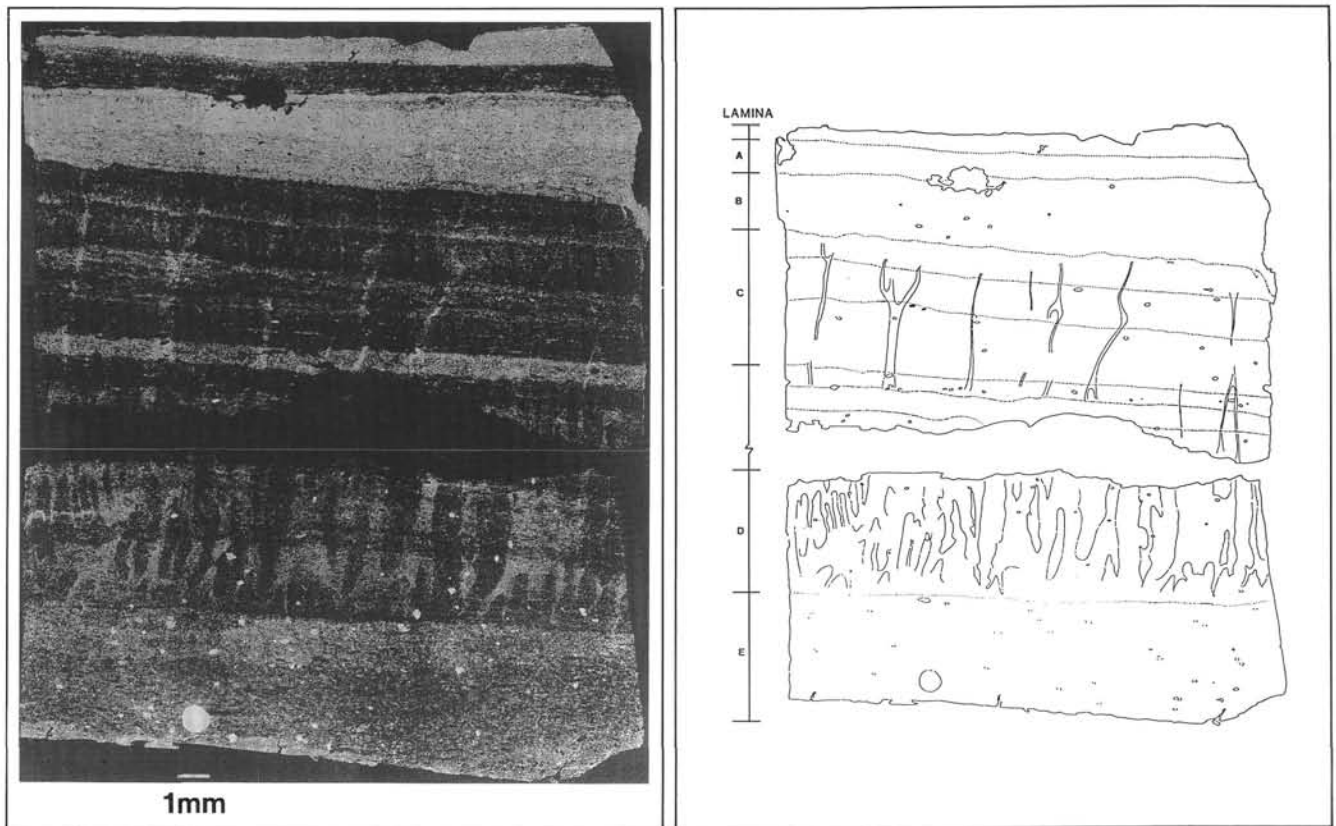


Figure 4. BEI mosaic and outline sketch of polished thin section through impregnated chip of Sample 112-680B-10H-5, 50–52 cm. Pale gray tones are clay-rich laminae; the central portion is disrupted by veins (7.5×). Labels on sketch outline define subsamples taken for geochemical analysis.

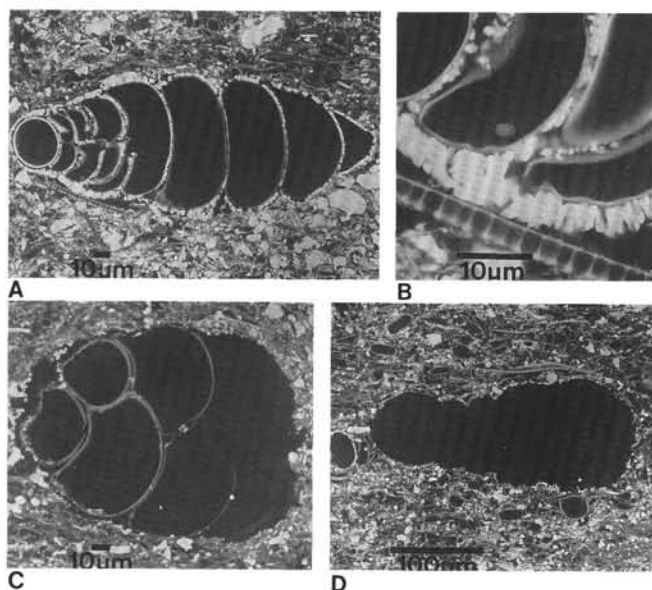


Figure 5. BEI of (A) section through *B. seminuda humilis* showing partial dissolution of carbonate test, organic walls intact, and restraining impregnating resin (400 $\times$ ); (B) detail of (A) showing progressive loss of radial hyaline calcite "fibrous" test (2000 $\times$ ); (C) section through *B. seminuda humilis* with calcite walls destroyed by dissolution, yet thin organic walls remain (400 $\times$ ); (D) void, probably the position of *Cassidella* sp. test before dissolution (250 $\times$ ). All from Sample 112-680B-10H-5, 50–52 cm.

pyrolysis products are similar to humic substances (Larter and Douglas, 1980). However, in the Site 680 sediments, any carbohydrate incorporated into the kerogen must have been subsequently modified to the extent that the typical products of unaltered carbohydrates are not formed. Aromatic compounds, such as benzene and toluene, which are major components of the pyGC traces, can be formed by pyrolysis of intact proteins (e.g., when bacteria are pyrolyzed).

### CONCLUSIONS

From elemental analysis and NMR data, organic matter in these sediments can be classified as "Type II." Considerable variation occurs in organic-carbon contents on a bulk-sample scale and also from lamina to lamina. The interlamina variations correlate with sediment porosity, diatom-rich laminae having lower organic-carbon contents than clay-rich laminae. The former also are substantially more porous, and this greater ease of access to the organic matter by microorganisms may have allowed for a greater degree of bacterial reworking, particularly in the sulfate-reduction zone. The preserved organic matter originated overwhelmingly from bacterial and algal remains; there is no evidence for anything other than a minute influx of land plants. In samples from Site 680, which were the most intensely studied, there has been rapid removal of carbohydrates and proteins at or above the sediment/water interface. The remaining carbohydrates and proteins decline in relative abundance with depth. PyGC and pyGCMS showed expected products derived from the pyrolysis of lipidic and proteinaceous material, whereas pyrolysis products attributable to carbohydrates and sulfur-containing organic compounds were not abundant. Both free and bound lipids also decrease in abundance with depth relative to the insoluble "uncharacterized" component. Total organic matter has a high heteroatom (O, N, S) content (about 45 atoms per 100

carbon atoms) from elemental analysis and NMR, but the pyrolysis products identified do not reflect this abundance and predominantly hydrocarbons are seen. The degrees of aromaticity determined for four sediments (all about 30%) are higher than would be found in the original living organic matter; this may be the result of either preferential concentration of aromatic species or aromatization reactions at or above the sediment surface. Apart from the high organic O/C ratio, these sediments have geochemical properties that are comparable to those from analogous depositional settings, but that have been far more deeply buried (i.e., 1000–2000 m). All evidence supports the hypothesis that the key "kerogen-forming" processes take place during the earliest stages of sediment burial and diagenesis.

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**Table 7. Elemental atomic ratios for the bulk samples.**

Core, section interval (cm)	C <sub>org</sub>	Atomic ratio <sup>a</sup>				
		H/C <sub>org</sub>	S/C <sub>org</sub>	N/C <sub>org</sub>	O <sub>org</sub> /C <sub>org</sub>	S <sub>org</sub> /C <sub>org</sub> <sup>b</sup>
112-679D-1H-1, 25-35	10.3	1.42	0.03	0.10	0.36	n.d.
1H-1, 73-83	5.9	1.48	0.07	0.13	0.61	n.d.
1H-2, 131-141	7.1	1.59	0.08	0.11	0.57	n.d.
1H-4, 88-98	12.7	1.36	0.06	0.08	0.35	n.d.
2H-2, 48-58	10.9	1.53	0.09	0.08	0.41	n.d.
5H-2, 111-123	2.9	2.40	0.22	0.09	0.90	n.d.
9H-1, 59-71	6.2	1.88	0.17	0.07	0.59	n.d.
17X-1, 108-116	0.6	5.00	0.87	0.43	3.12	n.d.
12X-1, 88-100	2.4	2.50	0.41	0.03	1.06	n.d.
112-680B-1H-1, 29-41	11.0	1.53	0.04	0.08	0.40	0.010
1H-1, 70-82	9.0	1.47	0.05	0.08	0.38	0.012
1H-4, 26-34	5.0	1.68	0.12	0.07	0.57	0.039
2H-3, 29-37	6.1	1.77	0.15	0.06	0.50	0.043
3H-5, 129-139	8.5	1.69	0.14	0.04	0.37	0.056
10H-6, 88-100	1.9	3.16	0.57	0.04	1.54	0.048
112-681B-1H-1, 36-44	5.1	1.88	0.08	0.08	0.68	n.d.
1H-1, 81-89	4.0	1.80	0.09	0.06	0.60	n.d.
2H-2, 83-91	2.4	2.00	0.23	0.04	0.94	n.d.
2H-5, 34-42	1.6	3.00	0.54	0.04	1.50	n.d.
5H-5, 57-69	2.6	2.77	0.20	0.07	0.92	n.d.
10H-2, 120-131	4.0	1.80	0.16	0.06	0.62	n.d.
13X-5, 100-112	2.9	2.48	0.57	0.06	0.88	n.d.
112-686B-1H-1, 30-39	3.4	2.36	0.14	0.15	0.93	n.d.
1H-1, 87-96	1.8	2.87	0.31	0.19	1.25	n.d.
1H-3, 79-89	4.4	1.85	0.16	0.12	0.68	n.d.
1H-5, 80-90	1.3	2.20	0.32	0.13	1.04	n.d.
3H-2, 33-45	1.8	3.00	0.37	0.19	1.42	n.d.
9X-5, 30-44	2.5	2.54	0.22	0.14	1.17	n.d.
15X-5, 32-42	4.7	1.99	0.14	0.11	0.77	n.d.

<sup>a</sup> H = total hydrogen; N = total nitrogen; S = total sulfur; O<sub>org</sub> = pyrolyzable oxygen; S<sub>org</sub> = organic sulfur; C<sub>org</sub> = organic carbon.

<sup>b</sup> Data from Mossman *et al.* (this volume).  
n.d. = not determined.

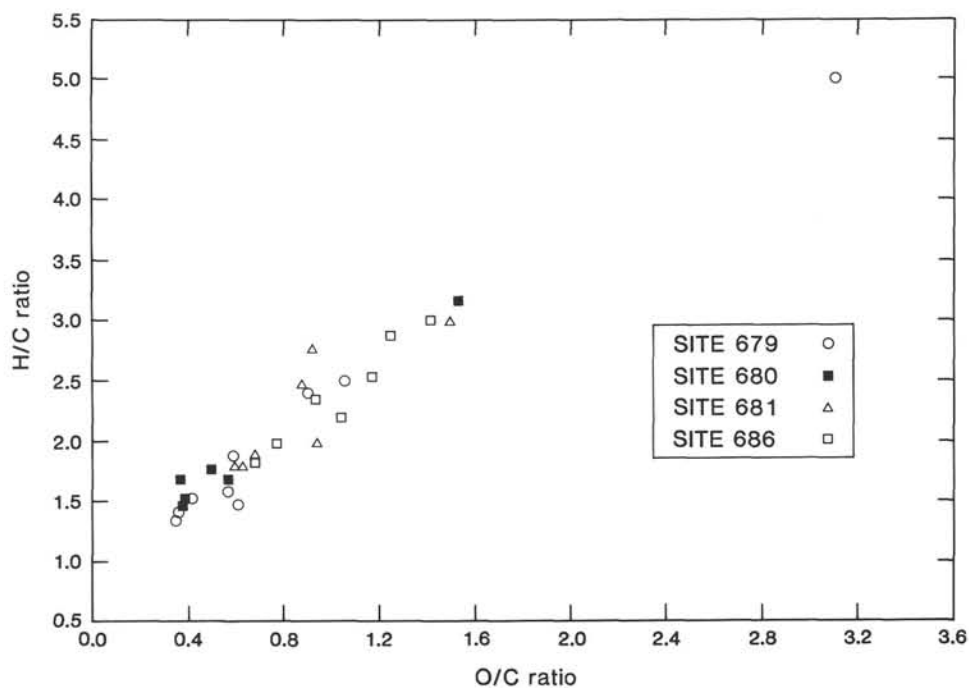


Figure 6. Plot of atomic  $H/C_{org}$  vs.  $O_{org}/C_{org}$  ratios for all bulk samples.

**Table 8. Degree of aromaticity and carbon-oxygen functionalities from NMR data for four bulk samples.**

Core, section, interval (cm)	$f_a^a$ (%)	$C=O^b$ (%)	COOR (%)	CO (%)	$O/C^c$ ratio
112-680B-1H-1, 70-82 <sup>d</sup>	29.6	3.1	8.4	20.5	0.30
112-680B-1H-4, 26-34 <sup>d</sup>	28.6	6.5	7.7	20.5	0.32
112-680B-3H-5, 129-139 <sup>d</sup>	25.1	5.0	7.3	20.4	0.30
112-680B-10H-6, 88-100 <sup>e</sup>	33.8	6.8	10.9	16.1	0.37

<sup>a</sup>  $f_a$  = degree of aromaticity.

<sup>b</sup>  $C=O$  = carbon in carbonyl groups; COOR = carbon in carboxyl groups;

CO = carbon in alcohol or ether groups.

<sup>c</sup> atomic ratio.

<sup>d</sup> Error =  $\pm 20\%$  in NMR data.

<sup>e</sup> Error =  $\pm 30\%$  in NMR data.



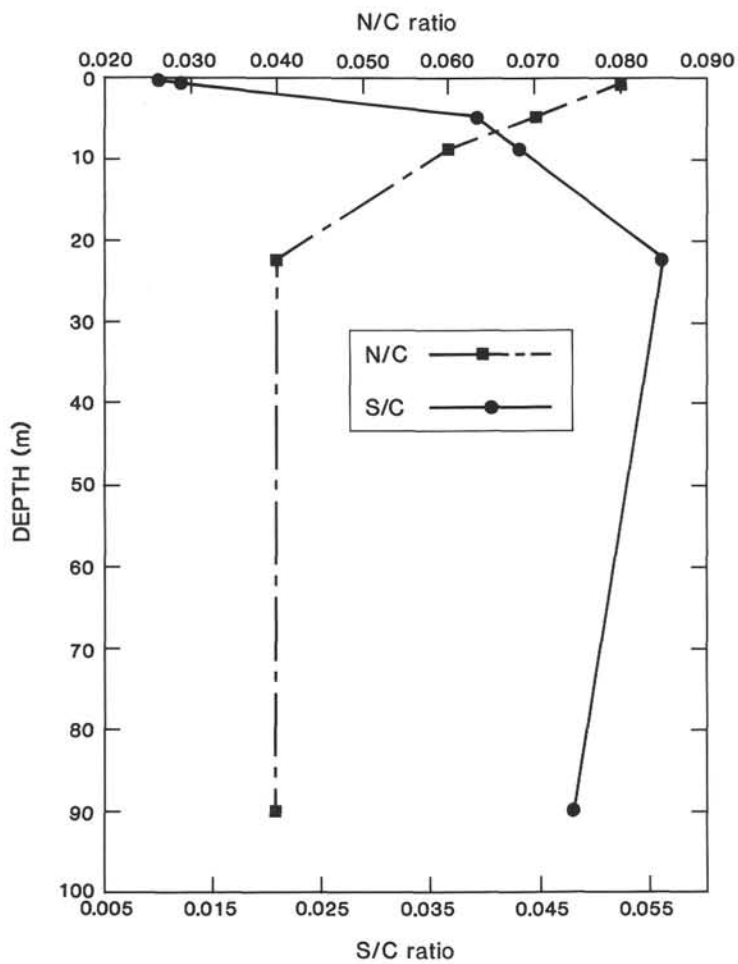


Figure 7. Variation in atomic N/C and organic S/C ratios with depth for Site 680.

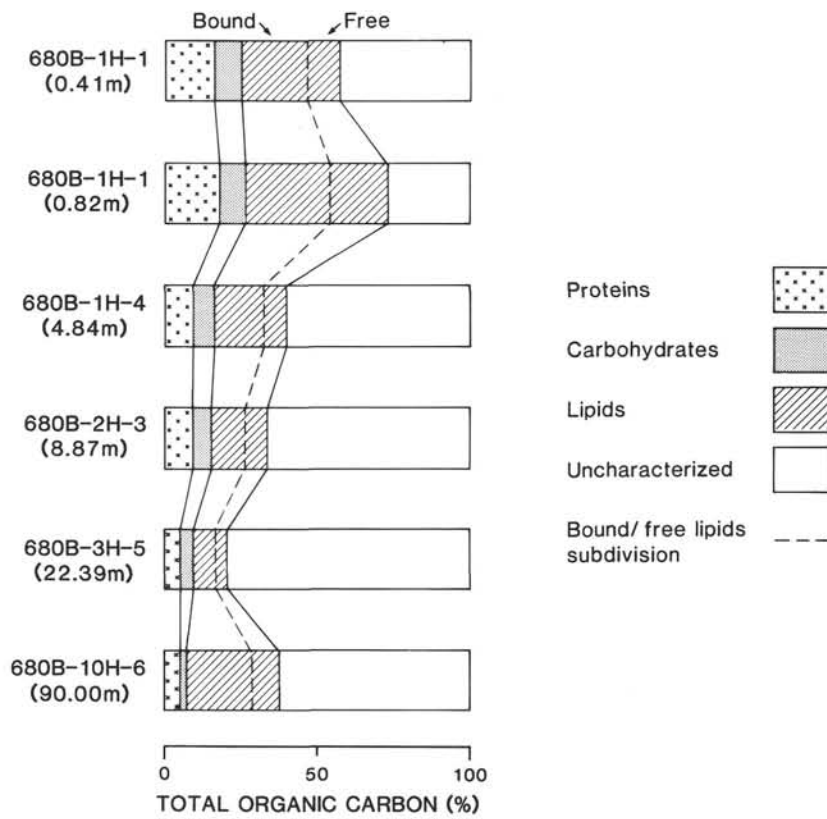


Figure 8. Decline with depth in the relative contributions of main biochemical contributors to sediments at Site 680.

Table 9. Biochemical composition of bulk samples from Site 680.

Core, section, interval (cm)	Lipids			Carbohydrates			Proteins			Total biochem.
	free	bound	total	free	bound	total	free	bound	total	
112-680B-1H-1, 29-41	10.5	22.0	32.5	0.05	8.7	8.7	0.38	15.5	15.9	57.1
1H-1, 70-82	18.5	28.0	46.5	0.17	8.3	8.5	0.55	17.0	17.5	72.6
1H-4, 26-34	7.6	17.0	25.4	0.15	6.3	6.5	1.49	8.0	9.5	40.5
2H-3, 29-37	6.8	11.5	18.3	0.15	6.3	6.4	0.82	8.2	9.1	33.8
3H-5, 22-39	4.6	7.5	12.1	0.05	3.5	3.6	0.44	4.6	5.1	20.8
10X-6, 88-100	8.5	22.1	30.6	0.11	2.0	2.1	1.21	4.3	5.6	38.3

All values in % of total organic carbon.

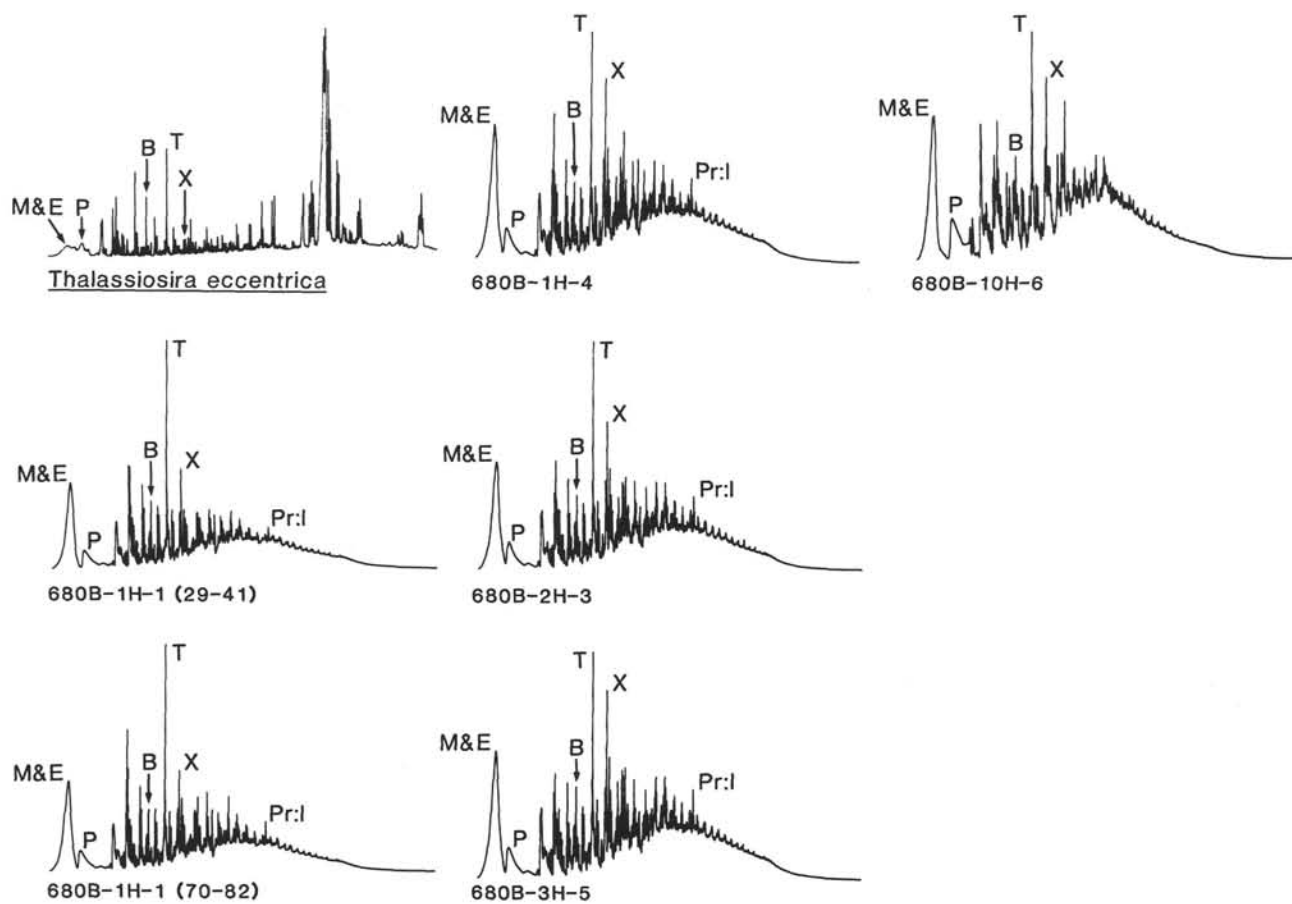


Figure 9. Pyrolysis-GC traces of sediments from Site 680 and a laboratory-cultured diatom species, *Thalassiosira eccentrica*.



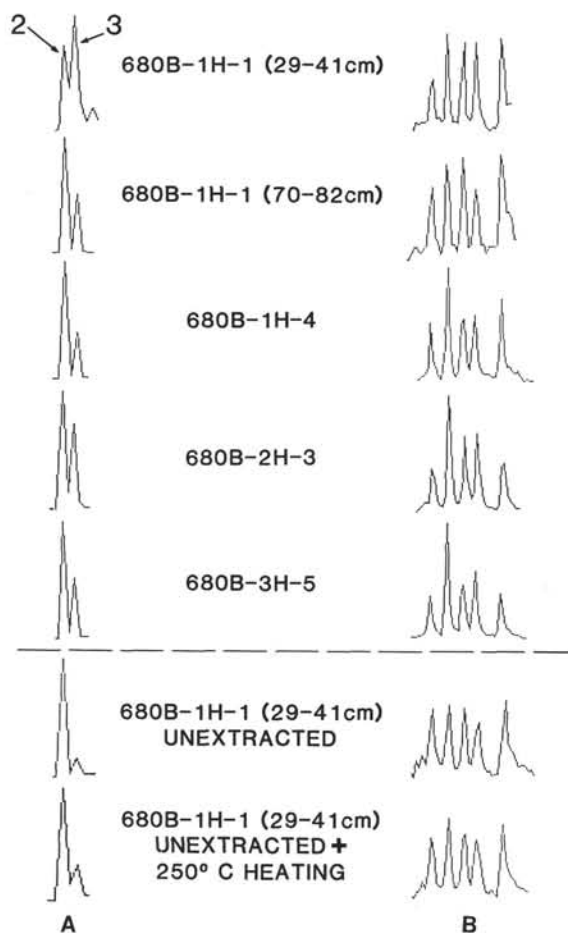


Figure 10. Mass fragmentograms of (A)  $m/z$  155 (alkylbenzenes) and (B)  $m/z$  98 (methylthiophenes) after pyrolysis-GCMS of sediments from Site 680.

## APPENDIX

### Elemental Analysis

Carbon-hydrogen-nitrogen analyses were performed using a Carlo Erba elemental analyzer. A small sample (5–10 mg) was accurately weighed into a tin capsule before combustion at 1800°C in an atmosphere of pure oxygen. Combustion products were swept through a catalytic bed of chromic oxide and silvered cobalt oxide, to give  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , and  $\text{N}_2$ /mixed nitrogen oxides. These gases were further passed through a reduction tube (650°C) containing copper pellets to reduce all nitrogen oxides to  $\text{N}_2$ . The  $\text{N}_2$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$ , and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  were separated with a 2 m Poropak Q5 gas chromatography (GC) column and quantified using a thermal conductivity detector (TCD). Pyrolyzable oxygen was determined with the same instrument, but under pyrolysis conditions. Samples of similar weight as the above were placed in silver capsules and pyrolyzed at 1050°C in a stream of helium. Any oxygen present was swept into a catalyst bed of 20% nickel coated onto carbon, where it was converted to  $\text{CO}_2$ . This gas was separated from other pyrolysis products using a molecular sieve (1 m) and quantified by TCD.

### Determination of Proteins

Proteins in recent marine sediments can be quantified after hydrolysis by characterization of individual amino acids (Degens et al., 1964; Henrichs and Farrington, 1987; Henrichs and Lee, 1984; Ittekkot et al., 1984; Klok et al., 1983; Maita et al., 1982; Morris, 1975; Mueller et al., 1986; Rosenfeld, 1979; Steinberg et al., 1987; Whelan, 1977), or by quantification using a bulk amino acid assay, such as the ninhydrin method (Rosen, 1957) used here and previously (Greenfield et al., 1970; Stevenson and Cheng, 1970). The advantage of the latter method

Table 10. Basic geochemical parameters of the bulk samples.

Core, section, interval (cm)	$C_{\text{org}}^a$	$S_1$	$S_2$	GOGI <sup>b</sup>	HI <sup>c</sup>
112-679D-1H-1, 25–35	10.3	4.7	38.9	0.28	409
1H-1, 73–83	5.9	2.9	18.2	0.24	325
1H-2, 131–141	7.1	2.8	25.3	0.21	378
1H-4, 88–98	12.7	5.5	42.7	0.21	359
2H-2, 48–58	10.9	4.2	47.6	0.18	453
5H-2, 111–123	2.9	1.6	9.2	0.23	341
9H-1, 59–71	6.2	2.5	23.5	0.19	398
17X-1, 108–116	0.6	0.6	1.7	n.d.	361
12X-1, 88–100	2.6	0.6	7.4	0.23	336
112-680B-1H-1, 29–41	11.0	5.3	40.1	0.27	386
1H-1, 70–82	9.0	5.2	34.7	0.27	413
1H-4, 26–34	5.0	2.8	16.6	0.23	361
2H-3, 29–37	6.1	3.4	24.5	0.23	395
3H-5, 129–139	8.5	4.3	34.3	0.22	413
10X-6, 88–100	1.9	1.4	5.7	0.24	300
112-681B-1H-1, 36–44	5.1	4.0	17.6	0.24	359
1H-1, 81–89	4.0	2.4	10.7	0.23	306
2H-2, 83–91	2.4	1.9	9.9	0.25	367
2H-5, 34–42	1.6	1.0	4.2	n.d.	300
5H-5, 57–69	2.6	1.7	9.8	0.25	392
10X-2, 120–131	4.0	2.3	15.2	0.23	422
13X-5, 100–112	2.9	2.2	10.3	0.24	396
112-686B-1H-1, 30–39	3.4	1.8	9.3	0.24	282
1H-1, 87–96	1.8	0.9	4.4	n.d.	293
1H-3, 79–89	4.4	2.8	12.1	0.23	288
1H-5, 80–90	1.3	0.7	3.6	n.d.	300
3H-2, 33–45	1.8	1.2	5.2	0.26	325
9X-5, 30–44	2.5	1.3	7.1	0.28	296
15X-5, 32–42	4.7	2.2	14.0	0.25	333

<sup>a</sup> Organic carbon (%dry weight).

<sup>b</sup> GOGI = gas/oil ratio from pyrolysis GC.

<sup>c</sup> HI = hydrogen index =  $S_2 / \% C_{\text{org}} \cdot 100$ .

n.d. = not determined.

is that it is much easier, quicker, and cheaper; the disadvantage is that it quantifies amino groups, not amino acids. The absolute results presented here may thus include a small proportion of compounds that are not amino acids, but which react in the assay, if any such compounds are present.

The ninhydrin test is a colorimetric method involving the formation of a purple color from the reaction of reduced ninhydrin and amine groups (Rosen, 1957). Amino acids were quantified using a calibration curve set up using known concentrations of glycine. The response variations for different amino acids are minor, and we have ignored them.

Reagents required for the ninhydrin test were as follows:

1. Stock NaCN solution (0.01 mol/L);
2. Acetate buffer (2700 g NaOAc.3H<sub>2</sub>O + 500 mL glacial acetic acid made up to 5 L with H<sub>2</sub>O);
3. Acetate/cyanide buffer (0.2 mM NaCN in acetate buffer);
4. Ninhydrin (3% wt./vol.) in methylcellulose;
5. Diluent (2-propanol/water, 1:1);
6. Stock glycine solution (10 mM);
7. Standard glycine solution (0.4 mM).

A calibration curve was established using standard glycine solutions in the range from 0.04 to 0.4 mM. Ten solutions (1 mL each) of decreasing concentrations were created by dilution of the 0.4 mM standard solution with water. A water blank was also kept. To each vial, containing 1 mL of standard or unknown solution, was added 0.5 mL of the acetate-cyanide solution and 0.5 mL of ninhydrin solution. The vials were immediately capped loosely and placed in a water bath at 100°C for 15 min. After removal from the water bath, 10 mL of the diluent was added to each of the vials, which were then shaken and allowed to cool to room temperature. After adding diluent, the vials

were centrifuged for 20 min to remove suspended particles that might affect absorbance readings. Aliquots of each solution were then transferred to a 1 cm cuvette, and the absorbance measured at 570 nm vs. the reagent blank. A calibration curve of absorbance vs. concentration was constructed using the standards. To account for any indigenous color present in the final reacted unknown solutions, a second set of 1-mL aliquots of unknowns was collected. To these solutions was added 0.5 mL of water and 0.5 mL of methylcellosolve; the resulting solutions were heated as before. Recorded absorbances were measured vs. a water blank (1.5 mL H<sub>2</sub>O, 0.5 mL methylcellosolve, and 10 mL diluent), and the net absorbance subtracted from the value for the reacted solution. Thus, the resulting absorbance was the result of the reacted amino compounds present.

#### Ammonia Correction

Any ammonia or ammonium salts present in the water extract especially, or in the hydrolysate will react in the ninhydrin test. Experiments using ammonium chloride in place of glycine have shown that the former gives about 70% of the response of the latter (K. G. Bibby, unpubl. data). The amount of ammonia present can, in theory, be quantified independently using the phenate method (Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater, 1981) and then subtracted from the ninhydrin test value. The test is colorimetric and measures the intensity of the blue color of indophenol produced by reaction of ammonia, hypochlorite, and phenol.

Reagents required for ammonia correction were:

1. Hypochlorous acid (1.0% wt./vol. NaOCl adjusted to pH 6.5–7 with HCl);
2. Manganous sulfate solution (6 mM);
3. Phenate reagent (2.5 g NaOH and 10 g phenol in 100 mL H<sub>2</sub>O);
4. Stock ammonia solution (381.9 mg anhydrous NH<sub>3</sub>Cl in 1 L H<sub>2</sub>O); 1 mL contains about 100 µg of nitrogen or 123 µg of ammonia;
5. Standard ammonia solution (dilute 5 mL of stock solution to 1 L with H<sub>2</sub>O); 1 mL contains approximately 0.5 µg of nitrogen or 0.615 µg of ammonia.

A calibration curve was constructed for standard solutions of ammonia in the concentration range of 0.05 to 0.5 µg of N/mL. Solutions (10 mL each) were made up in beakers (50 mL). One drop of manganous sulfate solution was added to each beaker; these beakers were then placed on magnetic stirrers and stirred vigorously, while 5 mL of the hypochlorous acid solution was added, followed by 0.6 mL of the phenate reagent (added dropwise). The color developed over a 10-min period and was stable for 24 hr only. A blank (10 mL distilled water plus reagents) was also prepared and used in the spectrophotometer reference cell. The absorbance of standard solutions at 360 nm was measured, and a graph plotted of absorbance vs. NH<sub>3</sub>-N concentration.

Unknown samples were treated in an identical manner. Color intensity is affected by the age of the reagents; consequently, a standard was carried throughout each batch of samples. The concentration of ammonia (in µg of NH<sub>3</sub>-N/mL) is calculated thus:

$$\text{NH}_3\text{-N}_{\text{sample}} = A_{\text{sample}} \times \text{HN}_3\text{-N} \times \text{N}_{\text{standard}} (\mu\text{g/mL})$$

where *A* is absorbance.

#### Determination of Carbohydrates

Carbohydrates were determined as free monosaccharides, after hydrolysis, using the phenol-sulfuric acid method (Dubois et al., 1956; modified by Gerchakov and Hatcher, 1972). This method has been adopted by many authors (e.g., Artem'yev, 1970; Dubois et al., 1956;

Faganeli et al., 1987; Gerchakov and Hatcher, 1972; Hitchcock, 1977; Tanoue, 1985) in preference to analysis of individual monosaccharides (e.g., by Brockmann, 1982; Cowie and Hedges, 1984a, 1984b; Hamilton and Hedges, 1988; Handa and Mizuno, 1973; Ittekkot et al., 1984; Klok et al., 1983; Liebezeit, 1986; Mopper, 1977; Rogers, 1965; Steinberg et al., 1987; Uzaki and Ishiwatari, 1983; Yamaoka, 1983). The colorimetric test relies on the formation of an orange complex on reaction of phenol, sulfuric acid, and a carbohydrate. The carbohydrate concentration is measured in terms of micrograms of glucose per milliliter. Some variation exists in responses for different monosaccharides (Dubois et al., 1956; Handa, 1966); however, as glucose is a common constituent of polysaccharides and falls in the middle of the these variations, errors in quantifying carbohydrates by this method should be minimized. Most scientists recognize that there is no superior method available for determining *total* saccharides (as opposed to quantifying individual components, which is more time and energy intensive).

Reagents required were as follows:

1. Concentrated sulfuric acid;
2. Phenol solution (50 mg/mL in H<sub>2</sub>O);
3. Glucose stock solution (0.1 mg/mL in H<sub>2</sub>O).

The calibration curve was set up using standards in the range of 5 to 100 µg glucose/mL. Aliquots of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, and 20 mL from the stock solution were transferred to 8-dram vials, and each aliquot was made up to a final volume of 20 mL. Three aliquots (2 mL each) were then taken from each vial and transferred to a series of conical flasks, labelled *A*<sub>i</sub>, and two series of vials labelled *B*<sub>i</sub> and *C*<sub>i</sub>. To the *A* series was added phenol solution (2 mL) and sulfuric acid (10 mL, with care). To the *B* series was added water (2 mL) and sulfuric acid (10 mL, carefully), and to the *C* series was added phenol (2 mL) and water (10 mL). All additions were made with rapid mixing. The solutions were then transferred to 1-cm cuvettes, and the absorbance read at 485 nm. Absorbances of the *A* series were measured vs. those of the *B* series. Phenol absorbance was corrected by measuring the absorbance of the *C* series vs. a blank containing water (12 mL) and phenol (2 mL). A standard curve of corrected absorbance (*A* vs. *B*–*C*) vs. glucose concentration can then be drawn. Unknown samples were treated identically to the standards.

#### Quantification of Lipids

Lipids are *defined* as organic solvent-soluble. The organic matter thus extracted is commonly referred to as "free lipid." In addition, young sediments contain a "bound lipid" fraction that becomes solvent-soluble after saponification (base hydrolysis). Free and bound lipids were quantified initially by weight; these results were checked using the Iatroscan method. The Iatroscan TLC/FID Mark III instrument (Iatron Laboratories) was operated under standard conditions for hydrocarbon analysis, using a rod scan speed of 2 (30–35 s running time), and air and hydrogen flow to the FID of 2000 and 180 mL/min, respectively. Data were collected with a VG Multichrom chromatography data-handling system. Standard solutions of palmitic acid (Koch Light Laboratories Ltd., purist grade) were created in chloroform (AR grade) to cover the concentration range of 0.6 to 22.7 µg/mL. Unknown samples were also dissolved in chloroform to provide solutions in the range of 0.9 to 2.5 µg/mL (by weight). Aliquots of 1 µL palmitic acid standards and lipid samples were spotted onto the Chromarods (SIII). These rods were dried at 50°C in a nitrogen atmosphere for 5 min and then scanned in the instrument. Each sample was analyzed five times. Statistically, there was no difference in any case between the values obtained by weighing and those values from the Iatroscan method. In consequence, the results reported here are those obtained by weighing.