14. DATA REPORT: ¹²⁹I/I RATIOS AND HALOGEN CONCENTRATIONS IN PORE WATER OF HYDRATE RIDGE AND THEIR RELEVANCE FOR THE ORIGIN OF GAS HYDRATES: A PROGRESS REPORT¹

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ABSTRACT

We report iodine and bromine concentrations in a total of 256 pore water samples collected from all nine sites of Ocean Drilling Program Leg 204, Hydrate Ridge. In a subset of these samples, we also determined iodine ages in the fluids using the cosmogenic isotope ¹²⁹I ($T_{1/2}$ = 15.7 Ma). The presence of this cosmogenic isotope, combined with the strong association of iodine with methane, allows the identification of the organic source material responsible for iodine and methane in gas hydrates. In all cores, iodine concentrations were found to increase strongly with depth from values close to that of seawater (0.0004 mM) to concentrations >0.5 mM. Several of the cores taken from the northwest flank of the southern summit show a pronounced maximum in iodine concentrations at depths between 100 and 150 meters below seafloor in the layer just above the bottom-simulating reflector. This maximum is especially visible at Site 1245, where concentrations reach values as high as 2.3 mM, but maxima are absent in the cores taken from the slope basin sites (Sites 1251 and 1252). Bromine concentrations follow similar trends, but enrichment factors for Br are only 4-8 times that of seawater (i.e., considerably lower than those for iodine).

Iodine concentrations are sufficient to allow isotope determinations by accelerator mass spectrometry in individual pore water samples collected onboard (~5 mL). We report ¹²⁹I/I ratios in a few samples from

¹Fehn, U., Lu, Z., and Tomaru, H., 2006. Data report: 129I/I ratios and halogen concentrations in pore water of Hydrate Ridge and their relevance for the origin of gas hydrates: a progress report. In Tréhu, A.M., Bohrmann, G., Torres, M.E., and Colwell, F.S. (Eds.), Proc. ODP, Sci. Results, 204, 1–25 [Online]. Available from World Wide Web: <http:// www-odp.tamu.edu/publications/ 204_SR/VOLUME/CHAPTERS/ 107.PDF>. [Cited YYYY-MM-DD] ²Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Rochester, Rochester NY 14627, USA. Correspondence author: fehn@earth.rochester.edu

Initial receipt: 26 January 2005 Acceptance: 28 June 2005 Web publication: 16 January 2006 Ms 204SR-107

each core and a more complete profile for one flank site (Site 1245). All ¹²⁹I/I ratios are below the marine input ratio ($R_i = 1500 \times 10^{-15}$). The lowest values found at most sites are between 150 and 250 × 10⁻¹⁵, which correspond to minimum ages between 40 and 55 Ma, respectively. These ages rule out derivation of most of the iodine (and, by association, of methane) from the sediments hosting the gas hydrates or from currently subducting sediments. The iodine maximum at Site 1245 is accompanied by an increase in ¹²⁹I/I ratios, suggesting the presence of an additional source with an age younger than 10 Ma; there is indication that younger sources also contribute at other sites, but data coverage is not yet sufficient to allow a definitive identification of sources there. Likely sources for the older component are formations of early Eocene age close to the backstop in the overriding wedge, whereas the younger sources might be found in recent sediments underlying the current locations of the gas hydrates.

INTRODUCTION

Hydrate Ridge is the location of unusually high concentrations of gas hydrates and was the site of Ocean Drilling Program (ODP) Leg 204 in the summer of 2002. It is located on the Oregon (USA) continental margin and is part of the accretionary complex formed by the subduction of the Juan de Fuca plate under the North American plate. The large concentrations of gas hydrates in this area make derivation of methane from local sources rather unlikely and raises questions about the potential source formations and pathways for the hydrocarbons and associated water. Because of the strong affiliation of iodine with organic material, together with the presence of a cosmogenic isotope, the iodine isotopic system is a powerful tool to determine source formations responsible for the release of hydrocarbons. We present here results of iodine and bromine determinations in a large set of pore water samples from all cores taken during Leg 204, as well as first results for ¹²⁹I/I ratios in a subset of these samples.

THE IODINE SYSTEM

As a strongly biophilic element, iodine is commonly found heavily enriched in fluids associated with hydrocarbons, such as oil field brines (Moran et al., 1995) or coal-bed methane reservoirs (Snyder et al., 2003). Concentrations are particularly high in pore water associated with gas hydrates, where iodine is enriched typically by factors of 500 or more compared to seawater (Martin et al., 1993; Egeberg and Dickens, 1999; Fehn et al., 2003). The strong association between iodine and methane is not restricted to gas hydrate sites but is also observed in other methane-rich fluids in forearc settings (Muramatsu et al., 2001) or coal-bed methane reservoirs (Snyder et al., 2003). This association strongly suggests that these two compounds are derived from the same organic source and that the iodine system can be used to identify the formations responsible for the release of these two compounds. Accordingly, the iodine isotopic system has been used recently for the determination of source formations of hydrocarbons in a variety of settings, including investigations of gas hydrate occurrences at Blake Ridge (Fehn et al., 2000), Nankai Trough (Fehn et al., 2003), and the Peru margin (Fehn et al., in press).

Iodine has one stable isotope, ¹²⁷I, and one long-lived radioisotope, ¹²⁹I. ¹²⁹I is a member of a group commonly called cosmogenic isotopes because they are produced mostly or partially by the interaction of cosmic rays with atoms of the atmosphere. It has the longest half-life $(T_{1/2})$ = 15.7 Ma) of the radioisotopes in this group and is produced by the spallation of Xe isotopes in the atmosphere and by spontaneous fission of ²³⁸U in the crust. Both of these processes contribute similar amounts of natural ¹²⁹I to surface reservoirs (Fabryka-Martin et al., 1985). Iodine moves quickly through most surface reservoirs, and natural iodine is isotopically homogeneous at the surface of the Earth, including oceans, shallow sediments, and the biosphere. The exchange between marine and terrigenous sources is sufficiently rapid to have an isotopically well mixed signal in surface reservoirs at the resolution available for natural ¹²⁹I concentrations. Preanthropogenic ¹²⁹I/I ratios therefore provide identical age dependence for marine and terrigenous sources, although terrigenous sources typically have lower iodine concentrations. Anthropogenic ¹²⁹I is a third component present in surface reservoirs and is related to releases from weapons tests and reprocessing plants. The widespread occurrence of anthropogenic ¹²⁹I in rivers and lakes throughout the world is evidence for the high mobility of this element on a global scale (Santschi and Schwehr, 2004; Snyder and Fehn, 2004). Although the current isotopic equilibrium in surface reservoirs has been substantially disturbed because of this contribution (e.g. Schink et al., 1995; Moran et al., 1999; Oktay et al., 2001), the influence of anthropogenic ¹²⁹I is mostly restricted to the zone of bioturbation (Fehn et al., 1986; Moran et al., 1998), with minor penetration possible beyond that zone as observed in the Gulf of Mexico (Oktay et al., 2000).

Because iodine has only one stable isotope, ¹²⁷I, its isotopic composition is reported as ¹²⁹I/I. The long residence time (300,000 yr) of iodine in the oceans (Broecker and Peng, 1982) provides a homogeneous isotopic signal in the marine system. Recent sediments below the zone of bioturbation (i.e., without the presence of anthropogenic I) have ¹²⁹I/I ratios of $R_i = (1500 \pm 150) \times 10^{-15}$ (Fehn et al., 1986; Moran et al., 1998). Ratios supporting this value were also found in determinations of preanthropogenic seawater and algae (e.g., Schink et al., 1995; Cooper et al., 1998; Y. Muramatsu, unpubl. data, 2002). This ratio, which is used as starting value for ¹²⁹I-based age calculations, is two orders of magnitude above the detection limit of accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS), the method of choice for the detection of cosmogenic radioisotopes. The half-life of ¹²⁹I, together with the observed input ratios and the detection limit for 129 I/I (2 × 10⁻¹⁴) (Sharma et al., 2000), allows applications of this dating method within a range of ~80 m.y. The calculation of iodine ages t_{min} from a measured ratio R_m uses the following equation, with $\lambda_{129} = 4.41 \times 10^{-8}$ /yr being the decay constant of ¹²⁹I:

$$t_{\min} = \ln (R_{\rm m}/R_{\rm i})/(-\lambda_{129}).$$
 (1)

Depending on the geologic situation, a correction for the contribution of fissiogenic ¹²⁹I has to be taken into account. The addition of fissiogenic ¹²⁹I is a function of age and uranium concentration of the host formation and the probability of transport from host formation into the fluids. Although the addition of fissiogenic ¹²⁹I presents an uncertainty for the ages calculated, the potential correction in the age range found here is probably <5 m.y. in the oldest samples found. Because the presence of either fissiogenic or anthropogenic ¹²⁹I would have raised the measured ratio, ages calculated from equation 1 are minimum ages. The presence of anthropogenic ¹²⁹I typically increases the ratio beyond the preanthropogenic input value and is an unlikely presence in marine sediments beyond the layer of bioturbation (Fehn et al., 1986; Moran et al., 1998), but it can play a role in samples taken from open systems on land.

Concentrations of iodine in surface fluids are generally low, 0.4 µM (55 ppb) in seawater (Geochemical Reference Model, earthref.org/ GERM) and <0.02 µM in freshwater (e.g., Moran et al., 1999), depending in part on the presence of organo-iodine compounds (Schwehr and Santschi, 2004). Associated with organic material, iodine can be considerably enriched: typical concentrations in oil field brines are ~80 µM (e.g. Moran et al., 1995), and concentrations as high as 2 mM were found in pore water associated with gas hydrates (Egeberg and Dickens, 1999) and in methane-rich cold seeps of forearc areas (Muramatsu et al., 2001). Molecular diffusion coefficients depend on the speciation of iodine and vary between 1.08×10^{-5} cm²/s for iodate and 2.05×10^{-5} cm²/ s for iodide, bracketing the value for methane $(1.49 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s})$, but are much lower for organo-iodine compounds (all values for 25°C are from Linde, 2004). Because the predominant iodine species in deep, methane-rich fluids is iodide (Muramatsu et al., 2001), the similarity of diffusion coefficients suggests that methane and iodine travel together in fluids. This statement applies as long as methane does not convert into the gas phase, a situation that might occur in and below the gas hydrate stability zone (Torres et al., 2004).

The investigation of iodine concentrations and isotope ratios is accompanied by a study of bromine and chloride concentrations. Of the three halogens investigated here, iodine has the strongest biophilic character, chlorine has little association with organic material, and the association of bromine with organic matter falls in between those two characteristics. Concentrations of chlorine in pore water associated with gas hydrates typically are at or somewhat below that of seawater, often accompanied by freshening in the layer just above the bottomsimulating reflector (BSR). This observation is commonly related to the release of water due to the dissolution of gas hydrate crystals and is used for the quantification of the amount of gas hydrates at a given location (e.g., Ussler and Paull, 2001; Tomaru et al., 2004). In several gas hydrate locations, chlorine concentrations decrease consistently with depth, suggesting an influx of deep waters with Cl concentrations below that of seawater (Ussler and Paull, 2001; Hesse, 2003). Chlorine has also a cosmogenic isotope (³⁶Cl; $T_{1/2}$ = 0.3 Ma), but because of the high concentration of "dead" Cl in seawater the ratio, ³⁶Cl/Cl is below the detection limit of AMS. Chlorine also has two stable isotopes, ³⁵Cl and ³⁷Cl, and their ratio has recently been used for the detection of sources of fluids in gas hydrate settings (e.g., Hesse, 2003). Studies of this kind have not been carried out for Hydrate Ridge so far.

Bromine concentrations follow a pattern similar to that of iodine but with considerably lower enrichment factors (e.g., Egeberg and Dickens, 1999). Element ratios are useful for the determination of the origin of fluids (e.g., Frape et al., 2004) and of the organic source material (Muramatsu et al., 2001), and they therefore complement the observations based on concentrations or isotope ratios.

GEOLOGIC SETTING

Hydrate Ridge is part of the Cascadia accretionary complex, which is formed by the oblique subduction of the Juan de Fuca plate beneath the North America plate (Fig. F1A). The current subduction rate is ~4.5 cm/ yr (Tréhu, Bohrmann, Rack, Torres, et al., 2003), with an age of <10 Ma identified for the Juan de Fuca slab (Jarrard, 1986). A deformation front is observed ~100 km west of the coast and is considered the seaward edge of the Cascadia subduction zone. Landward to the deformation front is the subduction complex, which is composed of highly deformed marine sediments of Pliocene to Miocene age (Snavely and Wells, 1996). The Siletz terrane, a basaltic formation of Paleocene to early Eocene age, forms the backstop to the accretionary complex and the basement to much of the Cascadia forearc. The boundary between the Siletz terrane and the accretionary complex is obscured by highvelocity rocks that appear in seismic surveys in the lower continental crust beneath the coastline and extend to the top of the descending slab ~20 km offshore (Parsons et al., 1998). The origin of this highvelocity body is unknown. Snavely (1987) mapped this contact and suggested that the western boundary of the Siletz terrane is an Eoceneage strike-slip fault 30 km west of the coastline, called the Fulmar fault, which coincides with the location of the edge of the high-velocity body. The Fulmar fault is also thought to be the western boundary of the marginal rift basin that is filled by a sequence of siltstone, turbidite sandstone, and conglomerate of early Eocene age. The bottom of the basin is mostly Paleocene to lower Eocene basalt. The Siletz volcanic highs and overlying marine sedimentary rocks were deformed by the subduction of the Kula-Farallon plate at ~52 Ma (Snavely and Wells, 1996). The complicated tectonic and depositional history of the Cascadia margin is reflected in numerous faults, mostly dipping from west to east (Snavely, 1987; Snavely and Wells, 1996). Some prominent faults dipping in the opposite direction have been identified in the western flank region of Hydrate Ridge, apparently related to the most recent tectonic events in this area (Johnson et al., 2003; Chevallier et al., this volume). Figure F1B is a highly simplified cross section through the Cascadia margin, illustrating schematically the age relations in this region (after Snavely, 1987; Snavely and Wells, 1996).

Hydrate Ridge itself is 25 km long and 15 km wide, trending roughly north-south, and is subdivided into the northern and southern summits. Water depths along the ridge are ~1000 m with the summits reaching depths of 600 and 800 m, respectively. The ridge is covered by sandy and silty marine sediments of Quaternary age. Gas hydrates are ubiquitous throughout the entire ridge, indicated by nearly continuous BSRs and the presence of massive hydrate deposits at the top of the southern summit (Tréhu et al., 1999; Tréhu, Bohrmann, Rack, Torres, et al., 2003). U-Th data of seafloor carbonates suggest that gas hydrates on the southern summit are somewhat younger than those on the northern summit (Teichert et al., 2003). The ridge has been the site of numerous investigations, the latest of which was Leg 204 (Tréhu, Bohrmann, Rack, Torres, et al., 2003), focusing on the southern summit. The nine drill sites (Fig. F2) reached depths between 150 and 440 meters below seafloor (mbsf). We report here results for all nine sites, which we have subdivided for further discussion into flank sites (1244-1248), summit sites (1249-1250), and slope basin sites (1251-1252). Based on the iodine results, we group Site 1244 with the flank sites, deviating slightly

F1. Tectonic setting and west–east cross section, p. 16.



F2. Distribution of drill sites, p. 17.



from the grouping suggested in Tréhu, Bohrmann, Rack, Torres, et al. (2003), where it is listed among the slope basin sites.

SAMPLES AND METHODS

We received a total of ~260 pore water samples of 5-10 mL each sealed in glass containers from all sites drilled during Leg 204. Pore water was extracted from whole-round cores of 10–25 cm length, usually sampled soon after core recovery. These sediment cores were skinned off to remove potential seawater contamination during drilling and were squeezed with Manheim-type squeezers following the ODP sampling protocol for the extaction of pore water (Tréhu, Bohrmann, Rack, Torres, et al., 2003). Dissolved chloride concentration was measured by triplicate titration with silver nitrate (AgNO₃) on board ship with precisions better than 0.4%; the values were corrected for the presence of the other halogens assuming seawater ratios (Torres et al., 2004). Total iodine and bromine concentrations were measured by inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometry, using the Thermal X7 instrument at the University of Rochester (New York, USA). We followed established methods (Muramatsu and Wedepohl, 1998), except for replacing nitric acid with a tertiary amine solution (Spectrasol CFA-C), which was added to the solution matrix to prevent precipitation in the tubing. A washout time of 2 min was found to be sufficient to allow the signal to return to background levels. Accuracies for concentration values of iodine and bromine are better than 1% and are not reported individually.

A major goal of this investigation is the determination of ¹²⁹I/I ratios in the pore water samples. So far, ¹²⁹I/I ratios have been measured on a subset of 41 samples selected from all 9 sites. Iodine was extracted and precipitated as AgI at the Rochester Cosmogenic Isotope Laboratory (New York, USA), using methods outlined in Fehn et al. (1992). The relatively high iodine concentrations in the samples allowed preparation of AMS targets from individual pore water samples. The actual AMS determinations were carried out at PrimeLab, Purdue University (Indiana, USA), again following established routines (Sharma et al., 2000). Individual accuracies of the AMS determinations (1 σ) are listed together with the ratios. The actual accuracy of a determination reflects the stability of the AMS system as well as the amount of sample material provided. About 1 mg of AgI is sought for an actual AMS determination, but ratios have been determined with amounts as low as 0.1 mg of AgI, although with diminished accuracy.

RESULTS

Halogen Concentrations

Iodine and bromine concentrations were determined at all nine drill sites; results are listed in Table **T1**, together with the chloride results from the shipboard measurements (Tréhu, Bohrmann, Rack, Torres, et al., 2003). Except for samples very close to the seafloor, concentrations for iodine fall into a range between 0.5 and 2.3 mM, constituting enrichments by factors up to 5000 compared to seawater (0.0004 mM) (Geochemical Reference Model, earthref.org/GERM). A strong increase in iodine concentrations with depth is visible in all profiles at Hydrate Ridge (Fig. F3). Although some sites reach rather constant values

T1. Concentrations of iodine, bromine, and chlorine, p. 23.

F3. Depth profiles for iodide, bromide, and chloride, p. 18.



quickly with depth, several of the sites display maxima in iodine concentrations at depths between 100 and 150 mbsf (i.e., in the layer above the BSR). This maximum is clearly visible at the flank sites, most pronounced at Site 1245, and is probably also present at the summit sites, although the drilling depths there are not sufficient to make a definitive statement. Together with generally lower concentrations, the two sites in the slope basin do not have maxima comparable to those at the flank sites.

Bromine concentrations follow patterns similar to that of iodine concentrations, with concentrations falling into a range only slightly higher than that of iodine. Because the bromine concentration in seawater (0.8 mM) (Geochemical Reference Model, earthref.org/GERM) is considerably higher than that of iodine, enrichment factors are much lower for Br than for I. Maxima in bromine concentrations are also present at depths just above the BSR but are not as strongly pronounced as in iodine. Chlorine concentrations follow a very different pattern from that of the other two halogens. For most of the sections, Cl- concentrations are close to that of seawater (550 mM), with some scatter in the sections just above the BSR. Several of the cores display a distinct decrease in Cl⁻ concentrations, particularly discernable at the slope basin sites. At a few summit sites, Cl⁻ concentrations are greatly enhanced very close to the sediment/seawater interface, reaching values >1000 mM at Site 1249. No comparable increase is observed for iodine or bromine concentrations in this depth range, but it is worth mentioning that, because of the goals of our investigation, coverage of this depth range was very limited in our sample set.

The general observations for halogen concentrations are in good agreement with those found for other gas hydrate locations, such as investigations at the Peru margin (Martin et al., 1993), Blake Ridge (Egeberg and Dickens, 1999), or Nankai Trough (Fehn et al., 2003). At all of these locations, very strong enrichment of iodine is observed together with parallel enrichment of bromine. Whereas all of these sites have iodine concentrations of 0.2 mM or higher (i.e., are enriched by factors of 500 or more compared to seawater), pore water in sediments without gas hydrates have iodine concentrations of ~0.001 mM (Martin et al., 1993). Although the general enrichment in iodine at Hydrate Ridge is similar to other gas hydrate sites, the specific characteristics differ both in degree of enrichment and shape of depth profiles from the other sites. The maximum concentration measured at Site 1245 (2.3 mM) is the highest iodine concentration found at gas hydrate sites so far. Although concentrations at the other Leg 204 sites are somewhat lower, they still are among the highest values observed at gas hydrate locations. Maxima in iodine concentrations comparable to those found at the flank sites have, so far, not been observed at sites other than Hydrate Ridge. As at other gas hydrate sites, chlorine concentrations show very different behavior from that of the other two elements; specifically, concentrations of Cl- are at or below that of seawater and show considerable scatter in the layers above the BSR.

Although the general characteristics of halogens at Hydrate Ridge sites are within the range of observations found at other gas hydrate sites, there are important differences among the sites from Leg 204, specifically between the flank sites and the slope basin sites. The degree of enrichment in iodine, as well as the presence of maxima at the flank sites (and perhaps at the summit sites), is different from the observations for the slope basin sites. Profiles at the slope basin sites and Site 1244 of the flank sites show a consistent decrease in Cl- concentrations

with depth, in considerable contrast to the other sites on the flank and summit. Because a decrease of this type might be related to the influx of deep fluids, as suggested for other gas hydrate sites (e.g., Hesse, 2003), this observation might suggest different hydrologic regimes for separate parts of Hydrate Ridge.

As is typical for gas hydrate locations, I/Br ratios change rapidly from seawater values (I/Br = 0.0005) to values between 0.3 and 0.5 but remain quite constant for the sections where methane is present, demonstrating the parallel behavior of these two halogens. In contrast to most other hydrate sites, in the sections associated with iodine concentration maxima, iodine and bromine do not follow similar enrichment paths, resulting in strong increases in the I/Br ratios to values up to 0.8 at Site 1245 just above the BSR. A comparison between I/Br ratios at the site with the most pronounced maximum (Site 1245) to that with the least developed one (Site 1251) illustrates this observation (Fig. F4).

Iodine Isotope Ratios

A major goal of this investigation was the determination of ¹²⁹I/I ratios in the pore water. Because of the high concentrations in most of the samples, we were able to make AMS measurements on individual samples for this study. Although work on the halogen concentrations in pore water is completed, work on the iodine isotope ratios is still ongoing. We report here results for an initial set of samples, tabulated in Table **T2**; the study will be continued and further results will be reported in a separate paper. So far, we have measured 41 samples, with >1 sample from all sites except Site 1249. Although we have results for all of the sites, we have a somewhat complete profile only from Site 1245 at this time.

All of the ratios are below the marine input ratio $(R_i = [1500 \pm 150] \times$ 10⁻¹⁵) (Moran et al., 1998), demonstrating the absence of contamination from anthropogenic sources (Fig. F5). The highest ratio ($R_m = 760 \times$ 10⁻¹⁵; $t_{min} = 15$ Ma) was found for a shallow sample from Site 1244, but the majority of samples have ratios between 150 and 250×10^{-15} . Using equation 1, this range corresponds to minimum ages between 40 and 52 Ma for iodine in the pore water. For three sites (Sites 1244, 1245, and 1251), a sufficient number of samples was measured to construct depth profiles (Fig. F6). Error margins for individual samples are generally <20%, with some being as high as 78%. Although the error margins are somewhat larger than obtained for similar investigations (Fehn et al., 2000, 2003), the overall trends in these profiles are nevertheless clearly visible. In general, a decrease in ratios with depth is observed for the individual cores, although data coverage is too limited so far to indicate whether this decrease is monotonous or not. There are several samples at depths beyond 100 mbsf that have ratios higher than $R_{\rm m} = 400 \times 10^{-15}$ $(t_{min} = 30 \text{ Ma})$. The most complete depth profile available so far is for Site 1245. It indicates that there is at least one clearly defined maximum in the ¹²⁹I/I ratios, which reaches a value of $R_{\rm m} = 650 \times 10^{-15}$ at a depth of 120 mbsf. The presence of this maximum is supported by the systematic increase of values above and below this depth. Although several of the other cores also show the presence of higher ¹²⁹I/I values, because of the limited data coverage it is too early to decide whether these higher values indicate systematic maxima as well.

F4. Depth distribution of I/Br (mM/mM) ratios, p. 19.



T2. Iodine isotopic compositions and minimum ages, p. 25.

F5. Summary plot of ¹²⁹I/I ratios, p. 20.

F6. Depth profiles of ¹²⁹I/I ratios, p. 21.



DISCUSSION

The pore fluids at Hydrate Ridge show the strongest enrichment in iodine observed at any gas hydrate site, consistent with the unusually high concentration of gas hydrates there. The biophilic behavior of iodine and the close association between iodine and methane observed here and at other gas hydrate areas suggest that methane and iodine are derived from the same organic material and travel together in aqueous fluids until they reach areas close to the seafloor (e.g., Fehn et al., in press). The ages found for the iodine in the pore water can thus be used to identify formations responsible for the release of the methane found in the gas hydrate.

All iodine ages found in pore water at Hydrate Ridge are older than 15 Ma. Because this age is considerably older than the ages of the shallow sediments hosting the gas hydrates, the pore water must contain iodine that was not locally derived. The majority of the samples have ratios between 150 and 250×10^{-15} , corresponding to ages between 40 and 52 Ma. These ages are minimum values because the calculation does not take into account the potential addition of fissiogenic ¹²⁹I, which is a function mainly of age and uranium concentration in the host formation. A correction for the presence of this component in the age range observed here and with uranium concentrations typical for marine sediments would increase the ages by ~5 m.y. (Fehn et al., 2000), shifting the proposed ages for the old component in the pore fluids into a range between 45 and 57 Ma. This age range is beyond the ages of the currently subducting sediments (<10 Ma) and the formations underlying Hydrate Ridge and suggests that fluids contributing to the current pore water come from formations of early Eocene age or older in the overriding wedge. Profiles presented by Snavely (1987) suggest the presence of formations with ages of early Eocene just to the west of the Siletz terrane, the crystalline backstop in the area. Because the closest formations of this age are found at distances of 40 km or more, fluids must have traveled considerable distances through the overriding wedge in order to reach their present location. Fluid flow models of active margins suggest that fluids can move along the décollement or fractures, with actual velocities depending strongly on the permeability and the mode of flow (e.g., Saffer and Bekins, 1998, 1999). Rates between 0.0007 and 0.043 m/yr were calculated for steady-state flow in subduction zones, reaching values up to 54 m/yr for transient periods (Saffer and Bekins, 1998). These rates suggest that transport of fluids from the Eocene formations in the accretionary complex to the Hydrate Ridge is possible within time frames of the age of the current subduction configuration. The new suggestion here is that the origin of iodine and methane is not from the subducting sediments but from the overriding wedge. Although it seems likely that the waters are also derived from this source, it is conceivable that waters expelled from the subducting sediments have come into contact with formations of Eocene age, where they picked up iodine and methane. The ubiquitous presence of fractures in the overriding wedge suggested by seismologic surveys (Snavely, 1987; Snavely and Wells, 1996) supports the suggestion that fluid flow can occur over great distances in this area, which might also involve transport from the suggested source region into the décollement, a preferred conduit for fluids. Transport of hydrocarbons over distances of this magnitude is common in oil reservoirs (e.g., Moran et al., 1995) and sedimentary basins (e.g., Person et al., 1996). Im-

proved information on age distribution and the presence of deep fractures would be needed in order to be more specific on the flow paths taken by these fluids and the role played by the décollement in this transport model.

The presence of a distinct maximum in iodine concentrations in the depth profile for Site 1245 (and perhaps at some other sites) is unique as far as gas hydrate sites and warrants further discussion. The younger ages coincide with the maximum in iodine concentrations, although the widths of the two maxima are somewhat different. If ratios are plotted vs. the reciprocal of concentration (Fig. F7), two trends are visible in the data set. Trend A indicates dilution of a component with high concentrations of iodine and low 129I/I ratios with fluids of low concentration and high ¹²⁹I/I ratios. If this trend is extrapolated to the surface, mixing is indicated between an old, iodine-rich source ($C_1 = 2.2 \text{ mM}$; R_1 = 150×10^{-15}) with waters in shallow sediments ($C_2 = 0.5$ mM; $R_2 = 1500$ \times 10⁻¹⁵). The concentration found for the Holocene component in this mixing pattern is within the range observed for fluids in shallow sediments (e.g., Martin et al., 1993; Egeberg and Dickens, 1999) and thus represents the contribution from recently deposited marine sediments. Although the "old" end-member used for this calculation is perhaps also affected by the presence of "young" material, the iodine concentration of the fluids with young material are relatively low so that their influence on the old end-member is negligible at the level of precision here. Trends similar to line A are observed also at other gas hydrate sites, as, for example, at Site 1230 (ODP Leg 201, Peru margin) (Fehn et al., in press).

Trend B describes a line almost parallel to the y-axis, indicating mixing between two fluids with different iodine ages but quite similar iodine concentrations. Whereas the minimum age for the older source is close to that of trend A, the end point in the mixing plot for line B is at a sample with a ratio of 650×10^{-15} . The essentially vertical shape of the mixing line between the two end-members suggests that the mixing ratio here is close to 1:1 (Faure and Mensing, 2005). Assuming concentrations of 2.0 mM and equal contributions between the old and young member, we find a ratio of 1140×10^{-15} (corresponding to 6.2 Ma) for the young end-member. The actual age for the latter component is probably somewhat younger, however, because we cannot be sure that we found the exact maximum in the distribution of isotope ratios. Likely sources for the "young" material are the formations of Pliocene age underlying Hydrate Ridge (see Fig. F1B), although derivation from currently subducting sediments cannot be ruled out either.

I/Br ratios may also be used to indicate the presence of more than one source at several of the sites, specifically at the flank sites. A comparison to other gas hydrate sites (Egeberg and Dickens, 1999; Fehn et al., 2003) indicates that this ratio is always considerably elevated compared to seawater but is site specific, reaching quite constant values within a given site at depths beyond the influence of recent seawater. These ratios probably reflect the characteristics of the organic sources responsible for the addition of iodine and bromine to pore water. In the case of Hydrate Ridge, maxima in the depth distribution of iodine concentrations are accompanied by simultaneous maxima in I/Br ratios. This observation is in good agreement with the interpretation of ¹²⁹I/I results, indicating that the young high-I source also has higher I/Br ratios than the old high-I source. **F7.** Mixing plot, Site 1245, p. 22.



The results of the iodine isotopes suggest that a major part of the iodine and methane in the pore water is not derived from local sources but from older formations at considerable distance from Hydrate Ridge. Indirect evidence for large-scale transport comes also from the freshening with depth of pore water observed at several sites, most clearly at the slope basin sites, which has been interpreted at sites such as the Nankai Trough as evidence for the addition of deep fluids (Kastner et al., 1993). A concurrent study of strontium isotopes at Hydrate Ridge might also show the presence of waters of Eocene age in several of the cores, most clearly discernable at the slope basin sites (R. Matsumoto, pers. comm., 2004), although these results have also been interpreted as the result of the interaction of waters with the basement (Torres et al., 2004; Teichert et al., in press).

CONCLUSIONS

Hydrate Ridge is the site of unusually high concentrations of gas hydrates. Pore water at Leg 204 sites shows the enrichment in iodine and bromine typical for gas hydrate sites, with the enrichment being somewhat higher than at other locations. Several of the cores display distinct maxima in iodine concentrations at the depths just above the BSR, a feature not observed in other gas hydrate sites. These maxima are most pronounced at the flank sites (e.g., Site 1245), but are absent from the slope basin sites (e.g., Site 1251). An initial set of ¹²⁹I/I ratios indicates the presence of iodine in all cores derived from organic sources with ages of ~50 Ma. The maxima found at several cores contain material derived from sources younger than 10 Ma.

The ages found here suggest that contributions from sources within the sediments hosting the gas hydrates constitute only a minor part of iodine and, by association, methane in Hydrate Ridge. A large fraction of the iodine is derived from sources with early Eocene ages. Potential source formations of this age are to be found in marine sediments of Eocene age located 40 km to the east. Pliocene formations underlying Hydrate Ridge also contribute, especially at the flank sites, and are probably responsible for the local maxima in iodine concentrations observed just above the BSR. Similar to results from other gas hydrate sites, the results indicate large-scale fluid transport and derivation of a major fraction of iodine and methane from sediments of Eocene age. The transport is probably driven by compaction and/or seismic pumping and is facilitated by the presence of multiple fractures in the Cascadia margin. Further iodine isotope data are needed in order to evaluate the causes of variations observed in iodine concentrations within the gas hydrate field of Hydrate Ridge and to relate them to potential differences in the hydrologic characteristics within the area.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are grateful to A. Tréhu and G. Bohrmann for the organization of Leg 204, to the shipboard party for providing the samples from this cruise, and to E. Gracia and the other organizers for the splendid postcruise conference in Barcelona. We thank G. Snyder for help during the sample preparation and Y. Muramatsu and R. Matsumoto for making unpublished data available. We appreciate the work by D. Elmore, M. Caffee, and colleagues on the ¹²⁹I determinations at PrimeLab, Purdue

University (West Lafayette, Indiana, USA). Thoughtful reviews by P. Santschi, M. Torres, and an anonymous reviewer are gratefully acknowledged. This research used samples and data provided by the Ocean Drilling Program (ODP). ODP is sponsored by the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) and participating countries under management of Joint Oceanographic Institutions (JOI), Inc. Funding for this research was provided by JOI-ODP F001703.

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Figure F1. A. Tectonic setting of the Cascadia margin and the location of Hydrate Ridge (Leg 204). **B.** Simplified west–east cross section through the Cascadia margin at 44°50′, ~20 km north of Hydrate Ridge (after Snavely, 1987; Snavely and Wells, 1996).



Figure F2. Distribution of drill sites during Leg 204. The sites are subdivided into flank (circles), summit (stars), and slope basin (diamonds).



Figure F3. Depth profiles for concentrations of iodide, bromide, and chloride in Leg 204 sites. Broken lines = the depths of bottom simulating reflectors (BSRs). BSRs for Sites 1244 and 1246 are 10 and 20 m, respectively, above that of Site 1245; BSR for Site 1252 is 30 m above that of Site 1251.



Figure F4. Depth distribution of I/Br (mM/mM) ratios in Sites 1245 and 1251. Whereas the profile for the slope basin Site 1251 reaches constant values with depth, a pronounced maximum in I/Br ratios is visible at flank Site 1245 just above the bottom simulating reflector (BSR).



Figure F5. Summary plot of ¹²⁹I/I ratios in pore water from Leg 204. Most results fall into the Eocene age range, indicated by the vertical lines.



Figure F6. Depth profiles of ¹²⁹I/I ratios for Sites 1244, 1245, and 1251. The maximum in ¹²⁹I/I ratios observed in Site 1245 is just above the bottom simulating reflector (BSR), coinciding with the maximum in iodine concentrations at that site.



Figure F7. Mixing plot for Site 1245. Ages calculated using equation 1 are indicated on the right-hand axis. See text for discussion of the two trend lines identified in this diagram.



Table T1. Concentrations of iodine, bromine, and chlorine in pore water from Hydrate Ridge (ODP Leg 204). (See table note. Continued on next page.)

	Depth	. 1	Br	CI
e, core	(mbst)	(mM)	(mM)	(mM)
4B-1H	1.40	0.0038	0.8135	552
4C-1H	1.40	0.0039	1.0458	NA
44C-1H	2.90	0.0171	0.8385	550
44B-3H	23.50	0.6425	1.3141	557
244B-4H	28.63	0.7261	1.6058	555
44B-5H	38.46	1.0000	1.5770	552
44C-5H	41.35	1.0709	1.6020	554
244B-5H	42.90	NA	NA	550
244B-6H	46 78	1 1496	1 7021	546
244B-6H	51 28	1 1 2 6 0	1 94 24	552
2440-011 244C-7H	54 79	0.9732	1.7424	514
44C-8H	68.87	1 4016	1 01/0	550
244C-10H	83.55	1 3110	2 1 5 2 7	533
244C-1011	117 25	1.3110	2.1327	103
2440-150	15255	1.1490	1./2/2	495
44C-20A	133.33	0.9772	2.0989	525
44C-22X	1/2.65	0.8346	1.6646	514
44C-23X	182.25	0.7768	1.9462	514
:44C-29X	238.56	0.8268	1.7146	490
244C-31X	258.60	0.6063	1.5144	481
244C-36X	306.90	0.5522	1.6896	469
44C-37X	313.50	0.6118	1.4894	469
45B-2H	12.40	0.2992	1.0638	556
45C-2H	14.90	0.4014	1.2778	552
45B-2H	15.40	0.3618	1.3016	555
245C-4H	26.40	0.7394	1.6108	551
245B-4H	31.40	0.7802	1.7322	554
45B-4H	35.90	0.9441	1.8473	554
45C-5H	35.90	1.0063	1.9161	553
45B-6H	50.40	1.2709	2.1302	554
45B-6H	53.40	1.4094	1.8773	556
45B-6H	54.28	1.0976	1.8185	461
245B-7H	58.95	1 4346	2 2653	552
245B-8H	69.32	1 5591	2.2055	558
	70.82	1.5321	2.5407	555
450-011	70.82	1.0380	2.4050	557
2450-1011	74.40 99.02	1.7101	3.0703	537
456-100	88.03 00.25	1.7709	2.3337	525
45C-12H	90.25	1.8819	2.2403	221
45C-16P	120.62	2.04/2	2.4406	550
45B-14H	125.45	2.0866	2.4155	544
245B-16X	141.80	2.0079	2.4155	545
245C-20X	143.95	2.0236	2.3655	544
245B-18X	151.73	1.9039	2.7359	544
245B-19X	159.75	1.9283	2.8385	544
245B-21X	178.77	1.8606	2.7797	546
245B-21X	181.27	2.0472	2.5031	545
45C-28H	199.20	2.2299	3.1164	545
45B-24X	206.95	1.8346	2.3404	544
45B-26X	230.33	1.8268	2.3905	544
45B-28X	245.68	1.8583	2.4781	546
245B-29X	255.35	1.7638	2.3655	543
245B-31X	278.76	1.6535	2.3029	549
245B-32X	284.25	1.5669	2.2528	547
245B-36X	313 50	1,4008	2.5407	548
245B-37X	322 75	1 5906	2 3 5 2 9	548
245B-37A	351 65	1 2844	2.3327	516
150 A1V	261 50	1 1040	2.4774 2 1112	540
4JD-41A	200.95	1.1043	2.4443	J40 5 5 4
438-45X	399.85	1.1496	2.0526	554
246B-3H	17.10	0.4493	1.3/30	552
246B-4H	26.60	0.7402	1.3392	552
.46B-4H	31.10	0.7844	1.6633	555
246B-5H	36.10	0.9016	1.7672	551
46B-6H	50.00	1.0268	1.8924	554
246B-7H	54.89	1.2409	2.0814	555
46B-8H	66.20	1.0882	1.7409	433
46B-8H	69.10	1.4693	2.2716	560
6B-10H	83.60	1.5016	2.3066	542
6B-11H	93.10	1 6772	2 0901	554
2-100-1111	23.10	1.0//2	2.0701	554

Table T1 (continued).

Hole, core	Depth (mbsf)	l (mM)	Br (mM)	CI (mM)	Hole, co	Depth re (mbsf)	l (mM)	Br (mM)
			1.0070	. ,				
250C-4H	29.00	0.8598	1.8273	578	1251D-19	PH 160.81	0.5294	1.6971
250D-4H	32.90	0.6927	1.5482	545	1251B-19	H 161.08	0.526/	1.6859
250C-5H	35.88	0.9016	1.8586	202	1251D-20	100.13	0.4709	1.0338
250C-5H	40.31	1.1339	2.3116	564	1251B-20	H 170.48	0.5697	2.1001
250D-6H	44.24	0.6936	1.5419	553	1251B-22	H 1/5.50	0.6239	2.1402
250C-6H	44.57	0.9606	1.9061	503	1251D-22	2X 176.87	0.5253	1.6896
250C-6H	48.95	1.0236	2.0200	564	1251B-22	H 178.48	0.5972	2.0701
250C-8H	64.40	1.0291	1.9825	547	1251D-23	SX 181.82	0.5461	1.7459
250C-8H	68.90	1.0535	2.0275	547	1251D-23	SX 182.32	0.5315	1.7096
250C-10H	75.31	0.8811	1.8273	524	1251B-23	H 185.00	0.5438	1.7309
250C-10H	79.81	1.0984	2.1001	559	1251B-23	H 187.72	0.5297	1.6946
250D-10H	81.22	1.1591	2.1927	546	1251D-24	X 189.62	0.4931	1.5732
250C-11H	89.31	1.0236	2.0163	554	1251D-24	X 191.12	0.4252	1.1514
250C-12H	92.50	0.8984	1.9099	543	1251D-24	X 192.52	0.4002	1.3767
250F-1H	101.55	1.0220	2.0738	528	1251D-25	X 205.45	0.4958	1.6133
50F-2H	112.30	1.0024	2.0901	545	1251D-26	5X 210.43	0.5137	1.6646
250C-14H	113.80	0.9795	1.9912	544	1251B-27	X 216.25	0.5748	1.4393
250F-3X	114 80	0.9102	2,0063	544	1251B-27	χ 228.85	0 48 21	1 5682
250D-15X	120 01	1 0157	2.0005	547	1251R_20	X 248.00	0 4663	1 5/60
50E-5H	120.21	0 00 20	2.0313	5/5	12510-50	γ 240.00 γ 270.5¢	0.5501	1 /1/2
	122.30	U.7727	2.0731	545	1251D-33	A 2/0.33	0.3391	1.4143
JUF-JE	125.80	1.0142	2.1389	544	12518-34	∧ 283./8	0.46/9	1.330/
50C-15H	123.86	0.9016	1.9900	543	12518-36	∧ 299.40	0.4/00	1.520/
50F-6X	128.60	1.0638	2.2816	546	1251B-39	x 324.20	0.4724	1.2891
50F-6X	129.60	0.9882	2.1126	547	1251B-41	x 333.40	0.4885	1.5632
50C-17H	133.30	0.9449	2.0138	543	1251B-42	X 343.50	0.4630	1.4919
50C-17H	136.30	0.8457	1.9650	551	1251B-43	X 350.43	0.4724	1.5294
50F-9X	141.30	0.9575	2.1089	552	1251B-44	X 362.70	0.4813	1.5457
50C-19X	141.30	1.0236	1.8023	546	1251B-45	X 372.30	0.4469	1.4618
50D-19X	144.50	1.1969	2.5194	NA	1251B-46	X 381.90	0.4620	1.5056
50C-19X	145.00	0.8780	2.0300	551	1251B-47	X 391.60	0.4500	1.4643
50F-10X	147.90	0.8976	2.0501	543	1251B-50	X 410.80	0.4724	1.2390
50F-11X	155.68	0.8740	2.0563	541	1251B-53	X 439.78	0.4130	1.3905
50F-12X	167.05	0.7272	1.8974	545	1252A-1H	2.85	0.0332	0.8636
50F-12X	167.05	0.8220	2.0213	545	1252A-2H	10.75	0.1480	1.1471
50F-13X (A)	176 65	0.6944	1.8748	543	12524-21	13.75	0.1786	1,1677
50F-13X (R)	176.65	0 7882	1 9950	543	12524-26	16.00	0 2257	1 2325
1E_1H	1 / 0.05	0.7002	0.0271	5/12	1252A-30 1252A 1L	10.00	0.2257	1 2220
1 C-111	2.00	0.040Z	U.2071	550	1232A-40	1 20./J	0.3101	1.20/9
	2.90	INA 0 1 2 1 7	INA 1.1740	550	1252A-5H	1 33.34	0.5022	1.4401
) I E- I H	4.40	0.1317	1.1648	222	1252A-6H	1 50.25	0.5039	1.3642
DIE-IH	5.90	0.0123	0.930/	553	1252A-7H	1 59.75	0.4919	1.6395
SIB-IH	/.45	0.2677	1.0638	547	1252A-8H	64.75	0.5240	1.7747
51B-4H	35.50	0.5917	1.6921	542	1252A-8H	69.25	0.4734	1.6058
51B-5H	40.41	0.6060	1.7084	543	1252A-9H	1 74.25	0.5006	1.6846
51B-5H (R)	40.41	0.6016	1.6884	543	1252A-10	H 87.35	0.4708	1.5832
51B-6H	53.61	0.5819	1.6633	531	1252A-12	H 102.75	0.5468	1.9086
51B-7H	59.50	0.6069	1.7322	532	1252A-12	H 107.15	0.4705	1.6208
51B-7H	64.00	0.6306	1.8198	529	1252A-13	H 112.25	0.4359	1.5219
51B-8H	69.00	0.6299	1.4643	520	1252A-14	H 121.75	0.5069	1.7847
51D-11H	82.29	0.7806	2.4168	NA	1252A-15	X 125.84	0.4646	1.6308
51D-11H	83.06	0.6805	2.3317	518	1252A-15	X 127.85	0.4300	1.5494
51B-10H	88.00	0.6794	2,1602	519	1252A-15	X 132.18	0.4372	1.5757
51B-10H	91 00	0.4794	1.5557	514	12524-15	X 137.50	0.4403	1,6083
51B-11H	96.84	0 7496	2 4718	514	12524-16	X 140 50	0 4033	1 4706
510-124	103 47	0.7420	2.7/10	514	12524-10	X 140.30 X 147.20	0.1167	1 6400
רו-טוק נוס 1 סוי	112.07	0.7000	2.3000	510	12524-1/	A 147.20	0.440/	1.0408
51D-15H	117.03	0.306/	1./009	506	1252A-21	∧ 185.90	0.5004	1./49/
51B-14H	117.91	0.7496	2.35/9	499	1252A-22	x 197.00	0.519/	1.4018
51D-15H	122.40	0.5827	1.8411	501	1252A-23	X 205.78	0.5044	1.6295
51B-16H	137.40	0.5407	1.7572	492	1252A-26	X 234.80	0.4597	1.5519
251D-17H	141.40	0.4954	1.6884	487	1252A-27	X 244.50	0.4342	1.5444
51B-16H	141.81	0.5198	1.6671	482				
51B-17H	146.90	0.5283	1.7059	488	Note NA	- not analyzed		
51B-17H	150.90	0.5827	1.4768	487	note: NA:	– not analyzed	•	
51D-19H	156.31	0.4865	1.6746	479				
1B-19H	158 16	0.5255	1.6896	482				

Table T2. Iodine isotopic compositions and mini-mum ages in pore water from ODP Leg 204.

Hole, core	Depth (mbsf)	¹²⁹ l/l × 10 ⁻¹⁵	±	Age (Ma)
204-				
Flank sites				
1244B-3H	23.5	760	220	15
1244B-5H	38.46	330	90	34
1244C-5H	41.35	220	80	44
1244B-6H	46.78	530	200	24
1244C-8H	68.87	150	60	52
1244C-13H	117.35	300	90	36
1244C-22X	172.65	480	170	26
1244C-29X	238.56	243	49	41
1244C-31X	258.6	153	38	52
1244C-37X	313.5	580	190	22
1245B-6H	53.4	256	46	40
1245C-12H	90.25	175	42	49
1245C-16P	120.62	650	130	19
1245B-14H	125.45	423	55	29
1245B-16X	141.8	200	60	46
1245C-20X	143.95	200	45	37
1245B-21X	181 27	179	22	48
1245B-24X	206.95	193	45	46
1245B-24X	230.23	226	37	43
1245B-28X	230.55	480	140	26
1245B-20X	255 35	185	31	20 17
1245B-31X	255.55	265	51	30
12450-317	270.70	205	10	39 /1
12450-327	204.23	244	40 55	27
12450-577	200.95	162	26	50
1243D-43A	299.03 26.6	105	20	50
1240D-40	20.0	135	20	52
	93.I 12.04	140	29	24
1247B-3H	13.84	420	100	29
124/B-14H	113	170	23	49
12480-37	20.0	240	60	42
1248C-13H	117.33	348	55	55
Summit sites	-			
1249C-11H	71.74	670	90	18
1250C-3H	16.9	182	49	48
1250C-19X	141.3	126	40	56
Basin sites		26-		
1251B-8H	69	380	70	31
1251B-17H	150.9	311	51	36
1251D-24X	191.12	290	80	37
1251B-27X	216.25	180	140	48
1251B-33X	278.55	196	58	46
1252A-6H	50.25	170	90	49
1252A-22X	197	323	50	35