1. Leg 208 Summary[1]

Shipboard Scientific Party[2]

ABSTRACT

During Ocean Drilling Program Leg 208, six sites were drilled at water depths between 2500 and 4770 m to recover lower Cenozoic sediments on the northeastern flank of Walvis Ridge. Previous drilling in this region (Deep Sea Drilling Project [DSDP] Leg 74) recovered pelagic oozes and chalk spanning the Cretaceous/Paleogene (K/P), Paleocene/Eocene, and Eocene/Oligocene boundaries. The objective of Leg 208 was to recover intact composite sequences of these "critical" transitions from a wide range of depths. Multichannel seismic data (*Meteor* Cruise M49/1) along with information from DSDP Leg 74 sites were used to identify sites where continuous sequences of lower Cenozoic sediment should be present. Double to triple advanced piston coring, occasional extended core barrel coring to deepen the holes, and high-resolution physical property measurements were employed to construct "composite sections." The composite sections provide a detailed history of paleoceanographic variation associated with several prominent episodes of early Cenozoic climate change, including the K/P boundary, the Paleocene/Eocene Thermal Maximum (PETM), the early Eocene Climatic Optimum, and the early Oligocene Glacial Maximum.

The PETM interval, the main focus of Leg 208, was recovered at five sites along a depth transect of 2.2 km. The sediment sequence is marked by a red clay layer, which varies in thickness from 20 to 50 cm from site to site, within a thick and uniform sequence of upper Paleocene and lower Eocene foraminifer-bearing nannofossil ooze. The basal color contact is relatively sharp, although magnetic susceptibility data show a more gradual, steplike transition at the deeper Sites 1262 and 1267. The carbonate content drops to 0 wt% at all sites except for Site 1265. The upper contact is gradational in the shallow sites and relatively sharp at the deeper sites. Overlying the clay layer is a sequence of nannofossil

ooze, which is slightly richer in carbonate than the unit immediately underlying the clay layer.

The depth transect permits testing of the leading hypothesis for the cause of the PETM: the abrupt dissociation of as much as 2000 Gt of marine methane hydrate. Numerical modeling demonstrates that the injection of such a large mass of carbon to the ocean/atmosphere could have triggered a rapid (~10 k.y.) global shoaling of the calcite compensation depth (CCD) and lysocline, followed by a gradual recovery, and "overcompensation" with the CCD overshooting pre-excursion depths. Based on sediment cores recovered during Leg 208, the CCD shoaled by >2 km during the excursion, considerably more than predicted in present carbon cycle models of the event.

Leg 208 material also documents biotic responses to environmental changes as a result of the methane release and CCD shoaling (e.g., severe dissolution over such a large depth range may well have been an important factor in the benthic foraminiferal extinction event coincident with the base of the clay layer at every site, and nannofossils showed a short-term relative abundance response from *Fasciculithus* to *Zygrhablithus*). Planktonic foraminifers are heavily dissolved in the clay layer with only extremely rare specimens of acarinids and morozovellids remaining.

The Leg 208 transect complements a transect drilled on the southern Shatsky Rise during Leg 198, a deep latitudinal transect in the equatorial Pacific drilled during Leg 199, a shallow to bathyal transect drilled on Demarera Rise during Leg 207, and a depth transect proposed for future drilling in the western North Atlantic Ocean (J-Anomaly Ridge and southeast Newfoundland Rise).

INTRODUCTION

The Paleogene represents a climatically dynamic period in Earth history. Stable isotope and other temperature proxies reveal a complex history of warming and cooling, characterized by periods of both gradual and rapid change (Miller et al., 1987; Miller and Katz, 1987; Stott et al., 1990; Zachos et al., 2001, 1994). Major events include a 1-m.y.-long global warming trend that began in the late Paleocene and climaxed in the early Eocene in a 1- to 2-m.y.-long climatic optimum (early Eocene Climatic Optimum [EECO]) and a 12-m.y.-long stepped cooling trend that began in the early middle Eocene and culminated in the earliest Oligocene with the appearance of continental-scale ice sheets (Hambrey et al., 1991; Zachos et al., 1992). One of the more prominent events is a transient but extreme greenhouse interval known as the Paleocene/Eocene Thermal Maximum (PETM), at ~55.0 Ma. Major changes in ocean chemistry, as inferred from shifts in carbon isotope patterns and distribution and preservation patterns of terrigenous and biogenic sediments on the seafloor (e.g., Bralower et al., 1995; Kennett and Stott, 1991; Robert and Kennett, 1997), characterize the PETM. In addition, distinct shifts in the distribution of key groups of fauna and flora occurred in the oceans and on land (e.g., Kelly et al., 1998; Koch et al., 1995, 1992; Thomas and Shackleton, 1996; Thomas, 1998; Wing, 1998). Another notable event is the earliest Oligocene Glacial Maximum (EOGM, or Oi-1), a brief but extreme glacial interval that occurred at ~33.4 Ma and marks the transition to permanent glacial conditions on Antarctica (e.g., Miller et al., 1987, 1991; Zachos et al., 1996). This event, like the PETM, has caused large-scale perturbations in ocean

chemistry and paleoecology (Barrera and Huber, 1993, 1991; Salamy and Zachos, 1999; Thomas and Gooday, 1996; Thunell and Corliss, 1986).

Multiple hypotheses exist to explain the large-scale, long-term changes in Paleogene climate, although none have yet gained universal acceptance. In general, among many factors, the role of ocean gateways (continental geography) and greenhouse gas levels are considered as key variables. Theoretical models have invoked either the absence of a circum-Antarctic current or higher greenhouse levels or some combination of both to account for the EECO (Barron, 1985; Bice et al., 2000; Sloan and Barron, 1992; Sloan and Rea, 1996; Sloan et al., 1995, 1992). Similarly, the Oligocene glaciation has been attributed to both the initiation of the Antarctic Circumpolar Current and a reduction in greenhouse gas levels (e.g., Kennett and Shackleton, 1976; Mikolajewicz et al., 1993; Oglesby, 1991; Raymo et al., 1990; Rind and Chandler, 1991; DeConto and Pollard, 2003). Some of the more abrupt transient excursions are more likely to have been forced by rapid changes in greenhouse gas levels because they occur over short timescales (e.g., 10^3–10^4 yr) and, most importantly, are accompanied by geochemical and isotopic anomalies suggestive of major perturbations in the carbon and sulfur cycles (Dickens et al., 1997, 1995; Paytan et al., 1998; Pearson and Palmer, 2000; Schmitz et al., 1997; Stott et al., 1990; Zachos et al., 1993).

Progress in characterizing Paleogene oceanography and climate history, particularly the transient events, has been hampered by the lack of high-quality high-resolution multicored sequences. Most sites cored prior to Leg 198 suffer from poor recovery and drilling disturbance, and few were multicored or drilled as part of depth transects. The few exceptions are sites recovered during recent Ocean Drilling Program (ODP) legs including Sites 865, 999, 1001, 1051, and Bass River (Bralower et al., 1997, 1995; Miller et al., 1998; Norris and Röhl, 1999; Röhl et al., 2000, 2001, 2003). High-resolution records produced from these sites have yielded a wealth of exciting, important evidence of climate change to be more fully explored with additional data.

The ODP extreme climate advisory panel (Program Planning Group [PPG]) recognized the dearth of high-resolution records across climate transients, and the panel formulated new questions concerning extreme climates (Kroon et al., 2000) and potential drilling targets among which was the Walvis Ridge area. The ODP Leg 208 proposal, which resulted from the PPG discussions, described as its major goal the acquisition of sediment archives necessary to characterize such short-term changes in ocean chemistry and circulation that theoretically should have accompanied these climatic extremes, as well as their effects on the oceanic biota. Acquisition of more complete records of these events at a higher temporal resolution is required for both formulating and testing hypotheses on the origin of these and similar events.

Walvis Ridge, located in the eastern South Atlantic Ocean (Fig. F1), is one of the few known locations where it is possible to recover Paleogene sediments, including the PETM and EOGM, over a broad range of depths, including depths exceeding 4.5 km. The ridge was the target of drilling by Deep Sea Drilling Project (DSDP) Leg 74, which occupied Sites 525–529 on the northern flank of the ridge between depths of 2.5 and 4.2 km (Moore, Rabinowitz, et al., 1984). Paleogene pelagic sediments characterized by moderate sedimentation rates (~6–15 m/m.y.) and good magnetic stratigraphy were recovered at each site. However, because of the poor recovery (~50%–75%) and coring disturbances, es-

F1. Walvis Ridge, the South African margin, and site locations, p. 52.
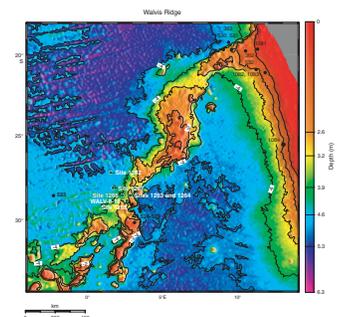
pecially with the rotary core barrel in unlithified sediments, only short segments of the sequences were recovered fully intact and none of the sequences were double cored. Technical problems, combined with the lack of high-resolution shipboard core logs, limited high-resolution cyclostratigraphic investigations to a few short segments of the Cretaceous (Herbert and D'Hondt, 1990). Nevertheless, subsequent shorebased studies of low-resolution samples collected from these cores were instrumental in adding to our understanding of long-term Maastrichtian and Paleogene paleoceanography of the South Atlantic Ocean (e.g., calcite compensation depth [CCD], carbon isotope stratigraphy, and deep-sea temperature/ice volume) (e.g., Moore, Rabinowitz, et al., 1984; Hsü and Weissert, 1985, and papers within; Shackleton, 1987). Nearly complete PETM intervals were recovered at the shallowest and deepest Sites 525 and 527. Stable isotope analysis of foraminifers recovered from these sites has helped to constrain the magnitude of the deep Atlantic biogeochemical and environmental changes during this event (Thomas et al., 1999; Thomas and Shackleton, 1996). At the remaining sites, the PETM was not recovered because of core gaps (poor recovery).

During the winter of 2000, a seismic survey of southeastern Walvis Ridge was undertaken by the *Meteor* (Cruise M49/1; Spieß et al., 2003). The survey extended coverage of the Leg 74 sites to the north and northeast, where more continuous and slightly thicker sediment sequences were discovered (Fig. F2). The higher-fidelity multichannel seismic data generated during the survey allowed identification of several areas where the PETM and other critical intervals could be recovered by advanced piston corer/extended core barrel (APC/XCB) drilling. The Leg 208 sites cover a paleodepth range of 2.2 km, sufficient to constrain large, as well as subtle, changes in the chemistry of deep and intermediate waters. Advances in coring technology and drilling strategies (i.e., multiple-hole composite sections) allowed for 100% recovery of sequences that were only partially recovered during Leg 74. In addition, recent advances in data acquisition and cyclostratigraphy enabled high-precision correlation and dating of these sediments.

Geologic Setting

Walvis Ridge is a northeast-southwest–trending aseismic ridge that divides the eastern South Atlantic Ocean into two basins, the Angola Basin to the north and the Cape Basin to the south (Figs. F1, F3). The ridge consists of a series of interconnected crustal blocks that slope gradually toward the northwest and more steeply toward the southeast. Magnetic and gravity anomalies indicate that Walvis Ridge was formed by hotspot volcanism near the spreading ridge as the Atlantic basin gradually widened (Rabinowitz and Simpson, 1984) and is assumed to have subsequently followed a simple thermal subsidence of ~1.1 km since the Maastrichtian (Moore, Rabinowitz, et al., 1984).

Pelagic sediments drape most of the ridge and generally increase in thickness toward the continental margin (Moore, Rabinowitz, et al., 1984). In the vicinity of the primary Leg 208 target area on the southeastern portion of the ridge, sediment thickness varies from ~300 m on the deep (>4.5 km) seafloor adjacent to the ridge to ~600 m near the summit (~2.5 km), a pattern that is clearly expressed by seismic sequences in the multichannel seismic profiles (Fig. F4). The sediments are primarily calcareous oozes and chalks that range in age from Campanian to Holocene. The Neogene sequences consist primarily of nannofossil and foraminiferal nannofossil oozes with relatively high car-
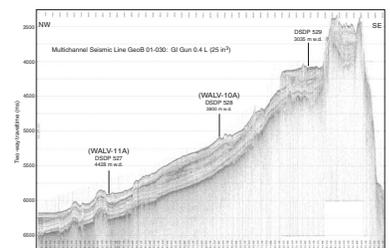
F2. Walvis Ridge, *Meteor* M49/1 track lines, and site locations, p. 53.
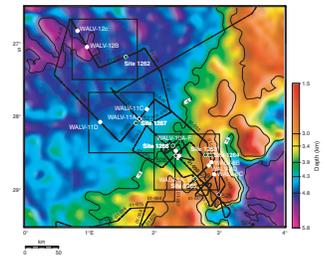
F3. Leg 208 drill site locations, p. 54.
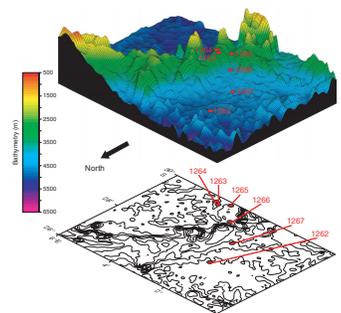
F4. Multichannel seismic line GeoB 01-030 and site locations, p. 55.

bonate contents, often in excess of 90 wt%, although lower through middle Miocene sections are characterized by low values (0%–20%). Turbidites and slumps are present in some intervals. The underlying Paleogene sediments are dominated by nannofossil and foraminifer-bearing nannofossil oozes to chalks. Carbonate contents are also high, generally in excess of 80 wt% through most of the Paleocene, Eocene, and Oligocene with the exception of several short carbonate-poor intervals at the deeper sites (e.g., Paleocene and upper Eocene of Site 527) that represent episodes of CCD shoaling. A few thin chert layers are present below the upper Paleocene of the shallowest Sites 525 and 528 and in the lower Eocene of Site 529. Slump deposits are present in the upper Paleocene at Site 529. In most sections, calcareous microfossil preservation varies from good to excellent. The natural remnant magnetism of the Leg 74 Walvis Ridge sediments appears to be strong and stable. As a result, the quality of the magnetic polarity records is excellent, particularly in the Upper Cretaceous and lower Paleocene intervals (Chave, 1984).

Stratigraphic Evolution

Sediment accumulation rates on Walvis Ridge have varied considerably with time. On average, the highest rates (~8–13 m/m.y.) occur in the Pleistocene, Paleocene, and Maastrichtian intervals. Much lower sedimentation rates (1–5 m/m.y.) as well as unconformities are common at most sites in the Neogene. For example, most of the Pleistocene is absent at the shallowest sites (Sites 525 and 526), whereas the lower and middle Miocene is absent at several of the deeper sites. The Neogene unconformities appear to be predominantly erosional in nature, although dissolution clearly affected deposition on deeper portions of the ridge (i.e., lower–middle Miocene at Site 527). Unconformities are also present in the upper Eocene and Oligocene. In contrast, at mid-depths (Site 529) most of the Paleogene is present but the middle–upper Miocene is either condensed or absent. In the deepest section (Site 527), the middle–upper Eocene is relatively condensed and the Oligocene and Miocene are highly condensed and/or absent. Nevertheless, it appears that for most of the early Paleogene, deposition was more or less continuous over much of the ridge. This continuity in sediment accumulation is reflected to some extent by similar patterns in the low-resolution carbon isotope stratigraphies for four of the Leg 74 sites (Shackleton and Hall, 1984; Shackleton, 1987).

Cyclical variations in sedimentation are evident in various lithologic and physical property indexes, particularly in the more expanded Maastrichtian and Paleocene sequences. Spectral analysis of sediment color banding reveals the presence of a strong precessional beat in upper Maastrichtian and lower Paleocene sediments at Sites 525 and 528 (Herbert and D'Hondt, 1990). Similar cycles, although more subtle, are present in the upper Paleocene and lower Eocene as well.

Scientific Objectives

During Leg 208, sediments from Walvis Ridge were recovered that are suitable for addressing a number of important questions concerning the regional and global response to critical climatic events in the Paleogene. In addition, the overlying sediments at several sites will be used to resolve various aspects of the regional response to Neogene climate tran-

sitions. Here we discuss the critical climatic events of interest and other associated scientific objectives.

Early Eocene Climatic Optimum

The EECO represents the most recent episode of sustained global warmth. For nearly 2 m.y. of the early Eocene, global climate was warm and ice free. Paleontologic and isotopic proxies indicate that the high-latitude seas and bottom waters of the mid- and upper ocean were as much as 8°C warmer than at present (Fig. **F5**) (Miller et al., 1987; Shackleton and Boersma, 1981; Stott et al., 1990; Zachos et al., 1994). The biogeographic ranges of subtropical to temperate terrestrial fauna and flora extended well into polar latitudes (Axelrod, 1984; Estes and Hutchison, 1980; Wolfe, 1980), and polar ice sheets were small or non-existent.

Several critical issues concerning the EECO need to be addressed. The first issue concerns the nature of climate variability during this period. At present, not a single marine record details paleoceanographic or climatic variability of this interval on orbital timescales. As a result, the approximate duration of the EECO and climate stability during this period are unknown. The second issue concerns the origin of the EECO. Empirical and theoretical geochemical studies suggest that greenhouse gas levels were significantly higher, possibly six times that of preindustrial levels, at the peak of the EECO (Berner, 1991). These estimates are supported to some extent by climate modeling in which the observed EECO meridional thermal gradients could only be attained in simulations with greenhouse gas levels six to eight times those of preindustrial levels (Sloan and Rea, 1996) and are further supported by a boron isotope record that indicates unusually low pH for the Eocene surface ocean, consistent with high pCO_2 (Fig. **F6**) (Pearson and Palmer, 2000). The third issue concerns the underlying mechanism for driving changes in greenhouse gas levels. Why did CO_2 levels increase in the early Eocene? Was the rate of mantle outgassing higher as suggested by geochemical models (Berner et al., 1983; Schrag, 2002)? If so, was the dissolved carbon content of the ocean higher than that of the present (Walker et al., 1981)? Constraints on the CCD and lysocline depths and their depth changes on orbital timescales might provide insight into these and related questions.

Paleocene/Eocene Thermal Maximum

In terms of rate and degree of warming, the PETM is unprecedented in Earth's history. Isotope records suggest that at 55 Ma the deep ocean and high-latitude surface waters warmed by 4° and 8°C, respectively, in a period of <40 k.y. (Fig. **F7**). This period of extreme warmth, which lasted <150 k.y., triggered profound changes in global precipitation and continental weathering patterns (e.g., Gibson et al., 1993; Kaiho et al., 1996; Robert and Kennett, 1994). The PETM also affected biota on a global scale, triggering rapid turnover of marine plankton (Kelly et al., 1996; Bralower, 2002), the largest mass extinction of deep-sea benthic foraminifers of the last 90 m.y. (Thomas and Shackleton, 1996; Thomas, 1990), and a rapid radiation of land mammals (Clyde and Gingerich, 1998; Koch et al., 1992; Rea et al., 1990).

Several forcing mechanisms have been proposed for the PETM, including massive outgassing associated with rifted margin volcanism (Eldholm and Thomas, 1993) and sudden dissociation of methane gas
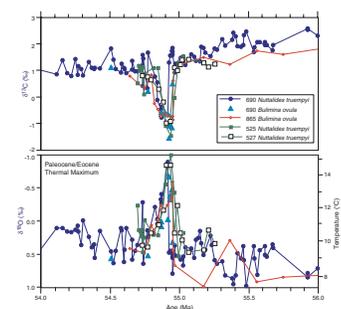
F5. Cenozoic deep-sea stable isotope record, p. 56.
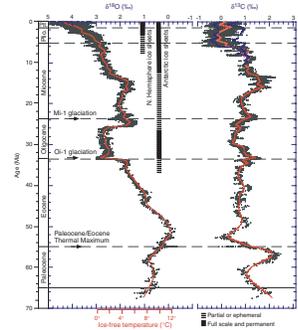
F6. Cenozoic pCO_2, p. 57.
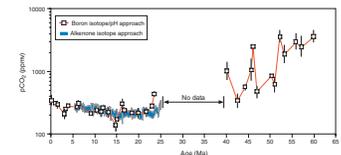
F7. Benthic foraminiferal isotope records across the P/E boundary, p. 58.

hydrates stored on continental shelves and slopes (Dickens et al., 1995, 1997). Both hypotheses were inspired, in part, by marine and terrestrial carbon isotope records that show an abrupt 3‰–4‰ decrease in the ocean/atmosphere inorganic carbon reservoirs in <2 k.y. (Röhl et al., 2000; Bralower et al., 1997, 1995; Kennett and Stott, 1991; Thomas and Shackleton, 1996; Koch et al., 1995, 1992). Such a large and rapid carbon isotope excursion requires input of a large volume of isotopically depleted carbon from an external reservoir into the ocean/atmosphere system. In terms of fluxes and isotopic mass balances, the hydrate dissociation model provides the most plausible solution. If estimates are correct, dissociation of only a fraction of the total reservoir of methane hydrate stored on continental margins is sufficient to generate the observed isotopic excursion. In principle, with warming of deep waters, shelf and slope hydrates became unstable, triggering a catastrophic release of CH_4 and greenhouse warming.

Massive methane dissociation should have had profound effects on ocean chemistry. Dickens et al. (1997) used a box model to simulate the effects of releasing ~1.1×10^3 Gt of methane (immediately oxidized to carbon dioxide) directly into the atmosphere on ocean carbonate chemistry (Fig. F8). The amount of carbon added to the system was determined from mass balance calculations assuming a $\delta^{13}C$ of –60‰ for bacterially produced methane. This exercise found several notable effects, including a dramatic increase in weathering rates, a reduction in ocean pH, and a shoaling of the CCD and lysocline all within several thousand years (Fig. F8). The effects on the ocean are greatest in areas proximal to deepwater formation where the excess CO_2 enters the deep ocean via convective processes. The CCD is eventually restored, although not to its original position, as the system appears to initially overcompensate before returning to a steady state. This predicted pattern is consistent with the PETM low-carbonate or clay layers in many deep-sea PETM sites (Fig. F9).

The methane hydrate dissociation model can be tested with deep-sea drilling. A series of paleodepth transects in each of the major ocean basins would allow for characterization of the lysocline/CCD changes during this event. The initial shoaling should be expressed as a dissolution interval or hiatus in deeper sites coincident with the benthic foraminiferal extinction and carbon isotope excursion. The model-predicted overshoot or overcompensation should be preserved as well. Existing PETM sequences show a CCD reduction in carbonate content to varying degrees coincident with the excursion. However, without vertically offset sites, it is not yet possible to quantify the extent to which the reduction in carbonate content reflects changes in carbonate dissolution or production. With a series of drill sites placed along vertical depth transects, it should be possible to separate effects of preservation from production. A Pacific Ocean depth transect was recently completed during ODP Leg 198 (Bralower, Premoli Silva, Malone, et al., 2002), and Walvis Ridge was targeted to provide a complementary Atlantic Ocean depth transect. Walvis Ridge is well suited for a depth transect, as rates of sedimentation are fairly high and continuous through the upper Paleocene–lower Eocene over most of the ridge. Leg 208 drilling on the ridge recovered the sequences needed to constrain how the deep- to intermediate-ocean carbonate chemistry changed during this important event.

An interesting new development is the emergence of evidence of additional biotic events and carbon isotope excursions. Faunal and iso-

F8. Box model simulated response of oceanic carbon isotopes and lysocline depth, p. 59.
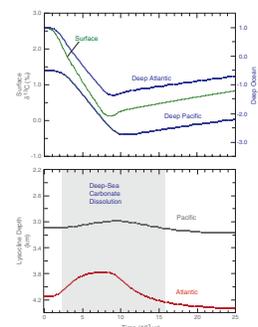
F9. DSDP Site 527 P/E planktonic foraminiferal stable isotope records, p. 60.
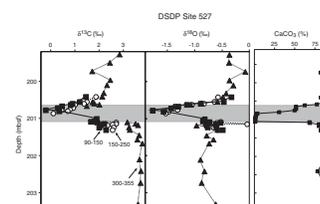
tope data from Sites 690 and 865 (Thomas and Zachos, 2000; Thomas et al., 2000) point toward other times with conditions potentially similar to, but not as extreme as, those of the PETM during the late Paleocene and early Eocene. If these lesser events have a similar origin as the PETM, we would expect lesser but similar scale responses in ocean carbonate chemistry. Drilling at Blake Nose showed similar repetitions of the climatological/sedimentological conditions of the Paleocene/Eocene (P/E) boundary. A long gamma ray log and X-ray fluorescence (XRF) Fe data (Röhl et al., 2003) from Site 1051 showed a series of major peaks that represent a reduction in the carbonate content and/or increased terrigenous flux augmenting the clay content. These records revealed cyclicity of clay accumulation on a timescale of ~2 m.y., which most likely reflects climate cycles, although the precise nature of the climatic changes is unknown. The gamma ray and XRF Fe data records showed peaks during the carbon isotope event but also near the top of Chron C24r (Shipboard Scientific Party, 1998; Röhl et al., 2003). Similar cycles persist throughout the Eocene, indicating that this warm greenhouse period was not stable (e.g., Wade and Kroon, 2002). The long-term periodicity in these records may reflect a long-period orbital cycle, although a continuous record, spanning at least 8 m.y. of the upper Paleocene and lower Eocene, is required to evaluate the possibility of Milankovitch-driven climate.

Middle Eocene to Early Oligocene Glaciation(s)

The primary transition from "greenhouse" to "icehouse" conditions occurred during the middle Eocene to early Oligocene. Although this interval encompasses 18 m.y., stable isotopic records reveal a steplike pattern, with much of the change occurring over a few relatively brief steps in the middle Eocene (~52 Ma) and earliest Oligocene (Fig. F10) (EOGM; ~33.4 Ma) (e.g., Miller et al., 1987; Kennett and Stott, 1991; Zachos et al., 1996). The first event marks the onset of ephemeral glacial activity (Browning et al., 1996; Hambrey et al., 1991), whereas the second and larger of the two steps, the EOGM, represents the first appearance of permanent ice sheets on Antarctica (Barrera and Huber, 1991; Zachos et al., 1992). Furthermore, the highest-resolution deep-sea isotope records of this transition indicate that the final transition may have been modulated by orbital forcing (Diester-Haass and Zahn, 1996).

The climatic transition during the EOGM should have had a dramatic effect on oceanic/atmospheric circulation patterns and continental weathering rates and, hence, ocean chemistry. For example, reconstructions of bottom water isotope patterns hint at a brief pulse of a proto-North Atlantic Deep Water (NADW) coincident with the EOGM (Miller et al., 1991; Zachos et al., 1996). Also, carbonate sediment accumulation patterns suggest a significant deepening of the CCD at the Eocene/Oligocene (E/O) boundary (Peterson and Backman, 1990; van Andel, 1975; Lyle, Wilson, Janecek, et al., 2002). The latter is consistent with a sudden lowering of sea level and/or increased chemical weathering of the continents, both of which would increase the flux of dissolved ions to the deep sea. However, the CCD on a regional or local scale is also sensitive to changes in the rates and patterns of carbonate production. A depth transect is required to separate the relative contributions of each process and to more robustly constrain rates of change.

F10. Composite *Cibicidoides* spp. stable carbon and oxygen isotope records, p. 61.
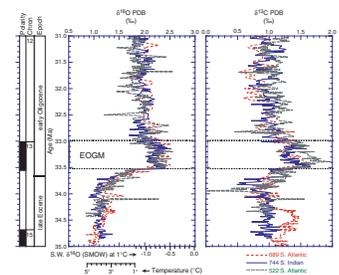
## Oceanic Recovery from the Cretaceous/Paleogene Mass Extinction

The Cretaceous/Paleogene (K/P) impact and mass extinction triggered a number of changes in oceanic properties, some long lasting. These changes include (1) a drastic decrease in the export production as indicated by decreased carbon isotopic gradients (Fig. F11) (Hsü et al., 1982; D'Hondt et al., 1998; Stott and Kennett, 1989; Zachos et al., 1989) and reduced barium accumulation rates, (2) a sharp decrease in deep-sea carbonate accumulation (D'Hondt and Keller, 1991; Zachos and Arthur, 1986), and (3) at least in the South Atlantic Ocean, enhanced 100-k.y. oscillations in deep-sea sedimentation (D'Hondt et al., 1996). Each of these changes was likely caused by the profound changes in pelagic ecosystems at the time of the K/P mass extinction, changes that were sustained for a half-million years or longer. The overall recovery is still poorly constrained. For example, although we know that deep-sea carbonate accumulation did not recover for >2 m.y. after the mass extinction (Zachos and Arthur, 1986), a long-term record of deep-sea carbonate accumulation has only been generated for a single site (ODP Site 1001) where carbonate accumulation rates did not recover until 4 m.y. into the Paleogene (D'Hondt et al., 1998). Poor core recovery has precluded successful reconstruction in previously drilled South Atlantic Ocean sites. The improved recovery through modern ODP drilling techniques, however, made it possible to acquire a complete section cored with the APC in two holes at Site 1262.

The K/P mass extinction effectively changed the state of the global ecosystem, and documentation of the timing of these recoveries and their relationships to other paleoceanographic properties will provide a critical test of the coupling between oceans, climate, and biota. There is little reason to believe that any physical consequences of the K/P impact could have lingered for more than a few thousand years. Consequently, the Maastrichtian through Paleocene record of deep-sea sediments provides an ideal opportunity for testing the sensitivity of the global environment to biological disaster. For example, the long-term decrease in deep-sea carbonate accumulation might have changed oceanic alkalinity and atmospheric CO_2 concentrations. If so, the interval of decreased carbonate accumulation should be marked by changes in various paleoceanographic proxies, such as increased foraminiferal preservation and migration of the lysocline or CCD. Similarly, the 100-k.y. oscillations in lower Paleocene deep-sea sediments may have resulted from a decreased ability of postextinction biota to buffer seasonal and Milankovitch-scale climate change (Herbert et al., 1995; Herbert and D'Hondt, 1990; D'Hondt et al., 1996). If so, these oscillations should correspond to similar oscillations in various paleoceanographic proxies, such as carbon isotopic differences between planktonic and benthic foraminifers.

Paleogene Deepwater Circulation and Chemical Gradients

Changes in either the meridional thermal gradient or precipitation patterns can dramatically alter the mode of ocean circulation, thermohaline or otherwise (Broecker, 1997). Warming of polar regions coupled with increased precipitation, for example, would tend to lower the density of high-latitude surface waters and thereby inhibit sinking. This, in turn, might be balanced by increased convection elsewhere, possibly in subtropical regions where high rates of evaporation raise seawater salin-

F11. Latest Cretaceous through earliest Paleogene δ^{13}C records, DSDP Site 528, p. 62.
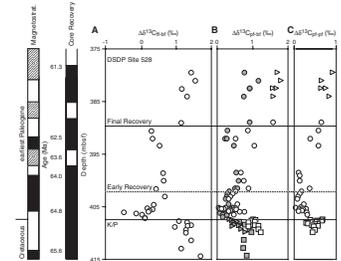
ity and density. Given the extreme thermal gradients and precipitation patterns, it is likely that deep convection during the PETM, and possibly during the EECO, was affected at high latitudes. If true, there should be evidence for this in deepwater chemical gradients as inferred from stable carbon isotopes and the distribution of carbonates on the seafloor.

A shift in the source of waters bathing Walvis Ridge should be reflected in carbon isotope, carbonate dissolution, and benthic assemblage patterns, as well as in patterns of other isotopes with short residence times (i.e., Nd). Through much of the late Paleocene and early Eocene, the most negative deep-ocean carbon isotope values were consistently recorded by benthic foraminifers from the Pacific Ocean (Kennett and Stott, 1990; Corfield, 1994; Corfield and Norris, 1996; Corfield and Cartlidge, 1992; Pak and Miller, 1992). Although this gradient is of the same sign as the modern one, it is much smaller, indicating that Pacific Ocean deep waters were only slightly older than Atlantic Ocean deep waters. As such, one would predict a similar CCD in the two basins. Low-resolution records of carbonate accumulation on Walvis Ridge for the Cenozoic suggest large-scale changes in the CCD at the P/E and E/O boundaries, although the timing and magnitude of these "events" are not well defined (Moore, Rabinowitz, et al., 1984).

Neogene Paleoceanography

Although the main focus for ODP Leg 208 was the recovery of Paleogene sediments, the younger part of the Walvis Ridge record is of considerable interest to paleoceanographers. The overlying Neogene sediments recovered during Leg 74 served to resolve several important paleoceanographic issues. For example, Shackleton et al. (1984) used oxygen isotopes to reveal long-term temperature trends of surface and deep waters for the Neogene in the Walvis Ridge area, and Moore, Rabinowitz, et al. (1984) used microfossil preservation to reconstruct carbonate saturation changes.

Today the lysocline depth is present at the boundary between NADW and Antarctic Bottom Water (AABW) between 4.0 and 4.8 km on the western side of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. On the eastern side of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, Walvis Ridge divides the South Atlantic Ocean into the northern Angola and southern Cape Basins. This basinal topography blocks AABW from directly entering the Angola Basin; instead, AABW enters through the Romanche Fracture Zone, where it mixes with NADW and forms a less defined NADW–AABW transition at ~5 km (Berger et al., 2002; Volbers and Henrich, 2002). Thus, the lysocline is deeper in the eastern Atlantic Ocean, although Schmiedl et al. (1997) argue that AABW is present at depths of ~4200 m to the north of Walvis Ridge.

Microfossils are markedly better preserved in the upper Miocene (Moore, Rabinowitz, et al., 1984) at Walvis Ridge, suggesting the onset or intensification of NADW production and its increased influence within the Angola Basin. Another step of increased carbonate preservation occurs near the beginning of the Pliocene. Detailed reconstruction from DSDP Leg 74 sites, however, was hampered by poorly constrained age models and low recovery.

As part of ODP Leg 208, we planned to employ cyclostratigraphy to improve the accuracy of dating by tuning the sedimentary cycles to the astronomical cycles of Milankovitch as far back as possible. This technique has been used to improve the dating of the sedimentary record

during several paleoceanographic legs. The astronomical timescale has been established back to the late Oligocene by using cyclostratigraphy of sediments from drill holes at Ceara Rise (Lourens et al., in press; H. Pälike, pers. comm., 2003). The Walvis Ridge sediments show distinct cycles in certain intervals detected by visual means (Borella, 1984). However, sedimentary cycles were previously documented primarily in the Cretaceous and Paleogene parts of the geological record.

Oxygen isotope records of carbonate microfossils will identify the long-term trends in the climate system and particularly the high-resolution structure of the mid-Miocene Climatic Optimum (MCO). High-resolution stable isotope records in an astronomically tuned time frame are expected to document small-scale ice expansions (so-called Mi events; e.g., Miller et al., 1991) and associated sea level changes during the Miocene. At present, the amplitude of the $\delta^{18}O$ profiles recording the intensity of these Mi events is poorly known.

The Leg 208 depth transect is ideal for studying the vertical structure of the ocean throughout the Neogene. Carbon isotope records should establish deepwater characteristics of the waters bathing Walvis Ridge within the Angola Basin. Carbonate preservation profiles and benthic foraminiferal assemblages will be used to document the evolution of Neogene deep water (e.g., presence and relative abundance of *Cibicidoides wuellerstorfi*). Identification of the timing of the intensification of NADW influence in the South Atlantic Ocean within the Miocene will be a primary focus of our study. Numerous microfossil datums will be calibrated employing the astronomically tuned Neogene timescale.

The eastern South Atlantic Ocean is characterized by intense upwelling in the Benguelan system. Although the Leg 208 sites are located outside of the modern upwelling realm, stronger trade wind activity during glacials could have extended these upwelling filaments to Walvis Ridge (Little et al., 1997). Leg 208 sediments may, therefore, hold clues on upwelling intensity during the Pliocene–Pleistocene period through planktonic foraminiferal assemblages that are sensitive to productivity changes. Moreover, benthic foraminiferal assemblages will provide information on seasonal variability in export productivity (e.g., relative abundance of *Epistominella exigua* and *Alabaminella weddellensis*).

Cenozoic Cyclostratigraphy

One of the main objectives for Leg 208 drilling is to establish a cyclostratigraphy throughout the entire Cenozoic in order to construct an astronomical timescale for each of the sites. Establishment of such an astronomical timescale is critical for virtually all the objectives of Leg 208 drilling, especially for the upper Maastrichtian through lower Eocene, which currently lacks an orbitally tuned timescale. This lack of high-quality, high-resolution, and multicore sequences along a depth transect has slowed progress in reconstructing Paleogene paleoceanography and climate history. An orbitally tuned timescale is also essential for resolving rates of paleoceanographic change associated with the abrupt, short-lived events.

Drilling Objectives and Achievements

To meet these scientific objectives, the primary drilling focus was to recover sediments representing each of the target intervals over a depth range of 2 km. Moreover, it was essential that these intervals be strati-

graphically continuous and have sufficiently high sedimentation rates to resolve orbital cycles to at least the 41-k.y. periodicity. Reconstruction of the nature of the oceanic response to each of the target events further required that we recover relatively unlithified sequences, from which well-preserved microfossils could be extracted for geochemical analysis. The preservation of these calcareous microfossils does not need to be perfect but sufficient to resolve relative differences in isotopic and elemental ratios of benthic and planktonic fauna as influenced by changes in the oceanic thermal and chemical structure.

Site Survey and Coring Strategy

During Leg 74 drilling in the Walvis Ridge area, the PETM and other critical intervals were not recovered at all sites, in part because of poor recovery and in part because of local unconformities. These unconformities, which appear erosional in nature, were most common in the Eocene and Oligocene sediments, particularly at shallow to middepth sites. These sites (DSDP Sites 525, 528, and 529) were located near gaps (channels) in the ridge that might explain the discontinuous nature of sedimentation. Based on seismic surveys, areas to the east of the existing sites appeared to provide more continuous sequences, which have a higher potential of recovering critical intervals. Thus, *Meteor* Cruise M49/1 (see report by Spieß et al., 2003) surveyed an area along the northeastern flank of Walvis Ridge that included the Leg 74 sites (Fig. F1). The main survey grid focused on a region to the north and east of the Leg 74 sites, away from a large channel that dissects the ridge to the southwest (Fig. F2). A seismic grid was established with several lines crossing existing sites in order to establish ages of key regional reflectors and sedimentary packages. Because of extensive upper Cenozoic downslope sediment transport throughout the region, the survey also targeted several isolated bathymetric highs where sediment transport might be minimal. The resultant M49/1 multichannel seismic profiles were then used with existing DSDP site data to locate stratigraphically continuous sequences of lower Cenozoic sediment at relatively shallow burial depths.

A depth transect with 5 primary and 11 alternate sites was designed using high-resolution *Meteor* Cruise seismic data (Fig. F2; Table T1). Based on the seismic profiles, the unconformities encountered during Leg 74 appeared to be highly localized, and more expanded, possibly continuous, sequences were identified. The potential to recover the P/E boundary and other key target intervals was maximized by selecting sites that had relatively thick Paleogene sequences and thin Neogene cover. In some instances, this approach required placing sites in channels where the Neogene was thinner but lower Paleogene horizons and bedding appeared uniform. A large number of alternate sites were identified for flexibility to move to a new site in case a local unconformity should be encountered at the P/E boundary.

The primary proposed sites for Leg 208, WALV-8A (Site 1264), -8E (Site 1263), -9B (Site 1265), -10F (Site 1266), -11B (Site 1267), and -12A (Site 1262), spanned a water depth range from 2507 to 4760 m. The stratigraphic targets for the two shallowest proposed sites, WALV-8E and -9B (water depths of 2717 and 3059 m), included the PETM and EOGM in upper Paleocene to lower Oligocene chalks and oozes. We avoided areas near DSDP Site 525, where the upper Eocene and lower Oligocene are absent, and areas near Site 529, where several slumps were identified in Eocene sections. Proposed Site WALV-10F (Site 1266), located to the

T1. Operations summary, Leg 208, p. 106.

south of Site 528 at an intermediate depth of 3811 m, appeared to contain a similar Paleogene sequence but with much thinner Neogene cover. The deepest proposed site, WALV-12A (Site 1262), was located well north of DSDP Site 527 at 4770 m. Proposed Site WALV-11B was located near Site 527 but at a slightly shallower water depth of 4365 m.

Upper Paleocene sediments were drilled at five sites (Sites 1262 and 1264–1267), the upper Maastrichtian and lower Paleocene at two sites (Sites 1262 and 1267), and the Neogene at all six sites, including Site 1264 from which the lower Oligocene through Pleistocene was recovered. At least two APC and/or XCB drilled holes were taken at each site to ensure recovery of a complete sequence, and cores were overlapped between holes to facilitate compilation of a composite section. During drilling, composite sections were assembled using core log data (magnetic susceptibility [MS], natural gamma radiation [NGR], and color reflectance) for correlation. In several cases, a third or fourth hole was cored to ensure recovery of at least two complete copies of the critical intervals.

SITE SUMMARIES

Site 1262

Latitude: 27°11.15′S
Longitude: 1°34.62′E
Water depth: 4755 m
Maximum depth of penetration: 213 meters below seafloor (mbsf)
Oldest sediments recovered: upper Maastrichtian
Time on site: 4.69 days (1300 hr on 24 March–0530 hr on 29 March)

Site 1262 (proposed Site WALV-12A) is located at the northwestern end of the Walvis Ridge drilling transect and represents the deep end-member of the depth transect (Figs. F12, F13). At 4.75 km depth, Site 1262 is close to the level of the present-day lysocline and CCD, which in this sector of the eastern Atlantic Ocean are below 4.8 and 5.0 km, respectively. Close proximity to the CCD appears to have been maintained for much of the Cenozoic as the rate of local subsidence has more or less kept pace with the long-term deepening of the CCD. As the deep end-member of the Walvis Ridge transect, Site 1262 was drilled with the objective of recovering sections suitable for detailing changes in bottom water chemistry and circulation at abyssal depths during several of the key paleoceanographic events of the Paleogene including the Eocene–Oligocene transition, the PETM, and the K/P boundary extinction. Initial results indicate that this objective was achieved.

Three holes (Table T1), offset ~20 m from each other, were cored at Site 1262 using the APC. A 213-m-thick section of upper Maastrichtian to Pleistocene nannofossil ooze and clay was recovered. Hole 1262A was started 6 m below the mudline and prematurely terminated at 150 mbsf because of a severed core barrel. Hole 1262B was cored from the mudline to 210 mbsf, and Hole 1262C was cored from 90 to 213 mbsf. Nominal recovery exceeded 100% in all three holes. Using MS data, cores from the three holes were correlated by depth shifting and representative intervals were spliced together to create a single stratigraphic section with a total length of 236 meters composite depth (mcd).

Three lithostratigraphic units and five subunits were identified (Fig. F14). Unit I (0–46 mcd) consists of upper Miocene to Pleistocene nan-
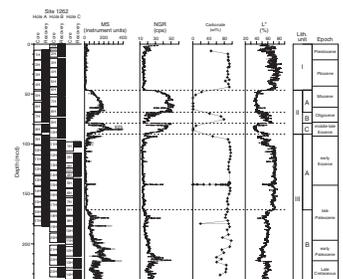
F12. *Meteor* track chart showing the location of Site 1262, p. 63.
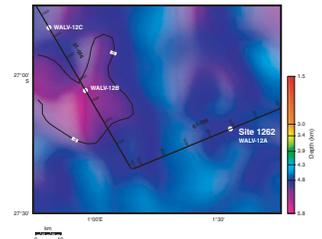
F13. Line GeoB 01-035 and Site 1262 plotted with age estimates of prominent reflectors, p. 64.
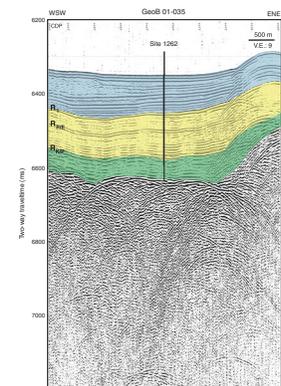
**F14.** Site 1262 MS, NGR, carbonate content, and L*, p. 65.

nofossil ooze and foraminifer-bearing nannofossil ooze with sedimentation rates up to 10 m/m.y. Unit II (46–90 mcd) is divided into three distinct subunits based on the relative abundance of clay. Subunits IIA (46–68 mcd) and IIC (79–90 mcd) are upper Oligocene to upper Miocene and middle to upper Eocene clay units separated by a lower Oligocene nannofossil ooze interval, Subunit IIB (68–79 mcd). Unit III (90–236 mcd) consists of upper Maastrichtian to middle Eocene clayey nannofossil ooze and nannofossil ooze. Biostratigraphic results show the section to be stratigraphically complete in the Pleistocene and in the upper Paleocene–lower Eocene, with sedimentation rates up to 12 m/m.y. The middle to upper Eocene is highly condensed. Calcareous microfossils are generally well preserved at this site, particularly in the lower Eocene and upper Paleocene.

Sharp transitions between carbonate- and clay-rich facies at Site 1262 are an expression of a rapidly shifting CCD and related changes in ocean carbon chemistry and/or circulation. The carbonate-rich facies include the Pleistocene, Pliocene, lower Oligocene, Paleocene, lower–middle Eocene, and Maastrichtian. The clay-rich facies include the Miocene and middle to upper Eocene sections as well as several discrete layers at the P/E and K/P boundaries. Preliminary age assignments indicate that each of the major facies changes at Site 1262 corresponds to a previously documented shift in the level of the CCD. The Pliocene and Pleistocene sedimentation rates of up to 10 m/m.y. are consistent with moderate rates of carbonate dissolution in this part of the Atlantic Ocean (Fig. F15). Dissolution seems to have occurred primarily during the Pleistocene glacial maxima, when the lower boundary of NADW shoaled and allowed more corrosive AABW to cross over into the Angola Basin through mid-ocean-ridge fracture zones. The facies transition between lithostratigraphic Units II and I reflects a regional deepening of the CCD during the late Miocene and earliest Pliocene. Regional deepening of the CCD indicates that the Angola Basin would have been filled primarily with more corrosive AABW prior to the late Miocene, and the CCD would have shoaled. Similarly, the carbonate-rich lower Oligocene interval (lithostratigraphic Subunit IIB) implies a deep CCD, whereas the underlying upper Eocene clay (lithostratigraphic Subunit IIC) implies a shallow CCD. The contact between these two units is sharp, indicating that the CCD descent occurred rapidly, possibly in the span of two obliquity cycles as suggested by observations of Pacific cores recovered during Leg 199. The transition back into clay-rich facies in the mid-Oligocene implies a shoaling CCD.

The most prominent clay layer at Site 1262 is a ~40-cm-thick unit at the P/E boundary (base at 140.04 mcd) that is embedded within a thick and uniform sequence of upper Paleocene and lower Eocene foraminiferal nannofossil ooze. The benthic foraminiferal extinction event occurs just below the base of this layer at 140.18 mcd, and a major shift in nannofossil abundances from abundant *Fasciculithus* to more abundant *Zygrhablithus* is observed just above the benthic extinction event (BEE). The basal color contact is relatively sharp, although MS data indicate a more gradual, steplike increase in clay content over the lower 20 cm, with at least two brief reversals. The upper contact, although gradational, is relatively sharp compared to P/E boundary sections recovered at shallower water depths. Still, the overall pattern is consistent with other pelagic records and is inferred to result from seafloor carbonate dissolution because of the input of methane-derived CO_2. Overlying the clay layer is a sequence of nannofossil ooze, which is noticeably richer in carbonate than the unit immediately underlying the clay layer. This

F15. Site 1262 core recovery, age-depth model, and LSR and MAR, p. 66.
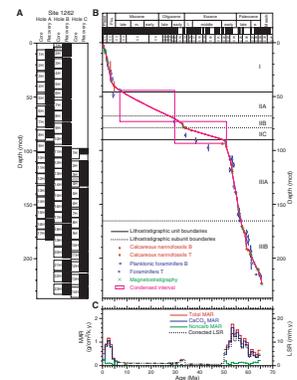
is an important feature of this boundary sequence, as it confirms another prediction of the hydrate dissociation model (e.g., an overcompensation in global carbonate deposition driven by weathering feedbacks). In theory, such a feedback would be a natural response to rapid input of a large mass (2000 Gt) of carbon dioxide.

Another anomalous clay layer is present at the K/P boundary at 216.58 mcd. The basal contact of this layer is sharp, both in color and in MS. This clay layer gradually grades upward into clayey nannofossil ooze over several meters. The lowest Danian biozones are well represented, if not expanded, in this section. The Pα and P1a Zones are 0.4 and 1.0 m thick, respectively. Preservation of foraminifers and calcareous nannofossils is excellent, particularly in the clay-rich layers above the boundary. Many of the "dwarfed" foraminiferal specimens exhibit "glassy" texture and should be particularly useful for geochemical and textural studies. The postextinction flora is dominated by *Thoracosphaera* spp. Key marker species *Cruciplacolithus primus* and *Cruciplacolithus tenuis* first appear at 214.5 and 213.8 mcd, respectively. The boundary is present in the upper third of a reversed zone, Chron C29r, although postcruise analysis of discrete samples is required to confirm the chron boundaries. The combination of orbitally paced bedding cycles, stratigraphic continuity, and excellent fossil preservation will permit further refinement of key biostratigraphic datums, as well as testing of models concerning the rate of ecosystem recovery following mass extinction.

Pervasive bedding cycles are expressed in the MS, color reflectance, and other high-resolution core logging data from Site 1262. The lower Eocene and upper Paleocene cores, in particular, are characterized by pronounced decimeter- to meter-scale bedding cycles. The variance is concentrated in three frequency bands. The shorter cycles have a frequency close to that of the orbital precession, whereas the longer oscillations have frequencies similar to the 100- and 400-k.y. eccentricity cycles. Assuming pacing by precession, the total number of high-frequency cycles in the upper Paleocene and lower Eocene would suggest that the sequence is stratigraphically continuous. The bedding cycles are even more pronounced in the Maastrichtian with power, again, mostly concentrated in the precession and eccentricity bands. Above the K/P boundary, the power shifts into the 100-k.y. eccentricity band. This phenomenon results from a 75% reduction in accumulation rates, primarily in the carbonate component. As previously recognized in most pelagic K/P boundary sequences, carbonate accumulation rates do not recover until much later in the Cenozoic. The presence of these orbitally paced cycles in stratigraphically complete sections provides a unique opportunity to astronomically calibrate the duration of Paleocene and lower Eocene chrons.

Site 1263

Latitude 28°31.98′S
Longitude: 02°46.77′E
Water depth: 2717 m
Maximum depth of penetration: 346 mbsf
Oldest sediments recovered: upper Paleocene
Time on site: 6.79 days (1515 hr on 29 March–1015 hr on 5 April)

Site 1263 (proposed Site WALV-8E) is located along the northwestern flank of Walvis Ridge just a few hundred meters beneath the summit

(Figs. F16, F17). At 2.72 km water depth, this site represents the shallow end-member of the Leg 208 depth transect. Situated well above the level of the CCD throughout the Cenozoic, Site 1263 was expected to yield a stratigraphically continuous and expanded sequence of Paleogene pelagic nannofossil ooze. The primary objective was to recover sedimentary sections with sufficient resolution to detail orbital-scale changes in bottom water chemistry and circulation at shallow bathyal depths during several of the key paleoceanographic events of the Paleogene, including the Eocene–Oligocene transition, the EECO, and the PETM. Ideally, this requires 100% recovery of the sedimentary section with minimal coring disturbance, a requirement that is best met by using APC coring. To this end, the site was positioned along a slope just beneath the ridge crest, where the Neogene is thin and the Paleogene target intervals are at subbottom depths of <300 m.

Four holes (Table T1), offset ~20 m from each other, were cored at Site 1263 using the APC and XCB to recover a 346-m-thick section of upper Paleocene to Pleistocene nannofossil ooze and chalk. Hole 1263A was cored with the APC from the mudline to 284 mbsf and with the XCB to 346 mbsf. Hole 1263B was cored with the APC from 46 to 262 mbsf and with the XCB to 339 mbsf. Hole 1263C was cored with the APC from 90 to 119 mbsf and from 203 to 286 mbsf and with the XCB to 291 mbsf. Hole 1263D was cored with the APC from 272 to 287 mbsf. Nominal recovery averaged ~100% with the APC and ~60% with the XCB. Total nominal recovery for the site was 91%. Using MS data, cores from the four holes were aligned by depth shifting and representative intervals were spliced to create a continuous stratigraphic section for the Eocene and uppermost Paleocene, extending from 48 to 340 mcd. The sections above and below were not completely recovered. Cores in those intervals were depth shifted, assuming a constant growth rate of 18% in the composite section. The total length of the composite is 401 mcd.

The sediments recovered at Site 1263 are predominantly composed of calcareous nannofossil ooze and chalk with relatively little downhole variability (Fig. F18). Calcium carbonate contents are typically 90–95 wt% (except for the P/E boundary interval). As a result, only one lithostratigraphic unit and three subunits were recognized. Subunit IA (0–99.1 mcd) is upper Eocene to Pleistocene foraminifer-bearing nannofossil ooze and nannofossil ooze. The Pliocene–Pleistocene interval (0–26 mcd) has sedimentation rates of 1–6 m/m.y. The upper Oligocene to upper Miocene section (26–48 mcd) is condensed, shows evidence of extensive winnowing as well as reworking and downslope transport (slumps and turbidites), and possibly contains one or more unconformities. The upper Eocene to lower Oligocene section (48–99 mcd) appears to be complete, although reworking is indicated by calcareous microfossils. Subunit IB (99.1–318.0 mcd) is nannofossil ooze, clay-bearing nannofossil ooze, and chalky nannofossil ooze with occasional layers of volcanic ash and disseminated chert or chert stringers, most of which were easily penetrated by the APC. Eocene Subunit IB has sedimentation rates of 5–15 m/m.y. (Fig. F19). The Paleocene to lowermost Eocene Subunit IC (318.0–400.7 mcd) is composed of nannofossil ooze and chalky nannofossil ooze. Several chert horizons are present in the upper Paleocene section. The P/E boundary interval is represented by a ~20-cm-thick "clay" layer at 335.7 mcd. The basal contact is sharp, with MS rising rapidly and carbonate content decreasing from ~90 to <1 wt% over the first 5 cm of the transition. The upper contact is gradational, with carbonate content increasing to >90 wt% over ~100 cm. Sedimen-
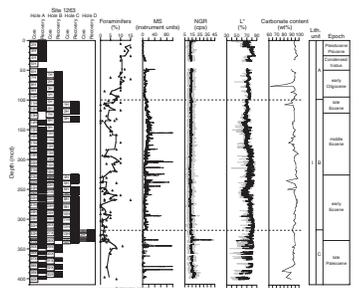

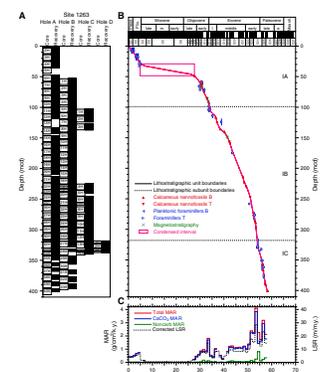F16. *Meteor* track chart showing the location of Sites 1263 and 1264, p. 67.
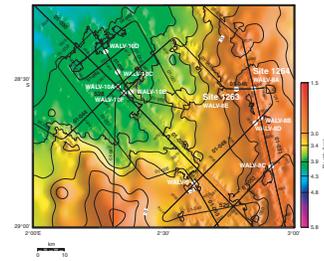
F17. Line GeoB 01-046 and Sites 1263 and 1264 plotted with age estimates of prominent reflectors, p. 68.
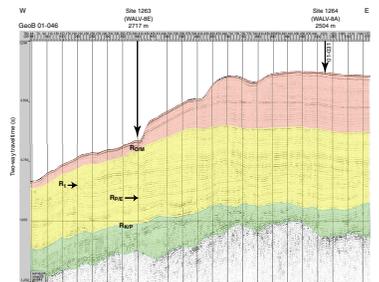
F18. Parameters used to define Site 1263 lithostratigraphic units, p. 69.

F19. Site 1263 core recovery, age-depth model, and LSR and MAR, p. 70.

tation rates in Subunit IC are generally 10–20 m/m.y. and reach 30 m/ m.y. near the top of the subunit in the lowermost Eocene.

The P/E boundary clay layer proved to be an exceptionally challenging target to recover at this site. At the level of the clay layer in Hole 1263A (285 mbsf), the APC took only a partial stroke but still penetrated into the top of the layer, 40 cm of which was captured in the core catcher. Switching to the XCB system in the next core, we were able to recover another 50 cm of the clay layer. However, the contact with the underlying Paleocene ooze, which was softer, appeared unconformable. In Hole 1263B, we elected to use the XCB system to penetrate the boundary layer. This time, ~30 cm of the upper portion of the clay unit lodged in the core catcher, apparently as the core was being cut. As a result, the remaining portion of the clay layer and uppermost Paleocene were washed away. In Hole 1263C, we again elected to use the APC, this time backing off a few meters to allow the core barrel to attain maximum velocity before striking the critical sediment interval. Although the stroke was only partial, the core barrel penetrated the entire clay layer plus 50 cm of the underlying Paleocene ooze. Because this represented the only copy of the entire P/E clay layer at this site, we elected to drill a fourth hole. In Hole 1263D, we applied the same strategy as in the previous hole, firing the APC from a point 2 m above the bottom of the hole. This time the core barrel penetrated just the upper 30 cm of the clay layer. The second APC attempt, again fired from 2 m above the bottom of the hole, penetrated the remaining 50 cm of the clay layer as well as 150 cm of the upper Paleocene. As a result, the basal contact was recovered intact, providing the second complete copy of the P/E boundary for this site.

The moderate sedimentation rates and generally high carbonate content of the Site 1263 sediments are consistent with the relatively shallow depth of the site. During the Paleogene, the site remained well above the lysocline depth (<2 km). This is evident from the presence of carbonate-rich upper Eocene and Oligocene sections, which are largely represented by condensed clay units in deeper segments of the ridge and surrounding seafloor. The lone exception is the 1-m-thick P/E boundary interval at 335 mcd, which is present within a thick and uniform sequence of upper Paleocene and lower Eocene foraminiferal nannofossil ooze. The benthic foraminiferal extinction event occurs just below the base of this layer at 335.6 to 335.7 mcd. This is just below a major shift in nannofossil abundances from abundant *Fasciculithus* to abundant *Zygrhablithus*. The overall pattern of the P/E boundary interval is consistent with other pelagic records and is inferred to result from seafloor carbonate dissolution resulting from the input of methane-derived CO_2 during the event. The fact that this site was at a paleodepth of 1400 m, ~2000 m shallower than Site 1262, attests to the scale of seafloor carbonate dissolution during this event.

The Site 1263 sediment record displays pervasive bedding cycles as expressed in the MS, color reflectance, and other high-resolution core logging data. The middle and lower Eocene, in particular, are characterized by pronounced decimeter- to meter-scale bedding cycles. The variance is concentrated in three frequency bands. The shorter cycles have a frequency close to that of the orbital precession, whereas the longer oscillations have a frequency similar to the 100- and 400-k.y. eccentricity cycles. Both the frequency and amplitude of the bedding cycles are similar to those observed at Site 1262 and should permit high-resolution correlation of units.

Site 1264

Latitude: 28°31.95′S
Longitude: 2°50.73′E
Water depth: 2505 m
Maximum depth of penetration: 283 mbsf
Oldest sediments recovered: lower Oligocene
Time on site: 2.9 days (1310 hr on 5 April–1140 hr on 8 April)

Site 1264 (proposed Site WALV-8A) is located at a water depth of 2505 m at the crest of a north-south–trending segment of Walvis Ridge in the uppermost segment of the Leg 208 Walvis Ridge depth transect (Figs. F16, F20). At 2.5 km depth, the site is well above the level of the present day lysocline and CCD, which in this sector of the eastern Atlantic Ocean are below 4.8 and 5.0 km, respectively. As a result, Site 1264 is uniquely situated to record major changes in regional and/or global ocean carbon chemistry, ocean circulation, and the thermal evolution of the regional surface waters. Site 1264 was drilled as part of a two-site approach to the shallow water depth end-member of the Walvis Ridge transect. With a relatively expanded Oligocene to Neogene sediment sequence, Site 1264 was drilled with the objective to recover sections suitable for detailing changes in intermediate bottom water chemistry and circulation during key paleoceanographic events such as the Oligocene–Miocene transition, the MCO, and the late Pliocene–Pleistocene cooling in association with accelerated ice growth in the Arctic. Initial results indicate that this objective was achieved.

We recovered a ~273-m-thick sequence of lower Oligocene to Pleistocene nannofossil ooze at Site 1264. Three holes (Table T1), offset ~20 m from each other, were cored by using the APC. Hole 1264A was started a few meters below the mudline and was terminated at 280.7 mbsf. Hole 1264B was cored from the mudline to 282.8 mbsf. One core was taken from Hole 1264C to confirm the mudline and recover the topmost sediments. A total of 566.5 m was cored, and 563.8 m of sediment was recovered (average nominal recovery = 99.5%) in three holes. Using color reflectance and MS core logging data, cores from Holes 1264A and 1264B were correlated by depth shifting to create a mcd scale. Representative intervals were spliced together to create a single nearly complete stratigraphic section for Site 1264.

The Site 1264 sediment sequence is divided into two lithostratigraphic units, with the lower unit divided into two subunits (Fig. F21). Unit I (0–29.4 mcd) consists of middle Pliocene–Pleistocene nannofossil foraminiferal ooze, foraminiferal nannofossil ooze, and foraminifer-bearing nannofossil ooze. Unit II (29.4–316.5 mcd) is divided into two subunits. Subunit IIA (29.4–117.0 mcd) consists of white upper Miocene to middle Pliocene nannofossil ooze and foraminifer-bearing nannofossil ooze. Subunit IIB (117.0–316.5 mcd) includes brown lower Oligocene to upper Miocene nannofossil ooze and foraminifer-bearing nannofossil ooze. Unit II sediments contain volcanic ash and abundant oxides. Interstitial waters show high concentrations of iron in Subunit IIA, whereas Subunit IIB interstitial waters include high levels of manganese. Color reflectance and MS records from the recovered sequence at Site 1264 show centimeter- to meter-scale bedding cycles throughout. Centimeter-scale light bluish gray bands in Subunit IIB may represent orbital or even suborbital cycles.

Biostratigraphy shows that a nearly complete Neogene and upper Oligocene section is present, although an unconformity representing

F20. Line GeoB 01-046 and Sites 1263 and 1264 plotted with age estimates of prominent reflectors, p. 71.
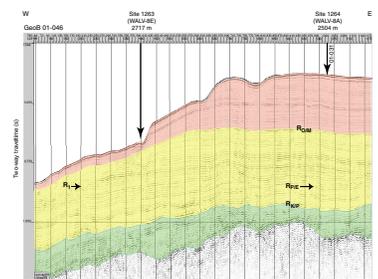
F21. Parameters used to define Site 1264 lithostratigraphic units, p. 72.
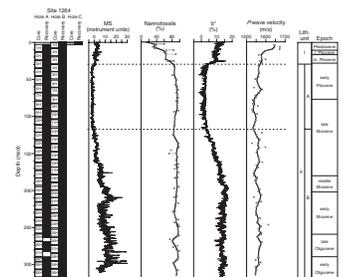
~0.6 m.y. occurs in the upper Miocene (Fig. F22). The middle Miocene interval is condensed relative to the other parts of the record. In general, calcareous microfossils are reasonably well preserved at this site, although preservation deteriorates in the lower part of the record. Oligocene benthic foraminifers reveal downslope transport and reworking at Site 1264. Because of poor data quality, only a few paleomagnetic reversals could be recognized. Sedimentation rates range from 5 to 10 m/m.y. in the Oligocene to middle Miocene, with the highest rates in the lower Miocene. Sedimentation rates are highly variable in the upper Miocene and Pliocene, ranging from 10 to 30 m/m.y.

Site 1265

Latitude 28°50.10'S
Longitude: 02°38.35'E
Water depth: 3060 m
Maximum depth of penetration: 321 mbsf
Oldest sediments recovered: upper Paleocene
Time on site: 6.9 days (1410 hr on 08 April–1130 hr on 15 April)

Site 1265 (proposed Site WALV-9B) is located along the northwestern flank of Walvis Ridge just a few hundred meters beneath the summit (Figs. F16, F23). At 3.08 km water depth, this site represents the shallow middepth site of the Leg 208 depth transect. Situated above the level of the CCD throughout the Cenozoic, Site 1265 was expected to yield a stratigraphically continuous and expanded sequence of upper Paleocene and lower Eocene pelagic nannofossil ooze. The primary objective was to recover sedimentary sections with sufficient resolution to characterize high-frequency changes in bottom water chemistry and circulation at shallow bathyal depths during several of the key climatic events of the Paleogene including the Eocene–Oligocene transition, the EECO, and the PETM. Ideally, this requires complete recovery of the sedimentary section with minimal coring disturbance, a requirement that is best met by using the APC. To this end, the site was located in a broad channel at the base of a slope extending down from the ridge crest. Because the Neogene is relatively condensed here, the key Paleogene target intervals are at subbottom depths of <300 mbsf.

Four holes (Table T1), offset ~20–30 m from each other, were cored at Site 1265 using the APC and XCB to recover a 321-m-thick section of upper Paleocene to Pleistocene nannofossil ooze and chalk. Hole 1265A was cored with the APC from the mudline to 286 mbsf and with the XCB to 321 mbsf. Hole 1265B was cored with the APC from the mudline to 252 mbsf, where mechanical problems prevented further penetration and required the recovery of the drill string. Hole 1265C was cored with the APC from 185 to 204 mbsf, where the same problem as in Hole 1265B occurred, and the drill string had to be recovered again. Hole 1265D was cored with the XCB from 248 to 270 mbsf and by the APC to 275 mbsf to recover the P/E boundary. Total nominal core recovery for the site was 95%. Using MS and color reflectance (red/blue) data, cores from the four holes were aligned by depth shifting and representative intervals were spliced to create a nearly continuous stratigraphic section for the uppermost Paleocene to Pleistocene, extending from 0 to 316 mcd. Two small (<1 m) gaps exist in the lower Eocene. Cores from the upper Paleocene, where recovery was low, were depth shifted by extrapolating a constant growth rate of 14% from the correlated interval. The total length of the composite section is 359 mcd.

F22. Site 1264 core recovery, age-depth model, and LSR and MAR, p. 73.
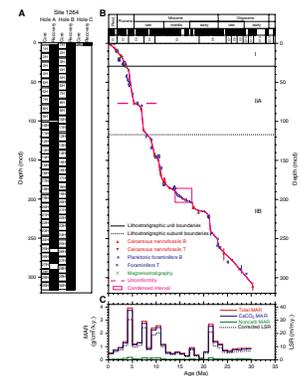
F23. Line GeoB 01-048 and Site 1265 plotted with prominent reflectors, p. 74.
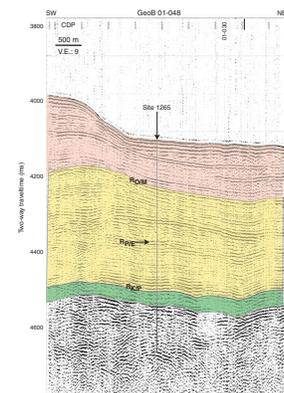
The sediment sequence recovered at Site 1265 has been divided into two lithostratigraphic units and several subunits (Fig. F24). Unit I (0–55.8 mcd) is composed of upper Miocene to Pleistocene foraminifer-bearing nannofossil ooze and nannofossil ooze. Unit II (55.8–359.1 mcd) is composed of upper Paleocene to middle Miocene nannofossil ooze with rare intervals of foraminifer-bearing nannofossil ooze and clay. Unit II is further subdivided into three subunits. Subunit IIA (55.8–192.7 mcd) consists of lower Oligocene to upper Miocene nannofossil ooze and foraminifer-bearing nannofossil ooze. Subunit IIB (192.7–248.5 mcd) is lower to upper Eocene nannofossil ooze, with occasional intervals of foraminifer-bearing nannofossil ooze. The contact between Subunits IIA and IIB coincides with the E/O boundary interval and is marked by a step increase in MS and a step decrease in sediment lightness. Subunit IIC (248.5–359.1 mcd) is a Paleocene to lower Eocene nannofossil ooze and foraminifer-bearing nannofossil ooze.

The P/E boundary clay layer was recovered with mixed success. In Hole 1265A, the entire clay layer was recovered intact in Section 208-1265A-29H-7 (315.86 mcd), the last full-stroke APC of the hole. In Hole 1265B, the APC became stuck in the core barrel at 251.7 mbsf (~288.7 mcd), just ~30 m above the target interval. In Hole 1265C, during the attempt to spot core the lower Eocene and upper Paleocene sediment, the core barrel again became stuck, this time at 204 mbsf (~229.7 mcd). After several XCB cores were taken in Hole 1265D, we returned to APC to core the boundary interval. A partial stroke (4.8 m) penetrated the top of the clay layer and recovered 50 cm in the core catcher. A second APC, fired from 2 m above the bottom of the hole, advanced <1 m and recovered an additional 10 cm of the clay layer.

Based on biostratigraphy, the sequence appears to be relatively complete over the upper Paleocene and lower Eocene, upper Oligocene and lower Miocene, and upper Pliocene. The middle Eocene is condensed, and unconformities spanning ~7 and ~3 m.y., respectively, are present at the lower/middle and middle/upper Eocene boundaries (Fig. F25). An unconformity spanning ~2–3 m.y. is present at the Miocene/Pliocene boundary. Sedimentation rates range from 10 to 25 m/m.y. in the upper Paleocene and lower Eocene, from 4 to 12 m/m.y. in the upper Eocene to middle Miocene, and from 8 to 14 m/m.y. in the Pliocene–Pleistocene. Downslope reworking of microfossils is common in the middle Eocene through Pliocene sequences.

A number of "bioevents" are recorded at Site 1265 that are also recorded at the other Leg 208 Sites. These include an early Miocene bolivinid abundance acme at 85–87 mcd, an event recorded elsewhere in the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. Several discrete *Braarudosphaera* layers are present in the upper Oligocene between 154 and 161 mcd. These layers, which are prominent throughout the South Atlantic Ocean, particularly at sites along the margins, are recorded at precisely the same stratigraphic level at each of the Leg 208 sites.

The moderate sedimentation rates and generally high carbonate content of the Site 1265 sediments are consistent with the relatively shallow depth of the site. During the Paleogene, the site apparently remained above the lysocline depth with the exception of several brief periods in the latest Paleocene and early Eocene, including the P/E boundary. The latter is marked by an abrupt contact between upper Paleocene nannofossil ooze and lower Eocene dusky red, zeolite- and nannofossil-bearing clay that grades upcore into nannofossil ooze. The minimum carbonate concentration at this "intermediate" depth site is ~30 wt%, whereas minimum values near 0 wt% characterize the deeper

F24. Parameters used to define Site 1265 lithostratigraphic units, p. 75.
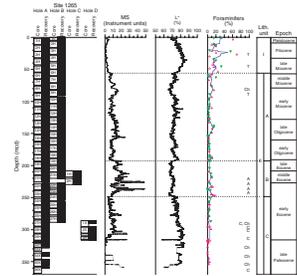
F25. Site 1265 core recovery, age-depth model, and LSR and MAR, p. 76.
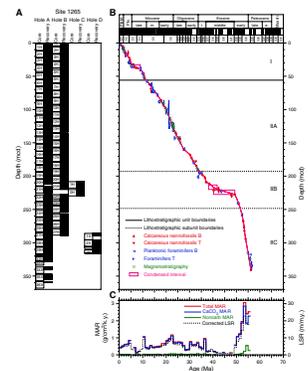
and shallower Sites 1262 and 1263, respectively. Either carbonate was bioturbated into the first centimeters above the contact at Site 1265 or the earliest Eocene is not represented at Site 1265. Moreover, the P/E boundary interval is marked by a sharp increase in MS and a decrease in sediment lightness. The benthic foraminiferal extinction event occurs just below the base of this layer at 315.81–315.86 mcd. This slightly precedes a shift in nannofossils from abundant *Fasciculithus* to abundant *Zygrhablithus*.

Site 1265 sediments record pervasive bedding cycles as expressed in the MS, color reflectance, and other high-resolution core logging data. The lower Eocene, in particular, is characterized by pronounced decimeter- to meter-scale bedding cycles. The variance is concentrated in three frequency bands. The shorter cycles have a frequency close to that of the orbital precession, whereas the longer oscillations have a frequency close to the 100- and 400-k.y. eccentricity cycles. Both the frequency and amplitude of the bedding cycles are similar to those observed at Sites 1262 and 1263, which should permit the high-resolution correlation of units.

Site 1266

Latitude: 28°32.55′S
Longitude: 2°20.61′E
Water depth: 3798 m
Maximum depth of penetration: 334 mbsf
Oldest sediments recovered: upper Paleocene
Time on site: 5.6 days (1405 hr on 15 April–0445 hr on 21 April)

Site 1266 (proposed Site WALV-10F) is located along the northwestern flank of Walvis Ridge (Figs. F16, F26). At 3.8 km water depth, this site represents one of the middepth sites of the Leg 208 depth transect. Situated near the level of the CCD throughout the Cenozoic, Site 1266 was expected to yield a stratigraphically continuous and expanded sequence of upper Paleocene and lower Eocene pelagic nannofossil ooze. The primary objective was to recover sedimentary sections with sufficient resolution to characterize high-frequency changes in bottom water chemistry and circulation at shallow bathyal depths during several of the key climatic events of the Paleogene, including the Eocene–Oligocene transition, the EECO, and the PETM. Ideally, this requires recovery of the complete sedimentary section with minimal coring disturbance, a requirement that is best met with the APC. To this end, the site was located in a broad channel at the base of a slope extending down from the ridge crest. Because the Neogene is relatively condensed here, the key Paleogene target intervals are at subbottom depths of <300 mbsf.

Three holes (Table T1), offset ~20–30 m from each other, were cored at Site 1266 using the APC and the XCB to recover a 334.2-m-thick section of upper Paleocene to Pleistocene nannofossil ooze and chalk. Hole 1266A was cored with the APC to 217.1 mbsf and with the XCB to 298.6 mbsf. Hole 1266B was cored with the APC from the mudline to 7.6 mbsf. The hole was then drilled ahead to 220 mbsf without coring to save time, and the remainder of the hole (220–321 mbsf) was cored with the XCB. Hole 1266C was washed down to 62 mbsf and cored with the APC from 62 to 192 mbsf. From 192 to 245 mbsf the hole was washed again, and a single XCB core was taken from 245 to 254.5 mbsf, followed by three APC cores from 254.5 to 282.7 mbsf, which recovered the P/E critical boundary interval. Finally, the hole was completed with

F26. Line GeoB 01-030 and Sites 1266 and 528 with age estimates of prominent reflectors, p. 77.
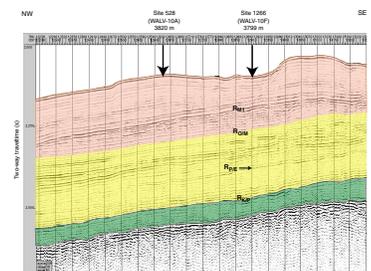
the XCB to 334.2 mbsf. Total nominal core recovery for the site was 98%.

Using MS and chromaticity data, cores from the three holes were aligned by depth shifting. A splice of representative intervals was created for the uppermost Paleocene to lowermost Eocene, the interval that contains the P/E boundary. As a result of the strategic decision not to double core the Pliocene–Pleistocene and upper Eocene and because of poor overlap between cores from Holes 1266A and 1266C in the Oligocene to Miocene interval, recovery of a complete section was not achieved in those intervals and cores from the Pleistocene down to lowermost Eocene were depth shifted, assuming a constant mcd growth rate of 15%.

The sediment sequence recovered at Site 1266 has been divided into three lithostratigraphic units (Fig. F27). Unit I (0–76.8 mcd) is composed of uppermost Miocene to Pleistocene foraminifer-bearing nannofossil ooze and nannofossil ooze. The unit contains frequent turbidites marked by distinctive light brown layers of coarse-grained foraminiferal ooze that have sharp bases and gradational tops. Unit II (76.7 to 214.7 mcd) is composed of Oligocene to uppermost Miocene clay-bearing nannofossil ooze and nannofossil ooze and clay. Unit II contains clay layers formed during periods of severe carbonate dissolution and inclined and folded layers indicative of synsedimentary slumping. Unit III includes upper Paleocene to Oligocene clay-bearing nannofossil ooze, nannofossil ooze, nannofossil chalk, and nannofossil clay. The chalky intervals are in the lower part of Unit III, mainly below the P/E boundary. Volcanic ash is a minor component throughout the sequence.

As at Sites 1263 and 1265, recovery of the P/E boundary clay layer met with mixed success. The XCB recovered only a partial clay layer in Hole 1266A (Core 208-1266A-31X), presumably because the cutting shoe rotation tends to grind away sediment at the interface of stiff clay and soft calcareous ooze. Therefore, the APC was used in the subsequent two holes. In Hole 1265B, the APC core catcher got stuck in the clay layer (Section 208-1266B-6H-CC). In Hole 1265C, the APC achieved a full stroke and recovered the entire clay layer in Section 208-1266C-17H-3.

The calcareous microfossils generally show moderate preservation. All microfossil groups indicate extensive reworking throughout the section except for the interval surrounding the P/E boundary. Despite all the reworked specimens, two unconformities were recognized, one with a duration of ~1.2 m.y. in the upper Miocene and the second one spanning ~37 to ~47 Ma, which represents a large part of the middle Eocene. Sedimentation rates range from 6 to 24 m/m.y. in the upper Paleocene to lower Eocene, <4 m/m.y. in the middle Eocene, and from 4 to 8 m/m.y. in the upper Eocene to Pleistocene, not including the upper Miocene unconformity (Fig. F28).

At the approximate middepth of the Leg 208 transect, Site 1266 is critical for constraining the timing of shifts in ocean carbonate chemistry. The moderate sedimentation rates and generally high carbonate content of the upper Paleocene–lower Eocene sediments are consistent with the results from Sites 1262 and 1267. During the Paleogene, the site apparently remained above the lysocline depth with the exception of at least two brief periods. The first reddish clay-rich layer is present in the lower Eocene at ~293 mcd (carbonate content = ~50 wt%). This clay layer falls in Zone NP11 and has now been identified in each of the lower Eocene sequences recovered on Walvis Ridge. This ~10-cm-thick

F27. Parameters used to define Site 1266 lithostratigraphic units, p. 78.
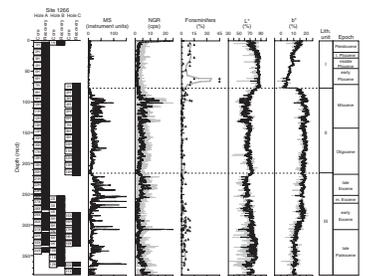
F28. Site 1266 core recovery, age-depth model, and LSR and MAR, p. 79.
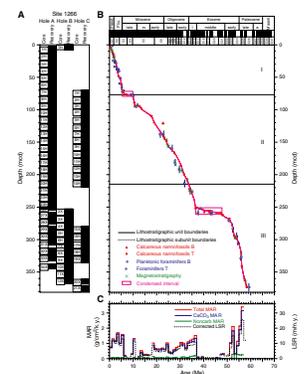
layer clearly represents a regional bedding horizon and exhibits several lithologic features characteristic of the P/E boundary layer. The second prominent clay layer is the P/E boundary clay at 306.8 mcd. The P/E boundary is marked by an abrupt contact between upper Paleocene nannofossil ooze and lower Eocene dusky red zeolite- and nannofossil-bearing clay that grades upward into nannofossil ooze. The carbonate content is ~0 wt% at this "intermediate" depth site. Moreover, the P/E boundary interval is marked by sharp increases in MS and a decrease in sediment lightness. The BEE occurs just below the base of the clay layer (306.8 mcd). A major shift in nannofossil abundances, from abundant *Fasciculithus* to abundant *Zygrhablithus,* occurs just above the P/E.

The Site 1266 sediment record displays pervasive bedding cycles as expressed in the MS, color reflectance, and other high-resolution core logging data. The entire Site 1266 sequence shows cycles with different wavelengths. The Miocene sequence exhibits light gray to brown foraminifer-bearing nannofossil ooze that alternates with medium brown foraminifer-bearing nannofossil ooze on a meter scale. The lightness record shows cycles on a decimeter to meter scale. The lower Eocene, in particular, is characterized by pronounced decimeter- to meter-scale bedding cycles. The variance is concentrated in three frequency bands. The shorter cycles have a frequency close to that of the orbital precession, whereas the longer oscillations have a frequency close to the 100- and 400-k.y. eccentricity cycles. Both the frequency and amplitude of the bedding cycles are similar to those observed at Sites 1262, 1263, and 1265 and should permit the high-resolution correlation of units.

Site 1267

Latitude: 28°5.88'S
Longitude: 1°42.66'E
Water depth: 4355 m
Maximum depth of penetration: 329 mbsf
Oldest sediments recovered: upper Maastrichtian
Time on site: 5.3 days (0940 hr on 21 April–1648 hr on 26 April)

Site 1267 (proposed Site WALV-11B) is located on the lower northwestern flank of Walvis Ridge, just to the southwest of DSDP Site 527 (Figs. F29, F30). At 4.35 km, it is the second deepest site of the Leg 208 depth transect. Site 1267 is above the level of the present-day lysocline and CCD, which in this sector of the eastern Atlantic Ocean are below 4.8 and 5.0 km, respectively. Close proximity to the CCD appears to be maintained for much of the Cenozoic, as the rate of local subsidence has more or less kept pace with the long-term deepening of the CCD. As a result, Site 1267 is well situated to record major changes in regional carbon chemistry and/or circulation. Site 1267 was drilled with the objective of recovering sections suitable for detailing changes in bottom water chemistry and circulation at abyssal depths during several of the key paleoceanographic events of the Paleogene including the Eocene–Oligocene transition, the PETM, and the K/P boundary extinction. Initial results indicate that this objective was achieved.

Two holes (Table T1), offset ~20 m from each other, were cored at Site 1267 using the APC and XCB. A 329-m-thick section of upper Maastrichtian to Pleistocene nannofossil ooze and clay was recovered. Hole 1267A was drilled from the mudline to 312 mbsf. Hole 1267B was cored from the mudline to 329 mbsf. Nominal recovery exceeded 99% in both holes. Using MS and color reflectance data, cores from the two

F29. *Meteor* track chart showing the location of Site 1267, p. 80.
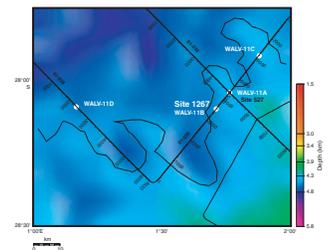
F30. Locations of Site 1267 and DSDP Site 527 along Line GeoB 01-039, p. 81.
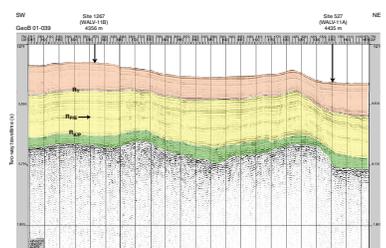
holes were correlated by depth shifting and representative intervals were spliced together to create a single stratigraphic section with a total length of 368 mcd. At least five small recovery gaps remain in the interval from 267 to 368 mcd.

The Site 1267 lithostratigraphic units are nearly identical to those identified at Site 1262 (4.76 km water depth) but thicker and with slightly higher average carbonate contents (Fig. F31). Three lithostratigraphic units and five subunits were recognized. Unit I (0–102.3 mcd) consists of upper Miocene to Pleistocene nannofossil ooze and foraminifer-bearing nannofossil ooze. Unit II (102.3–157.8 mcd) is divided into three distinct subunits based on the relative abundance of clay. Subunits IIA (102.3–124 mcd) and IIC (143–157.8 mcd) are upper Oligocene to upper Miocene and middle to upper Eocene clay layers separated by Subunit IIB, a lower Oligocene nannofossil ooze and clayey nannofossil ooze interval. Unit III (157.8–368 mcd), subdivided into two subunits, consists of upper Maastrichtian to middle Eocene clayey nannofossil ooze and chalk and nannofossil clay.

Biostratigraphic results show the section to be stratigraphically complete, at shipboard resolution, in the Pleistocene to uppermost Miocene and in the lower Eocene through upper Maastrichtian intervals (including the P/E and K/P boundaries), with sedimentation rates typically ranging 5–15 m/m.y. (Fig. F32). Two condensed intervals (sedimentation rates <1.5 m/m.y.) span the lowermost upper Miocene through lower Oligocene (~10.4–30.0 Ma; 108–124 mcd) and a large part of the upper and middle Eocene (34.0–42.3 Ma; 146–151 mcd), respectively.

As at Site 1262, sharp transitions between carbonate- and clay-rich facies at Site 1267 are an expression of the long-term deepening of the CCD and related changes in ocean carbon chemistry and/or circulation. The carbonate-rich facies include the Pleistocene, Pliocene, lower Oligocene, Paleocene, lower–middle Eocene, and Maastrichtian intervals. The clay-rich facies include the Miocene and middle to upper Eocene sections, as well as discrete layers at the P/E and K/P boundaries. Preliminary age assignments indicate that each of the major facies changes at Site 1267 corresponds to a previously documented shift in the level of the CCD. The Pliocene and Pleistocene sedimentation rates of up to 26 m/m.y. are consistent with moderate rates of carbonate dissolution in this part of the Atlantic Ocean but with noticeably less dissolution than that at Site 1262, which is ~400 m deeper. The facies transition between lithostratigraphic Units II and I reflects a regional deepening of the CCD during the late Miocene and earliest Pliocene. Similarly, the carbonate-rich lower Oligocene interval (lithostratigraphic Subunit IIB) implies a deep CCD, whereas the underlying upper Eocene clay (lithostratigraphic Subunit IIC) implies a shallow CCD. The contact between these two units is sharp, indicating that the CCD descent occurred rapidly. The transition back into clay-rich facies in the mid-Oligocene implies a shoaling CCD.

The other clay-rich layers are relatively thin but pronounced as they are imbedded within relatively carbonate-rich units. They include the P/E boundary (base at 231.53 mcd) that is present within a thick and uniform sequence of upper Paleocene and lower Eocene foraminiferal nannofossil ooze. The BEE, including the uppermost appearance of *Stensioeina beccariiformis,* occurs just below the base of this layer at 231.53–231.62 mcd. This is followed by a shift in nannofossil assemblage from abundant *Fasciculithus* to abundant *Zygrhablithus* between 230.3 and 230.8 mcd. Planktonic foraminifers are heavily dissolved in the clay layer, with only extremely rare specimens of *Acarinina solda-*

F31. Site 1267 MS, NGR, carbonate concentration, and L*, p. 82.
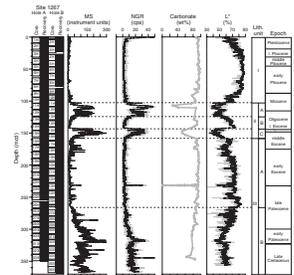
F32. Site 1267 core recovery, age-depth model, and LSR and MAR, p. 83.
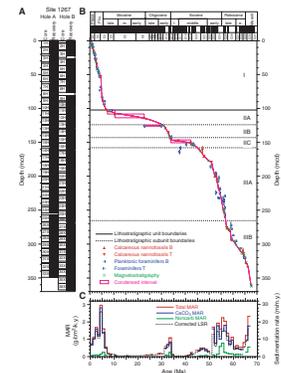
doensis, Acarinina coalingensis, Acarinina "chascanona," and *Morozovella subbotinae*. The basal color contact is relatively sharp, although MS data show a more gradual, steplike increase over the lower 20 cm. The upper contact, although gradational, is relatively sharp compared to P/E boundary sections recovered at shallower water depths. In essence, the overall pattern is consistent with other pelagic records and is inferred to result from seafloor carbonate dissolution because of the input of methane-derived CO_2. Overlying the clay layer is a sequence of nannofossil ooze, which is slightly richer in carbonate than the unit immediately underlying the clay layer. Two other prominent clay layers, which we label the X and Y layers, occur in the lower Eocene at Site 1267.

The K/P boundary was recovered at 320.4 mcd. The basal contact of this layer is sharp, both in color and in MS. This grades upward into clay nannofossil ooze over several meters. The lowest Danian biozones, the Pα and P1a Zones, are ~0.2 and 0.8 m thick, respectively. Preservation of foraminifers and calcareous nannofossils is not as good as that observed at Site 1262. Many of the "dwarfed" foraminiferal specimens are dissolved and slightly overgrown. The postextinction flora is dominated by *Thoracosphaera* spp. Key marker species *C. primus* and *C. tenuis* first appear at 314.8 and 319.3 mcd, respectively. The boundary is present in the upper third of a reversed zone, Chron C29r, although postcruise analysis of discrete samples is required to confirm the chron boundaries.

Bedding cycles as expressed in the MS, sediment lightness, and other high-resolution core logging data are common at Site 1267. The lower Eocene and upper Paleocene cores, in particular, are characterized by pronounced decimeter- to meter-scale bedding cycles. The shorter cycles have a frequency close to that of the orbital precession, whereas the longer oscillations have frequencies similar to the 100- and 400-k.y. eccentricity cycles. The bedding cycles are even more pronounced in the Maastrichtian with power, again, mostly concentrated in the precession and eccentricity bands. Above the K/P boundary, the power shifts primarily into the 100-k.y. eccentricity band. As previously recognized in most pelagic K/P boundary sequences, carbonate accumulation rates do not recover until much later in the Paleocene.

LEG 208 SYNTHESIS

The sediments recovered during Leg 208 have shed new light on the nature of short-term paleoceanographic events of the last 70 m.y., while also improving upon our understanding of the general long-term trends as established by earlier cruises. DSDP Leg 74, in particular, provided the essential groundwork for Leg 208 by defining the long-term depositional history of Walvis Ridge and surrounding basins and also by identifying the presence of critical intervals, including the P/E boundary (Moore, Rabinowitz, et al., 1984). This body of work, along with new multichannel seismic profiles (Spieß et al., 2003), was essential in developing the drilling strategy for Leg 208.

Despite its numerous seminal contributions, the critical deficiency of Leg 74 was a technological one, the inability to continuously core sedimentary sections with minimal disturbance. The consequences of this deficiency became increasingly evident as Leg 208 progressed. Because of the exceptional core recovery in multiple holes, we were able to resolve the complete spectrum of lithologic variability down to the centimeter scale, including the orbitally paced oscillations. As a conse-

quence, Leg 208 documented the occurrence of a number of critical events of the Paleogene, several either previously undocumented or poorly constrained. These include the well-known events that served as the primary targets for this cruise, the P/E and K/P boundaries, but also several heretofore unrecognized events in the early Eocene and Paleocene. Finally, Leg 208, with the depth-transect approach, was also able to establish the character of both the long- and short-term changes in the vertical dimension, a constraint that is essential to understanding both the causes and consequences of change.

In the following section, we summarize the major findings of this leg, focusing primarily on those contributions that are novel or represent a significant improvement upon previous findings. We start with a brief summary of the chronostratigraphy, followed by an overview of the depositional history of Walvis Ridge and its relation to paleoceanographic change, and then focus on specific critical events that were documented at multiple holes.

Chronostratigraphy

During Leg 208, a total of six sites were cored between 2.5 and 4.8 km water depth on Walvis Ridge. Upper Maastrichtian through Pleistocene sediments were recovered at Sites 1262 (4759 m) and 1267 (4354 m); upper Paleocene through Pleistocene sediments were recovered at Sites 1266 (3797 m), 1265 (3059 m), and 1263 (2717 m); and lower Oligocene through Pleistocene sediments were recovered at Site 1264 (2507 m) (Fig. F33).

Biostratigraphy

Overall, the Pleistocene through upper Miocene section is represented at all sites and is most expanded at Site 1264. The middle through lower Miocene is relatively condensed at Sites 1264 and 1265 and highly condensed and/or interrupted by unconformities at all other sites. The upper Oligocene is present at Sites 1264 and 1265 and partially present at Site 1263. At least part of the lower Oligocene has been identified at all sites, with the record most incomplete at Site 1262. The E/O boundary is not recovered at Site 1262 and 1267 and is present in intervals of intense reworking and dissolution at Sites 1265 and 1266. The upper and middle Eocene is highly condensed or unconformable at all sites except Site 1263. Microfossil assemblages in the middle Miocene through middle Eocene are affected to varying degrees by dissolution, reworking, and downslope transport, especially at Sites 1265–1267.

The lower Eocene through upper Paleocene is well represented at all sites, with generally good preservation of calcareous microflora and fauna except for dissolution in the clay layer just above the P/E boundary. The lower Paleocene and upper Maastrichtian are well represented at Sites 1267 and 1262. Preservation of microflora and fauna is generally good to moderate, with some reworking and dissolution in the lower upper Paleocene and dissolution in the Maastrichtian at Site 1267.

Pleistocene

Pleistocene sediments were recovered at all sites, with the most expanded sections (~20 m) at Sites 1266 and 1267 and the most condensed sections at Sites 1263 and 1265. Calcareous nannofossils are

F33. Sediment age distribution at Leg 208 sites, p. 84.
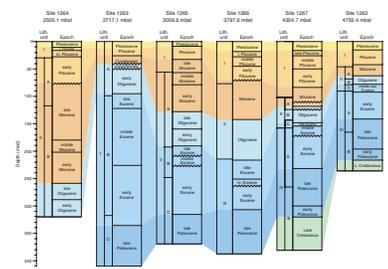
abundant and have good preservation at all sites, except within slumps at Site 1262. A complete succession of nannofossil events is present at Sites 1264, 1266, and 1267. Pleistocene assemblages of planktonic foraminifers are a mixture of well-preserved subtropical to temperate planktonic foraminifers, with good preservation at Sites 1264 and 1265 and common reworking in the basal Pleistocene at Sites 1262 and 1265–1267. Benthic foraminifers are rare and well preserved at all sites and resemble faunas presently living in the Walvis Ridge region with depth-dependent assemblage composition.

Pliocene

The most expanded Pliocene sections were recovered at Sites 1264, 1266, and 1267. The lower Pliocene is missing at Site 1263, and the uppermost upper Pliocene is missing at Site 1265. Pliocene calcareous nannofloras consist of abundant nannofossils with good preservation. The midlatitude discoasterid markers *Discoaster asymmetricus* and *Discoaster tamalis* are common to abundant, and the occurrence of common *Scyphosphaera* spp. characterizes the lower Pliocene.

Planktonic foraminiferal biostratigraphic resolution through the upper Pliocene is limited by the scarcity of key tropical/subtropical age-diagnostic taxa (e.g., the absence of all menardellids and *Globigerinoides fistulosus*), probably because of the presence of cool temperate waters. Assemblages from Site 1264 are best preserved. Reworking is common at Sites 1262 and 1267, and there are numerous turbidites at Sites 1262 and 1266. Benthic foraminifers are generally rare but well preserved, resembling faunas presently living in the Walvis Ridge region. Downhole fluctuations in relative species abundance probably reflect variability in deepwater circulation and productivity.

Miocene

At no site was a complete Miocene sequence recovered, but the upper Miocene is present at most sites. There are unconformities across the Miocene/Pliocene boundary at Sites 1263–1265, in the upper Miocene at Site 1266, and in the lower to middle Miocene at Site 1267. The Miocene is condensed at Sites 1263, 1262, and 1267 and at several sites is interrupted by turbidites. At Site 1264, most of the upper Miocene is expanded and the middle and lower Miocene are complete but relatively condensed. Calcareous nannofossil assemblages of uppermost and/or lowermost Miocene (including the Oligocene/Miocene [O/M] boundary) are rich and moderately well preserved at Sites 1264–1266. The upper Miocene markers *Discoaster quinqueramus, Discoaster berggrenii,* and *Discoaster hamatus,* the middle Miocene *Helicosphaera ampliaperta* and most of the helicoliths, and the lower Miocene *Triquetrorhabdulus carinatus* are absent at all sites. All Miocene assemblages are dominated by small- and medium-sized placoliths (*Reticulofenestra* spp. and *Cyclicargolithus* spp.). Miocene planktonic foraminiferal assemblages have generally good preservation at Site 1264 but have been affected by dissolution at all other sites. The subdivision of the upper–middle Miocene was hampered by the general absence of the *Fohsella* clade, probably because of temperate-water conditions, although the absence of this genus may also reflect evolution toward a more stenothermal ecology.

Middle–lower Miocene benthic foraminiferal assemblages are affected by downslope transport and reworking at all sites except Site 1264. The middle Miocene benthic foraminiferal turnover could be recognized at all sites but not documented in detail because of the unconformities and condensed sections. The lower Miocene bolivinid event

(defined as the high abundance of bolivinids [HAB] event; ~18 Ma) was documented at Sites 1264 and 1265.

Oligocene

There are unconformities corresponding to part of the Oligocene at Sites 1262, 1263, 1266, and 1267. The upper Oligocene is present at Sites 1264 and 1265 and highly condensed at Site 1263. At least part of the lower Oligocene has been identified at all sites. Oligocene assemblages at all sites are affected by dissolution and/or reworking. Oligocene calcareous nannofossils are generally abundant and moderately preserved and show slight dissolution and low diversity. Reworked Eocene specimens are most common at Sites 1262 and 1265. Sphenoliths vary in abundance and are generally rare or have a discontinuous distribution at all sites, but the marker species *Sphenolithus distentus* and *Sphenolithus ciperoensis* provide biostratigraphic control. Rich "*Braarudosphaera* layers" occur in Zone NP23 (CP18) at Sites 1264 and 1265. *Helicosphaera* spp. are always rare and absent in some intervals. The succession of lowermost Oligocene events could be identified at Sites 1263, 1265, 1266, and 1267, but the lowermost Oligocene biostratigraphic marker *Isthmolithus recurvus,* a "cool-water taxon," has a discontinuous distribution. Intense dissolution and extensive reworking of planktonic foraminifers made identification of the O/M boundary problematic at Sites 1262, 1263, 1266, and 1267. This interval contains well-preserved assemblages at Site 1265, but the record is interrupted by a slump. Lower Oligocene planktonic foraminiferal assemblages were recovered at all sites but were affected by intense dissolution.

Benthic foraminiferal assemblages are affected by dissolution, reworking of older material, and severe downslope transport at all sites, but least at Site 1264. In situ components are mainly long-lived and common uppermost Eocene through lower Miocene bathyal through abyssal species. Transported components reflect middle bathyal or greater depths.

Eocene/Oligocene Boundary Interval

Sections spanning the E/O boundary interval are incomplete or condensed. Sites 1263 and 1265 contain the most complete records, but even these are affected by dissolution and reworking. Calcareous nannofossil events delimiting this critical interval could be recognized at Sites 1263, 1265, and 1266. Preservation is moderate and specimens show dissolution, etching, and reworking. The uppermost Eocene, characterized by the uppermost occurrences of representatives of the rosette-shaped discoasters, contains reworked Paleocene and Eocene forms. Planktonic foraminiferal assemblages show severe dissolution and reworking even at Sites 1263 and 1265, and the scarcity of key marker taxa (e.g., *Turborotalia cerroazulensis* and *Cribrohantkenina inflata*) hindered evaluation of stratigraphic completeness. A winnowed well-sorted assemblage of thick-shelled *Globigerinatheka* spp. is present within the uppermost Eocene at Sites 1263, 1265, 1266, and 1267 and intercalated in lower Oligocene sediments at Site 1266.

Eocene

The upper Eocene sections are condensed or interrupted by unconformities at all sites, and reworking is common. The upper part of the middle Eocene is incomplete at all sites except Site 1263. At Sites 1265 and 1266, the lower boundary of the middle Eocene is also marked by unconformities. Preservation of all calcareous microfossil groups im-

proves in the lower Eocene at all sites but deteriorates because of dissolution just above the P/E boundary. Calcareous nannofossils are diverse but moderately preserved, and discoasters show strong overgrowth. Reworking is common in the middle and upper Eocene at Sites 1265 and 1266. The upper Eocene marker species *Cribrocentrum reticulatum* is absent at all sites. The absence of several key tropical-marker species of planktonic foraminifers reduced the level to which the Eocene could be subdivided. Specifically, upper through middle Eocene sections typically lack such marker species such as *Orbulinoides beckmanni, Morozovella lehneri,* and *Hantkenina nuttalli.* The scarcity of these biostratigraphically useful species is the result of strong carbonate dissolution and/or suboptimal environmental conditions. Biostratigraphic subdivision of lower Eocene sediments was hindered by the absence of as *Planorotalites palmerae* and the general scarcity of *Morozovella formosa,* which likely reflects unfavorable ecological conditions.

Condensed sections, unconformities, and reworking of the upper Eocene–lower Oligocene prevented detailed documentation of the benthic foraminiferal faunal turnover marked by the uppermost occurrence of *Nuttallides truempyi.* The presence of abundant *Plectofrondicularia paucicostata* indicates unusually intensive downslope transport in the upper Eocene at Sites 1265–1267. In contrast, lower Eocene benthic foraminiferal faunas are generally well preserved and show fluctuating species richness and relative abundance of abyssaminids and small smooth-walled bolivinids.

Paleocene/Eocene Boundary Interval

The P/E boundary was recovered at all sites except Site 1264 and is marked by a prominent clay layer, the lowermost few centimeters of which is barren or contains very few calcareous microfossils. Preservation of all microfossil groups deteriorates in the clay layer just above the boundary as defined by the uppermost occurrence of the benthic foraminifer *S. beccariiformis* in the BEE.

Calcareous nannofossil assemblages are abundant to sparse close to the boundary. Discoasters increase in abundance, and *Rhomboaster* spp. show their lowermost occurrence in the clay level. Specimens belonging to the *Rhomboaster-Tribrachiatus* plexus are poorly preserved because of recrystallization, which prevents the identification of the boundaries between Zones NP11, NP10, and NP9 at most sites. *Fasciculithus* and *Zygrhablithus* show a reversal in relative abundance just above the BEE. The clay layer contains few planktonic foraminifers. The *Morozovella velascoensis* clade is poorly represented in the Walvis Ridge region, and no "excursion" taxa were present in the P/E boundary interval. The overall scarcity of *M. velascoensis* made identification of the P5/P6a zonal boundary problematic.

The benthic foraminiferal extinction event was identified at all sites at the base of the clay layer. *S. beccariiformis* is present in the uppermost Paleocene sample just below the clay layer at all sites over the full depth transect. The lowermost few centimeters of the clay layer were barren at Sites 1262, 1267, and 1266 and contained a few small specimens at Sites 1265 and 1263. Postextinction faunas are dominated by minute *N. truempyi,* abyssaminids, clinapertinids, quadrimorphinids, small species of *Bulimina, Aragonia aragonensis,* and *Tappanina selmensis.* Abyssaminids and clinapertinids are more abundant at Sites 1262 and 1267, and buliminids, *T. selmensis,* and *A. aragonensis* are more abundant at the other sites.

Paleocene

There is no evidence for unconformities in the Paleocene, but there is evidence for dissolution, reworking, and downslope transport in some intervals of the lower upper Paleocene at Sites 1262 and 1267. Diverse assemblages of calcareous nannofossils with good to moderate preservation show characteristics of midlatitude assemblages. Reworked Cretaceous specimens are rare between the lower part of Zone NP8 and the K/P boundary at Sites 1262, 1266, and 1267. The "mid-Paleocene biotic event" is recognized by the lowermost occurrence of *Heliolithus kleinpellii* at the base of Zone NP6 (CP5) at Sites 1262 and 1267. The rarity of *Ellipsolithus macellus* in the lower part of its range prevents the recognition of the CP3/CP2 (NP4/NP3) zonal boundary.

Abundant large planktonic foraminifers are present through much of the Paleocene. Upper Paleocene assemblages are dominated by the genera *Acarinina, Morozovella, Subbotina,* and *Globanomalina.* The mid-Paleocene biotic event occurs in the lower part of the upper Paleocene (basal Subzone P4a) in a clayey interval at Sites 1262 and 1267 and is marked by a short-lived increase in the abundance of small igorinid taxa (Bralower, Premoli Silva, Malone, et al., 2002; Bralower et al., 2002). Lower Paleocene (Zone P2) assemblages are dominated by the praemuricate taxa.

Benthic foraminiferal assemblages are highly diverse in the upper Paleocene, but at the three deepest sites there are strong fluctuations in the relative abundance of *Siphogenerinoides brevispinosa* and *Bulimina thanetensis.* The lowermost occurrence of the latter may mark the benthic foraminiferal expression of the mid-Paleocene biotic event.

Upper Cretaceous/Lower Paleocene Boundary Interval

The Maastrichtian/Danian boundary was recovered at Sites 1262 and 1267 and appears to be complete at both sites, although the planktonic foraminiferal Zone P0 could not be identified. Danian calcareous nannofossil assemblages are abundant and moderately well preserved. Just above the K/P boundary, assemblages contain reworked Cretaceous specimens and are dominated by *Thoracosphaera* spp., *Biantholithus sparsus,* and *Cyclagelosphaera reinhardtii.* Calcareous nannofossils are abundant in the upper Maastrichtian. Preservation varies from good to moderate with strong dissolution and fragmentation in the uppermost Maastrichtian where the assemblages are mainly composed of solution-resistant species such as *Micula straurophora, Micula murus, Watznaueria barnesae, Lithraphidites carniolensis,* and *Lithraphidites quadratus. Nephrolithus frequens,* a cool-water marker species, is rare.

The Danian planktonic foraminiferal assemblages contain some reworked Cretaceous specimens and abundant but diminutive planktonic foraminifers (e.g., *Woodringina hornerstownensis, Parasubbotina* spp., *Globoconusa daubjergensis*) with highly variable preservation at Site 1267 and excellent preservation at Site 1262, particularly in the clay-rich sediments just above the K/P boundary. The Maastrichtian assemblages at both sites are moderately preserved and exhibit varying degrees of etching and dissolution. As observed elsewhere, benthic foraminiferal assemblages across the K/P boundary at both sites do not exhibit any evidence of significant extinction.

Magnetostratigraphy

The soft, weakly magnetized carbonate sediments recovered during Leg 208 frequently produced erratic or seemingly biased inclination

records, making magnetostratigraphic interpretations difficult or impossible over many intervals. Despite this, several polarity sequences were identifiable, including most of the major boundaries in the Pliocene–Pleistocene, an upper Miocene through Oligocene sequence at Sites 1265 and 1266, and an excellent Paleocene through Upper Cretaceous sequence at Sites 1262 and 1267.

Whereas the inclination record from the Pliocene–Pleistocene is not very clean at most sites, we were frequently able to identify major reversal boundaries. However, assignment to a particular boundary was often aided in this interval by biostratigraphic datums or cyclostratigraphy. Of particular note, Chron C2n, close to the Pliocene/Pleistocene boundary, is identified at all sites except Site 1262.

Sites 1265 and 1266 were combined to produce an interpretable upper Miocene through Oligocene sequence. In particular, this includes the excellent expression of Chron C6Cn at Site 1265 across the O/M boundary. This chron consists of three very distinctive short normal events which, combined with the biostratigraphic data and cyclostratigraphy, should allow for the refinement of the timescale across the O/M boundary.

The Eocene was generally not well resolved at any of the sites, but an excellent Paleocene to Upper Cretaceous polarity sequence was recovered at Sites 1262 and 1267 (Fig. **F34**). At these two sites, the Paleocene cores were recovered either by APC or XCB systems in well-lithified sediments, both of which served to recover relatively undisturbed sediments over this interval.

Identification of the upper and lower boundaries of Chron C24r will be important to constrain the position of the P/E boundary within this chron. Unfortunately, the top of Chron C24r is not well defined in the shipboard pass-through inclination data at most sites. Data from the lower Eocene are highly scattered and the inclination data are frequently biased toward negative values. It seems likely that the boundary is resolved in at least one hole of Sites 1262 and 1266, but discrete sample analysis should provide cleaner data to precisely constrain the top of Chron C24r. The base of Chron C24r is clearly defined at several sites, although high-resolution discrete samples should help to position or pinpoint the boundary more precisely than yet possible with the pass-through archive-half data.

The boundaries of Chron C29r have also been targeted for special attention to better constrain the reversal boundary ages around the K/P boundary. The inclination record in this interval at Site 1262 is characterized by high-frequency oscillations in both inclination and intensity. It is likely that the pass-through magnetometer maps these intensity oscillations into directional changes (Parker and Gee, 2002) and that discrete sample data will provide a clean record of the reversal boundaries. This problem is not seen at Site 1267; however, where the top of Chron C29r is relatively well defined, the base of the chron unfortunately falls in a core break in both holes.

Cycle Stratigraphy and Orbital Rhythms

Cyclic variations are observed in MS and color reflectance data throughout the Maastrichtian to Holocene section at all sites. These variations are expressed by lithologic changes at a decimeter to meter scale. The cyclic variability was used to correlate between parallel holes and to define a composite section for each site. About 300 characteristic features (peaks or troughs) in MS were identified and used to correlate

F34. Magnetostratigraphic interpretation, Sites 1262, 1266, and 1267, p. 85.
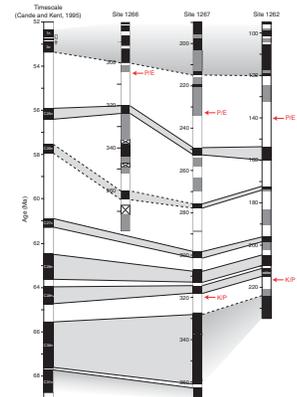
between Leg 208 sites (Fig. F35). These tie points were dated using the age models of the individual sites. By adopting the average age of each tie point, a refined age model was constructed for the complete Leg 208 ~74-m.y. record (Table T2). The distinct record of cyclic alternations in sediment physical properties (Figs. F36, F37, F38) offers potential for refining the Neogene astronomical timescale and the development of an astronomically tuned timescale of the Paleogene as far back as the Late Cretaceous.

The detailed investigation of the sedimentary cycles and their relation to orbital forcing will be an important objective of postcruise studies. Nevertheless, preliminary continuous wavelet analysis (e.g., Torrence and Compo, 1998) on selected time intervals reveals a strong influence of the astronomical cycles of precession (~20 k.y.), obliquity (~40 k.y.), and eccentricity (~100 and ~400 k.y.) on the sedimentary cycle patterns of most of the Leg 208 sites. For instance, the 100-k.y. cyclicity is very strong in the lower Miocene, whereas the ~40- and ~20-k.y. periodicities are less well pronounced (Fig. F39). During the Eocene, both precession- and obliquity-related cycles as well as the 100-k.y. eccentricity cycle are recorded (Fig. F40). In the last example, a dominant influence of the precession cycle is shown during the Maastrichtian (Fig. F41).

Depositional History of Walvis Ridge and Cenozoic Paleoceanography

A key aspect of the Leg 208 drilling strategy was the depth-transect approach, the basic objective of which is to constrain time-dependent changes in sediment properties as a function of depth. In principle, this strategy provides a number of advantages for paleoceanographic studies including the ability to (1) reconstruct changes in sediment production rates, (2) contour changes in the CCD and lysocline depths, (3) establish deepwater circulation patterns, and (4) splice stratigraphic gaps in high-resolution time series. For the Leg 208 transect, the benefits of these advantages were clearly evident, particularly for establishing the long-term sediment accumulation history of the ridge. Using the lithostratigraphic and biomagnetostratigraphic data, 1-m.y.-averaged sediment accumulation curves for each site were constructed (Figs. F42, F43, F44), distinguishing noncarbonate from carbonate accumulation. The accumulation curves were then combined with the subsidence curves to contour the depth-dependent changes in accumulation rates as a function of time (Fig. F45). The curves are based on a simple thermal subsidence model that derives ~1.8–2.0 km of subsidence over the last 65 m.y. Although the absolute age datings are preliminary, the relative correlations are precise as a result of the application of cyclostratigraphic tie points to the Leg 208 sites.

In general, carbonate accumulation rates were highest in the Maastrichtian, Paleocene, early Eocene, and Pleistocene and lowest in the middle and late Eocene and early–middle Miocene (Fig. F45). These time-dependant changes are much more pronounced at the deeper sites, indicating that changes in the level of the CCD and lysocline contributed to the observed patterns. The large-magnitude CCD events have been previously recognized and closely correspond in time to similar changes observed in other basins (Peterson and Backman, 1990; Lyle, Wilson, Janecek, et al., 2002).
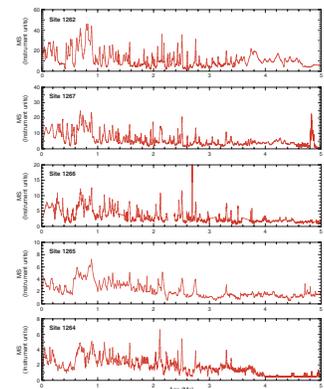
The Leg 208 records show that from the K/P boundary to the early middle Eocene, the CCD appears to have maintained a position below

F35. MS vs. age for the complete composite sections except Site 1264, p. 86.
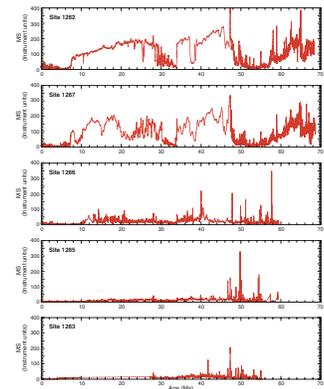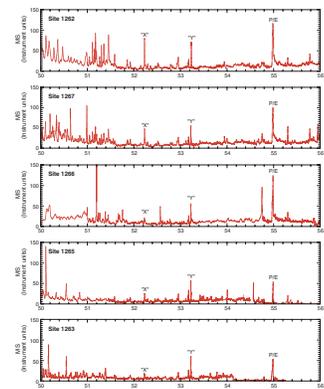

T2. Common age tie points for the Leg 208 sites, p. 107.

F36. MS vs. age, 0–5 Ma, except Site 1263, p. 87.

F37. MS vs. age, 52–56 Ma, except Site 1264, p. 88.

the deepest Site 1262 (~3.5 km at 55 Ma), with one brief exception during the PETM. During the early middle Eocene, the CCD began to shoal and carbonate accumulation began to collapse, initially at Site 1262 at ~50 Ma then at Site 1267 at ~49 Ma. The CCD continued to ascend, eventually rising above Site 1266 to its shallowest level between 2.5 and 3.0 km at 44 Ma. During the late Eocene, the CCD deepened significantly in two steps, with the first at ~42 Ma and the second at ~36 Ma. The latter descent, which is global in extent, was relatively rapid and extreme. It appears that the CCD settled at depth well below Site 1262, but only briefly before gradually shoaling again within a few million years. From the mid-Oligocene to middle Miocene, the CCD fluctuated at a middepth level, roughly between 3.2 and 4.5 km, deepening briefly in the early Miocene. In the late middle Miocene, the CCD began a slow descent, eventually reaching a depth close to modern by the earliest Pliocene.

Critical Events

A major achievement of Leg 208 was the recovery of continuous undisturbed cores spanning over a half-dozen critical intervals or events. All events were recovered from at least two sites, and at least three of the early Cenozoic events were recovered at five sites. The Leg 208 cores allow each event to be observed in the context of orbitally paced oscillations in climate. These events are unique, as they stand out against the normal background variability of environmental change. They generally coincide with biotic perturbations such as extinctions or abundance acmes indicative of unusual environmental stress. The most prominent are the P/E and K/P boundaries, characterized by relatively rapid and extreme change. The other events, although less extreme, show characteristics that indicate brief extremes in climate and/or ocean carbonate chemistry. This includes the mid-Paleocene biotic event at 58.2 Ma (close to the lowermost occurrence of *H. kleinpellii* [Bralower et al., 2002]), the EOGM at 33.5 Ma, the early Oligocene *Braarudosphaera* layers at 28.5–30 Ma, and the early Miocene *Bolivina* acme at ~18 Ma. In addition, several previously unrecognized events, characterized by clay layers similar to the P/E boundary but of a smaller scale, were identified in the upper Paleocene and lower Eocene of all sites. The most distinct of these smaller events are two clay layers in the lower Eocene referred to as X and Y (see Fig. F37) events. The Y event occurs in Chron C24n at ~53 Ma, close to the uppermost occurrence of *Discoaster multiradiatus.* The assertion that these dissolution layers are linked to global events, and not regional, is based on their presence in other ocean basins, primarily the Pacific, where they are documented in cores recovered from Shatsky Rise (Bralower, Premoli Silva, Malone, et al., 2002). The documentation of such events is of importance, as their occurrence was predicted on the basis of anomalous excursions in benthic foraminiferal assemblages (Thomas et al., 2000).

Cretaceous/Paleogene Boundary

A remarkably well-preserved complete K/P boundary was recovered at Walvis Ridge. The boundary was cored at two Sites 1262 and 1267. Double coring at these sites resulted in a total of four separate K/P records. In Hole 1267A, the boundary was biscuited because of XCB coring, whereas the record in Holes 1262B and 1262C was cored by the APC. The lithologic sequence in the K/P boundary interval is similar at

F38. MS vs. age, 52–66 Ma, Sites 1262 and 1267, p. 89.
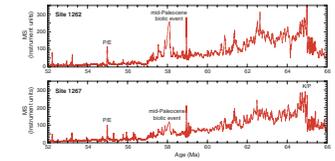
F39. Depth-scale representation of the MS record, Site 1264, p. 90.
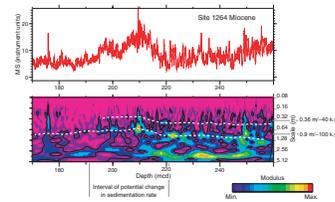
F40. Depth-scale representation of the MS record, Site 1265, p. 91.
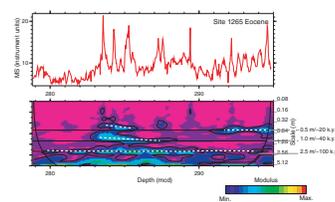
F41. Depth-scale representation of the MS record, Site 1267, p. 92.
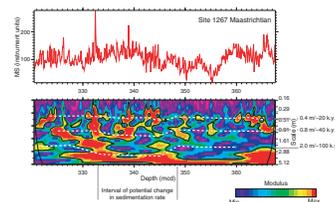
F42. Age-depth models, p. 93.
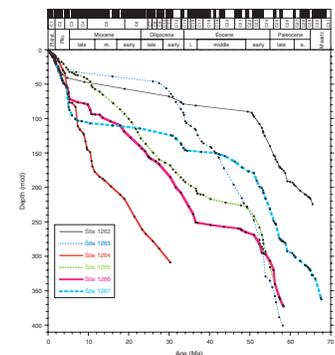
both sites, as they differ in water depth by only 400 m today and had the same paleodepth during the K/P interval. At Site 1267, the boundary interval was more lithified, leading to a greater abundance of Maastrichtian chalks below the boundary.

Common to both Sites 1262 and 1267, the K/P boundary records an abrupt transition from highly cyclic Maastrichtian clay-bearing nannofossil ooze with foraminifers (nannofossil Zone CC26) to overlying Paleocene dark reddish brown clay-rich foraminifer-bearing nannofossil ooze and nannofossil clay. This boundary coincides with a distinctive increase in MS and a decrease in sediment lightness (Fig. **F46**), corresponding to an overall increase in the abundance of clays, oxides, and ash these earliest Paleocene sediments comprise. At Site 1262, microtectites are present at the boundary and overlying sediments grade upward into moderately bioturbated brown nannofossil- and foraminifer-bearing clay (foraminiferal Zones Pα and P1a).

Preliminary biostratigraphy at all of the K/P boundary sequences shows the well-established abrupt change in plankton assemblages across the boundary (Luterbacher and Premoli Silva, 1964; Thierstein, 1982; Monechi, 1985). The white nannofossil ooze below the boundary yields diverse assemblages of the uppermost Maastrichtian *Abathomphalus mayaroensis* planktonic foraminiferal zone and *Chiloguembelina* nannofossil Zone CC26. The brown nannofossil- and foraminifer-bearing clay contains a high abundance of *W. hornerstownensis, Chiloguembelina midwayensis,* and *Chiloguembelina morsei* as well as increasing abundance of *Parvularugoglobigerina eugubina* through the basal Paleocene (Pα). Based on this preliminary analysis, Zone P0 is not present at Walvis Ridge. Remarkably well preserved planktonic foraminifers of Zone Pα dominate the lowermost 20 cm of the Paleocene at Site 1262 (Fig. **F46**), whereas at Site 1267 the preservation within the similarly thick sequence is highly variable. At this site the dwarfed assemblages from within Zone Pα to Subzone P1b show fragmentation and some specimen overgrowth. Large reworked specimens of Maastrichtian foraminifers are present within Zone Pα at both sites, although to a lesser degree at Site 1267. The benthic foraminiferal fauna just above the boundary in Hole 1267A is distinctly different from samples above and below, since *Bulimina kugleri* becomes common and *Praebulimina reussi* becomes extinct. This opportunistic species is assumed to reflect high-nutrient conditions just above the boundary.

Nannofossils in the basal Danian sediments include survivor species such as *Thoracosphaera* spp. plus the first occurrence of *B. sparsus, Markalius inversus,* and *C. reinhardtii.* Both nannofossils and planktonic foraminifers show a complete succession typical for the Danian (Luterbacher and Premoli Silva, 1964; Monechi, 1985). The uppermost Maastrichtian at all sites shows signs of dissolution in both nannofossils and foraminifers. The planktonic foraminifers display etching and fragmentation. The minute thin-walled earliest Paleocene faunas, however, are remarkably well preserved at Site 1262, suggesting that a latest Maastrichtian lysocline shoaling resulted in sediments barren of foraminifers, just prior to the K/P boundary, followed by subsequent deepening in the earliest Paleocene. A significant feature of the K/P boundary at Site 1262 is the presence of greenish unaltered ovoid spherules that are concentrated in the first few centimeters of the basal Paleocene. No spherules were found higher in the core.

Although Zone Pα is normally unrecovered or poorly preserved at most sites, the substantial thickness of the uppermost Maastrichtian *Micula prinsii* Zone and the lowermost Danian *P. eugubina* Zone indicate

F43. LSRs and total MARs, p. 94.
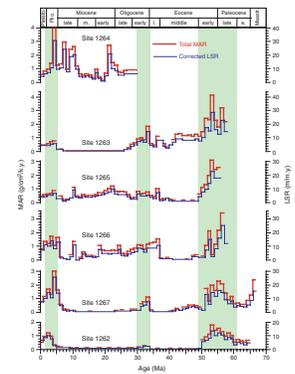
F44. Lithostratigraphy and MARs vs. age, p. 95.
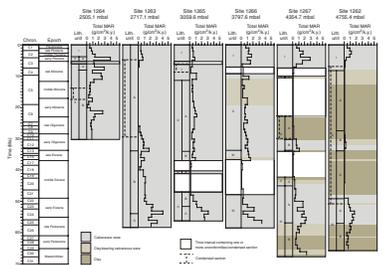
F45. Carbonate contours and accumulation contours, p. 96.
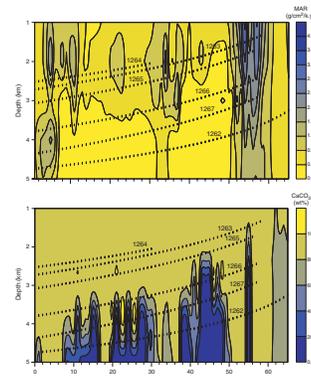
F46. The K/P boundary at Walvis Ridge, p. 97.
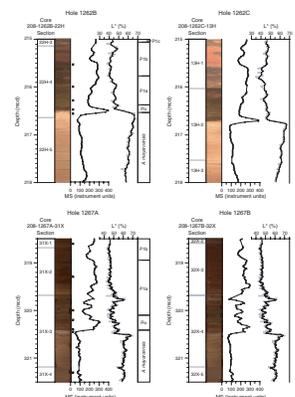
the K/P boundary is paleontologically complete. Moreover, the cycle stratigraphy is very robust with distinct spectral peaks in the precession and eccentricity bands. Thus, the Walvis Ridge sections provide a well-preserved and relatively detailed record of this major extinction event and the subsequent biotic recovery.

Mid-Paleocene Biotic Event

A prominent 10- to 30-cm-thick dark brown clay-rich calcareous nannofossil ooze was found at Sites 1262 and 1267, and a 10-cm-thick brown nannofossil chalk was found at Site 1266. This layer shows a pronounced peak in MS that reflects an increase in clay content (Fig. F47). Preliminary micropaleontological investigations suggest that this interval represents a short-lived event of considerable evolutionary significance. This interval corresponds to the P4 *Globanomalina pseudomenardii* planktonic foraminiferal zone and coincides with the evolutionary first occurrence of the nannofossil *H. kleinpellii,* an important component of late Paleocene assemblages and a marker for the base of Zone CP5 (NP6) (early late Paleocene; ~58.2 Ma). The event was also identified at ODP Leg 198 Sites 1209–1212 (Bralower, Premoli Silva, Malone, et al., 2002).

Fundamental changes in faunal populations occur before, during, and after the deposition of the clay-rich ooze. Planktonic foraminifers in the clay-rich layer are characterized by a largely dissolved low-diversity assemblage dominated by representatives of the genus *Igorina* (mainly *Igorina tadjikistanensis*). This low-diversity assemblage suggests some kind of oceanic perturbation of unknown origin. Together with the documented severe dissolution in this interval, the observed lithologic changes are likely to represent a response to increased seafloor carbonate dissolution owing to a transient shoaling of the lysocline and CCD. Regardless of origin, it is now clear from the high-resolution stratigraphy of the Leg 208 sites that this is a global event. Shore-based isotopic investigations should shed light on the nature of this event.

Paleocene/Eocene Thermal Maximum

The primary objective of Leg 208 was the recovery of a South Atlantic depth transect to reconstruct the tempo and mode of regional carbonate saturation response to the global carbon-cycle perturbation during the PETM. The PETM interval was successfully recovered in multiple holes at five sites (e.g., Sites 1262, 1263, 1265, 1266, and 1267) that covered a modern depth range of 2717 to 4755 m and an estimated paleodepth range of ~1500 to ~3500 m (Fig. F48). Shipboard physical property, lithologic, and biostratigraphic data indicate complete recovery of the Paleocene–Eocene transition interval at all sites except Site 1265, where drilling difficulties prevented recovery of the entire ooze–clay transition or the P/E transition interval had not been fully deposited. Major patterns within and between these sites are summarized and interpreted below in the depth domain; subsequent shore-based stable-isotope and cyclostratigraphic analyses will serve to test and refine these interpretations in the time domain.

In the uppermost Paleocene, nannofossil ooze predominates across the entire depth transect. Deeper sites have slightly lower carbonate content and markedly higher MS values, whereas intrasite variance in both parameters is minimal. Microfossil preservation varies between excellent and moderate both within and between sites. These patterns are

F47. MS and L* data exhibiting the mid-Paleocene biotic event on Walvis Ridge, p. 98.
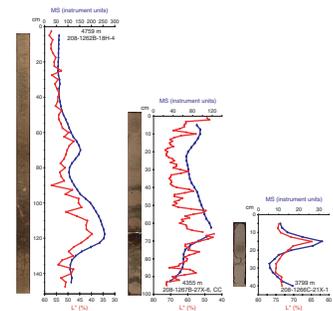
F48. MS and CaCO$_3$ through the Paleocene–Eocene transition, p. 99.
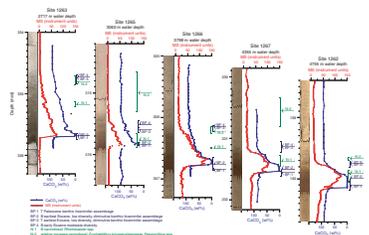
consistent with a relatively stable latest Paleocene carbonate saturation profile of increasing undersaturation at greater paleodepth and a paleo-CCD well below the deepest site (~3500 m). Notably, at the deeper Sites 1267 and 1262, the uppermost centimeters of nannofossil ooze immediately underlying the PETM clay show slightly decreasing carbonate content, increasing MS, increasing planktonic foraminiferal fragmentation, and unusually small pre-extinction benthic foraminiferal specimens. These latest Paleocene changes likely represent some combination of syndepositional shoaling of the carbonate saturation profile and postdepositional carbonate dissolution "burndown."

At the onset of the PETM, carbonate content plummets to ~0 wt%, producing a pronounced lithologic shift from nannofossil ooze to a clay interval that roughly doubles in thickness from ~20 to ~50 cm down the depth transect. This general pattern of decreased carbonate content is present throughout marine PETM records (e.g., Bralower et al., 1997; Thomas and Shackleton, 1996; Thomas, 1998; Thomas et al., 2000) and is consistent with a massive methane flux to the ocean-atmosphere inorganic carbon reservoir that elevated pCO_2 levels, decreased carbonate ion concentrations, and shoaled the carbonate saturation profile (Dickens et al., 1995, 1997). Commensurately increasing MS values show progressively more structure in the thicker clay layers of deeper sites, whereas the maximum values at each site coincide with the uppermost clay interval, where carbonate content begins to recover. These complex patterns represent some combination of time-transgressive shoaling of the paleo-CCD, differential burndown of previously deposited carbonate, and increased terrigenous input from enhanced chemical weathering and erosion. Most importantly, these new data clearly demonstrate that the South Atlantic paleo-CCD shoaled much more (>2000 m) than predicted by current models (~400 m) (Dickens et al., 1997), suggesting the release of a much larger volume of less isotopically negative methane or an incomplete understanding of carbon cycle dynamics.

Biostratigraphically, the onset of clay deposition coincides with the highest occurrence of the benthic foraminifer *S. beccariiformis* and other typical upper Paleocene taxa (Fig. F48). Calcareous microfossils are absent to extremely rare and generally poorly preserved in the lowermost clay, reflecting some combination of deleterious benthic conditions, decreased carbonate export production, and intensified carbonate dissolution. Lowermost Eocene benthic foraminiferal assemblages occur near the base of the clay layer (Fig. F48) and are extremely low in abundance and minute in size. *A. aragonensis, T. selmensis,* and *Bulimina* spp. predominate at shallower Sites 1263, 1265, and 1266, whereas abyssaminids and clinapertinids predominate at deeper Sites 1262 and 1267 and in the lowermost sample at the shallower sites. Nannofossils are common and show only slight dissolution. The last appearance of the planktonic foraminifer *M. velascoensis* roughly coincides with the onset of the PETM, and no related "excursion" taxa (e.g., *Morozovella allisonensis, Acarinina sibaiyaensis, Acarinina africana*) occur within the PETM—a biogeographic pattern that stands in stark contrast to those documented at lower and higher paleolatitudes (Kelly et al., 1998; Kelly, 2002). Planktonic foraminifers within the clay layer primarily consist of extremely rare and poorly preserved specimens of *A. soldadoensis*. Nannofossil assemblages within the PETM clay are markedly poorer in preservation, lower in abundance and richness, and predominated by discoasters.

The start of the PETM recovery interval may be defined as the onset of increasing carbonate content, which produced a gradational upsection lithologic sequence at each site of nannofossil-bearing clay, nannofossil clay, clay-bearing nannofossil ooze, and finally nannofossil ooze. Recovery intervals are thicker at shallower sites, likely reflecting higher overall mass accumulation rates coupled with the time-transgressive deepening of the carbonate saturation profile and commensurately earlier increases in carbonate mass accumulation rates. Magnetic susceptibility values are consistent with this scenario, with shallower sites showing more oscillations within the generally decreasing trends.

As carbonate content increased through the PETM recovery interval, planktonic foraminiferal preservation improved and faunal abundance and richness increased to include morozovellids, acarininids, subbotinids, and rare globanomalinids. The first occurrences of the nannofossils *Rhomboaster cuspis* and *Rhomboaster calcitrapa,* basal members of the *Rhomboaster-Tribrachiatus* lineage, are within the recovery interval (Fig. F48) and provide potentially isochronous biomarkers for intersite correlation. Above these nannofossil first occurrences, three prominent bioevents occur in varying stratigraphic order at all five sites: Benthic foraminiferal compositions shift from earliest Eocene low-diversity diminutive assemblages to early Eocene moderate-diversity assemblages (Fig. F48), and nannofossil assemblages show a marked relative decrease in *Fasciculithus* spp. and increase in *Zygrhablithus bijugatus* (Fig. F48). This relative increase in *Z. bijugatus* typically coincides with the BEE in other regions (e.g., Shatsky Rise and central Pacific), but occurs later at Walvis Ridge, and may be correlative with the *Fasciculithus–Rhomboaster* abundance reversal reported at equatorial Pacific Sites 1220 and 1221 (Lyle, Wilson, Janecek, et al., 2002). These intersite differences in bioevent ordination may represent incomplete sampling coverage or real paleoenvironmental differences between sites.

A subtle, but potentially important, final lithologic feature of the PETM recovery interval is the restabilization of carbonate content and MS values at slightly higher and lower values, respectively, than their pre-PETM values. This pattern is present at other PETM sites (e.g., Southern Ocean Site 690) and is consistent with numerical simulations by Dickens et al. (1997) that predict a transient lysocline overdeepening to result from the oceanic mass-balancing of increased bicarbonate, carbonate, and Ca^{2+} concentrations (by way of enhanced chemical weathering and runoff) as concurrent carbonate dissolution decreased CO_2-derived H^+ concentrations and increased Ca^{2+} concentrations (Broecker and Peng, 1982; Walker and Kasting, 1992).

Chron C24N Clay Layer Event

At ~20 to 35 m above the P/E boundary, a red-colored 5- to 15-cm carbonate-depleted layer was found at all sites covering the lower Eocene (Fig. F49). This layer is tentatively placed in Chron C24n and called the Chron C24n event. This layer was a faithful indicator point for estimating the depth to the underlying P/E boundary in the parallel holes of each site. The Chron C24n event shows similar color characteristics to the P/E boundary layer as well as a drop in calcium carbonate content of the sediment and an increase in MS and NGR values, but these changes are not as intense. The Chron C24n event is characterized by a double peak in the 1-cm-sampled point MS records of all sites, which are marked by events a and b in Figure F49. At the shallowest sites (1263–1266), events a and b are most distinctly developed,

F49. MS records across the early Eocene Chron C24n clay layer, p. 101.
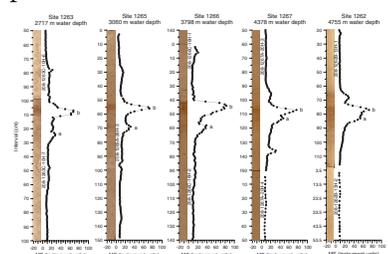
whereas at the deepest sites (1267 and 1262) they are merged. At the latter sites, an additional peak in MS values is observed slightly above the main clay layer. At the middepth Site 1266, a thin white-colored layer is found immediately above the red-colored horizon. The uppermost occurrence of nannofossil *D. multiradiatus* is recorded close to the Chron C24n event.

This layer, which appears to be present in the MS records of sites drilled on Shatsky Rise, is associated with benthic foraminiferal assemblages similar in character to those of the PETM. This implies a transient shift of paleoenvironmental conditions toward those documented for the PETM.

Eocene/Oligocene Boundary and Early Oligocene Glacial Maximum

Sediment recording the response of South Atlantic Ocean to global cooling and CCD deepening during the Eocene–Oligocene transition was recovered across a broad range of depths on the northeastern flank of Walvis Ridge during Leg 208, but the transition is not well preserved biostratigraphically. The shallower Sites 1263 and 1265 contain the most complete records, but even at these sites, calcareous nannofossil and benthic and planktonic foraminiferal assemblages are affected by dissolution, downslope transport, and reworking.

The E/O boundary (33.7 Ma) (Berggren et al., 1995) is by definition at the uppermost occurrence (top [T]) of the planktonic foraminiferal taxon *Hantkenina* spp. Partially dissolved specimens of this solution-susceptible species were present at the shallowest Sites 1263 and 1265, but as a result of strong reworking of *Hantkenina* spines, the exact position of the E/O boundary could not be precisely determined. The E/O boundary is bracketed by the T of *Globigerinatheka* spp. (34.3 Ma) and *T. cerroazulensis* lineage (33.8 Ma) and the T of *Pseudohastigerina* spp. (32.0 Ma). These are all last appearances and thus easily influenced by reworking.

Calcareous nannofossil preservation in the E/O boundary interval is moderate because of dissolution, etching, and common reworking. Nannofossil events that bracket the boundary are the uppermost occurrence of the rosette-shaped discoasters (T of *Discoaster barbadiensis* at 34.2 Ma; T of *Discoaster saipanensis* at 34.0 Ma) and that of *Ericsonia formosa* (32.9 Ma). The T of *D. saipanensis* and the T of *E. formosa* could be observed at all sites (Table **T3**), but these are uppermost occurrences and thus prone to reworking. The bottom of the increase in the abundance of *Ericsonia obruta* is at the E/O boundary (33.7 Ma) but was observed at Site 1263 only. The global increase in $\delta^{18}O$ values in deep-sea benthic foraminifers (Oi-1; ~33.5 Ma) occurs within the interval between the T of *D. saipanensis* and the T of *E. formosa* (34.0–32.9 Ma) (e.g., Zachos et al., 2001).

At all sites, a distinct increase in sediment lightness (L*), probably indicating an increase in carbonate, occurs between the T of *D. saipanensis* and the T of *E. formosa* (i.e., between 34.0 and 32.9 Ma) (Fig. **F50**). This increase in L* is marked by a distinct decrease in MS, but there is no uniform trend in gamma ray attenuation (GRA) bulk density.

At the deep Sites 1262 and 1267, dissolution is severe, the section is biostratigraphically incomplete, and the lithologic change from brown clay below to light brown to gray nannofossil ooze or foraminifer-bearing nannofossil ooze above occurs abruptly over a ~0.5-m interval. At the shallower Sites 1263 and 1265, the increase in L* and the decrease

T3. Eocene–Oligocene calcareous nannofossil and planktonic foraminiferal datum levels, p. 112.

F50. Composite digital images of the Eocene–Oligocene sequence, p. 102.
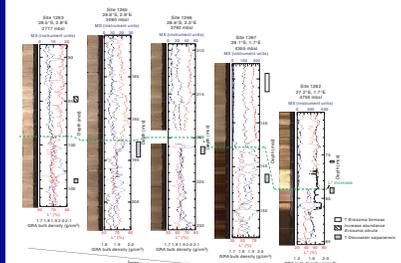
in MS and GRA bulk density occur more gradually over a 2- to 5-m interval marked by a change in lithology from light brown clay-bearing nannofossil ooze below to very pale brown nannofossil ooze above. The increased carbonate content across the boundary interval at the two deeper sites indicates that the lysocline and CCD deepened substantially and rapidly at the Walvis Ridge transect sites. In the latest Eocene, the lysocline was between the paleodepths of Sites 1266 and 1267. During the E/O transition, the lysocline/CCD deepened abruptly to a depth below that of Site 1262. This significant downward shift in lysocline/CCD in the E/O boundary interval has also been observed in other ocean basins (e.g., Zachos et al., 1996; Lyle, Wilson, Janecek, et al., 2002) and possibly reflects an increase in mechanical and chemical weathering rates on continents and related changes in ocean chemistry associated with global cooling (EOGM). The peak in carbonate contents as inferred from L*, however, is transient, as values decline shortly thereafter. This peak in carbonate values corresponds with a magnetic "normal" that may represent Chron C13n.

Early Oligocene *Braarudosphaera* Blooms

Several lower Oligocene intervals that contain nannofloras highly enriched in *Braarudosphaera* debris were recovered during Leg 208. Although still poorly understood, the recurrence of *Braarudosphaera* layers is thought to reflect unusual paleoceanographic conditions. This inference is supported by the global occurrence of braarudosphaerids among survivor assemblages preserved immediately following the K/P mass extinction. The exotic character of *Braarudosphaera* assemblages is further enhanced by the scarcity of other contemporaneous nannofossil taxa.

Braarudosphaera layers were recovered from all sites except the two deepest, Sites 1262 (4759 m) and 1267 (4378 m). Cursory examination revealed that two separate braarudosphaerid-rich layers were recovered at Site 1263 (Fig. F51). The upper braarudosphaerid layer is preserved within Section 208-1263A-6H-2 (~50 mcd) and is assigned to nannofossil Zone NP23 and planktonic foraminiferal Zone P20, whereas the lower braarudosphaerid layer from Sample 208-1263A-9H-3, 27 cm (83.84 mcd), is assigned to nannofossil Zone NP21 and planktonic foraminiferal Zone P18. Only one prominent *Braarudosphaera* layer was recovered at Sites 1264 (Core 208-1264A-29H) and 1265 (Core 208-1265A-15H). Much like the upper braarudosphaerid layer from Site 1263, these layers are from sediments belonging to nannofossil Zone NP23 and may represent a single *Braarudosphaera* depositional event that blanketed Walvis Ridge. The exact thicknesses of these braarudosphaerid layers is presently unknown.

Previous drilling throughout the South Atlantic Ocean documented the presence of multiple *Braarudosphaera*-enriched layers in lower Oligocene sequences on both the Rio Grande Rise and Walvis Ridge. In the southwestern Atlantic Ocean on top of the Rio Grande Rise, early Oligocene *Braarudosphaera* deposits were recovered at DSDP Site 22 (Maxwell, Von Herzen, et al., 1970) and Site 516. One of the braarudosphaerid layers from DSDP Site 22, termed the "Maxwell Marker" for its distinctive acoustic properties, was described as an indurated chalk containing a nannoflora composed of 100% braarudosphaerid fragments (Maxwell, Von Herzen et al., 1970).

In the southeastern Atlantic Ocean along Walvis Ridge, numerous *Braarudosphaera* layers from the early Oligocene were recovered from Sites 362, 363, 522, and 526 (Bolli, Ryan, et al., 1978; Hsü, LaBrecque, et

F51. Early Oligocene nannofossil assemblage showing *Braarudosphaera* skeletal debris, p. 104.
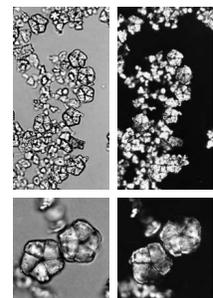
al., 1984; Moore, Rabinowitz, et al., 1984). *Braarudosphaera* deposits around the Walvis Ridge region exhibit a strong spatial pattern, being most common and prominent closer to shore. Despite having been discontinuously cored, a lower Oligocene section drilled off the coast of Africa (Site 362) yielded at least 34 separate *Braarudosphaera* layers (Bukry, 1978).

Modern braarudosphaerids are most common in high-nutrient, low-salinity coastal waters and are extremely rare in today's open ocean. Moreover, the paleobiogeographic distribution of fossil braarudosphaerids, which extends from the Early Cretaceous to the Holocene, is strongly biased toward neritic coastal plain deposits (Perch-Nielsen, 1985). Thus, the temporal and spatial focusing of *Braarudosphaera* deposits in lower Oligocene sequences from the subtropical South Atlantic Ocean has been the source of much speculation among paleoceanographers.

Most hypotheses advanced to account for this biogeographical anomaly have invoked reduced sea-surface salinities (e.g., Bukry, 1978). It has been proposed that pulses of deglacial meltwater decreased sea-surface salinities throughout the subtropics, thereby fostering the *Braarudosphaera* blooms (Bukry, 1978). Other proposed mechanisms have speculated that upwelling of low-salinity nutrient-laden waters triggered *Braarudosphaera* blooms (Siesser, 1978; Melguen, 1978; Peleo-Alampay et al., 1999). Another suite of hypotheses invokes taphonomic redepositional processes such as submarine slumps and/or surface water current transport to explain the presence of "nearshore" braarudosphaerids in open-ocean, pelagic sediments (e.g., Maxwell, Von Herzen, et al., 1970; Maxwell et al., 1970).

A recent study of stable isotope data derived from assemblages of well-preserved depth-stratified foraminiferal species indicates that enhanced upwelling over glacial/interglacial timescales fueled the recurrence of massive *Braarudosphaera* blooms at Site 363 (Kelly et al., 2003). The coherent structure of these stable isotope stratigraphies argues against large-scale redepositional mechanisms. This interpretation is corroborated by the presence of *Braarudosphaera* layers draped atop topographic highs along Walvis Ridge like those at Site 526. Hence, open-ocean *Braarudosphaera* layers recovered during ODP Leg 208 at Sites 1263–1265 may reflect exceptionally large blooms that extended far offshore. These enigmatic deposits represent a wealth of untapped information about rhythmic changes to the ocean/climate system throughout the subtropical South Atlantic region.

Early Miocene High Abundance of Bolivinids

Deep-sea benthic foraminifers show a gradual but profound faunal overturn in the middle Miocene, which started in the late early Miocene before the middle Miocene cooling (e.g., Thomas and Vincent, 1987). Before these gradual faunal changes, however, a highly unusual event occurred in benthic foraminiferal faunas in the western Atlantic and eastern Indian Oceans. Small, smooth species of the genus *Bolivina* reached extremely high relative abundances (>60%) at bathyal to abyssal open-ocean locations (Thomas, 1986; Smart, 1992; Smart and Murray, 1994; Smart and Ramsay, 1995). The bolivinids are very small and recognized only in studies of the small size fraction (>63 μm).

The event was called the HAB event (Smart and Ramsay, 1995) and cannot be explained by observations on recent benthic foraminifers: high relative abundances of bolivinids occur within oxygen minimum

zones under zones of upwelling along continental margins and in the silled basins off California (e.g., Bernhard and Sen Gupta, 1999). It is not clear whether such bolivinid-rich assemblages form in response to the high organic flux, the lack of oxygen, or the combination of both. The HAB event is recognized throughout the eastern Atlantic Ocean, northwest Indian Ocean, and Mediterranean Sea (Smart and Ramsay, 1995) but not in the eastern equatorial Pacific (Sites 573–575) (Thomas, 1985) and eastern Indian Ocean (Site 758) (C.W. Smart, unpubl. data). Because of the spatial extent of the event, Smart and Ramsay (1995) speculated that the bolivinids outcompeted other species in locations bathed by low-oxygen waters derived from Tethyan sources that reached into the western Indian and eastern Atlantic Oceans. However, these explanations of the HAB event are unsatisfactory because there is no evidence in the sedimentary record for low-oxygen conditions or extremely high organic productivity during the event.

Pagani et al. (1999) identified a pronounced increase in the carbon isotopic composition of alkenones coeval with the HAB event at DSDP Site 608 in the North Atlantic Ocean. The carbon isotopic composition of alkenones is strongly controlled by nutrient concentrations in the modern ocean; therefore, these authors suggested that increased algal growth rates (responding to increased local availability of nutrients) and export productivity could have affected the benthic faunas. A linkage between the HAB event and primary producers in the surface waters is also suggested by the fact that the beginning of the HAB event is coeval with the lowermost occurrence followed by a strong increase in abundance of the nannofossil taxon *Sphenolithus belemnos* at DSDP Site 608 (Olafsson, 1991).

A scenario involving regional changes in surface water nutrients precludes a Tethyan role for the HAB event and supports the hypothesis that a nutrient-rich water mass (possibly similar to Antarctic Intermediate Water) was introduced into the ocean basins where the HAB event occurred or the hypothesis that the water-column stratification changed regionally. The timing of the end of the HAB event closely coincides with the termination of the early Miocene Climatic Optimum and possibly the rapid expansion of the East Antarctic ice sheet. Therefore, the oceanographic conditions responsible for the HAB event may have been due to changes in ocean heat transport that forced early to middle Miocene cooling.

Smart and Murray (1995) identified the HAB event at Walvis Ridge Site 529. During Leg 208, the HAB event was identified at Sites 1264 and 1265, where its lower boundary is coeval (at shipboard sample resolution) with the lowermost occurrence of *S. belemnos,* as it is at Site 608 in the northeastern Atlantic Ocean. The time interval in which the event occurred (range of *S. belemnos*) is present, although very thin, in the sediments at Site 1266 and may also yield these aberrant faunas. Preliminary shipboard cyclostratigraphy places the HAB event at Sites 1264 and 1265 in a very similar section of the record (Fig. F52), suggesting that a detailed comparison of the timing and intensity of the HAB event over a depth range of >1000 m will be possible.

SYNOPSIS AND CONCLUDING REMARKS

ODP Leg 208 was conceived primarily to test a single hypothesis that the dissociation of methane hydrate of an unprecedented scale at 55 Ma (P/E boundary) initiated a brief but extreme episode of global warm-

F52. MS records showing the HAB event interval in the early Miocene, p. 105.
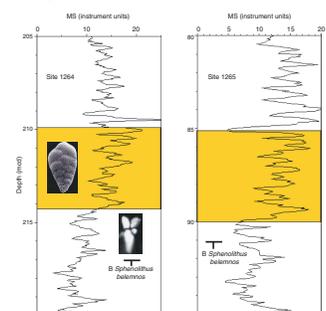
ing. In theory, such an event would profoundly impact the carbonate saturation state of the ocean, the expression of which should be preserved in deep-sea sediments (Dickens et al., 1997, 1995). In essence, the rapid injection of methane-derived carbon into the atmosphere and ocean should be recorded by distinct spatial and temporal patterns of change in the deposition of carbonate sediments. Such changes should be contemporaneous on a global scale, affecting all major ocean basins and exhibiting diagnostic patterns in carbonate preservation related to gradients in paleodepth. A key test would involve establishing depth-dependent changes in carbonate preservation across the P/E boundary in at least two major ocean basins. To evaluate the gradient of carbonate saturation state, a transect of pelagic sections across a broad paleodepth range would be required for each ocean basin to elucidate both the temporal and spatial evolution of ocean chemistry from its onset through its ultimate recovery.

With this objective in mind, Leg 208 was designed to recover an array of sites spanning paleodepths between ~1500 and 3600 m. The northern flank of the Walvis Ridge was selected based on previous drilling (DSDP Leg 74) that revealed the presence of a P/E boundary clay layer in two locations, DSDP Sites 527 and 525, spanning a depth range of nearly 2 km (Moore, Rabinowitz, et al., 1984; Thomas and Shackleton, 1996). Critically, these boundary layers were at subbottom depths within reach of the APC system, an essential requirement for coring with high recovery and minimal disturbance. To optimize the potential of achieving this goal, high-resolution seismic profiles, obtained during *Meteor* Cruise M49/1 (Spieß et al., 2003), were used to locate sites in areas where the APC system could be deployed, at a minimum, to the level of the P/E boundary. The drilling plan called for double to triple APC and XCB coring, in combination with high-resolution core log measurements to optimize 100% recovery of the sedimentary section, a requisite for construction of composite sections.

Despite a number of minor setbacks, this drilling strategy ultimately proved highly successful. At least one complete P/E boundary layer was recovered by the APC at each of the five sites, spanning depths between 2300 m and 4700 m, with at least one additional copy at four of those sites. This collection of boundary clay layers shows a clear pattern of change in lithology as a function of depth, which, by most measures, appears consistent with a shoaling of the CCD as predicted by the methane dissociation model. Although postcruise studies are still required to establish the approximate timing of the changes in carbonate content relative to other indicators of changes in ocean chemistry (i.e., carbon isotopes), it appears the primary objective was achieved.

The important scientific contributions of Leg 208 are not limited to the P/E boundary; several other key objectives were achieved. For one, the upper Paleocene and lower Eocene sections that enclose the boundary layer were recovered more or less intact at three sites (1262, 1263, and 1267). These sections, which are complete and relatively expanded, are characterized by distinct bedding cycles that will provide the basis for establishing a high-resolution, orbitally tuned timescale, a basic requirement for constraining rates of change and for refining the approximate ages of chron boundaries where possible. Moreover, with the composite sections for each site, it became evident that other, unusual clay layers, and by association, climatic extremes, occurred during the early Eocene Chrons C24n and C22r (Y and X events, respectively). These events may have origins similar to the PETM and thus will be useful for identifying the mechanism(s) behind transient climatic events,

as well as for understanding the oceanographic and environmental consequences of these events.

In addition, The K/P boundary interval was recovered at two sites (1262 and 1267) and the E/O boundary was recovered at five sites (1262, 1263, 1265, 1266, and 1267). The former is also characterized by a pronounced cyclitiy that clearly changes character across the boundary. As such, these two sections will be critical in establishing the pace of ecological change, particularly during the long recovery following the extinctions at the K/P boundary. The E/O boundary is characterized by a prominent lithologic transition from clays to carbonates that becomes more pronounced at the deepest sites. This transition represents a major shift in the ocean carbon chemistry that has not been well constrained, either in time or space, relative to other environmental changes such as climate. Leg 208 cores, along with those recovered during Legs 198 and 199, will provide the first detailed temporal constraints on this important geochemical event.

Leg 208 also provided important insight into the challenges of coring soft to moderately indurated chalk/clay formations. To recover critical intervals (particularly the short-lived transients) and to establish an orbitally tuned stratigraphy, Leg 208 required 100% recovery of the stratigraphic sections. This was easily achieved with the APC but not with the XCB system in the more deeply buried soft chalk formations. To extend the working range of the APC, the engineers employed a "drill-over" method that permitted the use of the APC deeper in the section. In overlapping holes, the quality of the APC cores was significantly better than those recovered by the XCB system. In the case of the P/E boundary layer, we discovered that the upper portion of the clay layers became temporarily lodged in the XCB during coring, effectively blowing away the contact. This necessitated redeployment of the APC in second and third holes to recover this interval.

The crucial scientific contributions of Leg 208 have yet to be realized. Shore-based investigations of the many thousands of samples collected will take years to complete. Nonetheless, the initial results have already answered some fundamental questions concerning the scale of the P/E carbon cycle perturbation. The results of these investigations together with those of other recent legs (207, 198, and 199) focused on the Paleogene will undoubtedly provide a much more detailed and accurate picture of Earth system change during this climatically dynamic period.

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Figure F1. Bathymetric chart of Walvis Ridge, the South African margin, DSDP and ODP sites (black circles), and ODP Leg 208 sites (white circles with green centers).

Figure F2. Bathymetric chart of Walvis Ridge, *Meteor* Cruise M49/1 track lines, DSDP sites (black circles), ODP drill sites (white circles with green centers), and proposed Leg 208 sites (white circles).
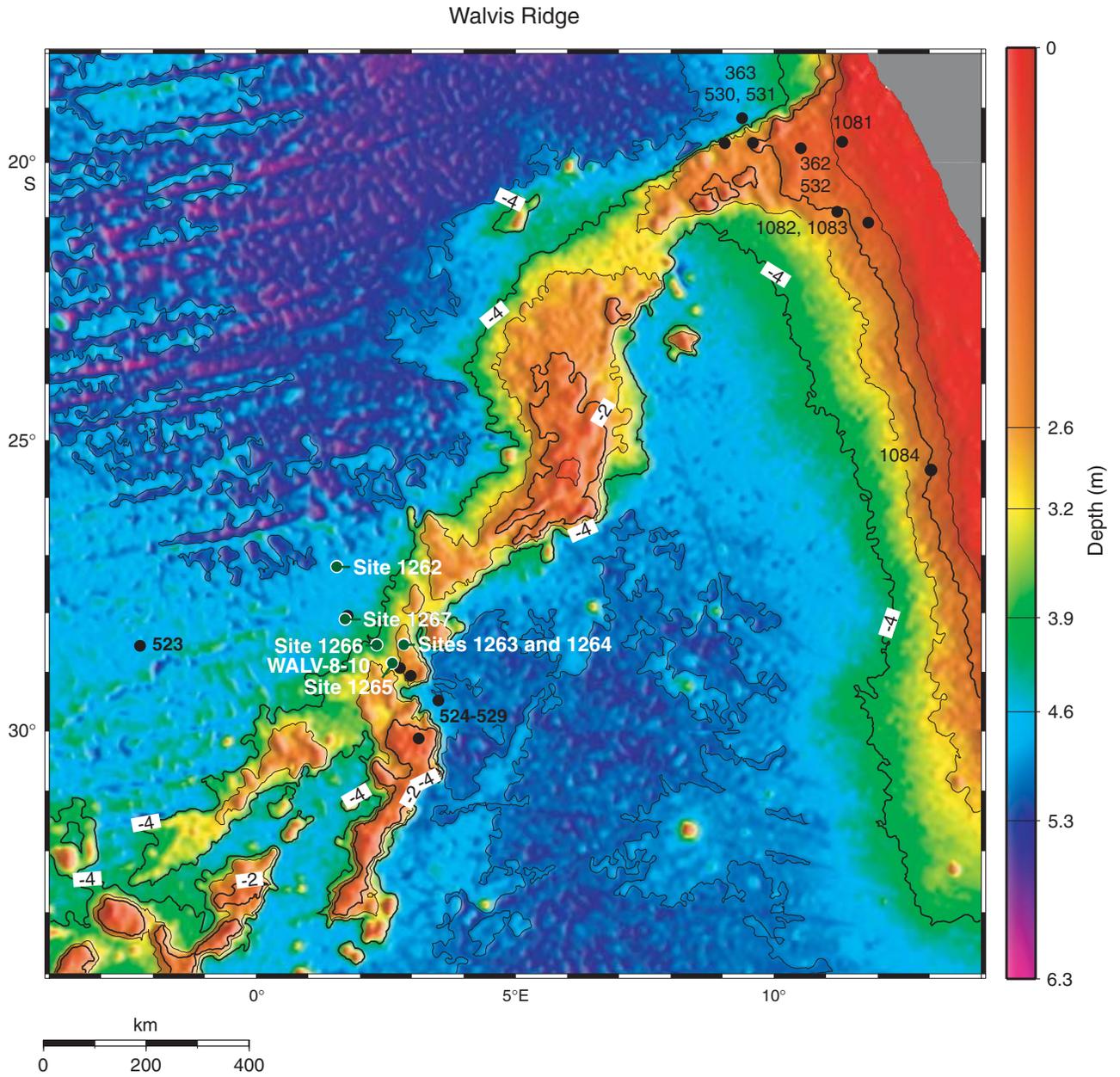
Figure F3. Three-dimensional diagram of the Leg 208 drill site locations.
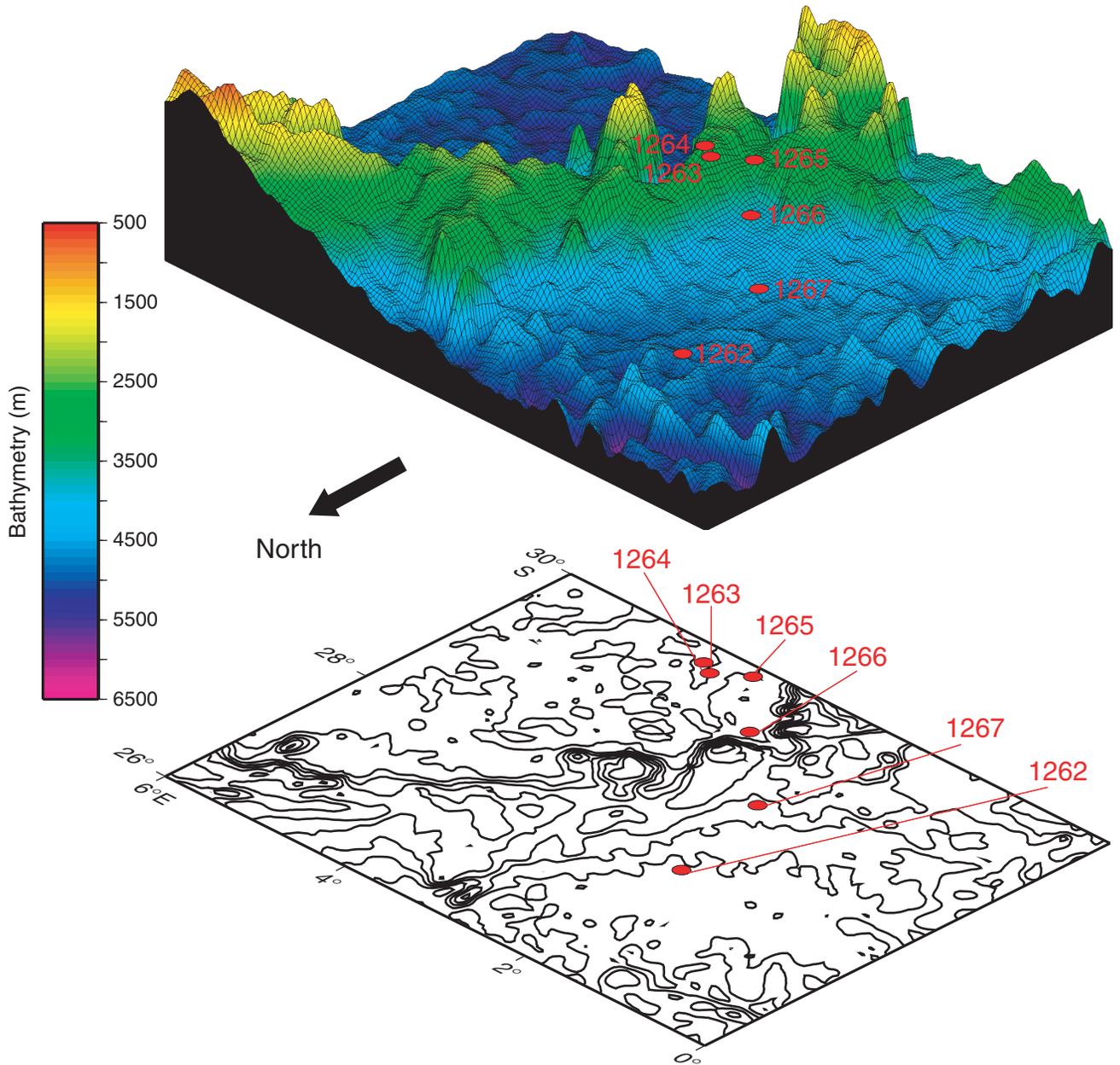
Figure F4. Multichannel seismic line GeoB 01-030 (*Meteor* Cruise M49/1) with DSDP Leg 74 sites and proposed Sites WALV-10A and WALV-11A. w.d. = water depth. GI = generated injection.
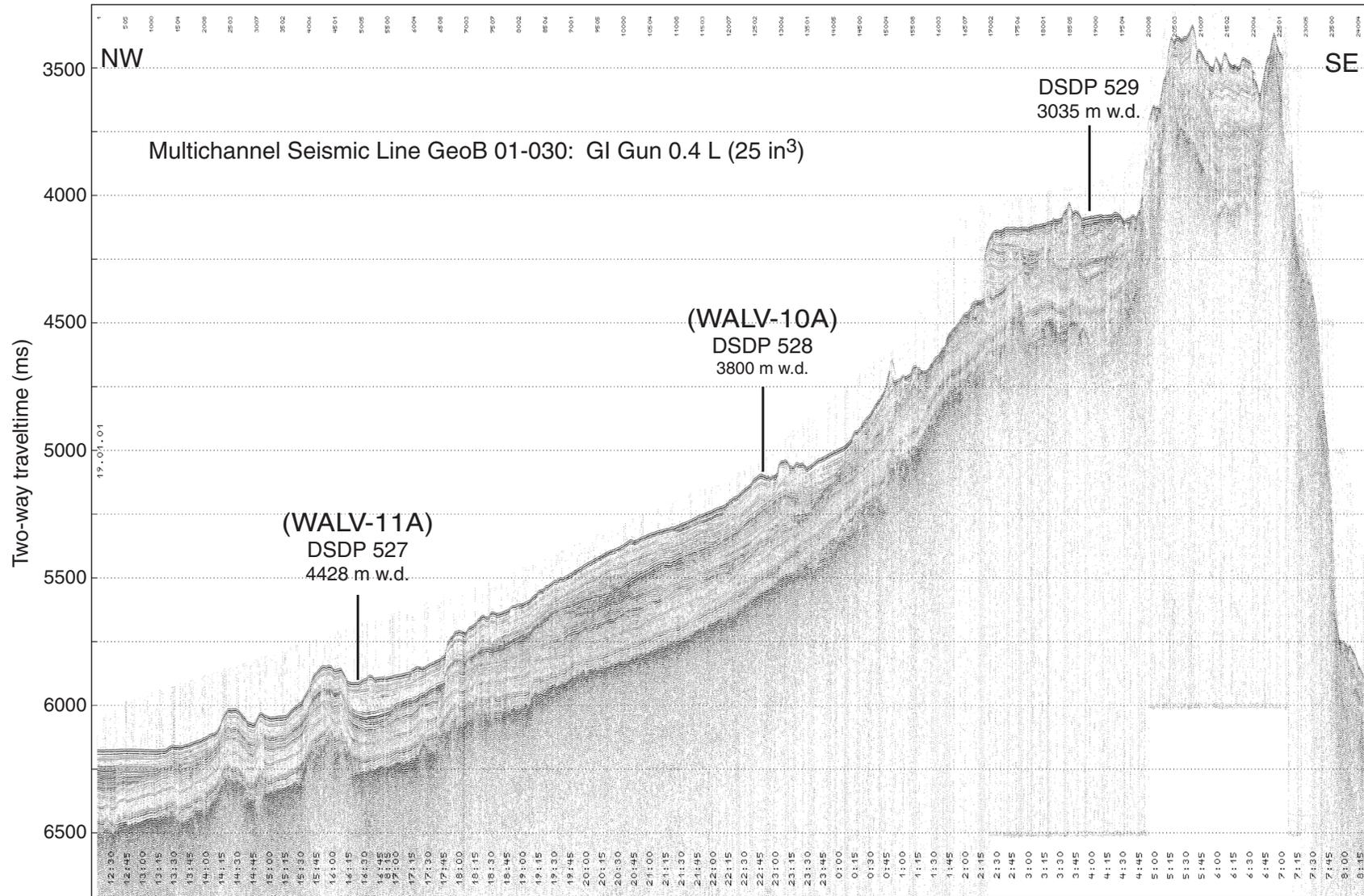
Figure F5. Cenozoic deep-sea stable isotope record based on a compilation of benthic foraminiferal data from several dozen pelagic cores (modified from Zachos et al., 2001). The oxygen isotope record primarily reflects on changes in deepwater temperature and ice volume. Mi-1 and Oi-1 represent transient large-scale glaciations of Antarctica.
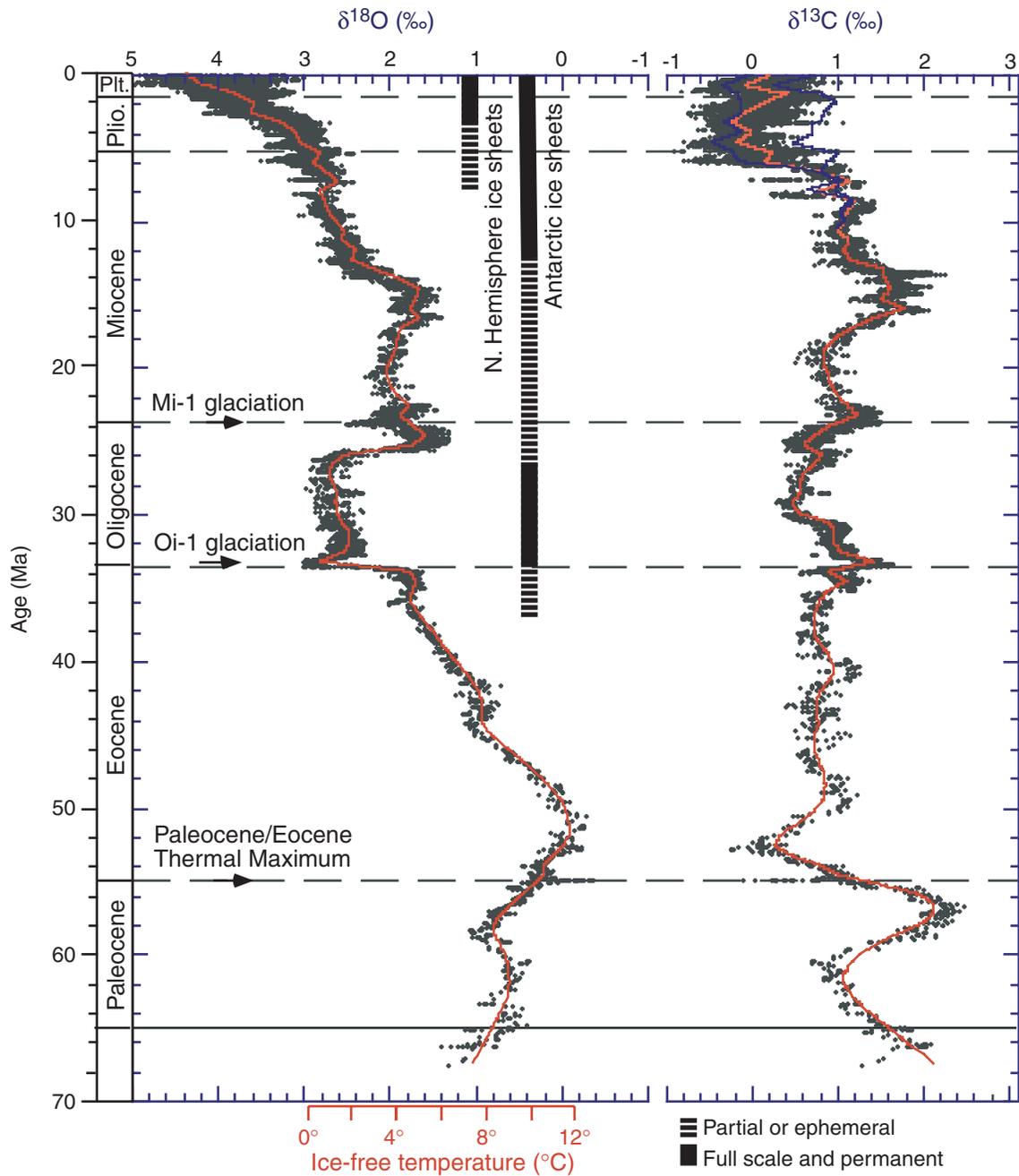
Figure F6. Cenozoic pCO_2 as estimated by the B isotope method (Pearson and Palmer, 2000) and by alkenone carbon isotope method (Pagani et al., 1999).
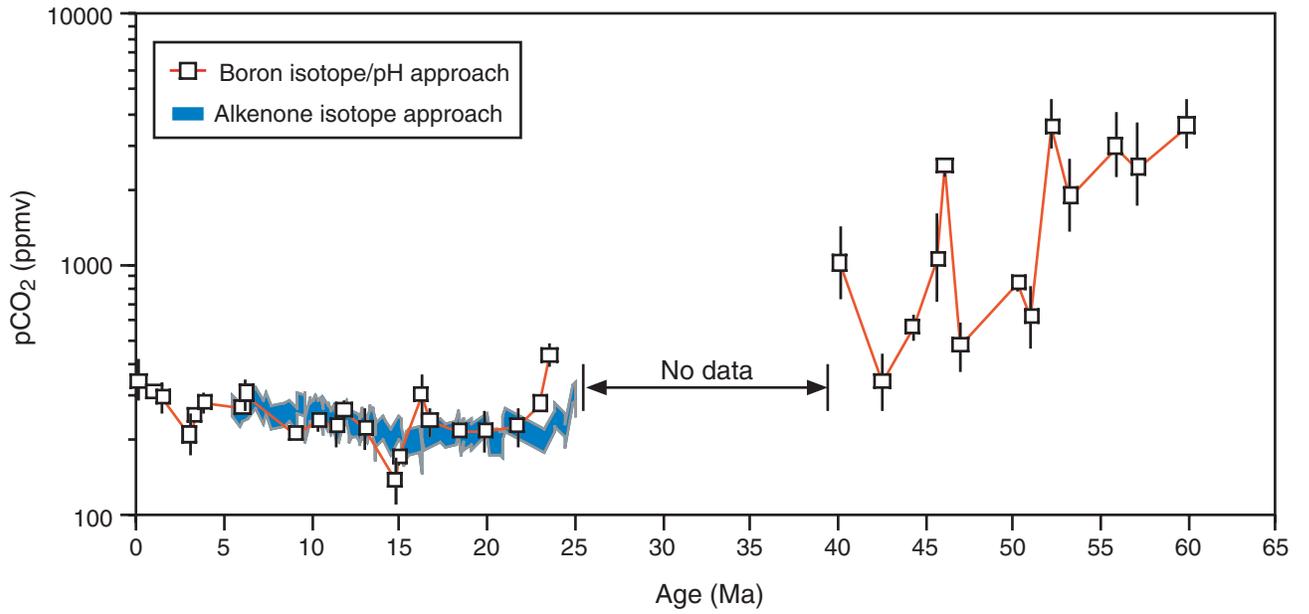
Figure F7. Benthic foraminiferal isotope records across the P/E boundary from Sites 525, 527, 690, and 865 (Thomas and Shackleton, 1996; Zachos et al., 2001). The Paleocene/Eocene Thermal Maximum is characterized by a 5°C warming of the deep sea.
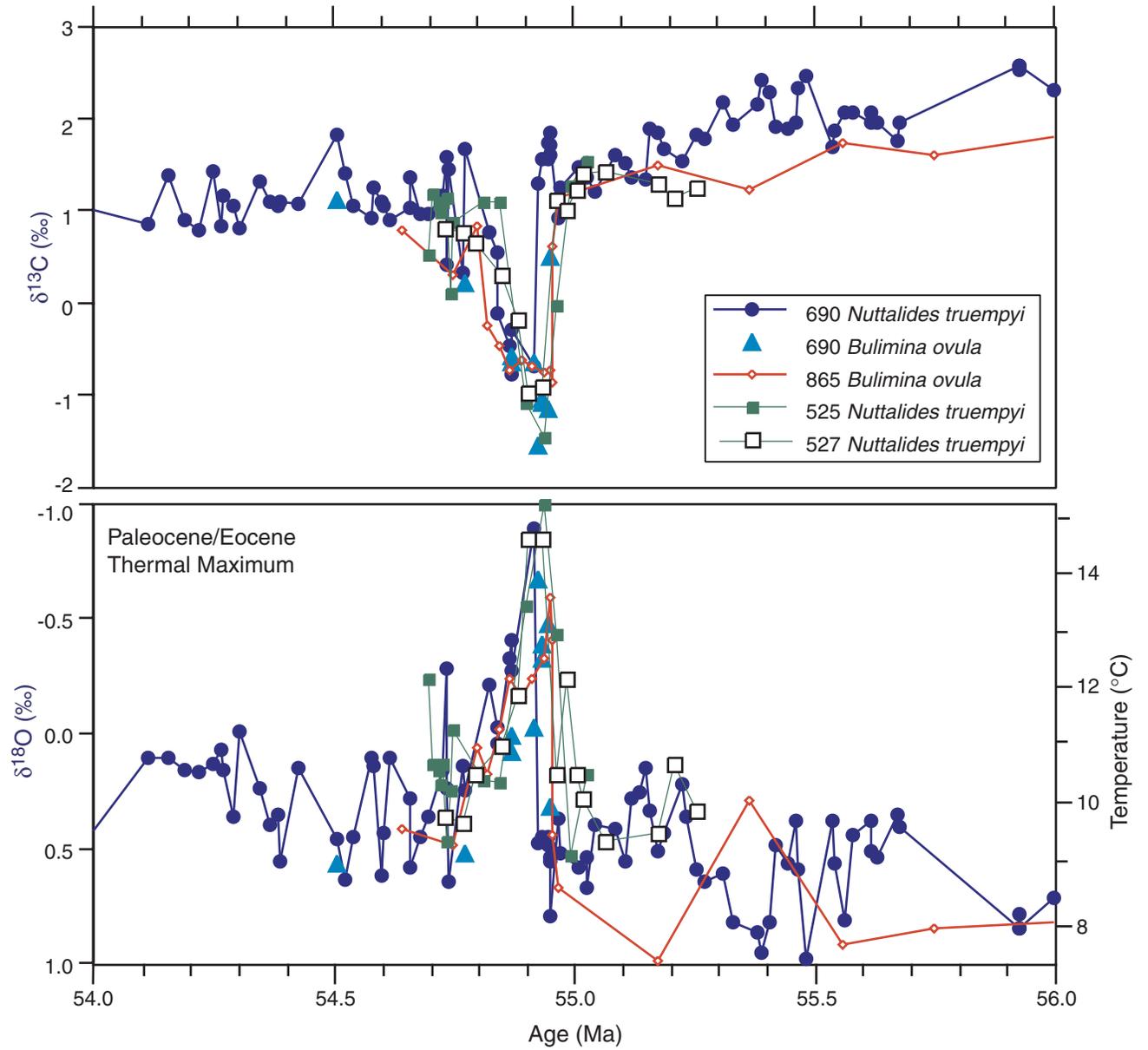
Figure F8. Box model simulated response of oceanic carbon isotopes and lysocline depth to gradual (10 k.y.) input of 1200 Gt of methane-derived CO_2 into the ocean (Dickens, 2000).
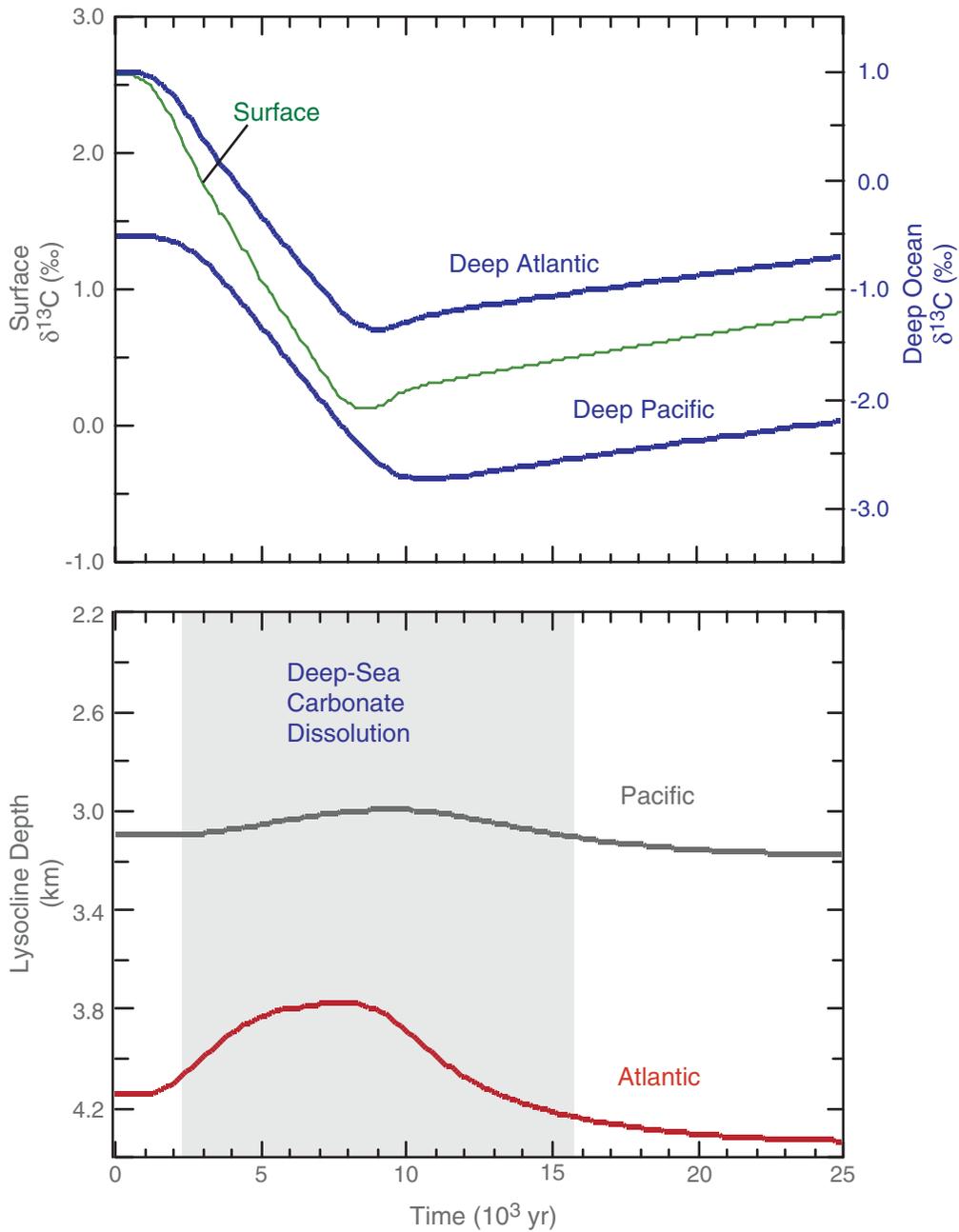
Figure F9. DSDP Site 527 P/E planktonic foraminiferal stable isotope records plotted against depth for the three size fractions of *Acarinina soldadoensis* (Thomas et al., 1999). The arrows indicate the three size fractions (90–150, 150–250, and 300–355 μm). The shaded band indicates the position of the clay interval within Core 527-24. The CaCO$_3$ record reveals the low carbonate layer coincident with the Paleocene/Eocene Thermal Maximum (Thomas et al., 1999).
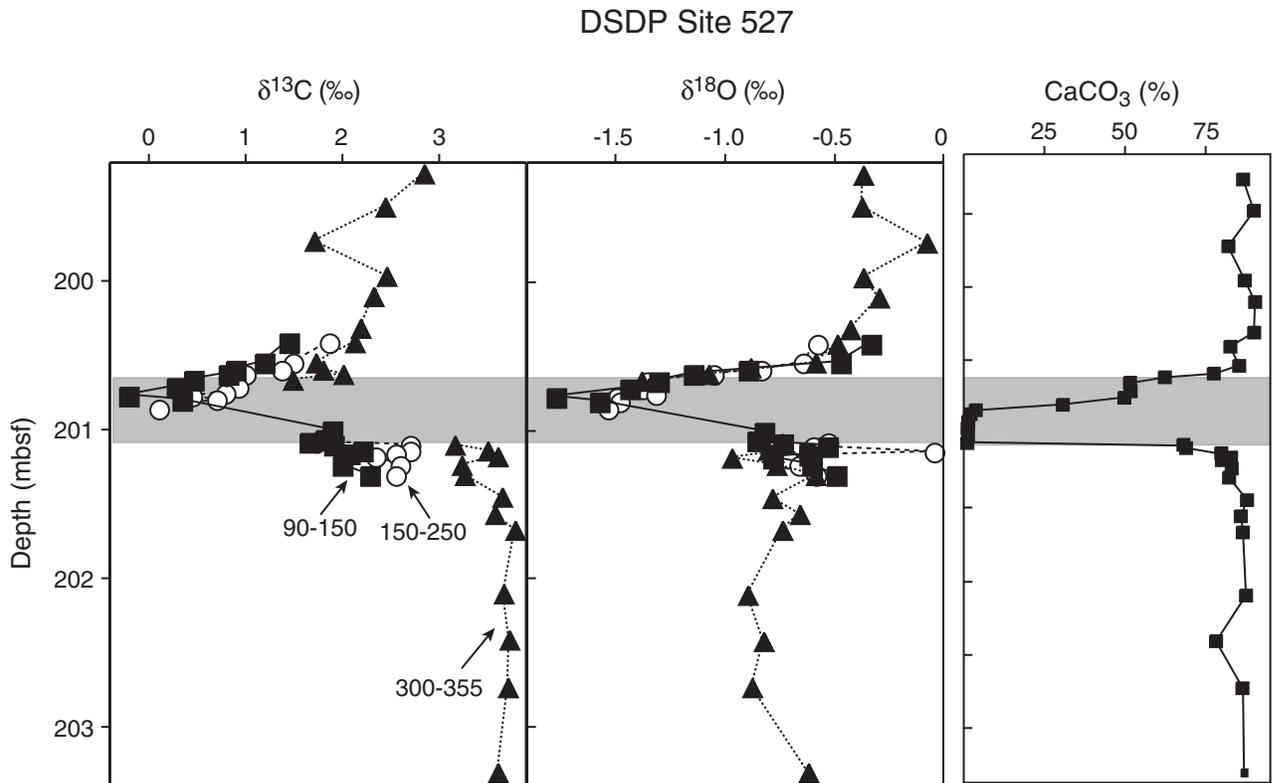
Figure F10. A composite of the *Cibicidoides* spp. stable carbon and oxygen isotope records for Sites 522, 744, and 689 plotted as a function of age for the period from 31 to 35 Ma (Zachos et al., 1996; Diester-Haass and Zahn, 1996). The earliest Oligocene Glacial Maximum (EOGM) spans the interval 33.0–33.4 Ma. The age model is based on the geomagnetic polarity timescale of Cande and Kent (1992). The lower scale shows the bottom water temperature for an ice-free world (pre-EOGM), assuming calcite formation in oxygen isotope equilibrium (Zachos et al., 1996). PDB = Peedee belemnite. S.W. = seawater, SMOW = standard mean ocean water.
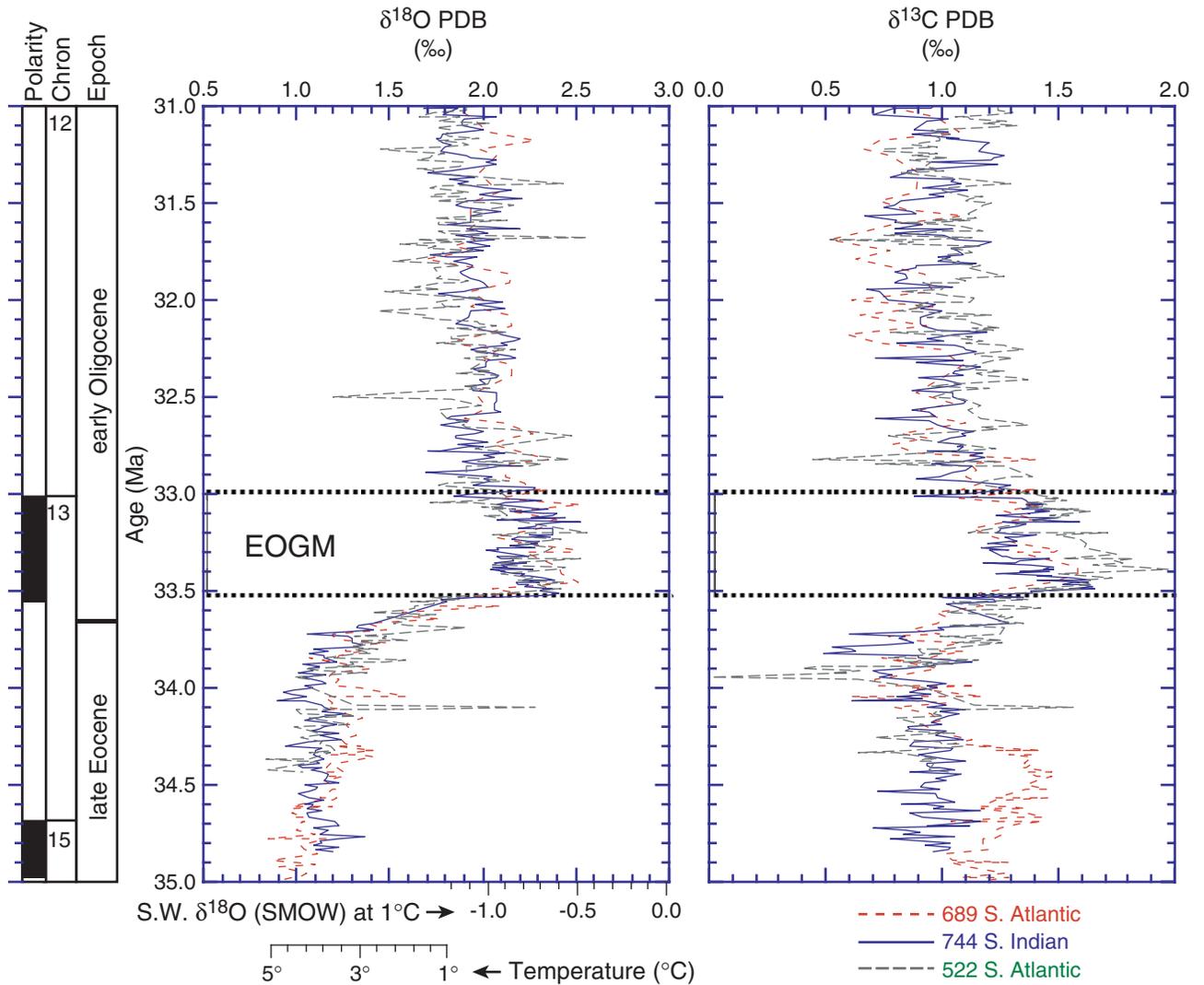
Figure F11. Latest Cretaceous through earliest Paleogene δ^{13}C records from DSDP Site 528 (after D'Hondt et al., 1998). Magnetostrat. = magnetostratigraphy. K/P = Cretaceous/Paleogene boundary. Open symbols = δ^{13}C differences between near-surface planktonic foraminifers and benthic foraminifers. Solid symbols = δ^{13}C differences between deeper-dwelling planktonic and benthic foraminifers. The benthic foraminifers are *Gavelinella* and *Nuttallides*. The planktonic foraminifers are *Morozovella angulata* (open triangles), *Praemurica taurica* (open circles), *Eoglobigerina eobulloides* (solid circles), *Rugoglobigerina rotundata* (open squares), *Pseudotextularia elegans* (solid squares), and *Heterohelix rajagopalani* (solid triangles). **A.** δ^{13}C differences between fine (ff; <25 µm) carbonate and benthic foraminifers (bf). **B.** δ^{13}C differences between planktonic (pf) and benthic foraminifers. **C.** δ^{13}C differences between near-surface planktonic foraminiferal species and the deepest dwelling (thermocline) planktonic species (calculated by subtracting δ^{13}C values of the latter from those of the former). The deepest dwelling planktonic species are *H. rajagopalani* (Cretaceous) and *E. eobulloides* (Paleogene).
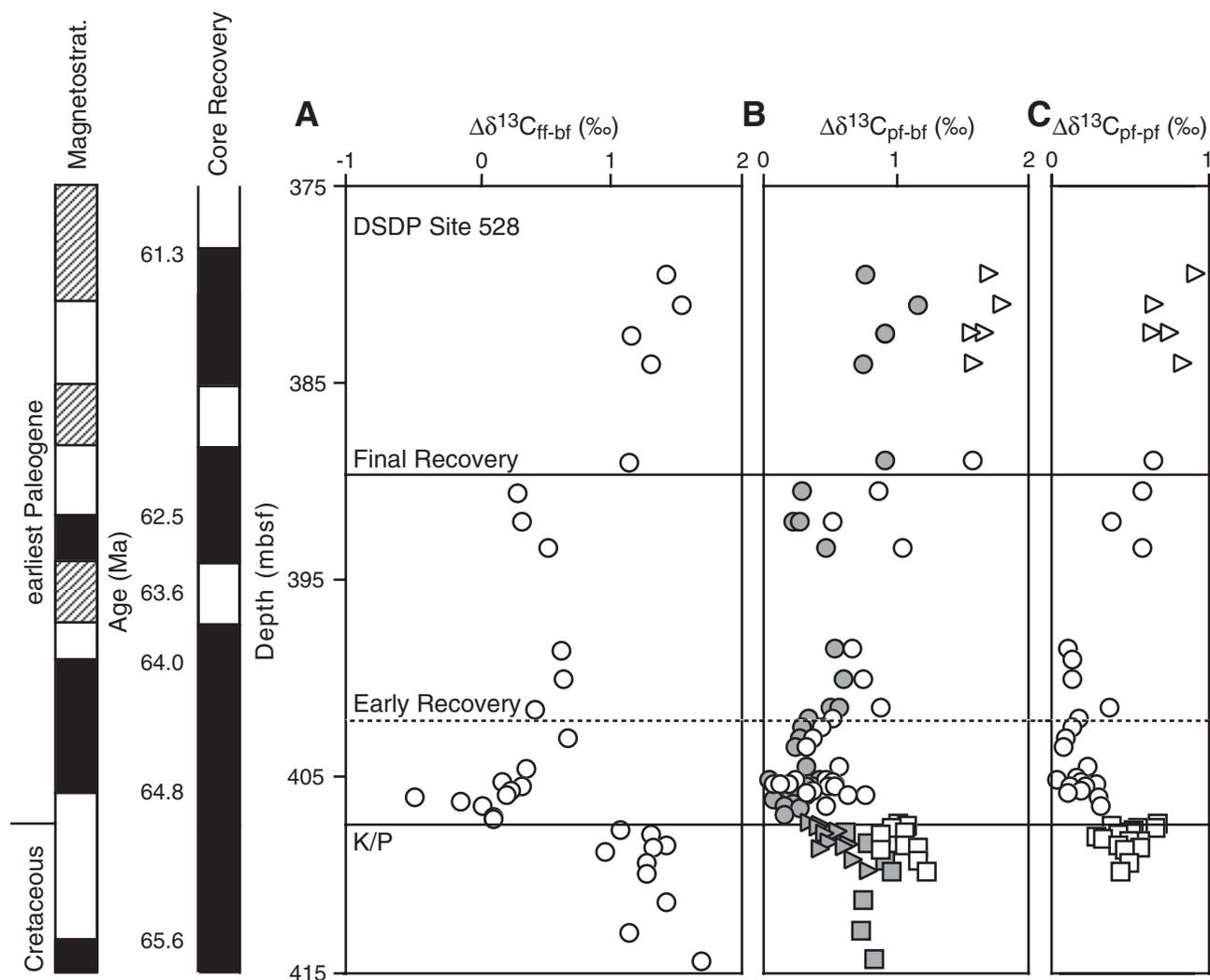
Figure F12. *Meteor* Cruise M49/1 track chart showing the location of Site 1262 (proposed Site WALV-12A) and alternate sites WALV-12B and WALV-12C along lines GeoB 01-035 and GeoB 01-036.
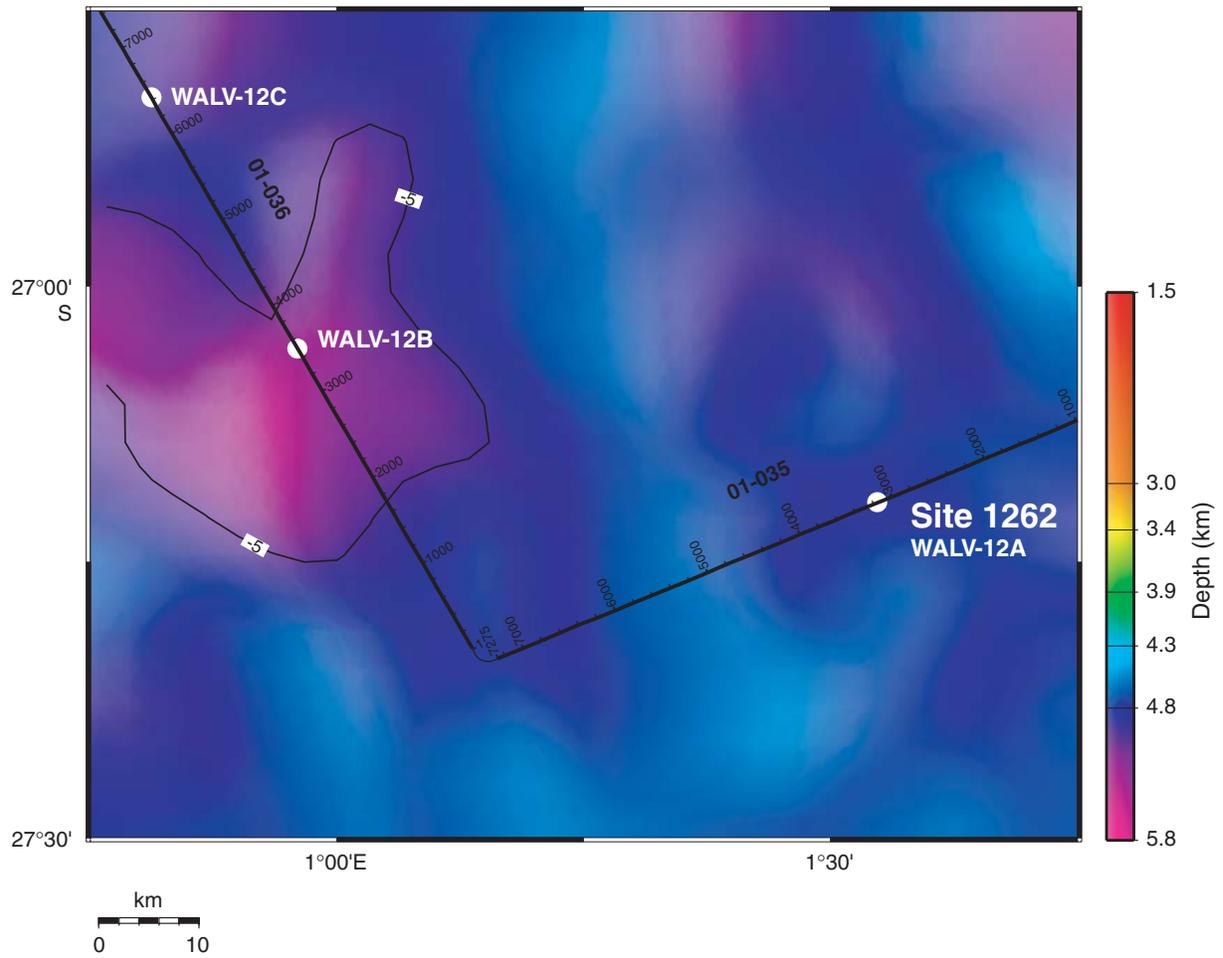
Figure F13. Line GeoB 01-035 and Site 1262 plotted along with age estimates of prominent reflectors. R_1 is a regional reflector that marks a local unconformity. Although time transgressive, sediments below the reflector tend to be Paleogene and sediments above the reflector are Neogene. The estimated depth of the P/E boundary reflector ($R_{P/E}$) is 126 mbsf, and the estimated depth of the K/P boundary ($R_{K/P}$) is 198 mbsf (mean velocity = 1.8 m/ms). Both reflectors can be traced over most of the ridge. CDP = common depth point. V.E. = vertical exaggeration.
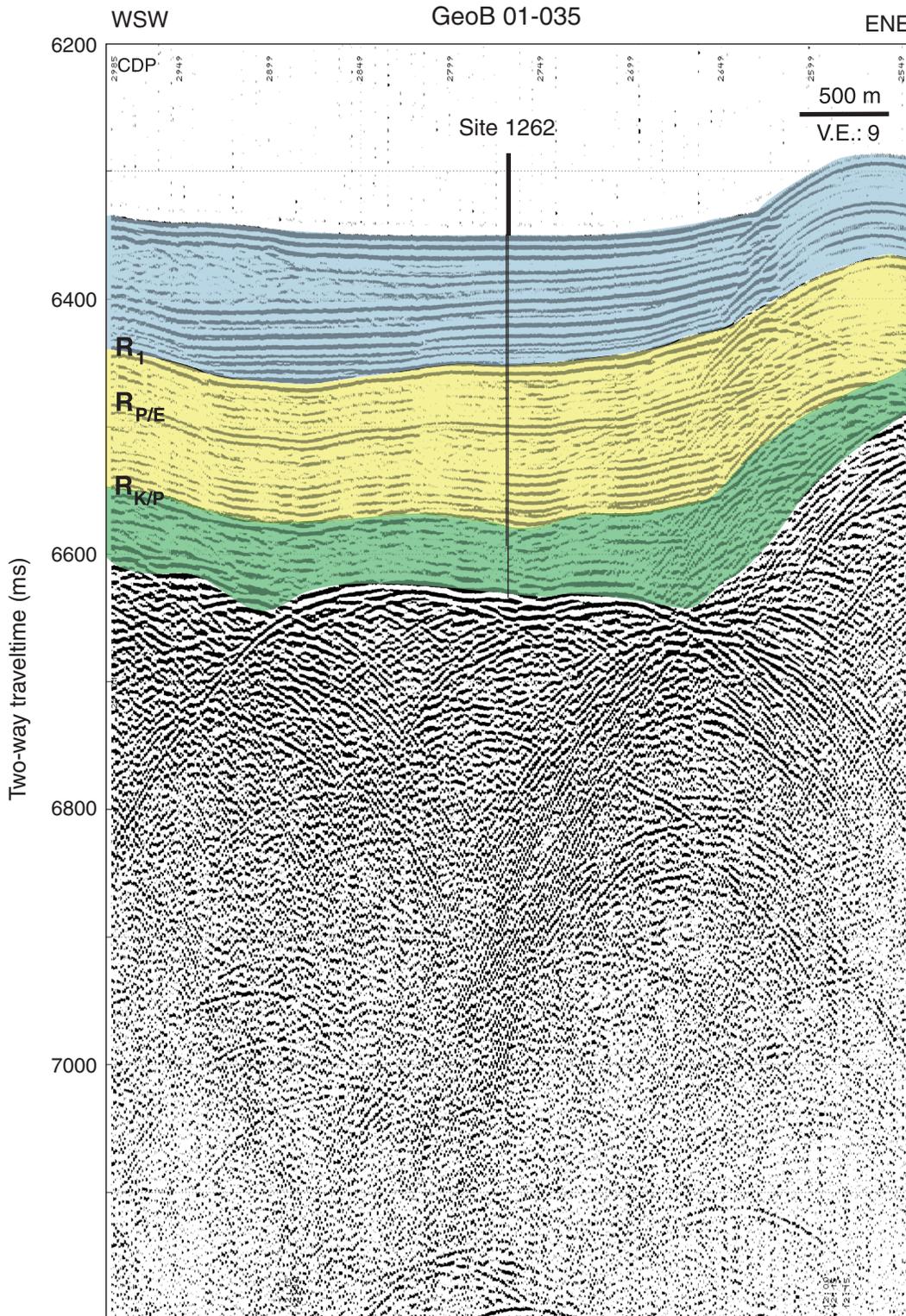
Figure F14. Site 1262 lithostratigraphic composite illustrating downhole variation in magnetic susceptibility (MS), natural gamma radiation (NGR), carbonate content, and color reflectance (L*, lightness). Major lithostratigraphic unit boundaries coincide with step changes in these parameters. MS and NGR variations largely correlate with clay and volcaniclastic content. The P/E and K/P boundaries are distinct from adjacent sediments in their MS and NGR values as they represent intervals of decreased carbonate deposition/preservation and increased clay and volcanic ash accumulation, both of which produce distinctive increases in MS and NGR. A single value reached 625 on the MS scale as indicated in the figure.
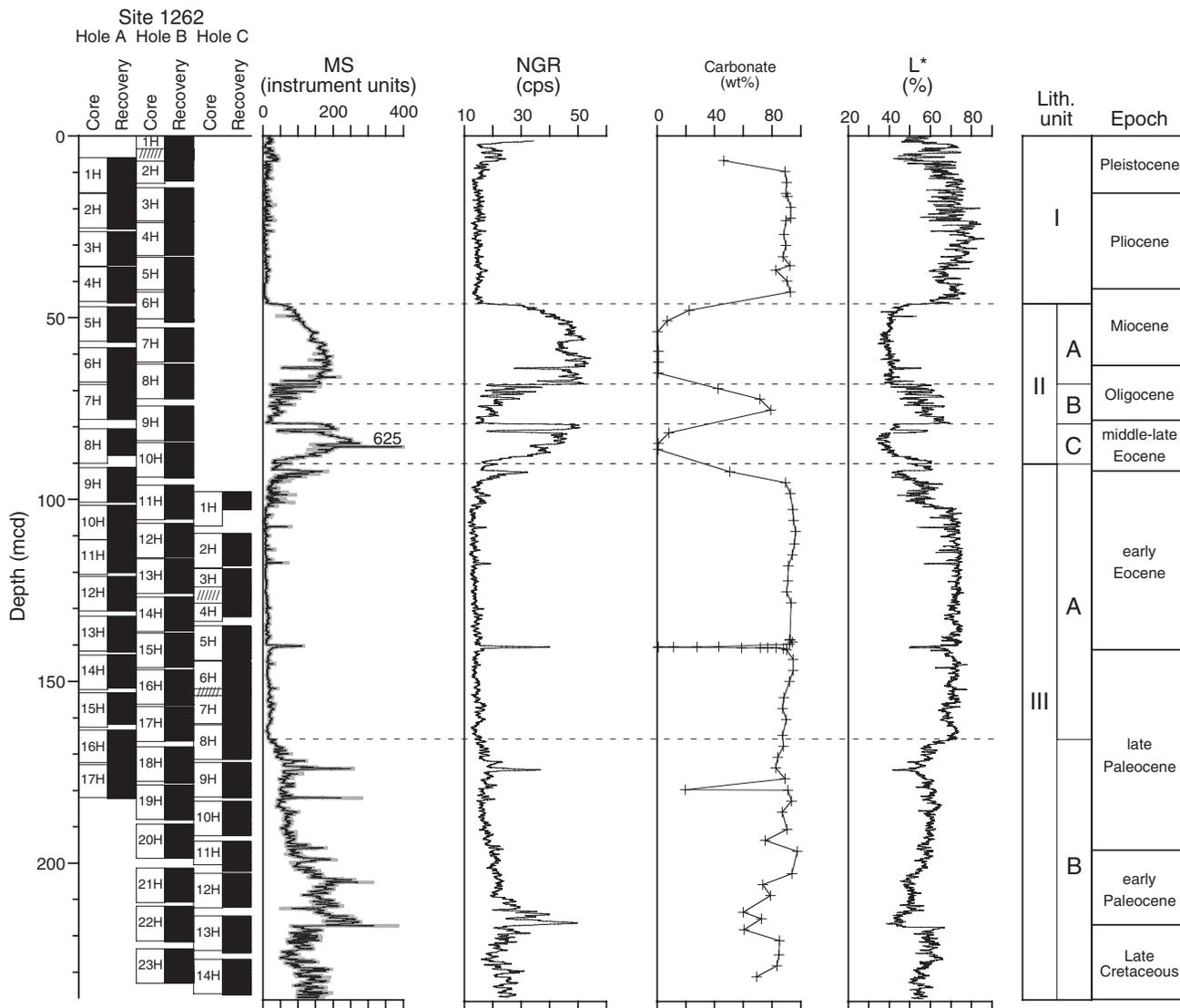
Figure F15. A. Core recovery plot for Site 1262. White boxes with core numbers = drilled intervals, which are spread out as a result of the composite depth construction, black boxes = the recovered intervals in each core. **B.** Shipboard biostratigraphic and magnetostratigraphic datums and the interpreted age-depth model. Solid horizontal lines = lithostratigraphic unit boundaries, dashed horizontal lines = lithostratigraphic subunit boundaries. **C.** Corrected linear sedimentation rates (LSR), total mass accumulation rates (Total MAR), carbonate mass accumulation rates (CaCO$_3$ MAR), and noncarbonate mass accumulation rates (Noncarb MAR), calculated from the age model sampled at 1-m.y. intervals, and dry density and calcium carbonate concentrations averaged over the same 1-m.y. intervals. B = bottom, T = top.

Figure F16. *Meteor* Cruise M49/1 track chart showing the location of Site 1263 (proposed Site WALV-8E), Site 1264 (proposed Site WALV-8A), alternate sites (WALV-8B, WALV-8C, and WALV-8D) on lines GeoB 01-046 and GeoB 01-031, and other proposed sites (WALV-9, WALV-10A, WALV-10B, WALV-10C, WALV-10D, and WALV-10F).

Figure F17. Line GeoB 01-046 and Sites 1263 and 1264 plotted with age estimates of prominent reflectors. R_1 is a regional reflector associated with an erosional unconformity. At Site 1263, the P/E boundary reflector ($R_{P/E}$) is estimated to be at 276 mbsf and the K/P boundary reflector ($R_{K/P}$) at 352 mbsf. $R_{O/M}$ = Oligocene/Miocene boundary reflector. CDP = common depth point. V.E. = vertical exaggeration.

Figure F18. Site 1263 lithostratigraphic composite illustrating stratigraphic variation in parameters used to define lithostratigraphic units. Foraminifer percentages (triangles) are smoothed with a 3-point moving average (line). Natural gamma radiation (NGR) is smoothed with a 5-point moving average. MS = magnetic susceptibility.
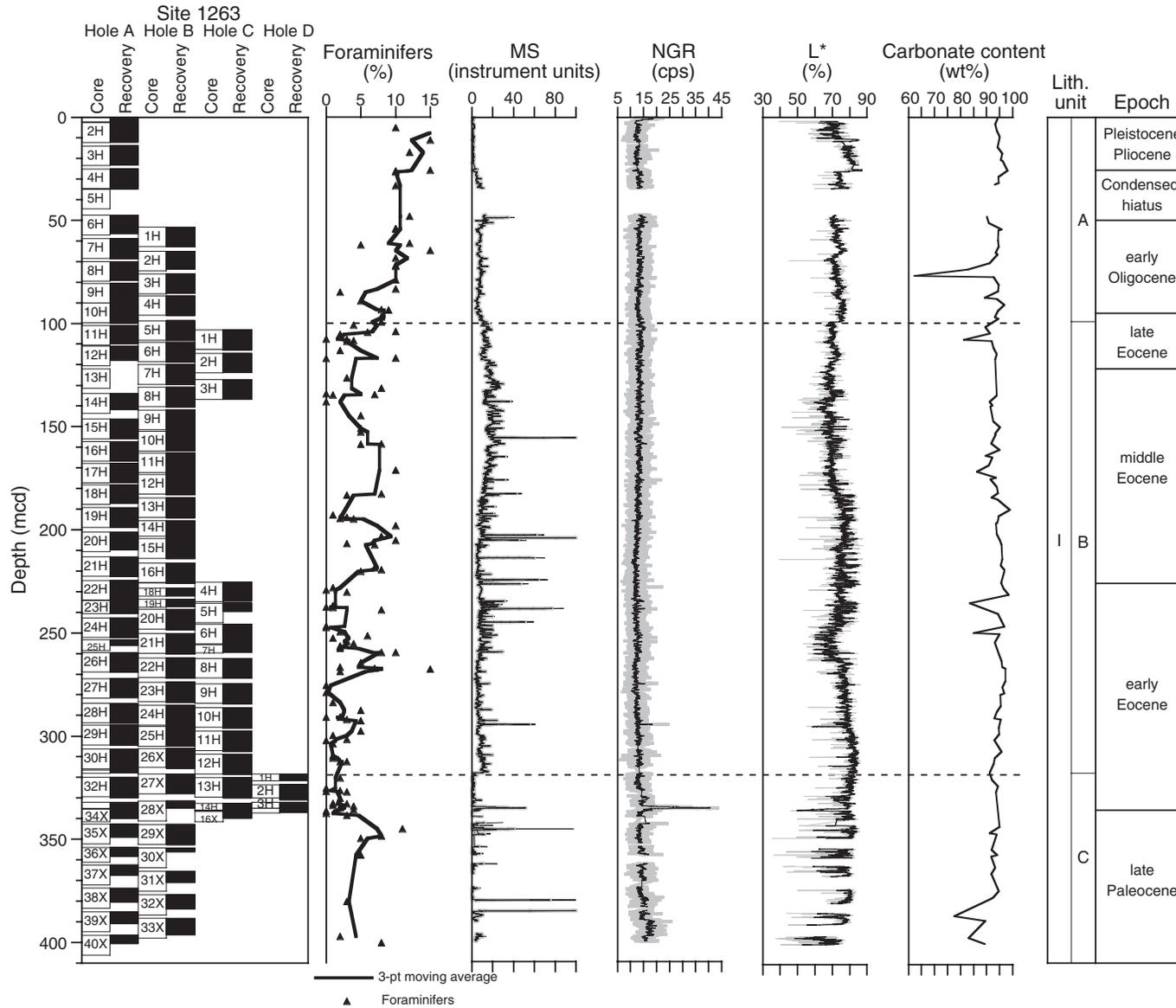
Figure F19. A. Core recovery plot for Site 1263. White boxes with core numbers = drilled intervals, which are spread out as a result of the composite depth construction, black boxes = the recovered intervals in each core. **B.** Shipboard biostratigraphic and magnetostratigraphic datums and the interpreted age-depth model. Solid horizontal lines = lithostratigraphic unit boundaries, dashed horizontal lines = lithostratigraphic subunit boundaries. **C.** Corrected linear sedimentation rates (LSR), total mass accumulation rates (Total MAR), carbonate mass accumulation rates (CaCO₃ MAR), and noncarbonate mass accumulation rates (Noncarb MAR), calculated from the age model sampled at 1-m.y. intervals, and dry density and calcium carbonate concentrations averaged over the same 1-m.y. intervals. B = bottom, T = top.

Figure F20. Line GeoB 01-046 and Sites 1263 and 1264 plotted with age estimates of prominent reflectors. $R_{O/M}$ is the Oligocene/Miocene boundary. R_1 is a regional reflector associated with an erosional unconformity. At Site 1264, the P/E boundary reflector ($R_{P/E}$) is estimated to be at 380 mbsf and the K/P boundary reflector ($R_{K/P}$) at 460 mbsf. CDP = common depth point. V.E. = vertical exaggeration.
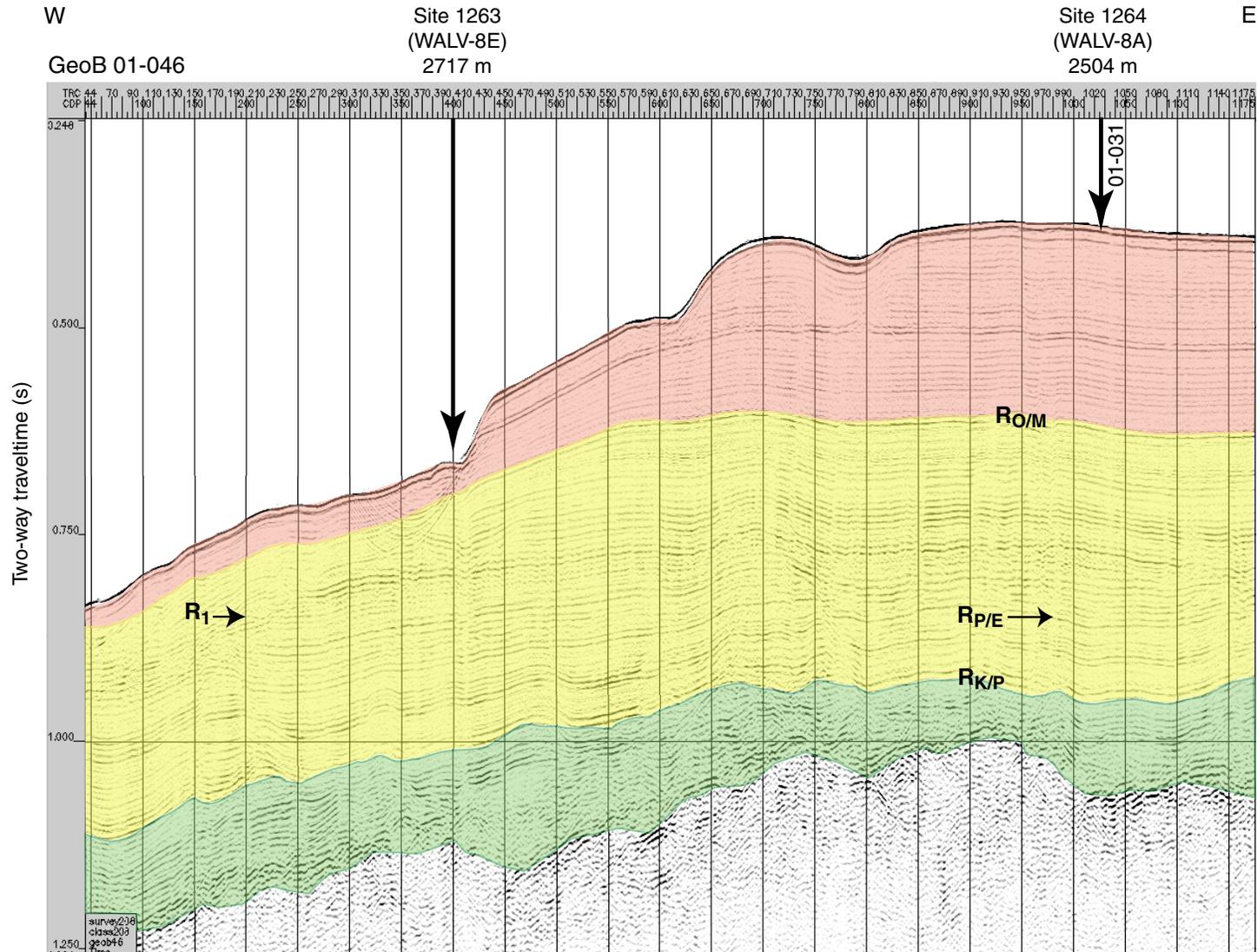
Figure F21. Site 1264 lithostratigraphic composite illustrating stratigraphic variation in parameters used to define lithostratigraphic units, including magnetic susceptibility (MS), nannofossil content, color reflectance (b*; blue-yellow chromaticity value), and *P*-wave velocity. MS and color reflectance data are smoothed with a 5-point moving average. Nannofossil content and *P*-wave velocity are smoothed with a 5% weighted average.
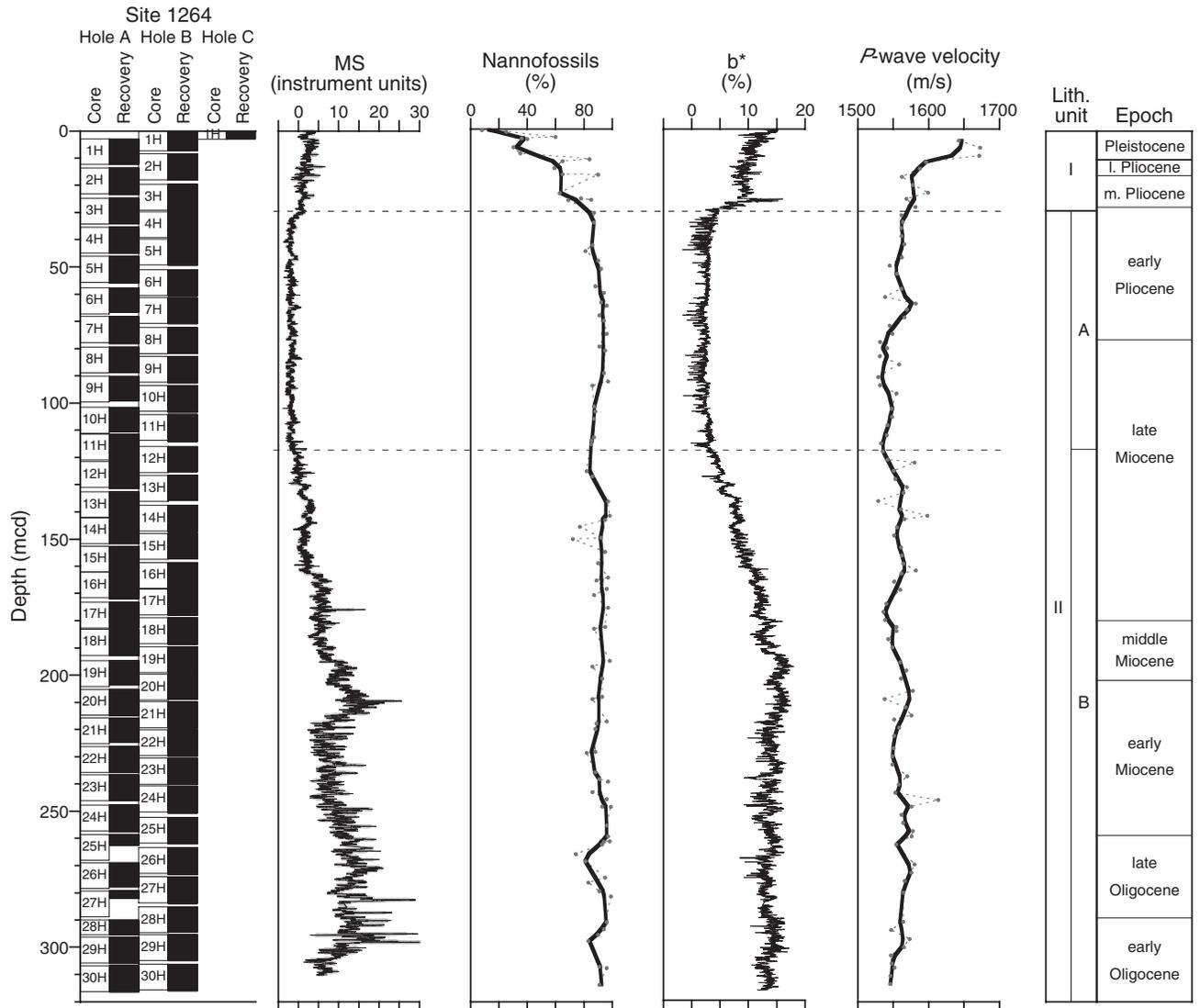
Figure F22. A. Core recovery plot for Site 1264. White boxes with core numbers = drilled intervals, which are spread out as a result of the composite depth construction, black boxes = the recovered intervals in each core. **B.** Shipboard biostratigraphic and magnetostratigraphic datums and the interpreted age-depth model. Solid horizontal lines = lithostratigraphic unit boundaries, dashed horizontal lines = lithostratigraphic subunit boundaries. **C.** Corrected linear sedimentation rates (LSR), total mass accumulation rates (Total MAR), carbonate mass accumulation rates (CaCO$_3$ MAR), and noncarbonate mass accumulation rates (Noncarb MAR), calculated from the age model sampled at 1-m.y. intervals, and dry density and calcium carbonate concentrations averaged over the same 1-m.y. intervals. B = bottom, T = top.

Figure F23. Line GeoB 01-048 and Site 1265 plotted with prominent reflectors. $R_{O/M}$ is just below the Oligocene/Miocene (O/M) boundary at ~113 mbsf. The Paleocene/Eocene boundary reflector ($R_{P/E}$) is at ~275 mbsf, and the Cretaceous/Paleogene boundary reflector ($R_{K/P}$) is at ~330 mbsf. CDP = common depth point. V.E. = vertical exaggeration.
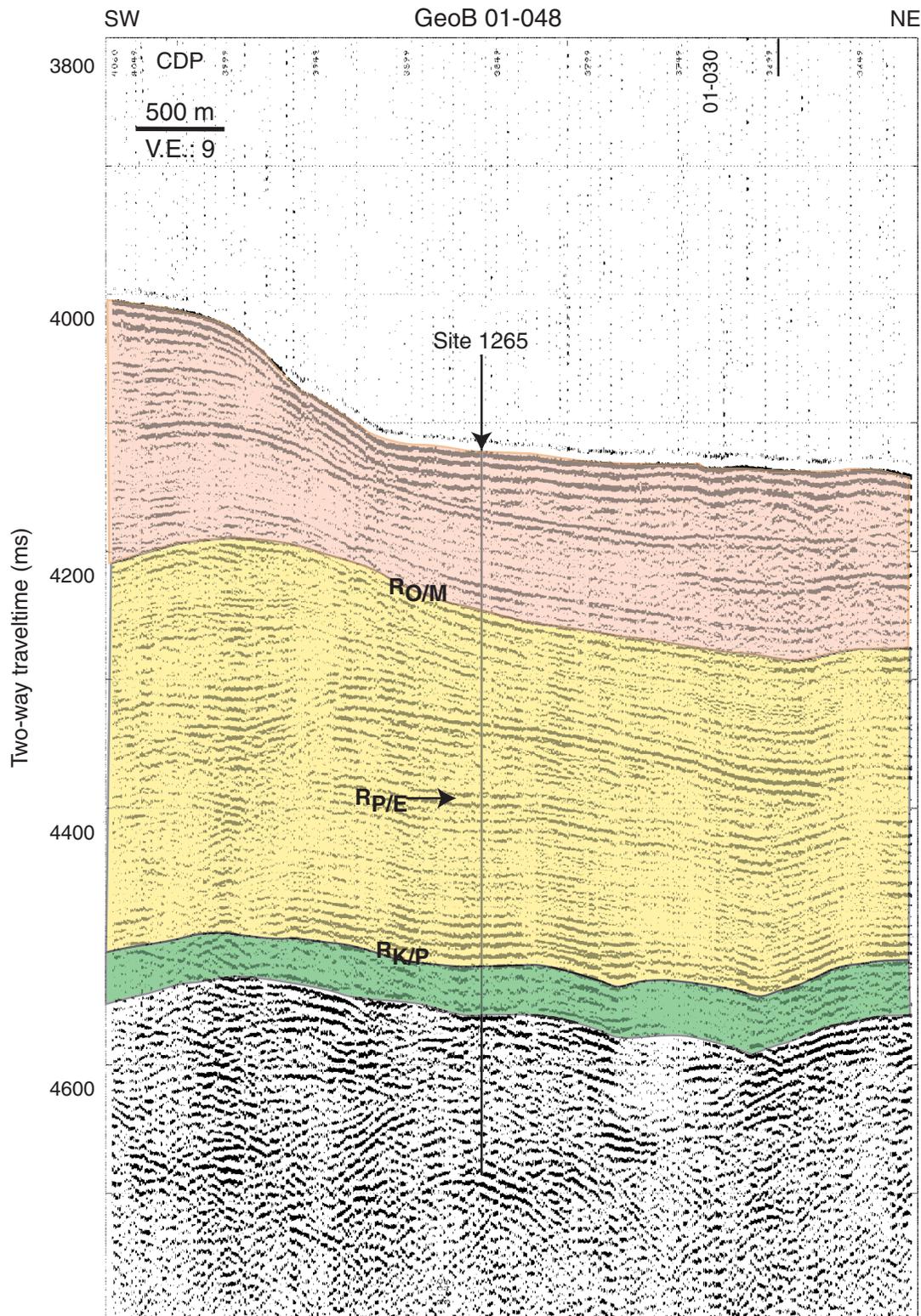
Figure F24. Site 1265 lithostratigraphic composite illustrating stratigraphic variation in parameters used to define lithostratigraphic units, including magnetic susceptibility (MS) (Site 1265 splice, 21-point moving average), color reflectance (L*, lightness) (Site 1265 splice, 21-point moving average), and smear slide percentage of foraminifers (open triangles = Hole 1265A and solid triangles = Hole 1265B; solid line is combined 3-point moving average). Occurrence of turbidite (T), volcanic ash (A), chert (C), and chalky layers (Ch) are also shown. See "Biostratigraphy," p. 10, in the "Site 1265" chapter for derivation of ages.
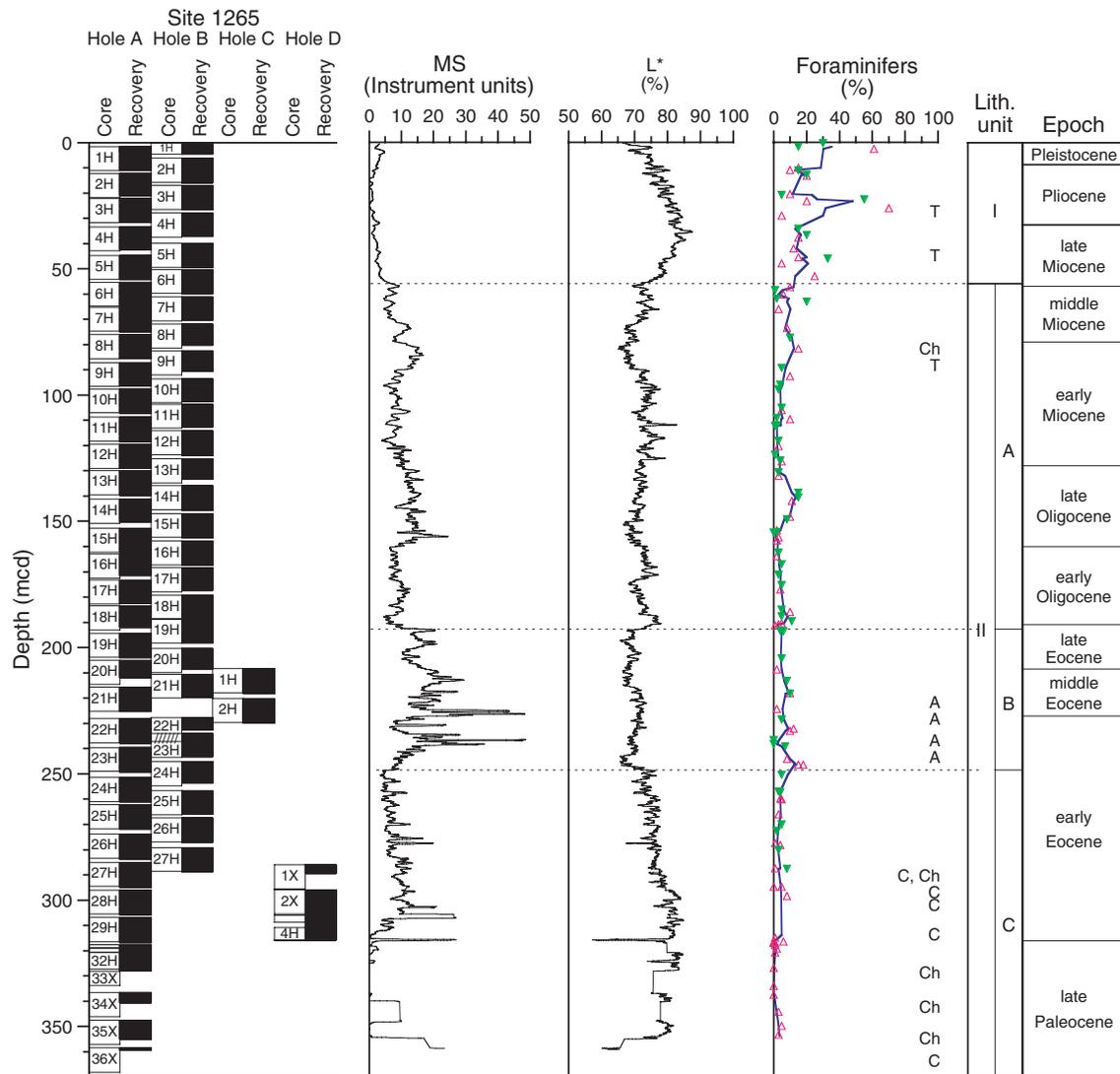
Figure F25. A. Core recovery plot for Site 1265. White boxes with core numbers = drilled intervals, which are spread out as a result of the composite depth construction, black boxes = the recovered intervals in each core. **B.** Shipboard biostratigraphic and magnetostratigraphic datums and the interpreted age-depth model. Solid horizontal lines = lithostratigraphic unit boundaries, dashed horizontal lines = lithostratigraphic subunit boundaries. **C.** Corrected linear sedimentation rates (LSR), total mass accumulation rates (Total MAR), carbonate mass accumulation rates (CaCO$_3$ MAR), and noncarbonate mass accumulation rates (Noncarb MAR), calculated from the age model sampled at 1-m.y. intervals, and dry density and calcium carbonate concentrations averaged over the same 1-m.y. intervals. B = bottom, T = top.
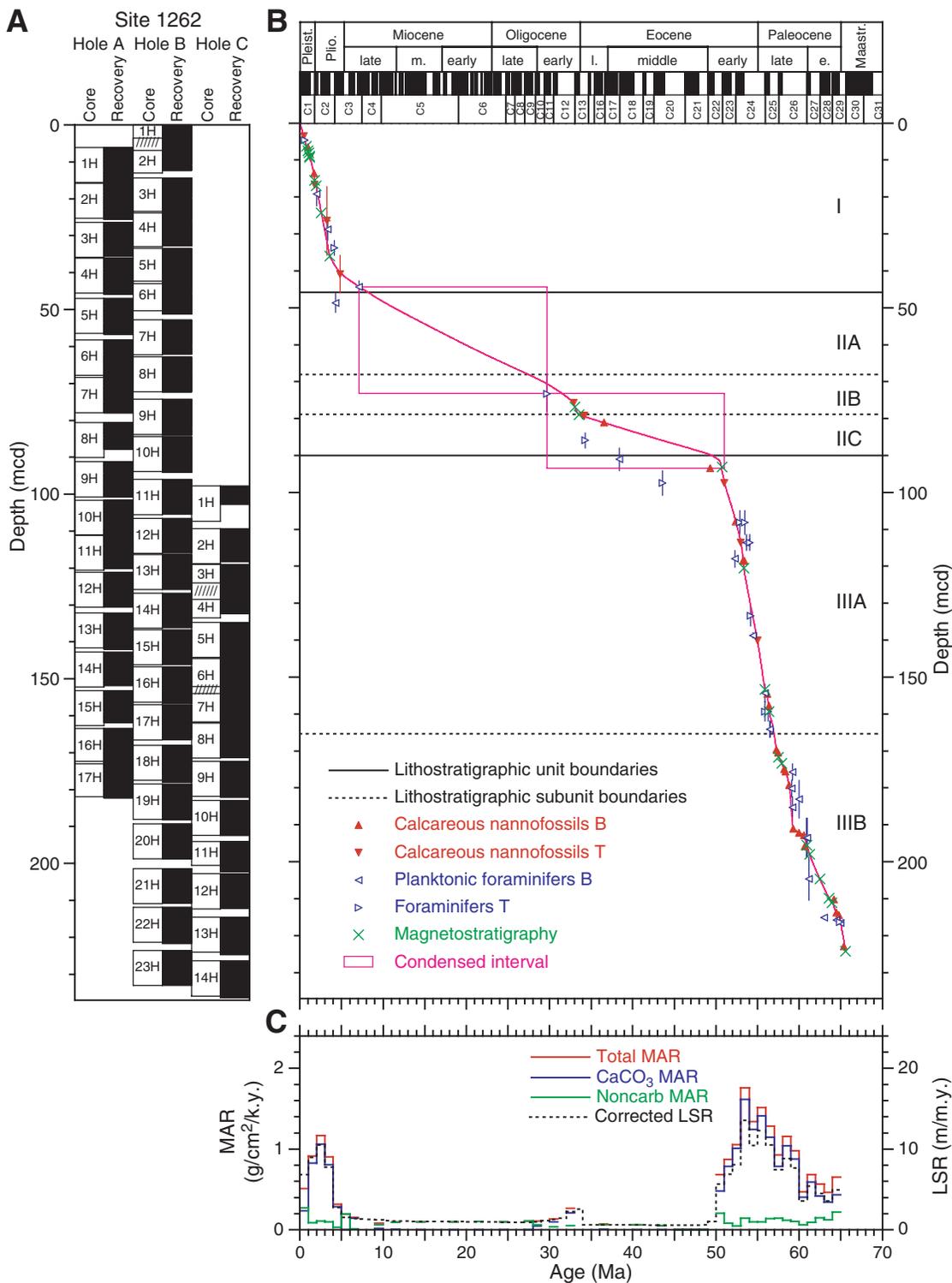
Figure F26. Line GeoB 01-030 with Site 1266 and DSDP Site 528 (proposed sites WALV-10F and WALV-10A, respectively) with age estimates of prominent reflectors. A middle–late Miocene reflector (R_{M1}) is at ~105 mbsf, and the Oligocene/Miocene boundary reflector ($R_{O/M}$) is at ~140 mbsf. The Paleocene/Eocene boundary reflector ($R_{P/E}$) is at ~275 mbsf, and the K/P boundary reflector ($R_{K/P}$) is at 350 mbsf. Both $R_{P/E}$ and $R_{K/P}$ can be identified over most of the surveyed area. CDP = common depth point. V.E. = vertical exaggeration.
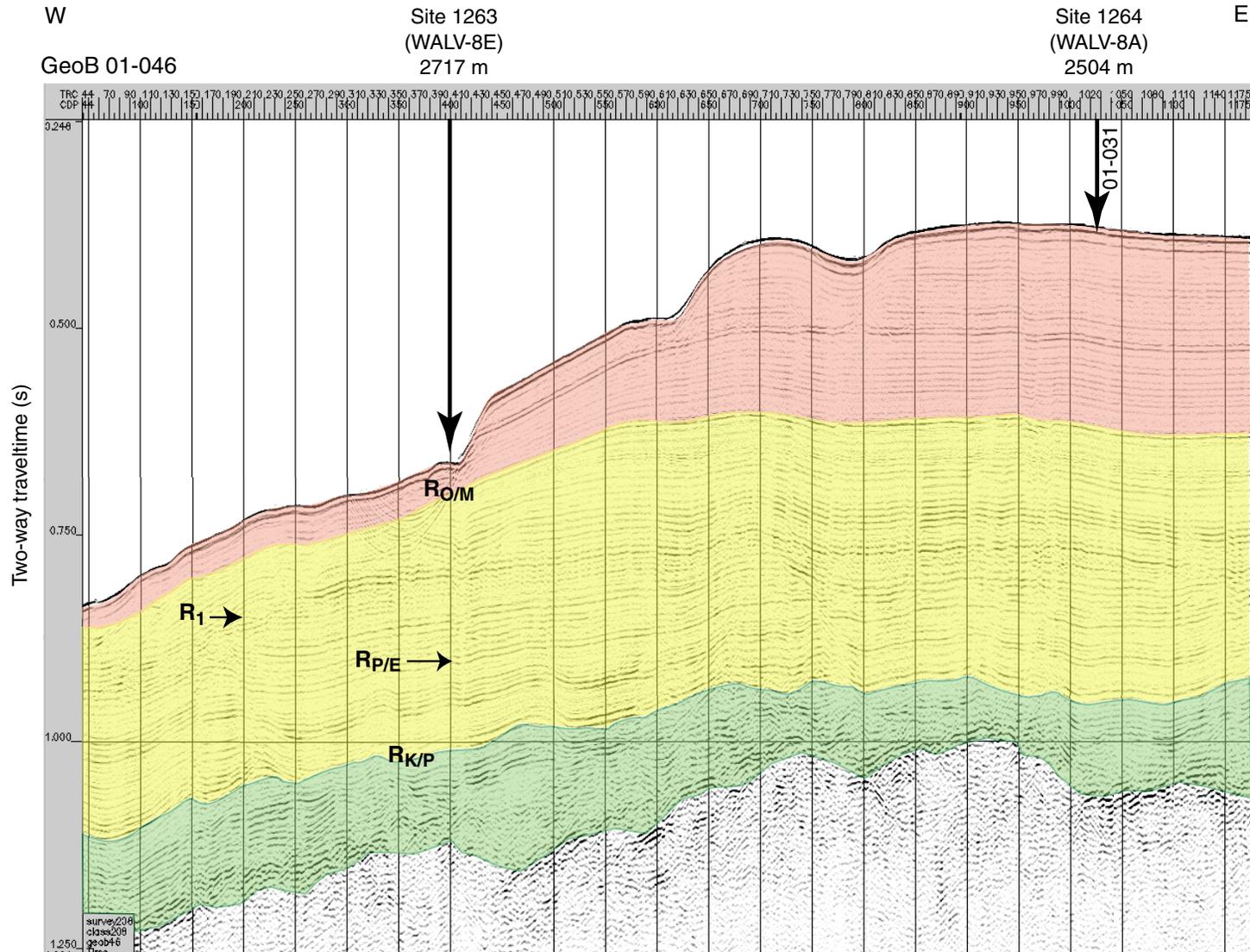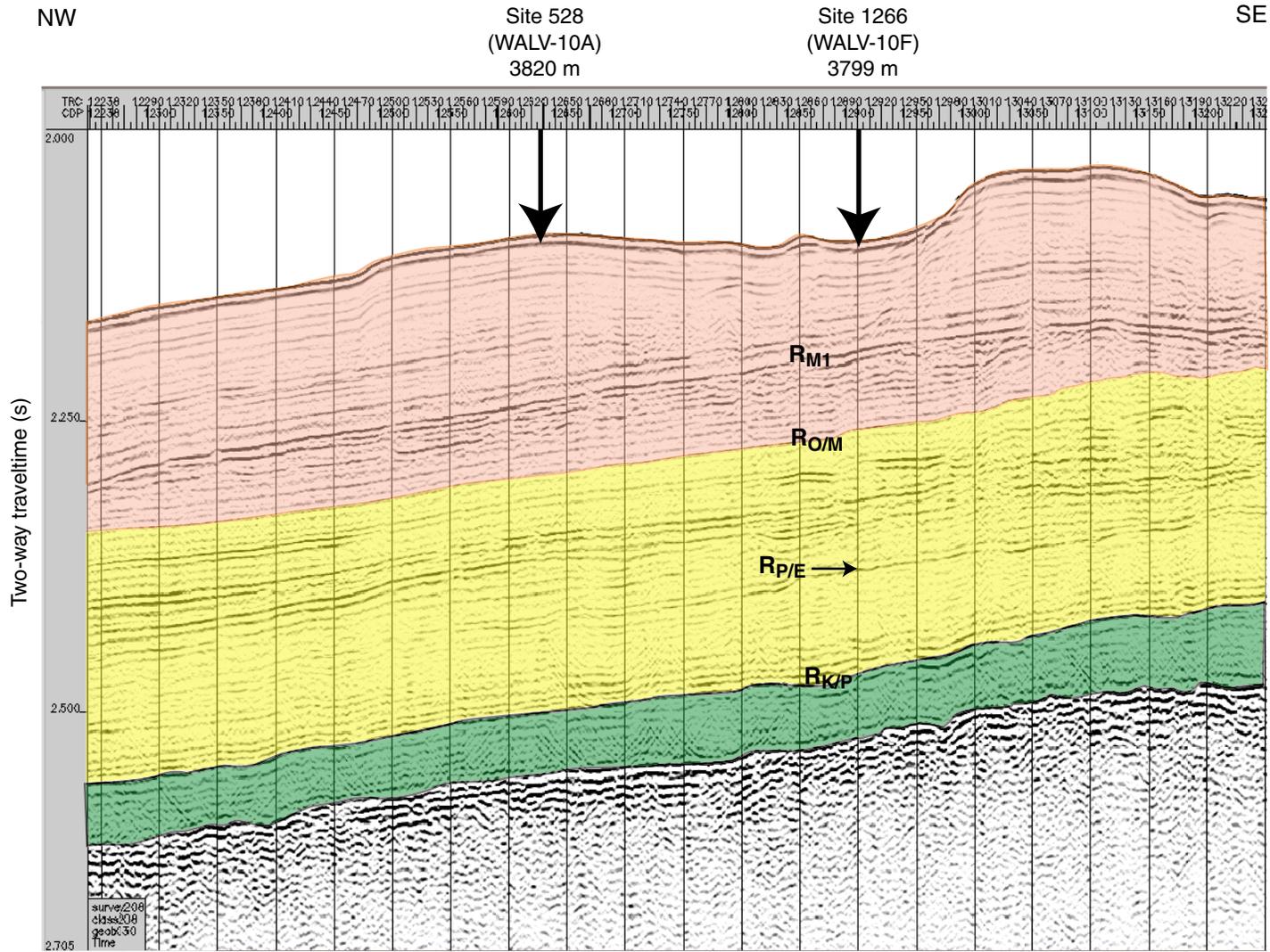
Figure F27. Site 1266 lithostratigraphic composite illustrating stratigraphic variation in parameters used to define lithostratigraphic units. The Unit I/II boundary was chosen at an abrupt step change in chromaticity value b*, lightness (L*), inflection in magnetic susceptibility (MS), and decrease in foraminiferal abundance. The Unit II/III boundary was chosen at a decrease in L* and increase in MS and natural gamma radiation (NGR). All data are smoothed with a 5-point moving average with the exception of NGR and smear slide components, which were smoothed with a 10-point and 3-point moving average, respectively.
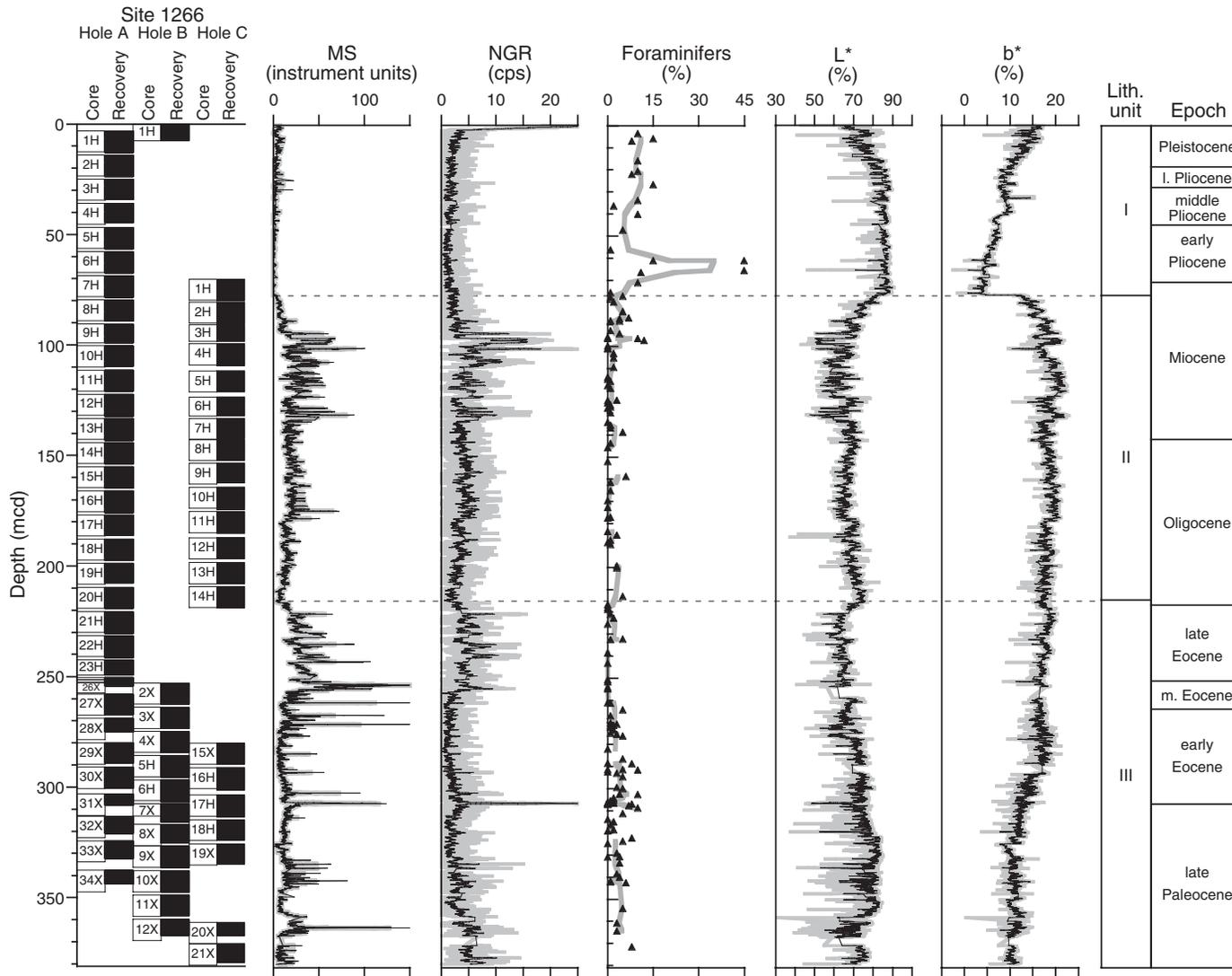
Figure F28. A. Core recovery plot for Site 1266. White boxes with core numbers = drilled intervals, which are spread out as a result of the composite depth construction, black boxes = the recovered intervals in each core. **B.** Shipboard biostratigraphic and magnetostratigraphic datums and the interpreted age-depth model. Solid horizontal lines = lithostratigraphic unit boundaries, dashed horizontal lines = lithostratigraphic sub-unit boundaries. **C.** Corrected linear sedimentation rates (LSR), total mass accumulation rates (Total MAR), carbonate mass accumulation rates (CaCO₃ MAR), and noncarbonate mass accumulation rates (Noncarb MAR), calculated from the age model sampled at 1-m.y. intervals, and dry density and calcium carbonate concentrations averaged over the same 1-m.y. intervals. B = bottom, T = top.
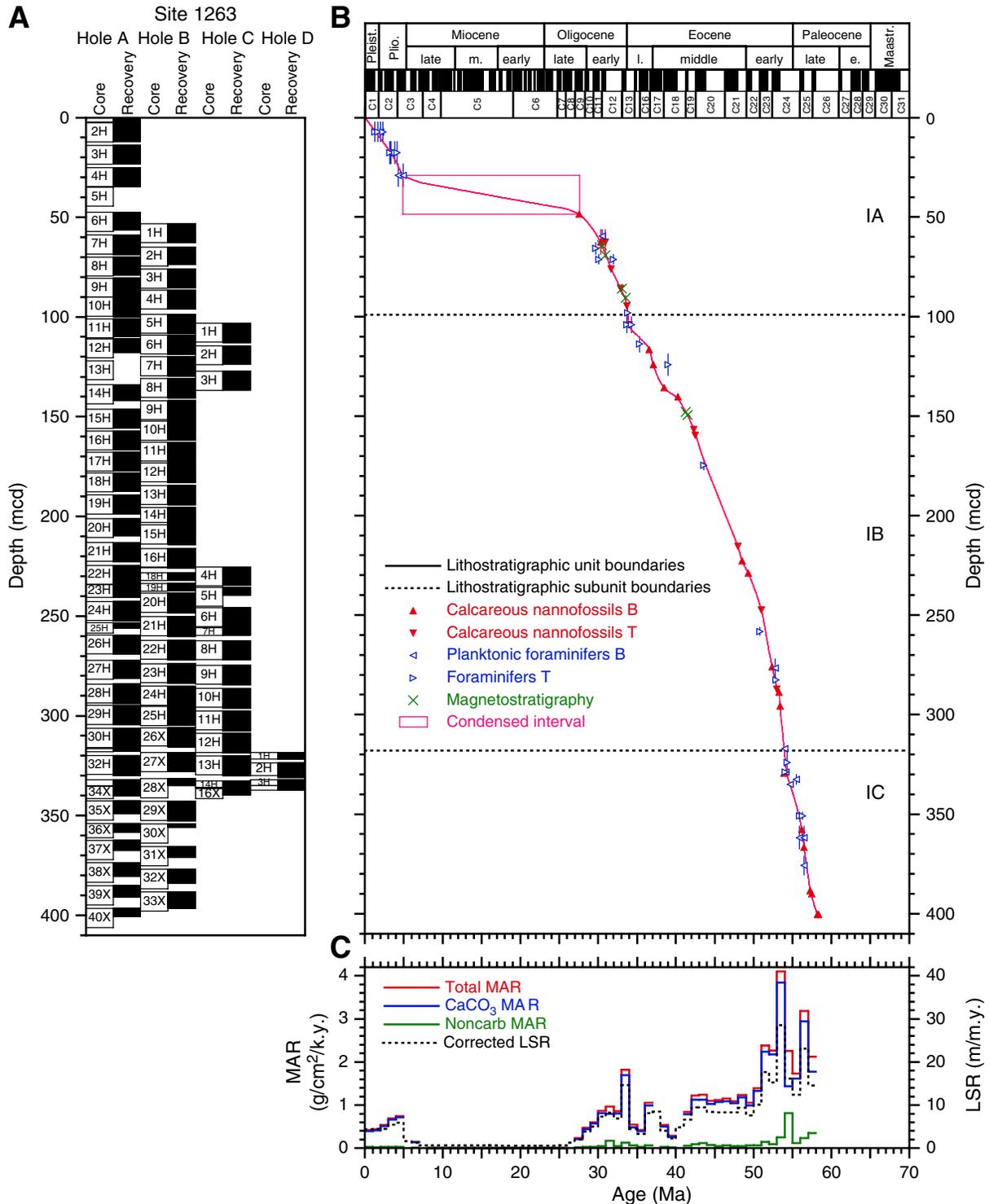
Figure F29. *Meteor* Cruise M49/1 track chart showing the location of Site 1267 (proposed Site WALV-11B), alternate Site WALV-11A (DSDP Site 527) along line GeoB 01-039, and other proposed sites (WALV-11C and WALV-11D).
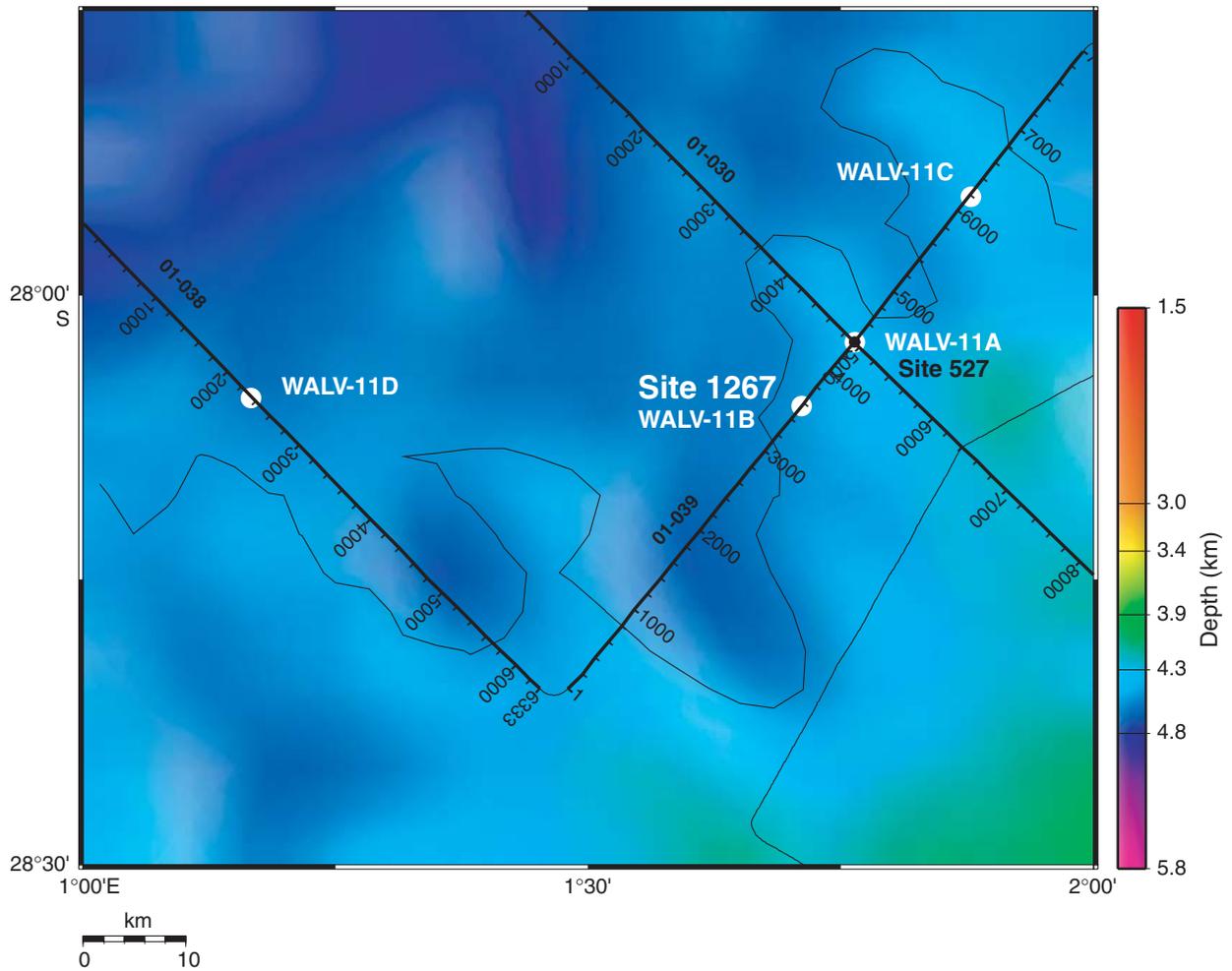
Figure F30. Locations of Site 1267 and DSDP Site 527 along Line GeoB 01-039. R_1 is a regional reflector that marks an unconformity or condensed interval. Although time transgressive, sediments below the reflector tend to be Paleogene and those above tend to be Neogene. The P/E boundary reflector ($R_{P/E}$) is estimated to be at 213 mbsf and the K/P boundary ($R_{K/P}$) at 279 mbsf. Both reflectors can be traced over most of the ridge. CDP = common depth point. V.E. = vertical exaggeration.

Figure F31. Site 1267 lithostratigraphic composite illustrating downhole variation in magnetic susceptibility (MS), natural gamma radiation (NGR), carbonate concentration, and color reflectance (L*, lightness). Major lithostratigraphic unit boundaries coincide with step changes in these parameters. MS and NGR variations largely correlate with clay and volcaniclastic content.
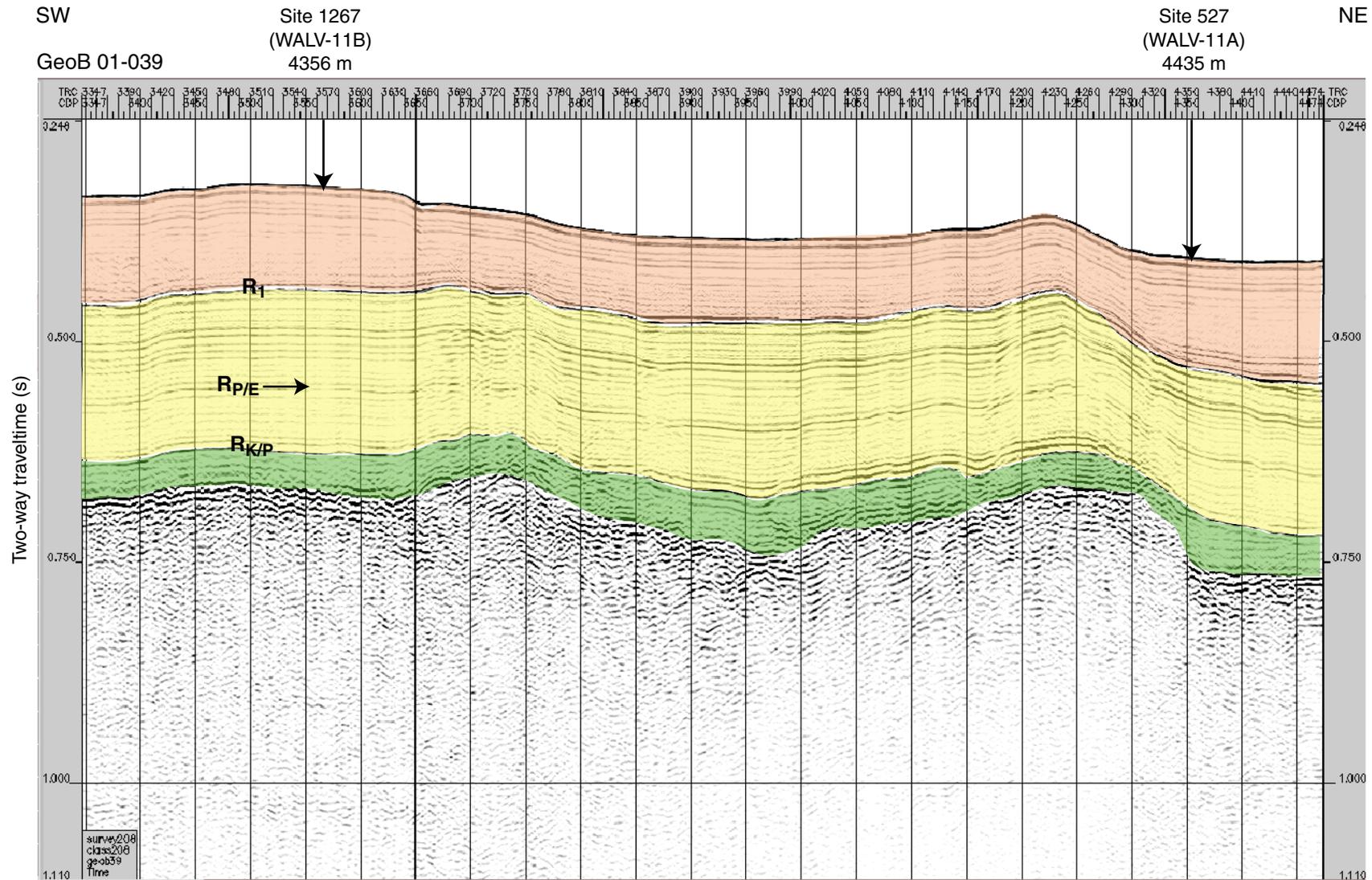
Figure F32. A. Core recovery plot for Site 1267. White boxes with core numbers = drilled intervals, which are spread out as a result of the composite depth construction, black boxes = the recovered intervals in each core. **B.** Shipboard biostratigraphic and magnetostratigraphic datums and the interpreted age-depth model. Solid horizontal lines = lithostratigraphic unit boundaries, dashed horizontal lines = lithostratigraphic sub-unit boundaries. **C.** Corrected linear sedimentation rates (LSR), total mass accumulation rates (Total MAR), carbonate mass accumulation rates (CaCO₃ MAR), and noncarbonate mass accumulation rates (Noncarb MAR), calculated from the age model sampled at 1-m.y. intervals, and dry density and calcium carbonate concentrations averaged over the same 1-m.y. intervals. B = bottom, T = top.
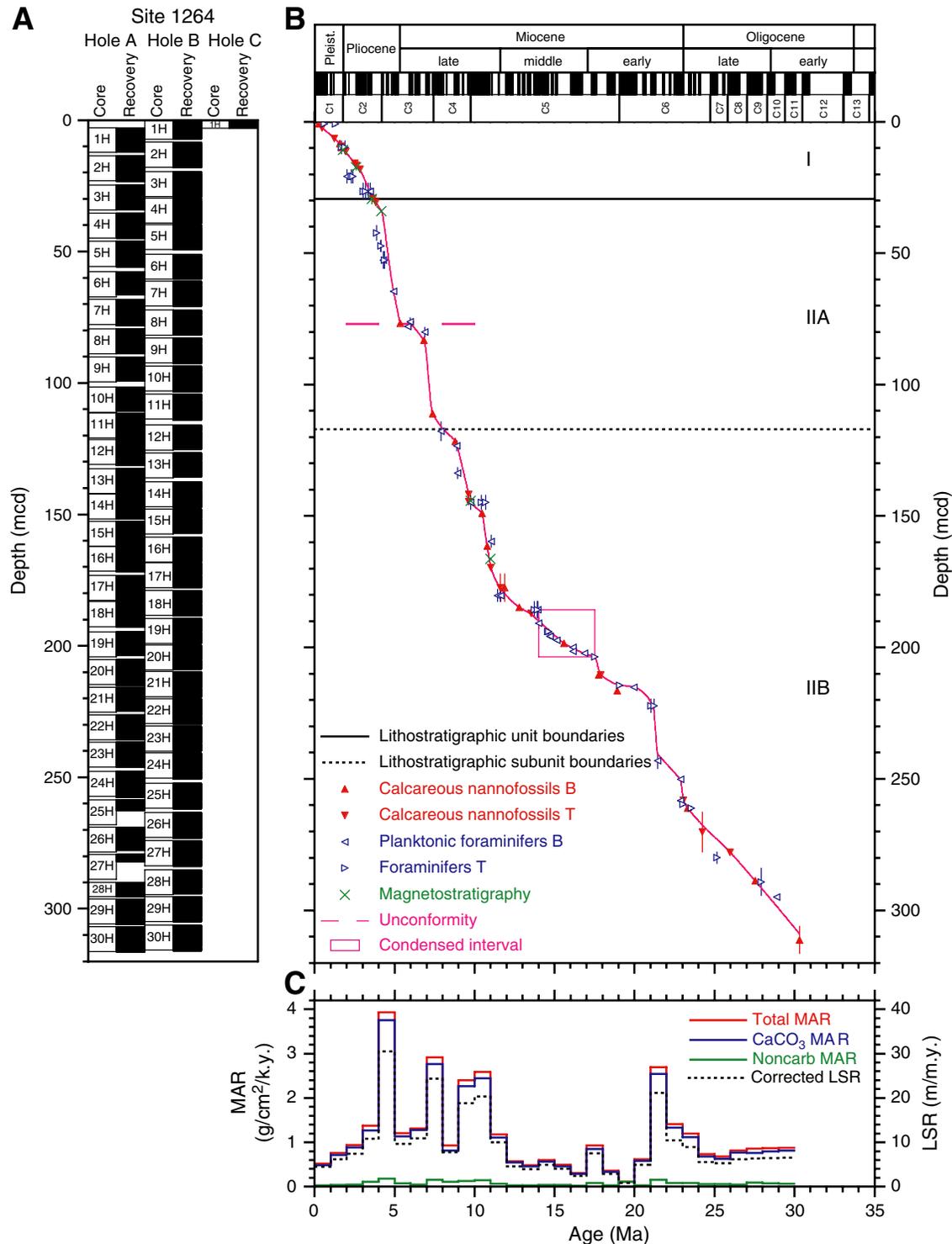
Figure F33. Sediment age distribution at Leg 208 sites.
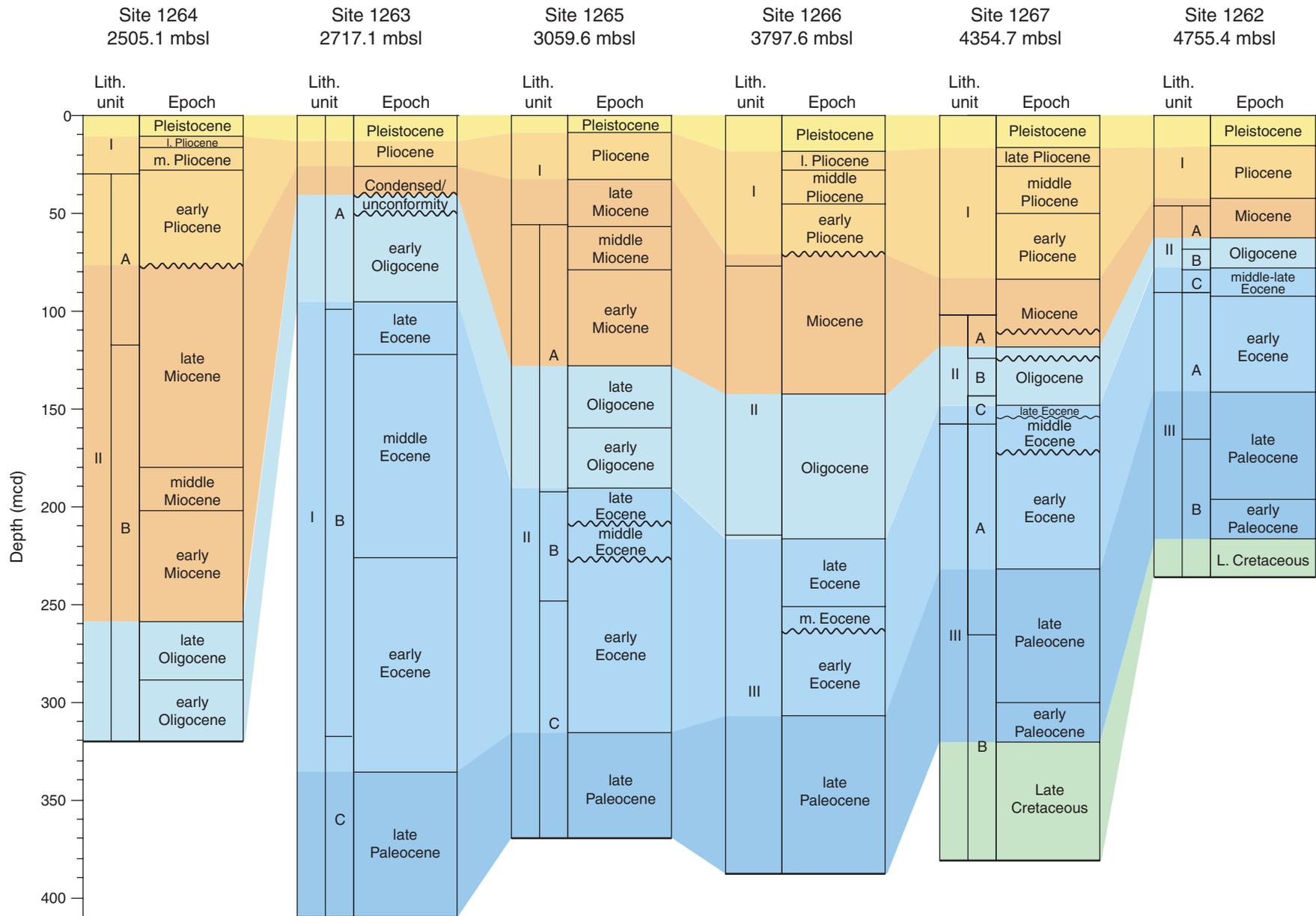
Figure F34. Maastrichtian, Paleocene, and lower Eocene magnetostratigraphic interpretation for Sites 1262, 1266, and 1267. Arrows = Paleocene/Eocene (P/E) and Cretaceous/Paleogene (K/P) boundaries. The geomagnetic polarity timescale (Cande and Kent, 1995) is plotted on the left. Black box = normal polarity, white box = reversed polarity, gray box = uncertain polarity. X = no core recovery. Correlation lines are dashed where approximate or uncertain.
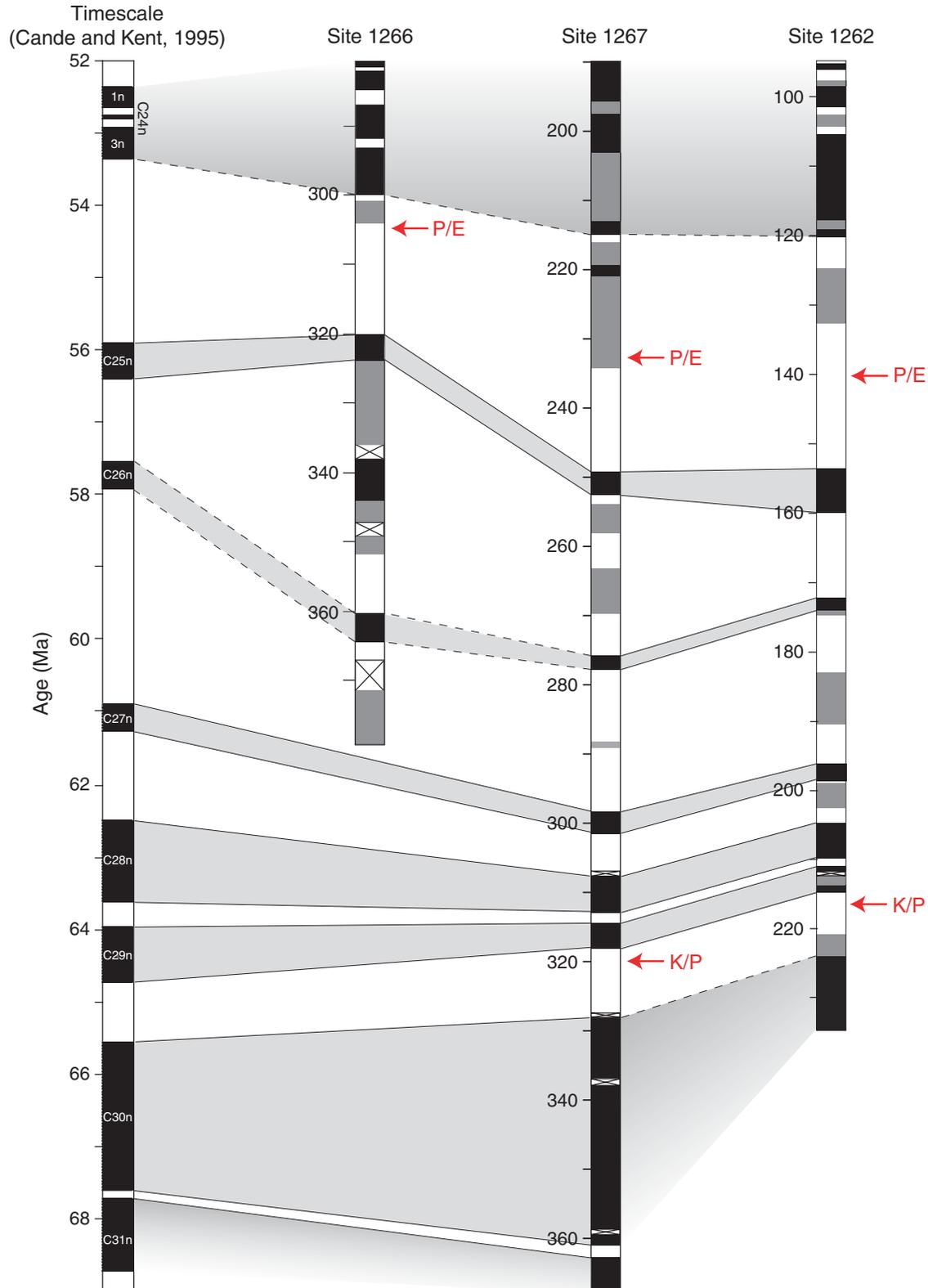
Figure F35. Magnetic susceptibility (MS) vs. age for the complete composite sections of all Leg 208 sites except Site 1264.
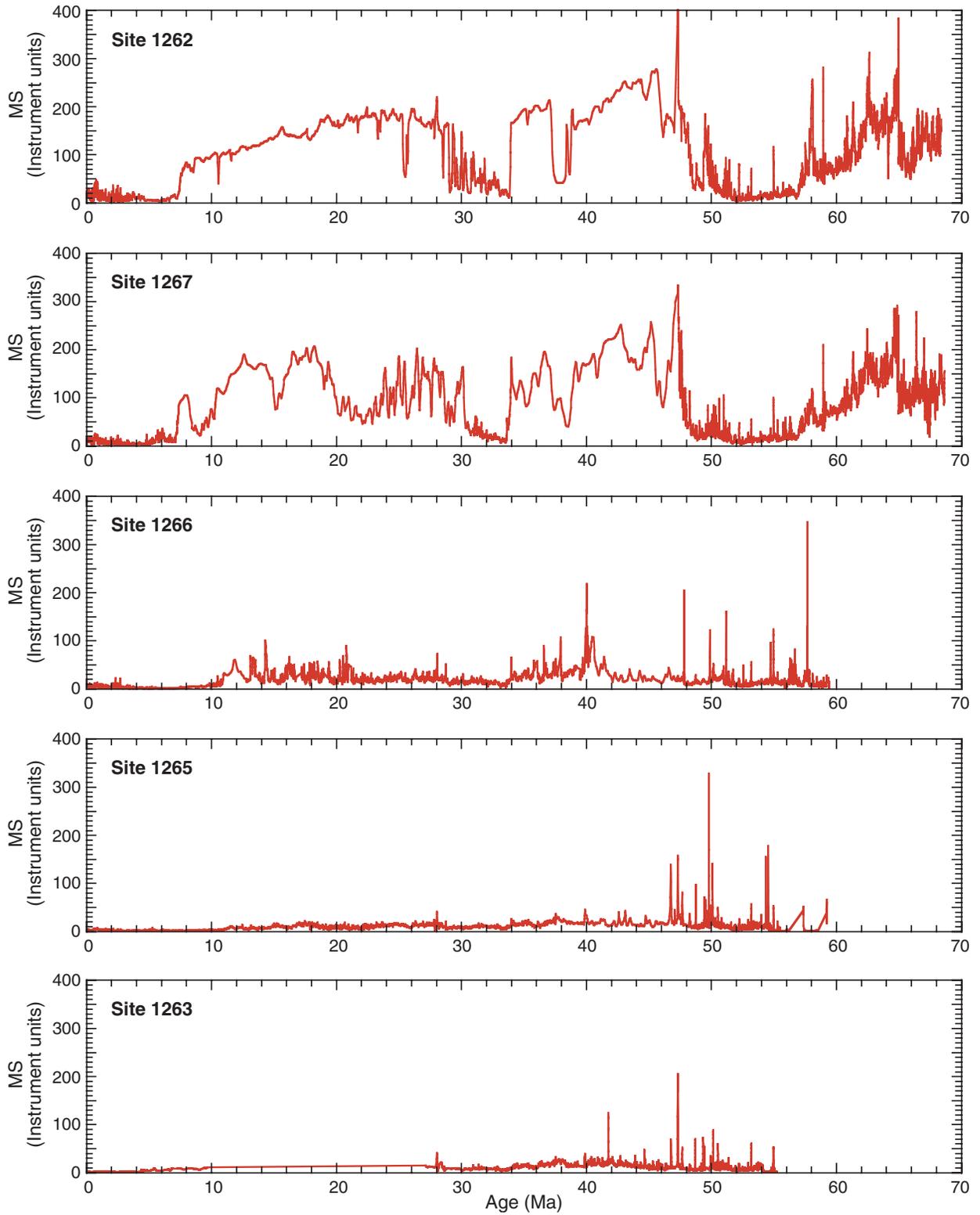
Figure F36. Magnetic susceptibility (MS) vs. age for the 0- to 5-Ma time interval of all Leg 208 sites except Site 1263.
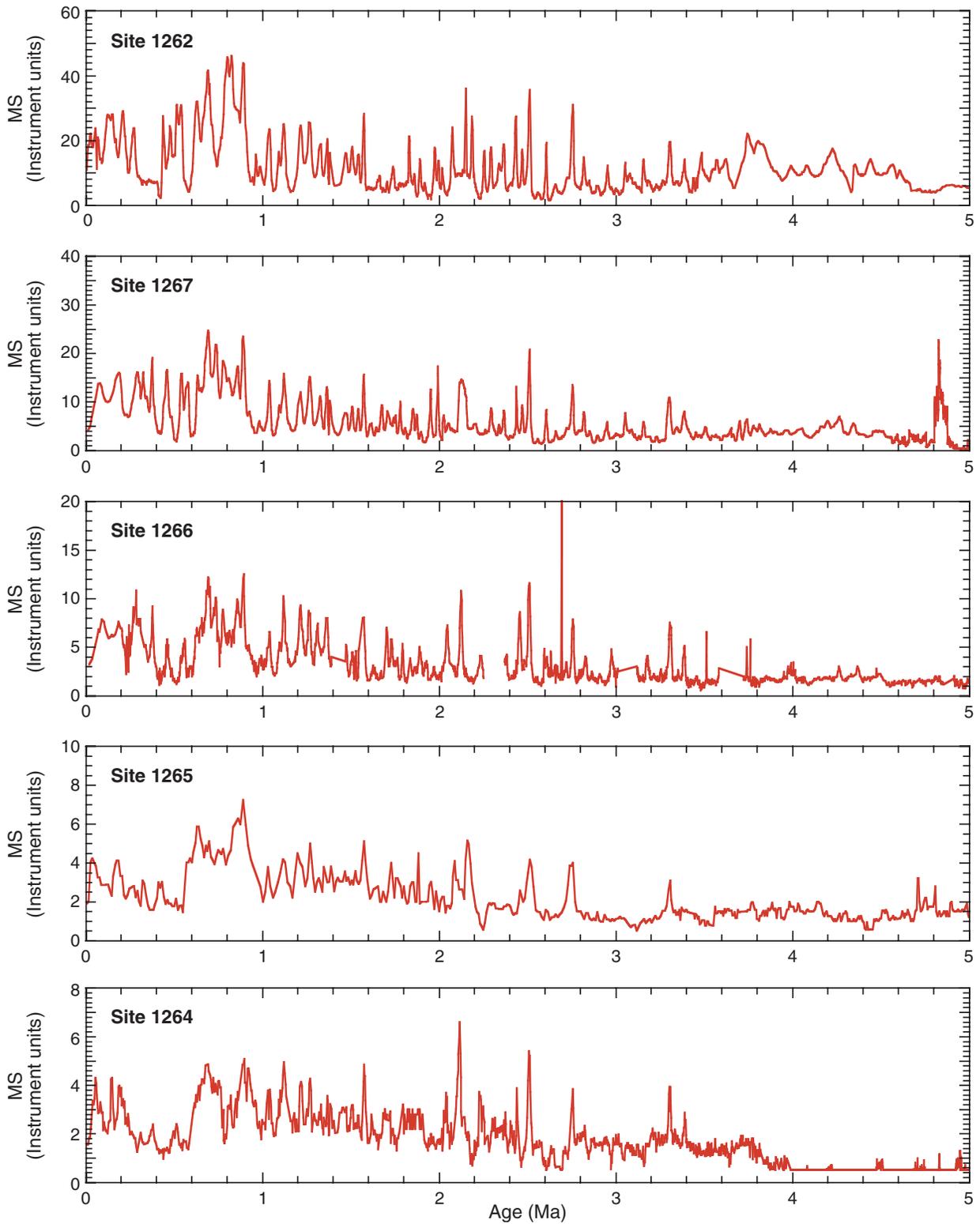
Figure F37. Magnetic susceptibility (MS) vs. age for the 52- to 56-Ma time interval of all Leg 208 sites except Site 1264. P/E = P/E boundary. Also plotted are two distinct early Eocene clay layers, X and Y, identified at all sites. The Y layer is also referred to as the Chron C24n clay layer.
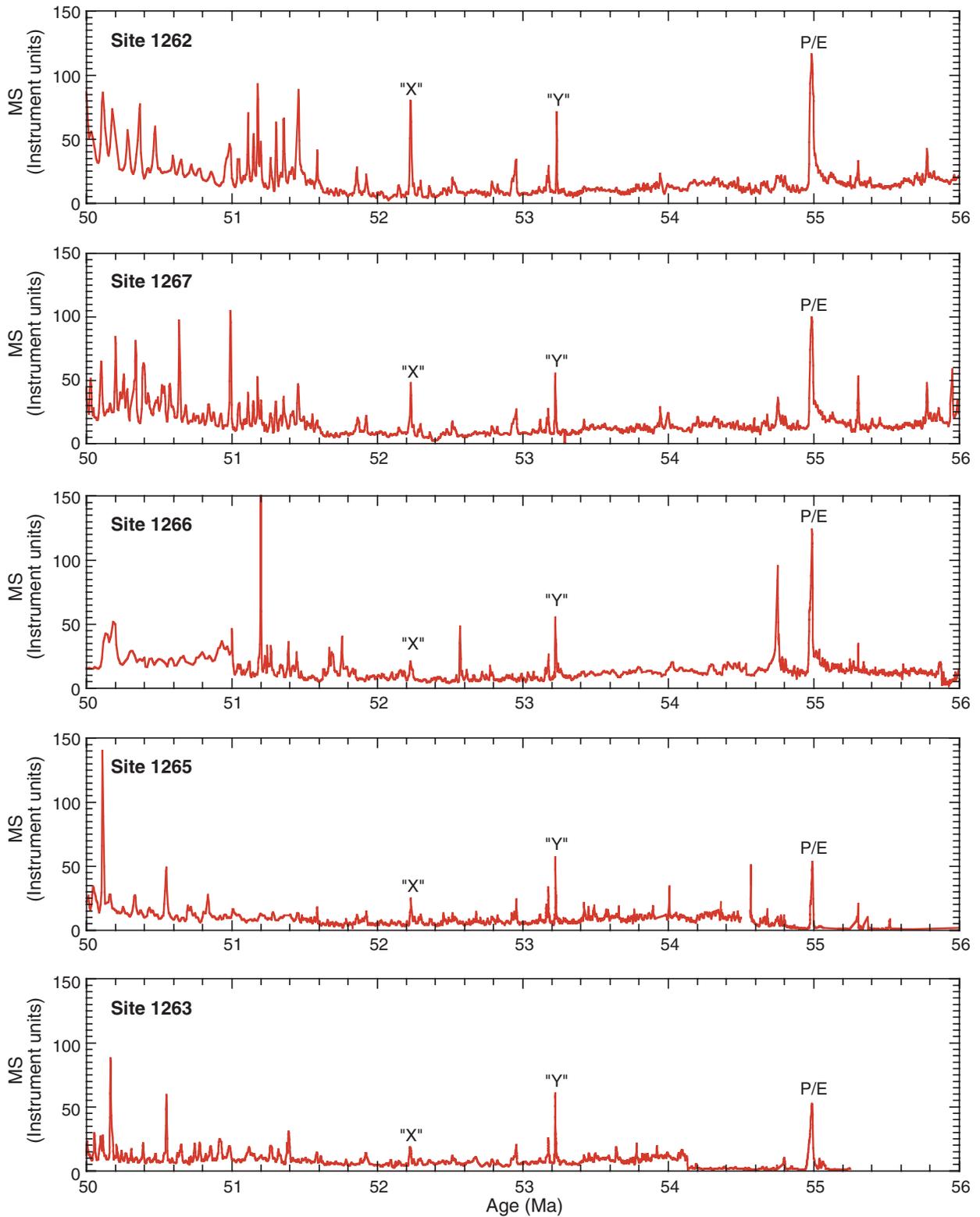
Figure F38. Magnetic susceptibility (MS) vs. age for the 52- to 66-Ma time interval of Sites 1262 and 1267. K/P = K/P boundary, P/E = P/E boundary.
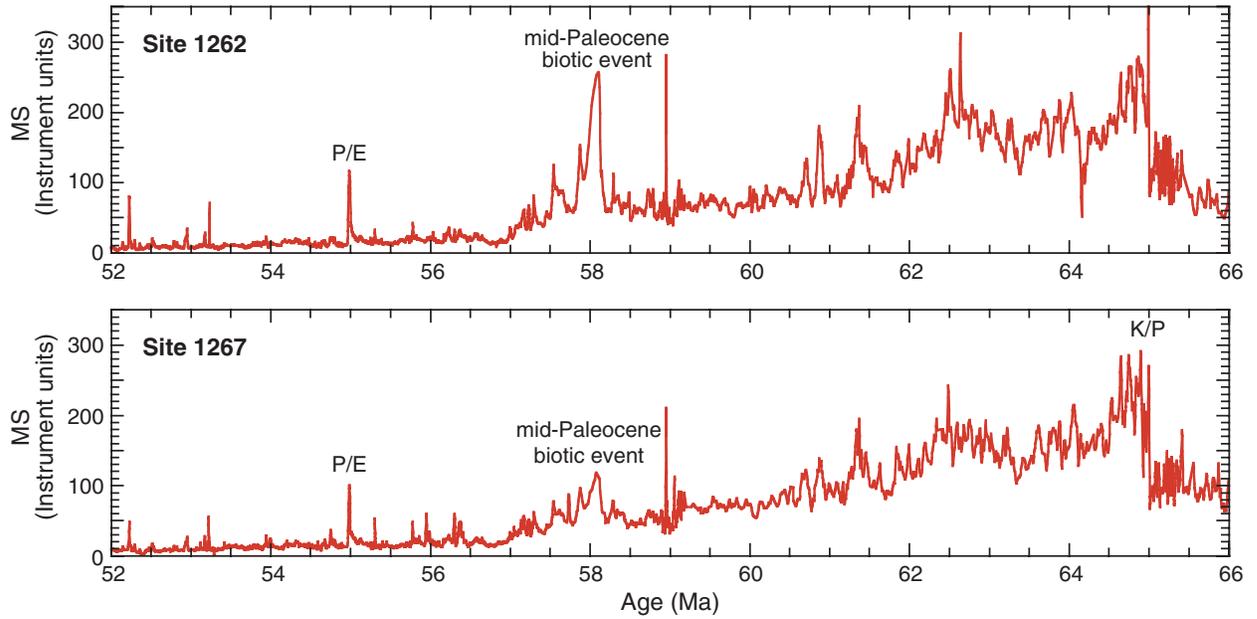
Figure F39. Depth-scale representation of the magnetic susceptibility (MS) record at Site 1264 between 170 and 260 mcd (early to early late Miocene; 11 to 23 Ma). Assuming a sedimentation rate of ~0.9 cm/k.y., the enhanced power centered around the 0.36- and 0.9-cm depth scale may be linked to obliquity and eccentricity forcing, respectively.
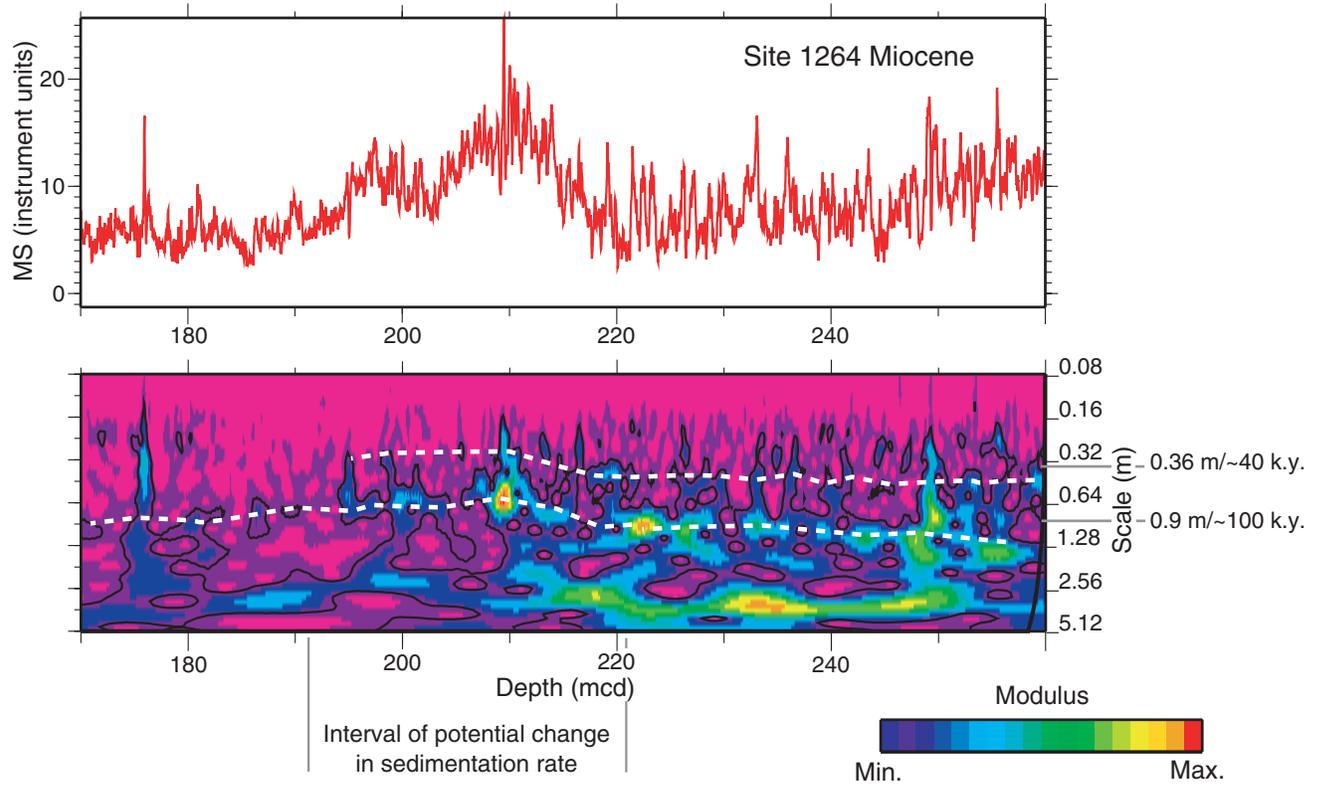
Figure F40. Depth-scale representation of the magnetic susceptibility (MS) record at Site 1265 between 278.9 and 294.8 mcd (early Eocene, 53.3 to 53.9 Ma). Assuming an average sedimentation rate of ~2.1 cm/k.y., the enhanced power centered around the 0.5- and 2.5-m scale may be linked to precession and eccentricity forcing, respectively, whereas that centered around the 1-m scale might be linked to obliquity.
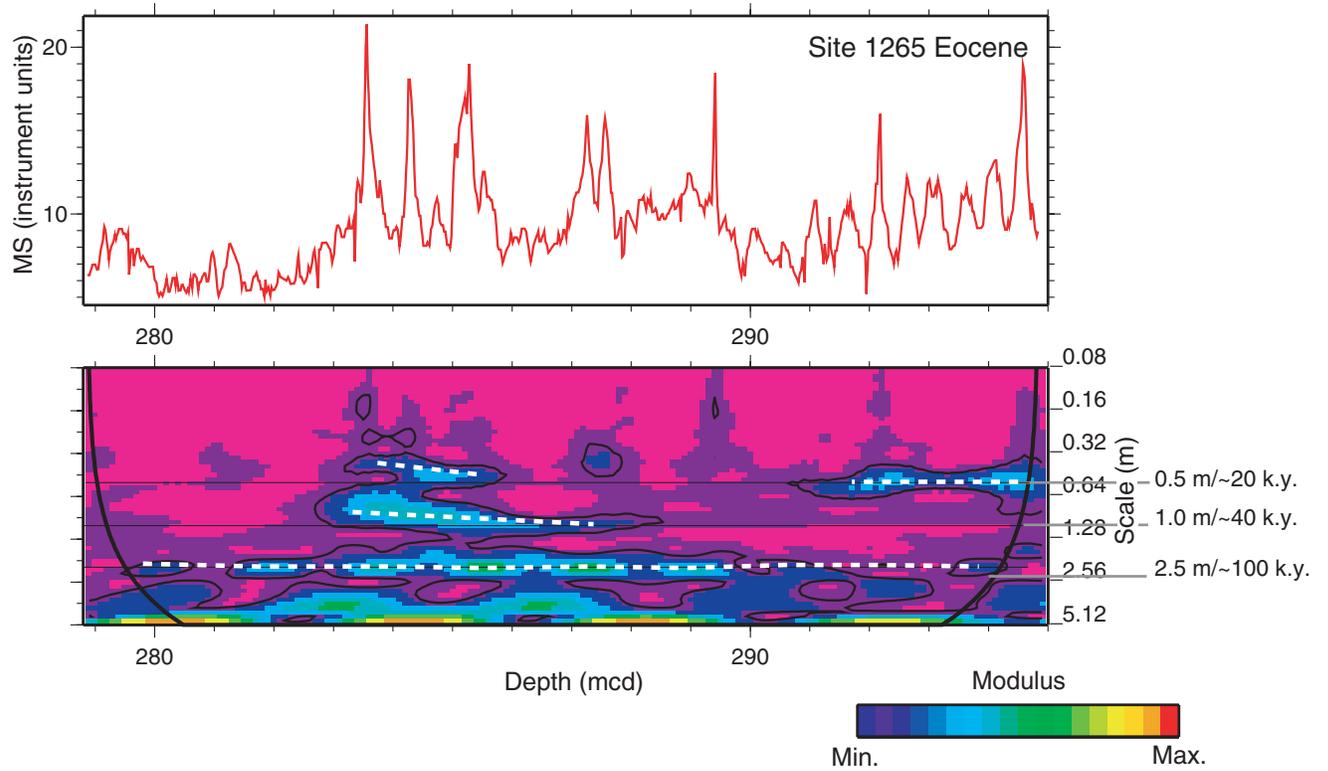
Figure F41. Depth-scale representation of the magnetic susceptibility (MS) record at Site 1267 between 320.9 and 367.5 mcd (Maastrichtian, 65 to 67.5 Ma). Assuming a sedimentation rate of ~2 cm/k.y., the enhanced power centered around the 0.4- and 2.0-m depth scale may be linked to precession and eccentricity forcing, respectively.
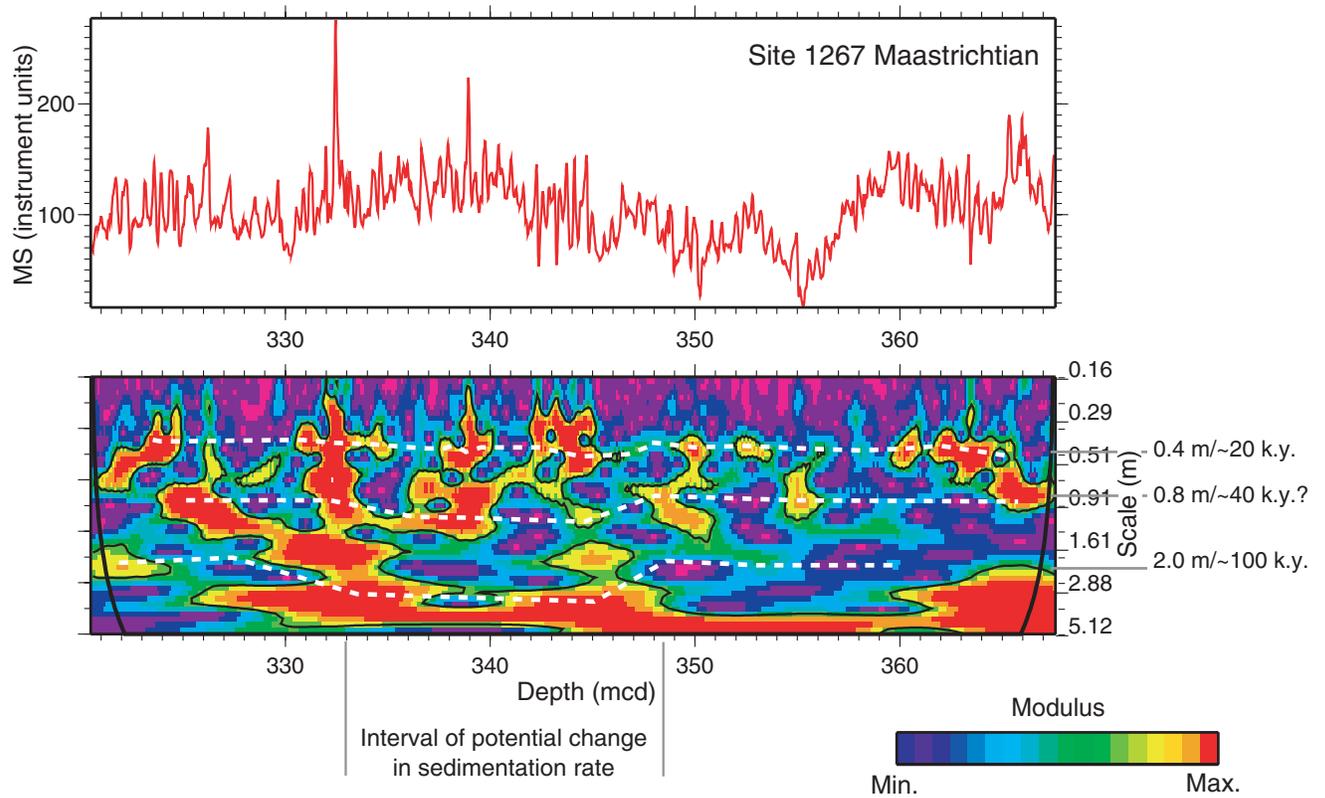
Figure F42. Age-depth models for Leg 208 sites.
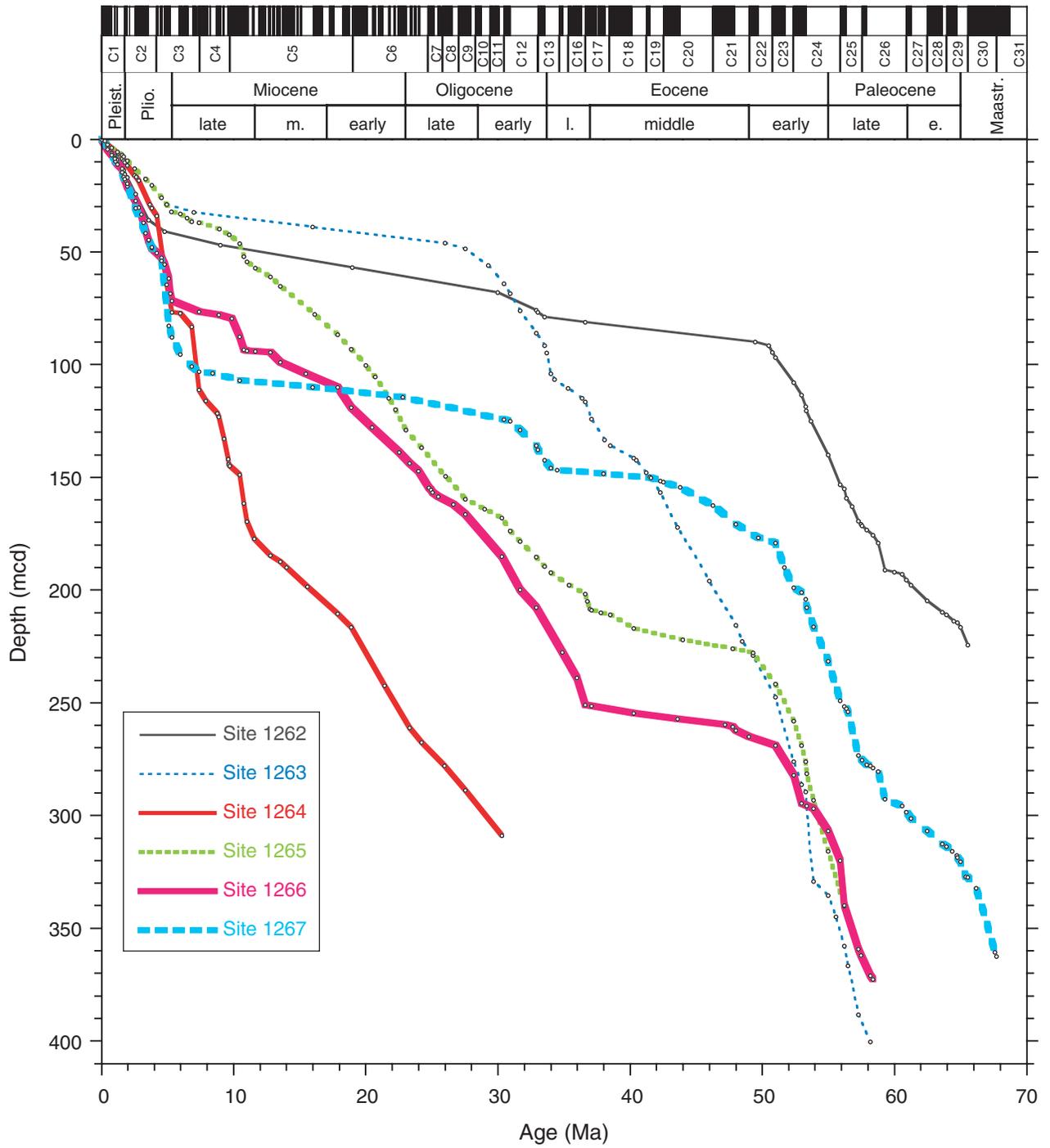
Figure F43. Linear sedimentation rates (LSRs) and total mass accumulation rates (MARs) at Leg 208 sites. The bulk of the MARs are due to carbonate deposition; noncarbonate accumulation rates are typically <0.1 g/cm²/k.y. (see Figs. **F15,** p. 66, **F19,** p. 70, **F22,** p. 73, **F25,** p. 76, **F28,** p. 79, **F32,** p. 83). The shaded rectangles highlight time intervals of relatively increased accumulation rates across the sites: the late Paleocene to early Eocene at all sites, the early Oligocene at some sites, and the Pliocene at most sites.
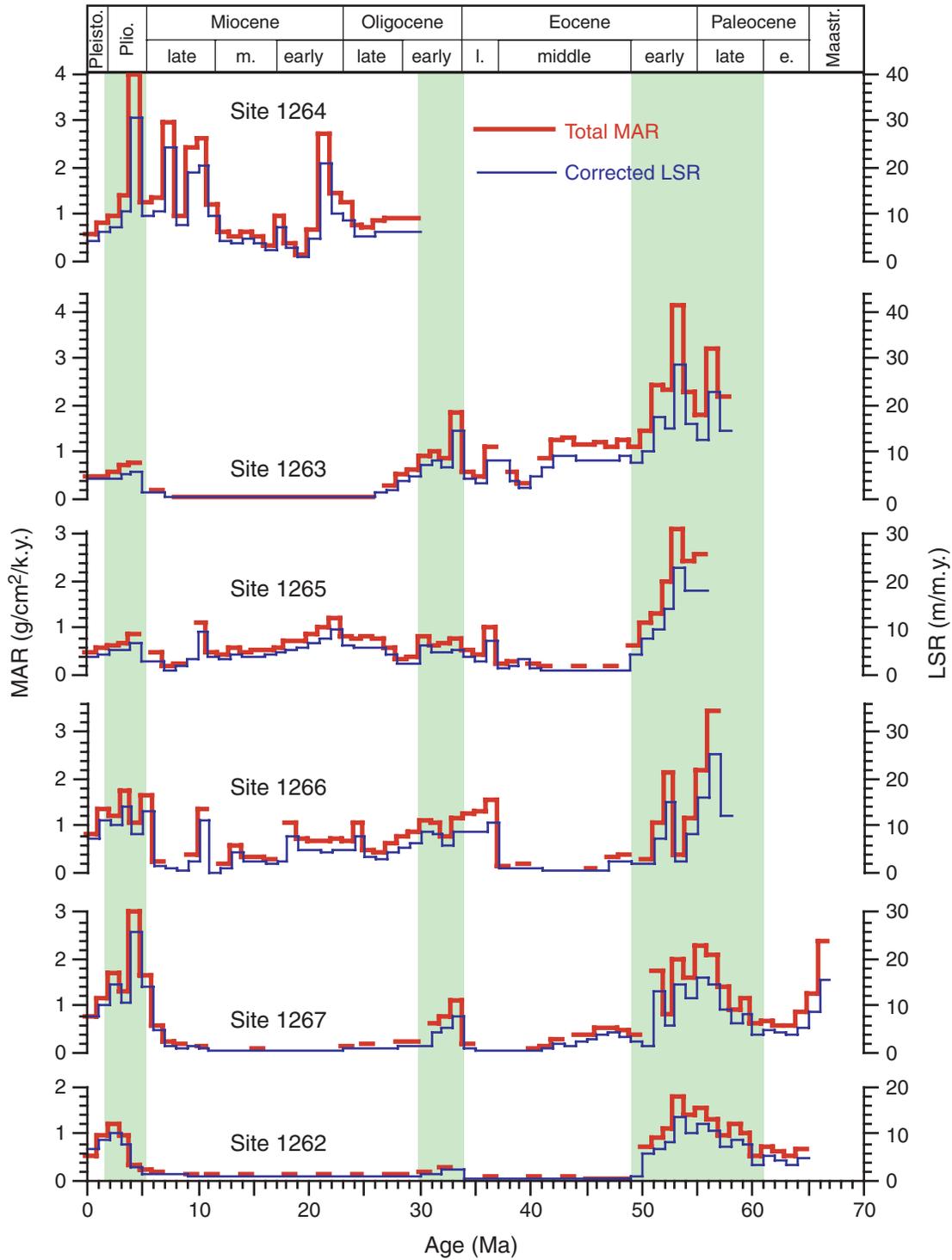
Figure F44. Lithostratigraphy of Leg 208 sites with mass accumulation rates (MARs) vs. age.
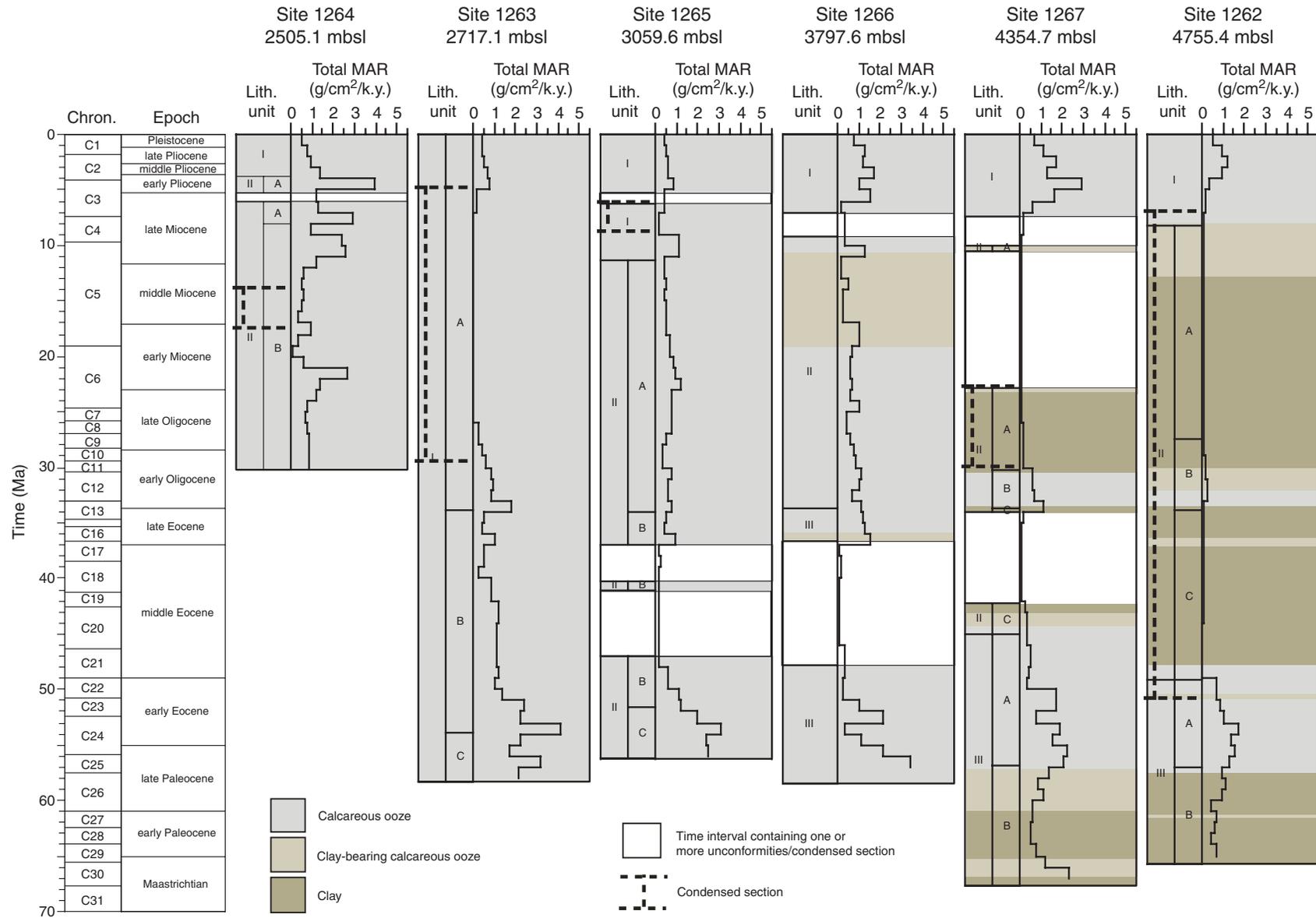
Figure F45. Carbonate contours and accumulation contours. MAR = mass accumulation rate.
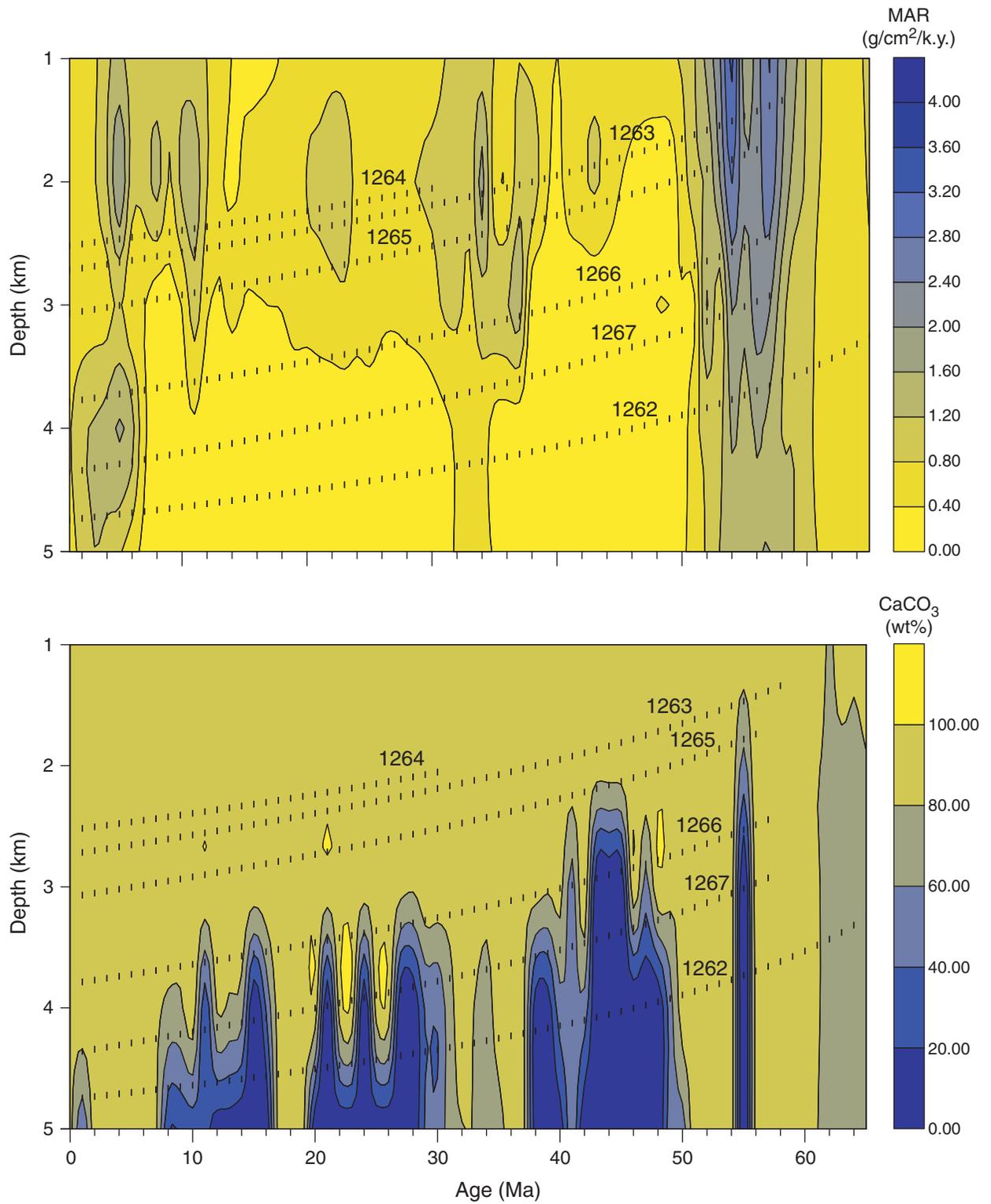
Figure F46. Composite digital images of the Cretaceous/Paleocene boundary at Walvis Ridge Holes 1262B, 1262C, 1267A, and 1267B. A strong change in magnetic susceptibility (MS) and color reflectance (L*) indicate the Fe oxide–bearing nonbioturbated foraminiferal nannofossil boundary layer. Planktonic foraminiferal zones were extrapolated from sample locations indicated by black squares. The records are all at the same scale.
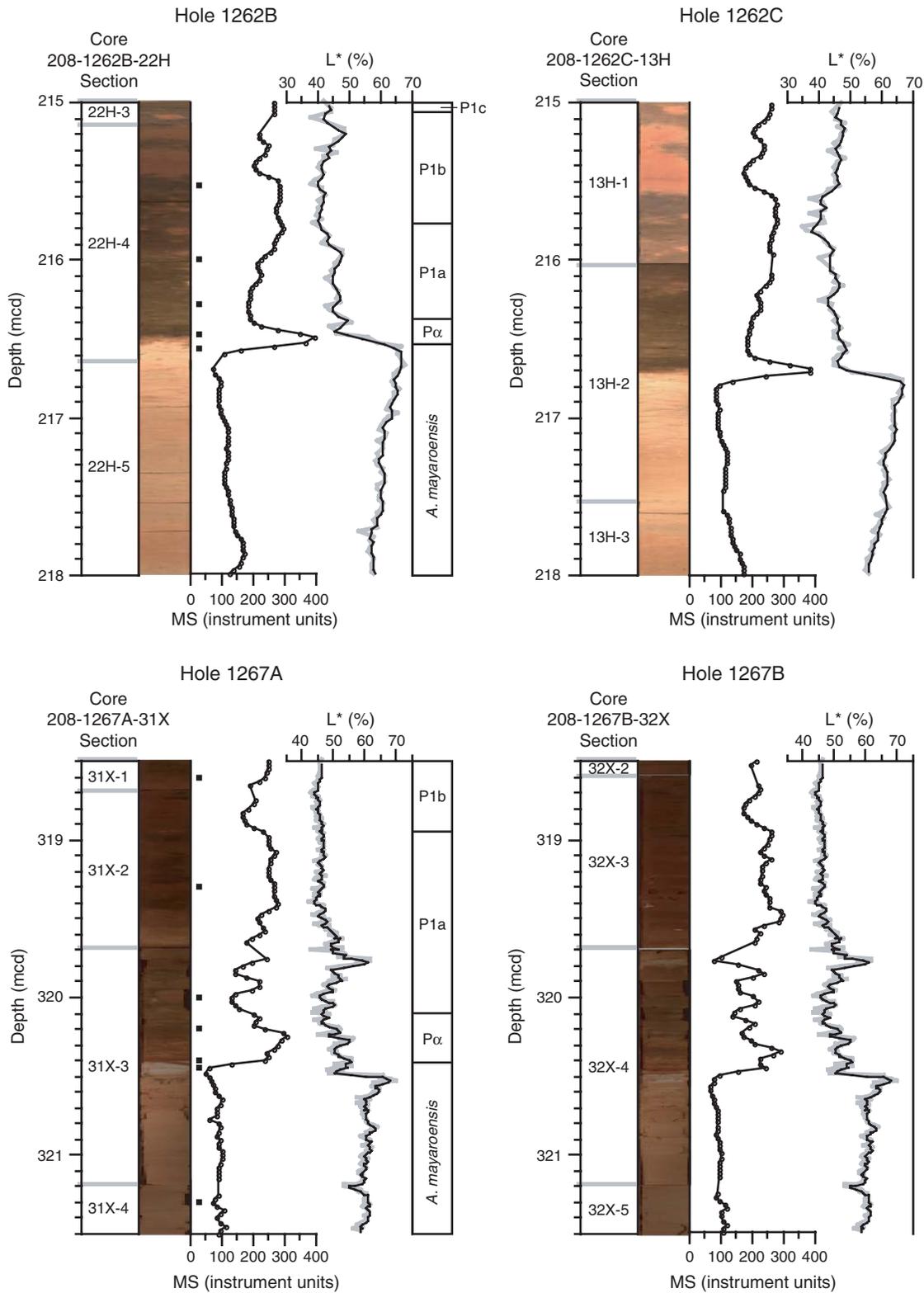
Figure F47. Composite digital images, magnetic susceptibility (MS), and color reflectance (L*) data for Sections 208-1262B-18H-4, 208-1267B-27X-6 and 27X-CC (a small recovery gap between Sections 208-1267B-27X-6 and 27X-CC is possible), and 208-1266C-21X-1, exhibiting the mid-Paleocene biotic event on Walvis Ridge. Sites are ordered according to present water depths (from deep on the left to shallow on the right).
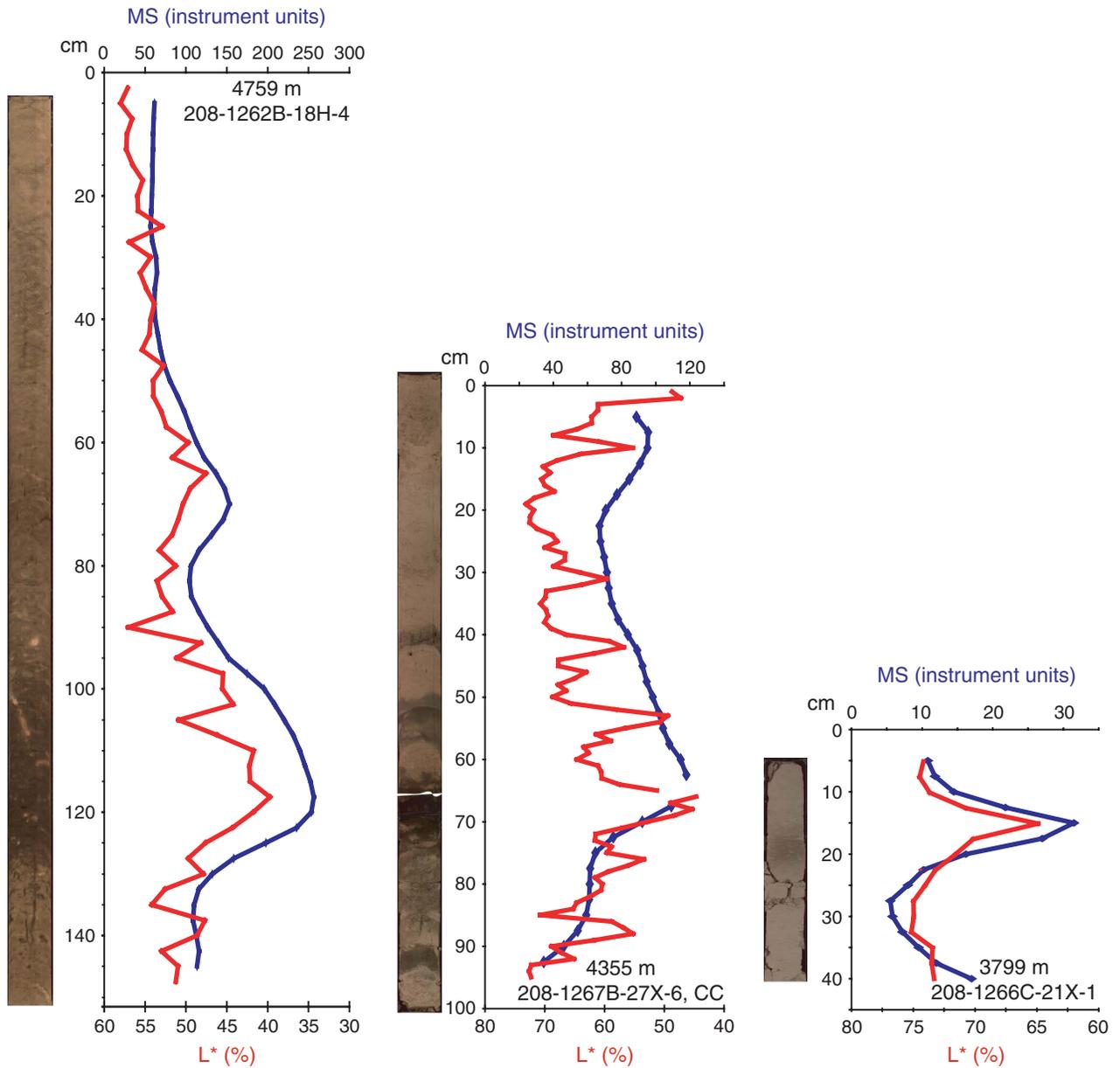
Figure F48. Composite digital images, magnetic susceptibility (MS), and $CaCO_3$ through the Paleocene–Eocene transition at the shallow to deep transect. The MS graphs represent both point magnetic susceptibility (PMS) data measured on the split core and loop sensor (MSL) data measured on the whole core. For correlation of these two methods, 1-cm resolution PMS data were linearly interpolated at 2.5-cm resolution, after which a linear expansion formula was calculated and PMS values were normalized to MSL values: MSL = $2.0683 \times$ PMS + 7.8257 (r^2 = 0.9885). For Site 1263, MS data from Hole 1263C are spliced with data from Hole 1263D at 335.88 meters composite depth (mcd). Sample depths for Hole 1263D were normalized to Hole 1263C mcd using a linear expansion based on PMS correlation through the P/E transition: Hole 1263C mcd = Hole 1263D mcd $\times$ 1.383 – 128.45. For Site 1262, sample depths of $CaCO_3$ data from Hole 1262A (Core 208-1262A-13H) were normalized to Hole 1262B mcd using a linear expansion based on PMS correlation through the lower part of the P/E transition: Hole 1262B mcd = Hole 1262A mcd $\times$ 1.1343 – 18.785 (r^2 = 0.996; only for data below 139.95 mcd). At Site 1266, $CaCO_3$ data from Hole 1266B (Section 208-1266B-6H-7) give way to Hole 1266C values at 306.56 mcd. T = top (last occurrence), B = bottom (first occurrence). (**Figure shown on next page.**)

Figure F48 (continued). (Caption shown on previous page.)

Site 1263
2717 m water depth

Site 1265
3060 m water depth

Site 1266
3798 m water depth

Site 1267
4355 m water depth

Site 1262
4755 m water depth

BF-1 T Paleocene benthic foraminifer assemblage
BF-2 B earliest Eocene, low diversity, diminutive benthic foraminifer assemblage
BF-3 T earliest Eocene, low diversity, diminutive benthic foraminifer assemblage
BF-4 B early Eocene moderate diversity
N-1   B nannofossil *Rhomboaster* spp.
N-2   relative increase nannofossil *Zygrhablithus bijugatus*/decrease *Fasciculithus* spp.

Figure F49. Composite digital images and magnetic susceptibility (MS) records across the early Eocene Chron C24n clay layer (Y) at Leg 208 sites. The 1-cm and 2.5-cm MS records were obtained from point magnetic susceptibility (PMS) measurements and magnetic susceptibility loop measurements (MSL), respectively. The PMS values were calibrated to the MSL values by multiplying each value with 2.0683 and adding 7.8257.
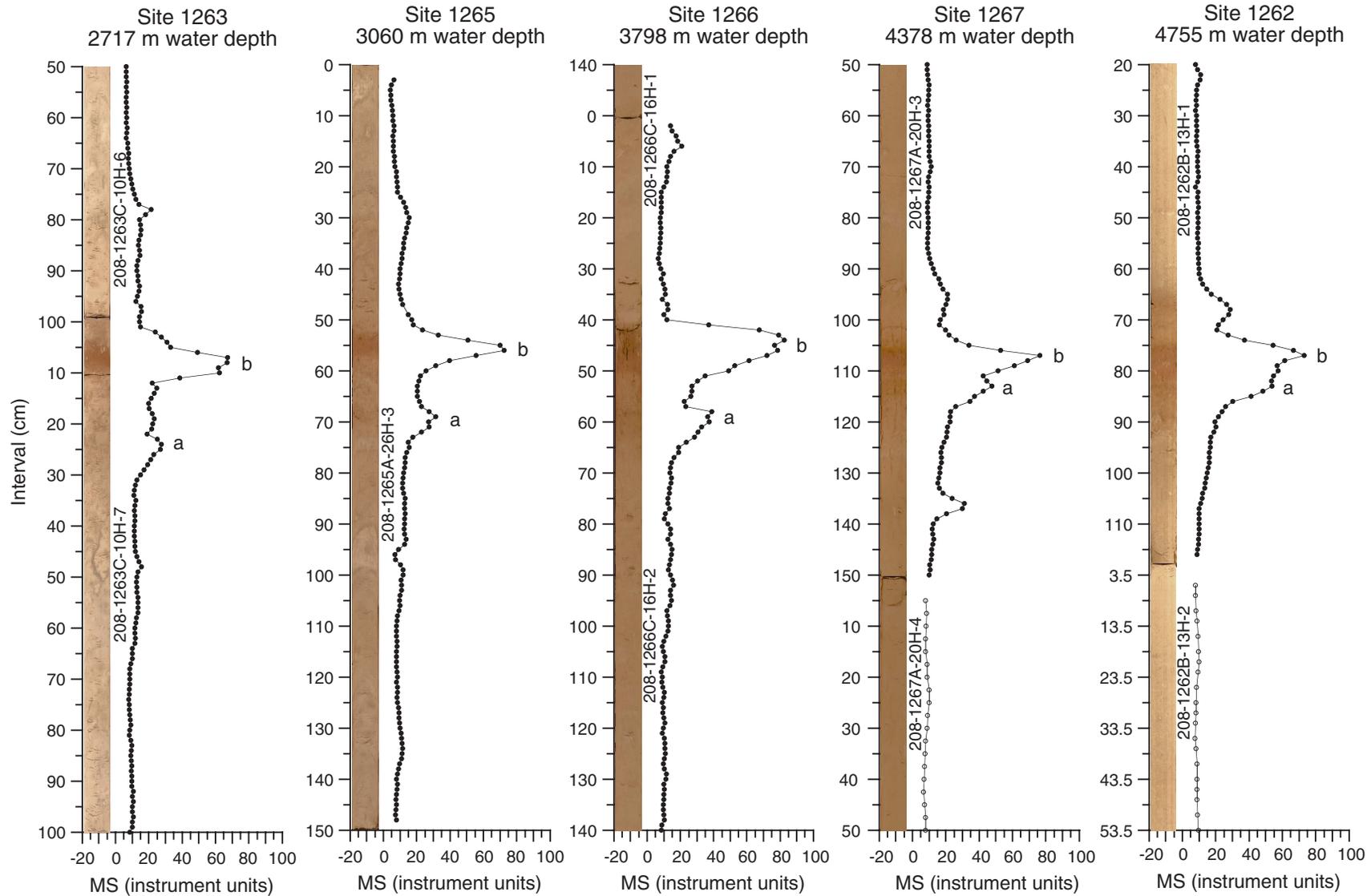
Figure F50. Composite digital images of the Eocene–Oligocene sequence at Leg 208 sites. Also shown are magnetic susceptibility (MS), color reflectance lightness (L*), and gamma ray attenuation (GRA) bulk density data. The lithologic change from clay or clay-bearing nannofossil ooze to nannofossil ooze is associated with decreasing MS and GRA bulk density and increasing L*. The dashed line indicates the change in L*. The location of calcareous nannofossil events in the Eocene–Oligocene transitional interval is shown; the top (T) of *Ericsonia formosa* occurs above the interval depicted at Sites 1263, 1265, and 1266. (**Figure shown on next page.**)

Figure F50 (continued). (Caption shown on previous page.)
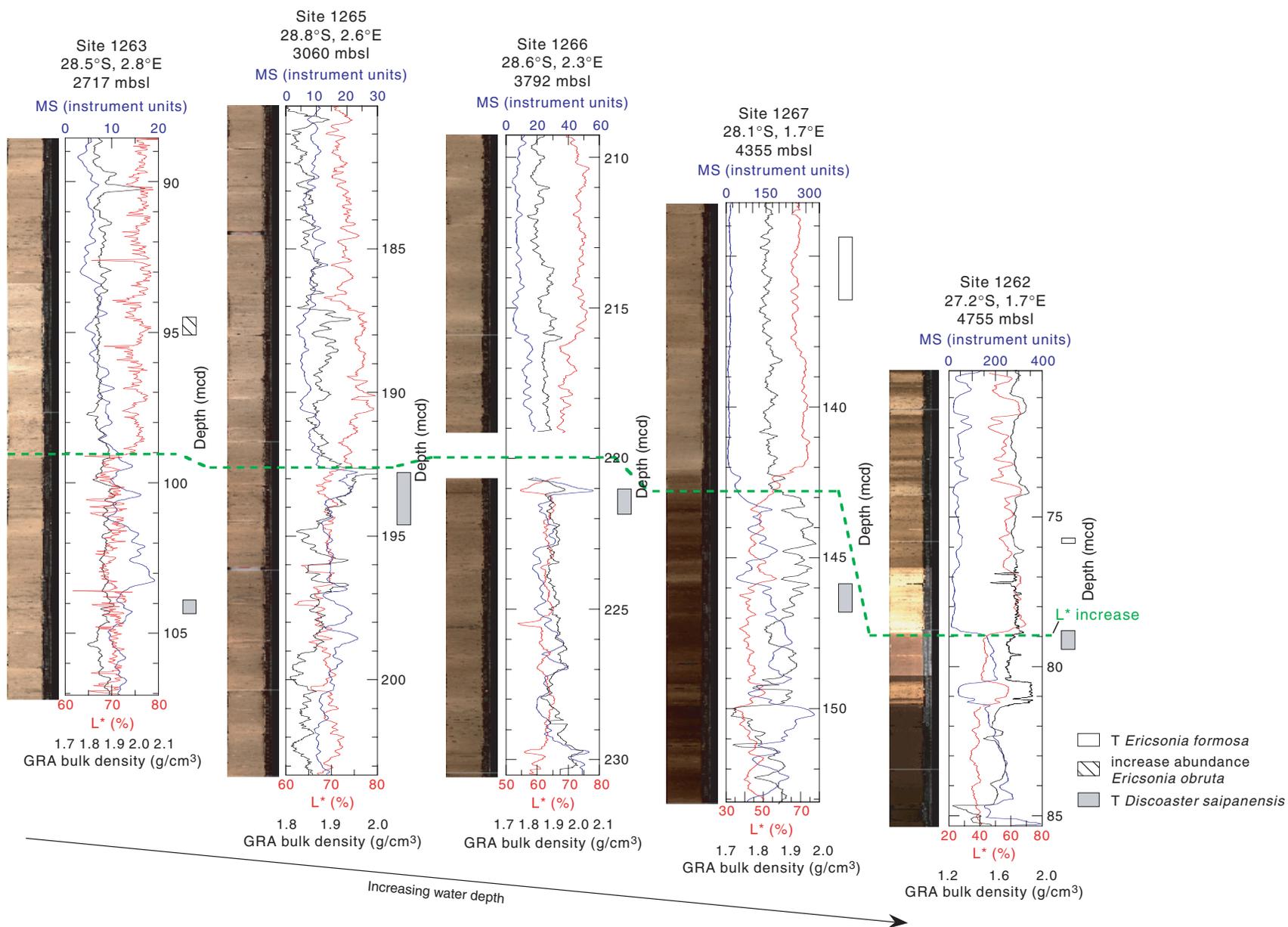
Figure F51. Photomicrographs of an early Oligocene nannofossil assemblage from Sections 208-1264A-29H-4 and 29H-3 showing the peak in abundance of *Braarudosphaera* skeletal debris.
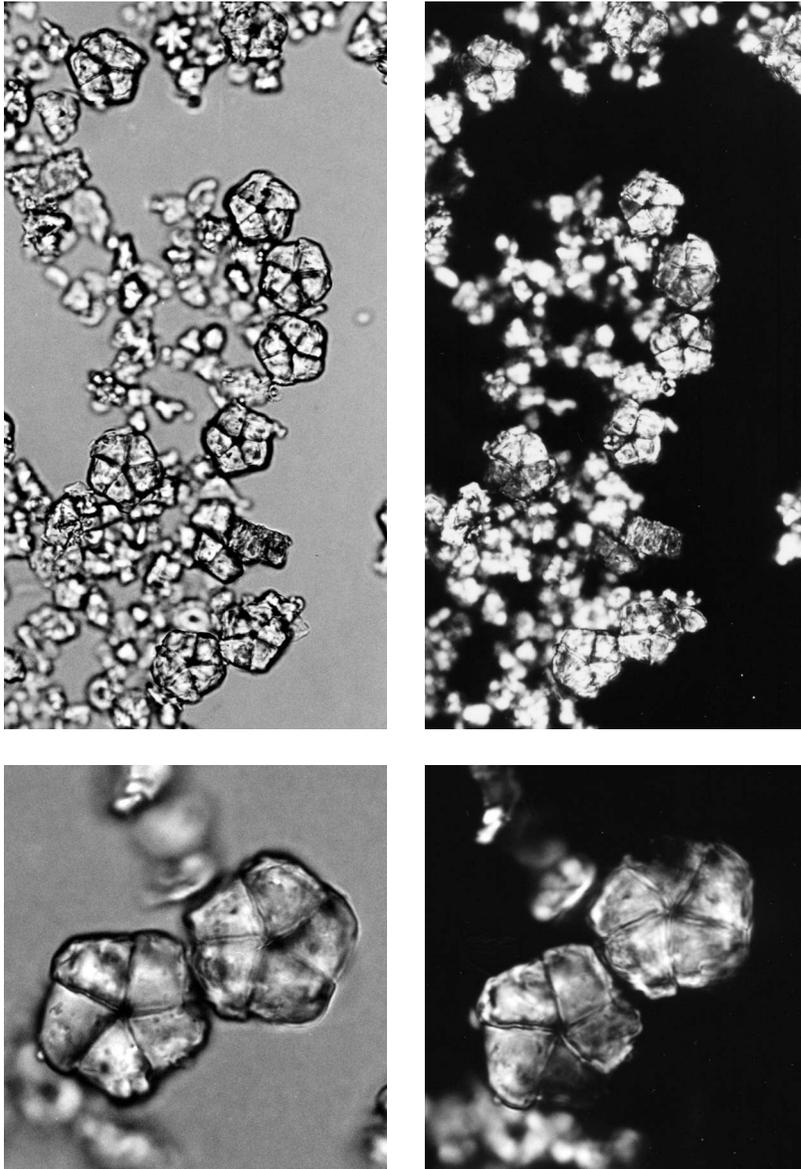
Figure F52. Magnetic susceptibility (MS) records from Sites 1264 and 1265 showing the approximate duration of the high abundance of bolivinids event interval in the early Miocene. B = bottom (lowermost occurrence).
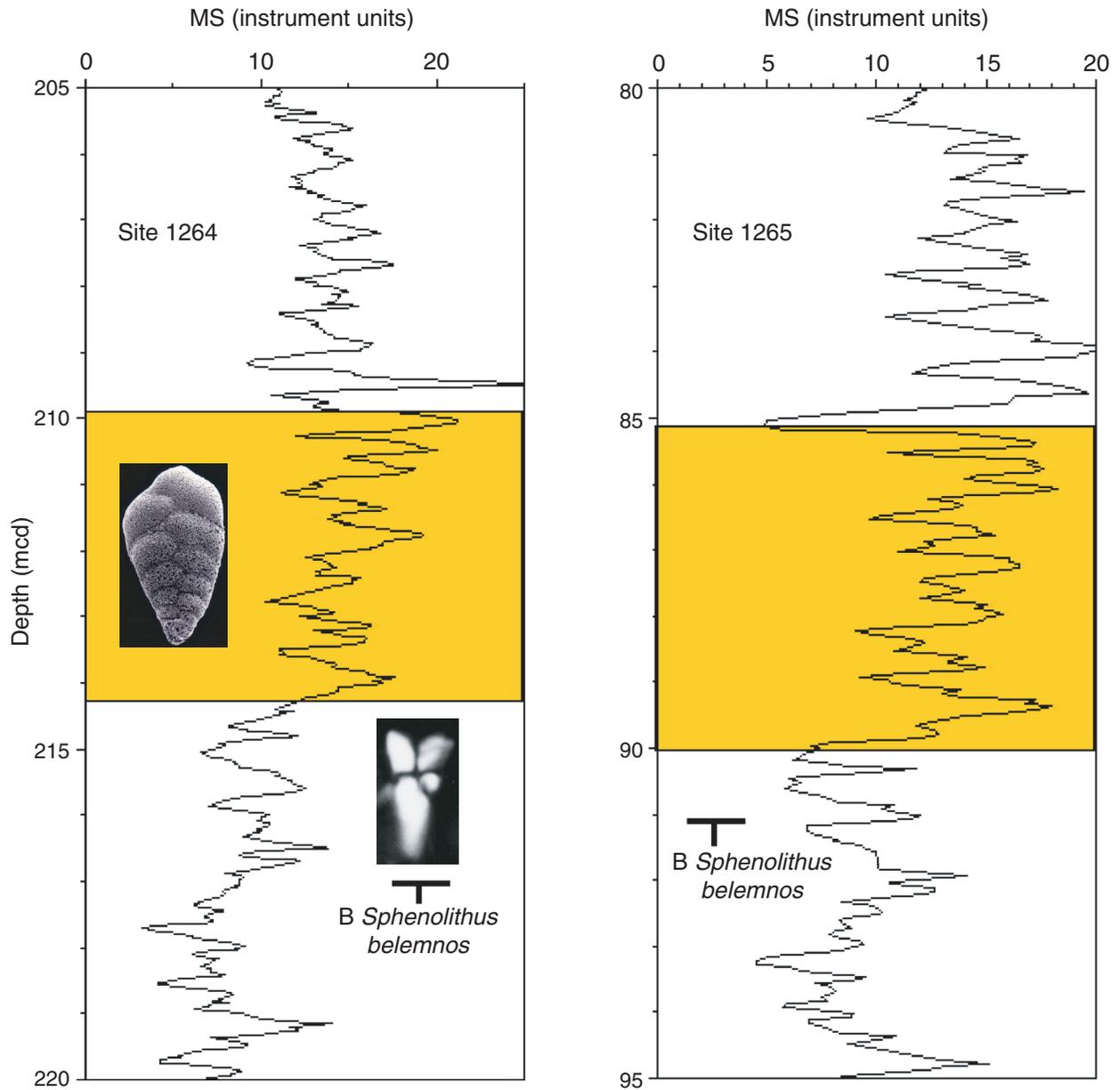
Table T1. Operations summary, Leg 208.

Hole	Latitude	Longitude	Water depth (mbsl)	Interval cored (m)	Core recovered (m)	Core recovered (%)	Drilled without coring (m)	Penetration (m)	Number of APC cores	Number of XCB cores	Time on site (days)
1262A	27°11.160′S	1°34.620′E	4759.0	161.5	163.5	101		161.5	17	0	
1262B	27°11.150′S	1°34.620′E	4753.6	209.9	212.5	101		209.9	23	0	
1262C	27°11.139′S	1°34.619′E	4753.6	122.5	126.5	103	90.0	212.5	14	0	
Site 1262 averages:	27°11.15′S	1°34.62′E	4755	493.9	502.5	102	90.0	583.9	54	0	4.7
1263A	28°31.970′S	2°46.769′E	2717.1	345.6	295.8	86		345.6	33	7	
1263B	28°31.960′S	2°46.765′E	2717.1	291.4	275.8	95	47.1	338.5	25	8	
1263C	28°31.985′S	2°46.778′E	2717.1	126.3	122.1	97	164.5	290.8	15	1	
1263D	28°31.994′S	2°46.782′E	2717.1	14.6	15.9	109	272.0	286.6	4	0	
Site 1263 averages:	28°31.98′S	2°46.77′E	2717	777.9	709.5	91	483.6	1261.5	77	16	6.8
1264A	28°31.961′S	2°50.731′E	2507.0	280.7	270.8	97		280.7	30	0	
1264B	28°31.950′S	2°50.729′E	2504.0	282.8	290.1	103		282.8	30	0	
1264C	28°31.936′S	2°50.727′E	2504.3	3.0	3.0	100		3.0	1	0	
Site 1264 averages:	28°31.95′S	2°50.73′E	2505	566.5	563.8	100		566.5	61	0	2.9
1265A	28°50.101′S	2°38.360′E	3059.8	321.0	300.0	94		321.0	32	4	
1265B	28°50.101′S	2°38.347′E	3059.6	251.7	243.4	97		251.7	27	0	
1265C	28°50.101′S	2°38.336′E	3059.6	19.0	19.7	104	185.0	204.0	2	0	
1265D	28°50.101′S	2°38.372′E	3059.6	26.9	23.8	88	248.0	274.9	2	3	
Site 1265 averages:	28°50.10′S	2°38.35′E	3060	618.6	586.9	95	433.0	1051.6	63	7	6.9
1266A	28°32.561′S	2°20.610′E	3799.7	298.6	287.0	96		298.6	25	9	
1266B	28°32.550′S	2°20.610′E	3796.6	108.6	110.4	102	212.4	321.0	3	9	
1266C	28°32.539′S	2°20.609′E	3796.6	196.4	194.0	99	137.8	334.2	17	4	
Site 1266 averages:	28°32.55′S	2°20.61′E	3798	603.6	591.5	98	350.2	953.8	45	22	5.6
1267A	28°5.881′S	1°42.659′E	4354.3	312.1	308.3	99		312.1	25	8	
1267B	28°5.890′S	1°42.658′E	4355.1	329.0	328.4	100		329.0	25	11	
Site 1267 averages:	28°5.89′S	1°42.66′E	4355	641.1	636.6	99		641.1	50	19	5.3
Leg 208 averages:				3702	3591	97	1357	5058	350	64	32

Note: APC = advanced piston corer, XCB = extended core barrel.

Table T2. Leg 208 age control points. (Continued on the next four pages.)

| | Site | | | | | | | | | | | | Leg 208 |
| | 1262 | | 1263 | | 1264 | | 1265 | | 1266 | | 1267 | | |
Tie	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Age (Ma)
1	0		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.000
2									0.25	0.026	0.28	0.091	0.091
3									0.52	0.054	0.60	0.195	0.195
4											1.28	0.300	0.300
5											1.60	0.327	0.327
6									1.90	0.199	2.22	0.379	0.379
7	3.49				2.31		2.32		2.82	0.295	3.21	0.462	0.462
8											4.21	0.546	0.546
9											4.63	0.582	0.582
10	5.02	0.641							5.40	0.594	5.65	0.667	0.634
11	5.48	0.696							5.92	0.663	6.41	0.731	0.697
12									6.39	0.726	6.68	0.754	0.740
13							3.92		6.79	0.780	6.98	0.779	0.779
14									7.42	0.867	7.61	0.859	0.863
15	6.82	0.879							7.72	0.908	7.93	0.899	0.895
16	7.89	1.043			5.31	1.047			9.26	1.038	9.25	1.044	1.043
17	8.46	1.116			5.81	1.144			10.16	1.105	10.15	1.123	1.122
18	9.14	1.197			6.31	1.241			11.02	1.223	11.19	1.215	1.219
19	9.39	1.225			6.61	1.286	5.67		11.56	1.316	11.57	1.255	1.270
20	9.72	1.261			6.88	1.326			12.24	1.433	12.05	1.306	1.332
21	9.96	1.288			7.16	1.367			12.49	1.475	12.42	1.346	1.369
22	10.34	1.330			7.51	1.419					12.92	1.400	1.383
23	10.76	1.377			7.84	1.468			14.19	1.607	13.39	1.450	1.475
24	11.04	1.408			8.16	1.515			14.62	1.618	13.89	1.504	1.511
25	11.29	1.436			8.41	1.552			15.50	1.640	14.35	1.553	1.545
26	11.66	1.477			8.68	1.588	7.22		15.65	1.643	14.77	1.591	1.575
27			8.80										1.690
28													1.950
29	20.63	2.267									26.24	2.324	2.295
30	21.41	2.334									27.61	2.403	2.368
31	22.31	2.411									28.63	2.462	2.437
32	22.76	2.450									29.19	2.494	2.472
33	23.19	2.487			16.43		12.40		26.79	2.531	29.69	2.523	2.514
34	24.53	2.603									31.19	2.614	2.608
35	25.21	2.661									31.93	2.665	2.663
36	26.09	2.736			18.23		13.48		29.91	2.798	33.06	2.743	2.759
37	27.04	2.818									34.23	2.823	2.820
38	27.39	2.848									34.73	2.857	2.853
39	27.94	2.895									35.46	2.907	2.901
40	28.67	2.958									36.09	2.951	2.954
41	29.71	3.047									37.72	3.062	3.055
42	31.03	3.161									39.14	3.160	3.160
43	33.13	3.341			23.76		16.08		39.13	3.292	41.12	3.296	3.309
44			17.70										3.350
45	34.06	3.421			24.69				40.36	3.356	42.42	3.397	3.391
46	36.01										44.67		3.588
47									45.00				3.600
48					29.00								3.660
49					30.60		20.50		48.40		47.94		3.820
50					34.10								4.184
51									50.50				4.200
52							26.00		52.50		54.00		4.560
53	41								55.50				4.805
54			29.00		64.62								4.940
55									61.80		82.90		5.100
56									68.41				5.236
57							32.20						5.330
58					76.79				71.74		87.99		5.370
59					77.24		33.20				95.53		6.000
60							35.00						6.500
61					83.22		36.51				100.78		6.840
62			32.50										7.000
63					111.22		37.00		76.69		103.03		7.390
64	47				116.00								7.910
65											103.76		8.430
66					121.65								8.790
67					123.37				78.00				8.910

Table T2 (continued).

	Site												
	1262		1263		1264		1265		1266		1267		Leg 208
Tie	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Age (Ma)
68							39.88						8.940
69													9.000
70					133.00								9.300
71					142.00								9.630
72					144.20								9.640
73							42.50						9.700
74					145.00								9.754
75									79.70				9.890
76					148.99		46.20		87.66		107.00		10.480
77					161.54		52.10		93.50				10.790
78					169.69								11.020
79							54.50		94.00				11.043
80					177.26								11.600
81							57.13		94.10				11.640
82					184.77		61.23		94.50				12.810
83					187.40		65.30		98.95				13.550
84					190.00								14.020
85									104.00				15.500
86					198.51								15.600
87	39.00										110.00		16.000
88							77.67						16.160
89					205.63	16.961	80.77	16.759					16.860
90					206.11	17.053	81.12	16.826					16.939
91					206.79	17.183	81.57	16.913					17.048
92					207.24	17.269	82.07	17.010					17.139
93					207.69	17.355	82.67	17.125					17.240
94					208.24	17.460	83.22	17.232					17.346
95					208.97	17.599	83.97	17.376					17.488
96					209.49	17.699	84.62	17.502	114.25	18.376			17.859
97					210.07	17.810	85.42	17.656	114.85	18.445			17.970
98					210.51	17.893	85.77	17.724	115.13	18.477			18.031
99					210.81	17.944	86.07	17.782	115.37	18.505			18.077
100					211.37	18.040	86.77	17.912	115.77	18.550			18.167
101					211.81	18.114	87.27	17.991	116.20	18.600			18.235
102					212.51	18.233	87.97	18.101	116.63	18.649			18.328
103					213.39	18.383	88.77	18.227	117.25	18.720			18.443
104					213.94	18.476	89.42	18.329	117.63	18.763			18.523
105					214.82	18.626	90.32	18.471	118.35	18.846			18.648
106					215.57	18.753	91.07	18.589	118.90	18.909			18.750
107					216.50	18.912	91.92	18.723	119.90	19.078			18.904
108	57												19.000
109					217.97	19.058	93.47	18.966					19.012
110					219.15	19.172	94.77	19.167					19.170
111					219.87	19.242	95.47	19.275					19.259
112					221.50	19.401	97.17	19.538					19.469
113					222.47	19.495	97.77	19.631					19.563
114					223.29	19.575	98.57	19.754					19.664
115					225.05	19.745	100.12	19.994					19.870
116					226.25	19.862	100.97	20.111					19.986
117					227.25	19.959	101.82	20.221					20.090
118					228.69	20.099	102.87	20.356					20.228
119					229.99	20.225	103.87	20.486					20.355
120					232.22	20.442	106.07	20.762					20.602
121					233.09	20.526	106.92	20.858					20.692
122					234.82	20.694	108.52	21.038					20.866
123					235.95	20.804	109.47	21.145					20.974
124					239.22	21.121	112.37	21.471					21.296
125					240.16	21.213	113.70	21.621					21.417
126					242.44	21.434	115.32	21.799					21.617
127					243.52	21.544	116.42	21.909					21.727
128					244.57	21.651	117.52	22.020					21.835
129					245.52	21.747	118.50	22.118					21.932
130					249.19	22.121	121.95	22.443	139.50	22.645			22.282
131					250.60	22.264	122.61	22.502	140.22	22.758			22.383
132					252.10	22.417	123.91	22.618	141.28	22.924			22.517
133					252.78	22.486	124.54	22.674	141.98	23.033			22.580
134					254.03	22.613	125.31	22.743	142.85	23.169			22.678

Table T2 (continued).

		Site											
	1262		1263		1264		1265		1266		1267		Leg 208
Tie	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Age (Ma)
135					255.50	22.762	126.38	22.839	143.29	23.238			22.801
136											114.50		22.820
137					256.93	22.908	127.51	22.940	144.61	23.478			22.924
138					259.06	23.125	128.91	23.066					23.095
139					260.30	23.251	129.86	23.200					23.225
140					262.16	23.481	131.51	23.438					23.460
141					263.50	23.669	133.50	23.725					23.697
142					264.57	23.819	134.35	23.848					23.833
143					265.25	23.915	134.88	23.924					23.919
144					270.20	24.683	138.65	24.468					24.576
145					276.07	25.668	141.97	24.948					25.308
146					277.81	25.960	142.85	25.075	158.58	25.596			25.544
147			46.00										26.000
148					280.65	26.370	145.22	25.418	162.25	26.692			26.160
149					282.58	26.647	146.20	25.560	163.15	26.878			26.362
150					287.27	27.320	148.99	25.963	166.18	27.505			26.929
151					288.92	27.557	149.82	26.083	167.71	27.743			27.128
152					290.17	27.729	150.55	26.190	168.76	27.898			27.272
153					291.80	27.953	151.47	26.326	169.94	28.072			27.450
154					293.30	28.160	152.39	26.461	170.68	28.181			27.601
155					294.22	28.286	153.19	26.579	171.58	28.314			27.726
156					295.04	28.399	153.95	26.691	172.18	28.403			27.831
157					295.65	28.483	154.75	26.808	172.68	28.476			27.923
158					296.30	28.572	155.15	26.867	173.60	28.612			28.017
159	66.24	28.157	48.87	27.636	298.11	28.821	156.41	27.053	174.50	28.745			28.082
160			51.15	28.168	301.01	29.221	157.90	27.272					28.220
161			51.33	28.210	301.76	29.324	158.47	27.356	176.11	28.982			28.468
162			52.75	28.542	302.39	29.410	159.21	27.465	176.94	29.105			28.630
163			57.46	29.512			159.86	27.574	177.88	29.243			28.777
164			59.03	29.741	311.21	30.537	164.28	29.091					29.416
165			60.11	29.898	313.36	30.748	166.01	29.650					29.774
166					315.16	30.924	167.03	29.980					29.980
167			62.79	30.288			169.32	30.454					30.371
168											124.27		30.479
169			64.23	30.492			170.72	30.604					30.548
170			65.39	30.616			172.02	30.744					30.680
171											125.12		30.939
172			68.73	30.971			174.22	30.998					30.985
173			72.53	31.343			176.97	31.457					31.400
174			75.09	31.593			178.05	31.637					31.615
175											129.00		31.700
176	74.34	32.355	79.76	32.137			180.83	32.122	203.41	32.231	131.42	32.115	32.192
177	75.71	32.872	81.94	32.404			182.53	32.421	206.78	32.757	135.48	32.811	32.653
178	76.01	32.932	82.56	32.480			182.88	32.483	207.51	32.870	136.21	32.920	32.737
179			85.92	32.891			185.58	32.949					32.920
180	77.52	33.201	90.17	33.389			188.55	33.389	211.90	33.321	139.55	33.251	33.310
181			93.49	33.639			190.78	33.744	215.98	33.730	142.37	33.537	33.663
182	79.02						192.78	34.131	221.10	34.243	143.43	33.671	34.015
183			108.56	34.789			196.86	35.248	225.40	34.674			34.904
184			110.09	35.192			197.71	35.481	226.22	34.757			35.143
185			111.49	35.542			198.61	35.727	226.98	34.833			35.367
186			128.46	37.556			211.62	38.667	239.68	36.034			37.419
187			129.58	37.677			212.62	38.970	240.63	36.081			37.576
188			138.07	39.217			217.43	40.618					39.918
189									254.60				40.300
190									257.20				43.600
191			202.99	46.715			225.00	46.850					46.783
192									259.60				47.200
193	85.24	42.554	204.29	46.849			226.05	47.838			150.10	41.200	47.343
194			205.42	46.964			226.85	48.438					47.701
195									260.80				47.800
196									262.20				48.000
197			207.87	47.215			228.15	49.319					48.267
198			208.73	47.303			228.55	49.368					48.336
199			214.74	47.918			230.73	49.638					48.778
200									265.00				49.000
201	96.66	50.969									179.66	51.025	50.997

Table T2 (continued).

	Site												
	1262		1263		1264		1265		1266		1267		Leg 208
Tie	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Age (Ma)
202									269.00				51.000
203	97.26	51.033									180.43	51.076	51.055
204	97.81	51.104									181.20	51.126	51.115
205	98.16	51.149									181.66	51.156	51.153
206	98.43	51.184									181.97	51.176	51.180
207	99.2	51.283									183.15	51.253	51.268
208	99.56	51.329									183.65	51.286	51.307
209	100.03	51.390									184.35	51.331	51.360
210	100.56	51.458	260.83	51.656			245.88	51.353			185.07	51.378	51.461
211	101.53	51.582	262.90	51.757			248.26	51.555			186.37	51.463	51.589
212	102.2	51.669	264.65	51.843			249.06	51.623			187.12	51.512	51.661
213	102.66	51.728	265.93	51.905			249.94	51.697			187.70	51.550	51.720
214			267.40	51.977			251.06	51.793			188.34	51.592	51.787
215	104.56	51.972	269.31	52.070			253.14	51.969			189.94	51.696	51.927
216	105.53	52.097	270.33	52.120			254.78	52.109			191.14	51.789	52.029
217	106.49	52.220	273.85	52.292			256.04	52.216			192.22	51.873	52.150
218	107.24	52.316	275.18	52.357			257.34	52.326			192.99	51.933	52.233
219	107.76	52.383	276.51	52.427			258.37	52.409			193.69	51.987	52.302
220	108.32	52.445	277.91	52.509			259.41	52.466			194.29	52.034	52.363
221									282.20				52.400
222	109.06	52.523	279.93	52.627			260.94	52.550			195.53	52.130	52.458
223	109.69	52.589	280.91	52.684			262.24	52.622			196.21	52.183	52.520
224			283.93	52.861			264.41	52.741			197.71	52.300	52.634
225	110.99	52.726	284.21	52.878			265.44	52.798			198.08	52.328	52.682
226	112.16	52.849	284.90	52.918			267.07	52.888			198.94	52.395	52.762
227	112.43	52.877	285.37	52.946			267.57	52.915			199.22	52.438	52.794
228	112.67	52.902	285.94	52.979			268.11	52.945			199.52	52.490	52.829
229			286.34	53.004			268.44	52.963			199.76	52.532	52.833
230	113.15	52.953	286.92	53.058			269.07	52.998			200.06	52.583	52.898
231	113.53	52.993	287.77	53.138			270.01	53.038			200.52	52.663	52.958
232	116.27	53.157	292.98	53.356			275.59	53.276	291.38	52.845	203.99	53.264	53.179
233	116.93	53.196	294.88	53.386			277.40	53.323	292.68	52.908	205.05	53.324	53.227
234	122.14	53.477	300.45	53.470			283.56	53.488	295.05	53.175	209.70	53.512	53.425
235	124.09	53.629	305.43	53.544			289.01	53.723			212.80	53.696	53.648
236	126.31	53.812	309.76	53.608			292.65	53.879			215.37	53.848	53.787
237	129.53	54.087	314.79	53.683							218.67	54.075	53.948
238	132.37	54.330					302.30	54.344			222.63	54.360	54.345
239	133.91	54.462					305.27	54.488			224.51	54.496	54.482
240	136.41	54.676					309.21	54.678			227.35	54.701	54.685
241	137.24	54.747					310.84	54.757	301.92	54.450	228.20	54.762	54.755
242	138.82	54.882							304.65		230.18	54.905	54.893
243	140.02	54.985	335.59	54.998			315.81	54.998	306.75	54.990	231.48	54.999	54.994
244	144	55.263									236.28	55.246	55.255
245	144.87	55.323					319.18	55.163	313.17	55.434	237.60	55.314	55.309
246			345.00										55.600
247	151.58	55.788									246.55	55.776	55.782
248	155.34	56.215									251.14	56.133	56.174
249							340.43						56.200
250	156.41	56.262									252.43	56.356	56.309
251	161.14	56.592									259.28	56.721	56.657
252	162.27	56.718									261.23	56.801	56.760
253	165.94	57.026									265.63	56.981	57.004
254	168.74	57.242									271.91	57.239	57.240
255	169.54	57.306									273.30	57.295	57.301
256	170.79	57.484									274.77	57.459	57.472
257	171.51	57.551									275.57	57.553	57.552
258	173.24	57.887									277.37	57.887	57.887
259	173.71	57.986							371.06	58.198	277.99	58.189	58.124
260	175.11	58.286									278.51	58.312	58.299
261									372.64				58.400
262	177.91	58.652									281.75	58.849	58.750
263	178.54	58.722									282.28	58.870	58.796
264	181.04	58.876									285.22	58.989	58.932
265	181.64	58.901									285.79	59.012	58.957
266	184.57	59.025									287.92	59.098	59.062
267	185.64	59.070									289.72	59.171	59.121
268	186.24	59.096									290.70	59.210	59.153

Table T2 (continued).

	Site												
	1262		1263		1264		1265		1266		1267		Leg 208
Tie	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Depth (mcd)	Age (Ma)	Age (Ma)
269	186.94	59.125									291.52	59.243	59.184
270	194.61	60.672									297.16	60.768	60.720
271	195.38	60.880									298.24	60.894	60.887
272	196.84	61.109									299.94	61.106	61.107
273	198.62	61.390									301.66	61.356	61.373
274	201.7	61.954									304.89	62.051	62.003
275	210.73	63.883									313.63	63.900	63.892
276	214.15	64.661									317.32	64.653	64.657
277	216.72	65.009									320.38	64.995	65.002
278	218.04	65.108									321.78	65.081	65.095
279	223.16	65.493									326.25	65.347	65.420
280	225.86	66.037									330.64	65.988	66.013
281	226.8	66.312									331.32	66.075	66.193
282	230.87	67.502									334.66	66.317	66.909
283											360.60		67.610
284											362.45		67.735

Table T3. Calcareous nannofossil and planktonic foraminiferal datum levels in the Eocene–Oligocene transition interval.

		Age (ma)	Site 1263 depth (mcd)	Site 1265 depth (mcd)	Site 1266 depth (mcd)	Site 1267 depth (mcd)	Site 1262 depth (mcd)
	Eocene/Oligocene	33.7	94.54	190.00	219.00	148.00	78.00
T	*Ericsonia formosa*	32.9	Hole 1263A: 85.47–96.13 Hole 1263B: 85.52–86.00	Hole 1265A: 177.32–188.80	Hole 1266A: 207.61–207.78 Hole 1266C: 207.96–219.02	Hole 1267A: 134.37–136.45	Hole 1262A: 75.29–77.16 Hole 1262B: 75.70–75.87
B	*Ericsonia obruta* increase	33.7	Hole 1263A: 94.49–95.04				
T	*Discoaster saipanensis*	34.0	Hole 1263A: 103.87–104.33 Hole 1263B: 103.68–104.92	Hole 1265A: 192.02–194.61 Hole 1265B: 192.78–195.98	Hole 1266A: 221.00–221.80	Hole 1267A: 145.85–146.86 Hole 1267B: 139.48–150.03	Hole 1262A: 78.12–81.04 Hole 1262B: 78.83–79.62
T	*Discoaster barbadiensis*	34.2			Hole 1266A: 222.40–223.30		Hole 1262A: 78.12–81.04 Hole 1262B: 78.83–79.62
T	*Pseudohastigerina* spp.	32.0	68.72–73.69	177.32–182.69	207.78–219.26		
T	*Hantkenina* spp.	33.7	99.97–108.13	188.80–192.02			
T	*Turborotalia cerroazulensis* group	33.8	96.13–99.17	198.13–204.08			
T	*Globigerinatheka index*	34.3	99.97–108.13	192.02–198.13	219.26–230.60	139.48–145.85	83.94–87.97

Notes: T = top, B = bottom. This table is also available in **ASCII.**