14. GEOCHEMISTRY OF DEEP SEA SEDIMENTS FROM THE NANKAI TROUGH, THE JAPAN TRENCH, AND ADJACENT REGIONS

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ABSTRACT

Sediments from Sites 582 (11 samples), 583 (19 samples), 584 (31 samples), 294 (1 sample), 296 (9 samples), 297 (3 samples), 436 (11 samples), and 439 (3 samples) were analyzed by X-ray fluorescence and/or instrumental neutron activation analysis. Ten major elements and 24 minor and trace elements (including 7 rare earth elements) were determined with these methods. Geochemistry varies systematically with both the site location and sediment age. Such variations are explained in terms of changes in sedimentation processes caused by plate motion and changes in ocean currents.

INTRODUCTION

Geochemical data on deep-sea sediments have accumulated rapidly in the last 15 years, but at a slower pace than data on lithology, geology, and geophysics. In particular, the information concerning abundances of trace elements such as the rare earth elements (REE) is too scarce to permit resolution of several problems in earth sciences. For the sediments collected by DSDP, even the major element geochemistry has not been examined for all sites, and minor or trace element geochemistry has been reported for only a few. Although the REEs are useful for drawing inferences regarding the origin of constituent materials and for understanding processes and environments of sedimentation, their abundances in the DSDP sediment samples are reported in only a few papers (e.g., Dymond et al., 1976; Bogdanov et al., 1976; Tarney and Donnellan, 1977).

In this chapter, we report concentrations of major, minor, and trace elements, including REEs, in sediment samples collected at Sites 582 and 583 (Nankai Trough) and Site 584 (Japan Trench) during Leg 87 (Table 1; Fig. 1). For comparison, we have also analyzed deep-sea sediments from some nearby sites of other legs.

The objects of this study are the following:

1. Elucidation of the history of sedimentation processes by means of the depth profiles of major, minor, and trace element geochemistry. Concentrations of these elements in deep-sea sediments reflect the origin of those sediments and variations in sedimentation processes. Using the depth profile of the concentration of each element, the variation of the sediment lithology with geologic event may be estimated, and the sedimentation history can be read from the geochemistry.

2. Elucidation of regional differences between chemical constituents of deep-sea sediments of the Nankai Trough and those of the Japan Trench, and the cause of such differences. Chemical compositions of the deep-sea sediments near Japanese islands differ (Sugisaki, 1978, 1979, 1980a, 1980b; Minai, 1982). Sugisaki studied the geochemistry of modern deep-sea sediments in the Japan Sea, Japan Trench, and Shikoku Basin, using X-ray fluorescence (XRF). In this chapter, we hope to clarify the differences in geochemical characteristics (particularly trace element—for example, REE—geochemistry) between the deep-sea sediments of the Nankai Trough and those of the Japan Trench, and to discuss the factors that govern such differences.

Because the analytical results from the deep-sea sediments from three Leg 87 sites are not alone sufficient to infer the origin of trench-fill and trench-slope sediments, we have also analyzed the sediment samples collected during the other legs in the West Philippine Basin (Site 294), Shikoku Basin (Sites 296 and 297), and on the outer slope of the Japan Trench (Site 436) and the terrace of the Japan Trench (Site 439) (Table 1; Fig. 1) (Sites 294-297: Karig, Ingle, et al., 1975; Sites 436, 439: Scientific Party, 1980).

METHODS

Samples consisting of about 10 ml of mud and mudstone were washed with distilled water to remove contaminants from seawater in the sediment column and then were dried moderately in air at ambient temperature. Sand and sandstone were excluded. Air-dried samples
were finely pulverized for chemical analysis. Thirty-four major, minor, and trace elements in sediments were determined by means of XRF and instrumental neutron activation analysis (INAA).

**XRF Analytical Procedures**

A small piece (1 g) of the pulverized sample was mixed with 5 g of anhydrous lithium borate and melted to form a bead sample for determination of 10 major elements (Si, Ti, Al, Fe, Mn, Mg, Ca, Na, K, P). Another 5 g of the sediment were pressed without any binder to prepare a disk sample for determinations of minor and trace elements (Co, Cr, Cu, Ni, Rb, Sr, V, Zn, and Zr). The bead and disk samples were analyzed with a Rigaku IKF-3064 dispersive XRF spectrometer. The analytical conditions were 50 kV/40 mA (Cu tube) for major elements and 70 kV/30 mA (W tube) for minor elements. More than 40 geologic standard rock samples were analyzed to prepare calibration curves for each element; GSJ rock standard JB-1 (basalt) was analyzed as a working standard to check analytical precision. The precision and reproducibility were reported previously (Matsumoto and Urabe, 1980).

**INAA Analytical Procedures**

A portion (100 mg) of the pulverized sample was sealed in polyethylene film. The sealed samples, together with standard rocks, were irradiated for neutron activation in the TRIGA-II nuclear reactor at Rikkyo University. The irradiation conditions were as follows: thermal neutron flux, $1 \times 10^{12} \text{n/cm}^2 \text{s}$; irradiation time, 12-24 hr. After shorter-lived nuclides had decayed out, gamma-ray spectra were measured with either a Ge(Li) detector at the Radioisotope Center, University of Tokyo, or with an intrinsic pure Ge detector at the Laboratory for Earthquake Chemistry, University of Tokyo. On the basis of the specific activity, estimated from the peak area of each nuclide, the concentrations of 21 elements (Fe, Na, Ca, Ba, Co, Cr, Cs, Hf, Ni, Nb, Sc, Ta, Th, U, La, Ce, Sm, Eu, Tb, Yb, and Lu) were determined. The precision of each analysis was checked by analyzing the working standard at the same time. However, the precision was not always better than that obtained with XRF. Hence, XRF data are quoted in this report whenever determinations were made with both XRF and INAA.

**RESULTS**

**Nankai Trough**

Site 582 is situated in the southern Nankai Trough, about 135 km southeast of Shikoku. At Site 582, three holes were drilled down to 749.4 m sub-bottom. Quaternary sediments were collected down to 710 m, and upper Pliocene sediments were found below 710 m. The lithologic section was divided into two units according to the differences in sediment lithology (site chapter, Site 582, this volume). Unit 1 (above 560 m) is composed of thick alternations of turbiditic sand and mud, whereas Unit 2 (below 560 m) is composed of hemipelagic. Percentages of major, minor, and trace elements in the sediments are listed in Table 2.

At Site 583, eight holes were drilled near the trench axis of the Nankai Trough to the west of Site 582 (site chapter, Site 583, this volume). Analyses by either XRF or INAA, or by both, were performed on 19 samples from Holes 583, 583B, 583D, 583F, and 583G (Table 2). The depth profiles for selected chemical constituents at Sites 582 and 583 are represented in Figure 2. The data for some REEs (Ce, Sm, Eu, Tb, and Lu) are omitted because of the geochemical similarity among REEs.

**Site 582**

**Major Element Geochemistry**

The silica concentration in these sediments ranges from 62 to 69%, which is higher than the biogenic silica content estimated by smear-slide observation and mineralogic studies (site chapter, Site 582, this volume). On the basis of X-ray diffraction study, we have determined that nonbiogenic silica components mainly represent quartz derived from terrigenous clastic sediment. The slight variation in silica concentration could be explained by variation in the mineral composition and the grain-size distribution of the sediments.

The chemical composition of deep-sea sediments at this site is rather homogeneous with respect to sub-bottom depth, except for some components, such as CaO, Fe$_2$O$_3$ (total iron), and MnO (Fig. 2). The variation in the CaO concentration could be explained by the variation in the concentration of biogenic calcium carbonate. This explanation is supported by lithologic and mineralogic studies. The variation in Fe$_2$O$_3$ and MnO concentrations could reflect changes in sediment lithology. More geochemical results, together with lithologic and mineralogic data, are needed to clarify the factors that control these variations. Despite those slight changes, the chemical composition of turbiditic and hemipelagic mud is quite homogeneous.

**Minor and Trace Element Geochemistry**

Except for Sr, Ba, Co, Cr, Cu, and Ni, the concentrations of minor and trace elements are similar throughout the sediment column (Fig. 2). Concentrations of REEs such as La, a typical light REE (LREE), and Yb, a typical heavy REE, also remain nearly constant in Site 582 sediment (Fig. 3). The major-element oxides CaO or
MnO or both are enriched at various depths, and the alkaline earths, Sr and Ba, correlate with CaO, whereas the other transition metals correlate with MnO. This relationship implies that heavier alkaline earths exist mainly in biogenic carbonates, and that the other metals exist in hydroogenous manganese hydroxides. The concentrations and elemental ratios (e.g., La/Yb, Fig. 2) vary only slightly with sub-bottom depth.

**Site 583**

The chemical compositions of sediments at this site are almost homogeneous throughout the core, except for CaO and Sr concentrations (Table 2; Fig. 2). Fluctuations of these components are attributed primarily to variation in the concentration of biogenic carbonate.

Chemical compositions of the mud and mudstone at Site 583 are similar to those at Site 582 (Fig. 3), implying that the Quaternary turbiditic mud from Sites 582 and 583 as well as the upper Pliocene hemipelagite from Site 582 have a common origin, despite their lithologic differences.

**Philippine Sea and Shikoku Basin**

Site 294 is in the northern part of the western Philippine Basin; Sites 296 and 297 are in the Shikoku Basin to the south of the Nankai Trough (Table 1; Fig. 1). Site 297 is situated about 250 km north of Site 296. One sample from Site 294 (typical pelagic red clay), 9 samples from Site 296, and 3 samples from Site 297 were analyzed (Table 3; Figs. 4 and 5).

**Site 294**

The chemical composition of the deep-sea sediment collected from this site differs from that of the hemipelagic turbidite mud in the Nankai Trough. Concentrations of minor and trace elements are typical for pelagic sediments that have relatively high concentrations of transition metals. The REE pattern shows LREE enrichment with respect to chondrite (Fig. 5). This pattern (Fig. 5) is similar to patterns of other sediments near land (e.g., Fig. 3), except for the negative Ce anomaly.

The REE patterns are characteristic of various sediments deposited in marine environments (e.g., Piper, 1974; Shimizu and Masuda, 1977) analyzed several cherts from DSDP cores and from subaerial samples. The REE pattern of the pelagic chert shows a negative Ce anomaly, which does not appear in the REE patterns of on-land cherts. Steinberg and his co-workers (Steinberg and Marin, 1978; Rangin et al., 1981; Steinberg et al., 1983) also discovered such a Ce anomaly in pelagic clays. These authors consider the Ce anomaly a fingerprint characteristic of sedimentation in open-ocean environments. Minai and his co-workers (Minai, 1982; Minai et al., in prep.) analyzed about 30 deep-sea surface sediments in the Pacific Ocean. They showed that the Ce anomaly in the REE pattern of several sediments may be characteristic of pelagic sedimentation, and that the magnitude of the Ce anomaly correlates well with the latitude of the station and the distance from spreading centers. Considering Ce and Mn contents, as well as deep-sea sediment accumulation rates in the western Pacific Ocean, Matsumoto and others (in press) proposed a hydrothermal origin of the Ce anomaly in pelagic sediments.

Our results on the sample from Site 294 agree with the previous observations: the Ce anomaly of Site 294 sediments can be attributed to the hydrothermal activity in the West Philippine Basin. We analyzed only one sample from Site 294, however, and more extensive study is needed to confirm the existence and magnitude of a Ce anomaly at that location.

**Site 296**

**Major Element Geochemistry**

Site 296 sediments are characterized by high CaO concentrations ranging from 15.9 to 36.3% (Table 3). CaO is present mainly in the biogenic-carbonate sediments. Considering the amounts of ignition loss, we estimate that these samples contain about 10% or more CO₂ as carbonate.

The concentrations of major-element oxides TiO₂, Al₂O₃, Na₂O, and K₂O decrease gradually downhole, as does SiO₂, after an abrupt decrease in the first 100 m sub-bottom. In the upper part of the section, chemical compositions resemble those of terrestrial shales or nearshore sediments like those of Sites 582 and 583, whereas in the lower part of the stratigraphic section, compositions resemble those of pelagic sediments like those of Site 294. These variations suggest that the contribution of terrigenous sediment is much higher in the upper zone. The Nankai Trough sediments (Sites 582 and 583) are similar in chemistry to shales and are classified as hemipelagites. The Shikoku Basin sediments are typical pelagic clay. The horizontal movement of Site 296 by plate motion probably explains the chemical variations. The deeper layer of the sediment column accumulated at a southerly position within the pelagic sediment zone. As the Philippine Sea Plate moved to the north and Site 296 reached the zone of hemipelagic sedimentation, the character of the sediments changed gradually from pelagic to hemipelagic.

**Minor and Trace Element Geochemistry**

Barium increases in the lower zone, where Hf, Ta, and REEs decrease very slightly. Other elements show no clear change with depth.

The REE patterns change systematically with sub-bottom depth (Fig. 5). The REE patterns of the sediments in the upper zone at Site 296 (Fig. 5) are similar to those for Sites 582 and 583 (Fig. 3); LREE are enriched and there is no Ce anomaly. REE patterns of the sediments in the lower zone are similar to those of the pelagic sediment from Site 294; they show less enrichment of LREE and a Ce anomaly. These relationships in REE pattern are attributed to plate motion.

Sample 296-13-3, 50–52 cm shows an exceptionally positive Ce anomaly that could be explained by incorporation of Mn hydroxides, because manganese nodules...
Another explanation relies on the selective partitioning and redistribution of Ce induced by the oxidation of Ce after burial. Matsumoto and others (in press) have suggested that Ce depletion is an indicator for hydrothermal interactions in the sediment layer, an anomaly produced by oxidation of Ce$^{3+}$ to Ce$^{4+}$. In this case, Ce$^{3+}$ and Ce$^{4+}$ would coexist in the sediment column in contact with hydrothermal water. Because the chemical properties of Ce$^{4+}$ are different from those of Ce$^{3+}$, hydrothermal interaction through oxidation-partitioning may differentiate and redistribute Ce in the sediment column.

**Site 297**

Chemical compositions of Site 297 sediments are similar to those of the Nankai Trough sediments (Sites 582 and 583) and to those of the upper Site 296 sediments, except that CaO concentrations at Site 296 are much higher. This similarity extends to the minor and trace element geochemistry (compare the analytical results listed in Tables 2 and 3).

**Summary: Geochemistry of Sediments from the Philippine Sea to the Nankai Trough**

The modern sediments at Site 294 are typical pelagic clay; their REE pattern shows a negative Ce anomaly, typical of pelagic sediment influenced by hydrothermal activity. To the north, the character of the deep-sea sediments changes from typical pelagic sediment at Site 294 to the hemipelagic at Sites 582 and 583. Such regional variations in geochemistry are also recognized in the vertical variation at Site 296. As for the REE geochemistry, the Ce anomaly diminishes with decreasing sub-bottom depth, a variation explicable in terms of plate motion. The deeper layer of the sediment column accumulated to the south of the present site, in a zone of pelagic sedimentation; and the upper layer accumulated near the present site, within the zone of hemipelagic sedimentation. In contrast to Site 296 sediment, vertical variation of the Ce anomaly is not observed in Site 297 sediment. Site 297 is situated to the north of Site 296, and the age of the recovered sediment column is younger than Site 297. These facts suggest that the lithologic section recovered at Site 297 is too short to reach layers accumulated earlier, beneath the zone of pelagic sedimentation.

**Deep-sea sediments can be classified into ridge sediment, pelagic sediment, and offshore sediment, on the basis of their Mn concentrations, sediment accumulation rates, and REE patterns (Matsumoto et al., in press). In that classification, the sediment at Site 294 is pelagic, and that at Sites 297, 582, and 583 is offshore. Drilling at Site 296 penetrated pelagic sediments at the lower levels and offshore sediments at the upper levels; this change in sedimentary environments was caused by plate motion.**

**Japan Trench**

Site 584 is on the landward slope of the Japan Trench off Sanriku, northeastern Japan. A 954-m sediment column was recovered from this site. Site 584 sediments are composed mainly of siliceous mud and mudstone with
sporadic thin interlayers of sand and ash. The age of cores from this site ranges from the middle Miocene to the Quaternary.

**Site 584**

**Major Element Geochemistry**

Silica concentrations range from 67 to 88% (Table 4; Fig. 6), higher than at Sites 582 and 583, and the variation is somewhat larger than that in the sediments from the Nankai Trough. The high silica concentration reflects the sediment lithology, indicating that biogenic silica contributes largely to the total silica component.

In the upper 530 m of the sediment column, silica concentration exceeds 75%, except in the Quaternary sandy mud at the top of the hole. Between 530 and 760 m, silica concentration is lower. Farther downhole, concentrations again increase to values comparable to those in the upper, high-silica zone (Fig. 6). These changes correlate with the sediment accumulation rates. The accumulation rate is about 100 m/Ma in the upper, high-silica zone, 20 m/Ma in the middle, low-silica zone, and 100 m/Ma in the lower, high-silica zone (site chapter, Site 584, this volume). The incorporation of biogenic silica into the sediment increases the silica content and the accumulation rate. The biogenic silica component is high in the high-silica zones and low in the low-silica zones, where silica might be derived from terrigenous clastics. The fact that chemical compositions of the sediments in the low-silica zone are similar to those of transitional shale supports this explanation.

Unlike the SiO₂ concentration, the CaO concentration varies randomly. Calcium is contained in terrigenous clastics, such as feldspars and clay minerals, and in biogenic carbonates. The concentrations of Na₂O and K₂O, which are contained mainly in feldspars and clay minerals, are nearly constant, indicating a constant contribution of terrigenous clastics throughout the core. Thus, the random fluctuation of CaO concentration could be explained by the variable contribution of biogenic carbonates.

Manganese, a sensitive indicator of the hydrogenous contribution, is extremely enriched at some horizons in the core (Matsumoto et al., in press).

Other major element abundances, except for total iron, are relatively constant throughout the core. Iron concentration is, on the whole, negatively correlated with silica concentration (Fig. 6), meaning that iron is not contained in biogenic silica components, but is contained mainly in terrigenous clastics.

**Minor and Trace Element Geochemistry**

Strontium concentration correlates excellently with CaO concentration, implying that Sr is contained mainly in CaO-bearing phases like biogenic calcium carbonate. The other alkaline earth, Ba, does not correlate with either CaO or Sr. Barium concentrations are variable in the zone from 30 to 120 m and enriched below 300 m sub-bottom depth (Fig. 6). Because barium is a kind of large-ion lithophile (LIL), it does not always behave like other lighter alkaline earths in geochemical processes. In volcanic rocks, Ba correlates with other LILs such as
Figure 2. Depth profiles for concentrations of major, minor, and trace elements in deep-sea sediments from Sites 582 and 583.
Cs, REEs, U, and Th. The LILs (Cs, Hf, Ta, Th, and REEs) are slightly enriched in the lower zone of the Site 584 lithologic section (Table 4). In the zone below 300 m, barium would behave mainly as the other LILs, and would be contained mainly in LIL-bearing phases. These LILs are not enriched in the upper, Ba-bearing zone, suggesting that Ba is contained in barite in this upper zone. Gurvich and others (1978) found an excellent correlation between Ba and barite concentration in pelagic sediments. In fact, barite nodules were found in several horizons at shallow levels.

Geochemistry of LILs in deep-sea sediments provides an excellent key to the origin and diagenetic alteration of the sediments. As mentioned, most LILs are slightly enriched in the lithologic section below about 400 m. The depth profile of U has almost no trend; it has only a very slight enrichment in the upper few samples. Most of the LILs in deep-sea sediments seem to be contained in silicates and in other accessory minerals derived from terrigenous clastic sediments, and LIL concentrations are expected to correlate positively with the total iron but negatively with SiO$_2$ (biogenic silica). These correlations were not observed in our data, perhaps because the changes were of such small magnitude. The REEs could be derived mainly from terrigenous clastics in this core, because the chondrite-normalized REE patterns show an LREE enrichment as in shales (Fig. 7).

The difference in LIL concentrations between the upper and lower zones suggests a change of sediment provenance. The LIL geochemistry changes in the uppermost Miocene sediments, a change also confirmed by the other geochemical parameters, such as the ratios U/Th and La/Yb (Fig. 6). The La/Yb ratio represents the REE pattern. The ratio between elements was not affected by changing concentrations of other components. These ratios also change in the middle of the core, confirming our previous explanation regarding the change of LIL concentrations. The REE patterns also confirm the change of the source for terrigenous clastics (Fig. 7); lighter REEs are more enriched in the lower zone.

**Site 439**

Site 439 is situated on the deep-sea terrace near Site 584 (Fig. 1). Cretaceous black shale recovered at the bottom of the core might represent an open-ocean pelagic deposit now accreted to the northeastern Japan arc in the course of subduction of the Pacific Plate (von Huene et al., 1982). The chemical compositions of these shales (Table 5), however, are quite similar to those of Miocene to Pliocene hemipelagic mud at Site 584 (Table 4). This similarity suggests that the black shale was not part of the accretory prism but was also deposited in its present setting.

**North Pacific Ocean**

**Site 436**

Site 436 is situated on the outer slope of the Japan Trench about 150 km east of Site 584 (Scientific Party, 1980). Site 436 sediments include Quaternary, Pliocene, and Miocene siliceous mud and mudstone, Oligocene brown clay, and Cretaceous brown clay and chert. The analytical results are listed in Table 6 and are plotted in Figure 8.

**Major Element Geochemistry**

It is remarkable that concentrations of major elements in the Quaternary, Pliocene, and upper Miocene sediments at Site 436 are similar to those of Site 584 sediments. Such a high degree of similarity may mean that trench inner-slope and outer-slope sediments cannot be distinguished by their geochemistry. Most of the Miocene, Oligocene, and Cretaceous sediments show extremely high MnO concentrations.

**Minor and Trace Element Geochemistry**

The concentrations of LIL elements and their ratios (like U/Th) change slightly at the Miocene/Pliocene boundary at this site and Site 584 (Figs. 6, 8). At both locations, LIL (except U) concentrations and Hf/Ta, U/Th, and La/Yb ratios increase in the lower sediments. This change suggests that the source of sediment supplied to the ocean margin near the Japan Trench changed at the Miocene/Pliocene boundary.

The REE patterns for Site 436 sediments (Fig. 9) show a negative Ce anomaly for the Cretaceous chert. These Ce-depleted sediments always contain larger amounts of Co, Cu, and other transition elements common in metalliferous sediments near spreading centers, suggesting that hydrothermal activity is responsible for the Ce anomaly in these sediments.

To summarize, the chemistry of the Quaternary, Pliocene, and upper Miocene sediments at Site 436 resembles that of Site 584 sediments, whereas the chemistry of the middle Miocene to Cretaceous sediments at Site 436 differs from that of overlying sediment at that site and from that of Site 584 sediments. The LIL concentrations, their ratios, and REE patterns appear to change...
near the Miocene/Pliocene boundary. A negative Ce anomaly for the Cretaceous chert suggests a hydrothermal origin.

**COMPARISON OF GEOCHEMISTRY OF NANKAI TROUGH AND JAPAN TRENCH DEEP-SEA SEDIMENTS**

Major and minor element geochemistry reveals that sediments recovered from the Nankai Trough (Sites 582 and 583) and the Shikoku Basin (Sites 296 and 297) are similar to one another, meaning that their source has not changed appreciably throughout the interval from the late Miocene to the present. The geochemical characteristics of the Pliocene-Pleistocene sediments from Sites 584, 439, and 436, near the Japan Trench, are also similar to each other, but different from those of the Nankai Trough and the Shikoku Basin sediments (compare Tables 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6). For example, the SiO₂ concentration ranges from about 70 to 90% in the Japan Trench, but from 50 to 70% in the Nankai Trough and the Shikoku Basin, a difference attributable to the abundance of biogenic silica.
The LILs are more enriched in the sediments in the Nankai Trough and the Shikoku Basin than in the Japan Trench, a trend observed not only in major-element oxides, such as Na₂O and K₂O, but also in trace elements, such as La and Yb. These differences imply that the sediments in these regions differ not only in the ratio of biogenic silica to terrigenous clastics but also in the chemical characteristics of terrigenous suites. The LILs are more concentrated in the Miocene than in the Pliocene sediment. In other words, the LIL concentrations of the Miocene sediments of similar chemical composition may have been supplied to the Japan Trench, the Nankai Trough, and the Shikoku Basin. Changes of ocean currents might explain variations in their present geochemistry (Fig. 10). During the Miocene, the Kuroshio flowed from the Shikoku Basin toward the shore of northeastern Japan and carried huge amounts of terrigenous sediments off the Japanese islands along its path. In the Pliocene, the current shifted to a more easterly course and did not reach the Japan Trench region. Fine grains suspended in the open ocean can travel more than 1000 km in strong ocean current (Reed et al., 1975). Such transport of suspended particles by the Kuroshio may possibly account for the sedimentation of geochem-
ically similar materials in very wide regions offshore of the Japanese islands.

CONCLUSIONS

The following conclusions are drawn from chemical analysis of the deep-sea sediments in the Nankai Trough and the Japan Trench:

1. Sources of the Pliocene to Quaternary sediments were similar in the Nankai Trough and the northern part of the Shikoku Basin.
2. The REE pattern varies in the Miocene to Quaternary sediments at Site 296. The change reflects the motion of the Philippine Sea Plate, which is migrating northward toward the islands of Japan.
3. The source supplying sediment to the Japan Trench changed near the boundary between the Pliocene and the Miocene.
4. During the Miocene, geochemically similar terrigenous sediments were supplied to a large area of the Pacific Ocean side of the Japanese islands, including the Shikoku Basin, the Nankai Trough, and the Japan Trench. This supply might have been caused by the Kuroshio flowing northeast along the Japanese islands.
5. Negative cerium anomalies in sediments are an indicator of the hydrothermal activity.

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GEOCHEMISTRY

100
50
100
50
100
50
100
50
100
50

Site 297
1 207-4-4, 69–71 cm
2 297-14-3, 50–52 cm

Site 296
1 296-12-2, 117–119 cm
2 296-6-3, 50–52 cm
3 296-19-3, 28–30 cm
4 296-25-3, 39–41 cm
5 296-31-5, 100–102 cm

Site 294
1 294-3-3, 30–32 cm
2 294-9-2, 50–52 cm
3 294-13-3, 50–52 cm
4 294-19-3, 28–30 cm
5 294-25-3, 39–41 cm

Figure 5. Typical chondrite-normalized rare-earth-element patterns for deep-sea sediments from Sites 294, 296, and 297.

REFERENCES


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Figure 6. Depth profiles for concentrations of major, minor, and trace elements in deep-sea sediments from Site 584.

Figure 7. Chondrite-normalized rare-earth-element patterns for several deep-sea sediments from Site 584.
Table 5. Site 439: concentrations of major-element oxides (wt.%) in deep-sea sediments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hole-Core-Section</th>
<th>Sub-bottom depth (m)</th>
<th>SiO$_2$</th>
<th>TiO$_2$</th>
<th>Al$_2$O$_3$</th>
<th>Fe$_2$O$_3^a$</th>
<th>MnO</th>
<th>MgO</th>
<th>CaO</th>
<th>Na$_2$O</th>
<th>K$_2$O</th>
<th>P$_2$O$_5$</th>
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<tr>
<td>439-37-1, 96-98</td>
<td>1144.97</td>
<td>68.7</td>
<td>0.53</td>
<td>17.3</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>1.56</td>
<td>1.07</td>
<td>2.14</td>
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<td>439-38-1, 107-109</td>
<td>1149.08</td>
<td>67.0</td>
<td>0.83</td>
<td>18.2</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>2.01</td>
<td>0.42</td>
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<td>3.48</td>
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<td>439-39-1, 32-34</td>
<td>1153.83</td>
<td>65.5</td>
<td>0.85</td>
<td>19.0</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>2.07</td>
<td>0.38</td>
<td>1.80</td>
<td>3.74</td>
<td>0.05</td>
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$^a$Total iron as Fe$_2$O$_3$.

Table 6. Site 436: INAA results (in ppm) for deep-sea sediments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hole-Core-Section</th>
<th>Sub-bottom depth (m)</th>
<th>Cs</th>
<th>Hf</th>
<th>Sb</th>
<th>Sc</th>
<th>Th</th>
<th>U</th>
<th>La</th>
<th>Ce</th>
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<th>Tb</th>
<th>Yb</th>
<th>Lu</th>
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Note: INAA: instrumental neutron activation analysis; blank: not analyzed.

$^a$Reddish brown fraction of the chert sample.

$^b$Noncolored white fraction of the chert sample.
Figure 8. Depth profiles for concentrations of major, minor, and trace elements in deep-sea sediments from Site 436. Major element depth profiles were drawn from Sugisaki (1980b). The samples represented in the major element depth profiles are as follows (all from Hole 436, expressed in core-section, interval in cm): 3-3, 100-104; 12-2, 36-40; 19-4, 86-90; 23-5, 35-39; 31-4, 40-44; 34-2, 60-64; 38-2, 66-70; 39-6, 60-64; 40-4, 50-54.

Figure 9. Typical chondrite-normalized rare-earth-element patterns of deep-sea sediments from Site 436.
Figure 10. The proposed model for the sedimentation process in the south of the Japan islands from the Miocene to the Quaternary.