26. CARBONATE AND ORGANIC-CARBON CYCLES AND THE HISTORY OF UPWELLING AT DEEP SEA DRILLING PROJECT SITE 532, WALVIS RIDGE, SOUTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

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ABSTRACT

Detailed carbonate and organic-carbon stratigraphies were constructed from samples collected every 20 cm in a 250-m hydraulic piston core recovered at DSDP Site 532 on Walvis Ridge. This sampling interval represents about one sample every 5000 yr., based on sediment accumulation rates calculated from nannofossil biostratigraphic zones. All samples were analyzed for percent CaCO$_3$, resulting in a detailed carbonate stratigraphy for the past 5.0 m.y. The samples for the top 110 m of section were also analyzed for organic carbon in order to construct a detailed organic-carbon stratigraphy for the last 2.5 m.y.

The recovered section has distinct dark-light color cycles with average periodicities of 55, 58, and 30 k.y. for the Quaternary, upper Pliocene, and lower Pliocene, respectively. Periodicities of carbonate cycles are similar to the color cycles; most carbonate minima correspond to the dark parts of color cycles. The average periodicity for carbonate cycles is about 36 k.y. Darker parts of color cycles usually contain higher concentrations of organic carbon, but the organic-carbon record does not follow the cyclicity of the color cycles in detail, at least for the last 2.5 m.y. Organic-carbon cycles have an average periodicity of about 34 k.y. for the Quaternary and upper Pliocene.

The cycles of CaCO$_3$ and color have periodicities similar to those reported from carbonate stratigraphies from the northeast Atlantic, Caribbean, and eastern equatorial Pacific. The carbonate cycles at Site 532 are the result of external forcing, probably related to global climate, that affected fluctuations in both sediment supply from the African continental margin and productivity of siliceous organisms. The organic-carbon cycles have similar periodicities and similar changes in periodicities to those of the CaCO$_3$ cycles.

Semiquantitative estimates of diatom abundance from smear slides and concentrations of biogenic SiO$_2$ calculated from chemical analyses suggest that upwelling at Site 532 was minor until about 3 m.y. ago. The Benguela-Current upwelling system either began at that time or, more likely, migrated into the area of Site 532, where it prevailed until some time between about 1.2 and 0.5 m.y. ago. The increase and decline of upwelling in the area of Site 532, however, did not disturb the trend of cyclicities of carbonate and organic carbon. The latest change in conditions at Site 532 was an increase in intensity of bottom currents during the past 0.5 m.y. that winnowed nannofossils, diatoms, and clay and left a lag deposit represented by a foraminifera-rich facies.

INTRODUCTION

Walvis Ridge is a structural spur that projects southwestward from the continental margin of South Africa off Namibia and is beneath the cold, nutrient-rich, Benguela-Current upwelling system (Fig. 1). DSDP Site 532 is located on the eastern part of Walvis Ridge at a water depth of 1331 m in a trough with a relatively thick sediment section. The site is about 2 km from DSDP Site 362 (Bolli, Ryan, et al., 1978) which was rotary drilled, but unfortunately the upper 200 m of the section is badly disturbed. The data from Site 362, however, suggest that increases in abundances of diatoms and organic carbon may be linked to the onset and development of the Benguela-Current upwelling system (Bolli, Ryan, et al., 1978; Diester-Haass and Schrader, 1979; Siesser, 1980). The Benguela-Current upwelling system apparently began about 10 m.y. ago in the early late-Miocene, with progressively more intense upwelling in the Pliocene and Pleistocene. Siesser (1980) concluded that increases in diatoms and organic carbon reflect the estab-
lishment of the strong southeast trade winds that drive the upwelling system today.

Hydraulic piston coring at Site 532 recovered a nearly continuous section of late Neogene and Quaternary age. Biostratigraphic data from Site 532 indicate that all nannofossil zones of Ellis (1981) are present (Site 532 summary chapter, this volume). The section from Site 532 was divided into three lithostratigraphic subunits based on relative proportions of siliceous and calcareous microfossils and nonbiogenic material (clay) (Fig. 2; see also Site 532 summary chapter, this volume). The amount of clay steadily decreases from the bottom to the top of the section. The section from 290 m (bottom of Hole 532B) to 114 m sub-bottom consists of nannofossil marl with rare (<5%) planktonic foraminifers and rare (<1%) diatoms. The section from 114 to 50 m sub-bottom consists of nannofossil diatom marl that contains about equal amounts of diatoms, nannofossils, and clay (Fig. 2). The abundance of diatoms decreases and the abundance of nannofossils increases above 50 m sub-bottom. Diatoms are rare above 20 m sub-bottom, and foraminifers increase in abundance and make up more than 50% of the sediment at the top of the section (Fig. 2).

Preliminary shipboard descriptions of the section at Site 532 noted cycles of dark- and light-colored sediment that contain abrupt changes in abundances of foraminifers and diatoms (Site 532 chapter, this volume), but these changes in microfossil abundance are not systematic within the color cycles. The concentration of CaCO$_3$, however, does change systematically within individual color cycles and is highest in the lightest colored part of a cycle. The changes in color and abundances of siliceous and calcareous microfossils may reflect changes in productivity associated with the intensity of the Benguela Current upwelling system. We therefore chose this site to construct detailed carbonate and organic-carbon stratigraphies to detect any cyclic variations in CaCO$_3$ and organic carbon that can be correlated with cyclic variations in other sediment parameters.

Figure 2. Lithology, age, magnetics, percentages of nonbiogenic material (clay), nannofossils, foraminifers, diatoms, biogenic silica, CaCO$_3$, and organic carbon, and SiO$_2$: Al$_2$O$_3$ ratio, at DSDP Site 532. Percentages of clay, nannofossils, foraminifers, and diatoms are from smear-slide estimates (Site 532 summary chapter, this volume). Percent biogenic silica and the SiO$_2$: Al$_2$O$_3$ ratio are from Dean and Parduhn (this volume). Percentages of CaCO$_3$ and organic carbon are from Table 1. Smoothed curves through the smear-slide data were computed using a 5-point weighted moving average. Smoothed curves through the CaCO$_3$ and organic-carbon data were computed using a 15-point weighted moving average.
DESCRIPTION OF THE CYCLES

Color Cycles

The most noticeable characteristic of the sediment at Site 532 is the cyclic dark and light variations in sediment color (Fig. 3). The upper 160 m of the section has dark-light alternations mostly of yellow brown (hue 5Y); the section below 160 m has cycles of light and dark chromas mostly of greenish olive (hue 10Y). The contacts between light and dark interbeds usually are gradational over about 10 to 20 cm. The overall color of the section is lightest in the lower Pliocene, but becomes darker in the middle Pliocene. The intensity and frequency of darker colored layers are highest in the early Pliocene. The overall color again becomes lighter in the uppermost Quaternary. We determined the periodicities of the color cycles by counting the number of cycles between time datums established by nannofossil zones.

Carbonate and Organic-Carbon Cycles

The entire section in Hole 532 was sampled at 20 cm intervals for analyses of CaCO$_3$. This sampling resulted in 1057 samples with an average sampling interval of about 5000 yr./sample. All samples were analyzed for CaCO$_3$ using the gasometric technique of Hulsemann (1966). One-hundred fifty-three shipboard analyses of CaCO$_3$ by the carbonate-bomb method (Muller and Gastner, 1971) from Holes 532 and 532B were merged with the larger gasometric data set (Table 1). Four-hundred and twenty of the 20-cm carbonate samples between 0 and 109 m sub-bottom were also analyzed for organic carbon by the LECO method (Table 2). An additional 50 analyses of organic carbon by Meyers, Braswell, and Hue, et al. (this volume) from the same stratigraphic interval were merged with the LECO data. The only analyses of organic carbon that we have for the interval between 109 and 250 m sub-bottom are from Meyers, Braswell, and Hue (this volume).

Calcium carbonate cycles were defined as a section of the record between successive CaCO$_3$ minima. These cycles correspond to the C cycles of Gardner (1982). We define an organic-carbon cycle as the interval between successive maxima on the organic-carbon profile from 0 to 109 m sub-bottom (0 to 2.4 m.y.) (Fig. 2).

We constructed profiles of CaCO$_3$ and organic carbon versus time using the ages assigned to nannofossil zones (Ellis, 1981; Site 532 summary chapter, this volume). However, even though all late Neogene and Quaternary nannofossil zones were identified (Steinmetz and Stradner, this volume), the nannofossil zonation used is based on western equatorial Pacific floras (Ellis, 1981), and they may not be strictly applicable to the eastern South Atlantic. We encountered problems when we plotted age as determined by the nannofossil zonation versus depth for Site 532. An apparent expanded section with a sedimentation rate of 106 m/m.y. was immediately preceded by an apparent abbreviated section with a sedimentation rate of 5 m/m.y. (Fig. 4). When CaCO$_3$ is plotted versus age using this time scale, artificial expansions and compressions of parts of the section become apparent (Fig. 5A). We modified the zonation by using a correlation with the zonation of Martini (1971) (Fig. 6). The plot of age versus depth using the Martini zonation (Fig. 4) shows that the expanded and compressed sections were not eliminated, but only
moved from the lower Pliocene to the upper Pliocene. Because all of the nannofossil zones and sub-zones of Ellis (1981) were identified, and because we found no sedimentological evidence for a greatly expanded section, nor any indication of an unconformity, we developed a preferred zonation for Site 532, based mainly on the Martini (1971) time-scale (Fig. 6).

Successive age datums from our preferred zonation were used to calculate an average sedimentation rate between datums. Each sample was then assigned an age by linear interpolation. The resulting plots of percent CaCO$_3$ and organic carbon versus age are shown in Figures 5B and 5C. We subdivided the age axes of the CaCO$_3$ and organic carbon versus age plots into 0.5 m.y. intervals and counted the number of cycles in each 0.5 m.y. segment. We calculated the average percentages of CaCO$_3$, organic carbon, and biogenic silica for each 0.5 m.y. interval (Table 3). We also calculated the periodicities of CaCO$_3$, organic carbon, and dark beds (Table 4).

The periodicities of the CaCO$_3$ cycles (Table 4) range from a low of 26 k.y. to a maximum of 49 k.y. and average about 36 k.y. Most of the CaCO$_3$ minima correspond to the dark parts of color cycles (Figs. 3 and 5B), and most of the maxima correspond to the lightest parts of color cycles.

The periodicities of the organic-carbon cycles (Table 4) range from 28 k.y. to about 36 k.y., with an average of about 34 k.y. for the interval 0 to 2.5 m.y. Although all dark-colored beds correspond to an organic-carbon maximum, the relationship between organic-carbon concentration and dark and light beds is not so clear as for CaCO$_3$. Many of the organic-carbon maxima do not appear to correspond to a dark bed. As a result, the organic-carbon cycles have a higher frequency (shorter period) than those of the dark beds (Table 4).

The CaCO$_3$ and organic-carbon profiles (Fig. 2) also show lower frequency cycles on a scale of 5 to 10 m thick, which corresponds to an average periodicity of about 150 k.y. These longer cycles are best seen in the smoothed curves for parts of the profiles between 40 and 80 m sub-bottom (Figs. 2 and 10).

A color cycle just over 2 m long from Core 10, Section 1 (mid-Pleistocene) was 4) range from 28 k.y. to about 36 k.y., with an average of about 150 k.y. These longer cycles are best seen in the color cycles.
studied in detail. Figure 7 is a composite of data for this interval (Site 532, Meyers, Brassell, and Huc, this volume and this chapter).

The color changes from moderately light values at 41.5 and 44 m sub-bottom to very dark values at 41.3 and 43.5 m sub-bottom (Fig. 7). The lower dark section at 43.5 m has moderate concentrations of CaCO₃ and low Rock-Eval S₁ values (see discussion below for explanation of Rock-Eval). The section from 43.5 m to 41.5 m sub-bottom shows a steady trend to lighter colors and an increase in CaCO₃ from a low of 23% at 43.4 m to more than 50% between 42.9 m and the top of Cycle 1. In most other cycles, a marked color change is accompanied by a sharp upper color change that corresponds to the sharp upper color change. Figure 7 shows that, in general, there is a good correspondence between CaCO₃ and organic carbon, which recapitulates the general inverse relationship between these two variables over the entire section at Site 532 (see Figs. 10 and 11).

The Rock-Eval S₂ values (in mg of hydrocarbons per g of sediment) is a rough estimate of the amount of lipid-rich marine organic matter. When normalized to the amount of organic carbon in the sediment, the S₂ values give the hydrogen index in mg hydrocarbons per g organic carbon (Tissot et al., 1974). The decrease in S₂ values from the darker base to the lighter top of the cycle, therefore, suggests a change from more to less lipid-rich organic matter upward in the cycle. Although there appears to be differences in type of organic matter within individual cycles, shipboard and shorebased Rock-Eval studies and the shorebased studies of humic acids show that most of the organic matter at Site 532 is derived from marine sources (Meyers, Brassell, and Huc, this volume).

**Mass Accumulation Rates**

We calculated mass accumulation rates (MAR; g/cm²/m.y.) for each 0.5 m.y. interval in order to eliminate the effects of compaction and to examine the influx rates of bulk sediment, CaCO₃, biogenic silica, organic carbon, and pyrite as well as Mn oxide.
wet-bulk density (WBD) obtained from shipboard gamma-ray attenuation porosity evaluator (GRAPE) relationship between DBD and WBD is:  

$$\text{DBD} = \text{WBD} - (0.01025 \times \text{porosity}) \quad (3)$$

where 2.7 is the assumed average grain density (Rea and Janecek, 1981). Values of DBD in g/cm$^3$, and if multiplied by 100 are in units of g/cm$^3$/m of section. Values of DBD/m of section, when multiplied by the average accumulation rate in m/m.y., give MAR values for bulk sediment in units of g/cm$^2$/m.y. (Table 5). The overall equation, therefore, for calculating bulk sediment MAR is:

$$\text{Bulk sediment } \text{MAR} \ (\text{g/cm}^2/\text{m.y.}) = (\text{accumulation rate}) \times 100 \times \left(1 - \frac{\text{porosity}}{100}\right) \times 2.7 \quad (2)$$

An alternate method of obtaining DBD is to use the wet-bulk density (WBD) obtained from shipboard gamma-ray attenuation porosity evaluator (GRAPE) relationship between DBD and WBD is:


dDBD = WBD - (0.01025 \times \text{porosity}) \quad (3)$$

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Data for percent biogenic silica (percent opal) was obtained by two different methods. First, the total percentages of siliceous biogenic components were taken from smear-slide estimates (Fig. 2: Site 532 summary chapter, this volume) and averaged for each interval. The second estimation of biogenic silica was obtained from analyses of SiO$_2$ and Al$_2$O$_3$ by X-ray fluorescence.
(XRF) (Dean and Parduhn, this volume). A plot of the SiO$_2$:Al$_2$O$_3$ ratio (Fig. 2) shows that there is a baseline low of about 3.3 in those parts of the section where no siliceous biogenic debris was detected in smear slides (Fig. 2). We assumed therefore that an average SiO$_2$:

Al$_2$O$_3$ ratio of 3.3 is representative of nonbiogenic aluminosilicates that were deposited at Site 532. Nonbiogenic SiO$_2$ was then calculated according to the equation:

Nonbiogenic SiO$_2$ = (% Al$_2$O$_3$) × 3.3  \hspace{1cm} (4)

Biogenic SiO$_2$ was calculated according to the equation:

Biogenic SiO$_2$ = (total SiO$_2$) - (nonbiogenic SiO$_2$). \hspace{1cm} (5)

Bostrum et al. (1972) used the same method for calculating opaline silica in sediments from the South Atlantic, but assumed a SiO$_2$:Al$_2$O$_3$ ratio of 3.1, that of average continental crust. Both smear-slide data and XRF-derived biogenic silica show similar trends (Fig. 2), but the smear-slide estimates usually are higher. We prefer the estimates calculated from the XRF data because smear-slide data are volume estimates that are semi-quantitative at best and usually tend to overestimate percentages of siliceous biogenic components, particularly if volume estimates of this high-porosity component are then used for weight-percent calculations.

The component MARs were calculated according to the equation:

Component MAR = (bulk sediment component MAR) × (fraction of component) \hspace{1cm} (6)

The clay MAR for each interval was calculated by the difference between the bulk-sediment MAR for the interval minus the sum of MARs for CaCO$_3$, biogenic SiO$_2$, and organic carbon. Component MARs are tabulated for each 0.5 m.y. interval in Table 5. The MARs are plotted versus time in Figure 8 in order to show general trends in MAR for each component with time. The individual MARs will be discussed in the section on upwelling intensity and organic productivity.
### DISCUSSION

**Origin of the CaCO₃ and Color Cycles**

Carbonate cycles can result from CaCO₃ dissolution, dilution of CaCO₃ by noncarbonate material, or changes in carbonate productivity. Carbonate dissolution is not an important cause of the cycles at Site 532 because the site is only 1331 m deep, and the calcareous nanofossils are moderate to well preserved with no apparent signs of dissolution (Site 532 summary chapter, this volume). The magnitudes and trends of the periodicities of the CaCO₃ cycles at Site 532 are similar to those from the western Caribbean and eastern equatorial Pacific (Gardner, 1982). The similarities of CaCO₃ periodicities from such widespread areas suggest that productivity, probably a local effect, is not a controlling factor in the CaCO₃ cycles. Dilution of CaCO₃ by fine-grained terrigenous material is a possibility for control of the CaCO₃ cycles at Site 532 because the area is on the continental margin of Africa. However, dilution by noncarbonate terrigenous material implies fluctuations of eustatic sea level as the probable primary mechanism.

The fact that the darker layers contain more clay than the lighter layers suggests that there was at least some dilution by terrigenous clastics. Also, even though the dark layers usually contain the highest concentrations of biogenic silica, this is not true for all cycles, and smear-slide data usually do not show systematic variations in siliceous biogenic debris within cycles. Semiquantitative estimates of clay abundance from smear slides show that clay content of dark interbeds is about 25% compared with about 10% in the lightest parts of light-colored, high-CaCO₃ interbeds. This difference represents a 150% increase in clay content between lighter and darker interbeds. A 175% increase in noncarbonate dilution is needed to reduce the higher concentrations of CaCO₃ in dark-colored interbeds. This 175% calculated dilution of CaCO₃ is reasonably close to the semiquantitative smear-slide estimate of clay increase, which suggests that dilution by terrigenous clastics alone could account for the dark interbeds of the CaCO₃ cycles.

The range of periodicities of the CaCO₃ at Site 532 (26 k.y. to 49 k.y.) is similar to that of CaCO₃ cycles from Neogene and Quaternary sections from the eastern

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**Table 2. Organic carbon data, Site 532.**

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<th>Depth (m)</th>
<th>% C-org.</th>
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<th>% C-org.</th>
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</table>
equatorial Atlantic (Dean et al., 1981), Western Caribbean (Gardner, 1982), and eastern equatorial Pacific (Gardner, 1982). Carbonate cycles with periods of about 41 k.y. are common in late Quaternary deep-sea sediment and are almost certainly related in some way to the Earth’s orbital cycle of obliquity (tilt of the Earth’s axis), which has been suggested as one of the main driving forces behind long-term climatic change (Broecker and van Donk, 1970; Hays et al., 1976). One of the manifestations of global climate change is variations in global ice volume and, therefore, in changes in global sea level. Studies of fluctuations in the composition of oxygen isotopes in benthic foraminifers from Quaternary deep-sea sediment have related them to fluctuations in global ice volume and hence global sea level (Shackleton, 1967). These studies have been extended into the Pliocene (Prel, 1982), and arguments have been presented that oxygen-isotope fluctuations throughout the Tertiary are related to fluctuations in global ice volumes (Matthews and Poore, 1980; Matthews, in press). Climate-related sedimentary cycles are not unique to the Quaternary, but extend well back into the Tertiary (Dean et al., 1977 and 1981; Clifton, 1980) Mesozoic (Fisher, 1964; Dean et al., 1977; Arthur and Fisher, 1977; McCave, 1979; Arthur, 1979), and even the Paleozoic (Anderson, 1982). These sedimentary cycles from different geologic periods and from widely scattered areas, but all with somewhat similar periodicities, are most likely coincident with, if not the result of, changes in eustatic sea level.

Furthermore, the CaCO$_3$ cycles at Site 532 are present at the base of the recovered section and continue throughout the section. Changes in periodicity of CaCO$_3$ cycles at Site 532 (Table 4) at first appear to correspond to other changes in sediment character, such as the large pulse of siliceous biogenic debris in the upper Pliocene section or the large decreases in clay and CaCO$_3$ MARs in the mid-Pliocene section (Fig. 8). However, the periodicities of the CaCO$_3$ and organic-carbon cycles at Site 532 are similar in magnitude to the CaCO$_3$ cycles at Sites 502 and 503 in the western Caribbean and eastern equatorial Pacific (Fig. 9). In addition, trends of changes in periodicity with time are also similar at all three sites. The similarities of magnitudes and trends of
periodicities of CaCO$_3$ cycles from widely separated areas suggest that the CaCO$_3$ cycles are produced by a global, not local, forcing mechanism. The MAR data (Fig. 8) show responses to local conditions such as upwelling and climate on the African continent, but even there local processes probably were triggered by global climatic changes.

The organic-carbon cycles do not appear to be closely related to CaCO$_3$ and color cycles and have a range of periodicities between 28 k.y. and 44 k.y./cycle. These periodicities are considerably different from organic-carbon cycles described from the late Neogene and Quaternary from the western Caribbean and eastern equatorial Pacific (Gradner, 1982). The difference in organic-carbon periodicities from widely scattered localities suggests that the forcing mechanism for organic-carbon cycles is a local phenomena and may be diagenetic. The relationships between the trends of average organic carbon and CaCO$_3$ are not entirely independent, however, because the two variables are negatively correlated on scales ranging from individual cycles (Fig. 7) to the entire sequence at Site 532. The correlation coefficient for CaCO$_3$ and organic carbon averaged for 0.5 m.y. intervals (Table 4) is −0.62. Figure 10 shows the smoothed curves of CaCO$_3$ and organic-carbon redrawn from Figure 2, and illustrates the striking negative correlation between CaCO$_3$ and organic carbon at the scale of the 150 k.y. cycles for the past 2.5 m.y. Another way of examining the relationship between CaCO$_3$ and organic-carbon is by using a moving correlation coefficient (Dean and Anderson, 1974) the results of which are plotted in Figure 11. Note that there is usually a strong negative correlation between CaCO$_3$ and organic carbon except during periods of strongest upwelling as evidenced by abundance of biogenic SiO$_2$ (compare maximum pulses of biogenic SiO$_2$ in Fig. 2 with zones of nonsignificant correlation coefficients in Fig. 11).

### Upwelling Intensity and Organic Productivity

One of the principal objectives of drilling Site 532 was to recover a detailed late Neogene and Quaternary record of the Benguela-Current upwelling system. Because upwelling intensity, and hence organic productivity, is sensitive to seasonal as well as long-term climatic fluctuations, we first thought that the cycles of CaCO$_3$ and color might be reflections of biogenic silica fluctuations resulting from variations in upwelling intensity. We do not think that this is true, however, for the following reasons. First, diatoms are the dominant biogenic component in sediment from most mid-latitude, open-ocean upwelling areas (Diester-Haass and Schrader, 1979; Schuette and Schrader, 1981; deVries and Schrader, 1981). Siliceous biogenic debris is negligible in the lower Pliocene and upper Quaternary sections at Site 532, and only equal in abundance with nannofossils in the upper Pliocene and lower Quaternary sections.
Figure 5. A. Plot of CaCO₃ vs. age using the Ellis (1981) nannofossil zonation (Steinmetz and Stradner, this volume). B. Plot of CaCO₃ vs. age for Site 532 using our preferred age model. Black bars along age scale indicate position and thickness of dark-colored sediment. C. Plot of organic carbon vs. age for Site 532 using our preferred age model. (See text for explanation.)
There were marked changes in the upwelling history at Site 532. This pulse of siliceous biogenic debris, with some relatively high frequency fluctuations, is the strongest evidence in the section to suggest that abrupt increase in the late Pliocene and early Quaternary (Figs. 2 and 8). This pulse of siliceous biogenic debris, with some relatively high frequency fluctuations, is the strongest evidence in the section to suggest that there were marked changes in the upwelling history at Site 532.

(Figs. 2 and 8). Also, smear-slide data for the cycle in Core 10 (Fig. 7) and for other cycles (see lithology section in Site 532 summary chapter, this volume) do not show any trends or cyclic changes in diatom abundance that correspond to trends in abundance of CaCO$_3$. Instead, the diatom abundances and biogenic SiO$_2$ MAR abruptly increase in the late Pliocene and early Quaternary (Figs. 2 and 8). This pulse of siliceous biogenic debris, with some relatively high frequency fluctuations, is the strongest evidence in the section to suggest that there were marked changes in the upwelling history at Site 532.

To investigate the broad scale record of upwelling at Site 532 more closely, the curves of MAR (Fig. 8) can be viewed as three segments that represent the pre-upwelling, upwelling, and post-upwelling intervals. The biogenic silica MAR curve was used to define the boundaries between the intervals. Sediment that accumulated during the pre-upwelling interval (>3 m.y. old) was a nannofossil marl; CaCO$_3$ and clay both predominated over biogenic silica, each by more than an order of magnitude, and sedimentation rates were relatively high (63 m/m.y.). This is not to say, however, that intense upwelling associated with the Benguela Current system did not occur elsewhere during the late Miocene and early Pliocene, perhaps north or south of Site 532 or closer to the southern African coast. The center of southwest African coastal upwelling will migrate in response to the location of the main core of the southeast Trade Winds. If the position of the intertropical convergence zone did fluctuate with global climate changes during the late

Table 5. Mass accumulation rates (MAR) for sediment components at Hole 532, using our preferred time scale and zonation. (See text for explanation.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time interval (m.y.)</th>
<th>Depth interval (m)</th>
<th>Average bulk density (g/cm$^3$)</th>
<th>Average porosity (%)</th>
<th>Average water content (m/m.y.)</th>
<th>Average sediment rate (m/m.y.)</th>
<th>MAR bulk sediment (mg HC/g sed.)</th>
<th>Average CaCO$_3$ (%)</th>
<th>Average MAR bio-C$_{org}$ (mg HC/g sed.)</th>
<th>Average bio-SiO$_2$ (%)</th>
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Note: Wet-bulk density, porosity, and water content are from Site 532 chapter, this volume. Bulk-sediment MAR = [(1 - poros./100) x 2.7] x 100 x (sed. rate). MAR's for CaCO$_3$, C$_{org}$, and biogenic SiO$_2$ = bulk-sediment MAR x (%/100) of CaCO$_3$, C$_{org}$, and biogenic SiO$_2$, respectively. Percent CaCO$_3$ and % C$_{org}$ for each 0.5-m.y. interval are from Table 3. Percent biogenic SiO$_2$ for each 0.5-m.y. interval were obtained from Dean and Parduhn, this volume. MAR "clay" is the difference between bulk-sed. MAR and the sum of MAR's for CaCO$_3$, C$_{org}$, and biogenic SiO$_2$. 
Neogene and Quaternary, as suggested by Gardner and Hays (1976), then the position of the core of the southeast Trades also would have fluctuated.

When upwelling migrated into the area of Site 532 between 3 and 2 m.y. ago, CaCO$_3$ and clay MAR decreased by 60% and 47% respectively, and biogenic silica MAR increased by 144%. However, because CaCO$_3$ and clay had been accumulating in such large volumes during the pre-upwelling interval, the reduction in these components during the upwelling period was not offset by the increase of initially low biogenic silica, and the bulk MAR was reduced by 49% and the sedimentation rate dropped to 44 m/m.y. The cause of the reduction of CaCO$_3$ and clay is problematical. One possibility for the reduction of CaCO$_3$ is that the initiation of upwelling cooled the surface and near-surface waters to a degree that biogenic carbonate productivity was slowed. The increased flux of biogenic silica at this time would reflect the response of increased diatom productivity that took advantage of the cool, nutrient-rich, upwelling zone. But this does not account for the coeval reduction in the flux of clay. The timing of the beginning of upwelling, 2.5 m.y. to 3.0 m.y. ago, is coincident with the inferred age for the initiation of glaciation in the Northern Hemisphere (Dalrymple, 1963; Curry, 1966; McDougall and Wensink, 1966; Kent et al., 1971; Berggren, 1972; Backman, 1979; Poore, 1978; 1981, among others). Northern Hemisphere glaciation had to have caused a drop in sea level as water was transferred from the oceans to land. Consequently, one would intuitively expect an increase, not a decrease, in the MAR of clay at this time. Perhaps the climate of southwest Africa became drier at this time, which would have reduced the flow of the Orange River and thus reduced sediment input to the continental margin. We have no data to substantiate this, and the reduction of clay at the beginning of upwelling in the area of Site 532 remains an unexplained enigma.

The upwelling interval is characterized by rather constant values of MAR for all components (Fig. 8), but the record of biogenic silica (Fig. 2) shows a series of large

Figure 8. A. Plots of mass accumulation rates (MAR) of bulk sediment, CaCO$_3$, organic carbon C$_{org}$, biogenic silica, and clay vs. time for Hole 532. B. Plots of average weight percent CaCO$_3$, organic carbon, and biogenic silica for each 0.5 m.y. interval for Hole 532. Data are from Table 5.
fluctuations (cycles) that suggest upwelling intensity or position was not steady. An event occurred some time between 1.2 m.y. and 2.2 m.y. ago which reduced total biogenic production but did not affect the flux of clay (Fig. 8). This event was probably a major fluctuation in either the strength or position of the center of upwelling; erosion can be discounted because the flux of clay was unaffected. Upwelling was reinstated in the area of Site 532 after the event, and continued until some time between 0.5 m.y. and 1.0 m.y. ago. It should be emphasized that during the upwelling interval, the fluxes of CaCO₃ and clay were still three to four times the flux of biogenic silica.

Mass accumulation rates for the post-upwelling interval (<1.0 m.y. ago) reflect a 99% reduction in biogenic silica relative to values during the upwelling period and a reduction of 35% in clay. The flux of CaCO₃ during the post-upwelling period increased by 28% over the values during the upwelling interval, but the average sedimentation rate was only 34 m/m.y.

The post-upwelling interval is complicated by a period of winnowing by bottom currents that affects sedi-
mentation from 0.5 m.y. old to the present. Apparently, currents as deep as 1300 m were intensified in the late Quaternary and have continued to winnow or inhibit deposition of fine-grained sediment since then. Winnowing has altered the composition of the sediment in this interval (Fig. 2) and consequently the MAR values in this interval may be misleading. The 99% reduction of biogenic silica and 35% reduction in clay MAR is certainly the result in part of the effect of erosion or non-deposition of fine-grained components. The apparent increase in CaCO₃ MAR is a reflection of the lag of foraminifers left. It may be that the entire post-upwelling period is, in fact, not post-upwelling, but rather a continuation of the upwelling record that has been altered by erosion and/or nondeposition. However, the biogenic silica and diatom data (Fig. 2) suggest that upwelling in the area of Site 532 was losing intensity or migrating out of the area from about 1.2 m.y. to 0.5 m.y. ago (before the pronounced effects of winnowing).

One of our goals was to find whether any component in the sediment could be used as a recorder of organic productivity. The Benguela Current upwelling system today produces massive upwelling of cold, nutrient-rich waters that result in high biological productivity (Bronsgersma-Sanders, 1957; Diester-Haass and Schrader, 1979; Bronsgersma-Sanders et al., 1980; Siesser, 1980). In the open ocean at middle latitudes, diatoms take advantage of the upwelled supply of nutrients and their abundances in the underlying sediment overwhelm the other biogenic components (foraminifers, nannoplankton, and radiolarians). We do see increases in abundances of both diatoms and organic carbon in upper Pliocene and lower Quaternary sediment at Site 532 (Figs. 2 and 8), but not in the overwhelming proportions implied by the above citations. Either the plot of percent siliceous biogenic debris (mostly diatoms) or the plot of percent biogenic silica by XRF in Figure 2 can be used to obtain a semiquantitative measure of diatom productivity at Site 532, and presumably of upwelling intensity at Site 532.

Seisser (1980) suggested that Benguela Current upwelling began in early late Miocene (ca. 10 m.y. ago). Our data do not extend back that far, but percentages of diatoms and biogenic silica both show that diatom productivity was lower during the late Miocene and early Pliocene, reached a maximum in the late Pliocene and early Quaternary, and again diminished in the late Quaternary. The amount of organic carbon (Fig. 2) does not show a strong correlation with amount of clay, but does correlate with biogenic silica (Figs. 2 and 8) in that the average concentration of organic carbon is highest in the upper Pliocene to lower Quaternary. The overall correlation coefficient between organic carbon and biogenic silica, averaged over 0.5-m.y. intervals, is 0.60.

Organic-carbon content has been correlated with sedimentation rate (Muller and Suess, 1979; Ibach, 1982), but, more interestingly, the data of Muller and Suess suggest that the combination of sedimentation rate and amount of organic carbon can be used to infer primary productivity, particularly for sedimentation rates greater than about 40 m/m.y. When the data for Site 532 are plotted along with those of Muller and Suess on a sedimentation rate-organic-carbon diagram (Fig. 12), the Site 532 values are similar to those from the Canary Current upwelling system off northwest Africa. We can also project from Figure 12 that, as a very rough approximation, primary productivity at Site 532 ranged between 100 and 150 gC/m²/y.

CONCLUSIONS

The entire section recovered at Site 532 on Walvis Ridge shows distinct cycles in amount of CaCO₃ that generally correlate with cycles of sediment color. Average periodicities of the CaCO₃ cycles range from 28.4 k.y./cycle in the lower Pliocene, to 45.6 k.y./cycle in the upper Pliocene, to 35.1 k.y./cycle in the Quaternary, with an overall average of about 36 k.y./cycle. Most minima of the carbonate cycles correspond to darker-colored beds, and most maxima of the carbonate cycles correspond to lighter-colored beds. These cycles in amount of carbonate persist even through periods of increased upwelling when there were large changes in the relative proportions of different sediment components.

Cycles in amount of organic carbon are not so distinct as those for CaCO₃; maxima in organic-carbon concentration have an average periodicity of about 34 k.y./cycle for the last 2.5 m.y. All dark-colored beds correspond to organic-carbon maxima, but many maxima do not appear to correspond to a dark bed. The profiles of both CaCO₃ and organic carbon show longer-period cycles with average periodicities of about 150 k.y./cycle. In general, concentrations of organic carbon and CaCO₃ are inversely related, both on a short-term
basis within individual cycles and on a long-term basis over the entire recovered section.

The carbonate cycles are not the result of carbonate dissolution, but rather some complex combination of influx of terrigenous clastics and carbonate productivity. Because of the similarity of the periodicities of the Site 532 cycles to those of carbonate cycles in the northeast Atlantic, Caribbean, and eastern equatorial Pacific oceans, these cycles probably are responses to global events. Fluctuations in global sea level is one possible forcing mechanism for the \( \text{CaCO}_3 \) cycle at Site 532 because of the correlation of the carbonate cycles to clay input.

The carbonate record shows no apparent response to the Benguela-Current upwelling history in this region. Organic carbon does show a gross correlation to inferred upwelling in that there is a positive correlation between organic carbon and biogenic silica. The best indicators of upwelling intensity are semi-quantitative estimates of diatom abundances from smear slides, calculated concentrations of biogenic \( \text{SiO}_2 \), and the ratio \( \text{SiO}_2: \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 \). These indicators all suggest that upwelling at Site 532 was minor until about 2.5 m.y. ago (late Pliocene). Diatom abundances, biogenic \( \text{SiO}_2 \), and organic carbon increase in the upper Pliocene section, and the average values remain high, but with fluctuations until mid-Quaternary. This period, 2.5 m.y. to 0.5 m.y., appears to be a time of relatively intense upwelling at Site 532. Upwelling may have occurred before 2.5 m.y. along other segments of the southwest African continental margin, as it does today. The center of upwelling may have migrated in response to the location of the main core of the southeast Trade Winds.

The relationships between sedimentation rate, productivity, and organic-carbon content described by Muller and Susset (1979) indicate that during the period of maximum upwelling, the primary productivity at Site 532 ranged between 100 and 150 gC/m²/yr., a value similar to that occurring today of northwest Africa in the Canary-Current upwelling system.

The top 20 m of the recovered section at Site 532 is a foraminiferal-rich facies that suggests strong currents have occurred at this depth (1331 m) some time during the past 500 k.y. This increased circulation was capable of transporting and possibly eroding nannofossils and diatoms, but not foraminifers.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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REFERENCES


