Report of cruise 'Moundforce 2003'

with R.V. Pelagia

Cruise 64PE215, Texel - Galway, 24 July - 19 August

The distribution, morphology and sedimentology of mud mounds in the Faeroe Shetland Channel and carbonate mounds at the SW Rockall Trough Margin

Henk de Haas Furu Mienis and shipboard scientific party



Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research, Texel, November 2003

P.O. Box 59 1790 AB Den Burg The Netherlands

www.nioz.nl

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Introduction

Project background

Cruise M2003 (R.V. Pelagia cruise no. 64PE215) was carried out within the framework of the European Science Foundation funded Moundforce project, which forms part of the EUROMARGIN program. The aim of the project is to study the forcing conditions of cold water carbonate mound formation and to test the hypothesis of a possible linkage between (hydrocarbon related) cold seeps and the development of carbonate mounds, cold water benthic communities and authigenic carbonate formation. Furthermore the geological, geochemical and oceanographical conditions and processes forcing the development of carbonate mounds are studied. The benthic ecosystems and environmental conditions of carbonate mound and cold water coral reefs in contrasting areas of the NE Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea are subject of study as well. The final objective is to establish the factors governing lithification and stabilisation of carbonate mounds, and to use these as modern analogues of fossil carbonate build ups.

For the present cruise the SW Rockall Trough margin was chosen as study area.

A second goal of the cruise was to study irregular shaped mound-like structures at the seabed in the northern Faeroe-Shetland Channel. Earlier studies (de Haas and de Stigter, 2001) revealed that these structures are mud volcanoes or diapirs. These structures are studied in cooperation with the Southampton Oceanography Centre (SOC, Southampton), the British Geological Survey (BGS, Edinburgh) and the Danish Geological Survey (GEUS, Copenhagen).

Deep water carbonate mounds are well known from the Paleozoic and Mesozoic sedimentary record, but modern analogues are not well described (Riding, 2002). Carbonate mound reefs have been features of Earth's history ever since Cambrian times. These mounds frequently form giant reservoir rocks for hydrocarbon accumulations. However, their formation and environmental controls are the subject of much discussion and disagreement. The discovery of modern coral (mainly Lophelia *pertusa* and Madrepora *oculata*) and coral covered carbonate mounds along the European continental margin (Porcupine Bight, Rockall Trough, Faeroes and Norwegian margins) provides an opportunity to study the processes that create carbonate mounds. The presence of cold water corals on the margins subject of this cruise has been discussed earlier by Wilson (1979a, 1979b), Scoffin et al. (1980), Scoffin and Bowes (1988), Frederiksen et al. (1992), Mortensen et al. (1995), Tudhope and Scoffin (1995), Freiwald et al. (1997) and Freiwald (1998). The biology of the main coral in the research area (Lophelia *pertusa*) has been extensively described by Rogers (1999).

Mound structures with a cross section between 100-1800 m at their base, and rising over 100 m above the seabed and surrounded by a circular depression of 60-90 m deep were noticed in the Porcupine Bight in water depths of 650-1000 m by Hovland et al. (1994). A more recent overview describing more mounds in the Porcupine Bight was published by de Mol et al. (2002). On (3D-)seismic records the mounds on the SW and SE Rockall Trough margins do not show a clear internal structure. Some internal reflectors can be traced troughout a large part of some of the mounds, but the main seismic facies within the mounds is best described as chaotic. A more detailed description of the seismic character of the mounds is given by van Weering et al. (2003b). On both margins the base of the mounds is buried and is formed by an unconformity dated by Stoker et al. (2001) as of Late Early Pliocene age. The mounds in the Porcupine Bight were

suggested to represent modern carbonate knolls, made up of active bioherms or living carbonate reefs composed of ahermatypic corals, possibly developed through seepage of disintegrating gashydrates and other hydrocarbons from below through faults and fissures (Hovland et al., 1994; Henriet et al., 1998). This cold seepage in turn would lead to a higher than normal concentration of bacteria and micro-organisms at the seabed and in the water immediately above, and would have a significant influence on local benthic community development (Hovland and Thomsen, 1989, 1997; Hovland et al., 1998). Prolonged seepage then would result in local accumulation of organisms, the accumulation of skeletal debris and formation of authigenic carbonate, and ultimately in the development of the carbonate mounds. Hovland et al. (1998) proposed that the cold water carbonate reefs with their numerous and rich fauna, would represent a final phase in a natural seep sealing process, after which the ecosystem would be maintained in equilibrium with extant conditions at the seabed. A comparable relationship between hydrocarbon seepage and the formation of carbonate knolls, mounds and massive carbonate build ups, covered with corals and extensive, deviating from normal, benthic community development as advocated above is well known from cold seeps and vents in the Gulf of Mexico (see overview in Aharon, 1994).

By contrast, Kenyon et al. (1998) argue on the basis of sidescan sonar and underwater TV records that current induced structures around the mounds are evident. They suggest that these currents would support abundant living corals and organisms by causing enhanced particulate and organic matter concentrations in the benthic boundary layer. Side scan sonar and seismic data from the Porcupine Bank margin indeed show an erosional moat in the front and along the rim of the mounds, with subsequent sedimentation in the lee side of the mounds (O'Reilly et al., 2000; van Weering et al., 2003b). Other data presented by Kenyon et al. (1998, 2003) also show current induced sediment transport. Similarly, the distribution of cold water coral Lophelia pertusa (200-500 m depth) around the Faeroe margin and banks is considered to be due to enhanced food supply by topography induced resuspension on the slope, forced by internal waves or strong currents (Frederiksen et al., 1992) rather than by hydrocarbon seepage. Nearbed current velocity- and turbidity measurements in any of the areas indicated above however, are rare and show variation of current velocities between 1-100 cm s⁻¹. The influence of sea bed morphology on coral development and vice versa is supported by Freiwald (2002) in his discussion on the cold water corals on the Norwegian margin.

Geological setting and oceanography

The present day large scale morphology of the eastern Atlantic margin largely results from rifting during the Mesozoic which resulted in the formation of the North Atlantic Ocean. The area investigated in the N Faeroe-Shetland is located east of Fugloy Ridge, a prominent submarine ridge at 200-1500 meters water depth, extending from the eastern Faeroe shelf in NE direction. The eastern margin of this ridge forms the W slope of the Faeroe-Shetland Channel (FSC). The latter is a NE-SW oriented 1100-1700 m deep basin separating the W Shetland Shelf from the Faeroe Plateau. The sediments deposited in the FSC are thought to be transported and redeposited by the southward flowing Norwegian Deep Sea Water. This water mass is formed in the Norwegian Sea by cooling and sinking of the surface water. It partly flows southward through the FSC and subsequently either into the Faeroe Bank Channel (S of the Faeroe Islands) or over the Wyville Thomson Ridge into the Rockall Trough (van Aken and Becker, 1996; Rasmussen et al, 1998).

The topographic highs and lows west of Ireland and the British Isles (Porcupine Seabight, Porcupine Bank, Rockall Trough, Rockall Bank, Hatton-Rockall Basin and Hatton Bank) are the product of several successively failed attempts to extend the axis of mid-Atlantic sea-floor spreading to the north east (Naylor and Mounteney, 1975). From the shelf edge west of Ireland and Great Britain the continental slope deepens to a maximum depth of around 3000 m in the southeast Rockall Trough. In the northern part of the Rockall Trough, between Scotland and the islet of Rockall the maximum water depth is about 2 km. The top of Rockall Bank, bordering Rockall Trough in the west, is between 500 and 200 m below sealevel, with only Rockall islet emerging in the north. In the south Rockall Trough deepens into the almost 5 km deep Porcupine Abyssal Plain.

An overview of the oceanographic circulation in the northeastern Atlantic Ocean and water mass properties of the Rockall Trough are given by van Aken and Becker (1996) and Holliday et al. (2000). The Rockall Trough forms one of the gateways of relatively warm surface waters flowing to the north, and cold deep water flowing south, and thus is an important transport path in the global thermo-haline circulation. Internal tides and tidally driven currents that could possibly play a significant role in coral growth and mound formation (Frederiksen et al., 1992) are present at the depth interval in which carbonate mounds are found on both sides of the Rockall Trough (White and Bowyer, 1997; van Weering et al., 2002, de Stigter et al., in prep., White et al., in prep.).

The cruise

The cruise was originally planned to start at Texel (The Netherlands) on 22 July and end in Galway (Ireland) on 20 August. Due to technical problems with the cranes on board of the Pelagia the start of the cruise was delayed until 24 July and the cruise ended on 19 August in Galway for repairs on the electronic controls of the steering system of the research vessel.

The M2003 cruise was organised by the Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (Royal NIOZ) based at Texel, The Netherlands, and carried out with the Royal NIOZ owned and operated research vessel Pelagia. The scientific crew was formed by two scientists from Royal NIOZ, one scientist from the National University of Ireland in Galway and four students from the International University Bremen (Germany), supported by one Royal NIOZ electronic engineer, two marine technicians and the R.V. Pelagia crew. A list of participants is shown in appendix I.

In order to study the mud volcanoes/diapirs and the cold water coral carbonate mounds two study areas were chosen (figure 1). Of the two areas in which mud volcanoes are presently known in the northern Faeroe-Shetland Channel the most eastern one was studied since more information of this site is already known from earlier cruises. The cold water coral mounds were studied in an area on the SW margin of the Rockall Trough, which has been studied in detail during earlier Royal NIOZ cruises (van Weering et al, 1998; van Weering et al, 1999; de Haas et al, 2000; de Stigter et al, 2001; de Haas et al, 2002). During the cruises described in the above mentioned cruise reports the carbonate mounds have been extensively covered by seismic surveys, box and piston coring, sea bed photography and video imaging, CTD water column observations, BOBO benthic lander observations and TOBI side scan sonar. The position of seismic lines and sampling stations during the M2003 cruise was based on the information from the earlier cruises and (in the Faeroe-Shetland Channel) on a detailed bathymetry map with data obtained during earlier cruises prepared Andrey Akhmetzhanov (SOC, Southampton).

In both research areas seismic lines were recorded, box and piston cores were taken, a BOBO lander was deployed, CTD watercolumn observations were made and seabed photography and video runs were recorded using a hoppercamera system.

Acknowledgements

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Figure 1. Map of the NW European continental margin with research area I and II indicated.

Methods and results

In both areas seismic lines have been rocorded to obtain an overview of the morphology and the underlying strata of the research areas. During the cruise each seismic survey was followed by a few days of sampling, with the locations of the station based on the seismic surveys and TOBI side-scan sonar dated recorded during the M2002 cruise (de Haas et al., 2002)

Seismics

Two seismic systems were used. A 6 channel system that was used in all survey blocks, and a 24 channel system (running with 18 channels only) that was tested in part of the blocks simultaneously. In both cases the same source was used. Which was an array of 4 TI SG-I sleeve guns (10, 20 and 2x40 cubic inch) shooting at a pressure of 115-120 bars. The shooting rate was 7000 ms. The guns are towed in a frame and chained together with a spacing of 55 cm, center to center. The array is towed by the umbilical cable, in the centre of the ship at a distance of 37 m from the stern. The trigger delay of the guns (so the time interval between the Delph system generating the trigger pulse and the opening of the guns) was 14ms.

The first seismic recording system was a Triton Elics International seismic acquisition equipment and Delph Seismic software (version 1.37). The recording time was 3328 ms and sampling rate 3 kHz. A 6 channel Teledyne streamer consisting of 3 active sections with 2 channels each was used as a receiver. Each channel consisted of 40 Teledyne T2 hydrophones at 17 m in length. The channel interval is 18.75 meters from centre to centre. Digital readout to monitor the depth of the streamer is provided by a depth transducer placed in the front part of each active section. All are calibrated to 30 feet with 1 Bar applied to the pressure gauge.

The second acquisition system consisted of an 18 channel Teledyne streamer made up out of three 63 m active sections with 6 channels each. Each channel consisted of 10 Teledyne T2 hydrophones at 10.5 m in length. The hydrophone interval is 1 m. The streamer is ended by a 0.5 m tailend which contains the last terminating end connector. The receiver was attached to the ship by a tow leader of 60 meters and a stretch member of 25 meters. Seismic recording was performed using the Geo-Resources Geo-Trace 24 hard- and software (version 6.4). This has a 24 channel digital pre-amplification system and 24 channel bandpass filter already integrated. (whereas the 6 channel software is digitizing unfiltered data).

Faeroe Shetland Channel

The seismic survey in the Faeroe-Shetland Channel covered an area of mounds investigated before in 2001 during the STRAT01 cruise with R.V. Pelagia (de Haas and de Stigter, 2001). The mounds, possibly mud volcanoes or mud diapirs, can be up to 100 m in height and up to a few km in diameter. In between the mounds parallel layered sediments are present. The internal structure of the mounds however is hard to determine from the unprocessed data. See appendix IV for a data example. At depth a continuous strong reflector is present in all profiles. This is the extension of Fugloy Ridge, a basalt ridge dipping in northeasterly direction from the Faeroe plateau.

SW Rockall Trough Margin

All the lines were recorded perpendicular to the slope, except for line M2003-24 that was recorded parallel to the slope, crossing all the other lines.

The lines M2003-18, M2003-20 and M2003-21 show the presence of major sediment ripples up to 50m high at the upper slope of the margin. All other profiles show the presence of elongated downslope cold water carbonate mound clusters and single mounds. The mounds can be several kilometres long and can be up to more than 300m high. Internally the mounds mainly show a chaotic reflection pattern. At the lower slope several slumps/slides have been observed.

Line M2003-14 was extended to see if the C10 reflector of Stoker would appear at the surface going more up slope (Stoker et al., 2001). Unfortunately the whole Rockall Bank seems to be covered with a layer of sediment on top of the C10 reflector. Line M2003-13 was recorded across a mound feature that appears (semi-)circular on the TOBI mozaic. On line M2003-13 this mound appeard to consist of two parts (Appendix IV). A strong reflector can be observed in the middle of the mound on which corals seem to have started to grow.

CTD

During the M2003 cruise with the R.V. Pelagia a 911plus SBE CTD with a rosette sampler consisting of 22 Noex bottles of 11 l capacity was used to measure variations in salinity, temperature and optical backscatter in the watercolumn. The CTD was equipped with the following sensors: a temperature sensor; aconductivity sensor; a Digiquartz Pressure sensor: a Chelsea Aqua 3 Fluorometer; a SBE 43 Oxygen sensor; a Seapoint turbidity OBS. The sampling rate was 24Hz and the CTD data was aquired using the Seasave Win32 software version 5.28c. CTD sampling stations for the present cruise included M2003-10 and M2003-13, east of the SW Rockall Trough coral mound region, M2003-20 located between a series of relatively high mounds and M2003-27 located at the lower slope aside the mounds.

At all stations a bottom water sample has been taken for measurements on stable isotopes. 5 litre water bottles have been filled and filtered to measure the amount of suspended matter in the water at specific depths. The subsamples have been filtered on board trough pre-weigth Poretics 0.45 μ m polycarbonate filters resting on Orange Scientific 8 μ m cellulose nitrate supporting filters, applying underpressure with a vacuum pomp. After filtration of the water the salt was removed from the filters by passing milli-Q water and ethanol trough the filters after which the filters have been stored in petridishes.

A strong decrease in temperature (seasonal thermocline) can be observed between 0 and 50m water depth in all the CTD measurements. Below the 50m depth the temperature continues at slightly different rates depending upon the sampling location and time. At the time during the cruise the surface water had a temperature of 14° C with a salinity of 35.35 psu (Appendix V).

Salinity increases strongly between 0 and 50 m depth, reaching a peak at 100 m. The value of this peak ranges between 35.45 and 35.55 psu. Untill 50 m depth, the turbidity decreases, afterwards generally reaching a relatively stable value for greater depths. The only station where a clear increase in turbidity was present close to the seafloor is M2003-10. The boundary nepheloid layer is found between 520 and 620 m water depth with a sharp peak around 530 m depth. M2003-20 only shows a small-amplitude smooth increase between 500 and 600 m water depth, peaking at about 550 m depth.

Station M2003-27, located just outside the coral mounds region, towards the SW of the area was sampled 5 times over an interval of 12 hours (every 3 hours, stations labelled A-E) to determine tidal influences in the region.

For all 5 sampling stations, salinity increases strongly between 0 and 50 m depth, reaching a peak at 50m. The value of this peak ranges between 35.50 and 35.51 PSU. Local minimums are reached at all 5 stations between 270 and 350 m depth. Local maximums appear clearly below this depth only for stations B and C, around 450 and 400 m respectively. A very small amplitude local maximum is present for 27A around 380 m depth, whereas D and E only show irregular peaks in the regions where the local maximums for the other measurements appear.

The turbidity versus depth profiles only show small, smooth peaks between 650 and 550 m. In time these peaks are changing in depth. At station A the peak is observed between 550 and 600 m water depth. In profile E the peak is shifted towards 600-650 m water depth. This depth is in correspondance with the peaks of the mounds, which might indicate that the corals at the mounds prevail on an enhanced food supply.

BOBO-lander

A NIOZ designed and build BOBO (BOttom BOundary) benthic lander has been deployed in both research areas. The BOBO lander was used to record the temporal variability of bottom water hydrodynamic conditions. The BOBO is a free falling tripod lander with an array of industrially available and/or specifically designed or adapted instruments, designed for long in situ measurements in the lower three meters of the benthic boundary layers in water depths down to 5000m.

The lander was equipped with a downward-looking 1200 kHz RDI instrument ADCP, which is mounted 2m above the seabed for high resolution profiling of near-bed current speed and direction and acoustical backscatter in the lower 2m of the water column. A Seabird SBE-16 CTD is mounted at 3 m above the seabed to obtain records of temporal variabiability of salinity and temperature of the seawater with an interval setting of 5 minutes. Two Seapoint OBS sensors are mounted at respectively 1 and 3 m above the seabed for the detection of particles in suspension. A Technicap PPS 4/3 sediment trap was built into the frame to record particle fluxes at pre-set time (in this case one day) intervals.

In the Faroer Shetland channel the BOBO lander has been deployed for a period of 6 days at the top of a mud mound.

The lander at the SW Rockall Trough Margin was deployed at the upper slope of the margin in a ripple field for a period of 12 days. A survey with the hoppercamera was made to determine if the sediment surface was flat enough for the deployment. In both areas rhe deployments were succesful, meaning that all equipment worked throughout the deployments.

Underwater photography and video

Underwater imaging was performed with a Photosea 5000 deep water system (camera and flashlight) mounted in a frame. For making videos two lights were attached to the frame and two cameras. One of the cameras was removed in the second area to obtain better images (so both lights were illuminating the field of view of the remaining camera. The frame is lowered on a cable that relayed the signal of a bottom detector (a Benthos compass hanging on a rope 1.5 m below the frame). In this way a fairly constant distance can be maintained between the frame and the seabed. At each station thirty or more photographs have been made, while at the same time a video film of twenty minutes was running.

The hoppercamera was used at the stations before the sediment sampling to observe the surface and avoid dropstone fields.

At the Faeroe region photographing and videoing was difficult because of the fine sediment that was brought in suspension by the compass and sometimes the frame. The flow velocity of the water in the area was low at the sediment surface, because suspended sediment was not washed away very fast. Several living species espacially brittle stars and worm tubes have been observed on the video images.

Stations at the mounds show the presence of a dense coral cover. The distribution of the corals is very patchy and dead and living corals are present in patches of several dm to meters. Living corals have been found attached to coral debris or other hard substrate like dropstones. The most common corals at the mounds are the corals Madrepora *oculata* and Lophelia *pertusa*, but at other places Stylaster is the dominant species. Other living benthos like sponges, crinoids, echinoderms, fish and octocorals have been observed on the video. On the slopes of the mounds mainly coral debris is found.

A video line was made across the ripple area. Small scale sediment ripples have been found on the sediment waves observed on the TOBI map. A large difference can be seen between the two sides of the ripples. One side is dominated by dropstones, which are sometimes covered with corals or other living species. While the other side is formed by relatively homogenous sandy sediments. Most of the sediment around the mounds is covered with dropstones, which indicates that there has not been any net sedimentation since the last glacial period.

Boxcoring

During the cruise surface sediment cores have been taken using a boxcore with a cylindrical barrel of 30 (Faeroe-Shetland Channel) or 50 cm (Rockall Trough) in diameter and 55cm in height. At the moment of retrieval of the corer the box is closed by a lid, which allows the collection of undisturbed sediment and bottom water. Some of the coring failed due to the presence of big rocks or hard sediments. This resulted occasionally in a damaged coring barrel during retrieval and only the presence of some dropstones or coral branches in the barrel. In other cases the sediment in the boxcore was disturbed or tilted, due to insufficient penetration.

A list of all the boxcores taken during the cruise with related water depth and position is given in appendix II.

After recovery of the corer on the ship the water standing on top of the box was siphoned off. The surface of the box was photographed and a description is made of the biological and sedimentological characteristics of the surface of the boxcore. Subcores for sedimentological and radionuclide analysis were made by inserting or hammering wet PVC liners of 9 cm/11 cm diameter into the sediment. The core barrel was removed and a sedimentological description of the vertical profile of the boxcore was made. The whole boxcore was searched for large fossil content or the presence of dropstones. Occasionally parts of the boxcore have been sieved and have been analysed under a microscope.

The water samples and the subcores have been stored at 4° C. The dead skeletal material was stored dry in open air. Several living coral branches and large animals have been put in the freezer at -80° C.

Faeroe-Shetland area

The sediments in the area were very soft, resulting in good penetration of the cores. The boxcores taken in the Faeroe Shetland channel all show a two layered profile. The top of the boxcores consist of a ~10cm thick layer of olive brown/grey clayey silt. A difference in the second layer can be observed between the boxcores taken at the mud mounds and the boxcores taken beside the mounds. The second layer on the mud mounds is made of slightly silty clay, while the second layer besides the mounds is made of clayey silt. It is remarkable that no anoxic layers have been found in the boxcores.

On the surface brittle stars, worm tubes and big benthic foraminifera have been found. Fe-concretions are often found as well as cm-sized dropstones. Sedimentary logs of all the boxcores are given in Appendix VI.

SW Rockall Trough margin

After retrieval of the boxcore on deck a water sample has been taken from the boxcores at each station for stable oxygen and carbon isotopic analysis (Appendix IX).

Living coral branches were taken out immediately and have been put in an aquarium in a cold container to keep them alive for further research at the International University Bremen (unfortunately they did not survive). Other living animals were removed and put into ethanol or in the freezer. If present large pieces of coral and other biogenic debris have been removed and stored into boxes.

A big difference in the appearance of the boxcores can be observed between boxes taken at the coral mounds and boxes taken besides the mounds.

The sediment found in the boxcores taken at the mounds consist of greyish yellow biogenic (mainly foraminifera) silty fine to very coarse sand with various amounts of coral debris throughout the core. The coarsest debris is usually found at the top of the core decreasing in size going downcore. Burrows have been found in the upper part of the boxcore, often observed by a difference in colour. Fe-oxidised zones have been found at the top layer of the boxcores. Microscopic analysis shows that the sediment mainly consists of foraminifera and other biogenic fragments of bivalves, brachiopods, corals and sponges only a small percentage is formed by siliciclastic grains. In almost all cores taken at the mounds living corals and coral debris were covering the sediment surface. Some cores were only covered with some loose coral debris, but in other cores branches of living corals and dead coral have been found up to 20cm high. The most common framebuilders are the corals Lophelia *pertusa* and Madrepora *oculata*, but also very common is the presence Stylaster sp., Gorgonians and solitary corals. Other living species associated with the corals have been found like free living ophiuroids, crinoids, star fish, polychaetes and crustaceans. Several species have been found attached to the corals like different sponge species, anemones, hydroids, bryozoans, brachiopods and bivalves.

The species diversity is related to the station position and differs from place to place. For instance large sponges (\emptyset 20cm) have been found at station M2003-21, while at station M2003-23 Stylaster is the most dominant species. The species diversity has also been observed on the videotapes made with the hoppercamera.

In several boxcores taken in the area dropstones have been found, which are ranging in size from several cm (M2003-15, M2003-26) up to 60cm (M2003-13). Most of the dropstones are metamorphic, but granites and some sedimentary rocks have been

found. Several animals like sponges, bryozoa and corals were attached to the dropstones.

The boxcore stations besides the mounds contained some living benthos, but no corals. The sediment is much coarser than the sediment of the mounds and consist mainly of greyish brown biogenic medium to very coarse sand. At station M2003-20 the sediment consists largey of the skeletal debris of pteropods.

Several attempts have been made to sample the sediment wave area at the upper slope, but only one good boxcore was recovered. M2003-18 consists of medium biogenic sand with some lenses of coarse sand and pebbles throughout the whole core.

Piston coring

Pistoncores were taken using the NIOZ piston corer with a core head weight of 1500kg and fitted out with a 6-12m long barrel and 9-11cm diameter pipes. On deck the liner was cut into pieces of approximately 1.10 m or shorter if necessary, capped, labelled, and stored at 4° C. In addition the magnetic susceptibility of all cores was measured with a Bartington MS2C magnetic susceptibility meter with a 12 cm diameter loop.

Faeroe-Shetland Channel

At locations M2003-04, M2003-05, and M2003-06 piston cores were taken with a length of 7.79 m, 6.58 m, and 5.58 m respectively. During the cruise cores M2003-04 and M2003-06 were opened and described in more detail. Descriptions of the pistoncores are given in Appendix VII.

Core M2003-04, taken at the top of a mudmound, consists mainly of dark brown silty clay with a distinct layer of green clay between 5 m and 6 m depth and dark and hard stiff clay between 7 m and 7.50 m. Underneath the clay layers a unit is observed of cm-sized clay pebbles in a matrix of silty clay. The upper 5 m shows alternations of water rich and more compacted layers with burrows and pebbles. Below the green clay layer carbonate debris was found.

The magnetic susceptibility of the silty clay layers varies between 50 and 140 cgs whereas the green clay and the dark stiff clay show very low values around 20 cgs. The green clay layer is thought to be related to an outflow of mud. Core M2003-06, taken in between the mud mounds, consists of different gradations of silty clay, which can be divided into two sections. The upper 2 m consists of water rich brownish layers, while the lower part of the core turns into more compacted grey, slightly sandy silty clay towards the bottom. In the top part (approx. 1 m) iron oxide grains were found while the second section contains biogenic carbonate debris, like foraminifera and parts of shells. Throughout the core burrows and small pebbles, also a clay pebble, were visible. Two big (~3cm) metamorphic pebbles have been observed at 500cm and 630 cm depth.

This distinction of the two sections was also supported by the magnetic susceptibility data. The first water rich unit is characterised by variations between 40 and 80 cgs with a pronounced peak of 112.3 cgs at 75 cm depth which can be attributed to the iron oxides in that part. The second unit shows nearly constant values around 30 cgs. The magnetic susceptibility data from station M2003-05 can be compared with the data from M2003-06. The profile can also be divided in two sections with high magnetic susceptibility in the upper 2m and low susceptibility in the lower part of the core. Several high peaks in the upper section can be correlated and are indicated in red in Appendix VIII.

SW Rockall Trough Area

At the SW Rockall Trough margin several attempts have been made to pistoncore the coral mounds. A short pistoncore barrel of 6 m with a liner of 11 cm diameter was used, because less penetration was expected, due to extremely hard sediments and the presence of cemented layers in the sediment as revealed during earlier cruises. Several attempts failed and plastic noses and core catchers were lost, the steel nose was damaged and one core barrel was bended. Only three pistoncores at the stations M2003-21, M2003-23 and M2003-28 succeeded with a length of respectively 86 cm, 432 cm, and 158 cm long.

None of the cores was opened on board. The sediment visible while cutting seemed to be of the same type as the boxcores (biogenic fine sand with coral debris). The steel nose of the pistoncore taken at station M2003-21 was covered with cemented sediment, which might also be the reason for the short length of the pistoncore. The magnetic susceptibility of core M2003-21 appears to be quite stable and the low

magnetic susceptibility is characteristic for carbonate rich sediments and lies around 20 to 30 cgs in the upper 50 cm to 60 cm. It increases to 53 cgs at about 70 cm which might be related to a dropstone or some grains of iron oxide.

The upper 180 cm of core M2003-23 have a quite high magnetic susceptibility probably due to dropstones and glacial debris throughout the core. Below 180 cm the values fall below 20 cgs as typical for carbonate rich sediments with a high peak at 300 cm.

Core M2003-28 shows higher values than typical for biogenic silt or clay with a peak in the upper 20 cm which might be due to iron oxidized burrows as seen in boxcores. These higher values can be attributed to glacial debris and small dropstones.

Core M2003-09 was taken to replace core ENAM9606, which has been almost entirely subsampled.

Microbiology and SAPS

The focus of sampling during the cruise was to collect sediment and filtered water samples from the Rockall Bank, in and around the Pelagia mounds. Table 1 lists the sediments collected from boxcore subsamples during the cruise. 4 cores were used for enzyme substrate utilization experiments. The cores were sectioned into 1 cm horizons from 0-1 cm to 4-5 cm and mixed with filtered, autoclaved seawater to make sediment slurries (3 parts water to 1 part sediment). 4 ml of the slurries were dispensed into 5ml tubes and amended with one of the fluorecently-labelled substrates MCA-leucine (aminopeptidase activity), MUF α – D glucoside (α -D glucosidase activity) or MUF β -D glucoside (β -D glucosidase activity). A time course was performed with subsamples fixed every 2 hours. The enzymes produced by the bacterial community cleave the substrates releasing the fluorescent tag which can be subsequently measured with a UV spectrophotometer. This part of the analysis will be carried out in Galway.

The cores for DNA analysis were sectioned at 1 cm intervals and frozen. Back in Galway, DNA will be extracted from the cores and a region of the 16S rDNA gene will be amplified with PCR. Fingerprints of the community structure of Bacteria and Archaea will be generated using Denaturing Gradient Gel Electrophoresis (DGGE).

All cores were subsampled for bacterial abundance. 1 cm³ of sediment was fixed with 9 ml of 2% formaldehyde and stored at 4⁰C. Bacterial numbers will be determined by epifluorescent microscopy of Sybr-Gold stained cells.

| Date | Station | Lat (N) | Long (W) | Enzymes | DNA |
|---------|----------|----------|----------|---------|-----|
| 4/8/03 | M2003- | 55 39.02 | 13 59.10 | 1 | |
| 7/8/03 | M2003-11 | 55 41.51 | 15 25.05 | | 1 |
| 7/8/03 | M2003-14 | 55 38.15 | 15 27.72 | 1 | 1 |
| 8/8/03 | M2003-16 | 55 34.37 | 15 24.63 | | 2 |
| 10/8/03 | M2003-18 | 55 37.40 | 15 49.48 | 1 | 1 |
| 11/8/03 | M2003-22 | 55 29.95 | 15 47.82 | | 1 |
| 11/8/03 | M2003-23 | 55 30.21 | 15 47.11 | 1 | |
| 12/8/03 | M2003-24 | 55 29.85 | 15 48.71 | | 1 |
| 15/8/03 | M2003-30 | 55 25.42 | 16 06.90 | | 1* |

Table 1. Sediment samples used for microbiological studies.

*NB: the core taken on the 15^{th} will be used to isolate and cultivate Bacteria. The core was sliced into 1cm sections and store at 4° C

Water samples were collected using the Stand Alone Pumping System (SAPS). This pump can be deployed at any given depth and pump large amounts of seawater. The pump was set for 1 hour pumping time. The filters were wrapped in foil and ashed (4000C, 3-4 hours) before deployment whilst after deployment they were immediately frozen (-80^oC) for the rest of the cruise. Half of each filter was kept for microbiological analyses while the rest of the filters will be analysed for lipids, chlorophylls and isotopes (C, N) by the University of Liverpool (George Wolff) in order to obtain information about the quality and quantity of Particulate Organic Matter (POM) that may be available to the corals and associated fauna. The microbiological analysis will involve generating community fingerprints of extracted DNA in the same way as for sediments.

| Date | Station | Lat (N) | Long (W) | Depth | Volume filtered |
|---------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|-----------------|
| 7/8/03 | M2003-14 | 55 38.15 | 15 27.72 | 20 mab | 161 |
| 8/8/03 | M2003-17 | 55 33.40 | 15 31.59 | 827 (20 mab) | 568 |
| 10/8/03 | M2003-21 | 55 29.62 | 15 48.25 | 540 (20 mab) | 613 |
| 11/8/03 | M2003-23 | 55 30.21 | 15 47.11 | 100 | 584 |
| 15/8/03 | M2003-33 | 55 20.00 | 16 26.00 | 976 (20 mab) | 596 |

Table 2. SAPS samples

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Appendix I, Participants

Scientific crew

| Judith Ahues | Student |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Lorendz Boom | Marine technician |
| Donal Eardly | Microbiologist |
| Henk de Haas | Geologist (expeditio |
| Bob Koster | Electronic engineer |
| Irene Maier | Student |
| Furu Mienis | Geologist |
| Ana Pascual | Student |
| Willem Polman | Marine technician |
| Aurora Simionescu | Student |

International University Bremen Royal NIOZ National Univ. of Ireland, Galway dition leader) Royal NIOZ eer Royal NIOZ International University Bremen Royal NIOZ International University Bremen NOZ International University Bremen Royal NIOZ International University Bremen

Pelagia Crew

| Thomas Bijl | S |
|--------------------|---|
| Piet Boon | A |
| Casper Brands | S |
| Charles Leeuw | C |
| Sjaak Maas | A |
| Garl Mik | C |
| Jeroen Noordzij | S |
| Bert Puijman | C |
| Jaap Seepma | C |
| Ron van der Slikke | A |
| Ger Vermeulen | A |

Second officer AB Stagiair Captain AB Cook Second engineer Chief Officer Chief Engineer AB AB

Appendix II, Station data Faeroe-Shetland Channel (Area I)

Seismic lines

| Line | Date/Time | Position | | Depth | Event |
|----------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|-------|--------------------|
| M2003-01 | 7/27/2003 21:48 | 62° 26.13 'N | 1° 26.24 'W | 1668 | SOL (6/24 channel) |
| M2003-01 | 7/28/2003 6:01 | 62° 47.49 'N | 1° 00.00 'W | 1606 | EOL |
| M2003-02 | 7/28/2003 8:37 | 62° 42.73 'N | 1° 09.31 'W | 1618 | SOL |
| M2003-02 | 7/28/2003 11:10 | 62° 40.90 'N | 1° 26.57 'W | 1709 | EOL |
| M2003-03 | 7/28/2003 13:12 | 62° 38.80 'N | 1° 19.02 'W | 1663 | SOL |
| M2003-03 | 7/28/2003 15:18 | 62° 38.29 'N | 1° 05.01 'W | 1594 | EOL |
| M2003-04 | 7/28/2003 17:11 | 62° 40.37 'N | 1° 01.96 'W | 1573 | SOL |
| M2003-04 | 7/28/2003 20:55 | 62° 40.88 'N | 1° 26.63 'W | 1696 | EOL |
| M2003-05 | 7/28/2003 23:18 | 62° 43.16 'N | 1° 27.96 'W | 1713 | SOL |
| M2003-05 | 7/29/2003 2:30 | 62° 35.00 'N | 1° 13.41 'W | 1635 | EOL |
| M2003-06 | 7/29/2003 3:36 | 62° 36.99 'N | 1° 08.49 'W | 1606 | SOL |
| M2003-06 | 7/29/2003 5:30 | 62° 42.69 'N | 1° 09.39 'W | 1618 | EOL |
| M2003-07 | 7/29/2003 7:54 | 62° 44.00 'N | 1° 22.01 'W | 1651 | SOL |
| M2003-07 | 7/29/2003 11:39 | 62° 33.00 'N | 1° 16.00 'W | 1647 | EOL |

3.5 kHz

| Line | Date/Time | Position | | Depth | Event |
|----------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|-------|-------|
| M2003-08 | 7/29/2003 20:39 | 62° 39.44 'N | 1° 10.15 'W | 1617 | SOL |
| M2003-08 | 7/29/2003 21:30 | 62° 42.60 'N | 1° 06.15 'W | 1598 | EOL |
| M2003-09 | 7/29/2003 22:29 | 62° 40.41 'N | 1° 04.02 'W | 1583 | SOL |
| M2003-09 | 7/29/2003 23:33 | 62° 40.58 'N | 1° 13.71 'W | 1644 | EOL |
| M2003-10 | 7/30/2003 0:06 | 62° 40.35 'N | 1° 19.96 'W | 1671 | SOL |
| M2003-10 | 7/30/2003 1:03 | 62° 36.65 'N | 1° 17.87 'W | 1656 | EOL |

CTD

| Station | Date/Time | Position | | Depth | Remarks |
|----------|----------------|--------------|-------------|-------|---------|
| M2003-01 | 7/27/2003 8:23 | 62° 00.00 'N | 1° 57.99 'W | 1602 | |

Boxcores

| Station | Date/Time | Position | | Depth | Remarks |
|----------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|-------|---------|
| M2003-01 | 7/27/2003 10:44 | 62° 00.04 'N | 1° 57.94 'W | 1602 | |
| M2003-04 | 7/30/2003 10:47 | 62° 40.75 'N | 1° 08.33 'W | 1479 | |
| M2003-03 | 7/30/2003 14:37 | 62° 38.49 'N | 1° 10.60 'W | 1574 | |
| M2003-02 | 7/30/2003 15:50 | 62° 38.54 'N | 1° 12.05 'W | 1586 | failed |
| M2003-02 | 7/30/2003 17:00 | 62° 38.54 'N | 1° 12.07 'W | 1565 | |
| M2003-05 | 7/30/2003 19:03 | 62° 42.24 'N | 1° 06.45 'W | 1592 | failed |
| M2003-05 | 7/30/2003 20:02 | 62° 42.24 'N | 1° 06.44 'W | 1592 | |
| M2003-06 | 7/31/2003 13:47 | 62° 38.59 'N | 1° 18.93'W | 1702 | |
| M2003-07 | 7/31/2003 17:03 | 62° 38.77 'N | 1° 20.26 'W | 1610 | failed |
| M2003-07 | 7/31/2003 17:59 | 62° 38.76 'N | 1° 20.25 'W | 1610 | failed |
| M2003-07 | 7/31/2003 18:54 | 62° 38.75 'N | 1° 20.26 'W | 1574 | failed |
| M2003-08 | 8/1/2003 11:03 | 62° 46.00 'N | 1° 07.51 'W | 1601 | |

Hopper camera

| Station | Date/Time | Position | | Depth | Remarks |
|----------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|-------|-------------|
| M2003-02 | 7/29/2003 13:44 | 62° 38.58 'N | 1° 12.10 'W | 1553 | failed |
| M2003-02 | 7/29/2003 15:12 | 62° 38.55 'N | 1° 12.05 'W | 1561 | photo/video |
| M2003-03 | 7/29/2003 16:52 | 62° 38.49 'N | 1° 10.56 'W | 1576 | photo/video |
| M2003-04 | 7/30/2003 8:37 | 62° 40.74 'N | 1° 08.31 'W | 1479 | photo/video |

| M2003-06 | 7/31/2003 11:19 | 62° 38.59 'N | 1° 18.94 'W | 1671 | photo/video |
|----------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|------|-------------|
|----------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|------|-------------|

Pistoncore

| Station | Date/Time | Position | | Depth | Remarks |
|----------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|-------|---------|
| M2003-04 | 7/30/2003 12:28 | 62° 40.74 'N | 1° 08.36 'W | 1479 | |
| M2003-05 | 7/31/2003 8:48 | 62° 42.25 'N | 1° 06.43 'W | 1592 | |
| M2003-06 | 7/31/2003 15:38 | 62° 38.59 'N | 1° 18.96 'W | 1708 | |

BOBO lander

| Station | Date/Time | Position | | Depth | Event |
|----------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|-------|------------|
| M2003-01 | 7/27/2003 11:41 | 62° 00.01 'N | 1° 58.03 'W | 1602 | deployment |
| M2003-01 | 8/01/2003 8:00 | 62° 00.01 'N | 1° 58.03 'W | 1602 | recovery |

SW Rockall Trough Margin(Area II)

Seismic lines

| Line | Date/Time | Position | | Depth | Event |
|-----------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-------|--------------------|
| M2003-11 | 8/5/2003 12:22 | 55° 49.51 'N | 15° 16.81 'W | 414 | SOL (6 channel) |
| M2003-11 | 8/5/2003 17:16 | 55° 34.70 'N | 15° 09.11 'W | 1370 | EOL |
| M2003-12 | 8/5/2003 19:07 | 55° 32.55 'N | 15° 15.11 'W | 1386 | SOL |
| M2003-12 | 8/6/2003 0:09 | 55° 46.08 'N | 15° 26.24 'W | 471 | EOL |
| M2003-13 | 8/6/2003 1:33 | 55° 44.68 'N | 15° 33.24 'W | 471 | SOL |
| M2003-13 | 8/6/2003 3:39 | 55° 43.75 'N | 15° 32.06 'W | 471 | EOL |
| M2003-13A | 8/6/2003 3:49 | 55° 43.37 'N | 15° 32.18 'W | 471 | SOL |
| M2003-13A | 8/6/2003 8:13 | 55° 31.19 'N | 15° 21.97 'W | 1322 | EOL |
| M2003-14 | 8/6/2003 9:35 | 55° 29.31 'N | 15° 28.24 'W | 1304 | SOL |
| M2003-14 | 8/6/2003 18:30 | 55° 53.57 'N | 15° 48.55 'W | 340 | EOL |
| M2003-15 | 8/8/2003 22:03 | 55° 23.55 'N | 15° 37.74 'W | 1506 | SOL (6 channel) |
| M2003-15 | 8/9/2003 4:03 | 55° 40.00 'N | 15° 51.41 'W | 475 | EOL |
| M2003-16 | 8/9/2003 5:17 | 55° 38.62 'N | 15° 55.80 'W | 481 | SOL |
| M2003-16 | 8/9/2003 10:14 | 55° 25.08 'N | 15° 44.53 'W | 1234 | EOL |
| M2003-17 | 8/9/2003 11:21 | 55° 23.60 'N | 15° 49.35 'W | 1252 | SOL |
| M2003-17 | 8/9/2003 16:05 | 55° 37.10 'N | 16° 00.63 'W | 490 | EOL |
| M2003-18 | 8/9/2003 18:45 | 55° 30.30 'N | 16° 05.01 'W | 676 | SOL |
| M2003-18 | 8/9/2003 23:09 | 55° 40.18 'N | 15° 49.90 'W | 471 | EOL |
| M2003-19 | 8/12/2003 19:03 | 55° 22.33 'N | 15° 54.10 'W | 1245 | SOL (6/24 channel) |
| M2003-19 | 8/13/2003 0:19 | 55° 36.17 'N | 16° 05.67 'W | 498 | EOL |
| M2003-20 | 8/13/2003 1:42 | 55° 33.97 'N | 16° 12.51 'W | 487 | SOL |
| M2003-20 | 8/13/2003 4:02 | 55° 27.11 'N | 16° 13.95 'W | 810 | EOL |
| M2003-21 | 8/13/2003 4:46 | 55° 27.13 'N | 16° 17.40 'W | 746 | SOL |
| M2003-21 | 8/13/2003 6:19 | 55° 31.66 'N | 16° 20.42 'W | 554 | EOL |
| M2003-22 | 8/13/2003 7:02 | 55° 32.37 'N | 16° 18.02 'W | 542 | SOL |
| M2003-22 | 8/13/2003 12:08 | 55° 18.88 'N | 16° 06.63 'W | 1282 | EOL |
| M2003-23 | 8/13/2003 13:47 | 55° 16.77 'N | 16° 15.64 'W | 1298 | SOL |
| M2003-23 | 8/13/2003 18:37 | 55° 30.32 'N | 16° 26.91 'W | 557 | EOL |
| | | | | | |
| M2003-24 | 8/16/2003 15:30 | 55° 23.10 'N | 16° 36.76 'W | 789 | SOL (6/24 channel) |
| M2003-24 | 8/16/2003 19:36 | 55° 26.07 'N | 16° 15.35 'W | 804 | TURN |
| M2003-24 | 8/17/2003 8:01 | 55° 42.01 'N | 15° 16.22 'W | 633 | EOL |
| M2003-24A | 8/17/2003 9:13 | 55° 41.86 'N | 15° 16.76 'W | 560 | SOL |
| M2003-24A | 8/17/2003 11:11 | 55° 44.46 'N | 15° 07.11 'W | 603 | EOL |
| CTD | | | | | |

|--|

| M2003-10 | 8/7/2003 17:35 | 55° 41.92 'N | 15° 18.11 'W | 627 | |
|------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-------|------------------------|
| M2003-13 | 8/7/2003 11:09 | 55° 37.31 'N | 15° 19.07 'W | 850 | |
| M2003-20 | 8/10/2003 14:08 | 55° 31.90 'N | 15° 50.18 'W | 773 | |
| M2003-27A | 8/14/2003 8:22 | 55° 25.01 'N | 16° 07.01 'W | 932 | |
| M2003-27B | 8/14/2003 11:20 | 55° 24.99 'N | 16° 06.96 'W | 932 | |
| M2003-27C | 8/14/2003 14:08 | 55° 25.01 'N | 16° 06.99 'W | 932 | |
| M2003-27D | 8/14/2003 16:49 | 55° 24 98 'N | 16° 06 94 'W | 935 | |
| M2003-27E | 8/14/2003 19:38 | 55° 24.99 'N | 16° 06.98 'W | 935 | |
| 112000 212 | 0/1//2000 1//00 | 00 - 100 11 | | ,,,,, | |
| Boxcores | | | | | |
| Station | Date/Time | Position | | Depth | Remarks |
| M2003-09 | 8/4/2003 8:47 | 55° 39.10 'N | 13° 59.13 'W | 2548 | |
| M2003-10 | 8/4/2003 19:51 | 55° 41.92 'N | 15° 18.12 'W | 627 | Collapsed |
| M2003-11 | 8/7/2003 8:27 | 55° 44.50 'N | 15° 25.04 'W | 484 | · |
| M2003-12 | 8/7/2003 10:12 | 55° 39.32 'N | 15° 20.66 'W | 731 | |
| M2003-13 | 8/7/2003 14:28 | 55° 37.34 'N | 15° 19.10 'W | 856 | Failed, only water |
| M2003-13A | 8/7/2003 15:01 | 55° 37.33 'N | 15° 19.11 'W | 837 | Failed, boulder |
| M2003-14 | 8/7/2003 17:06 | 55° 38.14 'N | 15° 27.72 'W | 590 | |
| M2003-15 | 8/8/2003 10:06 | 55° 37.59 'N | 15° 27.30 'W | 761 | Failed, dumped on deck |
| M2003-15A | 8/8/2003 10:39 | 55° 37.58 'N | 15° 27.29 'W | 761 | Failed, pebble between |
| | | | | | barrel |
| M2003-15B | 8/8/2003 11:15 | 55° 37.60 'N | 15° 27.31 'W | 758 | Failed, pebble between |
| | | | | | barrel |
| M2003-16 | 8/8/2003 13:24 | 55° 34.38 'N | 15° 24.60 'W | 1026 | |
| M2003-17 | 8/8/2003 15:58 | 55° 33.40 'N | 15° 31.58 'W | 834 | Partly flushed out |
| M2003-18 | 8/10/2003 9:28 | 55° 37.40 'N | 15° 49.47 'W | 554 | |
| M2003-19 | 8/10/2003 13:21 | 55° 33.98 'N | 15° 51.89 'W | 575 | |
| M2003-20 | 8/10/2003 16:31 | 55° 31.90 'N | 15° 50.16 'W | 773 | |
| M2003-21 | 8/10/2003 18:28 | 55° 29.62 'N | 15° 48.24 'W | 563 | |
| M2003-22 | 8/11/2003 9:29 | 55° 29.95 'N | 15° 47.81 'W | 618 | |
| M2003-23 | 8/11/2003 11:37 | 55° 30.22 'N | 15° 47.11 'W | 673 | |
| M2003-24 | 8/12/2003 9:40 | 55° 29.85 'N | 15° 48.45 'W | 575 | |
| M2003-25 | 8/12/2003 11:40 | 55° 30.11 'N | 15° 48.69 'W | 690 | Failed, empty barrel |
| M2003-25A | 8/12/2003 12:06 | 55° 30.12 'N | 15° 48.69 'W | 678 | Tilted surface |
| M2003-26 | 8/12/2003 14:41 | 55° 30.41 'N | 15° 48.70 'W | 800 | Failed, boulders |
| M2003-26A | 8/12/2003 15:22 | 55° 30.42 'N | 15° 48.71 'W | 800 | Failed, barrel bended |
| M2003-28 | 8/14/2003 10:45 | 55° 25.90 'N | 16° 06.84 'W | 825 | 90° tilted |
| M2003-29 | 8/14/2003 15:11 | 55° 26.15 'N | 16° 06.96 'W | 749 | Failed, did not trip |
| M2003-29A | 8/14/2003 15:48 | 55° 26.13 'N | 16° 06.97 'W | 792 | Failed, did not trip |
| M2003-29B | 8/14/2003 16:13 | 55° 26.13 'N | 16° 06.92 'W | 785 | Failed, scrape off |
| M2003-30 | 8/15/2003 8:29 | 55° 26.43 'N | 16° 06.90 'W | 676 | - |
| M2003-31 | 8/15/2003 14:36 | 55° 25.30 'N | 16° 12.34 'W | 846 | Failed |
| M2003-32 | 8/15/2003 17:08 | 55° 31.22 'N | 16° 21.97 'W | 569 | Failed, hard sediment |
| M2003-34 | 8/16/2003 9:26 | 55° 25.36 'N | 16° 20.64 'W | 810 | Failed, hard sediment |
| M2003-35 | 8/16/2003 11:42 | 55° 25.15 'N | 16° 22.32 'W | 734 | |

Hoppercamera

| Station | Date/Time | Position | | Depth | Remarks |
|----------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-------|---------|
| M2003-10 | 8/4/2003 18:49 | 55° 41.93 'N | 15° 18.13 'W | 627 | |
| M2003-13 | 8/7/2003 13:12 | 55° 37.34 'N | 15° 19.10 'W | 834 | |
| M2003-14 | 8/7/2003 16:01 | 55° 38.16 'N | 15° 27.72 'W | 587 | |
| M2003-15 | 8/8/2003 9:00 | 55° 37.57 'N | 15° 27.30 'W | 761 | Video |
| M2003-17 | 8/8/2003 14:36 | 55° 33.40 'N | 15° 31.59 'W | 837 | |
| M2003-18 | 8/10/2003 8:28 | 55° 37.59 'N | 15° 49.24 'W | 548 | |
| M2003-19 | 8/10/2003 11:15 | 55° 33.97 'N | 15° 51.87 'W | 575 | |

| M2003-20 | 8/10/2003 15:15 | 55° 31.89 'N | 15° 50.19 'W | 773 | |
|----------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-----|------------------|
| M2003-21 | 8/10/2003 17:22 | 55° 29.63 'N | 15° 48.24 'W | 563 | |
| M2003-22 | 8/11/2003 8:37 | 55° 29.94 'N | 15° 47.82 'W | 603 | |
| M2003-23 | 8/11/2003 10:40 | 55° 30.22 'N | 15° 47.11 'W | 667 | |
| M2003-24 | 8/12/2003 8:39 | 55° 29.85 'N | 15° 48.45 'W | 575 | |
| M2003-25 | 8/12/2003 10:49 | 55° 30.11 'N | 15° 48.71 'W | 693 | |
| M2003-26 | 8/12/2003 13:23 | 55° 30.42 'N | 15° 48.71 'W | 800 | |
| M2003-28 | 8/14/2003 9:45 | 55° 25.91 'N | 16° 06.84 'W | 822 | |
| M2003-29 | 8/14/2003 13:24 | 55° 26.14 'N | 16° 06.98 'W | 825 | |
| M2003-30 | 8/14/2003 18:33 | 55° 26.42 'N | 16° 06.90 'W | 679 | |
| M2003-31 | 8/15/2003 13:40 | 55° 25.30 'N | 16° 12.33 'W | 840 | |
| M2003-32 | 8/15/2003 16:12 | 55° 31.38 'N | 16° 12.96 'W | 581 | SOL of videoline |
| M2003-32 | 8/15/2003 16:37 | 55° 31.08 'N | 16° 13.09 'W | 575 | EOL of videoline |
| M2003-34 | 8/16/2003 8:31 | 55° 25.37 'N | 16° 20.64 'W | 810 | |
| M2003-35 | 8/16/2003 10:33 | 55° 25.15 'N | 16° 22.34 'W | 737 | |

Pistoncores

| Station | Date/Time | Position | | Depth | Remarks |
|----------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-------|---------|
| M2003-09 | 8/4/2003 11:26 | 55° 39.02 'N | 13° 59.11 'W | 2548 | |
| M2003-23 | 8/11/2003 13:44 | 55° 30.22 'N | 15° 47.13 'W | 673 | |
| M2003-21 | 8/11/2003 15:55 | 55° 29.62 'N | 15° 48.26 'W | 560 | failed |
| M2003-21 | 8/11/2003 17:06 | 55° 29.62 'N | 15° 48.23 'W | 563 | |
| M2003-28 | 8/15/2003 9:29 | 55° 25.91 'N | 16° 06.84 'W | 822 | failed |
| M2003-28 | 8/15/2003 11:08 | 55° 25.91 'N | 16° 06.84 'W | 822 | |

BOBO lander

| Station | Date/Time | Position | | Depth | Event |
|----------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-------|------------|
| M2003-10 | 8/5/2003 8:39 | 55° 41.92 'N | 15° 18.10 'W | 627 | deployment |
| M2003-10 | 8/17/2003 13:44 | 55° 41.81 'N | 15° 17.99 'W | 633 | recovery |

SAPS

| Station | Date/Time | Position | | Depth | Remarks |
|----------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-------|---------|
| M2003-14 | 8/7/2003 17:38 | 55° 38.16 'N | 15° 27.71 'W | 587 | |
| M2003-17 | 7/8/2003 16:43 | 55° 33.40 'N | 15° 31.55 'W | 846 | |
| M2003-21 | 7/10/2003 18:57 | 55° 29.61 'N | 15° 48.23 'W | 563 | |
| M2003-21 | 7/11/2003 17:46 | 55° 29.61 'N | 15° 28.17 'W | 566 | |
| M2003-33 | 7/15/2003 19:09 | 55° 20.22 'N | 16° 26.41 'W | 996 | |

Appendix III, Maps with station positions



Stations and lines Faeroe-Shetland Channel (Area1)



Cruise report M2003

Appendix IV, Seismic profiles



Example of a seismic line across the mud mounds in the Faeroe-Shetland Channel. The lack of internal reflectors in the centre of the image might result from the presence of gas.



Seismc profile across a mound on the slope of the Rockall Bank. This mound appears as a circular structure on the M2002 TOBI side scan mozaic (Appendix III, right hand side of the TOBI image). A clear internal reflector (dashed line) is present on which a cold water carbonate mound appears to have developed.



Seismic line across megaripples shown on the upper left hnd side of the M2002 TOBI mozaic (Appendix III).

Appendix V, CTD profiles



CTD data of stations 10, 13 and 20 in the Rockall Trough.







CTD data of station 1 in the Faeroe-Shetland Channel.







CTD data of the tidal station 27 in the Rockall Trough.


Legend M2003 Bx and Pc



































































Appendix VII, Logs of pistoncores Legend M2003 Bx and Pc








| CORE DESCRIPTION PELAGIA/M2003-04 | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|---|--------------------|--|--------|
| | | Described I | by: Henk | , Irene, Ana, Furu | |
| | | Date: 30-07 | 7-2003 | Length: 108 cm | |
| | | Station: M2 | 003-04 | (62.°40.74'/-1°.08.36') | |
| | 넅 | <u>30X COre:</u> Piston core | · # 2 | | |
| ſ | Dpt. | Lithology | Colour | Description | ISmpl. |
| 0 | | | Coloui | | |
| | Æ | | 50.54 | Unit I: (0-17cm) | |
| 10 | | | 5G 5/1 greenish | Compacted clay | |
| 10 | TE | | grey | 10-17cm: two angular clay pebbles (2cm/4cm) | |
| | H | | | | |
| 20 | | | | Unit II: (17-46cm) | |
| 20 | | X & J | | Mixed layer of lenses of compacted clay (greenish grey 5G 5/1) and organic rich silt lenses (smell of H2S | |
| | HE | | | olive black 5Y 3/1)) in a matrix of silty clay (grey 5Y | |
| 30 | +E | | | 4/1) | |
| | | \mathbf{D} | | Unit III: (46-108cm) | |
| | E | (\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{C}) | | Silty clay with burrows | |
| 40 | ┼╞ | | | ⁻ 60cm pebble (0.5cm) | |
| | | | | ⁻ 84-88cm: mottled zone | |
| | | \setminus 7 \triangleleft | | | |
| 50 | ŦĒ | | | irregular rounded boundary | |
| | F | | в | | |
| | IE | | | | |
| 60 | TE | | | | |
| | HE | R | | | |
| 70 | | | | | |
| 10 | | | 5Y 4/1 | | |
| | HE | | grey | | |
| 80 | | | | | |
| | | alana an | | | |
| | F | | | | |
| 90 | ΗĒ | | | | |
| | | 7 | | | |
| | E | | | | |
| 100 | ┼╞ | 7 | | | |
| | Æ | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| 110 ^l | | | | | 1 |







| (| CC | RE D | ESC | RIPTION PELAGIA/M2003-0 |)4 | |
|------|------------------|--|---|---|-------|--|
| | D | Described by: Henk, Irene, Ana, Furu | | | | |
| | D | ate: 30-07 | 7-2003 | Length: 109 cm | | |
| | St | ation: M2 | 003-04 | (62.°40.74'/-1°.08.36') | | |
| | B | ox core: | | | | |
| | Piston core: # 6 | | | | | |
| _[| Opt. | Lithology | Colour | Description | Smpl. | |
| 0 | | | 2.5Y 5/1 yellowish | | | |
| 10- | | <u></u> | grey 2.5GY 4/1 dark olive grey | One unit: (0-110cm) Fine sandy silty clay with trough the whole section burrows filled with more sandy silty clay or marked by colour differences - 0-4cm: light | | |
| 20- | | | 2.5Y 5/1 yellowish grey | 4-20011. dark 20-28cm: light 28-41cm: dark 41-49cm: light 49-59cm: dark 59-75cm: light 75-75cm: light | | |
| 30- | | N | 2.5GY 4/1 dark olive grey | 75-TU9CM: dark | | |
| 40- | | Ţ. | 2.5Y 5/1 yellowish grey | | | |
| 50- | | Ţ | 2.5GY 4/1 dark olive grey | | | |
| 70 | | le l | 2.5Y 5/1 yellowish grey | | | |
| 80- | | <u></u> | | | | |
| 90- | | | 2.5GY 4/1 dark olive grey | | | |
| 100- | | | | | | |
| 110L | I HE | | | | | |





| C | COF | RE D | ESC | RIPTION PELAGIA/M2003- | 06 |
|-----|---------|----------------------------|----------|--|----------|
| | Des | scribed | by: Henk | a, Irene, Furu | |
| | Dat | e: 3-08- | 2003 | Length: 110 cm | |
| | Sta | tion: M2 | 003-06 | (62°38.59'/-1°18.96') | |
| | B0) | <u>(core:</u> ton core | • # 1 | | |
| | 0nt 1 | ithology | | Description | Smpl |
| 어 | | | Ooloui | | |
| 10 | | Ţ | | One unit:: (0-110cm) Slightly silty clay with mm-sized biogenic carbonate debris and burrows - 54cm: metamorphic pebble (2.5cm) | |
| 20 | | ~ | | | |
| 30- | | Ŧŧ- | | | |
| 40 | | | | | |
| 50 | | > 2 | 7.5Y 4/1 | | |
| 60- | | | grey | | |
| 70- | | 1 | | | |
| 80 | | Y Z | | | |
| 90 | | A. | | | |
| 100 | | <u> </u> | | | |
| 110 | | N. | | | |



| (| CC | DRE D | ESC | RIPTION PELAGIA/M2003-0 | 6 | |
|------|------|---|---------------------|--|-------|--|
| | | Described by: Henk, Irene, Aurora, Furu | | | | |
| | | Date: 3-08-2003 Length: 111 cm | | | | |
| | S | station: M2 | 003-06 | (62°38.59'/-1°18.96') | | |
| | E | Box core: | | · · · | | |
| | F | iston core | :#3 | | | |
| آر | Dpt. | Lithology | Colour | Description | Smpl. | |
| ٩Ľ | TE | | 7 5 1/1 | | | |
| 10- | | NZ | grey | One unit: (0-111cm) Slightly sandy silty clay getting more compacted downcore Troughout section mm-sized biogenic carbonate debris and cm-sized burrows (colour changes) | | |
| 20- | | | | | | |
| 30- | | \mathbf{v} | | | | |
| 40- | | v | | | | |
| 50- | | <u></u> | | | | |
| 60- | | | | | | |
| 70- | | \mathbf{N} | | | | |
| 80- | | l. L | | | | |
| 90- | | <u></u> | | | | |
| 100- | | | ↓ 5Y 4/1 arev | | | |
| 110 | | ~~~~ | 9.09 | | | |









Appendix VIII, Magnetic susceptibility

Magnetic susceptibility of piston cores taken in the Faeroe-Shetland Channel. Note the similarity in susceptibility pattern of cores 5 (taken out side the mound area) and 6 taken in the central depression of a mound). Core 4 was taken on top of a mound.



Magnetic susceptibility of piston core 9 taken at Feni Drift.



Magnetic susceptibility of piston cores taken on the mounds on the flank of Rockall Bank.

Appendix IX, List of watersamples

Watersamples taken for isotopic (δ 18O and δ 13C) analysis

Boxcores Station M2003-04 BX Station M2003-11 BX Station M2003-12 BX Station M2003-14 BX Station M2003-16 BX Station M2003-18 BX Station M2003-19 BX Station M2003-20 BX Station M2003-21 BX Station M2003-22 BX Station M2003-23 BX Station M2003-24 BX Station M2003-25 BX Station M2003-26 BX Station M2003-28 BX Station M2003-29 BX Station M2003-34 BX Station M2003-35 BX

CTD

Station M2003-10 CTD Station M2003-13 CTD Station M2003-27A CTD Station M2003-27D CTD