Atlantic sediment petrography analysis data from mult-corer samples collected in the Amazon Delta and Sierra Leone Rise during R/V Endeavor cruises EN-480 and EN-481 in 2010

Website: https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/908380
Data Type: Cruise Results
Version: 1
Version Date: 2023-10-02

Project
» Concentrations and source assessment of black carbon across tropical Atlantic air and sediment (Tropical Atlantic Black Carbon)
» The Black Carbon Cycle: Budget and Fluxes of Black Carbon in South Atlantic Sediments (Black Carbon Cycle)

Contributors	Affiliation	Role
Lohmann, Rainer	University of Rhode Island (URI)	Principal Investigator
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Abstract
These data include the sediment petrographic analysis for Amazon Delta and Sierra Leone Rise Sediments. These data were collected on multiple cruises in throughout the Atlantic; specifically, in the Amazon Delta (EN-480; July 2010) and Sierra Leone Rise (EN-481; August 2010). Sediments were collected using multi-corer and kept frozen until analysis. Sediments were analyzed quantitatively via microscopy by Dr. Bertrand Ligouis at the Laboratories for Applied Organic Petrology at the University of Tübingen, Germany. These data help better constrain pyrogenic carbon concentrations and accumulation rates into Atlantic sediments. These data were published in St.Laurent, et al. (2023).

Table of Contents

- Coverage
- Dataset Description
  - Methods & Sampling
  - BCO-DMO Curation Notes
- Data Files
- Related Publications
- Related Datasets
- Parameters
- Instruments
- Deployments
- Project Information
- Funding

Coverage

Spatial Extent: **N**:7.4353 **E**:-24.0106 **S**:4.2828 **W**:-47.4844
Temporal Extent: 2010-07-17 - 2010-08-13

Methods & Sampling

Sediment samples were collected via a 4-barrel multi-corer (R/V Endeavor, segmented into 1-2 cm sections, dried in a drying oven (35°C) and homogenized via mortar and pestle.

Instruments
Polished sediments were observed under a Leitz DMRX-MPVSP microscope photometer using a magnification up to 500X with reflected white light, uv fluorescence, plane-polarized light, and cross-polarized light.

Location:
Amazon Delta (approximately: 4 N, 47 W; 2400-3500m); Sierra Leone Rise (approximately: 7 N, 20 W; 2800-3800m).

BCO-DMO Curation Notes

* Sheets "Sierra Leone Rise" and "Amazon Delta" of file "Atlantic Sediment Petro.xlsx" were imported into the BCO-DMO data system.
* The two tables were combined into one table with an additional column "Location" to capture the site name provided by the sheet name.
* Column names adjusted to conform to BCO-DMO naming conventions designed to support broad re-use by a variety of research tools and scripting languages. [Only numbers, letters, and underscores. Can not start with a number]
* Date format converted to ISO 8601 format.

[table of contents | back to top]

Data Files

File
Atlantic Sediment Petrography filename: 908380_v1_atlantic_sediment_petography.csv (Comma Separated Values (.csv), 5.02 KB) MD5:a89909d86c73eb594a5886f42ce4dd71 Primary data table for 908380 version 1.

[table of contents | back to top]

Related Publications

St.Laurent, K., Cantwell, M., & Lohmann, R. (2023). New insights on black carbon in pelagic Atlantic sediments. Marine Chemistry, 104312. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marchem.2023.104312
Results

[table of contents | back to top]

Related Datasets

IsRelatedTo

Lohmann, R., St. Laurent, K. A. (2023) **Atlantic sediment black carbon, total organic carbon, and stable carbon ratio (13C) values from samples collected using a multi-corer and box corer from multiple cruises throughout the Atlantic between 1994 and 2010.** Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO). (Version 1) Version Date 2023-09-14 doi:10.26008/1912/bco-dmo.908373.1 [view at BCO-DMO]
Relationship Description: Datasets from the same cruises published as part of the same study "New insights on black carbon in pelagic Atlantic sediments." published in St. Laurent, et al. (2023).

Lohmann, R., St. Laurent, K. A. (2023) **Atlantic sediment polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) concentrations from samples collected using a multi-corer and box corer from multiple cruises throughout the Atlantic between 1994 and 2010.** Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO). (Version 1) Version Date 2023-09-14 doi:10.26008/1912/bco-dmo.908357.1 [view at BCO-DMO]
Relationship Description: Datasets from the same cruises published as part of the same study "New insights on black carbon in pelagic Atlantic sediments." published in St. Laurent, et al. (2023).

St. Laurent, K. A., Lohmann, R. (2023) **Atlantic sediment radiocarbon from mult-corer samples collected in the Amazon Delta and Sierra Leone Rise during R/V Endeavor cruises EN-480 and EN-**

481 in 2010. Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO). (Version 1) Version Date 2023-09-14 doi:10.26008/1912/bco-dmo.908387.1 [view at BCO-DMO]
Relationship Description: Datasets from the same cruises published as part of the same study "New insights on black carbon in pelagic Atlantic sediments." published in St. Laurent, et al. (2023).

[table of contents | back to top]

Parameters

Parameter	Description	Units
Location	Location name	unitless
Site	Numerical sediment core name (includes cruise identifier)	unitless
Depth_Interval	sediment depth interval	cenitmeters below seafloor (cmbsf)
Date	Core date in ISO 8601 format	unitless
Lat	Core sample location latitude	decimal degrees
Lon	Core sample location longitude	decmial degrees
Maceral_Group	Name of Maceral Group assessed	unitless
Maceral_subgroup	Name of Maceral Subgroup assessed	unitless
Volume_Percent	Volume of Maceral Subgroup detected. Percentage of Maceral Group detected per volume of sediment analyzed; trace indicates detected at a volume too low to quantify	percent (%)

[table of contents | back to top]

Instruments

Dataset-specific Instrument Name	
Generic Instrument Name	Microscope - Optical
Dataset-specific Description	Polished sediments were observed under a Leitz DMRX-MPVSP microscope photometer using a magnification up to 500X with reflected white light, uv fluorescence, plane-polarized light, and cross-polarized light.
Generic Instrument Description	Instruments that generate enlarged images of samples using the phenomena of reflection and absorption of visible light. Includes conventional and inverted instruments. Also called a "light microscope".

Dataset-specific Instrument Name	Leitz DMRX-MPVSP microscope photometer
Generic Instrument Name	Photometer
Dataset-specific Description	Polished sediments were observed under a Leitz DMRX-MPVSP microscope photometer using a magnification up to 500X with reflected white light, uv fluorescence, plane-polarized light, and cross-polarized light.
Generic Instrument Description	An instrument that measures the light intensity emitted from a sample. [Definition Source: NCI] Photometers are used to measure illluminance, irradiance, light absorption, scattering of light, reflection of light, fluorescence, phosphorescence, and luminescence. [May include luminometers]

[table of contents | back to top]

Deployments

EN480

Website	https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/910748
Platform	R/V Endeavor
Start Date	2010-07-13
End Date	2010-07-23

EN481

Website	https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/910750
Platform	R/V Endeavor
Start Date	2010-07-25
End Date	2010-08-19

[table of contents | back to top]

Project Information

Concentrations and source assessment of black carbon across tropical Atlantic air and sediment

(Tropical Atlantic Black Carbon)

Coverage: Tropical North Atlantic Ocean

NSF Award Abstract:
Black carbon is formed during the incomplete burning of fuels (e.g., the black clouds of smoke emitted by buses and trucks). Black carbon does not degrade easily in the environment and can be transported long distances, even reaching the seafloor. Yet the fluxes of black carbon in the environment are not well known, particularly in the oceans. Rivers are considered the dominant source of black carbon to the oceans. However, recent results suggest that there may be regions of the ocean where the atmospheric delivery of black carbon may be important. This study investigates whether biomass burning (e.g., wildfires) in Africa is a source of black carbon to the tropical Atlantic Ocean. The unique molecular and isotopic properties of black carbon will be used to identify black carbon in the atmosphere, water and sediment in the study region. Sediment, water column and atmospheric particles will be collected during a 3-week research cruise across the tropical Atlantic Ocean. Two different approaches will be used to quantify black carbon in the environment. The research is relevant and timely for our understanding of the carbon cycle, a key component of our ability to forecast climate and its change. The project supports a graduate student and provide opportunities for high school students participating in the SMILE Program (Science and Math Investigative Learning Experiences). This project is jointly funded by the Chemical Oceanography Program and the Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR).

Surface sediment samples will be collected at ten sites across the tropical Atlantic Ocean in a region known to be impacted by biomass burning events (wildfires) in Africa. Appropriate locations for sediment sampling will be identified using state-of-the-art ship equipment to ensure a successful coring operation. Once collected, the black carbon and organic carbon fractions of the sediment will be isolated and measured. A range of isotopic and molecular marker approaches will be used to identify the likely source of these carbon fractions. The central hypothesis is that the black carbon residing in the sediment of the tropical Atlantic Ocean is derived from biomass burning and delivered through atmospheric deposition. Carbon derived from recent biomass burning contains C-14 isotopes that indicate 'young' (or recently produced) carbon, while carbon from fossil fuels ('old carbon') has no C-14 due to radioactive decay. To further assess the origin of the black carbon in the region, water column and atmospheric particles will be collected during the research cruise. The origin of the atmospheric black carbon particles (biomass burning or fossil fuel emissions) will be established through a collaboration with colleagues in Sweden. The broader impacts of this research include the engagement of high school students through The SMILE Program (Science and Math Investigative Learning Experiences) at the University of Rhode Island. The project also provides training opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students, with a focus on recruitment of students from under-represented groups.

This award reflects NSF's statutory mission and has been deemed worthy of support through evaluation using the Foundation's intellectual merit and broader impacts review criteria.

The Black Carbon Cycle: Budget and Fluxes of Black Carbon in South Atlantic Sediments (Black Carbon Cycle)

Coverage: South Atlantic

NSF abstract:
This award is funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5).

In this study, researchers at the University of Rhode Island will attempt to determine the origin and fluxes of black carbon (BC) in marine sediments from the South Atlantic. Black carbon in the atmosphere is a key driver of global climate change; it is second only to CO2 in its contribution to global warming. The proposed work is thus relevant and timely for our understanding of the carbon cycle, a key component of our ability to forecast climate and its change. The major sources of BC on the global scale are fossil fuel and biomass burning, which are both prominent in Africa and South America. Hence, it is proposed to account for soot BC, char and charcoal residing in sediments from the South Atlantic by combining thermal, chemical and petrographic isolation methods.

This project has three main hypotheses: (1) Soot BC constitutes a significant fraction of the total organic carbon in deep sea sediments of the South Atlantic, and dominates total BC in those sediments; (2) Biomass burning is the dominant source of the soot BC present in deep sea sediments of the South Atlantic; and (3) For the South Atlantic, atmospheric deposition of soot BC is as important as riverine inputs.

This study represents a first attempt to account for BC sinks on an Ocean scale. It thus holds promise to make a major step forward towards being able to mass balance sources and sinks of BC. Previous studies suggest that BC reaches the oceans predominantly from riverine sources. In the case of the South Atlantic, the research team hypothesizes that atmospheric transport and deposition is at least as important. The proposed research will compare different BC determination procedures for deep sea sediments, thereby improving our understanding of the different constituents of the BC cycle. Similarly, organic marker molecules are often used for source apportionment. This study will explore if this still holds true for deep sea sediment samples, as preliminary data found discrepancies arising from molecular marker analysis and isotopic analysis. Lastly, accounting for soot BC in deep sea sediments will also aid in identifying more of the uncharacterized sedimentary OC .

Broader Impacts: The results of this work are expected to aid atmospheric and earth system science modelers in refining their atmospheric and oceanic transport models for BC, including its relation to global climate change. The project will enhance infrastructure for research and education by establishing research collaboration between URI and international partners at the University of Bremen, the MPI for Meteorology, Hamburg, and the University of Tuebingen.

[table of contents | back to top]

Funding

Funding Source	Award
NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (NSF OCE)	OCE-1924191
NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (NSF OCE)	OCE-0851044

[table of contents | back to top]