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Abstract

An 80-cm sediment core (0 to 10,000 years B.P., ^{14}C date), taken from the continental slope in the Eastern Atlantic has been examined for variation with depth in clay mineral content, calcite/ quartz ratio, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ value and lipid (hydrocarbon and fatty acid) content. The results suggest a dual (marine and terrigenous) origin for the sediment. Lipid analyses indicate marked variations with time in sources of lipid to the sediments as well as a high degree of preservation of organic material, including unsaturated compounds.



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