



1 **A database of paleoceanographic sediment cores from the North Pacific, 1951-2016**

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27 **Abstract**

28 We assessed sediment coring, data acquisition, and publications from the North Pacific (north of 30°N)
29 from 1951-2016. There are 2134 sediment cores collected by American, French, Japanese, Russian, and
30 international research vessels across the North Pacific (including the Pacific Subarctic Gyre, Alaskan
31 Gyre, Japan Margin, and California Margin, 1391 cores), Sea of Okhotsk (271 cores), Bering Sea (123
32 cores), and Sea of Japan (349 cores) reported here. All existing metadata associated with these sediment
33 cores are documented, including coring date, location, core number, cruise number, water depth, vessel
34 metadata, and coring technology. North Pacific age models are based on isotope stratigraphy, radiocarbon
35 dating, magnetostratigraphy, biostratigraphy, tephrochronology, % opal, color, and lithological proxies.
36 Here, we evaluate the iterative generation of each published age model and provide documentation of
37 each dating technique used, as well as sedimentation rates and age ranges. We categorized cores
38 according to availability of a variety of proxy evidence, including biological (e.g. benthic and planktonic
39 foraminifera assemblages), geochemical (e.g. heavy metal concentrations), isotopic (e.g. bulk sediment
40 nitrogen and carbon isotopes), and stratigraphic (e.g. preserved laminations) proxies. This database is a
41 unique resource to the paleoceanographic and paleoclimate communities, and provides cohesive
42 accessibility to sedimentary sequences, age model development, and proxies. The data set is publicly
43 available through PANGAEA at doi:<https://doi.pangaea.de/10.1594/PANGAEA.875998>.

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53 **1 Introduction**

54 Paleooceanographic sediments provide the sedimentary, geochemical, and biological evidence of past earth
55 system changes, and are one of the primary ways to investigate past changes in global and regional
56 climate, ocean circulation, volcanism, and biogeochemical cycles, among many other ocean-related
57 inquiries. Sediment cores are collected from the seafloor during oceanographic research cruises. After
58 collection, sediment cores are processed, archived, analyzed, and the results are published in a scientific
59 journal. Mechanistic hypotheses investigated by sediment core research include ocean-basin scale
60 changes in deep ocean circulation (e.g. Rae et al., 2014; De Pol-Holz et al., 2006), deep-water and
61 intermediate water formation and ventilation (e.g. Knudson and Ravelo, 2015a; Zheng et al., 2000; Cook
62 et al., 2016), and changes in the oceanic preformed nutrient inventories (e.g. Jaccard and Galbraith, 2013;
63 Knudson and Ravelo, 2015b), as well as more regional mechanisms such as sea ice extent (e.g. Max et al.,
64 2012), upwelling intensity (e.g. Di Lorenzo et al., 2008; Hendy et al., 2004), local surface ocean
65 productivity (e.g. Serno et al., 2014; Venti et al., 2017), and terrigenous and marine fluxes of iron (e.g.
66 Davies et al., 2011; Praetorius et al., 2015).

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68 When taken together, suites of cores can create robust reconstructions of large oceanographic provinces,
69 and provide insight into earth system mechanistic hypotheses. However, there is not a common repository
70 for paleooceanographic data and publications, and this lack of centralization limits the efficacy of the earth
71 science community to direct research efforts. Paleooceanographers have benefited from the use of large
72 databases of climate data in the past, such as CLIMAP (Climate: Long Range Investigation, Mapping,
73 Prediction), which produced globally resolved temperature records for the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM)
74 and aimed to determine climate system sensitivity from paleoclimate reconstructions (Hoffert & Covey
75 1992). The PaleoDeepDive project employed a similar approach to the systematic extraction of archival
76 data and constructed a new way to assess and engage with paleobiological data (Zhang, 2015). These
77 projects are examples of international research teams approaching the same limit—extraction and
78 organization of dark data—that arises when creating comprehensive paleo-reconstructions.



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80 **1.1 Assembling a paleoceanographic database**

81 There is a clear need to generate high quality paleo-environmental reconstructions and fit the North
82 Pacific into the global paleoceanographic framework, because the role this enormous ocean basin plays in
83 earth system changes remains unclear relative to its Southern Ocean and North Atlantic counterparts. We
84 present here a comprehensive database of 2134 sediment cores which may be utilized to generate a
85 broader context for the history of large oceanographic provinces as well as contained regional processes.
86 Here we describe this new database and the broad-scale findings of our census of coring metadata, age
87 model development, and proxy publications. We address the following questions in this manuscript to
88 supplement and provide context for our database:

- 89 1. Where have sediment cores been extracted from the North Pacific (North of 30°N, including
90 the Pacific Subarctic Gyre, Alaskan Gyre, Japan Margin, and California Margin), the Bering
91 Sea, the Sea of Okhotsk, and the Sea of Japan? What metadata is available—regarding core
92 name, recovery date, recovery vessel and scientific agency, latitude and longitude, water
93 depth, core length, and coring technology in published cruise reports or peer-reviewed
94 investigations?
- 95 2. For sediment cores with published age models—what lines of evidence were used to develop
96 the chronological age of the sediment, what is the age range from core top to core bottom,
97 and what are the sedimentation rates?
- 98 3. What lines of sedimentary, geochemical, isotopic, and biological proxy evidence are
99 available for each sediment core?
- 100 4. What is the state of sediment core research effort and metadata reporting since the beginning
101 of paleoceanographic core research?

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103 **1.2 Age model development, paleoceanographic proxies, and cruise-core nomenclature,**



104 Marine sedimentary age models tie the sedimentary depth (in meters below sediment surface) to calendar
105 age (ka, thousands of years), and the dating techniques used to complete these chronologies depend on the
106 quality, preservation, and age of the sediments, as well as the investigative priorities of research teams
107 and the proximity of other well-developed sedimentary chronologies. Not all sedimentary chronologies
108 are of the same quality. Building a database with all dating techniques parsed and age models iterations
109 captured, along with reported sedimentation rates and the sedimentary age ranges, will provide
110 investigators with the capacity to quickly evaluate the specific cores that meet the investigative priorities.
111 In turn, paleoceanographic proxies are a diverse suite of biological, isotopic, geochemical, and
112 sedimentary observations and measurements taken from sediments. A catalogue of paleoceanographic
113 proxies, and associated publications, provides an efficient resource for assessing the availability and
114 quality of many different lines of evidence.

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116 Sediment cores are often represented by their cruise-core unique identifier, which has the general format
117 "cruise name-core number". The cruise number is generally indicative of the research vessel employed
118 and the year of the expedition, for example, YK07-12 is the 12th cruise of R/V Yokosuka in 2007. Cruise
119 L13-81 is the 13th cruise of S.P. Lee in 1981, and MR06-04 is the 4th cruise of R/V Mirai in 2006. Often
120 the core number will be preceded by a PC (piston core), MC (multicore), TC (trigger core), or GC
121 (gravity core) to signify the coring technology. The sediment core B37-04G is the 4th gravity core from
122 the 37th cruise of R/V Professor Bogorov, and EW9504-11PC is the 11th piston core from the fourth cruise
123 of R/V Maurice Ewing in 1995. However, this nomenclature is not comprehensive, and for example cores
124 affiliated with iterations of the International Ocean Discovery Program are represented by the program
125 abbreviation and their hole number (i.e. ODP Hole 1209A). The cruise name or number is unknown for
126 many cores, and in these cases, the core is referred to by its number.

127

128 **2 Methods**



129 Here we assemble a database from peer-reviewed publications, publicly available online cruise reports,
130 and print-only cruise reports available through the University of Washington library network. Detailed
131 metadata is reported for cores where it is available, commonly from cruise reports, including water depth
132 (in meters), recovery year, latitude and longitude, coring technology, and core length (in meters).
133 Summary details regarding affiliated research vessels and institutions were gathered from publications or
134 cruise reports. Here we catalog the methodological approaches taken to develop age models in the North
135 Pacific by tracking the sequential publications to capture each iteration and line of evidence used in the
136 most up-to-date published version. We reported core top and bottom ages, along with sedimentation rates.
137 For each core, we documented published proxy evidence, including isotopes stratigraphy, geochemistry,
138 micropaleontology, and sediment analyses.

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140 **3.0 Results**

141 **3.1 Sediment coring and metadata**

142 We documented 2134 sediment cores and 283 marine geology research cruises above 30°N, from 1951 to
143 2016, in the North Pacific, the Bering Sea, the Sea of Japan, and the Sea of Okhotsk (Figure 1, Table 1).
144 The majority of sediment cores were extracted from the Northern Subarctic Pacific (1391 cores), followed
145 by the Sea of Japan (349 cores), the Sea of Okhotsk (271 cores), and the Bering Sea (123 cores). Many of
146 the oldest cores in this oceanographic province come from the central abyssal Pacific and are associated
147 with cruises of the Deep Sea Drilling Project. The recovery ages of cores range from 1951-
148 1, Table 1). Frequently, metadata associated with sediment cores or marine research cruises are
149 unavailable to the public or omitted from publications affiliated with sediment cores. For example, 495
150 cores are in the literature without recovery year, 354 sediment cores were published without latitude and
151 longitude, and 642 cores were reported without specifying the coring technology used (Table 1, 2). Even
152 more, 1210 ancillary sediment cores reported in our database were identified in supplemental tables
153 within publications, however no original cruise reports or peer-reviewed publications otherwise report on
154 these cores.



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156 3.2 Sediment chronologies

157 In the North Pacific, 519 marine sediment cores have published age models, and 266 of these
158 chronologies are generated with radiocarbon dating (^{14}C) of materials such as planktonic foraminifera,
159 molluscs, and terrigenous material like bark or wood fragments (Figure 2). Radiocarbon dating is the
160 most common chronological technique region-wide (51% of age models incorporate this method). Lead
161 dating (^{210}Pb) is used for 12 sediment chronologies. Many other lines of evidence are used in the North
162 Pacific and marginal seas to develop paleoceanographic age models. These approaches vary regionally
163 and include planktonic foraminifera oxygen isotope stratigraphy, diatom silica oxygen isotope
164 stratigraphy, biostratigraphy, magnetostratigraphy, tephrochronology, chronostratigraphy, carbonate
165 stratigraphy, opal stratigraphy, composition, lithophysical proxies, the presence of lamination, chlorin
166 content, and color (a^* , b^* , and L^* values) (Figure 2, Table 3). For example, in the Sea of Japan,
167 lithophysical proxies such as core laminations are often utilized as chronological proxy evidence, and
168 12% of local core age models incorporate this technique. Tephrochronology is also applied in 51% of Sea
169 of Japan age models due to regional volcanism. In the Bering Sea, peaks in silica are often used, and 13%
170 of the regional age models incorporated this technique. Published sedimentation rates ranged across the
171 North Pacific (0.1-2000 cm/ka), Bering Sea (3-250 cm/ka), Sea of Okhotsk (0.7-250 cm/ka), and the Sea
172 of Japan (0.2-74 cm/ka), with the highest rates within the Alaska Current in the North Pacific (up to 2000
173 cm/ka).

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175 3.3 Paleoceanographic proxies from marine sediment cores

176 From all reported sediment cores in the North Pacific and marginal seas, 40% of cores have published
177 proxy data (Figure 3, 4). Stable isotope stratigraphy is available for 293 cores, including oxygen, carbon,
178 and nitrogen isotopes ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$, $\delta^{15}\text{N}$) from planktonic  benthic foraminifera. We documented 236
179 cores with planktonic foraminifera oxygen isotopes, 178 cores with benthic foraminifera oxygen isotopes,
180 67 cores with planktonic foraminifera carbon isotopes, 77 cores with benthic foraminifera carbon



181 isotopes, and 34 cores with bulk sediment nitrogen isotopes (Table 4). The lines of proxy evidence
182 documented in the database address large thematic questions in paleoceanography, including ocean
183 temperature, paleoceanography, seafloor geochemistry, sea ice distribution, and additional sedimentary
184 analyses (Figure 3, Table 4).

185
186 We recorded paleothermometry data for 234 cores. Sea surface temperature is reconstructed using
187 planktonic foraminifera oxygen isotopes ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_p$), magnesium/calcium ratios from planktonic foraminifera,
188 and alkenones, including TEX_{86} , and U^{k}_{37} (Figure 3). We recorded 425 cores with biostratigraphy and
189 assemblage abundance data for foraminifera, diatom, radiolarian, ostracod, silicoflagellate, ebridian,
190 acritarch, coccolithophore, dinoflagellate assemblages (Figure 3, Table 4). Biostratigraphy utilizes
191 known microfossil assemblages and their corresponding ages to assign a geologic date to core strata
192 containing assemblages. Geochemical analysis is reported for 151 cores (Figure 3, Table 3).

193 Geochemical data comes from measurements of, for example, brassicasterol, magnesium, calcium,
194 molybdenum, cadmium, manganese, uranium, chromium, rhenium, chlorine, titanium, iron, zinc, and
195 beryllium. We documented 234 cores with sea ice proxy data (Figure 3). Sea ice proxies include
196 geochemical biomarker IP25, ice-rafted debris (IRD), and diatom communities exclusive to sea ice
197 environments. The presence and concentration of these proxies are indicative of contemporary sea ice
198 extent and volume. We recorded 521 sediment cores with lithophysical analyses, including the
199 documentation of core lamina, sediment density, mass accumulation rates, biogenic opal and barium,
200 silicon/aluminum weight ratios, carbon/nitrogen ratios, inorganic and organic calcium carbonate and
201 carbon, inorganic nitrogen, sulfur, and clay mineral composition (Figure 3).

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203 3.4 Research cruise and publication rate

204 We cataloged 565 peer-reviewed publications and cruise reports and evaluated the progress of
205 paleoceanographic research using a suite of annual assessments of cruise and core metadata and
206 publications. We evaluated the annual number of age models published (using any dating technique), age



207 models published specifically with radiocarbon dating, publications generated, sediment cores collected,
208 research cruises completed, and the mean number of proxies generated per core (Figure 4). Cruise reports
209 were not publicly available for every cruise or core, and many cores cited in cruise reports were never
210 published upon in peer-reviewed literature. The number of affiliated publications and cruise reports per
211 core ranged from 0 to 23 publications (Figure 5). Only 41 cores have more than 6 publications, while the
212 majority of cores (1210 cores, or 57% of all cores extracted from the North Pacific) lack any publication.
213

214 The state of North Pacific paleoceanographic investigations has evolved incrementally in the 65-year
215 history of research in the region, and we characterize the history into two distinct phases (before and after
216 the early 1990s). Core recovery rates were high from 1951-1988, a period when expeditions were driven
217 by individual institutions, wherein peer-reviewed publication was not the primary research outcome and
218 therefore publication rates were low (Figure 4). Annual rates of cruise completion and sediment core
219 extraction peaked in 1965-1968, and this is a consequence of the temporal overlap in peak research efforts
220 by Scripps Institute of Oceanography (1951-1988), Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (1964-1975),
221 Oregon State University (1962-1972), and the Deep Sea Drilling Project (1971-1982).
222

223 Annual rates of publication (peer-reviewed and cruise reports), including those publications with age
224 models, increased around 1995 (Figure 4). In this later period, research cruise efforts were dominated by
225 international research team efforts and resulted in increased peer-reviewed publications, sediment core
226 chronology constructions, and proliferation of radiocarbon dating. There are 41 cores with the highest
227 level of documentation (>6 publications), and these archives are primarily located within the California
228 Current (Figure 5). Major peaks in cruising and coring efforts coincided with research cruises by the
229 International Ocean Discovery Program, such as ODP Legs 145 and 146 in 1992 (North Pacific Transect,
230 Cascadia Margin), ODP Leg 167 in 1996 (California Margin), and IODP Expedition 323 in 2009 (Bering
231 Sea). Despite the increase in publications around 1995, we observe no distinct temporal trend in the rate
232 of cruise completion and coring effort (Figure 4).



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234 **4 Discussion**

235 **4.1 Evolving state of North Pacific coring and paleoceanographic approaches**

236 Extensive cruise and research efforts have focused on the marine geology of the North Pacific. Often, the
237 cruise and core metadata from these efforts is unpublished, though they are integral to collaboration,
238 continued research, and publication. Here, we present a database with 2134 sediment cores, 283 research
239 cruises, and 565 peer-reviewed publications related to paleoceanographic research (Table 1). We
240 cataloged 519 publications with sedimentary age models, and of those age models 266 utilize radiocarbon
241 dating. Throughout the North Pacific, Bering Sea, Sea of Okhotsk, and Sea of Japan, the techniques for
242 reconstructing sedimentary age models regionally varied. Our database encompasses all available lines of
243 proxy evidence for sea surface temperature reconstructions, paleobiological assemblages, seafloor
244 geochemistry, sea ice reconstruction, and other sedimentary analyses. We observe and discuss two
245 distinct periods of research and publication effort (before and after the early 90s) (Figure 4).

246

247 We documented a community-wide shift away from singular dating techniques toward age models which
248 incorporate several techniques. Multiproxy approaches hold merit through verifying or constraining the
249 results of a singular proxy, and thereby disentangling multiple environmental drivers and providing
250 redundancy in order to create records of climate and ocean conditions from sediment cores (Mix et al.,
251 2000; Mann, 2002). Publication count and age model development has increased through the last 60 years
252 and evolved from singular dating techniques to more detailed high-resolution age models constructed to
253 investigate millennial and submillennial paleoceanographic variability (Figure 4, 5).

254

255 **4.2 The merit of database management and open-access science**

256 Databases are integral to facilitate efficient, hypothesis-based investigations into earth system
257 mechanisms. Public access to databases facilitate a higher volume of research by a diverse range of
258 scientists (Harnad and Brody 2004). The necessity for databases to encompass a wide array of data over



259 large oceanographic provinces is also largely recognized. Open access tools from PANGAEA support
260 database-dependent research, because hypothesis-based investigations can be make more efficient
261 through public access. For example, content from online databases has contributed to research in
262 atmospheric forcing (e.g. Shaffer et al., 2009), Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC, e.g.
263 Schmittner and Galbraith, 2008), and Southern Ocean ventilation (e.g. Yamamoto et al., 2015). The
264 metadata in these databases must be thorough, as data is impractical without the affiliated identifier,
265 location, and methods (Lehnert et al., 2000). Database management should be a priority in any field that
266 incorporates the contents of online repositories of knowledge and research. The disconnect between the
267 research goals of the paleoceanographic community and the metadata produced here can be described as a
268 “breakdown”, a limit on the progress of paleoceanographic research (Tanweer et al., 2016). These
269 breakdowns allow us to self-assess and move forward with insight into best practices. Metadata is
270 produced from datasets that are inherently human in design, and therefore are not inerrant. Assessment of
271 the errors in metadata reporting can directly reveal the need for community-wide improvements. As an
272 example, all cores should be reported with latitude and longitude; the absence of this specific metadata
273 significantly impairs further work. The database presented here, as well as others like it, consolidates the
274 research effort of an entire community into an efficient tool for future investigative purposes.

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276 **4.3 Recommendations for the marine geology community**

277 Ocean sediment records are one of the primary tools for understanding earth’s history, and the
278 documentation of these records benefits the entire community of earth scientists. The publications and
279 cruise reports here represent a large body of research completed on North Pacific sediment records,
280 however this may not constitute the entire body of work. We demonstrate here a need for more thorough,
281 accessible documentation of marine geology and paleoceanographic research. In our examination of
282 publications, cruise reports, and notes from research cruises, we gained insights into past inconsistencies
283 in marine sediment record reporting. We recommend a suite actions to ensure efficient, comprehensive
284 sediment core collection, metadata documentation, and the publication of chronologies and proxies. We



285 propose that each publication thoroughly reports metadata on all cores discussed, and their associated
286 cruises, including core unique identifier numbers, cruise name and number, vessel name, geographic
287 coordinates, core recovery date, core length, core recovery water depth (meters below sea level), sampling
288 resolution, sampling volume, core archival repository, and the link (if existing) to public cruise reports.
289 We also suggest summarizing each core's metadata, age model, and publication history of previous
290 publications in the methods section in order to provide a frame of reference for new findings, especially in
291 the context of iterative age model revisions.

292

293 **5 Author Contribution**

294 S. E. Myhre and C. V. Davis initiated the building of this database. M. Borreggine and S. E. Myhre built
295 the database and were joined by K. A. S. Mislan in producing figures and analysis for this manuscript. All
296 authors wrote the manuscript.

297

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306 Washington. The database can be found online at (doi:X) from PANGAEA.

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311 **Figure and Tables**

312 **Table 1.** Regional summary of sediment core database for the Bering Sea, North Pacific, Sea of Japan,
 313 and Sea of Okhotsk, including number of cores recovered, the regional percent (%) of cores reported with
 314 latitude and longitude, number of research cruises, total regional publication count, count of cores with no
 315 peer-reviewed publications or cruise report, the range of core recovery years, the regional percent (%) of
 316 cores reported with recovery years, and the range of recovered core water depths (meters below sea level).

Region	Bering Sea	North Pacific	Sea of Japan	Sea of Okhotsk	Total
Count of cruises	24	179	78	31	283
Count of publications	70	306	114	90	565
Count of cores with no publications* or cruise report	61	849	172	128	1210
Number of cores recovered	123	1391	349	271	2134
Percent of regional cores (%) reported with latitude and longitude	91.9	81.9	77.7	91.9	83.4
Range of core recovery years	1957-2009	1951-2009	1957-2010	1972-2009	1951-2010
Percent of regional cores (%) reported with recovery year	87	68.9	96.9	98.5	76.8
Range of recovered core water depths (meters below sea level)	33-3930	21-9585	129-5986	105-8180	21-9585

317 * These cores are listed in large data tables in auxiliary publications, but the original reporting is not publicly

318 available.

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325 **Table 2.** Percent of regional cores reported with coring technology, and the number of cores recovered in
 326 the North Pacific and marginal seas by coring technology. Additional reported coring technologies
 327 include the less often utilized Hydrostatic cores, Kasten cores, Asura cores, Pressure cores, and Trigger
 328 cores.

Region	Bering Sea	North Pacific	Sea of Japan	Sea of Okhotsk
% of regional cores reported with drilling technology	75.6	72.1	60.2	68.6
# of Piston cores	33	476	177	67
# of Gravity cores	11	250	15	73
# of Box cores	2	78	1	1
# of Riserless Drilling cores	7	52	0	0
# of Multicores	33	39	1	39
# of Phleger cores	0	15	0	0
# of Jumbo Piston cores	4	10	0	0

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342 **Table 3.** Summary statistics on core chronology, including the number of cores with radiocarbon dating
 343 (^{14}C) and oxygen isotope stratigraphy of planktonic foraminifera ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$), as well as the regional mean core
 344 top and bottom ages, and the number of cores with published sedimentation rate ranges and means.

Region	Bering Sea	North Pacific	Sea of Japan	Sea of Okhotsk
^{14}C Dating	28	158	38	42
$\delta^{18}\text{O}$ Stratigraphy, Planktonic foraminifera	20	122	29	32
Mean core top age (Calendar age, ka)	6.0 ± 9.6	9.5 ± 61.6	5.9 ± 28.4	1.1 ± 2.3
Mean core bottom age (Calendar age, ka)	523.7 ± 1146.2	6210.8 ± 20250.7	996.1 ± 2602.2	153.1 ± 279.2
Cores with sedimentation rate range	28	97	20	18
Cores with sedimentation rate mean	7	68	9	16

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356 **Table 4.** Regional summary of isotop^o geochemical, biological, and sedimentary proxies. Benthic and
 357 planktonic isotopic analysis is for all cores, including, but not limited to, isotope analysis used in core
 358 chronology development.

Region	Bering Sea	North Pacific	Sea of Japan	Sea of Okhotsk
$\delta^{18}\text{O}_b$	19	118	15	25
$\delta^{18}\text{O}_p$	20	139	45	32
$\delta^{13}\text{C}_b$	7	57	7	6
$\delta^{13}\text{C}_p$	6	50	10	1
$\delta^{15}\text{N}$	5	16	12	1
Alkenone $\text{U}^{\text{K}'}_{37}$	7	64	15	12
TEX ₈₆	0	1	0	0
Foraminiferal Biostratigraphy	12	82	22	8
Foraminiferal Abundance	8	53	41	18
Diatom Biostratigraphy	35	87	49	25
Geochemical Proxies (Mg, Mo, Cd, Mn, U, Cr, Re, Ca, T, Fe, Mg, Zn, Be, Chlorin)	1	189	46	27
% Opal	21	38	20	20
Total Inorganic Carbon (%)	16	204	49	26
Total Organic Carbon (%)	16	142	62	26

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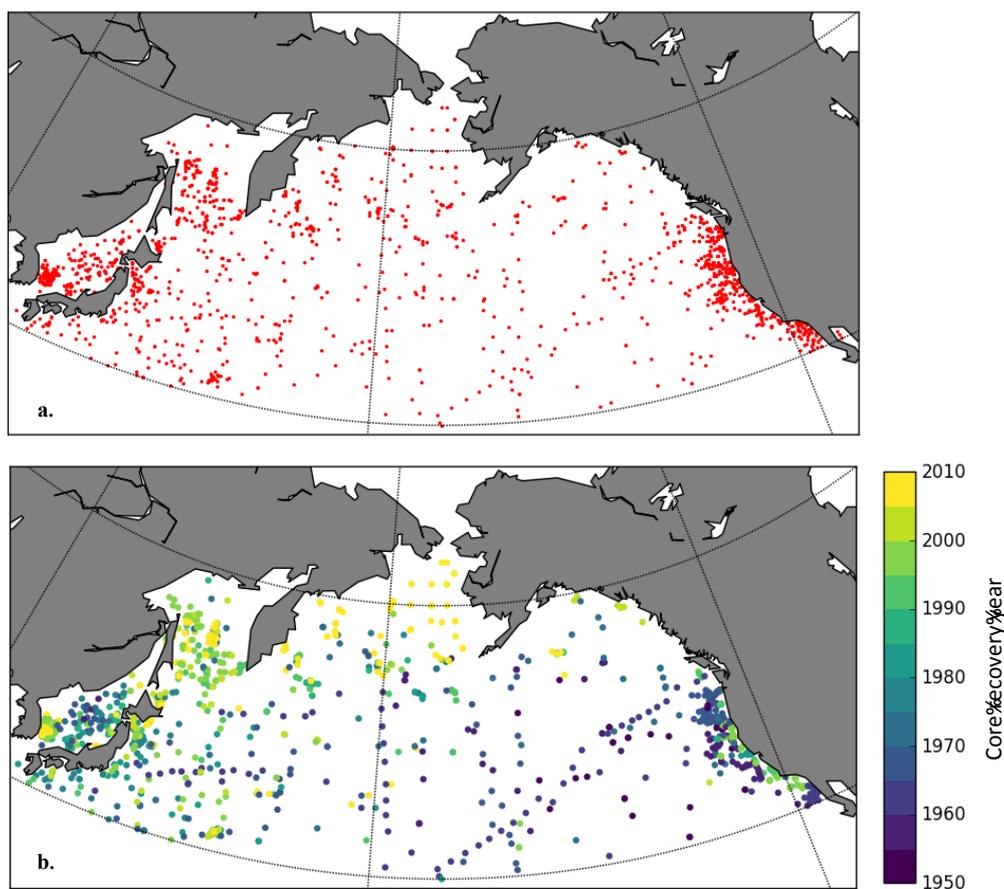
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373 **Figure 1.** Location and recovery year of marine sediment cores from the North Pacific and marginal seas.

374 **a.** Sediment cores in the North Pacific (above 30°N) published latitudes and longitudes (354 additional

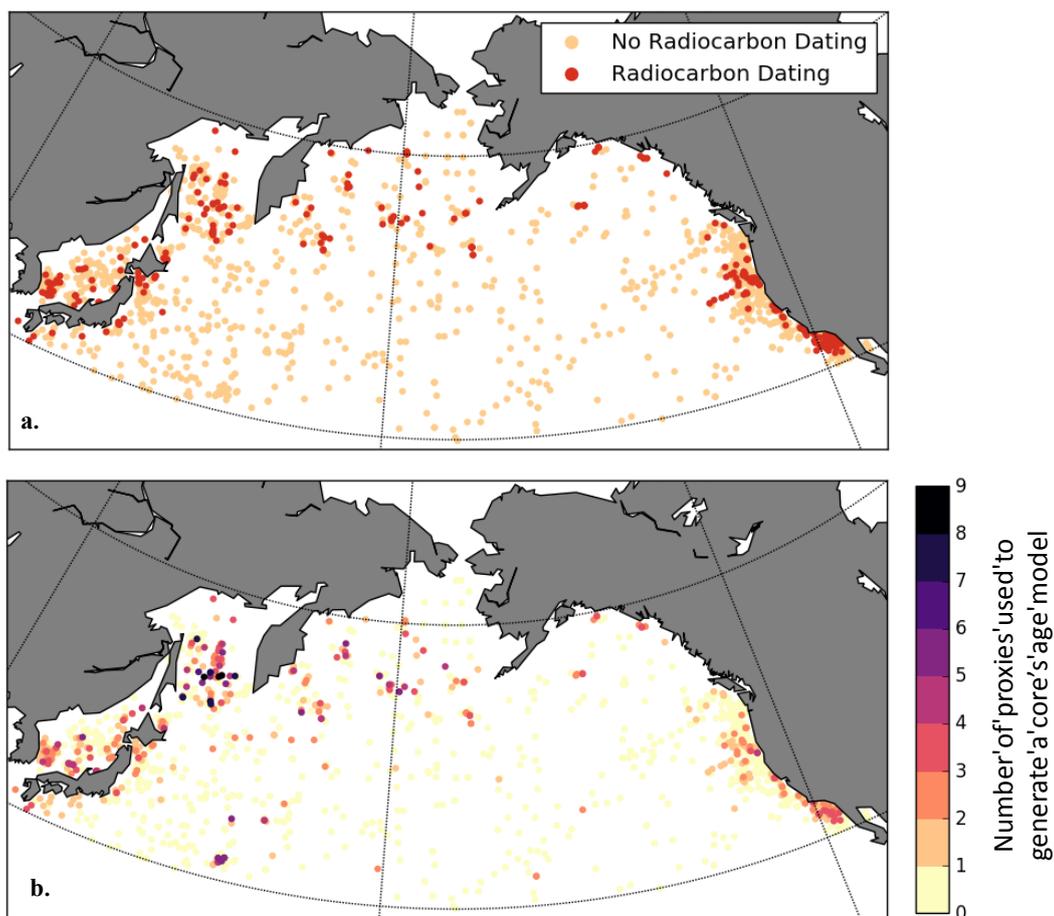
375 cores were documented in either cruise reports or peer-reviewed publications without latitude and

376 longitude). **b.** Sediment cores published with an associated core recovery year, ranging from 1951-2010,

377 and this age range corresponds with the color bar (495 cores have been published in either cruise reports

378 or peer-reviewed publications without recovery year).

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380

381 **Figure 2.** Age model development for sediment cores in the North Pacific and marginal seas. **a.** Cores

382 with age models that have been constructed with radiocarbon dating (^{14}C). **b.** Number of

383 paleoceanographic proxies used to generate each core's age model.

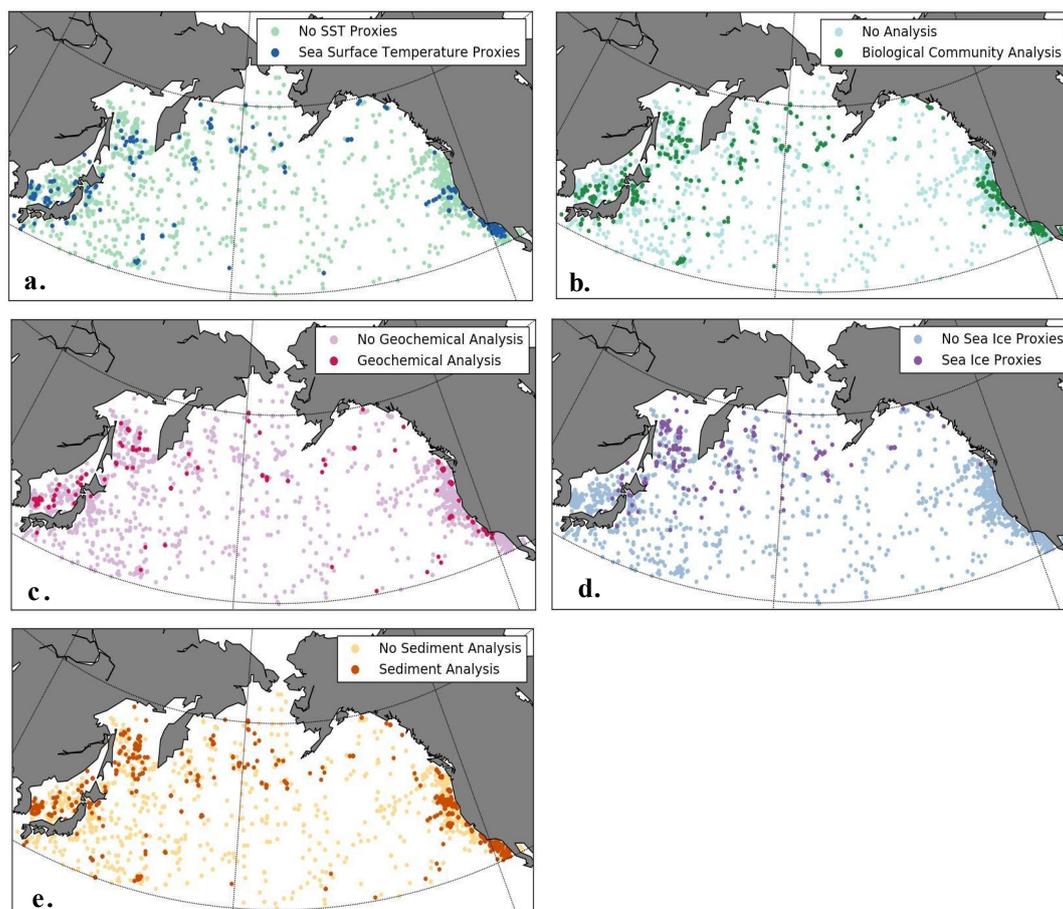
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390 **Figure 3.** Published paleoceanographic proxies in the North Pacific. a. sea surface temperature

391 reconstructions including planktonic foraminifera oxygen isotopes ($\delta^{18}O_p$), magnesium/calcium

392 measurements, TEX_{86} , and U^{k}_{37} alkenones b. biostratigraphy of microfossils, including foraminifera,

393 diatoms, radiolarians, ostracods, silicoflagellates, ebridians, acritarchs, coccolithophores, and

394 dinoflagellates c. geochemical proxy analysis, including trace metals such as brassicasterol, magnesium,

395 calcium, molybdenum, cadmium, manganese, uranium, chromium, rhenium, chlorin, titanium, iron, zinc,

396 and beryllium d. presence of sea ice proxies including geochemical biomarker IP25, ice-rafted debris

397 (IRD), and sea ice related diatom communities e. analysis of lithophysical core proxies, including

398 measurements of core lamina, biogenic opal and barium, silicon/aluminum weight ratio, sulfur, inorganic



399 and organic carbon weight and mass accumulation rates, mass accumulation rates of various elements,

400 inorganic nitrogen, carbon to nitrogen ratios, sediment density, and clay mineral composition.

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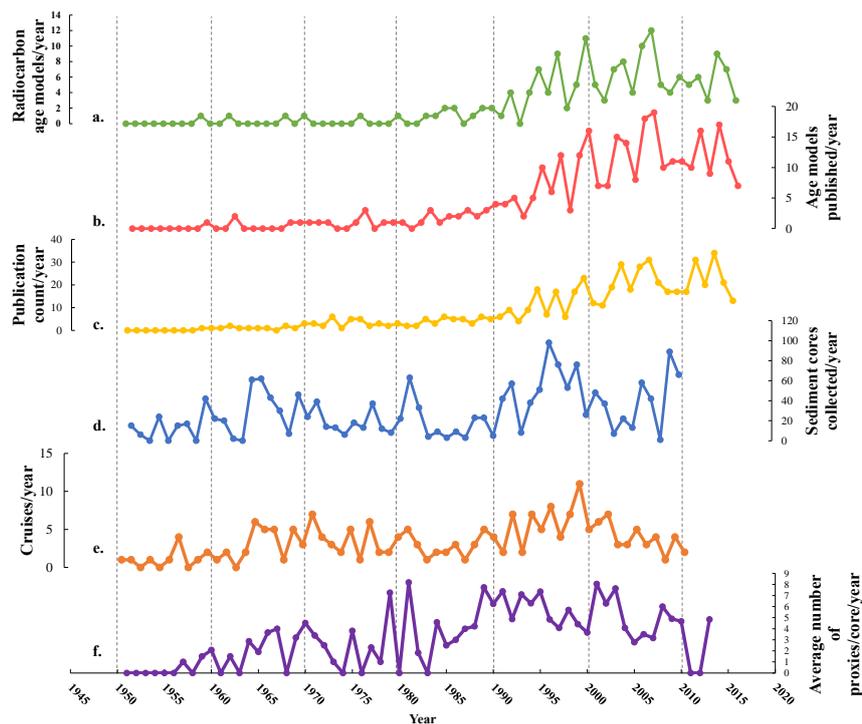
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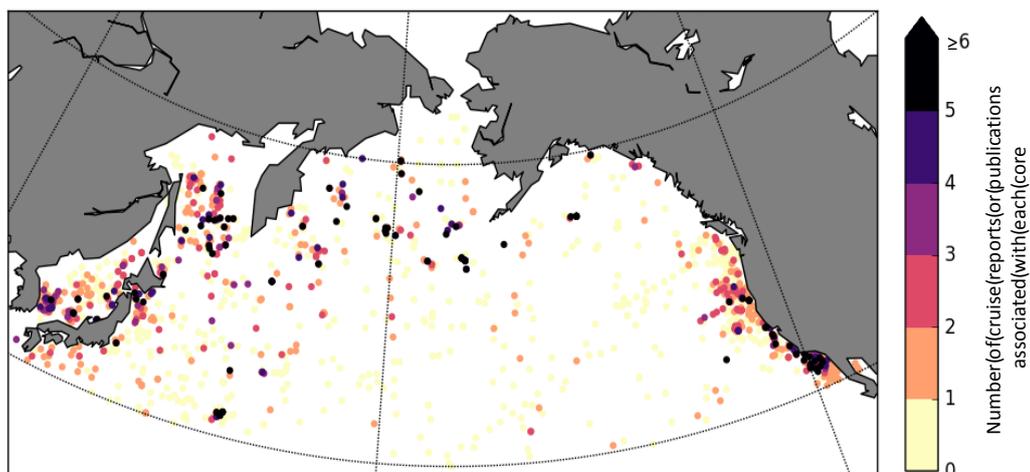
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414 **Figure 4.** North Pacific and marginal seas marine geology cruise and paleoceanographic research
 415 progress through time, wherein the lead-lag timing of cruise reporting and core publication is assumed for
 416 the most recent years. We utilize peer-reviewed publications to locate cores, and there is a lag between
 417 publication and core extraction. **a.** Annual number of age models published using radiocarbon dating. **b.**
 418 Annual number of all age models published. **c.** Total annual number of publications and cruise reports. **d.**
 419 Annual number of cores collected. **e.** Marine research expedition count per year. **f.** Annual mean number
 420 of proxy analyses published per core.



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422 **Figure 5.** Number of affiliated publications and cruise reports for each core. Maximum publication count

423 for an individual core is 23.

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437 7 **References**

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