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# Glacial-to-Holocene Redistribution of Carbonate Ion in the Deep Sea

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We have reconstructed the glacial-age distribution of carbonate ion concentration in the deep waters of the equatorial ocean on the basis of differences in weight between glacial and Holocene foraminifera shells picked from a series of cores spanning a range of water depth on the western Atlantic's Ceara Rise and the western Pacific's Ontong Java Plateau. The results suggest that unlike today's ocean, sizable vertical gradients in the carbonate ion concentration existed in the glacial-age deep ocean. In the equatorial Pacific, the concentration increased with depth, and in the Atlantic, it decreased with depth. In addition, the contrast between the carbonate ion concentration in deep waters produced in the northern Atlantic and deep water in the Pacific appears to have been larger than in today's ocean.

Chemical feedbacks operating in the ocean lead to adjustments in its carbonate ion  $(CO_3^{2-})$  concentration which ensure that the burial of calcite and aragonite formed by marine organisms does not exceed the supply to the ocean of the ingredients required for the manufacture of these minerals (i.e., CO<sub>2</sub> and CaO) (1, 2). In today's ocean the large overproduction of CaCO<sub>3</sub> hardparts by marine organisms is compensated by dissolution. The  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration is driven to that level where the excess production (over supply) is redissolved. Because the solubility of calcite increases with pressure (3-5), the tendency to dissolve intensifies with depth. Consequently, the "red clays" that coat the ocean's abyssal plains have lost all their CaCO<sub>3</sub> to dissolution. By contrast, the "oozes" that drape the ocean's ridge crests and plateaus are rich in CaCO<sub>3</sub>. A transition zone characterized by decreasing CaCO<sub>3</sub> content separates the realm of preservation from that of complete dissolution.

Although through much of the deep sea

the  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  concentration is quite uniform (84  $\pm$  3 µmol/kg), that part of the deep Atlantic occupied by North Atlantic Deep Water (NADW) has a significantly higher concentration of this ion (i.e., 112  $\pm$  4 µmol/kg) (6). The higher  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  concentration in NADW leads to a deeper transition zone in the Atlantic than in the Pacific Ocean.

Since 1970, many studies have been carried out to determine how the transition-zone depth differed during glacial time (7-17). The consensus from these studies is that it was shallower in the Atlantic and deeper in the Pacific. However, the methods used to reconstruct these changes are either qualitative or subject to multiple interpretations. We have adopted the method described by Lohmann (18, 19) to reconstruct the distribution of  $CO_3^{2-}$  in the glacial deep sea by weighing shells of a given planktonic species picked from a fixed size range. This approach is based on the observation that shells lose on the average about 1% of their mass for each µmol/kg decrease in the pressure-normalized bottom-water  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration  $[CO_3^{2-*} = CO_3^{2-} + 20(4 - z)]$ , where z is the water depth (in km) and the units for  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration are  $\mu$ mol/ kg (20)].

For this study, we selected cores from a

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series of water depths on the Ceara Rise in the western equatorial Atlantic and on the Ontong Java Plateau in the western equatorial Pacific. We made shell-weight measurements on three planktonic species: Globigerinoides sacculifer, Pulleniatina obliquiloculata, and Neogloboquadrina dutertrei (50 shells each) picked from the 355- to 420-µm-size fraction. The results are summarized in Web table 1 (21) and Fig. 1. We adopted a 0.3-µg drop in shell weight per  $\mu$ mol/kg drop in pressurenormalized  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration (20) to convert shell-weight differences to  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration changes. As summarized in Fig. 2, these results suggest that the  $CO_3^{2-}$  gradient in the glacial deep Atlantic was far steeper than it is today. At 2800-m depth, the  $CO_3^{2-}$ concentration appears to have been about 28 µmol/kg higher than in today's ocean, and at 4.0 km it appears to have been as much as 23 µmol/kg lower than in today's ocean. The depth separating waters with higher from those with lower concentrations was about 3.5 km. In the Pacific, little glacial-to-Holocene change in  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration occurred at 2.3-km depth, but at 4.0 km, the CO32- concentration was about 18 µmol/kg higher during glacial time than it is now. The uncertainty for a given shell-weight measurement is on the order of 2 µg. When expressed as  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration, 2 µg corresponds to 7 μmol/kg (22).

Attempts to reconstruct past CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> distributions suffer from the common drawback that much of the dissolution occurs in the sediment pore waters rather than on the sea floor (23-28). This dissolution is driven by respiration CO2, which lowers the pore-water  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration below that in bottom water, thereby permitting dissolution to occur well above the calcite saturation horizon (i.e., that level separating the overlying waters supersaturated with calcite from the underlying waters undersaturated with calcite). Because of this complication, our shell-weight measurements record CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> concentration changes in the pore water rather than bottom water. They can be applied to bottom water only with the assumption that the offset between the  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration in bottom water and pore water was the same during glacial time as it is today. Because the magnitude of this offset depends on the rain rate of organic material to the sea floor, it is subject to change.

The method described by Lohmann (18, 19) also depends on the assumption that initial shell calcite thickness does not undergo changes with growth environment. We have shown that at least for *P. obliquiloculata* and *N. dutertrei*, this is not the case (20). Rather, the initial thickness varies with growth locale. Therefore, we studied cores from a range of water depths at the same locale so that at any given time the shells were supplied

from the same surface-water source. Hence, differential weight changes from depth to depth cannot be attributed to variable growth conditions. But the only way in which shell weights for Atlantic and Pacific samples of the same age or in which Holocene and glacial samples from the same place can be tested to ascertain the influence of differences in initial shell thickness is to examine the concordance among species, the assumption being that changes in growth conditions should not impact all species by the same amount.



Fig. 1. Plots of average whole-shell weights as a function of depth in the sediment cores. (Left) Results of three giant gravity cores from the Atlantic's Ceara Rise (5°N). (Top to bottom: KNR110-82, KNR110-66, and KNR110-50.) The dashed lines mark the midpoint of the glacial-to-Holocene large increase in CaCO<sub>3</sub> content (36, 37). The sections in the deepest core where too few whole shells were present represent zones of sufficiently intense dissolution to lead to shell disintegration. (Right) Results from six equatorial cores from the Pacific's Ontong Java Plateau. ( Top to bottom: MW91-9-36, MW91-9-15, MW91-9-51, V28-238, MW91-9-56, and MW91-9-55.) Three of these (the top of each depth-pair) are box cores on which detailed sampling was conducted, allowing the decline in shell weight following the Termination I preservation event (36, 37) to be documented. The other three (the bottom of each depth-pair) are piston or giant gravity cores that penetrated into glacial-age sediment. For these cores, only measurements on samples from below Termination I are plotted. The box cores were <sup>14</sup>C-dated (37). The dashed line marks the depth at which the <sup>14</sup>C age is 13,000 years. The position of the midpoint of the Termination I in the longer cores is based on <sup>18</sup>O measurements on planktonic foraminifera. In the deepest pair of cores, whole G. sacculifer shells were present only in the section representing the Termination I preservation event.

Fig. 2. Reconstruction of the <sup>2-</sup> concentration in the equa-CÕ torial zones of the glacial Atlantic and Pacific. The reconstruction is based on the weight differences between core-top and glacial-age whole foraminifera shells [Web table 1 (21)]. The glacial-to-late Holocene  $CO_3^{2-}$  differences are calculated on the basis of the 0.3 μg per μmol per kg relation (20). These differences are referenced to the global  $CO_3^{2-}$  distribution established by measurements made as part of the GEOSECS survey. The arrows indicate the direction of change in the case of doglegs in the relation between shell weight and pressure-normalized  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration.



The relation between shell weight and pressure-normalized  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration likely terminates in a dogleg, because at the depth of the saturation horizon, a second mechanism for dissolution comes into play, namely, dissolution while the shell lies on the sea floor. This weight loss would have to be added to that which occurs in the pore water, thus steepening the weight-loss dependence on pressure-normalized CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> concentration. Our deepest Pacific cores are likely currently bathed in waters undersaturated with respect to calcite.

Finally, as the pressure-normalized  $CO_{2}^{2-}$ concentration increases, it would be expected that a point would be reached where the excess CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> content of bottom water would no longer be able to compensate for reduction in the pore waters caused by the release of respiration CO<sub>2</sub>. If so, one would expect an up-watercolumn decrease in the coefficient relating shell-weight loss to pressure-normalized  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration.

The results presented here are consistent with the traditional concept that the lysocline in the Pacific was deeper during glacial time, whereas that in the Atlantic was shallower (7-17). But this shift in the Atlantic lysocline is not the result of a lower  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration in NADW (it was higher during glacial time). Rather, it is more likely due to an upward shift in the interface separating low-CO<sub>2</sub><sup>2-</sup> content Antarctic Bottom Water (AABW) from high- $CO_3^{2-}$  content NADW. In today's ocean, AABW has a CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>concentration that is 30 µmol/kg lower than that of NADW; hence, if AABW were to displace NADW, there would be a 1.5-km shoaling of the lysocline.

It is tempting to attribute the high glacial CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> concentration at 2.8-km depth in the tropical Atlantic to the presence of low-nutrient upper glacial NADW. But, as shown by cadmium (29) and barium (30, 31) measurements on benthic foraminifera, the transition between glacial-age upper and lower NADW was considerably shallower (i.e., at about 2.3-km depth).

Although it might be expected that  $CO_3^{2-}$ concentration would be inversely related to nutrient concentration, the situation is not so simple. The complication has to do with the transport of CO<sub>2</sub> through the atmosphere and with sea-floor CaCO<sub>3</sub> dissolution. If the ocean were a closed system with respect to communication with the atmosphere and its sediments, one would indeed expect an inverse relation between nutrient concentration and  $CO_2^{2-}$  concentration; the respiration  $CO_2$ associated with the nutrients would remain in the water and react with  $CO_3^{2-}$  (and  $HBO_3^{-}$ ) and hence drive down the  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration. In today's ocean, deep water forming in the Southern Ocean has about 0.8 µmol/kg more PO<sub>4</sub> than that forming in the northern Atlantic. On the basis of an O<sub>2</sub>-to-PO<sub>4</sub> Redfield coefficient of 125 (32), this difference corresponds to 100 µmol/kg of respiration CO<sub>2</sub>. If the ocean were a closed system, newly formed Southern Ocean deep water should have a  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration of about 85 µmol/kg less than that in newly formed northern Atlantic deep water. But the observed difference between the  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentrations in these end-member water types is only about 30  $\mu$ mol/kg (6), mainly because CO<sub>2</sub> moves through the atmosphere. As shown by Broecker and Peng (33), this leads to a release of CO<sub>2</sub> from high-nutrient Southern Ocean surface waters and an uptake of  $CO_2$  by northern Atlantic surface waters. The impact of this transfer is to reduce the difference between the respiration CO<sub>2</sub> burdens of these two water types and hence also in their initial CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> concentrations. So when considering the glacial contrast, it is not only the difference in nutrient concentration that has to be considered but also the efficiency with which CO<sub>2</sub> transport took place through the atmosphere. In today's ocean, the impact of this transfer is large.

A puzzling aspect of our reconstruction is that the  $CO_{2}^{2-}$  concentration at 4-km-depth water in the Atlantic appears to have been reduced to lower  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration than that for 4-km-depth water in the equatorial Pacific. If this reconstruction proves to be correct, then the pattern of thermohaline circulation during glacial time must have been fundamentally different than it is today. But, as already mentioned, if a dogleg exists in the relation between weight loss and pressurecorrected  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration, then the changes in  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration at 4-km depth may be smaller than shown in Fig. 2, and the  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentrations at 4-km depth in the two oceans may have been similar.

Also puzzling is that the large vertical gradient in the Atlantic's CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> concentration is not seen in either the benthic  ${}^{13}C(34)$ or <sup>14</sup>C (35) results. As summarized in Web table 2 (21), the  $\delta^{13}$ C values for glacial benthic foraminifera were nearly identical  $(+0.3 \pm 0.1\%)$  for the depths of the three cores studied here. Also summarized in Web table 2 (21) are the differences between the <sup>14</sup>C ages for glacial-age benthic and planktonic foraminifera from these same three Ceara Rise cores (35). Again, no significant difference exists. Neither the <sup>13</sup>C nor the <sup>14</sup>C results are consistent with the interpretation that the penetration of Southern Ocean waters into the deep Atlantic was more pronounced at 4.0-km than at 3.5-km depth. If so, one would expect even lower benthic  ${}^{13}C$  to  ${}^{12}C$ and <sup>14</sup>C to C ratios.

Of course, one could attribute these gradients to changes in pore-water rather than bottom-water  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentrations. This would require that during glacial time a substantially smaller fraction of the organic debris falling from the surface Pacific reached 4 km and that a substantially larger fraction reached that depth in the Atlantic. Moreover, not only may the offset between bottomwater and pore-water CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> concentration have differed during glacial time, but these differences may also have varied regionally. Changes in initial shell thickness and the existence of doglegs in the shell weight versus pressure-normalized CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> concentration may further complicate the situation.

Whatever the explanation, the large gradients in  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration in the glacial ocean have important implications because, with one exception, such gradients are absent in today's ocean. The exception is the western basin of the South Atlantic where low- $CO_{2}^{2-}$  concentration AABW underrides high-CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> NADW. In the narrow transition zone between these water masses, a steep gradient exists. But elsewhere in the presentday deep ocean, there is virtually no gradient with depth in  $CO_3^{2-}$  concentration. Thus, our results suggest that the waters supplying the deep sea had a greater range in density, thereby permitting stratification to persist.

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## Requirement of *Math1* for Secretory Cell Lineage Commitment in the Mouse Intestine

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The mouse small intestinal epithelium consists of four principal cell types deriving from one multipotent stem cell: enterocytes, goblet, enteroendocrine, and Paneth cells. Previous studies showed that *Math1*, a basic helix-loop-helix (bHLH) transcription factor, is expressed in the gut. We find that loss of *Math1* leads to depletion of goblet, enteroendocrine, and Paneth cells without affecting enterocytes. Colocalization of *Math1* with Ki-67 in some proliferating cells suggests that secretory cells (goblet, enteroendocrine, and Paneth cells) arise from a common progenitor that expresses *Math1*, whereas absorptive cells (enterocytes) arise from a progenitor that is *Math1*-independent. The continuous rapid renewal of these cells makes the intestinal epithelium a model system for the study of stem cell regeneration and lineage commitment.

The mouse gut begins developing at embryonic day 7.5 (E7.5). Invagination of the most anterior and posterior endoderm leads to the formation of the foregut and hindgut pockets, respectively, which extend toward each other and fuse to form the gut tube. By E15.5, the gut appears as a poorly differentiated, pseudostratified epithelium. From E15.5 to E19, nascent villi with a monolayer of epithelial cells develop in a duodenum-to-colon pattern. During the first two postnatal weeks, the intervillus epithelium, where proliferating and less differentiated cells reside, develops into the crypts of Lieberkühn. Stem cells in the intervillus epithelium (during embryogenesis) or crypts (in adulthood) give rise to four principle cell types: absorptive enterocytes or columnar cells, mucous-secreting goblet cells, regulatory peptide-secreting enteroendocrine cells in the large and small intestines, and antimicrobial peptide-secreting Paneth cells in the small intestine only. Enterocytic, goblet, and enteroendocrine cells continue to differentiate and mature while migrating up the villus, and are finally extruded into the lumen at the tip. This journey takes about 2 to 3 days. The Paneth cells migrate downward and reside at the base of the crypt for ~21 days before being cleared by phagocytosis (1-3).

The epithelial-mesenchymal interaction has been shown to be critical in the proximal-distal, crypt-villus patterning during gut development. A number of signaling molecules and transcription factors are involved in these processes (4-7). Previous studies have suggested that all four epithelial cell lineages originate from a common ancestor (1-3, 8), but the mechanisms

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that control the epithelial lineage differentiation are not well understood. T cell factor-4 (Tcf4) plays a role in the stem cell maintenance in the small intestine but does not induce epithelial cells to differentiate into enterocytes or goblet cells (9). Because *Math1* is expressed in the gut (10) and involved in cell fate determination in the nervous system (11, 12), we sought to determine its function during gut development.

We have two null alleles for Math1: Math1<sup>-/-</sup> (with the coding region replaced by Hprt) and Math1<sup> $\beta$ -Gal/ $\beta$ -Gal</sup> (with the coding region replaced by the  $\beta$ -galactosidase gene, which is then expressed under the control of the Math1 promoter) (11). Math1 null mice die shortly after birth, but Math1 heterozygous mice survive to adulthood and appear normal. We previously showed that Math1/ LacZ expression faithfully mimics the endogenous gene expression (11). Here we used Math1<sup> $\beta$ -Gal/-</sup> instead of Math1<sup> $\beta$ -Gal/ $\beta$ -Gal null mice for X-gal staining experiments to ensure equal copy numbers of the LacZ gene in heterozygous and null animals.</sup>

Math1/LacZ expression within the gut is restricted to the intestinal epithelium starting at E16.5 and is sustained until adulthood (13). We detected no Math1/LacZ expression in the stomach, pancreas, or lung. In E18.5 heterozygous mice, LacZ-positive cells are sparsely scattered in the villi, the intervillus epithelium (Fig. 1A), and colonic crypts (Fig. 1C). In Math1 null littermates, however, LacZ-expressing cells are clustered in the intervillus region of ileum (Fig. 1B) and at the bases of the colonic crypts (Fig. 1D). Math1/LacZ expression persists throughout duodenum, jejunum, ileum, and colon [Fig. 1, E and F, and Web fig. 1 (14)] in adult  $Mathl^{\beta-Gal/+}$  mice. In the villi, the scattered blue cells appear to have a goblet cell morphology (a spherical vacuole); at the base of the crypt, most apical granule-containing Paneth cells appear to be LacZ-positive. Xgal stained cells are also found in the midcrypt region. LacZ expression in adult crypts suggests that Math1 helps initiate cytodifferentiation of the epithelial cells.

We detected no Math1/LacZ expression

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