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Scientific motivation for permanent observations of fluid and gas seepage in the Black Sea

Heiko Sahling, Gerhard Bohrmann, Christoph Waldmann et al.

MARUM and RCOM, Bremen, Germany

Yuri Artemov et al. IBSS, Sevastopol, Ukraine

Michael Ivanov et al. MSU, Moscow, Russia

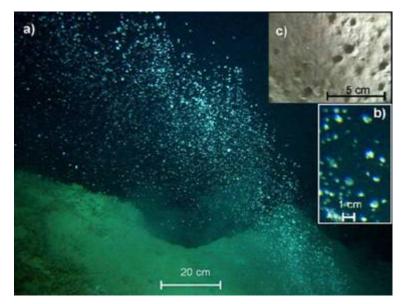
Evgeny Sakvarelidze et al. TSU, Tbilisi, Georgia

Günay Çifçi et al. DEU, Izmir, Turkey

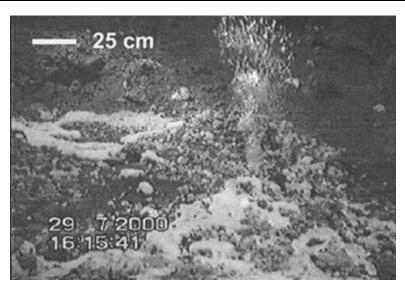
Mustafa Ali Engin et al. TPAO, Ankara, Turkey



GC 185, 543 m Sassen et al 2001 in Geophy Mono 124, 131-143



Håkon Mosby Mud Volcano, 1260 m Sauter et al 2006 EPSL 243, 354-365

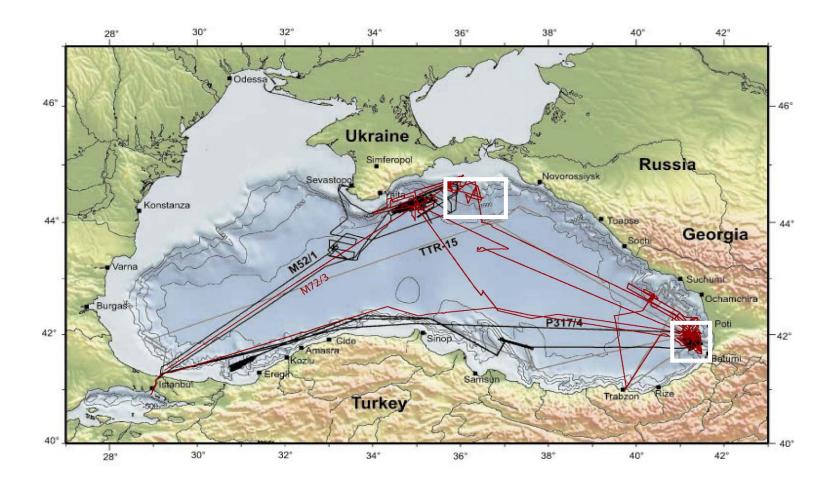


Hydrate Ridge, 780 m Haeckel et al 2004 GCA 68, 4335-4345



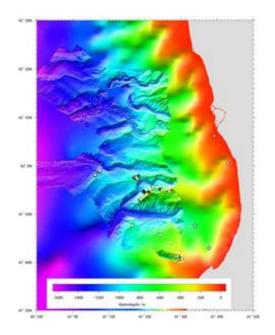
Regab Pockmark, 3150 m Olu et al 2007 Mar Ecol 28, 1-16

Working areas off Georgia and the Crimean Peninsula

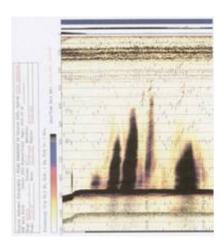


Cruise tracks M52, P317/4, TTR-15, M72/3

Gas seeps off Georgia



Swath mapping – SIMRAD EM 120 ~12 kHz



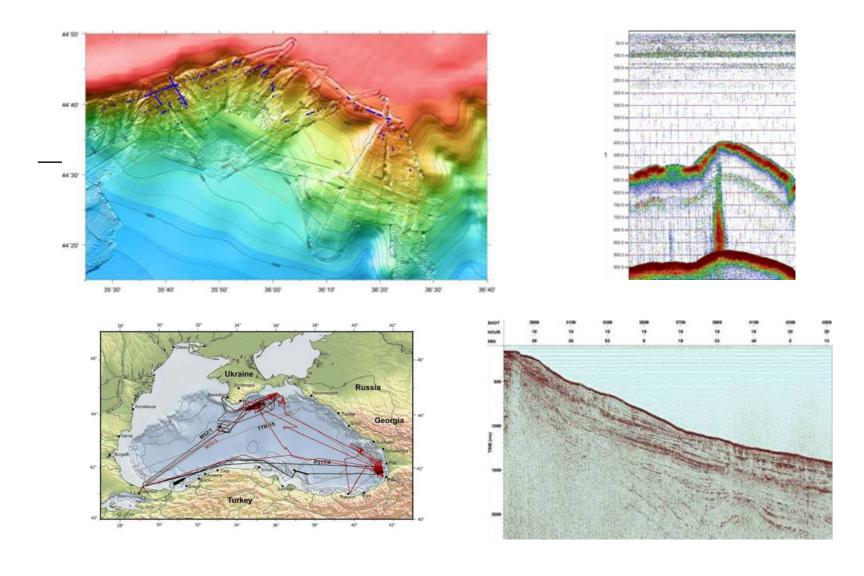
PARASOUND
- parametric
sediment
echosounder ~4 kHz





ROV Quest seafloor observations © marum Bohrmann et al., unpubl.

Gas seeps off Ukrainian Peninsula



Bohrmann & Artemov, unpublished

Why is the Black Sea of interest for ESONET?

- Modern analogue of an anoxic basin
- Model of seepage dominated by gas flux
- Interaction between seepage and presence of hydrate
 - ⇒ High sensitivity to global change

Steps towards permanent monitoring of gas and fluid seeps

Permanent monitoring	Variability re-adjustment, re-positioning Sampling strategy
Long-term variability (month – years)	Quite phases vs. mega-events "blow-out, landsliding" Trigger seismicity, temperature change / oil/gas exploitation
Short term variability (days – weeks)	Temporal variability Controlling factors
	Model of fluid and gas seep
Exploration	Target area Fluid vs. gas vs. gas hydrate Quantification