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Data report: revised composite depth scale and splice for IODP Expedition 363 Site U1483¹

Li Gong,² Julia Lübbers,² Sebastian Beil,² and Ann Holbourn²

Keywords: International Ocean Discovery Program, IODP, *JOIDES Resolution*, Expedition 363, Western Pacific Warm Pool, Site U1483, Northwest Australian margin, composite depth scale, revised composite depth scale, shipboard composite splice, revised composite splice, XRF core scanning

Abstract

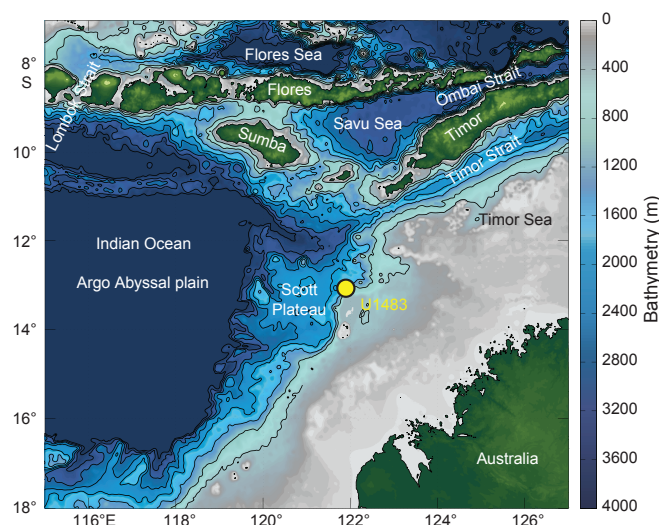
The shipboard sediment splice of International Ocean Discovery Program Expedition 363 Site U1483, drilled in 1733 m water depth on the Scott Plateau off Northwest Australia, was primarily based on a composite of the magnetic susceptibility records at 2.5 cm resolution from three holes drilled at this site. We performed X-ray fluorescence (XRF) core scanning at 2 cm intervals with overlaps of ~1–2 m at splice tie points and used these new data to verify the tie points along the original splice from 0 to 211.53 m core composite depth below seafloor (CCSF). Based on the XRF records, we revised the position of three original tie points and present a revised composite depth scale for Site U1483. These revisions resulted in shifts of up to 94 cm relative to the original shipboard offsets and a continuous section extending down to 211.62 m revised core composite depth below seafloor (r-CCSF).

Introduction

International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP) Site U1483 (13°5.24'S, 121°48.25'E; 1733 m water depth) is located on the Scott Plateau at the northwest margin of the northeast-trending Browse Basin, which lies between the onshore Kimberley Basin and the Scott Plateau along the northwest Australian margin (Rosenthal et al., 2018b) (Figure F1).

Three holes were cored at Site U1483 using the advanced piston corer (APC) system to ~290 meters below seafloor (mbsf) (Rosenthal et al., 2018b). The succession recovered at Site U1483 consists of pelagic and hemipelagic lower Pliocene to recent sediment. Magnetic susceptibility (MS) was used to create the original shipboard splice and composite depth scale at Site U1483. Whole-Round Multisensor Logger (WRMSL) gamma ray attenuation bulk density and natural gamma radiation data were helpful in making correlations,

Figure F1. Location of Site U1483 (modified from Rosenthal et al., 2018a).



but the MS data provided the most consistent means of correlation for splice construction (Rosenthal et al., 2018b). The original splice of Site U1483 consists of two intervals, one from 0 to 211.5 m core composite depth below seafloor (CCSF) and the other from 239.8 to 266.8 m CCSF. No splice was established between 211.5 and 239.8 m CCSF and below 266.8 m CCSF because of soft-sediment deformation. Estimation of offsets for cores between deformed intervals is detailed in Rosenthal et al. (2018b). Here, we present a revision of splice tie points over the interval from 0 to 211.5 m CCSF based on new, high-resolution X-ray fluorescence (XRF) core scanning elemental data.

¹ Gong, L., Lübbers, J., Beil, S., and Holbourn, A., 2020. Data report: revised composite depth scale and splice for IODP Expedition 363 Site U1483. In Rosenthal, Y., Holbourn, A.E., Kulhanek, D.K., and the Expedition 363 Scientists, *Western Pacific Warm Pool*. Proceedings of the International Ocean Discovery Program, 363: College Station, TX (International Ocean Discovery Program). <https://doi.org/10.14379/iodp.proc.363.201.2020>

² Institute of Geosciences, Christian-Albrechts University, Germany. Correspondence author: li.gong@ifg.uni-kiel.de

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Material and methods

The shipboard composite depth scale and splice for Site U1483 were revised using high-resolution XRF core scanning elemental data (2 cm intervals) obtained with the 2nd Generation Avaatech XRF Core Scanner at the Institute of Geosciences, Christian-Albrechts University Kiel (Germany) (Table **T1**). The XRF core scanner is equipped with an XR-100CR detector from Amptek and Oxford Instruments 50W XTF5011 X-ray tube with rhodium target material. Before scanning, the archive halves were equilibrated at room temperature and a thin layer of sediment was removed from the top to obtain a fresh, even surface for scanning. We scanned at 2 cm intervals along the shipboard splice with approximately 1–2 m overlap at splice tie points. Scanning was performed with 10 kV, 750 μ A, 10 s acquisition time, and no filter on archive halves covered with a 4 μ m thick Chemplex Prolene Thin-Film foil to prevent contamination of the XRF detector. We used a crosscore slit size of 1.2 cm and a downcore slit size of 1 cm. Raw X-ray spectra were converted into area counts using the iterative least-square software package WIN_AXIL from Canberra Eurisys and a core-specific model. A total of 15 elements (Al, Si, P, S, Cl, K, Ca, Ti, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Rb, Sr, and Rh) were analyzed. Here, we use the logarithmic ratio of calcium, which is primarily biogenic, against typical terrigenous elements (Al + K + Ti + Fe) because this ratio shows a distinct signal with high-amplitude variability. Logarithmic ratios of elemental counts used for data analysis provide the most easily interpretable signal of chemical variability and minimize measurement artifacts specific to XRF core scanning (Weltje and Tjallingii, 2008).

Table T1. X-ray fluorescence core scanning log (Ca/[Al + K + Ti + Fe]) data for revised intervals of the splice, Site U1483. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Results

The revised composite depth scale and splice cover the complete interval from 14.17 m revised core composite depth below seafloor (r-CCSF) to the end of the first spliced interval at 211.62 m r-CCSF. The higher resolution XRF scanning elemental data with 1–2 m overlaps at the original tie points allowed us to adjust the position of three tie points between Sections 363-U1483C-2H-6 and 363-U1483A-17H-2 (Table **T2**). The MS data along the revised splice and across the three tie points are shown in Figure **F2** and Figure **F3A**, **F3C**, and **F3E**, respectively. Table **T3** summarizes the changes to individual offsets along the splice.

The first revised tie point at 14.17 m r-CCSF connects Section 363-U1483C-2H-6, 77.5 cm (14.58 mbsf), to Section 363-U1483B-3H-1, 76.4 cm (12.26 mbsf) (Figure **F3A**, **F3B**). We adjusted the original tie point by adding 1 cm at the base of the spliced interval in Section 363-U1483C-2H-6 and 93 cm at the top in Section 363-U1483B-3H-1. These changes result in the addition of 94 cm to the splice. The second revised splice tie point at 135.64 m r-CCSF, which corresponds to a distinctive ash layer, connects Section 363-U1483C-14H-6, 126.4 cm (128.64 mbsf), to Section 363-U1483A-14H-3, 78 cm (126.3 mbsf) (Figure **F3C**, **F3D**). We selected the base of the ash layer as the new tie point, adding 45 cm at the base of the spliced interval in Section 363-U1483C-14H-6 and deleting 101 cm from the top of the spliced interval in Section 363-U1483A-14H-3. This revision results in the removal of 56 cm from the splice. The third tie point at 166.62 m r-CCSF was adjusted by correlating Section 363-U1483B-17H-6, 132 cm (153.17 mbsf), to Section 363-U1483A-17H-2, 86 cm (153.43 mbsf). For this correlation, we deleted 17 cm from the bottom of the splice interval in Section 363-U1483B-17H-6 and deleted 12 cm from the top of Section 363-U1483A-17H-2 (Figure **F3E**, **F3F**). This revision results in the removal of 29 cm from the splice. These three revisions resulted in the addition of 9 cm to the original shipboard splice (Table **T2**).

Table T2. Revised splice interval table, Site U1483. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Figure F2. Whole-Round Multisensor Logger magnetic susceptibility (MS) on revised composite depth scale, Holes U1483A–U1483C. Upper panel shows MS splice constructed by combining data from all holes. Red = Hole U1483A, blue = Hole U1483B, green = Hole U1483C, orange triangles = original tie points, black triangles = revised tie points. A. 0–50 m r-CCSF. B. 50–100 m r-CCSF. (Continued on next 2 pages.)

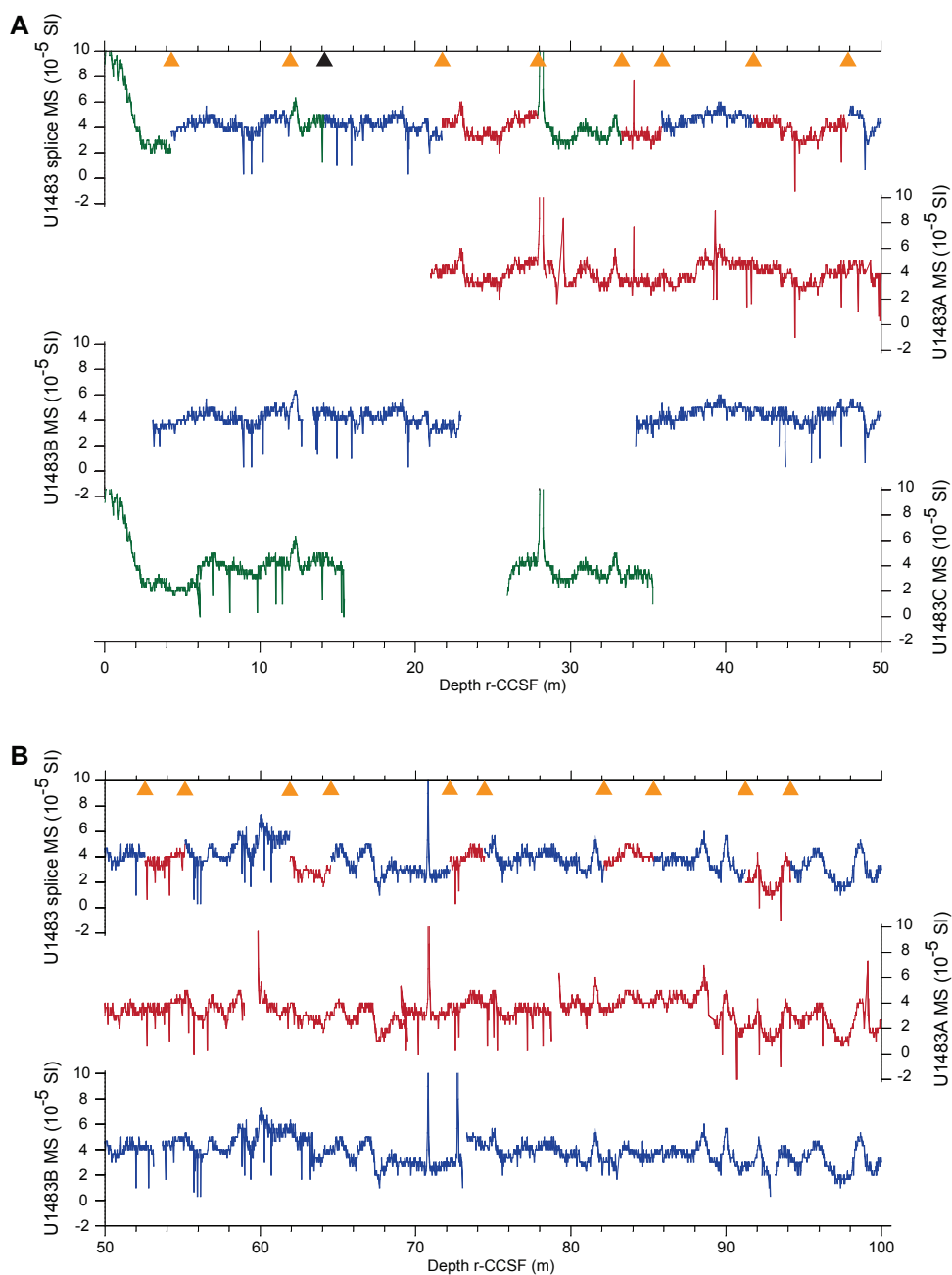


Figure F2 (continued). C. 100–150 m r-CCSF. D. 150–200 m r-CCSF. (Continued on next page.)

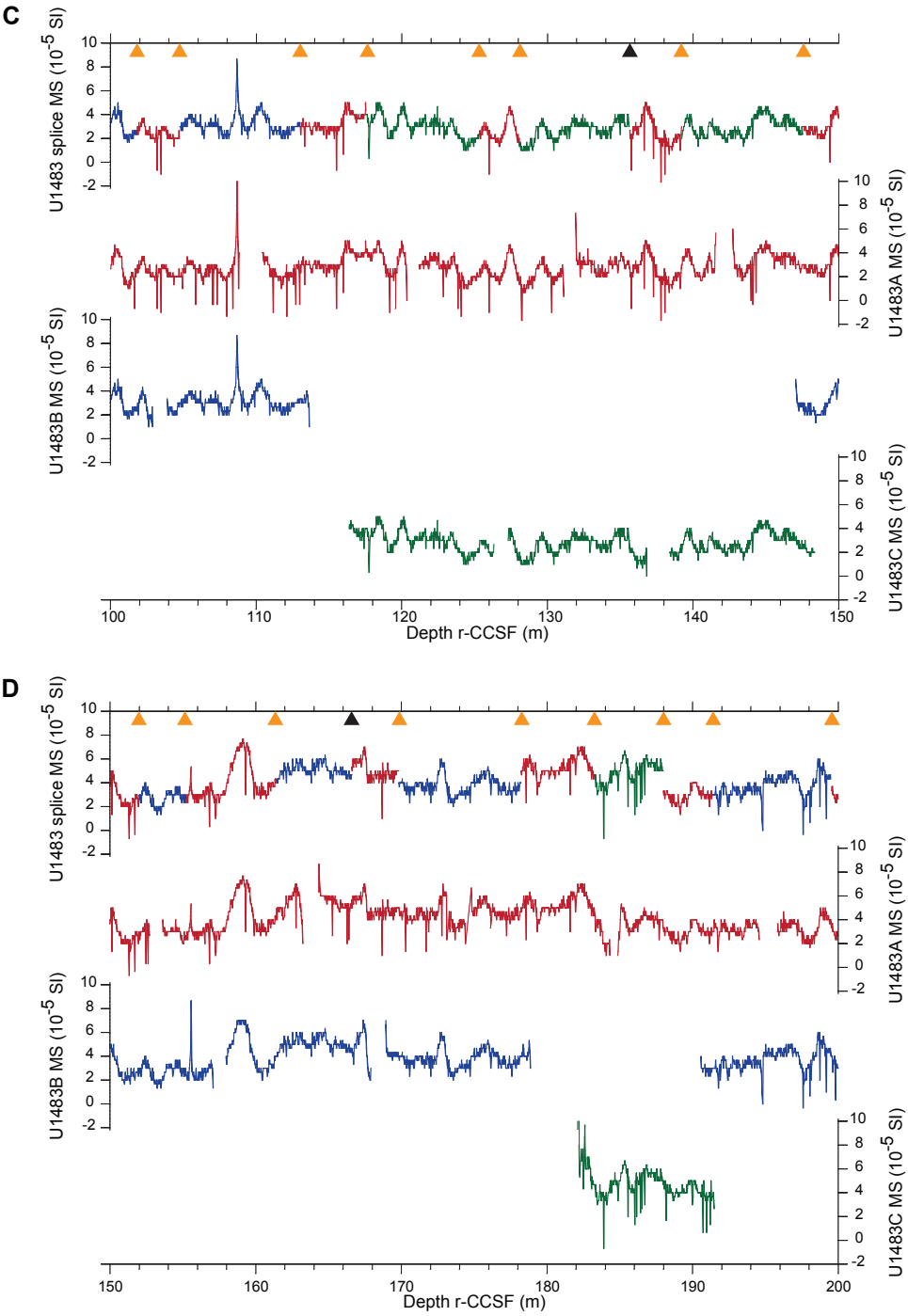


Figure F2 (continued). E. 200–212 m r-CCSF.

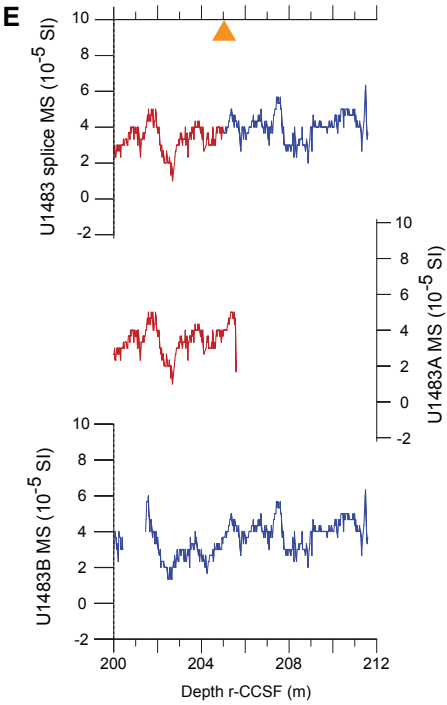


Figure F3. Whole-Round Multisensor Logger (WRMSL) magnetic susceptibility (MS) and X-ray fluorescence (XRF) scanning log (Ca/[Al + K + Ti + Fe]) on revised composite depth scale for revised intervals of the splice, Holes U1483A–U1483C. Red = Hole U1483A, blue = Hole U1483B, green = Hole U1483C, black triangles = revised tie points. A, B. 10–20 m r-CCSF. C, D. 130–140 m r-CCSF. E, F. 160–170 m r-CCSF. XRF data are given in Table T1.

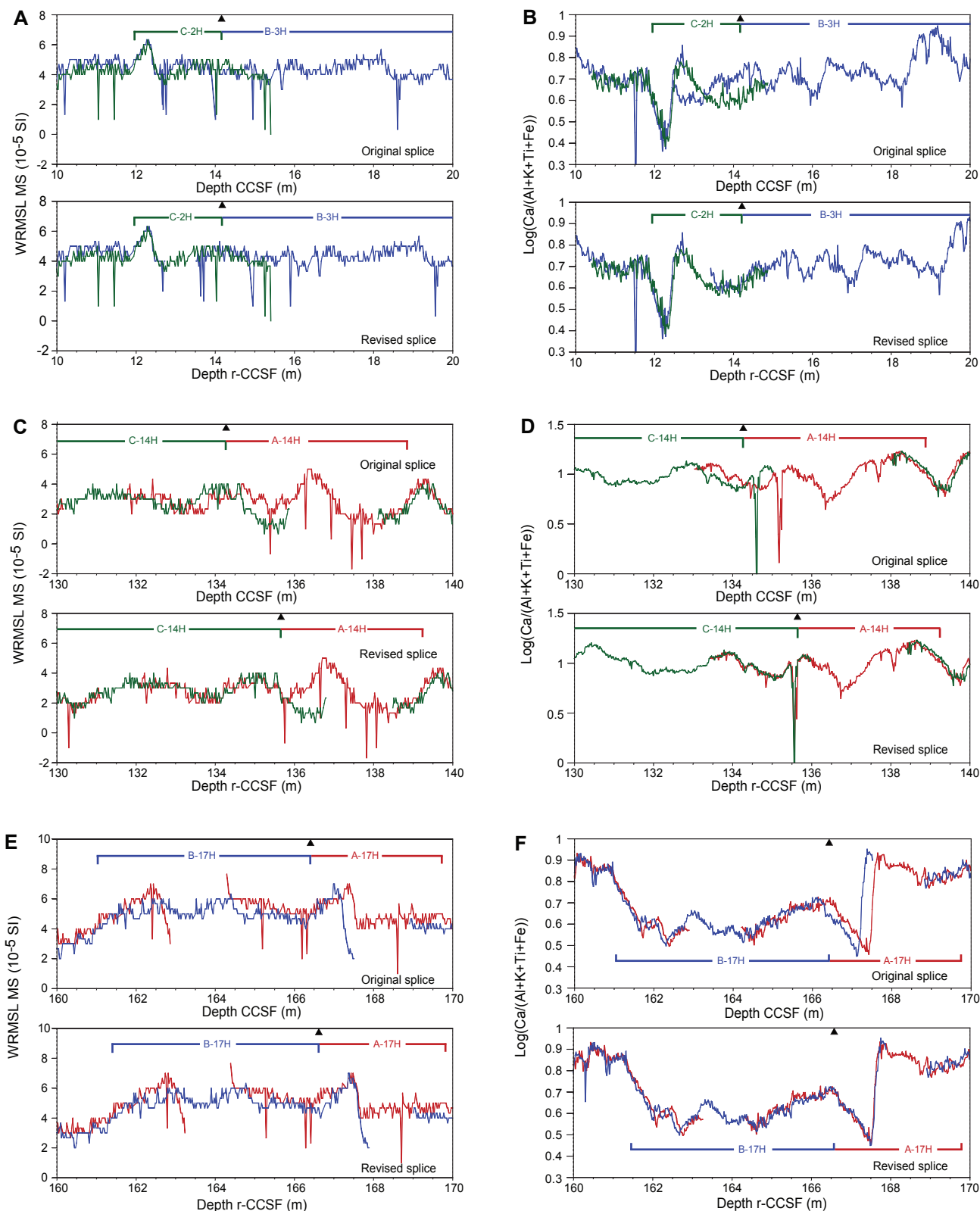


Table T3. Revised affine table, Site U1483. [Download table in CSV format.](#)

Acknowledgments

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