

A NEW RADIOLARIAN-BASED BIOSTRATIGRAPHICAL ZONATION FOR THE LATE OLIGOCENE-LATE PLIOCENE HIGH LATITUDE SEDIMENTS. OCEAN DRILLING PROJECT, ODP LEG 114, SITE 704 (SOUTHEASTERN ATLANTIC OCEAN).

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Within the high southern latitude province different radiolarian biostratigraphical schemes exist. Nevertheless, none of the previously proposed radiolarian zonation or list of biostratigraphical events permit us to correlate the cenozoic bottom sediment of the antarctic and subantarctic sectors of the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans.

The studied section (Site 704, Ocean Drilling Program - ODP - Leg 114) in the southeastern Atlantic Ocean, that represents one of the most complete and undisturbed calcareous-siliceous sequences ever drilled in the southern ocean, was obtained in an area where neither the high southern latitude biostratigraphical schemes nor the standard cenozoic low latitude radiolarian frameworks can directly be applied.

For this reason, an original radiolarian-based biozonation constituted by 15 zones, from which 9 are new zones was proposed to the Late Oligocene - Late Pleistocene interval from several biostratigraphical events identified by the First Appearance Datum - FAD and Last Appearance Datum - LAD of each radiolarian index-species.

The Late Oligocene-Late Pleistocene radiolarian biozonation proposed here will probably be a better stratigraphical tool in the transitional southern Atlantic Ocean bridging better the existing middle and high latitude radiolarian schemes from these southern regions of the Atlantic Ocean.