

TYPES OF GEOCHEMICAL ZONALITY OF DEEP-SEA NODULES ACCUMULATIONS

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As a result of two-dimensional trend model analysis of spatial distribution of polymetallic nodules quantitative and qualitative characteristics within contours of their large accumulations it is established that at least two types of zonality exist this distribution is subdued to. The difference between the two above mentioned zonality types lies in the fact that, in the first instance, areal densities (kg/m²) of nodules and ore elements concentrations in them are distributed in a spatially ordered way and in the second instance are not ordered. Besides, in the first instance, spatial correlation between nodule areal densities and composition is near to zero, i.e. distribution plans of those parameters are discordant, and in the second instance, this correlation is of a rather high value. As examples of nodule accumulations with spatially ordered nodule content distribution can be considered Clarion-Clipperton zone of the Pacific Ocean and Diamantine zone of the Indian Ocean. The resemblance of conditions of geological and geomorphological localisation of both accumulations is in their strip-like arrangement in the vicinity of major tectonic faults. But bottom depths, relief and sediments are quite different, regardless their disposition in different climatic zones and even in different hemispheres.