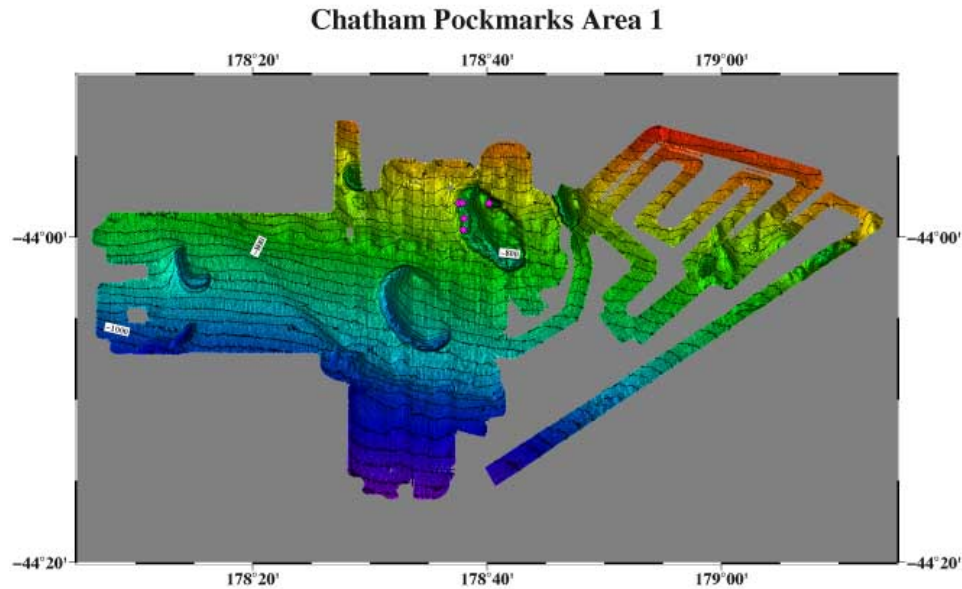


2. Weekly Report S0226 CHRIMP

During the second week at sea the 2D seismic reconnaissance profiles were completed. The majority of active gas seepage sites have been found near the western rim of the north-eastern giant pockmark discovered on this survey. Due to the observed gas flares this structure was chosen for the seismic 3D investigation area.



Additional depressions were mapped during the reconnaissance profiles. Their lateral extent is of similar dimensions to that of the two central structures. Some of them are not (yet ?) developed into a circular outline. Signs for active gas expulsion were not observed from these structures.

Images from Parasound and airgun seismic show that sedimentary coverage of both large scale structures must have been entirely eroded during their formation. A correlation of sediment interfaces within the subsequent infilling sediment with those from the slope surrounding the structures, has not yet been successful. All active seep sites are located near the rim of the structure where sediment infill did not reoccur. Further profiles not only show additional structures with a similar outline in the working area but also that similar features must have been formed in earlier times at different locations along the southern slope of the Chatham Rise. We have already recorded images of several buried systems, which have no topographic expression in the present-day bathymetry.

The 3D seismic survey is recording data collected by 10 towed seismic streamers and 19 ocean-bottom seismometers, the latter being earlier deployed within the 3D area. On Wednesday and Thursday evening we had to interrupt profiling due to bad weather conditions. Since Saturday 3D measurements have continued uninterrupted.

All are doing well on board. With regards on behalf of all participants

Joey Rider