

Petroleum Geoscience

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Cover image

The map shows the vertical thickness of the methane hydrate stability zone in marine sediments, i.e. where the sediments fall within the pressure–temperature regime within which methane hydrates are stable. It is based on global atlases of water depth, seafloor temperature, geothermal gradient, and empirical relations of pressure versus depth below seafloor. In deep water the stability zone thickness is limited by the sediment thickness.

Map courtesy of Dr Warren Wood, U.S. Naval Research Laboratory.