Paleocene-Eocene age glendonites from the Mid-Norwegian Margin

2 - Indicators of cold snaps in the hothouse?

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22 Abstract

The International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP) Expedition 396 to the mid-Norwegian margin recovered >1300 m of pristinely preserved, volcanic ash-rich sediments deposited during the late Paleocene and early Eocene, from close to the centre of the North Atlantic Igneous Province (NAIP). 26 Remarkably, many of these cores contain glendonites, pseudomorphs after the purported cold-water 27 mineral ikaite, from sediments dated to the late Paleocene and early Eocene. These time intervals 28 span some of the hottest climates of the Cenozoic, including the Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum 29 (PETM). Global deep ocean temperatures are not thought to have dropped below 10 °C at any point 30 during this time, making the occurrence of supposedly cold-water (near-freezing temperature) 31 glendonite pseudomorphs seemingly paradoxical. This study presents a detailed sedimentological, 32 geochemical, and microscopic study of the IODP Exp. 396 glendonites, and presents an updated model for the ikaite-to-calcite transformation for these glendonites. Specifically, we show that early 33 diagenesis of basaltic ashes of the NAIP appear to have chemically promoted ikaite growth in the 34 35 sediments in this region. Together with existing knowledge of late Paleocene and early Eocene glendonites from Svalbard to the north, and early Eocene glendonites from Denmark to the south, 36 37 these new glendonite finds possibly imply episodic, short-duration, and likely localised cooling in the 38 Nordic Seas region, which may have been directly or indirectly linked to the emplacement of the NAIP.

39 1. Introduction

40 Glendonites are pseudomorphs after the mineral ikaite, a metastable, hydrated form of calcium carbonate (CaCO₃·6H₂O), which is found today growing in a range of environments (alkaline lakes, sea 41 42 ice, concrete, in estuarine settings, deep marine sediments and more; Council and Bennet, 1993; 43 Buchardt et al., 2001; Dieckmann et al., 2008; Boch et al., 2015; Zhou et al., 2015; Schultz et al., 2022; 44 2023a). Certain physical and chemical conditions are necessary in order for ikaite to precipitate 45 preferentially over the more stable anhydrous CaCO₃ polymorphs (calcite, aragonite, vaterite). These 46 parameters may include low temperatures, high alkalinity, and a range of possible chemical inhibitors 47 of the anhydrous polymorphs (e.g. high aqueous Mg, phosphate, and/or sulphate concentrations; 48 certain dissolved organic compounds) (Council and Bennett, 1993; Buchardt et al., 2001; Zhou et al., 49 2015; Purgstaller et al., 2017; Stockmann et al., 2018; Whiticar et al., 2022). Whilst laboratory studies 50 have successfully, if fleetingly, precipitated ikaite at warm temperatures (\leq 35 °C), cold water 51 temperatures (< 10 °C) are much more favourable for the precipitation, growth, and longevity of this 52 mineral (Purgstaller et al., 2017; Stockmann et al., 2018; Tollefsen et al., 2020; Vickers et al., 2022). In 53 nature, ikaite has not been discovered growing above 7 °C (Suess et al., 1982; Dieckmann et al., 2008; 54 Zhou et al., 2015; Boch et al., 2015; Stockmann et al., 2022).

55 Glendonites are found throughout the geological record in marine sedimentary settings, sometimes 56 associated with glacial deposits (e.g. Kemper, 1987; Alley et al., 2020), in sediments deposited during 57 periods of both icehouse and greenhouse climate (Rogov et al., 2021; 2023). The occurrence of 58 glendonites in Mesozoic marine sediments has fuelled the debate about whether ephemeral polar ice 59 sheets waxed and waned during this long-term global greenhouse climate (e.g. Kemper, 1987; de Lurio 60 and Frakes, 1999; Rogov et al., 2017; Vickers et al., 2019; Merkel and Munnecke, 2023). Across the 61 Cenozoic sedimentary record, glendonites are found at increasingly broader latitude ranges through 62 time, coincident with the growth of polar ice caps and global climate cooling (Rogov et al., 2021). 63 However, reports of glendonites – including the largest ever discovered on Earth – from successions deposited in the Nordic Seas region during the early Paleogene greenhouse have been a topic of 64 controversy in the paleoclimate community due to the apparent mismatch with concurrent 65 paleotemperature proxies (Huggett et al., 2005; Spielhagen and Tripati, 2009). Deep ocean bottom 66 67 water temperatures were >10 °C across the globe, including the North Atlantic, during much of the 68 Paleocene and Early Eocene (Zachos et al., 2008; Dunkley-Jones et al., 2013; Westerhold et al., 2020; 69 Meckler et al. 2022), such that the presence of glendonites in marine sedimentary sequences during 70 this time appears paradoxical. Whilst the successful synthesis of ikaite at warm (\leq 35 °C) temperatures 71 in laboratory conditions raises the possibility of ikaite/glendonite formation at much warmer 72 temperatures than modern-day natural ikaites (Purgstaller et al., 2017; Tollefsen et al., 2020), the 73 conditions under which this was achieved in the laboratory are unlike marine natural settings (e.g., 74 compared to modern marine ikaite-bearing sites those precipitation experiments were characterised by DIC concentrations at least an order of magnitude higher than typical pore water profiles and $\Omega_{calcite}$ 75 76 >100, far in excess of that typically found in natural settings; Zhou et al., 2015).

77 In addition, clumped isotope temperature reconstructions for ikaite precipitation/transformation 78 temperatures from a Danish early Eocene succession suggest cold formation (or perhaps 79 transformation) conditions (0 - 9 °C) for the parent ikaite (Vickers et al., 2020). Given that the ikaite 80 minerals grew from pore waters in the shallow subsurface (e.g., Zhou et al., 2015; Schultz et al., 2022), 81 this suggests that local bottom water temperatures must have been at least this cold (Vickers et al., 82 2020), since temperature increases with burial depth. Reconstructed sea surface temperatures from biomarkers for the North Sea area (Denmark) also suggest that short-term cooling events of 83 84 magnitude c. 5 - 7 °C (down to SSTs of 15 °C or lower) may have punctuated the late Paleocene to 85 early Eocene (Stokke et al., 2020a; Vickers et al., 2020; summarised by Jones et al., 2023). While the potential drivers of intermittent cooling episodes have been touched upon by previous studies 86 87 (Schoon et al., 2015; Stokke et al., 2020a; Vickers et al., 2020), the causes, spatial extent, and 88 recurrence times of such events remains unresolved.

The International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP) Expedition 396 to the Norwegian continental
 margin (August – September 2021) recovered numerous glendonites in ash-bearing deposits dated

91 as latest Paleocene and earliest Eocene, including within those sediments deposited during the 92 Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum (PETM) hyperthermal event (Berndt et al., 2023; Planke et al., 93 2023a). Deep ocean bottom water temperatures may have reached 15 °C or more during the 150 -94 200 kyr-long PETM hyperthermal (Röhl et al., 2007; Zachos et al., 2008; Murphy et al., 2010; Dunkley 95 Jones et al., 2013; Westerhold et al., 2020). This makes the discovery of pseudomorphs after a mineral 96 favoured by near-freezing conditions in shallow epicontinental seas truly remarkable if the age of their formation and recrystallisation coincided with the depositional age of the host sediments. If the parent 97 98 ikaite grew during the PETM or the hothouse earliest Eocene climate (as was the case for the well-99 studied Fur Formation glendonites; Vickers et al., 2020), this raises questions about regional seaway 100 connectivity and stratification in the Nordic Seas, as an extreme thermocline within these shallow seas 101 is one way to reconcile cold bottom water and warm surface water proxies. The presence of 102 glendonites in Nordic Seas strata could imply that current global and regional temperature 103 reconstructions based on biogenic carbonates and lipid biomarkers do not represent the full spectrum 104 of climate variability in the early Paleogene Northern Hemisphere.

This study documents and describes the glendonites recovered from IODP Exp. 396 cores and their
 stratigraphic distribution, using microscopic and geochemical analyses along with sedimentological
 data to elucidate the timing, climate, and chemical regimes that facilitated their formation.

108 2. Materials and Methods

109 2.1 Geological setting and sampling

110 IODP Expedition 396 drilled 21 boreholes along the mid-Norwegian continental margin during August 111 and September 2021, recovering igneous and sedimentary rocks ranging from lava flow fields to 112 hydrothermal vent complexes, including thick successions of upper Paleocene and lower Eocene strata 113 (Fig. 1A). Ship-board sedimentary logging was followed by a more detailed high-resolution study of 114 recovered cores stored at MARUM, Bremen, under refrigerated conditions (c. 4 °C). Paleocene-Eocene 115 sedimentary successions were cored along the Modgunn and Mimir transects (Fig. 1B and C).

Boreholes from the Modgunn transect (Sites U1567-U1568) span the crater of a Paleogene hydrothermal vent complex close to the Vøring transform margin (Fig. 1B; Planke et al., 2023a,b). These vents formed due to the violent expulsion of volatiles generated by contact metamorphism of organic-rich sediments around igneous intrusions, and from magmatic degassing (e.g. Svensen et al., 2004). The Modgunn crater is approximately 80 m deep compared to the paleo-seafloor, with a 200-240m-wide feeder system that is rooted in a series of nested sill intrusions (Berndt et al., 2023). The vent infill consists predominantly of laminated diatom-rich mud, mudstones, and ash layers that rapidly accumulated to fill the bathymetric depression. The strata exhibit a negative δ^{13} C excursion and the first and last occurrence of the biostratigraphic marker taxa *Apectodinium augustum* and *Hemiaulus proteus* (Fig. 2). Based on these biostratigraphic and chemostratigraphic constraints, Berndt et al. (2023) showed the vent formed just before the PETM onset and was completely filled within the duration of the PETM CIE.

128 The Mimir High (Sites U1569-U1570) is a borehole transect through a marginal high on the Vøring 129 Transform Margin (Fig. 1C; Planke et al., 2023a,c). Uplift and erosion of the marginal high has removed 130 any basalt cover (Berndt et al., 2001), providing a window to access stratigraphic successions below 131 the breakup volcanism. The strata dip to the north, so a transect of boreholes was designed to provide 132 a composite late Paleocene – early Eocene section with overlap between each hole. These strata 133 consist of a mix of mud, mudstones, carbonates, igneous units, and ash layers (Planke et al., 2023a,c). 134 For three Holes (U1569A, U1570A and U1570D), on board biostratigraphy showed the presence of the 135 PETM-marker taxon Apectodinium augustum (Planke et al. 2023c) (Fig. 2).

Core sampling, including the collection of glendonites, was undertaken in April 2022 and highresolution sediment logging of the glendonite-bearing core sections was undertaken in August 2022,
at MARUM, University of Bremen, Germany.

139 At each hole, interstitial water (IW) samples were taken at intervals of ~3 m of sediment in the upper 140 50 m, ~1 sample every 9.5 m for the lower parts of the cored sediment. Standard IODP methods for 141 IW extraction were used at all sites. Following whole-core recovery to the catwalk, full round samples 142 were collected, sealed and transferred to the shipboard chemistry lab, where sediment exteriors were 143 carefully removed to reduce potential contamination from drilling fluids. The samples were 144 individually 'squeezed' - placed into a Carver press and subjected to 35,000 lb (15,875 kg) force. Squeezed fluid was then filtered through a Whatman No. 1 filter (11 µm) and 0.5 mL was discarded. 145 The remaining fluids were collected in acid-cleaned syringes after filtering through 0.45 μ m 146 147 polyethersulfone membranes, and split into aliquots. All analyses of the collected IWs were completed 148 following the standard shipboard methods of the R/V JOIDES Resolution (Planke et al., 2023d), and 149 are published in Planke et al. (2023a) and (2023b).

150 2.2 Carbon isotope analysis

151 A selection of bulk rock sub-samples were selected for carbon isotope analysis, in order to provide 152 new chemostratigraphic data for certain of the Mimir holes, and to complement the existing $\delta^{13}C_{org}$

dataset for the Modgunn transect (Berndt et al., 2023). Dried bulk rock samples were powdered and 153 154 decarbonated using 1 M HCl for 72 h, including a brief (c. 1 h) heating step at 50 °C during the 155 acidification process to remove any siderite that has been identified as occasionally present in these 156 sediments. The samples were then cleaned using deionised water and were oven dried at 50 °C before 157 being re-homogenised. Analyses of squeeze cake samples from the IW extraction procedure were 158 performed using a Thermo Fisher Scientific Flash Elemental Analyzer, coupled to a Thermo Fisher Scientific DeltaV Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometer at the CLIPT Lab, University of Oslo. An expanded 159 160 dataset from the samples collected in Bremen were analysed using a Thermo Fisher DeltaV Advantage 161 Mass Spectrometer at the School of Ocean & Earth Science & Technology (SOEST) at the University of 162 Hawaii at Mānoa. Each sample was run in duplicate to test reproducibility, which was < 0.06‰ for 163 both sample sets.

164 2.3 Powder X-Ray Diffraction (PXRD)

165 Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) was carried out on dried, powdered bulk sub-samples of five glendonites from the Exp. 396 cores, using a Stoe StadiP transmission (thin-foil) diffractometer with a 166 167 copper anode at 30 mA, 40 kV and a germanium 111 monochromator to produce Kα1 X-rays. The diffracted beam was collected by an 18° 20 Dectris Mythen1K silicon strip detector. Samples were 168 169 sandwiched between two thin cellulose acetate discs and mounted in a holder set to spin continuously 170 during data collection. Data sets were scanned from 5 to 65° 20 stepping at 0.5° and 20 s/step. The 171 resultant raw data has a step of 0.015° 20. Machine alignment was monitored using an NBS silicon 172 standard. Phase analysis was undertaken using Bruker's 'Eva' program (Gates-Rector and Blanton, 173 2019) interfaced with the Powder Diffraction File provided by the International Centre for Diffraction 174 Data.

175 2.4 Microscopy

Four polished thin sections were made from three glendonites (those in Cores U1569A-19R-2, U1570A-15R-1, and U1567C-11X-1), and examined using a light microscope to compare to published data on glendonite microfabric and look for different carbonate growth phases. A Hitachi SU5000 FE-SEM, equipped with a Bruker EDS was used to examine porosity and spatial chemical variation across the sub-samples.

181 2.5 Laser Ablation Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (LA ICP-MS)

Laser ablation trace element analyses were performed on polished thin sections of glendonites from
 Cores U1569A-19R-2, U1570A-15R-1, and U1567C-11X-1 at the Frankfurt Isotope and Element

Research Center (FIERCE) in the Institute of Geosciences at Goethe University Frankfurt. Different 184 185 carbonate phases were targeted. The system features a 193 nm RESOlution M-50 laser ablation (LA) 186 system with two-volume LaurinTechnic ablation cell connected to a ThermoScientific Element XR 187 sector field inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometer (ICP-MS). All analyses were performed as 188 'spot' measurements, utilising relatively low repetition rates to ablate through the thin sections 189 analysed here. Ablation took place with He in the outer cell (400 ml/min) and Ar sample gas from the 190 ICP-MS (1.025 l/min) mixed into the lower-volume inner cell. N_2 was admixed downstream of the 191 ablation cell (4.5 ml/min) to improve sensitivity (e.g. Durrant, 1994). The ICP-MS was fitted with a Ni 192 jet sample cone and Ni H skimmer cone and operated in medium resolution mode. Tuning of the system was performed to maximise sensitivity (~6 M cps ²³⁸U in low resolution mode; NIST SRM612 193 $60 \,\mu\text{m}$, $6 \,\text{Hz}$, $6 \,\text{J/cm}^2$) while maintaining the oxide and doubly charged production rate below 0.5% and 194 2% respectively. Monitored masses included ¹¹B, ²³Na, ²⁴Mg, ²⁵Mg, ²⁷Al, ³⁹K, ⁵⁵Mn, ⁵⁶Fe, ⁸⁸Sr, ¹³⁸Ba, ²⁰⁸Pb, 195 and ²³⁸U. 196

Samples were ablated using a 50 μm diameter laser beam at 4 Hz with an on-sample fluence of 5 197 J/cm². Quantification was performed using ⁴³Ca as the internal standard and NIST SRM610 as the 198 external standard. Data processing was performed using an in-house Matlab script following 199 200 established procedures (Heinrich et al., 2003), described in detail elsewhere (Evans and Müller, 2018). 201 Briefly: all analyses were baseline corrected by subtracting the mean of the two adjacent gas-blank datasets, normalised to ⁴³Ca, and standardised into element/Ca molar ratios using the analyte/⁴³Ca 202 203 count/concentration ratio from NIST SRM610. No significant drift in this count ratio was observed for 204 any relevant analyte for the session reported here such that standardisation was based on the mean 205 of all available NIST analyses. Down-hole elemental fractionation relative to Ca was corrected by 206 calculating least-squares 3rd-order polynomials through the NIST SRM610 element/⁴³Ca-depth data, 207 which were then used as the sweep-time specific ratios for sample quantification. The NIST SRM610 208 values of Jochum et al. (2011) were used in all cases except Mg, for which we use that of Pearce et al. 209 (1997) following the data analysis of Evans and Müller (2018).

Data quality was assessed via repeat analysis of the 'nanopellet' version of the CaCO₃ standards JCp-1
and MACS-3 (Garbe-Schönberg and Müller, 2014; Jochum et al., 2019), ablated in an identical manner
to the samples. Pooling together all analyses on both standards (n = 20) and comparing to the reported
values of Jochum et al. (2019) yields an accuracy of <5% for ¹¹B, ⁵⁶Fe, ⁸⁸Sr, <10% for ²³Na, ²⁴⁺²⁵Mg, ¹³⁸Ba,
²³⁸U, 25% for ²⁷Al, 30% for ³⁹K, and 70% in the case of ⁵⁵Mn, comparable to the achievable long-term
data quality from a similar system (Evans and Müller, 2018, albeit using a quadrupole ICP-MS).
Precision (repeatability), defined as the 2SD of all individual analyses normalised to the reported value

was better than 10% in the case of ¹¹B, ²³Na, ⁸⁸Sr, ²³⁸U, <15% for ²⁴⁺²⁵Mg, ³⁹K, ⁵⁶Fe, ¹³⁸Ba, 45% for ²⁷Al,
and 130% for ⁵⁵Mn. We stress that all of these values are strongly concentration-dependent and may
under/overestimate sample data quality depending on the analyte concentration of a given sample
analysis.

221 2.6 Inductively Coupled Plasma Optical Emission Spectrometry (ICP-OES)

222 Minor element analyses for Mg, Sr, Na, Mn, Fe, S, P, Al and Rb were undertaken on selected 223 subsamples of dried, powdered, bulk glendonites using an Agilent 5110 VDV ICP-OES at the Camborne 224 School of Mines, University of Exeter, following the method detailed in Ullmann et al. (2020). The 225 minor element data are expressed as ratios to Ca and calibrated using certified single-element 226 standards mixed to match the chemical composition of the analysed samples. Precision and accuracy 227 of the analyses were measured and controlled by interspersing multiple measurements of 228 international reference materials, JLs-1 and quality control solutions (BCQ2 and BCQ3). Analytical 229 uncertainty of element/Ca ratios in these reference materials is less than 1 % (2 RSD) at concentrations 230 > 100 times the quantification limit (measured as 6 SD of the variability of blank solutions in a batch 231 run, n = 5). For lower concentrations, the uncertainty of individual measurements is similar to the 232 quantification limit, i.e. 6 µmol/mol for Mg/Ca, 0.2 µmol/mol for Sr/Ca, 0.02 mmol/mol for Na/Ca, 5 233 µmol/mol for Mn/Ca, 5 µmol/mol for Fe/Ca, 0.2 mmol/mol for S/Ca, 0.08 mmol/mol for P/Ca, 0.06 234 mmol/mol for Al/Ca, and 0.04 mmol/mol for Rb/Ca.

235 2.7 Microprobe data, IODP Exp. 396 ashes

A representative selection (n=13) of Exp. 396 ashes from Holes U1567A, U1567C, U1568A, U1568B,
U1569A, and U1570D were analysed for their major element composition. Individual silicate glass
grains were picked and mounted in epoxy for matrix glass analysis. Polished and carbon coated grain
mounts were analysed on a Cameca SX100 electron microprobe with 5 wavelength dispersive
spectrometers (WDS) at University of Oslo. Analyses were conducted with an accelerating voltage of
15 kV and a 10 nA beam current using a defocused beam size of 10 µm. Counting times were 10 s for
Na, Si, Cl, K, S, Fe, Al, Mg, and Mn; and 20 for Ca and Ti.

243 2.8 PHREEQC modelling

The PHREEQC model (version 3; Parkhurst and Appelo, 2013, using the phreeqc.dat database) was used to calculate pore water chemical speciation and saturation indices for Hole U1568A, based on multiple shipboard analyses of interstitial water (Planke et al., 2023a,b). The model input values were those from the ICP-AES for consistency. The *in situ* pressures (in atm; 1 atm = 101 kPa) were estimated using the measured water depth of 1707.4 m below surface (mbsf) and a pressure gradient of 0.1
atm/m in the water column. In the subsurface, a pressure gradient of 0.2 atm/m was assumed, giving
a pressure of 209 atm at the deepest interstitial water sample depth (192.4 m). The PHREEQC model
was run as a batch reactor for each solution using a table input into SOLUTION_SPREAD, then a second
simulation RUN_CELLS to recalibrate the pe and pH from the ionic balance of the shipboard
measurements of cation and anion contents (Planke et al., 2023b,c).

254 **3. Results**

255 3.1 Sedimentological context

256 The glendonites discovered by IODP Expedition 396 are found within two holes of the Modgunn 257 transect, U1567C (3°3.219'E 65°21.785'N) and U1568A (3°3.109'E 65°21.594'N); and within two holes 258 of the Mimir transect, U1569A (2°1.608'E 65°49.878'N) and U1570A (1°59.623'E 65°49.890'N) (Fig. 2 259 and Table 1). For the Modgunn transect, the glendonites are all found within the latest Paleocene and 260 PETM-aged hydrothermal vent infilling deposits (Unit IV, Fig. 2), in horizons with the most numerous and thickest ash intervals (Fig. 2). Lithological Unit IV is described as "Dark greenish grey to very dark 261 262 grey claystone to siltstone, with common volcanic ash beds and light bioturbation" (Planke et al., 263 2023b, p.10). The glendonites in the Mimir cores are found in early Eocene-aged parts of the 264 succession, in Unit Va and Vb of Hole U1570A, also in close association with numerous and thick ash 265 layers. In Hole U1569A the glendonites are found at the very top of Unit Va, some 17 m above the 266 thickest and most numerous ash horizons, although notably in an interval with limited core recovery 267 (Fig. 2), which implies that these sediments may be extremely rich with unconsolidated ash horizons. 268 The deposits of Lithological Unit Va are described as "very dark grey mudstone with sparse parallel 269 lamination and slight bioturbation, with rare limestone intervals and common ash beds"; and those of 270 Vb as "very dark grey mudstone with sparse parallel lamination and slight bioturbation, with common 271 ash beds and diagenetic pyrite." (Planke et al., 2023c, p10 Sites U1569 & U1570). High-resolution logs (5-cm scale) of the glendonite-bearing core sections and photographs of the in situ glendonites can be 272 273 found in the Supplementary Material.

274 *3.2 Organic carbon isotopes*

Organic carbon isotope data for the Mimir High (Holes U1570D, U1570A and U1569A) are shown on
Fig 2A. The carbon isotope data for the Modgunn hydrothermal vent complex is shown in Fig. 2B,
which includes new data from Hole U1568A and published data from Holes U1568B, U1567B, and
U1567C (Berndt et al., 2023). In the Modgunn boreholes, the PETM CIE is manifest as a negative CIE

279 of over 5 ‰ in Holes U1568A, U1567B, and U1567C, followed by a relaxation of δ^{13} C values back to c. 280 -1 ‰ compared to pre-PETM conditions for the rest of the vent infill. Hole U1568B currently has too 281 low data resolution, and Hole U1567A had extremely poor core recovery across the vent interval (Fig. 282 2B). The unusual PETM CIE shape at these localities is attributed to a change in the dominant carbon 283 source from terrestrial to marine-dominated organic matter into the extreme excursion and back to 284 terrestrially dominated organic matter for the minor excursion (Berndt et al., 2023). A similar CIE 285 shape has been observed nearby in the Grane field in the northern North Sea (Jones et al., 2019), 286 suggesting comparable paleoenvironmental conditions across the central part of the Nordic Seas area 287 at this time. The Mimir $\delta^{13}C_{org}$ data spans the PETM interval in the three cores, identified by the first and last occurrences of A. augustum (Planke et al., 2023c). There is only a slight (1-2 %) $\delta^{13}C_{org}$ 288 289 excursion is present in these holes, and it is difficult to differentiate between PETM and pre/post-290 PETM strata on carbon isotopic evidence alone. The marine organic matter-rich CIE (~5 ‰) observed 291 at Modgunn and Grane has not been identified at Mimir from this dataset, but for Hole U1569A this 292 may be because there was poor core recovery over the critical PETM onset interval and the most 293 negative part of the CIE may be missing (Fig. 2A).

294 3.3 Glendonite morphology

295 The glendonites are variable in size and appearance, with some being cemented or partially cemented 296 (Fig. 3C, E, H and I), and some present as an uncemented amalgam of smaller crystals (Fig. 3B, D, F, G), 297 and some retaining their structure but as a porous mesh of calcite (Fig. 3A and J). In size, they range 298 from small fragments (2 – 5 mm across, Fig. 3A,D,F,I,J) to crystals up to or beyond the than the entire 299 width of the core (Fig. 3B,C) In some cases, the crystal appears to have grown over and incorporated 300 parts of the host sediment (Fig. 3E,H), yet in others appears to have either displaced the sediment it 301 was growing in (Fig. 3G), or grew up into the water column with later sedimentation burying it (Fig. 302 3C). Nearly all the recorded glendonite specimens can be ascribed to a single rosette morphotype (Fig. 303 3) (following terminology proposed by Frank et al., 2008), except for specimens from Fig. 3D, F, I and 304 J, in which the morphology is unclear due to the fragmented nature or disturbance of the structure 305 during drilling. They are generally pale beige to brown in colour, although cemented examples show 306 distinct areas within a cut 'crystal' of grey or white-pale brown carbonate (Fig. 3C,H). Some samples 307 are only small fragments of glendonite, identified by their characteristic bladed shape (e.g. Fig. 3A,E) 308 and/or the open, porous texture of the carbonate (e.g. Fig. 3F, I, J). Most of the glendonites are found 309 in situ, with the exception of sample U1567C-10X-3 40-45, where glendonite fragments were 310 identified entrained in the drill mud (Fig. 3A). Therefore, these fragments could have originated from some short distance away from their final position within the core, likely the large glendonite found
in the core below (sample U1567C-11X-1 83-93; Fig. 3B).

313 3.4 PXRD

The PXRD analysis of the bulk composition of 5 different glendonites reveal that the glendonites are mostly composed of calcite with a major to minor magnesian calcite component. Minor amounts of quartz, halite, rhodochrosite (MnCO₃) and gypsum were also identified (Table 1 and Supplementary Material Fig. S11).

318 3.5 Microscopy

Polished thin sections were examined by light microscopy and revealed several different carbonate phases (Figs. 4 and 5). These have been grouped by appearance (colour, texture, relationship to other phases) and geochemistry, and are described in detail in Table 2. Where possible, these phase names are in keeping with previous studies' description of ikaite carbonate phases (e.g. Huggett et al., 2005; Grasby et al., 2016; Vickers et al., 2018; Mikhailova et al., 2021; Scheller et al., 2021; Schultz et al., 2023a; Counts et al., *accepted*)., with the main phase type assigned based on colour and sub-types based on microstructure and geochemical data.

326 3.6 LA ICP-MS

327 The LA ICP-MS trace element data shows that Mg/Ca ratios are distinct on average between the 328 carbonate phases, with Type $1A \le 1B \le 2A = 2B \le 0$, albeit with substantial heterogeneity within a 329 phase such that the ranges overlap in most cases (Fig. 6). There is also substantial overlap between 330 types 1 and 2 for all other measured elemental ratios (Fe/Ca, Mn/Ca, Sr/Ca, P/Ca, S/Ca; Fig. 6). The 331 measurements made from the outer hard crust of the glendonite sample from core U1569A-19R-2 332 show the highest Mg/Ca contents of all, and distinctly higher S/Ca than all other carbonate phases. 333 Type 0 has significantly higher Mn/Ca and P/Ca than all other measured calcite phases, and 334 significantly lower S/Ca than other measured carbonate phases (Fig. 6).

335 *3.7 ICP-OES*

Bulk drill-sampled ICP-OES results find that the Exp. 396 glendonites have Mg/Ca ratios in the range
of c. 20 - 50 mmol/mol, comparable to the Fur Formation carbonates (Fig 7). Sr/Ca range from 1.5 1.8 mmol/mol; Fe/Ca from 1.6 - 38 mmol/mol, with an outlier of 165 mmol/mol (1568A 15X 4 55-58);

Mn/Ca ratios range from 0.4 - 8.4; P/Ca ratios range from 1.5 - 12.8 mmol/mol; and S/Ca ratios range
from 0.8 - 5.5 mmol/mol (Fig. 7).

341 3.8 Microprobe data, 396 ashes

The Exp. 396 ashes all have a basaltic tholeiitic composition, similar to the Fur positive series ashes (Fig. 8). However, they have relatively high MgO content ranging from 4.3 to 9.6 wt%, which is generally higher than that of the Fur positive series (3.3-7.1 wt%; Larsen et al., 2003; Stokke et al., 2020b).

346 3.9 IW analysis and PHREEQC modelling

347 The shipboard analyses of IW samples showed non-typical behaviour within Units IV and V (the vent 348 infill) at Site 1568A, with lower alkalinity (2–3 mM) and higher pH (~8.2) compared to both underlying and overlying strata (Planke et al., 2023b). Many IW profiles in ocean sediments above igneous 349 350 basement show a marked reduction in dissolved Mg/Ca ratios with depth (e.g. Sites U1403-1405; 351 Norris et al., 2014), and two of the four holes where IW profiles were conducted at Modgunn and 352 Mimir (U1567A, U1569A). At Holes U1568A and U1570A, the two with observed glendonites within 353 the cored strata, the Mg/Ca profiles show an inversion to increasing ratios with depth between around 354 60 – 100 mbsf (Fig. 9C).

Results from the PHREEQC modelling for the IW are shown in Fig. 9 and in the supplementary data. Dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC) speciation is shifted towards $[CO_3^{2-}]$ across the HTV infill and as a result the saturation index of the CaCO₃ minerals increases in these horizons, in the case of calcite to values greater than zero. This indicates that while the measured IW samples reflect a complex diagenetic history, the zones with confirmed glendonite occurrences also have anomalous IW chemistries and carbonate saturation states in present day pore waters.

361 4. Discussion

362 4.1 Ikaite formation and transformation to glendonite

The general microfabric of the glendonites is similar to that observed in previous work on glendonite and transformed ikaite. Notably, areas of calcite blebs (bubble-like mineral inclusions) with Type 1A cores with 2A overgrowths are also observed in glendonites from Cretaceous to Recent in age, and in modern transformed ikaites (Huggett et al., 2005; Grasby et al., 2016; Vickers et al., 2018; Mikhailova et al., 2021; Scheller et al., 2021; Schultz et al., 2023). The presence of a hardened carbonate rim is also a common feature of glendonites (Fig. 4) (Grasby et al., 2017; Scheller et al., 2022; Schultz et al., 2023a; Counts et al., 2023). However, the green Type 0 calcite identified in this study has not been
observed in other glendonite thin sections, and appears to be both visually and chemically distinct
from the other calcite phases measured in the Exp. 396 glendonites (Fig. 6).

Based on the geochemical data, we suggest the following model for the sequential formation of thevarious calcite phases, as illustrated in Fig. 10:

Stage 1: The ikaite grew in the sediments, at or just below the sediment-water interface. The Type 0
phase appears to have grown directly onto/against the surface of an ikaite crystal, prior to its
decomposition, suggesting it may represent the earliest preserved phase present (Fig. 10).

377 Stage 2: Chemical and thermal conditions changed as burial continued, and the ikaite started to break 378 down (Fig. 10). The formation of 1A blebs began during the recrystallisation reaction, preferentially 379 excluding Mg from the crystal structure, leading to a highly localised increase of Mg²⁺ in the pore 380 waters. This may have taken place over timescales of years (Schultz et al., 2023b). Where breakdown 381 was rapid, larger areas of Type 1B formed (also observed in ikaite transformed on timescales of hours; 382 Schultz et al., 2023b). The faster mineralisation rate of 1A compared to 1B is believed to have caused 383 less discrimination against Mg in the crystal structure, as evidenced by the higher Mg content of 1B 384 compared to 1A (Fig.6). Then, Types 2A and 2B grew, incorporating more Mg into the calcite structure 385 than the Types 1 due to its now higher concentration in the local waters.

386 Stage 3: An undetermined length of time later, after continued burial, Type 3 fibrous syntaxial and/or 387 isopachous sparry calcite forms in some of the pore spaces in the ikaite, growing from the surface of 388 Types 1 and/or 2 calcite phases (Fig. 10). Note that all phases grouped as Types 1 and 2 are believed 389 to have formed directly from ikaite (i.e. the CaCO₃ is believed to have been entirely or dominantly 390 sourced directly from the ikaite), whereas we propose that the Type 3 calcite formed from a later 391 diagenetic fluid (e.g. Vickers et al., 2020; Counts et al., 2023). This is based on microfabric and 392 geochemical (elemental and isotopic) data that suggests a very different source fluid. There is very 393 little Type 3 calcite in the Exp. 396 glendonites; much less than is observed in those of the Fur 394 Formation (Vickers et al., 2020). The variable proportion of Type 3 calcite in glendonite is likely 395 responsible for the observed higher bulk Mg/Ca, Mn/Ca and P/Ca ratios than in transformed modern 396 ikaite (Fig. 7).

397 4.2 Relationship to North Atlantic volcanism and timing of ikaite formation

The glendonites of the Exp. 396 cores are found in latest Paleocene, PETM, and (post-PETM) early Eocene-age sediments, within or just above the intervals containing the most numerous and thickest 400 ash layers (Fig. 2 and 11). The only other reported glendonites from this time interval (Paleocene and 401 early Eocene) are also found in the Nordic Seas region, close to the eruptive sites of the North Atlantic 402 Igneous Province (NAIP). Glendonites have been identified in both Paleocene and Eocene strata in 403 Svalbard (Spielhagen and Tripati, 2009; Cui et al., 2021), and in early Eocene strata in northern 404 Denmark (Huggett et al., 2005; Vickers et al., 2020; Fig. 1). In the Danish Paleogene successions, 405 glendonites are only found within the early Eocene Fur Formation that contains over 140 macroscopic 406 ash layers of dominantly tholeiitic basalt composition (Fig. 11; Stokke et al., 2020b; Vickers et al., 407 2020). The Fur Formation corresponds to the ash-rich Balder and Tare formations offshore in the 408 North Sea and Norwegian margin, respectively (King, 2016). The close stratigraphic association with 409 ash layers within the Nordic Basins suggests that ash deposition and/or diagenesis may play a critical 410 role in ikaite precipitation, in contrast to ikaites found in most modern settings. The breakdown of 411 sedimentary Corg via sulphate reduction, and/or the anaerobic oxidation of methane (AOM) are thought to play a key role in ikaite precipitation, largely because the low δ^{13} C values measured in 412 413 ikaites and glendonites suggest an organic or methanogenic source of carbon (e.g. Rogov et al., 2023 414 and references therein), and also because these organic matter decomposition processes generate 415 DIC (Hiruta and Matsumoto, 2022; Whiticar et al. 2022). Methane has been linked to ikaite/glendonite 416 formation due to their frequent proximity to methane seeps (Greinert and Derkachev, 2004; Teichert 417 and Luppold, 2013; Hiruta and Matsumoto, 2022) and gas inclusions containing methane and other 418 hydrocarbons in glendonite specimens from the Jurassic of Siberia (Morales et al., 2017). However, 419 other studies which examined sedimentary biomarker evidence for AOM in Oligocene and Eocene-420 aged glendonite-bearing strata did not find evidence for significantly elevated rates of AOM and 421 support an organic matter source for the examined glendonites (Qu et al., 2017; Vickers et al., 2020).

422 For ikaite to be precipitated over the more stable CaCO₃ polymorphs, factors inhibiting calcite and promoting ikaite precipitation are also required. These may include high alkalinity, high 423 concentrations of phosphate and/or Mg²⁺, and low temperatures (Rickaby et al., 2006; Zhou et al., 424 425 2015; Purgstaller et al., 2017; Stockmann et al., 2018). The NAIP may have played a key role in 426 generating just such conditions for CaCO₃ precipitation and the precipitated polymorph being ikaite. 427 Hydrothermal venting of methane and other gases occurred at sites proximal to the NAIP (Svensen et 428 al., 2004; Frieling et al., 2016; Jones et al., 2019; Berndt et al., 2023); and the explosive nature of the 429 NAIP eruptive volcanism could have driven short-term climate cooling ('volcanic winters', e.g. Robock 430 et al., 2000; Schmidt et al., 2016; Stokke et al., 2020a). Furthermore, the large amounts of volcanic 431 ash in the sediments likely underwent rapid diagenesis, generating the chemical conditions in the pore 432 waters that could have inhibited calcite precipitation and therefore promoted ikaite precipitation (e.g. 433 Gislason and Oelkers, 2011; Olsson et al., 2014; Murray et al., 2018). Indeed, ikaite and other carbonates were discovered as travertine in the Hvanná river in the vicinity of the Eyjafjallajökull
volcano shortly after eruptive activity began in Spring of 2010 (Olsson et al., 2014).

436 Compositional data from Exp. 396 shows that the ashes, like those from the Fur positive series (Stokke 437 et al., 2020b), are tholeiitic (Fig. 8). Basaltic volcanic material undergoes rapid chemical weathering 438 (e.g. Gislason and Oelkers, 2011), thus we suggest that the chemical alteration of these tholeiitic ashes 439 could have generated the chemical conditions which promoted ikaite formation, which may include 440 increasing alkalinity and [Ca²⁺], driving changes in aqueous Mg/Ca (e.g. Gislason and Oelkers, 2011; 441 Olsson et al., 2014; Purgstaller et al., 2017; Murray et al., 2018; Tollefsen et al., 2020). The interstitial 442 water measurements from the cores reflect the conditions in the core interstitial waters today, some 443 c. 55 million years since deposition, and therefore do not reflect conditions immediately prior to ikaite 444 precipitation. Nonetheless, these pore water profiles may provide remnant signatures of post-445 depositional processes and therefore shed light on how ash diagenesis may have altered local pore 446 water chemistry, promoting ikaite precipitation.

447 The pore water profiles show a strong, sharp change in pH and carbon speciation across the ash-448 bearing intervals (Fig. 11; Planke et al., 2023b,c), likely a retained signal of the dissolution/leaching of 449 the ashes themselves. While pore water chemistry certainly continued to evolve over the last 55 450 million years, the signature of ash diagenesis on early Paleogene pore waters may have been 451 effectively retained, being buffered against later fluid flow and associated later overprinting reactions 452 by the over- and under-lying clay-rich strata (Planke et al., 2023b,c; Fig. 2). High smectite contents 453 formed from the weathering of silicate material such as basaltic ash both in situ and in terrestrial 454 catchment areas, can result in 'aquitard' deposits characterised by very low permeability and low 455 effective porosity (Hendry et al., 2015). This allows large concentration gradients to develop within 456 the sediment pile, as documented along ash-rich margins globally (Torres et al. 1995 and references 457 therein). The major fluctuations in pH, alkalinity, and Mg/Ca ratios across these ash-rich intervals at 458 Modgunn and Mimir (Planke et al., 2023b,c) suggests that these pore waters are likely to have evolved 459 in semi-isolation from over- and underlying strata. Therefore, if the pore water system is closed, the 460 evolution of the pore water chemistry may be limited. Alternatively, long-term diagenesis of ash 461 minerals may be continually altering pore water chemistry across these intervals with some diffusive 462 exchange across the low-permeability clay boundaries, yet still providing an indication of the degree 463 to which ash alteration may impact fluid composition. Pore water measurements through selected 464 cores show that the glendonite-bearing levels associated with volcanic ash are coincident with 465 relatively elevated pH and lower alkalinity, although alkalinity change across ash-rich intervals is less 466 abrupt (Fig. 11). The carbonate chemistry of these pore waters is controlled by a complex balance

467 between CaCO₃ dissolution/precipitation, respiration of organic carbon, and at these sites, probably 468 by alkalinity generation from the dissolution of ash (Longman et al. 2021). As such, it is difficult to 469 ascribe the observed pore water carbonate chemistry changes (Fig. 11) to any one process. However, 470 the relatively high pH and low alkalinity relative to the over- and underlying mud-rich sediments is 471 consistent with alkalinity generation via ash dissolution, resulting in increased TAlk and pH, being 472 counteracted by CaCO₃ precipitation, drawing down carbonate alkalinity. Our observation of abundant 473 CaCO₃ in the form of ikaite and later diagenetic phases in these ash-rich sediments is consistent with 474 this hypothesis. Further, PHREEQC simulations indicate a clear difference in carbonate speciation 475 across ash-rich, glendonite bearing intervals with lower $[CO_2]_{aa}$, and higher $[CO_3^{2-}]$ and $[CaCO_3^0]$ (Fig. 476 9) compared with surrounding intervals. Aragonite and calcite saturation indices go from under- to 477 oversaturated, and dolomite shows enhanced oversaturation, across these intervals (Fig. 9). Overall, 478 while this indicates that the conditions necessary for ikaite formation prevailed in the hydrothermal 479 vent infill (Fig. 9), we note that the carbonate chemistry of the remnant pore water profiles is 480 characterised by conditions that are far less saturated with respect to CaCO₃ minerals than those 481 necessary to form ikaite in the laboratory, especially at higher temperatures (Purgstaller et al., 2017; 482 Tollefsen et al., 2020).

483 4.3 Timing and conceptual model for ikaite growth

484 Zhou et al. (2015) examined modern marine sedimentary ikaite bearing sites and identified "Ikaite 485 Formation Zones" (IFZs) based on where the decreasing [Ca²⁺] downcore profile intersects the increasing DIC profile (calculated by maximum [Ca²⁺] x DIC). The IFZ is thus highly variable, as it 486 487 depends on the amount of organic matter (carbon source) present, which in turn is linked to processes 488 such as sedimentation rate and primary productivity. In modern settings, this is generally between 2 489 - 15 m within the sediment pile (Zhou et al., 2015). In the early Paleogene Norwegian Margin, infill 490 sedimentation rates of hydrothermal vent complex craters were very high. Taking the very 491 conservative estimate of a hydrothermal vent infill duration of 43 kyr for the Modgunn crater (Berndt 492 et al., 2023), the glendonite-bearing horizons for the vent infill cores would have been at depths of 493 below 15 m within 8 kyr for Hole U1568A and 16.5 kyr for Hole U1567C. For sediments such as those 494 encountered in Modgunn and Mimir, the primary driver of DIC was likely AOM, since there was 495 significant methane venting around the NAIP at the time (Svensen et al., 2004; Frieling et al., 2016); and TOC in the sediments is relatively low (generally < 1.5 wt %; Planke et al., 2023b,c), which suggests 496 that bacterial sulphate reduction of organic matter could not have been the main source of carbon 497 498 .The source of [Ca²⁺] is believed to result from diagenesis of the ashes (e.g. Gislason and Oelkers, 499 2011). Given that the diagenesis of fresh volcanic material occurs very rapidly after deposition (on

500 timescales of shorter than a month; Hembury et al., 2012; Olsson et al., 2014), the ikaite formation 501 zones are likely to have been much shallower than 15 m at the time of ikaite precipitation, possibly 502 near the sediment-water interface. Observations on the relationship between the Exp. 396 503 glendonites and the host sediments support this theory of very shallow ikaite formation depths. For 504 example, it can be seen that the pale grey sediment is displaced immediately around the glendonite 505 shown in Fig. 3G, yet an ash layer 2 cm above shows no displacement. In Fig. 3H, the pale grey 506 sediment that the glendonite has grown in is displaced, yet the ash that is deposited on top, two thirds 507 up the height of the glendonite, shows no displacement at the top, suggesting the top of the ikaite 508 crystal was potentially protruding into the water column from the seafloor at the time of the ash fall. 509 Therefore, it can be deduced that these parent ikaites grew in the soft sediment prior to compaction, 510 possibly just centimetres below the sediment-water interface. In the Danish succession, similar 511 "boudinage" textures are observed around both glendonites and tree branch fossils in the Fur 512 Formation (Schultz et al., 2022). This indicates that the ikaites grew at or close to the sediment-water 513 interface, as they exhibit the same relationship to the host sediment as tree branches that came to 514 rest on top of or sticking into the top few centimetres or decimetres of sediment. In case of the Exp. 515 396 glendonites, which occur in rapidly deposited sediments, the parent ikaites must have grown 516 quickly, on timescales of years, for these relationships to be observed. Modern ikaites have been 517 known to grow to cm-scale crystals on timescales of months to years (Boch et al., 2015; Schultz et al., 518 2022, 2023a), suggesting that this is indeed possible. In one case, one month after final construction 519 of a concrete riverbed in Alpine Austria, cm-thick ikaite crystal aggregates were discovered to have 520 formed (Boch et al., 2015); in another instance, ikaite crystals 3 cm long were found growing next to 521 a reservoir causeway in Utgiagvik, Alaska, some 3 years after its construction (Schultz et al., 2022; 522 2023a).

523 Thus, we argue that the parent ikaites to Exp. 396 glendonites grew on geologically synchronous 524 timescales to the sediments in which they are found. Their occurrence and rapid growth during the 525 Paleocene-Eocene greenhouse climate were likely facilitated by the unique conditions near the active 526 NAIP. We propose a scenario in which the chemical environment that stabilised ikaite was provided 527 by the NAIP hydrothermal vent formation and early and rapid diagenesis of the (frequent) ashes 528 deposited from this LIP. The explosive NAIP volcanism may have also may also have played a critical 529 role in driving short-term (c. sub-decadal scale) cooling which additionally helped promote the 530 formation of ikaite.

Paleotemperature estimates for the PETM and early Eocene from both biomarkers and stable and
 clumped isotope thermometry for the North Atlantic and Nordic Seas region (e.g. (Schoon et al., 2015;

Stokke et al., 2020; Vickers et al., 2020; Meckler et al., 2022; Rush et al., 2023) show variable 533 534 temperatures and intervals of cooling which are apparently at odds with global records (e.g. 535 Westerhold et al., 2020)). This has led to speculation that short, sharp, transient cooling events 536 occurred, possibly only on a regional scale (Stokke et al., 2020a; Vickers et al., 2020), as evidence for 537 sudden/short duration cooling is absent from some nearby and other northern Hemisphere sites from 538 similar time periods (e.g. Belgian/Paris basin, Evans et al., 2018; West Siberian Sea and the Arctic, 539 Frieling et al., 2014 and references therein), all of which were characterised by SST of ~20-30°C during 540 this time. Alternatively, however, these discrepancies may reflect changes in sourcing, production 541 depth or seasonal biases in the specific proxies used (e.g. Jia et al., 2017; Udoh et al., 2022; de Winter 542 et al., 2021), or, in the case of carbonate clumped isotopes, solid-state reordering pushing the 543 apparent temperature up (Henkes et al., 2014), or kinetic disequilibium during the carbonate 544 precipitation (Daëron et al., 2019), meaning that these signals may be challenging to interpret as 545 reflecting true aquatic temperatures at the time of formation in some settings.

Regional-scale cooling episodes may result from, for example, a series of short-lived volcanic 'winters' caused by sulphur degassing during effusive and explosive eruptions (Robock et al., 2000; Schmidt et al., 2016; Stokke et al., 2020a). Given the sub-decadal residence time of sulphur in the atmosphere, this climate forcing would require many closely-spaced eruptions to maintain its cooling effect on timescales of centuries to millennia (Jones et al., 2016). However, since ikaite appears to have grown very rapidly in some of the successions in the Nordic Seas, a growth rate of this magnitude does not seem implausible.

553 In addition to possible volcanically-driven regional climatic events, the unique paleogeography of the 554 region were likely critical for providing the conditions required for ikaite formation. The Nordic Seas 555 were a series of hydrographically and/or geographically semi-restricted, relatively shallow basins with 556 varying connectivity to the Atlantic, Tethys, and Arctic oceans across the Paleocene-Eocene interval 557 (Fig. 1), with several lines of evidence suggesting that maximum restriction occurred in the post-PETM 558 early Eocene (Zacke et al., 2009; Hovikoski et al., 2021; Jones et al., 2023). Such restricted conditions 559 could imply bottom waters in individual basins (simultaneously or at different times) may have been 560 effectively isolated from the global ocean. Without sufficient exchange with the global ocean, bottom 561 waters colder than the global deep ocean, that may have formed during transient cool conditions such 562 as anomalously long and cold (e.g., volcanic-driven) winters, could have led to the formation of a cold 563 bottom layer in a heavily stratified water column in the Nordic Sea basins for a prolonged period. 564 Finally, the thermal uplift and emplacement of a continental flood basalt province created an 565 extensive high-altitude plateau to the west of the shallow seaways that marked the region, which is

566 likely to have altered the positioning, oscillation, and intensity of the Paleogene northern hemisphere 567 jet stream (Jones et al., 2023). While no studies have investigated this potential effect, it is reasonable 568 to assume that a regional microclimate was likely present in the Nordic Seas region at this time. It is 569 possible that a combination of factors led to a bias towards the recording of winter temperatures in 570 the bottom waters of the basin (Vickers et al., 2020). If a long, severe cooling forcing such as a 571 sustained volcanic winter occurred, cooling of the surface waters could eventually have triggered a 572 dense water cascade, bringing these cold, dense waters to the bottom of the basin system. Being restricted and stratified, these cold waters could potentially have remained at the bottom of the basin 573 574 system for a long time (years) (e.g. Vickers et al., 2020) such that, together with ample volcanic ash supply, it seems plausible that the local conditions coincided to create the necessary conditions for 575 576 ikaite growth in a hothouse climate.

577 5. Conclusions

578 Glendonites are found throughout the Late Paleocene and early Eocene sediments from the IODP Exp. 579 396 cores, including those deposited during the PETM, and closely associated with the volcanic ashes 580 from the nearby NAIP. High-resolution examination and sedimentary logging of these cores reveals 581 ten glendonite horizons, six in the post-PETM sections recovered from the Mimir transect, three from 582 the PETM interval of the hydrothermal vent infill collected in the Modgunn Transect, and one from 583 the pre-PETM interval of this hydrothermal vent infill. Observations of their relationship to their host 584 sediments suggest they grew within centimetres of the sediment-water interface, sometimes even 585 protruding into the water column. Based on known time-scales of ash diagenesis and ikaite growth, 586 we argue that the parent ikaites grew rapidly, within timescales of years to decades after ash 587 deposition. Examination of thin-sections of the glendonites via a number of geochemical methods 588 reveals that the Exp. 396 glendonites show a range of carbonate phases, including fabrics not 589 previously observed in other glendonites nor transformed natural ikaite. These features suggest that 590 their parent ikaite growth environment was unusual even for ikaite, and the leaching and rapid early 591 diagenesis of the NAIP volcanic ashes likely generated the required pore water conditions that 592 stabilised ikaite over other calcium carbonate polymorphs. Paleothermometry studies for the Nordic 593 Seas Region during this time suggest that seawater temperatures were punctuated by remarkably 594 cold, short-term events, although no such temperature deviations have been found outside of this 595 region. Glendonites are also found in the Paleocene and Eocene succession of Svalbard, and in the 596 early Eocene (post-PETM) succession of Denmark, but nowhere outside of this semi-enclosed shallow 597 basin.

598 The close association of glendonites to ash in the Exp. 396 succession, and likewise in the early Eocene 599 of Denmark, along with biomarker and clumped isotope thermometry evidence of episodic transient 600 cooling events, supports our theory that the eruptive phases of the NAIP led to ikaite precipitation in 601 the Nordic Seas region. This was both a chemical and thermal effect: the early diagenesis of the ashes 602 likely drove pore water conditions chemically favourable to ikaite, and the eruptions could have 603 caused transient volcanic winters that were much colder than the prevailing background climate of 604 the time. The unique paleogeography of the region may have led to the basin bottom waters being 605 biased towards these anomalously cold temperatures for years or even decades, allowing the ikaites 606 to grow to the centimetre to >decimetre sizes we observe. Further work is required to test this 607 hypothesis, including detailed, high resolution multi-proxy temperature reconstructions e.g. via 608 clumped isotope thermometry of the glendonites themselves, and biomarker and palynological 609 assemblage-based temperature reconstructions for the sediments of these cores.

610 Figures and Tables

611 Figure 1: (A) Paleogeographic map of the Nordic Seas region with North Atlantic Igneous Province 612 volcanism shown, after Jones et al. (2023). Location of all known Paleocene – Eocene glendonite bearing sites marked – Exp. 396 Modgunn and Mimir cores (this study); Paleogene-Eocene sediments 613 614 of Svalbard (Spielhagen and Tripati, 2009), and early Eocene Fur Formation of northern Denmark 615 (Vickers et al., 2020). (B) High-resolution 3-D seismic data for holes 1568 and 1567 along the Modgunn 616 transect (from Planke et al., 2023b). (C) High-resolution 3-D seismic data for holes 1569 and 1570 617 along the Mimir Transect (from Planke et al., 2023c). Holes from which glendonites were recovered 618 are shown in red. PETM intervals are shown in yellow.

619 Figure 2: Overview logs of the cores with glendonite horizons marked by the red glendonite cartoon. 620 (A) The Mimir (U1569 - U1570) transect, from Planke et al. (2023c). The PETM interval (pale yellow) 621 is identified by biostratigraphy (Planke et al., 2023c) and carbon isotope stratigraphy (this study). (B) The Modgunn (U1567 - U1568) transect, from Planke et al. (2023b) and Berndt et al., 2023. Core 622 623 sections of PETM age are highlighted in yellow, and the hydrothermal vent infill (e.g. Fig. 1B) is shown 624 in grey. All correlations between cores are supported by lithologic change, biostratigraphic zonation 625 (Planke et al., 2023b, Berndt et al., 2023), and carbon isotope stratigraphy (Berndt et al., 2023; this 626 study).

Figure 3: Photographs of glendonites *in situ* in the cores from the Modgunn and Mimir transects. (A)
Glendonite fragments in drill mud from 1567C-10X-3 40-45 (MLV 86). (B) Glendonite from section
1567C-11X-1 94-95 (MLV 57, 97). (C) Cemented glendonite from section 1569A-19R-2 54-62 (MLV 90).

(D) Porous carbonate mush interpreted as glendonite from section 1568A-15X-4 (MLV 88). (E) Porous
cemented glendonite incorporating host sediment from section 1568A-15X-1. (F) Glendonite from
section 1570A-15R-1 108-112 (MLV 92). (G) Glendonite fragment in 1570A-15R-1 22-25 (MLV 91). (H)
Glendonite from section 1570A-25R-1 (MLV 93). (I) Small cemented glendonite fragment from section
1570A-22R-2. (J) *In situ* fragment of glendonite from section 1570A-24R-1.

635 Figure 4: Photomicrographs of polished thin sections from selected Exp. 396 glendonites. The blue 636 background colour is derived from the resin rather than the glendonite. (A) and (B) show the typical 637 harder outer rim with more porous centre characteristic of transformed ikaite (e.g. Schultz et al., 638 2023a). Red dots labelled 8, 9 and 10 are spots where LA ICP-MS analysis was performed. The 639 glendonites commonly show areas of different calcite types defined by colour, which are often hard 640 to place into the "traditional" carbonate phase types seen in other glendonites (e.g. Huggett et al., 641 2005; Vickers et al., 2018). (C) shows a distinct boundary between white Type 2B calcite and brown 642 Type 1B calcite, neither of which show zoning defined by colour or porosity. (D) shows the sharp 643 boundary between green Type 0 carbonate, with black dendritic surface growth, and other calcite 644 phases. The shape of the sharp boundary that Type 0 defines on one side suggests that Type 0 grew 645 on the surface of and out from an ikaite crystal, which later broke down to leave void space and 646 patches of Type 1B with 2B overgrowths. (E) and (F) show patches of more typical zoned calcite blebs, 647 here labelled 1A and 2A, which appear to fit into the traditional categories of "Type I" (zoned brown 648 calcite forming the centre of the blebs) and "Type II" (zoned pale overgrowths on Type I; e.g. Vickers 649 et al., 2018; Schultz et al., 2023a). (G) Apparent reversal of the "typical" glendonite fabric, whereby 650 the central area of the calcite blebs is pale/white Type 2B and the overgrowth brown Type 1B calcite. 651 This contrasts with **(H)** which shows dark Type 1A with white Type 2A overgrowths.

652 Figure 5: Light microscopy, SEM photomicrographs and EDS element maps from thin sections of 653 glendonites at 1569A-19R-2 and 1567C-11X-1. (A) Overview under plane polarised light of the area 654 examined for glendonite at 1569A-19R-2, with the carbonate phases labelled. (B) BSE image of the 655 same area. Higher porosity in the Type 1 can be seen. (C) BSE image of zoomed in area of Type 2B with Type 1B overgrowth. Higher porosity of Type 1 is again clear. (D) EDS map showing Mg distribution 656 657 across calcite types 1B and 2B, overlaid on the BSE photomicrograph. (E) The same map without the 658 BSE photomicrograph (F) EDS map showing Mg distribution across calcite types 1A, 2A and 2B. (G) 659 Overview under plane polarised light of the area examined for glendonite at 1567C-11X-1. (H) BSE 660 image of the same area, with pop-out (I) showing the microcrystalline nature of Type 0. (J) 661 Magnification of the same area with types IB and 2B calcite under BSE. (K) EDS element map showing 662 the Mg distribution across the same area.

Figure 6: LA ICP-MS element/Ca data for points across the Exp. 396 glendonite polished thin sections. The data have been grouped according to the calcite types described in the main text and in the preceding figures. Photomicrograph showing the location points 8 – 11 from outer edge inwards are shown bottom right, and also in Fig. 4A. Photomicrographs showing the location of all the individual points measured may be found in the Supplementary Material.

Figure 7: Element/Ca ratios of the Exp. 396 glendonites and associated calcites compared to published
ICP-OES data for other glendonite-bearing sites.

670 Figure 8: (A) A Total Alkali Silica (TAS) plot comparing the Exp. 396 ashes (this study) to published data 671 for both positive (Stokke et al. 2020b) and negative (Larsen et al., 2003) ash series of the Fur Formation 672 in northern Denmark. The Exp. 396 ashes and Fur positive series fall into the basaltic fields, whereas 673 the Fur negative series show much more variation and have overall more felsic compositions. Note 674 that while the Fur positive series data are microprobe analyses of matrix glass, the Fur Negative series 675 data are whole rock data. However, the whole rock samples were leached of clay prior to analysis and 676 no significant dilution is expected. (B) Ternary Alkali-Iron-Magnesium (AFM) diagram showing that the 677 basaltic ashes from both the Exp. 396 sites and the Fur positive series are tholeiitic basalts. Note that 678 many of the Exp. 396 ashes have higher MgO content than the Fur positive ashes.

Figure 9: (A) PHREEQC simulation results for carbonate speciation in the U1568A core, which spans
the hydrothermal vent infill (grey highlight labelled 'HTV'). Note that HCO₃⁻ (the major species) is not
shown. (B) PHREEQC simulation saturation indices for several carbonate polymorphs. (C) IW Mg/Ca
profiles for all glendonite-bearing cores (Planke et al., 2023b,c).

Figure 10: Schematic of ikaite transformation in the Exp. 396 cores, adapted from Counts et al. (2023)
based on observed textural relationships and geochemistry of the calcite phases in the Exp. 396
glendonites.

686 Figure 11: (A) Relative position of glendonites in the Paleocene-Eocene sediments of selected cores 687 from the mid-Norwegian Margin, Exp. 396, compared to measured ash thicknesses. Pore water 688 alkalinity and pH data (Planke et al., 2023b,c) are also shown. Pale grey indicates the PETM-aged 689 intervals in the stratigraphy. Note that for U1569A, core recovery was poor, particularly in the bottom, 690 ash-bearing part (see Fig. 2). High ash contents lead to lower core recovery as they are course-grained 691 and unlithified; therefore it is likely that there were much more numerous and thicker ash horizons in 692 the interval between 18R and 37R (c. 180 – 340 mbsf). (B) Relative position of glendonites in the 693 Paleocene-Eocene sediments of Northern Denmark, compared to ash thicknesses per metre (Jones et al., 2023). Glendonite horizons for the Fur Formation are from Vickers et al., (2020) (solid lines) and
dashed line as identified by Henrik Friis, pers. comm. Pale grey indicates the end of the body of the
PETM carbon isotope excursion (Jones et al., 2023). The recovery phase is between ashes -33 and 21a. SC = Stolleklint Clay.

Table 1: Glendonites of the Exp. 396 cores, PXRD data from bulk glendonite analysis, element/Caratios.

Table 2: Descriptions of the different carbonate phases observed within the glendonites through thin
 section microscopic and geochemical analysis (light microscopy, SEM, EDS and LA-ICP-MS).

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723 Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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Figure 1: (A) Paleogeographic map of the Nordic Seas region with North Atlantic Igneous Province volcanism shown, after Jones et al. (2023). Location of all known Paleocene – Eocene glendonite bearing sites marked – Exp. 396 Modgunn and Mimir transects (this study); Paleogene-Eocene sediments of Svalbard (Spielhagen and Tripati, 2009), and early Eocene Fur Formation of northern Denmark (Vickers et al., 2020). (B) High-resolution 3-D seismic data for holes 1568 and 1567 along the Modgunn transect (from Planke et al., 2023). (C) High-resolution 3-D seismic data for holes 1569 and 1570 along the Mimir Transect (from Planke et al., 2023). Holes from which glendonites were recovered are shown in red. PETM intervals are shown in yellow.



Figure 2: Overview logs of the cores with glendonite horizons marked by the red glendonite cartoon. (A) The Mimir (U1569 - U1570) transect, from Planke et al. (2023c). The PETM interval (pale yellow) is identified by biostratigraphy (Planke et al., 2023c) and carbon isotope stratigraphy (this study). (B) The Modgunn (U1567 - U1568) transect, from Planke et al. (2023b) and Berndt et al., 2023. Core sections of PETM age are highlighted in yellow, and the hydrothermal vent infill (e.g. Fig. 1B) is shown in grey. All correlations between cores are supported by lithologic change, biostratigraphic zonation (Planke et al., 2023b, Berndt et al., 2023), and carbon isotope stratigraphy (Berndt et al., 2023; this study).





Figure 3: Photographs of glendonites *in situ* in the cores from the Modgunn and Mimir transects. **(A)** Glendonite fragments in drill mud from 1567C-10X-3 40-45 (MLV 86). **(B)** Glendonite from section 1567C-11X-1 94-95 (MLV 57, 97). **(C)** Cemented glendonite from section 1569A-19R-2 54-62 (MLV 90). **(D)** Porous carbonate mush interpreted as glendonite from section 1568A-15X-4 (MLV 88). **(E)** Porous cemented glendonite incorporating host sediment from section 1568A-15X-1. **(F)** Glendonite from section 1570A-15R-1 108-112 (MLV 92). **(G)** Glendonite fragment in 1570A-15R-1 22-25 (MLV 91). **(H)** Glendonite from section 1570A-25R-1 (MLV 93). **(I)** Small cemented glendonite fragment from section 1570A-22R-2. **(J)** *In situ* fragment of glendonite from section 1570A-24R-1.



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Figure 4: Photomicrographs of polished thin sections from selected Exp. 396 glendonites. The blue background colour is derived from the resin rather than the glendonite. (A) and (B) show the typical harder outer rim with more porous centre characteristic of transformed ikaite (e.g. Schultz et al., 2023). Red dots labelled 8, 9 and 10 are spots where LA ICP-MS analysis was performed. The glendonites commonly show areas of different calcite types defined by colour, which are often hard to place into the "traditional" carbonate phase types seen in other glendonites (e.g. Huggett et al., 2005; Vickers et al., 2018). (C) shows a distinct boundary between white Type 2B calcite and brown Type 1B calcite, neither of which show zoning defined by colour or porosity. (D) shows the sharp boundary between green Type 0 carbonate, with black dendritic surface growth, and other calcite phases. The shape of the sharp boundary that Type 0 defines on one side suggests that Type 0 grew on the surface of and out from an ikaite crystal, which later broke down to leave void space and patches of Type 1B with 2B overgrowths. (E) and (F) show patches of more typical zoned calcite blebs, here labelled 1A and 2A, which appear to fit into the traditional categories of "Type I" (zoned brown calcite forming the centre of the blebs) and "Type II" (zoned pale overgrowths on Type I; e.g. Vickers et al., 2018; Schultz et al., 2023). (G) Apparent reversal of the "typical" glendonite fabric, whereby the central area of the calcite blebs is pale/white Type 2B and the overgrowth brown Type 1B calcite. This contrasts with (H) which shows dark Type 1A with white Type 2A overgrowths.



Figure 5: Light microscopy, SEM photomicrographs and EDS element maps from thin sections of glendonites at 1569A-19R-2 and 1567C-11X-1. **(A)** Overview under plane polarised light of the area examined for glendonite at 1569A-19R-2, with the carbonate phases labelled. **(B)** BSE image of the same area. Higher porosity in the Type 1 can be seen. **(C)** BSE image of zoomed in area of Type 2B with Type 1B overgrowth. Higher porosity of Type 1 is again clear. **(D)** EDS map showing Mg distribution across calcite types 1B and 2B, overlaid on the BSE photomicrograph. **(E)** The same map without the BSE photomicrograph **(F)** EDS map showing Mg distribution across calcite types 1A, 2A and 2B. **(G)** Overview under plane polarised light of the area examined for glendonite at 1567C-11X-1. **(H)** BSE image of the same area, with pop-out **(I)** showing the microcrystalline nature of Type 0. **(J)** Magnification of the same area with types IB and 2B calcite under BSE. **(K)** EDS element map showing the Mg distribution across the same area.





Figure 6: LA ICP-MS element/Ca data for points across the Exp. 396 glendonite polished thin sections. The data have been grouped according to the calcite types described in the main text and in the preceding figures. Photomicrograph showing the location points 8 – 11 from outer edge inwards are shown bottom right, and also in Fig. 4A. Photomicrographs showing the location of all the individual points measured may be found in the Supplementary Material.

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Figure 7: Element/Ca ratios of the Exp. 396 glendonites and associated calcites compared to published ICP-OES data for other glendonite-bearing sites.



Figure 8: (A) A Total Alkali Silica (TAS) plot comparing the Exp. 396 ashes (this study) to published data for both positive (Stokke et al. 2020b) and negative (Larsen et al., 2003) ash series of the Fur Formation in northern Denmark. The Exp. 396 ashes and Fur positive series fall into the basaltic fields, whereas the Fur negative series show much more variation and have overall more felsic compositions. Note that while the Fur positive series data are microprobe analyses of matrix glass, the Fur Negative series data are whole rock data. However, the whole rock samples were leached of clay prior to analysis and no significant dilution is expected. **(B)** Ternary Alkali-Iron-Magnesium (AFM) diagram showing that the basaltic ashes from both the Exp. 396 sites and the Fur positive series are tholeiitic basalts. Note that many of the Exp. 396 ashes have higher MgO content than the Fur positive ashes.



Figure 9: (A) PHREEQC simulation results for carbonate speciation in the U1568A core, which spans the hydrothermal vent infill (grey highlight labelled 'HTV'). Note that HCO3- (the major species) is not shown. **(B)** PHREEQC simulation saturation indices for several carbonate polymorphs. **(C)** IW Mg/Ca profiles for all glendonite-bearing cores (Planke et al., 2023b,c).



Figure 10: Schematic of ikaite transformation in the Exp. 396 cores, adapted from Counts et al. (*accepted*) based on observed textural relationships and geochemistry of the calcite phases in the Exp. 396 glendonites.



Figure 11: (A) Relative position of glendonites in the Paleocene-Eocene sediments of selected cores from the mid-Norwegian Margin, Exp. 396, compared to measured ash thicknesses. Pore water alkalinity and pH data (Planke et al., 2023) are also shown. Pale grey indicates the PETM-aged intervals in the stratigraphy. Note that for U1569A, core recovery was poor, particularly in the bottom, ash-bearing part (see Fig. 2). High ash contents lead to lower core recovery as they are course-grained and unlithified; therefore it is likely that there were much more numerous and thicker ash horizons in the interval between 18R and 37R (c. 180 – 340 mbsf). (B) Relative position of glendonites in the Paleocene-Eocene sediments of Northern Denmark, compared to ash thicknesses per metre (Jones et al., 2023). Glendonite horizons for the Fur Formation are from Vickers et al., (2020) (solid lines) and dashed line as identified by Henrik Friis, pers. comm. Pale grey indicates the end of the body of the PETM carbon isotope excursion (Jones et al., 2023). The recovery phase is between ashes -33 and -21a. SC = Stolleklint Clay.

Site	Hole	Core	Core type	Secti on	Top depth (cm)	Bottom depth (cm)	mbsf top	PXRD mineralogy	Remarks
1567	С	10	Х	3	40	45			Displaced (in drill mud)
1567	С	11	х	1	83	93	82.03	Calcite, minor halite, Qz	Not cemented
1568	Α	15	Х	1	29	31	97.3		Porous calcite in cement
1568	Α	15	Х	4	49	51	102.0		Not cemented
1568	А	15	x	4	55	58	102.1	Calcite, minor Qz, rhodochrosite	Not cemented
1569	A	19	R	2	54	62	177.3	Calcite, Mg- calcite, minor Qz, gypsum, halite	Partially cemented
1570	А	15	R	1	22	25	93.6		Not cemented. Small fragment
1570	А	15	R	1	108	112	94.5	Calcite, minor Qz + halite	Not cemented, half glendonite
1570	A	22	R	2	89	91	129.3		Cemented glendonite fragment (tip of crystal)
1570	A	24	R	1	96	98	138.1		Uncemented glendonite fragments
1570	А	25	R	1	50	55	142.5	Calcite, minor Mg- calcite, Qz	Cemented (in Imst)

Table 1: Glendonites of the Exp. 396 cores, PXRD data from bulk glendonite analysis, element/Ca ratios.

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Carbonate phase	Description
Туре О	Green-brown, microcrystalline, granular carbonate phase, not observed in all glendonites (Fig. 4). Heterogeneous colour distribution from browner to greener areas, not visibly zoned under plane polarised light (Fig. 4B and F). Commonly shows black dendritic surface patterns. SEM imaging revealed Type 0 to be composed of micro-grains of carbonate, rather than being a single crystal (Fig. 5).
Type 1A	Forms dark and light brown zoned, rounded anhedral patches known as 'blebs' (Figs. 4E,F,H and 5A). The BSE SEM shows it has higher porosity than the calcite overgrowths (Fig. 5B), and EDS mapping shows some chemical zoning defined by its Mg concentration (Fig. 5F). Equivalent to Type 1 (I) of Huggett et al. (2005), Vickers et al. (2018), Schultz et al. (2023), and Counts et al. (2023).
Type 1B	Uneven coloured anhedral brown to dark brown calcite. May radially overgrow, or intergrow with, pale, non-porous Type 2A. Type 1B is indistinguishable from Type 1A except that it grows over Type 2A rather than the other way around, and generally has slightly higher [Mg] than 1A. Type 1B is not visibly zoned, and makes up larger patches/areas (Fig. 4 C – F; Fig. 5). May show cracking along cleavage planes (Fig. 4C).
Type 2A	White to pale brown, concentrically zoned calcite (under plane polarised light) that directly overgrows Type 1A, showing Mg-zoning (Fig. 4), and generally higher Mg than Type 1A (Fig. 5). Low/no porosity compared to Type 1A&B (Fig. 5). Equivalent to Type 2 (II) of Huggett et al. (2005), Vickers et al. (2018) and Schultz et al. (2023) and Type 2A of Counts et al. (2023).
Type 2B	Very similar to Type 2A; clear/white crystalline calcite with no porosity zoning. Unlike 2A, it also lacks chemical zoning, and may show cracks along cleavage (Fig. 5). Type 2B calcite is generally characterised by a higher Mg than Type 1A&B calcite phases (Fig 5).
Type 3	lsopachous sparry or fibrous epitaxial calcite overgrowths to Types 1 and 2; higher [Mg] than types 1 and 2 (Figs. 4H and 5).

Table 2: Descriptions of the different carbonate phases observed within the glendonites through thin

 section microscopic and geochemical analysis (light microscopy, SEM, EDS and LA-ICP-MS).