

TECHNICAL TALK

Some organic geochemical thoughts on concretions from New Zealand

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28 February 2012

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Abstract: A wide variety of concretionary bodies occur in the Miocene strata of New Zealand ranging from a few cm to 10 m in size. Some of these are classic spherical concretions formed during early sediment burial by diffusion and many of them display attractive septarian structures showing different coloured generations of calcite fill. Organic lipid extracts from the fills are distinctly different to those from the concretion bodies implying later origins for their fluids. Other concretions are more tubular and their lipids contain some organic markers that suggest they formed along conduits for ancient methane seepage.

