



## Supplemental File S9: Turbidite Classification and Criteria

We distinguish between individual single-pulse or individual multiple-pulse turbidites from a series of stacked single-pulse or multiple-pulse turbidites using sedimentologic characteristics. We consider characteristics of deposits within a single core, as well as these characteristics from adjacent cores where they are likely correlated. Local variability is inherent in these and all geologic records, thus the determination of single versus multipulse turbidites may not be apparent in all examples, but is taken from the best example of each bed in a correlated series. A detailed example of this was given in Goldfinger et al. (2012a). All correlated turbidites therefore inherit the classification from the best example of turbidite beds that are correlated along strike. We list the characteristics used to constrain turbidite deposition timing and sedimentation characters, and classify turbidites into three categories based on the following criteria.

### *Turbidite Classification Criteria*

- **Impulsive Base (IB):** coarser sediment overlying finer sediment with a sharp (<1mm) lithologic contact with fine-grained underlying sediment.
- **Erosive Base (EB):** evidence for an unconformity at the base of the turbidite, due to erosion during turbidite emplacement. May be evident as an angular, and or irregular base.
- **Underlying Hemipelagic Sediment (UHS-RGB):** hemipelagic sediment is lighter in color than turbiditic sediment and this can be seen visually and in the [RGB imagery](#).
- **Underlying Hemipelagic Sediment (UHS-CT):** hemipelagic sediment is massive (lacks laminae) and low in density and this can be seen visually in the [CT imagery](#).
- **Underlying Brown Oxidation Laminae (UBOL):** Oxidation of sediment at the seafloor is not instantaneous and represents a time period much longer than the time required for the deposition of a turbidite. If there is oxidation between two turbidite beds, they are possibly (but not necessarily) the result of separate turbidity currents. Such contacts must be distinguished from oxidation fronts which move through the core with time.
- **Geophysical Property Relation (GPR):** At least one of the core geophysical properties match the typical vertical profile of a typical turbidite – hemipelagite pair. The profile of a typical turbidite shows at least one maxima associated with a density or particle size increase at the base of the turbidite, with an upwards decrease in value associated with the turbidite tail, and a further diminishing value to a background value associated with the hemipelagite.
- **Sediment Loading Structures (SLS):** Evidence for sediment loading structures.

We define three classes of beds based on these criteria:

1. More certainly a single-pulse or a multi-pulse turbidite
2. Less certainly a single-pulse or a multi-pulse turbidite
3. Indeterminately a single-pulse or multi-pulse turbidite (or possibly not a turbidite).

Turbidite Class	
1	More Certainly a Single-Pulse or a Multi-Pulse Turbidite
2	Less Certainly a Single-Pulse or a Multi-Pulse Turbidite
3	Indeterminately a Single-Pulse or a Multi-Pulse Turbidite

Category 1 includes turbidites that satisfy four of the seven criteria we list. Based on these multiple criteria, we find that there is a highest likelihood of the bed being a single turbidite. If three of the seven criteria we list above are met, then we are less certain with our interpretation and place the turbidite into category 2. If fewer than two criteria are met, we place the sedimentary deposit into category 3. Our preferred correlations are composed of category 1 and category 2 turbidites, but not category 3 turbidites. Some beds may be included in category 3 if they are incomplete, particularly at the base.