Announcing an Inter-Laboratory Comparison Project Targeting Physical Property Measurements

In the laboratory, specimen preparation, sample-handling and measurement procedures all impact the physical properties of hydrate-bearing sediments. For samples brought to the laboratory from the field, laboratory effects can compound the physical property alterations that occur during sample recovery from *in situ* conditions. To better understand laboratory-induced effects, an Inter-laboratory Comparison Project (ILCP) has been launched among more than a dozen research institutions worldwide. The ILCP has been modeled after the successful International Methane Hydrate Reservoir Simulator Code Comparison study, click here. Initially, the ILCP will address acoustic wave velocity measurements, focusing on a series of five tests to determine measurement uncertainties. Wave velocity measurements will be made on dry sand, water-saturated sand, partially water-saturated sand, ice-bearing sand, and hydrate-bearing sand. To reduce sediment-related uncertainties, the ILCP is distributing F110 sand from a single batch to each of the participants, and the sample fabrication, measurement pressures, temperatures and pore content are specified for each test.

Measurement results will be obtained separately by each research group, and then shared with all participants on January 1, 2011. The initial test results will be combined and analyzed by the ILCP, with results and conclusions to be presented at the International Conference on Gas Hydrate in July, 2011. The ILCP is open to interested researchers with access to suitable laboratory instrumentation. If you wish to join, please contact any of the project chairs:

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