Adercotryma kuhnti sp. nov., a Maastrichtian deep-water species from the Pacific Ocean, and evolution of the genus Adercotryma

Laia Alegret  
*Universidad de Zaragoza,* laia@unizar.es

Ellen Thomas  
*Wesleyan University,* ethomas@wesleyan.edu

Follow this and additional works at: [http://wesscholar.wesleyan.edu/div3facpubs](http://wesscholar.wesleyan.edu/div3facpubs)  
Part of the [Paleobiology Commons](http://wesscholar.wesleyan.edu/div3facpubs), and the [Paleontology Commons](http://wesscholar.wesleyan.edu/div3facpubs)

**Recommended Citation**  
*Micropaleontology,* 55: 49-60
**Adercotryma kuhnti** sp. nov., a Maasrichtian deep-water species from the Pacific Ocean, and evolution of the genus *Adercotryma*

Laia Alegret1* and Ellen Thomas2,3

1 Dpto. Ciencias de la Tierra (Paleontología), Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad de Zaragoza, 50009 Zaragoza Spain
2 Center for the Study of Global Change, Department of Geology and Geophysics, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut 06520-8109, USA
3 Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut 06459-0139, USA

E-mail: laia@unizar.es

**ABSTRACT:** *Adercotryma glomeratum* is one of the most geographically and bathymetrically widespread species of Recent deep-sea benthic foraminifera, but the evolutionary history of this distinct agglutinated species is poorly known. In addition to one or two Recent species probably closely related to *A. glomeratum*, the Eocene-Oligocene species *Adercotryma agterbergi* has been described, but we suggest that this species be assigned to the genus *Ammogloborotalia*. A very rare, unnamed species has been described from the Campanian in the western Pacific Ocean, and it has been speculated that the genus originated at about that time in the western Pacific, possibly from the ancestor *Ammogloborotalia gyroidinaformis*.

We describe the Maasrichtian occurrence of a previously unknown species, which we named *Adercotryma kuhnti*. This species occurs in the Maasrichtian *Abathomphalus mayaroensis* planktonic foraminiferal Zone, *Micula prinsii* nannofossil zone CC26, in the lower bathyal to abyssal ODP Site 1210 (ODP Leg 198, Shatsky Rise, northwest Pacific Ocean), where it constitutes up to 14.7% of the benthic foraminiferal assemblages. We looked for the species in coeval material from many locations in and around the Atlantic Ocean, and DSDP Site 465 in the Pacific (Hess Rise), but did not find it. The occurrence as a geographically restricted species agrees with speculation of a Cretaceous origin of the genus in the western Pacific, and evolution as a deep-sea species rather than migration from shallow waters.

**INTRODUCTION**

Ecology of living *Adercotryma*

The species *Adercotryma glomeratum* is in the present oceans extremely widespread, occurring on a list of twenty-five of the most globally distributed species of benthic foraminifera (Table 1 in Pawlowski and Holzmann 2008; Kaminski and Gradstein 2005). It lives over a very large depth range (20-6200m) (e.g. Sokolova et al. 1996), from the Arctic (e.g., Tarasov and Gradstein 2005). It lives both shallow and deep infaunally in the western North Atlantic (Kuhnt et al. 2000). These authors argued that the species could live at various depths in the sediment during the year, responding to the arrival of the seasonal phytodetritus pulse as an epifaunal detritus feeder, but living infaunally for the rest of the year. It has been widely reported that *Adercotryma glomeratum* reacts to the input of pulses of organic matter (phytodetritus) (e.g., Gooday 1993, 1994; Kuhnt et al. 2000; Kaminski and Gradstein 2005), thus it is considered an opportunistic feeder (Heinz et al. 2001, 2002; Ernst and van der Zwaan 2004). It is a slow-moving species, although moving faster when well-fed (Gross 2000), and a late colonizer during the recovery of benthic assemblages after destruction by the Pinatubo volcanic eruption (Kuhnt et al. 2005). It survives low oxygen conditions (Bernhard and Sen Gupta 1999), and lives over a range of food-supply conditions, from eutrophic to oligotrophic. It has been included in the Recent Nuttallilides umbonifer-assemblage (Gooday 2003), which is characteristic for environments under carbonate-corrosive waters but possibly also for low productivity. The species occurs even under the extreme low food conditions in the deepest basins (Sokolova et al. 1995), where it may survive opportunistically, using rare food supplies.

Taxonomy of the genus *Adercotryma*

The genus *Adercotryma* Loeblich and Tappan 1952, emend. Brönnimann and Whittaker 1987 is characterised as follows “Test free; coiling trochosorial, adult an inverted cone, completely or almost completely involute on both sides. Chambers axially elongate. Aperture single, interiomarginal, umbilical, symmetrical with respect to long axis of chamber. Wall agglutinated, single layered, imperforate. The slit-like aperture rests with its border on the penultimate chamber of the final whorl (*Paratrochammina*-type aperture). *Adercotryma* differs from *Paratrochammina* Brönnimann 1979 (type species: *Paratrochammina madeirae* Brönnimann 1979) and all other genera of the Trochamminidae by its spirally involute enrolment, axially elongate chambers, symmetrical interiomarginal aperture (with respect to the long axis of the chamber), and inverted cone-like test” (quoted from original description).

The description of the aperture of this genus as ‘symmetrical with respect to the long axis of the chamber’ (Brönnimann and Whittaker 1987) is problematic. The original generic descrip-
tion by Loeblich and Tappan (1952) states ‘aperture may be lacking in the final chamber, or when present is interiomarginal, forming a low slit or arch near the umbilicus of one side, and closer to the umbilicus than to the periphery’. The aperture is not visible in the type figures of *Adercotryma glomeratum*, the type species of the genus (*Lituola glomerata*, Brady 1878), and the description states ‘Aperture at the inner margin of the terminal chamber, near the exterior of the corresponding segment of the previous convolution, simple, often obscure’, thus does not make clear what its exact position is. Loeblich and Tappan (1987, p. 81) state that ‘aperture a low interiomarginal arch or slit, about one-half to two-thirds the distance from the periphery to the umbilicus’, i.e., not symmetrical with respect to the long axis. The figures (Plate 67, figs. 1-3) show the aperture in asymmetrical position, as described above, in one specimen (Figure 1). Figures 2 and 3, however, are described as ‘edge and side views of adult showing aperture extending to the umbilicus’ (p. 20), thus showing an even more asymmetrical position than described in the text (p. 81).

Species assigned to the genus *Adercotryma*.

*Adercotryma glomeratum* (Brady 1878) is the type-species of the genus *Adercotryma*. This species was first described in material recovered during the *Challenger* North-Polar Expedition (Brady 1878), and later recognised in dredgings from across the world, including the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans (e.g., Barker 1960; Schröder 1986; Charnock and Jones 1990; Hughes et al. 2000). *Adercotryma glomeratum* has four chambers in its final whorl, and a test with a maximum diameter at the spiral side. Its type material is Recent, and Loeblich and Tappan (1987) give a range of Holocene for the genus, although Jones et al. (2005) describe *Adercotryma glomeratum* from Eocene deposits in the Spanish Pyrenees.

The Recent subspecies *A. glomerata* (Brady) subsp. antarctica Saidova 1975 was first described from upper bathyal depths in the Antarctic Sea. The test is smaller than that in *A. glomeratum*, elongate, and it has three chambers in the last whorl; no details are given on the aperture (Saidova 1975).

*Adercotryma wrighti* Brönnimann and Whittaker 1987 has been found in Recent material from the British Isles, at a depth of ~16 to 20 fathoms, although its authors suggested that careful study of specimens previously recorded as *A. glomeratum* might extend the geographic range of *A. wrighti* beyond the British Isles. According to these authors, *A. wrighti* is easily distinguished from *A. glomeratum* by the overall shape of the test, the presence of only 3 chambers in the last whorl, the shape of the adult chambers and the bilobed apertural features formed by the triangular lip-like projection of the chamber wall (see also Murray 2002). *Adercotryma glomeratum antarctica* Saidova, however, is also defined as having 3 chambers per whorl, and Brönnimann and Whittaker (1987) did not include a differential analysis, so the difference between these two taxa is not clear. *Adercotryma wrighti* thus might be a junior synonym of *A. glomeratum antarctica*, especially since *A. wrighti* was recognized in the Antarctic waters from which *A. glomeratum antarctica* was first described (Murray and Pudsey 2004).

*Adercotryma agterbergi* Gradstein and Kaminski 1989 was first identified in lower Oligocene sediments from the Central North Sea, and ranges from middle Eocene through early Miocene (Gradstein and Kaminski 2005), possibly extending to the early Eocene (Gradstein, pers. com. 2008). It has subglobular chambers, four in its last whorl. The test is clearly asymmetric, with a highly convex, involute ventral side and a flat, evolute to partially evolute dorsal (spiral) side (with slight overlapping of chambers of the earlier whorls). The species differs from *A. glomeratum* (Brady) in having a less conical ventral side, in having a flap covering its umbilicus, and a more evolute spiral side (Gradstein and Kaminski 1989). In all specimens figured by Gradstein and Kaminski (1989), the dorsal side is flat with chambers in the early whorl visible, and the spiral side thus is at least partially evolute. The figured specimens are all much more evolute on the spiral side than Recent species of *Adercotryma*, which does not agree with the generic description of *Adercotryma* by Brönnimann and Whittaker (1987). The generic description of the genus *Ammogloborotalia* (Zheng 2001) states that this genus resembles *Adercotryma* in its coiling along a vertical axis, but differs from it in being trochospiral, with the dorsal side evolute (Kaminski et al. 2007). We thus argue that the species *agterbergi* should be attributed to the genus *Ammogloborotalia* rather than to *Adercotryma* (Kaminski et al. 2007; Kaminski 2008).

*Ammogloborotalia agterbergi* (Gradstein and Kaminski) is commonly found in bore holes in the Central North Sea, where it ranges from the upper-middle Eocene to the early Oligocene (Gillmore et al. 2001; Kaminski and Gradstein 2005), and in middle Eocene to lower Miocene sediments in cores offshore Norway, as well as in the Arctic Ocean (Kaminski 2007). It has been reported as *Insculpaturella subvesicularis* (Hanzlíková) in the Oligocene to Miocene of the Beaufort-MacKenzie Delta (Schröder-Adams and McNeil 1994), and as a rare component of the assemblages in lower Oligocene sediments from the Mainz Basin, Germany (Grimm 2002). It has also been documented from the lower-middle Eocene sediments from the Mendi Group of New Guinea (Kaminski and Gradstein 2005), and from lower Miocene sediments in the Arctic Ocean, indicating a wide geographic distribution.

Kuhnt and Pletsch (2004) describe *Adercotryma* sp. in the Morroco Paleocene, but the oldest species assigned to the genus is *Adercotryma* sp. from the Campanian in the western Pacific (DSDP Sites 196, 198; ODP Site 801; Wightman and Kuhnt 1992; fig. 1). No description was given of the species, but the figure shows four to four and a half chambers on the last whorl, a highly convex involute ventral side, broadly rounded periphery, and a flat, somewhat less involute dorsal side. We include a plate (Plate 1) with five views of the specimen figured by Wightman and Kuhnt (1992), for comparison with *Adercotryma kuhnti*. Listed in the synonymy of *Adercotryma* sp. is *?Trochammina gyroidinaeformis* Krasheninnikov 1974. This species has a convex involute side, and a flat spiral side with slightly overlapping whorls, with 5 to 6 chambers in the last whorl. Specimens figured in Krasheninnikov’s 1974 plates of *T. gyroidinaeformis*, however, differ from the figured specimens of *Adercotryma* sp. because they vary from almost fully evolute to evolute with partially overlapping chambers. Other figures of *T. gyroidinaeformis* (Hemleben and Troester 1984, Pl. 4, figs. 11-13; Moullade et al. 1988; Pl. 8, figs. 4-6) also show a clearly trochospiral species, with a highly convex involute side. Because of this trochospiral character, with the flat, spiral side fully or partially evolute, we assign this species to the genus *Ammogloborotalia* (Kaminski et al. 2007; Kaminski 2008). Krasheninnikov (1974) commented that this species does not fully agree with the description of the genus *Trochammina*, and might have to be assigned differently. We thus consider the species *Adercotryma* sp., in Wightman and Kuhnt (1992) as dif-
ferent from *Ammogloborotalia gyroidinaeformis* because of its involute character.

*Adercotryma* sp. might have evolved from the *Ammogloborotalia gyroidinaeformis* (Krasheninnikov) group of species (Kuhnt, pers. comm. 2008). From the Turonian through the Maastrichtian, *A. gyroidinaeformis* was an important ecological indicator in the abyssal North Atlantic Ocean, in the red deep-sea clays in the western Tethys, and the abyssal Pacific, and abundant in oligotrophic environments (over a wide depth range, middle bathyal through abyssal) with low sedimentation rates and the fine grained, nutrient-poor sediments typically deposited under these conditions (e.g., Kuhnt and Holbourn 2005).

We found abundant specimens of a non-previously described species of *Adercotryma* in uppermost Cretaceous sediments from Ocean Drilling Program (ODP) Leg 198, Hole 1210A, northwest Pacific Ocean. The purpose of this paper is to formally describe a new species of *Adercotryma*, to compare it to other species of the same genus, and speculate on the evolutionary history of the genus.

**MATERIAL AND METHODS**

Specimens of *Adercotryma* were found in Upper Cretaceous sediments recovered during ODP Leg 198 on Shatsky Rise (paleo-latitude ~10°N at 65.5 Ma; Fig. 1A), northwest Pacific Ocean. The studied material comes from Hole 1210A, which was drilled at 32°13.4123′N, 158°15.5618′E, at a present water depth of 2573.6m (Fig. 1B). The sedimentary succession includes uppermost Maastrichtian (nannofossil Zone CC26), white to pale orange nannofossil ooze overlain by lowermost Paleocene (foraminiferal Zone P and nannofossil Zone NP1), grayish-orange foraminiferal ooze (10 cm) that grades upwards into a white foraminiferal nannofossil chalk (20 cm), and then into a grayish-orange nannofossil ooze (Bralower et al. 2002; Bown 2005). The boundary between the uppermost Maastrichtian and the lowermost Paleocene is bioturbated, with up to 5-cm-long burrows across the boundary.

Uppermost Maastrichtian sediments show severe carbonate dissolution, indicative of deposition below the lysocline. Planktic foraminiferal shells are etched and fragmented, whereas thin-walled earliest Paleocene faunas are well preserved.
(Bralower et al. 2002). Also indicative of severe dissolution of the upper Maastrichtian sediments is the very high percentage (> 90%) of benthic foraminifera. The lysocline and calcite compensation depth over Shatsky Rise shoaled in the latest Maastrichtian, prior to the K/Pg boundary, and deepened in the earliest Paleocene (Bralower et al. 2002). Benthic foraminiferal assemblages contain abundant representatives of the cosmopolitan lower bathyal-abyssal Velasco-type fauna, and thus indicate a deep-water paleoenvironment. The assemblages are diverse and contain abundant buliminid taxa in the uppermost Cretaceous, suggesting a relatively high food supply to the seafloor (Alegret and Thomas 2008).

A total of 26 samples from the Upper Cretaceous and lower Paleogene were studied from Hole 1210A. All samples were dried, disaggregated in water with detergent and washed over a 63 µm sieve. Quantitative studies were based on representative splits of 300 or more specimens of benthic foraminifera from the >63 µm fraction, which were obtained with a modified Otto microutiliter. All specimens were picked, identified, counted and mounted on microslides for a permanent record.

The illustrated specimens (with the exception of the holotype and the two paratypes) were selected and covered with Au or Pt in order to take Scanning Electron Micrographs. Photographs of the type material were taken with a digital camera attached to a binocular microscope. The holotype and paratypes have been deposited in the National History Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D. C. (collection numbers USNM 537203-537205). The rest of the illustrated specimens are deposited at the Department of Geology and Geophysics, Yale University, USA, and at the Department of Earth Sciences, Zaragoza University, Spain.

**TAXONOMY**

Superfamily *Haplophragmioidea* Eimer and Fickert 1899
Family *Ammosphaeroidinidae* Cushman 1927
Subfamily *Ammosphaeroidininae* Cushman 1927

*Adercotryma kuhnti* Alegret and Thomas, n. sp.
Plates 2, 3

Description. Test free; globular, planoconvex to fusiform, coiling trochospiral. Chambers slightly inflated, axially elongate, gradually increasing in size, 5 to 6 visible in the final whorl. Sutures distinct, depressed. Aperture single, interiomarginal, a slit (length about one third of the chamber’s width) on the base of the last chamber, extending from the umbilical end of the chamber towards the other side; *Paratrochammina*-type aperture, resting on the last and penultimate chamber of the final whorl. In some specimens an umbilical flap is clearly visible on the ventral side (Plate 2, figs. 1c, 3c, 4). Wall finely agglutinated on the most involute umbilical side, coarser on the somewhat more evolve dorsal (spiral) side.

Two morphotypes have been distinguished. The “planoconvex” morphotype (plate 2, figs. 1-2, 5-6) is truncated spirally and clearly asymmetric, with a slightly evolve to involute flat dorsal (spiral) side and a highly convex, involute ventral side, whereas the “fusiform” morphotype (plate 2, fig. 3; plate 3, fig. 2) is somewhat more planispiral and symmetric, and almost completely involute and convex on both sides. The presence of common intermediate forms between these two morphotypes suggests that they belong to the same species. The holotype (plate 2, figs. 1a-c) belongs to the “planoconvex” morphotype; it has a globular shape, a typically trochospiral, dextral coiling, and 6 chambers in the last whorl.

Dimensions (holotype). Maximum diameter 273 µm, thickness 265µm. Plate 2, figs. 1a-c. Collection number USNM 537203.

Paratypes. Two paratypes have been designated. Paratype 1 (plate 2, figs. 2a-c) belongs to the “planoconvex” morphotype, is sinistral and has 5 chambers in the last whorl (maximum diameter 192µm, thickness 188 µm), and Paratype 2 (plate 2, figs. 3a-c) belongs to the “fusiform” morphotype and has 6 chambers in the last whorl (maximum diameter 171 µm, thickness 194µm). Collection numbers USNM 537204, 537205.

Type level (holotype and paratypes). Sample 198-1210A-24H-4(70-72), 220.10 mbsf. Late Cretaceous (latest Maastrichtian, *Abathomphalus mayaroensis* planktonic foraminiferal Zone, *Micula prinsii* nannofossil zone (CC26), and nannofossil UC20d subzone (Bralower et al. 2002; Bown 2005).

Type locality. Shatsky Rise ODP Leg 198 Site 1210A, north-west Pacific Ocean. Located at 10°N at 65.5 Ma; present location 32°13.4123′N, 158°15.5618′E, water depth 2573.6m. Lower bathyal-upper abyssal.

Abundance. *Adercotryma kuhnti* makes up 0.33% to 14.7% of the benthic foraminiferal assemblages (text-fig. 2).

Type specimens. The holotype (plate 2, figs. 1a-c) and paratypes (plate 2, figs. 2, 3) have been deposited in the micropaleontological collections of the National History Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D. C., with the holotype numbered USNM 537203, the paratypes USNM 537204 and 537205.

Remarks. *Adercotryma kuhnti* differs from most other species of *Adercotryma* in having more chambers (5 to 6) in its final whorl. Its aperture is covered with an umbilical flap like that present in *A. agterbergi* (Gradstein and Kaminski 1989) and in well-preserved specimens of *A. glomeratum* (Loeblich and Tappan 1987), and extends into the umbilicus. *Adercotryma kuhnti* has 1 to 2 more chambers in the last whorl than *Adercotryma glomeratum*, and the “fusiform” morphotype is much more symmetric than *A. glomeratum*, which has been described as asymmetric. Kuhnt (pers. comm., 2008), however, considers that similar morphotypes occur in *A. glomeratum*, and may represent the microspheric (fusiform) and macrospheric (planoconvex) generations. *Adercotryma kuhnti* differs from *Adercotryma wrighti* in having 5 to 6 chambers instead of 3 in the final whorl; the outline of the test is less lobate, and most specimens have an umbilical flap on the ventral side. *Adercotryma kuhnti* has a more conical ventral side than *Ammodogloborotalia agterbergi*, and it has more (and less inflated) chambers in the last whorl. The test of *A. agterbergi* is always clearly asymmetric, with one at least partially evolve side, whereas the “fusiform” morphotype of *Adercotryma kuhnti* is almost symmetric.

Figures of the Campanian *Adercotryma* sp. (Wightman and Kuhnt 1992) (Plate 1) show 4 to 6 and 1/2 chambers in the last whorl, much more strongly depressed sutures, and a strongly...
Relative abundance of *Adercotryma kuhnti* within the benthic foraminiferal assemblages in Hole 1210A, Shatsky Rise. (1) planktic foraminiferal biozones (Bralower et al., 2002); (2) calcareous nannofossil biozones (Bralower et al. 2002; Bown 2005); mbsf: meters below seafloor.
asymmetrical shape, while no flap is seen over the aperture in the umbilical region.

Distribution. Adercotryma kuhnti has been found only in Maastrichtian (Abathomphalus mayaroensis planktonic foraminiferal Zone, Micula prinsii nanofossil zone CC26) lower bathyal to abyssal sediments on Shatsky Rise, ODP Leg 198, Site 1210, northwest Pacific Ocean. It has been searched for but not found, in Upper Cretaceous (Maastrichtian Abathomphalus mayaroensis and Plummerita hantkeninoides planktonic foraminiferal Zones) and lower Paleocene (Danian) sediments from the central North Pacific (lower bathyal DSDP Hole 465A, Hess Rise), North Atlantic and Caribbean (lower bathyal ODP Hole 1049C at Blake Nose, 8 upper to lower bathyal land sections in and central-East and Northeastern Mexico, the Loma Capiro section in Cuba, two middle bathyal French sections at Bidart and Loya Bay), Southeastern Atlantic, lower bathyal ODP Site 1262 on Walvis Ridge, bathyal Sites 689 and 690 in the Weddell Sea, Antarctica, upper to middle bathyal Agost and Caravaca sections in Southeastern Spain, and outer shelf-upper bathyal sections Ain Settara and El Kef in Tunisia) (Thomas 1990a, b; Alegret and Thomas, 2001, 2004, 2005, 2007; Alegret et al., 2001, 2002a, b, 2003, 2004, 2005; Arz et al., 2001; Peryt et al., 2002; Molina et al., 2006; Alegret, 2007, 2008). The absence of Adercotryma kuhnti in the aforementioned sections and sites, including the central North Pacific Site 465, suggests that its distribution was restricted to lower bathyal-abyssal sites in the northwest Pacific Ocean, possibly to depths below the lysocline.

Interestingly, the Campanian Adercotryma sp. was also described from the western Pacific (Wightman and Kuhnt 1992). Kuhnt (pers. comm., 2007) speculated that this species might have been descended from the widely distributed A. gyroidinaeformis, indicative of bathyal to abyssal oligotrophic conditions (Holbourn and Kuhnt, 2005). The presence of Adercotryma kuhnti, as far as known restricted to the western Pacific Maastrichtian, supports the speculation of a Late Cretaceous, western Pacific, bathyal-abyssal origin for the genus.

Overall, morphological evolution appears to have proceeded from a highly convex form with one involute and one evolute side (A. gyroidinaeformis) to a highly convex form with two almost completely involute sides (A. glomeratum). The species Ammogloborotalia gyroidinaeformis, Adercotryma sp., and Adercotryma kuhnti succeed each other in time (old to young), with the record of the youngest species ending at the end of the Cretaceous (Fig. 2). Since we assigned the Eocene-Miocene species agterbergi to the genus Ammogloborotalia, we know of no species recorded in the early Cenozoic. There is a Paleocene Adercotryma sp. (Kuhnt and Pleitsch, 2004), and the oldest occurrence of A. glomeratum was in the Eocene (Jones et al., 2005). The record of this species is very scarce until the Pleistocene, when it becomes ubiquitous, as described earlier. We do not know the reason of the rarity of Adercotryma in the Cenozoic fossil record as opposed to its more Recent ubiquity. Possibly, the genus was more restricted geographically, as it was in the Maastrichtian, but maybe the tests are not well preserved in the fossil record.

The oligotrophic environments of the Campanian Adercotryma sp. and its possible ancestral species Ammogloborotalia gyroidinaeformis contrast with the more eutrophic environments at Site 1210 deduced from the co-occurrence of Adercotryma kuhnti and common buliminids. The Recent species A. glomeratum lives under extremely variable conditions, including eutrophic as well as oligotrophic conditions. The Eocene-Miocene species Ammogloborotalia agterbergi forms part of the Slope Marl Assemblage of the Deep Water Agglutinated Foraminifera (Kuhnt and Kaminski 1989; Kaminski and Gradstein, 2005). This assemblage typically occurs on continental slopes and in slope basins, above the Carbonate Compensation Depth, in regions with high sedimentation rates, high terrigenous sediment influx, and high organic flux. The restricted geographic and bathymetric distribution of the Campanian species Adercotryma sp., however, is similar to that of the Maastrichtian species Adercotryma kuhnti (bathyal-abyssal western Pacific), and in strong contrast with the large geographic and bathymetric variability of the Recent species A. glomeratum. The genus probably originated at bathyal to abyssal depths, and thus must have migrated to much shallower depths when the latter species evolved. We do not know with any certainty when the recent species evolved, because we have been able to find only one reference (Jones et al., 2005) to a fossil occurrence (Eocene), but these authors do not figure any specimens.

CONCLUSIONS

The deep-water species Adercotryma kuhnti occurred in the Maastrichtian (Abathomphalus mayaroensis planktonic foraminiferal Zone, Micula prinsii nanofossil zone CC26), lower bathyal to abyssal sediments recovered on Shatsky Rise Site 1210, northwest Pacific Ocean (ODP Leg 198), where it makes up to 14.7% of the benthic foraminiferal assemblages. The species differs from other species of Adercotryma in having slightly inflated and more chambers (5 to 6) in the final whorl, and in showing a considerable variability in the symmetry of the test, from planoconvex to fusiform. As far as known, the species is restricted to bathyal-abyssal environments in the western Pacific, similar to a possible ancestral species Adercotryma sp.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank Felix Gradstein, Ann Holbourn, Mike Kaminski and Wolfgang Kuhnt for their constructive reviews, and Wolfgang Kuhnt also for the use of the figures in Plate 1. We also thank Raquel Fenero for taking some of the SEM pictures. LA acknowledges funding by project Consolider CGL 2007-63724 (Spanish Ministry of Science and Technology), by a “Ramón y Cajal” research contract, and the FSE (Fondo Social Europeo). ET acknowledges funding by NSF OCE -720049.

REFERENCES


PLATE 1

Five views of one of the rare specimens of this species, one of which was also shown in Wightman and Kuhnt 1992, Plate 2, figure 5. Specimen from Sample 20-196A-2-1,143-145cm.
Laia Alegret and Ellen Thomas: Adercotryma kuhnti sp. nov., a Maastrichtian deep-water species from the Pacific Ocean

### PLATE 2

**Adercotryma kuhnti.**

1. Holotype, Coll. No. USNM 537203, National History Museum, Smithsonian Institution, sample 198-1210A-24H-4(70-72), 220.10 mbsf; maximum diameter 273 μm. 1a, Dorsal (spiral) side; 1b, Apertural view; 1c, Ventral side.

2. Paratype 1, Coll. No. USNM 537204, National History Museum, Smithsonian Institution, sample 198-1210A-24H-4(70-72), 220.10 mbsf; maximum diameter 192 μm. 2a, Ventral side; 2b, Apertural view; 2c, Dorsal side.

3. Paratype 2, Coll. No. USNM 537205, National History Museum, Smithsonian Institution, sample 198-1210A-24H-4(70-72), 220.10 mbsf; maximum diameter 171 μm. 3a, Dorsal side; 3b, Apertural view; 3c, Ventral side.

4-8 – SEM micrographs of *Adercotryma kuhnti.*


7. sample 198-1210A-24H-5(10-12), 221 mbsf; 7a, dorsal (spiral) side; 7b, apertural view; 7c, ventral side.

8. sample 198-1210A-24H-5(10-12), 221 mbsf; 8a, apertural view; 8b; ventral side; 8c, dorsal (spiral) side. All scale bars 50 μm.
PLATE 3

SEM micrographs of Adercotryma kuhnti.

1 sample 198-1210A-24H-4(60-62), 220 mbsf; 1a, ventral side; 1b, apertural view; 1c, dorsal side; 1d, apertural-ventral view.

2 sample 198-1210A-24H-5(110-112), 222 mbsf; 2a, dorsal side; 2b, apertural view; 2c, ventral side.

3 sample 198-1210A-24H-5(10-12), 221 mbsf; 3a, ventral side; 3b, apertural side; 3c, dorsal side; 3d, detail of the wall texture on the ventral side; 3e, detail of the wall texture on the dorsal side. All scale bars 50 µm (except for 3d and 3e, where they correspond to 10 µm).