LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. Location map of the ferromanganese deposits studied.

Figure 2. Distribution of surface sediment types in Indian ocean.

Figure 3. Studied ferromanganese oxide encrustations on basaltic material.

Figure 4. Ferromanganese nodules studied.

Figure 5. Schematic diagram of the SK-XVI-176 sediment core and the buried nodules at different depth within the core.

Figure 6. Studied ferromanganese oxide deposition on biological material.

Figure 7. Teflon electroplating cell for the deposition of U-Th isotopes.

Figure 8. Electronic block diagram for spectrum expansion with a biased amplifier and the system used for alpha counting.

Figure 9. Decay profiles of $^{230}\text{Th}(\text{exc})$ and $^{230}\text{Th}(\text{exc})/^{232}\text{Th}$ for ferromanganese encrustation F-VIII-380.

Figure 10. Decay profiles of $^{230}\text{Th}(\text{exc})$ and $^{230}\text{Th}(\text{exc})/^{232}\text{Th}$ for ferromanganese encrustations SS-XI-663 x and GR-I-2A.

Figure 11. Decay profile of $^{231}\text{Pa}(\text{exc})$ in F-VIII-380 (ACR) encrustation.
Figure 12. Decay profiles of $^{230}\text{Th}(\text{exc})$ and $^{230}\text{Th}(\text{exc})/^{232}\text{Th}$ in oriented nodule.

Figure 13. Decay profiles of $^{230}\text{Th}(\text{exc})$ and $^{230}\text{Th}(\text{exc})/^{232}\text{Th}$ in oriented nodule.

Figure 14. Decay profiles of $^{230}\text{Th}(\text{exc})$, $^{230}\text{Th}(\text{exc})/^{232}\text{Th}$ and $^{234}\text{U}(\text{exc})$ in RVG-S-134-10 D nodule.

Figure 15. Decay profiles of $^{230}\text{Th}(\text{exc})$ and $^{230}\text{Th}(\text{exc})/^{232}\text{Th}$ for nodules from red clay and siliceous sediments.

Figure 16. Depth vs elemental concentration plots for four profiles of F-VIII-380 encrustation.

Figure 17. Depth vs elemental concentration plots for SS-XI-663 x and GR-I-2A encrustations.

Figure 18. Three component diagram showing the genetic field of the encrustation studied.

Figure 19. Depth vs elemental concentration plots for nodules.

Figure 20. Mn/Fe variation as per the depth and orientation in oriented nodules.

Figure 21. Three component diagram showing the genetic fields of the nodules studied.

Figure 22. Depth vs elemental concentration plots for buried nodules.

Figure 23. Depth vs elemental concentrations in F-123 ferromanganese oxide deposition on shark tooth.

Figure 24. Cross sectional schematic diagram of a ferromanganese oxide deposition on shark tooth.
Figure 25. Interelemental relationship diagrams for ferromanganese nodules.

Figure 26. X-ray diffractograms of a few selected layers of F-VIII-380 encrustation from depth profile ACR.

Figure 27. X-ray diffractograms of a few selected layers of GR-I-2A encrustation.

Figure 28. X-ray diffractograms of nonleachable fractions of an oriented nodule.

Figure 29. X-ray diffractograms of nonleachable fractions of nodules from red clay and siliceous sediments.

Figure 30. X-ray diffractogram of nonleachable fraction of a buried nodule.

Figure 31. X-ray diffractograms of shark tooth enamel.

Figure 32. a. Accumulation rates of Fe vs Mn.

b. Accumulation rates of metals vs growth rates of ferromanganese oxides.