

# **Salt Tectonics in the Sivas Basin (Turkey): Outstanding Seismic Analogues\***

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Jean François Salel<sup>4</sup>, and Jean-Paul Callot<sup>2</sup>**

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See similar article [Search and Discovery Article #30312 \(2014\)](#)

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## **Abstract**

The Sivas Basin in Anatolia is likely the world's finest open-air museum of salt tectonic structures. It is an elongated Oligo-Miocene sag basin that developed in an orogenic context above the complex Taurus-Pontides suture. From Late Eocene to Late Miocene salt deposition, salt tectonics, and salt reworking occur in a north-verging foreland fold-and-thrust belt setting north of the Taurus. The result is an intricate system of salt ridges, minibasins, salt sheets, and successive canopies. The orogenic continental setting is markedly different from the deep marine-passive margin environment of the petroleum rich salt basins such as Angola or the Gulf of Mexico, but close to the Pricaspian Basin setting.

Despite huge difference in content and evolution the Sivas Basin provides outstanding outcrops of the classic geometries associated to the development of diapirs, i.e. halokinetic sequences along diapir walls, and associated stratal deformations. The Sivas Basin also presents more exotic structures such as 4-ways closed minibasins, megaflaps (thinned sedimentary sequences pinching out on top of diapirs and overturned during glaciers later development), and evaporites allochthonous sheets. Such structures are only observed in thick and highly deformed salt basins, and are rarely seen at outcrop: only in the Axel Heiberg area (Northern Territories, Canada - hardly accessible) and the Flinders Ranges (Australia).

Striking geometric analogies between these outcrops and seismic images from the classic petroleum province controlled by salt tectonics will illustrate the extraordinary quality of the Sivas basin as field analogue for the Gulf of Mexico, the Brazilian, Angolan, and Congo Margins. Some comparisons with analog models under scanner will also be shown.

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## SALT TECTONICS IN THE SIVAS BASIN (TURKEY): OUTSTANDING SEISMIC ANALOGUES

**AAPG ICE field trip 2014**

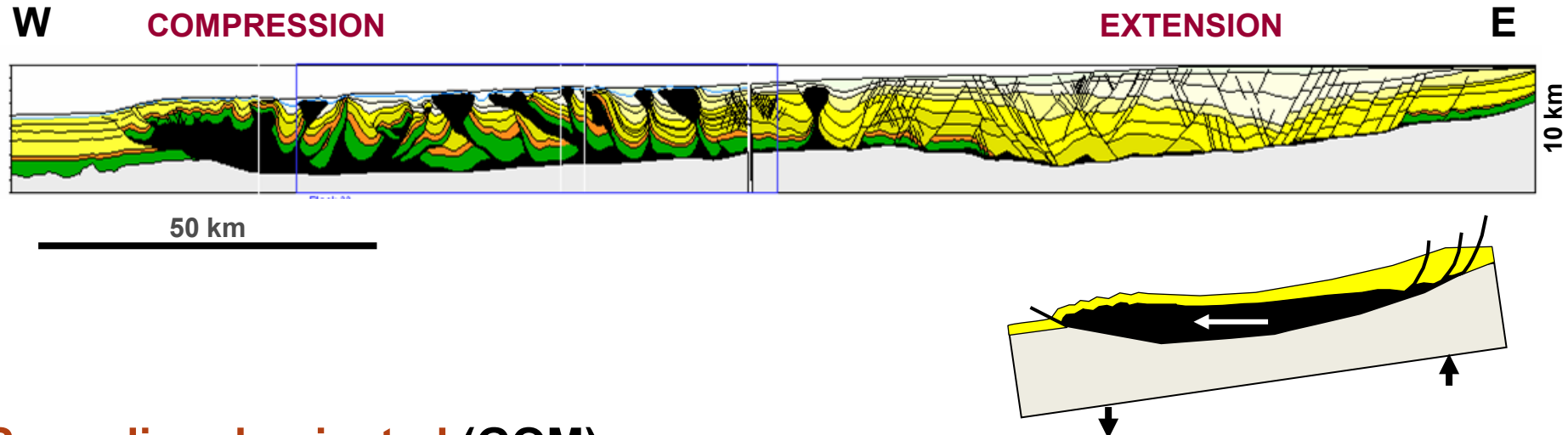


**Jean-Claude RINGENBACH**

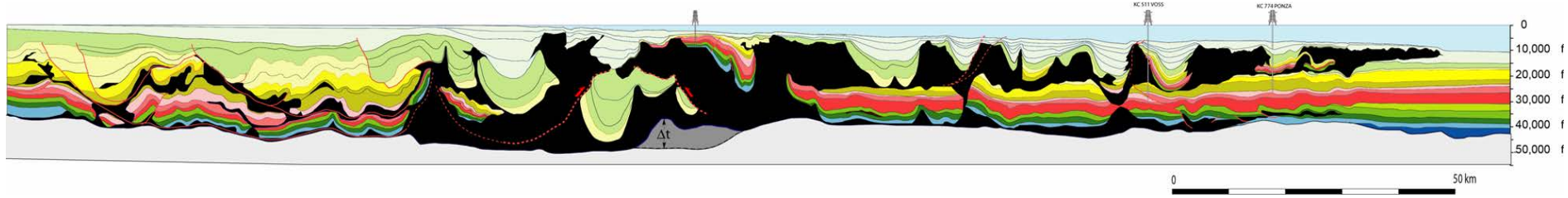
**Charlie Kergaravat, Charlotte Ribes, Alexandre Pichat, Etienne Legeay, Jean François Salel and Jean-Paul Callot**

# MARGIN'S GRAVITY TECTONICS SETTINGS

## Gliding dominated (Angola)



## Spreading dominated (GOM)



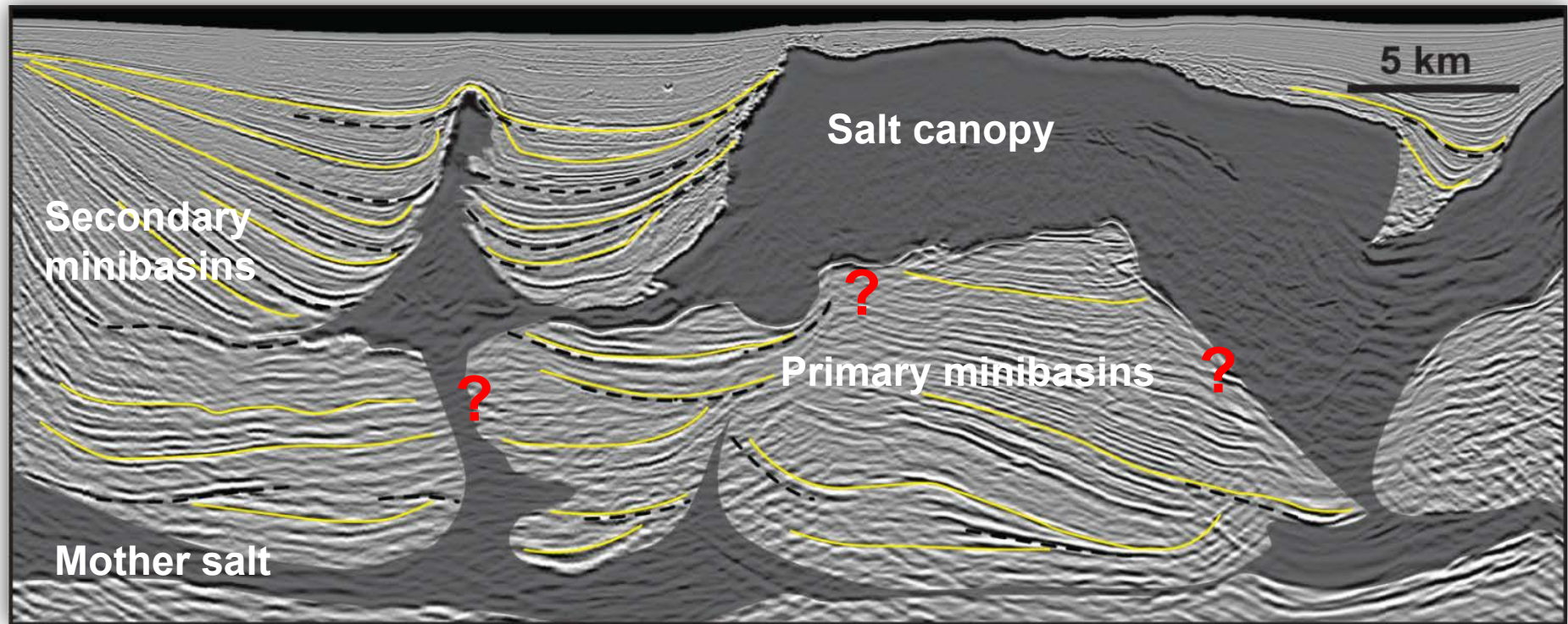
Two major petroleum provinces  
Deep marine settings





# WIDE AZIMUTH SEISMIC IS VERY GOOD BUT...

## NEED FIELD ANALOGS AND MODELS

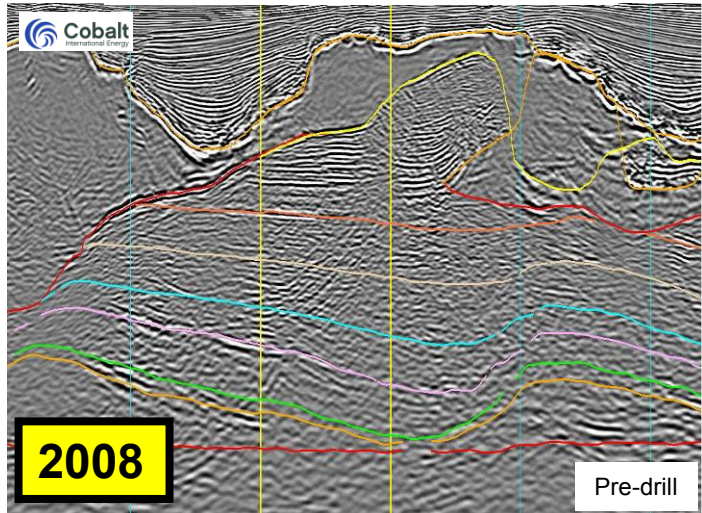


- Important uncertainties**
- ✓ Geometries against the salt walls
  - ✓ Facies near the salt walls
  - ✓ Sealing against/near the walls
  - ✓ Diagenesis
  - ✓ Fractures network...

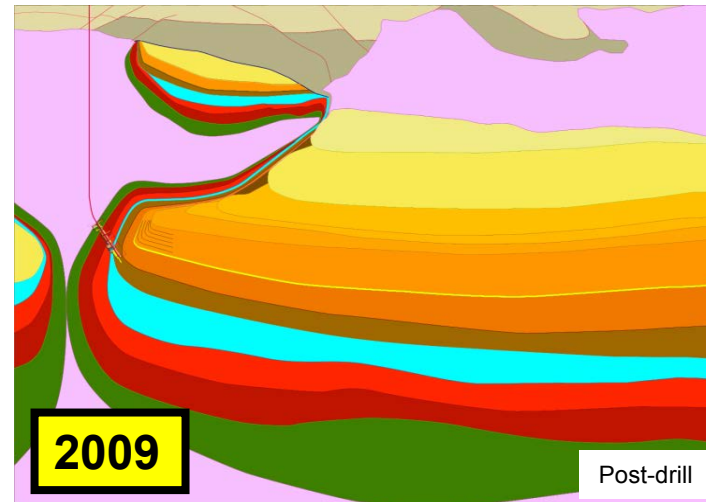
# A GEOLOGICAL FAIRY TALE



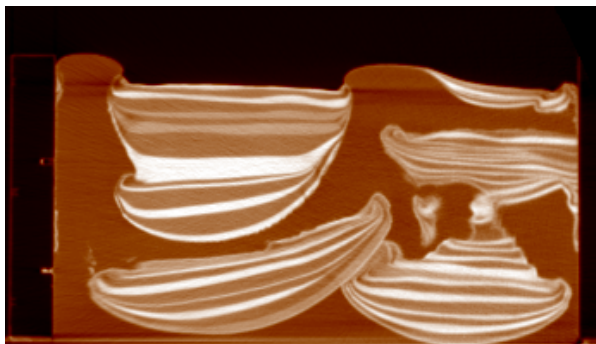
**Subsalt GOM on Conventionnal 3D**



**Megaflaps : Ligurian, Heidelberg...**



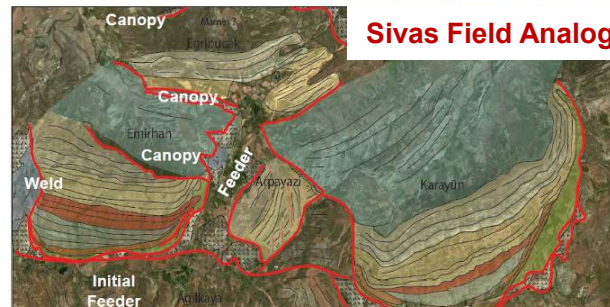
**Analogue modeling**



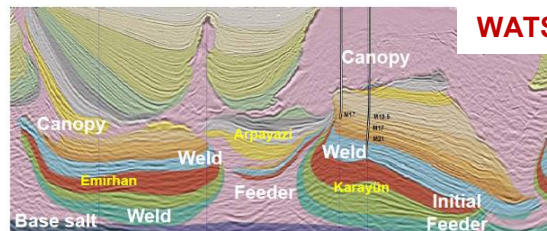
IFP for COBALT, Callot et al., 2016

**2010**

**Sivas Field Analogue**



**WATS 3D**



**2011**

**TOTAL-UPPA  
Structural Geology  
Chair  
Prof. JP Callot &**

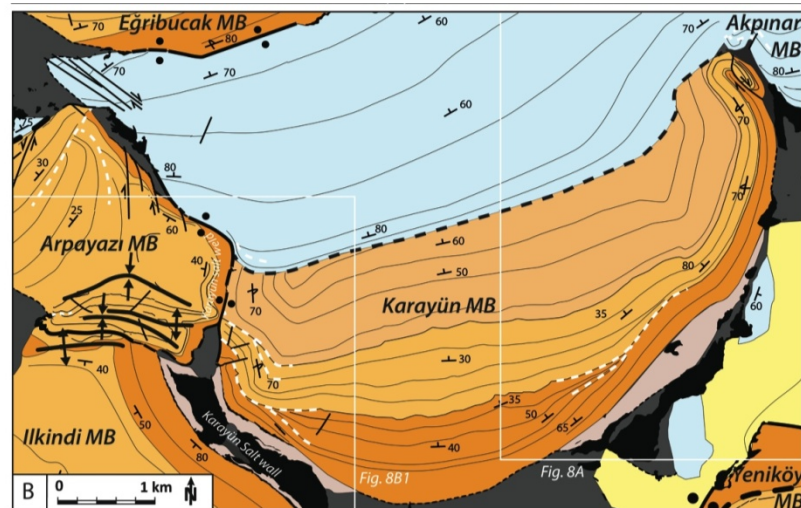
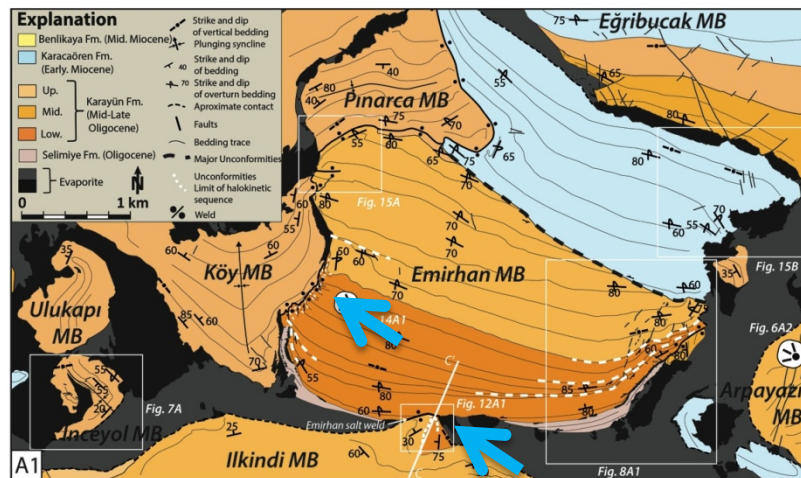
4 PhD students since  
2012:  
C. Ribes, C. Kergaravat  
E. Legeay, A. Pichat



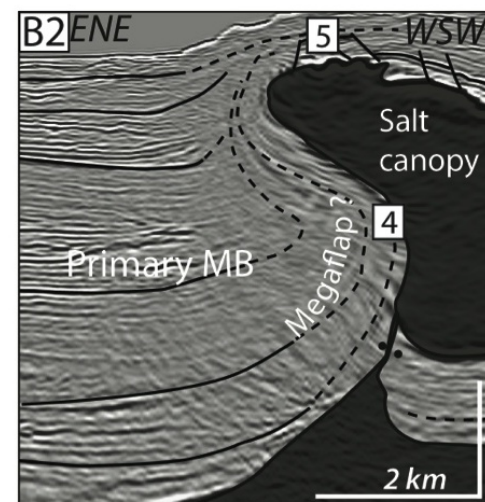
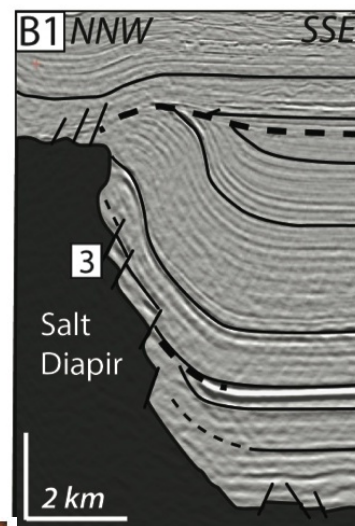
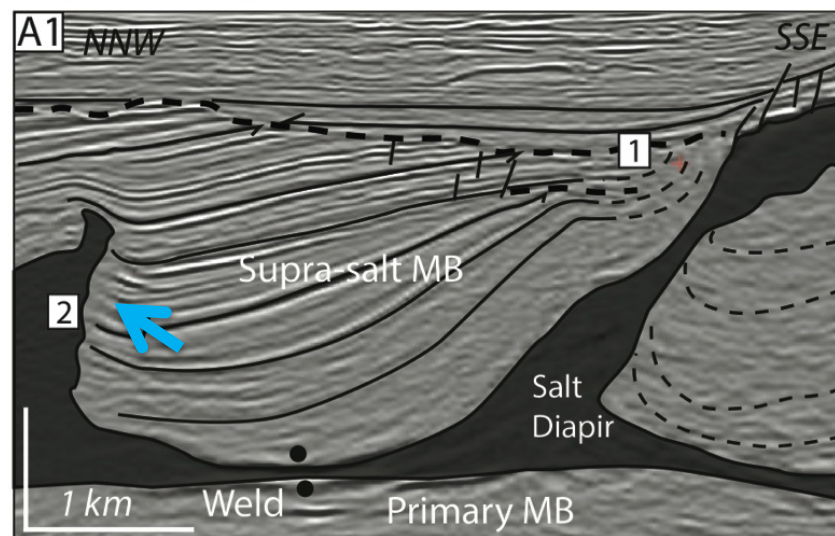




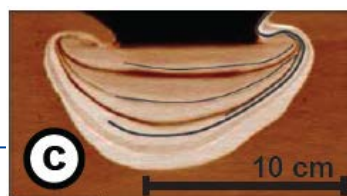
# THE NOW FAMOUS EMIRHAN AND KARAYÜN MINIBASINS



Kergaravat et al., submitted, 2016

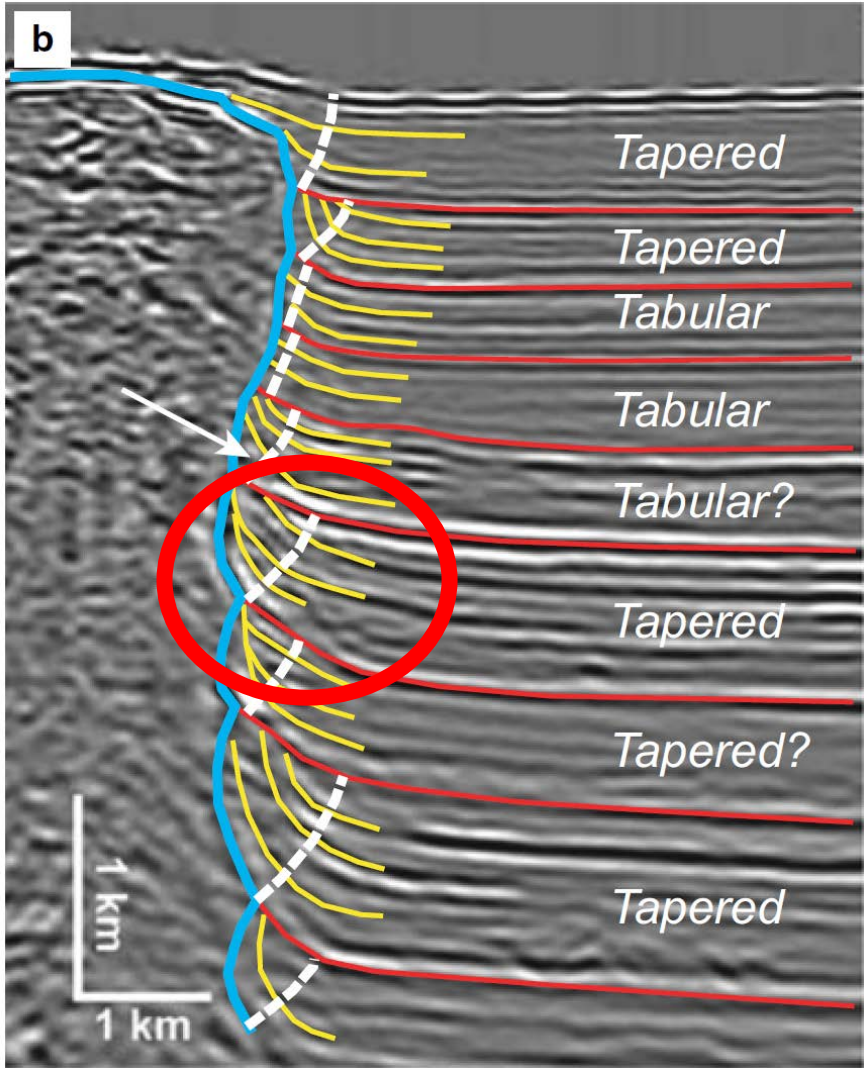
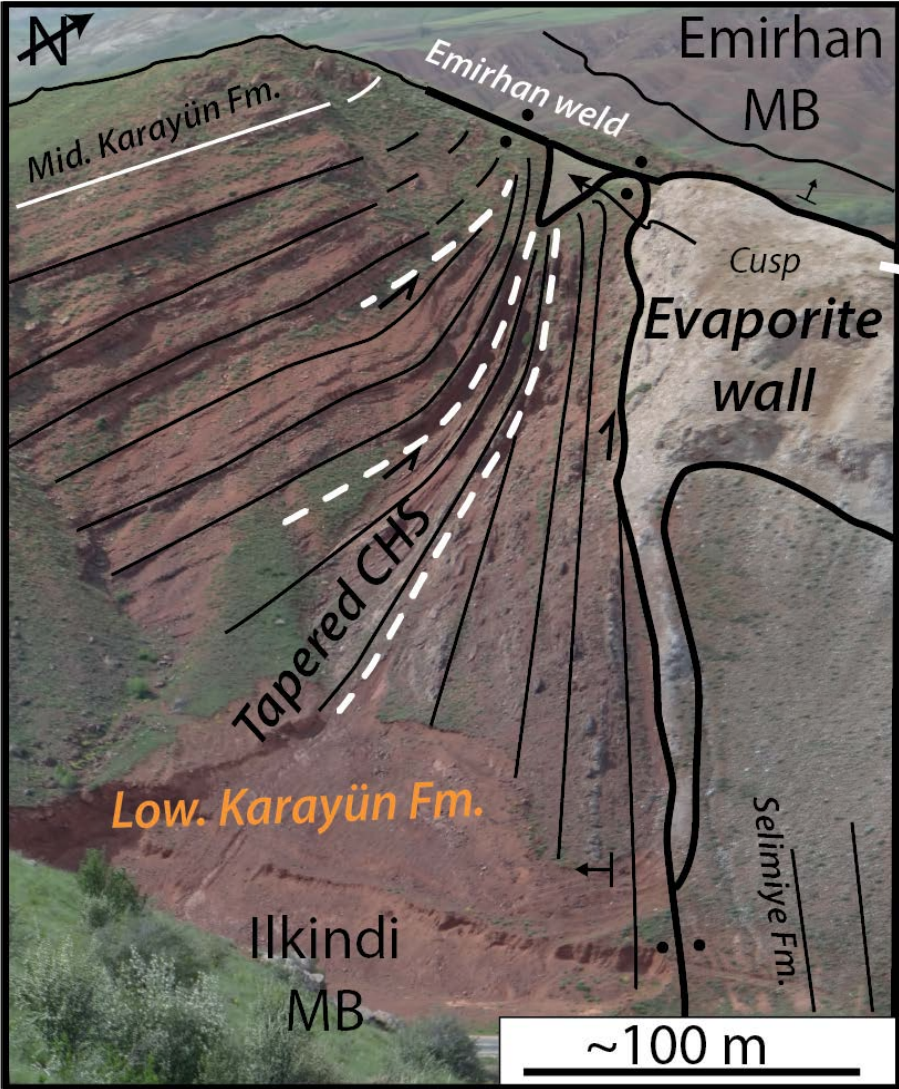


GOM





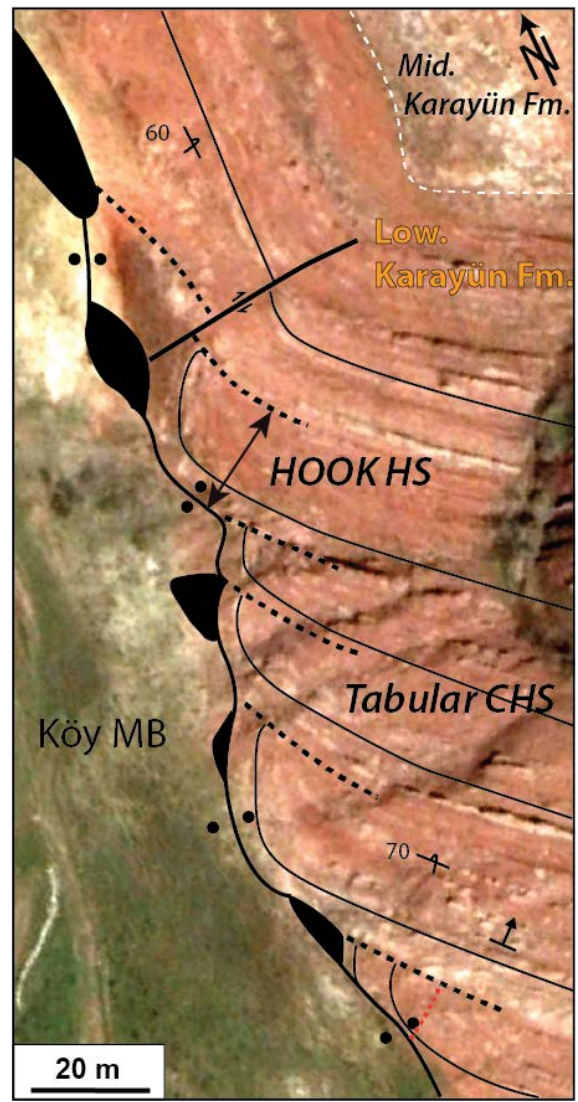
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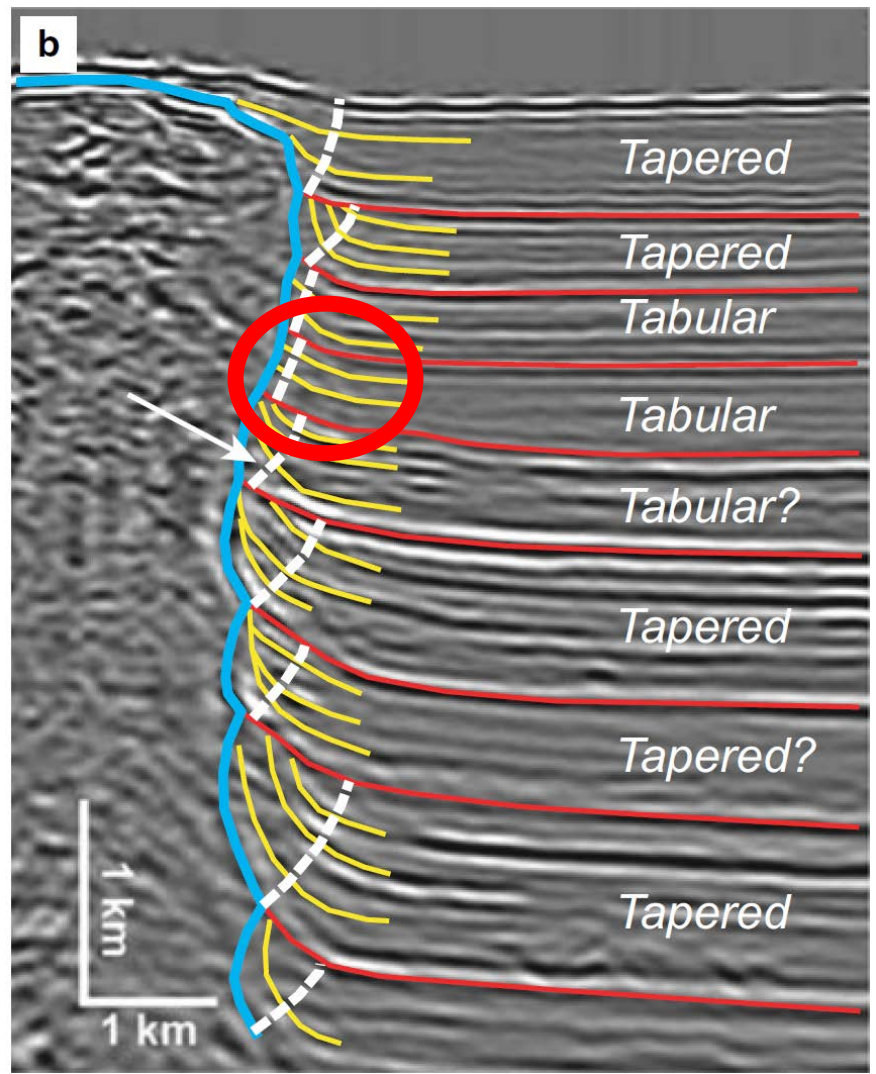
Giles and Rowan, 2012



# HALOKINETIC SEQUENCES: HOOKS



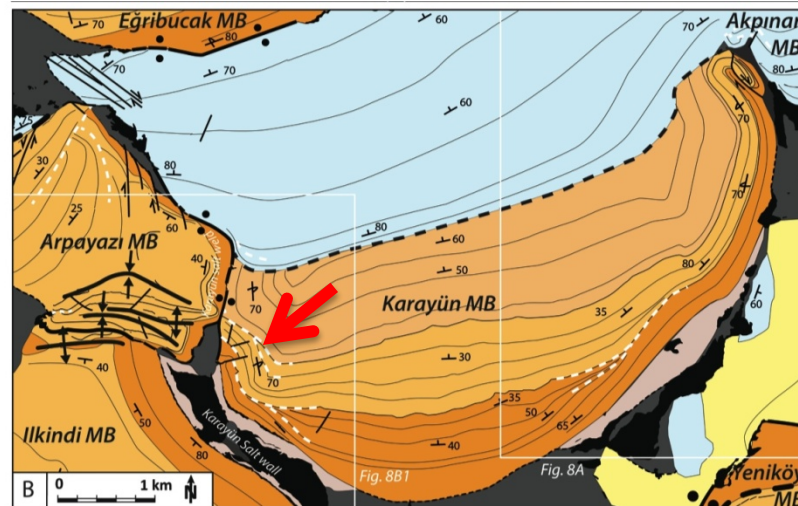
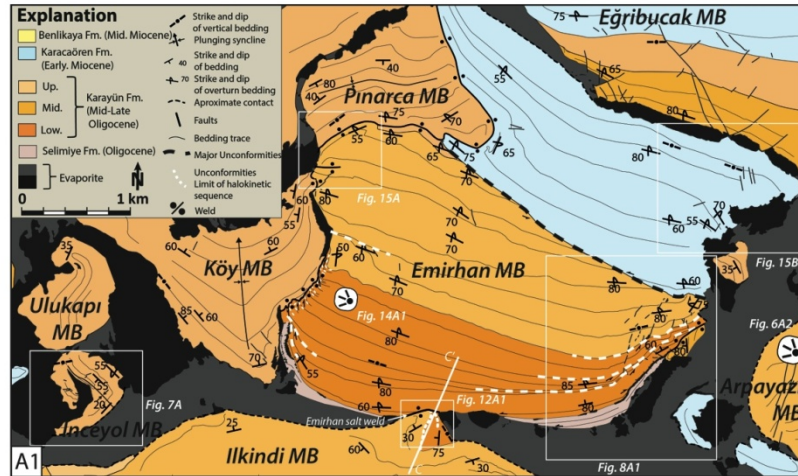
Kergaravat et al., submitted



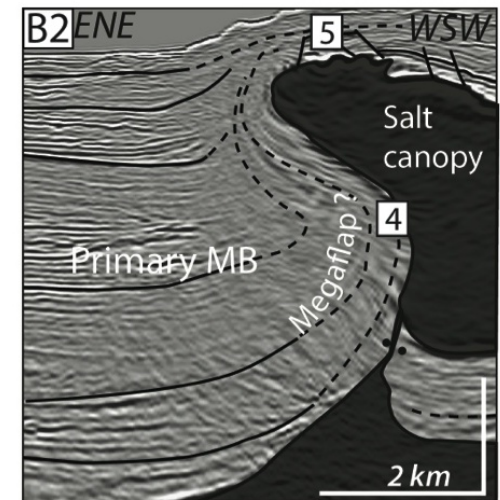
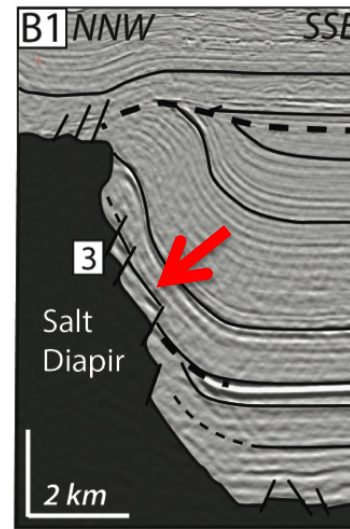
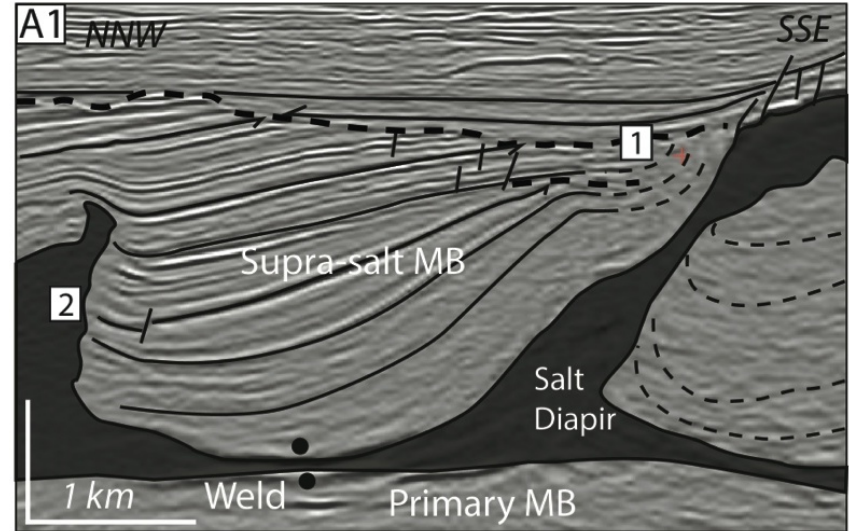
Giles and Rowan, 2012



# THE NOW FAMOUS EMIRHAN AND KARAYÜN MINIBASINS



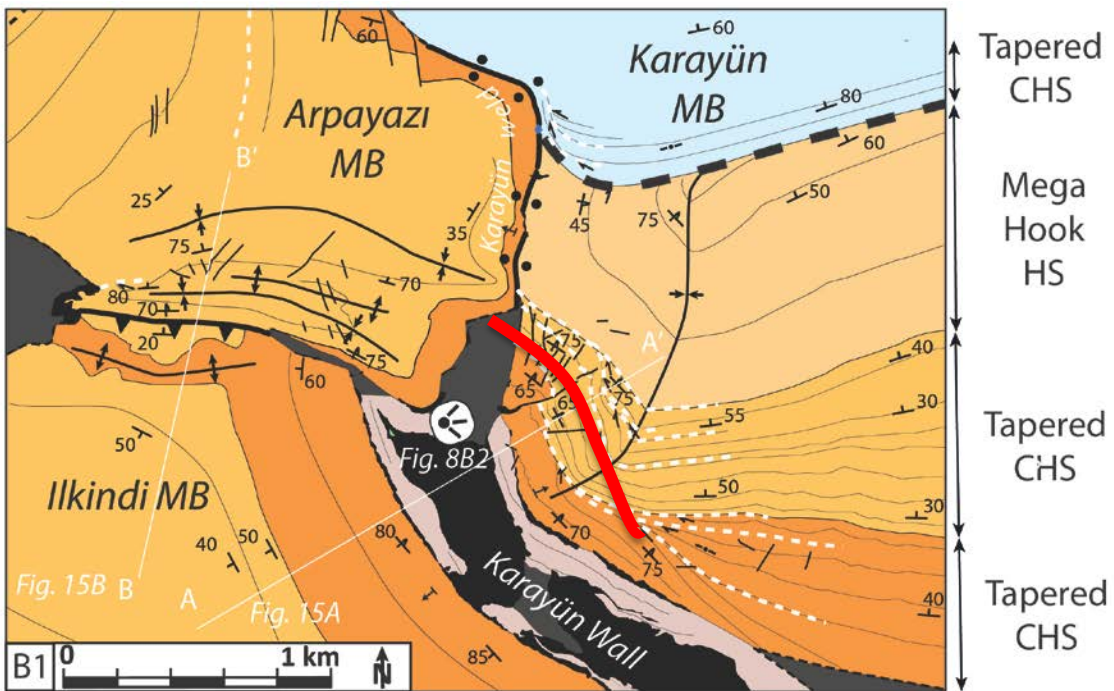
Kergaravat et al., submitted



GOM

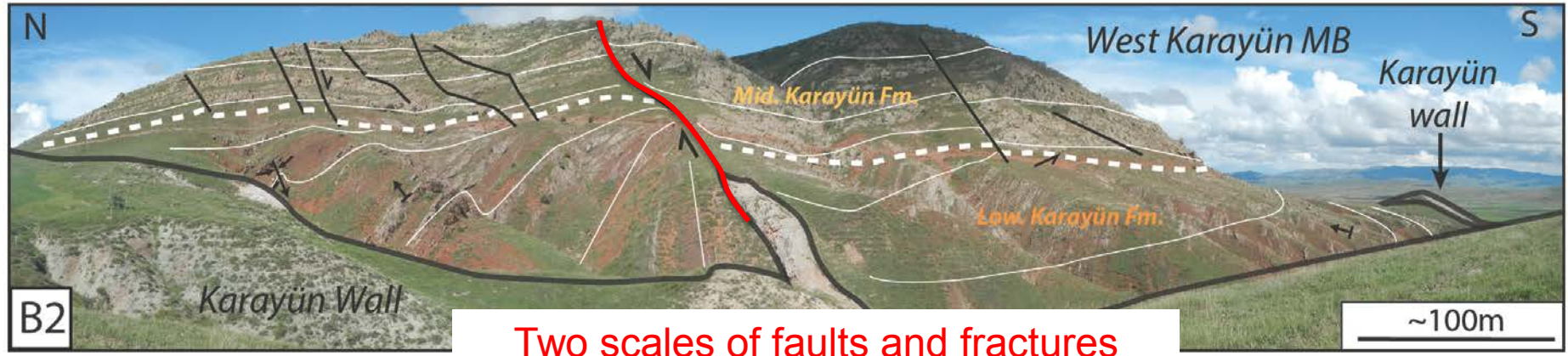
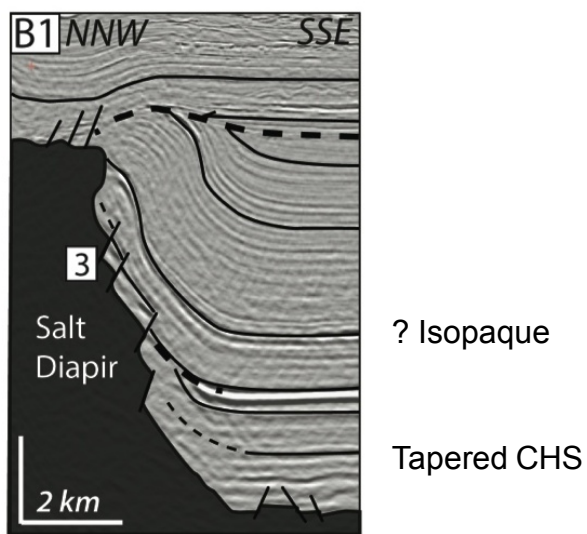


# COMPOSITE HALOKINETIC SEQUENCES AND FAULTS



Kergaravat et al., submitted

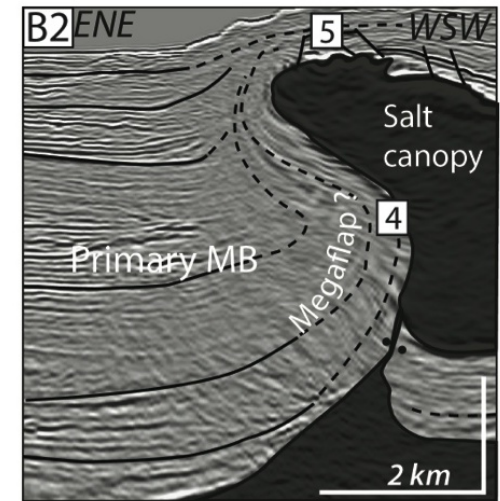
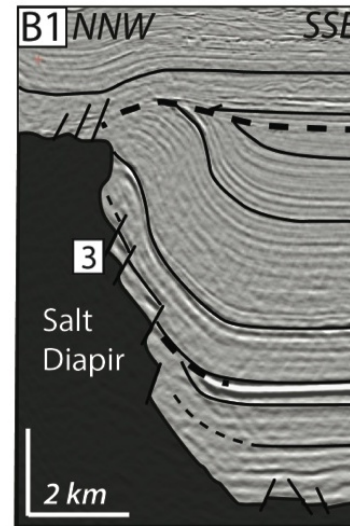
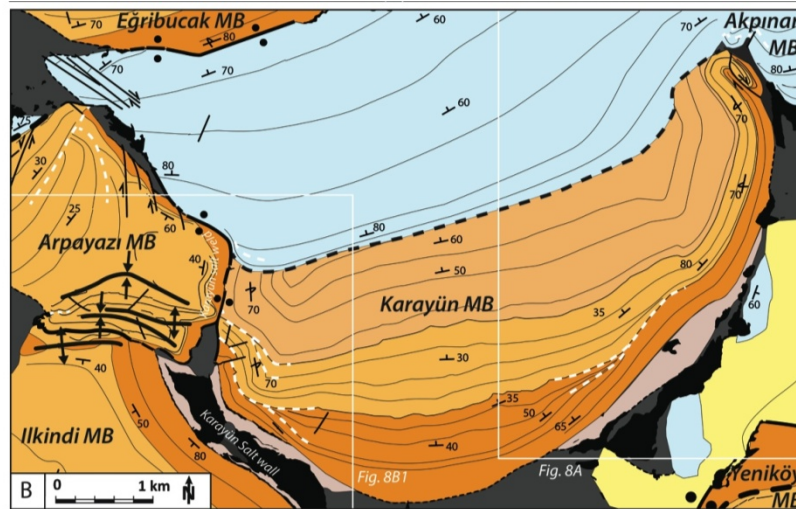
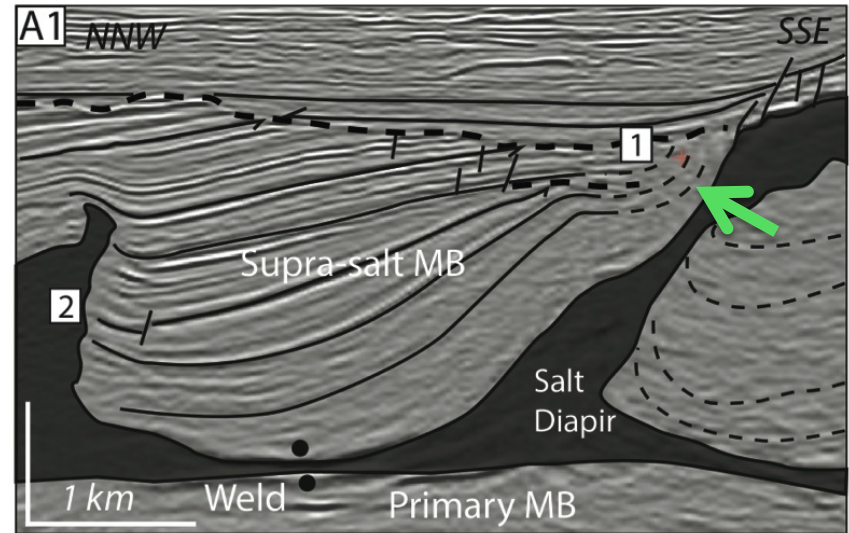
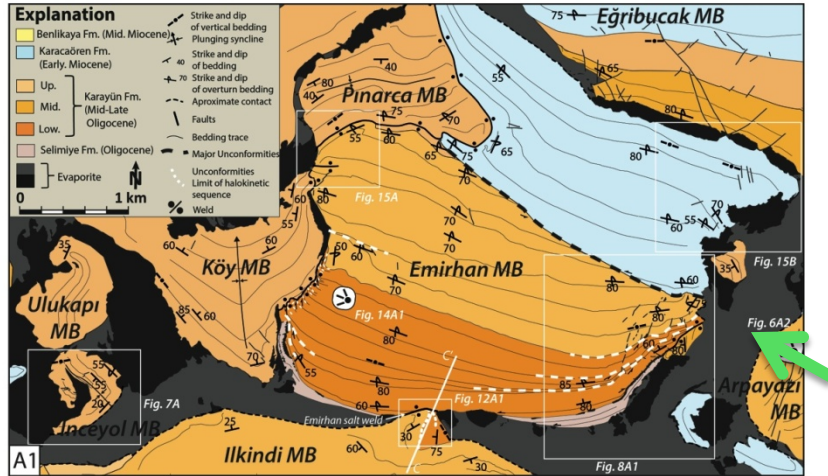
From seismic  
to reservoir scale  
Small faults and fractures



Two scales of faults and fractures

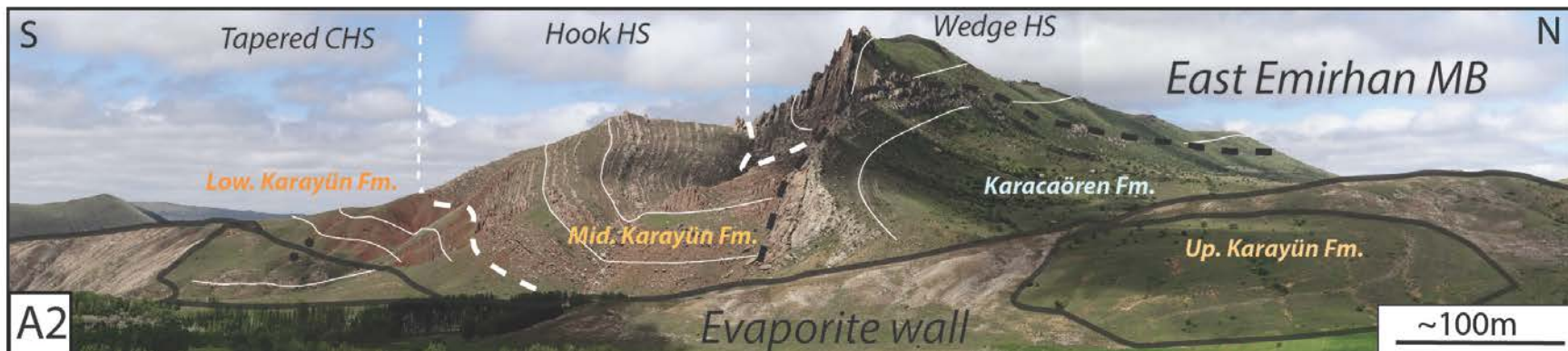
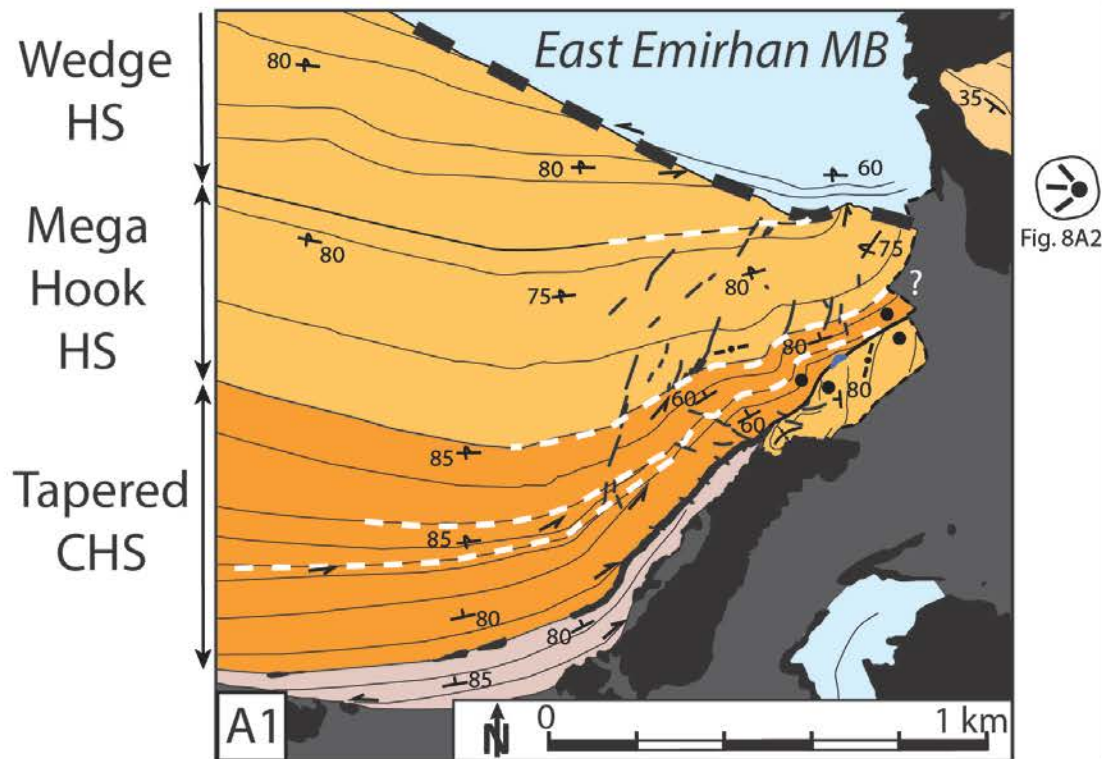


# THE NOW FAMOUS EMIRHAN AND KARAYÜN MINIBASINS



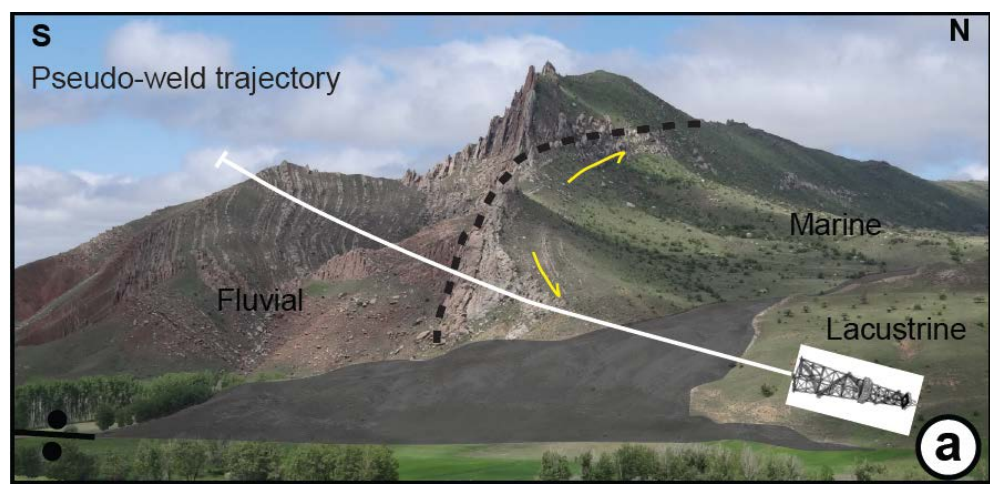
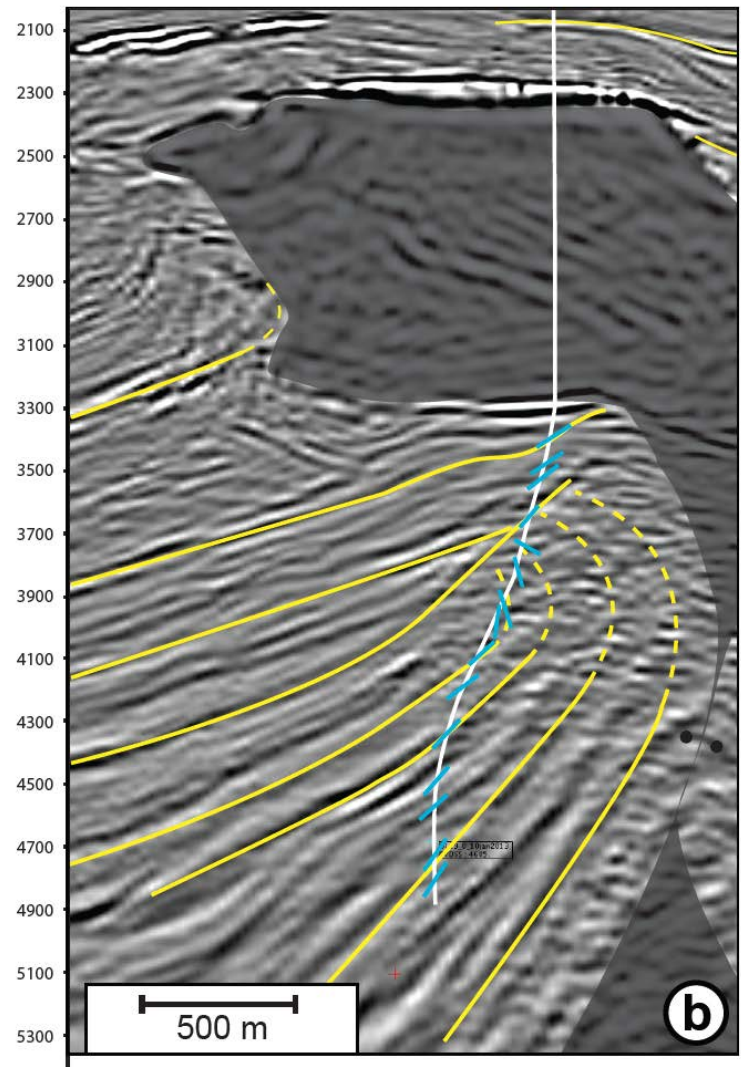
GOM

## MEGAHOOK AND UNCONFORMITY

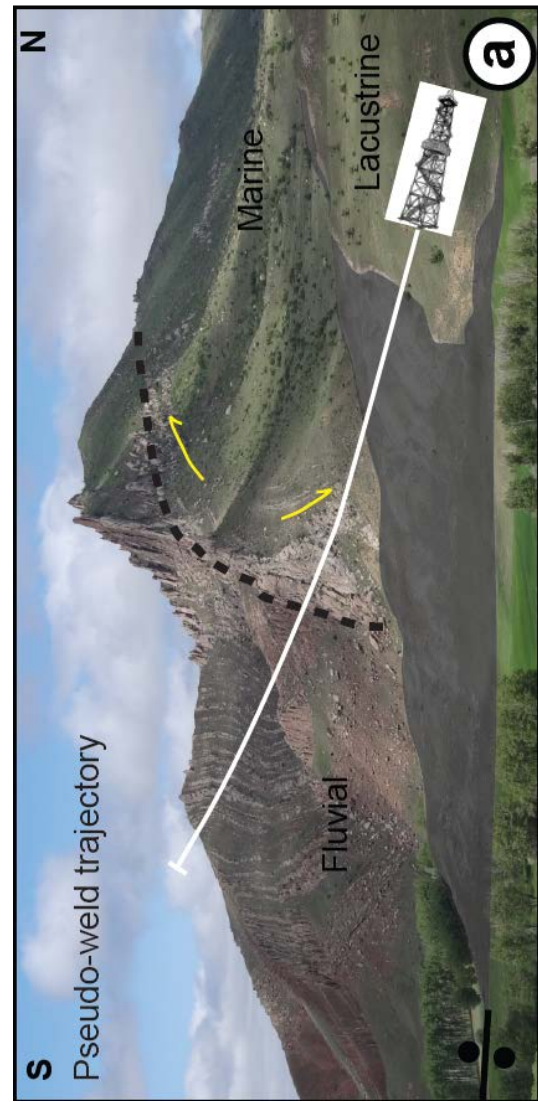
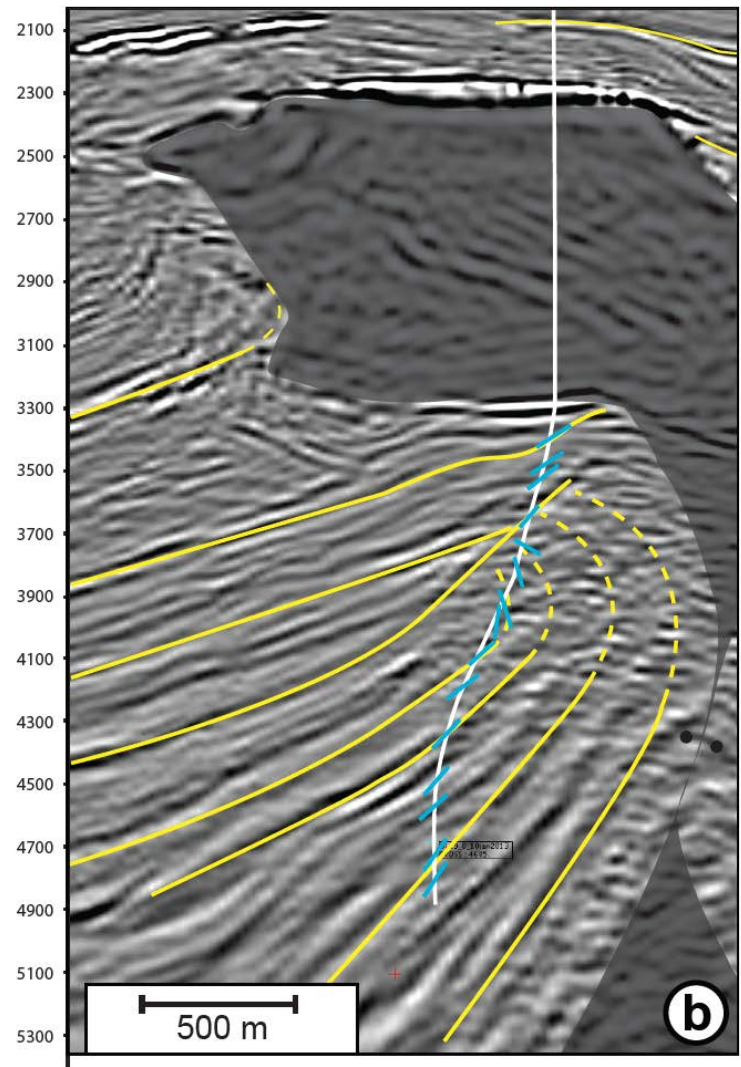




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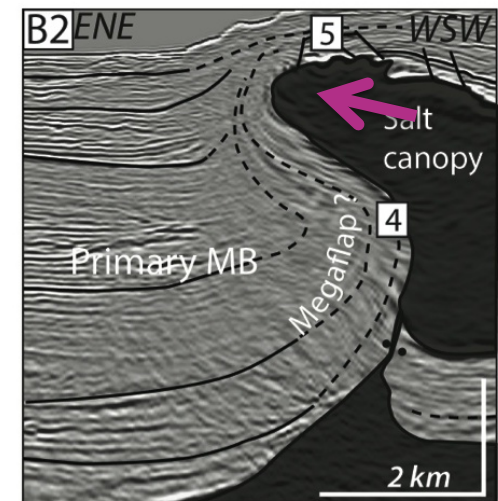
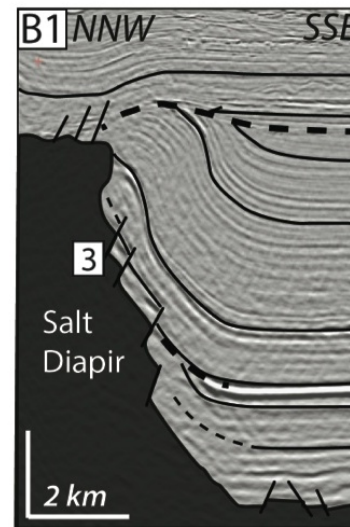
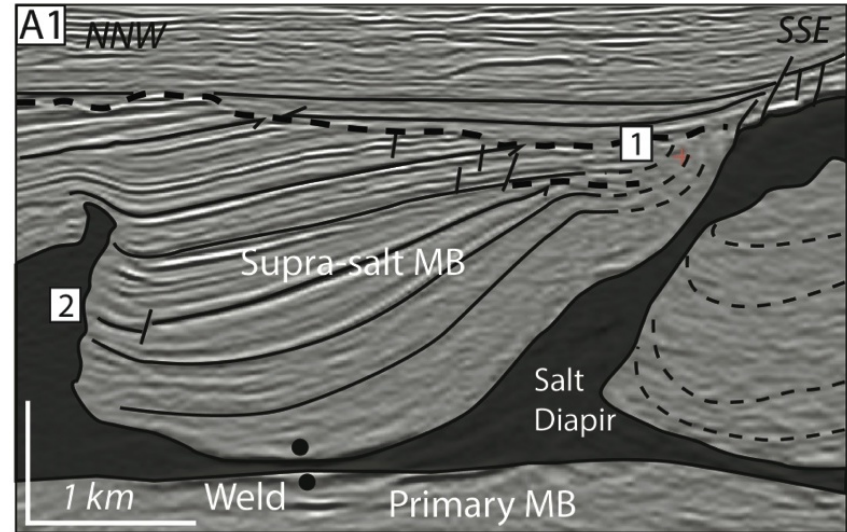
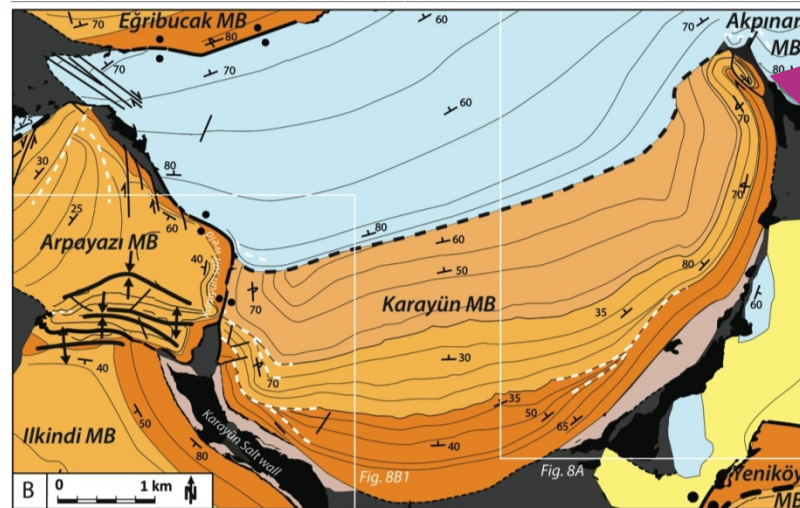
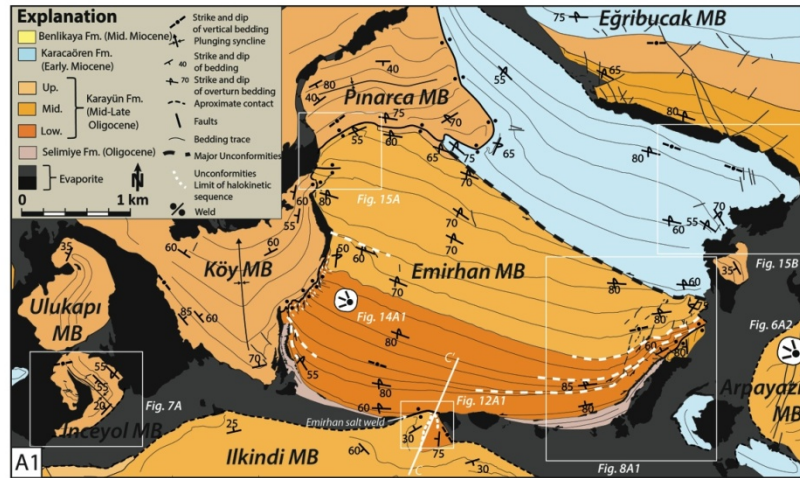


# MEGAHOOK AND UNCONFORMITY





# THE NOW FAMOUS EMIRHAN AND KARAYÜN MINIBASINS

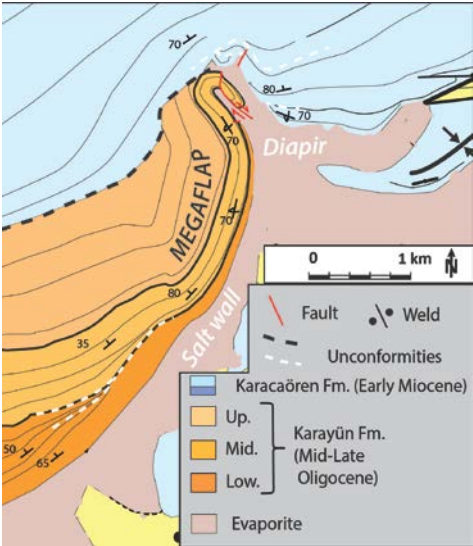


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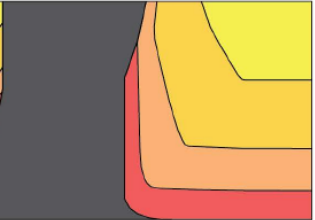
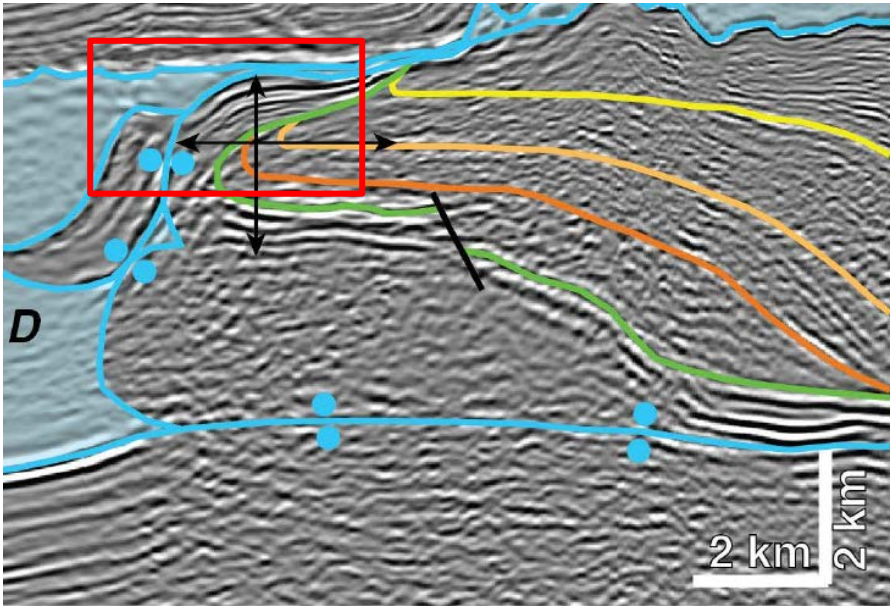
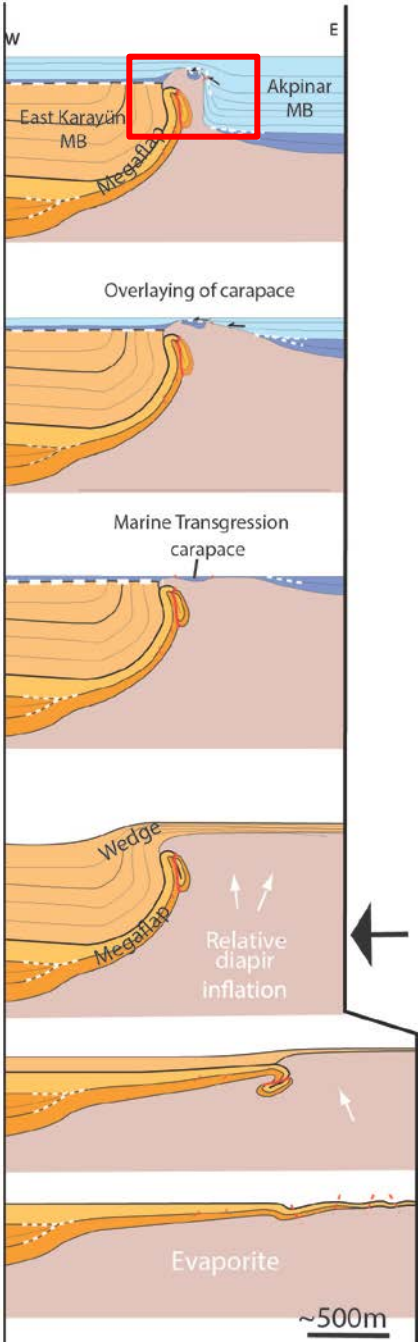
# MEGAFLAP EVOLUTION

Complex tip geometries  
Visible only on the field  
and FMI

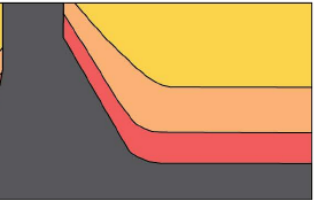
Without salt extrusion



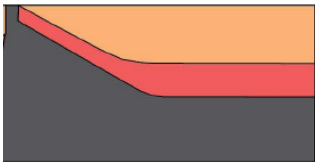
Kergaravat et al., submitted



With salt extrusion  
Below canopy



Limb rotation

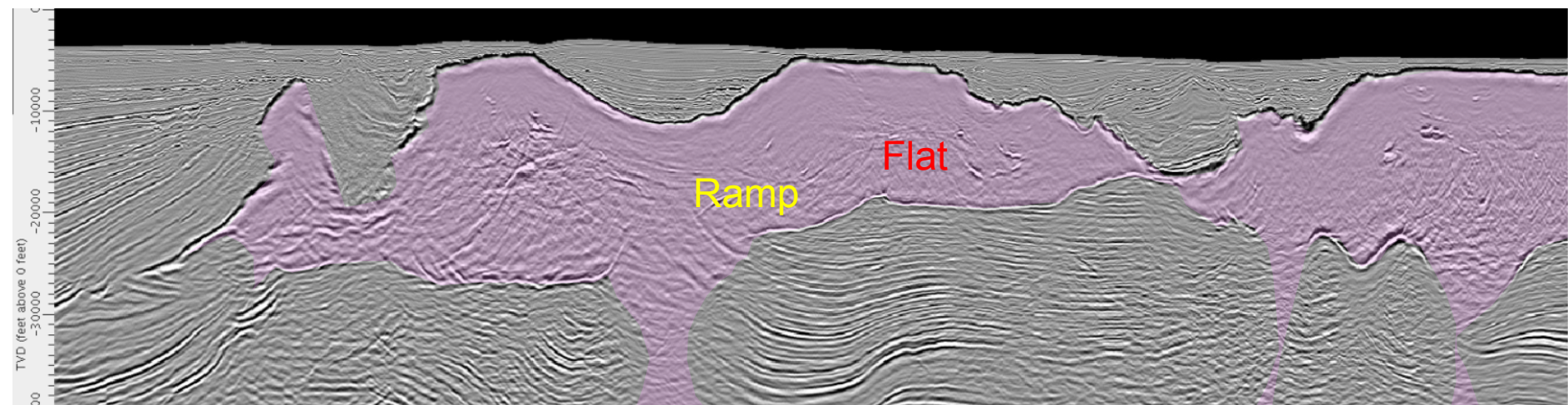
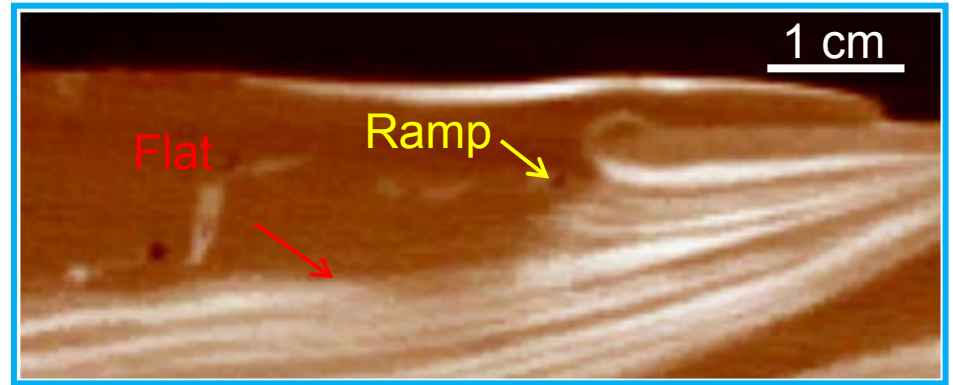
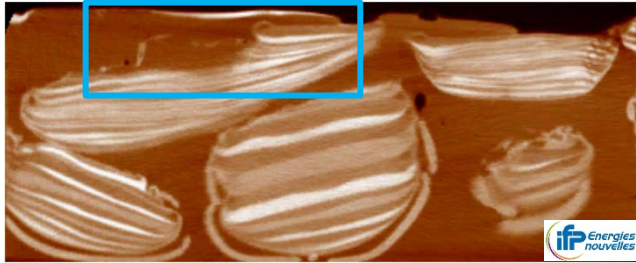


Rowan et al., 2016



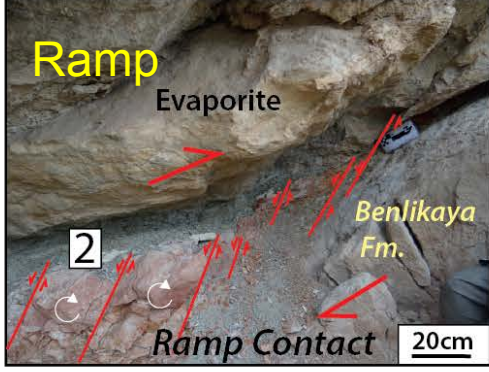
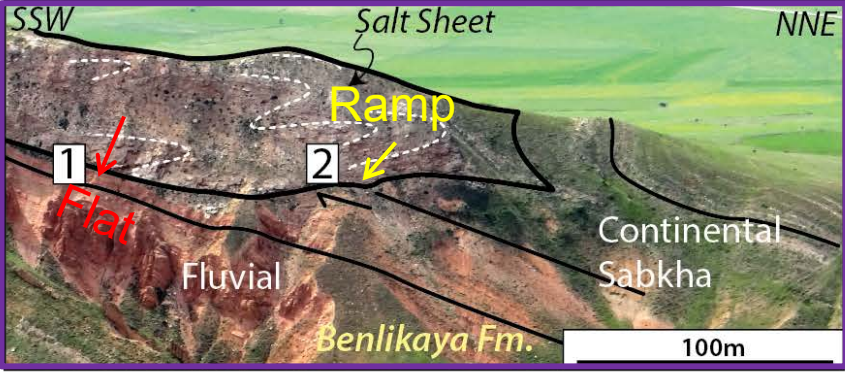
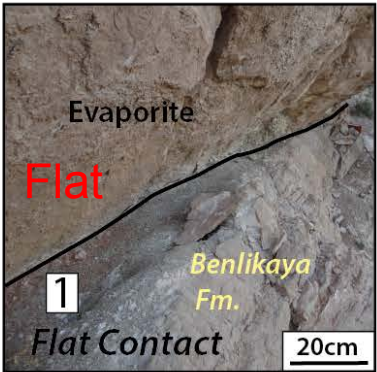
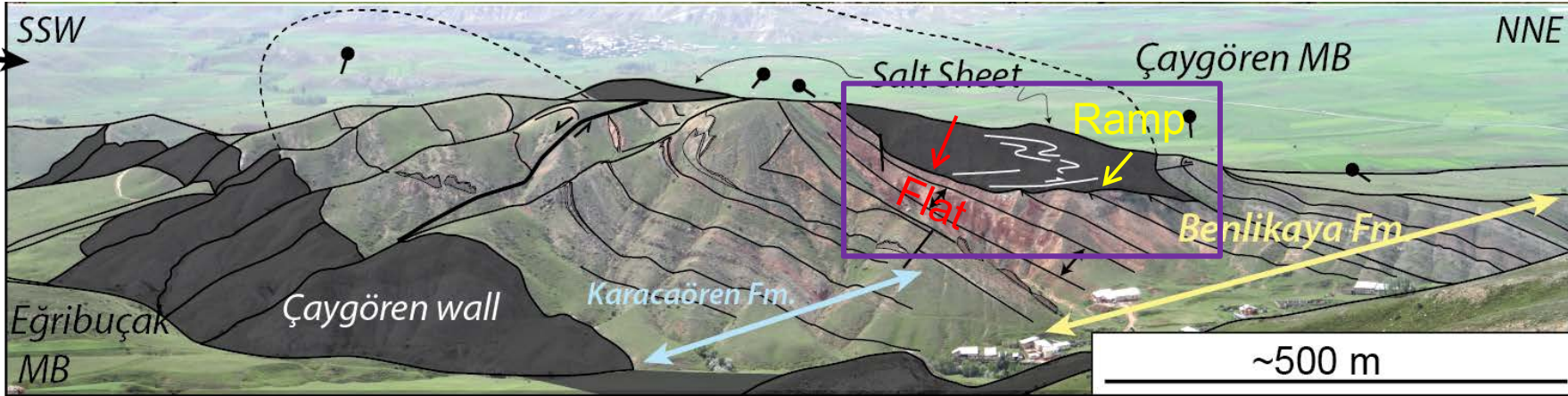
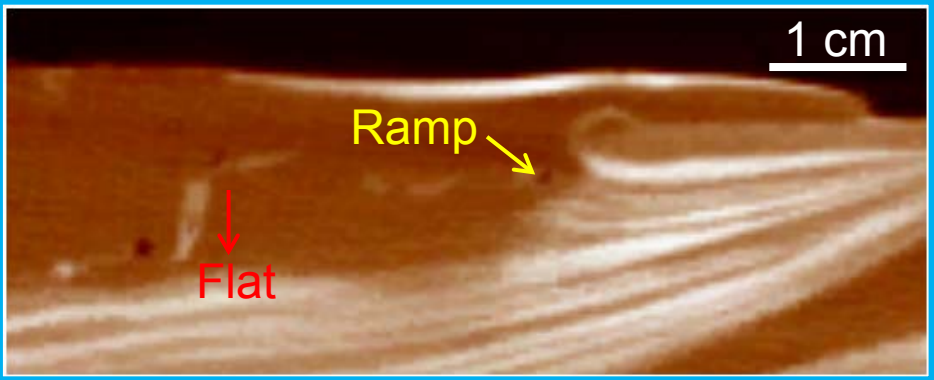
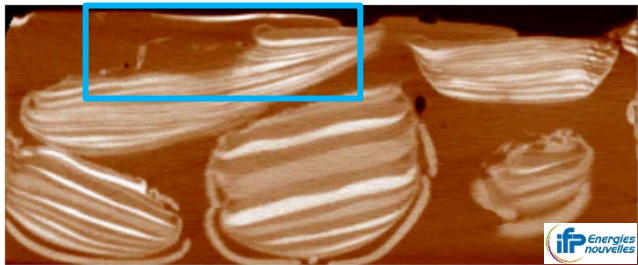


# SALT SHEETS





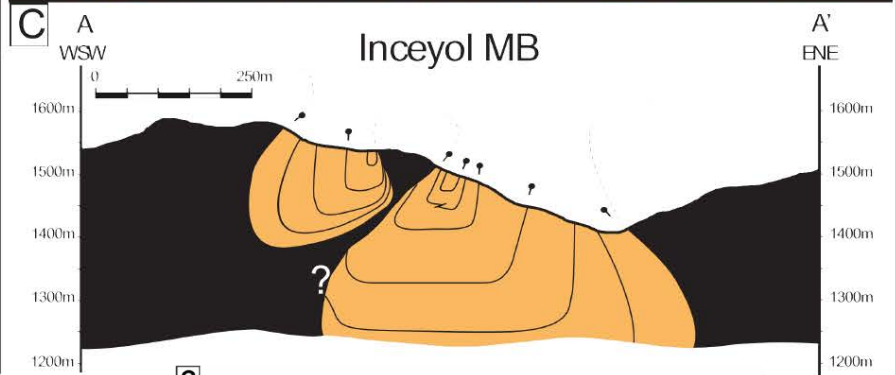
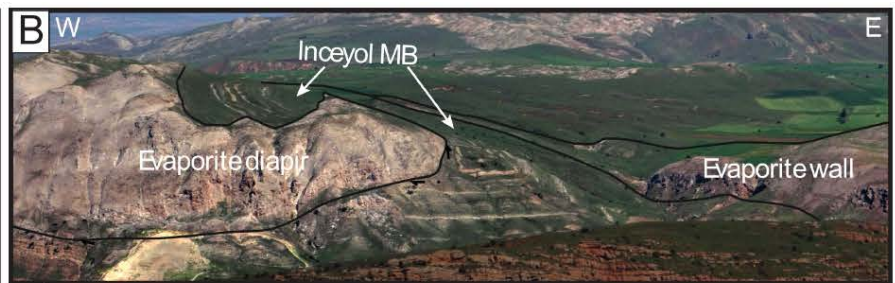
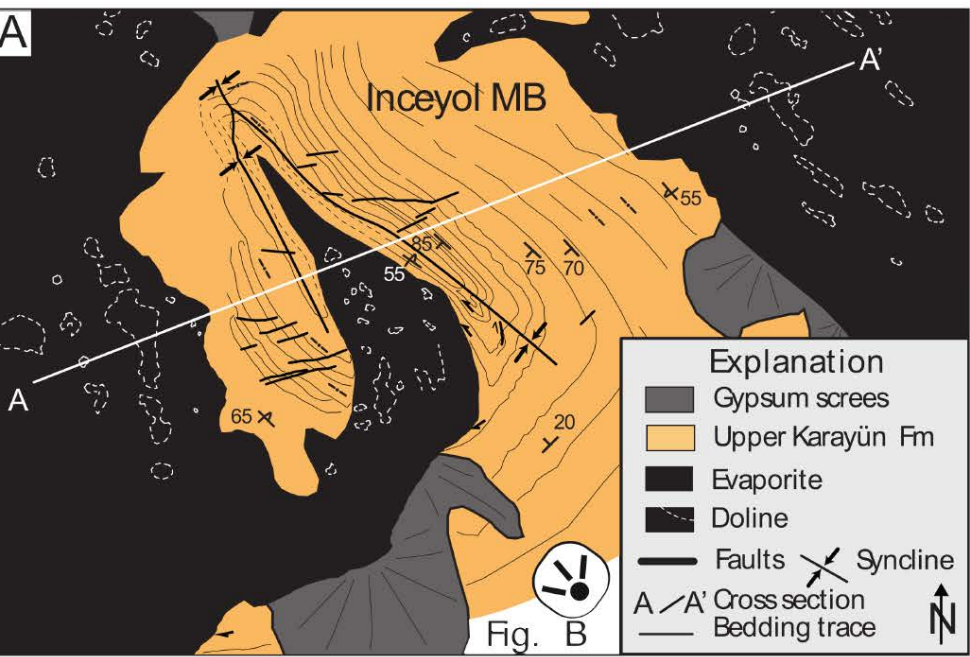
# SALT SHEETS AT VARIOUS SCALES



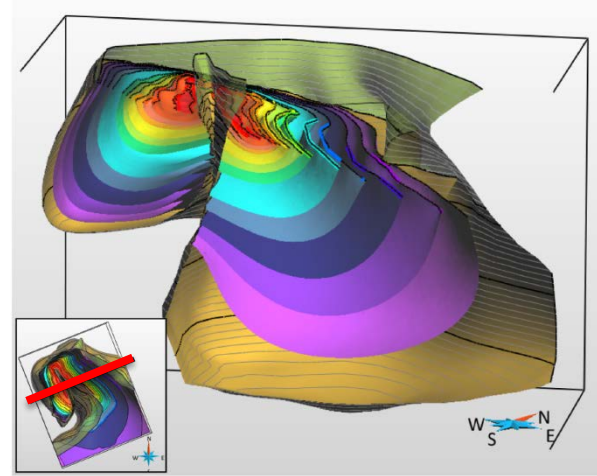
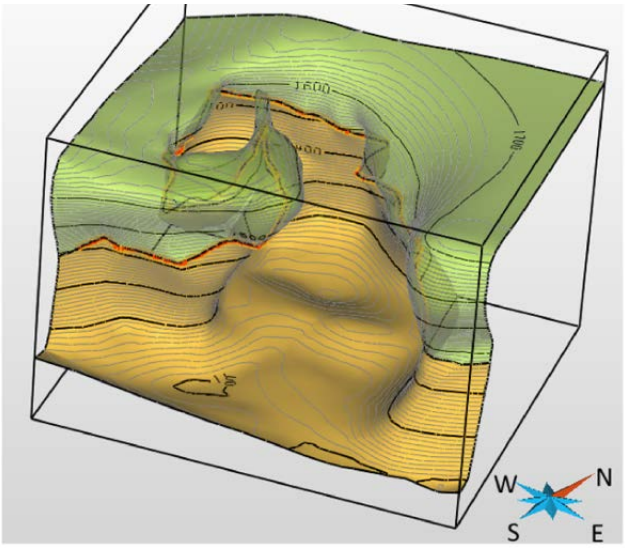
Kergaravat et al., submitted



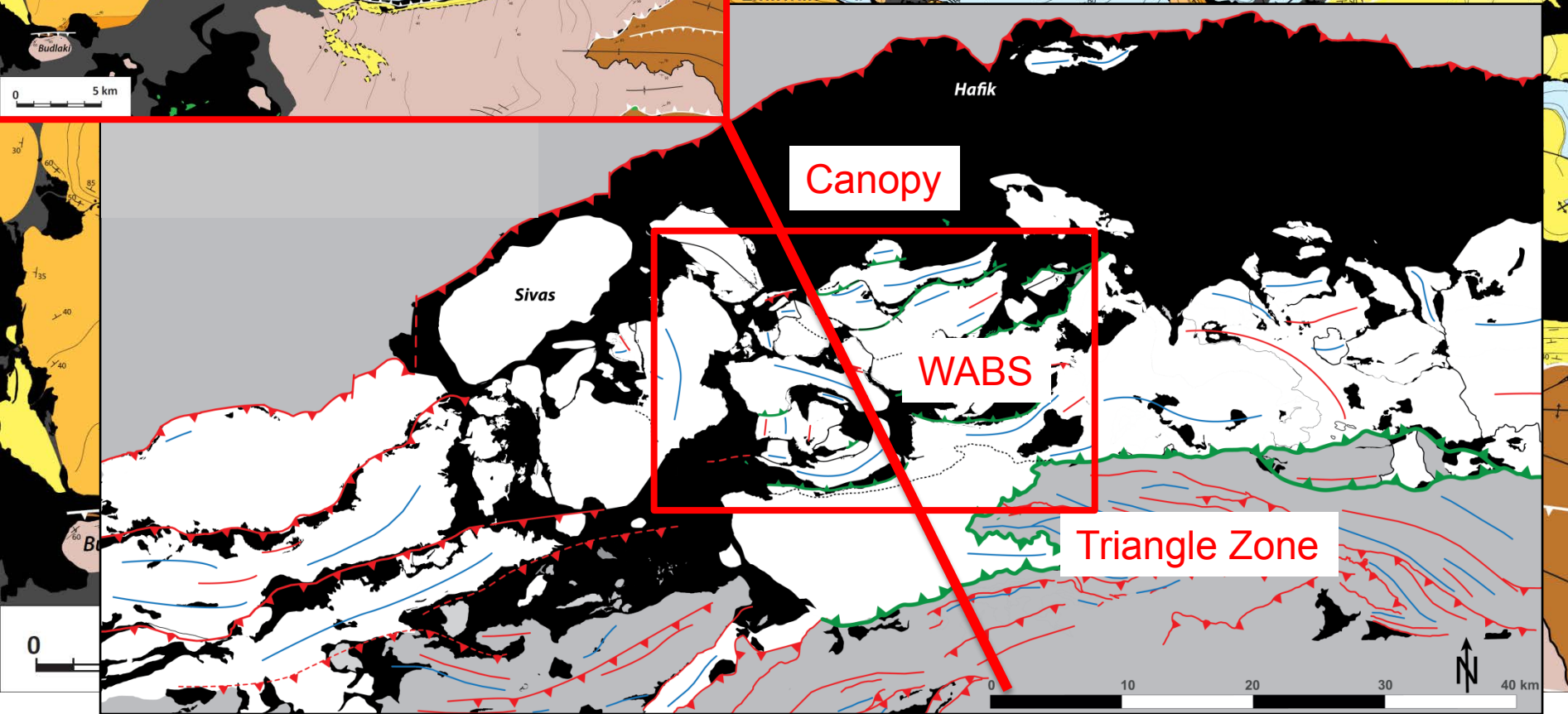
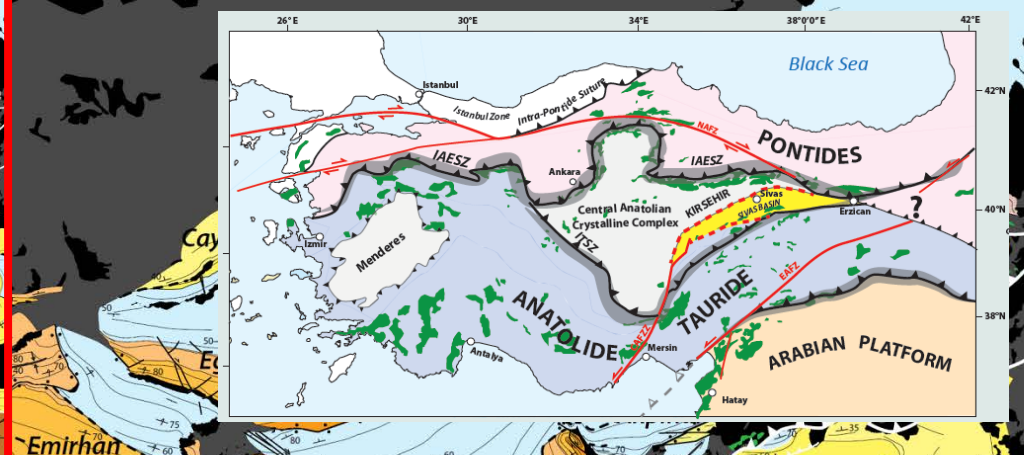
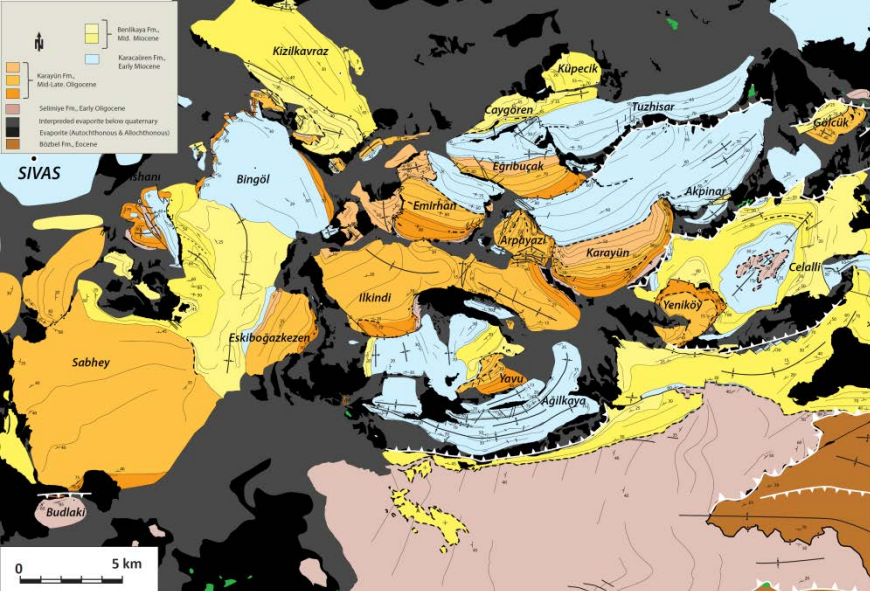
# GOCAD 3D MODEL: INCEYOL MINIBASIN



**C** Kergaravat et al., submitted, 2016

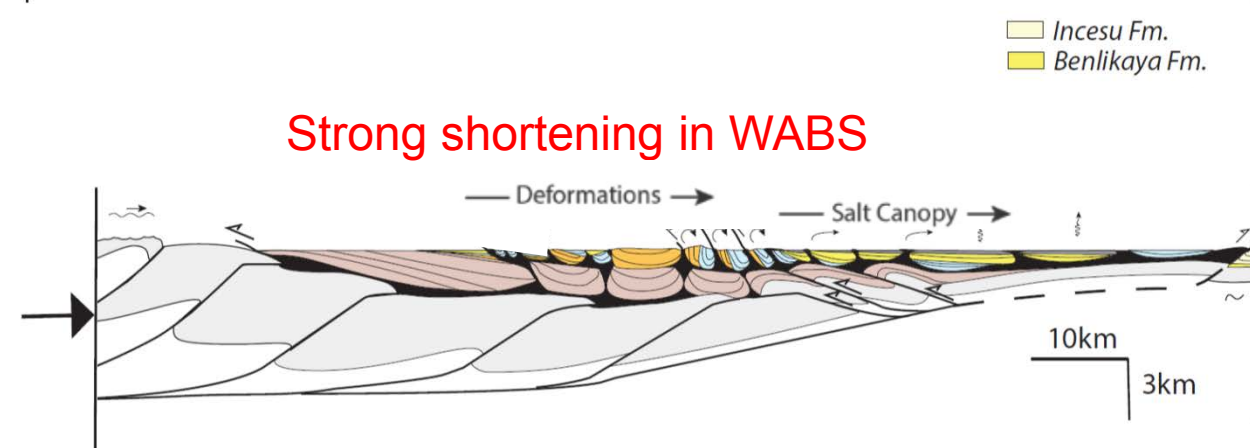
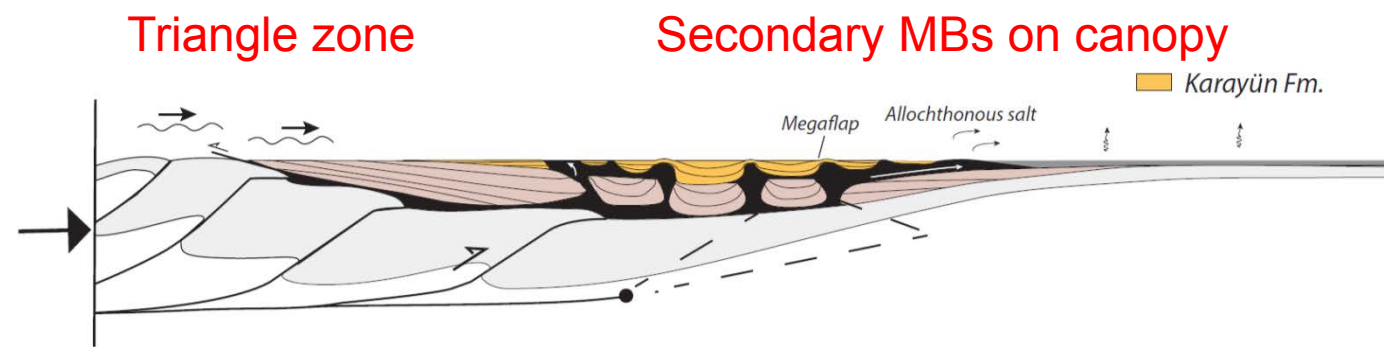
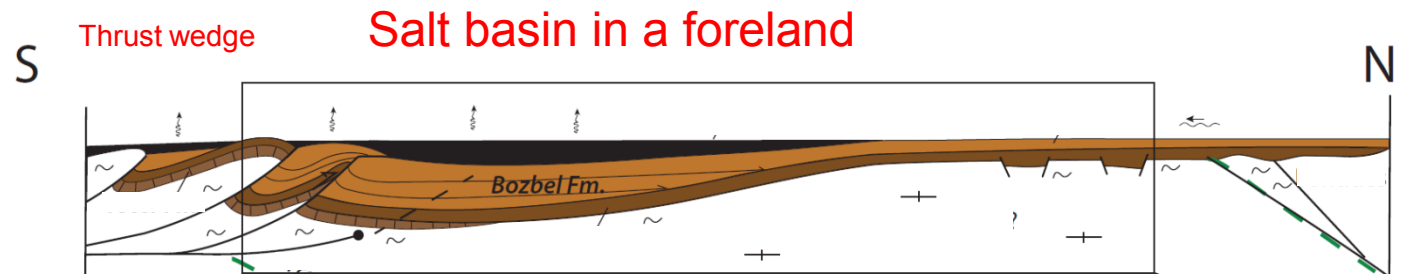


Collon et al., 2016

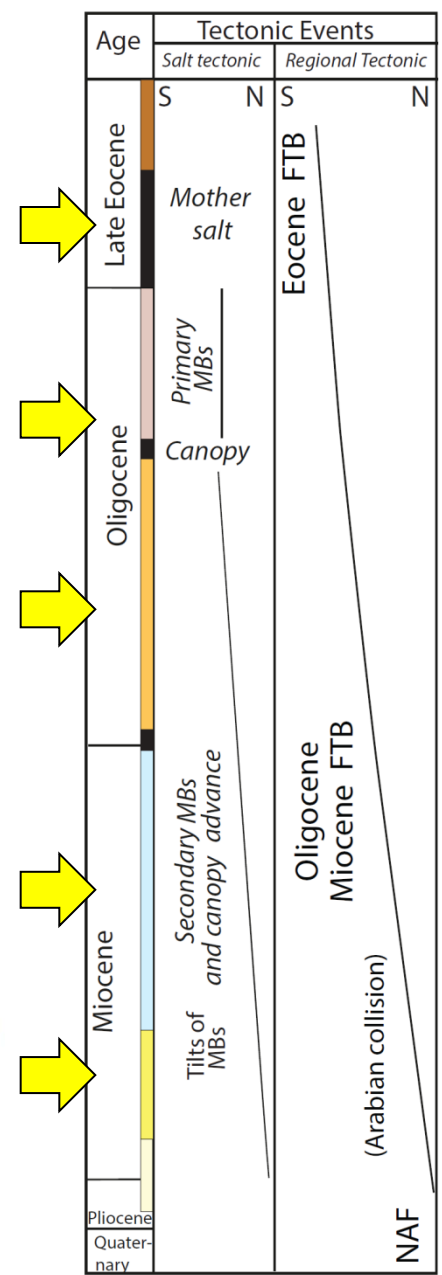




# THE SIVAS SALT MACHINE



Kergaravat et al., 2016



# SIVAS ANALOGUE - HOW FAR

- Similarities with DO provinces:
  - Geometries and evolutions
- Differences with DO provinces:
  - Orogenic context vs passive margin context
  - Fluvial to very shallow marine sediments vs shelf to bathyal
  - Makes it difficult to compare facies distributions and diagenesis
- Large stock of evaporite is a strong driver whatever the tectonic system.
- Canopies act as a decoupling layer vs basement déformation
- Influence of tectonics context increases with salt withdrawal. Toward a typical Foreland FTB



**A MOVIE: « salt tectonics + Sivas » in YouTube**  
**COMING SOON: 3D Drone acquisition of the best outcrops**



# **SALT TECTONICS**

## **IN THE SIVAS BASIN, TURKEY:**

### **OUTSTANDING SEISMIC ANALOGUES**

### **FROM OUTCROPS**



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