

Structural Observations along the Salin-Pyay Pleistocene Strike-Slip Deformation Phase

Ko Ko¹

¹MPRL E&P Pte Ltd. (koko@mprlexp.com)

Abstract

The onshore Myanmar historical petroleum producing province lies in two of the Central Myanmar Basins ("CMB"), the Salin Basin and the Pyay Embayment. These two NNW-SSE basins are separated by a complex tectonic zone known as the 20°N Uplift, active at least since Miocene, with many oil seeps and shallow oil accumulations being exploited by the local population. Much of the history of deposition of the Neogene in the region is guided by the northwards translational subduction of India below the SE Asia plates since at least the Oligocene. A major Pleistocene strike-slip deformation phase is observed over a variable 200 to 300 km wide belt of the Myanmar sedimentary basins between the Sagaing fault and the escarpment between shallow and deep waters of the Rakhine Yoma foldbelt. The major phase shows up in the Salin Basin and Pyay Embayment as en-échelon asymmetrical anticlines, partly filled with shallow oil and/or gas in with wet gas proven in tighter deeper reservoirs of a few structures (Mann, Pyay).