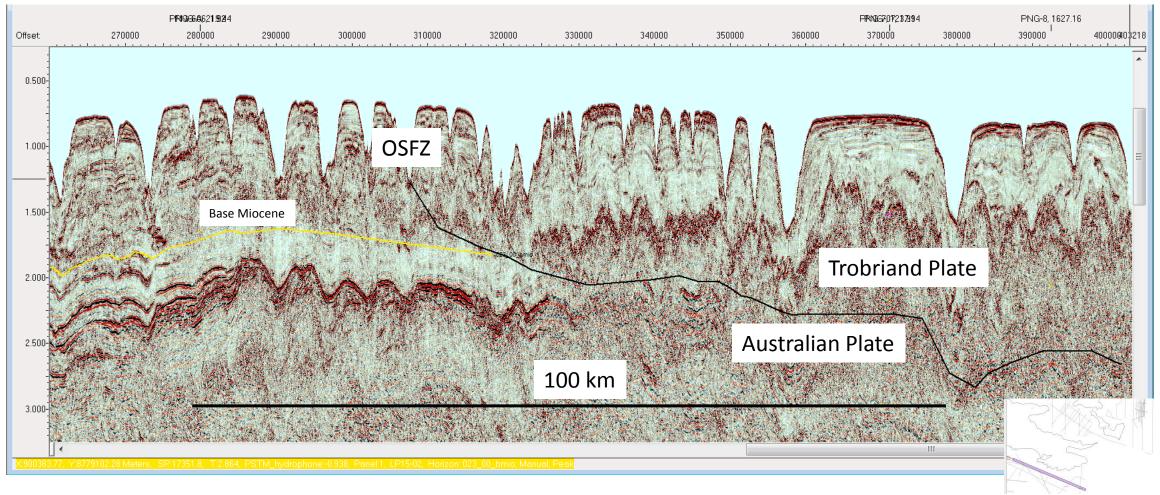


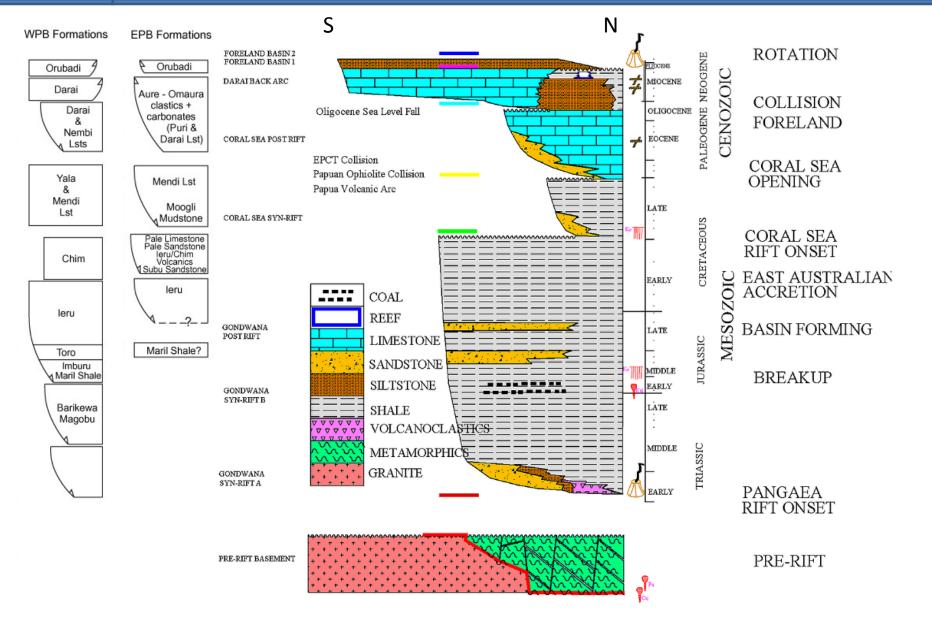
Understanding the Papuan Ultramafic Story

Geochemistry Geophysics Geosystems , Volume 14, Number 6 pp 1800 - 1818.





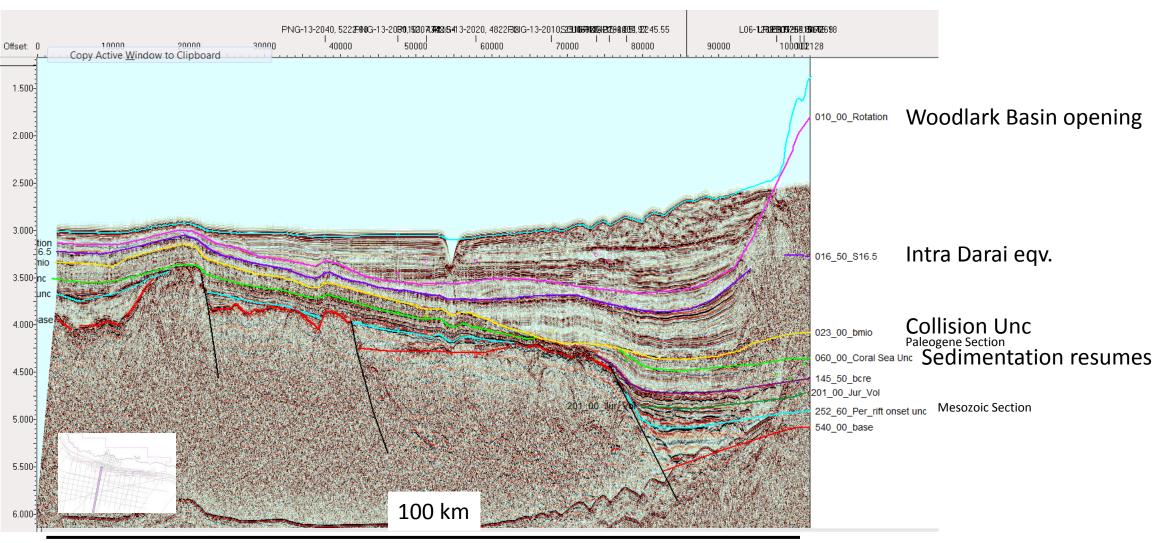








S







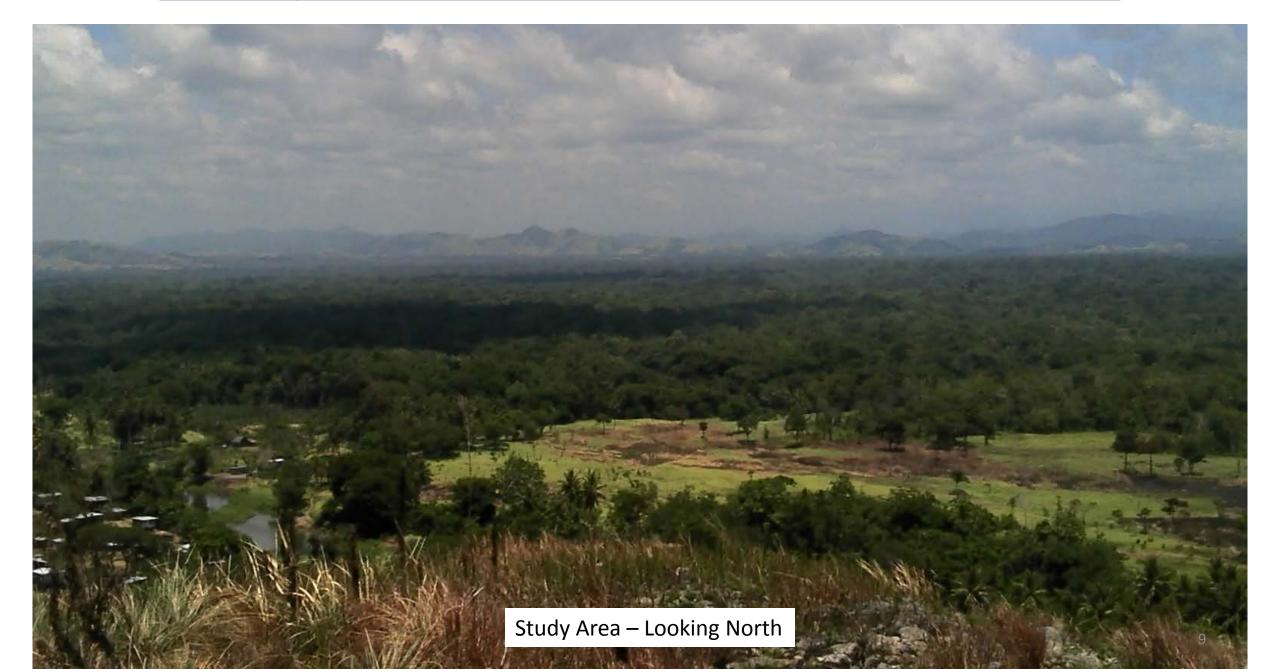














Seep Site - Panorama



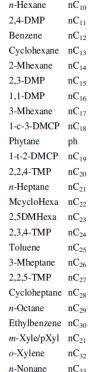




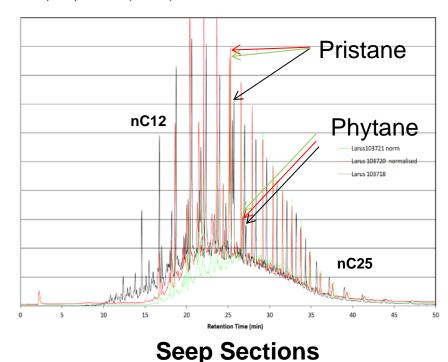


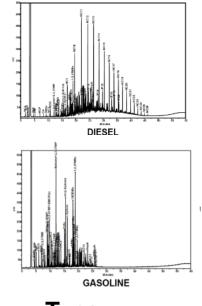






Oil seep samples 103718, 103720, 103721





Type Sections

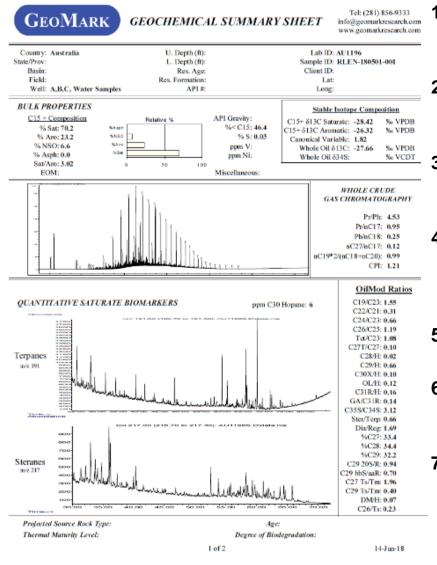
Gas chromatography

The Pr/Ph is 4.9. Very high Pr/Ph ratios (more than 3) are associated with terrestrial sediments, fluvio-marine and coastal swamp environments. High values (4 to 10) are related to peat swamp depositional environments (oxidizing conditions).









- 1. The oil is a very light oil (46 API) at the surface but was probably in the gas phase in the sub-surface (i.e. a gas condensate).
- 2. The oil has experienced no significant liquids to gas cracking in the reservoir <u>maturation indicates 4 km deep source</u>?
- 3. The oil was formed from a clastic (clay rich) source rock of late Cretaceous to <u>Paleogene age</u> containing a mixture of marine algal and land-plant organic matter.
- 4. The likely depositional environment is a paralic-marine deltaic setting with transported land-plant organic matter deposited under open-water (sub-oxic to oxic) marine conditions.
- 5. The geochemistry of the oil does not place it among any previously identified fluid family.
- 6. The molecular composition of the oil indicates a source rock with a tendency to produce mixed oil and gas, with a slight bias towards gas-condensates.
- 7. Source rocks of this type would be expected to lead to <u>both</u> <u>oil and gas resources.</u>





EAGE

OSFS - OWEN STANLEY FAULT SYSTEM

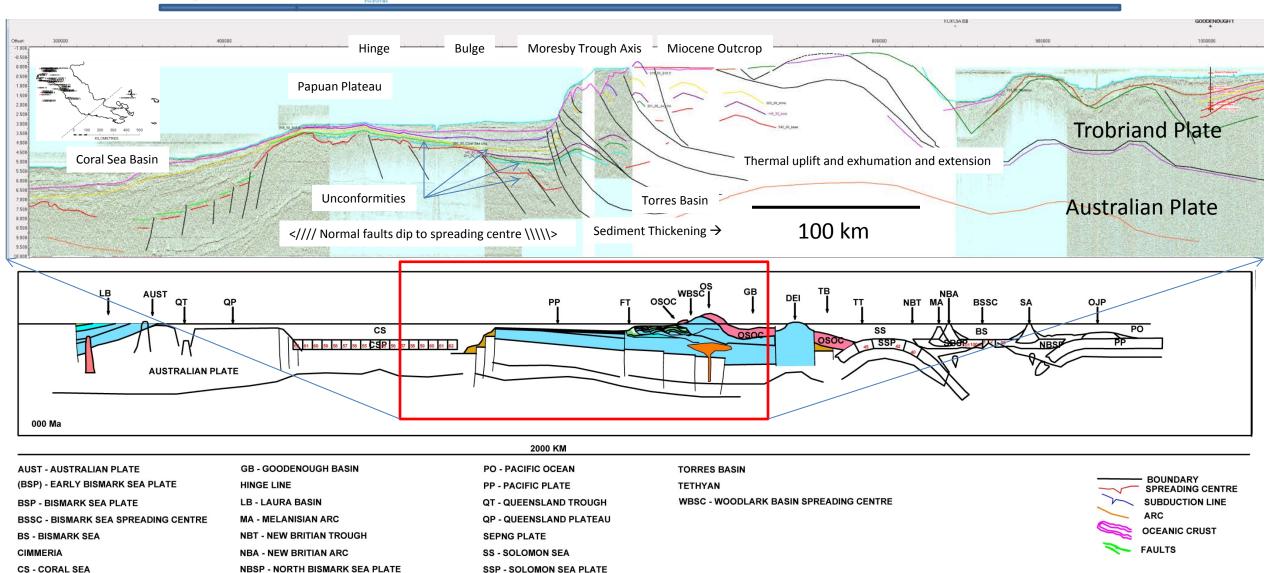
OJP - PLATEAU

OSOC - OWEN STANLEY OPIOLITE COMPLEX

SA - SOLOMON ARC

TT - TORIBAND TROUGH

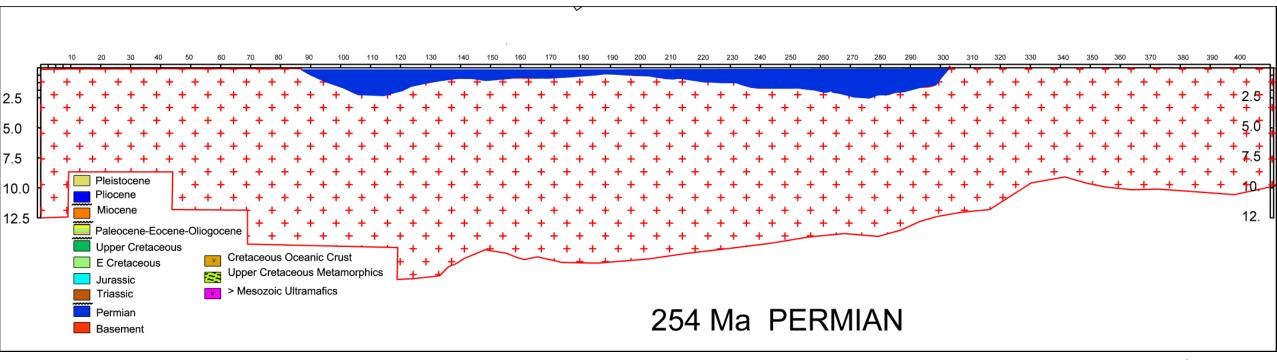
SBSP - SOUTH BISMARK SEA PLATE





CSP - CORAL SEA PLATE



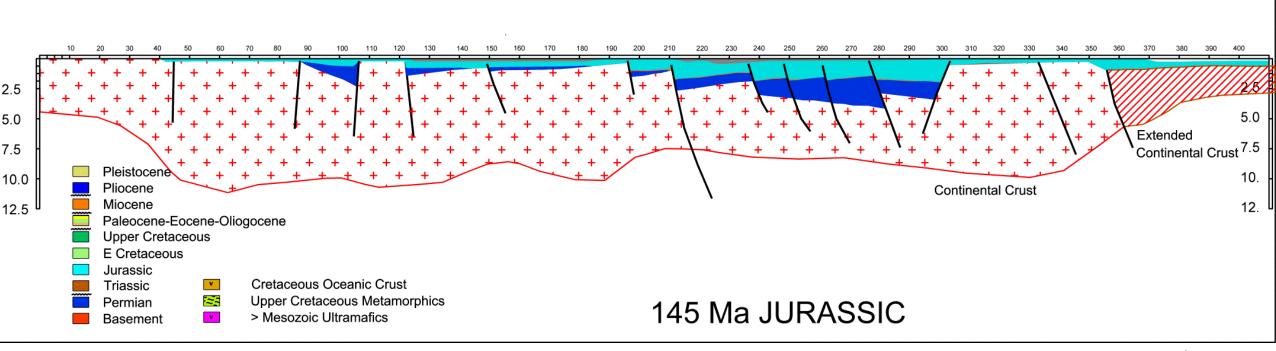


Permian Intracratonic basin formed within Australian Plate.







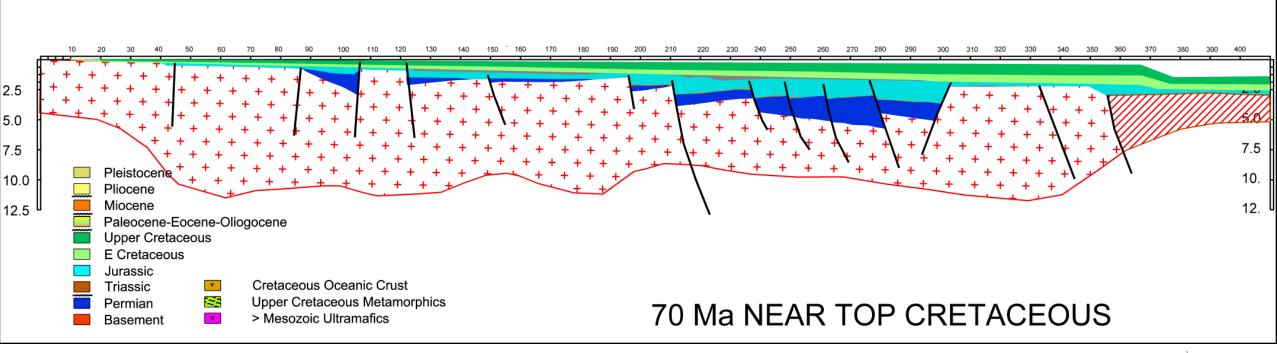


Jurassic Triassic rifting and then Jurassic sedimentation forms Torres Basin. Location of suspected horst block defining northern margin of Torres Basin derived from gravity modelling. Rift faulting dip is to the north. The basin may be a restricted basin; the extended crust would indicate a failed rift. Otherwise it may be oceanic crust with a more open rift system.









Cretaceous To the end of the Cretaceous there would have been a rift margin setting (syn and post rift) with sediment derived from the Australian Craton, sediment flow is south to north.



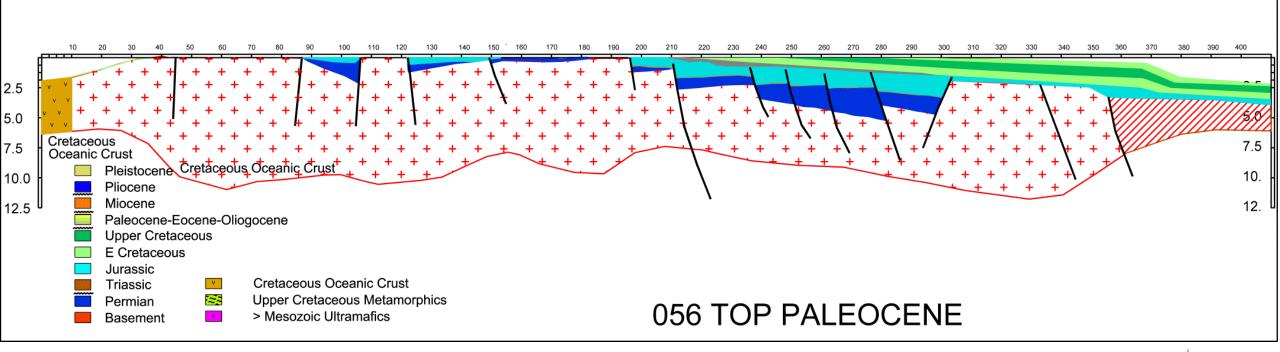






Coral Sea Basin

Hinge Zone



Paleocene By this time the Coral Sea Oceanic Crust has formed; this isolates and moves the Papuan Plateau from the Australian Plate. The extent of south dipping faults defines hinge zone of this latest rift system. There is erosion and a major unconformity in the south, at the hinge line the Mesozoic section begins to be preserved and thickens to the north. Further north there is continuous sedimentation.



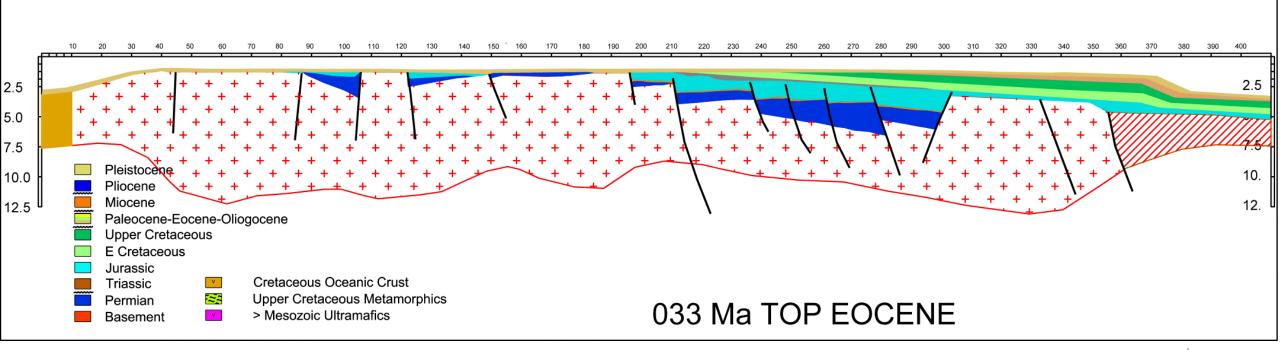






Coral Sea Basin

Hinge Zone



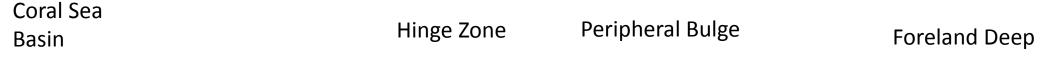
Eocene Continuous sedimentation in deeper water with no clastic input, sedimentation is largely carbonate.

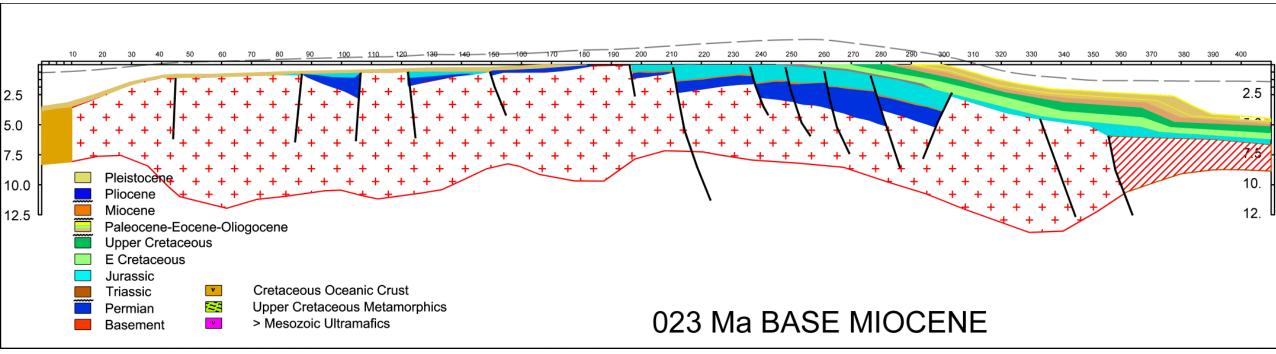




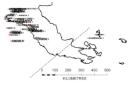




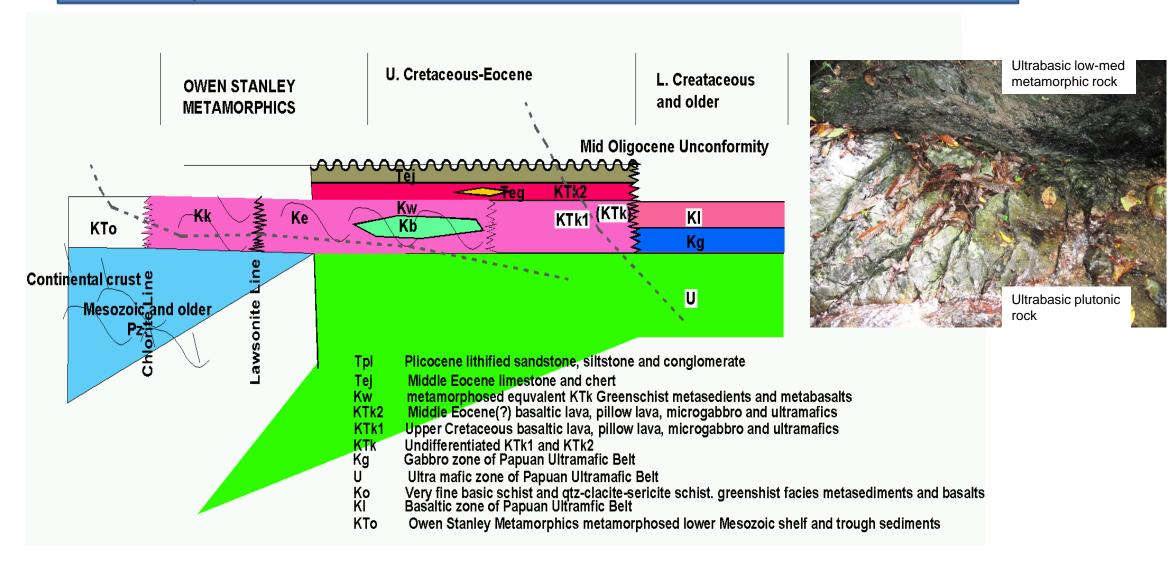




Base Miocene Obduction of the Solomon Sea plate starts to the north, the obducted ultramafic crust segment is now known as the Trobriand Plate. This event sets up foreland basin and peripheral bulge over the Papuan Plateau. There is a major erosional unconformity associated with the peripheral bulge (in parts it cuts deeper than the Coral Sea Unconformity), but the fore-deep allows for a complete Paleogene section to be preserved to the north.



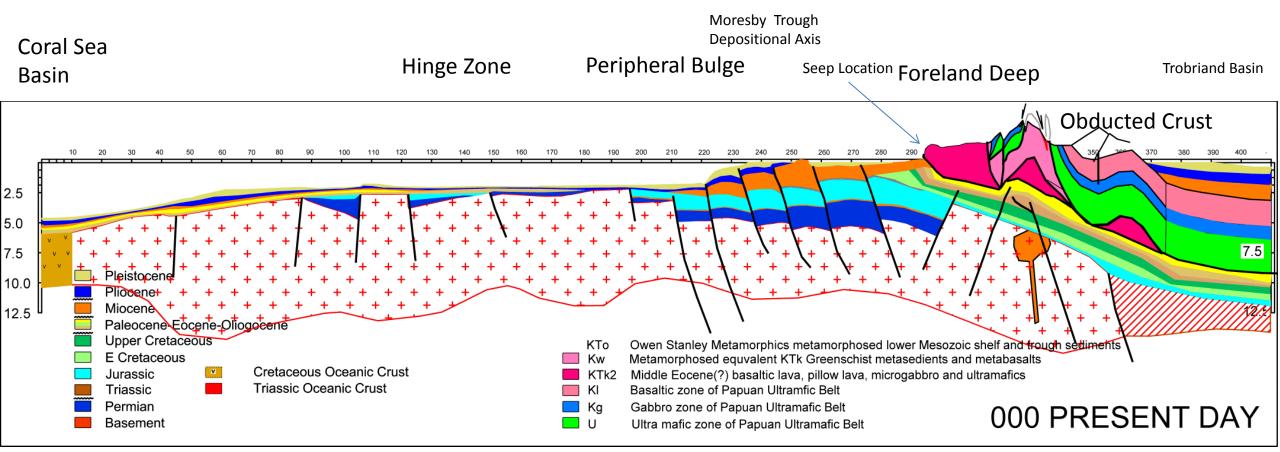




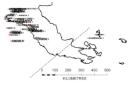


Coming in from the north- Obduction geology – the Trobriand Plate (Arc volcanics and more). Dashed lines constitute what will become the Owen Stanley Fault System



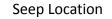


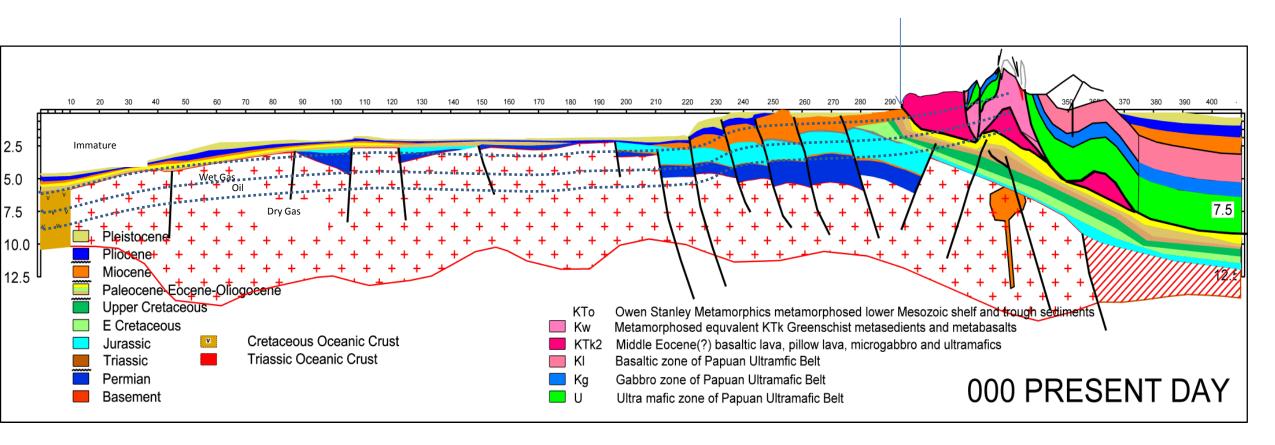
Post Miocene Obduction of over 150 km of the Trobriand Plate (Fitz and Mann, 2013) (can be referred to as the EPCT, Solomon Sea Plate, and Melanesian Arc) dominated the structuring and creates a regional foreland basin (often referred to as the Aure-Moresby Trough). There has been significant mountain building and crustal thickening due to the over thrust of oceanic crust and ophiolite. The southern Papuan Plateau is now under deep water in a foreland basin Setting.







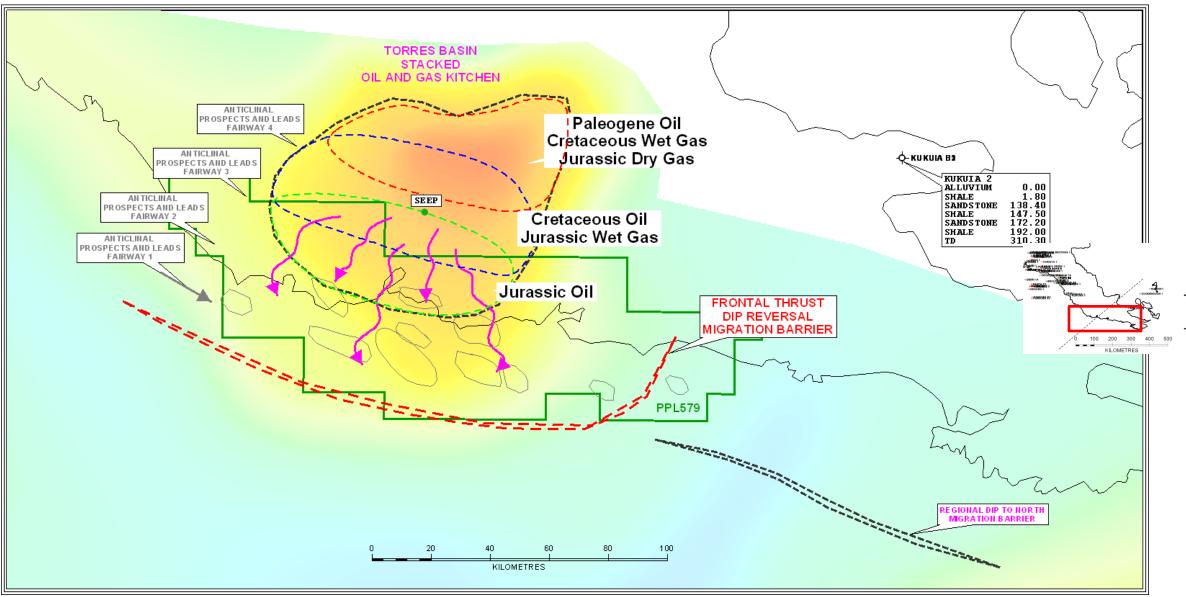




Petroleum system: The Paleogene is oil mature and feeding the seep. Depending on source rock the Mesozoic is also oil and gas mature.



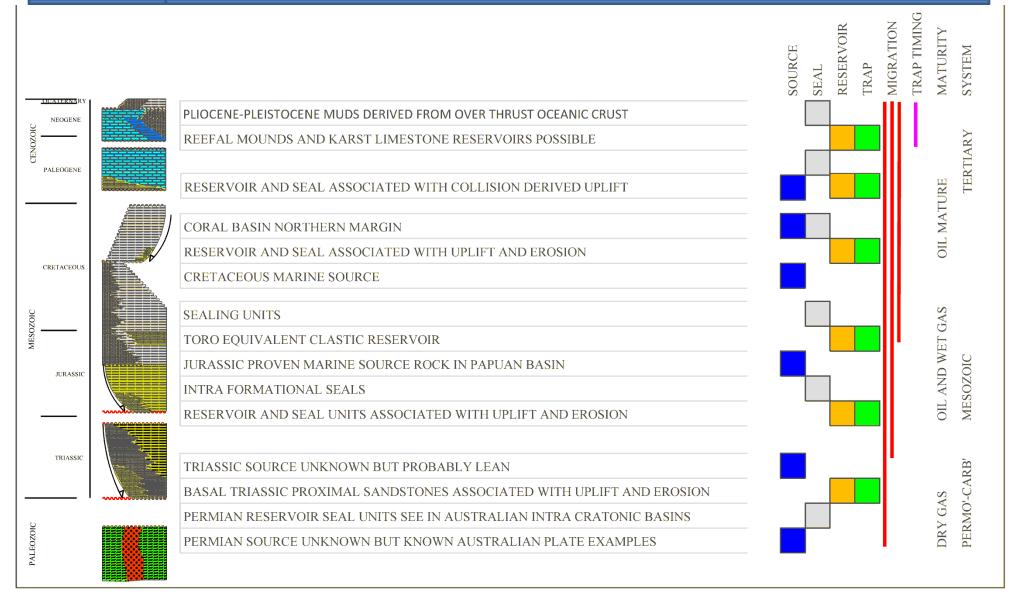


















THE FIRST OIL SEEP DISCOVERY IN SOUTH EAST PNG AND ITS IMPLICATIONS TO TORRES BASIN PETROLEUM SYSTEM ANALYSIS.

Dr Michael Swift*1, Ric Malcolm1, H Davies2

- ¹ Larus Energy Pty Ltd
- ² Emeritus Professor UPNG



A little oil goes a long way

