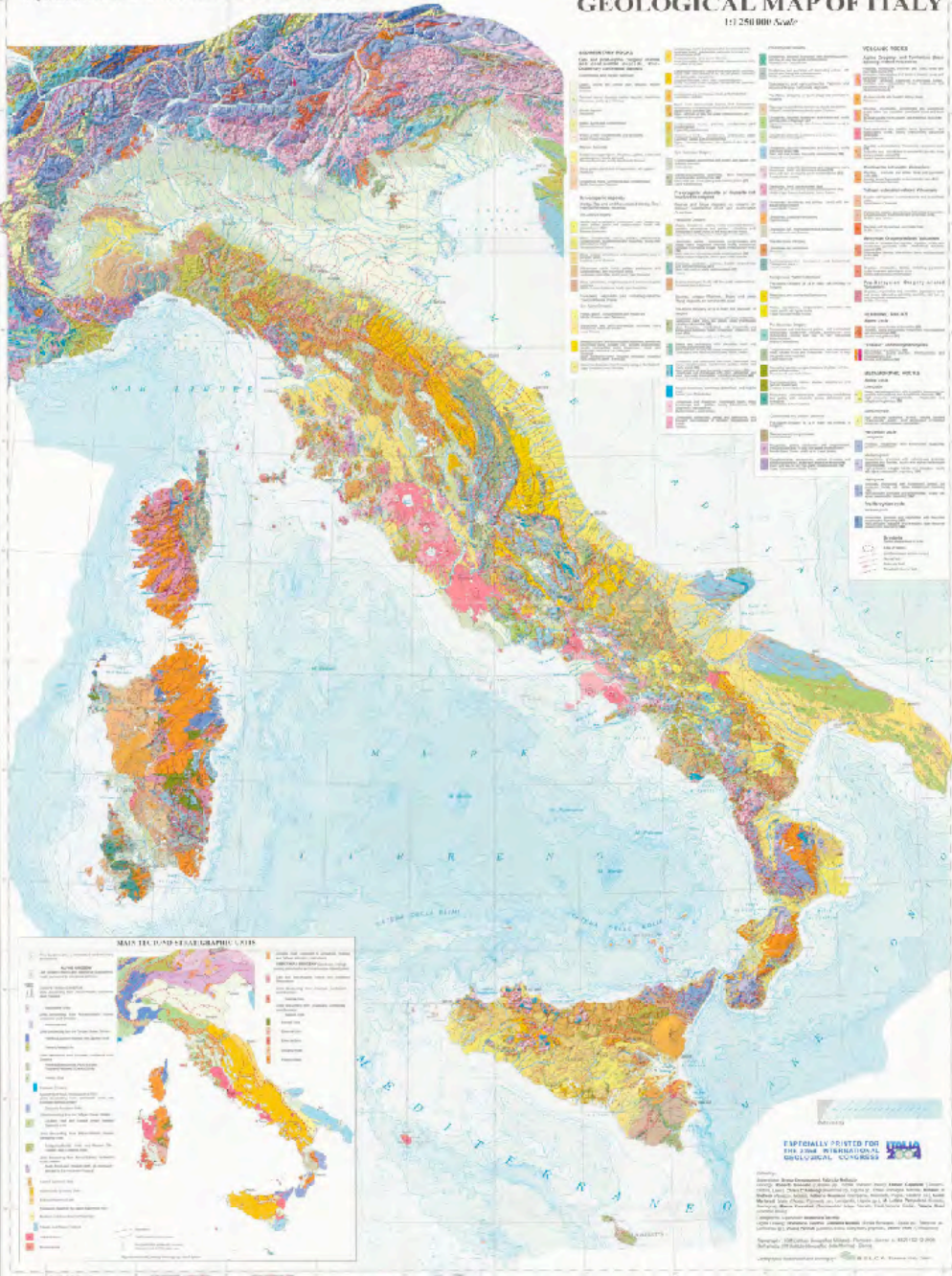


Cenozoic Stratigraphy

Straits of Messina

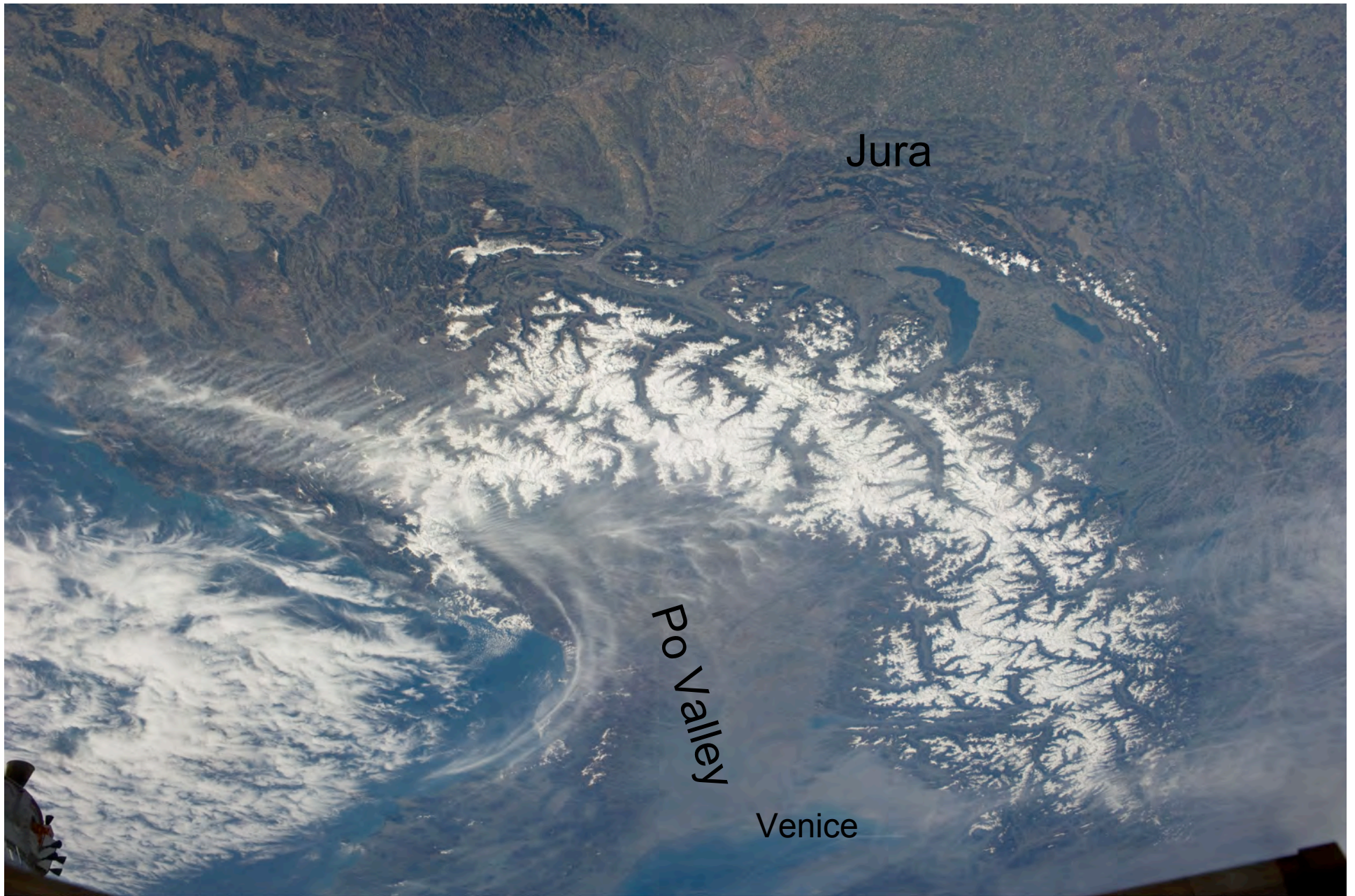
GEOLOGICAL MAP OF ITALY

1:250 000 Scale



ESPECIALLY PRINTED FOR THE 23RD INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

Approved by the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) for the 23rd International Geological Congress, Beijing, 1996. The map is a reproduction of the geological map of Italy, published by the Servizio Geologico d'Italia, Roma, 1996. The map is a reproduction of the geological map of Italy, published by the Servizio Geologico d'Italia, Roma, 1996.



ISS027E007723

Alps, Lake Geneva, Adriatic

<http://eol.jsc.nasa.gov/>

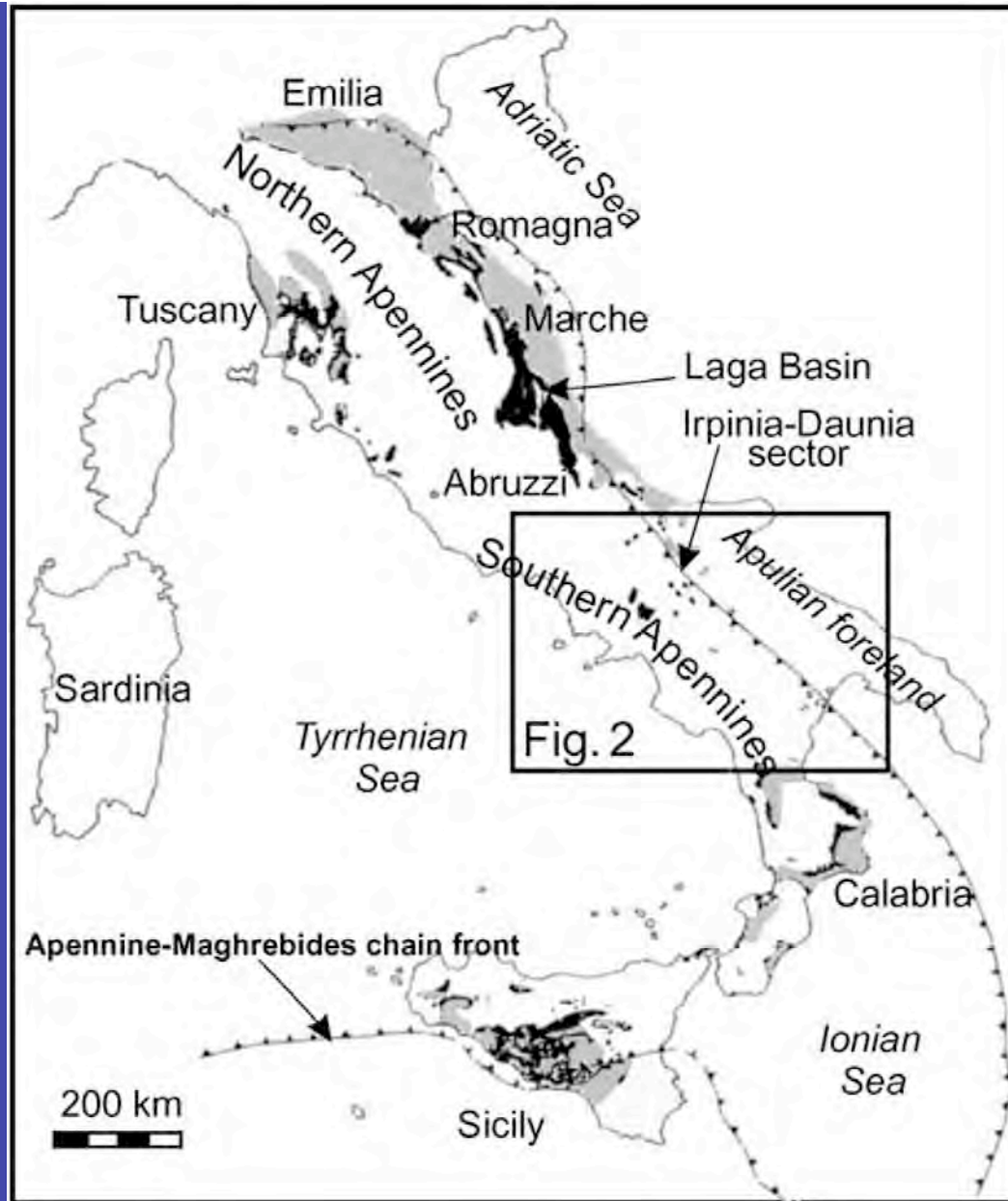


Fig. 1. Distribution of Messinian deposits (black: outcrops; gray: buried deposits) within peninsular Italy and Sicily (modified after Selli, 1973 and Roveri et al., 2001).

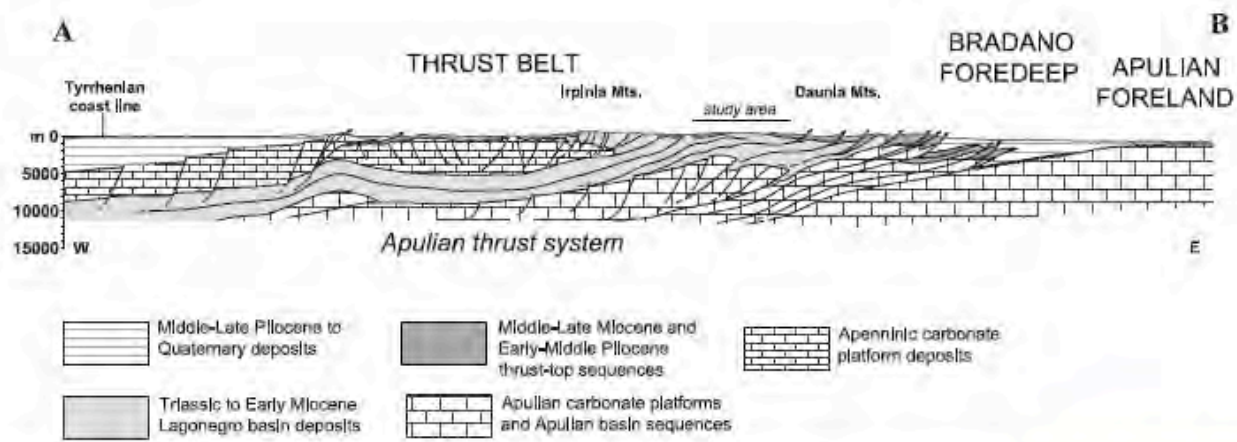
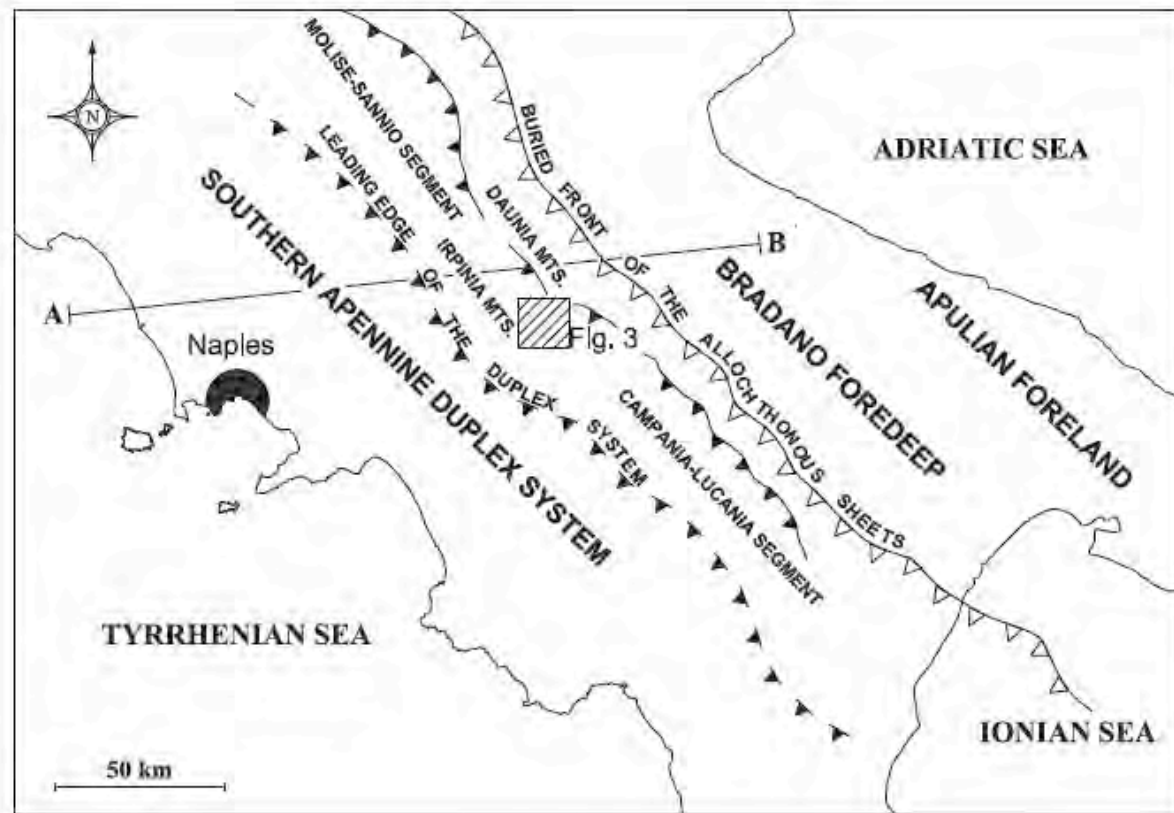


Fig. 2. Southern Apennines tectonic sketch-map with simplified geological section (modified after Mostardini and Merlini, 1986).

Digression: deposition of evaporite rocks and minerals



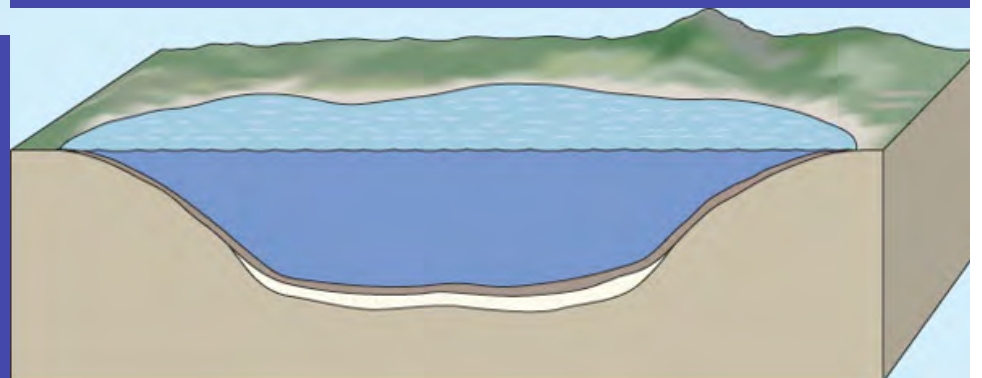
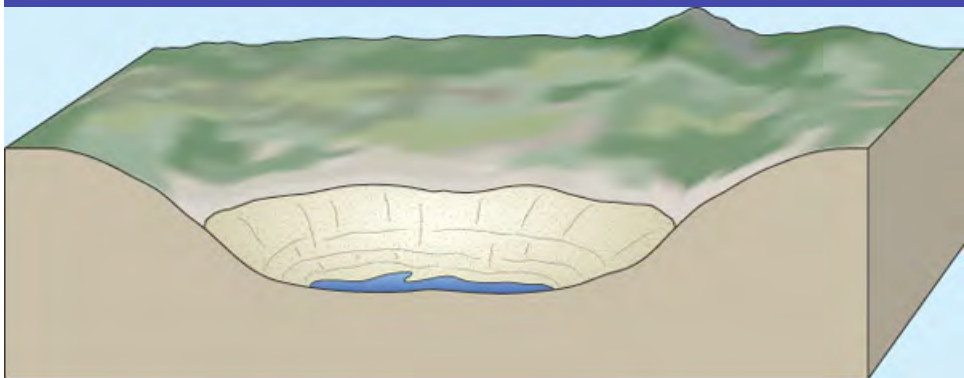
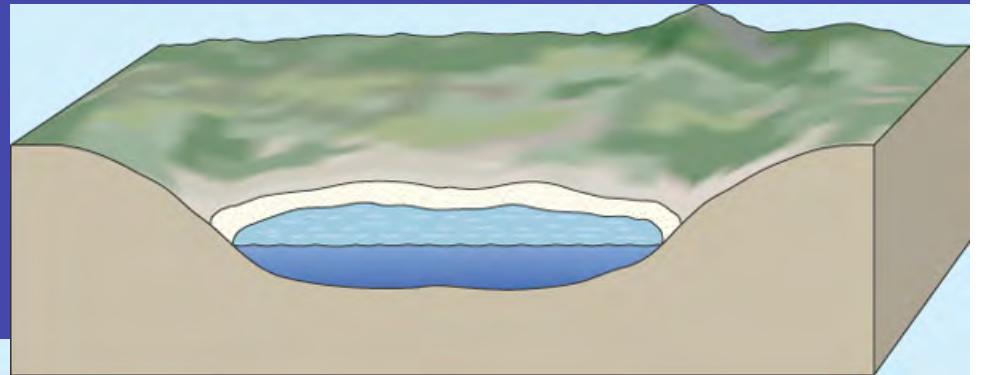
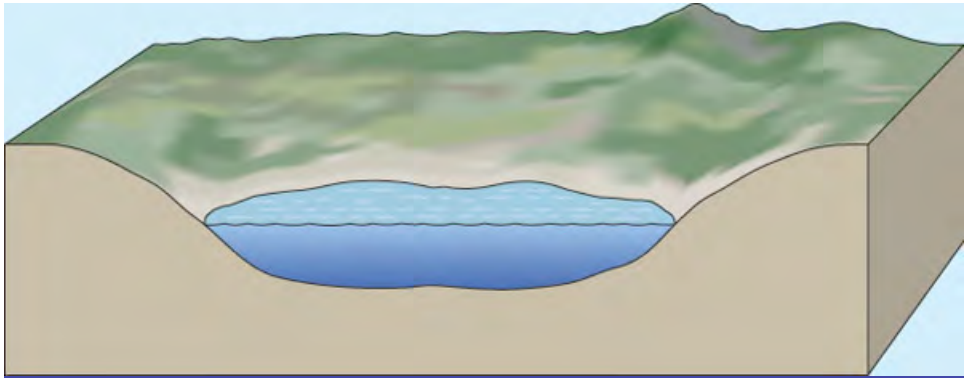
Great Salt Lake: internally
Drained basin



Trucial coast (UAE) sabhka salt
Pans on margin of Arabian Sea

Two modern evaporite
environments

Evaporite Deposition Model





Gypsum



Anhydrite



Halite



Calcite

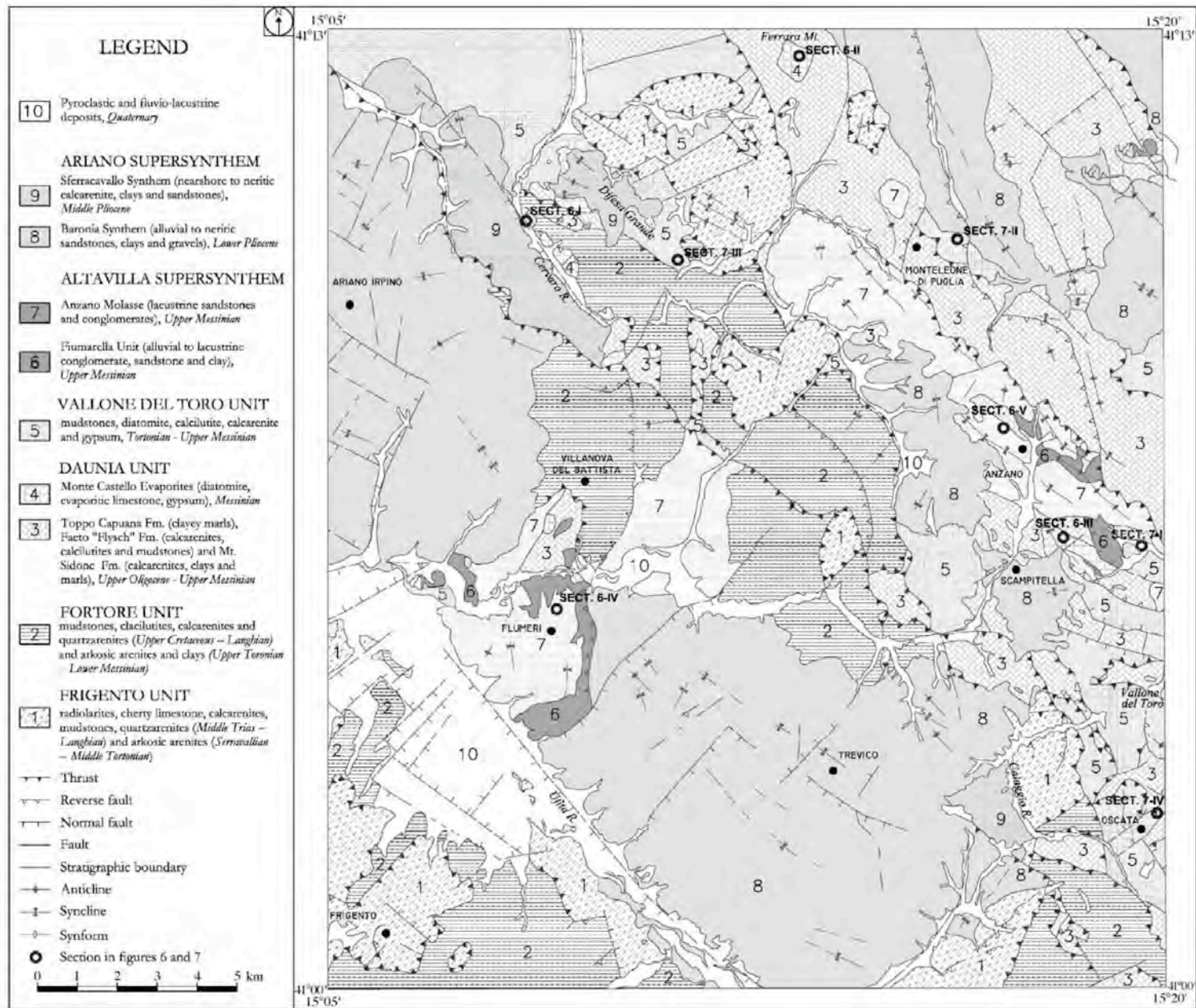
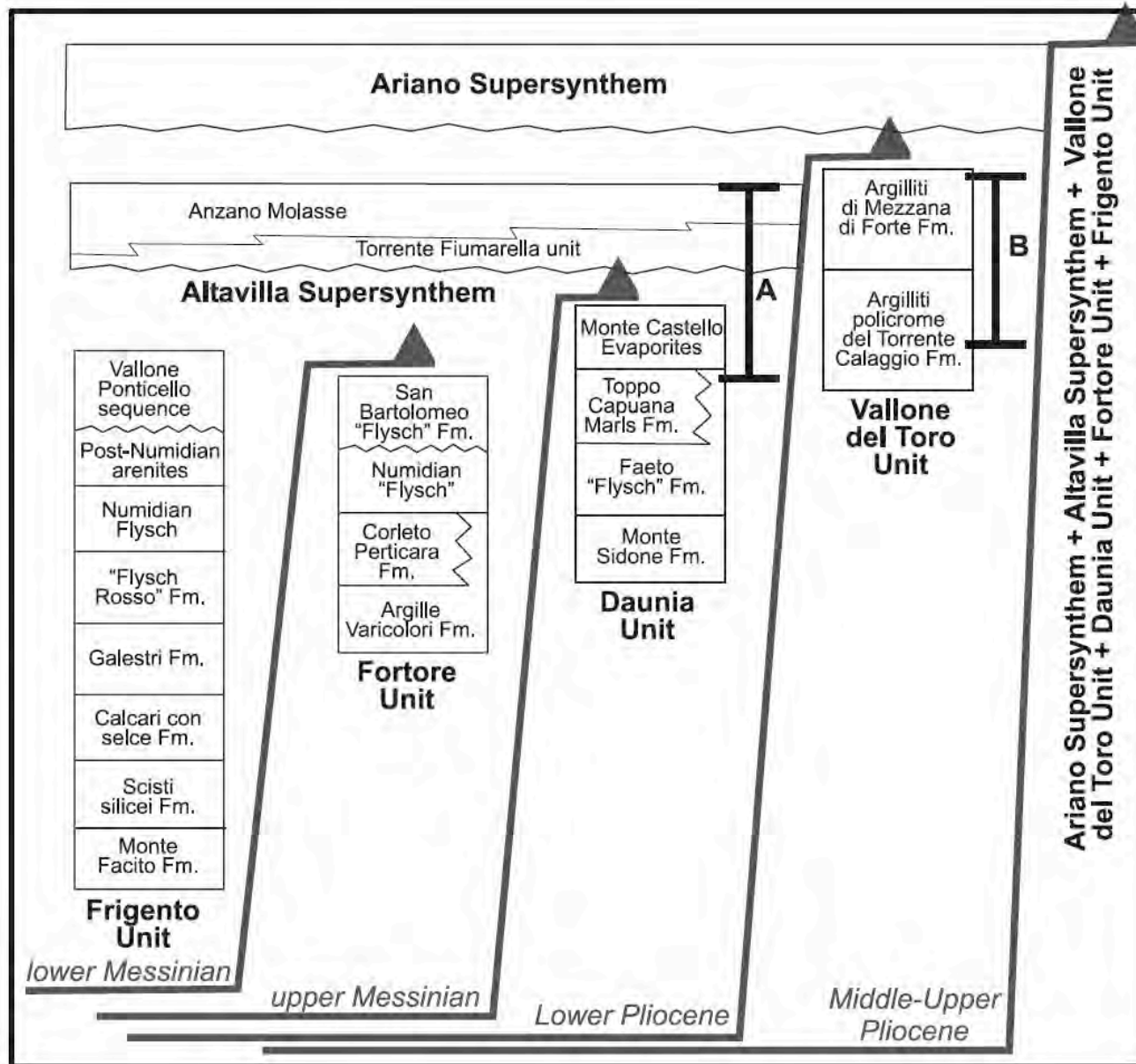


Fig. 3. Geological map of the Irpinia-southern Daunia Mt. sector of southern Apennines (Italy). The numbers in the section labels refers to figure and column in which the section is shown. Area location is indicated in Fig. 2.



g. 4. Tectonic and stratigraphic scheme of the main units cropping out in the Irpinia-Daunia Mts. Legend: A, unit A; B, unit B; black line with angle, thrust slices (at the foot of the lines the age of thrusting is given).

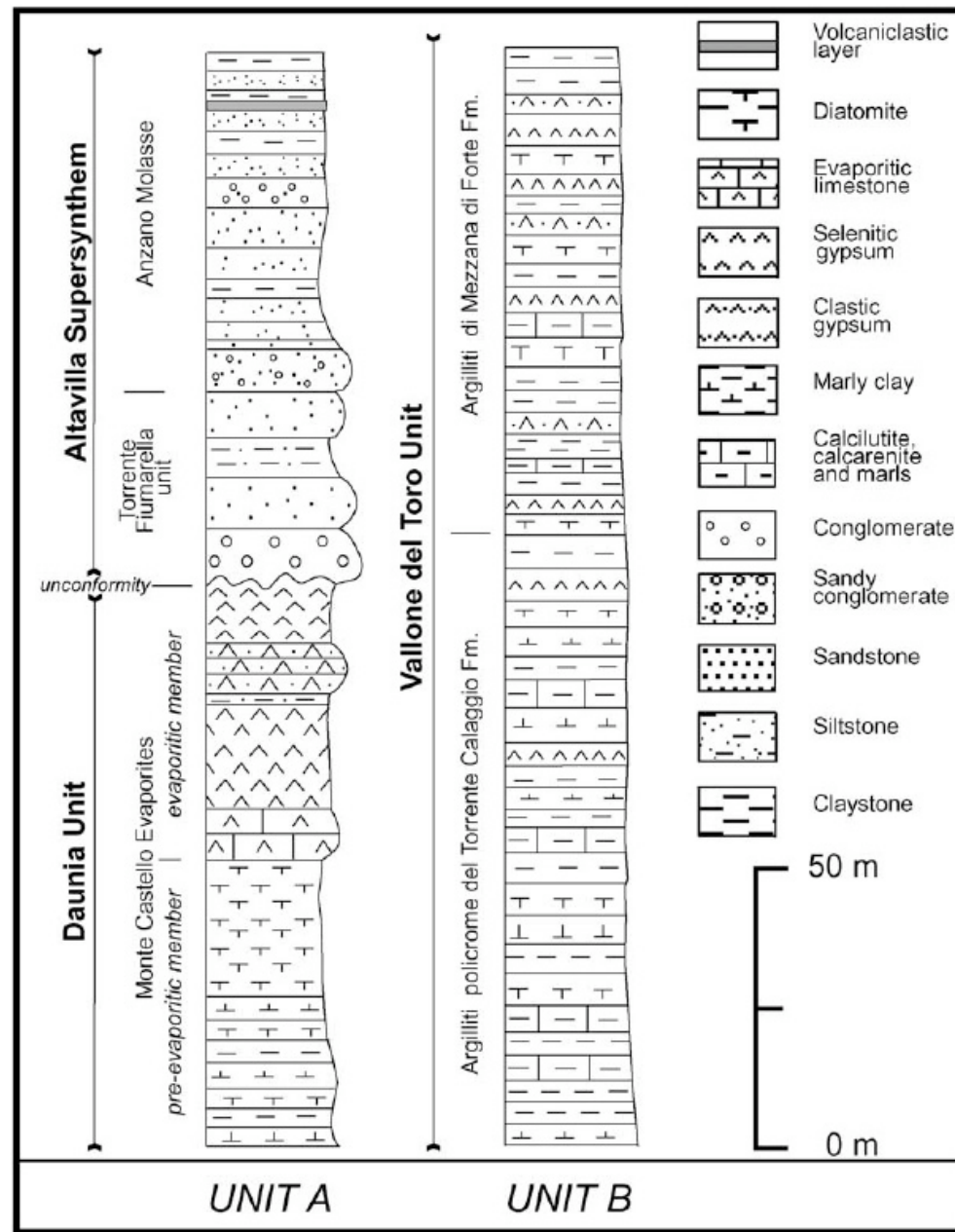


Fig. 5. Stratigraphic synthetic logs of the Messinian successions cropping out in the Irpinia-Daunia Mts.

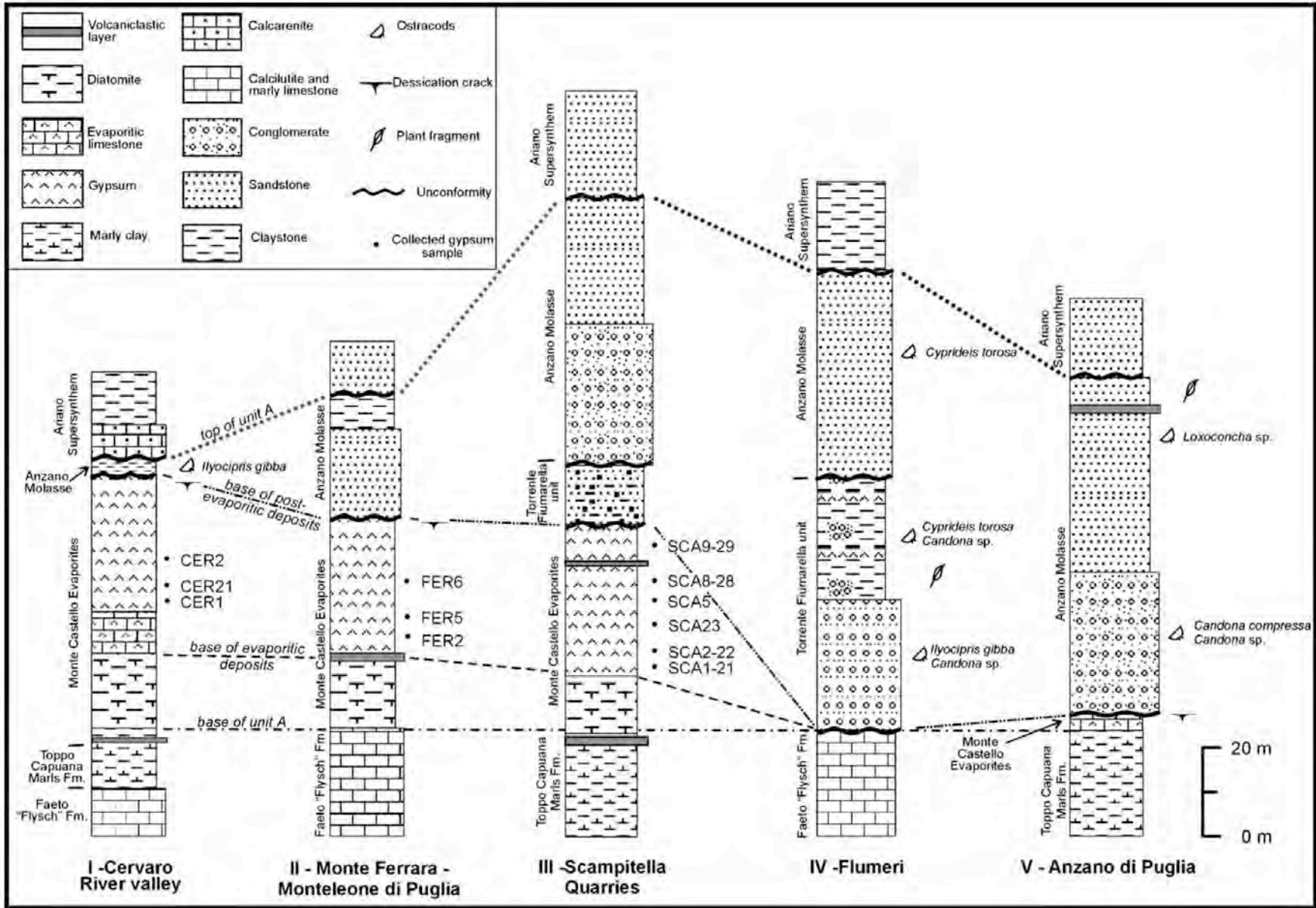


Fig. 6. Stratigraphical representative columns of the unit A. The location of the sections is indicated in Fig. 3.

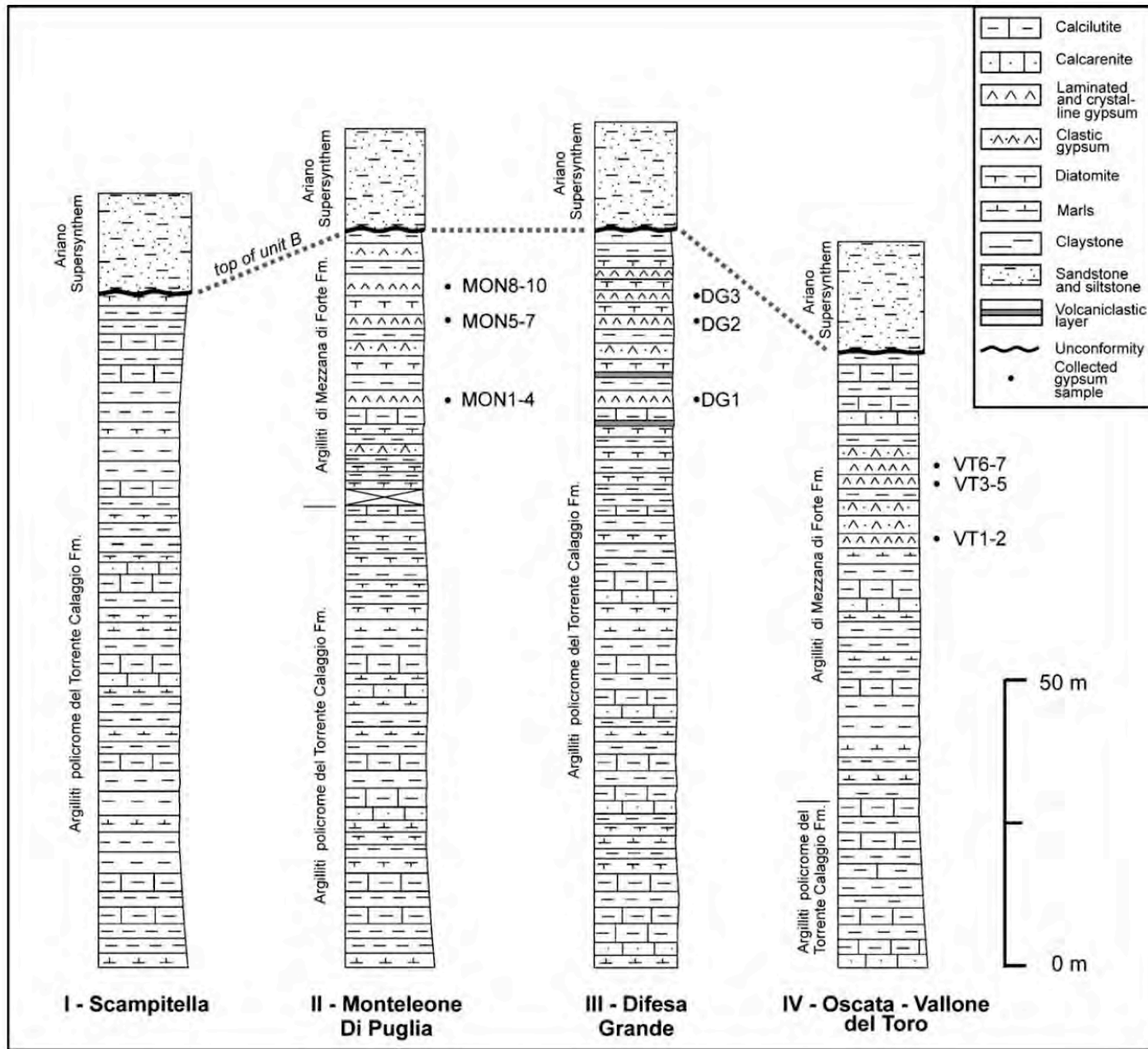


Fig. 7. Stratigraphical representative columns of the unit B. The location of the sections is indicated in Fig. 3.

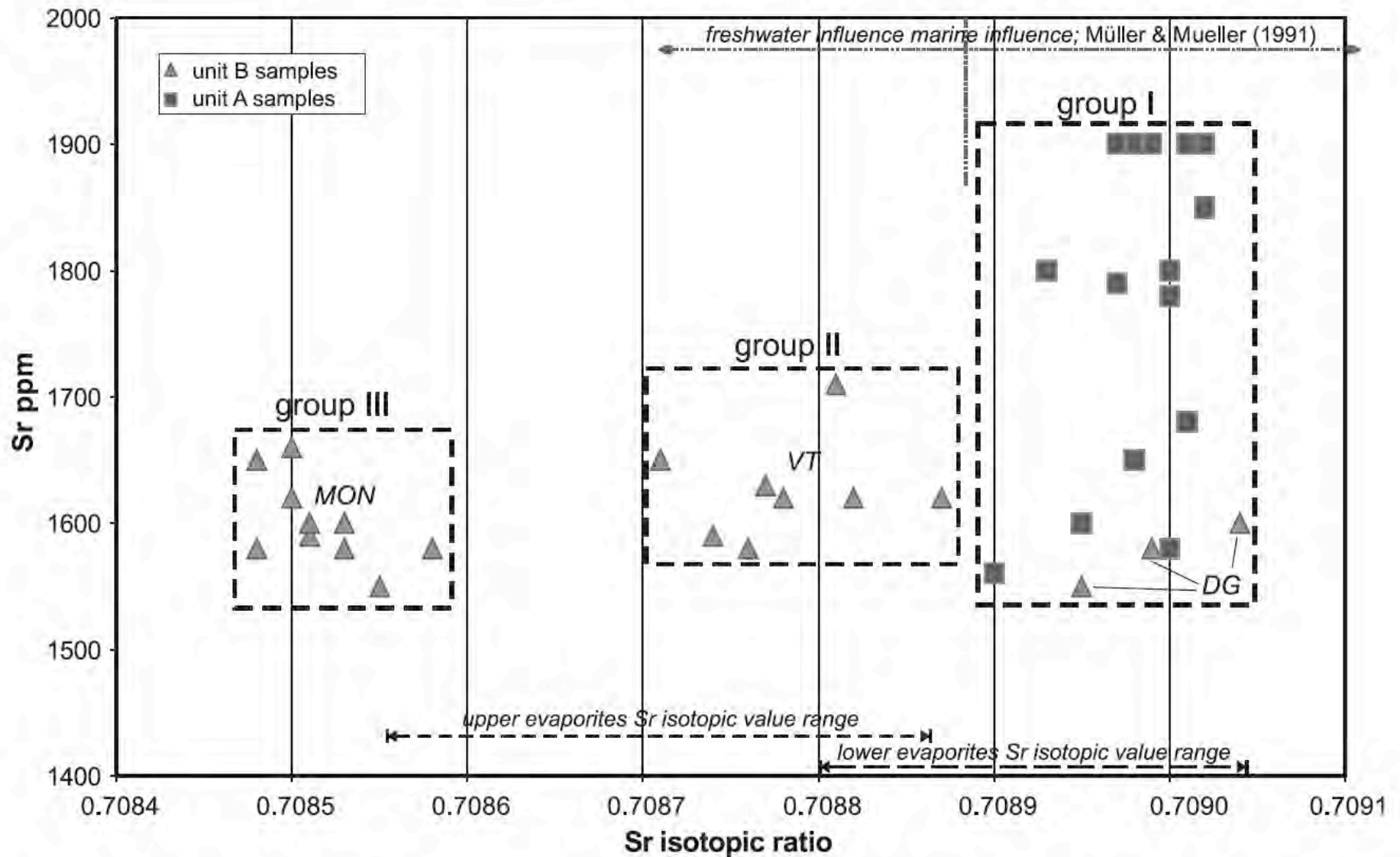


Fig. 9. Relationships between Sr content and $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ isotopic ratio of the gypsum samples and their classification. The strontium isotopic cumulative value range bars for lower and upper evaporites are derived from data in Table 1.

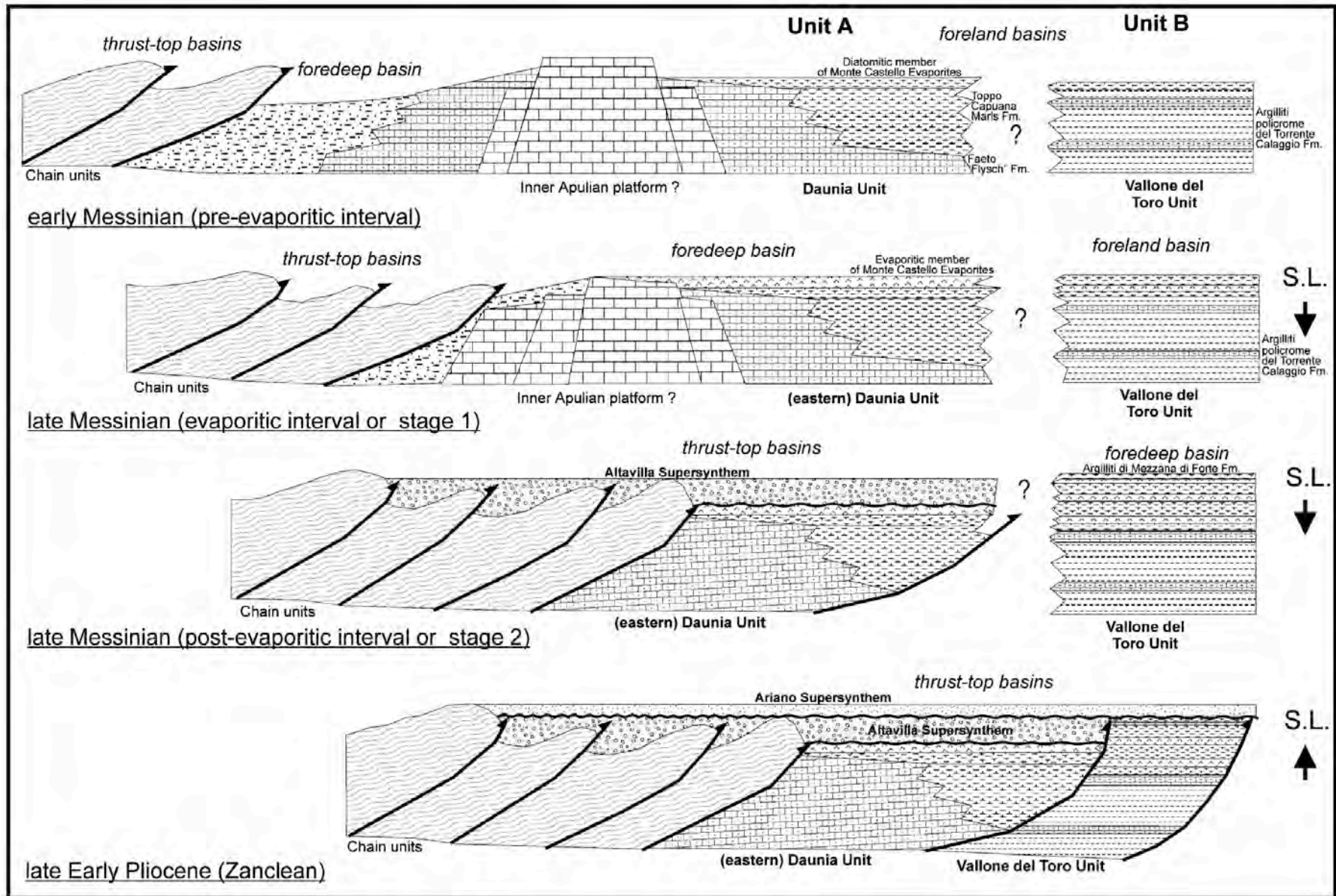


Fig. 10. Model of Messinian tectonic and stratigraphic events in the northern sector of the southern Apennine foreland basin system. For lithological patterns see Figs. 6 and 7. Arrows show sea-level trends.

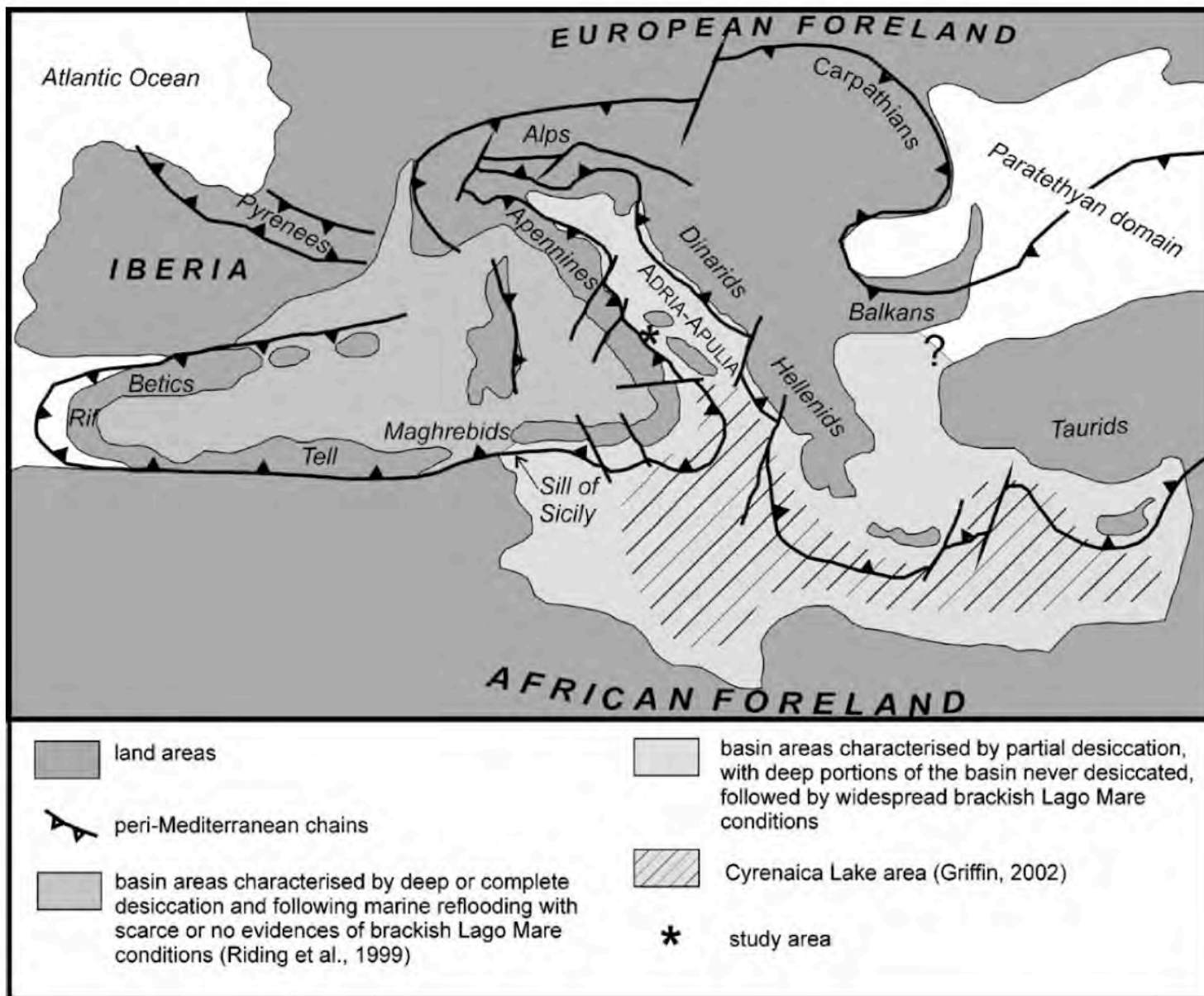


Fig. 11. Paleogeographic reconstruction of the Mediterranean domains during the late Messinian. Land areas and main thrusts distribution are from Cipollari et al. (1999a,b) and Ziegler (1999); the Mediterranean basin subdivision has been made following Riding et al. (1999, and references therein), Roveri et al. (2001), and Griffin (2002).

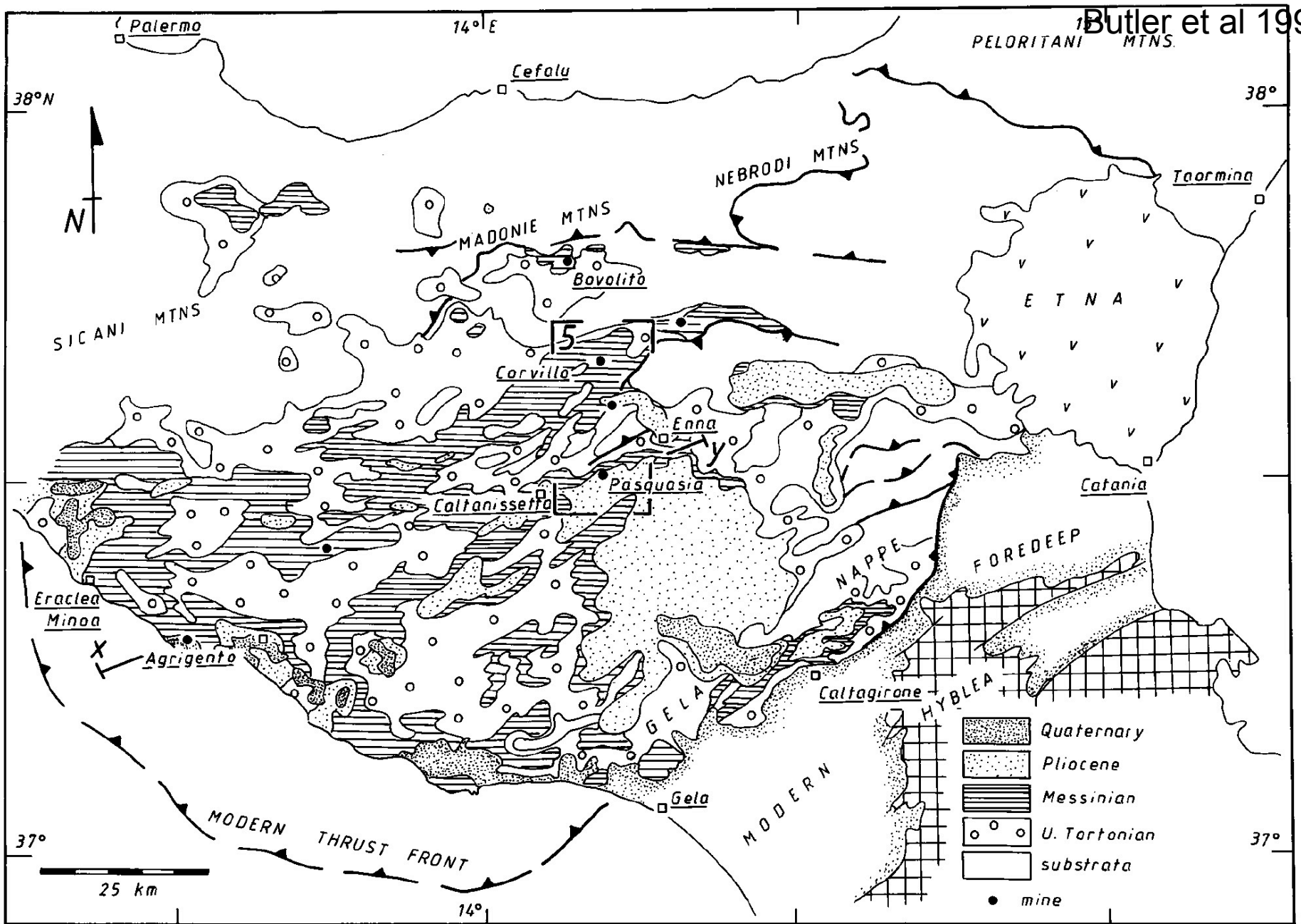


Figure 2. Geological sketch map of central Sicily showing the surface distribution of Messinian deposits and the principal mines that exploit the evaporites. The geology along the north coast is not shown. The boxed area is that covered by Figure 5. x-y is the line of the

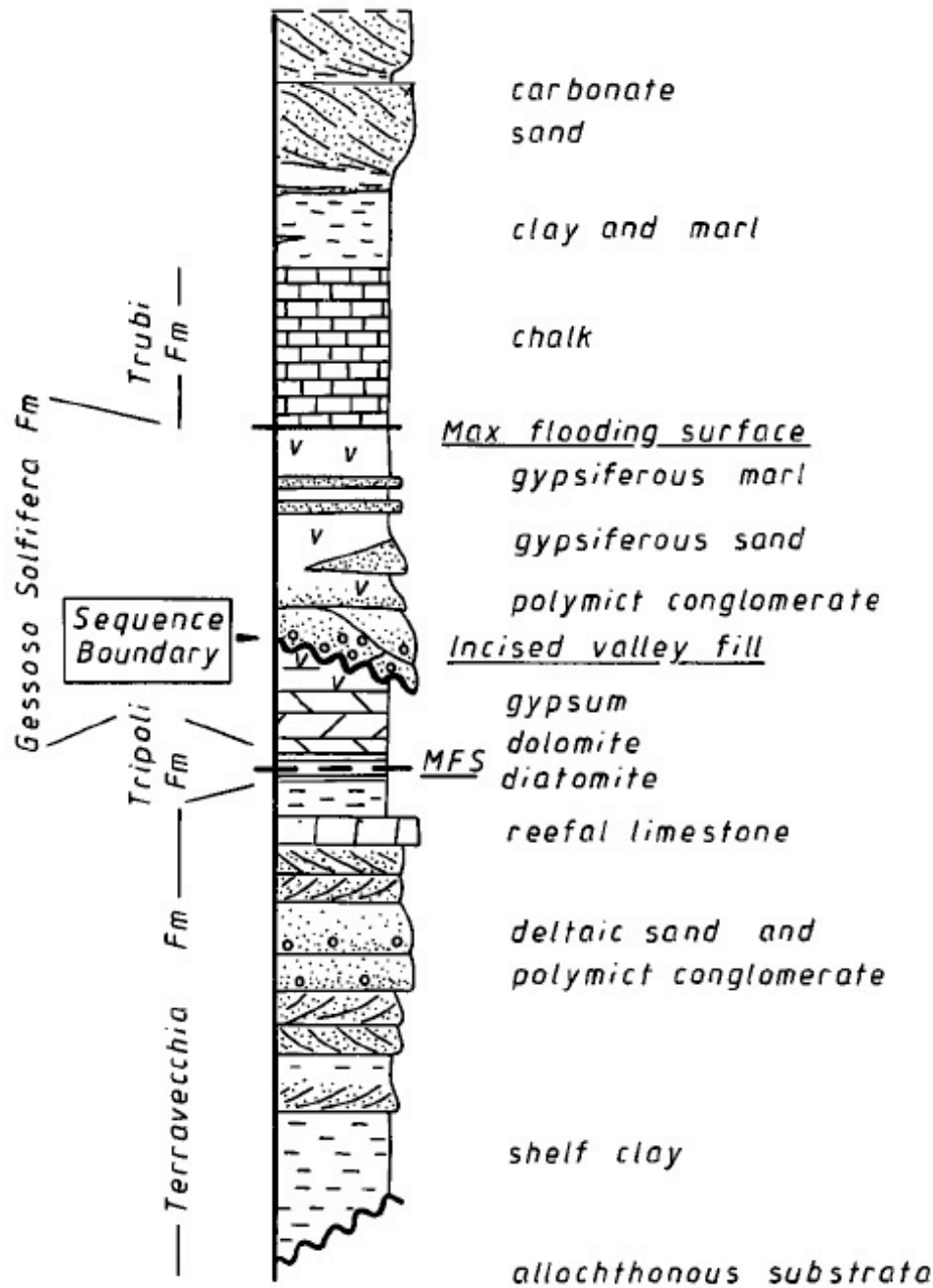
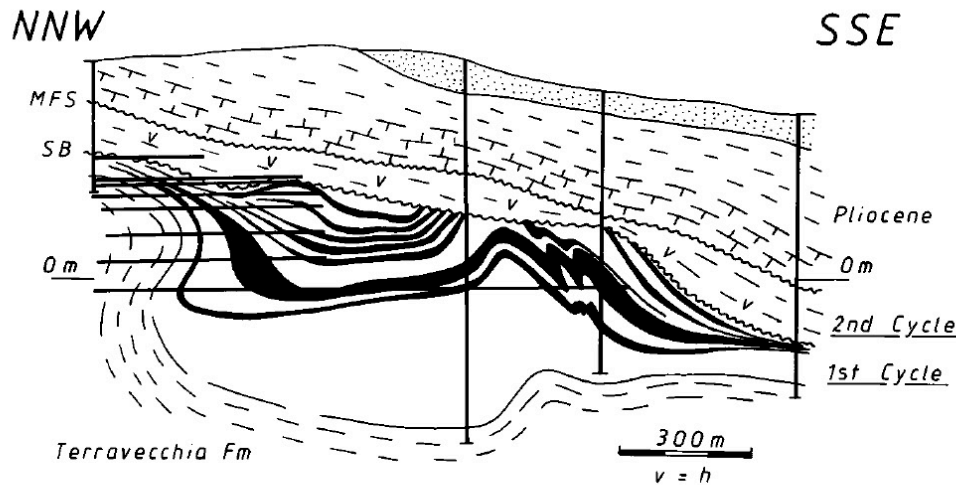
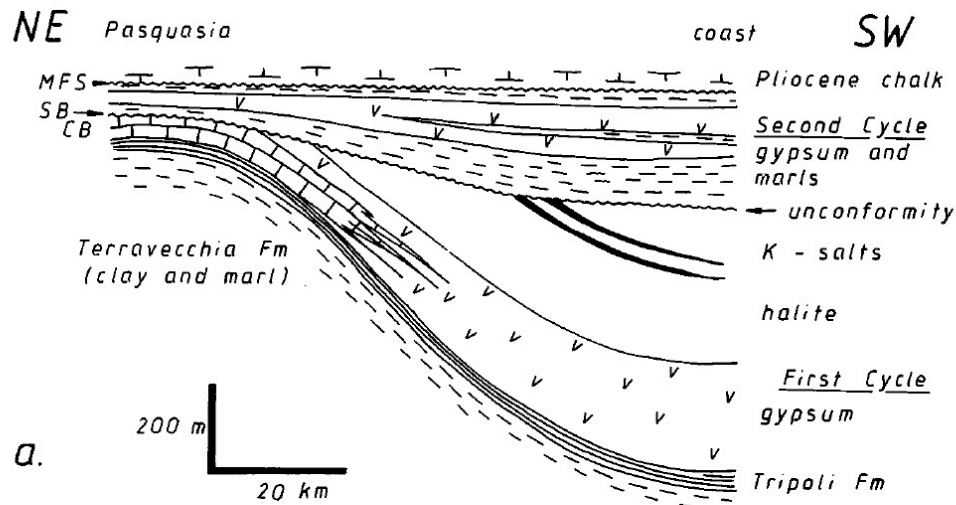


Figure 3. Lithostratigraphy for the northern part of the Caltanissetta basin (after Butler and Grasso, 1993). MFS maximum flooding surface.



b.

Figure 4. Scales of variations of evaporite facies and thickness within the Gessoso Solifera Formation across the Caltanissetta basin (Locations are on Fig. 2). (a) Basinwide variations, as reported by Decima and Wezel (1973; see also Decima et al., 1988), projected onto a single northeast-southwest section line. Note the vertical exaggeration. Sequence stratigraphic interpretation is added by the present authors. CB = Calcare di Base Member, MFS = maximum flooding surface, SB = sequence boundary. (b) True-scale cross section through Pasquasia Mine, on a north-northwest-south-southeast profile, with the same ornament and abbreviations as Figure 4a. The locations of boreholes and mine tunnels are illustrated, with no projection. The evaporites continue to crop out to the north-northwest of section where they are represented by a few meters of the Calcare di Base Member (see Fig. 4a).

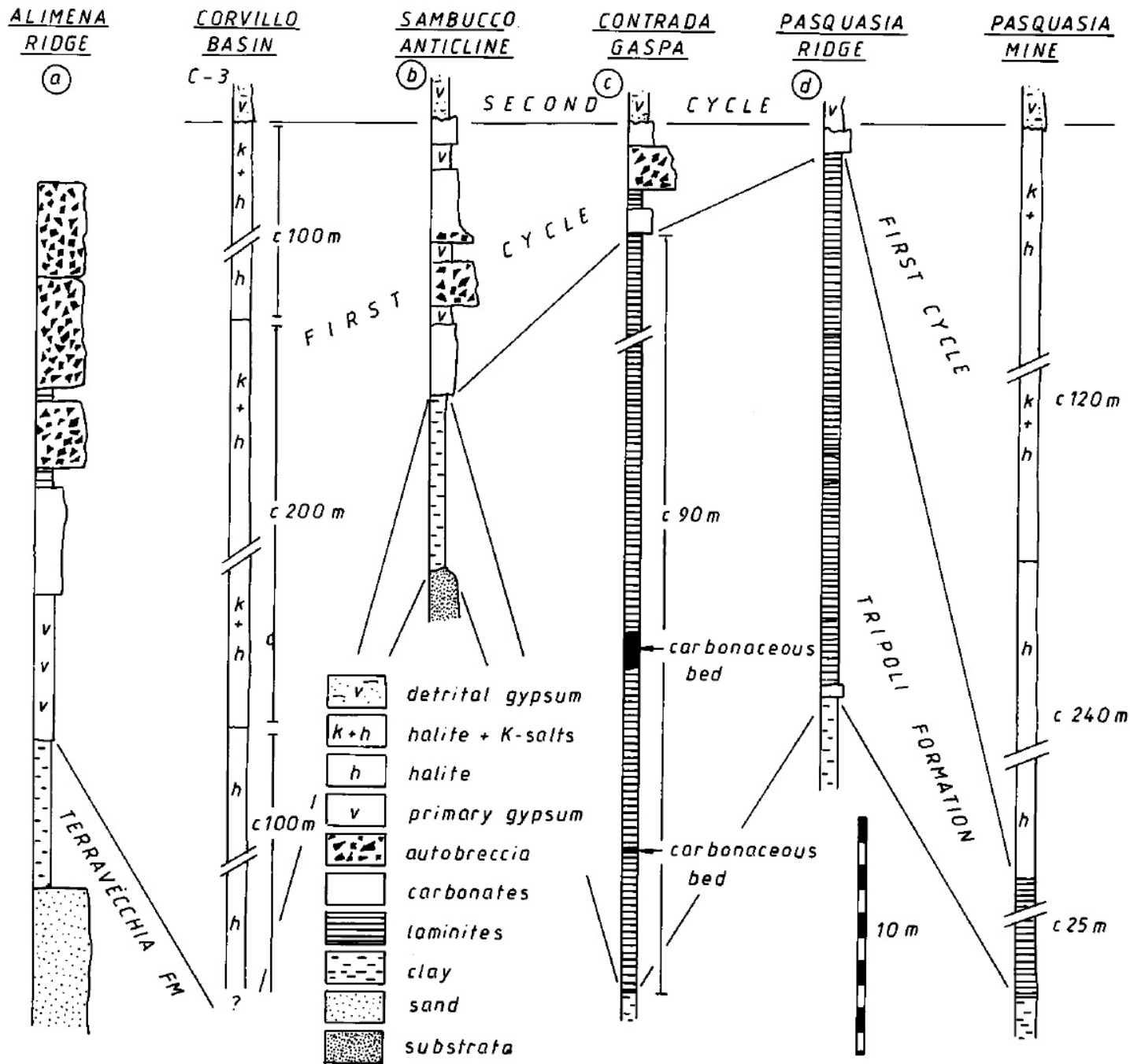


Figure 7. Measured sections through the lower trans into first cycle evapo across the northern Caltanissetta basin, base outcrop data (Pedley Grasso, 1993) and well records. The locations of outcrops (a-d) and Pasquasia mine (borehole) are shown in Figure 5.

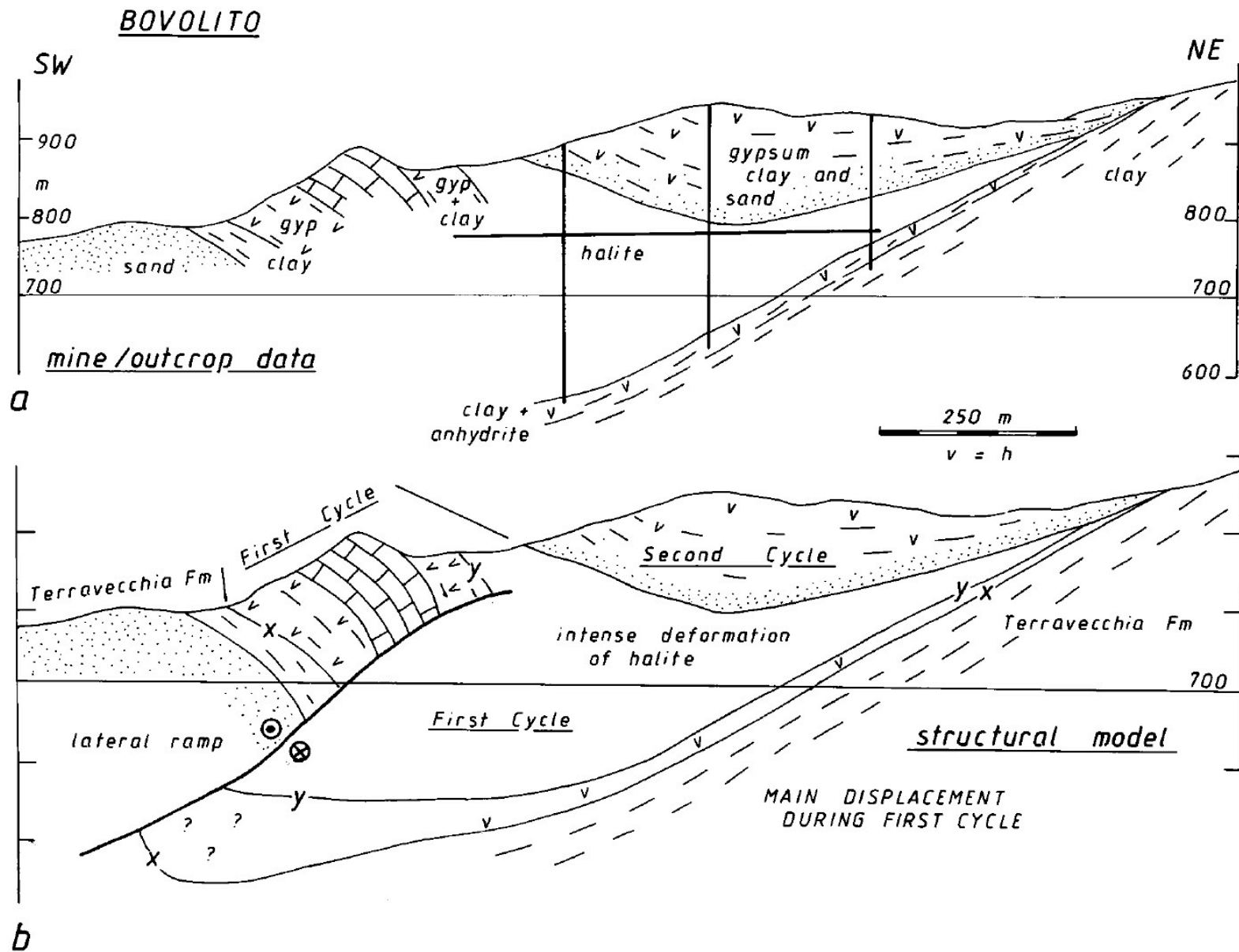


Figure 8. Geology of the Bovolito basin (location on Fig. 2). (a) Profile of the basic data available from commercial exploitation of the first cycle halite. (b) Structural interpretation of Figure 8a. Key surfaces (x and y) are indicated to correlate with other parts of the

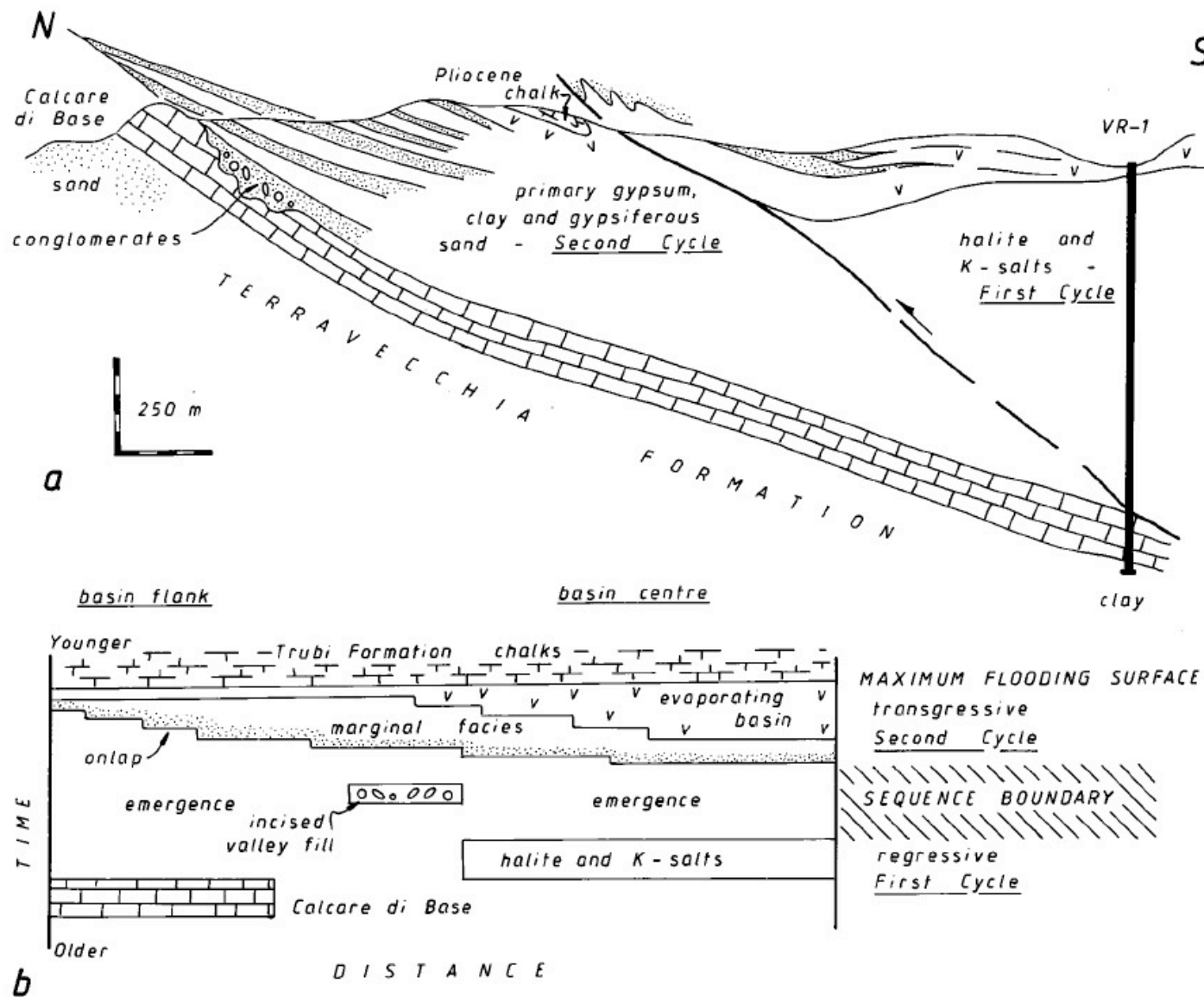


Figure 11. (a) True-scale structural section through the northern flank of the Corvillo basin (detail of Fig. 6), showing the relationship between first and second cycles within the Gessoso Solifera Formation. Sands are stippled (gypsiferous for second cycle), while gypsiferous clays and selenite are indicated by v's. (b) Idealized chronostratigraphic model for the northern flank of the Corvillo basin, with relative time plotted against horizontal distance. At present the time scale is only relative. Work is underway to calibrate this using magnetostratigraphy.

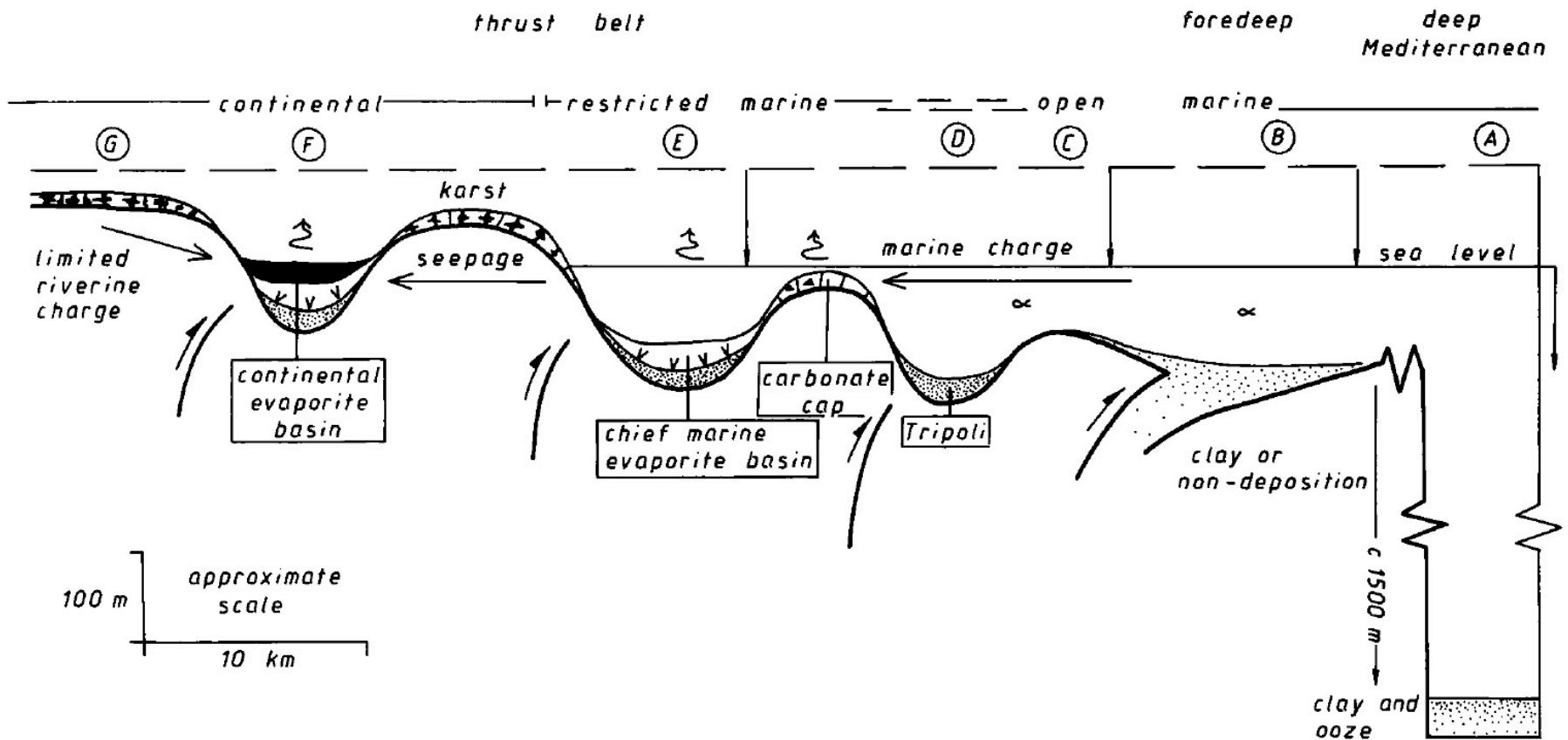


Figure 10. Regional model for evaporite stratigraphy across different thrust-top basins, illustrated schematically. At the instant shown, evaporitic drawdown has left one basin isolated from marine charge. The chief evaporitic basin is accumulating higher-order salts, with marine water concentrating across a shallow barrier. Ahead of this barrier the seawater is not sufficiently concentrated to precipitate evaporites, but restricted circulation allows diatomic laminites and torbas to accumulate in subbasins. Normal marine conditions persist in deep basin settings. Continued drawdown would lead to a progressive facies migration across the subbasins with all becoming emergent before salinity increases sufficiently for evaporite precipitation in the open marine environment. Locations A-G link this figure with the

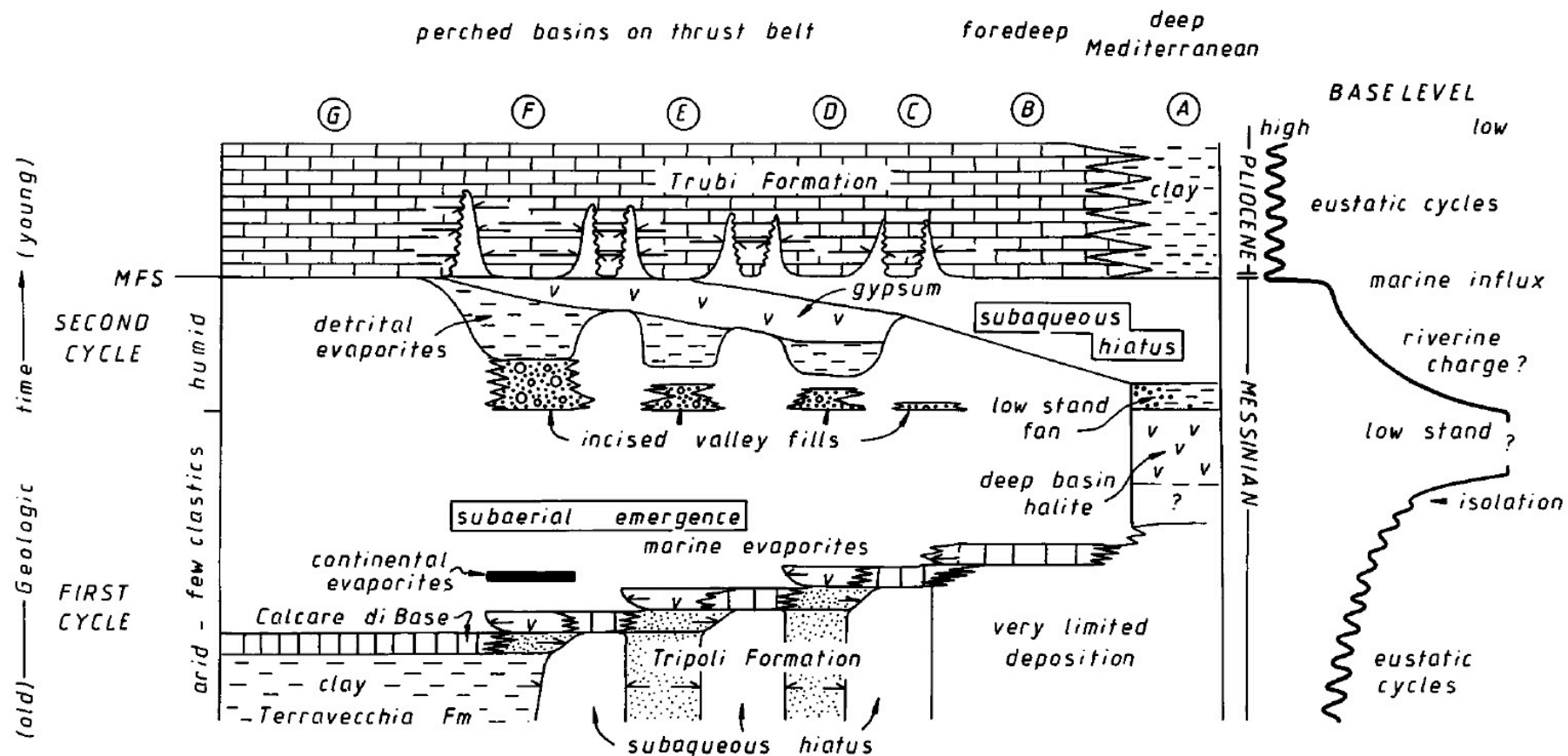


Figure 12. A relative chronostratigraphic model for Messinian and lower Pliocene deposits on Sicily and their correlation with abyssal depths of the Mediterranean. Time on the figure is unscaled and is awaiting future calibration against an absolute chronostratigraphy. This calibration will also provide a test of the model's prediction of diachroneity. The relative base-level fluctuations are schematic. Labelled sites A-G correlate with Figure 10. See text for further details.

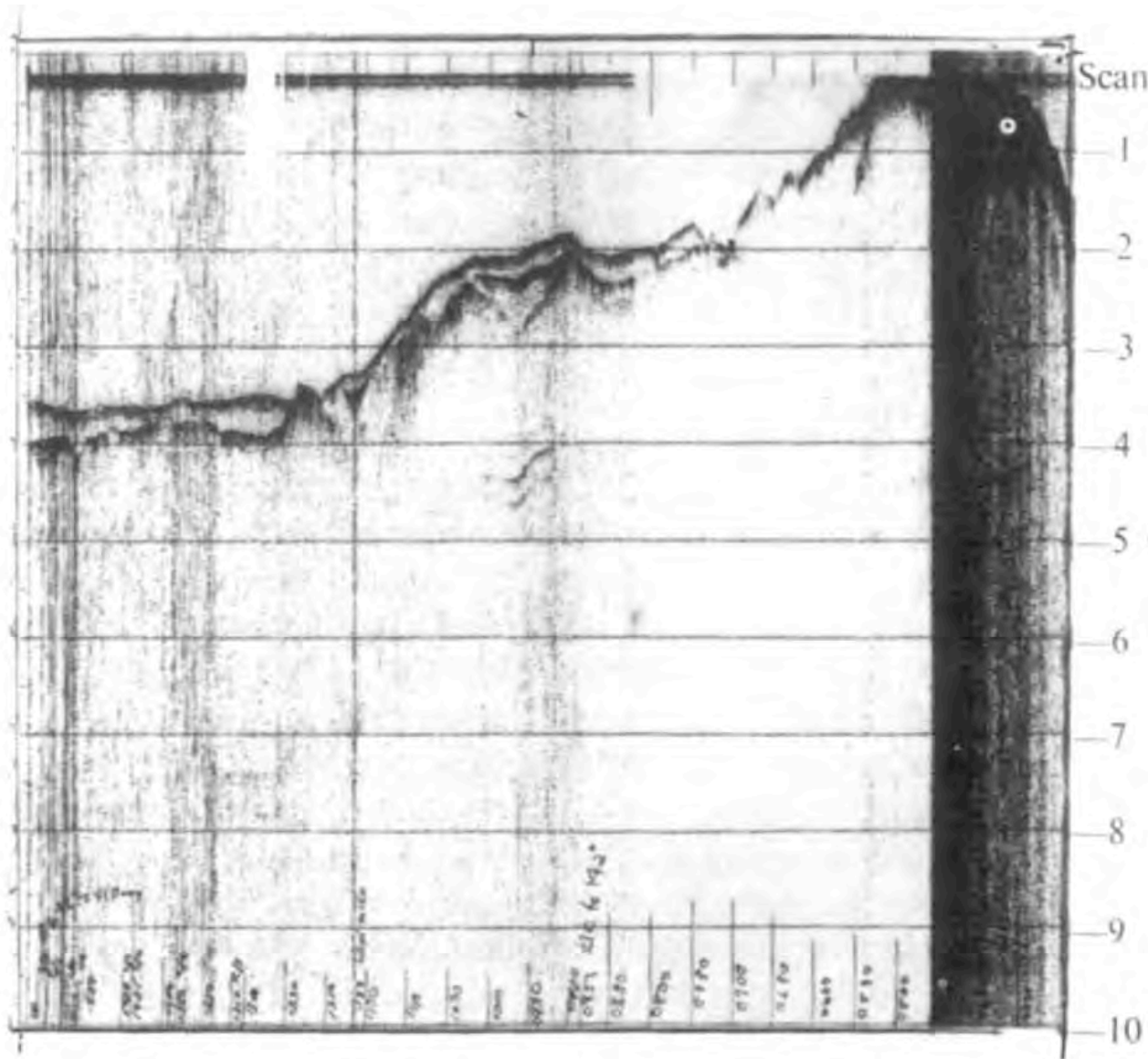


Fig. 1 The Mediterranean reflector. This strong reflector corresponds to the top of the Upper Miocene evaporite formation. The relief of the reflector conforms the bottom topography, suggesting that the evaporites were deposited in a basin similar in topography to that of the present Mediterranean.

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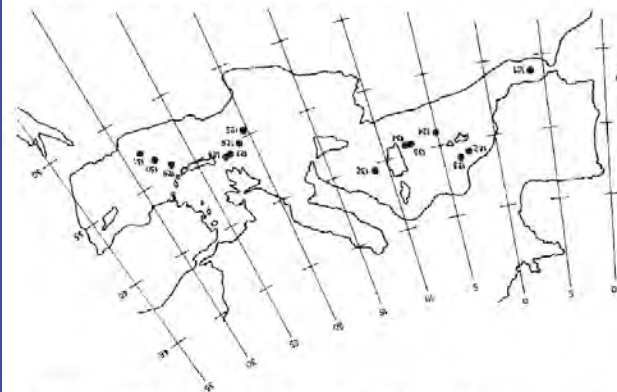


Fig. 2 Drill sites of Leg XIII of the Deep Sea Drilling Project.

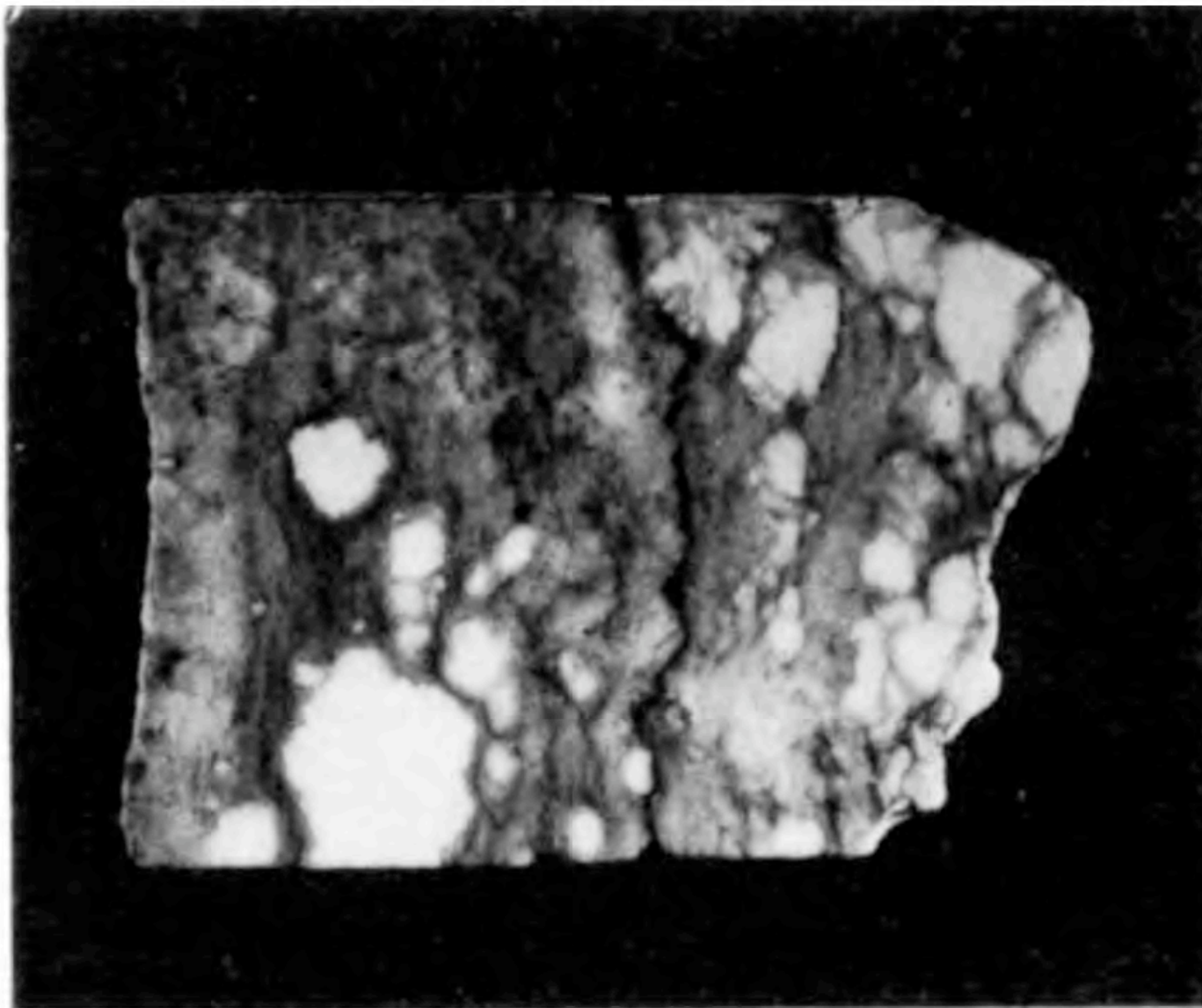


Fig. 3 Nodular and "chicken wire" anhydrite, characteristic precipitates from ground waters under hot and arid coastal flats.

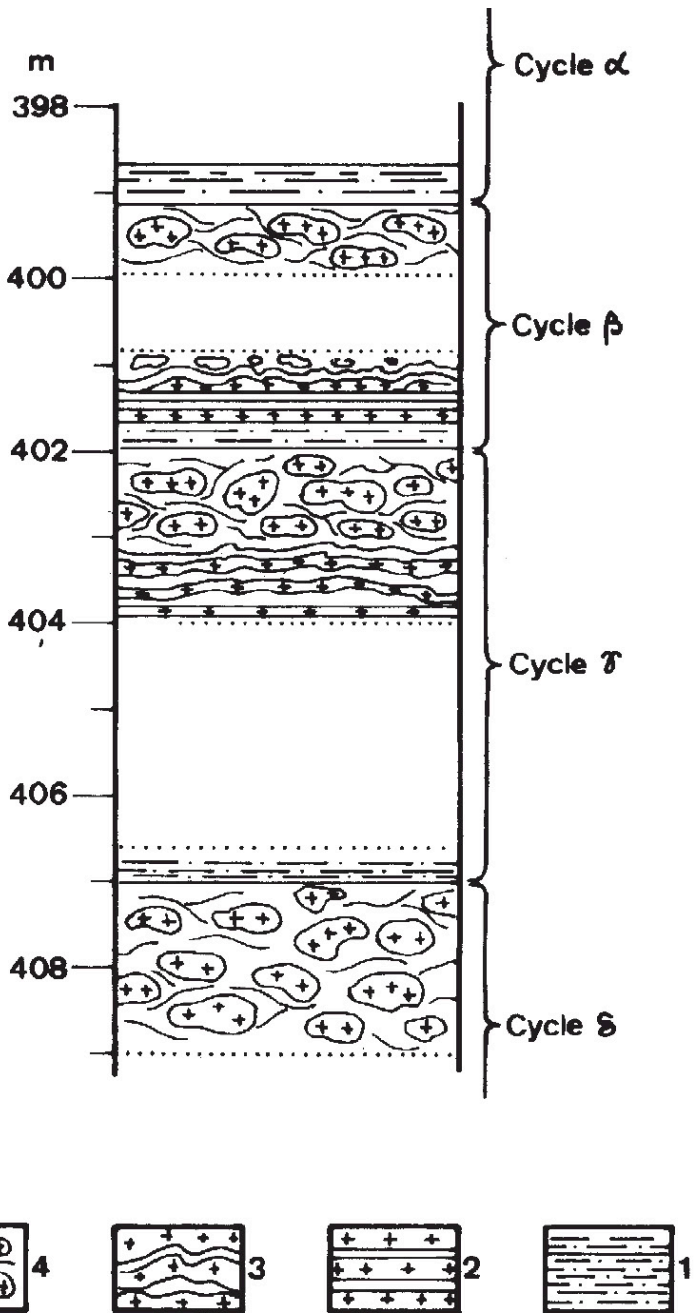


Fig. 4 Schematic diagram of desiccation cycles in hole 124. 1, Laminated carbonates; 2, interlaminated dolomite and anhydrite; 3, stromatolitic deposits; 4, nodular anhydrite.

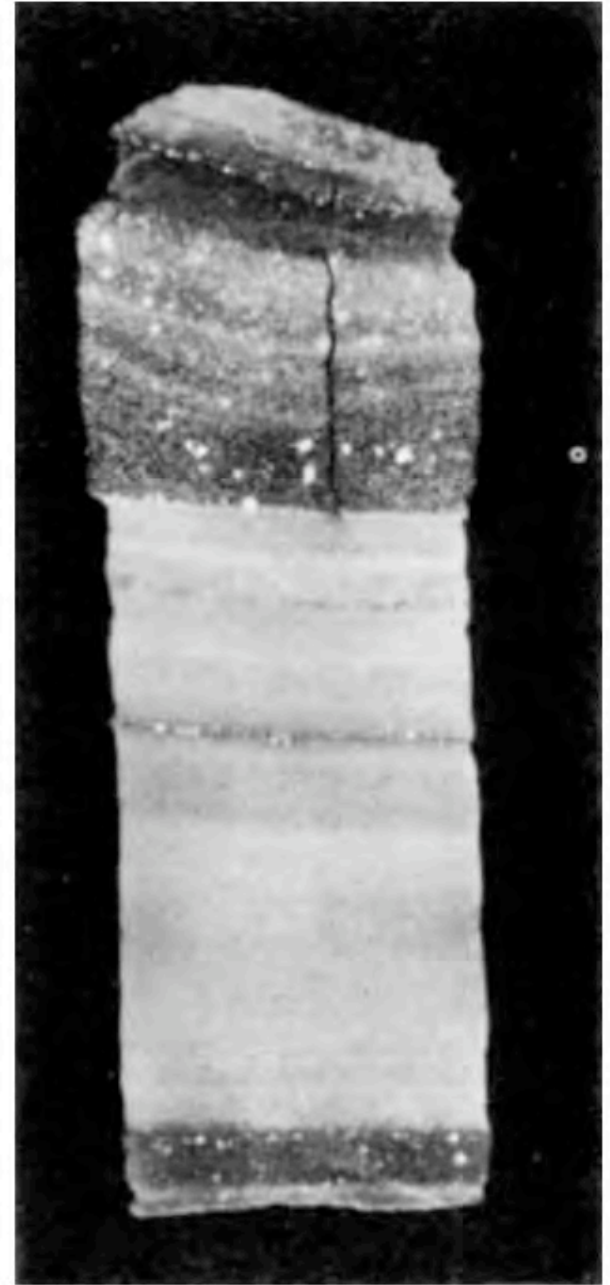
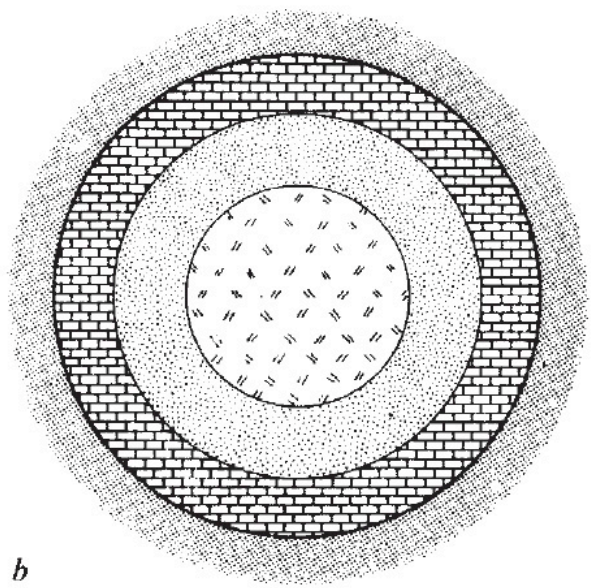
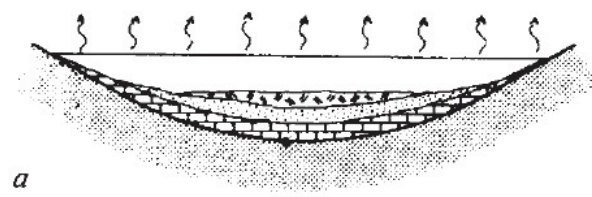


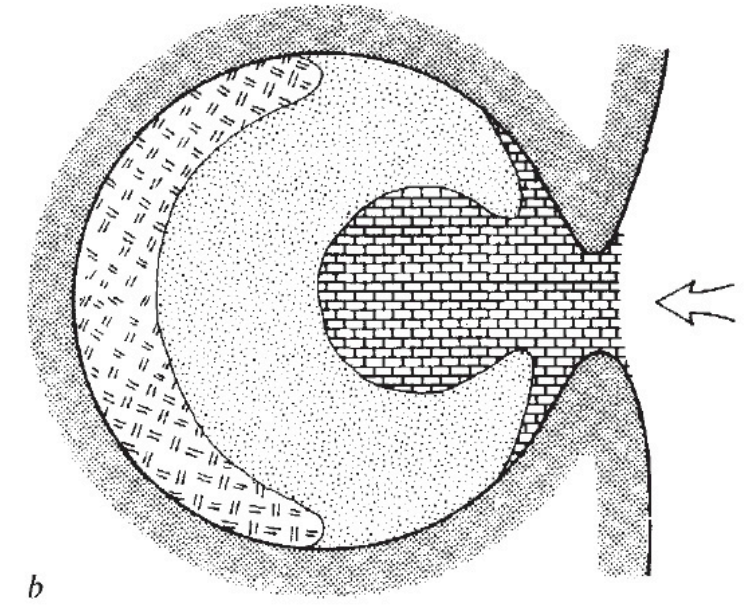
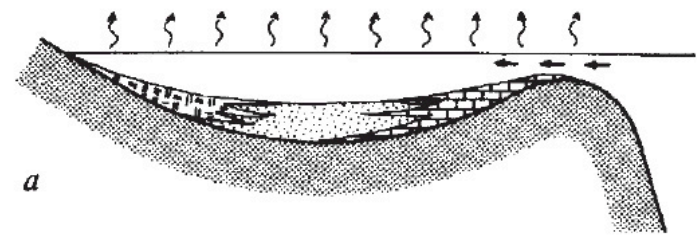
Fig. 5 Halite core from site 134.

Hsu et al 1973



 Carbonates
  Gypsum
  Halite

Fig. 7 Idealized bull's eye pattern of evaporite distribution typical of isolated basins. *a*, Cross-section; *b*, map.



 Carbonates
  Gypsum
  Halite

Fig. 8 Idealized tear drop pattern of evaporite distribution typical of partially restricted basins. *a*, Cross-section; *b*, map.

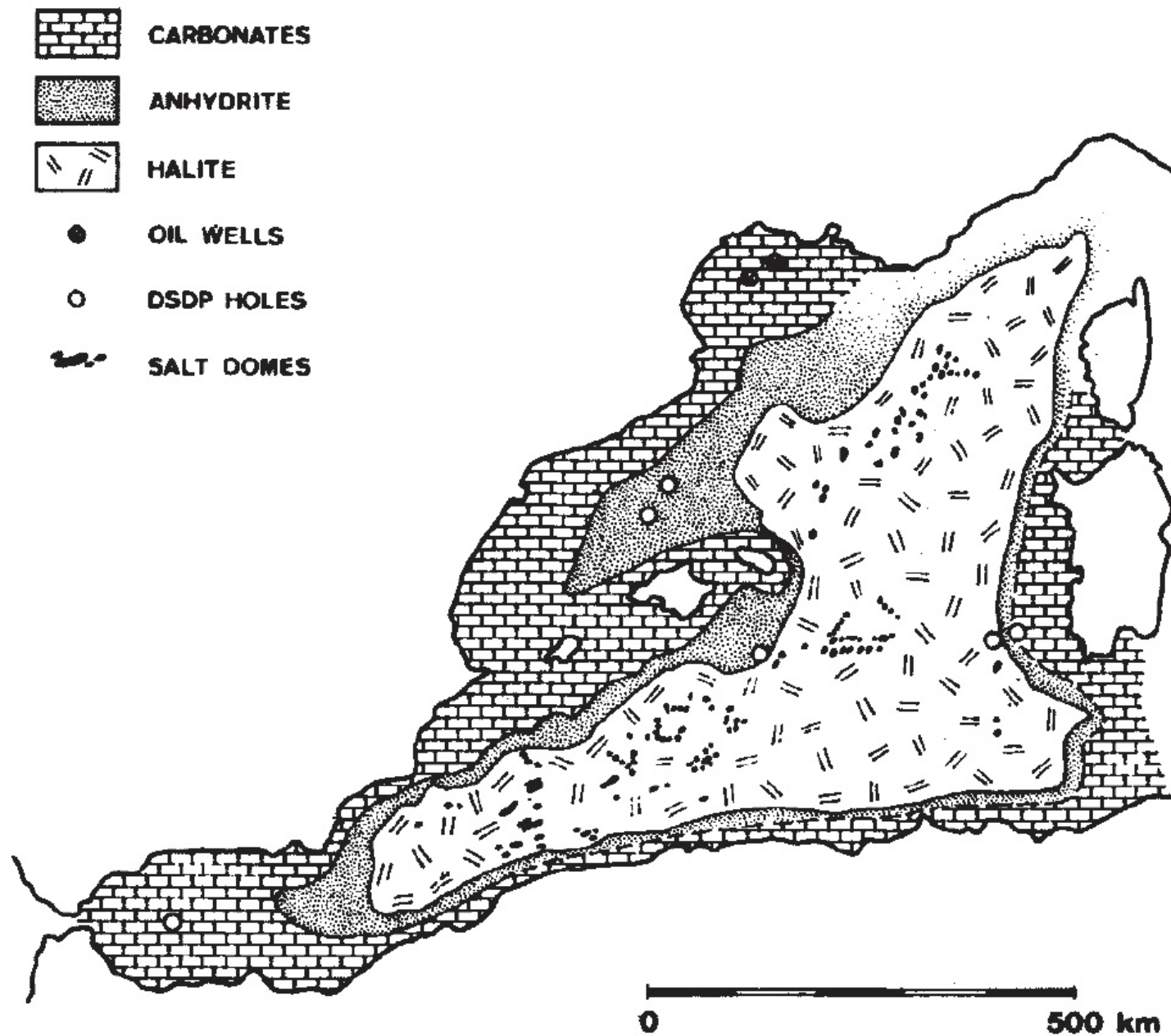


Fig. 9 Probable distribution of evaporites in the western Mediterranean Balearic Basin.

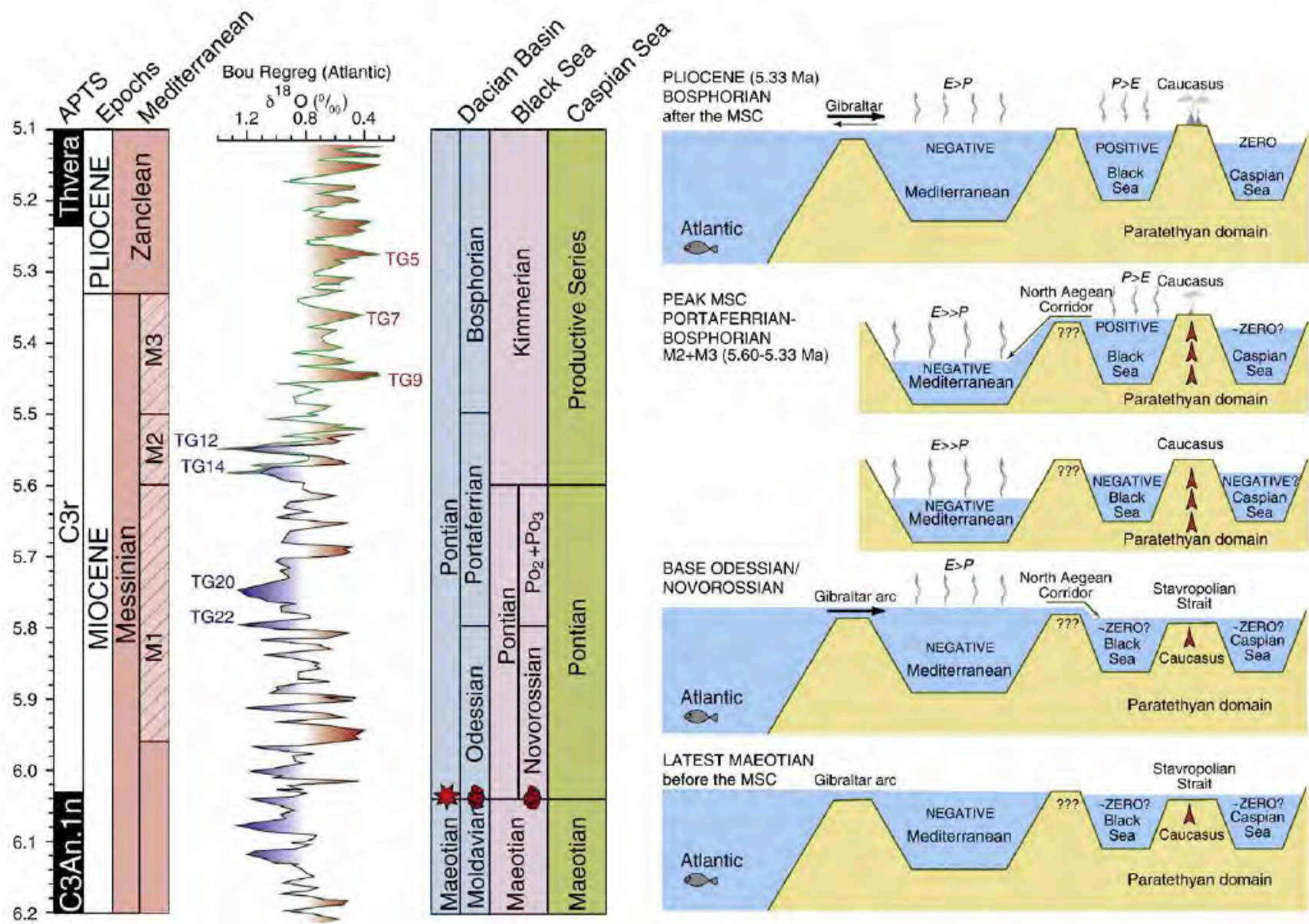


Fig. 6. A new chronology for the different local and regional stages of the Paratethys allows detailed correlations to the GTS, the Mediterranean event stratigraphy during the Messinian Salinity Crisis (M1–M3) (Krijgsman et al., 1999; Roveri et al., 2008) and to the oxygen isotope curves of the Atlantic margin of Morocco (Hilgen et al., 2007). Red star/foraminifer indicates influx of marine nannofossils (Marunteanu and Papaianopol, 1998)/foraminifera (see Fig. 4). Schematic cross-sections show the changes in connectivity and the phases of basin isolation of the Paratethys and Mediterranean during the Messinian Salinity Crisis.

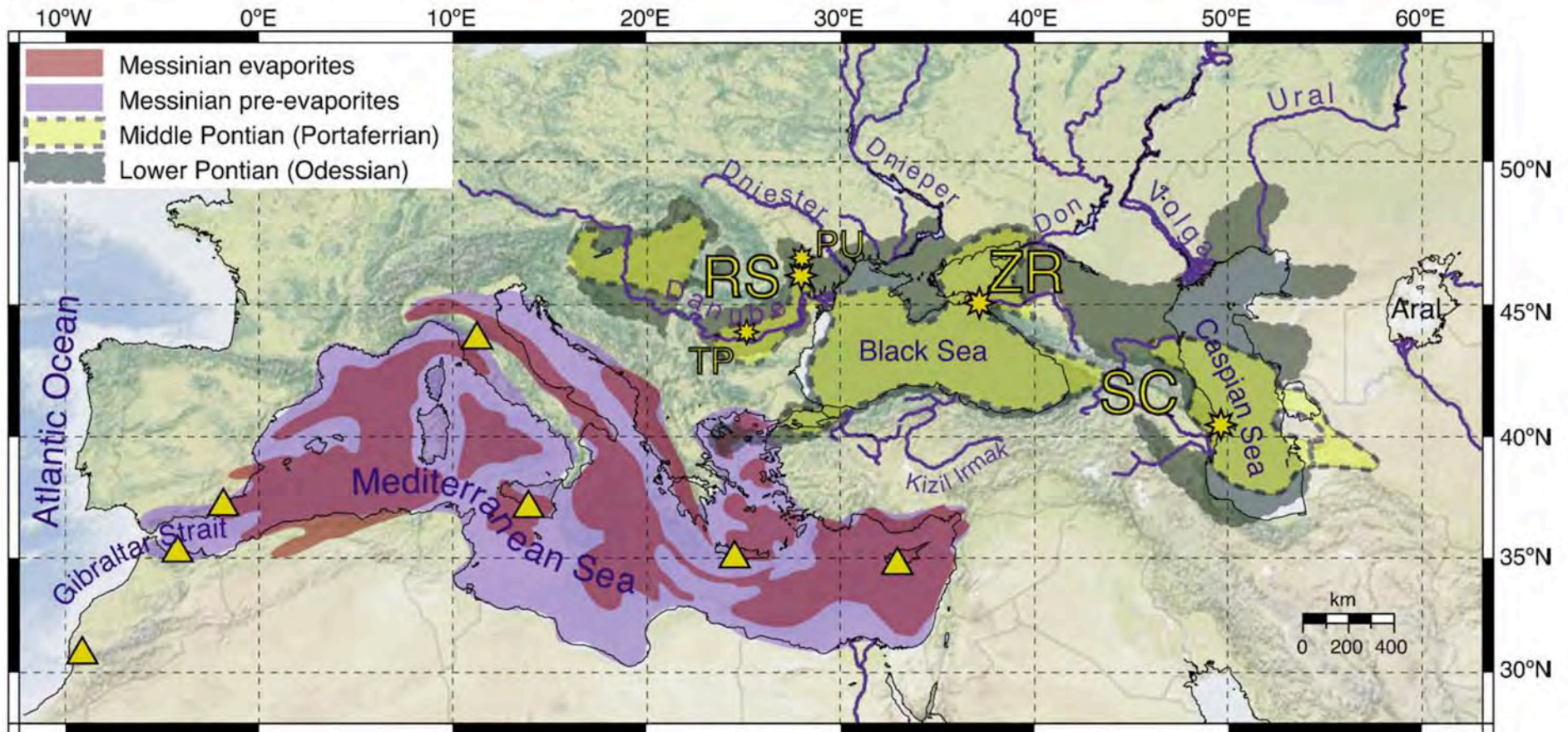


Fig. 1. Paleogeographic map of the Mediterranean and Paratethys during the Messinian Salinity Crisis interval. Stars indicate locations of the sections and research areas. In the Dacian Basin, RS and PU = Râmnicu Sarat and Putna sections are located in the east Carpathian foredeep and TP = Topolog region is in the south Carpathian foredeep. In the Black Sea basin, ZR = Zheleznyi Rog section is located on the Taman Peninsula of the Russian Black Sea margin; SC = South Caspian Basin – Azerbaijan. Triangles locate astronomically dated Mediterranean MSC sections (see Hilgen et al. (2007) and Krijgsman and Meijer (2008) for details).