

REMOTE SENSING INTERPRETATION OF EASTERN MECSEK MOUNTAINS(SW HUNGARY)
 FOCUSING ON TECTONIC ELEMENTS

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ABSTRACT:

Using the available remote sensing products(aerial photographs scale 1:25 000 and 1:50000, and enlarged landsat image scale 1:50 000); an interpretation of Eastern Mecsek Mountains (SW Hungary) focused on tectonic aspects of that area could be achieved. As the area is densely covered by forests and landuses, only the major stratigraphic units are discriminable. Pre-Mesozoic basement, Mesozoic sedimentary cover, Lower Cretaceous volcanics, and Post-Mesozoic sediments are recognized. Fracture analysis of that area has been done and the regional fracture pattern is dominated by NW-SE, NNE-SSW, NE-SW, and ENE-WSW directions. Fracture analysis of the major stratigraphic units has been studied showing that each unit has its diagnostic dominated directions. Pre-Mesozoic rocks show a dominance of NNE-SSW direction; Mesozoic rocks show a dominance of NNE-SSW, NE-SW, and ENE-WSW directions; and Post-Mesozoic rocks show a dominance of NW-SE, N-S, NE-SW, and ENE-WSW directions. Drainage analysis show also different types of patterns within the major stratigraphic units, while it is typical dendritic pattern within both Mesozoic and Post-Mesozoic rocks, it is parallel to terrillis pattern within the Pre-Mesozoic rocks. Also the drainage distribution shows the control of the tectonic element. Using the available borehole data together with the field data, four cross sections directed NW-SE, N-S, WNW-ESE, and E-W of the studied area have been drawn. Finally the tectonic importance of the results of all these analyses have been discussed.

KEY WORDS: Landsat, Stereoscopic, 3-D, Tectonics.

INTRODUCTION:

The area under investigation located in the southwest part of Hungary to the west of the Danube river (fig. 1).

GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND:

The eastern part of Mecsek Mountains comprise a stratigraphic column starting with Proterozoic, Paleozoic(Szederkényi 1977).

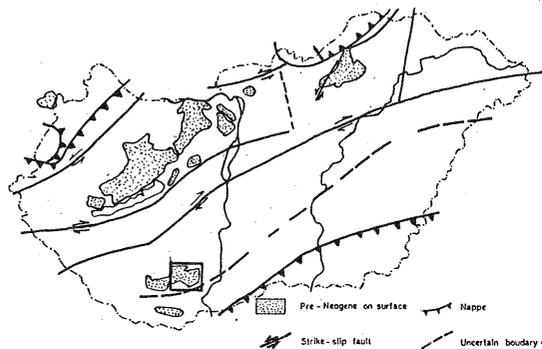


Fig 1:Tectonic map of Hungary(Császár and Haas 1984). The studied area lies within a square.

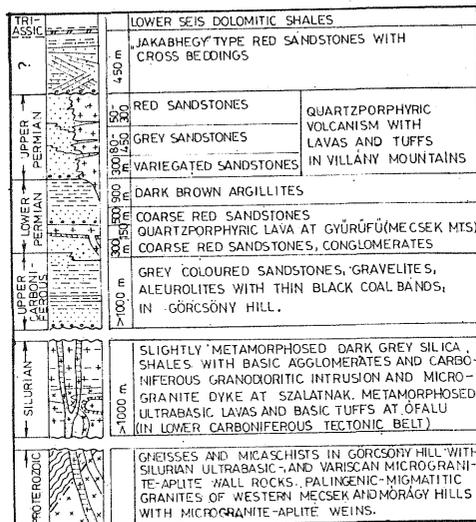
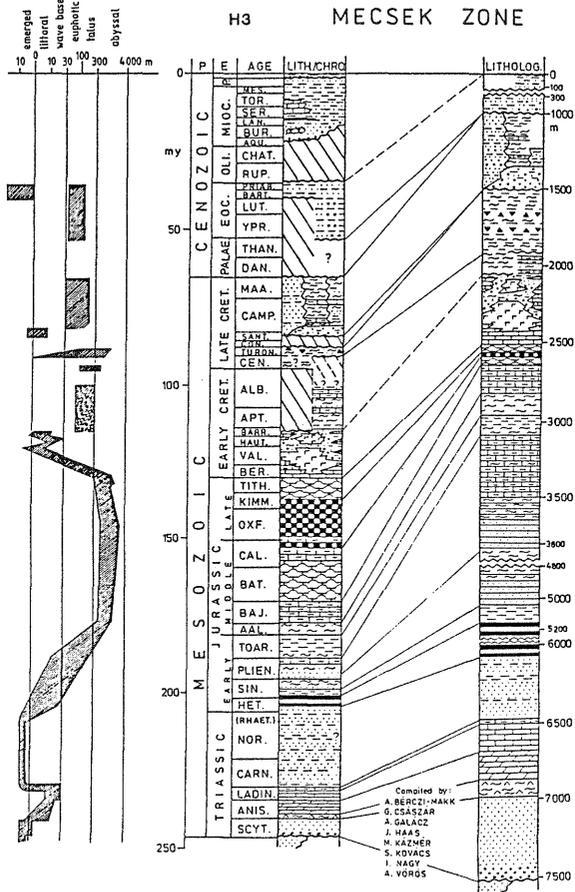


Fig 2:Idealized rock-column of Paleozoic of South-East Transdanubia (after Szederkényi 1974.)

Quite a great number of studies have been done on the studied area concerning different geological aspects. Wein 1967, 1969, Némedi-Varga 1983, Balla 1981, 1986, Bergerat and Csontos 1988 have studied the tectonic aspects, while Czakó 1981, Kókai 1982, and Brezsnýánsky and Sikhegyi 1987 have studied the application of remote sensing products.

The SW quarter of the NASA ID 5039809035TM5 188-028-2 taken by the satellite LANDSAT 5 on 04 APRIL 1985 represents the Eastern Mecsek Mountains area, also a complete stereo-pair aerial photograph coverage of the same area in both 1:25,000 and 1:50000 scale and the data taken from the drilled boreholes, are used collectively to fulfill the aim of that work.

Mesozoic starts with Trassic continental facies(Nagy 1968), Jurassic continental-marine facies(Galacz 1984), Lower Cretaceous carbonates(Császár and Haas 1984), and Lower Cretaceous submarine volcanics(Bilik 1983), and Tertiary mainly Miocene sediment (Hámor 1970). The stratigraphic column was compiled (fig 2,3) and the published geological map of the studied area(fig 4).



IGCP Project 198

Fig 3: Compiled stratigraphic column after IGCP Project 198. "Evolution of the Northern Margin of Tethys"

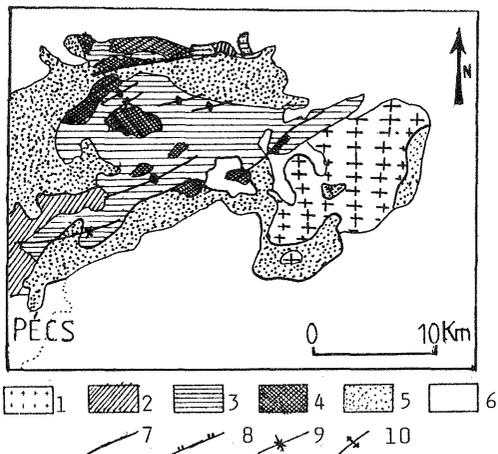


Fig 4: Geological map of Eastern Mecsek Mountains (after the geological map of Hungary 1:500 000, 1984: Hungarian Geological Institute ed.).
 1. Crystalline basement, 2. Triassic
 3. Jurassic, 4. Cretaceous, 5. Miocene
 6. Pliocene-Quaternary, 7. fault,
 8. thrust, 9. syncline, 10. anticline

Paleogeographically the Mecsek area is considered as a part of the European craton in Mesozoic which occupy a horst position in the Pannonian Basin, being elevated between Zala Basin and Drava Basin. The tectonic events affected that area can be summarized as follows:

In Cretaceous, two main episodes, the first was post Berriasian resulting in folds of E-W axis; the second worked during the Austrian phase, creating NE-SW strike. This later phase was accompanied by inverse fault mainly of north-western vergency (Wein 1967). An extension-episode gave place to the intrusion of large masses of phonolites, which is related to large normal faults, orthogonal to the main strike of the chain (Némedi-Varga 1983). In Neogene, sedimentary basins are formed to the North and the south of the mountains, controlled by NE-SW and NW-SE trending faults creating successive horsts and grabens pattern (Némedi-Varga 1983). NE-SW trending folds accompanied by an imbricate structure formed in the north area in the Sarmatian age. In the Pliocene, the generation of new south vergent thrusts resulting in the bringing of Mesozoic on the top of the Lower, and then on the Upper Pannonian sediments along South Mecsek line and at the front of the Northern scale zone (Wein 1967, Némedi-Varga 1983). The south-Mecsek line is meanwhile considered as big sinistral strike-slip fault, with an approximately 10 Km. offset (Némedi-Varga 1983). In Pliocene E-W striking folds accompanied by NW-SE and N-S striking dextral wrench faults.

Microtectonically the Mecsek and Villány mountains has been studied by Bergerat and Csontos 1988. They could separate five different stress fields: ESE-WNW compression associated with E-W striking dextral and NW-SE to N-S striking sinistral strike-slip faults; N-S compression associated with NW-SE to NNW-SSE striking right lateral faults and NE-SW to ENE-WSW striking left lateral fault-sets; NE-SW compression create mainly inverse faults of roughly E-W direction, also dextral strike-slip faults directed N-S to NNE-SSW; N-S extension associated with a great number of ENE-WSW to ESE-WNW directed normal faults very frequently dip-slip type; and E-W extension corresponds to normal faults of NNE-SSW strike.

FRACTURE ANALYSIS:

The airphoto fractures has been identified and annotated as developed by El Etr (1967) after Blanchet (1957) and Marchosini (1961) then Yehia (1973). The identified airphoto fractures are shown in figure 5. Using the stereo-pairs under stereoscope the fractures of the studied area has been marked on overlays and the length and azimuth of each fracture have been detected. The total number of fractures (T.N) and their corresponding total length (T.L) in each azimuth class (10° of arc) are recorded for the total area and then the same has been done for each of the major stratigraphic units i.e. Pre-Mesozoic, Mesozoic, and Post-Mesozoic. The number of fractures in percentage (N%), and the length of fractures in percentage (L%) for each azimuth class have been counted (table 1). Then these data have been

Table 1: Airphoto fractures measurements. N:number, N%:number percentage, L: length, and L%: length percentage.

	W 00-10	10-20	20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	N	00-10	10-20	20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	E	Total
Total area																					
N	17	10	6	3	13	10	14	11	3	5	13	16	22	12	2	4	2	1			523
N%	10.4	6.1	3.7	1.8	7.9	6.1	8.5	6.7	1.8	3.0	7.9	9.8	13.4	7.3	1.2	2.4	1.2	0.6			
L	17.05	8.90	6.60	2.65	13.55	11.95	12.90	12.65	2.85	10.75	18.45	21.70	25.10	15.00	4.10	4.95	2.85	1.05			528.25
L%	8.8	4.6	3.4	1.4	7.0	6.2	6.7	6.6	1.5	5.6	9.6	11.2	13.0	7.8	2.1	2.6	1.5	0.5			
Post-Mesozoic																					
N	29	20	11	22	22	19	25	6	6	18	20	17	9	10	4	9	15	17			164
N%	10.4	7.2	3.9	7.9	7.9	6.8	9.0	2.2	2.2	6.5	7.2	6.1	3.2	3.6	1.4	3.4	5.4	6.1			
L	24.00	16.85	13.60	19.80	18.70	19.65	22.95	5.80	4.10	12.75	18.85	19.40	9.05	10.90	3.10	10.10	13.10	13.80			193.05
L%	9.7	6.6	5.3	7.7	7.3	7.7	8.9	2.3	1.6	5.0	7.3	7.6	3.5	4.2	1.2	3.9	5.1	5.4			
Mesozoic																					
N	2	2	-	2	8	2	8	-	1	1	21	17	4	5	2	2	2	1			279
N%	2.5	2.5	-	2.5	10.0	2.5	10.0	-	1.3	1.3	26.3	21.3	5.0	6.3	2.5	2.5	2.5	1.3			
L	2.70	5.50	-	2.35	7.05	1.20	4.85	-	0.60	0.85	16.95	20.85	3.70	5.80	1.60	1.90	1.75	1.05			256.50
L%	3.4	7.0	-	3.0	9.0	1.5	6.2	-	0.8	1.1	21.5	26.5	4.7	7.4	2.0	2.4	2.2	1.3			
Pre-Mesozoic																					
N	48	34	17	27	43	31	47	15	10	24	54	50	35	27	8	15	19	19			80
N%	9.2	6.5	3.3	5.2	8.2	5.9	9.0	2.9	1.9	4.6	10.3	9.6	6.7	5.2	1.5	2.9	3.6	3.6			
L	17.05	8.90	6.60	2.65	13.55	11.95	12.90	12.65	2.85	10.75	18.45	21.70	25.10	15.00	4.10	4.95	2.85	1.05			78.70
L%	8.8	4.6	3.4	1.4	7.0	6.2	6.7	6.6	1.5	5.6	9.6	11.2	13.0	7.8	2.1	2.6	1.5	0.5			

plotted on an azimuth-frequency(rose) diagram in which the N% are plotted on the upper half while the L% are plotted on the lower half (fig 6). The general characteristic of the fractures are summarized in table 1.

The azimuth-frequency(rose) diagrams shows the dominance of different units, i.e. for the total area the dominant directions are NNW-SSE, NNE-SSW, ENE-WSW, and NE-SW respectively. For the area covered by Pre-Mesozoic rocks the dominant direction is NNW-SSE, for the area covered by Mesozoic rocks the dominant directions are NNE-SSW, ENE-WSW, NE-SW, and NNW-SSE respectively, for the area covered by Post-Mesozoic rocks the dominant directions are NW-SE, NNE-SSW, NE-SW, and ENE-WSW respectively. The N/L ratio can show an average of 1 Km length of each fracture with some differences within each of the major stratigraphic units. The major trends of fractures have been plotted in figure 7. The annotated fractures have been in figure 5.

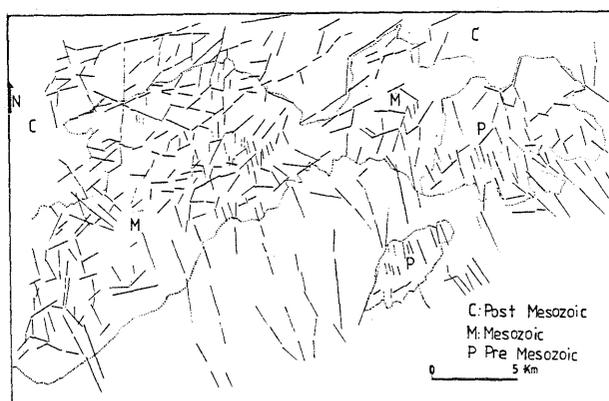


Fig 5: Fracture map of the studied area.

Table 2: Summary of the general characteristics of fractures

	N	L	N/L	Dominant directions	
				NW	NE
Total area	523	528.25	0.99	N 05,15W	N15,25,55,75E
Post-Mesozoic	164	193.05	0.85	N 05-35W	N 15, 55-85 E
Mesozoic	279	256.50	1.09	N05-25,75W	N05-25,45,75E
Pre-Mesozoic	80	78.70	1.02	N 05-15W	-----

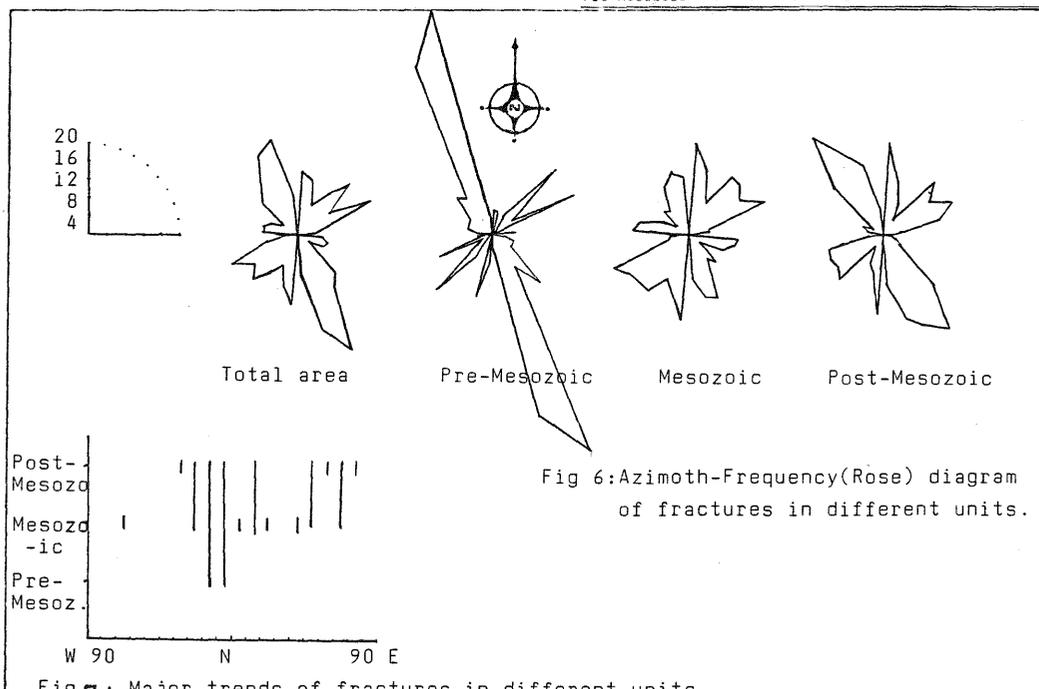


Fig 6: Azimuth-Frequency (Rose) diagram of fractures in different units.

Fig 7: Major trends of fractures in different units.

DRAINAGE PATTERN:

Studying of the drainage system of the area under consideration, it is easy to see different drainage patterns and drainage densities for different stratigraphic units. Showing the highest density in the area covered by Mesozoic rocks with typical dendritic drainage pattern, also the linearity and preferably oriented according to their tectonically affect. Concerning the area covered by Pre-Mesozoic rocks the notable remarks are the lower drainage density and the parallel to terrillis pattern reflecting a different tectonic episode. The area covered by Post-Mesozoic rocks show highly dense dendritic drainage pattern but not very often affected by tectonic. The drainage traces is shown in figure 8.

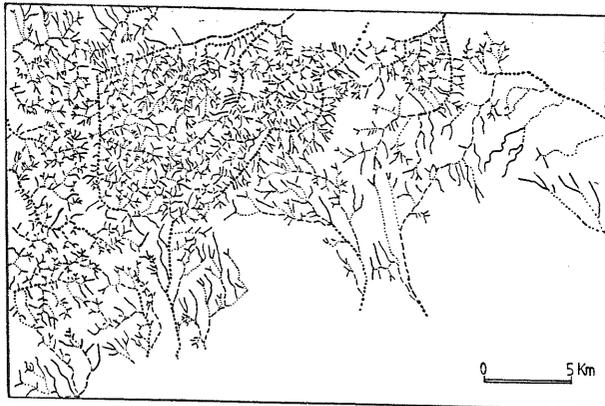


Fig 8: Drainage map of the studied area.

CROSS SECTIONS:

Using the available drilled borehole data and the data collected from the published maps, four cross sections have been constructed (fig 9). These cross sections have been chosen in such a way that cover all structural elements of the area. The first (A-A') directed NNW-SSE cutting across compressive tectonic element resulting in folding and thrusting specially the southern Mecsek tectonic zone which is characterized by both thrusting and strike slip components. The second (B-B') directed N-S cutting across the major synclinal structure of the area accompanied by faulting and thrusting, it passes also through the northern Mecsek tectonic zone which is characterized by thrusting and strike-slip components. The third (C-C') directed W-E cutting through Jurassic rocks showing the tensional component reflected in normal faulting. And finally the fourth (D-D') directed NW-SE in the eastern part of the studied area cutting through the northern Mecsek tectonic zone and reach the basement on the other side of the section and reflecting the effect of the compression forces and have some thrusting which affect the Pannonian sediments which is very young (uppermost Miocene-lowermost Pliocene) relative to the supposed time of the movements. Cumulatively these four cross sections can show to a certain extent the overall reflection of the different tectonic episodes which supposed to have more or less quite effect in the forming of the history of the studied area.

DISCUSSION:

In spite of the great coverage of the Eastern part of Mecsek Mountains by both forestation and landuses, as well as the lack of good exposures; the general prints of the tectonic framework can be drawn using the remote sensing products. The dominance of certain directions concerning the airphoto fractures which more or less coincide with supposed trends of the tectonic elements. That coincidence is well recognized in the Mesozoic covered areas while it is confused by some deviations in the Post-Mesozoic covered areas reflecting some neotectonic elements. In case of Pre-Mesozoic covered areas it is clear that these rocks have been affected by different tectonic episode.

The drainage system of the studied area is clearly affected by tectonics or it is tectonically controlled. Some quite long drainage linear features can be considered as faults proposed to be added to the published maps specially that long straight valley connecting between Magyaregrag village and Komló city in the western part of the study area. The cross sections construction helps in building of a three dimensional image of that area and show the prints of forces affected the area in the form of folding, faulting, and thrusting in different directions, also the unstability of the thickness of the studied rock formations give some ideas about the nature of basins in which these rocks have been deposited and hence the paleogeography of the studied area.

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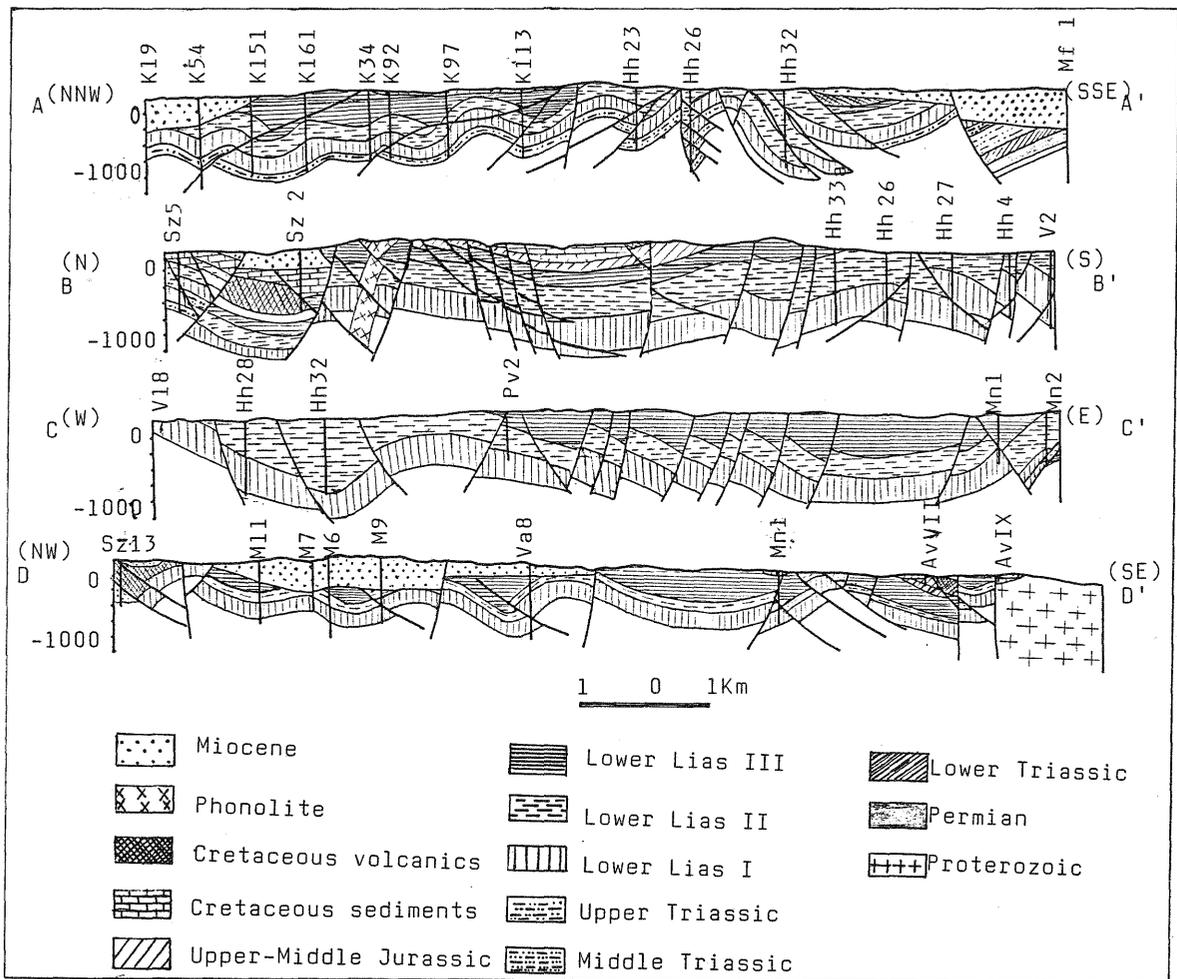


Fig 9: Cross sections A-A', B-B', C-C', D-D' directed NNW-SSE, N-S, W-E, and NW-SE respectively in the studied area.

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