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# From hydroplastic to brittle deformation: controls on fluid flow in fold and thrust belts. Insights from the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet (SE Pyrenees)

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#### 21 Abstract

We present a multidisciplinary study to decipher the controls of deformation on fluid flow regime in fold and thrust belts using the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet in the SE Pyrenees as an example. We integrate field-based and petrographic observations and geochemical and geochronological data to differentiate seven types of fractures, eight types of calcite cement (Cc1 to Cc8) and two sets of stylolites during the deformation stretching the studied thrust sheet. During syn-sedimentary hydroplastic normal faulting affecting poorly consolidated Upper

During syn-sedimentary hydroplastic normal faulting affecting poorly consolidated Upper Cretaceous and Eocene syn-orogenic sediments, calcite cement did not precipitate. During burial, bed-parallel stylolites formed and Cc1 and Cc2 precipitated from formation waters in a closed palaeohydrological system. During the layer-parallel shortening, Cc3 precipitated from formation waters (~+5.4 ‰ VSMOW) with <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios of 0.707922 and at ~70 °C. Cc4 precipitated from formation waters recording different burial conditions, as the up to 4 ‰ dispersion in  $\delta^{18}$ O of this cement suggests. Contrarily, during folding and thrusting, Cc5 to Cc7 precipitated in an open palaeohydrological system. Cc6

precipitated from formation waters (~+5 % VSMOW), with <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios of 0.707817 36 and at ~75 °C. These fluids carried hydrocarbons and probably interacted with Upper 37 38 Triassic evaporites. An <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratio of 0.708230 for Cc5 indicates that formation waters 39 also interacted with clays within continental deposits. During this period, stylolites formed 40 in relation to faulting, and previous hydroplastic normal faults reactivated as reverse and strike-slip faults allowing fluid flow. Cc7 precipitated after Cc6, also from fluids in isotopic 41 42 disequilibrium with their adjacent host rock. The fluid system continued open during the 43 Oligocene, when Cc8 precipitated in normal faults affecting syn-orogenic conglomerates 44 deposited during the reactivation of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet.

The influence of deformation on fluid flow observed in the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheetis similar to that observed in other fractured areas worldwide.

Keywords: Hydroplastic and brittle deformation, fluid flow, U-Pb calcite dating, clumpedisotopes, fold and thrust belts.

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#### 1. Introduction

The study of fracture-filling cement in fold and thrust belts reveals changes in the fluid 51 52 regime and the evolution of fluid-rock interaction through time (Vandeginste et al., 2007, 53 2012; Breesch et al., 2009; Beaudoin et al., 2014; Crognier et al., 2018; Cantarero et al., 2018; Cruset et al., 2018). In the shallow crust, brittle deformation is responsible for the 54 55 formation of fractures (Marrett and Allmendinger, 1990), which act as preferential conduits or seals for the migration of fluids (Missenard et al., 2014; Ogata et al., 2014; 56 57 Maher et al., 2017). However, the conduit or barrier behaviour is not steady-state and it can evolve through time, especially due to: 1) variations in the stress field, forcing 58 59 changes in the tectonic regime (Sibson, 1995; Wiprut and Zoback, 2000; Soumaya et 60 al., 2015); 2) the increase of fluid pressure, which can produce seismically-induced slip 61 and/or hydraulic fracturing (Aydin, 2000; Wiprut and Zoback, 2000; Rutqvist et al., 2013); 62 3) fracture sealing by cement due to fluid regime changes (temperature, pressure,

composition; Benedicto et al., 2008; Beaudoin et al., 2014); and 4) a combination of
these factors.

65 The reactivation of faults can increase the heterogeneity of fractured reservoirs and the 66 uncertainty during reservoir analysis (Roure et al., 2005; Casini et al., 2011; Khosravi et al., 2012; Tavani et al., 2015). Moreover, these heterogeneities are also controlled by 67 additional factors such as fault core composition and strain distribution during folding, 68 which also affects fault permeability (Egholm et al., 2000; Dimmen et al., 2017; Watkins 69 70 et al., 2018). The study of these factors in outcrop analogues is key to mitigate the 71 uncertainties related to the evaluation of fractured reservoirs with bad accessibility and 72 those that are under exploration or production stages.

73 The southern Pyrenees is an exceptionally well-preserved fold and thrust belt in which 74 the complete sequence of thrust sheets and the age of their related syn-tectonic deposits 75 are well known (e.g., Vergés et al., 2002). In this compressional belt, the relationships between fluid migration and deformation have been studied either in its Palaeozoic 76 77 basement (McCaig et al., 1995, 2000; Trincal et al., 2017), cover thrust sheets 78 constituted of Mesozoic and Palaeogene rocks (Travé et al., 1997, 1998; Beaudoin et al., 2015; Crognier et al., 2018; Cruset et al., 2018; Lacroix et al., 2014, 2018; Nardini et 79 80 al., 2019) and in its foreland basin, constituted of Palaeogene rocks (Travé et al., 2000; Cruset et al., 2016). Other studies in the southern Pyrenees report the presence of 81 fractures formed in hydroplastic (Soliva and Benedicto, 2004, 2005; Soliva et al., 2006, 82 83 2008) and brittle (Shackleton et al., 2005, 2011; Tavani et al., 2011; Gutmanis et al., 2017) regimes. However, the relationships between fluids and hydroplastic fractures, as 84 well as their evolution through time, have not been studied yet in the southern Pyrenees. 85

In this contribution, we report a whole history of fluid flow evolution from syn-sedimentary hydroplastic deformation to later brittle fracturing in a section of a fold and thrust belt, which includes reactivation of pre-compressive structures. To deal with the aim of this study, we use the Lower Pedraforca thin-skinned thrust sheet in the SE Pyrenees as an

90 example of a fractured reservoir that increases its heterogeneity during progressive folding. The exceptional outcrop exposures of this thrust sheet allowed to work on three 91 92 meso-scale (metre-scale) fracture systems that are correlative through time: 1) hydroplastic normal faults (as defined by Petit and Beauchamp (1986) and Petit and 93 Laville (1987); 2) background fracture systems, which consist of stratabound bed-94 95 perpendicular veins and bed-parallel slip surfaces; and 3) non-stratabound fracture systems formed of reverse, strike-slip and normal faults. The study of the evolution of 96 97 these fracture systems is combined with petrographic observations and geochemical data (carbon, oxygen and strontium isotopes, clumped isotopes thermometry, elemental 98 composition and U-Pb geochronology) of fracture-filling calcites, extending the fluid flow 99 100 history reported previously by Cruset et al. (2018) for the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet. 101 The results obtained will be compared with other fractured areas worldwide.

102

#### 2. Geological setting

103 The Pyrenees (Fig. 1A) formed due to the continental collision that resulted from the 104 partial subduction of the Iberian plate beneath the Eurasian plate from Late Cretaceous 105 to Miocene (Choukroune et al., 1989; Roure et al., 1989; Muñoz, 1992; Vergés et al., 106 2002). As a result, the previous Mesozoic rift basins were inverted, and an antiformal 107 stack of thrust sheets constituted of basement units (the Axial Zone) developed along the internal zone of the Pyrenean doubly verging orogenic system (Fig. 1B), acting as a 108 boundary between the north and south Pyrenean fold and thrust belts (e.g., Muñoz, 109 110 1992; Grool et al., 2018).

The south Pyrenean fold and thrust belt (Fig. 1B, C, and 2A) consists of a piggy-back sequence of south-verging thrusts (e.g., Puigdefàbregas et al., 1992), detached predominantly above Upper Triassic (Séguret, 1972) and Eocene evaporites deposited in the foreland basin (Vergés et al., 1992; Sans et al., 1996). In this work, we study the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet (Fig. 1C and 2A), which emplaced from Lower to Middle Eocene using a detachment level located in the Upper Triassic Keuper facies

(Puigdefàbregas et al., 1986; Burbank et al., 1992a). The emplacement of this structural
unit took place under marine foreland conditions, as attested by the syn-orogenic fan
delta conglomerates of Queralt deposited at the thrust front (Vergés, 1993).

The complete stratigraphy of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet constitutes a 120 121 sedimentary wedge of up to 2400 m in the northern imbricate and less than 500 m in the frontalmost thrust nappes (Vergés 1993; Fig. 1C). This stratigraphy ranges in age 122 between the Upper Triassic and the Oligocene and consists of pre- to syn-orogenic 123 124 sedimentary rocks (Fig. 2B). Pre-compressive stratigraphy consists of evaporites and red clays from the Keuper facies, Jurassic limestones and dolostones from the Bonansa 125 126 Formation and Coniacian to Lower Santonian limestones from the Sant Corneli Formation (Mey et al., 1968; Simó, 1985; Calvet et al., 1993). Syn-orogenic deposits 127 128 comprise Late Cretaceous, Eocene and Oligocene detrital rocks. Late Cretaceous rocks 129 comprise upper Santonian to Campanian marine sandstones and limestones from the Vallcarga Formation, Campanian-Maastrichtian coastal deposits of the Areny Formation 130 and Maastrichtian-Thanetian continental deposits from the Garumnian (Moeri, 1977; 131 López-Martínez et al., 1999; Rosell et al., 2001; Oms et al., 2007). Eocene rocks 132 133 comprise lower Ypresian limestones from the Cadí Formation, the upper Ypresian to Lutetian marine conglomerates of Queralt, and middle Lutetian to Bartonian 134 conglomerates of the Coubet Formation (Solé Sugrañes and Clavell, 1973). Eccene-135 136 Oligocene continental conglomerates deposited during the reactivation of the northern margin of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet (Vergés, 1993). 137

138 139

#### 3. Methodology

Five localities (Q, G1, PEG, G2 and EST) located in the southern (Q, G1) and the northern (G2, EST) margins and in the internal nappes forming the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet (PEG) were chosen to study the structural controls on fluid flow during the development of this structure (Fig. 2).

Bedding and fractures were measured in the field, and their crosscutting relationships 144 were recorded. The fracture analysis was carried out using the program Win-Tensor 145 146 (v5.8.8.) (Delvaux and Sperner, 2003). Restoration of fracture data and associated stress 147 orientations with respect to their adjacent bedding has been done using the same software. Each fracture system is plotted in Lower hemisphere Schmidt stereoplots, and 148 149 their associated stresses are also calculated with the same software. Additionally, sampling of 58 fracture-filling calcite cement and related host rocks was undertaken for 150 151 petrographic observations and geochemical analyses.

Petrographic observations of 57 polished thin sections made from six different host rocks and eight types of fracture-filling calcite cement were made using optical and cathodoluminescence microscopy. A CL Technosyn cathodoluminescence device Model 8200 MkII at 15-18 kV operating conditions and 350 µA gun current was used to distinguish the different types of cement.

157 The U-Pb dating method was applied to determine the absolute timing of fluid migration and fracturing. This method is similar to that previously described by Ring and Gerdes 158 (2016) and Burisch et al. (2017). U-Pb dates were acquired using laser ablation-159 160 inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-ICPMS) at FIERCE (Frankfurt Isotope and Element Research Center, Goethe Universität), applying a modified method 161 of Gerdes and Zeh (2006, 2009). A ThermoScientific Element XR sector field ICPMS 162 was coupled to a RESOlution 193nm ArF excimer laser (COMpexPro 102) equipped with 163 164 a two-volume ablation cell (Laurin Technic S155). Samples were ablated in a helium atmosphere (300 mL/min) and mixed in the ablation funnel with 1100 mL/min argon and 165 166 5 mL/min nitrogen. Signal strength at the ICP-MS was tuned for maximum sensitivity, whereas keeping the oxide formation (monitored as <sup>248</sup>ThO/<sup>232</sup>Th) below 0.2% and no 167 168 fractionation of the Th/U ratio. Static ablation used a spot size of 213 µm and a fluency 169 of about 2 J/cm at 12 Hz. For NIST SRM 614 this yielded a depth penetration of ~0.6 µm/s and an average sensitivity of 380,000 cps/µg for <sup>238</sup>U. The detection limit for <sup>206</sup>Pb 170

and <sup>238</sup>U was ~0.2 and 0.03 ppb, respectively. Data were acquired in fully automated 171 172 mode overnight in three sequences of 598 analyses each. Each analysis consisted of 18 173 s of background acquisition followed by 18 s of sample ablation and 25 s of washout. During 36 s of data acquisition, the signal of <sup>206</sup>Pb, <sup>207</sup>Pb, <sup>208</sup>Pb, <sup>232</sup>Th, and <sup>238</sup>U was 174 detected by peak jumping in pulse-counting and analog mode with a total integration time 175 176 of ~0.1s, resulting in 370 mass scans. Prior to analysis, each spot was pre-ablated with 8 laser pulses to remove surface contamination. Soda-lime glass NIST SRM 614 was 177 178 used as a primary reference together with three carbonate reference materials, which 179 were bracketed in between the analysis of samples (see Table S4 for validation results). Raw data were corrected offline using an in-house VBA spreadsheet program (Gerdes 180 and Zeh, 2006, 2009). Following background correction, outliers ( $\pm 2\sigma$ ) were rejected 181 based on the time-resolved <sup>207</sup>Pb/<sup>206</sup>Pb and <sup>206</sup>Pb/<sup>238</sup>U ratios. The mean <sup>207</sup>Pb/<sup>206</sup>Pb ratio 182 of each analysis was corrected for mass bias 0.3% and the <sup>206</sup>Pb/<sup>238</sup>U ratio for inter-183 element fractionation (~5%), including drift over the sequence time, using SRM 614. Due 184 185 to the carbonate matrix, additional offset factors were applied (sequence 1: 1.06, 186 sequence 2: 0.96 and sequence 3: 1.10), which were determined using WC-1 carbonate reference material (Roberts et al., 2017). The <sup>206</sup>Pb/<sup>238</sup>U fractionation during 20s depth 187 188 profiling was estimated to be 3%, based on the common Pb corrected WC-1 analyses, 189 and was applied as an external correction to all carbonate analyses. Uncertainties were 190 calculated by quadratic addition of the standard deviation of the mean of the considered 191 isotopic ratios, the counting statistic uncertainties of each isotope, the uncertainty of the 192 primary reference material after drift correction, and the decay constants uncertainties. 193 The mean square of weighted deviates (MSWD) for the WC-1 lower intercept age of 194 each analytical session was about 0.52 to 1.50. Thus, no carbonate matrix-related 195 excess of variance was included in the uncertainty propagation. Reference material ASH15 (3.085 ± 0.044 and 3.005 ± 0.026 Ma; Vaks et al., 2003) was measured. In 196 197 addition, a stromatolitic limestone from the Cambrian-Precambrian boundary in South-Namibia (here called NAMA) was analysed, and used as a secondary in-house RM for 198

quality control (obtained ages agree with the U/Pb zircon age of 540.1  $\pm$  0.1 Ma from the directly overlying ash layer, Spitskopf formation; Linnemann et al. 2018). Altogether the data imply an accuracy and repeatability of the method of ~2%. The analytical results are presented in Tables S3 and S4. Data were plotted in Tera-Wasserburg diagrams and ages were calculated as lower intercepts using Isoplot 3.71 (Ludwig, 2009). All uncertainties are reported at the 2 $\sigma$  level.

205 For carbon and oxygen stable isotope analysis of calcite cement and carbonate host 206 rocks, a 400 µm-thick dental drill was employed to extract 60 ± 10 µg of carbonate 207 powder from trims. The calcite powder was reacted with 100% phosphoric acid for 2 208 minutes at 70 °C. The resultant CO<sub>2</sub> was analysed using an automated Kiel Carbonate Device attached to a Thermal Ionization Mass Spectrometer Thermo Electron (Finnigan) 209 210 MAT-252 following the method of McCrea (1950). The International Standard NBS-18 211 and the internal standard RC-1, traceable to the International Standard NBS-19, were 212 used for calibration. The results were corrected using the standard technique from Craig and Gordon (1965) and Claypool et al. (1980), expressed in ‰ with respect to the VPDB 213 (Vienna Pee Dee Belemnite) standard. Standard deviation is  $\pm 0.02$  ‰ for  $\delta^{13}$ C and  $\pm$ 214 0.05 % for  $\delta^{18}$ O. 215

216 Clumped isotope thermometry was applied to two fracture-filling calcites to calculate 217 temperatures of cement precipitation as well as the  $\delta^{18}$ O values of the fluids from which 218 calcite cement precipitated. The two analysed samples (Q2 and Q24) are representative of calcite cement Cc3 and Cc6. To analyse them, 2-3 mg aliquots from each cement 219 220 were measured with the Imperial Batch Extraction system (IBEX), an automated line 221 developed at Imperial College of London. Each sample was dropped in 105% phosphoric 222 acid at 90 °C and reacted for 30 min. The reactant CO<sub>2</sub> was separated using a poropak-223 Q column and transferred into the elbows of a Thermo Scientific MAT 253 mass 224 spectrometer (Thermo Fisher GmbH, Bremen, Germany). The characterization of a 225 replicate consisted of 8 acquisitions in dual inlet mode with 7 cycles per acquisition. The

post-acquisition processing was completed with a software for clumped isotope analysis 226 named Easotope (John and Bowen, 2016).  $\Delta_{47}$  values were corrected for isotope 227 228 fractionation during phosphoric acid digestion employing a phosphoric acid correction of 229 0.069 ‰ at 90 °C for calcite (Guo et al., 2009). The data were also corrected for non-230 linearity applying the heated gas method (Huntington et al., 2009) and projected into the absolute reference frame of Dennis et al. (2011). Carbonate  $\delta^{18}$ O values were calculated 231 232 with the acid fractionation factors of Kim et al. (1997). Samples were measured three 233 times and the average result was converted to temperatures using the calibration method 234 of Davies and John, (2019). Calculated  $\delta^{18}$ O values of the fluid are expressed in ‰ with respect to the VSMOW standard (Vienna Standard Mean Ocean Water). 235

One sample of host limestones and three types of fracture-filling calcites were analysed 236 237 for <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr isotopes. 100% carbonate samples are dissolved in 5 ml of 10% acetic acid and introduced in an ultrasonic bath for 15 minutes. After this time, samples are dried 238 after being centrifuged during 10 min at 4000 rpm. The remaining sample is digested in 239 240 1 ml of 3 M HNO<sub>3</sub> and dried. Finally, the resultant product is digested again in 3 ml of 3 241 M HNO<sub>3</sub> and introduced in chromatographic columns. The chromatographic separation 242 of Sr was done using an extraction resin type SrResinTM (Trisken International) (crown-243 ether (4.4' (5')-di-t-butylcyclohexano-18-crown-6). The Sr is recovered with HNO<sub>3</sub> 0.05 244 M as eluent. The fraction where Sr is concentrated is dried, charged on a Re single 245 filament with 1  $\mu$ l of H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> 1 M and 2  $\mu$ l of Ta<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and analysed on a TIMS-Phoenix mass 246 spectrometer. The method of acquisition of data consists of dynamic multicollection 247 during 10 blocks of 16 cycles each one, with a beam intensity for the <sup>88</sup>Sr mass of 3 V. 248 Analyses were corrected for possible interferences of <sup>87</sup>Rb. The <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios are 249 normalized with respect to the measured mean value of the ratio <sup>86</sup>Sr/<sup>88</sup>Sr=0.1194 in 250 order to correct possible mass fractionation during filament charge and instrumental analyses. During sample analysis, the isotopic standard NBS-987 was measured seven 251 252 times obtaining a mean value of 0.710247 and a standard deviation  $2\sigma$  of 0.000008.

These values have been used for the correction of the analysed values in the samples. The precision of the analytical standard error or internal precision is 0.000009. The analytical errors referred to  $2\sigma$  confidence levels in the <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratio are 0.000003.

256 Carbon-coated polished thin sections were used to analyse major, minor, and trace 257 element concentrations on a CAMECA SX-50 electron microprobe. The microprobe was 258 operated using 20 kV of excitation potential, 15 nA of current intensity and a beam 259 diameter of 10 µm. Analytical standards included natural silicates, carbonates and oxides 260 as follows: calcite (Ca), dolomite (Mg), Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (Fe), rhodonite (Mn) and Celestite (Sr). The detection limits were 135 ppm for Mn, 127 ppm for Fe, 101 ppm for Ca, 146 ppm for 261 262 Na, 180 ppm for Mg, and 390 ppm for Sr. Precision on major element analyses averaged 0.64% standard error at  $2\sigma$  confidence levels. 263

#### **4. Results**

#### 265 4.1. Locality description

The five studied localities (Q, G1, PEG, G2 and EST, from south to north) belong to the thrust system in the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet (Fig. 1B and 2A). Fracture data interpretation and sampling were carried out in representative localities of each exposed thrust nappe.

The locality Q corresponds to the frontal part of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet, one km to the north of Berga city (Fig. 2A). The general structure of this locality consists of three imbricated thrust sheets constituted by the Upper Cretaceous Areny Formation and the Palaeocene Garumnian red beds (Fig. 1C). To the south, the front of the thrust system is unconformably overlain by the upper Ypresian to lower Lutetian conglomerates of Queralt, which define a growth strata. The syn-tectonic conglomerates of Queralt are unconformably overlain by the conglomerates of the Coubet Formation.

Localities G1 and PEG are located 3 km to the N and 10 km to the NW from Berga city,
along the frontal region of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet (Fig. 1C and 2A). In locality

G1, the hangingwall of the thrust is constituted of the Upper Triassic Keuper facies, which gradually change upwards to the Lower Jurassic Bonansa Formation. These are unconformably overlain by the Upper Cretaceous Vallcarga Formation. The footwall of the thrust in locality G1 is formed by the Upper Cretaceous Vallcarga Formation. In the locality PEG, a thrust fault cuts across Palaeocene Garumnian limestones in both hangingwall and footwall (Fig. 1C and 2A).

285 The locality G2 is located in the northernmost part of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet, 1 km to the S of Bagà village (Fig. 1 and 2A). In this area the entire Lower Pedraforca 286 thrust sheet is folded, during the younger emplacement of the Cadí thrust sheet, and 287 dips south forming the northern flank of the Ripoll syncline (Fig. 1C). The locality G2 is 288 located along the basal thrust of the Lower Pedraforca limiting with the underlying Cadí 289 290 thrust sheet. The hanging wall of the basal thrust is formed by Upper Triassic Keuper facies overlain by Lower Jurassic limestones, whereas the footwall is constituted by 291 292 middle Eocene Campdevànol Formation.

Finally, the locality EST is located 3 km to the NE of Gósol village (Fig. 1 and 2A). It consists of Oligocene conglomerates deposited along the northern sector of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet once eroded and latter thrusted to north during the thrust reactivation during progressive folding. These conglomerates are unconformably overlying the middle Eocene Armàncies Formation, belonging to the Cadí thrust sheet (Fig. 2B).

299 4.2. Host rocks

The Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet is constituted by a thick Jurassic, Upper Cretaceous,
Palaeocene, Eocene, and Oligocene sedimentary successions.

The Jurassic Bonansa Formation consists of mudstones without skeletal components and with millimetre-thick sub-horizontal lamination. The Upper Cretaceous host rocks include the marine Vallcarga and Areny Formations. The Vallcarga Formation is formed

of grainstones with up to 10% of detrital quartz. Microfauna includes Orbitoides and 305 Hemicyclammina, indicating a late Santonian age (Pons and Caus, 1996). The Areny 306 307 Formation is mainly composed of grainstones of peloids, miliolids and bryozoan and 308 echinoid fragments and changes northwards to wackestones of gastropods and algae 309 and scleractinian coral fragments. The Palaeocene Garumnian facies consist of 310 continental detrital and carbonate rocks. Detrital rocks include red clays with orange and purple colorations, with abundant Microcodium that occasionally replaces the whole rock 311 312 and suffer dissolution processes, as well as fine-grained sandstones formed of quartz (~10%) and carbonate clasts (~80-90%). These sandstones have an excellent sorting 313 and are well-cemented. Regarding the Garumnian carbonate deposits, they are grey-314 315 brown mudstones and wackestones with charophytes. Middle Eocene syn-orogenic 316 sediments deposited in the Lower Pedraforca thrust front are formed of well-cemented, 317 medium-grained grey sandstones with a good sorting. Detrital components consist of Microcodium fragments from the Garumnian (~5-10%), limestone clasts (~70%), guartz 318 319 (~10%), and Nummulites (~10%). Oligocene conglomerates are formed of centimetre-320 to metre-scale carbonate clasts supported by a matrix constituted of well-cemented and 321 coarse-grained sandstones with a good sorting. Detrital components of the matrix are 322 lithics derived from carbonates (>60%) and metamorphic rocks and quartz.

#### 323 4.3. Fracture analysis

The Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet was affected by up to seven fracture sets (F1 to F7) summarized in chronological order in Fig. 3. Fracture classification has been done according to the type of fracture, crosscutting relationships, angular relationships with bedding and U-Pb dating of fracture-filling calcite cement (U-Pb dates will be described in detail in the geochemistry section).

After their restoration with respect to bedding, fracture set F1 consists of E-W stratabound normal faults affecting the Upper Cretaceous Areny Formation and Middle Eocene syn-orogenic sediments deposited in the thrust front (Fig. 3). These faults dip

45° to 80° either towards the north or south, have a length of up to 2 m with millimetre 332 thickness and they show displacements up to 10 cm and soft, undulated grooves and 333 334 striae sets (Fig. 4A and B). These features are indicative of hydroplastic deformation as 335 defined by Petit and Beauchamp (1986) and Petit and Laville (1987) and are similar to those faults described in other areas of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet by Soliva and 336 Benedicto (2004, 2005), Soliva et al. (2006, 2008). Calculated stress orientations 337 indicate an N-S extension (Fig. 3). These fractures do not have calcite cement, although 338 339 occasionally calcite veins with reverse striae sets have been observed, resulted from a 340 later reactivation. Fracture set F1 has been observed in locality Q.

The second fracture set (F2) consists of bed-parallel slip surfaces formed occasionally at the contact between clays and more competent layers of the Areny Formation and Garumnian facies in locality Q (Figs. 3 and 4C). F2 fractures have a thickness of up to 0.5 cm and a length of a few centimetres.

Fracture set F3 consists of N-S, NNW-SSE, and NNE-SSW bed-perpendicular veins that often display en-échelon arrays (Fig. 3 and 4D and E). F3 is stratabound and show subvertical dips after restoring bedding to the horizontal. F3 shows openings of up to 2 cm and lengths of up to 30 cm. These fractures affect the Upper Cretaceous Areny Formation, the Palaeocene Garumnian facies and the Middle Eocene syn-orogenic sediments. Calculated stress orientations for F3 indicate a N-S strike-slip motion (Fig. 3). F3 has only been observed in locality Q.

Fracture set F4 is constituted of E-W, NNE-SSW, and NNW-SSE reverse fault zones and their associate veins affecting the Jurassic and Upper Cretaceous Bonansa, Areny and Vallcarga Formations (Fig. 3 and 5A). These faults dip between 15° and 75° towards the N and NW, are not stratabound, have a constant orientation regardless of bed dips, are filled with calcite and occasionally contain hydrocarbon seeps. Fault cores are formed of thick S-C zones with the development of pressure-solution cleavage (Fig. 5B) or thin discrete planes formed of up to 2 cm-thick shear veins. F4 shows lengths from a

few centimetres to tens of meters. However, in thrust faults in which thick units of Upper Triassic evaporites act as a detachment, hydraulic fracturing is observed within the most competent limestones of the footwall (Fig. 5C). These fractured areas extend tens of meters away from the fault core. The calculated stress orientation for F4 indicates an N-S (localities G1, PEG and G2) and NW-SE (locality Q) reverse motion (Fig. 3). In locality Q, some of the reserve faults formed due to the reactivation of hydroplastic normal faults F1.

366 The fifth fracture set (F5) consists of N-S, NW-SE, NNW-SSE, and NE-SW strike-slip faults dipping between 45° and 90° that affect Upper Triassic, Jurassic, Upper 367 Cretaceous, and Palaeocene rocks. Fault planes are discrete, formed of shear veins with 368 369 a thickness of up to 2 cm and show striae sets indicating dextral and sinistral motion (Fig. 370 3 and 5D). F5 faults have lengths of up to 5 metres. Calculated stress orientations for F5 371 indicate NW-SE, N-S, and NE-SW strike-slip motion in localities Q, G1, G2, and EST, 372 respectively (Fig. 3). Like F4, strike-slip faults have a constant angle regardless of bed dip. 373

Fractures F6 consists of 1 cm-wide and up to 5 cm-long N-S sub-vertical veins observed occasionally in thrust fault zones of the locality G1 (Fig. 3). These fractures affect folded Jurassic strata at a constant angle, indicating their late-folding formation. The stress orientation for F6 indicates NNW-SSE strike-slip motion (Fig. 3).

Fracture set F7 consists of normal faults affecting the Oligocene conglomerates related to the reactivation of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet studied in locality EST (Fig. 5E). These faults have an NNW-SSE strike, a dip between 60° and 80° either towards the SW and NE and show fault displacements from 1 to 2 m (Fig. 3). Fault planes are discrete, formed of up to 2 cm-thick extensional veins, and show lengths of up to 20 metres. Calculated stress orientations for F7 indicate an ENE-WSW extension.

#### 384 4.4. Petrography

From petrographic observations and U-Pb geochronology, eight types of calcite cement filling fracture, vug and moldic porosity (Cc1 to Cc8 in chronological order) and two sets of stylolites (St1 and St2) have been identified in the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet. Their main features and crosscutting relationships are summarized in Figs. 3, 6, and 7. Some of the collected samples are located in Fig. 5 for reference.

390 Calcite cement Cc1 and Cc2 are not fracture-related. Cc1 consists of non-luminescent microsparite precipitated in the intergranular and moldic porosity of grainstones from the 391 392 Areny and Vallcarga Formations in localities Q and G1, respectively (Fig. 6A and B). Cc2 consists of blocky calcite crystals of more than 1 mm in size. This cement is non-393 394 luminescent and precipitated in vug porosity affecting the Garumnian facies in locality Q 395 and in the intergranular porosity of breccias within the Jurassic limestones in locality G1 396 (Fig. 7). Cc3 precipitated in F2 and F3 fractures and vug porosity postdating Cc1 and 397 Cc2 in locality Q (Fig. 6A, B, and 7). This cement is orange luminescent and consists of 398 blocky calcite crystals ranging from 100 to 300 µm and fibrous calcite crystals parallel to 399 fracture walls varying from 200 µm to 2 mm in length. Blocky crystals have been 400 observed filling rhomb-shaped veinlets formed by crack-seal mechanism in F2 fractures. 401 Cc4 consists of blocky and bladed crystals ranging between 250 µm and 2 mm and 402 between 300 µm and 1 mm in length, respectively. This cement is dull-orange to orange 403 luminescent and precipitated in reactivated F1 fractures and in F3 veins affecting Eocene 404 syn-orogenic sediments in locality Q (Fig. 7). Cc5 consists of sparite crystals ranging 405 from 100 to 700 µm. This cement is zoned, from non-luminescent to dull orange and 406 precipitated in vug porosities within the Areny Formation and in some F4 fractures 407 postdating the previous cement in locality Q (Fig. 6A and B). Cc6 consists of blocky 408 microsparite and from 200 µm to 2 mm fibrous crystals arranged parallel and oblique to fracture walls. Blocky sparite has been also observed filling rhomb-shaped veinlets 409 410 formed by crack-seal mechanism (Fig. 6C and D). Cc6 is dull-brown luminescent and

precipitated in vug porosities within the Areny Formation and in F4 and F5 fractures 411 postdating Cc2 and Cc5 (Fig. 7). Cc6 has been observed in localities Q, G1, G2, and 412 413 PEG. Cc7 consists of locally zoned blocky calcite crystals ranging from 100 µm to 1mm 414 and up to 1 mm fibrous crystals arranged perpendicular to fracture walls (Fig.7). This cement is dull to bright orange and precipitated in F6 fractures. Cc7 has only been 415 observed in locality G1. Calcite cement Cc8 consists of blocky crystals ranging from 500 416 µm to more than 2 mm in size and shows orange luminescence (Fig. 6E and F). Cc8 has 417 418 been only observed within normal faults F7 in locality EST.

Stylolites St1 consist of a set of bed-parallel stylolites affecting preferentially mudstones 419 from the Jurassic Bonansa Formation and the Palaeocene Garumnian (Fig. 7). St1 are 420 421 postdated by Cc3 precipitated in F3 veins and have been observed in Q, G1 and G2 422 localities (Fig. 3). St2 stylolites are arranged both parallel and perpendicular to the walls of F4 and F5 fractures containing Cc6. St2 stylolites occasionally affect internally Cc6 423 and occur at the contacts between this cement and its adjacent carbonate host rocks 424 425 (Figs. 3 and 7). Close to F4 fractures, host carbonates display stylobreccia fabrics in 426 Garumnian mudstones from locality PEG. Crosscutting relationships with Cc7 have not been observed. St2 stylolites have been observed in localities Q, G1, G2 and PEG. 427

428 4.5. Geochemistry

429 4.5.1. U-Pb geochronology

U-Pb dating was applied successfully to calcite cement Cc3, Cc4, Cc6, Cc7, and Cc8.
The results are presented in Table 1 and Fig. 3. Concordia graphs and analytical data
are presented in Table S1 and Fig. S1 from supplementary material, respectively.

Calcite cement Cc3, Cc4, Cc6, and Cc7 yielded Lutetian ages. For Cc3, dates of  $47.3 \pm$ 1 and  $45.7 \pm 1.9$  Ma were obtained. However, the youngest date has a mean squared weighted deviate (MSWD) higher than 2, indicating either a mixing of dates, an underestimated analytical error, minor open-system behaviour, or an incomplete initial equilibration of the Pb isotopes (Rasbury and Cole, 2009). Consequently, this date must be interpreted with some caution. Cc4 has U-Pb dates of  $47.9 \pm 1.3$  and  $44.8 \pm 1.4$  Ma. For Cc6, U-Pb dates of  $47.2 \pm 0.7$  Ma and  $45.1 \pm 1.2$  were obtained, whereas Cc7 yielded two younger dates of  $42.9 \pm 0.9$  and  $42.3 \pm 0.8$  Ma. Finally, for Cc8, an Oligocene U-Pb date of  $30.2 \pm 2$  Ma was obtained.

442 4.5.2. Carbon and oxygen stable isotopes

The carbon and oxygen stable isotopic composition of carbonate host rocks and calcite cement within the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet is presented in Fig. 8A and Table S2. The comparison between  $\delta^{18}$ O of the sampled calcite cement and their adjacent host carbonates is shown in Fig. 8B.

447 Lower Jurassic marine limestones have  $\delta^{13}$ C ranging from -6.06 to +4 ‰ VPDB and  $\delta^{18}$ O 448 between -5.2 and -3.6 ‰ VPDB (Fig. 8A). Marine carbonates from the Upper Cretaceous Vallcarga Formation have values between +2.1 and +2.5 % VPDB and  $\delta^{18}$ O between -449 450 4.1 and -3.1 ‰ VPDB (Fig. 8A). Marine carbonates from the Upper Cretaceous Areny Formation have  $\delta^{13}$ C between +1.5 and +1.7 ‰ VPDB and  $\delta^{18}$ O between -4.5 and -3.2 451 452 ‰ VPDB (Fig. 8). Palaeocene palustrine limestones have  $\delta^{13}$ C between -17.5 and -3.7 ‰ VPDB and  $\delta^{18}$ O between -8.2 and -4.8 ‰ VPDB (Fig. 8A). A carbonate clast from 453 Oligocene conglomerates has a  $\delta^{13}$ C of +1.1 ‰ VPDB and a  $\delta^{18}$ O of -2.8 ‰ VPDB (Fig. 454 8A). 455

456 Calcite cement Cc1 to Cc5 show  $\delta^{13}$ C and  $\delta^{18}$ O values similar to their adjacent host rocks (Fig. 8B). Cc1 has  $\delta^{13}$ C of +1.5 ‰ VPDB and  $\delta^{18}$ O of -5.2 ‰ VPDB (Fig. 8A). Cc2 has 457 458  $\delta^{13}C$  values between -10.1 and -6.6 % VPDB and  $\delta^{18}O$  values between -6.5 and -5 %VPDB (Fig. 8A). For Cc3, the  $\delta^{13}$ C ranges between -10.8 and -0.4 ‰ VPDB and the  $\delta^{18}$ O 459 ranges between -6.4 and -3.9 ‰ VPDB (Fig. 8A). Cc4 has δ<sup>13</sup>C values between -5.9 and 460 -3.7 ‰ VPDB and  $\delta^{18}$ O between -6.9 and -2.6 ‰ VPDB and Cc5 has  $\delta^{13}$ C values 461 462 between +0.8 and +1.6 % VPDB and  $\delta^{18}$ O ranging between -5.7 and -4.4 % VPDB (Fig. 463 8A).

464 Calcite cement Cc6 to Cc8 show depleted  $\delta^{18}$ O values with respect their adjacent host 465 rocks (Fig. 8B). For Cc6, the  $\delta^{13}$ C ranges between -8.9 and +3.7 % VPDB and the  $\delta^{18}$ O 466 between -10.7 and -5.8 % VPDB (Fig.8A). Cc7 has  $\delta^{13}$ C values between -1.73 and -0.94 467 % VPDB and  $\delta^{18}$ O ranging between -11.3 and -9.58 % VPDB (Fig. 8A). The  $\delta^{13}$ C for 468 Cc8 ranges between -0.3 and -0.2 % VPDB and the  $\delta^{18}$ O between -7.3 and -6.2 % VPDB 469 (Fig.8A).

470 *4.5.3. Clumped isotopes thermometry* 

For this study, clumped isotopes thermometry has been applied to calcite cement Cc3 and Cc6. The results are presented in a  $\delta^{18}O_{\text{fluid}}$  vs clumped temperature cross-plot (Fig. 9) and in Table 2.  $\delta^{18}O_{\text{fluid}}$  in ‰ VSMOW of fluids are calculated from clumped temperatures using the equation of Friedman and O'Neil (1977).

- For Cc3, the  $\Delta_{47}$  is 0.579 ± 0.011 ‰, which translates into a temperature of 69.1 ± 5.3 °C and a  $\delta^{18}O_{\text{fluid}}$  of +5.4 ± 0.9 ‰ VSMOW. The analysed  $\Delta_{47}$  for Cc6 is 0.579 ± 0.008 ‰, which translates into a temperature of 74.2 ± 4 °C and a  $\delta^{18}O_{\text{fluid}}$  of +5.1 ± 0.7 ‰ VSMOW.
- 478 *4.5.4.* Strontium isotopes

The Areny Formation limestone has an <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratio of 0.707841 (Fig.9, Table S3). Only calcite cement Cc3, Cc5, and Cc6 could be sampled, obtaining <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios of 0.707922, 0.708230, and 0.707817, respectively (Fig.10, Table S3).

482 4.5.5. Elemental composition

The Fe, Mg, Sr, and Mn contents and Ca/Fe and Mg/Ca molar ratios of calcite cement
Cc1, Cc3, Cc4, Cc5, and Cc6 are presented in table S4.

The elemental composition of calcite cement Cc1 shows values ranging from 172 to 1940 ppm in Fe and from 1096 to 6925 ppm in Mg, Sr, and Mn contents range from below the detection limit to 3592 and 361 ppm, respectively. Calcite cement Cc3 has values ranging from below the detection limit to 548 ppm in Fe and from 289 to 4169 ppm in Mg. The Sr and Mn contents range from below the detection limit to 879 and 477 ppm, 490 respectively. In calcite cement Cc4, the Fe content is below the detection limit, whereas 491 Mg shows values ranging from 801 to 4560 ppm. The Sr and Mn contents range from 492 below the detection limit to 275 and 384 ppm, respectively. For calcite cement Cc5, Mg 493 content ranges from 672 to 2765 ppm and the Fe, Sr and Mn contents range from below 494 the detection limit to 3028, 1851, and 365 ppm, respectively. The Mg content of calcite 495 cement Cc6 range from 679 to 4353 ppm whereas its Fe, Sr and Mn contents range from 496 below the detection limit to 3021, 656, and 362 ppm, respectively.

The elemental composition of cement Cc1, Cc3, Cc4, Cc5 and Cc6 shows a good Mg/Fe and Mn/Fe correlation and a bad correlation with the Sr content. The distribution of the Mg/Fe and Mn/Fe results shows two different fields (Fig. 11A and B). The first field (light grey) includes calcite cement Cc1 and Cc3 and shows a wide range of Mg and Mn content and narrow range of Fe content, whereas the second one (dark grey) includes cement Cc5 and Cc6 and shows a wide range of Fe content and narrow range of Mg and Mn content.

Although the elemental composition in natural carbonates does not always reflect 504 505 equilibrium partitioning (Reeder and Grams, 1987; Paquette and Reeder, 1995), 506 precipitation in equilibrium is assumed in this study to differentiate between different 507 types of fluids from which the studied calcites precipitated. Thus, molar ratios between Ca and Fe, Sr, Mn and Mg were calculated for Cc1, Cc3, Cc4, Cc5, and Cc6 since their 508 509 values yield an estimation of the compositions of the former fluid (Table 3). Molar ratios were calculated using the formula of McIntire (1963) and using K<sub>Mq</sub>=0.097 at 70 °C (Katz, 510 1973), K<sub>Fe</sub>=5 at 25 °C (Tucker and Wright, 1990), K<sub>Mn</sub>=8 at 25° C (Lorens, 1981), 511 K<sub>sr</sub>=0.08 at 100°C (Kinsman, 1969). The Ca/Fe molar ratio of cement Cc1, Cc3, Cc5 and 512 513 Cc6 ranges from 1390 to 15903, from 4963 to 19934, from 836 to 6993 and from 880 to 514 3912, respectively. The Mg/Ca molar ratio ranges from 0.047 to 0.304 for Cc1, from 0.069 to 0.18 for Cc3, from 0.034 to 0.197 for Cc4, from 0.03 to 0.121 for Cc5 and from 515 516 0.044 to 0.195 for Cc6. The Ca/Fe and Mg/Ca ratios are plotted in Fig. 11C. The Sr/Ca

molar ratios of cement Cc1, Cc3, Cc4, Cc5 and Cc6 range from 0.006 to 0.052, from
0.006 to 0.013, from 0.007 to 0.02, from 0.0052 to 0.027 and from 0.006 to 0.019,
respectively. The Mn/Ca ratios range from 0.000032 to 0.000085 for Cc1, from 0.000032
to 0.00011 for Cc3, from 0.000033 to 0.000091 for Cc4, from 0.00025 to 0.000086 for
Cc5 and from 0.000023 to 0.000083 for Cc6.

#### 522 **5. Discussion**

523 5.1. Timing of fracture development

524 The sequence of fractures F1 to F7 documented in this work characterizes the evolution 525 of deformation of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet.

The hydroplastic behaviour of F1 normal faults indicate that they were formed when the sediments were still poorly consolidated (Petit and Beauchamp,1986; Petit and Laville, 1987) and therefore, at shallow depths soon after deposition of the Upper Cretaceous Areny Formation and Middle Eocene syn-orogenic sediments. Similar fracture patterns also affecting the Areny Formation have been observed in other areas of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet (Soliva and Benedicto, 2004, 2005; Soliva et al., 2006, 2008) (Fig. 2A).

Fractures F2, F3, F4 and F6 have been dated using U-Pb geochronology of calcite 533 534 cement Cc3, Cc4, Cc6 and Cc7. The obtained ages (from  $47.9 \pm 1.3$  Ma to  $42.3 \pm 0.8$ 535 Ma) indicate that these fractures formed during the emplacement of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet during the Lutetian. Furthermore, crosscutting relationships 536 537 between fractures and bedding allow differentiating stages of deformation during this 538 emplacement. Thus, fracture systems F2 and F3 arranged parallel and perpendicular to 539 bedding, respectively, probably formed at the same stage of deformation since they both 540 contain calcite cement Cc3 (from  $47.3 \pm 1$  Ma to  $45.7 \pm 1.9$  Ma). These fracture systems 541 formed during layer-parallel shortening, and are associated to the first stages of

compression in many fold and thrust belts (Casini et al., 2011; Tavani et al., 2015). 542 Fracture systems F4, F5, and F6 have a constant orientation regardless of the beds dip, 543 544 indicating that they formed during the main or late stages of folding, once strata were 545 already tilted (Casini et al., 2011). Considering crosscutting relationships between the different types of calcite cement (Fig. 7), F4 containing Cc5 probably formed prior to F5 546 547 containing Cc6. Contrarily, F4 containing Cc6 and F5 formed at the same time since they contain the same type of calcite cement (from  $47.2 \pm 0.7$  Ma to  $45.1 \pm 1.2$  Ma). The 548 549 presence in the thrust front of hydroplastic normal faults F1 with Cc6 and striae sets 550 showing a reverse motion indicate that they were reactivated during this stage. This reactivation has also been observed in other areas of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet 551 (Fig. 2A), where they show oblique and strike-slip striae sets (Soliva and Benedicto, 552 2004, 2005). F1 hydroplastic normal faults were reactivated probably to accommodate 553 tilting and changes in the orientation during folding due to a tectonically-induced fluid 554 555 pressure increase or because they represent a weak surface that facilitates reactivation 556 (Letouzey et al., 1990; Sibson, 1995; Aydin, 2000; Wiprut and Zoback, 2000; Chi et al., 2012; Cobbold et al., 2013; Rutqvist et al., 2013; Soumaya et al., 2015; Wisseall et al., 557 558 2018). The presence of hydraulic breccias in thrust fault zones and normal faults tilted to 559 low angles, or 0°, can be accounted for by a combination of both processes. U-Pb dates 560 of  $42.9 \pm 0.9$  Ma and  $42.3 \pm 0.8$  Ma obtained for calcite cement Cc7 in fractures F6 reveal 561 that these fractures formed after F4 and F5.

Normal faults F7 affect well-cemented Eocene-Oligocene conglomerates. Their NNW-SSE orientation is not consistent with the E-W trend of the main south Pyrenean structures (Vergés and Muñoz, 1990). The U-Pb age obtained for cement Cc8 precipitated in F7 ( $30.2 \pm 2$  Ma) suggests that their formation could be related to an E-W local extension affecting the Eocene-Oligocene conglomerates, which were deposited during the reactivation of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet (Vergés, 1993).

568 5.2. Evolution of the palaeohydrological system

569 The evolution of the palaeohydrological system through time within the Lower Pedraforca 570 thrust sheet is inferred from the geochemical data of calcite cement Cc1 to Cc8.

571 The  $\delta^{13}$ C of most of the studied calcite cement is similar to their adjacent host rocks, 572 indicating a high interaction between fluids and host rocks (Fig. 8). This similarity is not 573 observed for Cc2 in locality G1, thus indicating the influence of soil-derived CO<sub>2</sub> or 574 oxidation of organic matter within the host rocks (Irwin et al., 1977; Cerling et al., 1989). 575 In the same locality, cement Cc6 postdating Cc2 is also in disequilibrium with their 576 adjacent host rock whereas it has similar  $\delta^{13}$ C to that of Cc2 (Fig. 8). This could indicate 577 that the  $\delta^{13}$ C of fluids from which Cc6 precipitated locally reequilibrated with Cc2 instead 578 of with the host carbonates. The  $\delta^{13}$ C and  $\delta^{18}$ O of Cc2 suggest that this cement probably 579 precipitated from meteoric waters (Veizer and Hoefs, 1976) (Fig. 8).

Regarding to the  $\delta^{18}$ O, values for calcite cement Cc1 to Cc5 are similar to their host 580 581 carbonates (Fig. 8). This could indicate a relatively closed palaeohydrological system, in 582 which fluid-host rock interaction was high enough to equilibrate the  $\delta^{18}$ O of the host carbonates with that of the fluid (Banner and Hanson, 1990) but not high enough to 583 modify the  $\delta^{13}$ C signature of the host rock, as evidenced by the wide spread of values 584 for each cement (Fig. 8). This different behaviour of the  $\delta^{18}$ O and  $\delta^{13}$ C may be related to 585 586 the different concentrations of these isotopic species in the host rock, which require 587 different fluid/rock ratios to be reequilibrated with fluids (Banner and Hanson, 1990). For 588 calcite cement Cc6, Cc7 and Cc8, however, the  $\delta^{18}$ O is progressively more depleted with respect to their adjacent host carbonates, suggesting an opening of the 589 590 palaeohydrological system or higher temperature conditions during calcite precipitation (Fig. 8). In this setting, and in opposition with that for Cc1 to Cc5 calcite cement, fluid-591 host rock interaction was not sufficient to re-equilibrate the  $\delta^{18}$ O of host rocks with that 592 593 of fluids due to a lower water/host rock ratio. The opening of the palaeohydrological

system could have been favoured by the development of fractures F4 to F7, which have 594 a major length and width than that of F2 and F3. The development of longer and wider 595 596 fractures increased the reservoir permeability and facilitated the opening of the system 597 to external fluids and the decrease the water/host interaction (Travé et al., 2000; Hurai et al., 2015; Muñoz-López et al., 2020). The depletion in  $\delta^{18}$ O of Cc6, Cc7, and Cc8 with 598 599 respect to their host rocks could be due to the input of hotter fluids or mixing between 600 formation and more diluted meteoric waters (Zheng and Hoefs, 1993; Travé et al., 1997; 601 Immenhauser et al., 2007; Breesch et al., 2009; Vilasi, 2010; Vandeginste et al., 2012; 602 Beaudoin et al., 2014; Lacroix et al., 2014; Cruset et al., 2016; 2018; Nardini et al., 2019). 603 The presence of oil seeps trapped within Cc6 precipitated in F4 fractures also evidences 604 an open fluid system. The origin of these hydrocarbons is unclear since the main source 605 rock in the SE Pyrenees is the Armàncies Formation (Caja et al., 2006). This unit consists 606 of lower Eocene carbonates in the footwall of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet below its main Upper Triassic detachment (Fig. 1C). However, in the western continuation of 607 608 the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet, the Montsec and Serres Marginals thrust units, Early 609 Jurassic source rocks have been identified (Martínez-del Olmo, 2019). Therefore, a 610 possible Jurassic origin for oil in the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet cannot be ruled out. 611 The low δ<sup>13</sup>C value measured in one sample of Lower Jurassic limestones from locality 612 G2 (-6.06 ‰ VPDB) could account for organic matter oxidation (Irwin et al., 1977). 613 Contrarily, the  $\delta^{13}$ C of the other measured Jurassic host rocks are within the range of 614 Jurassic-Cretaceous marine carbonates (Veizer et al., 1999) (Fig. 8). In this scenario, F4 fractures, where Cc6 precipitated, may have facilitated interconnection between different 615 616 hydrostratigraphic units and the migration of hydrocarbons to shallower areas.

The two fields observed in the Mn/Fe cross-plot (Fig. 11B) also indicate the behaviour of the palaeohydrological system during fluid migration within the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet. Thus, as the distribution coefficient of Mn ( $K_{Mn}$ ) is higher than the distribution coefficient of Fe ( $K_{Fe}$ ), in a closed palaeohydrological system, the Mn content decreases

faster than the Fe content in the fluid as calcite precipitates (Dromgoole and Walter, 621 622 1990). In contrast, if Fe content decreases faster than that of Mn during calcite 623 precipitation, it will necessarily imply an open system. In the Lower Pedraforca thrust 624 sheet, calcite cement Cc1 and Cc3 fall in the field with a faster decrease in Mn than in 625 Fe (Fig. 11B), and thus, reflecting a relatively closed system and high fluid-rock 626 interaction. Contrarily, cement Cc5 and Cc6 fall in the field with a faster Fe decrease 627 than Mn and therefore, that they precipitated in a more open palaeohydrological fluid 628 system in which fluid-rock interaction was low.

629 The elemental composition of the calcite cement also records the composition of fluids migrating within the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet. The Mn/Ca and Sr/Ca molar ratios 630 of fluids from which calcite cement Cc1, Cc3, Cc4, Cc5 and Cc6 precipitated range from 631 632 0.000231 to 0.000091 for Mn/Ca and from 0.0052 to 0.0522 for Sr/Ca. These values are similar to those of calcites precipitated from formation waters (McIntire, 1963; Howson 633 et al., 1987; Tucker and Wright, 1990). The Mg/Ca and Ca/Fe ratios of calcite cement 634 635 Cc1 and Cc3 (from 0.03 to 0.304 for Mg/Ca and from 1390 to 19934 for Ca/Fe) indicate 636 the influence of marine, formation and meteoric waters (Tucker and Wright, 1990; Kolker and Chou, 1994; Steuber and Rauch, 2005; Ligi et al., 2013) (Fig. 11C), whereas in 637 638 calcite cement Cc4, Cc5 and Cc6 (from 0.03 to 0.197 for Mg/Ca and from 836 to 6993 639 for Ca/Fe) these ratios suggest the presence of meteoric and formation waters (Howson 640 et al., 1987; Tucker and Wright, 1990; Kolker and Chou, 1994). These results suggest 641 that during the evolution of the fluid system, the influence of marine waters is stronger 642 during the precipitation of cement Cc1 and Cc3, when the fluid system was relatively 643 closed (Fig. 11C). In contrast, during the precipitation of calcite cement Cc5 and Cc6, 644 the influence of meteoric waters was stronger, suggesting the opening of the fluid system 645 to these fluids (Fig. 11C).

The <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios of calcite cement Cc3 (0.707922) and Cc5 (0.708230) are higher than expected for cement precipitated from Middle Eocene seawater (McArthur et al.,

2001) and thus, fluids had to interact with a more radiogenic source. The <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratio 648 of Cc3 falls within the range of the Upper Triassic evaporites from Keuper facies (Fig. 649 650 10), indicating that fluids from which this cement precipitated probably interacted with these evaporites. An alternative interpretation would imply fluids interacting with clay 651 minerals such as illite and/or smectite (Katz and Bullen, 1996), indicated by the 87Sr/86Sr 652 653 ratio of Cc5 higher than Upper Triassic evaporites (Fig. 10). The source of these minerals 654 could be the Garumnian continental deposits. On the other hand, calcite cement Cc6 shows the lowest <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratio (0.707817, Fig. 10), which could indicate the influence 655 656 of either middle Eocene seawater or of brines from the Upper Triassic Keuper facies, which act as a detachment of the thrust system. The absence in Cc6 of any marine 657 658 influence in the Ca/Fe and Mg/Ca ratios (Fig. 11C), together with its  $\delta^{18}O_{\text{fluid}}$  of +5.1 ± 0.7 659 ‰ may support the influence of Upper Triassic evaporites rather than middle Eocene 660 seawater.

661 5.3. Relationships between deformation style and fluid flow

A conceptual model divided in five stages showing the relationships between fluid flow
and fracturing during the development of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet is presented
(Fig. 12).

During the first stage (T1, Fig. 3 and 12A), hydroplastic normal faults F1 formed soon after the deposition of the Upper Cretaceous Areny Formation at shallow conditions. During this event, there was no cement precipitation within faults, probably because faulting occurred in poorly consolidated sediments with internal heterogeneities that act as zones of low permeability (Caine and Minor, 2009; Loveless et al., 2011), or because the fluid that migrated along fractures was undersaturated with respect to calcite.

During T2 (Fig. 12B), Cc1 and Cc2 precipitated in the intergranular, moldic and vug porosities within the Jurassic Bonansa and Upper Cretaceous Areny Formations and the Palaeocene Garumnian facies. Cc1 and Cc2 probably precipitated from formation and

674 meteoric waters, respectively. These two types of cement precipitated before the 675 Lutetian shortening event related to the emplacement of the Lower Pedraforca thrust 676 sheet, as evidenced by crosscutting relationships between these types of cement and 677 cement Cc3 (Fig. 6A and B and 7). Therefore, they probably precipitated during burial 678 diagenesis of the Jurassic, Upper Cretaceous, and Palaeocene sediments. During this 679 burial stage, bed-parallel stylolites St1 formed in carbonate rocks of the Bonansa and 680 Areny Formations and Garumnian facies.

681 The Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet was emplaced during the Lutetian (stages T3 and T4). At stage T3, fractures F2 and F3 formed during layer-parallel shortening, and calcite 682 cement Cc3 and Cc4 precipitated post-dating stylolites St1 (Fig. 3 and 12C). During this 683 period, formation waters, possibly derived from Upper Triassic evaporites and in isotopic 684 685 equilibrium with adjacent Upper Cretaceous and Palaeocene host rocks, migrated along fractures in a closed system. The precipitation temperature of ~70 °C obtained for Cc3 686 687 is higher than expected by burial in the frontalmost part of the Lower Pedraforca thrust 688 sheet, where the complete pile of sediments is less than 500 m (Vergés, 1993). 689 Considering a linear geothermal gradient of 30 °C, which is slightly high for foreland basins, the estimated burial depth is ~2.3 km. This thermal gradient was tested in the 690 691 southern Pyrenean foreland basins by Vergés et al. (1998). This depth is consistent with 692 the stratigraphic thickness of the northern imbricated Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet (Fig. 693 1C; Vergés 1993), fact that could indicate that formation waters migrated from the deeper 694 parts of the thrust sheet to the shallow thrust front along F2 and F3 fractures. Rapid fluid 695 flow would account for thermal disequilibrium with their adjacent host rocks (Bons et al., 696 2012; Beaudoin et al., 2014). During T3, fractures F3 cut hydroplastic normal faults F1 697 in the Upper Cretaceous Areny Formation. In the thrust front, however, hydroplastic 698 normal faults developed within middle Eocene syn-orogenic sediments in Q. These faults were reactivated during progressive tilting of bedding and Cc4 precipitated. The 699 700 dispersion in  $\delta^{18}$ O of this cement (from -6.9 to -2.6 ‰ VPDB) could indicate different

precipitation temperatures, probably related to different burial conditions during theprogressive deposition of the syn-orogenic sediments.

703 The fourth stage (T4) is related to folding and thrusting when F4 reverse and F5 strike-704 slip faults and F6 veins formed (T4, Fig. 3 and 12D). During this event, recorded by 705 cement Cc5, Cc6, and Cc7, the fluid system opened to formation waters carrying 706 hydrocarbons (Fig. 8, 10 and 11C). These fluids probably interacted with Upper Triassic evaporites as indicated by the <sup>87</sup>Sr/86Sr ratio of Cc6 (0.707817). This new input of 707 708 formation waters was coupled with a progressive decrease of the water/host rock 709 interaction, resulting in the precipitation of calcite cement Cc6 and Cc7, with  $\delta^{18}O$ 710 depleted with respect to their adjacent host rocks (Fig. 8). The temperature about 74 °C 711 obtained for Cc6 is also higher than expected by burial. Considering the geothermal 712 gradient of 30 °C, an estimated burial depth of ~2.4 km is obtained, which is consistent with the stratigraphic thickness of the northern imbricate Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet 713 (Fig. 1C; Vergés 1993). The increase of temperature of Cc6 with respect to Cc3 could 714 indicate an increase of burial during deposition of the Bellmunt Formation 715 conglomerates, which buried the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet during the Lutetian 716 (Burbank et al., 1992a). As deformation progressed, St1 stylolites were passively rotated 717 718 in the fold limbs and St2 stylolites postdating Cc6 formed parallel and orthogonal to F4 719 and F5 fractures. St2 formed due to shortening during the emplacement of the Lower 720 Pedraforca imbricates. The preferential development of these stylolites in close 721 relationship with F4 and F5 accounts for this scenario. During progressive folding, F1 722 hydroplastic normal faults in the Upper Cretaceous Areny Formation were reactivated as 723 reverse faults in the thrust front, whereas in the central area of the Lower Pedraforca 724 thrust sheet (Fig. 2A), they were reactivated as strike-slip faults, allowing fluid migration (Soliva and Benedicto, 2004, 2005; Soliva et al., 2006, 2008). Such reactivations 725 726 increased the fracture reservoir heterogeneity and are interpreted to have been induced 727 by fluid pressure build-up and/or reorientation of pre-existing fractures during folding, as

reported in other fractured reservoirs worldwide (Letouzey et al., 1990; Sibson, 1995;
Aydin, 2000; Wiprut and Zoback, 2000; Roure et al., 2005; Chi et al., 2012; Cobbold et
al., 2013; Rutqvist et al., 2013; Soumaya et al., 2015; Wisseall et al., 2018). Fluids
migrated along discrete fault planes or through hydraulic fracturing triggered by fluid
overpressures in the footwall of thrusts displaced along Upper Triassic evaporites.
According to Aydin (2000) in the Uinta basin (United states), hydraulic fractures act as
preferential paths for fluids in areas with low permeability.

Finally, during the reactivation of the thrust system (T5, Fig. 3 and 12E) at the Oligocene,
normal faults F7 formed and fluids also in disequilibrium with their adjacent host rocks
migrated through fractures precipitating cement Cc8 in a relatively open system.

5.4. Pyrenees fluid flow comparison to other fold and thrust belts examples

739 The Lower Pedraforca corresponds to a single thrust sheet and its emplacement 740 represents a short period of time of the whole south Pyrenean foreland basin evolution under marine conditions (Vergés et al., 1995). Despite these limited area and time 741 742 scales, the fluid flow behaviour in the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet is similar to that of 743 in other Pyrenean transects as well as in larger scale fold and thrust belts (Fig. 13). In all 744 cases, fluid-related processes are controlled by the evolution of deformation patterns, 745 from layer-parallel shortening (Fig. 13A) to subsequent folding and thrusting (Fig. 13B). 746 The Puig-reig anticline, in the south Pyrenean foreland basin, is located to the south of 747 the frontal thrust and thus corresponding to a younger foreland region than that of the 748 Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet. In this anticline, hydrothermal fluids migrated through 749 early stratabound strike-slip faults and low angle thrusts. Subsequently, during folding 750 and crestal graben development, the palaeohydrological system opened to the input of meteoric waters that mixed at depth with the hydrothermal fluids (Cruset et al., 2016). A 751 752 similar opening of the fluid system through time is observed in other south Pyrenean 753 structures developed at different periods of time and at different foreland domains than

the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet, such as the Vallfogona, l'Escala, l'Abocador, Larra-754 Eaux-Chaudes and Jaca thrusts (Lacroix et al., 2014; Crognier et al., 2018; Cruset et al., 755 756 2018). Elsewhere, in larger fold and thrust belts such as the Bighorn Basin in the Sevier 757 thrust belt and in the Ionian fold belt of Albania, a closed palaeohydrological system prevailed during layer-parallel shortening, which opened to external fluids during 758 759 fracturing associated to folding and thrusting (Vilasi et al., 2006; Beaudoin et al., 2013). 760 Likewise, in the Mexican fold and thrust belt and in the central Appalachians, fluids were 761 stratigraphically segregated during the early deformation, whereas the fluid system 762 became interconnected during fold tightening (Ferket et al., 2000, 2003; Lefticariu et al., 763 2005; Fischer et al., 2009; Fitz-Diaz et al., 2011; Evans et al., 2012). In the Northern 764 Oman Mountains, pre-burial fluids migrated through fractures in a rock-buffered system, 765 and deep-sourced fluids migrated through thrust faults during the main stage of 766 compression (Breesch et al., 2009). In this example of fold belt from Oman, main thrust faults acted as barriers for transversal fluid flow, since evidence of migration of fluids 767 768 were not observed in the hangingwall carbonates. Finally, the anticlines from the Lurestan Province of Iran, in the Zagros fold belt, show a fracture pattern similar to that 769 770 observed in the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet, although the Iranian folds are located in 771 a more external domain of the foreland basin. In this area, syn-sedimentary normal faults 772 were passively rotated into the anticline limbs during the main and later stages of folding 773 and were reactivated as reverse faults, where calcite cement containing hydrocarbons 774 precipitated (Casini et al., 2011; 2018). Like in the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet, the 775 presence of hydrocarbons within fracture-filling calcites indicates the opening of the fluid 776 system during this main stage of folding and the input of exotic fluids in contact with 777 petroleum source rocks.

The changes of the fluid regime in compressional settings are also observed in extensional regimes such as the Neogene Vallès-Penedès (Baqués et al., 2010; Cantarero et al., 2014) and the Corinth rift (Benedicto et al., 2008) extensional systems.

In these examples, during the first stages of upward propagation of normal faults, the palaeohydrological system was relatively closed with high fluid-rock interaction, whereas during the final stages of normal faulting it changed to a more open one, with lower fluidrock interaction.

785 6. Conclusions

The integration of field-based and petrographic observations, together with geochemical and geochronological data allowed to differentiate up to eight types of calcite cement (Cc1 to Cc8) and two sets of stylolites (St1 and St2) revealing the evolution of the palaeohydrological system during the emplacement of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet.

Relationships between calcite cement and fractures indicate that during hydroplastic deformation related to the pre-shortening stage within the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet, there was no precipitation of calcite cement in fractures. During the progressive burial, calcite cement Cc1 and Cc2 precipitated from formation waters in isotopic equilibrium with their adjacent host rocks. Burial was also responsible for development of the bedparallel stylolites St1.

797 During middle Eocene (Lutetian) layer-parallel shortening, calcite cement Cc3 and Cc4 798 precipitated from fluids in a relatively closed palaeohydrological system with high fluid-799 host rock interaction. Clumped isotopes thermometry indicates that calcite cement Cc3 precipitated from formation waters (~+5.4 ‰ VSMOW) at temperatures around 70 °C. 800 This temperature, together with an <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratio of 0.707922, indicates that formation 801 802 waters migrated forwards from the deeper domains in the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet 803 to the shallower thrust front and probably interacting with Upper Triassic evaporites at the base of the hanging wall succession. The  $\delta^{18}$ O dispersion up to 4 % VPDB of calcite 804 805 cement Cc4 could indicate different precipitation temperatures during the progressive 806 burial of syn-orogenic sediments deposited in the thrust front (Emery, 1987).

Progressive folding and thrusting, during Lutetian age, was coupled with tilting of St1 807 808 stylolites and precipitation of calcite cement Cc5 to Cc7. Clumped isotopes thermometry 809 indicates that Cc6 cement precipitated from formation waters (~+5 ‰ VSMOW) at temperatures around 75 °C, which are also interpreted as migrated from the deeper 810 regions of the thrust sheet to the thrust front. The  $\delta^{18}$ O depletion of calcite cement Cc6 811 and Cc7 with respect to their adjacent host rocks and the presence of hydrocarbons in 812 813 Cc6 indicate an opening of the palaeohydrological system. The <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios of Cc5 814 (0.708230) and Cc6 (0.707817) suggests the influence of clay minerals, probably from the Garumnian continental deposits, and of Upper Triassic evaporites, respectively. 815 816 During this period, stylolites St2 formed and previous hydroplastic fractures were 817 reactivated as reverse and strike-slip faults facilitating fluid flow. Cc7, precipitated after 818 Cc6 according to U-Pb geochronology, also precipitated from fluids in isotopic 819 disequilibrium with their adjacent host rocks.

Finally, large-scale folding of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet due to the emplacement of younger thrust sheets below, induced the reactivation of its basal thrust during the Oligocene. During this period, fluids in isotopic disequilibrium with their adjacent host rocks migrated through local normal faults that cut Oligocene conglomerates in the footwall of the Lower Pedraforca basal thrust and Cc8 precipitated.

The progressive shortening and concomitant fracturing and fluid flow in the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet share a common fluid evolution with other fold and thrust belt domains in the Pyrenees as well as elsewhere alike the Sevier, Appalachians, Bighorn basin, Ionian, Mexican, Zagros, and Oman fold and thrust belts

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1267

**Fig. 1** A) Regional map of the Iberian Peninsula showing the location of the South Pyrenean fold and thrust belt (red box). B) Simplified geological map showing the main structural units forming the South Pyrenean fold and thrust belt (Vergés, 1993). The thick pink line indicates the location of the cross-section shown in Fig. 1C. The dashed blue box indicates the location of Fig. 2A. C) Geological cross-section of the Lower Pedraforca

- 1273 thrust sheet from Vergés (1993) showing the structural position of the studied localities.
- 1274 Est\*: projection of the position of this location.



**Fig. 2** A) Structural sketch of the studied area with locality locations. White boxes bounded by red lines indicate the areas studied by Soliva and Benedicto (2004, 2005) and Soliva et al. (2006, 2008) in the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet. The thick pink line indicates the location of the cross-section shown in Fig. 1C. B) N-S stratigraphic panel of the Lower Pedraforca sheet. The age of sedimentary units has been defined according to Solé i Sugrañes and Clavell (1973), López-Martínez et al. (1999) and Oms et al. (2007).



**Fig. 3** Lower hemisphere Schmidt stereoplots representing fracture data from the different studied localities, their associated calcite cement and different stages of deformation and stylolitization. Fracture systems F1, F2 and F3 are presented at their current orientation and restored with respect to bedding. The grey boxes with references Q, G1, PEG, G2 and EST represent the studied localities in Figs. 1 and 2. Thick dashed black lines represent mean planes for each fracture system.



**Fig. 4** Outcrop images showing the main features of fracture systems F1, F2 and F3 within the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet. A-B) E-W hydroplastic normal faults F1 in the Upper Cretaceous Areny Formation and middle Eocene syn-orogenic sediments, respectively. C) Bed-parallel slip surfaces F2 affecting Palaeocene sediments. D-E) N-S, NNW-SSE and NNE-SSW en-échelon vein arrays F3 affecting middle Eocene synorogenic sediments and the Upper Cretaceous Areny Formation, respectively. Bed dip directions and dips are given. White points indicate sample location.



**Fig. 5** Outcrop images showing the main features of fracture systems F4, F5 and F7 within the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet. A) Reverse faults F4 and associated veins within the Upper Cretaceous Areny Formation. Bed dip direction and dip is given. B) Pressure solution cleavage formed in the core of a F4 thrust fault. C) Hydraulic fracturing formed in the damage zone of a F4 thrust fault. D) F5 strike-slip faults affecting the Upper Cretaceous Areny Formation. E) F7 normal faults affecting Oligocene conglomerates. White points indicate sample location.



Fig. 6 Images from polarizing optical and cathodoluminescence (CL) microscopy of the
main features of calcite cement and microstructures. A-B) Crosscutting relationships
between intergranular porosity and veins filled with calcite cement Cc3 and Cc5. C-D)
Image showing veins filled with calcite cement Cc6 in F4 reverse faults. E-F) Calcite
cement Cc8 filling veins in F7 normal faults.

![](_page_56_Figure_0.jpeg)

1313 Fig. 7 Schematic representation of the crosscutting relationships between fractures,

![](_page_56_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_57_Figure_0.jpeg)

**Fig. 8** A)  $\delta^{18}$ O vs  $\delta^{13}$ C from the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet. B) Cross-plots comparing 1317 the  $\delta^{18}$ O of calcite cement with their adjacent host rocks. The dashed areas group

- 1318 cement according to their adjacent host rocks. The dashed black line represents the
- 1319 equilibrium between calcite veins and their adjacent host rocks.

![](_page_59_Figure_0.jpeg)

1321 Fig. 9 Clumped isotope temperatures in °C vs calculated  $\delta^{18}O_{\text{fluid}}$  (‰ VSMOW) for calcite

1322 cement Cc3 and Cc6.  $\delta^{18}$ O of Eocene seawater according to Tindall et al. (2010).

![](_page_60_Figure_0.jpeg)

Fig. 10 <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr composition of calcite cement and carbonate host rocks. The <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr
ratios of the LOWESS curve from McArthur et al. (2001) are also plotted. The grey area
boxes indicate the <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratio of middle Eocene and Upper Triassic seawater from
McArthur et al. (2001).

![](_page_61_Figure_0.jpeg)

**Fig. 11** Elemental composition of the calcite cement. A-B) Fe vs Mg and Fe vs Mn crossplots of calcite cement Cc1, Cc3, Cc5 and Cc6. C) Ca/Fe vs Mn/Ca molar ratios crossplot of calcite cement Cc1, Cc3, Cc5 and Cc6. Areas bounded by blue, green and red thick lines represent the composition of marine, meteoric and formation fluids, respectively. Fluid compositions are based on McIntire (1963), Howson et al. (1987), Tucker and Wright (1990), Kolker and Chou (1994), Steuber and Rauch (2005) and Ligi et al. (2013).

![](_page_62_Figure_0.jpeg)

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**Fig. 12** Fluid flow evolution during the emplacement of the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet. A) T1, pre-compressive hydroplastic deformation. B) T2, burial diagenesis. C) T3, layer-parallel shortening. D) T4, folding and thrusting. E) T5, reactivation of the northern sector of the thrust system. For each stage, the type of migrating fluids, associated calcite cement and fractures are given.

![](_page_63_Figure_0.jpeg)

**Fig. 13** Conceptual model of fluid flow in fold and thrust belts. A) Layer-parallel shortening stage. Fluids are in equilibrium with their adjacent host rock and fluid-host rock interaction is high. Fluids are segregated stratigraphically. B) Folding and thrusting stage. The paleohydrological system opens, allowing the interconnection between different hydrostratigraphic units and fluid mixing. The fluid-host rock interaction is low.

Sample	Locality	Fracture set	Cement type	Age (Ma)	±2σ	MSWD	<sup>207</sup> Pb/ <sup>206</sup> Pb Upper intercepts	± 2σ	Number of spots
Q27	Q	F3	Cc3	45.7	1.9	2.2	0.845	0.033	25
Q3-1	Q	F4	Cc3	47.3	1	1.3	0.879	0.036	24
Q11	Q	F3	Cc4	47.9	1.3	1.7	0.827	0.03	31
Q33	Q	F3	Cc4	44.8	1.3	1.4	0.8756	0.0062	23
Q24	Q	F4	Cc6	45.1	1.2	1.09	0.8327	0.0028	32
Q29	Q	F4	Cc6	47.2	0.7	1.4	0.829	0.013	27
G3	G1	F6	Cc7	42.9	0.9	1.8	0.705	0.004	32
G3b	G1	F6	Cc7	42.3	0.8	1.5	0.8091	0.0043	20
EST2	EST	F7	Cc8	30.2	2	1.8	0.843	0.011	21

**Table 1.** U-Pb dates of calcite cement Cc3, Cc4, Cc6, Cc7 and Cc8.

**Table 2.**  $\delta^{13}$ C,  $\delta^{18}$ O,  $\Delta_{47}$  and  $\delta^{18}$ O<sub>fluid</sub> of the calcite cement Cc3 and Cc6 within the Lower Pedraforca thrust sheet. n represents the number of analyses per sample.

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Sample L	ocality	Cement type	n	δ <sup>13</sup> C ‰ VPDB <sup>a</sup>	$\delta^{18}O \ \% \ VPDB^{a}$	$\Delta_{47}{}^{b}$	Т⁰С	δ <sup>18</sup> O <sub>fluid</sub> ‰ VSMOW
Q2	Q	Cc3	4	+0.33 (0.01)	-5.02 (0.06)	0.579 ± 0.011	69.1 ± 5.3	$+5.4 \pm 0.9$
Q24	Q	Cc6	3	+1.6 (0.04)	-6.1 (0.03)	$0.569 \pm 0.008$	74.2 ± 4	+5.1 ± 0.7

.353

 $^{a}$  1 $\sigma$  error for  $\delta^{13}$ C and  $\delta^{18}$ O of calcite cement.

<sup>b</sup> Error for Δ47 is presented as standard error and calculated by the replicate standard deviation divided by square root
 of n.

357	Table 3. Mg/Ca, Sr/Ca, Ca/Fe and Mn/Ca ratios for calcite cement Cc1, Cc3, Cc4, Cc5 and Cc6 precipitated in locality
.358	Q.

З	5	q	
.5	J	9	

Cement type Mg/Ca		g/Ca	S	r/Ca	Ca	/Fe	Mn/Ca	
	Max.	0.304	Max.	0.052	Max.	15903	Max.	0.000085
Cc1	Min.	0.047	Min.	0.006	Min.	1390	Min.	0.000033
	Mean	0.175	Mean	0.014	Mean	5570	Mean	0.000053
	Max.	0.18	Max.	0.013	Max.	19934	Max.	0.000111
Cc3	Min.	0.069	Min.	0.006	Min.	4963	Min.	0.000032
	Mean	0.011	Mean	0.008	Mean	13357	Mean	0.000054
	Max.	0.197	Max.	0.020	Max.	-	Max.	0.000091
Cc4	Min.	0.034	Min.	0.007	Min.	-	Min.	0.000033
	Mean	0.104	Mean	0.01	Mean	-	Mean	0.000048
	Max.	0.121	Max.	0.027	Max.	6993	Max.	0.000086
Cc5	Min.	0.03	Min.	0.005	Min.	836	Min.	0.000025
	Mean	0.078	Mean	0.015	Mean	1916	Mean	0.000051
	Max.	0.194	Max.	0.019	Max.	3912	Max.	0.000083
Cc6	Min.	0.044	Min.	0.006	Min.	880	Min.	0.000023
	Mean	0.107	Mean	0.011	Mean	2149	Mean	0.000049

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