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Sedimentary provenance from the evolving forearc-to-foreland Central Sakarya Basin, western Anatolia reveals multi-phase intercontinental collision

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Key Points:

- Multi-phase intercontinental collision is identified in western Anatolia by sedimentary basin changes
- Sedimentary provenance change indicate collision was at 76 Ma, but significant thick-skinned deformation was delayed until 54 Ma
- The 20 Myr duration of initial collision can be explained by three multi-stage mechanisms involving changes in plate coupling

Abstract

Collision between the Pontides and Anatolide-Tauride Block along the İzmir-Ankara-Erzincan suture in Anatolia has been variously estimated from the Late Cretaceous to Eocene. It remains unclear whether this age range results from a protracted, multi-phase collision or differences between proxies of collision age and/or along strike diachroneity. Here, we leverage the Cretaceous-Eocene evolution of the forearc-to-foreland Central Sakarya Basin system in western Anatolia to determine when and how collision progressed. New detrital zircon and sandstone petrography results indicate that the volcanic arc was the main source of sediment to the forearc basin in the Late Cretaceous. The first appearance of Pontide basement-aged detrital zircons, in concert with exhumation of the accretionary prism and a decrease in regional convergence rates, indicates intercontinental collision initiated no later than 76 Ma. However, this first contractional phase does not produce advanced thick-skinned deformation and basin partitioning until ca. 54 Ma. We propose three non-exclusive and widely applicable mechanisms to reconcile the observed ~20 Myr delay between initial intercontinental collision and thick-skinned upper plate deformation: slab breakoff, relict basin closure north and south of the İAES, and underthrusting of progressively thicker passive margin lithosphere. These mechanisms highlight the links between upper plate deformation and plate coupling during continental collision.

Plain Language Summary

Key to understanding the interconnectedness of Earth's systems is unraveling feedbacks between climate, biology, and tectonic plate movements. This can only be resolved within a robust timeframe of tectonic events, including the collision of continents. Yet, the timing of collisions is difficult to determine. We present results from western Turkey where the history of oceanic basin closure and collision from 110 to 40 million years ago (Ma) is preserved in the sedimentary rock record. We identify three phases of oceanic closure (subduction) and continental collision. Subduction was active from at least 110 Ma through 76 Ma when sediment was derived from active volcanoes. At 76 Ma, continental deformation uplifted and eroded older rocks; this is the initial contact between colliding continents. The next phase of collision began at 54 Ma when continental deformation separated the zone of sediment deposition into two basins. The 20-million-year collision duration can be explained by three changes to tectonic plate coupling. Together, we conclude that collision age discrepancies are representative of collision

mechanics not a function of ill-fit comparisons between proxies. This long history of collision illuminates how the movement and amalgamation of small continents aided the migration and evolution of species in the Mediterranean.

Keywords: Anatolia, Neotethys, Intercontinental Collision, Detrital Zircon Geochronology

1. Introduction

Continental collisions across the Tethyan realm are striking by their protracted and polygenetic history, often resulting in significant discrepancies among proxies of collision age: ~40 Myr for India-Asia (65-25 Ma; Ding et al., 2005; Hu et al., 2016; Kapp & DeCelles, 2019; Najman et al., 2010) and ~20 Myr for Arabia-Eurasia (Ballato et al., 2011; Cowgill et al., 2016; Darin et al., 2018; McQuarrie et al., 2003; Okay et al., 2010). Their unusual duration and complexity have even called into question the nature of the forces driving continental convergence (Alvarez, 2010; Becker & Faccenna, 2011). This has led to multi-stage collision scenarios involving varying plate coupling at the subduction interface (Ballato et al., 2011; Beaumont et al., 1996; Tye et al., 2020) or the role of forearc, backarc, and other remnant basins as early buffers of deformation (Cowgill et al., 2016).

Collision age discrepancies are found in western and central Anatolia where continental collision between the Pontides and the Anatolide-affinity Tavşanlı Zone (TVZ) and Kırşehir Block along the İzmir-Ankara-Erzincan suture (İAES) closed the Neotethys Ocean (**Figure 1**; Okay & Tüysüz, 1999; Şengör & Yilmaz, 1981). Collision estimates along the İAES span 20 Myr from the Late Cretaceous to early Eocene based on ophiolite obduction and Barrovian metamorphism (Göncüoğlu et al., 2000; Seaton et al., 2009; Whitney et al., 2011), structural deformation (Lefebvre et al., 2013; Meijers et al., 2010; Okay et al., 2020; Şahin et al., 2019), magmatism (Dilek & Altunkaynak, 2009; Ersoy, Akal, et al., 2017; Kasapoğlu et al., 2016), and sedimentary basin analysis (Kaymakci et al., 2009; Ocakoğlu et al., 2018; Okay, 2011). However, a model that encompasses the insights from all proxies is still missing.

To address this, we leverage the power of a ~50 Myr continuous depositional record from the Central Sakarya Basin system, a forearc-to-foreland basin directly north of the İAES. Integrating new sedimentary provenance data with previously published stratigraphic and provenance data reveals a multi-phase collisional evolution. We evaluate the timing of this

protracted collision in light of previously proposed multi-phase collision models for the Tethyan realm, including slab breakoff, relict basin closure, and passive margin underthrusting.

2. Background

The tectonic units in northwest Anatolia include, from north to south, the İstanbul Zone and Sakarya Zone (SKZ) of the Eurasian-affinity Pontides, the İzmir-Ankara-Erzincan suture zone (İAES), and the Tavşanlı Zone (TVZ) of the Gondwanan-affinity Anatolides (**Figure 1**; Okay & Tüysüz, 1999; Şengör & Yilmaz, 1981). The Pontides rifted from the Eurasian margin between 94 and 75 Ma by backarc spreading of the Black Sea (Akdoğan et al., 2017, 2019; Okay et al., 2013; Okay & Nikishin, 2015), and formed an isolated microcontinent where faunal endemism prevailed until the late Paleogene (Métais et al., 2018). The SKZ, bound to the north by the Intra-Pontide suture zone, presently occupied by the North Anatolian Fault, comprises Sakarya Zone basement units and the forearc-to-foreland Central Sakarya Basin system (**Figure 2**). The Sakarya Zone continental basement is subdivided into two units: (1) the Central Sakarya Basement (also called Söğüt metamorphics) comprising Paleozoic paragneiss, schist, and amphibolite rocks intruded by Carboniferous granitoids called the Söğüt magmatics, Central Sakarya granite, or Sarıcakaya granitoid (Göncüoğlu et al., 2000; Ustaömer et al., 2012), and (2) the Permian-Triassic Karakaya Complex, partly metamorphosed clastic and volcanic rocks from either a rift or subduction-accretion complex setting (see Okay & Göncüoglu, 2004). Remnants of the Late Cretaceous volcanic arc associated with northward subduction along the Pontide margin are exposed along the present-day Black Sea southern coast, north of the CSB and Intra-Pontide Suture (**Figure 3;** Keskin & Tüysüz, 2018). However, pyroclastic flows, volcanogenic sandstones, and tuffs within the southern margin of the CSB are associated with Late Cretaceous submarine volcanism (Duru & Aksay, 2002; Gedik & Aksay, 2002; Ocakoğlu et al., 2018; Yilmaz et al., 2010). Additionally, the 83-70 Ma Beypazarı Granite is <20 km south of the CSB (**Figure 2**; Helvacı et al., 2014; Okay et al., 2019, 2020; Speciale et al., 2012). The SKZ, İstanbul Zone, and TVZ contain Eocene (58-41 Ma) syn-collisional igneous rocks disputedly attributed to TVZ slab breakoff, lithospheric delamination, or anatexis of the lower crust (Altunkaynak, 2007; Altunkaynak et al., 2012; Dilek & Altunkaynak, 2009; Ersoy, Akal, et al., 2017; Ersoy, Palmer, et al., 2017; Harris et al., 1994; van Hinsbergen et al., 2010; Kasapoğlu et al., 2016; Okay & Satir, 2006; Ustaömer et al., 2009; Yildiz et al., 2015). The Central Sakarya Basin system is

divided into the Jurassic-Eocene forearc-to-foreland Central Sakarya Basin (CSB; also called the Mudurnu-Göynük Basin) to the north and the Eocene broken foreland Sarıcakaya Basin (SB) to the south (e.g., Mueller et al., 2019; Ocakoğlu et al., 2007; Okay et al., 2001). The south-vergent basement-involved Tuzaklı-Gümele Thrust (also termed the Söğüt Thrust or Nallıhan Thrust) structurally partitioned the CSB by the early Eocene and formed the SB by flexural loading. Sakarya Zone basement units are exposed in the hanging wall (Duru & Aksay, 2002; Gedik & Aksay, 2002). The SB contains Ypresian-Lutetian terrestrial deposits that laterally transition to marine deposits in the east (Mueller et al., 2019; Okay et al., 2020; Şahin et al., 2019), and hosts one of the Eocene volcanic belts (Kasapoğlu et al., 2016; Yildiz et al., 2015). The fold-thrust belt is located within the CSB-SB system; W-E and SW-NE striking oblique thrust faults and folds deform Jurassic through Eocene units (Aksay et al., 2002; Şahin et al., 2019). Thin-skinned thrust faults in the CSB are likely positively inverted faults from a phase of Santonian-Campanian extension (Ocakoğlu et al., 2018).

The SKZ is bound to the south by the İAES, a highly deformed accretionary complex containing obducted ophiolite slabs, ophiolitic mélange, and their metamorphic equivalents (e.g., Göncüoğlu et al., 2000, 2010). To the south, the TVZ is the passive margin of the northernmost Gondwana-derived Anatolide-Tauride Block (e.g., Okay, 2011; Okay et al., 1996). Platform carbonates and passive margin clastics were subducted and metamorphosed to blueschist facies between 92 and 83 Ma (e.g., Okay et al., 1998; Plunder et al., 2015; Sherlock et al., 1999; Whitney et al., 2011), exhumed sometime 85 to 60 Ma (Seaton et al., 2009; Sherlock et al., 1999; Whitney & Davis, 2006), then underwent Barrovian-type metamorphism from 63 to 57 Ma (Seaton et al., 2009; Whitney et al., 2011). The blueschist unit is tectonically overlain by suture zone units, including metamorphosed accretionary complexes (Plunder et al., 2013), ophiolitic mélange, and ophiolite slabs (Göncüoğlu et al., 2010; Okay et al., 2020). The western Anatolian ophiolites have metamorphic sole ages between 101 and 88 Ma (Dilek et al., 1999; Harris et al., 1994; Pourteau et al., 2019) and are cut by 92 to 90 Ma mafic dikes (Dilek et al., 1999), and, therefore, were obducted sometime after ~90 Ma during pre-collisional TVZ subduction (Okay & Whitney, 2010; Robertson et al., 2009). The blueschists and ophiolites are intruded by Eocene granodiorites (Harris et al., 1994) and unconformably overlain by lower Eocene shallow marine limestones and siliciclastic rocks (Baş, 1986; Özgen-Erdem et al., 2007) and lower-to-middle(?) Eocene continental deposits (Turhan, 2002). Herein we refer to TVZ subduction as the phase

when TVZ continental lithosphere was subducted beneath overlying oceanic lithosphere, whereas underthrusting refers to the phase when TVZ continental lithosphere was thrust beneath the upper plate Pontide continental lithosphere.

3. Central Sakarya Basin System Stratigraphy

Jurassic through Eocene sedimentation is preserved in the Central Sakarya Basin system (e.g., Aksay et al., 2002). **Figure 4** displays stratigraphic columns with published stratigraphic ages for the Upper Cretaceous through Eocene units along two transects across the CSB (after Ocakoğlu et al., 2018).

Unconformably overlying Sakarya Zone basement units are the Jurassic through Lower Cretaceous series of shallow water platform carbonates (Bilecik Fm.), pelagic micrites and calciturbidites (Soğukçam Fm.), and interbedded volcanics (Mudurnu Fm.; Altiner et al., 1991; Genç & Tüysüz, 2010). The CSB formed as a rift basin, as indicated by overall basin deepening trend and bimodal Jurassic volcanism (Altiner et al., 1991; Genç & Tüysüz, 2010; Göncüoğlu et al., 2000), bounded by two branches of the Neotethys Ocean: the Intra-Pontide Ocean to the north and the İzmir-Ankara Ocean to the south. There is uninterrupted Jurassic through Paleocene sedimentation in the eastern CSB (e.g., Nallıhan transect in **Figure 4**), whereas much of the Albian through Lower Campanian section is missing in the western CSB (e.g., Okay et al., 2001). The Albian-Lower Campanian sequence includes the Yenipazar and Seben Fms. siliciclastic turbidites and pelagic mudstones that are interfingered with the Üzümlü Mbr. volcaniclastics and submarine lava flows, Değirmenözü Fm. pelagic carbonates, and Eymür Mbr. shallow marine clastic wedge and submarine canyon fill (Ocakoğlu et al., 2018). Asymmetrical ripples, gravel and flute casts in Campanian-Maastrichtian deposits indicate paleocurrent directions to the NNW, N, NE, and rarely W (Ocakoğlu et al., 2018). The shallow marine to deltaic Paleocene Taraklı Fm. conformably overlies the Yenipazar Fm. Cross beds and groove casts indicate paleocurrent directions to the NW and NE (Ocakoğlu et al., 2018). The shelf edge was likely located near the Nallıhan section, where deltaic progradation began in early Paleocene times, then deltaic sands and muds reached the northern Taraklı section in the late Paleocene where sedimentation rates were briefly extremely rapid (Ocakoğlu et al., 2018).

In the western Yenipazar section, the Kızılçay Fm. unconformably overlies the Yenipazar Fm., whereas in the eastern Nallıhan section, the Kızılçay Fm. conformably overlies the Taraklı Fm. The shoaling sequence is overlain by coal beds, cross bedded sandstones, and caliches of the Kızılçay Fm. (Ocakoğlu et al., 2018). Ostracod fauna indicate a Ypresian age (Ocakoğlu et al., 2018). In the proximal Nallıhan and Yenipazar sections, fluvial conglomerates contain clasts of reworked Upper Cretaceous strata and marine microfauna, and clast imbrications, cross beds, and channel geometries indicate paleocurrent directions to the NW and NE. The Kızılçay Fm. grades northward into the Yenipazar Fm. where prograding delta front sandstones are present in the distal Akdoğan section (Ocakoğlu et al., 2018). The coarse marine clastics, alternating sands and muds, and turbidite deposits of the conformable Kabalar Mbr., Güvenç Fm., Çataltepe Fm., and Halidiye Fm. sequence records a Ypresian through early Bartonian marine transgression (Ocakoğlu et al., 2012, 2018; Şafak et al., 2015). Groove and flute casts and asymmetrical ripples in the Halidiye Fm. indicate paleocurrent directions to the NW, NE, and rarely W and E (Ocakoğlu et al., 2018). The late Lutetian maximum flooding surface is recorded in sedimentary basins across the Black Sea region, including Anatolia, Crimea and the Caucasus (e.g., Licht et al., 2017; Lygina et al., 2016; MTA, 2002; Özcan et al., 2019; Racey, 2001). The Gemiciköy Fm. comprises mudstone and cross-bedded sandstones that coarsen upward to fluvial conglomerates with clasts of reworked Cretaceous-Paleocene units (Ocakoğlu et al., 2007); it only crops out north of Yenipazar where it conformably overlies the Güvenç Fm. (Gedik & Aksay, 2002; Ocakoğlu et al., 2018).

The Sarıcakaya Basin fill begins with Ypresian alluvial fan deposits that unconformably overlie Permian-Triassic Karakaya Complex rocks in the west and Jurassic-Cretaceous sedimentary units in the east (Campbell, 2017; Mueller et al., 2019; Şahin et al., 2019). The lower to middle Eocene strata include alternating overbank, conglomeratic fluvial channel, and lacustrine deposits interpreted to reflect changing accommodating due to flexural loading from the Tuzaklı-Gümele Thrust (Mueller et al., 2019). Detrital zircon ages and clast compositions indicate that the SB received sediment from the İAES mélange, Karakaya Complex, and exposed Sakarya Zone crystalline basement in Ypresian-Lutetian times (Mueller et al., 2019). Therefore, the basement-involved Tuzaklı-Gümele Thrust partitioned the CSB and formed the Sarıcakaya Basin by ca. 54 Ma. The eastern SB contains Ypresian marine shales and Lutetian shoreface and shallow marine deposits with *nummulites* sp. (Okay et al., 2020; Şahin et al., 2019).

4. Methods

We collected 37 sandstone samples from Cretaceous through Eocene strata in the CSB and 2 gneiss samples from the Central Sakarya Basement (**Table 1**). The sandstone samples were collected along five published measured sections from two proximal (south) to distal (north) transects through the CSB (**Figure 4**; Ocakoğlu et al., 2018). The provenance of sandstone samples was evaluated using detrital zircon (DZ) U-Pb geochronology and sandstone petrography.

For the new CSB samples, heavy mineral separation, analysis, and data reduction followed the University of Washington TraceLab protocol (Licht et al., 2018; Shekut & Licht, 2020). Zircons were separated following standard heavy mineral separation procedures. A minimum of 140 grains per sample were mounted with reference materials, imaged in a backscattered electron detector with a scanning electron microscope, and analyzed using a quadrupole laser ablation-inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometer (LA-ICP-MS). The data were reduced in *Iolite* using the Geochron Data Reduction Scheme (Paton et al., 2011). Individual zircons with abnormal patterns in raw signal intensity, >20% discordance, or >5% reverse discordance are reported in the supporting information but are excluded from interpretations (following Gehrels, 2012, 2014). All zircon U-Pb ages are presented uncorrected for common lead (Shekut & Licht, 2020), and the data are presented as probability density functions and kernel density estimates with an optimized fixed bandwidth, all plotted using *detritalPy* (Sharman et al., 2018).

The ages of the sedimentary samples were constrained by published biostratigraphic and volcanic zircon U-Pb ages along the measured sections (Campbell, 2017; Ocakoğlu et al., 2018). Maximum depositional ages, calculated using the youngest cluster of 2 or more ages with overlapping 2s uncertainties (Sharman et al., 2018), are included in Dataset S1 but do not provide any new age constraints.

We characterize the zircon age signature of potential sediment sources using new Central Sakarya Basement bedrock samples and published Central Sakarya Basement, Karakaya Complex, and İAES bedrock and modern river samples (**Table 1**). We also include crystallization ages of Cretaceous-Eocene plutons in central and eastern Anatolia compiled in Schleiffarth et al. (2018). The two new basement samples and one CSB sample (15YP15) were

analyzed at the University of Kansas Isotope Geochemistry Laboratory following the analytical protocol outlined in Campbell (2017). Zircons were separated following standard methods, mounted with international standards, and analyzed in a high resolution sector-field LA-ICP-MS. Data were reduced in *Iolite* (Paton et al., 2011) and *ET_Redux* (McLean et al., 2016) and are presented uncorrected for common lead.

We further characterize sedimentary provenance using petrographic analysis of sandstone samples (N=31). Thin sections were made by National Petrographic Service, Inc. and at least 400 framework grains per sample were point counted according to the Gazzi-Dickinson method (Dickinson, 1985). The new CSB sandstone modal composition data are presented as ternary diagrams (Triplot; Graham & Midgley, 2000) and interpreted following standard source fields (Dickinson, 1985; Dickinson & Suczek, 1979).

5. Provenance Results

New DZ data (N=19; n=3188) are presented with published DZ data (N=13, n=1457). Detrital zircon distributions of potential sediment source samples and basin samples are given in **Figure 5** and **Figure 6**, respectively. To facilitate comparison, distributions are colored according to the ages of known late Neoproterozoic through Eocene plutonic outcrops across the Black Sea region (**Figure 3**). Sandstone petrography results of new CSB samples are displayed in **Figure 7**.

New (n=169) and published (n=1763) bedrock, detrital, and modern river zircon U-Pb ages characterize the zircon signature of basement units and volcanic arcs (**Figure 5; Table 1**). The central and eastern Anatolian volcanic arc is characterized by 30-56 Ma and 67-99 Ma age peaks. The Karakaya Complex samples are characterized by 200-250 and 325 Ma populations, and, additionally, the modern river sample (17RIVER01) draining the İAES contains minor Eocene, Late Cretaceous, Triassic, and Paleozoic populations. The Central Sakarya Basement bedrock samples exhibit a prominent ~325 Ma peak, and the oldest samples include 375-500 Ma age populations; the metasedimentary sample (‘SgtMeta’ from Ustaömer et al., 2012) contains a range of Proterozoic-Archean zircons with peaks centered around 600 Ma, 1000 Ma, 2000 Ma, and 2650 Ma. The absence of Precambrian-aged zircons in most Central Sakarya Basement

samples is likely due to sampling bias as most of the samples are orthogneiss and granitoids, with only one metasedimentary sample ('SgtMeta' from Ustaömer et al., 2012).

New (n=3199) and published (n=1457) CSB and SB detrital zircon ages (**Figure 6**) and new sandstone petrography results (**Figure 7**) characterize sedimentary provenance. The oldest CSB samples are Cenomanian to lower Campanian in age and are characterized by a major 76-110 Ma peak; few zircons are older than 110 Ma (n=22/660, 3%). These samples plot in the volcanic arc and recycled orogen fields. Samples younger than the lower Campanian have prominent Late Cretaceous (67-110 Ma) and Carboniferous (~325 Ma) peaks. The youngest CSB samples also contain a prominent Eocene peak (~41-58 Ma). About half of these samples have major or minor Triassic (~250 Ma), Devonian (375-400 Ma), and Proterozoic peaks around 600 Ma, 1000 Ma and 2000 Ma. The Sarıcakaya Basin samples have a similar distribution of DZ ages, yet for many SB samples, the pre-Cretaceous populations are more abundant than in the CSB.

6. Three Phase Evolution of the Central Sakarya Basin System

We subdivide the samples into three age groups based on major changes in sedimentary provenance and basin evolution (**Figure 8**). The sample ages, and therefore sample groups, are constrained by published biostratigraphy, primarily planktonic foraminifera, one volcaniclastic U-Pb age, and one maximum depositional detrital zircon U-Pb age (Ocakoğlu et al., 2018). The ages of the SB samples are constrained by volcaniclastic U-Pb ages (Mueller et al., 2019). Maximum depositional ages of the new detrital zircon samples do not provide new chronologic constraints (Dataset S1).

All CSB and SB DZ ages from 150 to 30 Ma are combined and plotted alongside simplified composite stratigraphic columns (**Figure 9**). We interpret the combined DZ ages from 150 to 30 Ma as the magmatic arc tempo of the Anatolian arc (Paterson & Ducea, 2015). The apparent magmatic lulls at 67-58 Ma and starting at 41 Ma are consistent with the 72-58 Ma and 40-20 Ma magmatic lulls in central and eastern Anatolia (Schleiffarth et al., 2018).

6.1. Phase 1: Forearc Basin

Phase 1 includes Turonian through lower Campanian (94-76 Ma) DZ samples from the eastern CSB. This phase is characterized by a major 76-110 Ma peak; few zircons are older than 110 Ma (n=22/660;**Figure 8**). Samples plot in the volcanic arc and recycled orogen fields (**Figure 7**). Given the volcanic arc sediment compositions, the prevalence of Late Cretaceous zircon ages, and the proximity to plutons and submarine volcanism in the southern Sakarya Zone, Phase 1 strata are presumably composed of first-cycle detritus derived from the nearby Late Cretaceous volcanic centers. The brief magmatic lull at 88 Ma (**Figure 9)** could be the signal of pre-collisional TVZ subduction. This 34 Myr phase is not associated with any significant changes in depositional environment, accumulation rate (Ocakoğlu et al., 2018) or sedimentary provenance. In Phase 1, the CSB was a forearc basin fed by the Late Cretaceous volcanic belt.

6.2. Phase 2: Initial Intercontinental Collision

Phase 2 includes the middle Campanian through lower Eocene samples (76-54 Ma). Phase 2 is defined by a major change in provenance: the appearance of Paleozoic-Precambrian zircons (**Figure 8**). The start of Phase 2 at 76 Ma is determined by the oldest samples with pre-Mesozoic DZs. In the Nallıhan section, the oldest samples in this phase are between 77 Ma and 76 Ma based on planktonic foraminifera, and in the Göynük section the oldest Phase 2 sample has a published maximum depositional age of 76.4 ± 1.7 Ma based on the youngest 19 zircons (Ocakoğlu et al., 2018).

The Phase 2 sandstone compositions plot in the recycled orogen and volcanic arc fields and evolve toward increasing quartz and sedimentary and metamorphic lithic compositions (**Figure 7**). DZ samples are generally characterized by 67-90 Ma, 300-450 Ma and 550-700 Ma peaks (**Figure 8**). The presence of Carboniferous zircons alone or in tandem with Devonian to Proterozoic zircons are either first-cycle or poly-cyclic zircons from the Central Sakarya Basement, which is presently exposed in the hanging wall of the Tuzaklı-Gümele Thrust (**Figure 2**). The Triassic and Carboniferous age doublet is distinctively Karakaya Complex in origin (**Figure 5**) and, given the absence of Triassic igneous rocks across Anatolia (**Figure 3**), the presence of this doublet likely indicates sediment sourced from the Karakaya Complex rather than from both Triassic and Carboniferous igneous rocks (e.g., samples 18TBTG and 18TK01). The absence of deposition in the flexural SB before ~53 Ma indicates that the Tuzaklı-Gümele

Thrust likely did not expose basement rocks in Phase 2. Therefore, we propose that the basement-age zircons and evolution toward quartz- and sedimentary lithic-rich compositions indicate an unroofing sequence in which poly-cyclic basement-aged zircons appeared in the basin. It is uncertain exactly where sediment recycling occurred or which structures were active, but we suggest it was a southern source for two reasons: (1) Increased mafic/felsic element ratios (i.e., Ni/Zr, Ni/Y, Cr/Zr) in the distal İsmailler section at ca. 73 Ma show the input of ophiolitic material into the CSB, pinpointing the area of exhumation to the İAES where Late Paleozoic-Mesozoic ophiolitic and subduction-accretion units are exposed today. (2) Paleocurrent directions indicating flow from the SW-SE to NE-NW (Ocakoğlu et al., 2018). Together this indicates that at 76 Ma, the southern margin of the SKZ, including the İAES accretionary complex, began uplifting, exhuming, and creating south-to-north flowing transverse drainage systems.

We propose that uplift of the southern Pontide margin marks the onset of initial intercontinental collision. A 76 Ma age of initial collision is supported by a decrease in convergence rates from 28 mm/yr at 110-76 Ma to 5 mm/yr from 76 Ma onwards (rates calculated from plate reconstructions based on paleomagnetic and kinematic data in van Hinsbergen et al., 2020). Moreover, evolved εHf values in 85-70 Ma detrital zircons indicate either crustal thickening, lower plate continental underthrusting, or arc migration into evolved continental crust (Campbell, 2017). Lastly, Okay et al. (2020) interpret the 74 Ma onset of the major dextral transpressional Sakarya Shear Zone as initial collision.

Exhumation and underthrusting continued through Phase 2 when the CSB records northward prograding deltas at 61 Ma, a major unconformity in the proximal (southern) basin, a lowstand systems tract, the transition from flysch to molasse, and an order of magnitude increase in accumulation rates (Açıkalın et al., 2016; Ocakoğlu et al., 2007, 2018). These CSB changes coincide with a 67-58 Ma magmatic lull (**Figure 8**), and 63-57 Ma Barrovian metamorphism of the TVZ to greenschist and amphibolite facies (e.g., Whitney et al., 2011) and subsequent TVZ exhumation at 60 Ma as indicated by white mica $^{40}Ar/^{39}Ar$ cooling ages (Seaton et al., 2009).

6.3. Phase 3: Thick-Skinned Deformation and Foreland Basin Partitioning

The start of Phase 3 is defined by the onset of deposition in the SB, which is dated to 52.4 ± 0.6 Ma by a volcaniclastic bed at the base of the Paleogene series in the SB (Campbell, 2017;

Mueller et al., 2019). Thus, the start of Phase 3 is associated with the onset of basin partitioning and the first clear evidence for advanced thick-skinned deformation. The onset of basement-involved deformation likely preceded the beginning of basin partitioning and SB deposition by several million years, but at this point the oldest SB deposits are the best minimum age estimate for the onset of thick-skinned deformation. Eocene SB DZ samples are generally characterized by a 46-58 Ma peak along with 200-250 Ma, 325 Ma, 375-400 Ma, 600 Ma, 1000 Ma, 2000 Ma and 2600 Ma peaks. Paleozoic to Proterozoic detrital zircon ages and clasts of quartz, mica and gneiss in the SB indicate that the Central Sakarya Basement, which was exposed in the hanging wall of the thrust, was a sediment source (Mueller et al., 2019). In addition, the 46-58 Ma peak and 200-250 and 325 Ma doublet indicate that the SB received sediment from the Eocene volcanic belt within the SB and the Karakaya Complex, respectively (Mueller et al., 2019).

In the CSB, the increase in sedimentary lithics (**Figure 7**) along with negligible changes in DZ age spectra from Phase 2 to Phase 3—except for the appearance of 58-41 Ma zircons (**Figure 8**)—are consistent with continued sediment recycling and no major change in CSB provenance through the middle Eocene. The absence of the Karakaya Complex Triassic and Carboniferous age doublet and the scarcity of Silurian-Precambrian zircons in middle to upper Eocene CSB samples could point to disconnected CSB and SB depocenters. CSB-SB partitioning is roughly coeval with the resumption of deposition in the southwestern CSB and the 58-54 Ma transition from marine to continental facies and prograding clastic wedges (Ocakoğlu et al., 2018). Sediment recycling and general northward-directed drainages (Ocakoğlu et al., 2018) suggest that Phase 1 and 2 deposits were unroofed along the Tuzaklı-Gümele Thrust hanging wall and recycled into the CSB during Phase 3. Therefore, during Phase 3, deformation and exhumation propagated north of the İAES; basement-involved shortening (Şahin et al., 2019) structurally partitioned the SB and CSB foreland along the Tuzaklı-Gümele Thrust (**Figure 2**; Mueller et al., 2019). Seaways persisted into Phase 3 as indicated by Ypresian-Lutetian marine deposition in the eastern SB (Okay et al., 2020; Şahin et al., 2019) and Lutetian-Priabonian marine deposition in the distal (northern) CSB (e.g., Ocakoğlu et al., 2018), which suggests there was not significant regional surface uplift or crustal thickening during Phase 3 (54-38 Ma).

7. Implications for Geodynamic Mechanisms Controlling Collisional Deformation

This section explores the possible geodynamic mechanisms that could explain a ~20 Myr multi-phase collision along the İAES. Multi-phased, "soft-hard" collisions have been proposed numerous times in the Tethyan domain (e.g., Ballato et al., 2018; Beaumont et al., 1996; Darin et al., 2018; Jagoutz et al., 2016; Kaymakci et al., 2009; Pourteau et al., 2016; Tye et al., 2020) and worldwide. These scenarios are based on a variety of mechanisms: subduction of a highly extended lower plate oceanic and continental lithosphere (van Hinsbergen et al., 2011, 2012), arc-continent collision (Jagoutz et al., 2016; Martin et al., 2020), slab breakoff (DeCelles et al., 2011; Sinclair, 1997), relict basin closure (Cowgill et al., 2016), and increased lower plate lithospheric thickness (Ballato et al., 2011; Soret et al., 2021). One or a combination of these scenarios could explain the protracted nature of intercontinental collision in western Anatolia, including the thick-skinned deformation and basin partitioning at 54 Ma.

Several mechanisms for protracted Tethyan collisions are not applicable in western Anatolia. Discrepancies between shortening and convergence led to several geodynamic mechanisms for protracted and multi-stage India-Asia collision (e.g., Hu et al., 2016; Kapp & DeCelles, 2019 and references therein), such as a wide lower plate lithosphere (i.e., Greater India; van Hinsbergen et al., 2011, 2012) and initial collision of an intra-oceanic arc (Jagoutz et al., 2015, 2016; Martin et al., 2020). While there likely was a wide pre-collisional lower plate TVZ lithosphere and possibly an intra-oceanic arc (Göncüoğlu et al., 2000, 2010; Sarıfakıoğlu et al., 2009, 2017), the most recent plate reconstructions require only a few hundred kilometers between the SKZ and TVZ in the early Campanian (van Hinsbergen et al., 2020). Therefore, these geodynamic mechanisms invoked to explain upper plate shortening deficits and thousands of kilometers of distance between continental domains during initial collisional deformation are not pertinent in western Anatolia. In the remaining part of the discussion, we focus on the three mechanisms that are the most viable for SKZ-TVZ collision.

7.1. Slab Breakoff

Slab breakoff is a mechanism commonly employed to explain coeval surface uplift, extension and magmatism (von Blanckenburg & Davies, 1995; Davies & von Blanckenburg, 1995), although its prevalence in the geologic past and its genetic connection to magmatism is questioned (Garzanti et al., 2018; Niu, 2017). In western Anatolia, slab breakoff can explain the

timing and geochemical signature of ~58-40 Ma magmatism (Altunkaynak et al., 2012; Dilek & Altunkaynak, 2009; Ersoy, Akal, et al., 2017; Ersoy, Palmer, et al., 2017; Harris et al., 1994; Kasapoğlu et al., 2016). However this interpretation is debated for four main reasons (Ustaömer et al., 2009; see also Mueller et al., 2019; Okay & Whitney, 2010; Okay & Satir, 2006; van Hinsbergen et al., 2010). (1) The TVZ slab was subducted to mantle depths in the Late Cretaceous and the exhumation of blueschists in the Campanian-Maastrichtian suggests slab breakoff was in the Late Cretaceous not Eocene (e.g., Okay & Satir, 2006). (2) Geodynamic models of slab breakoff predict >1.5 km of surface uplift across several hundreds of kilometers across-strike (Göğüş et al., 2016). Yet, across the <150 km İAES and CSB width (**Figure 2**), Paleocene-Eocene marine deposition in the CSB and SB indicates there was not significant surface uplift. (3) Magmatism was contemporaneous across three parallel volcano-plutonic belts at the northern margin of the CSB, bisecting the SB, and in the TVZ (e.g., Ersoy, Akal, et al., 2017; Ersoy, Palmer, et al., 2017; Harris et al., 1994; Kasapoğlu et al., 2016). (4) There was early Eocene contractional deformation in the SB and no evidence for extension (Mueller et al., 2019; Şahin et al., 2019). Slab breakoff has been inferred in extensional sedimentary basins based on the observation of alternating clastic and lacustrine deposits, an overall fining-upward sedimentary succession, high sedimentation rates, and an absence of contractional growth structures (DeCelles et al., 2011; Leary et al., 2016). Although the SB contains alternating clastic floodplain and lacustrine limestone deposits and no contractional growth strata, the presence of basement-aged zircons and clasts of quartz, mica and gneiss in coarse-grained fluvial deposits indicate that the Central Sakarya Basement was exposed in the hanging wall of the Tuzaklı-Gümele Thrust in the early Eocene (Mueller et al., 2019). The slab break-off model remains a popular interpretation for Eocene magmatism; other explanations include lithospheric delamination (van Hinsbergen et al., 2010; Pourteau et al., 2013), arc volcanism from a different subduction zone system (Okay & Satir, 2006), and mid-to-late Eocene orogenic collapse and extension (Ustaömer et al., 2009). We note that an amagmatic slab breakoff (Garzanti et al., 2018; Niu, 2017) occurring ~10 Myr after initial collision, during the 67-58 Ma magmatic lull and Yenipazar section angular unconformity, could partly solve these issues and provide a mechanism to increase plate coupling and contractional deformation and facilitate juvenile magmatism (**Figure 10a**).

7.2. Relict Basin Closure

In both the Arabia-Eurasia and India-Asia collisions, the initial collision of upper plate island arcs or continental terranes with the lower plate continental lithosphere results in upper plate backarc basin closure (e.g., Cowgill et al., 2016; Jagoutz et al., 2015; Kapp & DeCelles, 2019). Initial Arabian collision is inferred from the coeval ca. 36 Ma magmatic lull and switch from extension to contraction in the Alborz Mountains of Iran (Ballato et al., 2011), and increased exhumation rates in the eastern Taurides (Darin et al., 2018) and central Pontides (Ballato et al., 2018). Yet initial foreland basin sedimentation (Ballato et al., 2011), slowed convergence rates (McQuarrie et al., 2003), and increased exhumation near the Bitlis suture zone (Okay et al., 2010) was delayed until at 20-17 Ma. Cowgill et al. (2016) suggest that significant upper plate deformation from the Arabia-Eurasia collision was delayed by ~15-20 Myr due to northward jumping deformation. In this scenario, collisional stress was transferred through the lithosphere and closed several upper plate basins (Cowgill et al., 2016). Eocene-Oligocene Arabian collision along the Bitlis-Zagros suture (e.g., Koshnaw et al., 2019; McQuarrie et al., 2003; McQuarrie & van Hinsbergen, 2013) initiated subduction in the backarc basin between the Lesser and Greater Caucasus (e.g., Avdeev & Niemi, 2011); then, completed backarc basin closure around 5 Ma produced a 10-fold increase in Greater Caucasus exhumation rates (Avdeev & Niemi, 2011) coincident with foreland basin erosion and non-deposition, mixing of sediment from the upper and lower plates, and provenance signatures of progressive crustal exhumation (e.g., Tye et al., 2020).

In line with this relict basin closure scenario, major collisional deformation from initial TVZ-SKZ underthrusting could be delayed by >20 Myr due to the closure of relict basins to the north or south of the İAES (**Figure 10b**). The closure of the Intra-Pontide suture zone is a strong candidate to explain this delay because the timing of suturing remains unclear, with proposed ages spanning from the Early Cretaceous (Akbayram et al., 2013), to the Late Cretaceous-Paleocene (Di Rosa et al., 2019; Göncüoğlu et al., 2000; Özcan et al., 2012; Robertson & Ustaömer, 2004), and to the Paleocene-Eocene (Akbayram et al., 2016; Göncüoğlu et al., 2014; Okay et al., 1994). Major contractional deformation could also be delayed by the hypothesized southward-jumping subduction zones synchronously or sequentially facilitating the closure of Neotethyan oceanic basins between Anatolide and Tauride terranes south of the İAES (Pourteau et al., 2013, 2016). Resumed or increased continental underthrusting at 54 Ma along the İAES could partly explain the renewal of magmatism without explaining its regional distribution. The

lack of consensus on the history of Intra-Pontide rifting and suturing makes it difficult to assess the applicability of this mechanism.

7.3. Increasing Lithospheric Thickness of the Lower Plate

Another two-stage collision scenario invoked for Tethyan collisions involves the underthrusting of increasing thickness of lower plate passive margin lithosphere (e.g., Ballato et al., 2011; Darin et al., 2018; Soret et al., 2021). In the Himalayan sector, the initial collision of India with Asia is generally accepted as 60-55 Ma when the final vestiges of Neotethyan oceanic crust were subducted (Hu et al., 2016 and references therein). In northern Pakistan, Barrovian metamorphism from 47 to 38 Ma is coincident with the formation and exhumation of eclogites (Soret et al., 2021), a >50% decrease in convergence rates at 50-45 Ma (van Hinsbergen et al., 2011), and increased exhumation in the Himalaya starting around 35 Ma (Ding et al., 2016). Following oceanic basin closure, Soret et al. (2021) identify the first phase of collision as a period of "continental subduction," which is the slow underthrusting of thinned Indian passive margin lithosphere beneath Asia. Continental subduction is expressed as Barrovian metamorphism and the accommodation of convergence by underplating and tectonic stacking (Soret et al., 2021). Then, a second collision phase, "collision initiation," began ca. 38 Ma when increased mechanical coupling between India and Asia significantly increased transpressional deformation (i.e., Main Mantle thrust, Karakorum fault), exhumation, uplift, and erosion rates (Soret et al., 2021).

Therefore, multi-phase collision in western Anatolia could be attributed to the arrival of progressively thicker, buoyant TVZ continental lithosphere beneath the SKZ (**Figure 10c**). At 76 Ma, the initial continental subduction," or "soft" collision, of thinned passive margin lithosphere locked the subduction zone megathrust, triggered upper plate shortening, and exhumed the accretionary prism (Beaumont et al., 1996; Tye et al., 2020). The appearance of basement-aged zircons in the CSB at 76 Ma is closely followed by a regional unconformity (Ocakoğlu et al., 2007), magmatic lull (67-58 Ma), TVZ Barrovian metamorphism (63-57 Ma; e.g., Whitney et al., 2011), and TVZ exhumation (60 Ma; Seaton et al., 2009). Subsequent thick-skinned deformation and basin partitioning by 54 Ma (Mueller et al., 2019; Şahin et al., 2019) would represent the final "collision initiation", or "hard collision," defined by the arrival of full-thickness continental lithosphere along the subduction zone and a more substantial plate coupling manifested as

widespread regional contractional deformation. A convergence rate of ~5 mm/yr from 76 to 54 Ma (van Hinsbergen et al., 2020) predicts ~110 km of TVZ underthrusting, which is less than estimates for the amount of underthrust thinned, passive margin Arabian lithosphere (~400-480 km; Ballato et al., 2011; Darin et al., 2018). This mechanism reasonably explains the collisional evolution of the İAES in western Anatolia.

7.4. Geodynamic Influence on Mediterranean Biogeography

Even though it remains difficult to pinpoint a specific mechanism for protracted collision and delay in upper plate deformation, our results highlight a direct—and unexpected—geodynamic and paleogeographic control on the regional fauna. Backarc rifting in the middle Cretaceous isolated the Pontides from Eurasia (Akdoğan et al., 2019; Okay & Nikishin, 2015), setting the stage for Paleogene endemism. In Cretaceous-Paleogene times, Anatolia was an island archipelago separated from large continental domains (i.e., Afro-Arabia, Europe and Asia) by strands of the Paleotethys and Neotethys oceans (Barrier & Vrielynck, 2008; van Hinsbergen et al., 2020). Gradual Late Cretaceous to early Eocene convergence and collision favored colonization of the Pontides by Gondwanan and Laurasian mammalian clades via "island hopping" across the Neotethyan archipelago (Beard et al., 2020; Jones et al., 2018; Kappelman et al., 1996; Licht et al., 2017; Métais et al., 2017; Sen, 2013). The TVZ-SKZ collision assembled a larger subaerial continental landmass that further promoted *in situ* diversification of endemic taxa (Maas et al., 2001; Métais et al., 2018). Endemism persisted until at least the Lutetian (44-43 Ma; Licht et al., 2017), a time when much of Anatolia was near sea level (e.g., Licht et al., 2017; Lygina et al., 2016; MTA, 2002; Ocakoğlu et al., 2012; Özcan et al., 2019; Racey, 2001). Therefore, the protracted nature of the collision, especially with respect to evolving plate coupling, is pertinent to the timing and magnitude of crustal thickening and topographic development and might explain the persistence of seaways and faunal isolation until late in the collision timeline (Beard et al., 2020b; Jones et al., 2018; Licht et al., 2017; Métais et al., 2018; Sen, 2013). In this way, the protracted nature of İAES collision is relevant to the evolution of emergent landmasses and exemplifies a direct influence of geodynamics and tectonics on biogeography.

8. Conclusion

The uninterrupted sedimentary record of the forearc-to-foreland Central Sakarya Basin records a complete history of progressive intercontinental collision that can serve as an example for Tethyan collisions. This sedimentary basin highlights how geodynamic mechanisms involving changing plate coupling can reconcile and synthesize collision proxies with seeming 15-40 Myr discrepancies into a holistic model for protracted collisions. During Cenomanian to early Campanian times (94-76 Ma), the CSB forearc basin received detritus from the Pontide volcanic belt, likely located at the southern margin of the CSB. Phase 2 started at 76 Ma with the appearance of recycled basement-aged zircons in CSB strata, northward prograding deltas (Ocakoğlu et al., 2018) and increased in mafic input (Açıkalın et al., 2016), which record İAES uplift and exhumation attributed to the onset of TVZ-SKZ continental collision. Phase 3 began at 54 Ma and is associated with to the onset of thick-skinned deformation, foreland basin partitioning, and regional syn-collisional magmatism.

The shift in deformation regime 20 Myr after initial intercontinental collision emphasizes the protracted nature of the collision. The duration of İAES suturing may be explained by aspects of three multi-phase collision models that implicate a change in plate coupling: slab breakoff, relict basin closure, and underthrusting of progressively thicker lithosphere. Given the debated chronology of relict basin closure and the setting of Eocene magmatism, the underthrusting of progressively thicker lower plate passive margin lithosphere is the best and simplest explanation for protracted collision in western Anatolia.

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Figure 1. Simplified terrane map of Anatolia including hypothesized suture zones (dashed lines) modified from Licht et al. (2017). İAES: İzmir-Ankara-Erzincan suture zone; IPS: Intra-Pontide suture zone.

Figure 2. Simplified geologic map of northwestern Anatolia (after Aksay et al., 2002; Duru & Aksay, 2002; Gedik & Aksay, 2002; Şahin et al., 2019; Timur & Aksay, 2002; Turhan, 2002). See Figure 1 for location. Note that some published Karakaya Complex samples are west of the displayed map area.

Figure 3. Outcrops and isotopic ages of Devonian through Eocene plutons. Jurassic metamorphic rocks, Neoproterozoic to Ordovician crystalline basement, and southern CSB Late Cretaceous volcaniclastics are included (see Ocakoğlu et al., 2018; Duru & Aksay, 2002; Gedik & Aksay, 2002). Adapted from Akdoğan et al. (2017), Ersoy, Akal, et al. (2017), and Okay & Nikishin (2015) and references therein.

Figure 4. Simplified Upper Cretaceous through Eocene lithostratigraphic diagram of the Central Sakarya Basin showing formation names and ages, and sample locations. The measured sections, stratigraphic age constraints, and interpreted depositional environments are from Ocakoğlu et al. (2018). Measured sections are schematically oriented in space; see Figure 2 for measured section locations. Grain size: Sh: shale; Ss: sandstone; Cg: conglomerate.

Figure 5. Detrital zircon age spectra characterizing potential sediment sources displayed as probability density functions (black lines) and optimized fixed bandwidth kernel density estimates (black lines and color shading). The Pontides volcanic arc ages are from a published compilation of pluton zircon U-Pb ages from the central and eastern Pontides. The Karakaya Complex samples are from Triassic sedimentary rocks and one modern river sample draining the İzmir-Ankara-Erzincan suture zone. The Central Sakarya Basement compilation includes bedrock and metasedimentary zircon U-Pb ages. See **Table 1** for data sources.

Figure 6. Detrital zircon age spectra from Central Sakarya Basin (CSB) and Sarıcakaya Basin (SB) detrital zircon samples grouped by basin phase (see main text); Phase 3 is split into CSB and SB groups. Data are displayed as probability density functions (black lines) and optimized

fixed bandwidth kernel density estimates (black lines and color shading). See **Table 1** for data sources.

Figure 7. Ternary diagrams of sandstone modal composition from the CSB. Samples are grouped by the sedimentary basin phases discussed in the text. Poles: Qt: total quartz; Qm: monocrystalline quartz; F: feldspar; L: lithics; Lm: metamorphic lithics; Ls: sedimentary lithics; Lv: volcanic lithics; Lt: total lithics (L + polycrystalline quartz).

Figure 8. Probability density functions (black lines) and optimized fixed bandwidth kernel density estimates (black lines and shading) of all bedrock, modern, and detrital zircon ages grouped by basement terrane, basin, and stratigraphic age. See main text for discussion.

Figure 9. All 150 to 30 Ma detrital zircon U-Pb ages from all SB and CSB samples are displayed as a histogram (1 Myr bins) and probability density function. The chronostratigraphic chart and depositional environments of the CSB and SB are after Ocakoğlu et al. (2018) and Mueller et al. (2019), respectively. Shading highlights the three sedimentary basin phases discussed in the text.

Figure 10. Schematic diagram of multi-phase collision scenarios (inspired by Darin et al., 2018; Di Rosa et al., 2019; Göncüoğlu et al., 2014). (**a**) Tavşanlı Zone slab breakoff. (**b**) Relict basin closure between the Sakarya (SKZ) and Istanbul (IST) Zones in the north and/or the Tavşanlı Zone (TVZ) and Afyon Zone or Tauride terrane (AF-TAU) in the south. (**c**) Subduction and underthrusting of progressively thicker Tavşanlı Zone continental lithosphere.

Table 1. New and published samples, units, ages, groups, sample types, and sources. DZ: detrital zircon; SP: sandstone petrography. Data sources: 1: Ustaömer et al., 2012; 2: Ustaömer et al., 2016; 3: Campbell, 2017; 4: Ocakoğlu et al., 2018; 5: Schleiffarth et al., 2018 and references therein; 6: Mueller et al., 2019; 7: this study.

Figure 1.

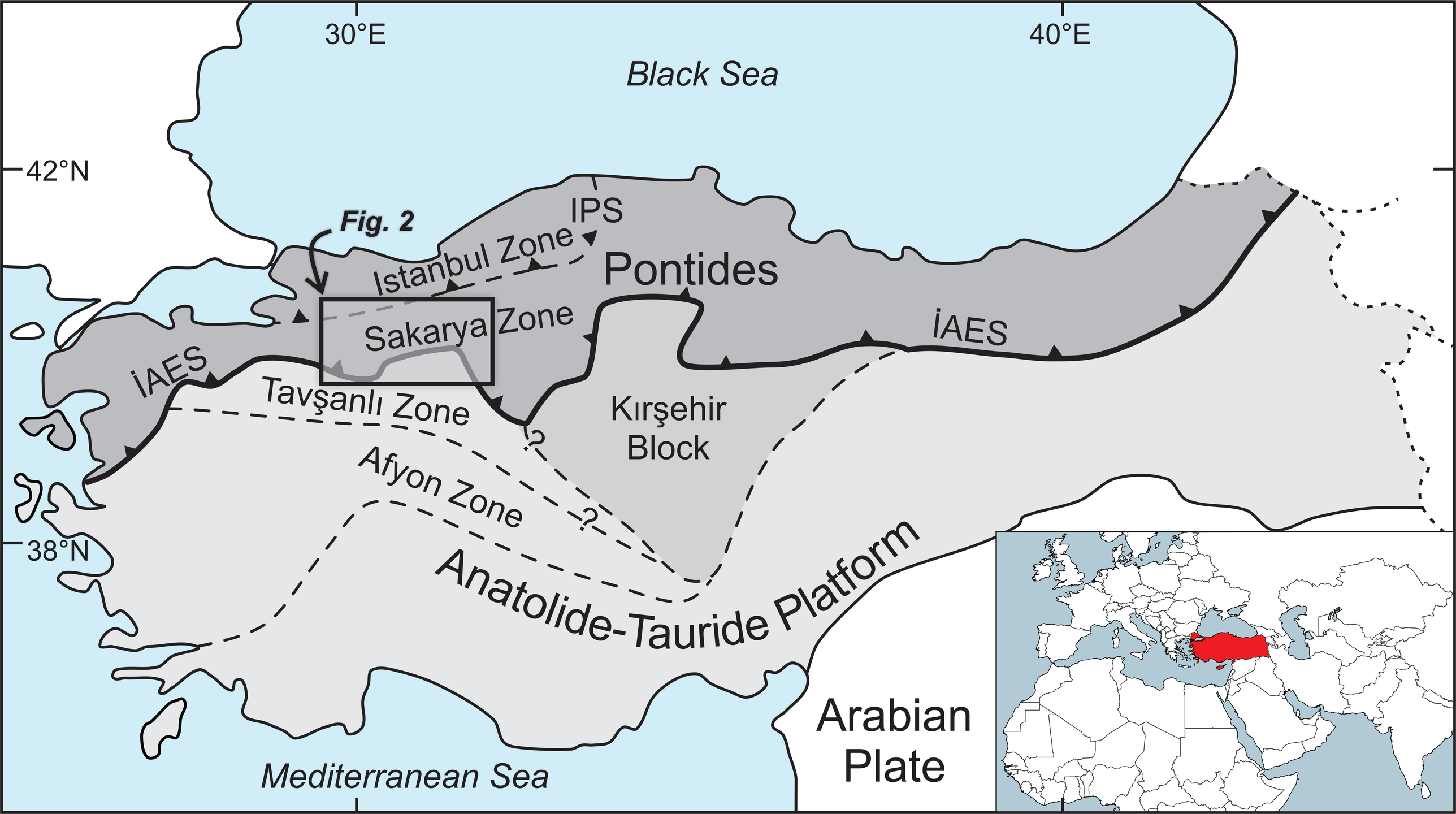
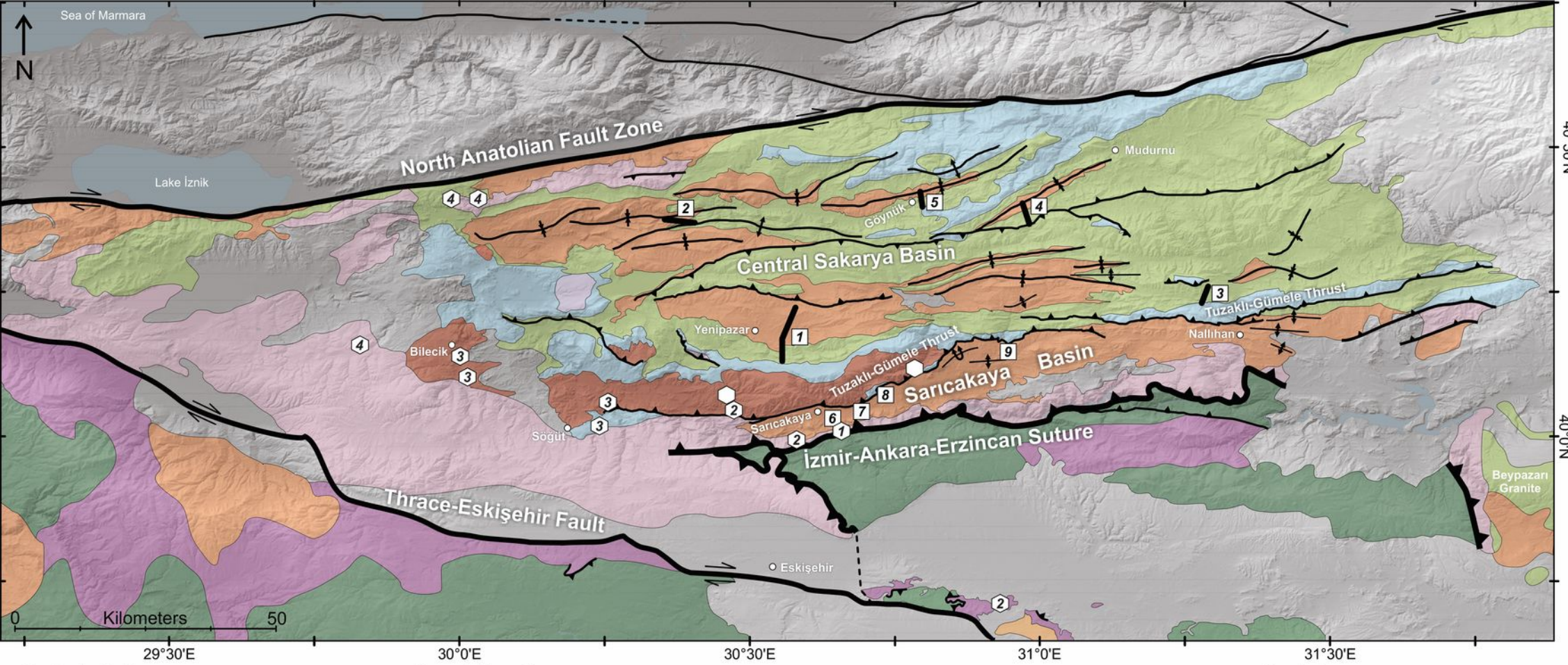

30°E
40°E
Black Sea
42°N
Fig. 2
IPS
Istanbul Zone
Pontides
Sakarya Zone
İAES
İAES
Tavşanlı Zone
Kırşehir
Block
?
Afyon Zone
?
38°N
Anatolide-Tauride Platform
Arabian
Plate
Mediterranean Sea

Figure 2.



Geologic Units:

- Paleogene sedimentary and igneous
- Cretaceous sedimentary and igneous
- Cretaceous ophiolite and mélange
- Jurassic sedimentary and igneous
- Permian-Triassic Karakaya Complex
- Central Sakarya basement, incl. Carboniferous granitoids
- Tavşanli Zone basement

Sample Locations:

Central Sakarya Basin

- Measured sections from Ocakoğlu et al. (2018)
- [1] Yenipazar section
- [2] Tarakı section
- [3] Nallıhan section
- [4] Okçular section
- [5] Göynük section

Sarıcakaya Basin

Measured sections from Mueller et al. (2019)

- [6] Mayıslar section
- [7] Iğdır section
- [8] Kapıkaya section
- [9] Ozanköy section

Provenance Sources

- This study
- (1) Published samples

1: Campbell (2017), 2: Mueller et al. (2019), 3: Ustaömer et al. (2012), 4: Ustaömer et al. (2016)

Symbols:

- Anticline
- Syncline
- City
- Strike-slip fault
- Thrust fault or suture

Figure 3.

Paleocene-Early Eocene volcanic rocks
Paleocene-Early Eocene granitoids
Late Cretaceous volcanic and volcaniclastic rocks
Late Cretaceous granitoids
Middle Jurassic granitoids and HT metamorphics
Triassic magmatic arc belt (subsurface)
Permian granitoids
Carboniferous granitoids
Devonian granitoids
Late Neoproterozoic to Ordovician crystalline basement
45 Published radiometric age

Black Sea
Istanbul Zone
Intra-Pontide Suture
Pontides
CSB
İzmir-Ankara-Erzincan Suture
Kırşehir Block
Anatolide-Tauride Platform

320-290
540
331-325
271
79
320-310
257
172-162
303-275
262
170-165
590-560
576-565
546-535
253-249
68
257-255
53-47
317-304
330
78
324
330
49-47
52-49
488-460
585-570
685-561
446
47
395
53-48
402-389
49
45
53
51
327-319
83-70
45

Figure 4.

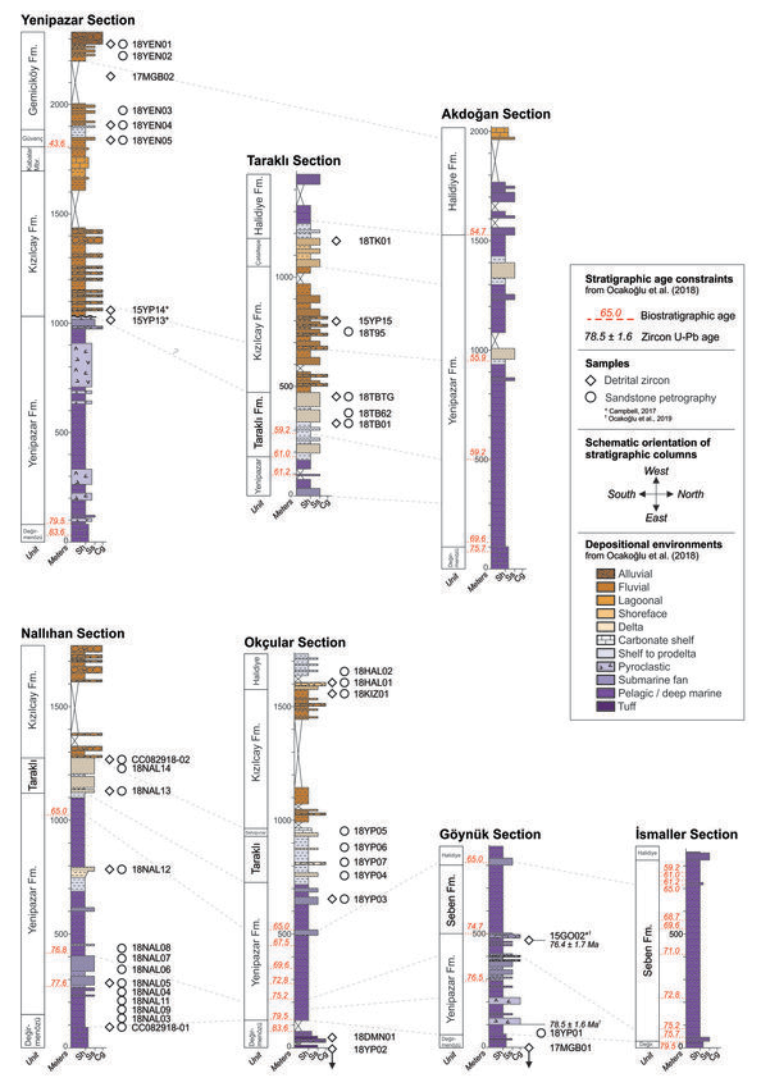
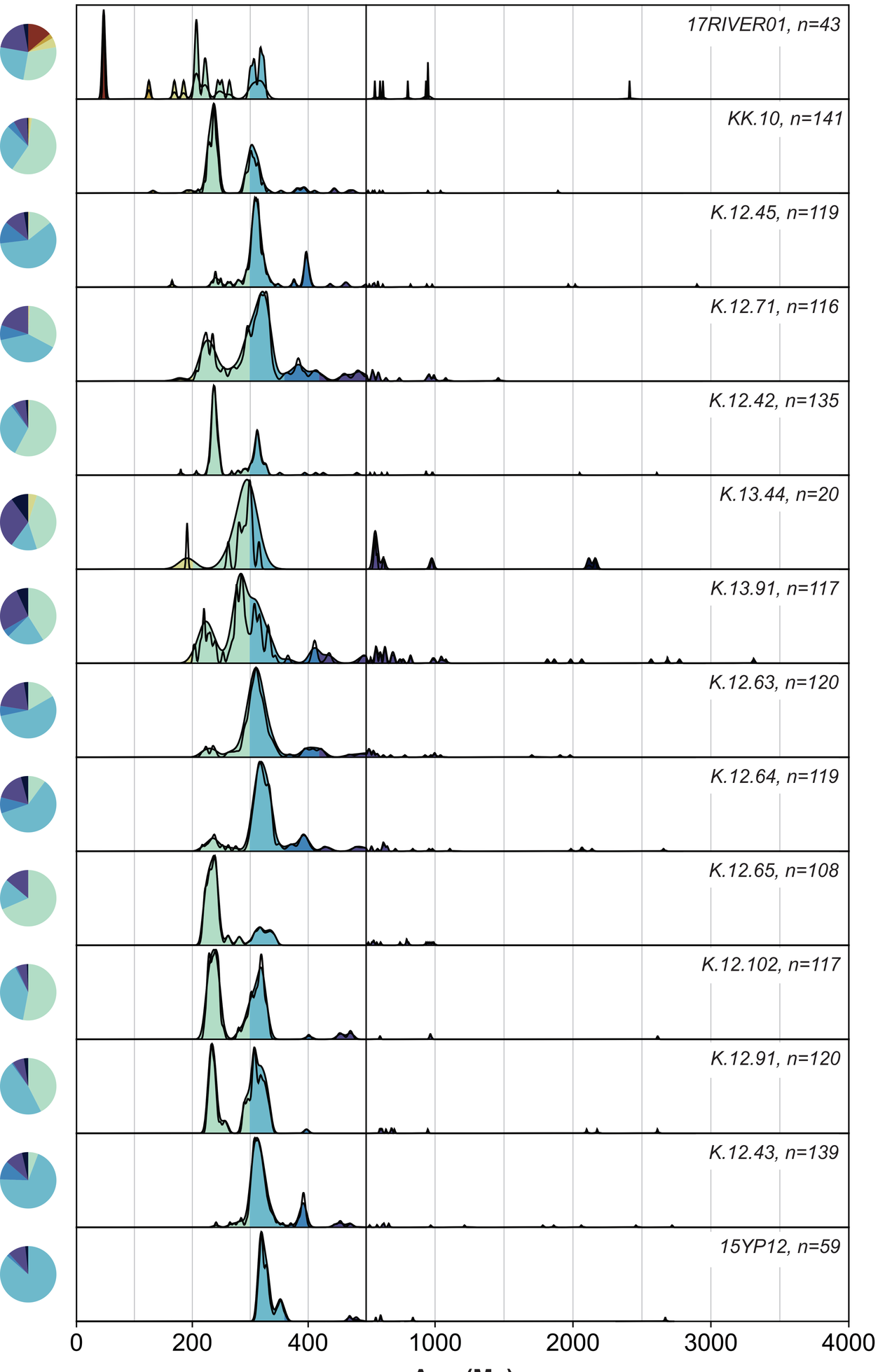
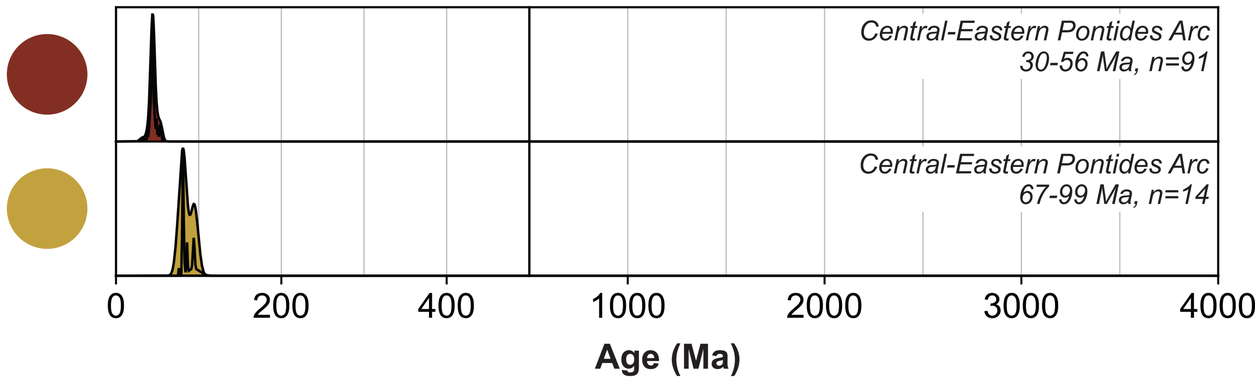

Yenipazar Section
Gemicikoy Fm.
Kizilcay Fm.
Yenipazar Fm.
18YEN01
18YEN02
17MGB02
18YEN03
18YEN04
18YEN05
15YP14*
15YP13*
43.6
79.5
63.6
Taraklı Section
Halidiye Fm.
Kizilcay Fm.
Taraklı Fm.
Yenipazar Fm.
18TK01
15YP15
18T95
18TBTG
18TB62
18TB01
59.2
61.0
61.2
Akdoğan Section
Halidiye Fm.
Yenipazar Fm.
54.7
53.9
59.2
69.6
75.7
Stratigraphic age constraints
from Ocakoğlu et al. (2018)
65.0 Biostratigraphic age
78.5 ± 1.6 Zircon U-Pb age
Samples
Detrital zircon
Sandstone petrography
* Campbell, 2017
* Ocakoğlu et al., 2019
Schematic orientation of stratigraphic columns
West
South
North
East
Depositional environments
from Ocakoğlu et al. (2018)
Alluvial
Fluvial
Lagoonal
Shoreface
Delta
Carbonate shelf
Shelf to prodelta
Pyroclastic
Submarine fan
Pelagic / deep marine
Tuff
Nallıhan Section
Kizilcay Fm.
Taraklı
Yenipazar Fm.
CC082918-02
18NAL14
18NAL13
18NAL12
18NAL08
18NAL07
18NAL06
18NAL05
18NAL04
18NAL11
18NAL09
18NAL03
CC082918-01
65.0
75.8
77.6
Okçular Section
Halidiye
Kizilcay Fm.
Taraklı
Yenipazar Fm.
18HAL02
18HAL01
18KIZ01
18YP05
18YP06
18YP07
18YP04
18YP03
18DMN01
18YP02
65.0
67.5
69.6
72.8
73.2
79.5
83.6
Göynük Section
Halidiye
Seben Fm.
Yenipazar Fm.
15GO02*1
76.4 ± 1.7 Ma
18YP01
78.5 ± 1.6 Ma2
17MGB01
65.0
74.7
76.5
İsmaller Section
Halidiye
Seben Fm.
Dogu.
59.2
61.0
65.0
68.7
69.6
71.0
72.8
73.2
75.7
79.5
500
Unit
Meters
Sh
Sh
Cg

Figure 5.

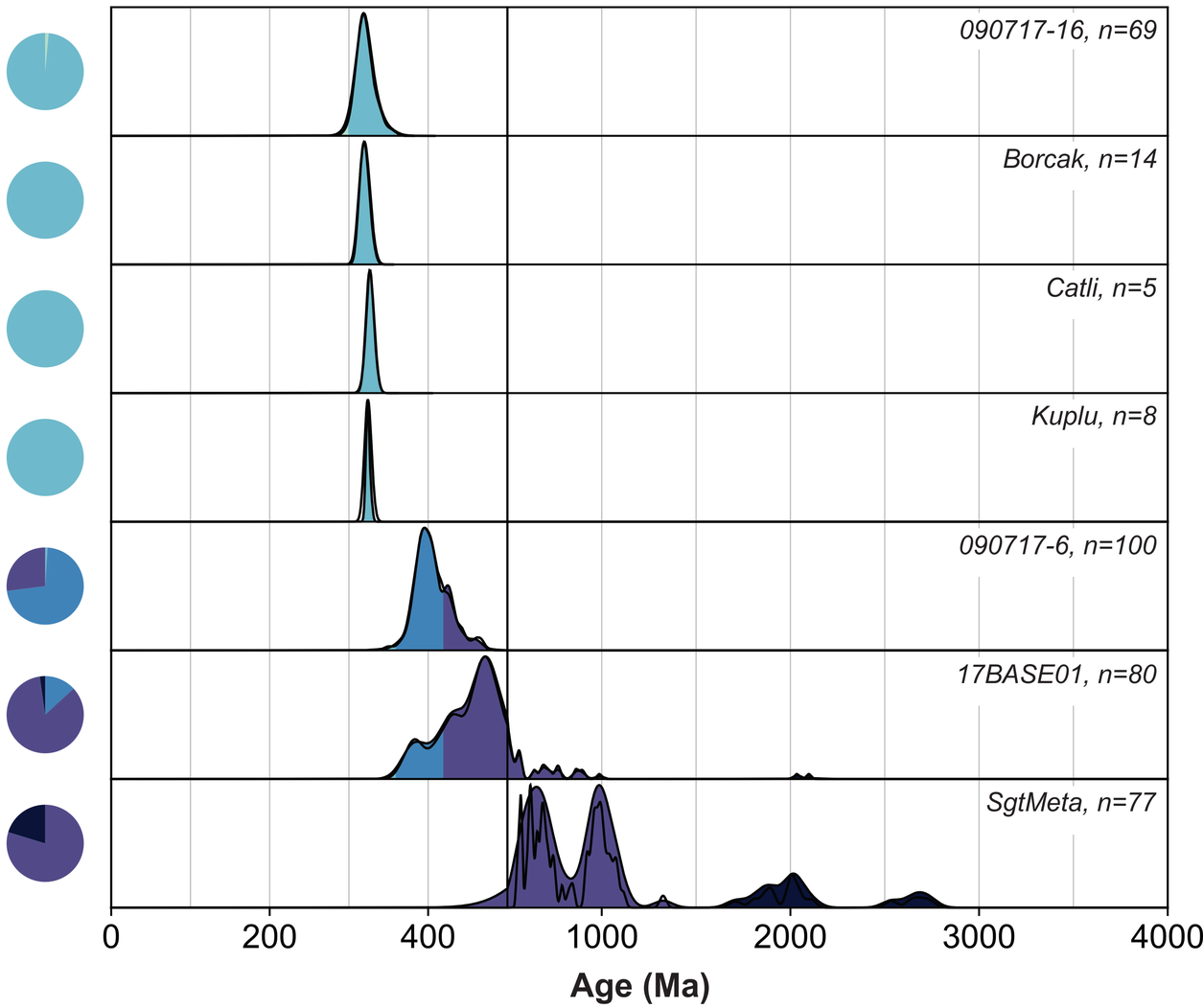
Karakaya Complex and İAES



Central and Eastern Anatolian Volcanic Arc



Central Sakarya Basement



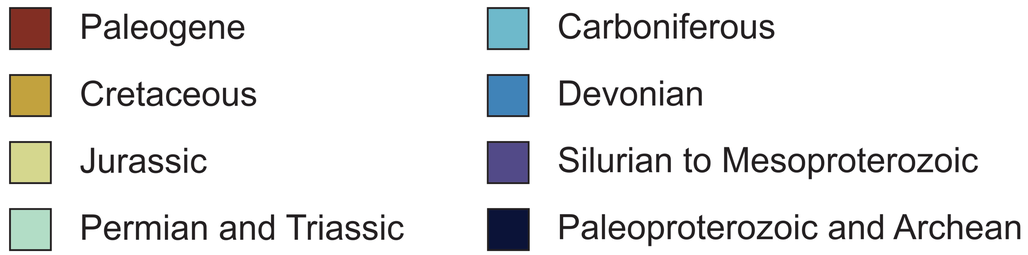
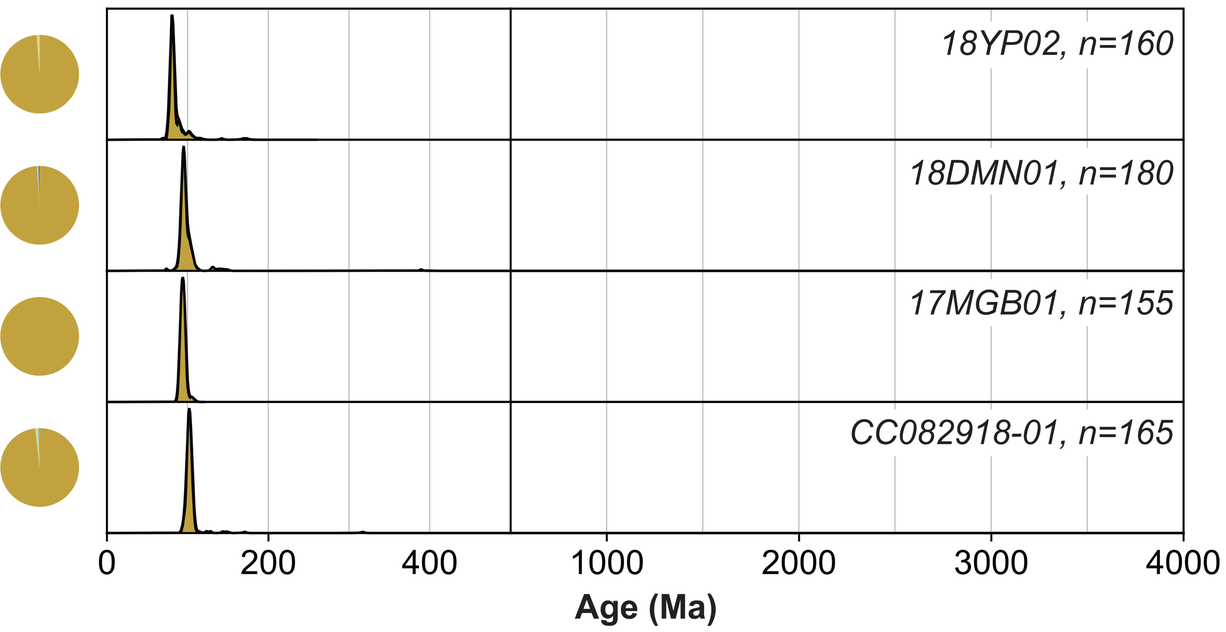
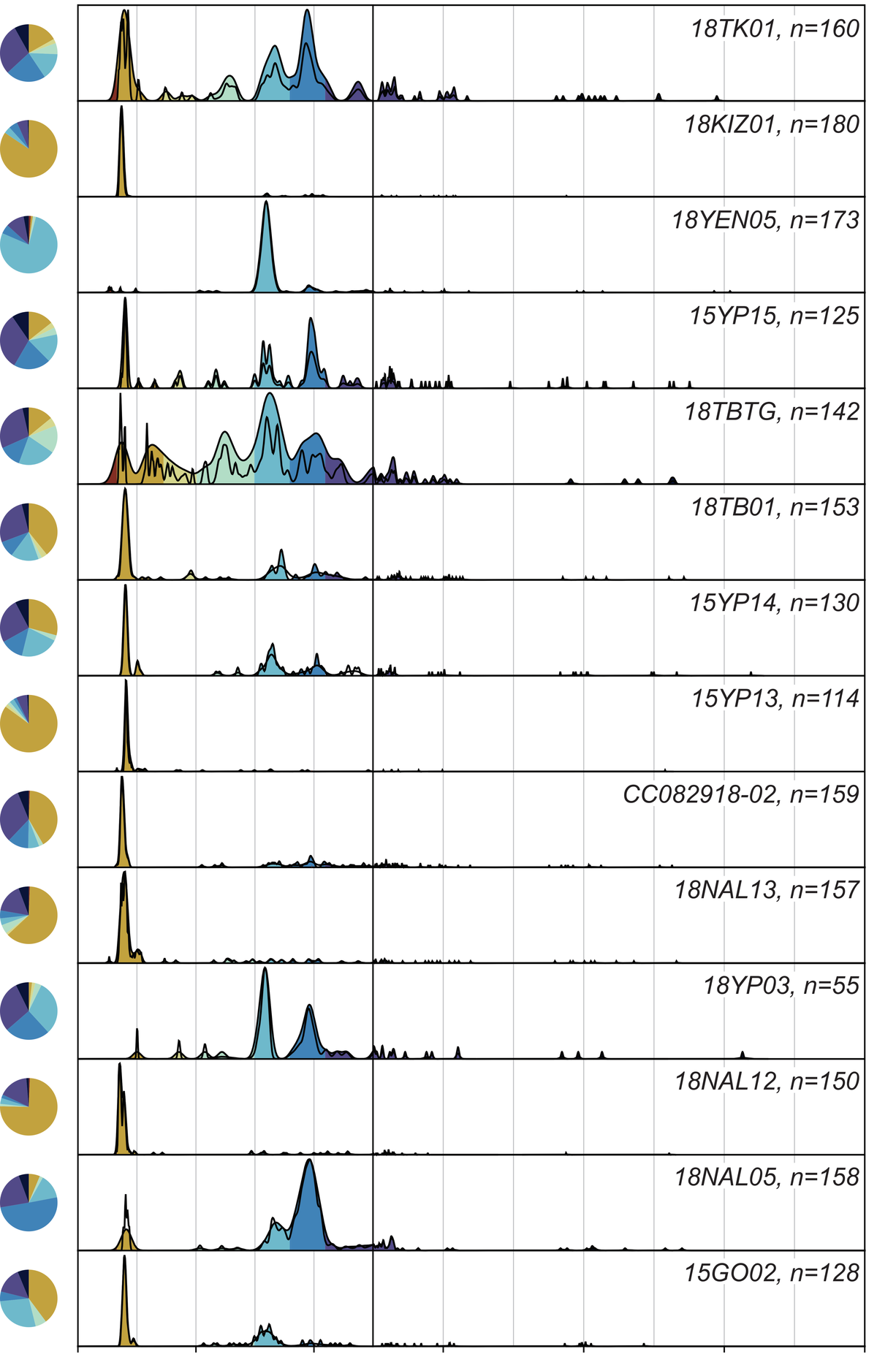


Figure 6.

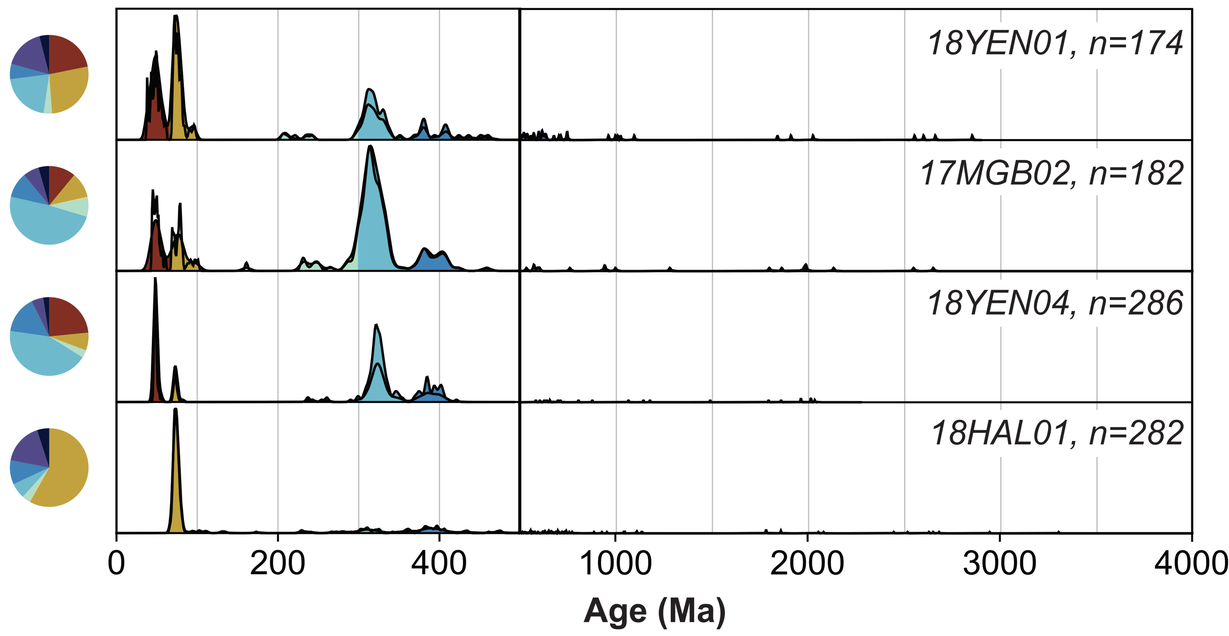
Phase 1: Turonian to Lower Campanian CSB



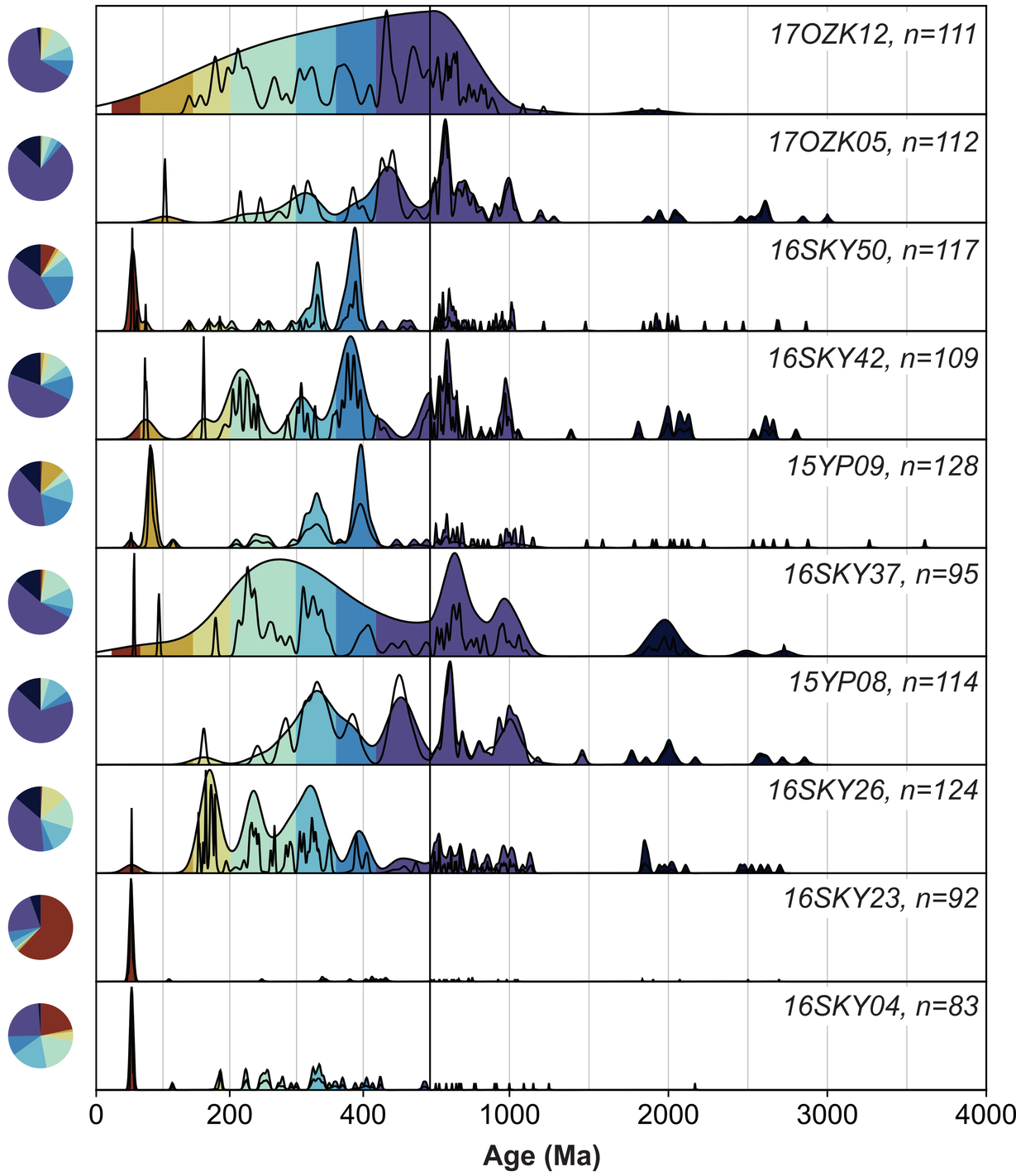
Phase 2: Middle Campanian to Lower Eocene CSB



Phase 3: Middle to Upper Eocene CSB



Phase 3: Lower to Middle Eocene SB



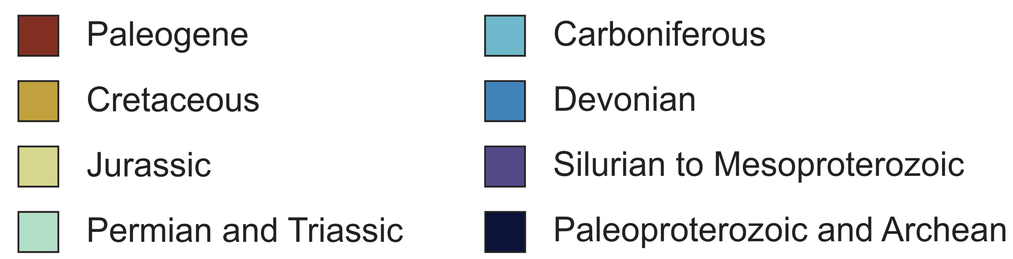


Figure 7.

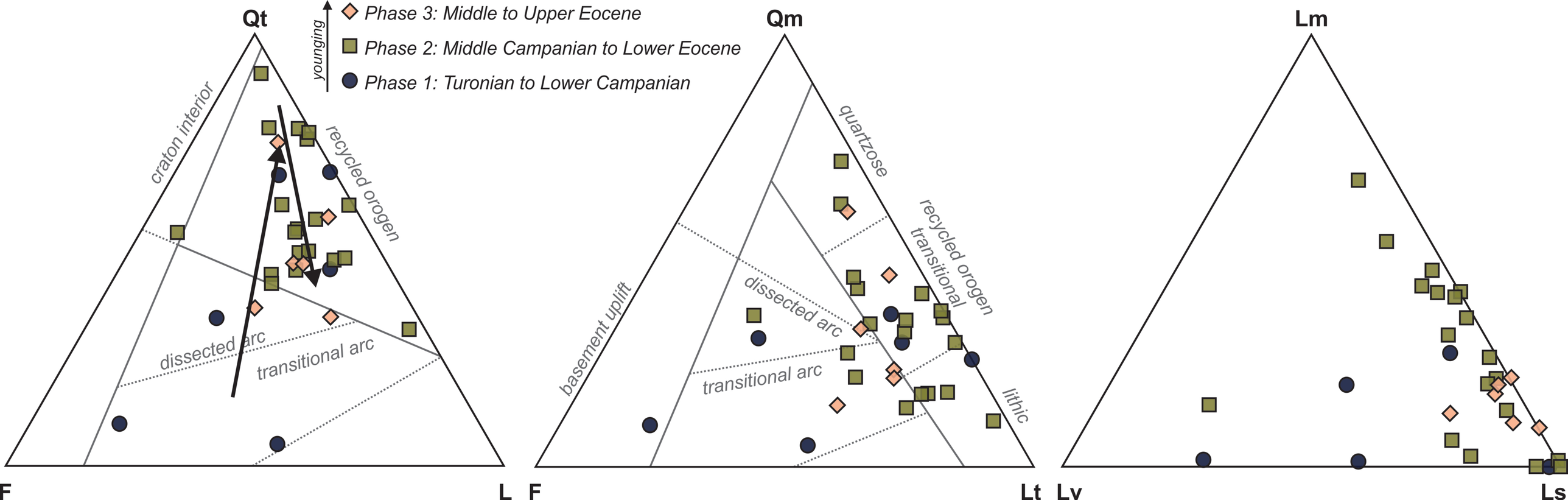

Qt
younging
Phase 3: Middle to Upper Eocene
Phase 2: Middle Campanian to Lower Eocene
Phase 1: Turonian to Lower Campanian
craton interior
recycled orogen
dissected arc
transitional arc
F
L
Qm
quartzose
recycled orogen
transitional
basement uplift
dissected arc
transitional arc
lithic
F
Lt
Lm
Lv
Ls

Figure 8.

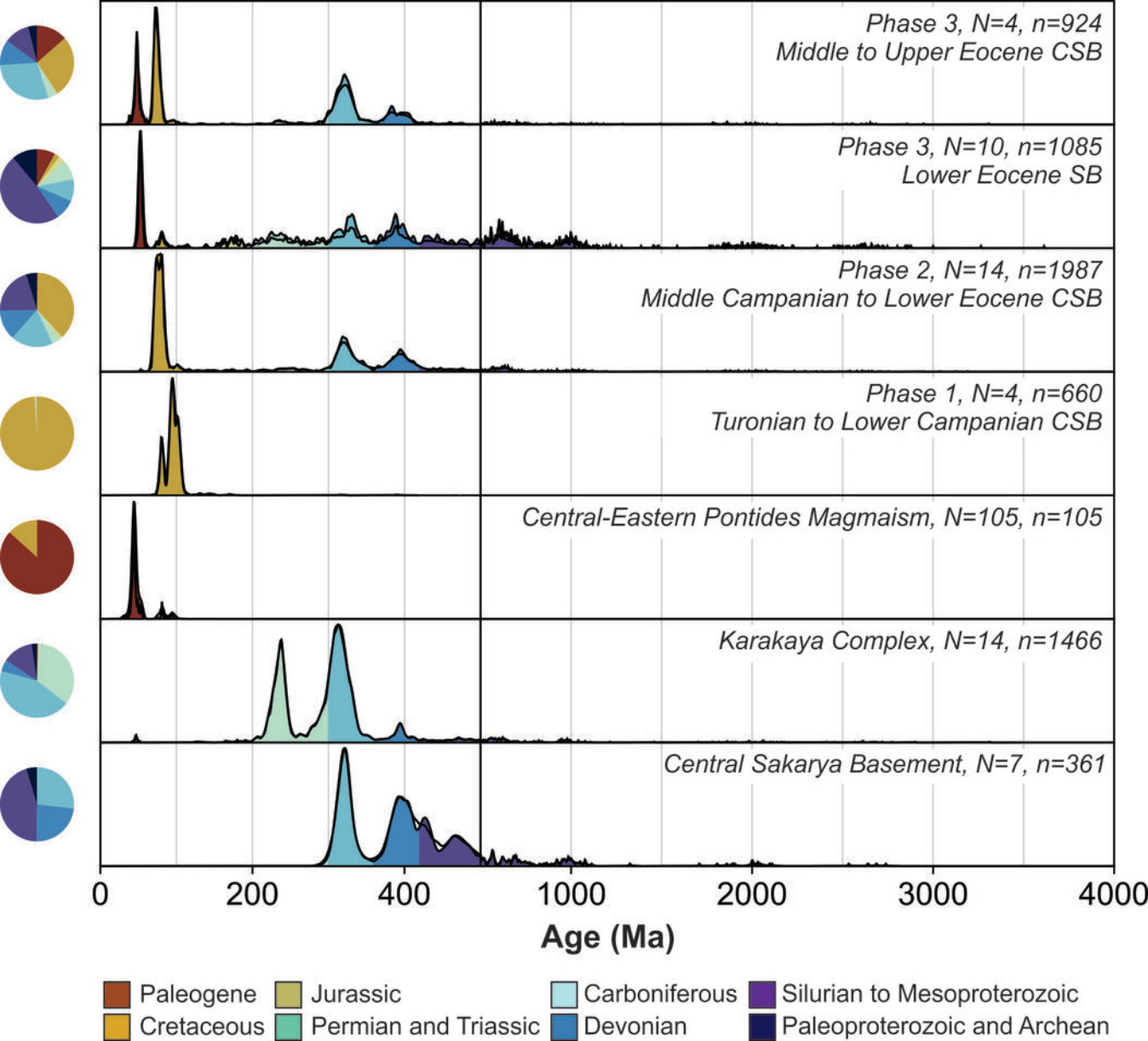
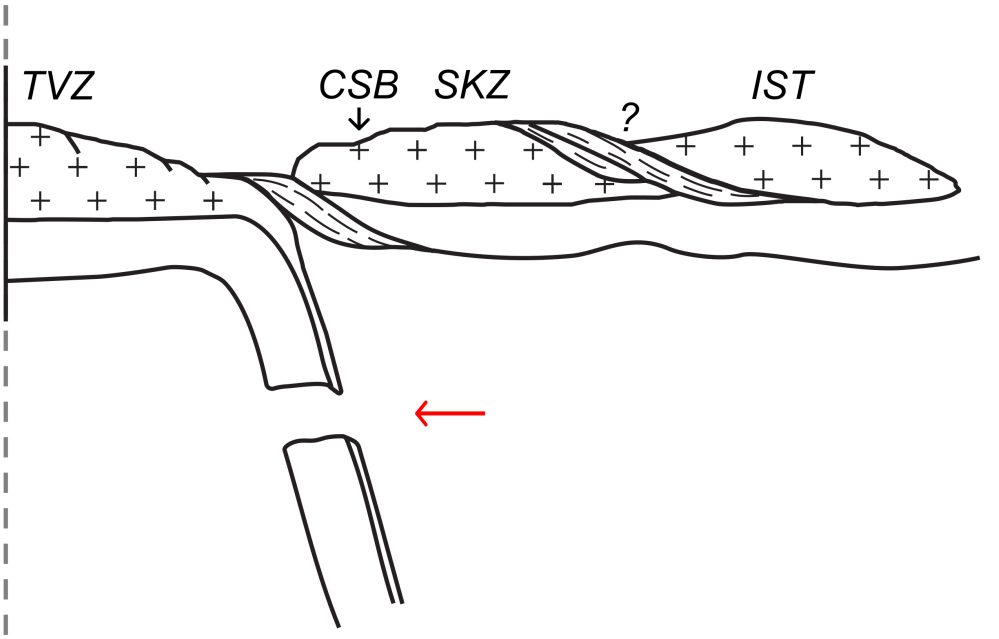

Phase 3, N=4, n=924
Middle to Upper Eocene CSB
Phase 3, N=10, n=1085
Lower Eocene SB
Phase 2, N=14, n=1987
Middle Campanian to Lower Eocene CSB
Phase 1, N=4, n=660
Turonian to Lower Campanian CSB
Central-Eastern Pontides Magmaism, N=105, n=105
Karakaya Complex, N=14, n=1466
Central Sakarya Basement, N=7, n=361
0
200
400
1000
2000
3000
4000
Age (Ma)
Paleogene
Cretaceous
Jurassic
Permian and Triassic
Carboniferous
Devonian
Silurian to Mesoproterozoic
Paleoproterozoic and Archean

Figure 9.

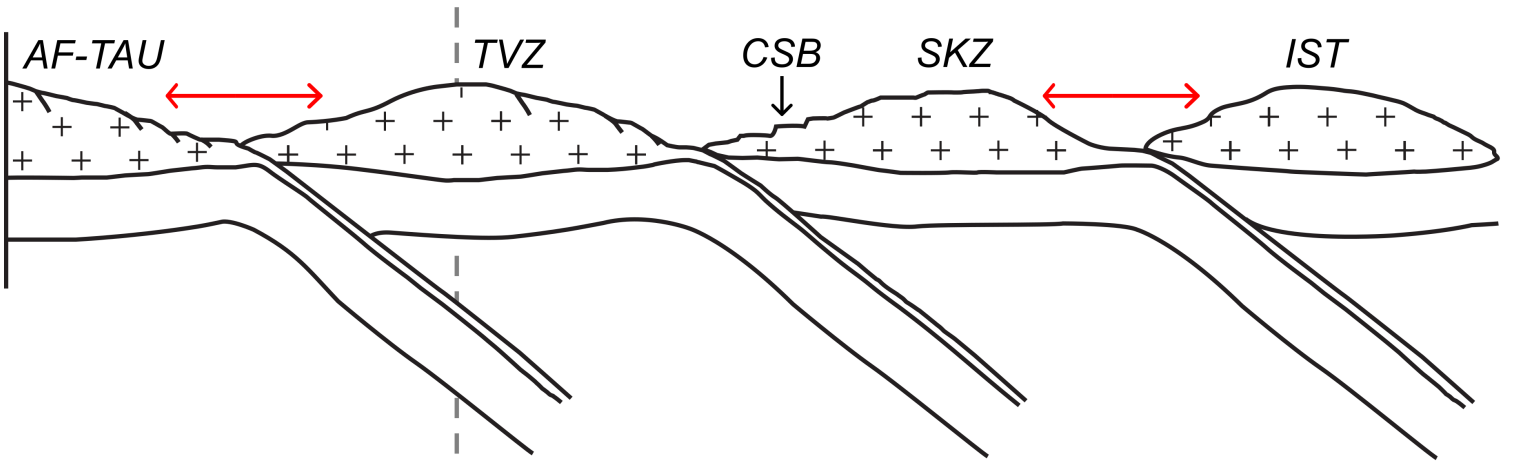
Ma
U-Pb
Composite Stratigraphic Columns
Rupelian
Priabonian
Bartonian
Lutetian
Ypresian
Eocene
Thanetian
Selandian
Danian
Pal.
Maastrichtian
Campanian
Santonian
Coniacian
Turonian
Cenomanian
Late Cretaceous
Albian
Aptian
Barremian
Hauterivian
Valanginian
Berriasian
Early Cretaceous
Jurassic
40
60
80
100
120
140
Phase 3
Phase 2
Phase 1
Magmatic lull
N=32, n=1901/4656
50
25
SB
S. CSB (proximal)
N. CSB (distal)
Angular unconformity
Lacustrine
Fluvial
Lagoonal
Nearshore / delta
Deep marine

Figure 10.

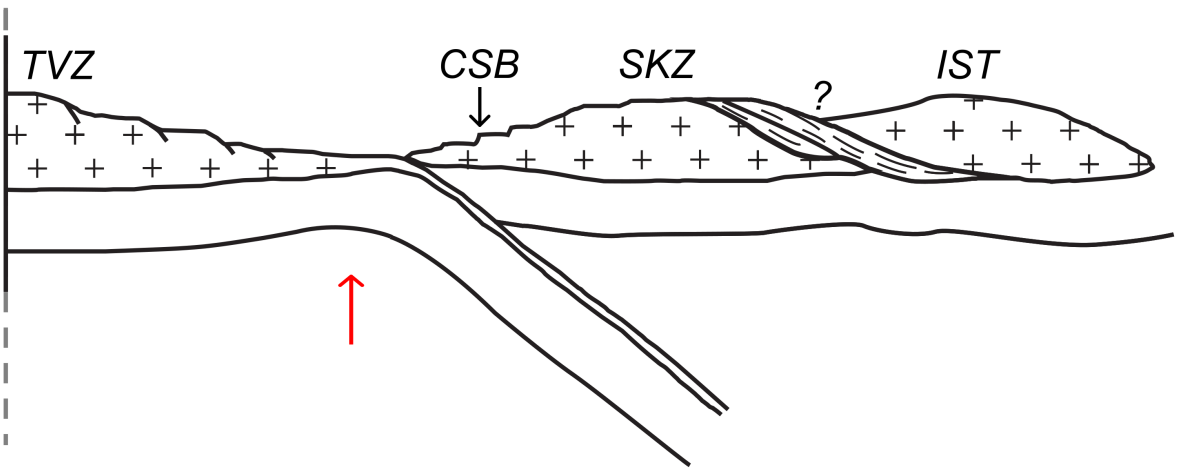
a. Slab Breakoff



b. Relict Basin Closure



c. Progressively Thicker Lithosphere



Sample	Unit	Age
Central Sakarya Basin		
Yenipazar Section		
15YP13	Yenipazar Fm	Maastrichtian
15YP14	Kızılçay Fm	Paleocene
18YEN05	Kızılçay Fm	Paleocene-lower Eocene
18YEN04	Güvenç Fm	Lutetian
18YEN03	Güvenç Fm	Lutetian-Bartonian
17MGB02	Gemiciköy Fm	Upper Lutetian-Lower Bartonian
18YEN02	Gemiciköy Fm	Bartonian-Priabonian
18YEN01	Gemiciköy Fm	Bartonian-Priabonian
Taraklı Section		
18TB01	Taraklı Fm	Paleocene-lower Eocene
18TB62	Taraklı Fm	Paleocene-lower Eocene
18TBTG	Taraklı Fm	Paleocene-lower Eocene
18T95	Kızılçay Fm	Paleocene-lower Eocene
15YP15	Kızılçay Fm	Paleocene-lower Eocene
18TK01	Çataltepe Fm	Paleocene-lower Eocene
Nallıhan Section		
CC082918-01	Yenipazar Fm	Cenomanian-Turonian
18NAL03	Yenipazar Fm	Lower Campanian
18NAL09	Yenipazar Fm	Lower Campanian
18NAL11	Yenipazar Fm	Lower Campanian
18NAL04	Yenipazar Fm	Lower Campanian
18NAL05	Yenipazar Fm	Middle Campanian
18NAL06	Yenipazar Fm	Middle Campanian
18NAL07	Yenipazar Fm	Middle Campanian
18NAL08	Yenipazar Fm	Middle Campanian
18NAL12	Yenipazar Fm	Upper Campanian-Maastrichtian
18NAL13	Taraklı Fm	Upper Campanian-Maastrichtian
18NAL14	Taraklı Fm	Upper Campanian-Maastrichtian
CC082918-02	Taraklı Fm	Upper Campanian-Maastrichtian
Okçular Section		
18YP02	Değirmenözü Fm	Santonian-Campanian
18DMN01	Değirmenözü Fm	Santonian
18YP03	Yenipazar Fm	Lower Paleocene
18YP04	Taraklı Fm	Lower-middle Paleocene
18YP07	Taraklı Fm	Lower-middle Paleocene
18YP06	Taraklı Fm	Lower-middle Paleocene
18YP05	Taraklı Fm	Lower-middle Paleocene
18KIZ01	Kızılçay Fm	Paleocene-lower Eocene
18HAL01	Halidiye Fm	Lutetian
18HAL02	Halidiye Fm	Lutetian
Göynük Section		
17MGB01	Değirmenözü Fm	Middle Cretaceous
18YP01	Değirmenözü Fm	Lower Campanian
15GO02	Yenipazar Fm	Middle-upper Campanian

Saricakaya Basin		
Mayıslar Section		
16SKY04	Kızılçay Gp	Ypresian
Iğdir Section		
16SKY23	Kızılçay Gp	Ypresian
16SKY26	Kızılçay Gp	Ypresian-Lutetian
Kapıkaya Section		
15YP08	Kızılçay Gp	Ypresian-Lutetian
16SKY37	Kızılçay Gp	Ypresian-Lutetian
15YP09	Kızılçay Gp	Ypresian-Lutetian
16SKY42	Kızılçay Gp	Ypresian-Lutetian
16SKY50	Kızılçay Gp	Ypresian-Lutetian
Ozanköy Section		
17OZK05	Kızılçay Gp	Ypresian-Lutetian
17OZK12	Kızılçay Gp	Ypresian-Lutetian
Provenance Sources		
Catli	Söğüt magmatics	Carboniferous
Kuplu	Söğüt magmatics	Carboniferous
Borcak	Söğüt magmatics	Carboniferous
17BASE01	Söğüt metamorphics	Devonian
SgtMeta	Central Sakarya Basement	Neoproterozoic
090717-6	Paragneiss	Carboniferous
090717-16	Orthogneiss	Carboniferous
17RIVER01	Modern river draining acc	Quaternary
15YP12	Greenschist unit	Carboniferous
K.12.102	Cambazkaya Fm	Norian
K.12.42	Ortaoba Unit	Carnian
K.12.45	Ortaoba Unit	Carnian
K.12.63	Hodul Unit	Norian
K.12.64	Hodul Unit	Norian
K.12.69	Hodul Unit	Norian
K.12.71	Hodul Unit	Norian
K.12.91	Cambazkaya Fm	Norian
K.13.44	Çal Unit	Artinskian-Kungurian
K.13.91	Hodul Unit	Norian
KK.10	Kendirli Fm	Carnian–Norian
Central-Eastern Pc	Igneous units compilation	100-30 Ma

Group	Data Type	Data Source
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	DZ	3
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	DZ	3
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	DZ, SP	7
Middle-upper Eocene	DZ, SP	7
Middle-upper Eocene	SP	7
Middle-upper Eocene	DZ	7
Middle-upper Eocene	SP	7
Middle-upper Eocene	DZ, SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	DZ, SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	DZ, SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	DZ	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	DZ	7
Turonian-lower Campanian	DZ, SP	7
Turonian-lower Campanian	SP	7
Turonian-lower Campanian	SP	7
Turonian-lower Campanian	SP	7
Turonian-lower Campanian	SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	DZ, SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	DZ, SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	DZ, SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	DZ, SP	7
Turonian-lower Campanian	DZ	7
Turonian-lower Campanian	DZ	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	DZ, SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	DZ, SP	7
Middle-upper Eocene	DZ, SP	7
Middle-upper Eocene	SP	7
Turonian-lower Campanian	DZ	7
Turonian-lower Campanian	SP	7
Middle Campanian-lower Eocene	DZ	3, 4

Lower-middle Eocene	DZ	6
Lower-middle Eocene	DZ	6
Lower-middle Eocene	DZ	6
Lower-middle Eocene	DZ	3
Lower-middle Eocene	DZ	6
Lower-middle Eocene	DZ	3
Lower-middle Eocene	DZ	6
Lower-middle Eocene	DZ	6
Lower-middle Eocene	DZ	6
Lower-middle Eocene	DZ	6
Central Sakarya Basement	Bedrock	1
Central Sakarya Basement	Bedrock	1
Central Sakarya Basement	Bedrock	1
Central Sakarya Basement	Metased. DZ	6
Central Sakarya Basement	Bedrock	1
Central Sakarya Basement	Metased. DZ	7
Central Sakarya Basement	Bedrock	7
İzmir-Ankara-Erzincan Suture	Modern DZ	6
Karakaya Complex	Bedrock	3
Karakaya Complex	DZ	2
Karakaya Complex	DZ	2
Karakaya Complex	DZ	2
Karakaya Complex	DZ	2
Karakaya Complex	DZ	2
Karakaya Complex	DZ	2
Karakaya Complex	DZ	2
Karakaya Complex	DZ	2
Karakaya Complex	DZ	2
Karakaya Complex	DZ	2
Karakaya Complex	Metased. DZ	2
Karakaya Complex	DZ	2
Central-Eastern Pontides Arc	Bedrock	5