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1 **Hindering the applicability of the authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ dating by**
2 **red deposition of mud in hybrid event beds, eastern Danube**
3 **Basin, Slovakia**

4 Michal Šujan^{1,2*}, Kishan Aherwar², Katarína Šarinová³, Tomáš Vlček², Andrej Chyba⁴, Natália
5 Hudáčková², Michal Jamrich², Marianna Kováčová², AsterTeam⁵, Orsolya Sztanó⁶

6 ¹ *Laboratory of Quaternary Research, Nature Research Centre, Akademijos g. 2, LT-08412 Vilnius,*
7 *Lithuania; michal.sujan@gamtc.lt*

8 ² *Department of Geology and Paleontology, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Comenius University in*
9 *Bratislava, Ilkovičova 6, 842 15 Bratislava, Slovakia; michal.sujan@uniba.sk*

10 ³ *Comenius University Bratislava, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Department of Mineralogy, Petrology*
11 *and Economic Geology, Ilkovičova 6, 842 15 Bratislava, Slovakia*

12 ⁴ *Institute of Chemistry, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Dúbravská cesta 9, 845 38 Bratislava, Slovakia;*
13 *andrej.chyba@savba.sk*

14 ⁵ *CNRS-IRD-Collège de France-INRA, CEREGE, Aix-Marseille Univ., 13545 Aix-en-Provence, France*

15 ⁶ *Eötvös Loránd University, Department of Geology, Pázmány Péter sétány 1/C, 1117 Budapest,*
16 *Hungary*

17 * – corresponding author

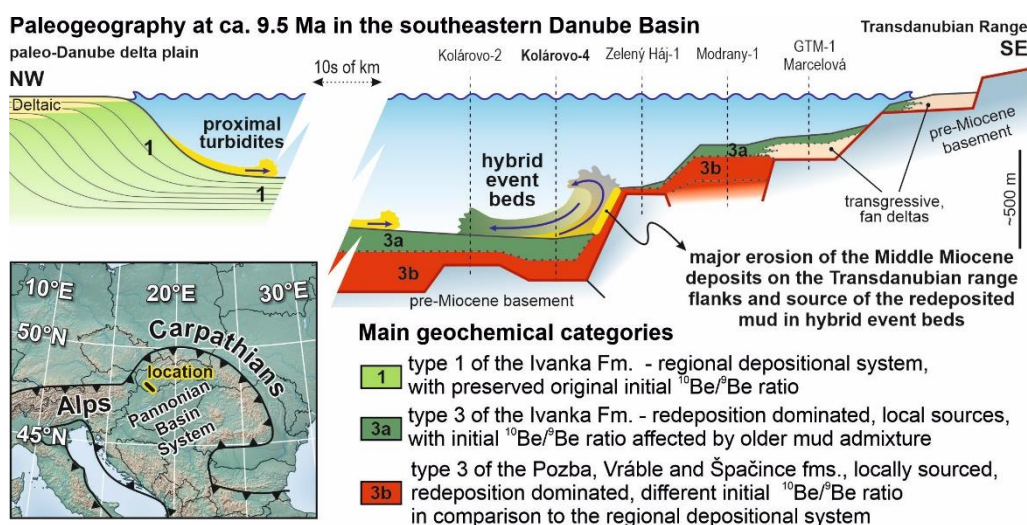
18 **Abstract**

19 The authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ dating method is a relatively new geochronological technique that
20 shows great potential for use in epicontinental sedimentary successions, largely due to its ability
21 to date ubiquitous mud. However, the factors influencing the applicability of this method are
22 not yet fully understood, which limits its robust application. This study presents the first direct

23 evidence that deep-water mud redeposition can lead to significantly older authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$
 24 ages, with an offset of ca. 2 Myr in the studied example. The redeposition generated hybrid
 25 event beds (products of mixed gravity flows) on the Late Miocene basin floor of Lake Pannon.
 26 The source material for redeposition was the Middle Miocene successions exposed on the lake
 27 bottom, as indicated by reworked foraminiferal and calcareous nannoplankton fossils, as well
 28 as inorganic and organic geochemical proxies. This case study suggests that a thorough
 29 understanding of depositional processes and paleogeographic settings is essential when
 30 proposing future authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ dating sampling strategies, to avoid the influence of deep-
 31 water mud redeposition by hybrid event beds. Additionally, a notable shift in geochemical
 32 signature was observed between syn- and post-rift phases. During the ca. 6 Myr-long rifting,
 33 sediment recycling and local provenance were dominant from the rifted basin margins, while
 34 the post-rift stage marked the onset of a regional-scale sediment routing system. Notably,
 35 organic matter preserved its compositional signature of the redeposited successions.

36 **Key words:** geochronology; cosmogenic nuclides; meteoric ^{10}Be , epicontinental basin;
 37 Miocene; Central Europe

38 Graphical abstract



39

40 **1. Introduction**

41 The authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ dating method shows great potential in geochronology thanks to its
42 ability to date the deposition of clay-bearing sediment, the most common type of deposit on
43 Earth (Schieber, 1998). This is even underlined by the theoretical range of the method's
44 applicability reaching $\sim 0.2\text{--}14$ Ma (e.g., Bourlès et al., 1989; Lebatard et al., 2008), implied by
45 the half-life of ^{10}Be with the value of 1.378 ± 0.012 Ma (Chmeleff et al., 2010; Korschinek et
46 al., 2010). However, the limitations of the method are not yet fully appreciated, as only 51
47 studies have been published utilizing the authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratio in geochronology since
48 1982, and only 20 of these focused on depositional histories in epicontinental basins, published
49 from 2005 onward (Šujan, 2024).

50 The major issue to be solved is the identification and understanding of the factors affecting the
51 variability of the initial authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ in sedimentary environments, which reaches the
52 range of $\sim 1.4\text{--}193 \times 10^{-9}$ across oceanic settings (e.g., Krishnaswami et al., 1982; Measures and
53 Edmond, 1982; Sharma and Somayajulu, 1982; Kusakabe and Ku, 1984; Kusakabe et al., 1987;
54 Sharma et al., 1987; Bourlès et al., 1989; Brown et al., 1992b; Measures et al., 1996; Aldahan
55 et al., 1997; von Blanckenburg and O'Nions, 1999; Nagender Nath et al., 2007; Willenbring
56 and Von Blanckenburg, 2010a; Jena et al., 2022; 2023a, b) and spans from $\sim 0.5 \times 10^{-9}$ to 230
57 $\times 10^{-9}$ across shallow marine, deltaic, lacustrine, alluvial and loess settings and in soils (e.g.,
58 Brown et al., 1992a; Barg et al., 1997; Graham et al., 1998; 2001; McHargue et al., 2011;
59 Wittmann et al., 2018; Portenga et al., 2019; Simon et al., 2019; Balco et al., 2021; Lisé-
60 Pronovost et al., 2021; Suhrhoff et al., 2022; Jeong et al., 2023; Aherwar et al., 2024). The
61 considerable fluctuation is inherently associated with different source of the two isotopes, since
62 radioactive ^{10}Be is produced in the atmosphere by interaction of ^{14}N and ^{16}O with cosmic rays,
63 while stable ^9Be is supplied by chemical weathering of rocks. Both isotopes are incorporated in
64 Fe and Mn oxyhydroxides, forming authigenic rims around sedimentary particles in a water

65 column, which are the target of the dating method (Bourlès et al., 1989; Willenbring and von
66 Blanckenburg, 2010b; Wittmann et al., 2012; Singleton et al., 2017). Assuming a chemically
67 closed system after sedimentation, the change of the authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ in the oxyhydroxide
68 rim due to the radioactive decay of ^{10}Be can be used to quantify a depositional age (Bourlès et
69 al., 1989).

70 Several effects driving the initial $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratio in sedimentary environments were already
71 proposed or described. The additive effect, as presented by Willenbring and von Blanckenburg
72 (2010b), was shown to cause a relative increase of ^{10}Be input into a maar lake due to the
73 intensification of East Asian monsoon (Cao et al., 2023). Despite the proposed averaging of
74 ^9Be delivery in large river catchments (von Blanckenburg et al., 2012), the varying petrographic
75 composition affected the resulting isotopic ratios in Ganga and Po river catchments (Rahaman
76 et al., 2017; Aherwar et al., 2024). A significant increase of recent $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ through a transition
77 from deltaic to open ocean settings (Wittmann et al., 2017; Kong et al., 2021; Jena et al., 2023b)
78 is likely associated with mixing of riverine waters enriched by terrigenous ^9Be with basinal
79 waters having relatively higher $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratios (Brown et al., 1992b). A ^{10}Be enrichment of
80 shelfal sediment may result from condensed deposition, possibly after deltaic avulsion (Barg et
81 al., 1997; Aherwar et al., 2021). On the other hand, diagenetic release of beryllium into pore
82 waters and its precipitation in the near-bed sediment may significantly alter the isotopic ratio
83 preserved in the depositional record (Deng et al., 2023). Terrestrial systems with low rate of
84 deposition and burial could be affected by increased input of ^{10}Be from meteoric waters during
85 pedogenesis (Dixon et al., 2018; Šujan et al., 2023a). Rivers under settings of a falling erosional
86 base are prone to incision and redeposition of older mud, presence of which decreases the
87 apparent initial $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratio and increases the radiometric age (Šujan et al., 2023b).

88 Redeposition of mud was supposed to cause apparently older authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ages also in
89 the Upper Miocene deep-water depositional systems of the Danube Basin, Pannonian Basin

90 System (Šujan et al., 2016). In this case study, we aimed to verify this process using a
91 multiproxy analysis of the depositional record. We compare the authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ signature
92 in a deep-water succession deposited on the basin floor of Lake Pannon by gravity currents with
93 the isotopic record from the underlying Middle Miocene marine deposits of the Central
94 Paratethys Sea, analyzed in the cores of the Kolárovo-4 well (Fig. 1B, D). The Pannonian
95 succession yields authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ages significantly older when compared to the established
96 chronostratigraphy (e.g., Sztanó et al., 2016a). We integrate sedimentological, biostratigraphic
97 and geochemical proxies with the aim to evaluate the processes and role of redeposition in deep-
98 water epicontinental basin settings as a factor affecting the authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ dating. The
99 relative change in the initial $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratios is possible to evaluate thanks to the previously
100 established and verified lacustrine initial ratio (Šujan et al., 2016). The study builds upon the
101 findings of the paleoenvironmental investigation of the same succession done by Vlček et al.
102 (2024). This study highlights the necessity of a precise evaluation of depositional processes,
103 which formed a succession to be dated to obtain trustworthy authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ages.

104 **2. Geological settings**

105 The Danube Basin is a northwesternmost depocenter of the Pannonian Basin System (PBS) in
106 Central Europe, located between the Eastern Alps, Western Carpathians and Transdanubian
107 Mts. (Horváth et al., 2006) (Fig. 1A). The basin fill was formed during four phases of back-arc
108 basin rifting, during which repeated transgressions of marine or brackish water bodies appeared
109 (Šujan et al., 2021b). The first three occurred in the Central Paratethys Sea with temporally
110 changing connectivity to the neighboring Mediterranean and Black Sea basins, and the fourth
111 one appeared as the biggest lake in the late Cenozoic history of Europe – Lake Pannon (e.g.,
112 Kázmér, 1990; Magyar et al., 1999; Harzhauser and Mandic, 2008; Kováč et al., 2017). The

113 long-living lake was gradually filled by sediments supplied from the uplifting Alps and
114 Carpathians during the period of ~10.5–4 Ma (Magyar et al., 2013).

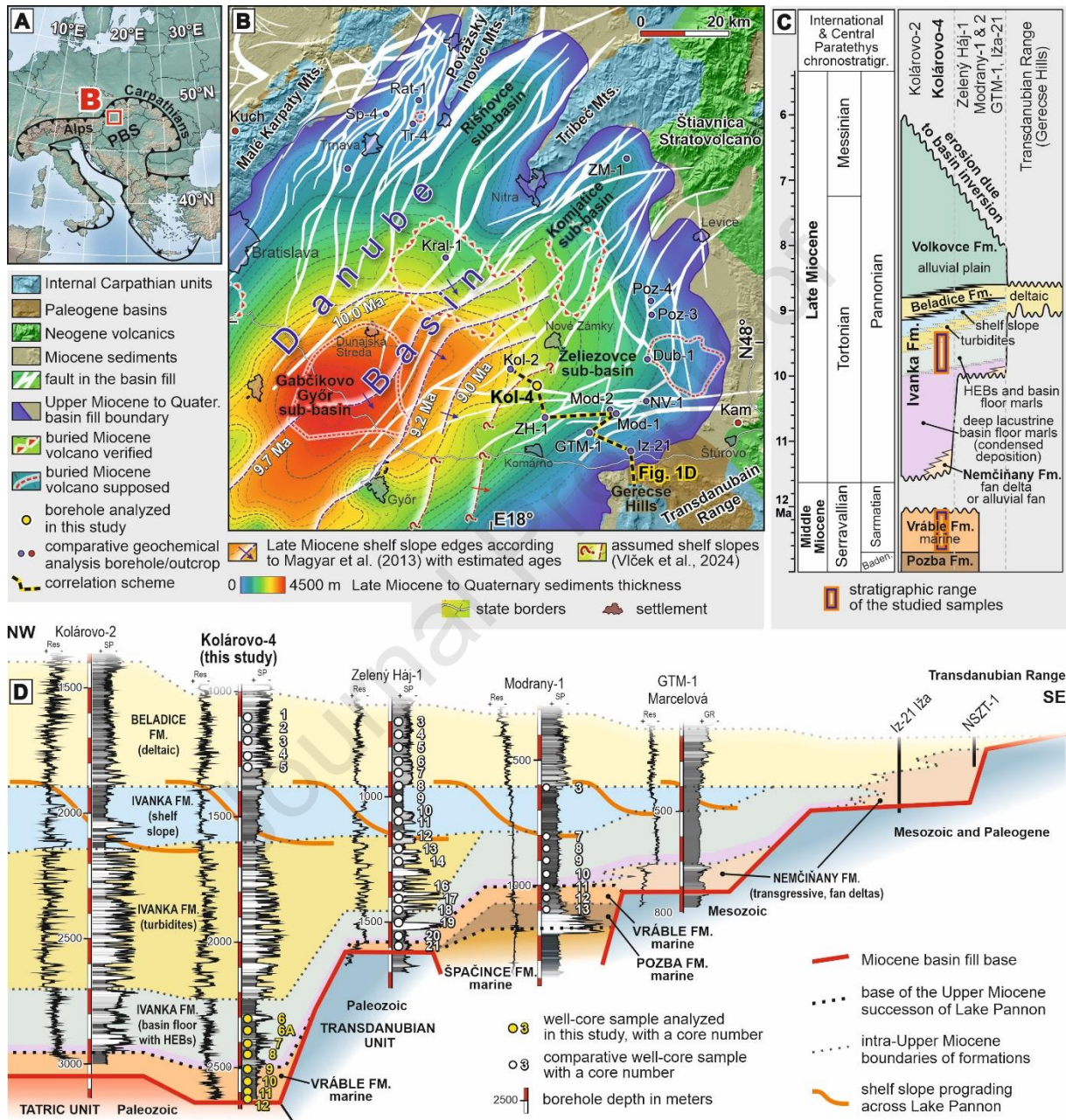
115 The succession analyzed for authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ in the Kolárovo-4 well falls into the Vrábce
116 and Ivanka Formations. (Fig. 1C). The first one was deposited in the late Middle Miocene, the
117 Sarmatian Central Paratethys stage constrained to ~12.6–11.6 Ma (Keith et al., 1989; Kováč et
118 al., 2018a). However, the biostratigraphic analyses performed in the neighboring wells
119 Modrany-1 and 2, and Nová Vieska-1 (Fig. 1B) indicated that the upper portion of this
120 progressively deepening basin floor marine succession is missing and that only sediments of
121 the time interval ~12.6–12.1 Ma are preserved (Kováč et al., 2018b; Vlček et al., 2020b).

122 The Ivanka Fm. was deposited on a lake floor by suspension settling and sediment gravity flows
123 sourced from the shelf slope of the paleo-Danube system in between ~10.0–9.3 Ma (Fig. 1C)
124 according to integration of biostratigraphic, magnetostratigraphic and authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ data
125 from this part of the basin (Magyar et al., 2007; 2013; Sztanó et al., 2016a; Šujan et al., 2016;
126 Kováč et al., 2018b; Vlček et al., 2024). The period of 11.6–10.0 Ma is characterized by low
127 sediment supply with deposition of just a few tens of meters of sediment, which is not included
128 in the core samples. The paleo-Danube feeder system reached the Danube Basin only after ~10
129 Ma (Magyar et al., 2013; Šujan et al., 2021a; Vlček et al., 2024), thus the formation of turbidite
130 systems occurred later. The basin floor attained water depths of up to 500 m in the Danube
131 Basin (Balázs et al., 2018), allowing formation of thick turbiditic sequence in front of the
132 prograding shelf slope system (sensu Johannessen and Steel, 2005; Sztanó et al., 2013; Patruno
133 and Helland-Hansen, 2018).

134 The regression of Lake Pannon after ~8.9 Ma is marked by the deposition of the deltaic Beladice
135 Fm., which reach a thickness of ca. 200–500 m in the study area and is characteristic by its
136 predominantly sandy composition of deltaic parasequences, in contrast with the below-lying
137 muddy shelf slope succession. It is overlain by alluvial Volkovce Fm. accumulated after ~8.6

138 Ma, with a predominance of overbank deposition and lower proportion of sandy channel belts
 139 (Sztanó et al., 2016a; Šujan et al., 2020; Vlček et al., 2024).

140



141

142 **Fig. 1.** Location and stratigraphy of the study area. **A:** Location of the study area within
 143 the Pannonian Basin System (PBS). **B:** The studied Kolárovo-4 well present on the eastern
 144 flank of the Danube Basin, together with wells and outcrops involved in the comparative
 145 geochemical analysis of provenance. Thickness map modified from Sztanó et al. (2016a).

146 Fault network from Šujan et al. (2025). Boundaries of stratovolcanoes buried below the
147 basin fill according to Rybár and Kotulová (2023) and Rybár et al. (2024). **C:**
148 Lithostratigraphy of the study area according to Sztanó et al. (2016a) and Šujan et al.
149 (2021b). **D:** Correlation scheme showing the basin fill geometry, modified from Sztanó
150 et al. (2016a) and Vlček et al. (2024). The correlation is flattened on the top horizon of
151 the shelf slope succession which prograded rapidly in the studied time slice and thus
152 represents a rough paleohorizontal indicator. Therefore, the location of well-tops does not
153 represent recent topography. The results for the samples analyzed in other studies could
154 be found in Kováč et al. (2018b) and Vlček et al. (2020b). Well/outcrop abbreviations in
155 B: Dub-1, Dubník-1; GTM-1, Marcelová-1; Kam, Kamenica nad Hronom; Kral-1,
156 Králová-1; Kuch, Kuchyňa; Mad-3, Modrany-1; Mo-2, Modrany-2; NV-1, Nová Vieska-
157 1; Poz-3, Pozba-3; Poz-4, Pozba-4; Rat-1, Ratkovce-1; Sp-4, Špačince-4; Tr-4, Trakovice,
158 4; ZH-1, Zelený Háj-1; ZM-1, Zlaté Moravce-1.

159 **3. Material and methods**

160 **3.1 Sampling strategy**

161 The borehole cores from Kolárovo-2 and 4 well assigned to the Ivanka Fm. were suggested to
162 include hybrid event beds (Sztanó et al., 2016b; Vlček et al., 2024). Hence, the mud included
163 in the strata might be derived from various original sources, for example intraclasts of shelf
164 slope muds of gravity flow origin, basin floor hemipelagic strata, muds accumulated by contour
165 bottom currents or any type of extraclast mud from older sequences, exposed on the basin floor
166 due to tectonics. The cores of Ivanka Fm. are therefore a good target for tracing the provenance
167 of mud and its effect on the authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ dating.

168 Seven samples from four cores of the Kolárovo-4 well were collected from the Upper Miocene
169 Ivanka Fm.: one sample each from Core 6 and Core 6A, respectively, two samples from the
170 core 7 and three samples taken from core 8 (Fig. 1D, Table 1). Another eight samples were

171 taken from the late Middle Miocene Vráble Fm., as a control on beryllium isotope inventory
172 from a potential source of mud redeposition, taking two samples from each of the four cores 9–
173 12 of the Kolárovo-4 well. The sampling strategy reflects the availability of muddy material in
174 the cores. All methods involved in the study were applied to every mentioned sample, except
175 for the organic geochemistry analysis. All samples are lithified to mudstones, sandstones, and
176 conglomerates. As the study focuses on primary paleoenvironmental properties, the sample
177 grain size is further discussed as mud, sand, and gravel.

178 **3.2 Authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ analysis**

179 All samples were processed in the laboratory of Department of Geology and Paleontology,
180 Faculty of Natural Sciences, Comenius University Bratislava (Slovakia) using a workflow
181 described in detail in Šujan et al. (2024). It is based on the laboratory procedures developed by
182 Bournès et al. (1989) and Carcaillet et al. (2004), which aims to extract the authigenic Fe and
183 Mn oxyhydroxide phase without dissolving the clastic mineral fraction, mostly composed of
184 silicates. The samples were dried, powdered, the authigenic phase was extracted from ~2.25 g
185 of a sample using a solution of 0.04 M $\text{NH}_2\text{OH}-\text{HCl}$ in 25% acetic acid. A 2 ml aliquot of the
186 leaching solution underwent ^9Be measurements using Plasma-Quant ICP-MS System (Analytik
187 Jena AG) at the Institute of Chemistry, Slovak Academy of Sciences (Bratislava), employing
188 linear regression to mitigate the matrix effect (Tan and Horlick, 1987). All beryllium
189 concentrations fall after dilution within the standard levels of ICP-MS measurement range
190 attaining good precision in the analytical uncertainty levels of 2–3%. The remaining fraction of
191 the solution was spiked with 0.45 g of the Scharlau ICP-MS commercial beryllium standard
192 solution (1000 ppm concentration), having the $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratio of 7.80×10^{-15} (Merchel et al.,
193 2021). The solution was evaporated, and the precipitate dissolved in HCl underwent resin
194 chemistry using cation exchange with Dowex 1x8 and anion exchange with Dowex 50wx8
195 (both 100–200 mesh) to separate beryllium from other elements. Samples were subjected to

196 ageing during cleaning to remove NH_4Cl (Merchel et al., 2019) before being oxidized in an
197 oven under 800°C for one hour. The resulting BeO was mixed with niobium powder, pressed
198 into copper cathodes and $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ isotopic measurements were performed AMS ASTER at
199 CEREGE, Aix-en-Provence (France). The measurements were calibrated directly against the
200 STD11 in-house standard ($^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ value of $1.191 \pm 0.013 (\times 10^{-11})$) (Braucher et al., 2015).
201 Analytical uncertainties (reported as 1σ) include uncertainties associated with AMS counting
202 statistics, two chemical blanks measurements and the AMS internal error (0.5%). Calculated
203 ages include also the uncertainty associated with the initial ratio.

204 **3.3 Methods used to trace redeposition**

205 **3.3.1 Sedimentology**

206 Facies analysis of the cores cut parallel with the core axis was done by Vlček et al. (2024) and
207 the results are utilized here. It followed analysis of grain size and internal stratal geometry
208 according to Stow (2005). A special emphasis was put on the presence of “dirty sand”, which
209 is attributed to changing rheology of gravity flows and formation of hybrid event beds (Baas et
210 al., 2009; 2019; Sumner et al., 2009; Zima et al., 2019).

211 **3.3.2 Biostratigraphy of nannoplankton and foraminifers**

212 Calcareous nannofossil smear slides were prepared by the standard method of decantation
213 (Bown and Young, 1998). Nannofossils were counted in 300 fields of view using the Olympus
214 BX 50 at $1250\times$ magnification and oil immersion.

215 Foraminifera separation and detailed taphonomic analysis follow methods sensu Ruman et al.
216 (2021) and Holcová (1999). Systematic identification and taxonomy follow Cicha et al. (1998)
217 and Hayward et al. (2023). Documentation of main identified taxa and their preservation was
218 done using an electron scanning microscope QUANTA FEG 250.

219 The documented fossil assemblage was compared with observations made across the Danube
220 Basin in the studies by Rybár et al. (2015; 2016; 2024), Kováč et al. (2018b), Hudáčková et al.
221 (2018a; 2020), Šarinová et al. (2018; 2021b; 2021a).

222 **3.3.3 Inorganic geochemistry**

223 The comparative provenance analysis is based on the extensive measurement dataset of well
224 cores, and the values of studied proxies are included in the Supplementary Table S3. The
225 comparativeness of the whole dataset is established by analyzing all samples in the Bureau
226 Veritas mineral laboratories with the same methodology of ICP-ES (major oxides) and ICP-MS
227 (trace elements). Specific analytical procedures are described in the publication listed below.
228 Location of the sampled sites is included in Fig. 1B. The studied dataset originates from the
229 Danube Basin, which includes 15 samples of the Kolárovo-4 well analyzed in this study, and
230 additional 8 samples taken from the highstand regressive deltaic Beladice Fm. of the Kolárovo-
231 4 well (Vlček et al., 2024). Another 31 samples originate from the Zelený Háj-1 well (Vlček et
232 al., 2024), 31 samples from Modrany-1 and 19 samples from the Modrany-2 well (Vlček et al.,
233 2020a, b), 7 samples from the Pozba-4 well (Vlček et al., 2022) and 14 samples from the
234 Ratkovce-1 well (Supplementary Table S3). These samples could be classified as Langhian
235 (lower Badenian) Špačince Fm. (20 samples), Serravallian (upper Badenian and Sarmatian)
236 Pozba and Vráble fms. (34 samples), Upper Miocene (Pannonian) Ivanka Fm. (55 samples) and
237 Beladice Fm. (13 samples).

238 For tracking of re-working and/or change of provenance, the whole-rock geochemistry was
239 focused on several selected elements (Supplementary Table S3). The source area of the Danube
240 Basin sediments dominantly consists of carbonate rocks, granitoids, mica-schist, gneiss, and
241 products of Neogene volcanism. The presence of carbonates in the source rocks could be
242 tracked by Mg concentration since dolomite is less soluble in fresh water (Amorosi et al., 2020).
243 The Zr/Sc versus Th/Sc ratios were used for tracking of reworking and compositional variability

244 (McLennan et al., 1993), where Zr represents zircon, Th is incompatible element in igneous
245 rocks (enriched in granites and rhyolites) and Sc represent normalization as compatible element.
246 The Hf is also present in zircon, what is documented by their correlation. The relationships
247 between the “immobile” elements Zr, Cr, Hf, Th, rare earth elements (REE), and also the
248 above-mentioned Mg reflecting the source rocks were evaluated and displayed in ternary
249 diagrams Lu-Th-Hf, Th-Ti-Zr (Riboulleau et al., 2014) and Mg-Cr-(Zr+Hf). Since the Middle
250 Miocene evolution of the Danube Basin was dominated by volcanism, the whole rock analyses
251 of volcanic and pyroclastic samples from the Danube Basin and nearby areas were use for
252 comparison (Kováč et al., 2018b; Šarinová et al., 2018; 2021a; Rybár et al., 2019; 2024).

253 The analysis is complicated by various factors. The carbonate content "dilutes" the
254 concentrations of elements from terrigenous sources. The carbonate content was calculated
255 from inorganic C (Supplementary Table S3). Another factor is variation of sediment grain size
256 of the compared samples. This can be inferred from the SiO₂/Al₂O₃ ratio, where a higher
257 SiO₂/Al₂O₃ ratio indicates a higher proportion of sand sized grains. To minimize these
258 problems, the enrichment factor relative to the UCC (Upper Continental Crust; McLennan,
259 2001) was calculated for Mg, Th, Cr, Zr and Hf using the formula:

$$260 \quad X_{EF} = (X_{\text{sample}}/Al_{\text{sample}}) / (X_{\text{UCC}}/Al_{\text{UCC}})$$

261 **3.3.4 Organic geochemistry**

262 Six mudstone samples were processed for biomarker analysis, three from each of the Ivanka
263 and Vráble fms. (Supplementary Table S4). Biomarkers were extracted from powdered rock
264 using a dichloromethane (DCM) and methanol mixture (93:7) with a Dionex ASE 100 system.
265 Saturated hydrocarbon fractions (SAT) were separated on a silica column using n-hexane and
266 DCM. The SAT fraction was analyzed via gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS)
267 using an Agilent A6890N chromatograph and an Agilent 5973N quadrupole mass spectrometer,

268 with helium as the carrier gas. A DB-1MS (60 m/0.250 mm/0.25 μm) OV1 column and a
269 temperature program of 50°C (2 min), 2°C/min to 310°C (20 min), at a flow rate of 1.3 ml/min,
270 were used. Mass chromatograms for m/z 57 (n-alkanes) were evaluated with Agilent
271 MassHunter software. The results gained from the six samples originating from the Kolárovo-
272 4 well were compared to the values obtained from the nearby Zelený Háj-1 well with much
273 lower proportion of hybrid event beds (Vlček et al., 2024).

274 In organic geochemistry, the abundance of n-alkanes provides insights into supply of terrestrial
275 material to marine environment. Generally, a predominance of long-chain homologues (n-C₂₇
276 to n-C₃₃) is attributed to terrestrial land plant inputs (Cranwell, 1973), while mid-chain
277 homologues (n-C₂₁ to n-C₂₅) indicate the presence of macrophytes (submerged, emergent, and
278 floating plants; Ficken et al., 2000), and short-chain homologues (n-C₁₅ to n-C₂₀) mainly
279 originate from microbial biomass and various degradation processes (e.g., Gocke et al., 2013).
280 The carbon preference index (CPI) is used to indicate the degree of diagenesis of straight-chain
281 geolipids; it is a numerical representation of how much of the original biological chain-length
282 specificity is preserved in geological lipids (Meyers and Ishiwatari, 1993). Biomarkers from
283 different biological origins have different CPI values. For instance, n-alkanes from the cuticular
284 waxes of higher plants have a strong odd/even predominance and give high CPI values (> 5),
285 CPI values around 1 are characteristic for highly degraded OM and/or presence of large
286 amounts of microorganism derived OM (Cranwell et al., 1987). The CPI values of n-alkanes
287 can indicate the maturity of organic matter. Hence, a comparison of biomarker inventory of
288 formations, deposited in contrasting environments and having different biological origins of
289 biomarkers, can provide an insight into redeposition of sediment, especially fine grained, which
290 preferably bounds the organic matter. The ACL of alkanes is used to differentiate between
291 predominantly terrestrial OM and degraded OM or microorganism occurrence. $\text{ACL} \geq 25$ is
292 considered indicative of organic matter (OM) derived from higher plants (long-chain alkanes),

293 while $ACL \leq 25$ indicates degraded OM or microorganism derived from OM (short-chains
294 alkanes) (Bray and Evans, 1961; Gocke et al., 2013; Salocchi et al., 2021). The TAR index
295 (terrigenous/aquatic ratio; Bourbonniere and Meyers 1996) quantifies the *in situ* algal vs.
296 terrestrial organic matter, where TAR values greater than 1 indicate organic matter derived from
297 terrestrial plants, whereas values below 1 suggest sources from marine or freshwater algae.

298 **4. Results**

299 **4.1 Authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ record**

300 Table 1 and Fig. 2 show the values of measured isotopic ratio in analyzed 15 samples, together
301 with corresponding ages calculated based on lacustrine initial ratio of $6.99 \pm 0.14 \times 10^{-9}$ from
302 Šujan et al. (2016). Despite relatively low AMS $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratios in the order of 10^{-14} , relatively
303 stable currents resulted in AMS uncertainties of 3.0–7.3%. All measured AMS $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratios
304 reached values higher than the processing blanks, which represent the detection limit, despite
305 some samples yielded very close values. The natural authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratios of the Middle
306 Miocene Vráble Fm. exhibit low variability from $4.4 \pm 0.3 \times 10^{-12}$ to $9.0 \pm 0.4 \times 10^{-12}$, yielding
307 authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ages from 13.1 ± 0.6 Ma to 14.7 ± 0.9 Ma. A trend of increase in isotopic
308 ratio and a decrease in age upwards could be seen, despite the ages overlap within the
309 uncertainty. This range does not overlap with the interval ~ 12.6 – 12.1 Ma, independently
310 determined by biostratigraphy of the associated Sarmatian fossils (Kováč et al., 2018b; Vlček
311 et al., 2020b).

312 The natural authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratios from the Upper Miocene Ivanka Fm. show significantly
313 higher variability and scatter, ranging from $8.6 \pm 0.4 \times 10^{-12}$ to $66.8 \pm 2.5 \times 10^{-12}$. Despite the
314 higher variability, a trend of increase in isotopic ratios upwards can be seen, except for the
315 sample Kol-4-7b. This trend is reflected in the decrease of calculated ages upwards from 13.4
316 ± 0.6 Ma to 11.2 ± 0.4 Ma, after excluding the age 9.3 ± 0.4 of the sample Kol-4-7b. Again,

317 this age interval does not overlap with the independently determined age of $\sim 10.0\text{--}9.3$ Ma for

318 this succession (Sztanó et al., 2016a; Vlček et al., 2024).

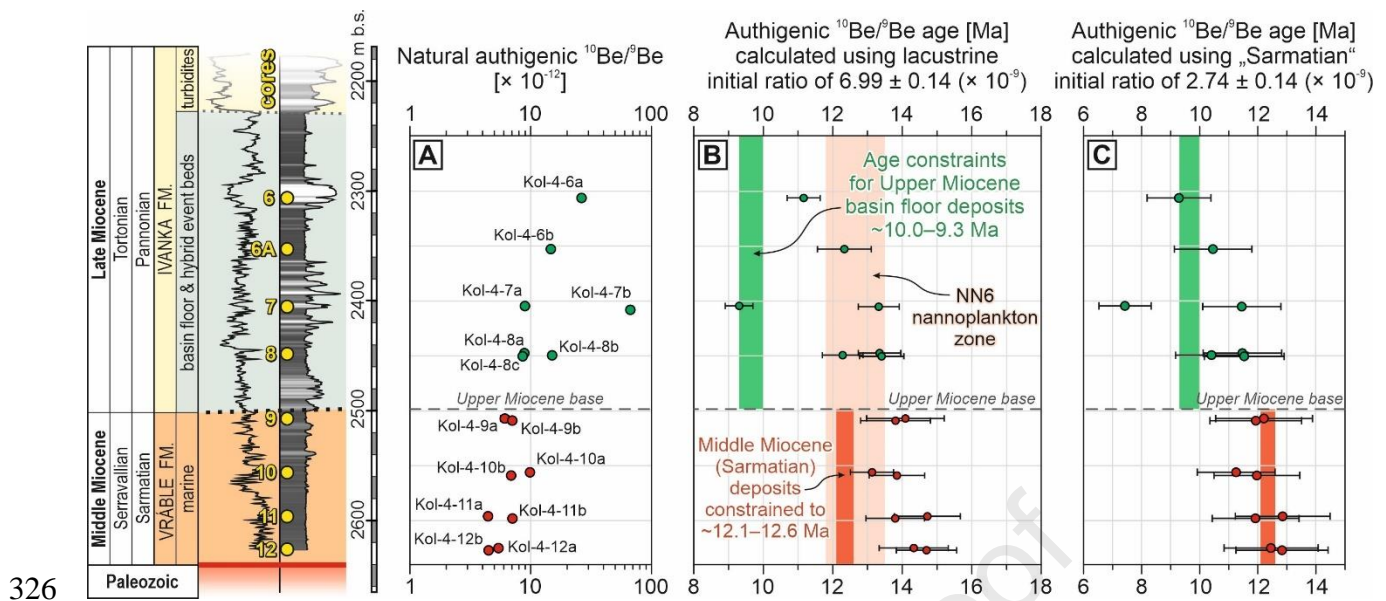
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320 **Table 1:** Concentrations of ^9Be and ^{10}Be , $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratios and calculated ages for the analyzed samples. Uncertainties are 1σ . Concentrations of
 321 ^{10}Be are corrected for the $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratio of three processing blanks with the values between 7.64×10^{-15} and 8.53×10^{-15} . The sample ID includes
 322 well name abbreviation (Kol-4) and the number of core (e.g., “6” in Kol-4-6a). In the case of collecting several samples from single core, lowercase
 323 letters distinguish the samples (e.g., “a” in Kol-4-7a). * - sample diverging from the general observed trend. The approach of the “Sarmatian”
 324 initial ratio, which reaches $2.64 \pm 0.25 \times 10^{-9}$, is explained in the discussion chapter.

Sample ID	Depth of the well-core (m)	Lithostratigraphy	^9Be (at $\times \text{g}^{-1}$) $\times 10^{16}$	AMS $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ($\times 10^{-14}$)	^{10}Be (at $\times \text{g}^{-1}$) $\times 10^5$	Natural $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ($\times 10^{-12}$)	Age based on lacustrine initial ratio (Ma)	Initial $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ for the age 12.6–12.1 Ma ($\times 10^{-9}$)	Age based on the “Sarmatian” initial ratio (Ma)
Kol-4-6a	2306	Ivanka Fm.	6.294 ± 0.189	6.306 ± 0.196	16.617 ± 0.516	26.400 ± 0.975	11.163 ± 0.431		9.215 ± 1.049
Kol-4-6b	2353	Ivanka Fm.	1.348 ± 0.040	1.461 ± 0.081	1.983 ± 0.110	14.704 ± 0.869	12.335 ± 0.709		10.386 ± 1.280
Kol-4-7a	2405	Ivanka Fm.	10.262 ± 0.308	3.794 ± 0.127	9.199 ± 0.307	8.964 ± 0.349	13.325 ± 0.545		11.376 ± 1.282
Kol-4-7b*	2408	Ivanka Fm.	6.315 ± 0.189	14.674 ± 0.463	42.200 ± 1.330	66.825 ± 2.495	9.305 ± 0.355	n.a.	7.357 ± 0.857
Kol-4-8a	2448	Ivanka Fm.	9.743 ± 0.292	3.600 ± 0.128	8.644 ± 0.306	8.872 ± 0.361	13.345 ± 0.565		11.397 ± 1.292
Kol-4-8b	2450	Ivanka Fm.	3.848 ± 0.115	2.687 ± 0.101	5.796 ± 0.218	15.063 ± 0.641	12.286 ± 0.535		10.338 ± 1.189
Kol-4-8c	2451	Ivanka Fm.	9.837 ± 0.295	3.517 ± 0.133	8.459 ± 0.319	8.599 ± 0.367	13.408 ± 0.590		11.460 ± 1.308
Kol-4-9a	2507	Vráble Fm.	3.506 ± 0.105	1.458 ± 0.108	2.144 ± 0.158	6.113 ± 0.467	14.091 ± 1.035	2.931 ± 0.367	
Kol-4-9b	2509	Vráble Fm.	5.130 ± 0.154	1.947 ± 0.130	3.615 ± 0.241	7.046 ± 0.490	13.807 ± 0.928	3.378 ± 0.423	
Kol-4-10a	2556	Vráble Fm.	5.785 ± 0.174	2.630 ± 0.097	5.716 ± 0.211	9.880 ± 0.415	13.130 ± 0.569	4.736 ± 0.593	
Kol-4-10b	2559	Vráble Fm.	4.117 ± 0.123	1.703 ± 0.085	2.843 ± 0.141	6.907 ± 0.370	13.846 ± 0.738	3.311 ± 0.415	
Kol-4-11a	2596	Vráble Fm.	3.844 ± 0.115	1.329 ± 0.077	1.706 ± 0.098	4.439 ± 0.271	14.731 ± 0.883	2.128 ± 0.267	n.a.
Kol-4-11b	2598	Vráble Fm.	3.307 ± 0.099	1.521 ± 0.081	2.340 ± 0.125	7.076 ± 0.405	13.798 ± 0.778	3.392 ± 0.425	
Kol-4-12a	2625	Vráble Fm.	1.238 ± 0.037	0.984 ± 0.062	0.670 ± 0.042	5.417 ± 0.357	14.333 ± 0.920	2.597 ± 0.325	
Kol-4-12b	2627	Vráble Fm.	3.786 ± 0.114	1.315 ± 0.067	1.700 ± 0.087	4.490 ± 0.247	14.708 ± 0.805	2.152 ± 0.270	

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326
 327 **Fig. 2.** Distribution of the analyzed samples along the profile of the Kolárovo-4 well. (A) Natural
 328 authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratios. Error bars for the natural authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratios are smaller than
 329 the sample symbol. Note the logarithmic scale. (B) Authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ages calculated using
 330 the lacustrine initial ratio of $6.99 \pm 0.14 \times 10^{-9}$ from Šujan et al. (2016) and (C) using the
 331 “Sarmatian” initial ratio obtained by back-calculation based on the samples from the Middle
 332 Miocene Vráble Fm. with a value of $2.67 \pm 0.14 \times 10^{-9}$. See discussion for explanation of the
 333 back-calculation.

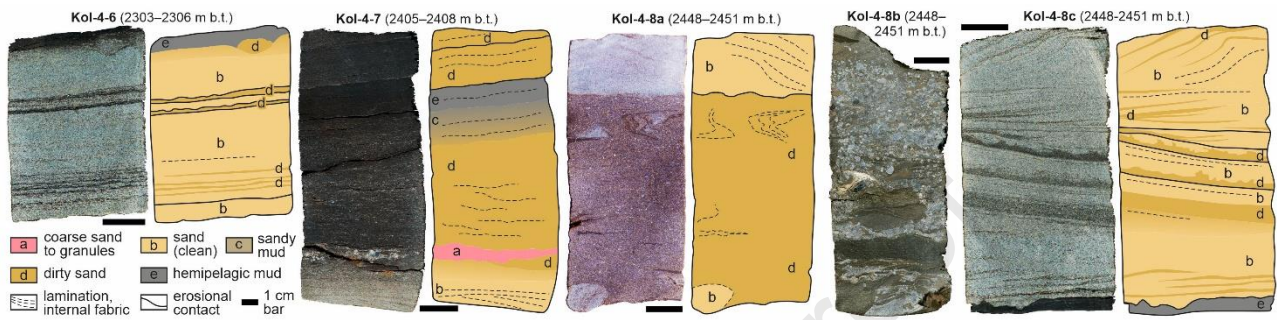
334 4.2 Evidence for mud redeposition in the Upper Miocene basin floor Ivanka Fm. and its 335 potential sources

336 4.2.1 Sedimentology

337 As described and discussed in Vlček et al. (2024), the basin floor interval of the Ivanka Fm. analyzed
 338 in this study consists of a relatively high proportion of sandy beds, which are either massive, with
 339 faint lamination or well-developed lamination, which is commonly convex as well as concave (Fig.
 340 3). Flame structures indicating rapid deposition and soft-sediment deformation are ubiquitous, as well
 341 as mud intraclasts. The bed geometries and grain size distribution imply a deposition of sand from
 342 suspension by laminar high sediment-concentrated flows and by supercritical high-density flows
 343 (Baas et al., 2009; Kane and Ponten, 2012; Talling et al., 2012). Moreover, a significant proportion

344 of sandy beds bear characteristics of “dirty sand” with high admixture of mud, which together with
 345 internal deformations and the presence of mud intraclasts indicate a deposition of hybrid event beds
 346 (Haughton et al., 2009; Kane and Ponten, 2012; Fonnesu et al., 2018).

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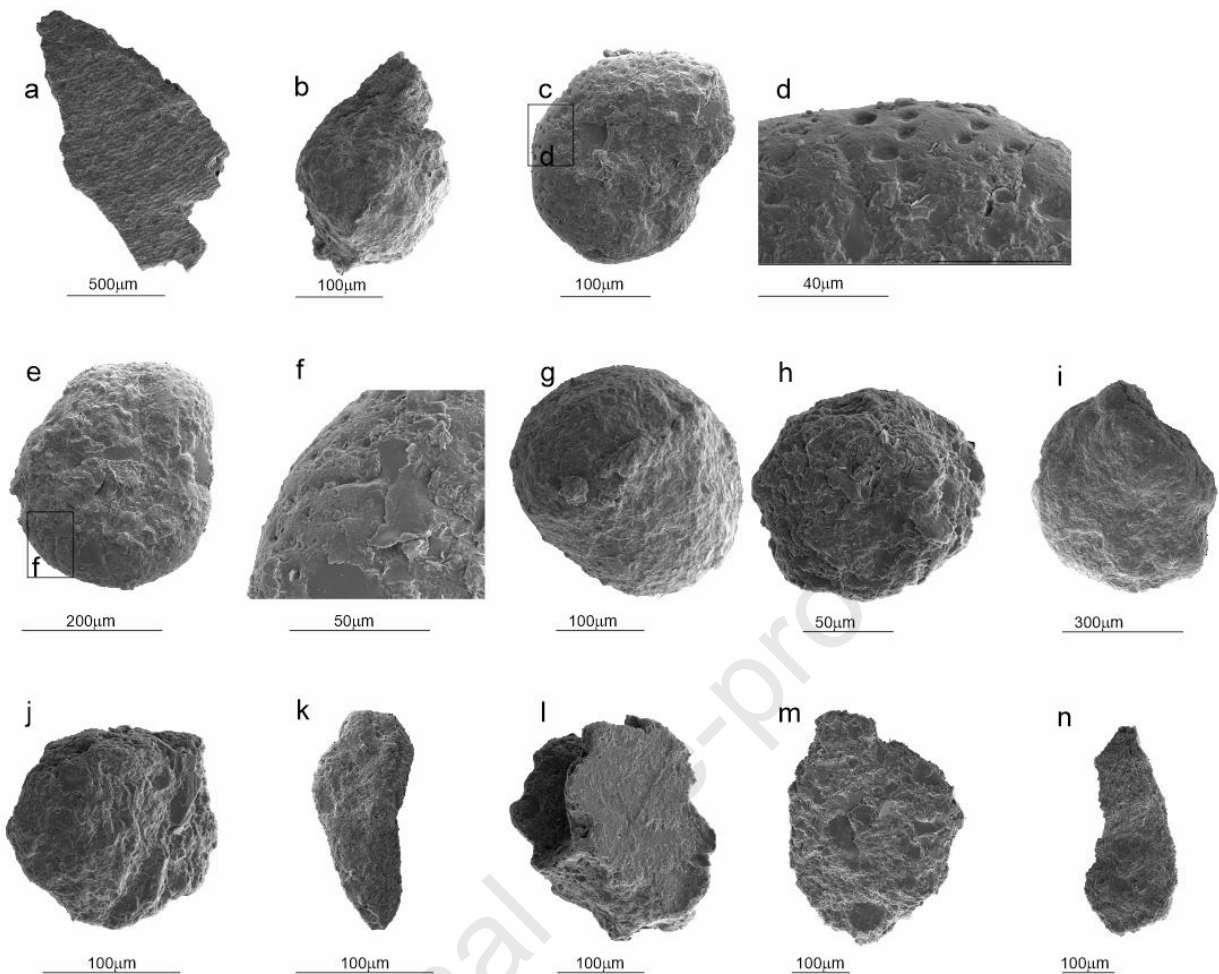
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349 **Fig. 3.** Examples of well cores from the basin flood interval of the Ivanka Fm. in the Kolárovo-
 350 4 borehole (modified from Vlček et al., 2024). Note the overall sandy nature and ubiquitous
 351 presence of “dirty sand”, implying deposition of hybrid event beds.

352 4.2.2 Biostratigraphy

353 For biostratigraphy, the calcareous nannofossils and foraminifera were studied. The assemblage
 354 documented by the calcareous nannoplankton analysis from six cores of the Kolárovo-4
 355 (Supplementary Table S1) is assigned to the Sarmatian – correlated to the NN6 and ?Pannonian
 356 ranked accordingly based on the presence of ?*Isolithus semenenkoi* and ?*Noelaerhabdus bozinovicae*
 357 (Galović, 2020; Ćorić, 2021; Ćorić et al., 2023). The Sarmatian assemblage includes *Calcidiscus*
 358 *macintyreii*, *Coccolithus miopelagicus*, *Helicosphaera walbersdorfensis*, *Orthorhabdus rugosus*, *O.*
 359 *serratus*, *Reticulofenestra pseudoumbilicus*, *R. producta*, *Sphenolithus abies* and *Syracosphaera*
 360 *pulchra* (Supplementary Table S1). The samples ranging from Kol-4-7a to Kol-4-9b contain fossils
 361 supporting the possible Pannonian age or Sarmatian interval of the NN6 Zone. The lowermost
 362 samples, Kol-4-10b and Kol-4-11b, are assigned to the NN6 Zone. An abundant reworking primarily
 363 of the Middle Miocene, but including the Lower Miocene, Paleogene, and Cretaceous fossils is also
 364 present, making distinguishing of autochthonous assemblage challenging.

365 Foraminifera show a similar situation (Supplementary Table S2), as the samples from cores 4 to 7
366 contain scarce fine agglutinated species of *Miliammina* and *Lagenammina* genera (Fig. 4), which are
367 often considered as the indicators of the Pannonian age (Late Miocene) in the Vienna and Danube
368 basins (Fuchs and Schreiber, 1988; Hudáčková et al., 2018b). The sample Kol-4-8b yields frequent
369 pyrite tubes, high abundance of which is characteristic for the base of the Pannonian succession in
370 the Vienna Basin (Harzhauser et al., 2018; Lin et al., 2023). The tubular pyrite aggregates, together
371 with the presence of very poorly preserved and rare Sarmatian specimens from *Nonion* and *Elphid*
372 genera (Fig. 4) can document the earliest Pannonian age. The cores 9, 10, 11, and 12 of the Kolárovo-
373 4 well contain an assemblage dominated by *Elphidium hauerinum*, *E. excavatum*, *E. macellum*,
374 *Anoimalinoides cf. dividens*, *Nubecularia* sp. of *Elphidium hauerinum* Zone (Sarmatian; Grill, 1941)
375 (Fig. 4, Supplementary Table S2). Samples from the upper cores 6 and 7 contain foraminifera tests
376 and inner casts, reworked from the Badenian (*Globigerina* sp. cf. *bulloides*, *Bolivina* sp., *Cibicides*
377 sp.) and Sarmatian successions (*Nonion*, *Porosonion*, *Elphidium*, Fig. 4). Beside the mentioned
378 fossils, the cores 6 and 7 contain also fish scales, coalified glyptostrobe conus seeds and Porifera
379 spicules.



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Fig. 4. Fossil remains identified during investigation of the foraminiferal assemblage of the basin floor interval of the Ivanka Fm in the Kolárovo-4 well, except for (I) and (N) from the uppermost Vráble Fm. (A) Fragment of the fish scale, sample Kol-4-7b. (B) Cast of *Globigerina* sp. indet, sample Kol-4-7b. (C) *Porosonion* sp. cf. *P. granosum* (d'Orbigny, 1846), sample Kol-4-8a. (D) Detail of the wall pores of the *Porosonion* sp. cf. *P. granosum* (d'Orbigny, 1846) with signs of dissolving, sample Kol-4-8a. (E) *Porosonion* sp. cf. *P. granosum* (d'Orbigny, 1846) with signs of dissolving (d'Orbigny, 1846), sample Kol-4-8b. (F) Detail of the wall pores of the *Porosonion* sp. cf. *P. granosum* (d'Orbigny, 1846) with signs of dissolving, sample Kol-4-8b. (G) ? *Porifera rhaxi*, sample Kol-4-6b. (H). Unspecified rotaliid foraminifera, sample Kol-4-7b. (I) *Elphidium* cf. *hauerinum* (d'Orbigny, 1846), sample Kol-4-9b from the Vráble Fm. (J) *Pararotalia* cf. *aculeata* (d'Orbigny, 1846), Kol-4-7b. (K) *Bolivina* sp. indet., sample Kol-4-6b.

392 (L) Fragment of *Lobatula lobatula*, Kol-4-7b. (M) *Miliammina* sp., Kol-4-7b. (N)
393 *Ammobaculites* sp. indet., Kol-4-9b from the Vráble Fm.

394 4.2.3 Inorganic geochemistry

395 Epiclastic samples were evaluated for comparative geochemical analysis in terms of recycling and
396 change of provenance. All samples have similar character, and their composition varies dominantly
397 with grain-size ($\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 = 2.4\text{--}8.6$) and amount of carbonate admixture ($\text{CO}_2 = 0.2\text{--}19.9$;
398 Supplementary Table S3). Although the calculation of enrichment factors was used for minimalizing
399 of these effect, some general trends are still present. Another problem to be considered is diagenetic
400 and/or intraformational enrichment, specifically the extreme increase in Si content ($\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ more
401 than 8 for single sample), likely due to biogenic production, and the diagenetic mobility of other
402 elements (single Fe carbonate sample) (Figs. 5, 6). Biogenic Si production was documented, for
403 example, in Fe-rich sample from the Zelený Háj-1, core 16, where diagenetic overprint caused high
404 Fe carbonate content and REE enrichment (Figs. 5 and 6; Vlček et al. 2024). These samples are
405 marked separately as outlier types due to their specific origin. Similarly, the sandy samples
406 ($\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ reaching >5.5) are grouped separately, due to slightly different behavior. All sandy
407 samples are Zr and Hf enriched, what points to cumulating of zircons in the sand fraction.

408 After considering these factors, the most significant change in the composition of the Danube Basin
409 Miocene sediments is shown in the content of $\text{Zr}_{(\text{EF})}$ and $\text{Hf}_{(\text{EF})}$. This factor points to a zircon addition
410 due to recycling of sediment (Figs. 5, 6). The second factor is the content of $\text{Mg}_{(\text{UCC})}$, what reflects
411 the proportion of dolomite. Based on these criteria, the samples were divided to four categories: type
412 1 represents samples with low content of $\text{Zr}_{(\text{EF})}$ and $\text{Hf}_{(\text{EF})}$ (lower than 0.67 and 0.65 respectively,
413 Supplementary Table S3), what indicates minimal to no sediment reworking (Fig. 5). Types 2–4 are
414 typical by higher content of $\text{Zr}_{(\text{EF})}$ and $\text{Hf}_{(\text{EF})}$ (more than 0.67 and 0.65 respectively, Supplementary
415 Table S3), reflecting a zircon addition via sediment recycling (Fig.5; McLennan et al., 1993). This

416 division is supported by the distribution of andesite volcanoclastic samples from Danube Basin, whose
417 compositional variability line divides these two major groups (Fig. 5).

418 The type 2–4 group can be subdivided by content of $Mg_{(EF)}$ to Mg enriched type 2 ($Mg_{(EF)}$ more than
419 1.8), type 3 without Mg enrichment and type 4, which grouped samples with SiO_2/Al_2O_3 ratio more
420 than 5.5 (sandy samples). However, this subdivision is indistinct, since the transition between
421 individual subtypes is smooth (Fig. 5, 6). The types 2 and 3 reflect change in provenance, where type
422 2 represents significant dominance of carbonates (dolomites) in the source area. Although Mg
423 enrichment can be also caused by diagenetic dolomitization, the dominance of detrital dolomite
424 influence is the preferred interpretation. This is supported by the presence of Mg enrichment also in
425 sandy samples (type 4), detrital origin of some carbonate grains observed by Vlček et al. (2024), and
426 the presence of carbonate rocks in the source area. Nevertheless, also intrabasinal carbonates
427 containing fossil shells are present apart from the detrital carbonate admixture. It is worth mentioning
428 that type 2 samples are present mainly in the wells situated close to areas with pre-Cenozoic carbonate
429 rocks, present also in the basin basement. A gradual change from type 2 to type 3 upward can be
430 observed in these wells (Supplementary Table S3). Kolárovo-4 well shows a different pattern with an
431 opposite change in provenance from type 3 in Serravallian to type 2 during Pannonian (Ivanka and
432 Beladice fms.). This change in provenance is also supported by the presence of volcanic clasts in
433 the Serravallian sediments in Kolárovo-4 well (Vlček et al., 2024).

434 Comparison of nonvolcanic and volcanic/pyroclastic sediments of the Danube Basin show different
435 trends between these sediments. Whereas compositional variability of volcanoclastics/pyroclastics
436 mirrors magma evolution, the nonvolcanic sediments reflect sediment recycling (Fig. 5).
437 Additionally, it points to the overall intermediate character of source rocks for nonvolcanic sediments.
438 The interlayering volcanic/pyroclastic and volcanic sediments is typical for the Middle Miocene
439 Danube Basin fill (Šujan et al., 2025) (Fig. 5, 6). Nevertheless, the sediments of volcanic origin retain
440 different characteristics in comparison to non-volcanic sediments, even though volcanic centers

441 formed a significant proportion of rocks in the source area from the end of the lower Badenian
442 (Langhian) up to present-day.

443 The Upper Miocene deltaic Beladice Fm. consists dominantly of type 1 (Zr_{EF} and Hf_{EF} lower than
444 0.65) and less type 2 which represented more recycled horizons with higher content of detritic
445 carbonates (Fig. 5, 6; Supplementary Table S3). Both types are present in the Kolárovo-4 and Zelený
446 Háj-1 wells in interfingering levels. The zircon addition via recycling is supported by the increased
447 Zr_{EF} and Hf_{EF} with SiO_2/Al_2O_3 ratio. The location of Zelený Háj-1 well close to the Transdanubian
448 Range basement built mainly of carbonate rocks (Fig. 1D; Budai et al., 2015) is reflected in high
449 Mg_{EF} , which is present also in type 1 there.

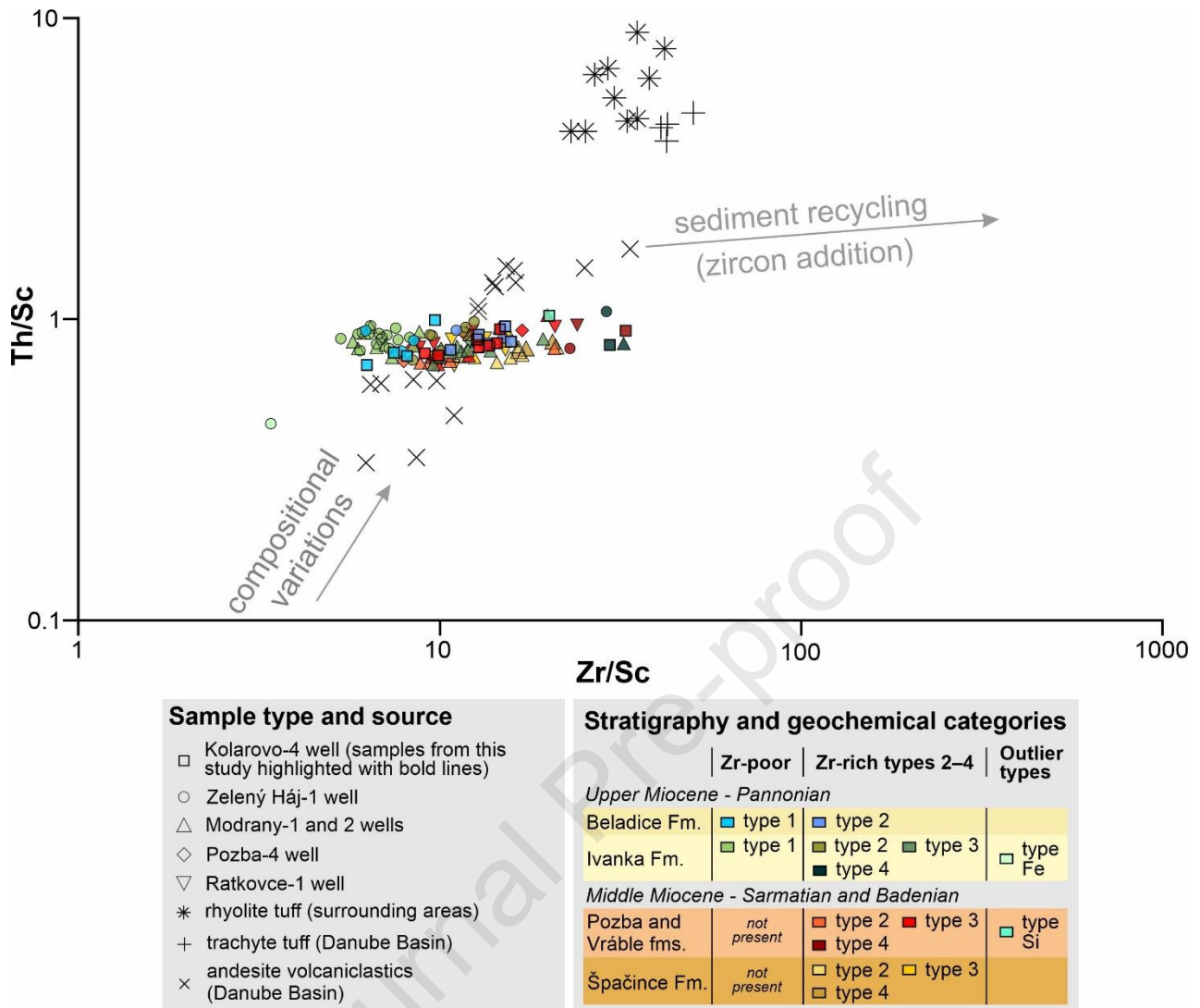
450 The Upper Miocene Ivanka Fm., which is the main focus of this study, contains all geochemical types
451 of sediments (Figs. 5, 6, Supplementary Table S3). The samples included in the type 1 generally
452 belong to the turbidite and shelf slope parts of the Ivanka Fm. (Fig. 7), while it also includes a major
453 part of the below-situated basin floor interval in the Zelený Háj-1 well and the upper third of the basin
454 floor interval in Modrany-1 well (Fig. 7). The second most often represented geochemical group,
455 characteristic by zircon addition via recycling (Fig. 6) is the type 2 (Mg-rich) and 3 (Mg-poor). The
456 types 2 and 3 appear in the basin floor interval of the Kolárovo-4 well, investigated in this study for
457 authigenic $^{10}Be/^{9}Be$, and lower 120 m of the basin floor interval in the Modrany-1 well (Fig. 7). A
458 subgroup designated as type 2 (Mg-rich) is restricted mainly to the shelf slope interval in the Zelený
459 Háj-1 well (Fig. 7, Supplementary Table S3). A minor group of samples indicated as type 4 of the
460 Ivanka Fm, interpreted as sandy size is present in the core 17 of the Zelený Háj-1 well (turbidite),
461 core 10 of the Modrany-1 well, and core 8 of the Kolárovo-4 well (basin floor interval). The sample
462 from core 6 of the Kolárovo-4 has extremely high content Si; therefore, this sample was excluded
463 from the previously discussed types.

464 The Vráble and Pozba fms. of the Middle Miocene age (Sarmatian and late Badenian; Serravallian)
465 are represented only by a group of geochemical types 2–4 which document presence of sediment

466 recycling (Fig. 5, 6). The type 3 represents the stratigraphic interval underlying the Upper Miocene
467 basin floor strata of the Ivanka Fm., including the Kolárovo-4 well samples analyzed for authigenic
468 $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ in this study (Fig. 7). An exception could be seen in the Modrany-1 well area, where type 2
469 (Mg-rich) is dominant probably in response to the carbonate source rocks present in basement of this
470 area. The type 4 assumed as sub-group with a relatively higher content of sand, resulting in higher Zr
471 concentrations is also rarely present.

472 The samples from the lower Middle Miocene (lower Badenian; Langhian) Špačince Fm. show again
473 dominant geochemical Zircon-rich types 2–4 (Fig 6). This group of samples plots towards significant
474 effect of sediment recycling in Fig. 5, comparable to the type 3 of the Ivanka, Vráble and Pozba fms.
475 The Mg-rich type 2 is repeatedly typical for Modrany-1 well, whereas type 3 dominated in other
476 wells. Sandy type 4 is also present.

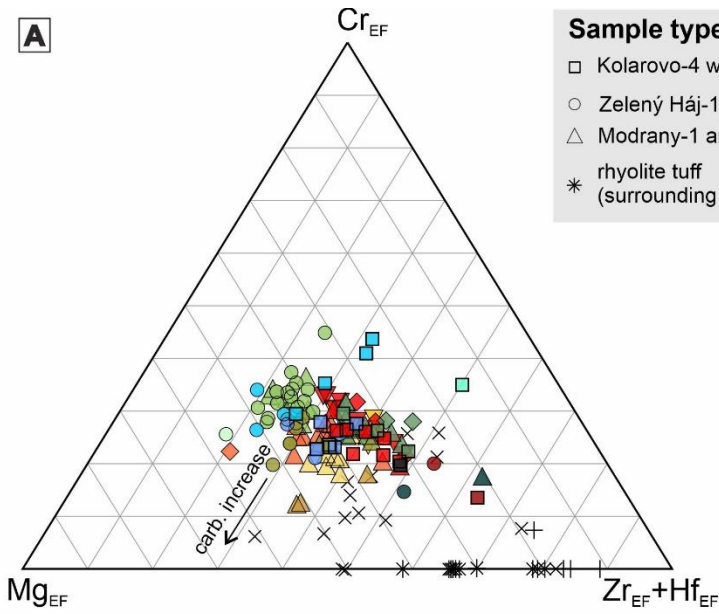
477 The observed pattern show a stratigraphic relationship, with the first dominant geochemical type 1
478 characteristic by lower degree of sediment recycling being present in the Beladice Fm., as well as in
479 the shelf slope, turbiditic and locally upper part of the basin floor interval of the Ivanka Fm. The Zr-
480 rich types 2–4 with significantly higher degree of sediment recycling appear in the majority of the
481 basin floor interval of the Ivanka Fm., and in all belowlying formations of the Middle Miocene age.
482 Although the majority of the samples occupied shale field in the diagram of Herron (1988), the
483 increase of Zr content with $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ratio can be observed (Supplementary Table S3). It indicates
484 a switch from Zr-rich types 2–4 to Zr-poor type 1 reflecting a change in sediment routing pathways.



485

486 **Fig. 5.** Diagram of Th/Sc versus Zr/Sc according to McLennan et al. (1993), showing the
 487 samples included in the comparative geochemical analysis. The diagram indicates enrichment
 488 of zircon (higher Zr/Sc ratio), which is associated with sorting and recycling. The geochemical
 489 categories (types) are established according to the distribution of values observed in this study
 490 and are described in the text. The sites used for the comparative analysis are shown in Fig. 1B.

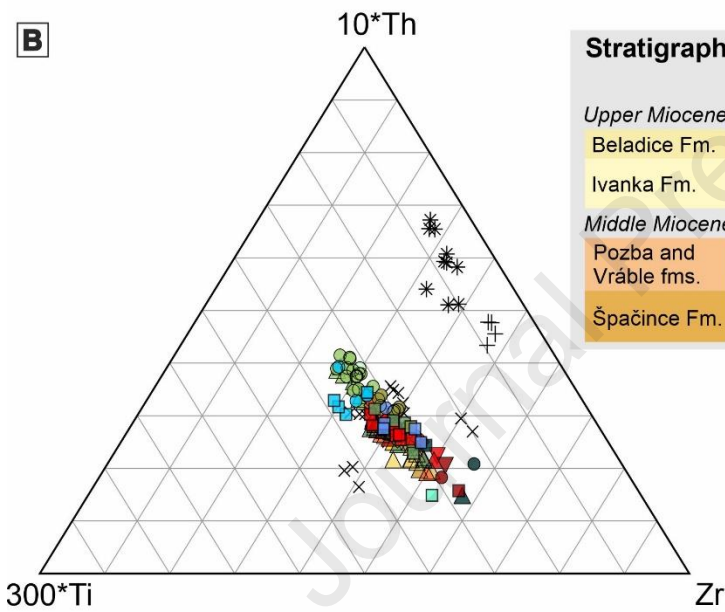
A



Sample type and source

- Kolarovo-4 well (this study samples highlighted with bold lines)
- Zelený Háj-1 well
- △ Modrany-1 and 2 wells
- * rhyolite tuff (surrounding areas)
- ◇ Pozba-4 well
- ▽ Ratkovce-1 well
- + trachyte tuff (Danube Basin)
- × andesite volcanics (Danube Basin)

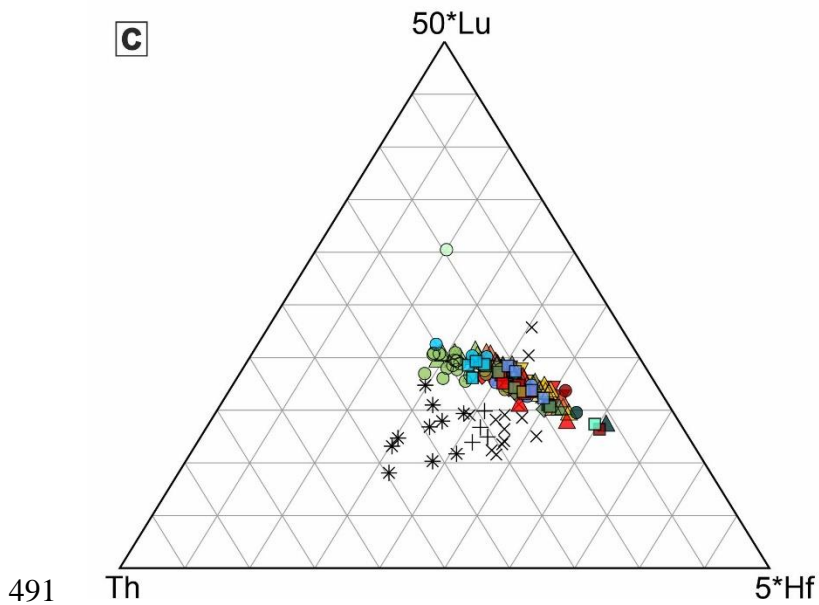
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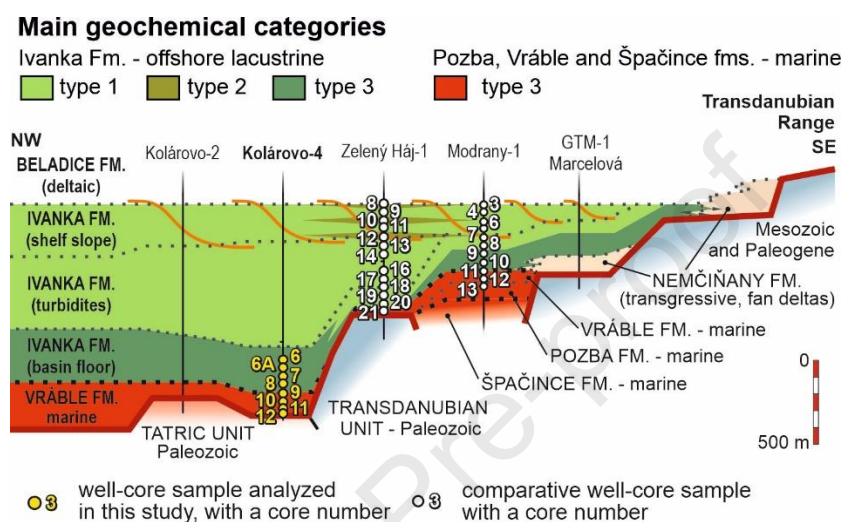
Stratigraphy and geochemical categories

	Zr-poor	Zr-rich types 2-4	Outlier types
<i>Upper Miocene - Pannonian</i>			
Beladice Fm.	■ type 1	■ type 2	
Ivanka Fm.	■ type 1	■ type 2	□ type Fe
		■ type 3	
		■ type 4	
<i>Middle Miocene - Sarmatian and Badenian</i>			
Pozba and Vrábce fms.	not present	■ type 2	■ type 3
		■ type 4	□ type Si
Špačince Fm.	not present	□ type 2	□ type 3
		□ type 4	

C



492 **Fig. 6A.** $Mg_{EF}-Cr_{EF}-Zr_{EF}+Hf_{EF}$ diagram showing smooth transition between Mg-rich (type 2)
 493 and Mg-poor (type 3) samples. The two sandy samples (type 4) are Mg-rich. **B, C.** The
 494 Provenance ternary diagram (Riboulleau et al., 2014). For comparison, also samples of volcanic
 495 origin from Danube Basin and surrounding areas were displayed (Supplementary Table S3). The
 496 sites used for the comparative analysis are shown in Fig. 1B).

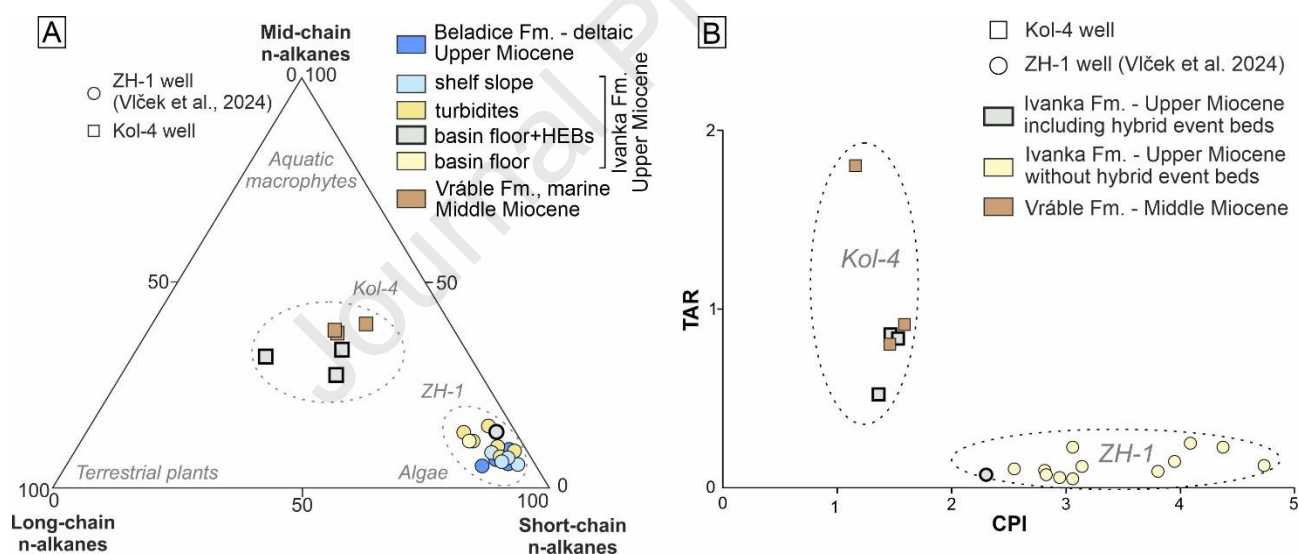


497
 498 **Fig. 7.** Simplified correlation through the wells on the southeastern margin of the Danube Basin,
 499 with distribution of main geochemical types defined in this study (modified from Fig. 1D, see
 500 explanations there).

501 4.2.4 Organic geochemistry

502 The distribution of n-alkanes (m/z 57 ion chromatogram) is characterized by the predominance of
 503 mid-chain-length homologs in the analyzed samples from the Kolárovo-4 well. N-alkanes ranging
 504 from n-C18 to n-C23 predominate in the three samples Kol-4-6a, Kol-4-7a and Kol-4-8c from the
 505 Ivanka Fm. (Upper Miocene, Pannonian), with a maximum at n-C21 (Supplementary Table S4). On
 506 the other hand, the distribution of n-alkanes in the samples Kol-4-9b, Kol-4-10b and Kol-4-11b from
 507 the Vráble Fm. (Middle Miocene, Sarmatian) is defined by the dominance of short-chain homologs
 508 (n-C16 to n-C20), with a maximum at n-C18. However, mid- to long-chain homologs (ranging from
 509 n-C22 to n-C29) prevail in sample Kol-4-10b, with maxima at n-C26 and n-C27 (Supplementary
 510 Table S4).

511 Generally, higher values of long-chain n-alkanes are observed in the Sarmatian samples (25–41%)
 512 compared to the Pannonian samples (17–24%) (Fig. 8). The distribution of short-chain n-alkanes is
 513 higher in Pannonian samples (Ivanka Fm.) (37–43%) than in Sarmatian samples (26–43%), where,
 514 conversely, mid-chain n-alkanes predominate (38-40%; Fig. 8, Supplementary Table S4). The CPI
 515 values are relatively consistent across all samples from the Kolárovo-4 well, ranging between 1.16
 516 and 1.59 and indicating highly degraded OM and/or presence of large amounts of microorganism
 517 derived OM (Fig. 8). All Kolárovo-4 samples have TAR values lower than 1, indicating the presence
 518 of aquatic OM. However, in sample Kol-4-10b, the TAR values increase, reaching up to 1.80, which
 519 indicates terrestrial OM. ACL21-35 values range between 24.65 and 26.78. Lower ACL values in the
 520 Pannonian samples (Ivanka Fm.) may indicate more degraded organic matter compared to the
 521 Sarmatian samples (Vráble Fm.).



522

523 **Fig. 8.** Diagrams with selected organic geochemistry parameters. **A.** Distribution of short (n-
 524 C12–20), mid (n-C21–25) and long (n-C27–33) chain n-alkanes in the different facies (Viček et
 525 al., 2024, modified). **B.** Cross plot diagram of Carbon preference index (CPI) vs.
 526 Terrigenous/Aquatic Ratio (TAR) indicating differences in organic matter type between the
 527 Kolárovo-4 and Zelený Háj-1 wells. HEBS – hybrid event beds.

528 As could be seen in Fig. 8A, the samples originating from the Ivanka Fm. in the Kolárovo-4 and consisting of
529 hybrid event beds bear a significantly different signature from the Ivanka Fm. samples of the Zelený Háj-1
530 well, which show prevalence of short chain n-alkanes. Most of these samples coming from the Zelený Háj-1
531 do not contain a significant proportion of hybrid event beds. On the other hand, the proportion of n-alkanes is
532 comparable in general to the Vráble Fm. samples from Kolárovo-1 well. A very similar pattern could be
533 observed in Fig. 8B, where the Zelený Háj-1 samples from Ivanka Fm. show significantly lower TAR values
534 and much higher CPI values in comparison to both the Ivanka and Vráble fms. samples taken from Kolárovo-
535 4 well.

536 **5. Discussion – deep water mud redeposition affecting authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$**

537 The synthesis of indices based on facies analysis, biostratigraphy of foraminifers and calcareous
538 nannoplankton, inorganic geochemistry and biomarkers provides a relatively robust basis to explain
539 the anomalously low authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratios and radiometric ages calculated for the Vráble and
540 Ivanka formations significantly older from independent constraints. All the listed indices reveal that
541 the analyzed succession contains a significant proportion of clastic fine-grained material, redeposited
542 likely from the Middle Miocene formations in deep water environment.

543 Calcareous nannoplankton fossils point to the source of sediment within the NN6 biostratigraphic
544 zone, which was constrained to 13.5–11.8 Ma (Martini, 1971). The NN6 Zone comprises the
545 Serravallian succession (upper Badenian–Sarmatian) deposited dominantly in marine environment.
546 A common feature of the upper Badenian nannofossils is a higher genus diversity with lower
547 abundances. At the same time, a typical characteristic of calcareous nannofossil assemblage from the
548 Sarmatian age is a less diverse assemblage with higher abundances (Galović, 2017; Galović, 2020;
549 Čorić, 2021; Hajek-Tadesse et al., 2023). Only blips of endemic taxa occur in the Pannonian stage of
550 the Danube Basin, present even less than during the Sarmatian. Reworked fossils are primarily of the
551 Middle Miocene age, but Lower Miocene, Paleogene, and Cretaceous fossils are present as well.

552 The foraminiferal assemblage obtained from the Ivanka Fm. sediments of the Kolárovo-4 well
553 documents a deep water association resedimented probably from the upper Badenian succession
554 (*Globigerina bulloides*, accompanied with *Cibicidoides* sp., *Bolivina antiqua* in the correlative
555 horizon of Modrany-1 well, Vlček et al. 2020b) except rare occurrences of very shallow water and
556 perhaps Pannonian specimens (*Miliammina* sp.) (Fuchs and Schreiber, 1988; Filipescu et al., 1999;
557 Filipescu and Kaminski, 2008; Hudáčková et al., 2018b). The typical Sarmatian taxa *Elphidium*
558 *hauerinum* and *Porosonion* sp. are poorly preserved in the lower part (cores 8–12 of the Kolárovo-4
559 well). On the other hand, they are more abundant with signs of dissolution or in the form of casts
560 (Fig. 4), which are considered as redeposited. Sediments from the Vráble Fm. in the Kolárovo-4 well
561 provided diversified foraminiferal assemblage of *Elphidium hauerinum* Zone (Harzhauser and Piller,
562 2004; Kováč et al., 2018a), which evidences a lagoonal or marginal marine environment (Fordinál et
563 al., 2006; Kováč et al., 2017) with a possibly decreased salinity.

564 Furthermore, the comparative geochemical analysis of the extensive regional dataset indicates that
565 recycling of material from local sources is a common feature of all Middle Miocene formations up to
566 the lowermost part of the Upper Miocene Ivanka Fm. (geochemical types 2–4). These successions
567 correspond temporally to the four phases of the Danube Basin rifting stage (Šujan et al., 2021b), when
568 formation of half-grabens forced the dominance of local sediment sources. Recycling in the sediment
569 routing pathways persisted until the establishment of the regional depositional system of the paleo-
570 Danube and its Western Carpathian tributaries, which overfilled the Pannonian Basin with turbidite,
571 shelf slope, deltaic, and alluvial sediments, characterized as geochemical type 1. The provenance of
572 the redeposited material was likely in the Middle Miocene successions of the Badenian regional
573 Central Paratethys stage, which accumulated in a considerable thickness in the eastern Danube Basin
574 (Kováč et al., 2018a; Šujan et al., 2021b). Part of the Badenian successions is situated below the
575 Vráble Fm., while other portions must have been exposed already during early Late Miocene. A
576 similar switch in provenance was documented in the Drava, Sava or Makó sub-basins of the

577 Pannonian Basin System, coinciding with the progradation of the regional drainage system during the
578 postrift geodynamic stage (Szuromi-Korecz et al., 2004; Matošević et al., 2023; 2024).

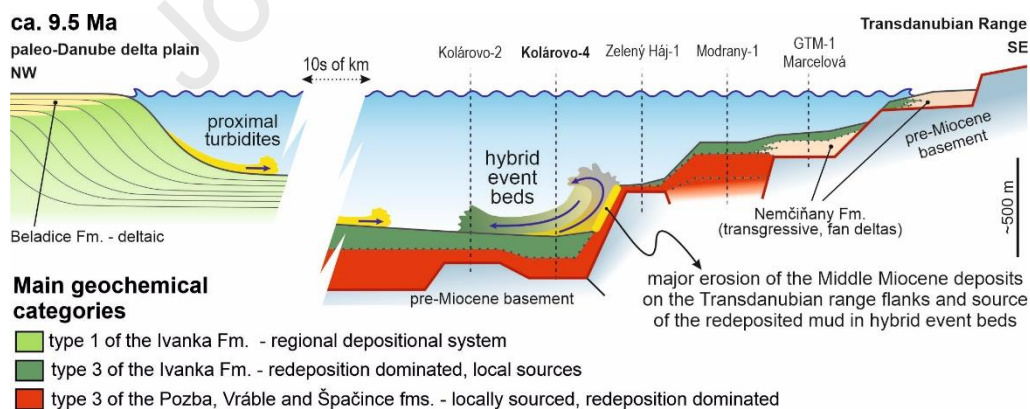
579 The hypothesis on how redeposition of older Middle Miocene mud into the younger Sarmatian Vráble
580 and Pannonian Ivanka formations modifies the resulting authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratios and ages, was
581 tested by a back-calculation of the initial ratio. It is based on the age constraints of 12.6–12.1 Ma for
582 the Vráble Fm. in Kolárovo-4 well. Each natural authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratio of the eight samples from
583 the cores 9–12 was used for back-calculation of two marginal initial ratio values using 12.6 Ma and
584 12.1 Ma ages for each sample. The resulting ranges between two marginal values of eight samples
585 from the Vráble Fm. were then used to calculate the weighted mean initial $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratio with the
586 KDX application by Spencer et al. (2017). This value reached $2.64 \pm 0.25 \times 10^{-9}$ and is further referred
587 to as the “Sarmatian” initial ratio, which considers the redeposition of the older mud into the
588 depositional environment according to the assumptions made.

589 When calculating the ages for the Upper Miocene samples of the Ivanka Fm. using the “Sarmatian”
590 initial ratio (Fig. 2C, Table 1), these samples match in general with the independently constrained age
591 range of ~10.0–9.3 Ma. The ages of samples from the core 8 point to the possibility of somewhat
592 older start of the hybrid event beds deposition. The age generally decreasing upwards follows the
593 trend observed in the below-lying Vráble Fm. The observed pattern is interpreted as a confirmation
594 of the assumption of mud redeposition by HEBs affecting the authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratios.

595 Nevertheless, it is worth mentioning that the wide uncertainties of all authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ values,
596 reaching high apparent ages at the limits of the method's applicability. This is underscored by the
597 measured sample AMS $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratios, six of them in the range of $10\text{--}15 \times 10^{-15}$, which are
598 approaching the level of processing blank AMS $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratios of $7\text{--}8 \times 10^{-15}$ (Table 1). This leads
599 to the age overlap of almost all samples when using the “Sarmatian” initial ratio. The laboratory at
600 the Department of Geology and Paleontology of the Comenius University Bratislava employs

601 nowadays the LGC beryllium ICP-MS standard with $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratios at the levels of $3\text{--}4 \times 10^{-15}$ as a
 602 carrier during the sample preparation instead of the Scharlau one applied in this study, which will
 603 allow to reach better accuracy for the future samples thanks to a roughly two-fold lower $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$
 604 ratio (Merchel et al., 2021).

605 The back-calculation test indicates that the redeposition process was in general well-balanced for the
 606 upper Middle Miocene Vráble Fm., resulting in evenly decreased authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratios. On the
 607 other hand, much higher variability in the Ivanka Fm. implies more dynamic changes in this effect.
 608 The sample Kol-4-7b exhibits age within the independent constraints using the lacustrine initial ratio
 609 from Šujan et al. (2016), indicating that this sole sample might not be affected by the redeposition in
 610 general. Although Kol-4-7b is separated by only a few meters of succession from the sample Kol-4-
 611 7a, which was affected by redeposition, the core examples in Fig. 3 demonstrate that depositional
 612 processes varied even within a few centimeters of succession, potentially resulting in changes to
 613 beryllium isotopic fluxes. However, all remaining samples were affected systematically, which stands
 614 out as a proof of pervasive nature of the deep-water redeposition of mud by gravity flows in the whole
 615 analyzed succession.



616

617 **Fig. 9.** Paleogeographic scenario showing gravity flows sourced from the paleo-Danube
 618 depositional system on the northwest, which composition significantly altered by erosion of the
 619 Middle Miocene mudstones on the opposite, southeastern side of the basin, resulting in

620 formation of hybrid event beds. Note the high thickness of the type 3 deposits of the Ivanka Fm.
621 below the flanks, and their contrasting low thickness above the flank.

622 The observed basin-fill geometry and sediment distribution in the Ivanka Fm. suggest a
623 paleogeographic scenario depicted in Fig. 9. The formation of hybrid event beds was predisposed by
624 a NE–SW oriented embayment of Lake Pannon, only a few tens of kilometers wide. Turbidity
625 currents, triggered from the prograding shelf slope in the northwest, were confined by the subaquatic
626 foothills of the Transdanubian Range on the basin's southeast flank, leading to erosion and
627 redeposition at the lake bottom. Several million years older formations (possibly the Badenian Pozba
628 and Špačince formations) were exposed due to the earlier Late Miocene rifting, which caused
629 morphological differentiation of the lake floor. This confinement, along with erosion and redeposition
630 by deep-water gravity currents, led to the anomalously thick basin floor deposits in the Kolárovo-4
631 well area (Fig. 9). In contrast, the thin Middle Miocene deposits and hybrid event beds in the basin
632 floor interval of the Zelený Háj-1 well area likely resulted from its position atop a morphological
633 constraint (Fig. 9), which faced significant erosion and a condensed sediment supply from gravity
634 currents.

635 The observed process of deep-water mud redeposition occurred when the normal regressive clastic
636 wedge of the paleo-Danube began prograding across the basin system. Importantly, it demonstrates
637 that normal regressive deep-water deposits could be problematic for authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ dating,
638 despite the deltaic part of the normal regressive system being considered suitable for the method
639 (Aherwar et al., 2024). Therefore, basin paleogeography should be carefully considered when
640 developing sampling strategies for authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ dating. Narrow confinement caused for
641 example by basin rifting predisposes deep-water redeposition of older mud as extraclasts, while
642 hybrid event beds on an unconfined basin floor are more likely to entrain coeval mud (intraclasts),
643 avoiding significant authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ age offsets.

644 The study emphasizes the importance of detailed stratigraphic analysis in a succession to achieve
645 accurate authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ dating. Current understanding of the factors influencing this method
646 suggests that integrated multiproxy evidence, such as that presented in this study, can support the
647 conceptual interpretation of paleo-isotopic beryllium fluxes. Nevertheless, facies analysis and
648 sequence stratigraphy remain the most reliable tools for avoiding misleading $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ dating results,
649 and they cannot be replaced by any other analytical method.

650 **6. Conclusion**

651 This study provides the first direct evidence of redeposition in a deep-water environment as the cause
652 of significantly older authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ radiometric dating results. The proposed hypothesis is
653 process-based, attributing the redeposition of significantly older mud into younger deep-water strata
654 to the hybrid event mechanism. This is supported by multiproxy evidence, including sedimentology,
655 biostratigraphy of reworked nanoplankton and foraminiferal fossil assemblages, inorganic
656 geochemistry from an extensive regional dataset, and organic geochemical indices. This study adds a
657 critical piece to the complex puzzle of understanding the authigenic $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ isotopic systematics in
658 clastic sediments, which is essential for its effective application in geochronology.

659 Notably, the study reveals an important geochemical signature of the basin fill, which indicates the
660 dominance of sediment redeposition from local sources during and shortly after the Pannonian Basin
661 rifting, while regional sediment routing systems formed later during the overfilling of the basin by
662 sediment supply. The dominance of the recycling of older successions during the rifting stage is a
663 major issue that impedes the use of standard biostratigraphy and could be investigated more precisely,
664 for example, through the analysis of detrital zircons, thanks to the simultaneous volcanic activity.

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1085 **Supplementary material**1086 **Supplementary Table S1.** A list of stratigraphic important calcareous nannofossils determined

1087 in the studied samples. Not mentioned samples were barren.

Core	D	Zone/ Subzone	Event
Kol-4-6a	N	NN6	<i>Reticulofenestra pseudoumbilicus</i> , <i>R. producta</i> , <i>Orthorhabdus rugosus</i> , reworking
Kol-4-7a	N	?Pannonian/NN6	? <i>Isolithus semenenkoi</i> , <i>Orthorhabdus serratus</i> , <i>Umbilicosphaera jafari</i> , <i>Helicosphaera carteri</i> , reworking
Kol-4-8c	N	?Pannonian/NN6	? <i>I. semenenkoi</i> , ? <i>Noelaerhabdus bozinovicae</i> , <i>Sphenolithus abies</i> , <i>Calcidiscus tropicus</i> , <i>Coccolithus miopelagicus</i> , <i>R. pseudoumbilicus</i> , reworking
Kol-4-9b	N	?Pannonian/NN6	? <i>N. bozinovicae</i> , <i>Helicosphaera walbersdorfensis</i> , <i>S. abies</i> , <i>C. tropicus</i> , <i>C. miopelagicus</i> , <i>R. pseudoumbilicus</i> , <i>Syracosphaera pulchra</i> , <i>U. jafari</i> , <i>Sphenolithus heteromorphus</i> , reworking
Kol-4-10b	N	NN6	<i>R. producta</i> , <i>R. pseudoumbilicus</i> , <i>Calcidiscus macintyreii</i> , <i>C. tropicus</i> , <i>C. miopelagicus</i> , <i>S. heteromorphus</i> , reworking
Kol-4-11b	N	NN6	<i>O. rugosus</i> , <i>S. abies</i> , <i>C. tropicus</i> , <i>R. pseudoumbilicus</i> , <i>S. pulchra</i> , <i>S. heteromorphus</i> , reworking

1088

1089 **Supplementary Table S2.** A list of fossils determined in the studied samples during the analysis
 1090 focused on foraminiferal assemblages. Not mentioned samples were barren.

Sample	Observations
Kol-4-6a	Residue undisturbed by wet sieving (clumps), a significant amount of mica, ? weathered pegmatite – a large quantity of garnet, sterile.
Kol-4-6b	The residue contains unwashed gray remnants of very fine-grained claystone (flakes), very micaceous, granules, fragments of sharp-edged quartz crystals, garnet, authigenic pyrite, (?) pyroxene, glauconite, coal material, fish scales; Foraminifers: Flat finely agglutinated biserial forms, redeposited tests - <i>Bolivina</i> , <i>Cibicides</i> , fragments of unknown forms, pyrite tests. Most of the shells are dissolved. If <i>Bolivina</i> sp. is <i>Streptochilus</i> (the preservation level does not allow unequivocal determination), it could also be derived from the Lower Miocene successions (Karpatian regional Central Paratethys stage).
Kol-4-7b	Residue undisturbed by wet sieving consisting of very fine-grained material (flakes), small mica fragments, pyrite, carbonized seeds of conifers (? <i>Glyptostrobus</i>). Foraminifers: Phantom tests of foraminifera, indeterminate, only the tests of <i>Globigerina</i> sp. cf. <i>bulloides</i> and ? <i>Cibicides</i> were identifiable (lower Middle Miocene, Badenian regional Central Paratethys stage). The tests and a large amount of authigenic framboidal pyrite and Fe oxides might indicate significant dissolution of redeposited shells. It also contains fine-grained agglutinated shells - probably <i>in situ</i> (<i>Lagenammina</i> and indeterminate - SEM needed) – sourced probably from Badenian redeposits.
Kol-4-8a	Brown flakes of unwashed material, glauconite; Foraminifers: Tests of forms – <i>Porosonion</i> sp. cf. <i>P. granosum</i> , <i>Nonion</i> (late Middle Miocene - Sarmatian - redeposition from the lower Middle Miocene, Badenian successions).
Kol-4-8b	Sharp-edged fragments of fine-grained material (quartz, carbonates), granules, glauconite, pyrite fillings of burrows. Foraminifers: <i>Nonion</i> sp. indet., <i>Elphidium</i> (?Sarmatian – redeposition from upper Middle Miocene, Sarmatian redeposits).
Kol-4-9b	Agglutinated residue material, somewhat coarser clusters, a lot of mica, glauconite, ? volcanic flakes, laminated sediment of very fine-grained material, larger gray and white pebbles, fish bones; Foraminifers: <i>Elphidium hauerinum</i> , <i>Nonion biporus</i> (if <i>in situ</i> , indicates late Middle Miocene, Sarmatian age), both are index (zone) fossils of the Sarmatian stage.
Kol-4-10a	Fragments of unwashed laminated rock, fine-grained with biotite.
Kol-4-11b	Flakes of rock undisturbed by the wet sieving, very finely laminated, biotite, pyrite; Foraminifers: Contains very flat, very finely agglutinated (?) <i>Lagenammina</i> – typical for marshes (very shallow, extreme environment).
Kol-4-12a,b	Fragments of unwashed material, coarser-grained, mica, glauconite, biotite, rhax of sponges, fragments of bivalve shells; Foraminifers: <i>Elphidium hauerinum</i> , <i>E. excavatum</i> , <i>E. macellum</i> , <i>Anomalinoidea</i> cf. <i>dividens</i> , <i>Nubecularia</i> sp. (if <i>in situ</i> , indicates upper part of the early Sarmatian age according to Harzhauser and Piller, 2007).

1091

1092 **Supplementary Table S3 [separately attached file].** Concentrations of selected elements and
 1093 geochemical parameters included in the comparative analysis of the samples analyzed in this
 1094 study, and samples from the Danube Basin and its surroundings.

1095 [see the attached file]

1096

1097 **Supplementary Table S4.** Biomarker indices based on selected n-alkanes (m/z 57) and
 1098 chromatograms showing the distribution of monitored n-alkanes. Explanations: CPI - carbon
 1099 preference index $[(nC_{25} + nC_{27} + nC_{29} + nC_{31} + nC_{33}) / (nC_{24} + nC_{26} + nC_{28} + nC_{30} +$
 1100 $nC_{32}) + (nC_{25} + nC_{27} + nC_{29} + nC_{31} + nC_{33}) / (nC_{26} + nC_{28} + nC_{30} + nC_{32} + nC_{34})] / 2$ (Bray and
 1101 Evans 1961); TAR - terrigenous/aquatic ratio $(nC_{27} + nC_{29} + nC_{31}) / (nC_{15} + nC_{17} + nC_{19})$
 1102 (Bourbonniere and Meyers 1996); ACL₂₁₋₃₅ - average chain length
 1103 $(21 \times nC_{21} + 23 \times nC_{23} + 25 \times nC_{25} + 27 \times nC_{27} + 29 \times nC_{29} + 31 \times nC_{31} + 33 \times nC_{33} + 35 \times nC_{35}) / (nC_{21} + n$
 1104 $C_{23} + nC_{25} + nC_{27} + nC_{29} + nC_{31} + nC_{33} + nC_{35})$ (Poynter et al. 1989); Paq - aquatic macrophytes
 1105 proxy $(nC_{23} + nC_{25}) / (nC_{23} + nC_{25} + nC_{29} + nC_{31})$ (Ficken et al. 2000).

Samples	Stratigraphy	Formations	Depositional systems	Depth (m)	CPI	TAR	ACL ₂₁₋₃₅	n-alkanes (%)		
								short	mid	long
Kol-4-6a	Pannonian	low. Ivanka	b.floor+HEBs	2306	1,46	0,86	25,28	37	38	24
Kol-4-7a	Pannonian	low. Ivanka	b.floor+HEBs	2405	1,50	0,83	25,36	38	38	24
Kol-4-8c	Pannonian	low. Ivanka	b.floor+HEBs	2451	1,36	0,52	24,65	43	40	17
Kol-4-9b	Sarmatian	Vráble	basin floor	2509	1,59	0,91	26,44	43	27	29
Kol-4-10b	Sarmatian	Vráble	basin floor	2559	1,16	1,80	26,78	26	32	41
Kol-4-11b	Sarmatian	Vráble	basin floor	2598	1,46	0,80	25,61	41	34	25

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Highlights:

- First direct evidence of deep-water mud redeposition affecting $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ dating
- Mud reworking traced by sedimentology, biostratigraphy, inorganic and organic geochemistry
- Middle Miocene mud admixture in Upper Miocene beds causes ~2 Myr age offset
- Hybrid event flows eroded older muds exposed at the bottom of Lake Pannon
- Local reworking dominated during rifting, ending with the post-rift stage

Declaration of interests

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

The authors declare the following financial interests/personal relationships which may be considered as potential competing interests:

Michal Suján reports financial support was provided by Slovak Research and Development Agency. Tomáš Vlček reports was provided by NextGenerationEU through the Recovery and Resilience Plan for Slovakia. If there are other authors, they declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.