



Università di Trieste LAUREA MAGISTRALE IN GEOSCIENZE Curriculum Geofisico Curriculum Geologico Ambientale

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Geologia Marina

Modulo 5.2

Mediterraneo 2 (Alboran, Balearico e Ionio) Part 2

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MS map

(seismic profiles collected from 1968 to 1982)







CROP map

(Seismic profiles collected both onshore and offshore)





Videpi

Visibilità dei dati afferenti all'attività di esplorazione petrolifera in Italia <u>http://</u> <u>unmig.sviluppoeconomico.go</u> <u>v.it/videpi/</u>





CCGM Morpho-Bathymetry of the Mediterranean sea



Tricine des donnés

Date source

- The present-day geological configuration of the Mediterranean region is the result of the creation and ensuing consumption of two major oceanic basins: the Paleotethys and the Neotethys.
- The overall tectonic regime was (and it is) the regime of prolonged interaction between the Eurasian and the African-Arabian plates.
- The Mediterranean domain provides a present-day geodynamic analog for the final stages of a continent-continent collisional orogeny. Over this area, the oceanic lithospheric domains originally present between the Eurasian and African-Arabian plates have been subducted and partially obducted (ophiolitic terranes), except for the Ionian basin and the south-eastern Mediterranean.
- The modern marine basins of the Mediterranean Sea are variably floored by: (i) remnants of the Tethyan oceanic domains (Ionian, E Mediterranean); (ii) Neogene oceanic crust (Algero-Provençal basin and Tyrrhenian Sea); (iii) extended continental lithosphere (Alboran Sea, Valencia Trough, Aegean Sea), and (iv) thick continental lithosphere (Adriatic Sea).



















The Calabrian subduction



Zecchin et al 2015



west



LOWER MANTLE



east



















west





east



Calabrian accretionary Prism

Deformation is related to an imbricate fan within the post-Messinian salt-bearing accretionary wedge (yellow domain), out-ofsequence thrust faults in the pre-Messinian wedge (green domain) and normal faults in the Inner plateau (gray domain).









Seismic stratigraphy of the Ionian basin

- As the last non-subducted sector of the Neo-Tethys ocean, the Ionian Sea turns out to be the oldest *in situ* ocean fragment of the world.
- It has been saved from subduction since locked within irregular S shaped continental margins of Africa and Eurasia.
- It is a 350 km wide x 600 km long abyssal plain lying at 3–4 km depth, locked between the continental platforms of northern Africa, Malta-Hyblean plateau, and Apulia, and active orogens of Calabria Arc and Hellenides.
- A thick package (5–7 km) of sediments overlying an extremely thin (8–11 km) crystalline crust.





THE IONIAN SEA

Ceramicola et al. 2014

DIP SECTION (C - D)





Calabrian accretionary prism - cross sections





THE IONIAN SEA





Ceramicola et al. 2014



MALTA ESCARPMENT

The Calabrian mud volcano province



- Seabed mapping based on data acquired by OGS in 2005 and 2009
- At least 54 MVs (conservative criteria), all but one (possible) landward of Calabrian Escarpment
- 3 sites cored, others geophysically inferred



(Ceramicola et al. 2014b)

Multi-parameter geophysical evidence of mud volcanoes



- 5 km off Calabrian coast, only MV in
 <1000 m water depth (100 kHz backscatter)
- Mud breccia extrusion above last glacial maximum unconformity (19-23 ka BP)
- Hydroacoustic evidence of gas venting to water column



Ceramicola et al. 2014b

Calabrian mud volcano province – in summary





- At least 54 MVs (+ one on land)distributed across fore-arc basins (thin salt) and inner prism (no salt) – lower density than Med Ridge, fluid sources at depth
- Local influence of faults, none in centres of fore-arc basins (rising fluids blocked by salt or mud?)
- Seabed extrusion of mud breccias over last glacial to post-glacial cycle (50/53), ongoing gas seepage (3 sites)
- All but one possible MV landward of Calabrian Escarpment





Central and Eastern Mediterranean accretionary prisms



Chamot-Rooke et al. 2005

Calabrian 'arc' :

- Recent entry– rapid slab roll-back since the mid-Miocene c. 9 Ma → meets Med Ridge
- No seabed studies for >25 years since Rossi & Sartori (1981)
- Presence of long-lived mud volcanoes proven by OGS in 2005





Mediterranean Ridge etc :

- MVs 1st identified from mud breccias over 30 years ago (Cita et al. 1981)
- Mud breccia extrusion for >1 Ma (ODP 164, 1996)
- Hundreds highest abundance on Earth? (Kopf 2002)
- Tectonically-controlled crestal belt

Mascle et al. 2014



Mass movements along the Calabrian margin

- 1 Mass Transport Complexes (MTCs) in intra-slope basins (northern Calabrian margin)
- 2 Isolated Slide Scars (ISSs) on open slopes (all margins)
- 3 Headwall & Sidewall Scarps in Submarine Canyons (HSC) (Calabrian margin)
- 4 Slope-Parallel Sediment Undulations (SPSU) (southern Calabrian margin)

Ceramicola et al. 2014a



Cirò marina submarine canyon and coastal hazard



SIIVIA CERAMICOLA - OGS Irieste

Cirò marina submarine canyon and coastal hazard







Adriatic-Ionian Bimodal Oscillating System (BiOs) (Gacic et al., 2010)

The Ionian Sea is the deepest regional sea of the Mediterranean and plays an important role in the intermediate and deep thermohaline cell of the Eastern Mediterranean (EMed) conveyor belt (Gacic et al., 2010)

In the 1950s it has been recognized that the Adriatic Sea, the northernmost basin of the Mediterranean Sea, exhibits substantial **quasi-decadal oscillations of its thermohaline properties**. The nature of the oscillations remained unknown till 2010, when they were related to circulation regimes of the adjacent northern Ionian Sea. Within the northern Ionian, circulation is either **cyclonic**, resulting in advection of highly-saline ultraoligotrophic waters from the Eastern Mediterranean, **or anticyclonic**, resulting in advection of less saline and nutrient-rich waters from the Western Mediterranean into the Adriatic. Type of water which is advected into the Adriatic subsequently influences density of the Adriatic dense waters generated through either wintertime cooling of shallow northern Adriatic shelf waters or through open ocean convection in the 1200 m deep Southern Adriatic Pit. Thus generated dense waters outflow from the Adriatic Sea, and, depending on their density, change vorticity of the northern Ionian Sea. This mechanism is known as the **Adriatic-Ionian Bimodal Oscillating System (BiOS).** A reversal of circulation in the Ionian Gyre from anticyclonic to cyclonic has been observed in the middle of 1997.

The vertical structure of a water column is formed by three layers : **dense and oxygenated waters**, mainly of <u>Adriatic origin (in the **bottom layer**)</u>, **salty and warm waters** coming from the <u>Levantine</u> <u>and Aegean basins (in the **intermediate layer**)</u>, relatively **fresh water of Atlantic origin (AW)** propagating toward the Levantine **basin over surface**

The Ionian Sea circulation *reverses* on decadal scale. Accordingly, Atlantic Water path is deviated, generating an *alternate «dilution»* of the North Ionian and Adriatic Sea (A), or Levantine (C)







Fig. 5. Summary of the main characteristics of the Adriatic-Ionian BiOS and its impact on the area. (a) cyclonic NIG; (b) anticyclonic N * For more detailed explanations, see main text (Sect. 4.2). For acronyms, see main text.



The Crotone Megaslide



Zecchin et al. 2018



Nuovi indizi sulla mega trana di Crotone

04/07/2018

Svelata da Ogs e Cnr la dinamica della frana che da milioni di anni coinvolge l'area costiera e marina a sud della città calabrese, interessando un'area di guasi 500 km² e uno spessore di circa 1,5 km. L'indagine, pubblicata su Scientific Reports, ha rivelato che l'evento è avvenuto in due fasi con dinamiche distinte, la prima risalente a circa 3.7 milioni di anni fa e la seconda iniziata circa 500.000 anni fa e tuttora in atto nell'area marina.

Un gruppo di ricerca guidato dall'Istituto nazionale di oceanografia e di geofisica sperimentale (Ogs), in collaborazione con l'Istituto di scienze marine del Consiglio nazionale delle ricerche (Cnr-Ismar) di Venezia e con le Università di Padova, della Basilicata e della Calabria, ha fatto luce sull'origine del lento



Fig. 1 Mappa del bacino di Crotone

e imponente movimento franoso, definito dagli studiosi megalandslide, che da milioni di anni coinvolge il settore marino e costiero a sud di Crotone, interessando un'area di quasi 500 km² e uno spessore di circa 1,5 km. I risultati sono pubblicati su Scientific Reports, rivista del gruppo Nature.

Studi precedenti avevano già fornito indicazioni di un fenomeno di scivolamento massivo a scala regionale che coinvolge l'area marina crotonese e l'entroterra per qualche decina di chilometri, ipotizzando un lento movimento del bacino verso il mare. Con questo nuovo lavoro, attraverso diversi metodi di indagine geofisica - analisi di dati sismici, carotaggi profondi, nuovi rillevi morfo-batimetrici e satellitari - i ricercatori hanno ottenuto un'immagine più chiara e dettagliata del fenomeno. "Abbiamo scoperto che il *megalandslide* di Crotone è avvenuto in due fasi e con dinamiche differenti. La prima è stata innescata da un evento tettonico risalente a circa 3,7 milioni di anni fa ed è proseguita per almeno 1 milione di anni", afferma Massimo Zecchin, ricercatore dell'Ogs, coordinatore dello studio e aratterizzata da uno scivolamento di massa verso mare (in 6,7 mm/anno, e da ulteriori franamenti molto rapidi ora sigillati da irca 500.000 anni fa, e tuttora in atto nell'area marina, ha avuto una ore marino della frana che generalmente non superano velocità di 1 ibiamo accertato che la mega frana scivola sopra una superficie di i abilmente impostata su uno strato di salgemma, che collega un roterra con uno compressivo in quello sottomarino".

studiato i dati rilevati dai satelliti. "Nel settore di entroterra, le i le misure dei movimenti dei suolo attuali ottenute dalle immagini ilite dell'Agenzia spaziale italiana Cosmo-SkyMed e da registrazioni ra gli autori dello studio. "L'analisi di questi dati ha evidenziato una locali, ma non uno spostamento omogeneo con direzione verso va invece nell'area marina".

ino e di entroterra farebbe escludere l'estensione attuale del di Crotone, a differenza di quanto ritenuto in precedenza", precisa

no, attualmente molto lento verso sud-est, è un fenomeno naturale e per quanto riguarda la sicurezza della popolazione. Tuttavia, ano di monitoraggio per controllarne l'evoluzione", concludono i

The Punta Stilo Swell

The Crotone (CS) and Punta Stilo (PSS) swells are two lobate-shaped submerged promontories with steeply-inclined flanks (up to 11°) and are located in the Crotone-Spartivento Basin (CSB) (Calabria region) (Fig. 1a,b,c). The CS corresponds to the downdip compressional domain of a large-scale gravitational collapse that has been involving the N sector of the CSB since Zanclean; it may be seen as a mega-mass-transport deposit and shows signs of activity at present (Fig. 1b) (Minelli et al., 2013; Guerricchio, 2015; Zecchin et al., 2018; Mangano et al., 2020). Conversely, the origin of the PSS, which is marked by slide scars and canyon incisions (Chiocci and Ridente, 2011; Ceramicola et al., 2014a and b; 2015), is still unknown (Fig. 1c).

The PSS is Chiocci and Ridente, 2011; Ceramicola et al., 2014a and b; 2015) shows a prominent lobate morphology and its seismo-stratigraphic succession is composed of various units of Serravallian to Pleistocene age (Fig. 2c,d). Our observations reveal that the PSS is the reflection of the Messinian compressional tectonics. Such tectonic phase is linked to a temporary pause of Calabrian Arc migration and caused the formation of the Upper Messinian Unconformity (Massari and Prosser, 2013). The Upper Messinian Unconformity (UMU) is observed to be folded, to truncate the underlying units of older ages and to be sealed by the Plio-Pleistocene succession. no evidence of slope instability events are recorded inside pre-dating mid-Pliocene units.

The CS is inferred to be the consequence of the mid-Pliocene RSSZ activity-linked compressional/transpressional event. The latter is supposed to have created uplift and promoted the onset of a large-scale slope failure, manifested by the evolution of the swell itself in the offshore area. At a regional-scale, the mid-Pliocene tectonic phase might be