



Università degli studi di Trieste

LAUREA MAGISTRALE IN GEOSCIENZE

Classe Scienze e Tecnologie Geologiche

Curriculum: Esplorazione Geologica

Anno accademico 2021 - 2022

Analisi di Bacino e Stratigrafia Sequenziale (426SM)

Docente: Michele Rebesco

Modulo 4.2

Sequence stratigraphy – closer view

Docente: Massimo Zecchin

Outline:

- Questions and Answers
- Stratigraphic sequences within System Tracts
- Wheeler diagram of stratigraphic sequences
- exercise based on the Venice example

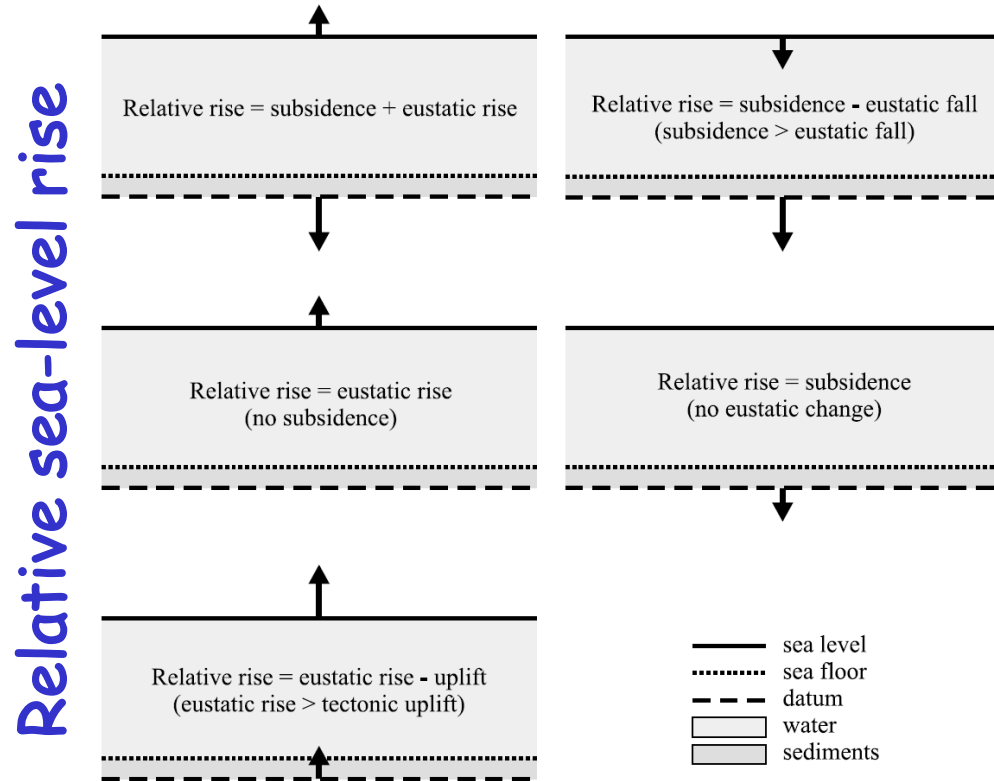
Modulo	Argomento	Docente	Data
1.1	introduzione al corso e argomenti	Rebesco	05/10/21
1.2	metodi (geofisica, affioramenti, geologia marina, ambienti attuali)	Volpi/Rebesco	06/10/21
1.3	meccanismi di formazione dei bacini (geodinamica, tettonica...)	Lodolo	12/10/21
1.4	Interpretazione sismica, facies e strutture primarie	Rebesco	13/10/21
6.1	visita a Rompighiaccio Laura Bassi (assieme a Geologia Marina)	Rebesco	15/10/22
	Martedì 19 Ottobre non c'è lezione		
1.5	Energy storage e CCS	Volpi/Donda	20/10/21
2.1	Processi sedimentari nei fiumi e nei delta	Rebesco	26/10/21
2.2	Azione di maree e onde, del ghiaccio e del vento	Rebesco	27/10/21
	Martedì 2 Novembre non c'è lezione		
	Mercoledì 3 Novembre non c'è lezione		
2.3	Correnti di densità e correnti di fondo, trasporto di massa	Lucchi/Rebesco	09/11/21
3.1	pianure abissali (decantazione emipelagica) e margini continentali	Rebesco	10/11/21
3.2	Conoidi sottomarine (flussi gravitativi dalla scarpata continentale)	Lucchi/Rebesco	16/11/21
3.3	Sediment drifts (correnti di fondo lungo la scarpata continentale)	Rebesco	17/11/21
3.4	Mass transport deposits (accenni a risoluzione/penetrazione)	Ford	23/11/21
3.5	Piattaforme continentali (onde, tempeste, tsunami)	Rebesco	24/11/21
3.6	Sistemi deposizionali in ambiente polare	De Santis	30/11/21
3.7	Sistema di barriera	Rebesco	01/12/21
3.8	Depositi alluvionali	Rebesco	07/12/21
	Mercoledì 8 e martedì 14 Dicembre non c'è lezione		
3.9	Laghi, deserti e ambienti carbonatici	Rebesco	15/12/21
3.10	faglie, vulcani e approfondimento conoidi	Rebesco	21/12/21
4.1	stratigrafia sequenziale: introduction	Rebesco	22/12/21
	Dal 23 Dicembre al 9 Gennaio non c'è lezione		
4.2	stratigrafia sequenziale: closer view	Rebesco	11/01/22
4.3	stratigrafia sequenziale: applicazioni (es. reservoirs di idrocarburi)	Rebesco	12/01/22
5	esercitazione	Rebesco	18/01/22
6.2	visita a CoreLoggingLAB (assieme a Geologia Marina)	Rebesco	19/01/22
6.3	visita a OGS e SEISLAB (assieme a Geologia Marina)	Rebesco	21/01/22

Question: Trasgressione (regressione): non solo legate a variazioni eustatiche? Può essere anche tettonica e basta?

Transgression: the landward migration of the shoreline
 It's an interplay between **accommodation** and **sedimentation**.
 It occurs if the rate of accommodation creation (**relative sea-level rise**) outpaces the **sedimentation rate** at the shoreline

- Landward facies shift
- Deepening of the shallow-marine area
- Retrogradational stacking pattern

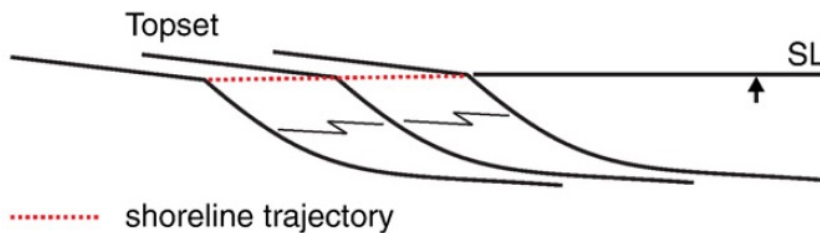
Answer: Certo, oltre che a variazioni del tasso di sedimentazione



Question: Come distinguere normal vs forced regression? chiarimenti ed esempi grafici e naturali (slide 14 e 15)

Answer: La traiettoria della linea di costa è verso mare (prograding) e leggermente ascendente nella normal regression (also aggrading), mentre è discendente nella forced regression (also degrading or downstepping)

Normal regression

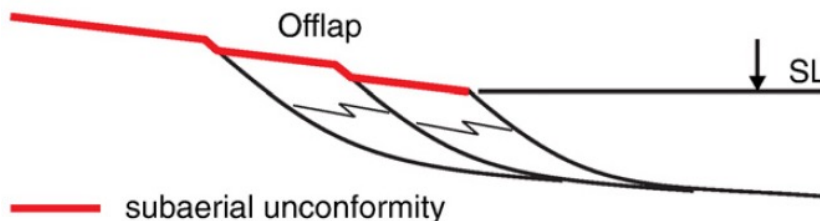


Definition: progradation driven by sediment supply. Sedimentation rates outpace the rates of base-level rise at the coastline.

Depositional trend: progradation with aggradation.

«Slide 14»

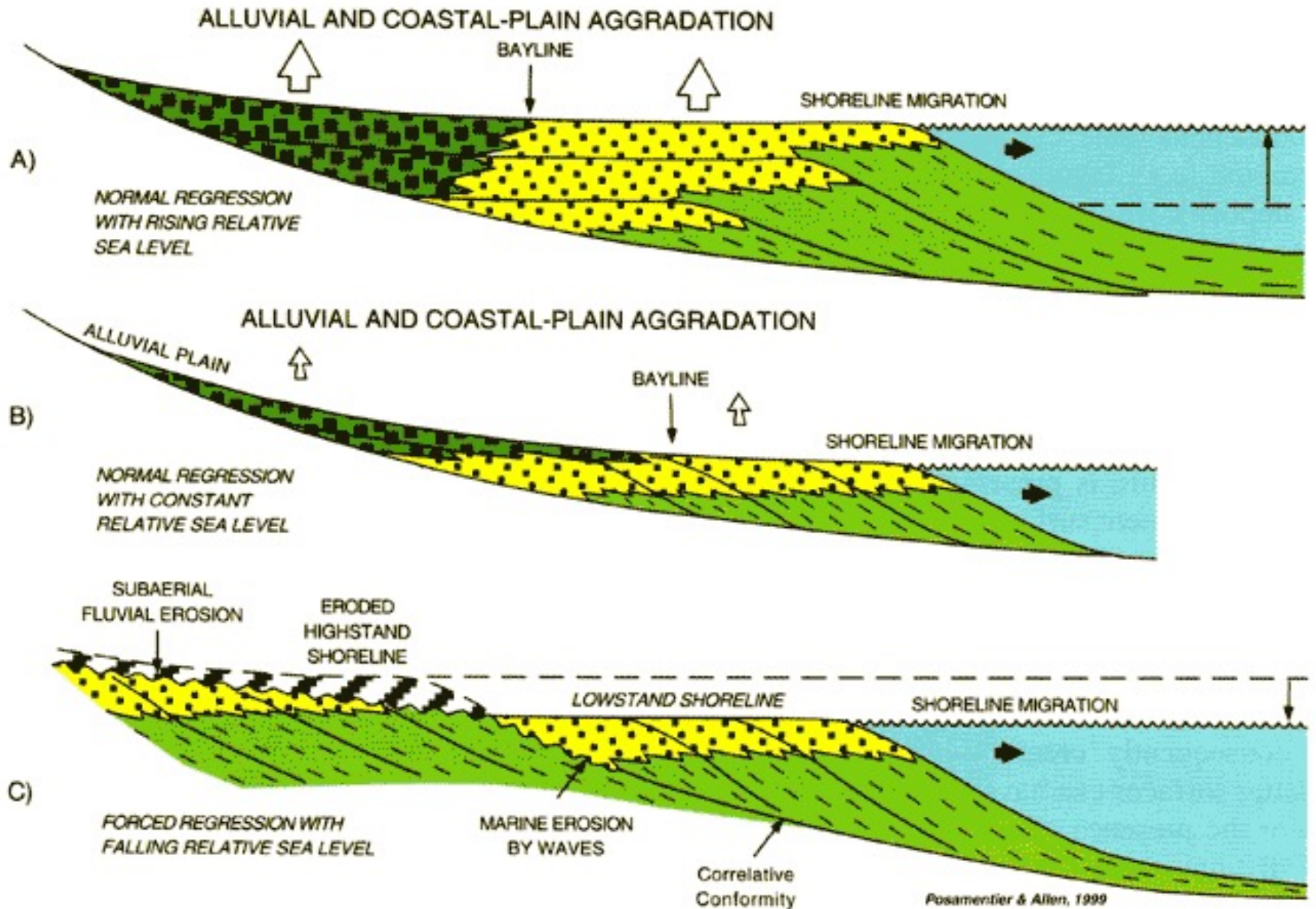
Forced regression



Definition: progradation driven by base-level fall. The coastline is forced to regress, irrespective of sediment supply.

Depositional trend: progradation with downstepping.

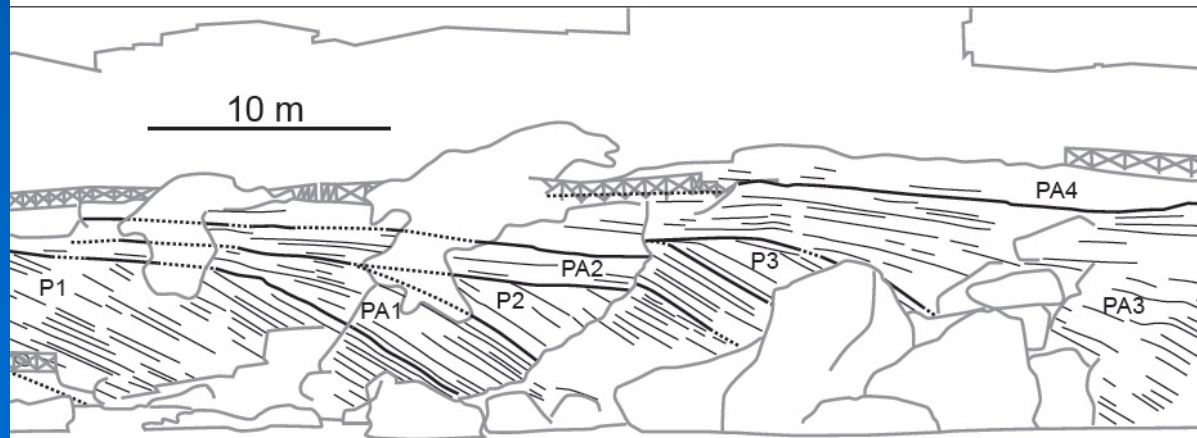
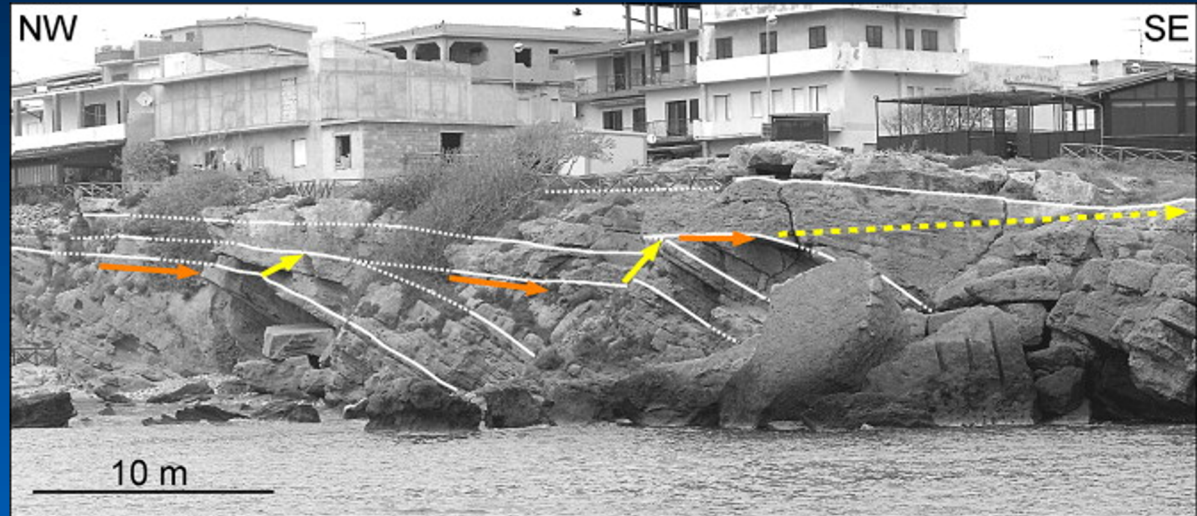
Esempio grafico



Esempio naturale (eccezione)

Zecchin et al., 2010.
Le Castella clinoform.
Sedimentary Geology.
Alternating prograding and prograding/aggrading elementary units, thought to be linked to high-frequency base-level changes during overall forced regressive conditions

Relative sea-level changes may be erratic and poorly predictable, and the expected complete succession of systems tracts doesn't form in all cases.



Question: - Una trasgressione forzata e' distinguibile dalla trasgressione normale dalla granulometria dei sedimenti? Assomiglia a quella della regressione, ma al contrario dalla trasgressione forzata?

Answer:

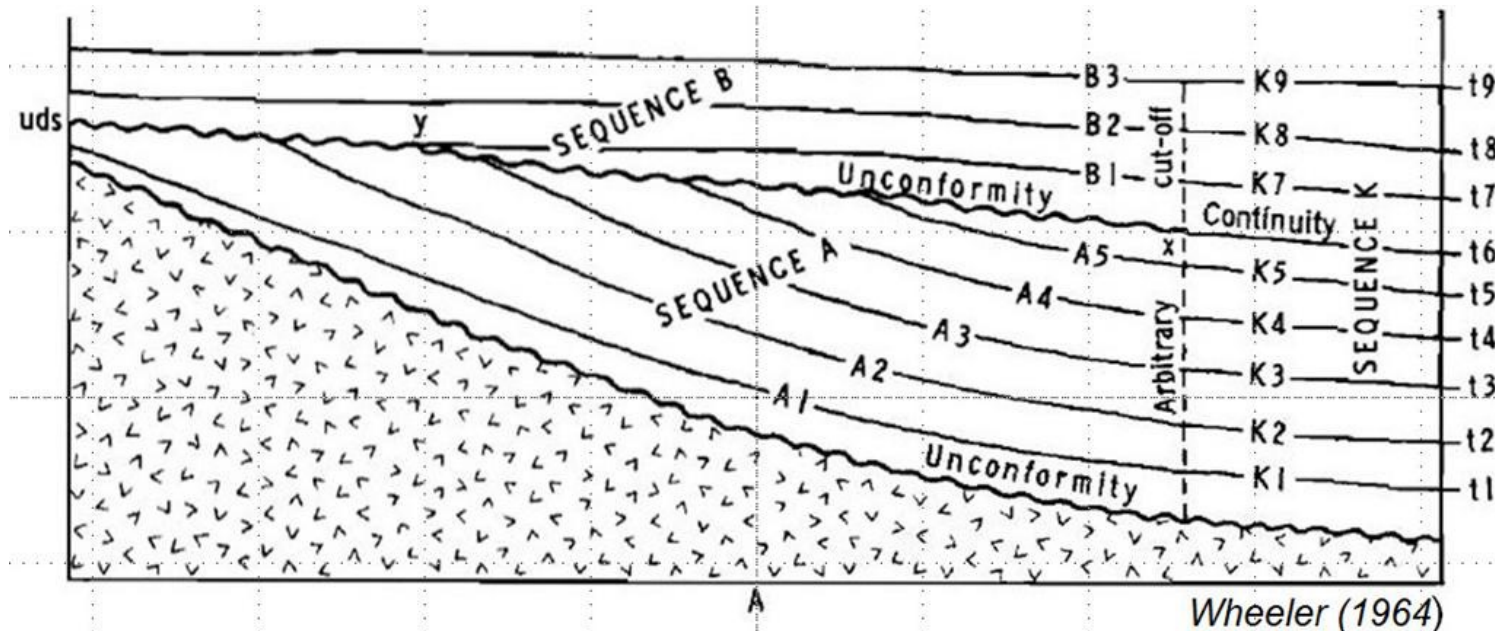
Trasgressione forzata? Da dove viene questo termine? La trasgressione avviene quando il tasso di sedimentazione non tiene il passo con quello del relative sea-level rise, e questo può avvenire, oltre che per un aumento di quest'ultimo, anche per una diminuzione dell'apporto sedimentario.

La granulometria dipende dal tipo di substrato che viene eroso, dall'energia locale, dal gradiente della costa e dal tasso di risalita del livello del mare.

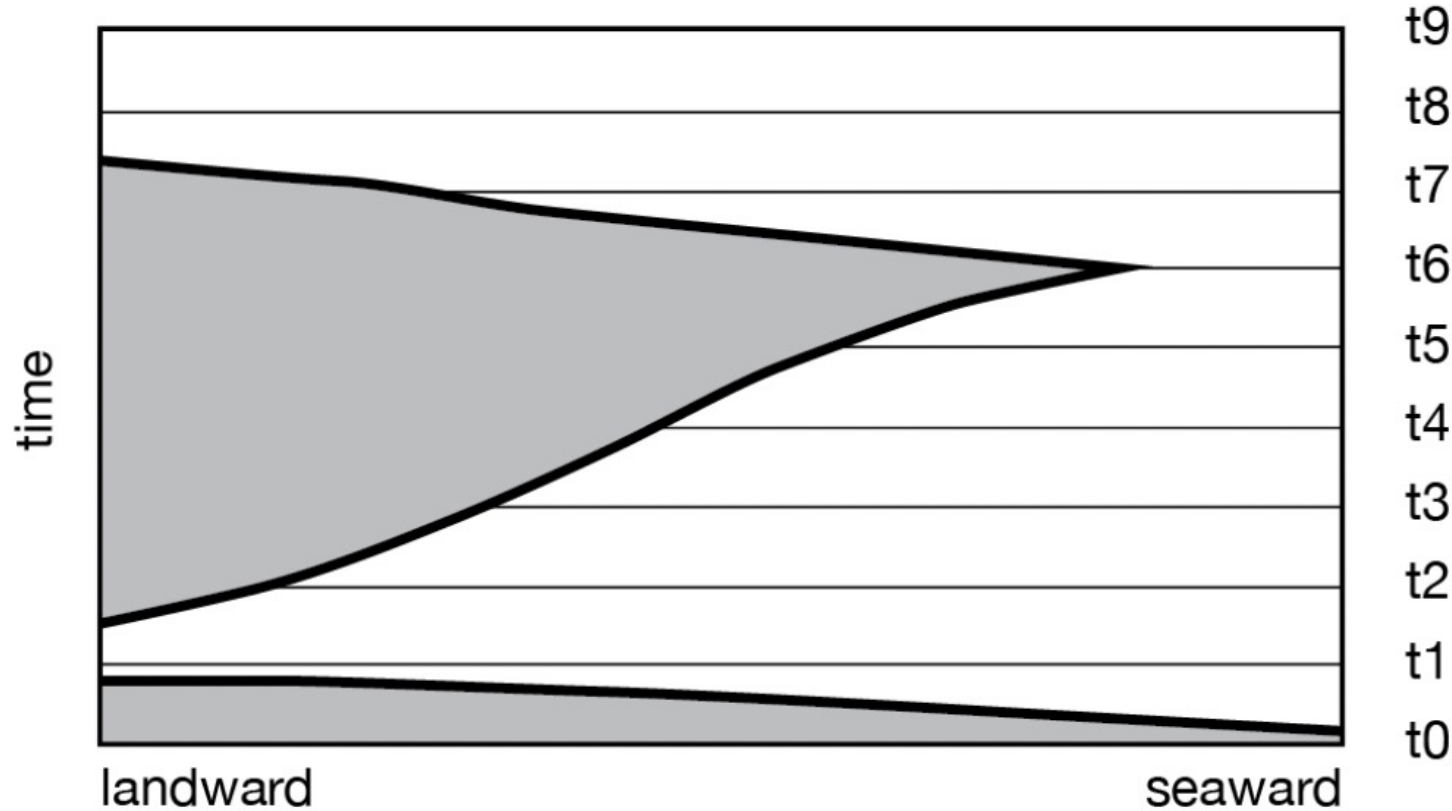
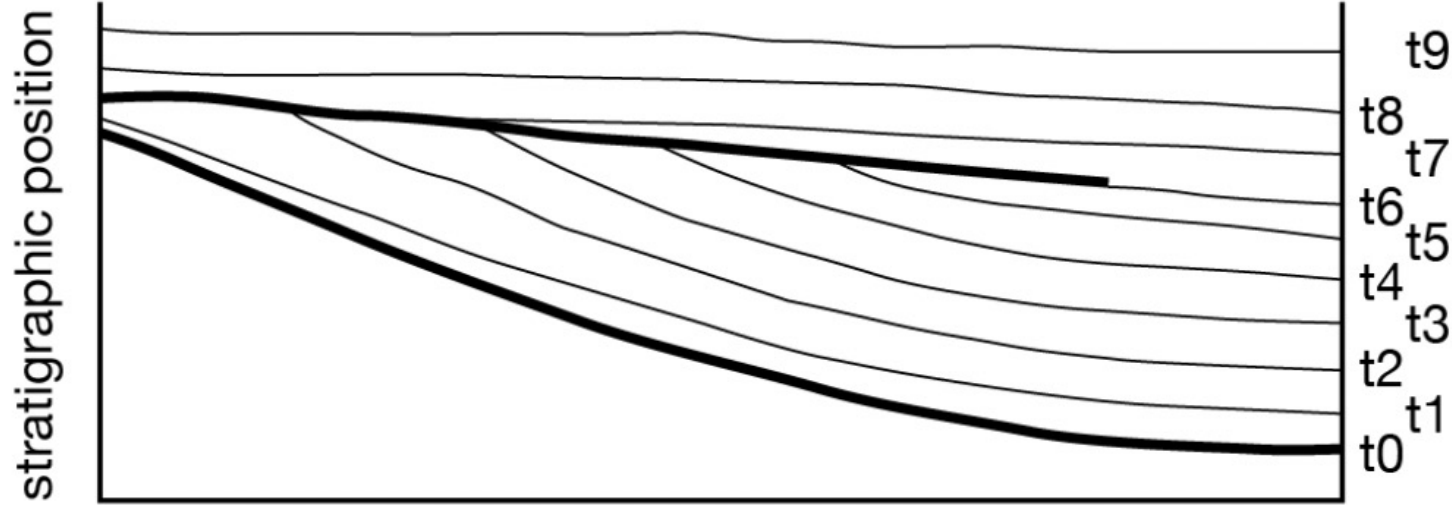
Vedi anche successioni fining/coarsening upward nel diagramma di Wheeler

Question: Chiarimenti sullo hiatus, dove si puo' trovare e motivi per i quali avviene

A cessation in deposition of sediments during which no strata form or an erosional surface forms on the underlying strata; a **gap in the rock record**. This period might be marked by development of a lithified sediment (hardground) or burrowed surface. A disconformity (surface that represents a time of nondeposition, possibly combined with erosion) can result from a hiatus.



Answer:
diagramma
di Wheeler

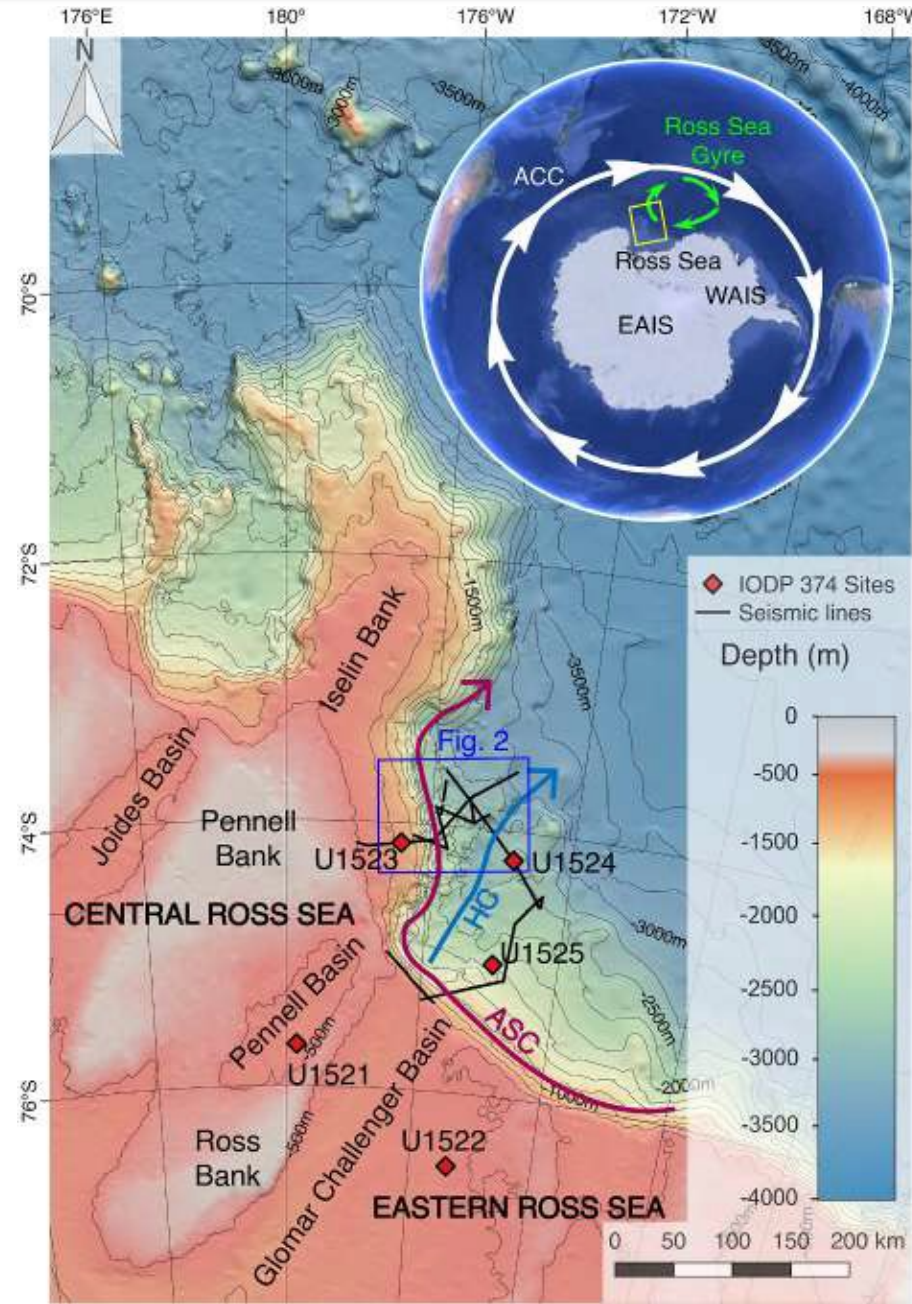


Wheeler diagram

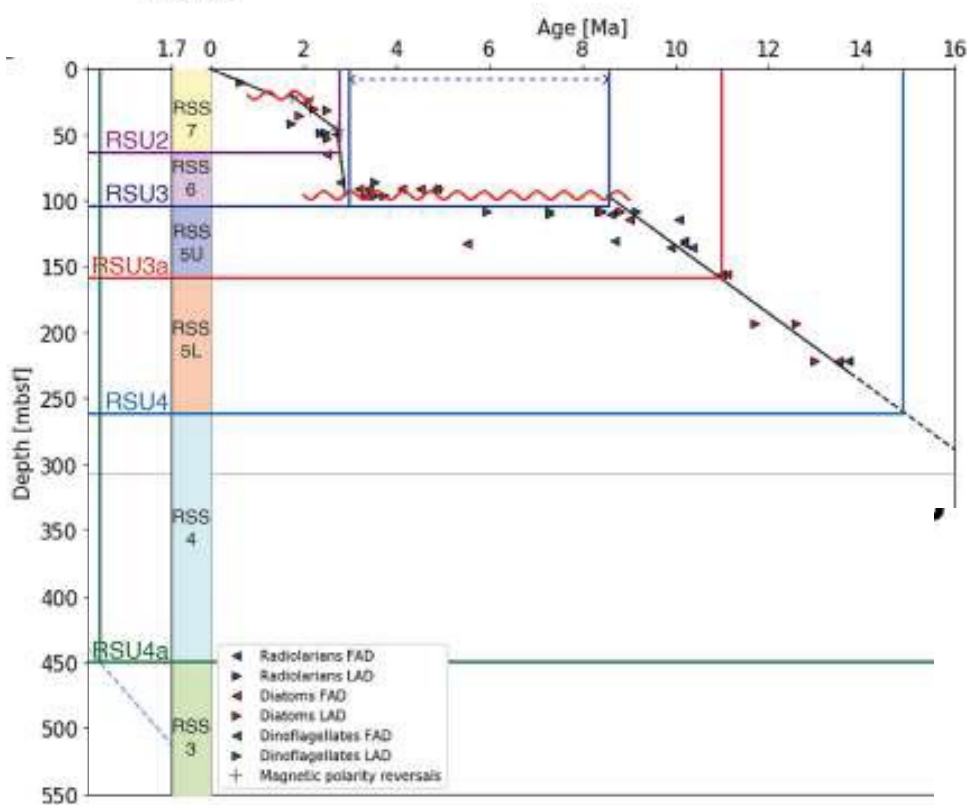
Stratigraphic cross-section (upper) and chrono-stratigraphic (Wheeler) diagram lower, illustrating the chrono-stratigraphic potential of a subaerial unconformity

Conte et al., 2021 Bottom current control ... (Antarctica). *Deep-Sea Research I* **176, 103606**

Bathymetry including the study area with location of newly acquired seismic lines (ANTSSS and ODYSSEA projects) and International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP) Expedition 374 drilling sites (red diamonds). Isobaths every 500 m. The arrows are showing the approximate directions of Hillary Canyon (HC) (blue arrow) and of the core of the Antarctic Slope Current (ASC, purple arrow).

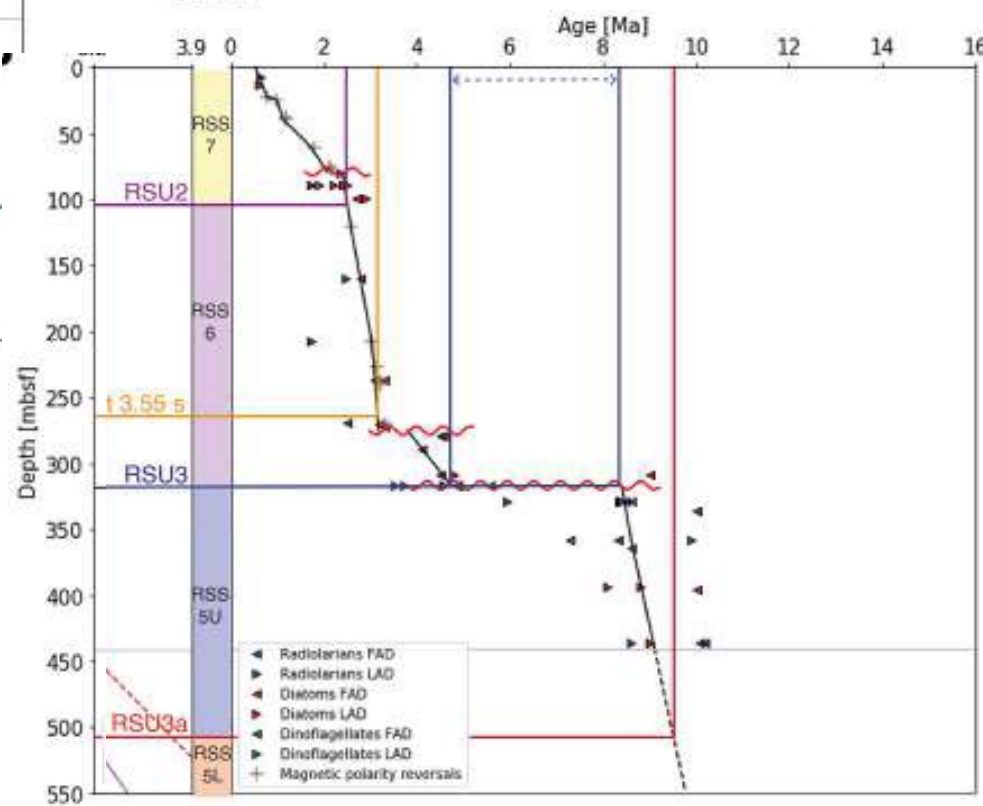


U1523

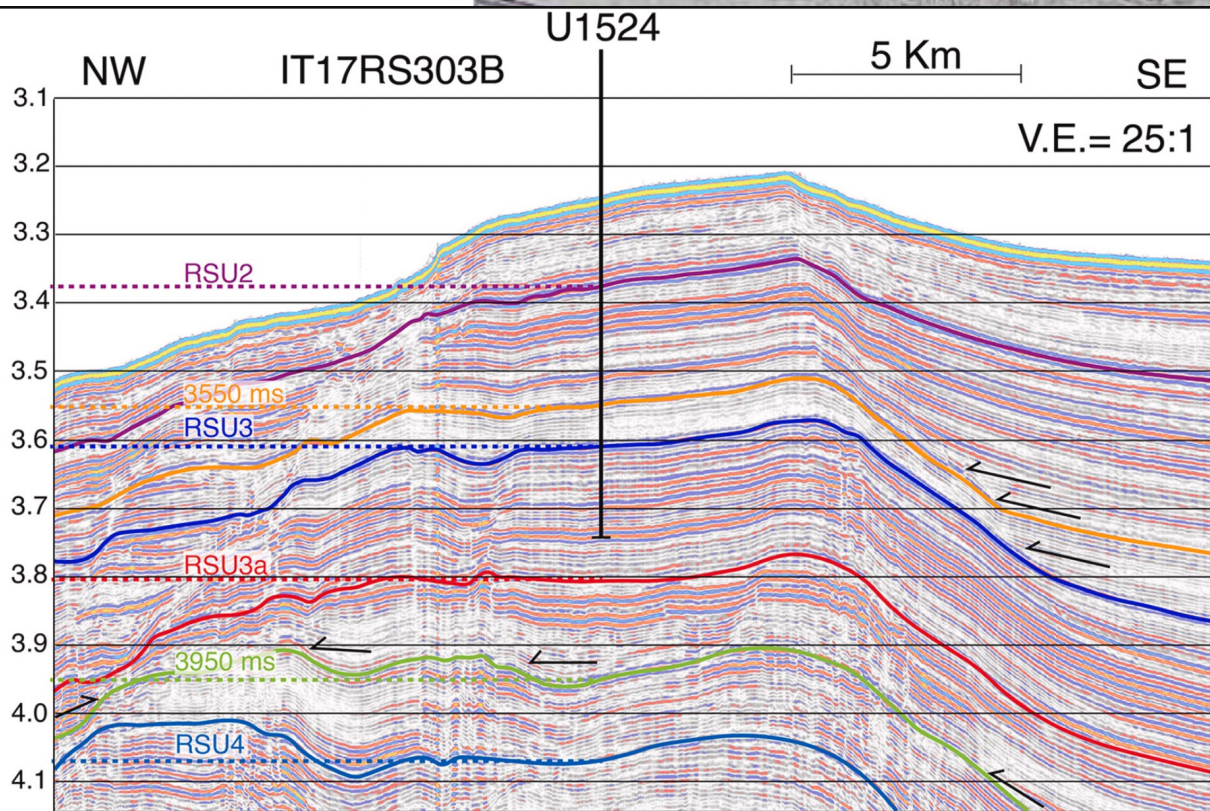
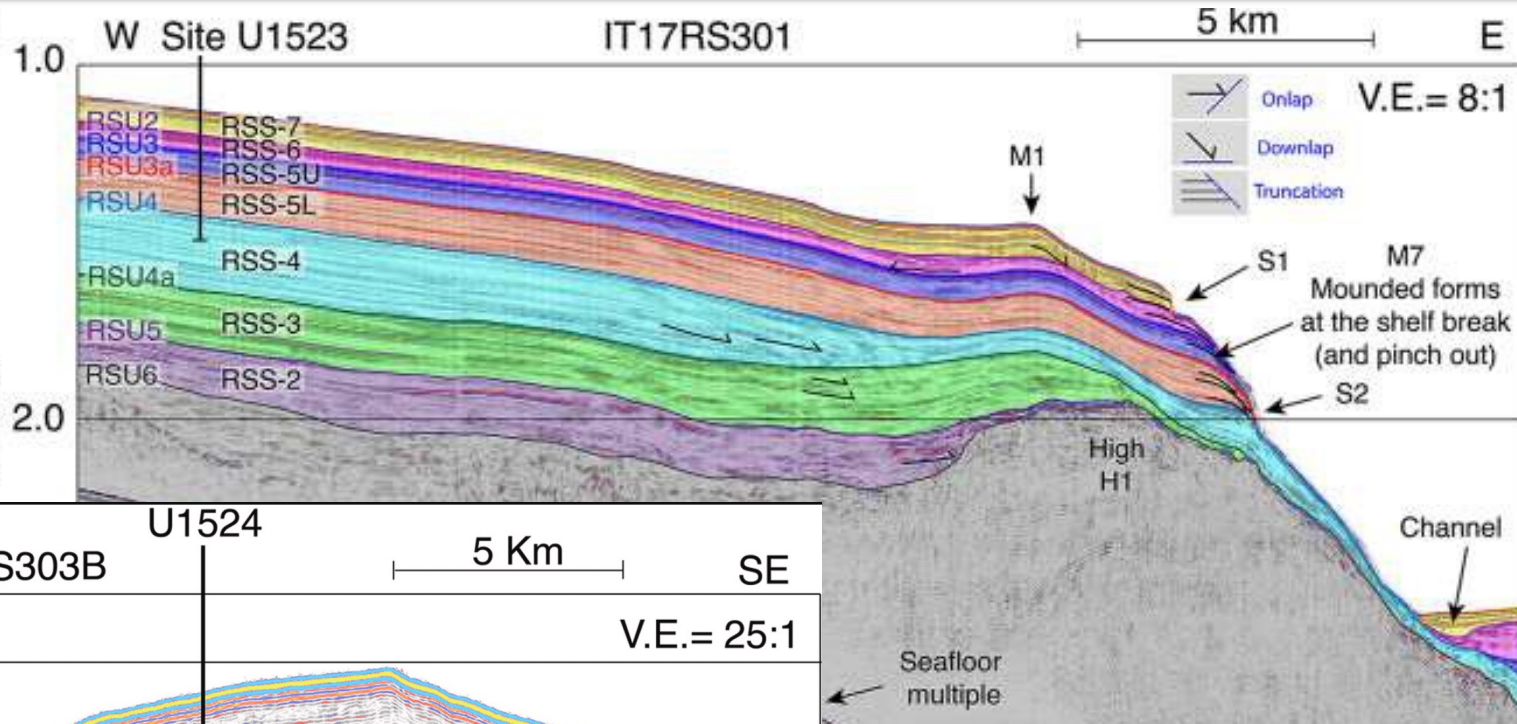


Age models for U1523
and U1524 faunas

U1524

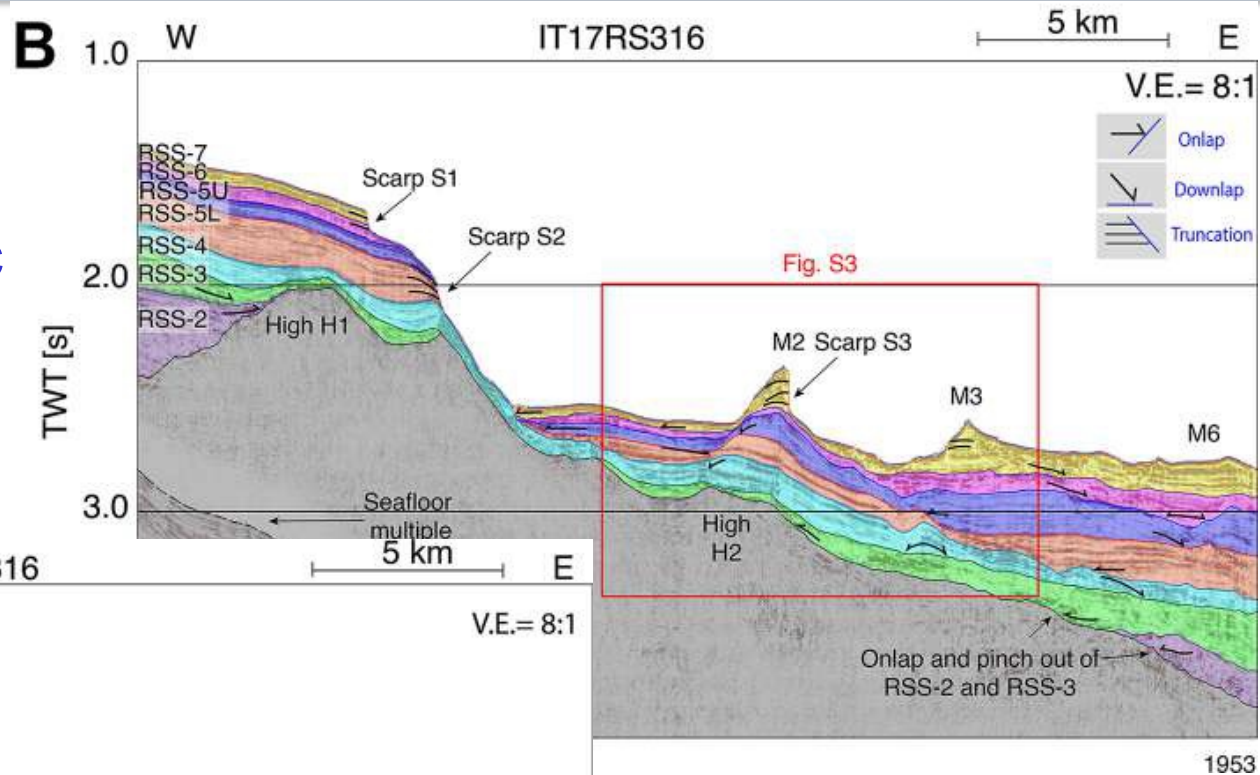
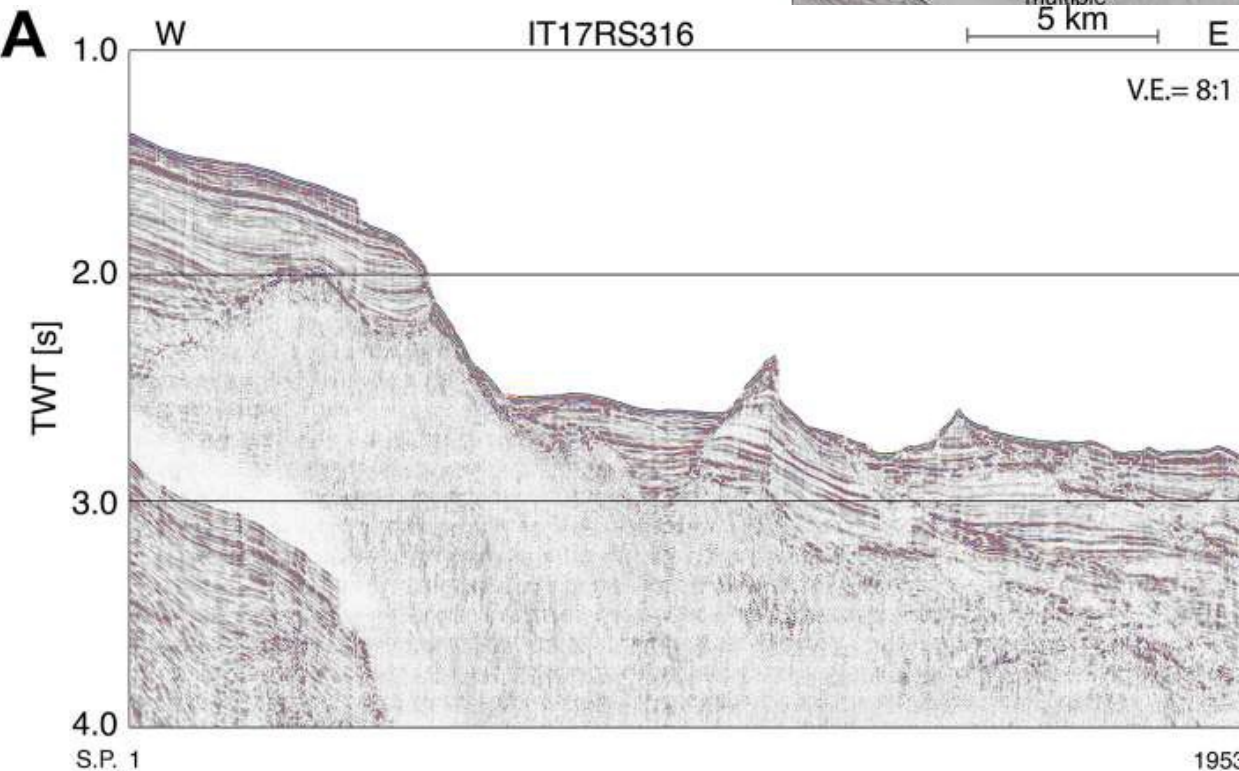


from IODP Expedition
374 Proceeding
(McKay et al., 2019)



Seismic sections
crossing U1523
and U1524

a) Uninterpreted and
b) interpreted seismic sections.



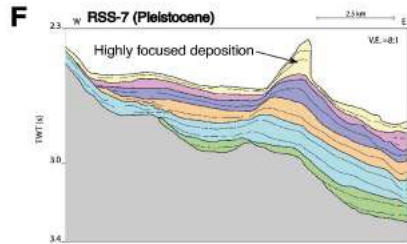
The contouritic mounds are identified as M2-6

Evolution of mound M2

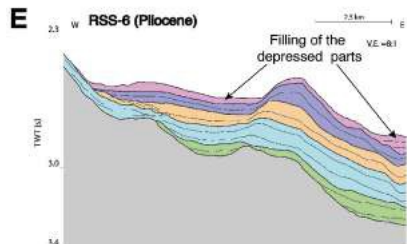
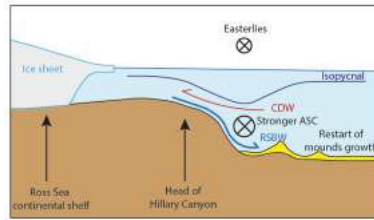
Prevailing oceanic condition

Evolution of the mound M2 (left) and associated prevailing oceanic conditions (right).

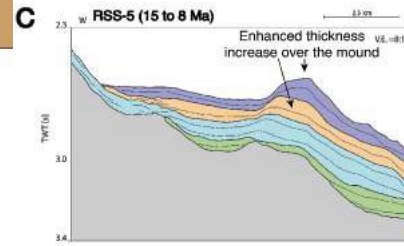
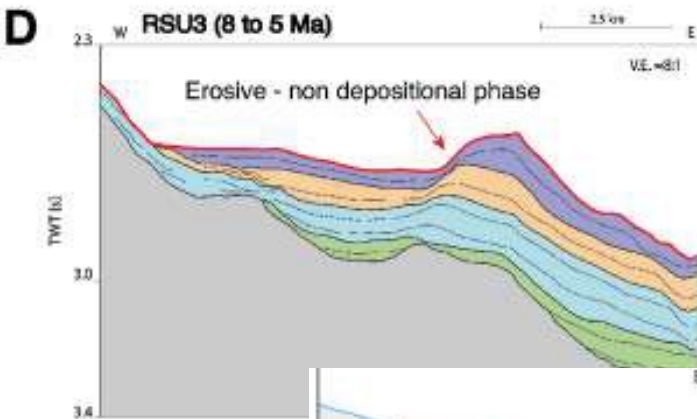
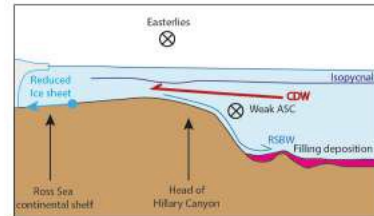
ASC: Antarctic Slope Current.
CDW: Circumpolar Deep Water.
RSBW: Ross Sea Bottom Water



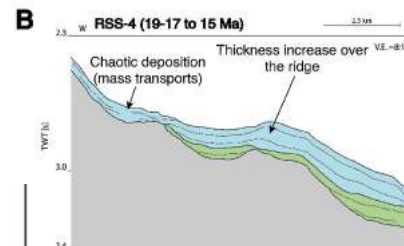
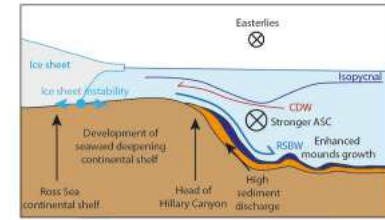
Strong bottom current activity during deposition of RSS-7.



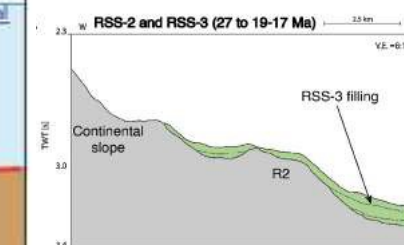
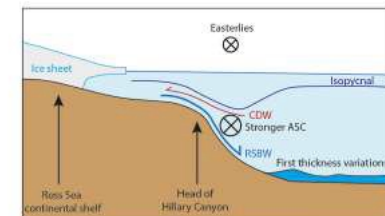
Suppressed Bottom current activity during deposition of RSS-6.



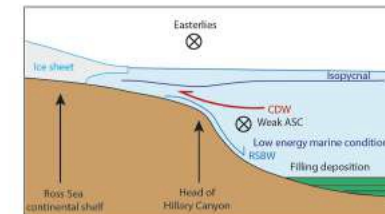
High sediment availability and continuation of bottom current activity during deposition of RSS-5L and RSS-5U.



Onset of bottom current activity during deposition of RSS-4.



RSS-2 and RSS-3 filling the morphology depressions.



Diverse domande sulle Sequence stratigraphic surfaces

Relative sea-level fall

- Subaerial unconformity (and correlative conformity)
- Basal surface of forced regression
- Regressive surface of marine erosion

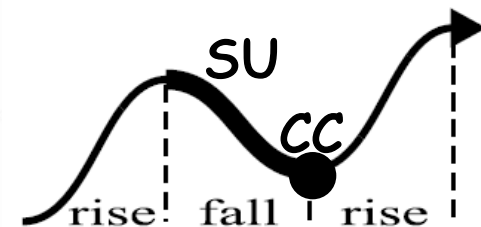
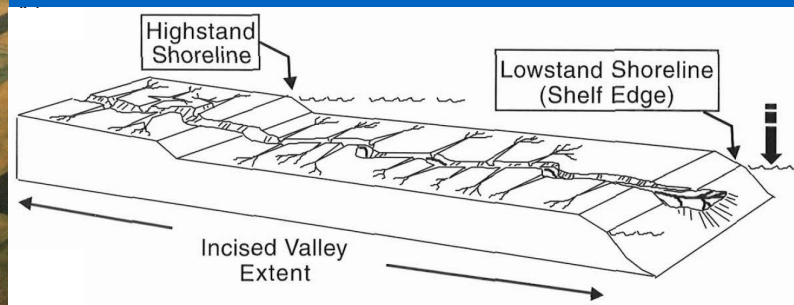
Relative sea-level rise

- Maximum regressive surface
- Maximum flooding surface
- Ravinement surface

Subaerial unconformity (SU)

- The SU develops during relative sea-level fall
- It is associated with river incision and pedogenesis
- It progressively extends basinwards during the forced regression of the shoreline
- It has a marine correlative conformity (CC) connected to its basinward termination (corresponding to the seafloor at the end of relative sea-level fall)

Cosa vogliono dire le linee spesse e i punti sulla curva del livello del mare?



Question: Basal Surface of Forced Regression?

Answer: base dei depositi di regressione forzata = fondo mare all'inizio del RSL fall. Può essere rimaneggiata dalla RSME, alla base della shoreface.

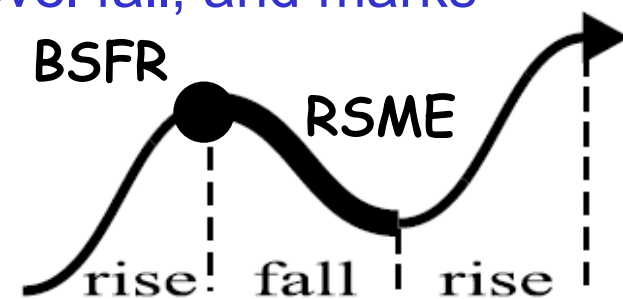
Question: RMSE si sposta con la regressione marina?

Answer: Più che spostarsi, si espande, e diventa più giovane procedendo verso mare

The Basal Surface of Forced Regression (BSFR) marks the base of all marine deposits accumulated during relative sea-level fall. It corresponds to the paleo-seafloor at the onset of forced regression

The Regressive Surface of Marine Erosion (RSME) is cut by waves in the shoreface during relative sea-level fall, and marks the base of forced regressive shorefaces.

It easily reworks the BSFR in proximal settings. Its formation depends on wave energy, slope, and subsidence

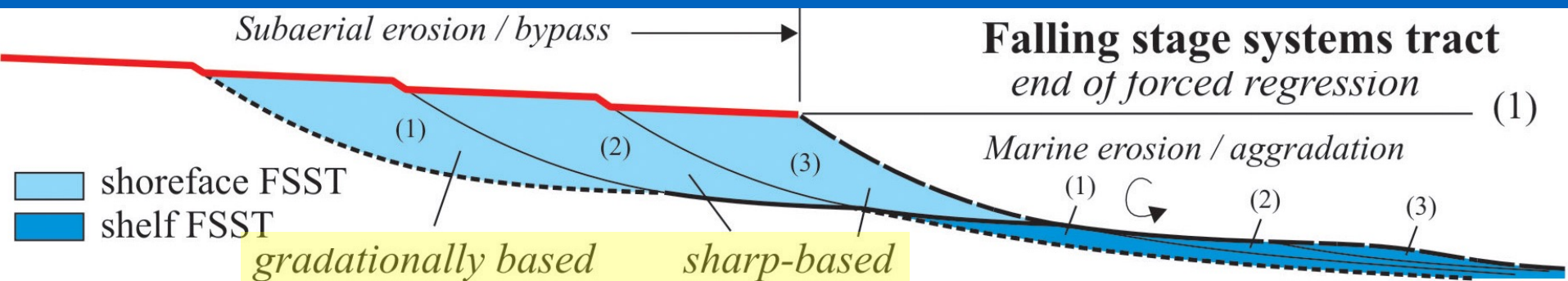
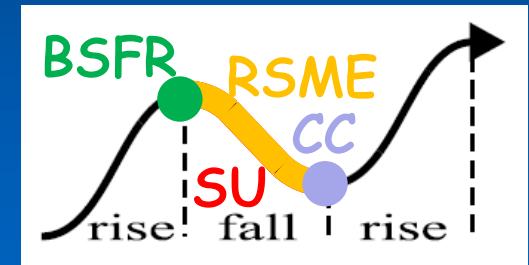


----- basal surface of forced regression **BSFR** is to the paleo-seafloor at the onset of forced regression and lies at the base of all marine deposits accumulated during relative sea-level fall.

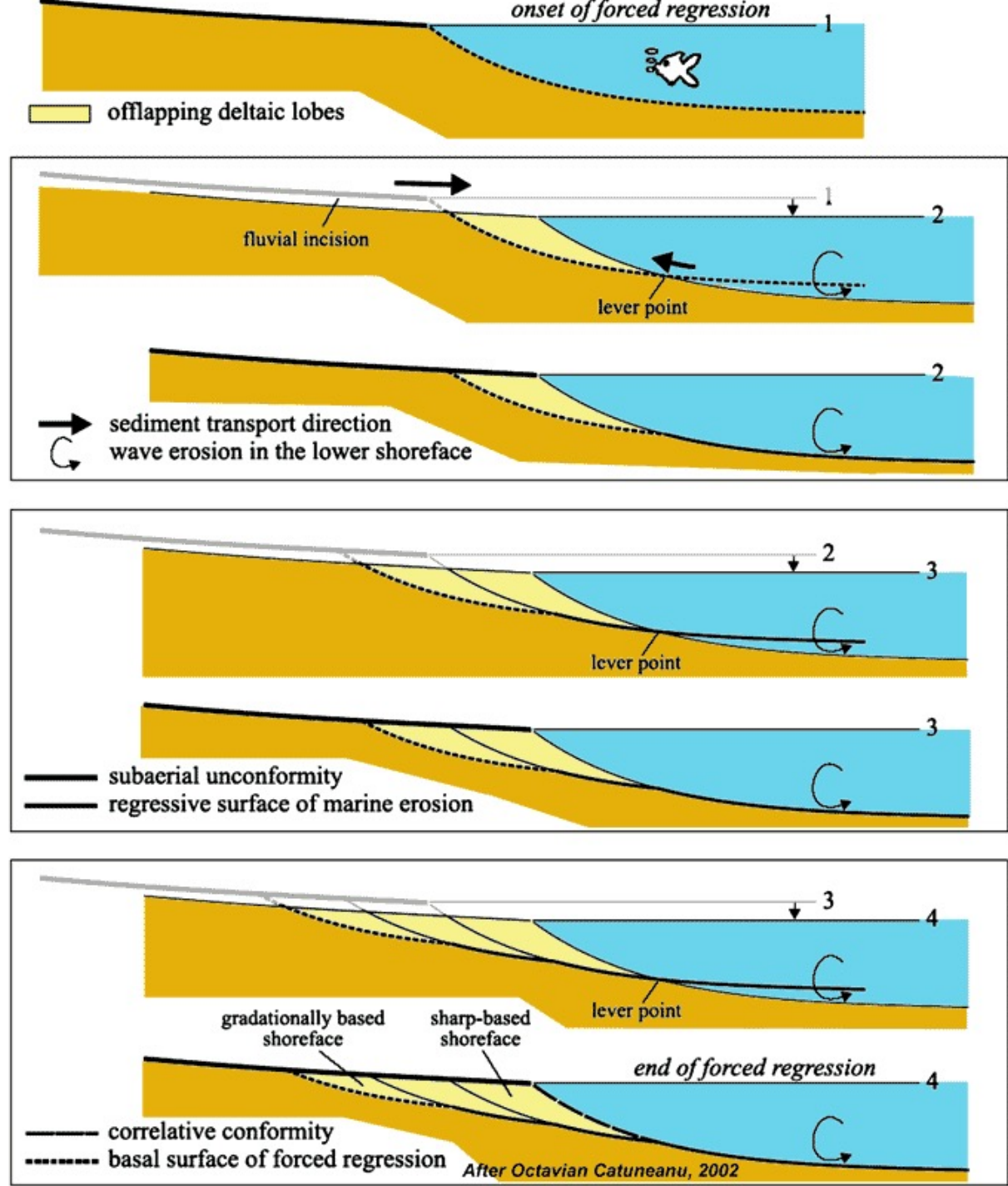
—— regressive surface of marine erosion **RSME** is cut by waves in the shoreface during relative sea-level fall, and marks the base of forced regressive shorefaces.

—— correlative conformity **CC** corresponds to the seafloor at the end of relative sea-level fall and is connected to SU basinward termination.

—— subaerial unconformity **SU** develops during relative sea-level fall and progressively extends basinwards.



How the Regressive Surface of Marine Erosion reworks the Basal Surface of Forced Regression during the Falling Stage System Tract

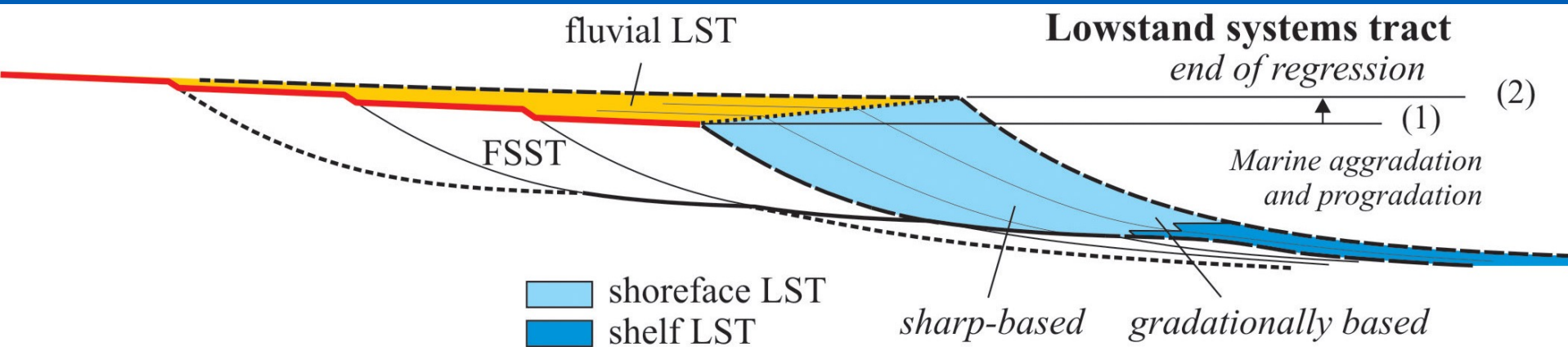
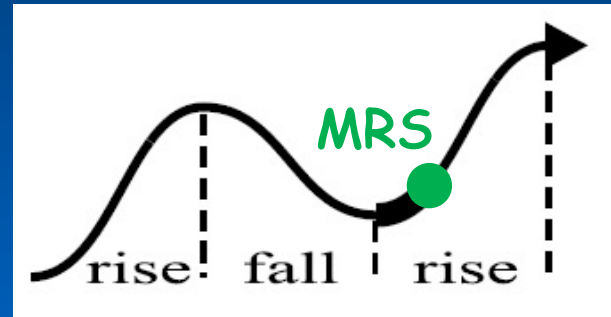


Maximum regressive surface (MRS) or transgressive surface (TS)

----- maximum regressive surface **MRS** marks the boundary between prograding (regressive) and subsequent retrograding (transgressive) deposits

It is formed when the increasing rates of accommodation creation (relative sea-level rise) start to outpace the sedimentation rates.

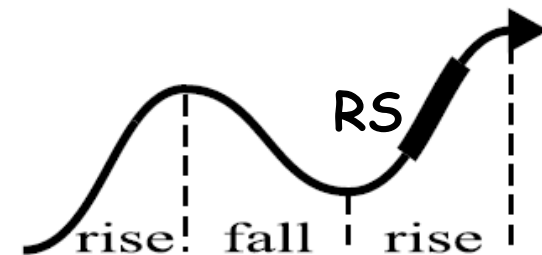
..... within-trend normal regressive surface
 ~~~~~ lateral shifts of facies



## Question: RS a contatto con MSR? (MRS)

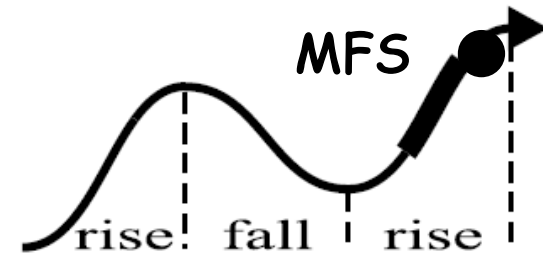
The RS is a diachronous erosional surface cut by waves (WRS) or tidal currents (TRS) in the shoreface and coastal settings during transgression (RSL rise). It is associated with transgressive lags or condensed bioclastic deposits. It climbs toward the basin margin. Its formation depends on wave energy, slope and rates of RSL rise and sediment supply

Answer: la RS può rimaneggiare la MSR



**Question: Come MFS si intende la zona/superficie dove in un'intera sequenza c'era la trasgressione maggiore, la trasgressione maggiore assoluta in una sequenza progradante in un periodo definito o solamente per la parte che si sta osservando/studiando?**

The MFS marks the end of the shoreline transgression. It separates retrograding (transgressive) strata below from prograding (regressive) strata above. In seismic it is a downlap surface. It is commonly associated with a condensed section. It is formed when the sedimentation rates start to outpace the rates of creation of accommodation (relative sea-level rise).



**Answer: La MFS in ogni singola sequenza si identifica con il fondo mare al momento della massima ingressione marina (fine della trasgressione). Se c'è una gerarchia di sequenze, anche le MFSs potranno essere definite a varie scale.**

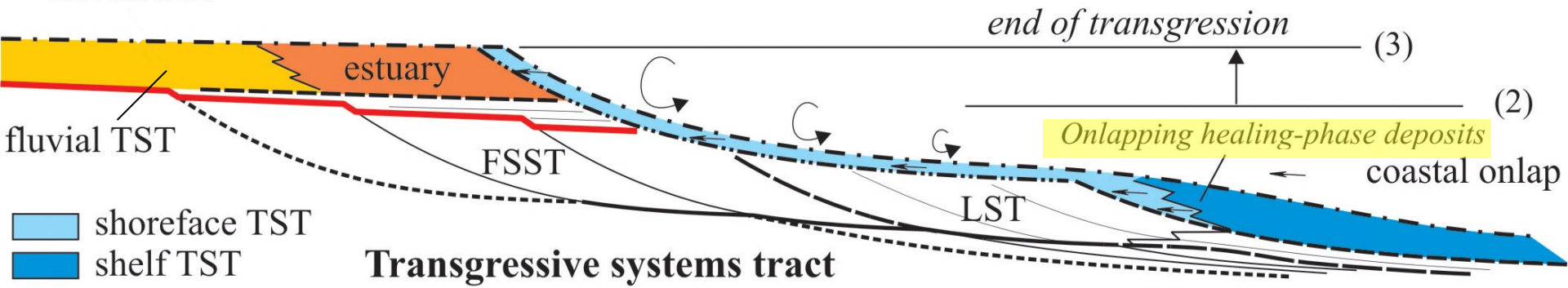
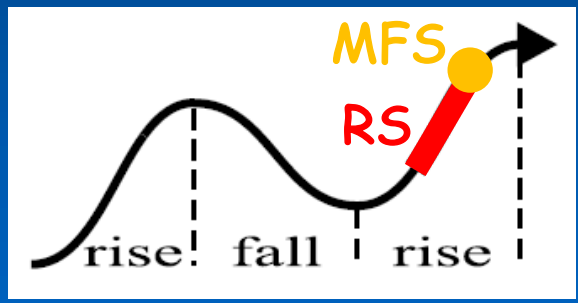
----- ravinement surface

**RS** is a diachronous erosional surface cut by waves or tidal currents in the shoreface and coastal settings during transgression (RSL rise). It is associated with transgressive lags or condensed bioclastic deposits.

- . - . - . maximum flooding surface

**MFS** marks the end of the shoreline transgression. It separates retrograding (transgressive) strata below from prograding (regressive) strata above. In seismic it is a downlap surface. It is commonly associated with a condensed section.

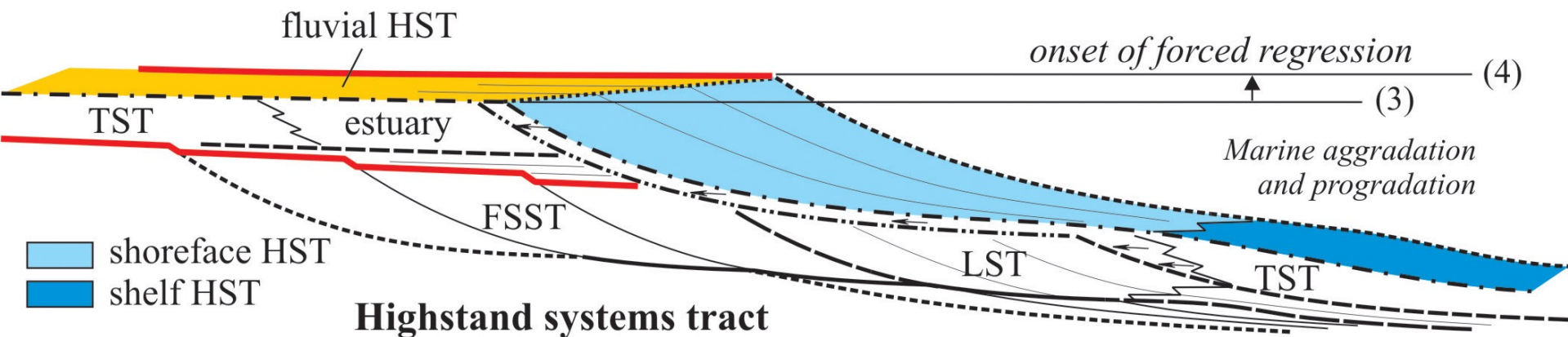
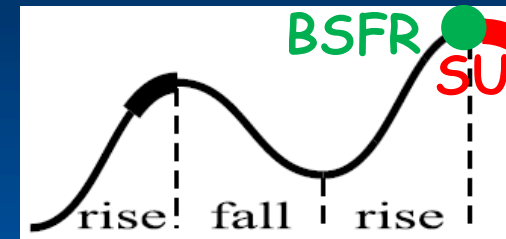
It is formed when the sedimentation rates start to outpace the rates of creation of accommodation (relative sea-level rise).





----- basal surface of forced regression **BSFR** is to the paleo-seafloor at the onset of forced regression and lies at the base of all marine deposits accumulated during relative sea-level fall.

— subaerial unconformity **SU** develops during relative sea-level fall and progressively extends basinwards.

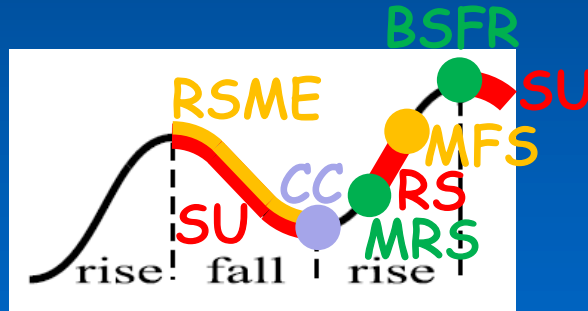
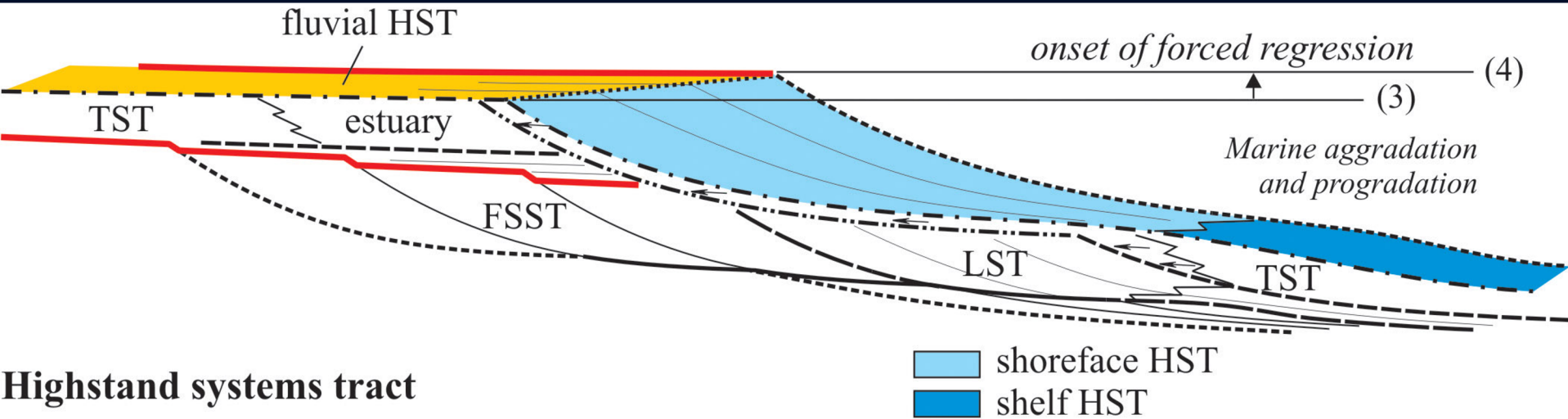


- |                                          |                                              |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| — subaerial unconformity                 | ----- maximum regressive surface             |
| --- correlative conformity               | - - - - - maximum flooding surface           |
| ----- basal surface of forced regression | ..... within-trend normal regressive surface |
| — regressive surface of marine erosion   | — lateral shifts of facies                   |
| ----- ravinement surface                 | ← coastal onlap (healing phase deposits)     |

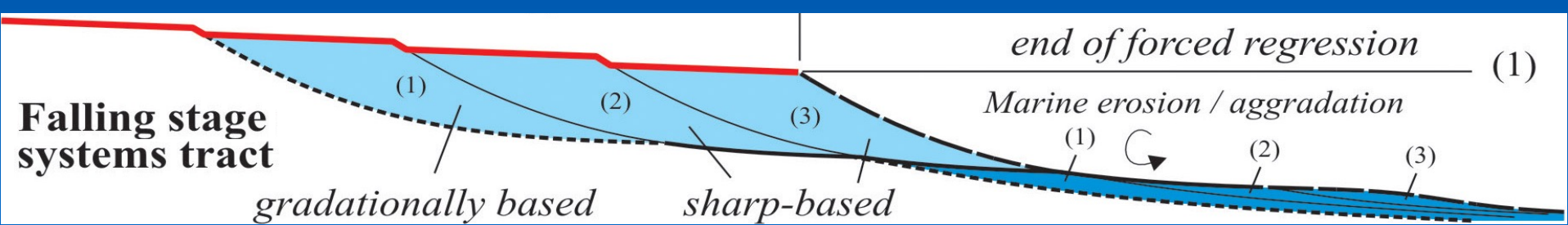
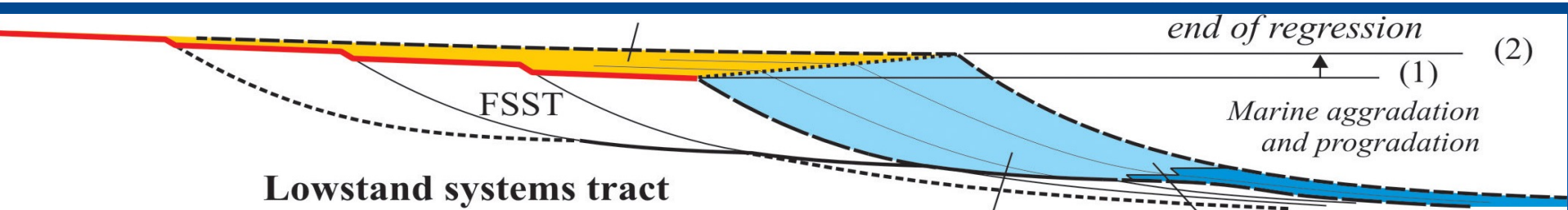
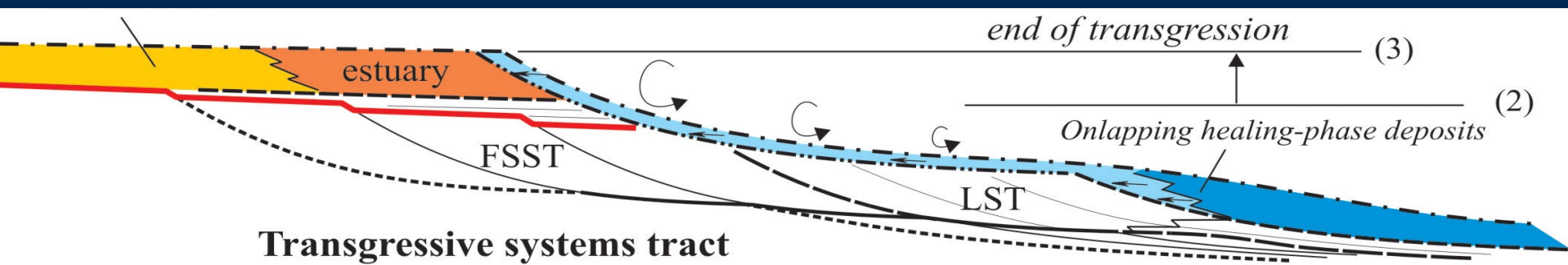
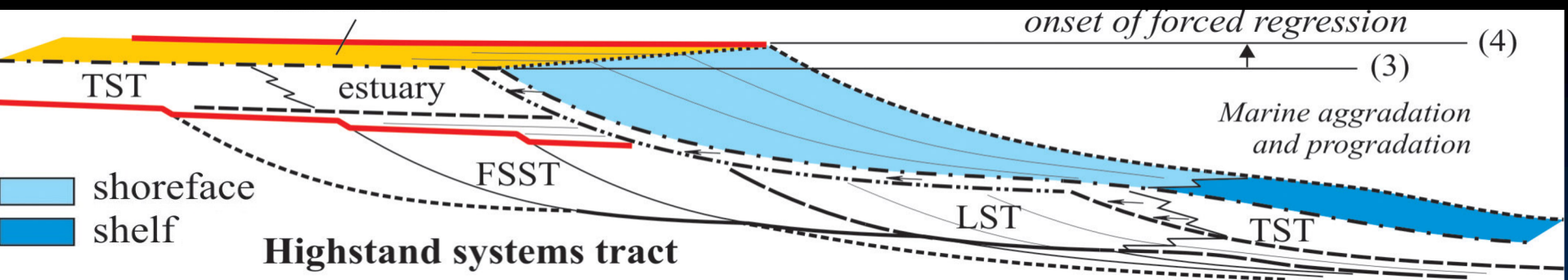
**Question: Si potrebbero aggiungere per piacere più rappresentazioni visive dei vari tratti sistemati ed i loro rispettivi grafici in una sequenza in modo da poter confrontare la granulometria e caratteristiche dei sedimenti che li compongono?**

**Answer: granulometria e caratteristiche dei sedimenti che compongono i diversi apparati deposizionali (system tract) dipendono da tanti fattori (tipo di substrato che viene eroso, dall'energia locale, dal gradiente della costa, etc.). Quello che caratterizza i diversi system tracts sono i diversi ambienti deposizionali, ad es. estuario, piuttosto che shoreface (spiaggia sommersa). Approfondiamo in «Application to reservoir geology». Vediamo ora system tracts e curve del RSL in sequenza.**

# System tracts & stratigraphic surfaces

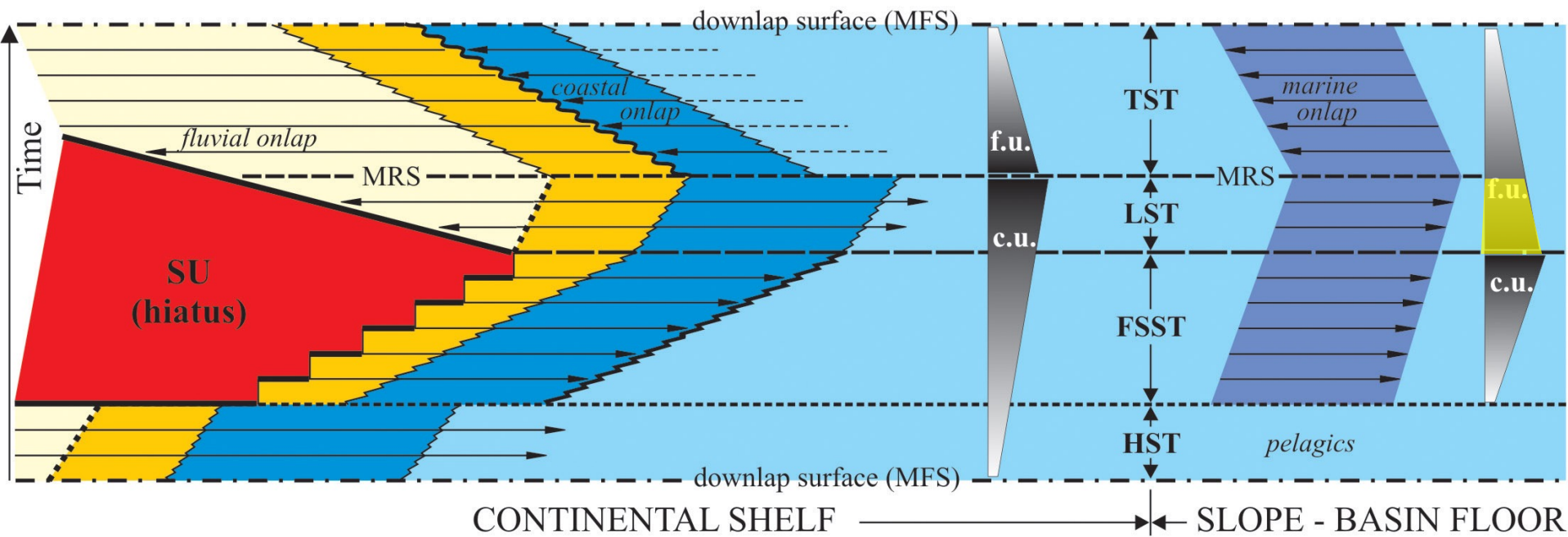
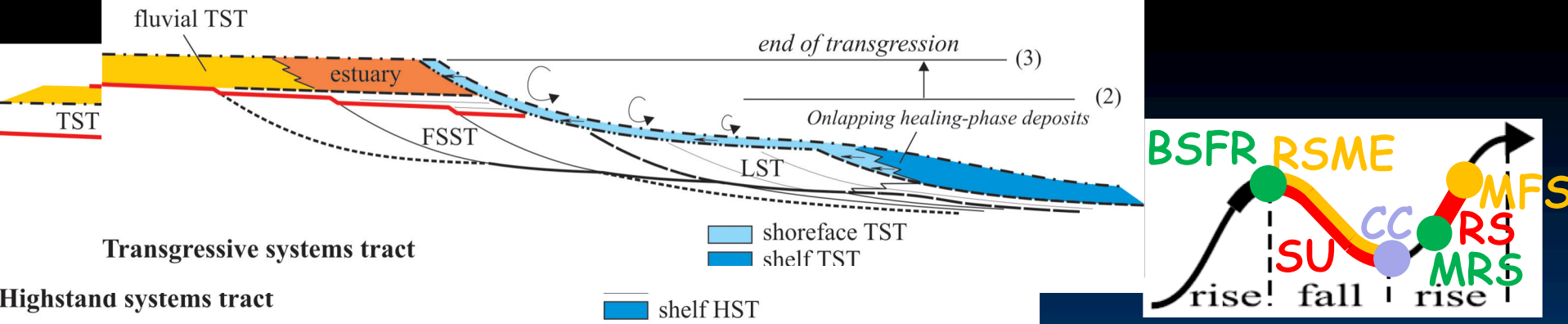


- |                        |                                      |             |                                        |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------|
| — (red)                | subaerial unconformity               | -----       | maximum regressive surface             |
| --- (black)            | correlative conformity               | - . - . - . | maximum flooding surface               |
| - - - - - (dotted)     | basal surface of forced regression   | .....       | within-trend normal regressive surface |
| — (solid)              | regressive surface of marine erosion | — / — / — / | lateral shifts of facies               |
| - . - . - . (dash-dot) | ravinement surface                   | ←           | coastal onlap (healing phase deposits) |



- subaerial unconformity
- correlative conformity
- - - basal surface of forced regression
- regressive surface of marine erosion

- - - maximum regressive surface
- · - · maximum flooding surface
- · - · - · ravinement surface
- lateral shifts of facies



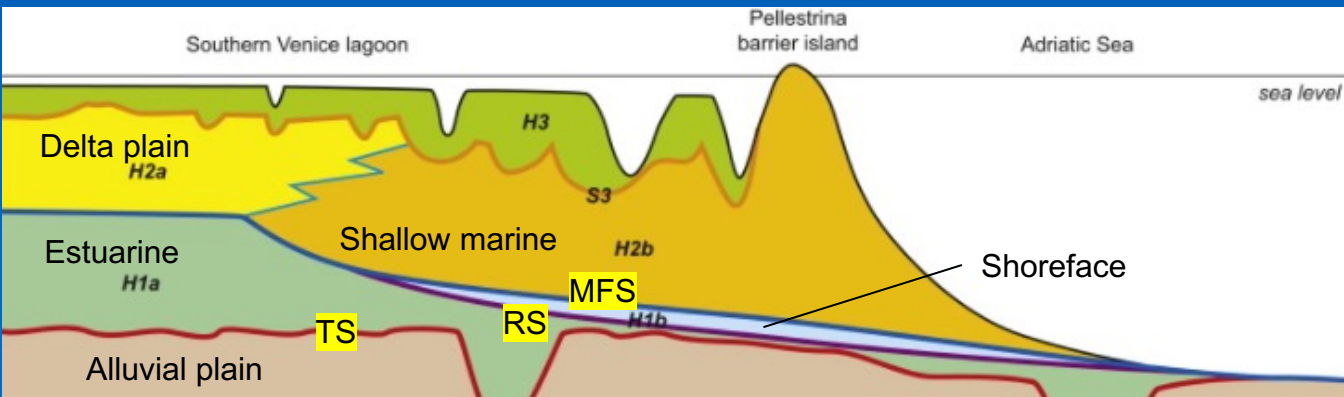
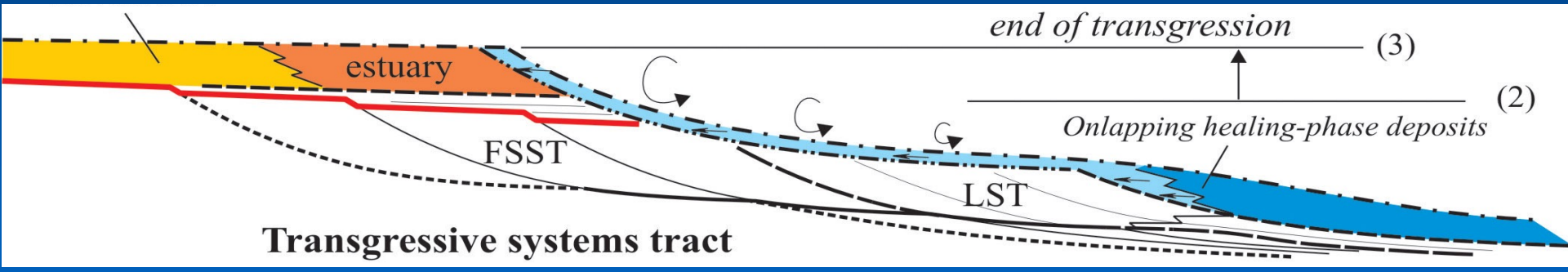
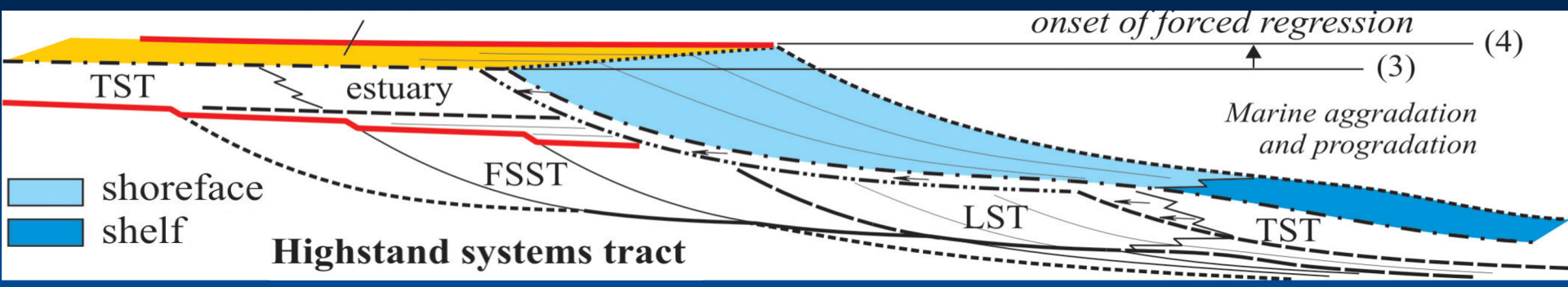
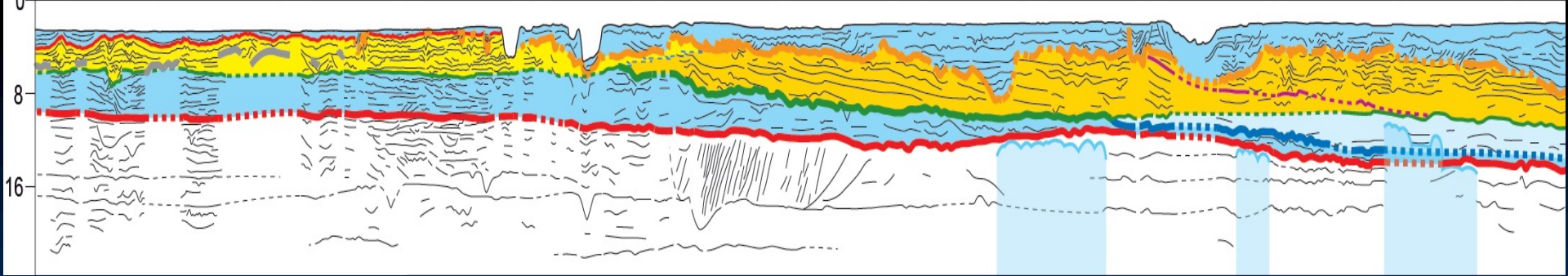
# Wheeler diagram

- subaerial unconformity
- - - - - correlative conformity
- ~ regressive surface of marine erosion
- · - · - basal surface of forced regression
- ← onlap
- - - - - maximum regressive surface
- · - · - maximum flooding surface
- ~ transgressive ravinement surface
- · · · · within-trend normal regressive surface
- downlap

**Question: Qualche approfondimento in generale ed esempio grafico sulle varie sequenze stratigrafiche e se possiamo magari noi tentare di segnare o disegnarle**

**Answer: Prima vi mostro tre diapositive di esempi, la spiegazione sui «diversi» limiti di sequenza,**

**e poi la prossima volta un esercizio dove potete tentare voi di identificare i system tracts e segnare le superfici stratigrafiche**



**Guess the ST and surfaces !**

From Zecchin et al. (2009) Venice lagoon. Continental Shelf Research 29, 1343-1359