



25 **Abstract**

26 Toarcian black shale that hosts Mn-carbonate microbialites at Úrkút, Hungary was investigated  
27 by mineralogical, inorganic, and organic geochemical methods for characterization and  
28 comparison with other European black shales representative of the Toarcian Oceanic Anoxic  
29 Event. Based on the authigenic mineral composition, calculations were made to estimate  
30 environmental conditions during sediment accumulation and early diagenesis. Geochemical and  
31 petrographical results of organic, carbonate, and REE multiple-proxy analyses revealed a strong  
32 congruence between the host black shale and the Mn-carbonate ore beds. The Úrkút black shale  
33 is really a grey shale with moderate to low TOC content that accumulated in a starved basin. The  
34 organic matter content and anoxic characteristics resulted from rapid accumulation of microbial  
35 organic matter from microbial booms, accompanied by a geothermally generated hydrothermal  
36 circulation system, and a high rate of authigenic mineral formation (clay minerals and proto-ore  
37 minerals). The inferred enzymatic Mn and Fe oxidation blocked carbonate formation by  
38 decreasing the pH. The system remained suboxic via syngenetic mineral accumulation (Fe-rich  
39 biomats), and became anoxic during diagenesis in conjunction with pyrite generation. The  
40 separation of black shale beds and Mn-ore beds is not distinct through the section. Instead, a  
41 distal hydrothermally induced clay-rich authigenic assemblage (marlstone) best describes the  
42 black shale, in which Mn-oxide proto-ore beds (Mn-rich laminae) formed from the beginning of  
43 black shale deposition, when the oxygen supply in the sedimentary basin was insufficient for  
44 enzymatic Mn(II) oxidation. Mn-oxide proto-ore turned into Mn-carbonate ore via microbially  
45 mediated processes during early diagenesis. The drivers for Mn-bearing organic matter-rich  
46 marlstones were most probably a combination of regional and local processes, with generation of  
47 a tectonic rift system that promoted geothermally generated hydrothermal fluids, which initiated

48 microbial blooms. Black shale mineralogy, geochemistry, and organic matter at Úrkút differ  
49 from those of the epicontinental shelf black shales of the Tethyan ocean.

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51 Keywords: T-OAE, Mn-carbonate, black shale, multiple proxies, microbial, failed rift,  
52 geothermal circulation

53

54 **Highlights mandatory**

55 Multi-proxy study of the Alpine-Mediterranean black shale was performed.

56 Mineralogy and geochemistry of the ore and the black shale are very similar.

57 Ore was formed via microbial blooms governed by hydrothermal activity.

58 Mineralogical and geochemical data reflect an ancient failed rift system.

59 Úrkút proxies differ from those of the Tethyan epicontinental shelf occurrences.

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## 63        **1 Introduction**

64        Organic geochemistry of black shales has been widely studied (e.g. Wignall, 1994; Jenkyns,  
65        2010) because of their key role in understanding global changes, for example the Toarcian Ocean  
66        Anoxic Event (T-OAE). Black shales are of enormous economic importance because they are  
67        source rocks for the bulk of the World's hydrocarbons, and metalliferous black shales form ore  
68        deposits for many metals (e.g. Cu, Ni, Pb, V, Mo, Mn), and yet they are among the least  
69        understood sedimentary rock. The identification of paleo-oxygen levels is therefore of critical  
70        importance in the paleoenvironmental reconstruction and understanding the genesis of black  
71        shales (Wignall, 1994).

72                In the early Toarcian, global environmental change caused considerable mass extinction  
73        of terrestrial and marine organisms (Jenkyns, 1985, 1988; Pálffy and Smith, 2000; Pálffy et al.,  
74        2002). At the same time, a ~5-7‰ negative  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  excursion of carbon reservoirs was identified  
75        (marine organic matter, marine carbonate, terrestrial plants), as well as an abrupt increase of  
76        ocean water temperature has been identified (Küspert, 1982; Jenkyns and Clayton, 1997;  
77        Hesselbo et al., 2000; Rosales et al., 2004; Kemp et al., 2005). As a consequence of global,  
78        regional, and local effects, the accumulation of organic material increased resulting in a global  
79        distribution of black shales (Jenkyns, 1985, 1988; Haas, 2012).

80                For interpretation of the enriched organic matter accumulation and the negative  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$   
81        excursion, models were established. Among those models, some important global and local ones  
82        include: (i) Volcanic activity (Karoo-Ferrar continental plateau basalt formation) as a global  
83        catastrophe was the driving force for climate change that triggered black shale deposition. The  
84        global response to considerable volcanic  $\text{CO}_2$  emission resulted in changes of sea level and  
85        current systems, which led to increased biomass productivity in upwelling zones (Jenkyns, 1985,  
86        1988; Jenkyns and Clayton, 1997; Vető et al., 1997; Pálffy and Smith, 2000; Röhl et al., 2001;

87 Schmid-Röhl et al., 2002; McArthur et al., 2008). (ii) Massive dissociation of methane hydrates  
88 caused by the warm climate was also proposed (Hesselbo et al., 2000; Kemp et al., 2005). (iii)  
89 Water stratification in silled basins may have obstructed oxygen supply, a local process without  
90 invoking global drivers (e.g., salinity differences, Röhl et al., 2001; Schmid-Röhl et al., 2002;  
91 Schwark and Frimmel, 2004; van de Schootbrugge et al., 2005). (iv) Mixed scenarios of global  
92 events, e.g. reduced levels of atmospheric oxygen and global ocean changes (Hallam, 1967,  
93 1981). Early Toarcian black shales occur worldwide, although their onset and decline are  
94 potentially diachronous (Wignall et al., 2005). Understanding the conditions of formation and  
95 paleoenvironments of the black shales is important; clarification of global, regional, and local  
96 drivers is a great challenge (Haas, 2012).

97 Two types of lower Toarcian black shales of the western Tethyan Ocean can be  
98 distinguished (Jenkyns, 1985, 1988): (i) accumulation on an epicontinental shelf [(boreal, Jet  
99 Rock, Great Britain (Sælen et al., 2000); Schistes Cartons, Paris Basin, France (Hollander et al.,  
100 1991; Katz, 1994); Posidonia Shale, Germany (Röhl et al., 2001); Lusitanian Basin, Portugal  
101 (Jenkyns, 1985, 1988; Duarte, 1998)] and (ii) Alpine-Mediterranean Tethyan Region [(Umbria-  
102 Marche Basin, Italy (Jenkyns, 1985, 1988; Duarte, 1998); Úrkút Basin, Hungary (Polgári, 1993;  
103 Vető et al., 1997; Polgári et al., 2012a)]. The boreal type occurs as shallow-water shelf sediments  
104 15-30 m thick, with 5-15 wt. % TOC and a Hydrogen Index (HI) of 300-600 mg HC/g TOC. The  
105 Alpine Mediterranean type occurs in pelagic limestone, in rifted areas of Atlantic-type  
106 continental margins, with TOC between 1-3 wt. % (up to 10 wt. %), and a generally low HI, 200-  
107 300 mg HC/g TOC (Jenkyns, 1985, 1988). Transitional types exist, which show mixed features  
108 [(Mecsek Réka Valley Óbánya Siltstone Formation (MRV-ÓSF), Hungary (Varga et al., 2007;  
109 Raucsik and Varga, 2008a); Basque-Cantabrian Basin, northern Spain (Rosales et al., 2004)]

110 (Fig. 1). Besides these typical Toarcian black shales, another classification differentiates between  
111 the pure non-ore bearing and an ore-bearing, namely Mn-carbonate types.

112 Sedimentary Mn deposits have a wide distribution in time and space (Roy, 1981). Their  
113 formation extends through more than half of geological history and they are extensively  
114 distributed both in the geological record on the continents and on the bottom of the present-day  
115 oceans, shallow seas, and lakes. The Jurassic (Toarcian) was an important time of Mn-carbonate  
116 mineralization and different ideas about the controls on deposit formation have been put forward,  
117 including tectonic activity, volcanism, climatic variations, and combinations of these. Mn-  
118 carbonate deposits are typically associated with organic carbon-rich beds (Roy, 1981). Black  
119 shale-hosted Mn-carbonate deposits are numerous and most deposits have large reserves of  
120 manganese ore with grades of 20-30 wt. % Mn. Numerous subeconomic black shale-hosted Mn  
121 deposits occur along with the giant Úrkút deposit in the Alpine-Mediterranean Tethyan Realm  
122 (Transdanubian Range: TR) (Jenkyns, 1988; Jenkyns et al., 1991). Stratiform black shale-hosted  
123 Mn-carbonate deposits reached maximum development during the Toarcian *tenuicostatum-*  
124 *falciferum* ammonite zones in the Strubberg and Allgäu deposits of the Northern Calcareous  
125 Alps and Eastern Alps, the Úrkút deposit in the TR of the Southern Alps, in the Tatra unit, and  
126 lower Carpathians (Polgári et al., 2012a and references therein).

127 At different locations, the black shale-Mn associations show similarities and differences:  
128 (1) contemporaneous oxic deposits formed under similar environmental conditions occur in some  
129 locations (Jenkyns, 1988); (2) not all black shale sections are enriched in manganese (Jenkyns,  
130 1988; Jenkyns et al., 1991, 2001); (3) if they are Mn-rich, the TOC content is relatively low, only  
131 4-5 wt. %, which may support a microbial origin for the Mn-carbonate deposits (Jenkyns, 1988;  
132 Polgári et al., 2012a); (4) negative  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values of early diagenetic  $\text{MnCO}_3$  support a contribution  
133 from organic carbon to the dissolved carbon reservoir (Polgári et al., 1991); (5) Mn(IV, III)

134 oxides characterized the proto-ore because initial metal enrichment took place in an oxic seafloor  
135 environment (Polgari, 2012a). This oxic depositional environment contrasts with the generally  
136 accepted explanation for the formation of a laminated black shale, assumed to result from very  
137 limited benthic infauna. (6) High primary productivity occurred during black shale deposition  
138 (Jenkyns, 1988; Jenkyns et al., 1991, 2001, 2010; Vető et al., 1997) and biomarker studies  
139 indicate that organic matter in all these lower Toarcian black shales is dominantly of marine  
140 origin, derived from algal and bacterial sources (Farrimond et al., 1989; Polgári et al., 1992;  
141 Polgári, 1993; Jenkyns et al., 2001). (7) Formation of  $MnCO_3$  immediately pre-dated deposition  
142 of the TOC-rich shales in the majority of localities suggesting that their deposition was  
143 characteristic of environmental conditions immediately preceding the anoxic event (Jenkyns et  
144 al., 1991). (8) Black shale formation was structurally confined to rifted continental margins of  
145 the developing Tethyan Ocean (Bernoulli & Jenkyns, 1974; Channel et al., 1992). Wignall  
146 (1994) stressed the possibility that abundant organic carbon deposition overwhelmed the  
147 benthos, thereby promoting formation of laminae even with oxic bottom waters.

148         Diagenetic processes overprinted the seabed manganese depositional signals and caused  
149 significant transformations, such as formation of early diagenetic rhodochrosite. The large mass  
150 of bacteria living in and on the surface of the sediment provided a large pool of reactive organic  
151 matter after death that promoted a series of diagenetic reactions. During decomposition, the  
152 consumption of the organic matter by other microbial consortia may have played a key role in  
153 diagenesis (via formation of the Mn-carbonate ore). Those anaerobic bacterial cycles were  
154 different from the syndepositional aerobic bacterial cycle, although both occurred  
155 contemporaneously at different depths in the sediment column.

156         The black shale-hosted stratiform Mn-carbonate deposits were reported to have mainly a  
157 hydrothermal metal source and microbial processes were reported to have occurred in some of

158 the deposits (Cornelius & Plöching, 1952; Gruss, 1956; Polák, 1957; Andrusov, 1965;  
159 Germann & Waldvogel, 1971; Germann, 1971; Bernoulli & Jenkyns, 1974; Faupl et al., 1982;  
160 Beran et al., 1983; Jenkyns, 1988; Krainer et al., 1994; Krajewsky et al., 2001; Rantitsch et al.,  
161 2003; Polgári et al., 2012ab). During the past 100 years, numerous studies have addressed the  
162 complex formation of the Jurassic black shale-hosted Mn-carbonate ore at Úrkút. The ore beds  
163 are now thought to have resulted from a two-step, microbially mediated process that produced a  
164 microbialite (Polgári et al., 2012ab, 2013a, 2016). This important deposit is among the 10 largest  
165 Mn deposits in its type with current reserves of 80 million tons of Mn-carbonate ore (24 wt. %  
166 average Mn and 10 wt. % Fe). The original deposit was much larger, a real giant, hosting about  
167 300 million tons of ore, but much of it was eroded during the Cretaceous and Eocene (Szabó &  
168 Grasselly, 1980). The original features of the deposit were overprinted only by diagenesis, and  
169 have remained unaffected by significant thermal maturation. The ore deposit and its host black  
170 shale have been related to the T-OAE.

171       Application of models for understanding ancient Mn-carbonates hosted in black shale is  
172 difficult, even for unmetamorphosed deposits, because of overprinting of different microbially  
173 mediated early-diagenetic processes that took place. The effect is as yet unclear with respect to  
174 the role of the black shale host rock, the nature of the contained organic matter, the types of  
175 microbiota involved in the primary productivity and the nutrient cycle that supported it, and what  
176 microbiota were responsible for aiding the accumulation of huge quantities of metals. These are  
177 important questions not only from a scientific point of view but can also contribute to identifying  
178 guides for mineral deposit exploration. The age of the Úrkút black shale coincides with the T-  
179 OAE and comparison of this black shale to other Toarcian black shales and environments of  
180 formation is essential to addressing these questions.



181 The well-preserved, unmetamorphosed black shale that hosts Mn-carbonate deposits of  
182 the Úrkút Basin (Fig. 2abc) offers an excellent case study for detailed petrographic,  
183 mineralogical, geochemical, and textural analyses. We have completed mineralogical and  
184 chemical analysis, Rock-Eval pyrolysis, and stable isotope analysis to study basic inorganic and  
185 organic geochemical features (kerogen type, maturity, organic petrology). We compare the  
186 results with the data available in the literature, focusing on the black shale from the lower part of  
187 the MRV-ÓSF Hungary (Varga et al., 2007) and former data from Úrkút (Polgári et al., 1991,  
188 1992, 2000). We also include the data from the Mn-ore sections (Vető et al., 1997).

189 This paper reviews the main characteristics of the black shale that hosts the Úrkút Mn  
190 deposit (Alpine-Mediterranean Tethyan Region), provides additional microtextural,  
191 mineralogical and geochemical evidence for the fundamental processes of its formation and its  
192 relation to the ore beds, discusses the importance of such deposits in developing  
193 paleoenvironmental indicators, provides a new general model for the origin of this type of black  
194 shale deposit, and discusses the importance of deposit characteristics for the interpretation of  
195 deposit genesis in the framework of the T-OAE.

196

## 197 **2. Geological setting**

198 The TR of Hungary is an important region for a series of structurally controlled Jurassic black  
199 shales and their associated Mn mineralization. The Úrkút black shale is located in the central part  
200 of the Bakony Mountains, which belong tectonically to the North Pannonian unit of the Alps-  
201 Carpathians-Pannonian regions (ALCAPA, Fig. 2ab). The largest Mn deposits occur in the Úrkút  
202 basin and at Eplény, which formed by the NW-SE trending block faulting that characterized the  
203 Late Triassic and Jurassic of this region (Fig. 2b). These deposits are within marine sedimentary  
204 rocks composed mainly of bioclastic limestone, radiolarian clayey marlstone, and dark-grey to

205 black shale (Polgári, 1993). Smaller, similar types of deposits occur along fault zones parallel to  
206 the largest deposits.

207 The Úrkút Mn mineralization occurs in two main units in the 40 m thick section (Fig. 3, SI. 1).  
208 (1) Cherty, Fe-rich, primary Sr-bearing Mn-oxide mineralization occurs in varicolored  
209 metalliferous claystones that overlie strongly leached limestone. The deposit is composed of  
210 blocks, nodules, and wad beds in close proximity to fracture zones oriented N-NW–S-SE along  
211 the NE-SW trending unit of approximately 12 km length and 4-6 km width (Úrkút-Csárdahegy  
212 and Eplény, Polgári et al., 2012a). Currently, the extent of the ore deposit of economic  
213 importance is about 8 km<sup>2</sup>.

214 The black shale (clayey marlstone)-hosted Mn mineralization (2) is Toarcian (*falciferum*  
215 ammonite zone; Géczy, 1973). The marlstone rests conformably on middle Lias carbonate rocks.  
216 Mn mineralization is restricted to two main intervals within the marlstone, separated by black  
217 shale units (Bs1, Bs2, Bs3-4, Fig. 3, 4, SI. 2). The lower first (main) ore bed is about 8-12 m  
218 thick. The base of the first ore bed begins with 0.5 to 1 m thick black shale (Bs1), which is  
219 greenish, organic-rich, pyritiferous, containing enrichments of trace elements, Co, Ni, Cu in high  
220 As-bearing sulphides, and Sr-bearing barite (Polgári, 1993; Polgári et al., 2003a). Concretions  
221 and thin layers of phosphate and chert are common at the boundary of the marlstone and the  
222 underlying limestone (Polgári et al., 2003b; 2013b). The upper mineralized zone (second ore  
223 bed) is 2 to 4 m thick and is separated from the first ore bed by 10 to 25 m of black shale (Bs2).  
224 The second ore bed can interfinger with black shale (Bs3-4). The Ca-rhodochrosite ore is  
225 composed of alternating grey, green, brown, and black sections of finely laminated, very fine-  
226 grained clay mineral carbonate mixtures (Cseh Németh et al., 1980). Fine-grained (1-2 µm)  
227 rhodochrosite rock lacks coarse detritus and is laminated (Szabó Drubina, 1959). Mineralized

228 sections lack fossils including benthic trace fossils, and only rarely contain fish remnants as well  
229 as silicified, Mn-replaced, or coalified plant fragments (Polgári et al., 2005). The ore body  
230 formed in a structurally controlled marine basin via bacterial enrichment of Mn and bacterially  
231 mediated, early diagenetic formation of Mn carbonates. It has been proposed that hydrothermal  
232 fluids venting into the depositional basin were involved in the mineralization (Polgári et al.,  
233 2012a). The Fe and Mn oxides were probably deposited from deep-sourced fluids circulating  
234 through basement rocks. Circulation along zones of structural weakness was likely driven by  
235 high geothermal gradients (Polgári et al., 2004; 2007, 2012a).

236         The history of development of the Mesozoic TR in the ALCAPA was determined from its  
237 paleogeographic position in the Tethyan system. The Transdanubian terrane, part of the Tethyan  
238 shelf, was located between the Southern Alps and the Upper Austro-Alpian nappes during the  
239 complex development of the Mesozoic ocean (Fig. 2c). Its initial displacement started during the  
240 Eocene by way of NE lateral motion and it arrived at its present location in the early Miocene  
241 (Kázmér & Kovács, 1985; Csontos & Vörös, 2004). A Middle Jurassic paleogeographic map  
242 (Haas, 1994) shows that the input of terrestrial detritus was blocked by the Ligur-Pennine Ocean  
243 and the Neotethys (Fig. 2c). Continental volcanic activity and oceanic spreading centers were  
244 widespread in the Neotethys and Ligurian-Penninic Oceans.

245

## 246 **1. Samples and methods**

247 Oriented samples (n=19) were collected through the entire black shale sections hosting the Mn-  
248 ore beds (Table 1, SI. 1). Besides the new collection (n=19, FP series, Fig. 3), previously  
249 collected samples were also taken into consideration (n=12). Bulk and individual lamina sub-  
250 samples were examined to determine macroscopic features (FP series Fig. 4, SI 2). FP3-FP11 are

251 not oriented samples. Petrographic structural-textural studies were made on 14 oriented thin  
252 sections in transmitted light (NIKON ECLIPSE 600 rock microscope, IGG, HAS, Budapest).

253 X-ray powder diffraction of 50 samples including subsamples for mineralogy was done  
254 using a Philips X-ray diffractometer (PW 1710) with carbon monochromator and Cu K $\alpha$   
255 radiation. Mineral composition was determined on randomly oriented powdered samples by  
256 semi-quantitative phase analysis according to the modified method of Bárdossy et al. (1980),  
257 using previously defined intensity factors.

258 Black shale samples were analysed for chemical and mineralogical contents (n=30, sub-samples  
259 were the following: FP16, FP16A, FP16B (A-lower part; B-upper part of samples, B1-lower  
260 part; B2-upper part of samples), FP23A, FP23B1, FP23B2, FP25A,B.) The samples were  
261 analyzed for 40 major, minor, and trace elements using 4-acid digestion (hydrochloric,  
262 hydrofluoric, nitric, perchloric acids) in conjunction with inductively coupled plasma-atomic  
263 emission spectrometry (ICP-AES) and ICP-mass spectrometry (ICP-MS; SGS Laboratories,  
264 Ottawa, Canada). The resulting solutions were taken to dryness and the residue dissolved with 1  
265 ml of aqua regia and then diluted to 10.0 g with 1% (volume/volume) nitric acid. Another split of  
266 each sample was fused with lithium metaborate then analyzed by X-ray fluorescence after acid  
267 dissolution of the fusion disk. This technique, provides analysis of all major elements, including  
268 Si, and a few minor and trace elements. The accuracy of Si determinations was good, about 2-4%  
269 based on the total-oxide sums, even for high-Si cherts. Sr and Ba contents were determined by  
270 both the 4-acid digestion and fused disc techniques, which produced comparable results.  
271 Titanium and Cr were also analyzed using both techniques, but only data from the fused-disc  
272 technique are used because the fusion technique more completely digests refractory minerals that  
273 might contain those elements.

274 Se, Te, As, Sb, and Tl concentrations were determined using hydride generation followed by  
275 atomic absorption spectrometry (AAS). Mercury was determined by cold vapor AAS.

276 Preliminary information of the major contributors to OM content were determined by  
277 Rock-Eval analysis (n=27). Rock-Eval measurements were carried out at the University of Kiel,  
278 using VINCI Rock Eval II Plus instrument following established protocols (Espitalie et al.,  
279 1985).

280 Maceral analysis at reflected white light and excited blue light observation supported the  
281 organic matter studies on ground whole-rock samples embedded in epoxy resin and polished  
282 according to ISO7404-2 standard. Maceral analysis and vitrinite reflectance measurements  
283 followed the method of Taylor et al. (1998). In our study, the main ore bed and the overlying  
284 black shale Bs2 zones were sampled and analyzed with 14 samples. Maceral analysis was carried  
285 out not only on marly shales but also five ore samples were selected with green and brownish  
286 grey colors of the finely laminated Mn carbonates of the main ore bed.

287 Organic carbon isotopic compositions were measured after decarbonation using a  
288 Finnigan Delta V continuous-flow mass spectrometer equipped with a Thermo Flash elemental  
289 analyser (IGG, HAS, Budapest) (n=29). Standard deviation of the data is below 0.1‰ based on  
290 the reproducibility of sample and laboratory standard data.  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{VPDB}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SMOW}}$  data were  
291 measured for carbonates (n=27).

292 IR measurements were done using a Bruker VERTEX 70 Fourier transform infrared  
293 spectrometer equipped with a Bruker Hyperion 2000 microscope with 20x ATR objective and  
294 MCT-A detector (IGG, HAS, Budapest) (n=2). During ATR analysis, samples were contacted  
295 with the tip of the Ge crystal (0.5 micron) on selected 1 N pressure. The measurements were  
296 conducted for 32 seconds in the 600-4000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  range with 4  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  resolution. Opus 5.5 software

297 was used to evaluate the data. Contamination of epoxy glue and glass were taken into  
298 consideration, and peaks of these phases were not considered.

299

## 300 **4. Results**

### 301 **4.1. Bulk mineralogy (XRD)**

302 The black shale minerals are typically microcrystalline, averaging 1–2  $\mu\text{m}$  in size, with very rare  
303 detrital mineral grains up to several tens of micrometers in diameter (e.g. quartz, feldspar). Black  
304 shale mineralogy and mineral genesis, grouped by mineral types, are summarized in Table 2. The  
305 mineral distribution varies among and within each of the black shale sections (Fig. 5). The  
306 mineral assemblage is similar to that of the ore beds but the minerals occur in different  
307 proportions. The bulk mineralogical composition of the black shale consists of (i) carbonates  
308 (calcite, dolomite, rhodochrosite kutnohorite and siderite); (ii) oxides (quartz); (iii) silicates –  
309 clays (smectite, celadonite, chlorite and kaolinite), K-feldspar, plagioclase and zeolite; (iv)  
310 sulfides (pyrite); (v) and sulphates (gypsum, barite).

311 The black shale is dominated by authigenic clay minerals such as smectite and celadonite,  
312 as well as quartz, but in some sections the content of dolomite, K-feldspar, and plagioclase  
313 increases moderately. Calcite is also enriched in some laminae. Rhodochrosite-rich laminae first  
314 occur very close (few cm) to the contact zone of the footwall in the black shale Bs1 (Fig. 5).  
315 Pyrite occurs commonly in the black shale sections. The second ore bed is characterized by  
316 alternating thin ore and black shale layers, which are macroscopically not distinguishable. Other  
317 minerals occur as trace components.

318

### 319 **4.2. Rock microscopy**

320 Thin section observations show a representative series of partly pyritized Fe-rich biomats  
321 occurring as brown goethitic finely woven microtextures in a fine-grained matrix (Fig. 6a-h, SI.  
322 3). This typical texture occurs from the bottom to the top of the sections. Fish debris composed  
323 of apatite is very common in the samples (Fig. 6dh). Carbonate biodebris and other mineral  
324 clasts (quartz) are enriched in distinct intervals, or occur randomly. The fine-grained matrix is  
325 carbonate-bearing and clay-mineral rich.

326

### 327 **4.3. FTIR**

328 Determination of goethite and apatite was made by FTIR from thin sections, which verified the  
329 presence of these minerals (Table 2).

330 FP16A and FP22A samples both contain iron oxides with clay minerals and carbonates  
331 (SI. 4). The infrared spectra were taken on fine-grained patches with reddish-brown material in  
332 transmitted light. The iron oxides were determined after Glotch and Rossman (2009). The  
333 infrared spectra of FP16A and FP22A contain Fe-O vibration of akaganéite ( $665\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), goethite  
334 ( $667\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $805\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), and maghemite ( $730\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ).

335 The characteristic infrared vibrations of clay minerals were identified after Madejová and  
336 Komadel (2001). Sample FP16A contains a mixture of kaolinite and smectite with peaks at  $680$   
337  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (Si-O perpendicular stretching),  $846\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (AlMgOH deformation),  $1005\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (in-plane Si-O  
338 stretching),  $3637\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (OH stretching of structural hydroxy groups), and  $3734$  (Si-OH bending of  
339 adsorbed water). Sample FP22A contains mostly smectite with characteristic peaks at  $688\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  
340  $841\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $1011\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $3573\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (bending of structural OH groups), and  $3623\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

341 The infrared molecular vibrations for carbonate were interpreted after Müller et al.  
342 (2014), which occur in both the FP16A and FP22A samples. The FP16A has  $\text{CO}_3$  peaks at  $864$   
343  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and  $1397\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , the C-O vibrations at  $2343$  and  $2365\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Sample FP22A contains only

344 CO<sub>3</sub> bands of carbonate at 864 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 1400 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Organic material and hydroxyapatite was  
345 identified only in sample FP22A.

346 The organic material was identified after Parikh and Chorover (2006). The band at 1526  
347 cm<sup>-1</sup> is attributed to C-N and C-H deformation, the band at 1705 cm<sup>-1</sup> to C-O and C-H vibrations.  
348 Both of the above mentioned peaks are characteristic for amides, which may originate from  
349 biogenic material.

350 The infrared peaks of apatite were identified following Figureido et al. (2012), with  
351 structural PO<sub>4</sub> vibrations at 872 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 1012 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

352

#### 353 **4.4. Chemistry**

354 Chemical compositions are summarized in SI. 5 and 6, and based on those data,  
355 paleoenvironmental proxies were calculated (Table 3A).

356 The Úrkút black shale has average contents of 18.2 wt. % Si (max: 26.98 wt. %), 3.7 wt.  
357 % Al (max: 6.2 wt. %), 6.9 wt. % Fe (max: 17.3), 5.7 wt. % Mn (max: 20.9), and 5.3 wt. % Ca  
358 (max: 10.6). The concentration of S is 2.0 wt. % on average (max: 4.5), which reflects the high  
359 pyrite content of the black shale. Other components on average are below 1 wt. %, but the  
360 maximum P content reaches 2.8 wt. %. Co shows some enrichment in pyrite and Sr is enriched in  
361 barite; Ba averages 307 ppm, with a maximum of 3020 ppm (Polgári et al., 2003a). Co, Ni, As,  
362 and REE enrichments are related to disseminated grains a few tens of micrometers in size, e.g.,  
363 Co-, Ni-, Ag-sulfide, and Co- and Ni-bearing pyrite, which are mainly in the black shale  
364 underlying the main carbonate ore bed (Bs1).

365 Enrichment factors (EF) of elements in the black shales compared to Average Shale  
366 (Wedepohl, 1971) show a mean for Mn of 7.2, Fe of 2.5, and P of 3.7, while the mean S content  
367 shows a high EF (11.7). V (average: 100 ppm; max: 183 ppm), Mo (av: 7.9 ppm; max: 15 ppm),



368 and Cr are depleted in the black shale relative to average shale. Ni is near crustal abundance,  
369 although Cu has an EF in the black shale of 3.

370

#### 371 **4.5. Organic geochemistry and petrology**

372 Total organic carbon (TOC) values in Bs1 range between 0.59% and 1.06 wt. % (mean 0.84%),  
373 in Bs2 between 0.56% and 3.53 wt. % (mean 2.08%), and in Bs3-4 between 0.61% and 1.73 wt.  
374 % (mean 1.12%) (Table 4). TOC correlates with N content reflecting the organic origin of N.  
375 C/N ratios scatter around 20, and in Bs1 it ranges between 14 and 21 (with one outlier value of  
376 31.5), in Bs2 C/N ratios range between 14 and 27, and in Bs3-4 between 17 and 23, showing  
377 relatively higher values in Bs2. Carbon isotopic composition of organic matter in Bs1 varies  
378 from  $-30.5\text{‰}$  to  $-33.6\text{‰}$  (VPDB), in Bs2 it from  $-31.8\text{‰}$  to  $-32.9\text{‰}$  (VPDB), and in Bs3-4  
379 from  $-29.9\text{‰}$  to  $-30.8\text{‰}$  (VPDB). Bs2 shows less negative carbonate  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  ( $-2.8\text{‰}$  to  $-18.1\text{‰}$   
380 VPDB) and more negative  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values ( $-1.7\text{‰}$  to  $-4.1\text{‰}$  SMOW) compared to Bs1 ( $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ :  $-$   
381  $5.1\text{‰}$  to  $-9.8\text{‰}$  VPDB);  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ :  $+0.9\text{‰}$  to  $-1.8\text{‰}$  SMOW) and Bs3-4 ( $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ :  $-4.0\text{‰}$  to  $-10.0\text{‰}$   
382 VPDB);  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ :  $-0.6\text{‰}$  to  $-2.8\text{‰}$  SMOW). Hydrogen Index (HI) values indicate algal  
383 contributions (Type-II kerogen) in Bs2, while Bs1 and Bs3-4 samples are characterised by values  
384 representative for oxidized organic matter or Type-III kerogen. HI (and correlation with TOC)  
385 values are generally higher in Bs2 (87 – 490 mgHC/gTOC) than in the other sections (41 - 106  
386 and 55 - 172 mgHC/gTOC for Bs1 and Bs3-4, respectively). The values in the second ore bed  
387 are not lower than in Bs1 and Bs3-4. The  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values of organic matter (OM) show a tendency  
388 towards less negative values up through the whole section, and a slight positive shift in the first  
389 ore bed (main ore bed).

390 S1 values are below 0.5mgCH/g rock in all samples, while S2 values are above 3  
391 mgCH/g rock are only found in the upper part of Bs2, and fall below 5, generally below 2.5 (fair

392 and poor source rock, respectively).  $T_{\max}$  is below 435°C in all black shale sections and does not  
393 show stratigraphic trends. All the samples are in the early stage of diagenesis.

394 TOC%, N%, C/N, S1, S2, and HI values show an increasing trend towards the inner parts  
395 (between 12.25 - 17.70 m) of Bs2. That depth interval could not be sampled in the mine due to  
396 the lack of access. However, the inclusion of data from Vetó et al. (1997; see Discussion)  
397 documents the lack of any trends through that interval.

398 The average vitrinite reflectance is 0.3%. The black shale samples are generally rich in  
399 liptinite, where weak brownish fluorescing and non-fluorescing bituminite and liptodetrinite of  
400 solitary alga are the major constituents, 45-95% of the OM (SI. 7). The occurrence of vitrinite  
401 and inertinite of terrestrial origin is subordinant through the entire profile. The occurrence of  
402 vitrinite particles is the highest in the main ore bed, with 5 µm size that ranges from 5% to 50%  
403 in relative volume from the lower 0.85 m to 3 m distance from the underlying limestone. The  
404 size of vitrinite particles increases in the Bs2 to 50-100 µm at the top and their relative  
405 contribution to the OM decreases in the middle part of the unit because liptinites became more  
406 abundant here in accord with the TOC% and elevated HI. Inertinite content is usually below 5%  
407 with the exception of the lowest sample of the main ore bed. Primary, morphologically  
408 recognizable liptinites are represented by telalginite, tasmanites type alginite and liptodetrinite of  
409 planktonic origin and 1-3 µm in size through the entire section. Laminated alginite makes up 10-  
410 12% of the alginite but due to intense degradation their longer diameter is often limited to 20-50  
411 µm. Telalginites most likely have the highest frequency occurrences in the ore layers compared  
412 to the Bs2. This may be due to the higher resistance of exin cell walls to bacterial  
413 decomposition, and to the in situ oxidation during mineralization and precipitation of Mn and Fe  
414 with the consumption of the less resistant bituminite, laminated alginite, and liptodetrinite.

415           The bituminite content is the highest in the black shale with flaser texture at 500 times  
416 magnification. Non-fluorescing bituminite is subordinant in the main ore bed, but its structure  
417 and appearance is similar to that observed in the Bs2-like biomats. The texture of the samples of  
418 the main ore bed shows similarities to the Bs2 samples.

419           Chitinite occurs in the Bs2 zone, but the other zooclasts like fish bone particles are  
420 present in the main ore bed.

421

## 422 **5. Discussion**

423 Huge black shale-hosted Mn-carbonate deposits offer a special opportunity for determining  
424 paleo-oxygen levels. Low-temperature aqueous Mn(II) oxidation takes place via bacterial  
425 activity by a two-step enzymatic process that requires oxidative conditions (Tebo et al., 2004;  
426 Webb et al., 2005; Bargar et al., 2005) during accumulation of the Mn(IV, III) oxide proto-ore.  
427 Black shale formation in the Úrkút basin was likely the result of moderate productivity (Table  
428 3A) caused by bacterially mediated reactions and plankton productivity, which upon burial  
429 underwent decomposition of the reactive marine organic matter via Mn(III, IV) reduction. The  
430 high productivity proposed by Vető (1993), Vető et al. (1995), and others may have inhibited the  
431 colonization of the basin by benthic infauna, even under moderate upwelling conditions.  
432 However, as indicated by our data, lamination and the lack of benthic fauna occurred even with  
433 oxic bottom waters and moderate primary productivity. Vető (1993) also concluded that the  
434 Úrkút basin in the early Toarcian sea did not contain H<sub>2</sub>S and had oxic bottom waters, which is  
435 supported also by the size distribution of framboidal pyrite (Polgári et al., 2016).

436

### 437 **5.1. Chemical composition and multi-proxy paleoenvironmental geochemistry**

438 Chemical, environmental, and genetic proxies indicate formation of the black shale under oxic to  
439 sub-oxic bottom-water conditions, high to moderate surface-water productivity, typical marine  
440 conditions, low terrigenous input, and no direct hydrothermal input. The proxies for the black  
441 shale sections Bs1, 2, 3-4 and the Mn-carbonate ore beds show strong similarities (Table 3A).  
442 The Úrkút black shale formed predominantly under suboxic bottom-water conditions and  
443 experienced anoxia only during early diagenesis, by microbially mediated sulphate reduction and  
444 pyrite formation (Polgári et al., 2016).

445 Neuendorf et al. (2005, p. 72) described black shale as a laminated, organic-rich shale  
446 with 5% or more carbon content that also contains sulfides (usually pyrite) and elevated  
447 concentrations of some elements, e.g. U, V, Cu, Ni. Though the Úrkút black shale is laminated  
448 and contains sulfides (pyrite), its organic carbon content is lower than 5% and it is depleted in V,  
449 U, and Ni. The EF of Cu is only 3. Based on bioproductivity proxies (P, Ba) and redox elements  
450 like Cr, Co, Ni, Cu and Pb, the MRV-ÓSF sites were enriched, which is similar for the Úrkút  
451 shale, except for Cr, Ni and Pb (Raucsik & Merényi, 2000).

452 Kearey (2001, p. 30) gave a similar definition for black shales based on organic matter  
453 content and indicated that they generally formed under anoxic marine bottom-water conditions.  
454 This definition does not fit the Úrkút depositional environment, where the black shale sediment  
455 was deposited under oxic bottom waters (Polgári et al., 2013a, 2016). The organic matter content  
456 of T-OAE black shales is highly variable, but often below 2 wt. % (Jenkyns, 1988). Jenkyns  
457 (1988) emphasized that the Mn-rich black shales contain much less organic matter (around 5 wt.  
458 %), than the metal-free black shales. It is essential to distinguish ore-bearing and non-ore-bearing  
459 black shales and to further distinguish sulfidic ore-bearing and Mn-carbonate ore-bearing black  
460 shales, because their redox and other environmental conditions were different. The Úrkút black  
461 shale generally follows the observations of Jenkyns (1988), but has even less organic matter

462 (Table 4) than he indicated, and does not fit with the idea of anoxic marine bottom waters (Table  
463 3A).

464 Most of the Toarcian black shales have been studied for organic compounds but inorganic  
465 geochemical data are scarce, which does not allow for detailed comparisons. Enrichment factors  
466  $>5$  for the Posidonia Shale occurs only for S and Sc with a maximum for S of 11.5, whereas for  
467 the Úrkút Shale, the enriched group of elements is much greater (Te, Co, S, As, Mn, Mo, Ca)  
468 (Table 3B), with a maxima for Co (15.0) and Te (17.4) (João et al., 2012). The elements depleted  
469 relative to average shale are In, Hf, K, Ba, and Na for the Úrkút black shales, which compares  
470 with the Posidonia Shale for K, Na and Ba, but not for Sb, Rb, Ti, Zr, Mg, Mn, which are  
471 depleted in Posidonia Shale.

472 Paleoproxy redox indicators (Ni/Co, V/Cr, V/V+Ni),  $Mn^* = \log$   
473  $[(Mn/Mn_{PAAS})/(Fe/Fe_{PAAS})]$ ; Taylor and McLennan, 1995) indicate oxic conditions for the Úrkút  
474 depositional basin. However, results of paleoredox indicator element ratios must be used with  
475 caution because of microbial selective element enrichments and mobilizations, so it is  
476 recommended to include interpretations based on mineralogy and microtextures to determine  
477 consistency with these proxies (Bíró et al., 2015).

478 Microtextural observation show that partly pyritized Fe-rich biomats in the Úrkút black  
479 shale characterize the entire sections. This observation also applies to the Mn ore. Fe-rich  
480 biomats form under suboxic (Eh: +0.3 V) neutrophylic conditions (Fig. 5), which fits well with  
481 conclusions from Fortin et al. (1997), Konhauser (1998), and Konhauser et al. (2012). The Úrkút  
482 black shale is fine grained, and silty terrestrial debris does not occur, consistent with our  
483 interpretation of the microtextures.

484

## 485 **5.2. Mineralogy of the black shales**

486 Previous studies of the Úrkút Mn-carbonate ore deposit, preliminary investigations of the black  
487 shale host rock, together with data presented here provide a comprehensive understanding of the  
488 mineralogy. Further, this offers an opportunity for comparisons with other black shales, among  
489 them epicontinental shelf black shales of Toarcian age.

490 The black shale mineral assemblage is similar to that of the ore beds, reflecting similar  
491 formation conditions, but the minerals occur in different quantitative amounts that determine  
492 whether the rock is ore or waste. The minerals consist of (i) carbonates, like *calcite* (*Mn-calcite*)  
493 occurring in the form of biogenic debris of variable size, mainly of plankton and nekton, rarely  
494 benthic forms (Polgári et al., 2012a). *Dolomite* grains with a size of tens of  $\mu\text{m}$  (often  
495 idiomorphic) and showing Mn-metasomatism at the margins of the grains. There are two ideas as  
496 the origin of these dolomite grains: (1) windblown particles from sabkha facies (Pekker, 2005);  
497 and (2) early diagenetic products of microbially mediated carbonate formation and diagenesis  
498 (Dupraz & Viesscher, 2005, Pace et al., 2015; Molnár, 2015 adapted Dupraz and Visscher's  
499 model for the Úrkút). *Rhodochrosite* is a very fine-grained microbially mediated early diagenetic  
500 mineral, as well as *siderite* (Polgári et al., 1991). Negative  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values of carbonate support an  
501 organic matter contribution to the mineralization under suboxic conditions in the zone of  
502 manganese reduction (Table 3). *Kutnohorite* occurs as vein fillings and impregnations that  
503 formed during a later diagenetic stage (Polgári et al., 2007). (ii) *Quartz* has several origins based  
504 on textural characteristics, windblown particles, authigenic precipitation, and recrystallized  
505 biodebris such as radiolarian tests. Diagenetic segregation of quartz is also noted (Polgári et al.  
506 2012a, 2016; Molnár, 2015). *Goethite* occurs as biomats (Polgári et al. 2012b). (iii) *Clay*  
507 *minerals*, like *smectite* and *celadonite*, are authigenic (Weiszburg et al., 2004ab; Tóth et al. 2010;  
508 Polgári et al. 2013a). The clay minerals were proposed to have commonly formed by direct clay  
509 precipitation onto microbial cell organic matter and EPS, which resulted in clay-rich primary

510 phases, later accompanied by carbonate precipitation via early diagenesis (Yeshaya & Moshe,  
511 1988; Zavarzin, 2003; stated also for Úrkút by Molnár, 2015). Though the Úrkút black shale-  
512 hosted Mn mineralization was mediated by various types of microbial activity (Polgári et al.,  
513 2010, 2012ab), it is feasible that the Mn mineralization could have also resulted from high  
514 amounts of primary authigenic clay mineralization. In this interpretation, the microbially induced  
515 and controlled processes cannot be distinguished. We consider celadonite and smectite as  
516 authigenic (Cora, 2009; Tóth et al., 2010; Polgári et al., 2013a), possibly microbially mediated  
517 products, while chlorite, kaolinite, and unspecified clay minerals are considered detrital. *Chlorite*  
518 and *kaolinite* represent rare terrigenous input (windblown). *K-feldspar* and *plagioclase*  
519 originated from volcanic ash falls based on cathodoluminescence evidence (Polgári et al.,  
520 2012a). *Zeolite (clinoptilolite)* can result from ash alteration (Polgári, 2001), but has been also  
521 shown to fill algal cells (Cora, 2009). (iv) *Pyrite* is a common constituent of early diagenetic  
522 processes in the zone of sulfate reduction; (v) *barite* formed as an early diagenetic mineral via  
523 plankton decomposition (Polgári et al., 2016). (v) *Gypsum* is the product of alteration of pyrite  
524 (Polgári et al. 2012a). (vi) *Apatite* occurs as fish debris, and in some black shale layers its  
525 concentration is very high (Polgári et al., 2003b, 2007, 2012a).

526         The scarce data available on the mineralogy of black shale-hosted Mn indications of the  
527 Alpine-Mediterranean region are similar to that characteristic for the Úrkút, like diagenetic  
528 rhodochrosite and authigenic smectite and celadonite (Cornelius & Plöchinger, 1952; Gruss,  
529 1956; Polák, 1957; Andrusov, 1965; Germann & Waldvogel, 1971; Germann, 1971; Bernoulli &  
530 Jenkyns, 1974; Faupl et al., 1982; Beran et al., 1983; Jenkyns, 1988, Jenkyns et al., 1991;  
531 Krainer et al., 1994; Krajewsky et al., 2001; Rantitsch et al., 2003; Jach & Dudek, 2005). In  
532 contrast, the mineralogical composition of black shales formed on epicontinental shelves differs  
533 from the Úrkút, containing mainly detrital components.

534 The Toarcian Jet Rock Formation (UK), contains considerable amounts of detrital  
535 minerals (Morris, 1980) like muscovite (5-7%), biotite, and chlorite, which are not characteristic  
536 for Úrkút, but high amounts of quartz and rare feldspar contents are similar. The high clay  
537 mineral content is also similar to Úrkút, but the types of clay minerals are basically different. For  
538 example in the Jet Rock, the illite and mixed layer clay minerals represent 55-60%, kaolinite is  
539 also high, 35-40%, chlorite is 5%, vermiculite is a trace, and smectite, which is considerable in  
540 Úrkút, does not occur in the Jet Rock Formation.

541 Similarly, the Posidonia Shale of the Dutch Central Graben contains silt-size detrital  
542 quartz, dolomite, and kaolinite, rare alkali feldspar, and abundant pyrite, quartz silt, and clay  
543 minerals, which constitute most of this and other epicontinental shales (João et al., 2012). The  
544 shales contain little carbonate except for authigenic dolomite while in Úrkút contains high  
545 amounts of rhodochrosite, which is also characteristic in the black shale. Minor diagenetic  
546 dolomite occurs in the Úrkút black shale.

547 The samples collected from the black shale section of the MRV-ÓSF are predominantly  
548 composed of calcite, quartz, kaolinite, illite±muscovite, and bituminite material (Raucsik &  
549 Varga, 2008b). Additionally, pyrite, illite/smectite mixed-layer minerals, chlorite, rare  
550 plagioclase and K-feldspar are also present. Moreover, there are some secondary minerals such  
551 as goethite and gypsum, reflecting outcrop weathering. The clay fraction of the MRV-ÓSF black  
552 shale samples is dominated by kaolinite (Raucsik & Varga, 2008a) 50–80%, average 67.5% and  
553 illite (15–50%, average 30%); random I/S mixed-layer minerals occur in small quantities (from  
554 trace amounts to 5–10%), in places with traces of chlorite. Hence, in contrast to the Úrkút, the  
555 MRV-ÓSF black shale contains mainly detrital components. Based on clay mineralogy, Raucsik  
556 and Merényi (2000) inferred the connection between an upwelling system and climate change



557 (more humid) of the provenance area, which does not apply to the Úrkút because of the  
558 predominance of authigenic minerals.

559 Dera et al. (2009) assessed the Europe-wide distribution of clay minerals deposited  
560 through the late Pliensbachian and early Toarcian and recognised that significant kaolinite  
561 enrichment occurred within the *falciferum* Zone, broadly coeval with the  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  excursion on  
562 epicontinental shelf areas. This relative increase in kaolinite abundance was interpreted as  
563 evidence for highly efficient continental runoff under a warm, humid climate, which did not  
564 reach the Úrkút basin.

565

### 566 **5.3. Calculation of environmental conditions based on mineral composition**

567 Both the black shale and the ore are composed mainly of authigenic minerals together with  
568 calcite biodebris, ash, and other windblown particles (Table 2). Some authigenic and terrigenous  
569 detrital minerals were preserved while others were transformed to other minerals during  
570 diagenesis. Formation of various authigenic and diagenetic minerals occurred through both  
571 microbially mediated processes and through inorganic processes. A starved basin with variable  
572 but dominant authigenic mineralization was determined by quantification of mineral  
573 assemblages. The authigenic mineral content exceeds the terrigenous (allothigenic) content in all  
574 the black shale beds; in Bs1 this ratio is ~90:10, and is also high in Bs2 (~60-40), and Bs3-4  
575 (~70-30) (Table 2; Figs. 7a, 8a). Based on different distributions of the minerals, the  
576 environmental conditions during black shale formation can be inferred (Table 5). The ore-  
577 forming stages are summarized on Fig. 7b, 8b, which indicate that the processes of ore formation  
578 started at a very early stage and represent important contributions in all the black shale beds. The  
579 ore-forming processes were strongest in Bs1, where as much as 85% of the black shale is  
580 composed of authigenic minerals related to ore formation, though the data show high variability,

581 down to 15%. The ore-forming processes decreased in Bs2 (17%) and increased again in Bs3-4  
582 (35-40%). This does not mean that all the authigenic minerals formed are ore minerals. Along  
583 with the authigenic ore-forming minerals, background sedimentation of the black shale continued  
584 (Fig. 8c) and the whole system was affected by diagenesis (Fig. 8d). Microbially mediated  
585 chemical reactions were involved in the formation of all the black shale beds, such as  
586 contributions of authigenic biogenic minerals from 60-90% including pyrite, or 45-90% without  
587 pyrite (Fig. 7c, 8e1-2). Ash sedimentation also comprises up to 30% of some beds (Fig. 8f).  
588 Distribution of windblown detritus is considerable in some beds (up to 30%) (Fig. 8g).  
589 Biodetritus represented by calcite tests was a basic constituent comprising up to more than 40%  
590 of some beds (Fig. 8h).

591 The black shale basin was a structurally controlled starved depocentre because deep  
592 ocean between the continent and the Úrkút basin blocked most terrestrial input. The main mass  
593 of sediment that comprises the black shale is authigenic clay and ore minerals that originated  
594 most probably from geothermally generated hydrothermal fluids, which has also been proposed  
595 as the source of the metals (Polgári et al., 2012a). These processes took place from the beginning  
596 of the change from limestone/marlstone deposition to deposition of Bs1, but the ore did not form  
597 immediately, probably because the oxygen supply for enzymatic Mn(II) oxidation was  
598 insufficient. However, Mn carbonate-rich laminae did form in the Bs1 very close to its contact  
599 with the underlying carbonate. The sharp contact between the limestone/marlstone footwall and  
600 the ore deposit, initiated during formation of Bs1, could have resulted from the enzymatic  
601 oxidation of a huge amount of Mn and Fe. This was a process that reduced pH that blocked  
602 carbonate formation, which is consistent with the research of Ehrlich (2015). At the same time,  
603 the venting fluids produced authigenic clay minerals directly on organic matter and EPS as  
604 described by Yeshaya & Moshe (1988) and Zavarzin (2003). The accumulation of microbially

605 produced highly reactive organic matter resulted in mass-balance change after burial and, during  
606 early diagenesis; the sediment became anoxic in the zone of sulfate reduction where pyrite  
607 formed. A major part of the organic matter is found in a highly decomposed form of bituminite  
608 and lamalginite in the section, while the ratio of the more resistant macerals to microbial attack  
609 like vitrinite, inertinite and telalginites relatively increased. Other minerals like barite and zeolite  
610 also formed during early diagenesis. Paleoproxy calculations indicate similar conditions existed  
611 during accumulation of the black shale and the ore (Table 3).

612 A distal hydrothermally and microbially induced clay mineral-rich authigenic assemblage  
613 (marlstone) is an accurate description of the black shale, in which distinct Mn-carbonate ore beds  
614 (Mn-rich laminae) formed from close to the very beginning, when the oxygen supply in the  
615 sedimentary basin was high enough for enzymatic Mn(II) oxidation (enzymatic Mn(II) oxidation  
616 engine)(Fig. 9). Changes of hydrothermal activity cannot be excluded as a mechanism for  
617 initiation of ore deposition.

618 Our results concerning oxygen supply are different than that of the Jet Rock Formation,  
619 which accumulated in poorly oxygenated bottom waters, and consequently has high organic  
620 carbon contents, 11.8% (max: 35%; Morris, 1980), which is much higher than that in Úrkút. The  
621 Posidonia Shale shows that organic matter accumulation and preservation, high bioproductivity,  
622 continuous or periodic anoxia, and high sedimentation rates were closely connected with  
623 paleoenvironmental changes in the shallow-water sedimentary basin (Röhl et al., 2001; Schmid-  
624 Röhl et al., 2002; João et al., 2012). Kemp and Izumi (2014) reported similar conditions  
625 (shallow-water, fluvial course-grained terrestrial debris contributions) for a section deposited on  
626 the northwestern margin of Panthalassa and now exposed in southwest Japan. These examples  
627 contrast with the Úrkút basin, which was deeper water, under storm wave base.

628 According Raucsik and Varga (2008b) and based on Jenkyns (1985), the MRV-ÓSF Bs  
629 formed under intense upwelling and high plankton productivity, which caused the accumulation  
630 of large amounts of organic matter in the epicontinental sea on the European shelf. Though the  
631 upwelling and moderate to high productivity was determined for the Úrkút Basin, and also a  
632 similarity in marine algae origin of the organic matter exists, the Úrkút shale accumulated under  
633 a different geodynamic regime, a pelagic marine environment along a rifting continental margin,  
634 which fits well with comparable scenarios described by Bernoulli and Jenkyns (1974), Jenkyns et  
635 al. (1991), Channel et al. (1992), and others.

636

### 637 **5.5. Organic geochemistry**

638 Vető et al. (1995) determined a predominantly marine algal origin for the organic matter, which  
639 fits well with our data for the Bs2 section. However, different features of Bs2 compared to Bs1  
640 and Bs3-4 indicate a change in OM deposition although differences are too small to be  
641 interpreted on the basis of our preliminary data. Present results show a quasi-uniform, mixed  
642 terrestrial and marine origin of immature OM in all the Bs beds, with additional contributions of  
643 algae or bacteria to the Bs2 OM complement. Possible trends in Bs2 suggest that study of the  
644 central parts of Bs2 would be fruitful, but sampling would require a tunnel driven in the mine.

645 Major components of maceral composition along the whole Úrkút section (including the  
646 ores) are liptinites (bituminite and liptodetrinite), with a 10-12% contribution of laminated  
647 alginite. Vitrinite and inertinite also occur, but only as minor components. Intense  
648 biodegradation of trace fossils and relative increase of morphologically recognisable liptinites  
649 (Tasmanites-type solitary alga) can be observed in the ore, due to the in situ oxidation and  
650 consumption of less resistant bituminite, laminated alginite, and liptodetrinite of planktonic  
651 origin (Hámor-Vidó, 2015). A less intense decomposition of bituminite and laminated alginite

652 (together with the transformation of pyrite to iron oxyhydroxides), as described in the MRV-  
653 ÓSF, is interpreted as a late-stage oxidation of the section by Varga et al. (2007). They stated  
654 that the maceral composition of the black shale and the underlying calcareous marl are similar to  
655 the Úrkút black shales: liptinite (bituminite, alginite, liptodetrinite) is dominant (above 95%),  
656 and the organic-matter content is higher in the black shales than in the marlstone. For both in  
657 Úrkút and MRV-ÓSF, the bituminite content is highest in the black shales with flaser texture  
658 (Varga et al., 2007; Hámor-Vidó, 2015).

659         The medium to low HI values of the immature OM (Polgári et al., 1992) reflect oxidative  
660 loss of hydrogen-rich marine OM during diagenesis, thus precursor OM is assumed to be type II  
661 kerogen through the whole section (Fig. 10). Maceral composition and GC traces of non-  
662 aromatic hydrocarbons show limited terrestrial contributions, which corroborates this  
663 assumption.

664         Comparing our data with those of Hollander et al. (1991), Katz (1994), Sælen et al.  
665 (2000), Röhl et al. (2001), Schmid-Röhl et al. (2002), Deconinck et al. (2003), and Varga et al.  
666 (2007), we can see significant differences between the sample sets studied (Fig. 11). Bs1 and  
667 Bs3-4 are characterised by low TOC, S<sub>2</sub>, and HI compared to black shales of the MRV-ÓSF  
668 (Varga et al., 2007). T<sub>max</sub> values are in the same range (<430°C) reflecting immaturity of OM in  
669 both sample sets. Unlike the MRV-ÓSF black shale, only some of Bs2 samples reach the range  
670 of fair or better source-rock potential. We have to note that the MRV-ÓSF black shale rocks are  
671 considered to be weathered, which caused the measured S<sub>2</sub> and HI to be lower than the original  
672 (Hollander et al., 1991; Katz, 1994; Sælen et al., 2000; Röhl et al., 2001; Schmid-Röhl et al.,  
673 2002; Deconinck et al., 2003; Varga et al., 2007).

674         Figures 12a, b show comparisons of our samples with significant Toarcian black shales  
675 (Posidonia Shale, Jet Rock, and Schistes Carton of the Paris Basin) based on carbon isotopic

676 compositions of organic matter, TOC, and HI. No obvious differences occur but HI and TOC  
677 values are smaller in Bs samples, except for two Bs2 samples, and the  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{Corg}}$  (VPDB) values of  
678 Bs1 and Bs2 differ from those of comparable Toarcian shales, except for some Posidonian Shale  
679 samples. Bs3-4 samples differ partially as well but with more overlap (Hollander et al., 1991;  
680 Katz, 1994; Sælen et al., 2000; Schmid-Röhl, 1999, 2002; Röhl et al., 2001; Schmid-Röhl et al.,  
681 Deconinck et al., 2003; Varga et al., 2007).

682 The isotopic composition of carbonate in the Úrkút black shale also differs from that of  
683 MRV-ÓSF Bs (Fig. 13). Here, we observed that oxygen isotopic compositions vary by about -  
684 2‰ (-5‰ to -2‰ SMOW), and  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values range from -2‰ to -12‰ (VPDB), with one  
685 exceptionally negative Bs2 sample. Varga et al. (2007) concluded that the isotopic compositions  
686 of carbonate from MRV-ÓSF Bs,  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  -6‰ to 0‰ (VPDB) and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  -4‰ to -13 ‰ (SMOW),  
687 reflect a high water-to-rock ratio and homogenous late-stage diagenetic fluids. Thus, these  
688 isotopic values cannot be used to assess temperature and salinity of the depositional basin or  
689 early diagenetic environment.

690 High values of TOC and HI are found more than a meter above the main ore bed-Bs2  
691 boundary up to the base of second ore bed, i.e. the inner parts of Bs2 contain better preserved  
692 OM. A weak correlation exists between carbonate content and carbon isotopic composition. The  
693 increase of carbonate generation is connected to the bacterial decomposition of reactive algal  
694 OM, and isotopically light carbon is incorporated into the carbonate formed. We can assume that  
695 the variation of the data is probably due to the periods of ore formation, which are governed by  
696 changes in the redox conditions at the sediment-water interface. The pristane to phytane ratio  
697 (Pr/Ph) in the black shales falls between 0.77 - 1.01 suggesting also an anoxic-dysoxic diagenetic  
698 environment (Polgári et al., 2000). However, non-bacterial carbonate formation cannot be  
699 excluded, especially in the Bs3-4 section.

700 We cannot exclude that the OM of MRV-ÓSF black shale and Úrkút black shales  
701 originated from similar precursor organic matter, with differences in paleogeography (e.g.  
702 decrease of salinity in MRV-ÓSF Bs), and a major difference being ore mineralization, which  
703 did not take place in the MRV-ÓSF Bs. However, the differences in the geochemistry of OM do  
704 not by all means reflect distinct depositional environments and perhaps result from the partial  
705 oxidation and biodegradation (bacterial consumption of) H-rich OM to form Mn and Fe-  
706 carbonates, and some pyrite, and they reflect the low preservation of primary liptinites and the  
707 elevation of decomposed constituents of fluorescing and non-fluorescing bituminites.

708 We note that the presence of a carbon isotopic excursion (CIE) representative of the  
709 Toarcian Oceanic Anoxic Event (T-OAE) cannot be verified in the Úrkút section even though  
710 Úrkút deposition occurred during that time interval (*falciferum* Zone). Two plausible  
711 explanations are offered: Polgári et al. (2012b) suggested an extremely fast (several hundred  
712 years) process of ore formation and sedimentation in the main ore bed, so that the whole process  
713 may have taken place over a small time interval during the T-OAE. This would explain the  
714 relatively negative  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{PDBCorg}}$  values. Hence, the onset and endpoint of the CIE may not have  
715 been recorded at Úrkút. On the other hand, the intense diagenetic alteration of OM  
716 (decomposition and formation of carbonaceous ore) may have caused the carbon isotopic  
717 composition of residual OM to shift towards less negative values, as was observed by, for  
718 example, Vető et al. (1997); note the slight isotopic shift in main ore bed.

719

## 720 **6. Conclusions**

721 A mineralogical and geochemical multiple proxy study of the Toarcian black shale that hosts a  
722 microbially mediated Mn-carbonate ore deposit at Úrkút in central Hungary was undertaken to  
723 determine its petrogenesis and paleoenvironmental setting.

724 The main conclusions are:

725 1. The Úrkút black shale is a gray shale, lean in organic matter.

726 2. The dominant mineralogical assemblage is authigenic rather than detrital.

727 3. The depocentre was a starved basin during accumulation of the black shale in the sense  
728 of diminished input of mineral detritus.

729 4. The organic matter content and diagenetic anoxic features environment were the result  
730 of rapid accumulation of microbial organic matter that resulted from microbial booms  
731 accompanied by geothermally generated hydrothermal circulation systems, and the high rate of  
732 accumulation of authigenic minerals (clay minerals and proto-ore minerals). The organic matter  
733 was trapped and degraded in a suboxic-anoxic diagenetic environment where pyrite was  
734 produced, decreasing the abundance of organic matter.

735 5. The sharp contact between the limestone/marlstone footwall and black shale unit Bs1  
736 and the Mn-ore deposit reflect the initiation of hydrothermal vent systems in the marine basin.  
737 The inferred enzymatic Mn and Fe oxidation blocked carbonate formation by decreasing pH.

738 6. Even though Mn-oxide accumulation started very close to the contact with the  
739 underlying unit, accumulation of proto-ore did not initially predominate probably because of  
740 oxygen deficiency, because Mn(II) enzymatic oxidation is obligatory to this process. But the  
741 system remained suboxic via syngenetic mineral accumulation (Fe-rich biomats), and became  
742 anoxic through diagenesis.

743 7. The separation of black shale beds and ore beds is not distinct throughout the section.  
744 Instead, a distal hydrothermally induced clay mineral-rich authigenic assemblage (marlstone)  
745 best describes the black shale, in which distinct Mn-oxide proto-ore beds (Mn-rich laminae)  
746 formed from nearly the beginning of black shale deposition, when the oxygen supply in the  
747 sedimentary basin was insufficient for enzymatic Mn(II) oxidation. Mn-oxide proto-ore



748 transformed into Mn carbonate ore via microbially mediated processes during early diagenesis.  
749 Ore beds resulted where these Mn-rich laminae in the BS were highly enriched and abundant.

750 8. The drivers of Mn-bearing, relatively low organic matter, marlstone formation,  
751 compared to other Torcian black shales, were most probably a combination of regional and local  
752 processes. Generation of a tectonic rift system promoted geothermally generated circulation cells  
753 and hydrothermal fluids and also initiated microbial blooms. The TR, and other regions of the  
754 Tethyan realm supported formation of black shales under this complex set of processes. These  
755 black shale-hosted Mn-carbonate deposits are indicators of ancient failed rift systems.

756 9. The Úrkút black shale and Mn ore paleoenvironmental proxies are very similar.  
757 Mineralogy, geochemistry, and organic matter are consistent with previous results of the Úrkút,  
758 but differ from those of the Tethyan epicontinental shelf occurrences.

759

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765

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1106 **Figure caption**

1107 Fig. 1. Palaeogeography of the Early Jurassic of Europe, after Bassoulet et al. (1993), with  
1108 locations of some lower Toarcian black shale sections (Jenkyns, 1985, 1988; Duarte,  
1109 1998).

1110 Fig. 2. Location of study area (a), Tectonic units and main formations of the Úrkút deposit (b),  
1111 tectonic map of Jurassic Tethyan Realm (c) (modified after Polgári et al., 2012a).

1112 Fig. 3. Profile of black shale host of Mn-carbonate deposit and location of samples; this is a  
1113 composite log without the ore beds so the thickness of Mn carbonate ore beds and the  
1114 chert-ironstone are not to scale; the – after cm means below the Mn-carbonate ore beds  
1115 and the + means above the Mn-carbonate ore beds; Úrkút mine, Shaft No. III, western  
1116 minefield, +186 mBf); Bs = black shale (Collected by T. Vigh, Mangán Ltd. Úrkút).

1117 Fig. 4. Representative samples. Arrow shows to top of sample according to profile; no arrow: not  
1118 oriented.

1119 Fig. 5. XRD mineralogy. The two red lines represent ore beds.

1120 Fig. 6. Representative series of photos of partly pyritized Fe-rich biomats, petrographic  
1121 microscope, transmitted light. (a) Sample FP16A series of Fe-rich biomats (white arrows)  
1122 and detrital and biogenic debris (black arrows) in fine-grained matrix material (b)  
1123 Pyritized Fe-rich biomats (p-pyrite); (c) FP22A pyritized Fe-rich biomats (p-pyrite); (d)  
1124 FP22C Series series of partly pyritized (p) Fe-rich biomats and fish debris (fd, apatite);  
1125 (e) FP24BB series of partly pyritized (arrows) Fe-rich biomats; (f) Crossed Nicol of (e);  
1126 (g) Series of partly pyritized Fe-rich biomats (arrows); (h) Series of partly pyritized Fe-  
1127 rich biomats (arrows) with fish debris (fp) and other detritus. For further details see Fig. 3  
1128 and SI 1, 2.

1129 Fig. 7. Box plot diagrams of authigenic and detrital phases (a), components from ore-forming  
1130 processes (b), and biogenic components (c).

1131 Fig. 8. Contributions from various sources and processes on black shale mineralogy. For details  
1132 see Table 5. Bold black lines represent ore horizons, bold dashed lines represent hiatus in  
1133 black shale sections.

1134 Fig. 9. Syngenetic oxygen supply based on mineralogy.

1135 Fig. 10. Total organic carbon (TOC), Hydrogen Index (HI) and kerogen carbon isotope values.  
1136 (Bs=black shale). Dots: current samples; circles: data from Polgári et al. (1991); squares:  
1137 data from Vető et al., 1997, triangles: data from Polgári et al. 2000. Vertical axis: distance  
1138 from the footwall Isztimér Limestone Formation.

1139 Fig. 11. Comparison of kerogen type (a, b) and maturity (b) of Bs1, Bs2 and Bs3-4 with the data  
1140 from Varga et al. (2007) and other black shale deposits cited therein. The loss of  
1141 hydrogen-rich algal biomass during diagenesis results in type III kerogen values. Data  
1142 from Hollander et al. (1991), Katz (1994), Sælen et al. (2000), Röhl et al. (2001),  
1143 Schmid-Röhl et al. (2002), Deconinck et al. (2003), Varga et al. (2007).

1144 Fig. 12. Carbon isotopic compositions versus TOC (a) and HI (b) values with data from Varga et  
1145 al. (2007). Dashed lines represent the ranges of data. Significant differences between  
1146 Úrkút (Bs1, Bs2 and Bs3-4) and other deposits can be seen. \*Data from Hollander et al.  
1147 (1991), Katz (1994), Sælen et al. (2000), Schmid-Röhl (1999, 2002), Röhl et al. (2001),  
1148 Deconinck et al. (2003), Varga et al. (2007).

1149 Fig. 13. Carbon and oxygen isotopic composition of carbonates; (a) comparison with MRV-ÓSF  
1150 Bs (\*data from Varga et al., 2007). (b) diameter of the dots represents carbonate content  
1151 (~2–50 wt. %), showing the more negative values of carbonate-rich samples, Úrkút Bs.  
1152

**Table 1. List of samples**

<b>Sample ID</b>	<b>Lithology</b>	<b>Sample ID</b>	<b>Lithology</b>
<b>FP3</b>	Bs2	<b>1_12</b>	Bs1
<b>FP4</b>	Bs2	<b>5_16</b>	Bs2
<b>FP5</b>	Bs2	<b>5_17</b>	Bs2
<b>FP6</b>	Bs2	<b>5_18</b>	Bs2
<b>FP7</b>	Bs2	<b>5_19</b>	Bs2
<b>FP8</b>	Bs1	<b>Z/1</b>	Bs3-4
<b>FP9</b>	Bs2	<b>Z/2</b>	Bs3-4
<b>FP10</b>	Bs2	<b>Z/10'''</b>	Bs2
<b>FP11</b>	Bs2	<b>Z/10''</b>	Bs2
		<b>Z/10'</b>	Bs2
<b>FP15</b>	Bs1	<b>Z/15</b>	Bs2
<b>FP16</b>	Bs1		
<b>FP17</b>	Bs1		
<b>FP18</b>	Bs1		
<b>FP19</b>	Bs1		
<b>FP21</b>	Bs3-4		
<b>FP22</b>	Bs3-4		
<b>FP23</b>	Bs2		
<b>FP24,25</b>	Bs2		
<b>1/131025</b>	Bs1		

**Table 2. Black shale mineralogy and mineral genesis, grouped by mineral types based on XRD, rock microscopy and IR**

Minerals grouped on genetic aspects												
Mineral group	Minerals	Authigenic		Biodebris*	Terrigenous	Diagenetic (from authigenic)		Authigenic not affected by diagenesis	Diagenetic (from terrigenous)		Terrigenous not affected by diagenesis	Secondary alteration
		microbially mediated (mm)	non-mm			microbially mediated (mm)	non-mm		microbially mediated (mm)	non-mm		
<b>Carbonates</b>	calcite			*								
	dolomite					*					*	
	rhodochrosite					*						
	kutnohorite						*					
<b>Oxides</b>	siderite					*						
	quartz	*?	*	*	*	*?	*	*			*	
<b>Phyllosilicates</b>	goethite	*				*						
	smectite	*						*				
	celadonite	*						*				
	chlorite, kaolinite (clay)				*						*	
<b>Tectosilicates</b>	K-feldspar				*						*	
	plagioclase				*						*	
	zeolite (clinoptilolite)									*		
<b>Sulfides</b>	pyrite					*	*					
<b>Sulphates</b>	gypsum											*
	barite						*					
<b>Phosphates</b>	apatite			*								

\*biodebris is not affected by diagenesis

**Table 3. Comparison of chemical paleoenvironmental proxies of the black shale and Mn carbonate ore of Úrkút and Posidonia Shale**

Proxy	Black shale (Úrkút)	Mn carbonate ore (Úrkút)	Method	References
<b>A</b>				
<b>Redox</b>	oxic	oxic	U/Th	Yang et al. (2011)
<b>Productivity</b>	Moderate. At one-one sample: footwall, bed No. 2	Important in middle of main ore bed, moderate in bed No. 2	$Y^* = (Y / Al_2O_3)_{\text{minta}} / (Al_2O_3)_{\text{Upper Continental Crust}}$ Y*: Si, P, Ba	Schmitz et al. (1996)
<b>Enrichment factor (EF median)</b>	Te, Co, S, As, Mn, Mo, Ca > 5	Co, Mn, P, Ca, Mo, Ce, Ga, As, Sr > 5	$EF(\text{element}) = (\text{element} / Al)_{\text{sample}} / (\text{element} / Al)_{\text{Average Shale}}$	Wedepohl (1971)
	<b>REE 2.3</b>	<b>REE ~ 4.3</b>		
	In, Hf, K, Ba, Na < 1	K, Rb, Na < 1		
	Max.: Co 15.0; (Te 17.4)	Max.: Co 37.9; Mn 34.6		
<b>Element excess (Xs median)</b>	Te, Co, S, As, Mn, Mo, Ca, P, Ag > 70%	Co, Mn, P, Ca, Mo, Ce, Ga, As, Sr, Fe, Mg, RFF, Ni, Y > 70%	$Ex(\text{element}) = \text{element} - Al_{\text{sample}} (\text{element} / Al)_{\text{Average Shale}}$	Brumsack (2006)
	<b>REE: 56%</b>	<b>REE: 76%</b>		
	Na, Ba, K, Hf, In, Rb, Bi < 0%	Na, Rb, K < 0%		
	Max.: Te, Co (93-94%)	Max.: Co, Mn (97%)		
<b>Anomalies</b>				
<i>Pr</i>	0.8	0.8	$Pr/Pr^* = 2 Pr_{PAAS} / (Ce_{PAAS} + Nd_{PAAS})$	Bau and Dulski (1996)
<i>Ce</i>	1.42 (max. 1.51 main ore bed) cannot accept because of anomaly of Pr	1.35 (max. 2.12 main ore bed) cannot accept because of anomaly of Pr	$Ce_{\text{anom}} = Ce_{PAAS} / (2 Pr_{PAAS} - Nd_{PAAS})$	Bolhar et al. (2004)
<i>La</i>	0.90 cannot accept because of anomaly of Pr	0.88 cannot accept because of anomaly of Pr	$La_{\text{anom}} = La_{PAAS} / (3 Pr_{PAAS} - 2 Nd_{PAAS})$	Bolhar et al. (2004)
<i>Eu</i>	1.13 (max. 1.21 bed No. 2)	1.08 (max. 1.18 footwall + main ore bed + bed No. 2)	$Eu_{\text{anom}} = Eu_{PAAS} / (2/3 Sm_{PAAS} + 1/3 Tb_{PAAS})$	Bau and Dulski (1996)
<i>Gd</i>	1.10 normal marine	1.11 normal marine	$Gd_{\text{anom}} = Gd_{PAAS} / [(0.33 Sm_{PAAS}) + (0.67 Tb_{PAAS})]$	Bau et al. (1996)
<i>Y</i>	0.82 (decreases upward, more intense adsorption)	1.00 (low: footwall, main ore bed + decreases upward in bed No. 2)	$Y_{\text{anom}} = 2 Y_{PAAS} / (Dy_{PAAS} + Ho_{PAAS})$	Bau et al. (1996)
<b><math>\Delta Sm_{PAAS}</math></b>	1.23 (decreases upward: decrease of MREE enrichment)	1.06 (high: footwall, main ore bed + top of bed No. 2)	$\Delta Sm_{PAAS} = Sm - (8 La_{PAAS} - 5 Yb_{PAAS}) / 13$	Bright et al. (2009)
<b><math>(Nd/Yb)_{PAAS}</math> (LRFF/HRFF)</b>	1.11 (decreases upward: decrease of LREE enrichment)	1.27 (decreases upward: decrease of LREE enrichment)		Nothdruff et al. (2004)
<b><math>(Pr/Sm)_{PAAS}</math> (LRFF/MRFF)</b>	0.75 (decreases upward: decrease of LREE enrichment)	0.77 (intense decreases upward: decrease of LREE enrichment)		Nothdruff et al. (2004)
<b><math>(Sm/Yb)_{PAAS}</math> (MRFF/HRFF)</b>	1.45 (increases upward: increase of LREE enrichment)	1.55 (slightly increases upward: increase of LREE enrichment)		Nothdruff et al. (2004)
<b>La vs. Ce</b>	3.36 (increases upward: enrichment of Ce --> biogenic, terrigenous)	3.27 (increases upward: enrichment of Ce --> biogenic, terrigenous)		Toth (1980)
<b>Y/Ho</b>	22.29 (decreases upward: terrigenous effect, increase of adsorption)	29.31 (decreases upward: terrigenous effect, increase of adsorption)		Song et al. (2012)
<b>Y/Ho vs. La</b>	Terrigenous effect exist	Terrigenous effect exist		Song et al. (2012)

<b>(La/Yb)<sub>PAAS</sub> vs. (La/Sm)<sub>PAAS</sub></b>	via early diagenesis: adsorption	via early diagenesis: adsorption		Bau and Dulski (1996)
<b>Sm/Yb vs. Eu/Sm, Y/Ho vs. Eu/Sm, Y/Ho vs. Sm/Yb</b>	no direct hydrothermal effect	no direct hydrothermal effect		Bau and Dulski (1996)
Zr/Rb	near 1 - fine grained sediments without Q input	1.32		Dypvik and Harris (2001)
Rb/Cs	15±4 - fine grained sediments	16.74		Scheffler (2004)
Zr/Ti	0.03 - neutral magmatic rocks provenance area	0.03		Scheffler (2004)
<b>Rb/K</b>	0.002-0.003: fresh water input	0.003		Campbell and Williams (1965)
<b>Co/Cr, Ni/Co, Co/Ni, U/Th V/Cr</b>	oxygenic conditions	oxygenic conditions		Algeo and Maynard (2004)
V/(V+Ni)	Suboxic conditions (microbial mediation!)	suboxic		Algeo and Maynard (2004)
<b>(Cu+Mo)/Zn</b>	suboxic condition (microbial mediation!)	suboxic condition (microbial mediation!)		Algeo and Maynard (2004)
CIA	≤50 fresh, not weathered, FP17-FP25A: CIA 50-60 slight weathering rate	<50		Nesbitt and Young (1982)

B	Black shale (Úrkút)	Posidonia Shale	João et al. (2012)
<b>Proxy</b>			
<b>Enrichment factor (EF median)</b>	Te, Co, S, As, Mn, Mo, Ca > 5	S, Sc > 5	
	In, Hf, K, Ba, Na < 1	Sb, Rb, Ba, Ti, Zr, Mg, K, Na, Mn < 1	
	Max.: Co 15.0; (Te 17.4)	Max: S 11.5	
Paleoredox			
Ni/Co	Oxic	Oxic	
V/Cr	Oxic-Suboxic	Oxic	
V/(V+Ni)	Suboxic	Anoxic	
$Mn^* = \log[(Mn/Mn_{PAAS}) / (Fe/Fe_{PAAS})]$	Oxic-Suboxic	Sub-Anoxic	

**Table 4. Organic geochemical and isotopic data**

Sample ID	Elevation	TOC	N	C	C/N	S1	S2	HI	T <sub>max</sub>	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$	$\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carb}}$	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$
	(m)	(wt. %)	(wt. %)	(wt. %)		(mgCH/ g rock)	(mgCH/ g rock)	(mgCH/ g TOC)	(°C)	‰ V-PDB	‰ V-SMOW	‰ V-PDB
FP21	25.2	1.73	0.08	5.79	22.0	0.11	2.98	172	423	-4.0	-2.6	-30.6
FP22D	24.3	0.85	0.05	4.76	17.3	0.05	0.75	88	426	-9.1	-1.3	-30.8
FP22C	24.2	0.61	0.03	2.23	22.9	0.04	0.43	69	423	-7.7	-2.8	-29.9
FP22B	24.2	1.07	0.05	7.05	22.7	0.06	0.63	59	428	-9.4	-0.6	-30.7
FP22A	24.2	1.27	0.06	6.92	23.0	0.05	0.70	55	427	-10.0	-0.8	-30.8
Z/1	23.9	1.06	0.05	4.90	20.2	0.10	1.37	128	425	-8.1	-1.9	-
Z/2	23.7	1.24	0.06	5.90	20.1	0.08	1.59	129	422	-8.1	-1.4	-
	Min	0.61	0.03	2.23	17.3	0.04	0.43	55	422	-10.0	-2.8	-30.8
	Max	1.73	0.08	7.05	23.0	0.11	2.98	172	428	-4.0	-0.6	-29.9
	Average	1.12	0.05	5.36	21.2	0.07	1.21	100	425	-8.0	-1.6	-30.6
	Median	1.07	0.05	5.79	22.0	0.06	0.75	88	425	-8.1	-1.4	-30.7
FP9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-32.0
FP10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-31.8
Z/10'''	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Z/10''	18.4	2.79	0.11	4.58	24.7	0.18	8.90	319	420	-2.8	-4.1	-
Z/10'	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Z/15	17.7	3.53	0.13	5.49	26.2	0.27	17.30	490	419	-4.8	-3.9	-
FP24B	12.3	3.11	0.12	5.85	26.7	0.15	13.30	428	422	-3.5	-3.4	-32.6
FP24A	12.2	2.41	0.10	4.69	24.5	0.13	9.42	391	419	-3.5	-3.4	-32.6
FP11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-32.9
5/19	11.5	1.84	0.08	2.28	23.2	-	-	193	411	-5.1	-2.2	-
FP7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-32.4
FP6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-31.9
FP5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-31.8
5/18	11.2	1.90	0.09	2.16	21.1	0.10	2.33	123	410	-6.6	-3.4	-
FP4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-32.7
FP3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-32.7
5/17	10.9	1.79	0.08	2.26	21.9	0.12	2.84	158	415	-4.9	-2.0	-
FP23B2	10.8	1.44	0.07	2.95	21.2	0.08	2.70	188	421	-3.3	-2.6	-32.8
FP23B1	10.7	1.46	0.07	2.92	21.9	0.08	3.30	226	419	-3.5	-2.6	-32.8
FP23A	10.7	0.56	0.04	5.87	13.8	0.04	0.49	87	415	-18.1	-1.7	-32.0
	Min	0.56	0.04	2.16	13.8	0.04	0.49	87	410	-18.1	-4.1	-32.9
	Max	3.53	0.13	5.87	26.7	0.27	17.30	490	422	-2.8	-1.7	-31.8
	Average	2.08	0.09	3.90	22.5	0.13	6.73	260	417	-5.6	-2.9	-32.5
	Median	1.87	0.09	3.76	22.6	0.12	3.30	209	419	-4.1	-3.0	-32.6
FP19	0.6	0.91	0.03	6.40	31.5	0.04	0.37	41	443	-9.0	0.7	-30.5
FP18B	0.5	0.76	0.04	4.91	18.3	0.03	0.49	64	423	-7.5	0.7	-32.9
FP18A	0.5	0.96	0.05	4.26	19.4	0.05	0.66	68	425	-9.8	0.1	-33.4
FP17	0.3	1.06	0.06	1.69	18.1	0.05	0.93	88	423	-5.8	-1.8	-33.6
FP16B	0.3	0.86	0.04	4.70	20.8	0.05	0.74	86	422	-6.1	0.5	-33.1
FP16A	0.2	0.74	0.04	4.04	16.6	0.03	0.78	106	421	-5.9	0.9	-32.5
FP16	0.2	0.59	0.04	4.50	15.1	0.04	0.41	70	423	-6.1	1.1	-32.8
FP15	0.1	0.85	0.06	1.96	14.0	0.04	0.65	76	421	-5.1	-1.3	-32.6
FP8	0.05	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-33.3
	Min	0.59	0.03	1.69	14.01	0.03	0.37	41	421	-9.8	-1.8	-33.6
	Max	1.06	0.06	6.40	31.50	0.05	0.93	106	443	-5.1	1.1	-30.5
	Average	0.84	0.05	4.06	19.23	0.04	0.63	75	425	-6.9	0.1	-32.7
	Median	0.85	0.04	4.38	18.22	0.04	0.65	73	423	-6.1	0.6	-32.9

**Table 5. Effects and calculation on accumulation based on mineralogy**

Legend	Process	Minerals used for calculation	Minerals used for calculation
<b>a</b>	<b>Starved basin, lack of terrestrial detrital input</b>	<b>Authigenesis</b>	<b>Allochthonous</b>
		q/2*, sid, bar, zeol, smec, cel, dol, rhod, pyr, cal/2**	chl, kaol, clay, plag, K-fp, q/2, cal/2
<b>b</b>	<b>Ore forming processes</b>	<b>Ore forming minerals</b>	<b>Non-ore forming</b>
		sid, smec, cel, rhod	bar, zeol, pyr, kut, chl, kaol, clay, plag, K-fp, dol, cal, q
<b>c</b>	<b>Background black shale sedimentation</b>	<b>Early diagenetic</b>	<b>Original non diagenetic</b>
	Ore forming minerals not considered here	2q/3, cal/2, pyr, zeol, bar, dol, kut	q/3, chl, kaol, clay, plag, K-fp, cal/2
<b>d</b>	<b>Effect of diagenesis</b>	<b>Diagenetic</b>	<b>Non diagenetic</b>
		q/2, rhod, kut, pyr, zeol, bar, sid, dol, cal/2	q/2, chl, kaol, clay, cel, smec, plag, K-fp, cal/2
<b>e/1</b>	<b>Effect of microbial mediation (with pyrite)</b>	<b>Biogenic (with pyrite)</b>	<b>Non biogenic</b>
		rhod, sid, pyr, q/2, dol, smec, cel	bar, zeol, kut, chl, kaol, clay, plag, K-fp, q/2
<b>e/2</b>	<b>Effect of microbial mediation (no pyrite)</b>	<b>Biogenic (no pyrite)</b>	<b>Non biogenic</b>
	cal/2 as biodebris not considered here	rhod, sid, q/2, dol, smec, cel, cal/2	bar, zeol, kut, chl, kaol, clay, plag, K-fp, q/2
<b>f</b>	<b>Ash contribution</b>	<b>Ash contribution</b>	<b>All others</b>
		q/3, plag, K-fp	2q/3, smec, cel, chl, kaol, clay, sid, cal, rhod, kut, pyr, zeol, bar, dol
<b>g</b>	<b>Windblown contribution</b>	<b>Windblown</b>	<b>All others</b>
		q/3	2q/3, plag, K-fp, smec, cel, chl, kaol, clay, sid, cal, rhod, kut, pyr, zeol, bar, dol
<b>h</b>	<b>Biodebris contribution</b>	<b>Biodebris</b>	<b>Non biodebris</b>
		q/3, cal	2q/3, plag, K-fp, smec, cel, chl, kaol, clay, sid, rhod, kut, pyr, zeol, bar, dol

See text for origin of the different minerals, and Figs. 7 and 8.

q-quartz; plag-plagioclase, K-fp-K-feldspar; smec-smectite; cel-celadonite; chl-chlorite; kaol-kaolinite; clay-not determined in detail; sid-siderite; cal-calcite; rhod-rhodochrosite; kut-kutnohorite; pyr-pyrite; zeol-zeolite; bar-barite; dol-dolomite; clay-unspecified clay minerals



Figure 1

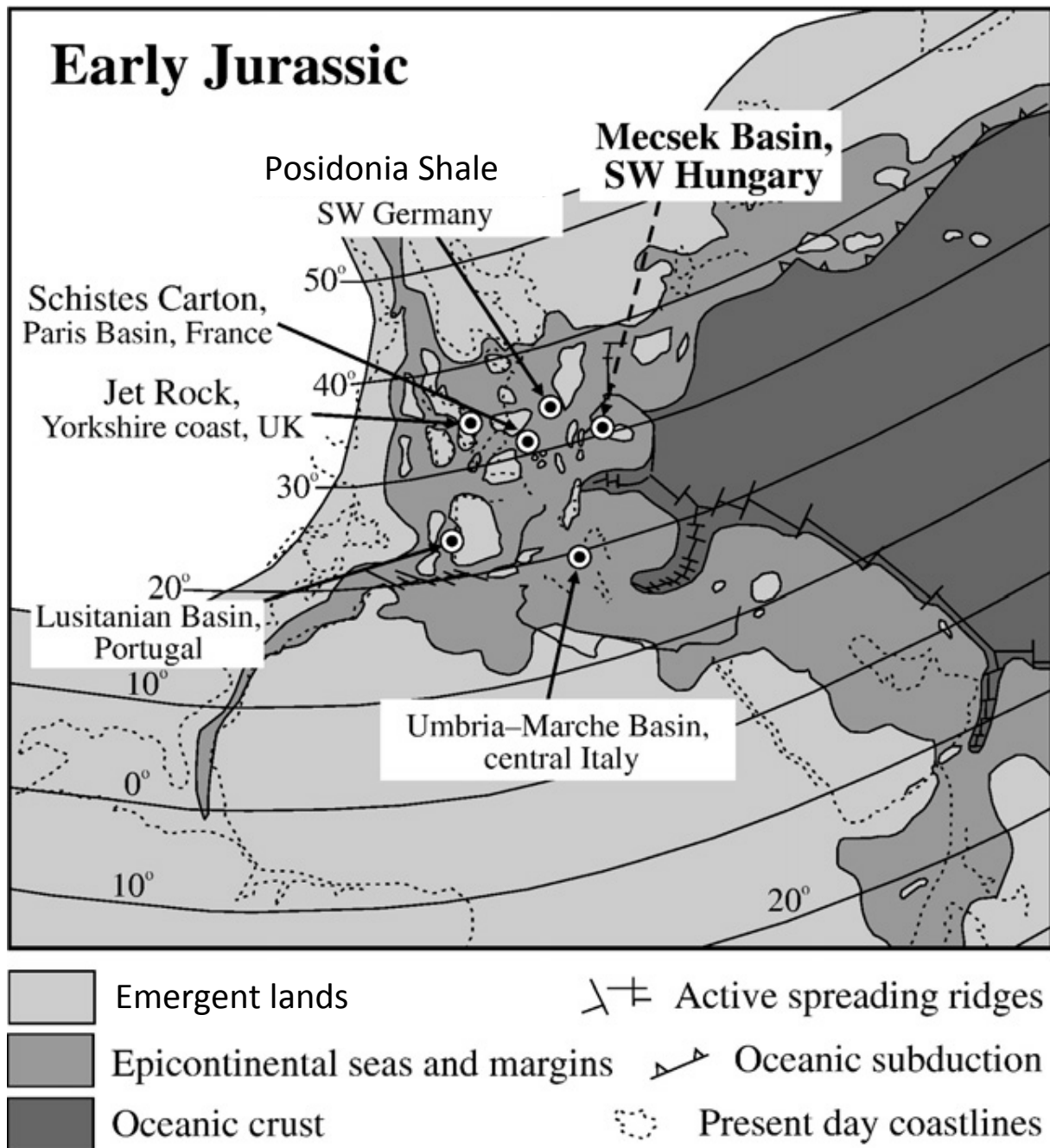
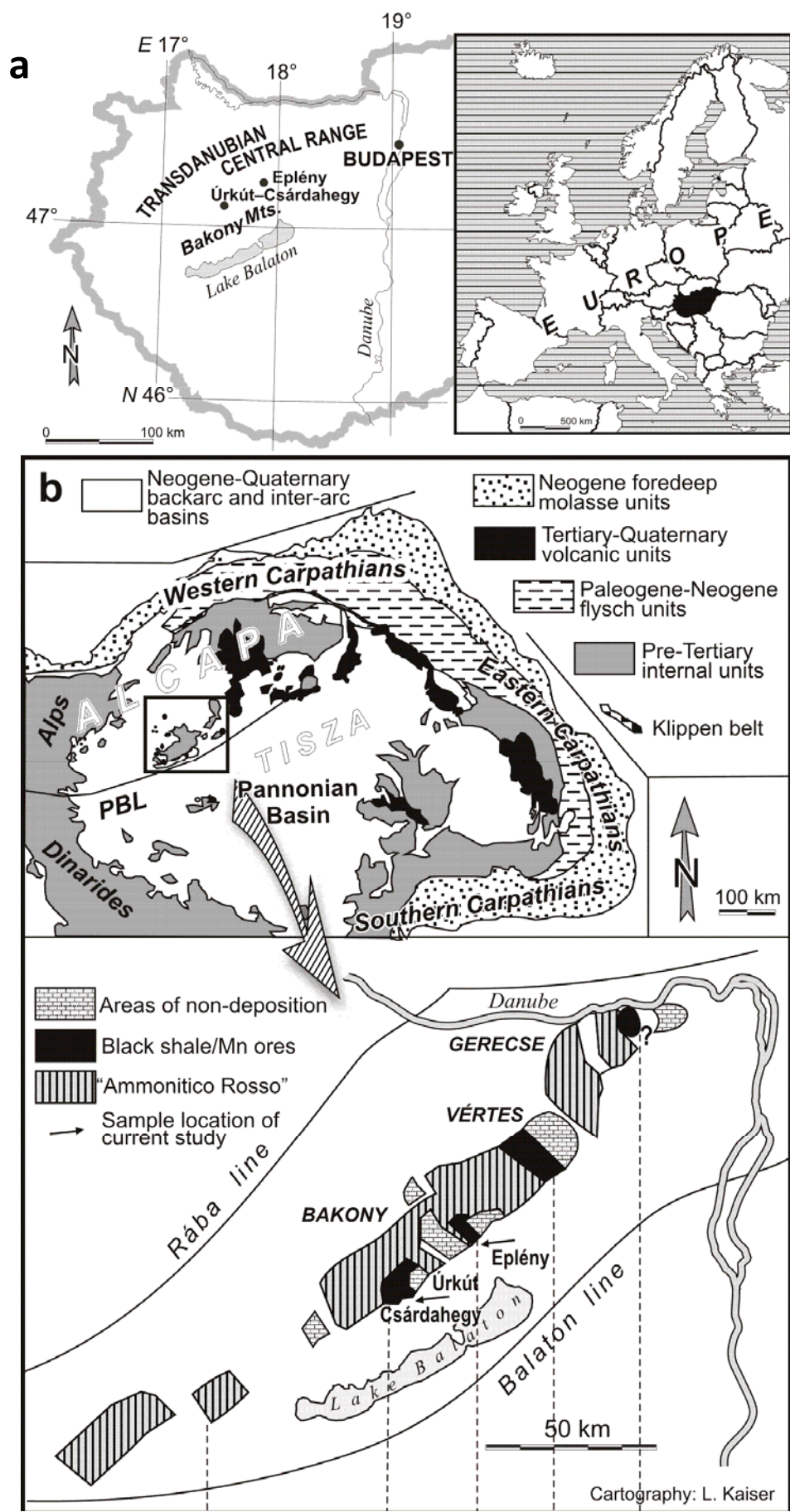


Figure 2



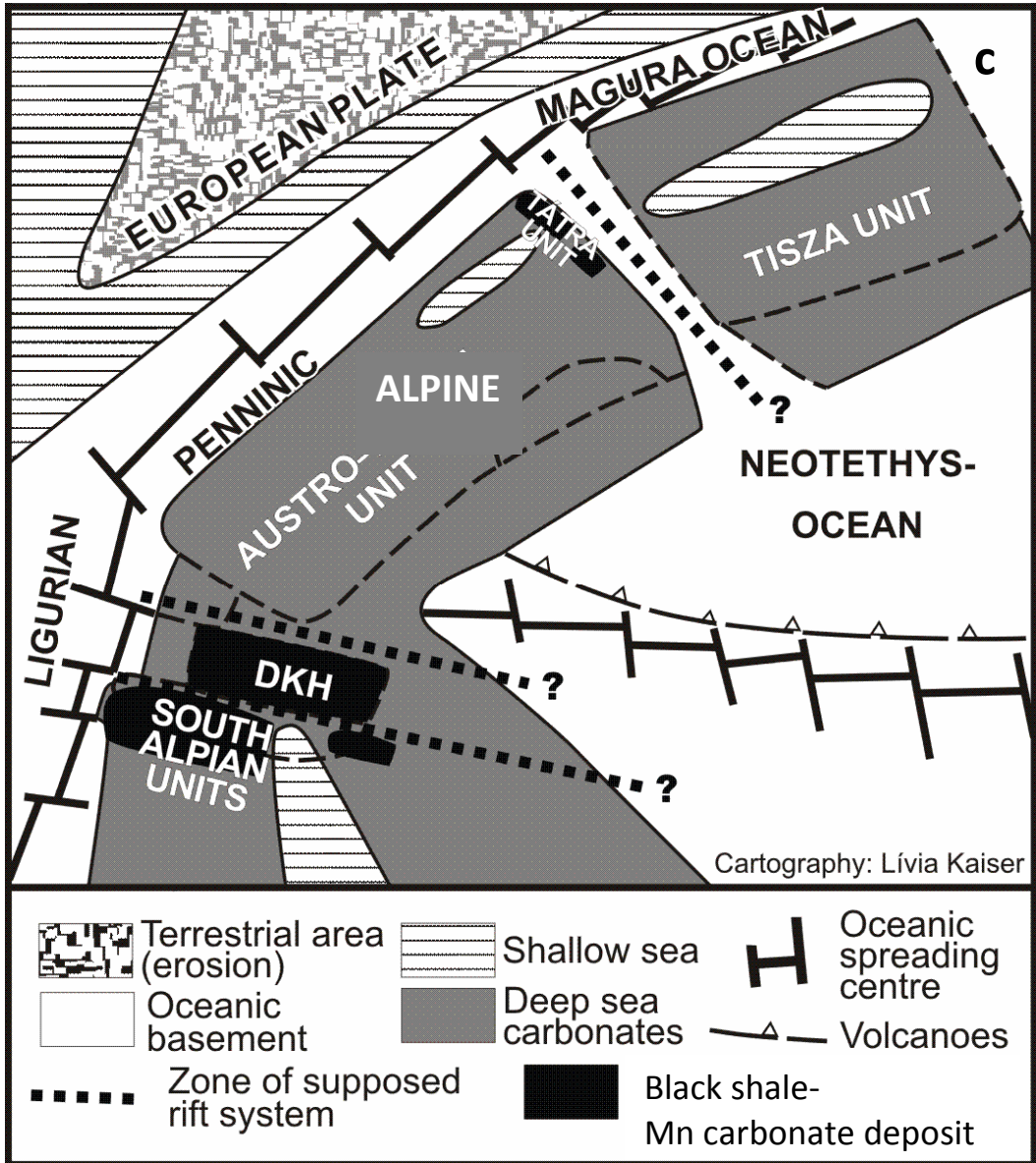


Figure 3

Profile		
	Sample numbers	Position
Bs3-4 (2 m)		Orange chert bed (Polgári et al. 2010)
	FP21	40 cm -
	FP22	50 cm - 150 cm -
	Z/1	20 cm +
	Z/2	0 cm +
Bs2 (max. thickness: 8 m)		2nd Mn-carbonate ore bed
	FP9	0 cm -
	FP10	Z/10''' 20 cm -
		Z/10'' 30 cm -
		Z/10' 40 cm -
		Z/15 100 cm -
Bs1 (0.7 m)	FP24 A,B	150 cm +
	FP11	100 cm +
	FP7	5_19 80 cm +
	FP6	70 cm +
	FP5	5_18 50 cm +
	FP4	40 cm +
	FP3	5_17 20 cm +
	FP23	5_16 0 cm +
		1st Mn-carbonate ore bed (main ore bed)
FP19		0 cm -
FP18	1/131025	20 cm -
FP17		40 cm -
FP16		50 cm -
FP15	FP8, FP25 1_12	60 cm -
	Footwall	Isztimér Limestone

Figure 4

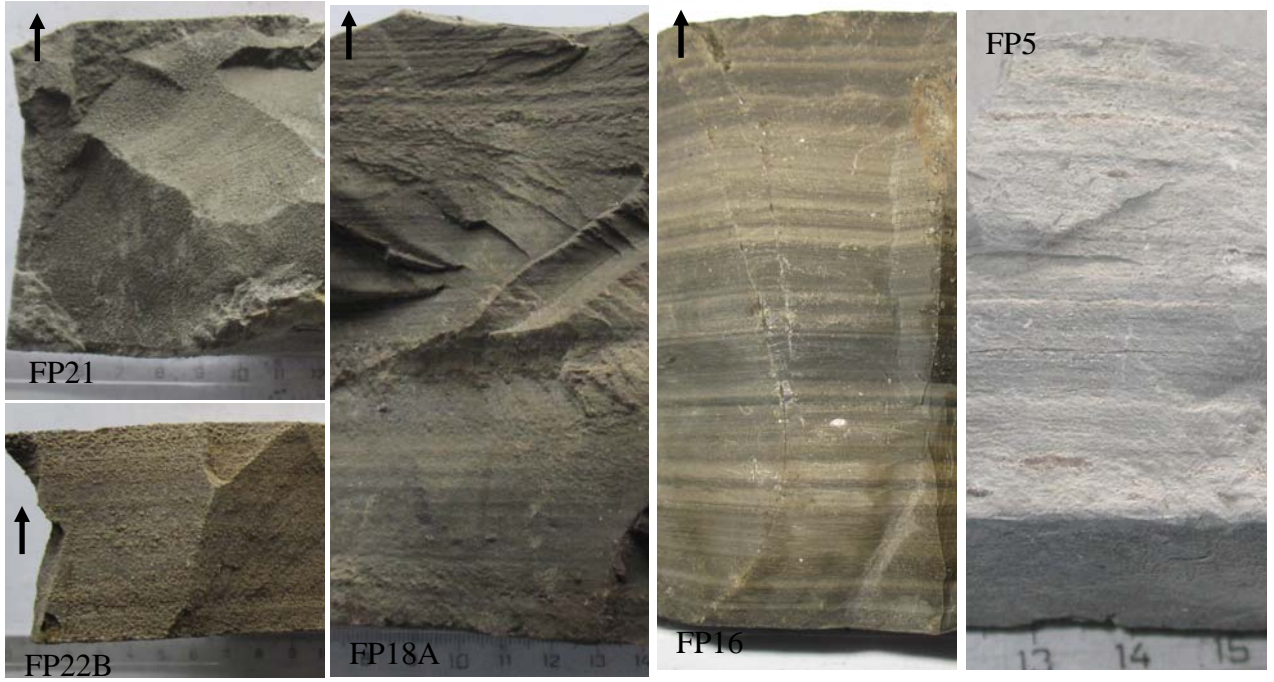




Figure 6

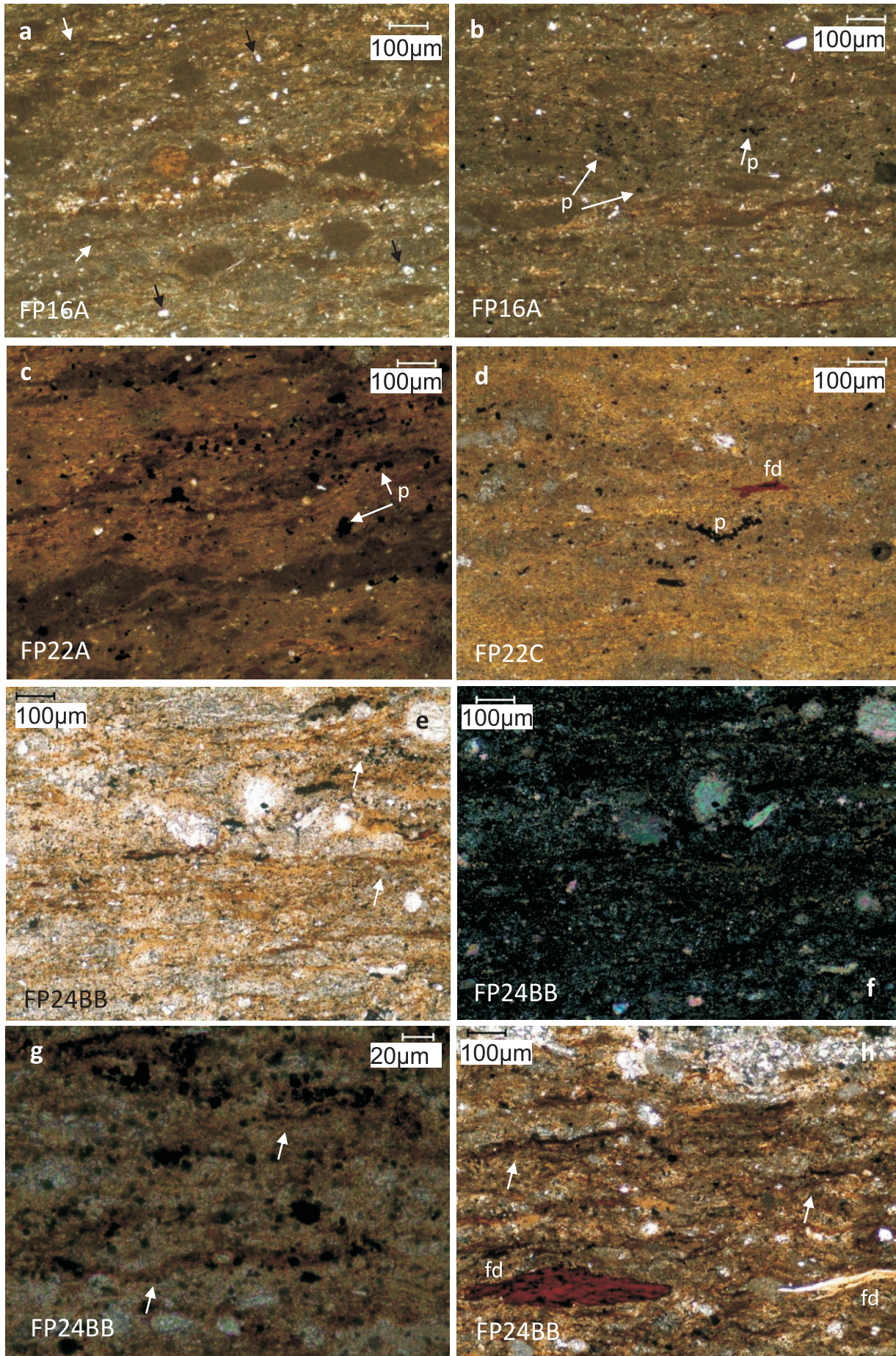


Figure 7

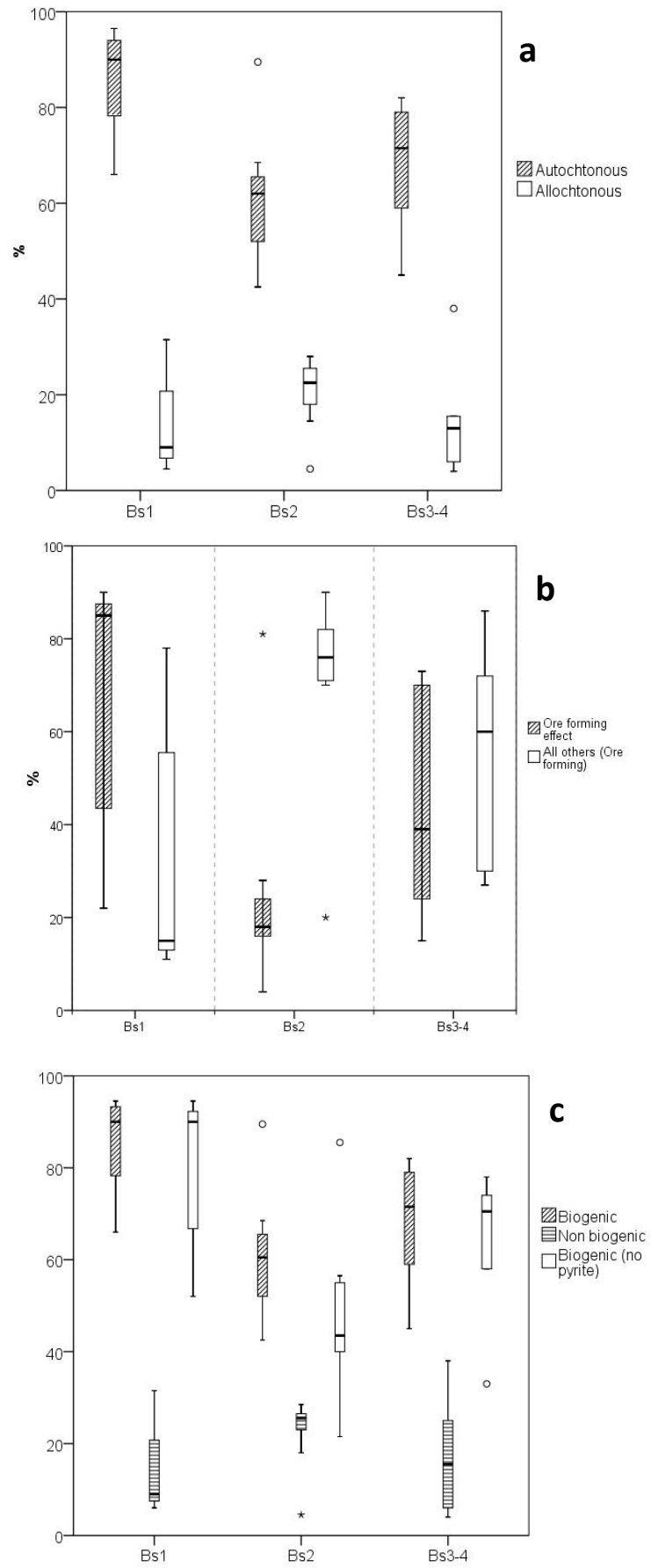
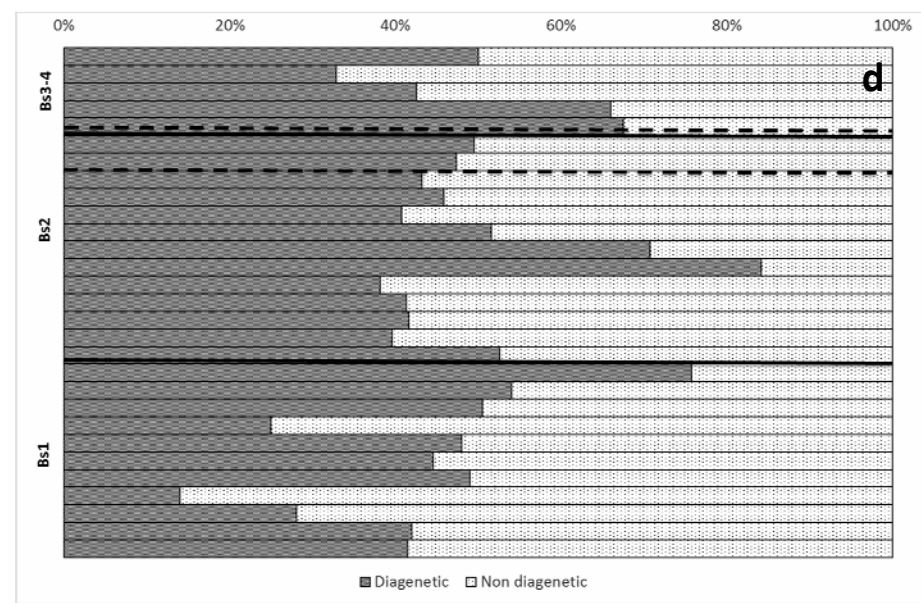
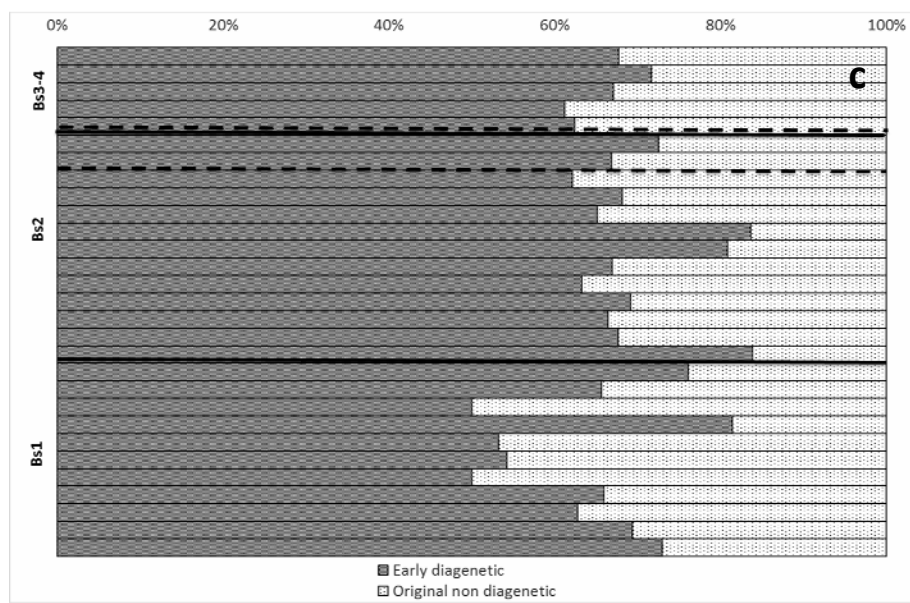
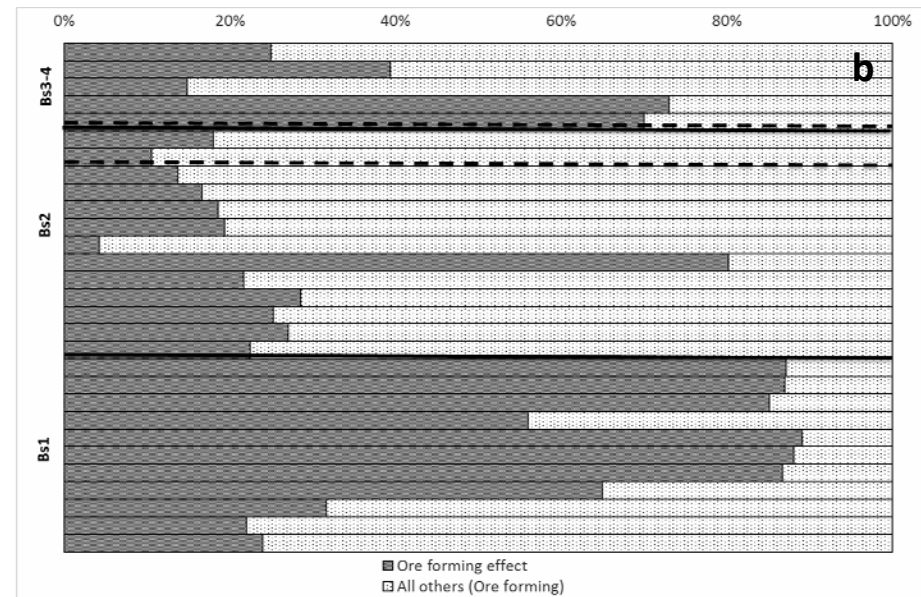
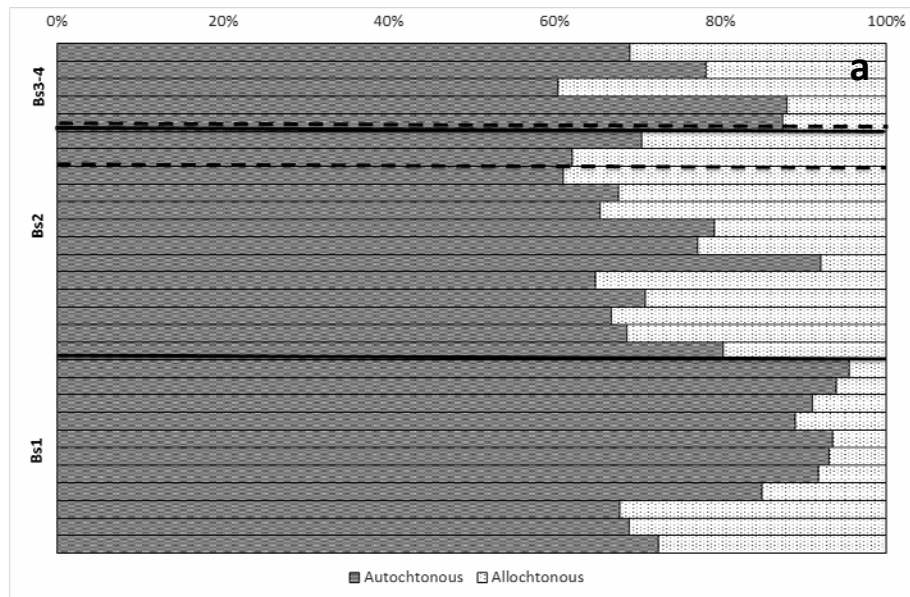
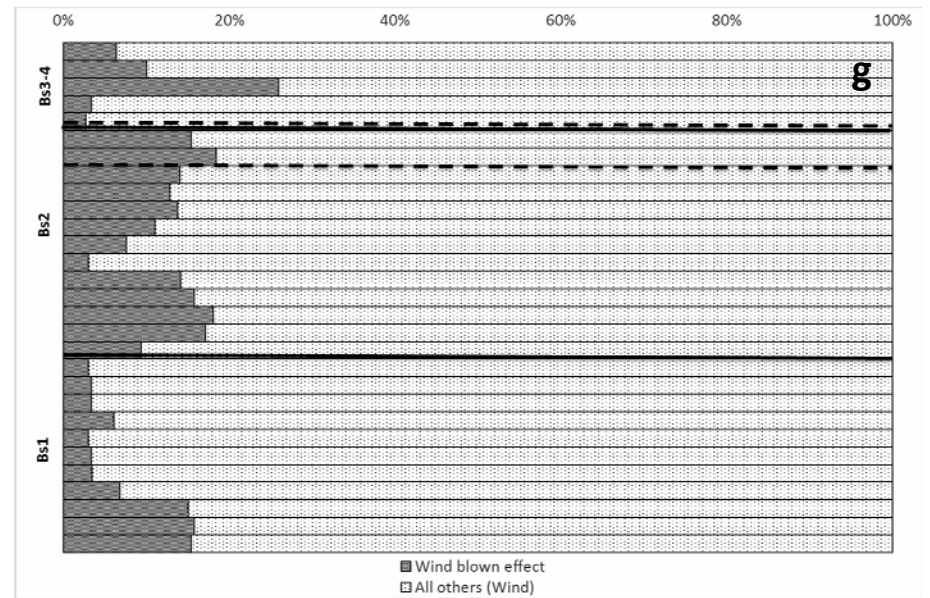
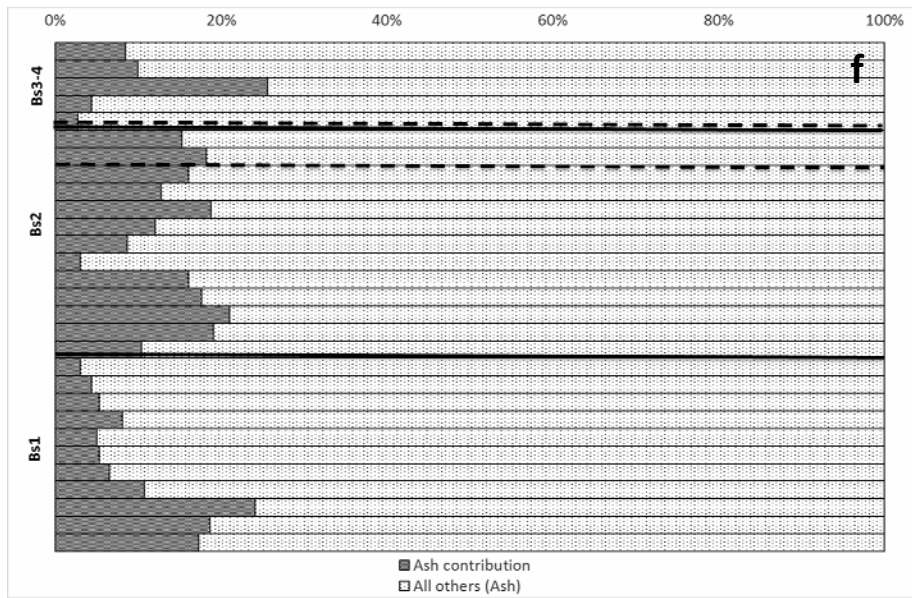
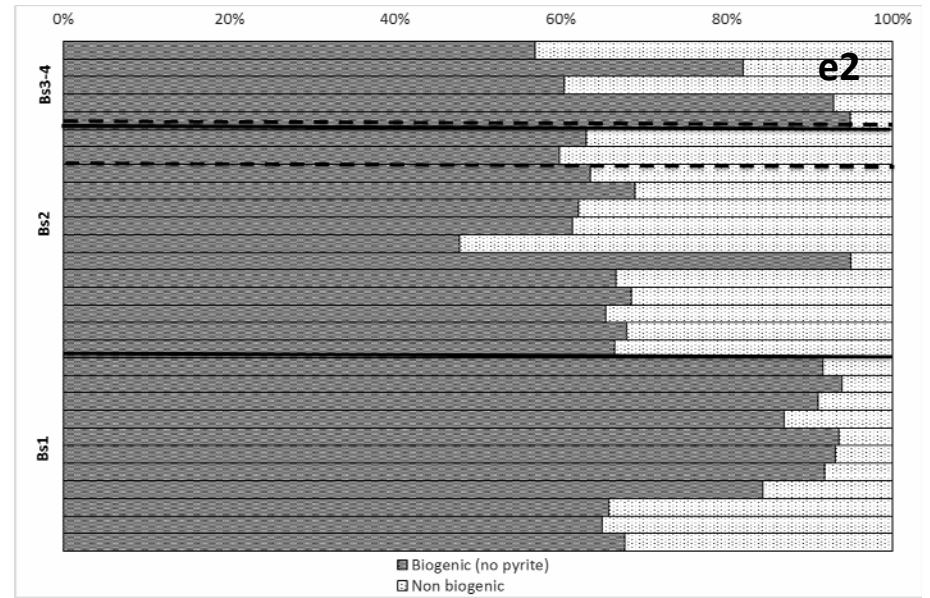
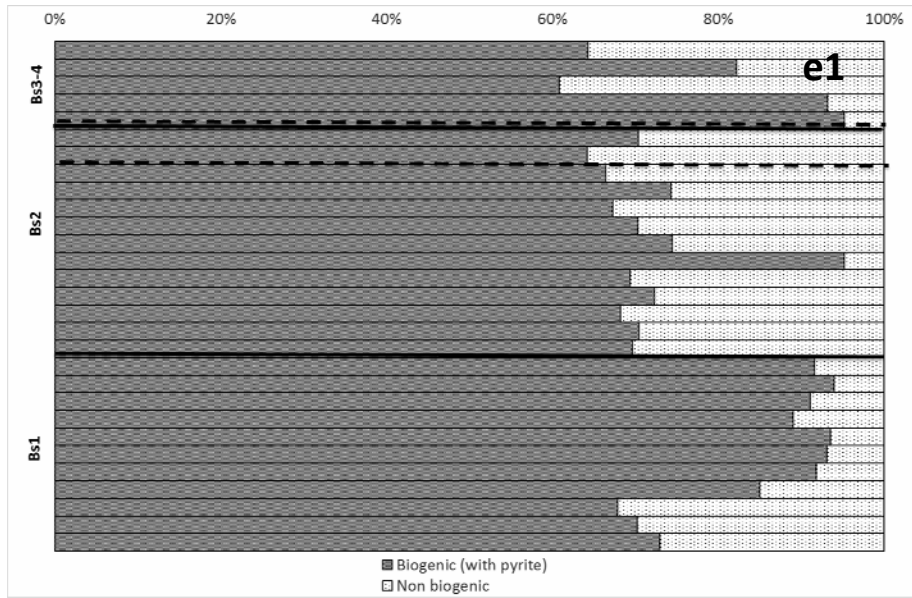




Figure 8





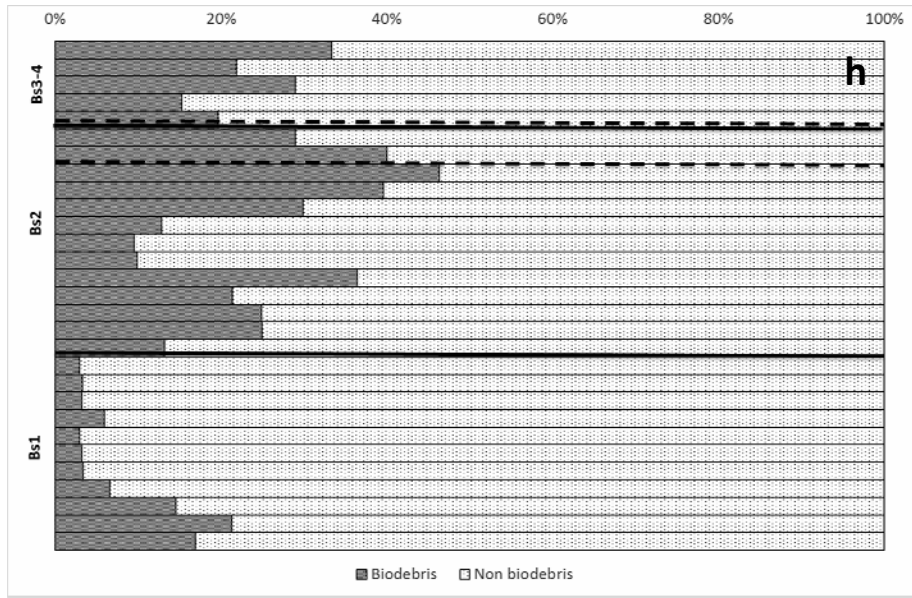


Figure 9

Samples	Mineralogy		Oxygen supply			
	marker minerals of diagenetic anoxic conditions	marker minerals of oxic conditions	anoxic (DO: 0 mL/L Eh: -0.2 - 0 V	suboxic (DO: 0 – 0.2 mL/L Eh: 0 – 0.2 V	dysoxic (DO: 0.2 – 2.0 mL/L Eh: 0.2 - 1 V	oxic (DO: > 2 mL/L >1 V
		microbially mediated diagenetic rhodochrosite and siderite	diagenetic		syngenetic	
					Fe-rich biomat formation (Eh: 0.3 V)	Mn oxide proto minerals
chert/ironstone hanging wall						
FP21	pyrite	rhodochrosite	diagenetic pyrite formation via microbially mediated sulphate reduction	diagenetic microbially mediated rhodochrosite and siderite formation		
FP22	pyrite	rhodochrosite, siderite				
-----		-----				
Mn carbonate ore bed						
FP9	pyrite					
FP10	pyrite					
-----		-----				
FP24B	pyrite	rhodochrosite				
FP24A	pyrite	rhodochrosite				
FP11	pyrite					
FP7	pyrite					
FP6	pyrite	rhodochrosite				
FP5	pyrite	rhodochrosite				
FP4	pyrite					
FP3	pyrite	rhodochrosite				
FP23	pyrite	rhodochrosite				
Mn carbonate ore bed						
FP19		rhodochrosite				
FP18	pyrite	rhodochrosite				
FP17	pyrite					
FP16						
FP15	pyrite					



Figure 10

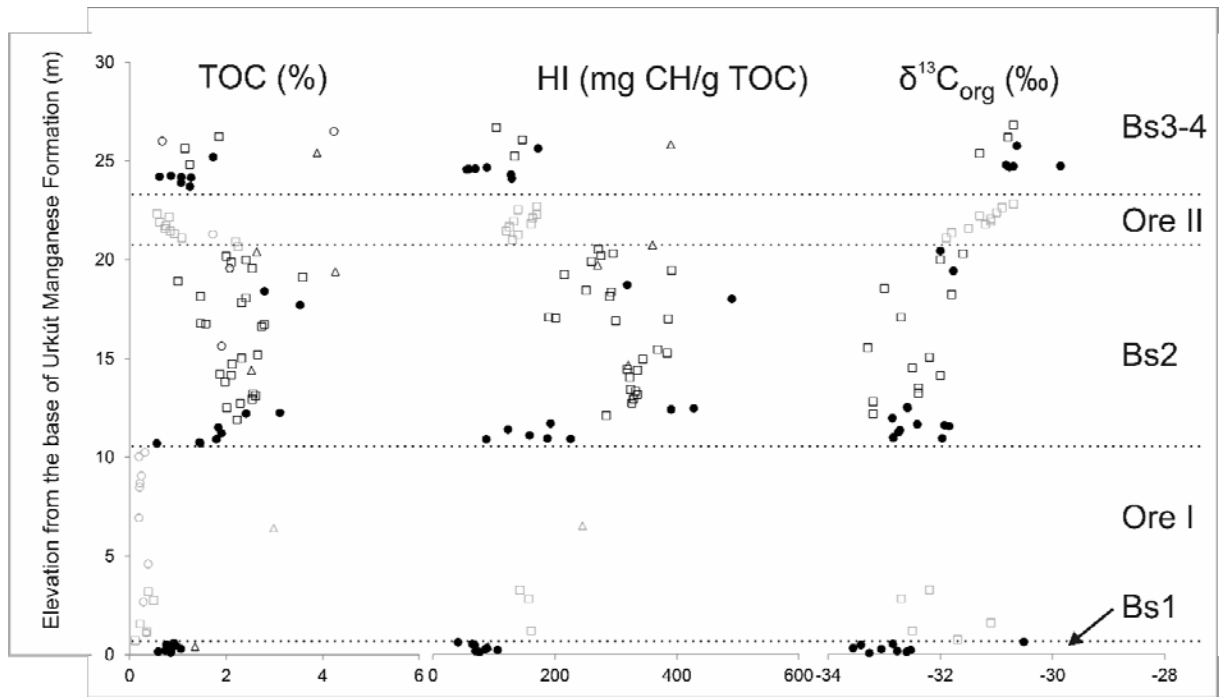
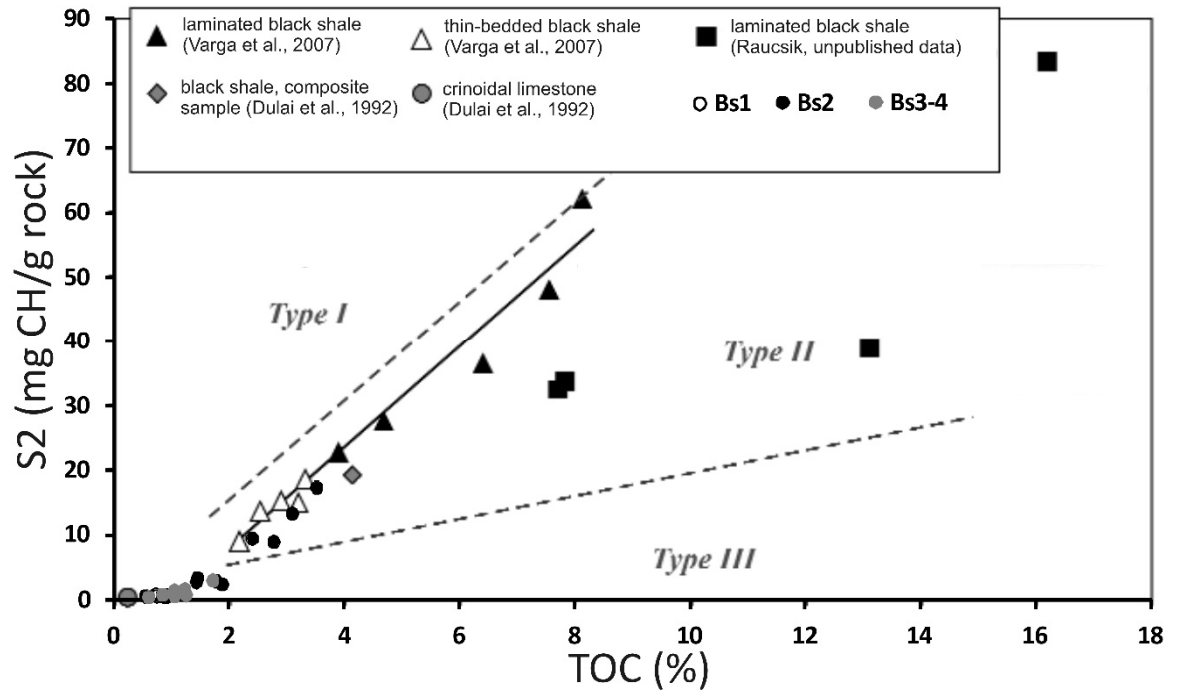


Figure 11

a



b

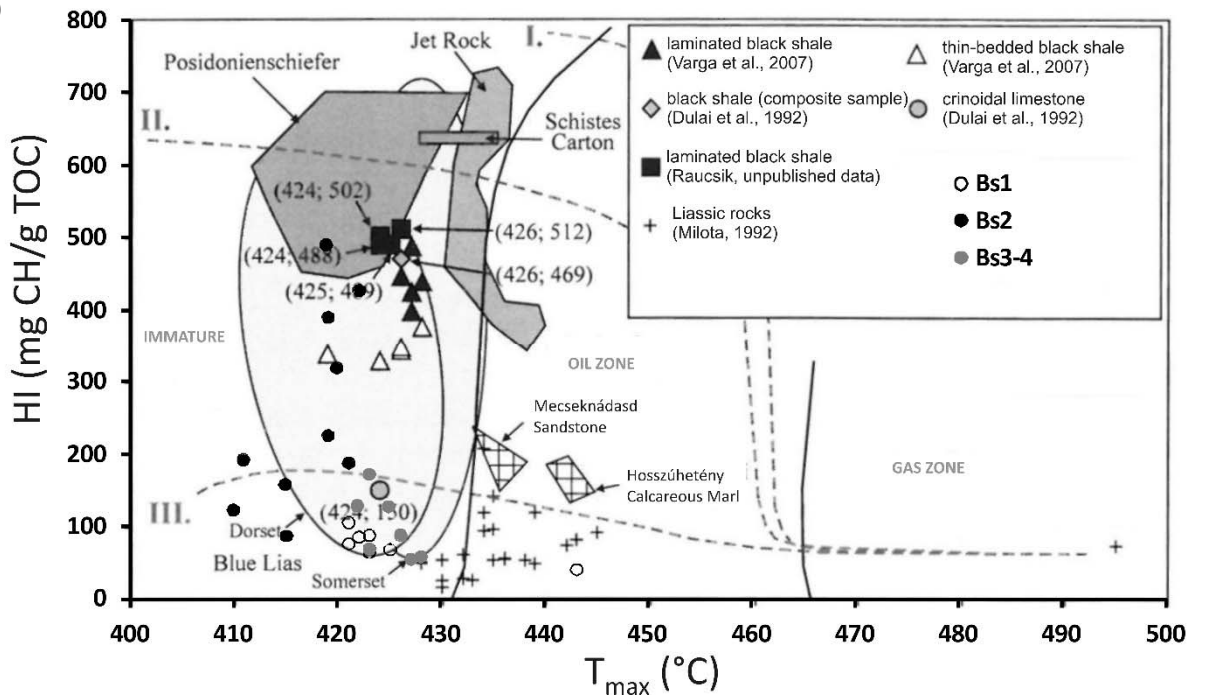


Figure 12

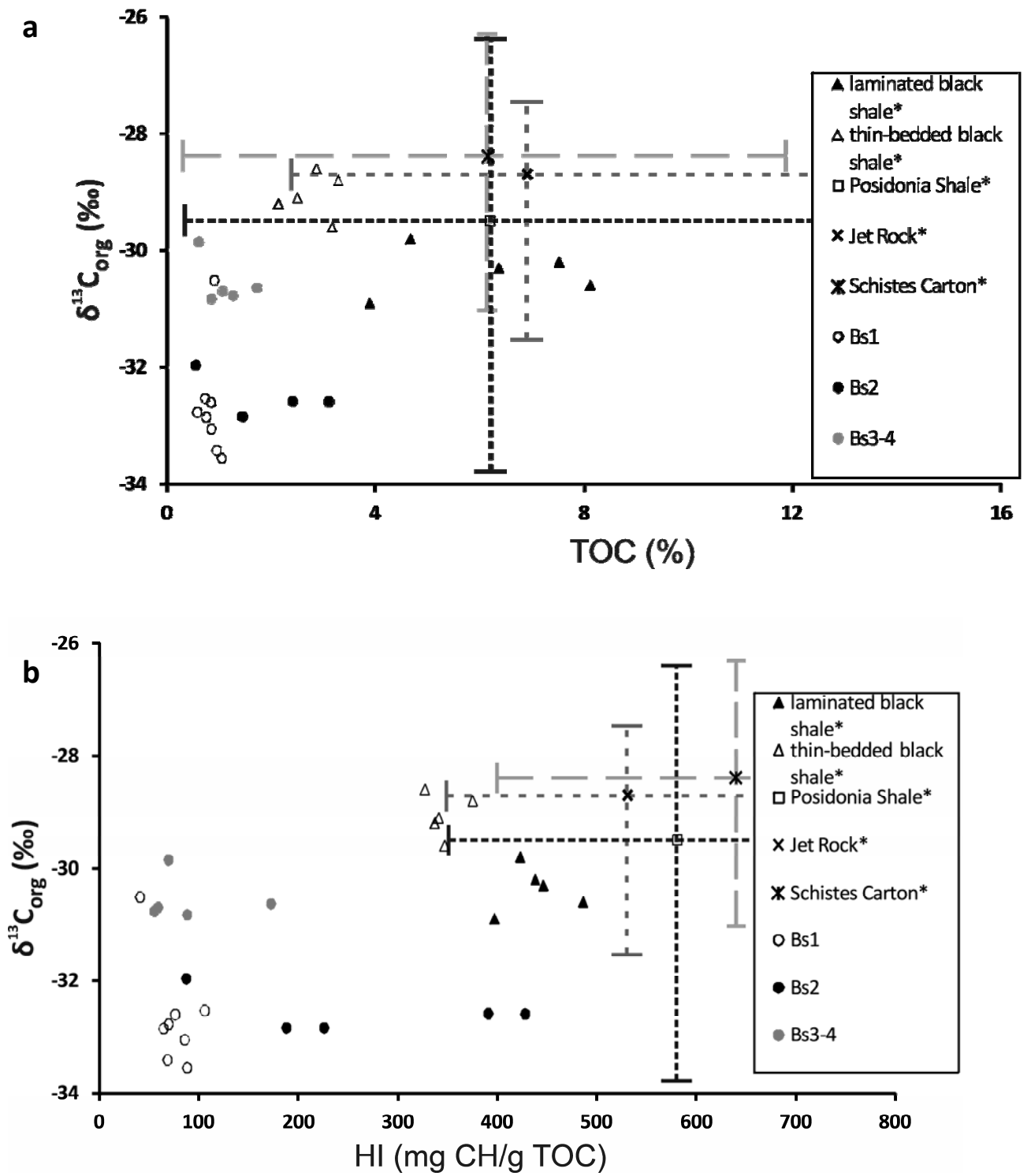
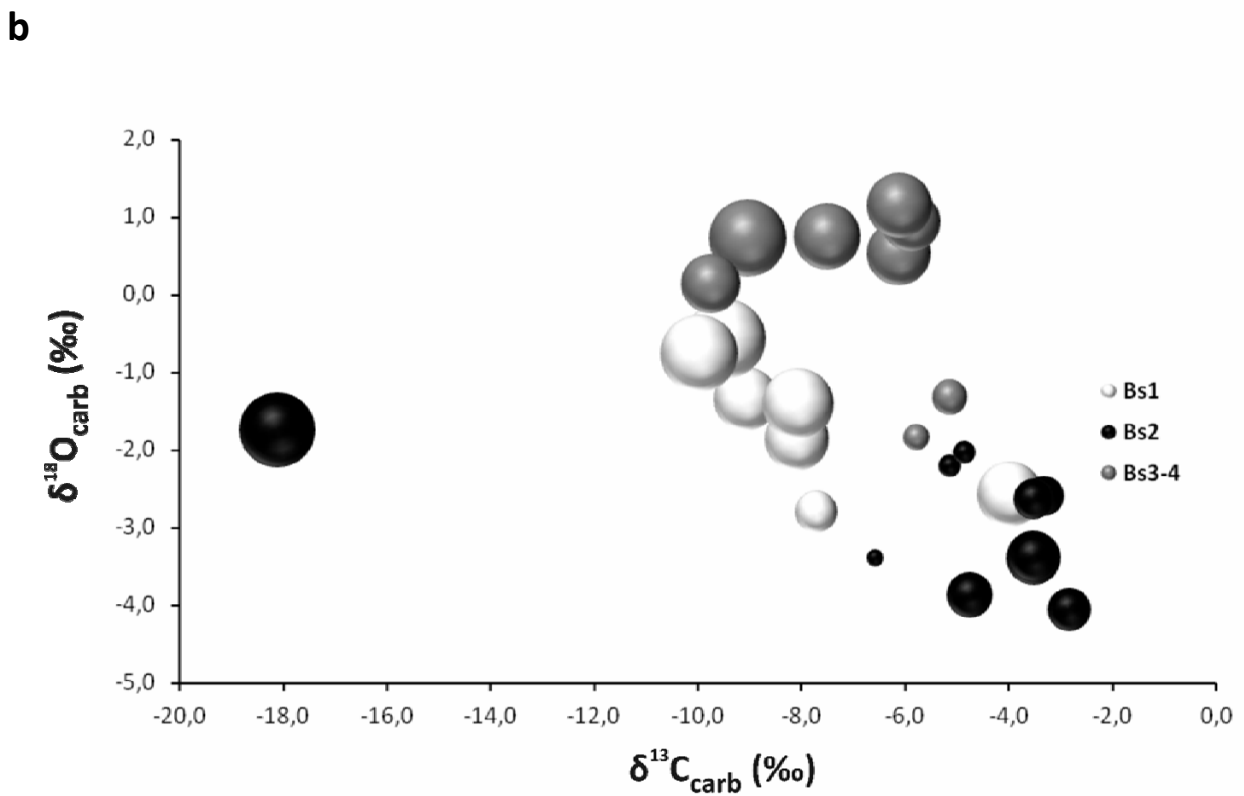
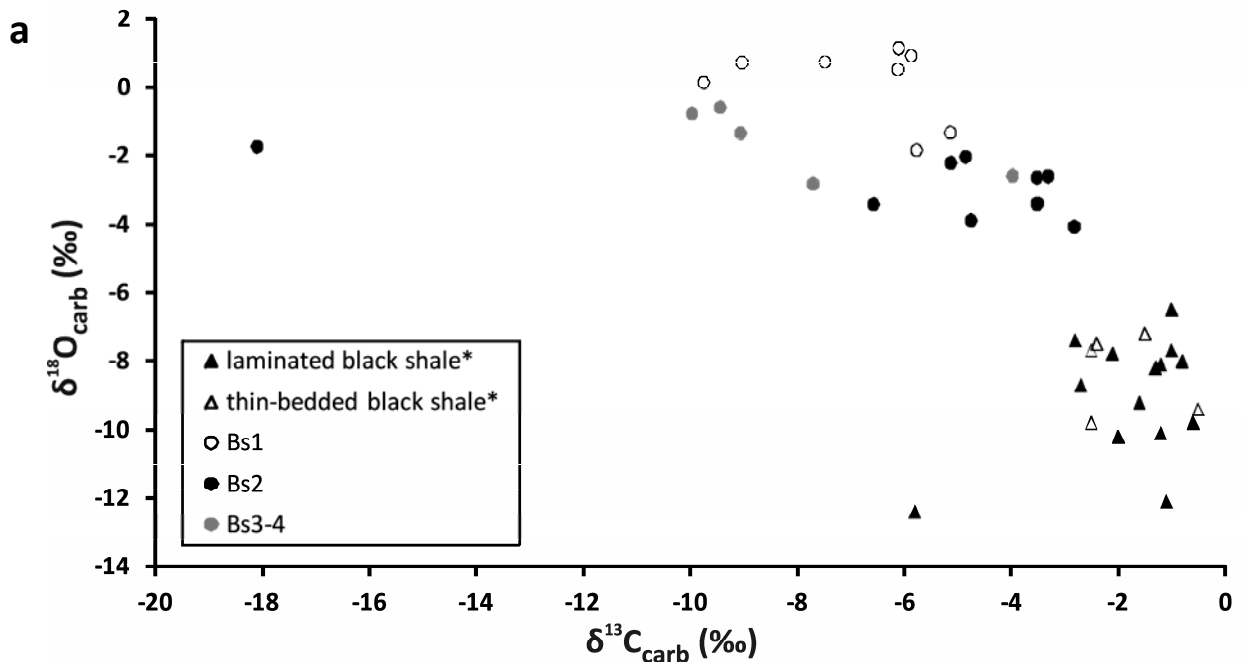




Figure 13



**Background dataset for online publication only**

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