THE EVOLUTION OF THE HUNGARIAN PALEOGENE BASINS

Dr. Tamás BÁLDI and dr. Mária BÁLDI-BEKE

The evolution of the Hungarian Paleogene Basins was controlled by great transform faults, which developed between the Alpine- W Carpathian and the Dinaric overthrusting fronts during the Paleogene. These basins are characteristic transtensional depressions. They are small, deep, elongated structures, crarecterized by rapid subsidence and uplift, furthermore by sharp facies changes. The oldest basin is of Early Lutetetian to Early Priabonian age. Similar basins developed throughout the Late Eocene, Oligocene and Early Miocene. The chronology of tectonic events /basin subsidence history/ has been based on latest biostratigraphic results /Nannoplankton, planktonic foraminifera, larger foraminifera, molluscs/, which were correlated with "South Atlantic Standard" geochronology. Most of the major lateral displacements along the strike slips occured as late as in the Middle Miocene. These events are coeval with the significant crustal shortening in the external Flysch Carpathians /subduction of the flysch sea and overthrustings of the flysch nappes/.

Key words. Transform faults, transtensional basin, basin subsidence, lateral displacement, Lutetian, Priabonian, Kiscellian, Egerian, Eggenburgian.