

Foraminiferal successions in the shallow water Sarmatian sediments from the MZ 93 borehole (Vienna Basin, Slovak part)

Ivana Koubová & Natália Hudáčková

Department of Geology and Palaeontology, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Comenius University, Mlynská dolina G, 842 15 Bratislava, Slovakia,
email: koubova@fns.uniba.sk, hudackova@fns.uniba.sk

AGEOS Sukcesie dierkavcov v plytkovodných sedimentoch sarmatu z vrtu MZ 93 (slovenská časť viedenskej panvy)

Abstract: The grey, grey-green, grey-brown claystone, silty claystone and silts yield foraminiferal association of Sarmatian (Upper Serravallian 12.7–11.6 Ma). The studied deposits belong to the Holíč Formation. The foraminiferal assemblages suggest a very shallow water depositional environment. In such conditions, the environment can change rapidly in dependence on tidal effects causing the repeated drying and inflow of fresh water. Therefore, it was not possible to rely on stratigraphical value of identified ecozones. The Sarmatian fauna was commonly regarded as a brackish-water community suffering from gradually decreasing salinity. However, our results allowed us to interpret very unstable marginal marine conditions, even hypersaline episodes. The foraminiferal associations document sedimentation in a very shallow water with several episodes of reduced oxygenation at the bottom, changing upward to hypo/hypersaline marshes, vegetated swamps and finally to the *Glyptostrobus* marsh.

Key words: Vienna Basin, Sarmatian, Foraminifera, palaeoecological interpretations.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Paratethys was an epicontinental sea that developed as a relict of the ancient ocean Tethys. It existed between the Early Oligocene and late Middle Miocene times. During the Middle Miocene, the geodynamic processes of the Dinaride uplift restricted the connections between the Paratethys and the Mediterranean (Rögl, 1999; Steininger & Wessely, 2000; Kováč, 2000), and caused a distinct change in the oceanographic and biotic evolution of the Paratethys. In the Middle Miocene, a regressive phase took place at the end of the Badenian (Central Paratethys) leading to a dramatic change in marine biota (Harzhauser & Piller, 2007). Thus, the complex evolution of the Paratethys is reflected in the distribution and evolution of the foraminiferal fauna, differing in abundance and composition from those in open oceans (e.g. Iaccarino, 1985; Rögl, 1985; Cicha et al., 1998). This separate evolution has caused an establishment of a regional time-scale, different from the standard Mediterranean chronostratigraphic stage system (Fig. 1). The Sarmatian corresponds to the Late Serravallian of the Mediterranean time scale and covers the time span between 12.7 Ma and 11.61 Ma (Kováč et al., 2007; Zuschin et al., 2007). At the Badenian/Sarmatian boundary, the marine planktic foraminiferal group disappeared, except of *Streptochilus* and small microporiferate globigerinids (Filipescu & Silye, 2008). Mostly euryhaline benthic foraminiferal forms persisted into the Sarmatian of the Central Paratethys. The Sarmatian fauna was classically regarded as a brackish-water community (e.g. Papp, 1956; Zlínka, 1998; Fordinál et al., 2006) suffering gradually

decreasing salinity (Čierna, 1974). However, several authors have recently suggested that the Sarmatian sea was in fact more or less marine, even with hypersaline episodes, and explained the diversity fall by significant changes in water chemistry, especially high alkalinity (e.g. Pisera, 1996; Filipescu, 2004²; Harzhauser & Kowalke, 2002; Piller & Harzhauser, 2005; Harzhauser et al., 2007; Kováč et al., 2005). The aim of the present work is to identify foraminiferal associations, their stratigraphical potential and palaeoenvironmental changes that occurred during the Badenian/Sarmatian transition in the studied area. Changes in water salinity in the brackish and marine environments and other environmental parameters (e.g., productivity, oxygen level in bottom waters, water depth) were interpreted using qualitative and quantitative palaeontological analyses (Murray, 2006; Pascual & Rodriguez-Lazaro, 2006; Sen Gupta, 2002).

2. GEOLOGICAL SETTING AND METHODS

The studied borehole MZ 93 (Malacky surroundings) is situated in the Slovakian part of the Vienna Basin, the area covered by dense network of oil-prospecting wells (Fig. 1). The sediments are characterized by the most complex record and contain sufficient amount of foraminiferal shells. Foraminiferal associations were identified in cores no. 5, 4, 3, 2 with a total drilling depth from 875.0 to 623.5 m. In total, 64 samples were taken from 6 cores of the MZ 93 borehole. Samples were detracted every 40 cm and replenished in intervals with lithological or micro-palaeontological changes.

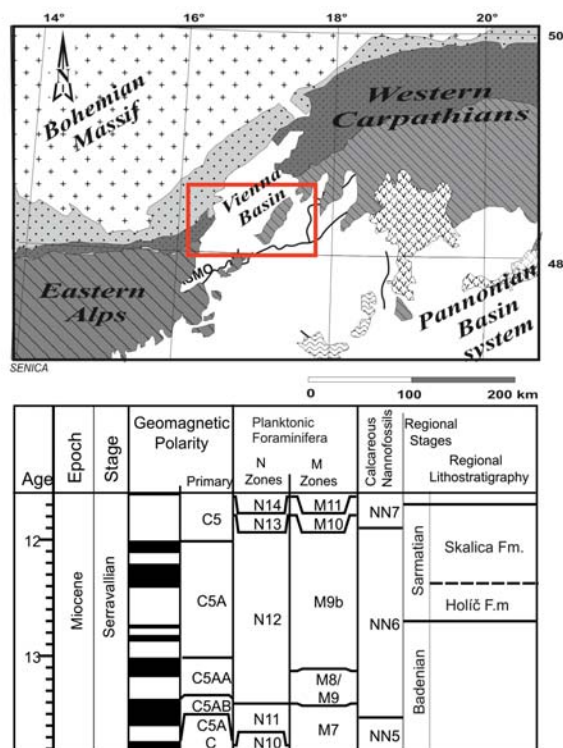
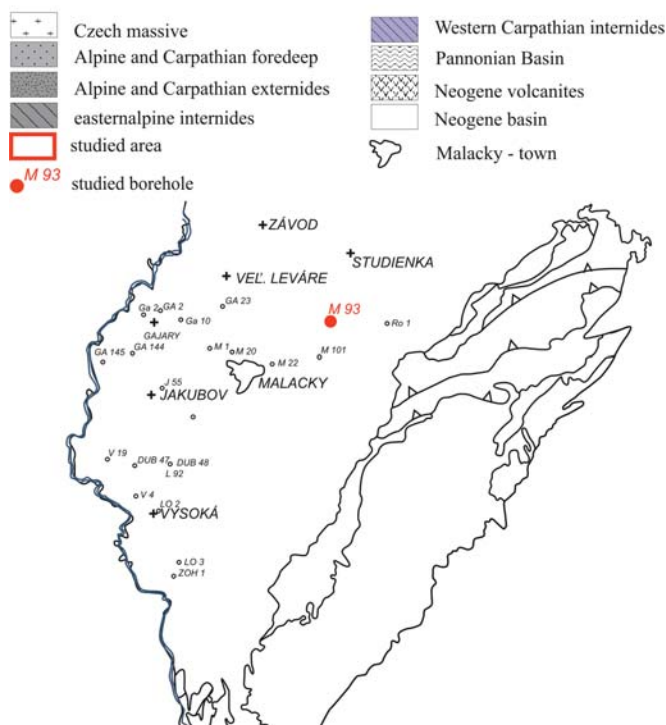


Fig. 1. Geographical and geological situation of the studied borehole.

Obr. 1. Geografická a geologická lokalizácia študovaného vrtu.

The sediments from the core no. 5 (875.0 – 870.0 m, 7 samples in interval of ~40 cm) (Fig. 2) represent the lower Sarmatian fine-grained and mid-grained grey, gray-green and grey-brown clays to siltstones with sandy beds. The residua contain many shells of reworked foraminifers. The ostracod shells, their fragments, fish otoliths, framboidal pyrite and limonite crusts prevailed in the lower part of the core.

The core no. 4 (from 870.0 to 861.0 m, 17 samples) consists of fine to mid-grained green, brown and green clay and mudstone with sand laminae and beds. The residua contained limonite crusts, mollusc fragments, ostracod shells and a small number of concretions. The lower part of studied core contained mainly reworked foraminifera and charred flora debris; in the upper part, cyanolithes were common.

The sediments of core no. 3 (from 861.0 to 858 m, 3 samples) contained green sandy clay and sand. The residua comprise a high amount of reworked foraminifera in the bottom part, accompanied by limonite and framboidal pyrite.

The shallowest core no. 2 (632.0 – 623.5 m, 11 samples from an interval of approximately 60 cm) contain grey, grey and green fine-grained mudstone, grey and green silty mudstone laminated towards the overlying bed with carbonized layers and fine-grained sand. The residua from the lower part of the drill core contain a lot of reworked foraminiferal tests; ostracod shell fragments, gastropods, limonite crusts and the moulds of bioturbations. The overlying bed contains, besides ostracods and their fragments, gastropods and fish bones, a high portion of charred debris, coal and remnants of *Glyptostrobos* cones (Plate 1).

The separation of foraminifers follows standard washing methods. The samples were diluted in water or hydrogen peroxide, washed and sieved through 71 µm mesh. At least 250 individuals of benthic foraminifers were selected per sample. Counting was completed for planktic foraminifers in the samples where they were present. The taxonomic analyses are based on the Loeblich & Tappan (1988) and Cicha et al. (1998) publications. The data set was stored in the database (Hudáčková & Hudáček, 2001) and subsequently processed in Microsoft Office 2000 (Excel, Access) and PAST (Hammer et al., 2001). POLPAL software was used for the visualization of dominance diagrams (Nalepka & Walanus, 2003). The raw data was transformed into percentages over the total abundance and percent abundance curves were plotted (Fig. 3). Species with similar environmental significance were grouped together in order to the most accurate interpretation of their distribution patterns (appendix 1, 2; e.g. Kaiho, 1999; Spezzaferri et al., 2002; Murray, 2006).

The statistical analyses of foraminiferal associations are made as S (species richness, number of species per sample) and diversity indices (Shannon_H and Fisher α index Fisher et al., 1943). In order to estimate the palaeobathymetry in the study area we have compiled the bathymetric distribution of recent benthic foraminifera to recognize the appropriate paleodepth indicators (e.g. Spezzaferri et al., 2004; Meric et al., 2004; Hohenegger, 2005). The post-mortem mixing of species caused by transport, reworking and sediment mixing was diminished by the elimination of species living in the water depth-range not consistent with the assemblage (Hohenegger, 2005).

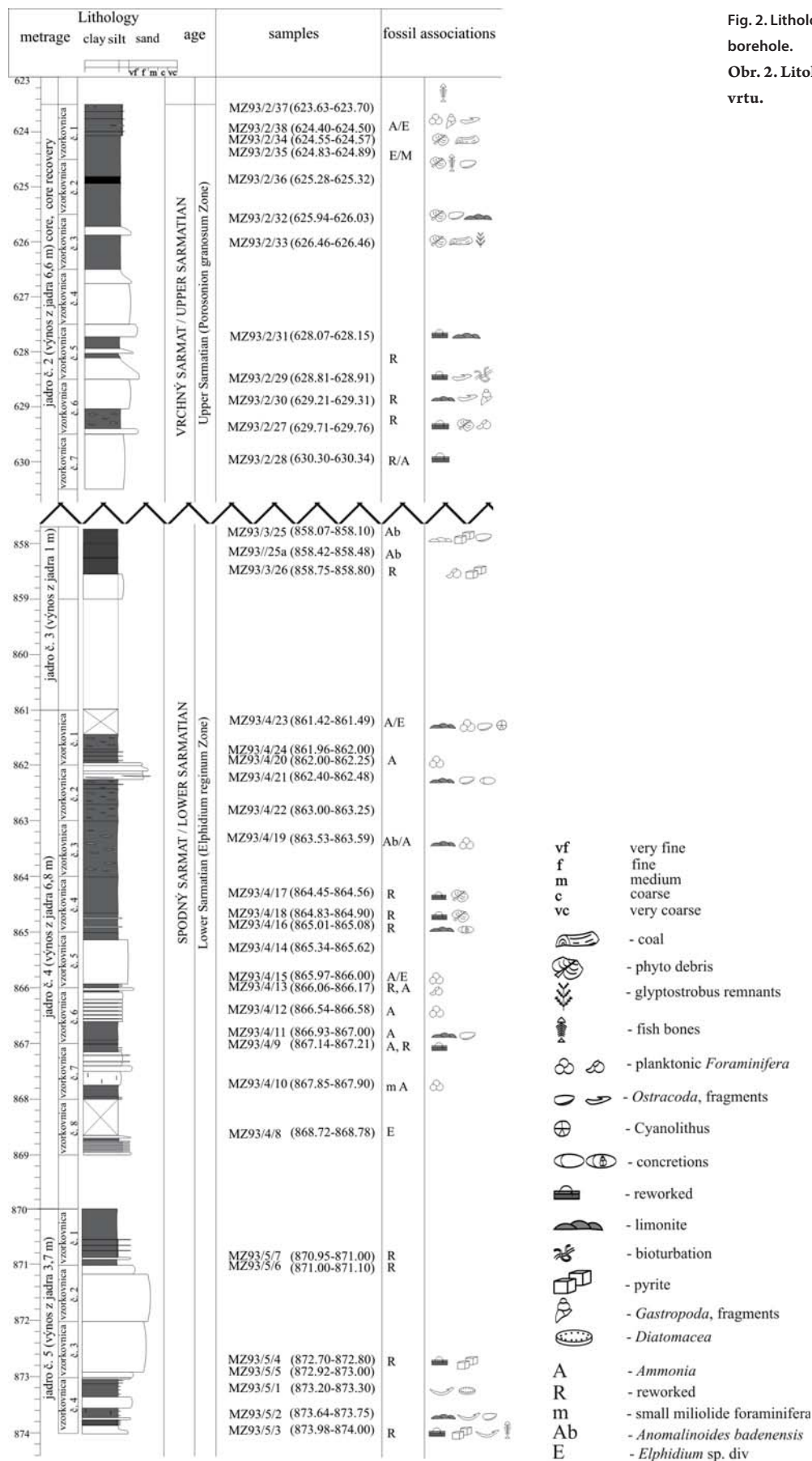


Fig. 2. Lithological section of the studied borehole.

Obr. 2. Litologický náčrt študovaného vrtu.

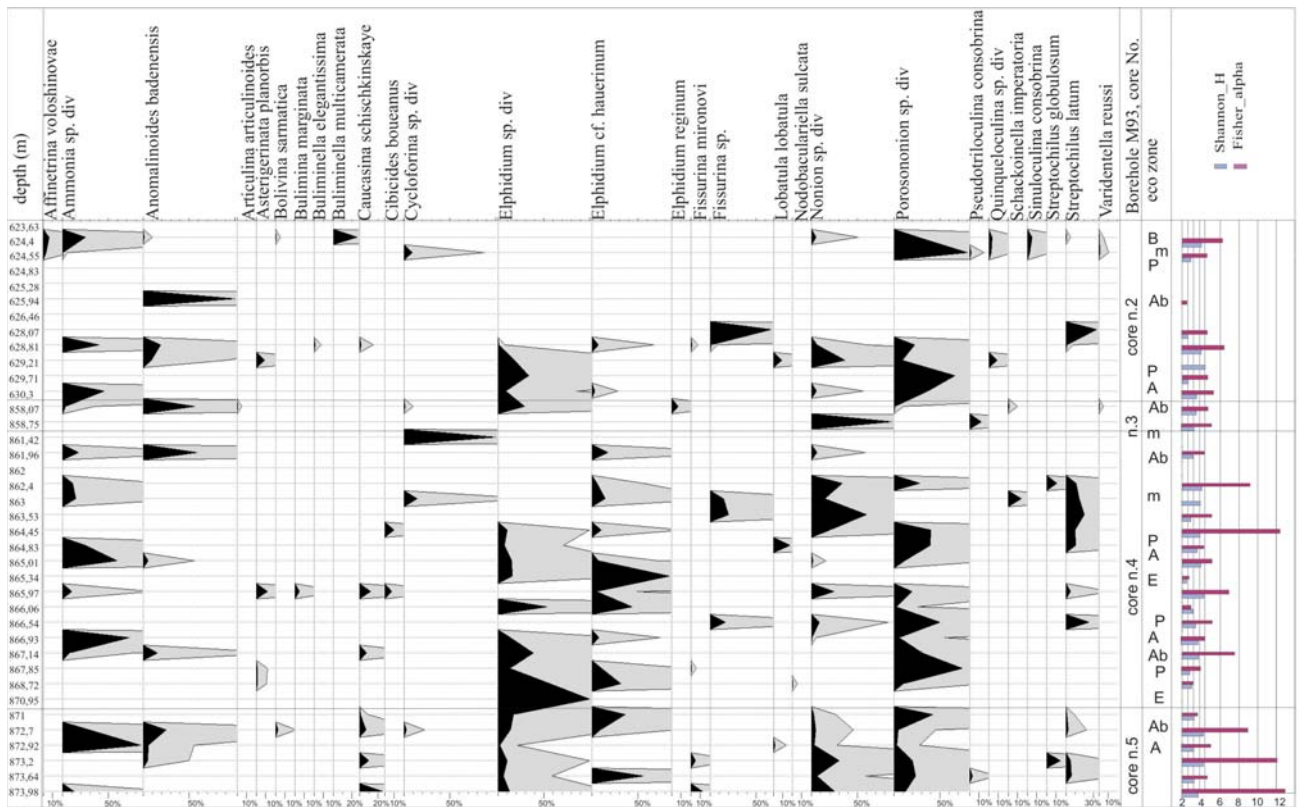
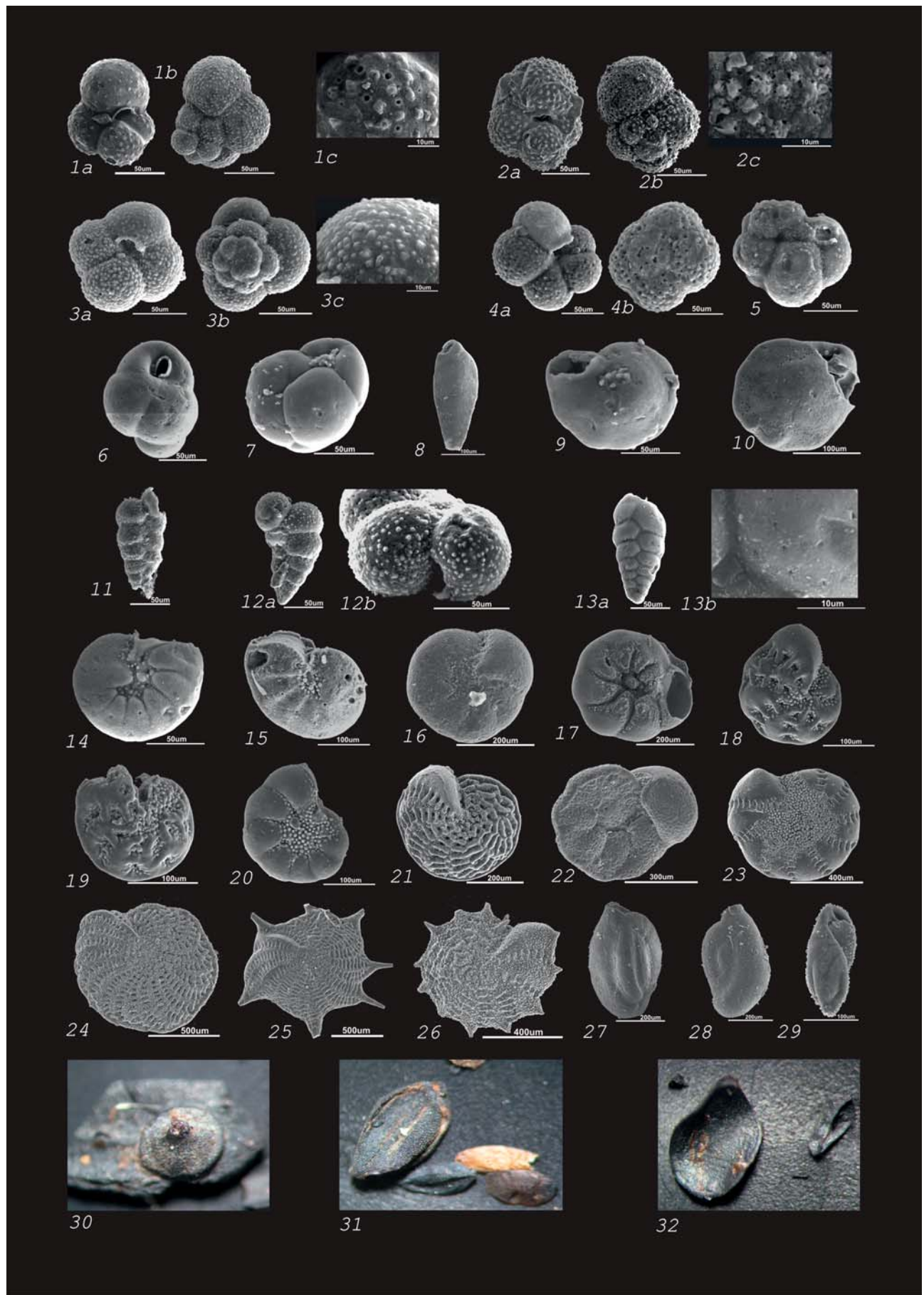


Fig. 3. The dominance of the significant taxa identified in the MZ 93 borehole, association type and diversity.

Obr. 3. Percentuálne zastúpenie dôležitých taxónov dierkavcov a typické asociácie identifikované vo vrte MZ 93, ako aj hodnoty indexov diverzity.

Plate 1: 1. *Tenuitella clemenciae* (Bermúdez), 1a. apertural side, 1b. spiral side, 1c. wall detail (depth 873.20); 2. *Tenuitellinata juvenilis* (Bolli), 2a. apertural side, 2b. spiral side, 2c. wall detail (depth 873.20); 3. *Tenuitellinata uvula* (Ehrenberg), 3a. apertural side, 3b. spiral side, 3c. wall detail (depth 873.20); 4. *Turborotalita quinqueloba* (Natland), 4a. apertural side, 4b. spiral side; 5. *Cassigerinella globulosa* Egger; 6. *Bulimina elongata* (d'Orbigny) (depth 873.20); 7. *Globocassidulina subglobosa* (Brady); 8. *Bolivina dilatata dilatata* Reuss; 9. *Cibicidoides lopjanicus* (Myatlyuk) (depth 873.64); 10. *Cassidulina laevigata* d'Orbigny (depth 873.64); 11. *Streptochilus latum* Brönnimann and Resig; 12a. *Streptochilus globulosum* (Cushman); 12b. apertura and wall (depth 873.20); 13a. *Bolivina molassica* Hofmann; 13b. wall (depth 873.20), 14. *Nonion biporus* Krasheninnikov (depth 862.40); 15. *Nonion commune* (d'Orbigny) (depth 873.64); 16. *Ammonia tepida* (Cushman) (depth 867.85); 17. *Ammonia parkinsoniana* (d'Orbigny), (depth 867.85; 866.93); 18. *Elphidium hauerinum* (d'Orbigny); 19. *Elphidium microelegans* Serova; 20. *Porosonion granosum* (d'Orbigny) (depth 858.07); 21. *Elphidium macellum* (Fichtel & Moll) (depth 865.34); 22. *Anomalinoidea badenensis* (d'Orbigny); 23. *Elphidium glabrum* Bystricka (depth 867.85); 24. *Elphidium crispum* (Linne) (depth 867.85); 25. *Elphidium reginum* (d'Orbigny) (depth 867.85); 26. *Elphidium josephinum* (d'Orbigny) (depth 867.85); 27. *Cycloforina badenensis* (d'Orbigny); 28. *Quinqueloculina minakovae* Bogdanowicz; 29. *Buliminella multicamerata* Cushman & Parker (depth 624.55), 30 – 32. rests of the *Glyptostrobus* sp. pine, mag. 25x (depth 623.63);



To estimate the level of oxygenation of the sea floor, we have divided the benthic foraminifera into oxic, suboxic and dysoxic indicators according to Kaiho, (1994). The benthic foraminiferal oxygen index (BFOI, Kaiho, 1999) was used in two modes. First one, consider *Ammonia* gr. as a species tolerating lowered oxygen (less than 0,1ml/l) (Moodley & Hess, 1992) and even facultative anaerobic conditions (Pawlowski et al., 1995), and the second one, considering *Ammonia* gr. as representing of oxic conditions (Murray, 1991).

The stratigraphically important specimens were studied in detail and documented by SEM microscope TESCAN and Hitachi (Plate 1).

3. RESULTS

The associations consisted of euzyhaline Foraminifera (Fig. 3), which usually correspond to the Sarmatian sediments of the Central Paratethys realm. Only presence of one Sarmatian bilateral wounded planktic foraminiferal genera *Streptochilus* Brönnimann & Resig (Plate 1, Fig. 11, 12) was confirmed by SEM study of shell walls, shape and aperture (Smart & Thomas, 2007). Based on the appearance of genus *Streptochilus*, the sediments are assigned to the *Streptochilus* Assemblage Biozone (Filipescu & Silye, 2008). The first appearance of *Elphidium reginum* (d'Orbigny) and *Schackoinella imperatoria* (d'Orbigny) (Cicha et al., 1998) confirm the Sarmatian age of the studied sediments.

The *Ammonia*, *Anomalinoidea dividens*, *Elphidium reginum* and *Porosonion granosum* biozones (Grill, 1941; Luczkowska, 1972) were identified on the base of dominance of the index taxa (Fig. 4). In the studied material, the *Ammonia* Zone is highly dominated by *Ammonia* sp. div. Other genera (*Elphidium*, *Porosonion*) are very rare in the associations and reach up to 2 – 10%. The *Anomalinoidea dividens* Zone is characterized by dominance of *Anomalinoidea badensis* (d'Orbigny) (60 – 95%) accompanied by *Ammonia* sp., *Elphidium* sp. and *Porosonion granosum* (d'Orbigny). The most diversified Zone here is the *Elphidium reginum* Zone (Fig. 3), composed mostly of *Elphidium* sp. div. In this zone, the Sarmatian index species *Elphidium reginum* d'Orbigny is common, and *Porosonion granosum* (d'Orbigny) accompanied by small miliolids are present. The *Porosonion granosum* Zone is defined by strong prevalence of *Porosonion granosum* (d'Orbigny) accompanied by *Elphidium* sp. div., or together with small miliolide taxa in the uppermost part of section. The identified biozonal associations alternated during the deposition and did not prove a direct correlation with stratigraphical age. The alteration of zones follows foraminiferal succession. According to laboratory experiments, *Ammonia* group, *Elphidium* and *Haynesina* are active colonizers of sterile substrate in water depth 6 – 16 m (Schafer & Young, 1977). *Quinqueloculina seminulum* (Linne) is an active colonizer occupying the water depth around 6 m (Schafer & Young, 1977). Three types of successions with dominant benthic foraminiferal genera are identified in studied material. The first type of succession starts with opportunistic *Ammonia* acme, followed by *Elphidium*, *Porosonion*, *Nonion*, and *Bolivina* genera.

The second type starts with *Anomalinoidea* positively correlated with *Bolivina*, and negatively with *Elphidium* acme, succeeded by *Nonion* sp. div. The third recognized succession starts with *Porosonion* acme, followed by *Nonion* and miliolids.

In general, the identified benthic foraminiferal associations dominated by rotaliide genera (*Elphidium*, *Ammonia*) less abundant were porcellaneous forms (*Sinuloculina*, *Quinqueloculina*). The taxa with agglutinated type of test were extremely rare (Fig. 3). Diversity of the assemblages varies negatively in compliance with the dominance. The Fisher α diversity (Fig. 3) shows extremely high excursions in the lowermost cores, with general decrease in the uppermost core of the borehole. The lowest (Shannon_H index) diversity showed the samples with the *Porosonion* association. Higher H diversities were recognized in the samples without dominant species. A high portion of reworked Karpatian and Badenian foraminifera mostly consists of microperforated planktic genera in compliance with *Cassigerinella globulosa* Egger, *Orbulina suturalis* Brönnimann and other species as *Bulimina*, *Bolivina*, *Cibicidoides*, *Rosalina* and *Globocassidulina*. Microperforate genera *Tenuitellinata* and *Tenuitella* are accompanied by small *Turborotalita quinqueloba* (Natland) (Plate. 1). Mentioned reworked foraminifera have shown the sizing of the similar shape and shells size (at around 100 μ m). Breaking and smoothing of foraminiferal shell surface is visible under SEM (Plate 1). The group of allochthonous species was not included into the palaeoecological interpretation. The specimens considered as reworked are comprised into one group called allochthonous in Fig. 4.

The sum of factors representing palaeodepth during the sedimentation was determined by the presence and dominance of susceptible genera (appendix 1 and 2). The dominance of near-shore taxa is visible in the entire profile (Fig. 4) together with absence of deep water infauna. Information about the paleobathymetry is completed by abundant occurrence of epiphytic species (Fig. 4) representing a zone with sufficient amount of sun light. A limiting depth is also documented by presence of *Ammonia* gr. (depth-range 1 – 60 m) in the lower part of the section, and by *Nonion depressulus* (Walker & Jacob) in the upper part of the section, which, according to Hohenegger et al. (1989), lives in compliance with seagrass, in water depth up to 5 m (Alve & Murray, 1999).

Besides the change in bathymetry, the salinity changes were also analyzed. The salinity fluctuation and a high amount of taxa tolerating euzyhaline conditions were observed in all samples: genera *Elphidium*, *Ammonia*, *Nonion*, species *Porosonion martkobi* (Bogdanowicz), *Porosonion* sp. and *P. granosum* (d'Orbigny). The above mentioned taxa form more than 50% of associations in 867.85 – 867.9 m, and 624.55 – 624.57 m levels (Fig. 3). Elphidiids are characterized by two morphologies: some possess the peripheral keel, others have rounded peripheries. Keeled morphotypes are mostly herbivorous, epifaunal dwellers preferring sandy sediment, which occur in the shallow marine environments (inner shelf) with warm to temperate and normal to hypersaline (35 – 70 ‰) waters (Murray, 2006). A relatively high occurrence of epifaunal, free or clinging herbivorous, normal to hypersaline (32 – 65‰) species of *Quinqueloculina* tolerating salinity

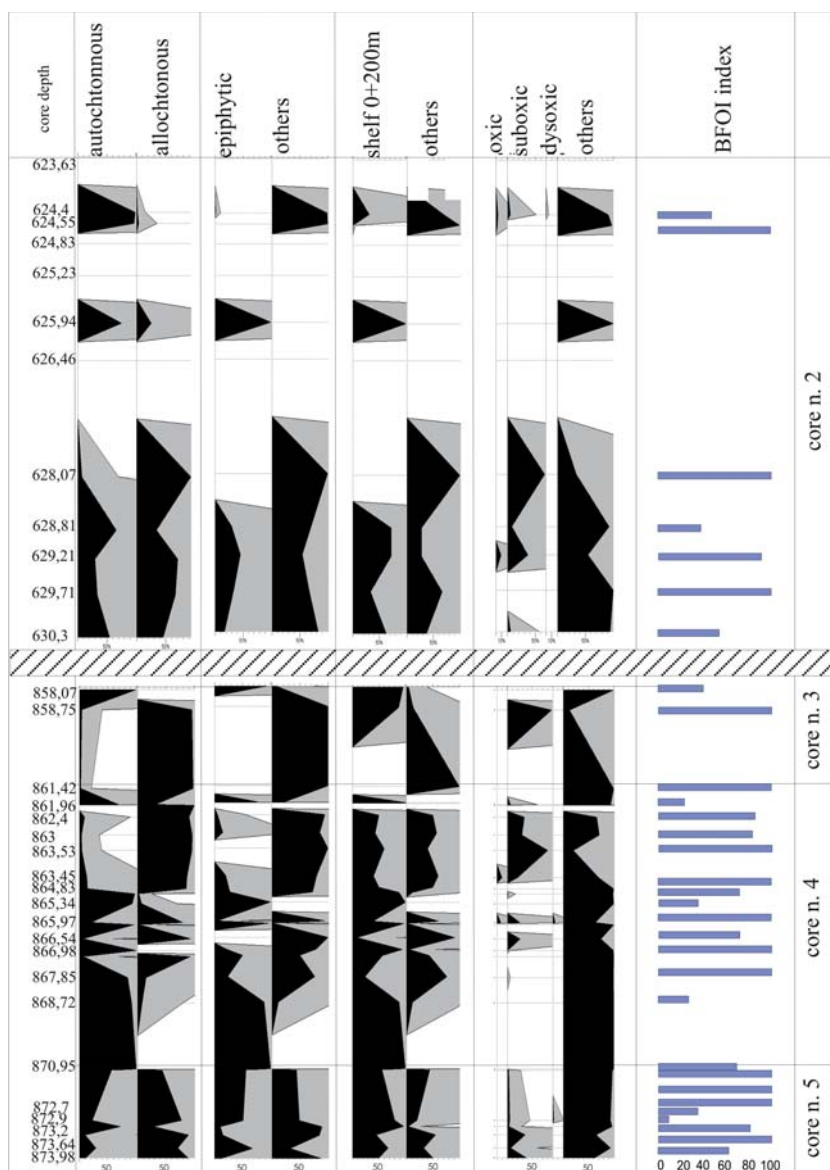


Fig. 4. Percentual proportion of the ecologically significant foraminiferal groups against the BFOI index value (*Ammonia* gr. as suboxic).
Obr. 4: Percentuálne zastúpenie ekologicky významných skupín dierkavcov spolu s hodnotou BFOI indexu (*Ammonia* gr. ako suboxický typ).

(Murray, 2006) was detected in the upper part of core (629.21 – 629.31 m, 624.40 – 624.50 m; 624.55 – 624.57 m) (Fig. 3).

The evaluation of oxygenation with *Ammonia* gr. taken as oxic species shows that all associations fall into well oxygenated conditions (minimum BFOI index reached 72.43 at around 3.0 – 4.5 ml⁻¹ in the lowermost sample). Taken *Ammonia* gr. as suboxic species suggested that the depositional area was dominated by well aerated waters. Three significant samples showing low oxic conditions (BFOI index 10 – 30) were recognized in deeper cores (872.92 – 872.7 m; 866.93 m; 861.96 m) and one with BFOI 47.4 in the uppermost core (624.4 m) (Fig. 3).

4. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The Sarmatian age of studied sediments was identified on the basis of foraminiferal association characterized by the presence of benthic index species *Elphidium reginum* d'Orbigny

and *Anomalinoidea dividens* Luczkowska. Also the Sarmatian biozones as *Ammonia*, *Anomalinoidea dividens*, *Elphidium reginum* and *Porosonion granosum* are recognized in the studied material (Grill, 1943, Luczkowska, 1967, 1971). Typical associations of mentioned biozones alternated and did not prove a direct correlation with the stratigraphical age. The *Elphidium reginum* Zone corresponds to Lower Sarmatian and *Porosonion granosum* Zone with rare *Affinetrina voloshinovae pectiniformis* (Bogdanowicz) to the Upper Sarmatian. *Ammonia* Biozone, the *Anomalinoidea dividens* Zone with small miliolids, *Elphidium hauerinum* Zone and *Porosonion* Zone intervene during the Early-Middle Sarmatian in the presented material. When determining the age, we have used the presence of planktic index fossils also, which presupposes at least a short-time opening of migration ways and communication with surrounding seas. On the basis of precise SEM study, the planktic species *Streptochilus latum* (Brönnimann & Resig) and *S. globulosum* (Cushman) were identified. These species are regarded as index fossils of

Streptochilus Biozone (Filipescu & Silye, 2008), corresponding to Upper Sarmatian. The species of *Streptochilus* genus occurred in positive correlation with reworked species, thus it is not clear whether they are autochthonous. It is also possible, that this planktic species indicates a short-time reopening of the sea ways which is linked to the increasing number of reworked ones (Goldstein & Wattkins, 1999; Murray, 2006; Patterson et. al., 1999). This can be promoted by a positive correlation of *Streptochilus* with *Anomalinoidea* and *Bolivina*, genera with a supposed meroplanktic mode of life (Alve & Goldstein 2002; Filipescu 2004^b). Benthic foraminiferal associations of the lowermost part of the section suggest shallow sheltered lagoon, environment, changing to associations of salt or brackish marshes (Sen Gupta, 2002). Special character of our benthic association is a very small amount of agglutinated foraminifera which obviously composes the main portion of those from the marsh environments (Phleger, 1970, 1977; Murray, 2006). The identified successions can constitute short term environmental changes caused by the itinerancy of tidal channels. The deepest normal marine environment was identified in the sediments of the lowermost cores, containing keeled *Elphidium*, genus tolerating oligotrophic photic zone conditions of protected lagoons (depths around 20 m). Towards the top of the section, the conditions were changing and the depositional environment was becoming shallower. In the uppermost parts of the profile, the terrestrial conditions were suggested (e.g., in 626.46 m), foraminifera barren interval, but consisting of “water pines” cone remains typical for edging parts of water areas. In addition to shallowing trend, the changes in salinity are observed. In the overlying parts of the profile, the abundance of the *Porosonion* increases, showing shallowing and mellowing of the depositional area. In the two depth intervals (861.42 m and 624.55 m), the increasing content of *Quinqueloculina* documents the salinity increase. The oxygen deprived environment in some parts of the profile probably documents the increased eutrophication. The most significant feature of the profile is the cyclical fluctuation of the genus *Ammonia*, usually accompanied by representatives of the genus *Anomalinoidea* with a very low portion of reworked species. The *Ammonia* association is probably a pioneering association in the area of initial water flooding, following by appearance of the genus *Anomalinoidea* in deeper water (Filipescu 2004). The association of *Anomalinoidea* is changed into the association dominated of the *Elphidium* genus, which pass into *Porosonion* association. This succession would suggest a cycle from the flooding to deeper water conditions and the next progressive shallowing and lowering salinity of the depositional environment. Similar oscillations in water level occur in peripheral areas of water bodies (Meric et al., 2004; Hiscott et al., 2006).

We can conclude, that the Sarmatian sediments of Malacky 93 borehole were most probably deposited in the very shallow marginal sea conditions, or in the margin of a protected lagoon, with the edge which migrated time. In the uppermost part, the *Glyptostrobos* marshes were identified. The eutrophication significantly increased towards the upper part of the section. The main factors limiting the foraminiferal association were the eutrophication, tide height, landscape relief and salinity changes caused by evaporation.

Acknowledgements: This work was supported by APVV-0280-07 project, by Comenius University Grants No. 202/2008, No. 184/2009 and also by APVV-Eurocores VAMP, ESF-EC-0009-07. Special thanks to Dr. Zágorský for SEM photographs, as well as representatives of TESCAN for using of MIRA microscope. Our thanks belong to Dr. Sliva for his comments to the sedimentology and to Dr. Petrová and Dr. Halášová for comments which helped to improve the manuscript.

References

- Alve E. & Murray J. W., 1999: Marginal marine environments of the Skagerrak and Kattegat: a baseline study of living (stained) benthic foraminiferal ecology. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, 146, 1 – 4, 171 – 193.
- Alve E. & Goldstein S., 2002: Resting stage in benthic foraminiferal propagules – a key feature for dispersal? Evidence from two shallow water species. *Journal of Micropaleontology*, 21, 95 – 96.
- Andrejeva-Grigorovich A. S., Kováč M., Halášová E. & Hudáčková N., 2001: Litho and biostratigraphy of the Lower and Middle Miocene sediments of the Vienna Basin (NE part) on the basis of calcareous nannoplankton and foraminifers. *Scripta Facultatis scientiarum naturalium Universitatis Masarykianae Brunensis, Geologia*, 30, 23 – 27.
- Cicha I., Rögl F., Rupp Ch. & Čtyroká J., 1998: Oligocene – Miocene foraminifera of the Central Paratethys. *Kramer, Frankfurt am Main*, 325 p.
- Čierna E., 1974: Mikropaläontologische und Biostratigraphische Untersuchung einiger Bohrproben aus der weiteren Umgebung von Rohožník. *Acta Geologica Geographica Universitatis Comenianae*, 26, 113 – 187.
- Filipescu S. & Silye L., 2008: New Paratethyan biozones of planktic foraminifera described from the Middle Miocene of the Transylvanian Basin (Romania). *Geologica Carpathica*, 59, 6, 537 – 544.
- Filipescu S., 2004^a: Bogdanowiczia pocutica Pishvanova in the Middle Miocene of Transylvania – paleoenvironmental and stratigraphic implications. *Acta Palaeontologica Romaniaae*, 4, 113 – 117.
- Filipescu S., 2004^b: *Anomalinoidea* *dividens* bioevent at the Badenian/Sarmatian boundary – a response to paleogeographic and paleoenvironmental changes. *Studia Universitatis Babeş-Bolyai, Geologia*, 49, 2, 21 – 26.
- Fisher R. A., Corbet A. S. & Williams C. B., 1943: The relationship between the number of species and the number of individuals in a random sample of an animal population. *Journal of Animal Ecology*, 12, 42 – 58.
- Fordinál K., Zlinská A., Vaněková H., Halášová E. & Chalupová B., 2006: Fauna und flora of Sarmatian sediments in borehole TPM-23B (Danube Basin, Slovakia). *Scripta Facultatis scientiarum naturalium Universitatis Masarykianae Brunensis, Geologia*, 33 – 34, 30 – 32.
- Goldstein S. T., & Watkins G. T., 1999: Taphonomy of salt-marsh foraminifera: An example from coastal Georgia. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, 149, 1 – 4, 103 – 114.
- Grill R., 1941: Stratigraphische Untersuchungen mit Hilfe von Mikrofaunen im Wiener Becken und den benachbarten Molasse-Anteilen. *Oel und Kohle*, 37, 595 – 602.
- Grill R., 1943: Über mikropaläontologische Gliederungsmöglichkeiten in Miozän des Wiener Becken, Mittel Reichsamst. *Bodenforschung*, 6, 33 – 44.
- Hammer Ø, Harper, D.A.T. & Ryan P.D., 2001: PAST Paleontological Statistics Software Package for Education and Data Analysis. *Palaeontologia Electronica*, 4, 1, 9.
- Harzhauser M. & Kowalke T., 2002: Sarmatian (late Middle Miocene) gastropod assemblages of the Central Paratethys. *Facies*, 46, 57 – 82.
- Harzhauser M. & Piller W.E., 2007: Benchmark data of a changing sea – palaeogeography, palaeobiogeography and events in the central Paratethys

- during the Miocene. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, 253, 8 – 31.
- Harzhauser M., Latal C. & Piller W.E., 2007: The stable isotope archive of Lake Pannon as a mirror of Late Miocene climate change. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, 249, 335 – 350.
- Hiscott R. N., Flood R. D., Aksu A. E., Kinney J. & Yasar D., 2006: Saline density current channel created by Mediterranean inflow to the Black Sea through the Bosphorus Strait: morphology, history, and surface-current modification imaged by swath mapping and Huntec boomer profiles. Abstract, International Congress of Sedimentology, Fukuoka, Japan. 4 – 6
- Hohenegger J., 2005: Estimation of environmental paleogradient values based on presence/absence data: a case study using benthic foraminifera for paleodepth estimation. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, 217, 115 – 130.
- Hohenegger J., Piller W. & Baal C., 1989: Reasons for spatial microdistributions of foraminifera in an intertidal pool (northern Adriatic Sea). *Marine Ecology*, 10, 43 – 78
- Hudáčková N. & Hudáček, J., 2001: Databáza fosílií – technické spracovanie. *Mineralia Slovaca*, 2, 33, 24.
- Iaccarino S., 1985: Mediterranean Miocene and Pliocene planktic foraminifera. In: Bolli H. M., Saunders J. B. & Perch-Nielsen K. (Eds.): Plankton stratigraphy. Cambridge University Press, 283 – 314.
- Kaiho K., 1994: Benthic foraminiferal dissolved-oxygen index and dissolved-oxygen levels in the modern ocean. *Geology*, 22, 719 – 722.
- Kaiho K., 1999: Effect of organic carbon flux and dissolved oxygen on the benthic foraminiferal oxygen index (BFOI). *Marine Micropaleontology*, 37, 67 – 76.
- Kováč M., 2000: Geodynamický, paleogeografický a štruktúrny vývoj karpatsko-panónskeho regiónu v miocéne: Nový pohľad na neogénne panvy Slovenska. VEDA, Bratislava, 202 s.
- Kováč M., Andreyeva-Grigorovich A., Bajraktarevic Z., Brzobohatý R., Filipescu S., Fodor L., Harzhauser M., Nagymarosy A., Osczyppo N., Pavelič D., Rogl F., Saftič B., Sliva L., Studencka B., 2007: Badenian evolution of the Central Paratethys Sea: paleogeography, climate and eustatic sea-level changes. *Geologica Carpathica*, 58, 579 – 606.
- Kováč M., Fordinál K., Grigorovich S., A., Halásová E., Hudáčková N., Joniak P., Pipík R., Sabol M., Kováčová M. & Sliva L., 2005: Západokarpatské fosilne ekosystémy a ich vzťah k paleoprostrediu v kontexte neogénneho vývoja eurázijskeho kontinentu. *Geologické práce, Správy*, 111, 61 – 121.
- Loeblich A. & Tappan H., 1988: Foraminiferal genera and their classification. Van Nostrand Reinhold, New York, 620 p.
- Luczkowska E., 1967: Paleoeekologia i stratygrafia mikropaleontologiczna miocenu okolic Grzibowa kolo Staszowa. *Acta Geologica Polonica*, 17, 1, 219 – 249.
- Luczkowska E., 1971: A new zone with Praeorbulina indigena (Foraminiferida, Globigerinidae) in the Upper Badenian (Tortonian s.s.) of Central Paratethys. *Rocznik Polskiego Towarzystwa Geologicznego*, 40, 445 – 448.
- Luczkowska E., 1972: Miliolidae (Foraminifera) from Miocene of Poland. Part 1. Revision of the classification. *Acta Palaeontologica Polonica*, 17, 341 – 377.
- Meric E., Avsar N., & Bergin F., 2004: Benthic foraminifera of Eastern Aegean Sea (Turkey), systematics and autoecology. Turkish Marine Research Foundation, 18, 306 p.
- Moodley L. & Hess C., 1992: Tolerance of infaunal benthic foraminifera for low and high oxygen concentrations. *Biological Bulletin*, 183, 94 – 98.
- Murray J.W., 1973: Distribution and ecology of living benthic foraminiferids. Heinemann Education book LTD, London, 1 – 274 p.
- Murray J.W., 1991: Ecology and paleoecology of benthic foraminifera. Longman Scientific and Technical, Harlow, 397 p.
- Murray J.W., 2006: Ecology and Applications of Benthic Foraminifera. Cambridge University Press, New York, 426 p.
- Nalepka D. & Walanus A., 2003: Data processing in pollen analysis. *Acta Palaeobotanica*, 43, 1, 125 – 134.
- Papp A., 1956: Fazies und Gliderung des Sarmats im Wiener Becken. *Mitteilungen der Geologischen Gesellschaft in Wien*, 47, 35 – 97.
- Pascual A. & Rodriguez-Lazaro J., 2006: Marsh development and sea level changes in the Gernika Estuary (southern Bay of Biscay): foraminiferal tidal indicators. *Scientia Marina*, 70S1, 101 – 117.
- Patterson R.T., Guilbault J.-P. & Clague J.J., 1999: Taphonomy of tidal marsh foraminifera: implications of surface sample thickness for high-resolution sea-level studies. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, 149, 199 – 211.
- Pawlowski J., Bolivar I., Farhni J. & Zaninetti L., 1995: DNA analysis of "Ammonia beccarii" morphotypes: one or more species? *Marine Micropaleontology*, 26, 171 – 178.
- Phleger F.B., 1970: Foraminiferal populations and marine marsh processes. *Limnology and Oceanography*, 15, 522 – 534.
- Phleger F.B., 1977: Soils of marine marshes. In: Chapman V.J. (Ed.): West Coastal Ecosystems. Elsevier Scientific Publishing Company, The Netherlands, 69 – 77.
- Piller W.E. & Harzhauser M., 2005: The Myth of the Brackish Sarmatian Sea. *Terra Nova*, 17, 450 – 455.
- Pisera A., 1996: Miocene reefs of the Paratethys: a review. In: Franseen E. K., Esteban M., Ward W.C. & Rochy J.-M. (Eds): Models for carbonate stratigraphy from Miocene reef complexes of Mediterranean regions. *SEMP Concepts in Sedimentology and Paleontology*, 5, 97 – 104.
- Rögl F., 1985: Late Oligocene and Miocene planktic foraminifera of the Central Paratethys. In: Bolli H. M., Saunders J.B. & Perch-Nielsen K. (Eds.): Plankton stratigraphy. Cambridge University Press, 1, 315 – 328.
- Rögl F., 1999: Mediterranean and Paratethys paleogeography during the Oligocene and Miocene. In: Agusti, J., Rook L., & Andrews P. (Eds.): Hominoid Evolution and Climatic Change in Europe, 1. The Evolution of Neogene Terrestrial Ecosystem in Europe. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 8 – 22.
- Sen Gupta B.K., 2002: Modern foraminifera. Kluwer Academic Publishers, Boston, 371 p.
- Schafer C.T. & Young J.A., 1977: Experiments on mobility and transportability of some nearshore benthonic foraminiferal species. Geological Survey of Canada, 77 – 1C, 27 – 31.
- Smart C.W. & Thomas E., 2007: Emendation of the genus Streptochilus Brönnimann and Resig 1971 (Foraminifera), and new species from the lower Miocene of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. *Micropaleontology*, 53, 1 – 2, 73 – 103.
- Spezzaferri S., Čorić S., Hohhenegger J. & Rögl F., 2002: Basin-scale paleobiogeography and paleoecology: an example from Karpatian (Latest Burdigalian) benthic and planktic foraminifera and calcareous nannofossils from the Central Paratethys. *Geobios*, MS 24, 241 – 256.
- Spezzaferri S., Rögl F., Čorić S. & Hohhenegger J., 2004: Paleoenvironmental reconstruction and agglutinated foraminifera from the Karpatian/Badenian (Early/Middle Miocene) transition in the Styrian Basin (Austria, Central Paratethys). In: Bubik M. & Kaminski M.A. (Eds.): Sixth International Workshop on Agglutinated Foraminifera, Grzybowski Foundation, Special Publication, 8, 423 – 459.
- Steininger F.F. & Wessely G., 2000: From the Tethys Ocean to the Paratethys Sea: Oligocene to Neogene Stratigraphy, paleogeography and paleobiogeography.

- graphy of the circum-Mediterranean region and the Oligocene to Neogene Basin evolution in Austria. *Mitteilungen. Österreichische Geologische*, 92, 95 – 116.
- Van der Zwaan G.J., Jorissen F.J. & De Stigter H.C., 1990: The depth dependency of planktic/benthonic foraminiferal ratios: constraints and applications. *Marine Geology*, 95, 1 – 16.
- Van Hinsbergen D.J.J., Kouwenhoven T.J. & van der Zwaan G.J., 2005: Paleobathymetry in the backstripping procedure: Correction for oxygenation effects on depth estimates. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, 221, 245 – 265.
- Zlinská A., 1998: Mikrobiostratigrafia sedimentov bádenu východoslovenskej panvy na základe foraminifer. *Zemný plyn a nafta*, 43, 1, 111 – 152.
- Zuschin M., Harzhauser M. & Mandic O., 2007: The stratigraphic and sedimentologic framework of fine-scale faunal replacements in the middle Miocene of the Vienna Basin (Austria). *Palaios*, 22, 284 – 295.

Resumé: Vo vrte Mz 93 boli vyhodnocované sedimenty zo 4 jadier (5, 4, 3, 2) s celkovým rozsahom hĺbky od 875 m do 623,5 m. Vrt je situovaný v oblasti mesta Malacky, v slovenskej časti Viedenskej panvy. Vrtné jadrá boli tvorené jemno a strednozrnným šedým, šedo zeleným a šedo hnedým ílom až ílovcom, s polohami piesku, vo vrchných častiach boli sedimenty laminované, s vrstvičkami zuhoľnatej rastlinnej hmoty. Dierkavce boli separované plavením štandardnými metodikami. Vo výplavoch z najspodnejších sedimentov vrtného jadra boli identifikované okrem rôznych organických zvyškov (schránky lastúrníček a ich úlomky, úlomky lastúr mäkkýšov, kostičky rýb) redeponované schránky dierkavcov ako aj schránky autochtónnych dierkavcov. Smerom do nadložia pribúdali zvyšky vegetácie, ktoré boli v najvrchnejšom jadre zastúpené zvyškami šišíek glyptostróbov. Sedimenty boli na základe prítomnosti *Elphidium reginum* d'Orbigny, *Affinetrina voloshinovae* pectiniformis (Bogdanowicz) zaradené do sarmatu (12,7 – 11,6 Ma). Typické asociácie sarmatu (*Ammonia*, *Anomalinoidea badenensis*, veľké elfídiá, malé miliolidy a *Porosonion*) sa v študovaných sedimentoch striedali a teda neumožnili dokázať priamu súvislosť s vekom. Môžeme povedať, že spoločenstvo zóny *Elphidium reginum* patrí do spodného sarmatu, nakoľko neobsahuje dierkavce charakteristické pre mladšie sedimenty. Iba vo vrchných častiach vrtu, v asociácii zóny *Porosonion granosum* sa zriedkavo vyskytovali druhy ako *Affinetrina voloshinovae* pectiniformis (Bogdanowicz), ktoré boli doteraz určené len vo vrchnosarmatských sedimentoch Centrálnej Paratetedy. Spoločenstvá dierkavcov v študovaných sedimentoch dokumentovali veľmi plytkovodné sedimentačné podmienky. V takýchto sedimentačných podmienkach sa v závislosti od reliéfu, výšky prílivu ako aj vysychania okrajových častí sedimentačného priestoru striedali podmienky morské, brakické a hypersalinné a vyvíjali sa v nich zodpovedajúce spoločenstvá dierkavcov.

Appendix 1. Ecological groups of foraminifera according to SenGupta 2002, Murray 2006 and Seiglie 1966.

Appendix 1. Skupiny dierkavcov s rovnakými paleoekologickými nárokmi, zostavené podľa SenGupta 2002, Murray 2006 Seiglie 1966.

Shallow water	Infauna	Epiphytic	Euryhaline	Hyperhaline
Ammonia sp. div.	Bolivina pseudoplicata	Anomalinooides badenensis	Ammonia sp. div.	Quinqueloculina sp.div.
Anomalinooides badenensis	Bolivina sarmatica	Elphidium sp. div.	Cibicides boueanus	Quinqueloculina minakovae
Elphidium sp.div	Bulimina marginata	Lobatula lobatula	Nonion sp.	Quinqueloculina badenensis
Lobatula lobatula	Buliminella elegantissima	Nonion commune	Porosonion martkobi	Quinqueloculina sp.
Nonion sp. div.	Buliminella multicamerata		Porosonion granosum	
			Porosonion martkobi (Bogdanowicz)	
			Porosonion sp.	

Appendix 2: Ecological groups of foraminifera toleration to various O₂ value, according to Sen Gupta 2002, Kaiho 1994, 1999, Murray 2006, Moodley & Hess, 1992, and Pawlowski et al. 1995.

Appendix 2: Skupiny dierkavcov rozdelené na základe tolerancie nedostatku kyslíka, podľa Sen Gupta 2002, Kaiho 1994, 1999, Murray 2006, Moodley & Hess, 1992, and Pawlowski et al. 1995.

Oxic	Suboxic	Dysoxic
Cibicides boueanus	Fissurina mironovi	Bolivina pseudoplicata
Quinqueloculina akneriana rotunda	Fissurina sp.	Bolivina sarmatica
Quinqueloculina badenensis	Nonion biporus	Bulimina marginata
Quinqueloculina minakovae	Nonion bogdanowiczi	Buliminella elegantissima
Quinqueloculina sp.	Nonion commune	Buliminella multicamerata
	Nonion depressulum	Ammonia gr.
	Nonion serenus	
	Nonion sp.	
	Nonion tumidulus	

Appendix 3: List of foraminiferal taxa identified in the studied material.

Appendix 3: Zoznam taxónov dierkavcov identifikovaných v študovanom materiále.

<i>Adelosina longiostra</i> (d'Orbigny)	<i>Cibicidoides</i> sp.	<i>Nonion commune</i> (d'Orbigny)
<i>Affinetrina voloshinove</i> pectiniformis (Bogdanowicz)	<i>Cycloforina badenensis</i> (d'Orbigny)	<i>Nonion depressulum</i> (Walker & Jacob)
<i>Alabamina</i> sp.	<i>Cycloforina contorta</i> (d'Orbigny)	<i>Nonion serenus</i> Vengliniski
<i>Ammonia parkinsoniana</i> (d'Orbigny)	<i>Cycloforina</i> sp.	<i>Nonion</i> sp.
<i>Ammonia</i> sp.	<i>Elphidium advenum</i> Cushman	<i>Nonion tumidulus</i> Pischvanova
<i>Ammonia tepida</i> (Cushman)	<i>Elphidium crispum</i> (Linne)	<i>Orbulina suturalis</i> Brönnimann
<i>Ammonia vienensis</i> (d'Orbigny)	<i>Elphidium excavatum excavatum</i> (Terquem)	<i>Porosonion granosum</i> (d'Orbigny)
<i>Angulogerina angulosa</i> (Williamson)	<i>Elphidium flexuosum</i> (d'Orbigny)	<i>Porosonion martkobi</i> (Bogdanowicz)
<i>Anomalinoidea dividens</i> Luczkowska	<i>Elphidium glabrum</i> Bystrická	<i>Porosonion</i> sp.
<i>Anomalinoidea badenensis</i> (d'Orbigny)	<i>Elphidium hauerinum</i> (d'Orbigny)	<i>Praeglobobulimina pupoides</i> (d'Orbigny)
<i>Articulina articulinoidea</i> Gerke & Issaeva	<i>Elphidium josephinum</i> (d'Orbigny)	<i>Praeglobobulimina</i> sp.
<i>Asterigerinata planorbis</i> (d'Orbigny)	<i>Elphidium joukovi</i> Serova	<i>Pseudotriloculina consobrina</i> (d'Orbigny)
<i>Baggina</i> sp.	<i>Elphidium macellum</i> (Fichtel & Moll)	<i>Pullenia bulloides</i> (d'Orbigny)
<i>Bolivina antiqua</i> d'Orbigny	<i>Elphidium microelegans</i> Serova	<i>Pygmaeosestron hispidum</i> (Reuss)
<i>Bolivina dilatata brevis</i> Cicha & Zapletalova	<i>Elphidium midhati</i> (Karrer)	<i>Quinqueloculina akneriana rotunda</i> Gerke
<i>Bolivina dilatata dilatata</i> Reuss	<i>Elphidium reginum</i> (d'Orbigny)	<i>Quinqueloculina badenensis</i> d'Orbigny
<i>Bolivina dilatata maxima</i> Cicha & Zapletalova	<i>Elphidium rugosum</i> (d'Orbigny)	<i>Quinqueloculina minakovae</i> Bogdanowicz
<i>Bolivina molassica</i> Hofmann	<i>Elphidium</i> sp.	<i>Quinqueloculina</i> sp.
<i>Bolivina plicatella</i> Cushman	<i>Eponides repandus</i> (Fichtel & Moll)	<i>Reusella spinulosa</i> (Reuss)
<i>Bolivina pokorny</i> Cicha & Zapletalova	<i>Eponides</i> sp.	<i>Reusella</i> sp.
<i>Bolivina pseudoplicata</i> Heron – Allen & Earland	<i>Fissurina mironovi</i> (Bogdanowicz)	<i>Rosalina obtuse</i> d'Orbigny
<i>Bolivina sarmatica</i> Didkovski	<i>Fissurina</i> sp.	<i>Rosalina</i> sp.
<i>Bolivina</i> sp.	<i>Fursenkoina acuta</i> (d'Orbigny)	<i>Schackoinella imperatoria</i> (d'Orbigny)
<i>Bulimina elongata</i> d'Orbigny	<i>Glandulina</i> sp.	<i>Sinuloculina consobrina sarmatica</i> (Gerke)
<i>Bulimina marginata</i> d'Orbigny	<i>Turborotalita quinqueloba</i> (Natland)	<i>Stilostomella adolphina</i> (d'Orbigny)
<i>Bulimina</i> sp.	<i>Globigerinoides trilobus</i> (Reuss)	<i>Stilostomella</i> sp.
<i>Bulimina striata</i> d'Orbigny	<i>Globocassidulina oblonga</i> (Reuss)	<i>Streptochilus globulosum</i> (Cushman)
<i>Buliminella elegantissima</i> (d'Orbigny)	<i>Globocassidulina subglobosa</i> (Brady)	<i>Streptochilus latum</i> Brönnimann & Reisig
<i>Buliminella multicamerata</i> (Cushman & Parker)	<i>Globorotalia (Obandyella) bykovae</i> (Aisenstat)	<i>Subbotina cryptomphala</i> (Glaessner)
<i>Cassidulina laevigata</i> d'Orbigny	<i>Globorotalia</i> sp.	<i>Subbotina utilisindex</i> (Jenkins & Orr)
<i>Cassidulina</i> sp.	<i>Globorotalia (Obandyella) transsylvanica</i> Popescu	<i>Tenuitella clemenciae</i> (Bermudez)
<i>Cassigerinella globulosa</i> (Egger)	<i>Heterolepa dutemplei</i> (d'Orbigny)	<i>Tenuitellinata juvenilis</i> (Bolli)
<i>Catapsydrax dissimilis</i> Cushman & Bermudez	<i>Heterolepa</i> sp.	<i>Tenuitellinata pseudoedita</i> (Subbotina)
<i>Caucasina schischkinskaye</i> Samoilova	<i>Lobatula lobatula</i> (Walker & Jacob)	<i>Tenuitellinata uvula</i> (Ehrenberg)
<i>Cibicides boueanus</i> (d'Orbigny)	<i>Neoeponodes schreibersi</i> (d'Orbigny)	<i>Trifarina</i> sp.
<i>Cibicides</i> sp.	<i>Nodobacularella sulcata</i> (Reuss)	<i>Varidentella reussi</i> (Bogdanowicz)
<i>Cibicidoides budayi</i> (Cicha & Zapletalova)	<i>Nodosaria</i> sp.	<i>Varidentella sarmatica</i> (Karrer)
<i>Cibicidoides lopjanicus</i> (Myatlyuk)	<i>Nonion biporus</i> Krashennikov	<i>Varidentella</i> sp.
<i>Cibicidoides ungerianus ornatus</i> (Cushman)	<i>Nonion bogdanowiczi</i> Voloshinova	