Use of source-to-sink concepts to provide insight to the stratigraphic record

Tor O. Sømme¹, Ole J. Martinsen², William Helland-Hansen¹, Ian Lunt², David J.W. Piper³,
Mark E. Deptuck⁴, Christopher A-L Jackson⁵

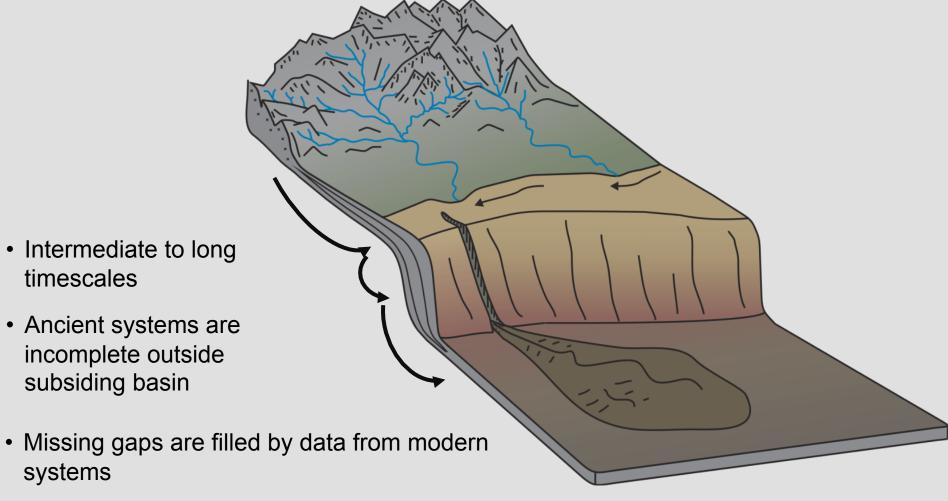
- 1. Department of Earth Science (UIB), 2. Statoil, 3. Geological Survey of Canada (BIO)
 - 4. Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board, 5. Imperial College London







The source-to-sink concept



- Segments are genetically related and firstorder characteristics should be time independent
- Requires simplicity

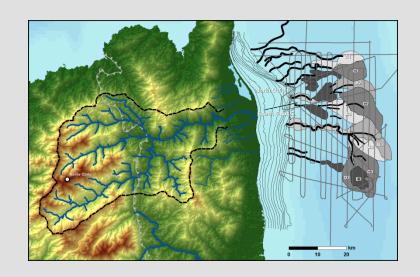
Outline

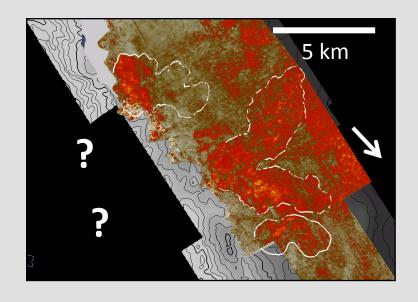
Quaternary Golo system

- -10³ year resolution
- -All segments preserved
- -Sediment budget, link between onshore and offshore stratigraphy

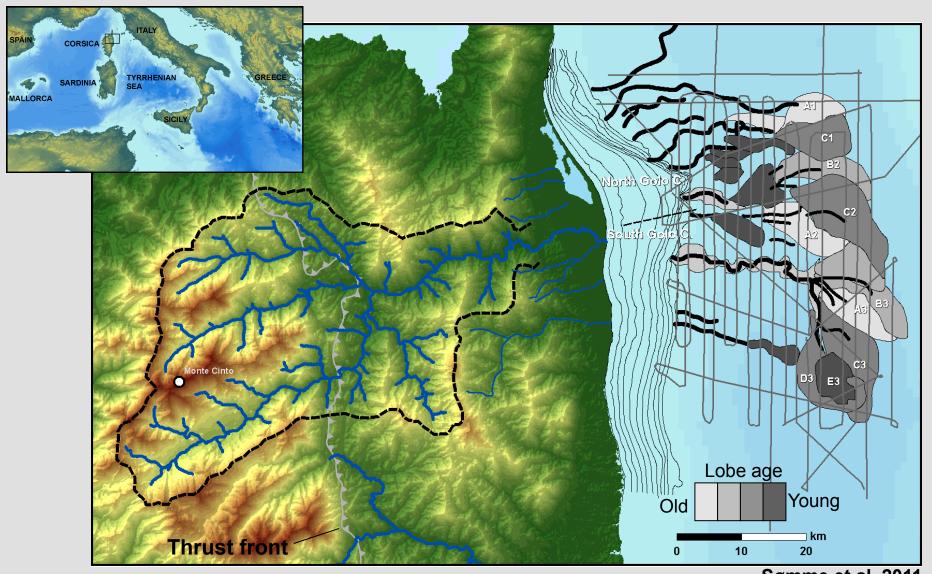
Late Cretaceous Møre systems

- -10⁶ year resolution
- -Only basin floor and lower slope preserved
- -Paleo-drainage, sediment routing, stratigraphy





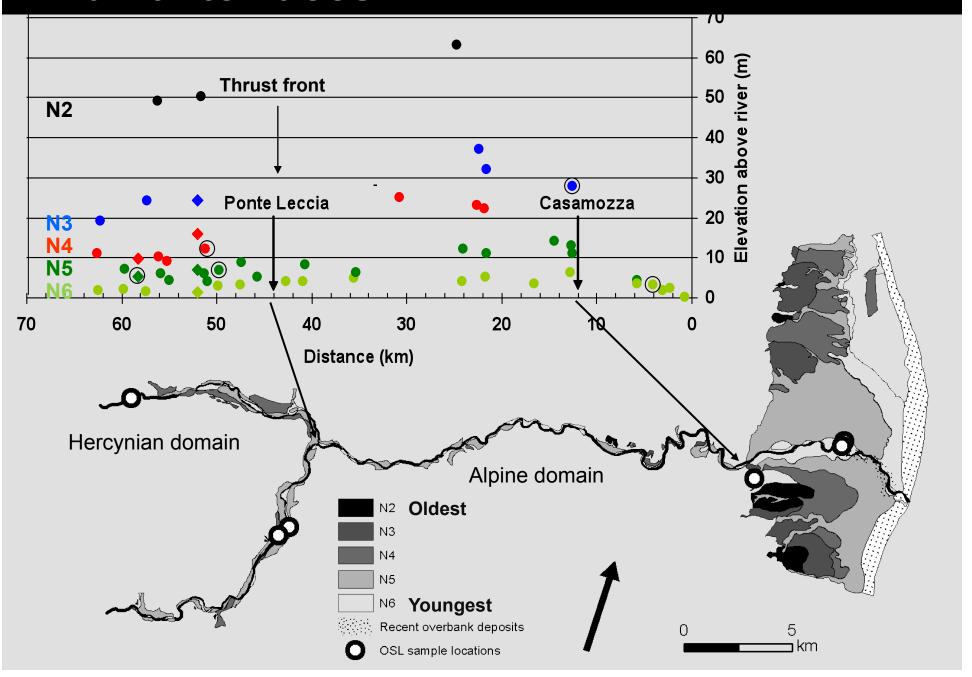
Golo stratigraphy - short time scale



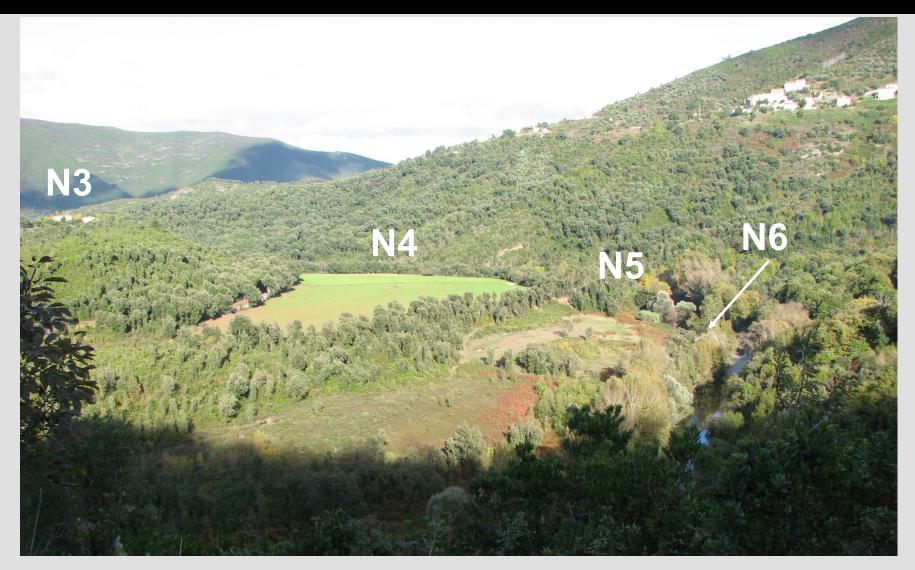
Sømme et al. 2011

When is sediment being deposited within the different segments?

Alluvial terraces

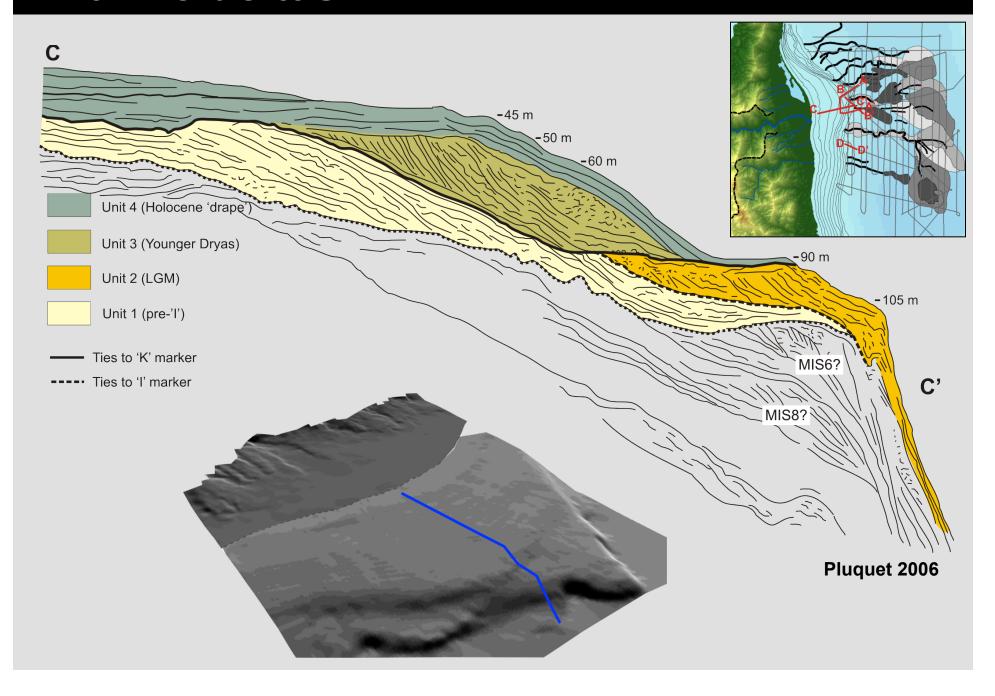


Alluvial terraces

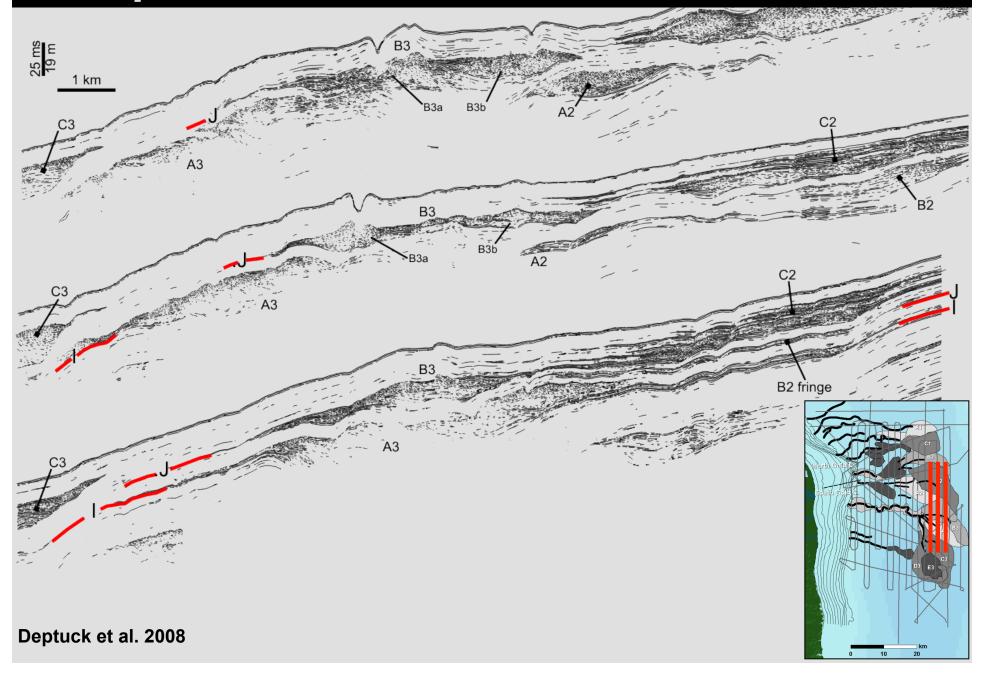


- Bedrock straths with alluvial cover
- Time equivalent with mass wasting from hill slopes

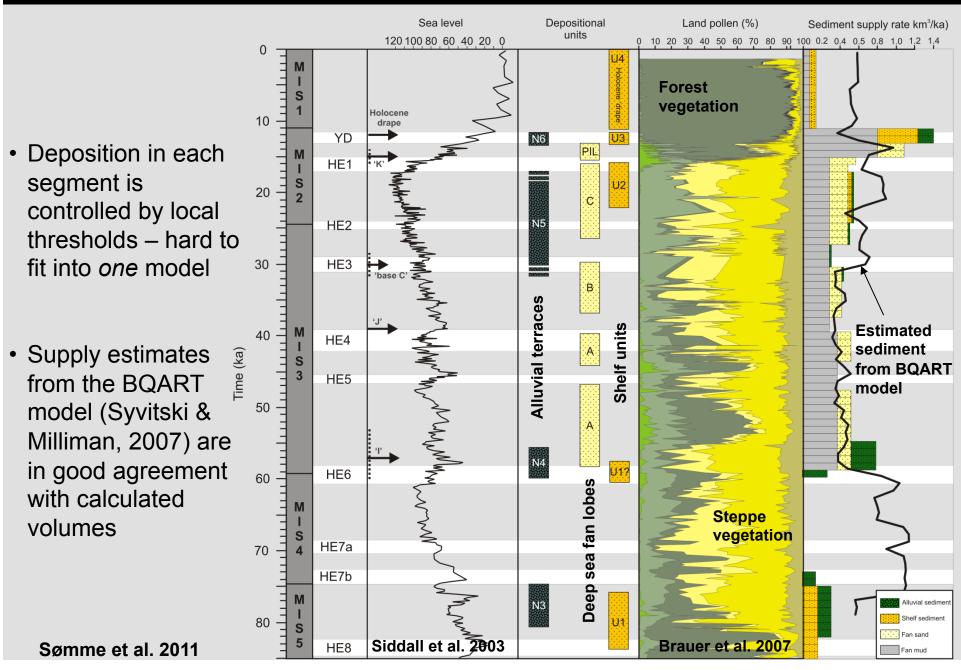
Marine deltas



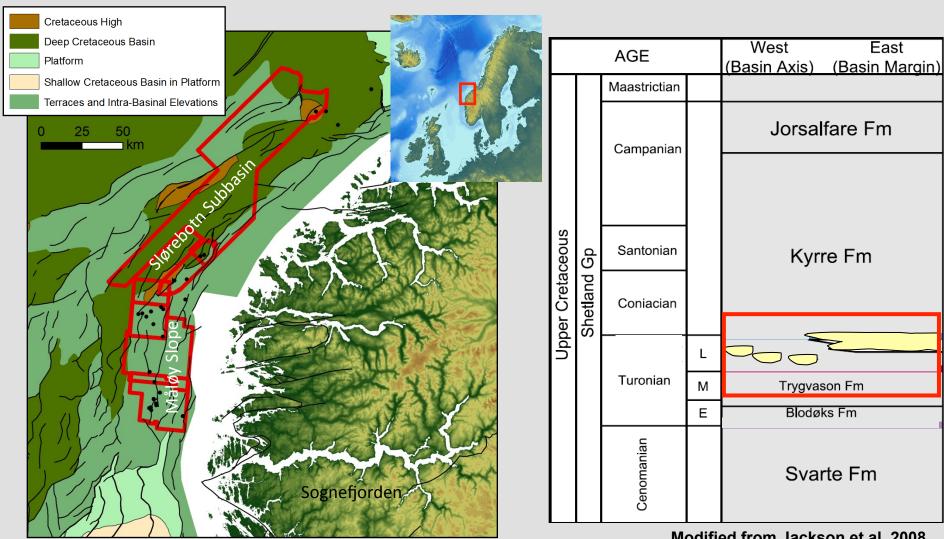
Deep-marine fans



Stratigraphic link between segments



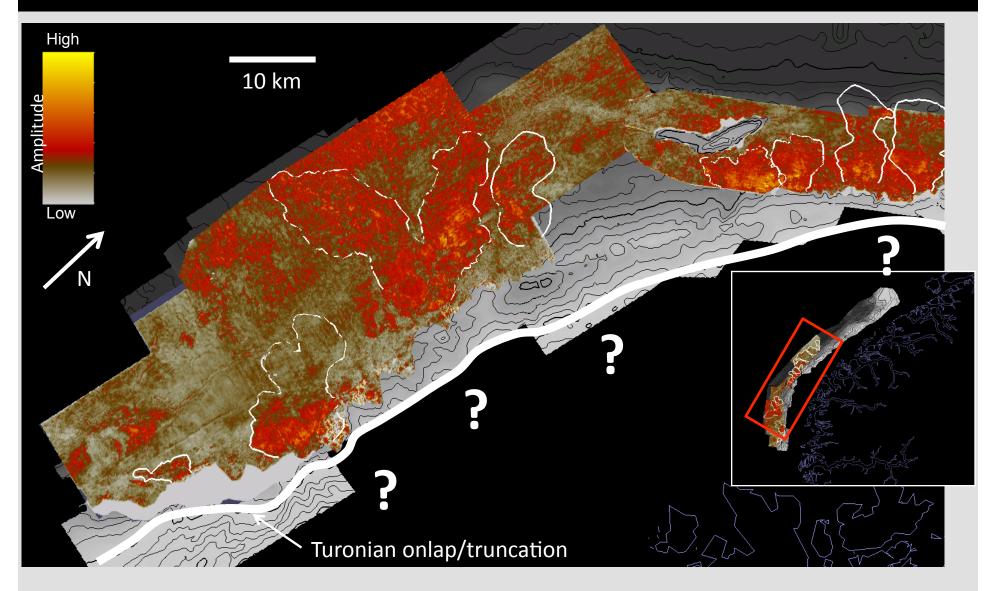
Møre stratigraphy - long time scale



Modified from Jackson et al. 2008

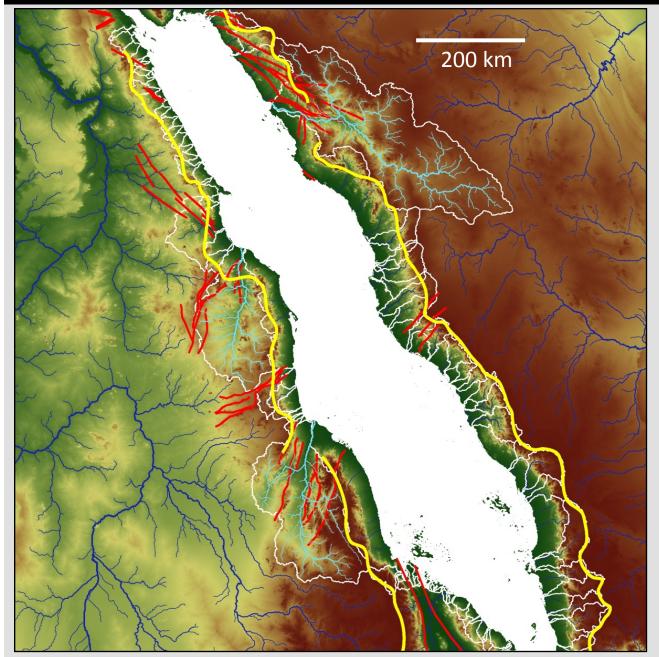
- Late Cretaceous (Turonian), Northern North Sea
- Same scale as the Quaternary Golo system

Turonian fans



- A total of 12 fan complexes have been mapped (12-298 km²)
- Fan spacing: 6-28 km

Generations of structures and topography

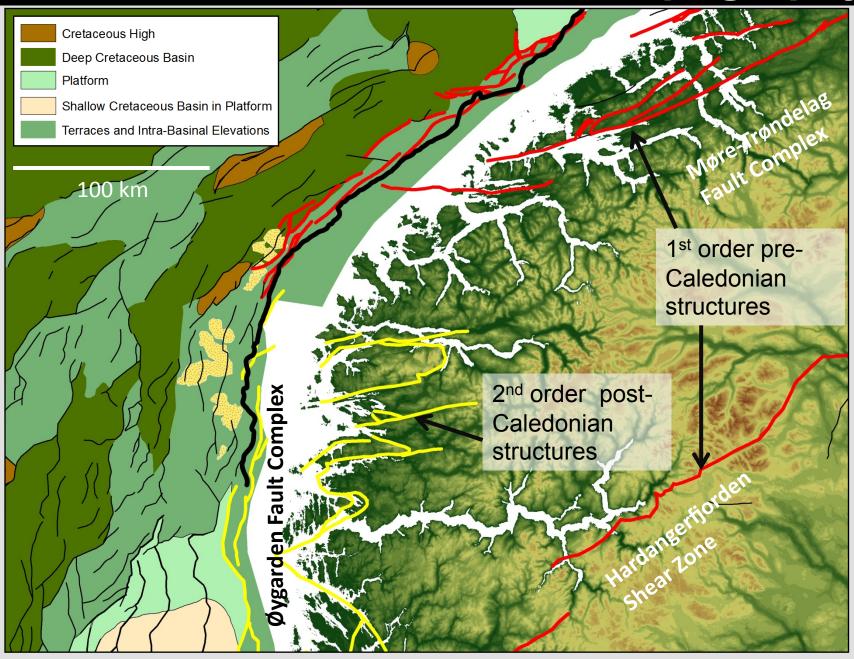


1st order: landscape and drainage controlled by "old" fault- and suture zones - regional

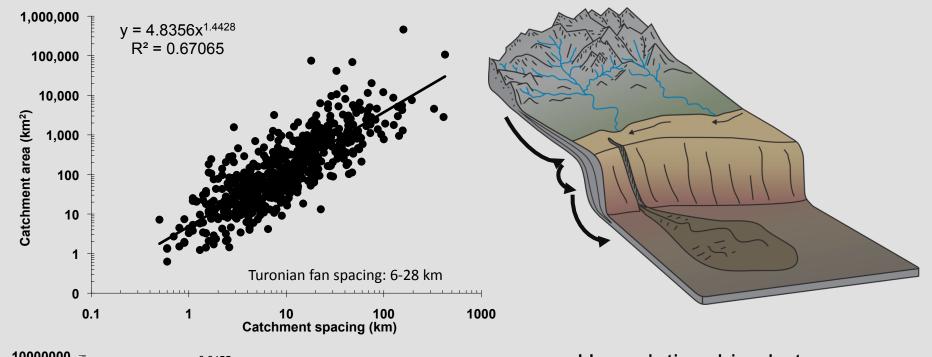
2nd order: landscape and drainage controlled by long-lived, semi-regional structures

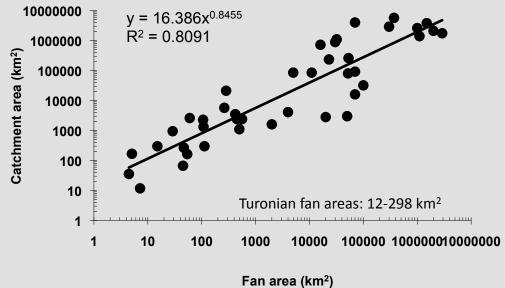
3rd order: landscape and drainage controlled by relatively short-lived, local structures

Generations of structures and topography



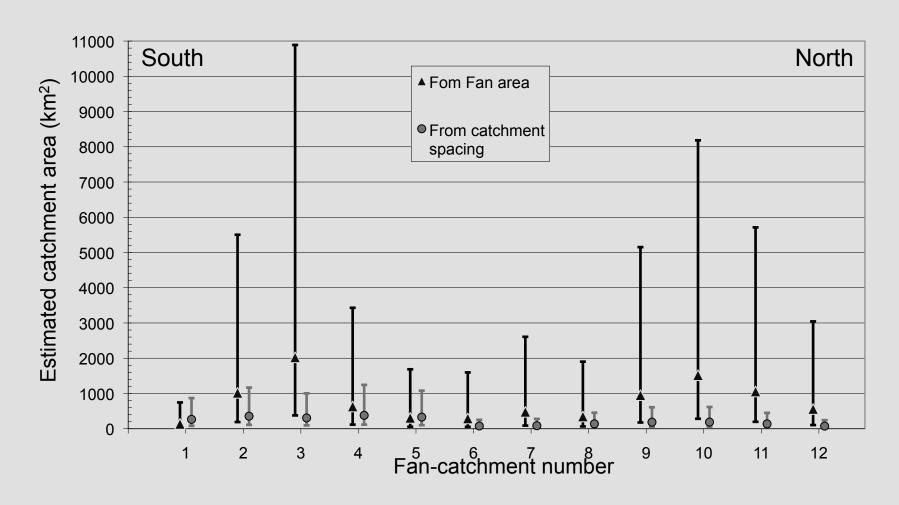
Constraining paleo drainage





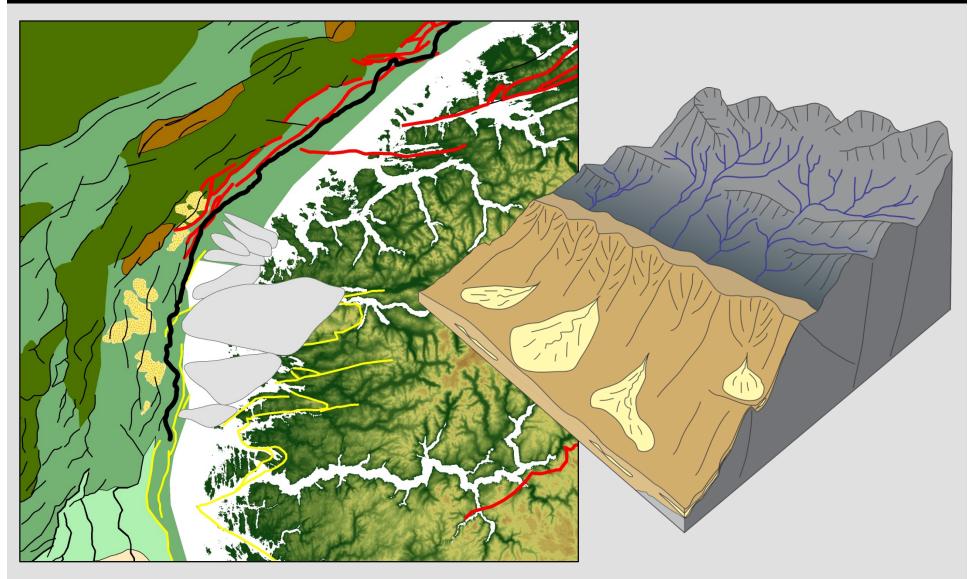
- Use relationships between catchment area, outlet spacing and extent of fan complexes from modern systems to constrain paleocatchments
- Suggest paleo source areas of ~100 – 2000 km²

Constraining paleo drainage



- Independent estimates of paleo catchments suggest ~100 to ~2000 km²
- Estimates overlap within the uncertainties of one standard deviation

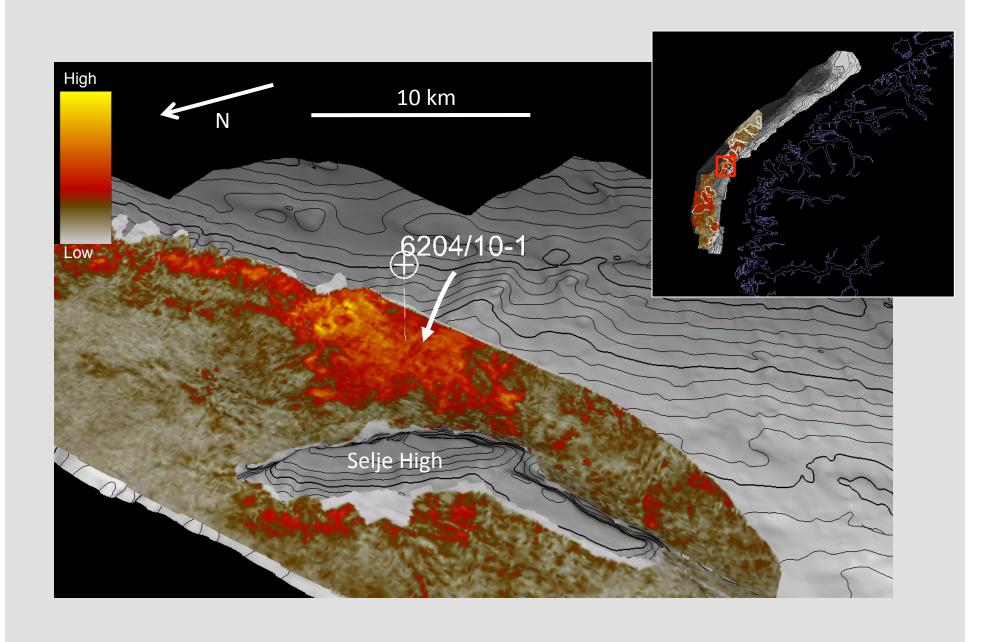
Depositional model



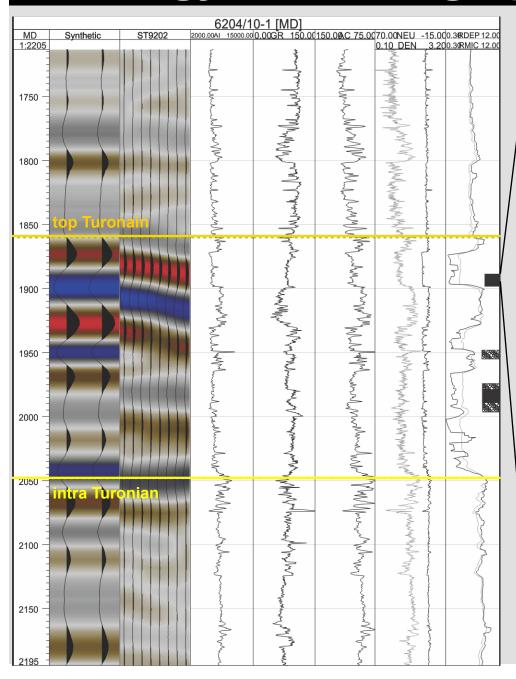
- Source constrained to local fault blocks
- Short transport routes

- Coarse and immature sediments
- Little internal filtering/buffering

Fans architecture

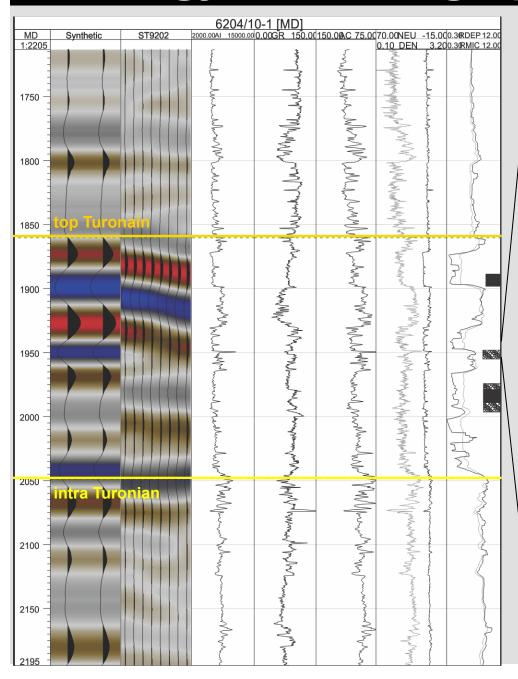


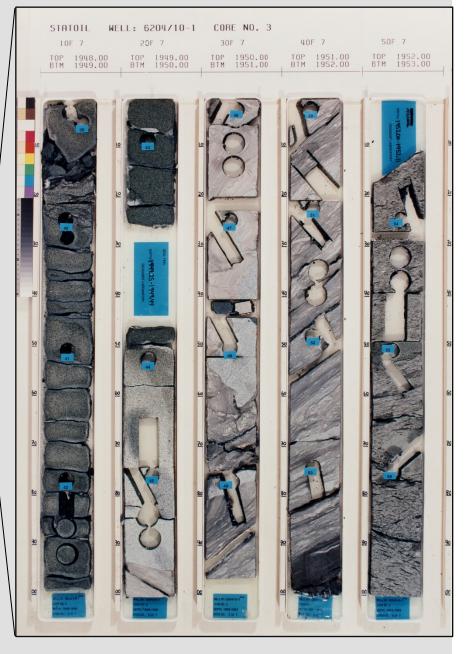
Lithology and stratigraphy



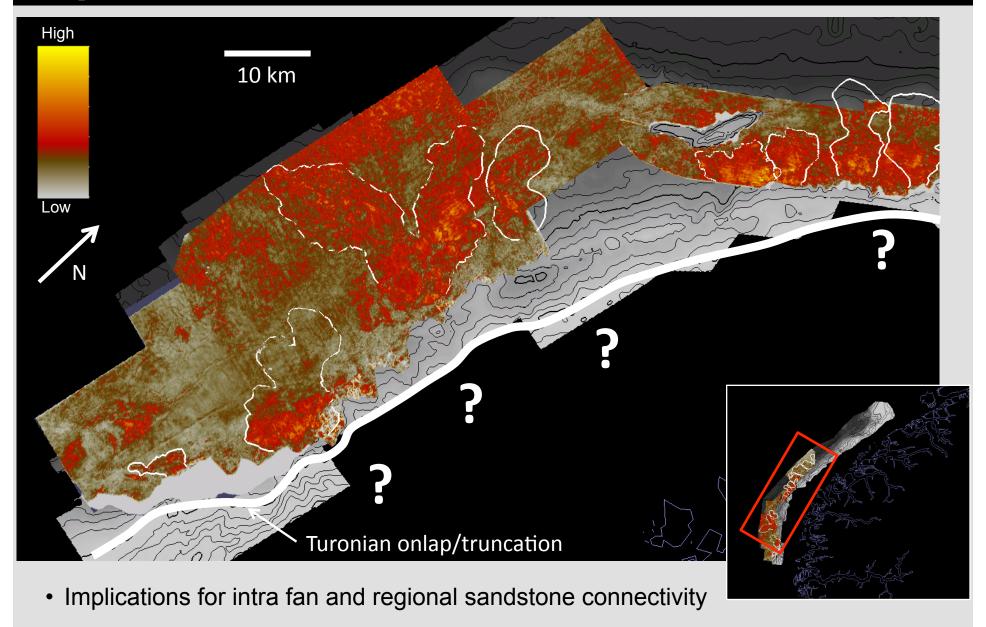


Lithology and stratigraphy





Implications for reservoirs



• Implications for lithology and reservoir quality

Summary and conclusions

- The ultimate goal is a predictive tool that can constrain morphology and stratigraphy in ancient subsurface systems
- Model is populated with empirical data from modern systems
- Requires simplicity
- The Quaternary Golo system suggests that sediment storage in segments is linked to local thresholds
- We can estimate the morphological and sedimentological characteristics of the Late Cretaceous Møre systems based on modern data

