

Modelling Genesis of Intracratonic Chains Related to Tectonics Inheritance: Case Study from Gafsa Basin (Southern Central Tunisia)

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Abstract

Tectonic inheritance is a concept proved by the importance of tectonic phase's variation during time. It is related to reactivation in compression of old normal faults. In our study we will focus on Gafsa basin that is an example of intracratonic chain. The tectonic data confirm that it is affected by several tectonics phases; they began with Triassic distension continuing to Cretaceous and followed by resumption in compression according to NW-SE direction during alpine phase. Structural reliefs observed in Gafsa Basin are interpreted according to the "fault related fold" theory, by using the model of 'fault propagation fold'. The applications of this model will show a decollement level within the Triassic series. In addition, an important deformation will be identified while approaching to faults. The data elaborate from field confirm the role of these faults in the interpretation of tectonic heritage and development of intracratonic chains in Gafsa Basin.

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