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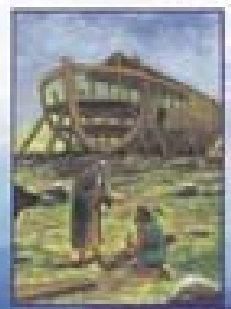
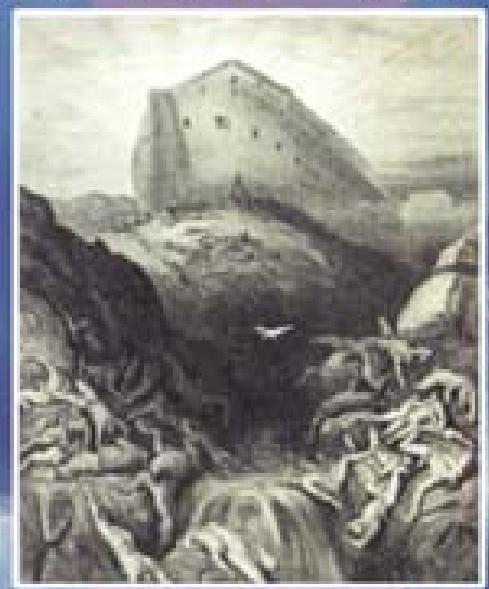


SLAVOSLOVI

Petko Dimitrov
Dimitar Dimitrov

THE BLACK SEA THE FLOOD



AND THE ANCIENT MYTHS

The Black Sea, the Flood and the Ancient Myths

Chapter 1

The Black Sea – what do we know about it?

Mediterranean region

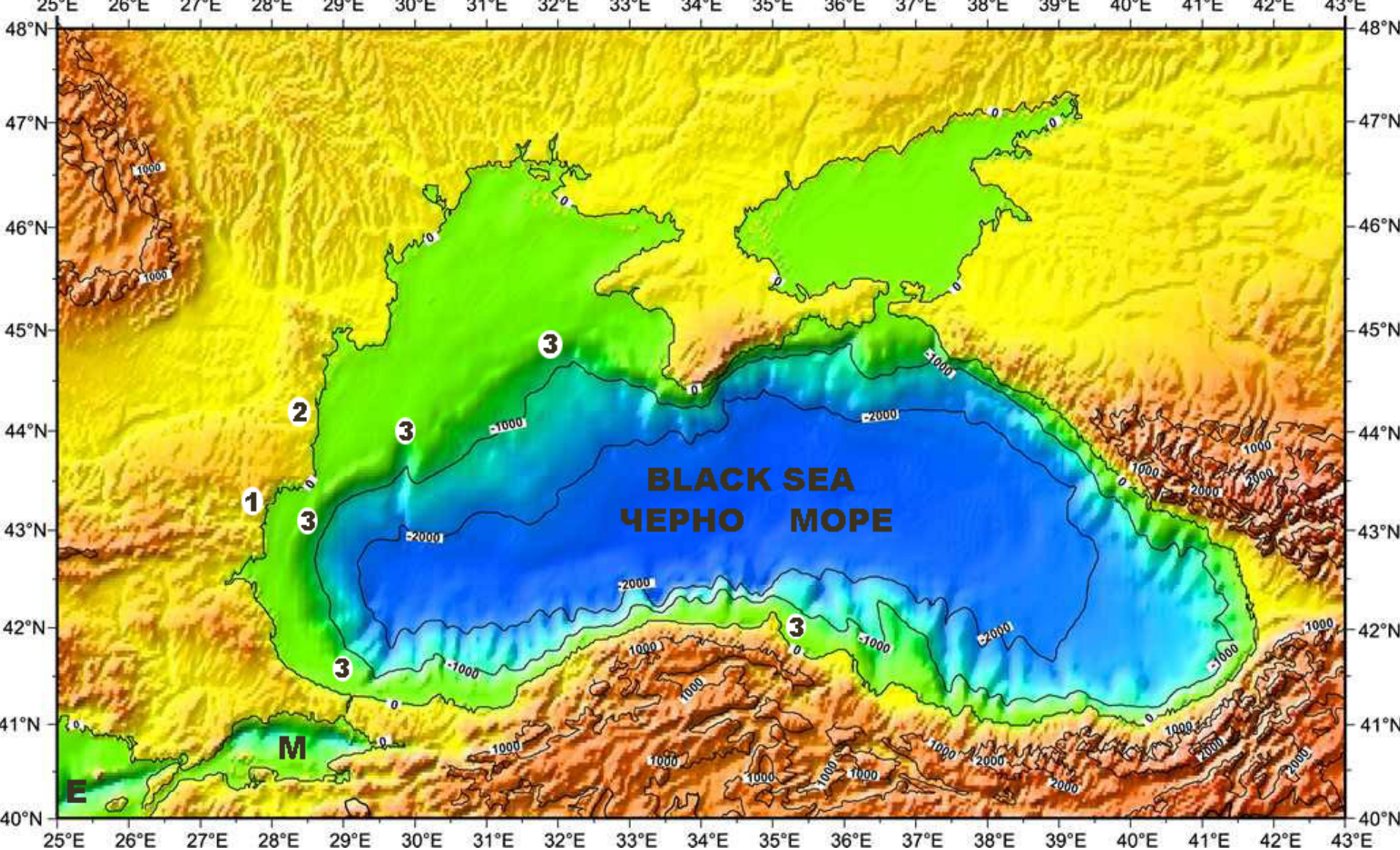


Fig.1. Eastern Mediterranean region

1.The Varna necropolis

2.Durankulak necropolis

3.Possible Neolith settlements in the region of the old shorelines

M – The Marmara Sea

E – The Aegean Sea

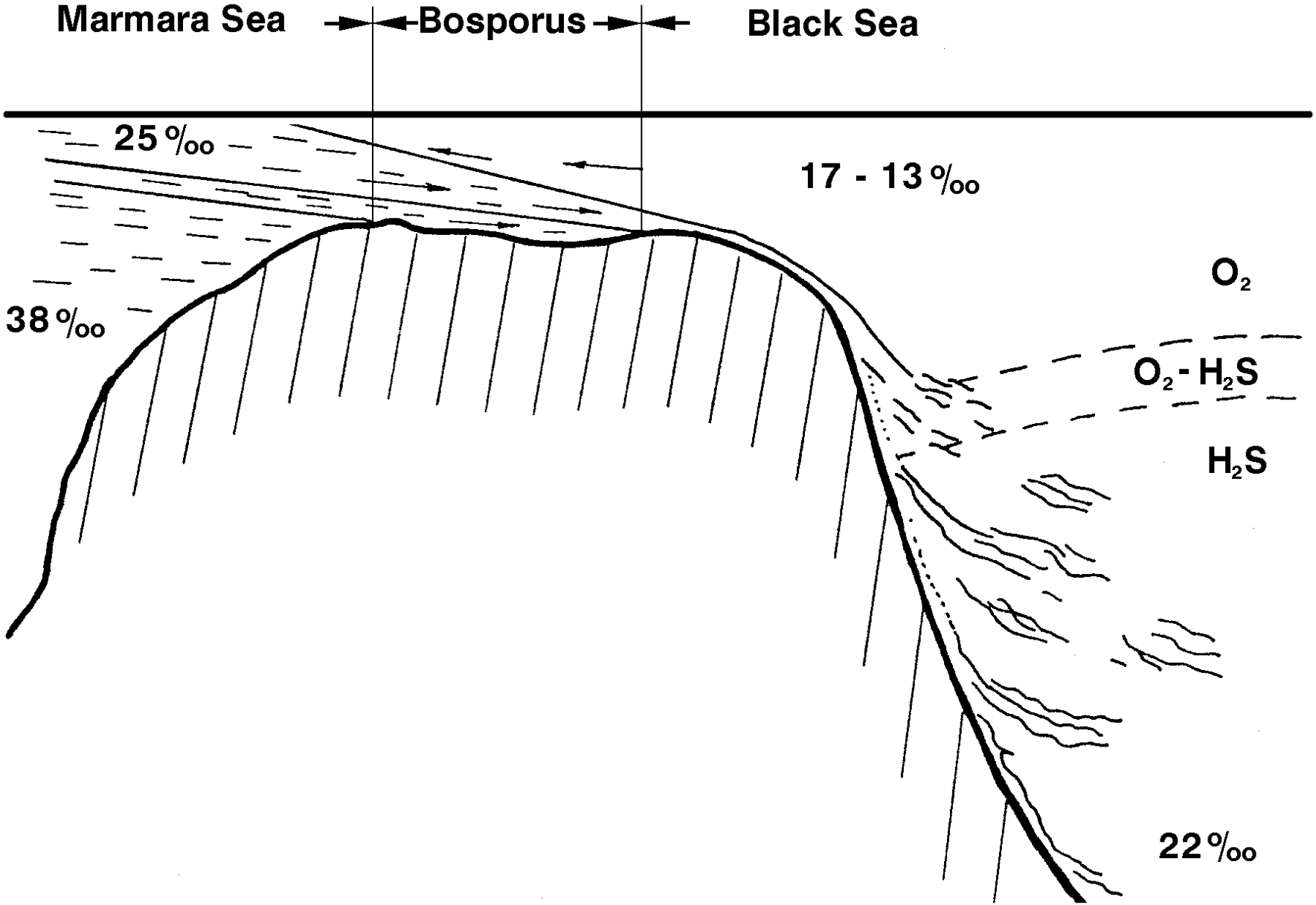


Fig. 2. A principle schema of the water exchange between the Black Sea and the Marmara Sea

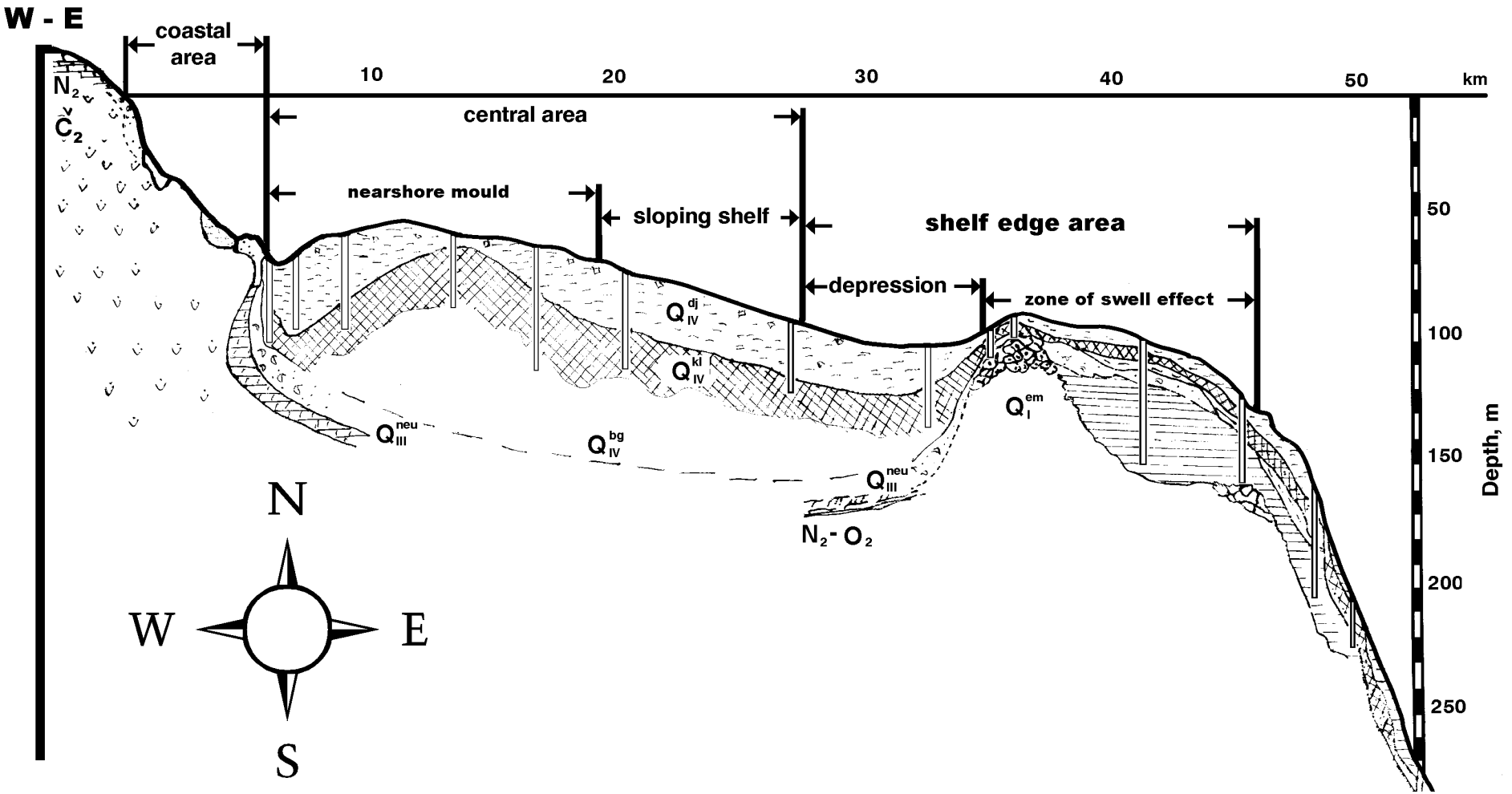


Fig. 3. Schematic geological cross section of the shelf and the major elements of the relief

Q_1 -Q_{IV} – quaternary deposits

N_2 – Pliocene

C_2 – Upper Cretaceous volcanogenic-sediment rocks

Fig.4. The Danube Canyon

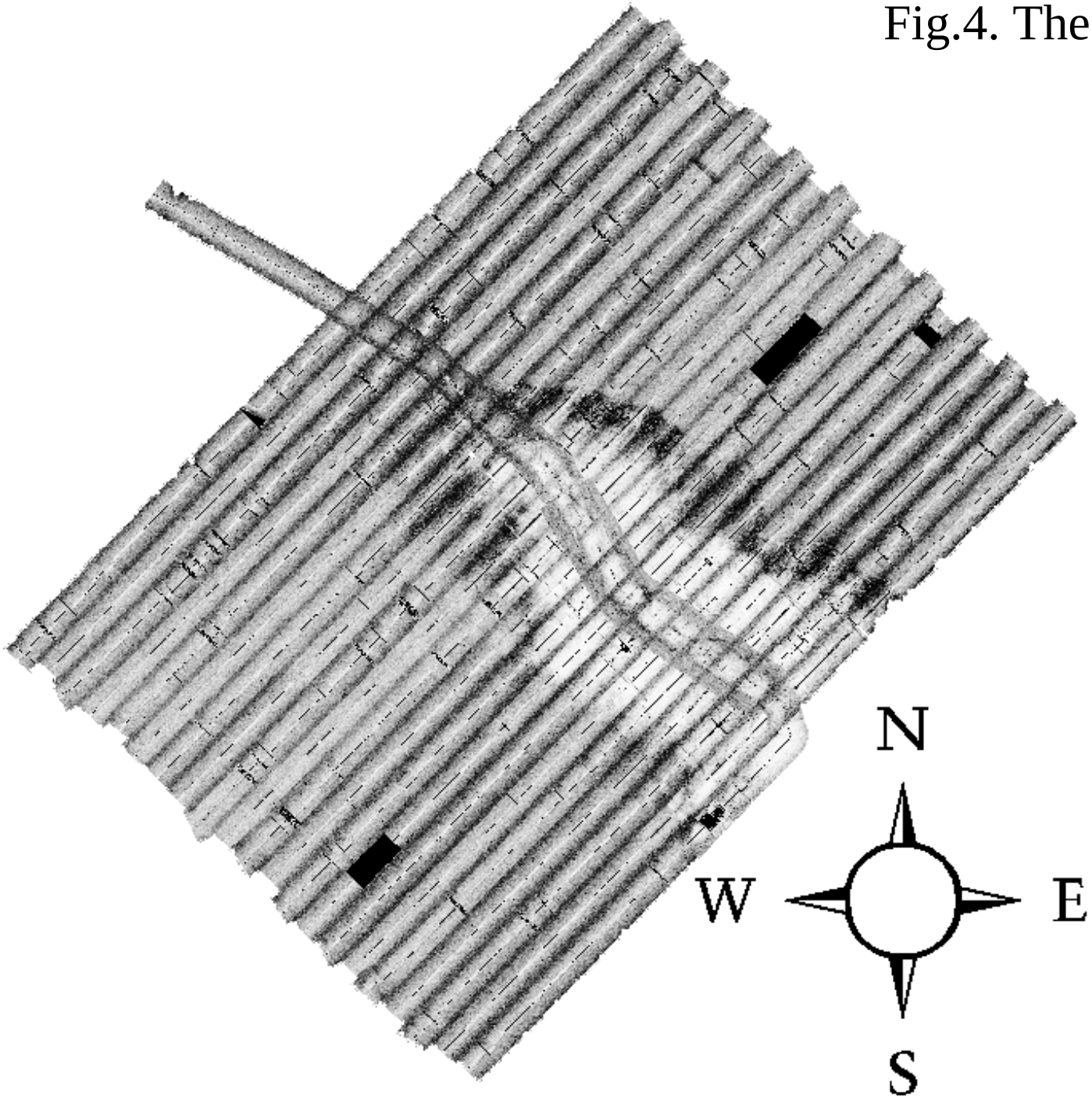


Fig.5. Active slidings in the axes of the underwater valleys (underwater picture)

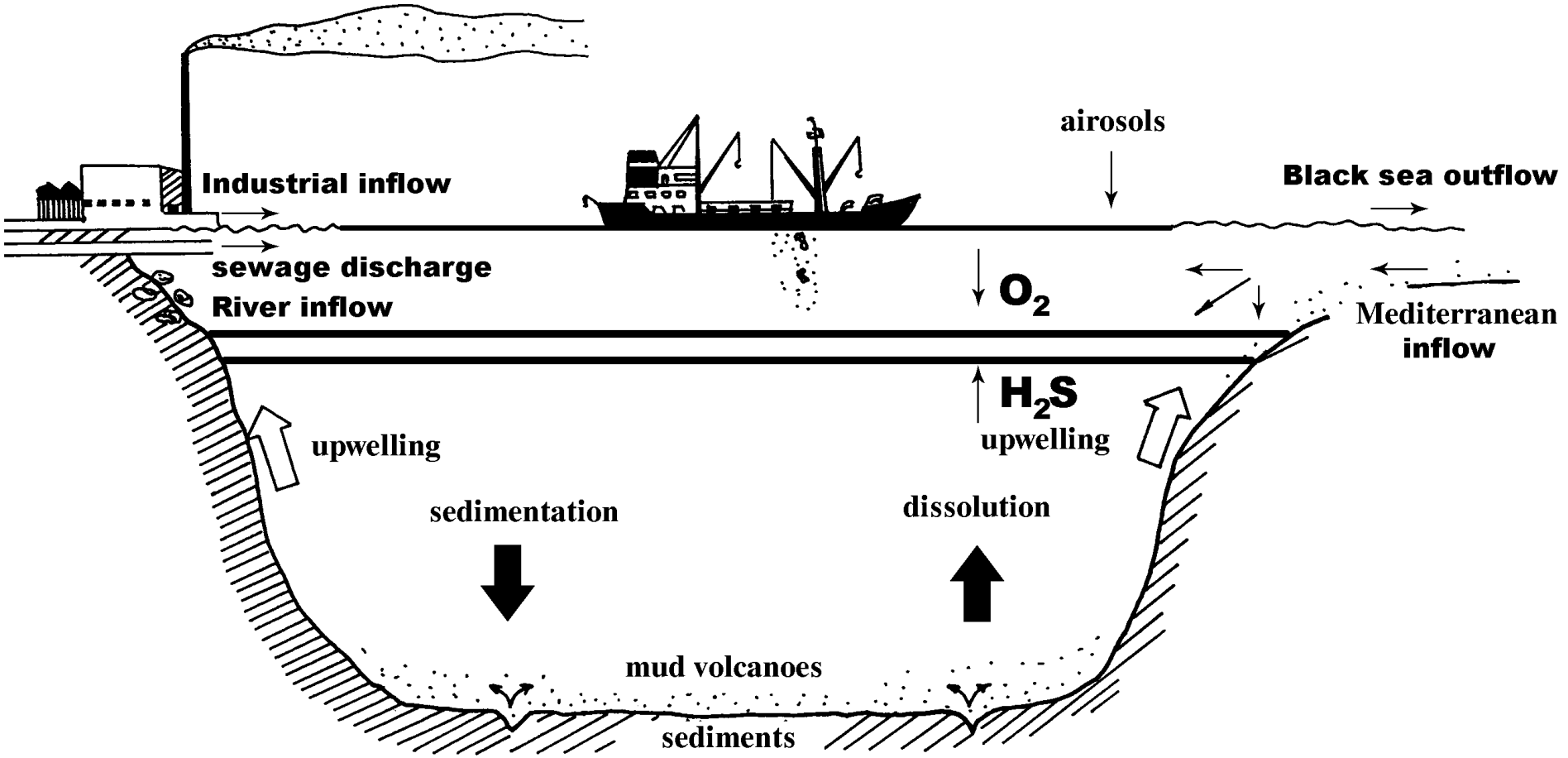


Fig. 6. Natural and anthropogenic factors for the formation of the contemporary Black Sea regime

Chapter 2

Geo-catastrophic events in the Black Sea

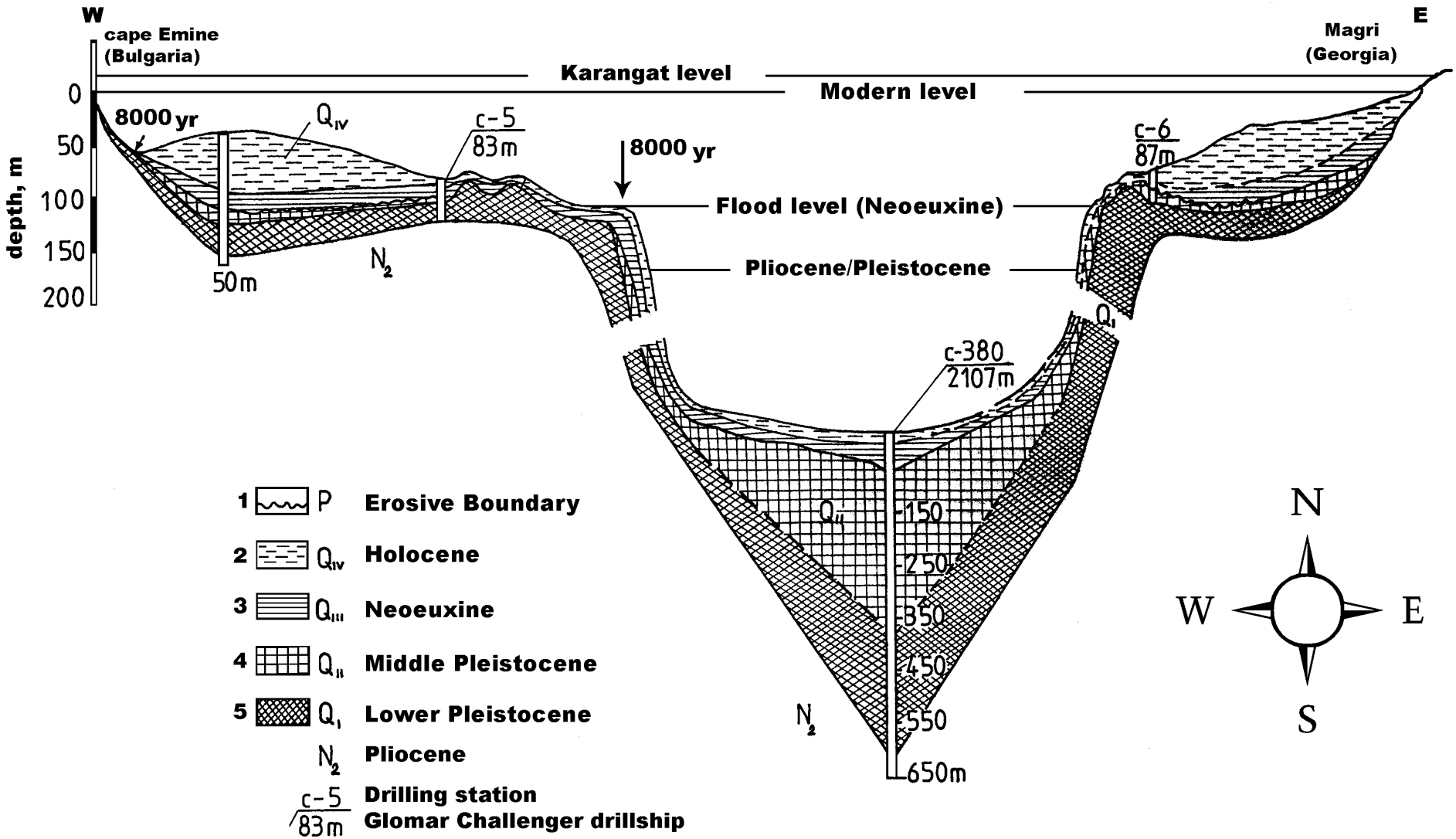
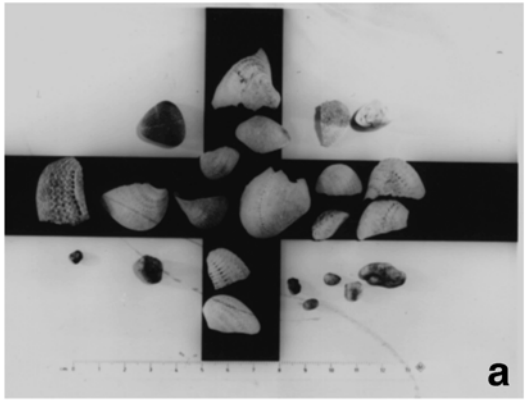
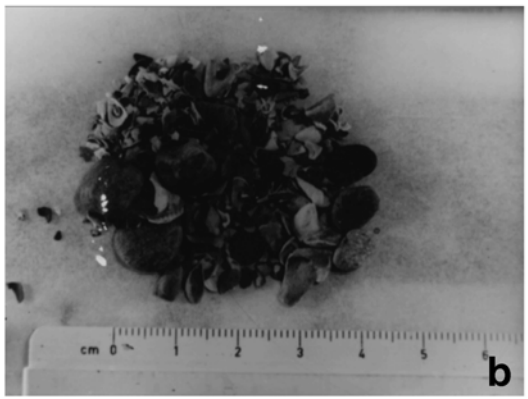
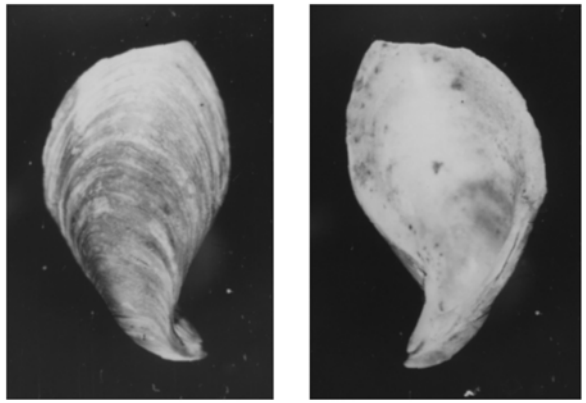


Fig. 7. Schematic geological cross-section and the old shorelines of the Black Sea

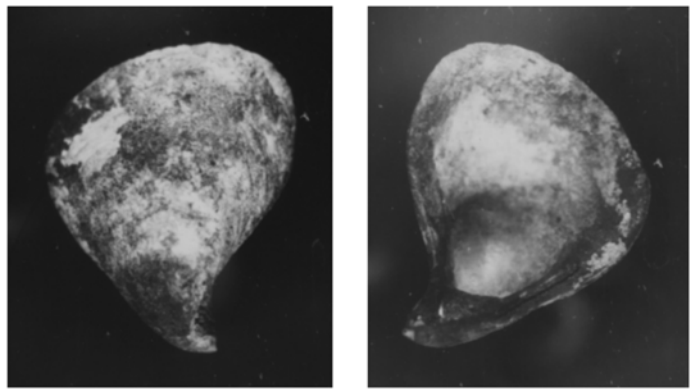




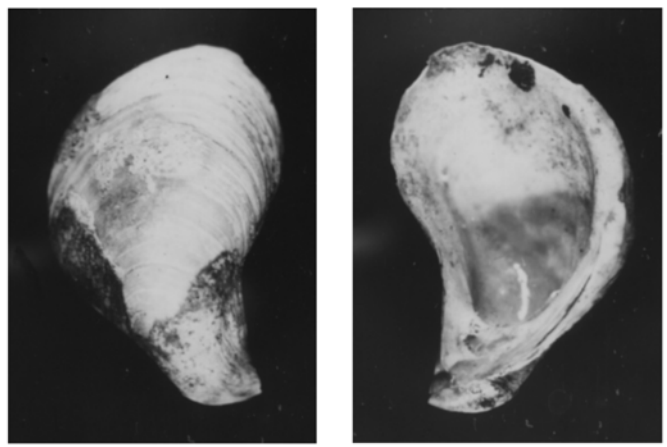
Chaudinian coastal sediments
a - fragments from shells
b - gravel grains with shells
c - gravel grains



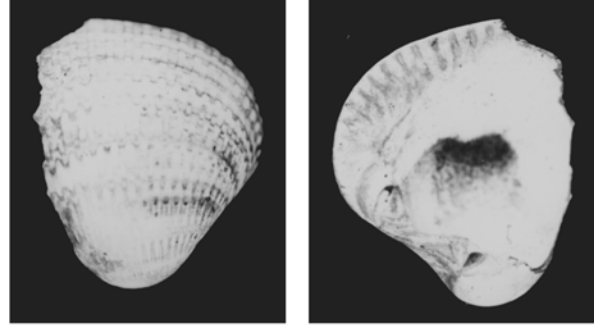
Dreissena rostriformis pontocaspica



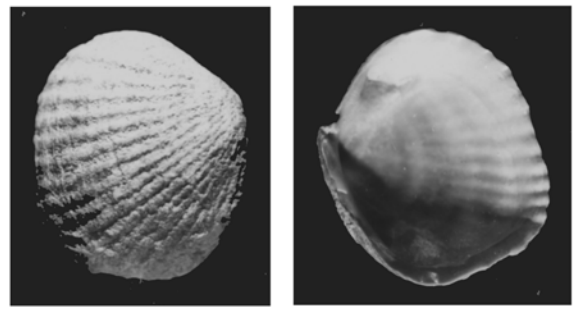
Dreissena rostriformis abchasica



Dreissena rostriformis tschaudae



Didacna olla livent



Didacna tschaudia guriana

Fig. 8. Shore sediments with an Lower Pleistocene age

Fig. 9a. Lower Pleistocene fauna (genus *Dreissena*)

Fig. 9b. Lower Pleistocene fauna (genus *Didacna*)

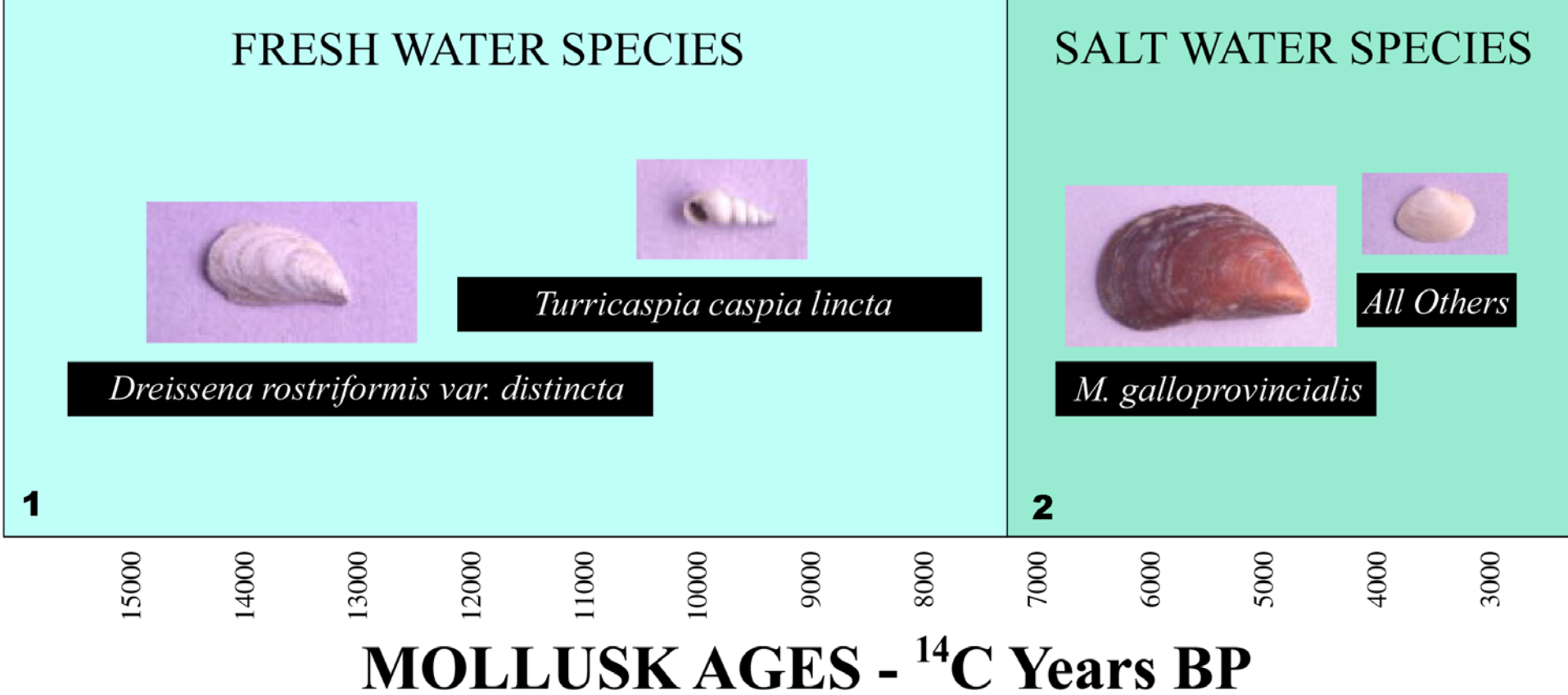


Fig. 9c. Fauna species before –1 and after the Flood -2

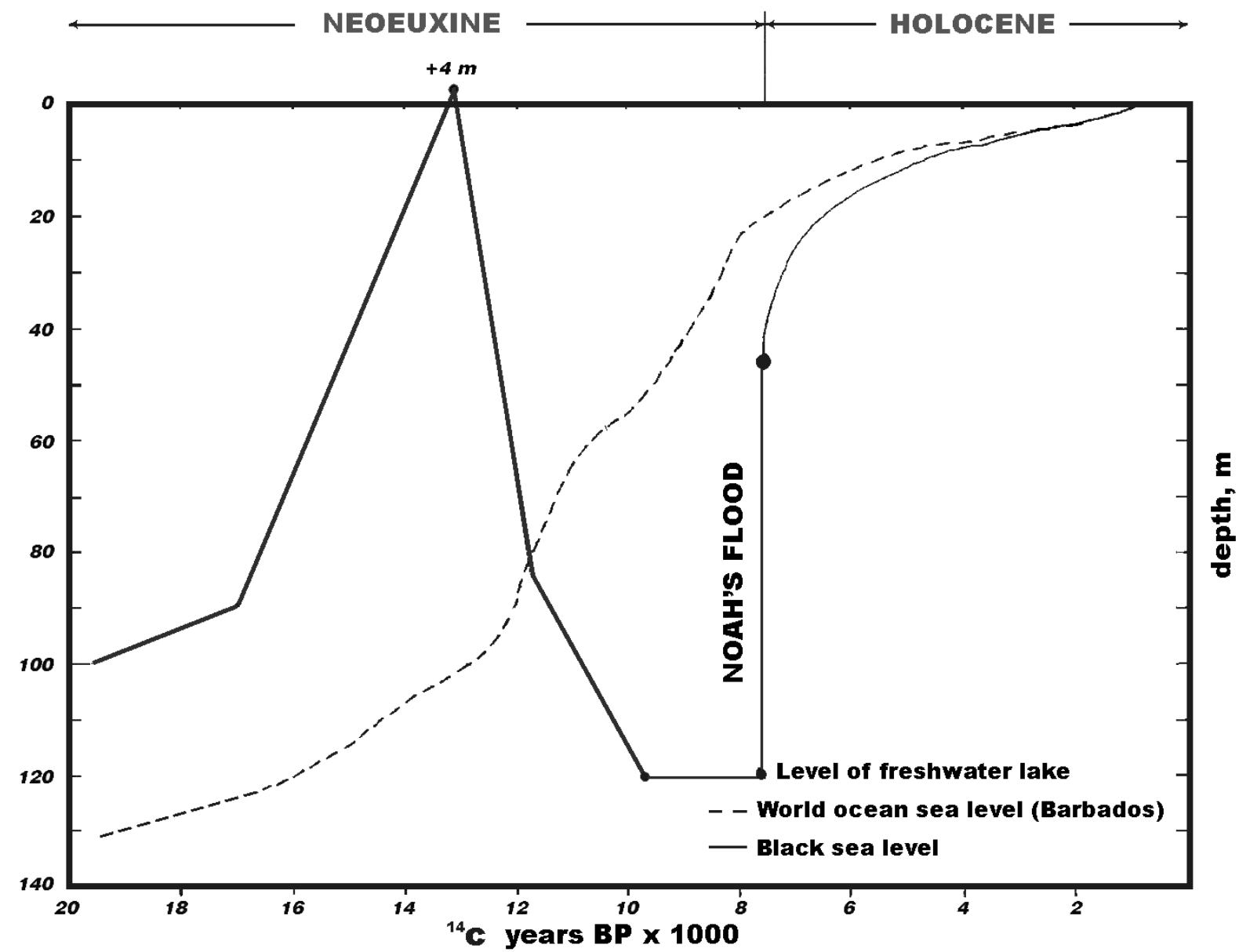


Fig.10. The curve of the changes in the level of the World Ocean and the Black Sea during the last 18,000 years

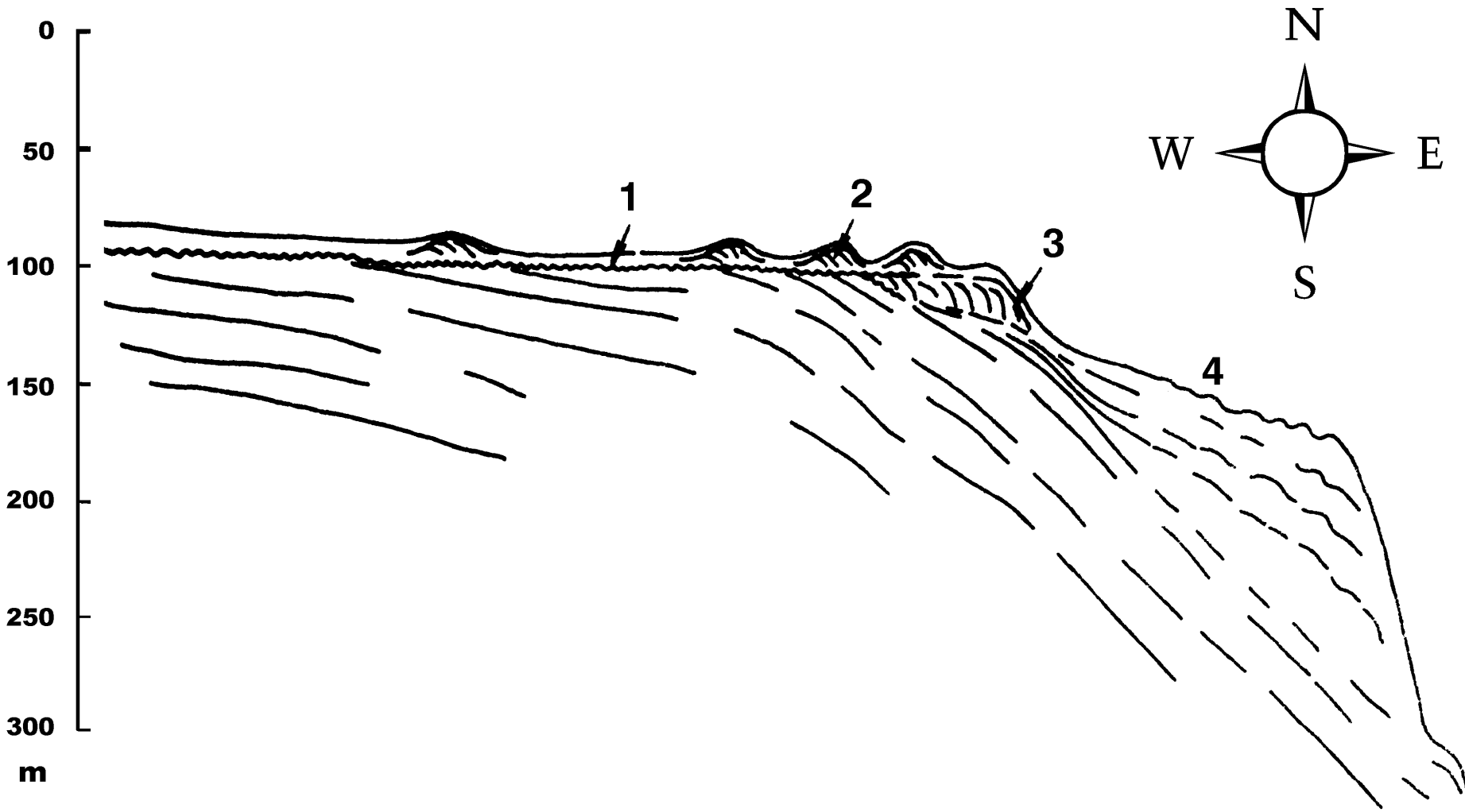


Fig.11a. General schema of the ancient shoreline of the shelf
1 – erosion surface 2 – Neoeuxine bars
3 – Chaudian shore bars 4 – peripheral shelf terrace

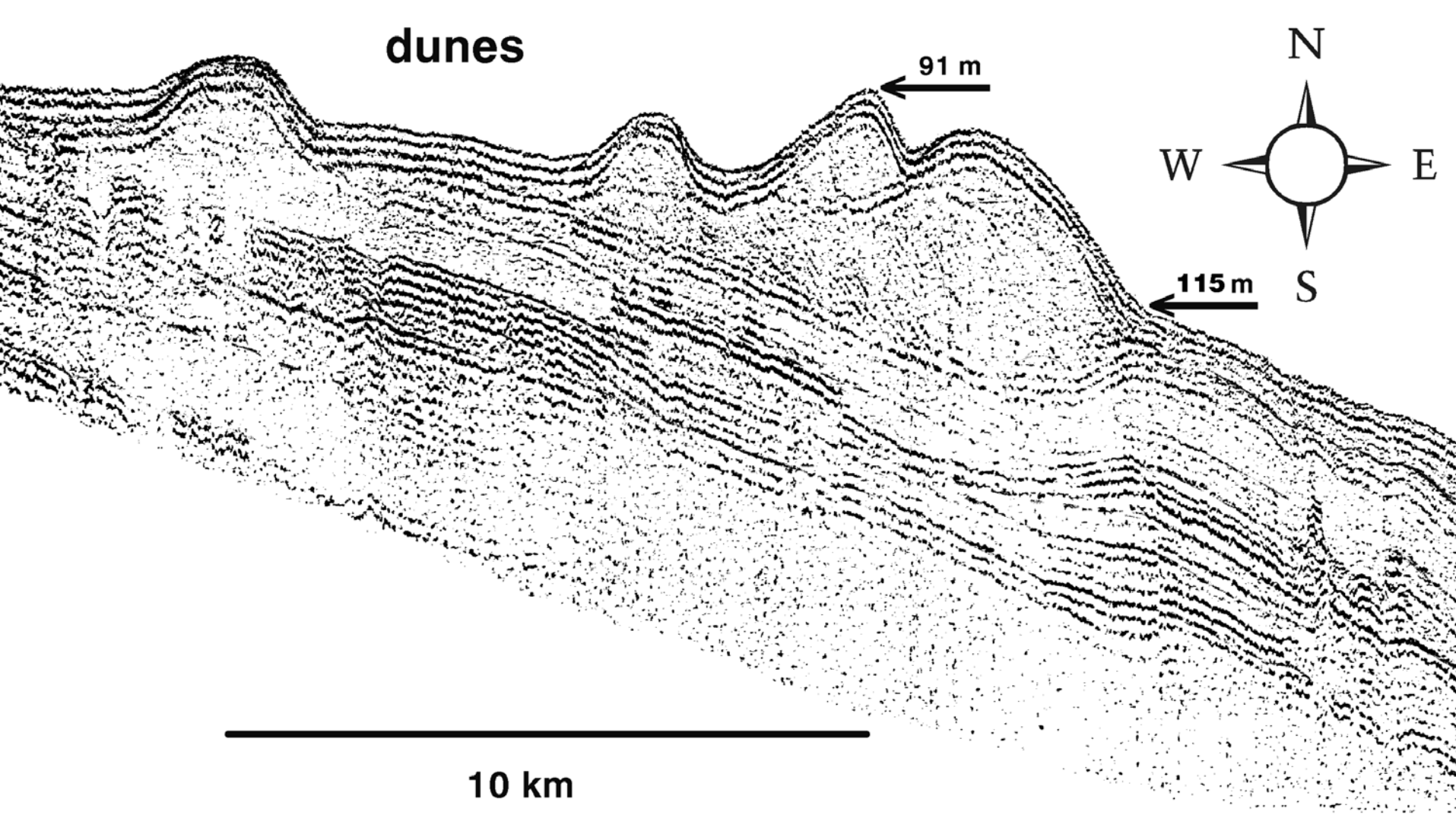


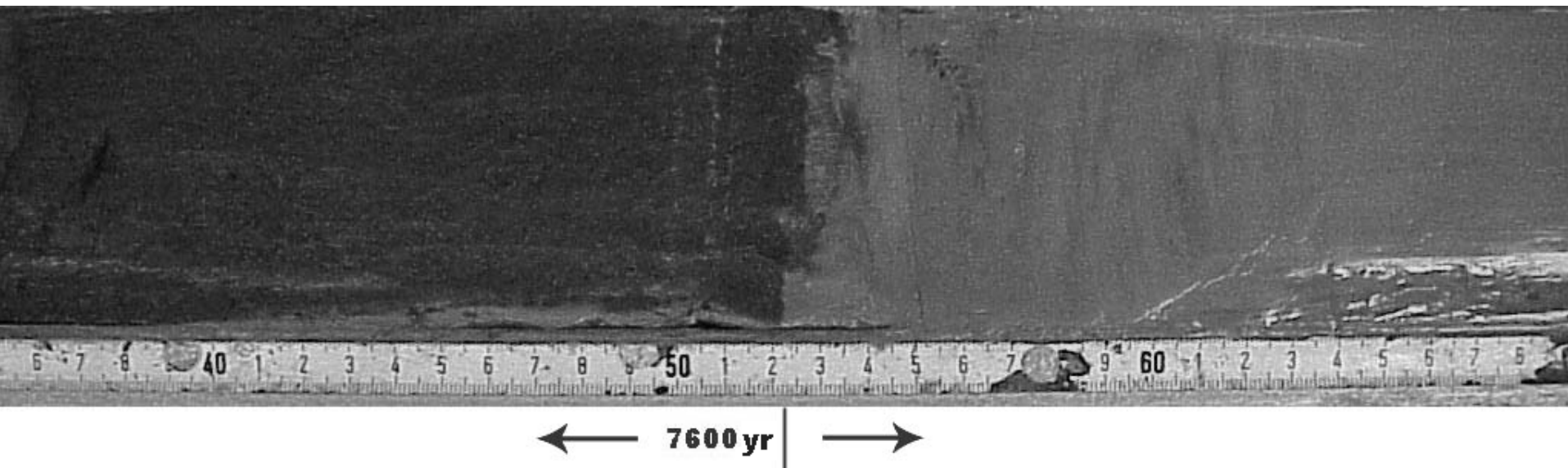
Fig.11b. Fragment of seismic-acoustic record in the region of the old shorelines (profile Emine cape)

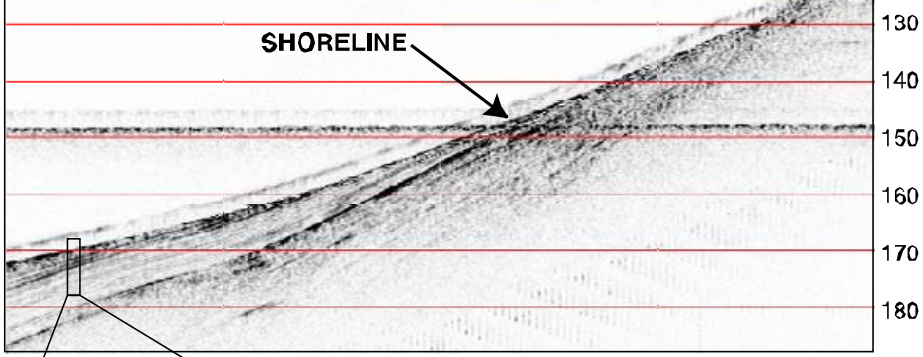
Fig.12a. Description of a geological drill on board of Akademik ship

Fig.12b. Geological pipe flies to the bottom…

Fig.12c. Sapropel cores

Fig.12d. Freshwater – sea sediments boundary (^{14}C – 7 600 years)





Subbottom profile across Romanian shelf/slope showing ancient shoreline unconformity

Core from the Romanian continental slope showing marine clay overlying lacustrine clay

Mytilus galloprovincialis ~6800 year old salt water mollusk

Dreissena rostriformis ~7400 year old fresh water mollusk

Fig. 9d. The contrast boundary of the Flood by mollusk fauna and lithologic features

Core and subbottom profile from the continental slope. The upper shell represents the Mediterranean species that invaded the Black Sea after a catastrophic flooding event that wiped out pre-existing fresh water fauna (lower shell).
Mytilus is found in the more recent marine sediments, whereas Dreissena is found in the lake sediments.

Chapter 3

Hydrogen Sulfide – the Curse of God

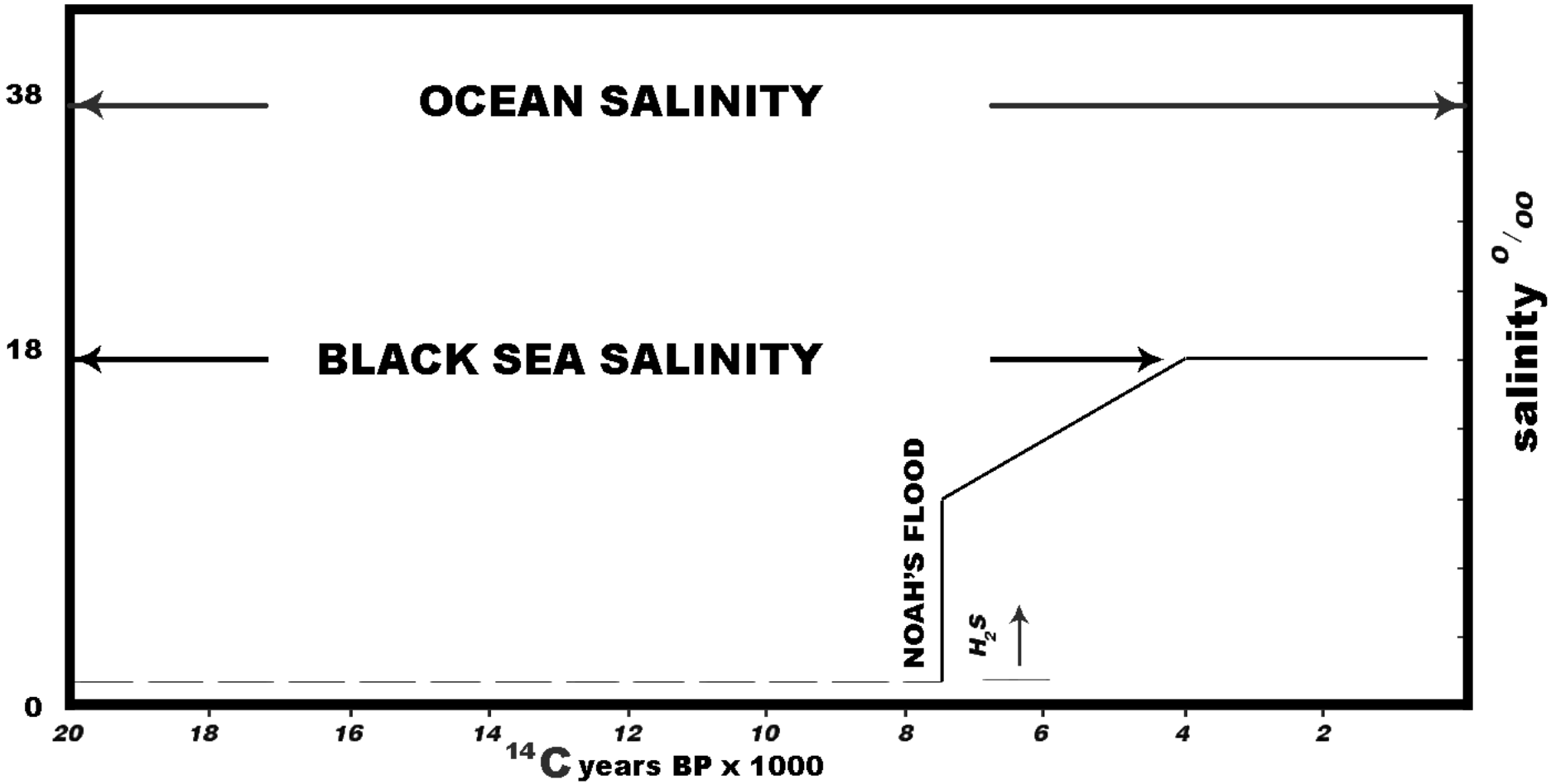


Fig.13. The connection between the catastrophic events (the Flood) and the formation of hydrogen sulfide

Depth, m	H_2S, mg/l
150	0.19
175	0.40
200	0.83
225	1.14
300	2.34
400	4.64
500	5.02
1000	8.48
1500	9.56
2000	9.60

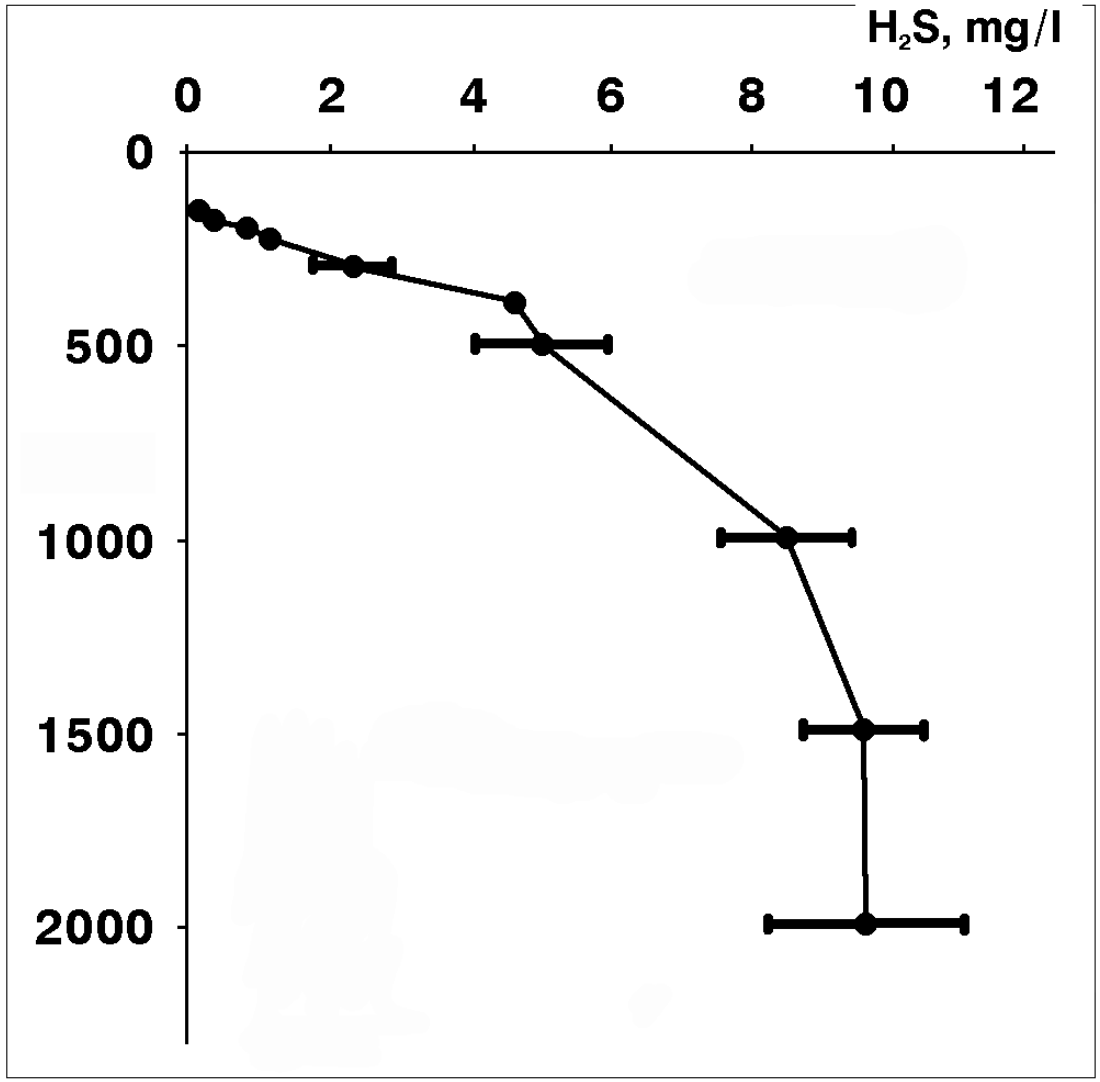


Fig. 23. Average vertical profile of the hydrogen sulfide concentration in the Black Sea *(Eremeev et all, 1999)*

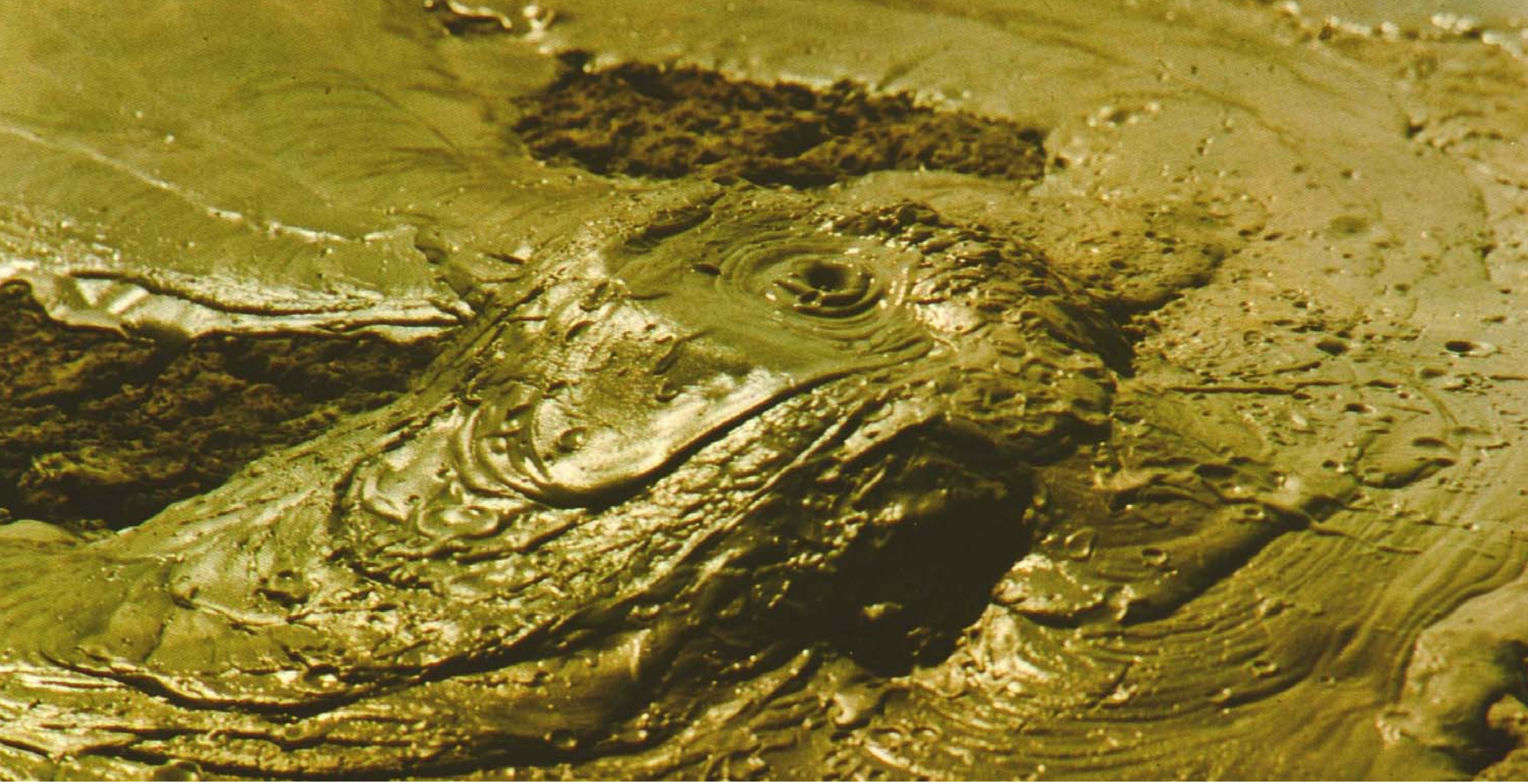
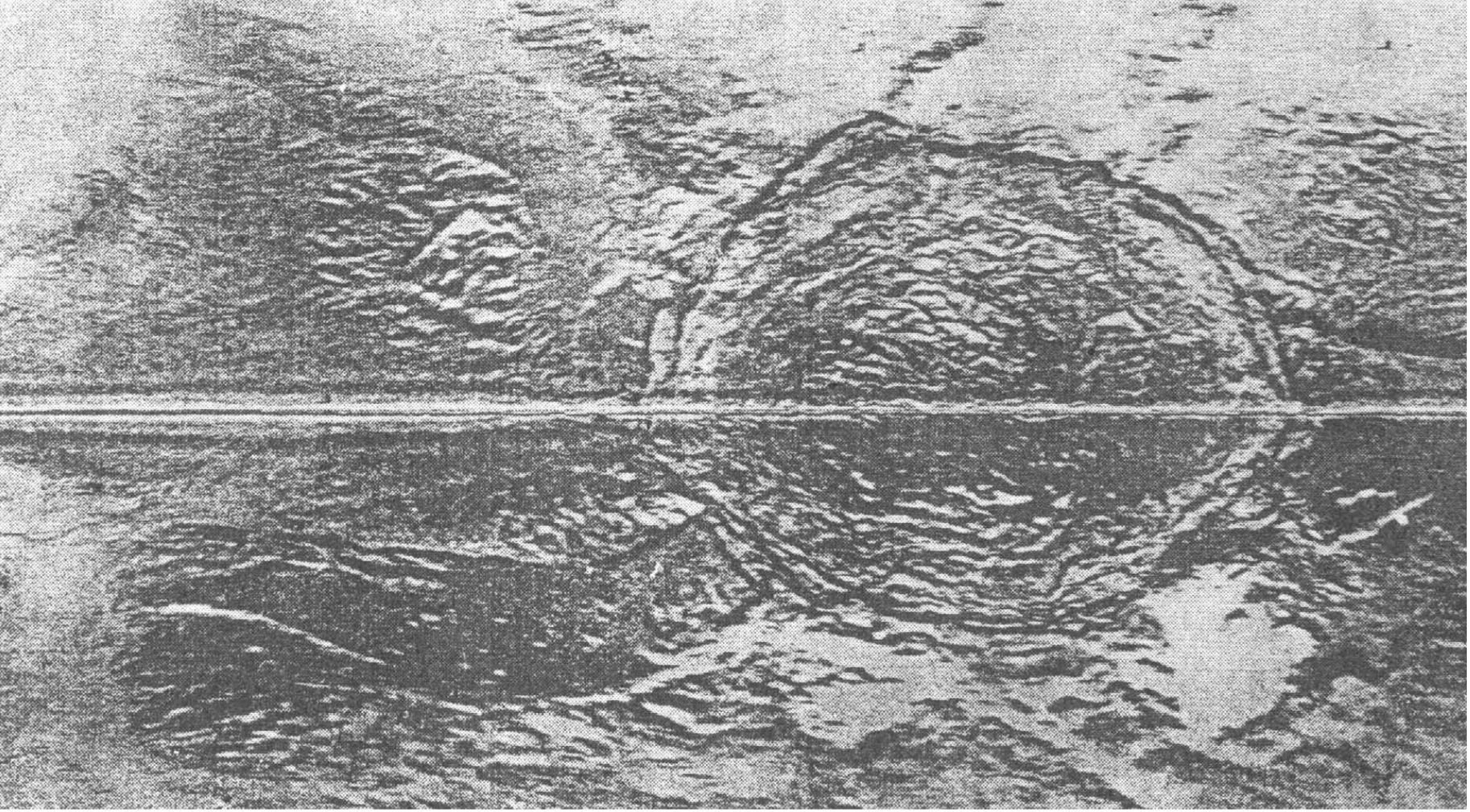


Fig.15a. Mud volcano on the Crimea peninsula



BLACK SEA MUD VOLCANOES

(SIDE SCAN SONAR)

depth 2000m

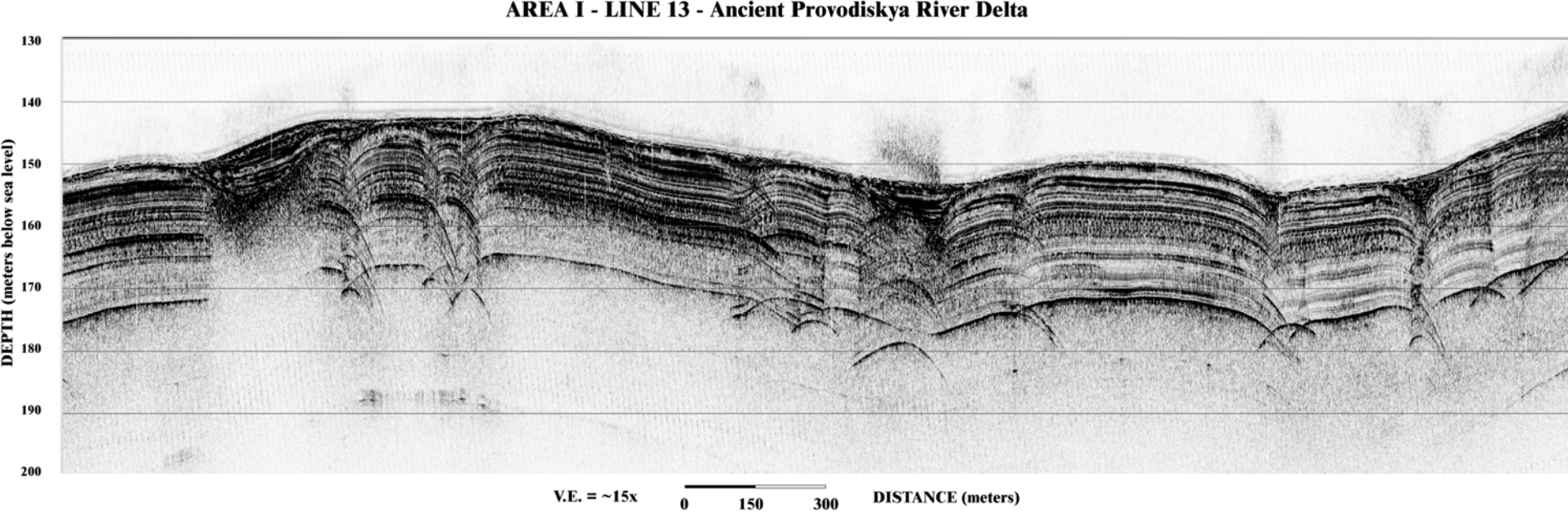


Fig.16. Gas fountains on the Black Sea seafloor (the paleo-valley of the Provadijska River)

Chapter 4

The Black Sea Coast and Shelf – a Center of Flourishing pre-Flood Civilizations

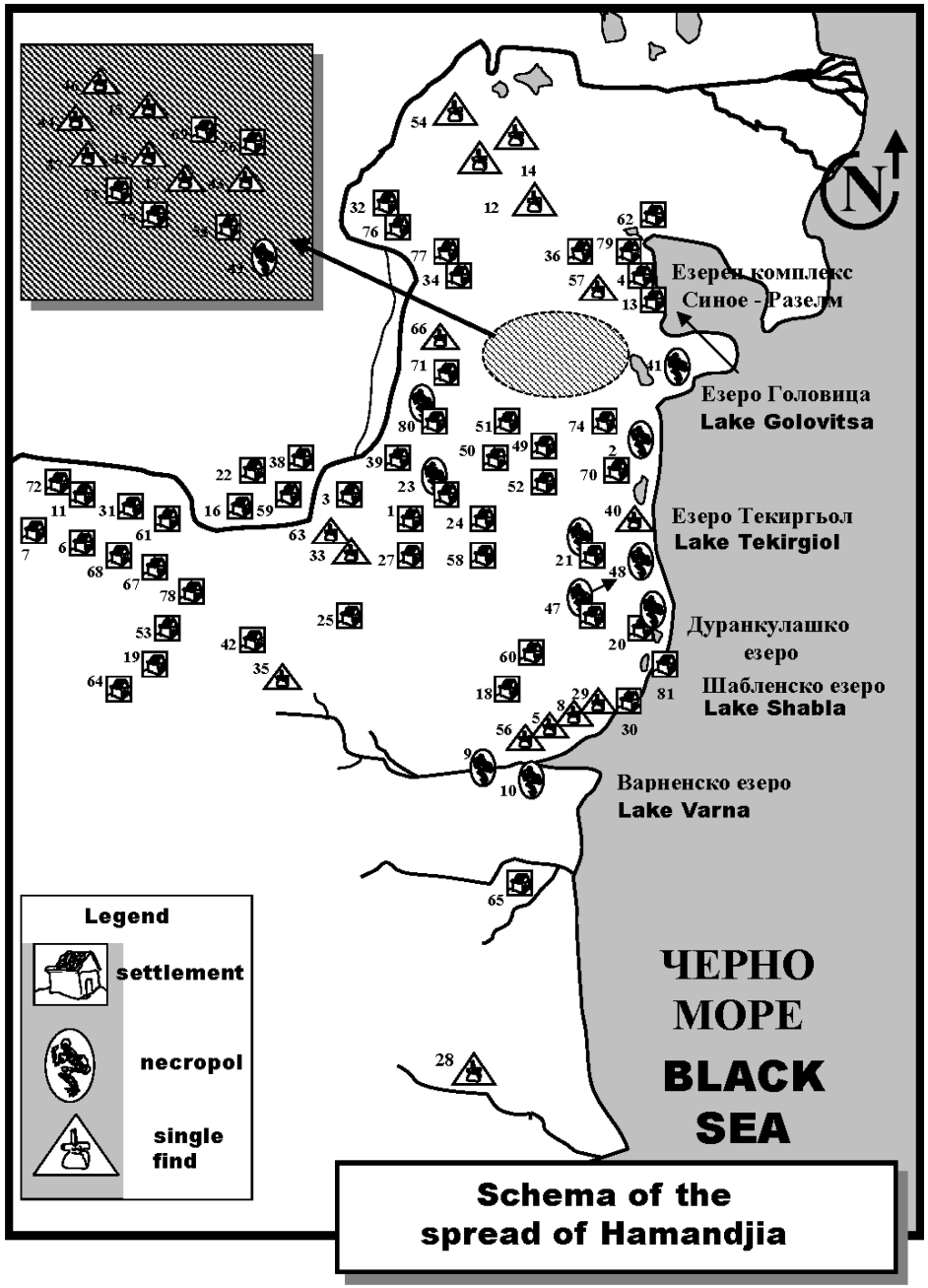


Fig.17. Schema of the spread of Hamandjia culture in Dobroudja (6,000-5,000 BC, T. Dimov et. all, 1992)

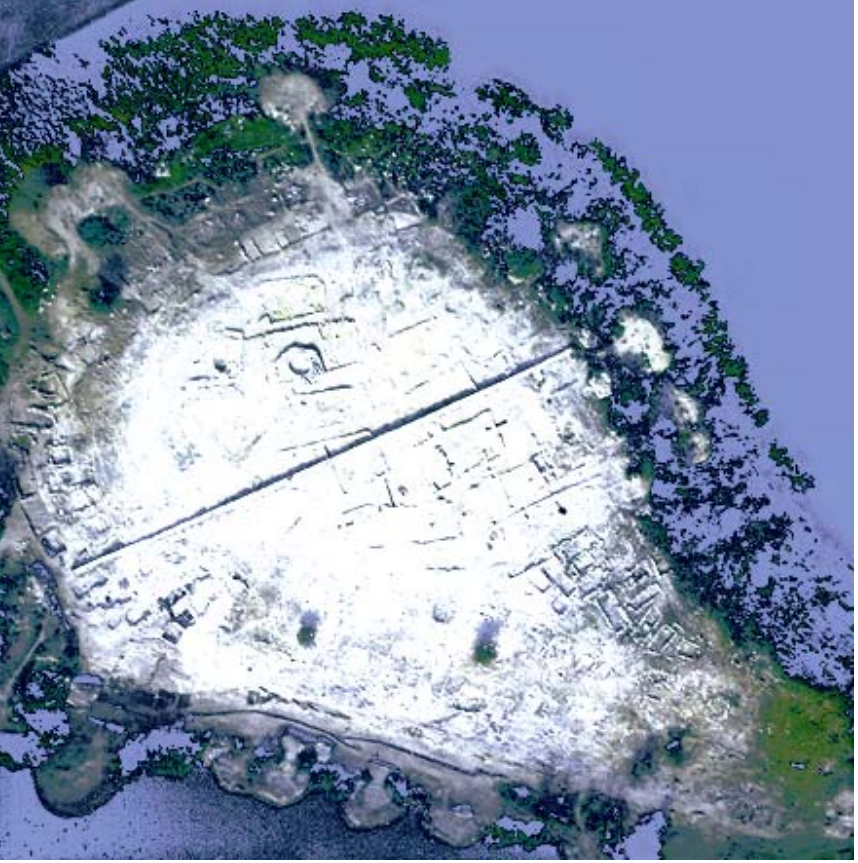


Fig.18a. A settlement hill of the Big island in the Durankulak Lake (aero picture T. Dimov)

Fig.18b. The oldest stone architecture in Europe (5,000 BC, picture T. Dimov)

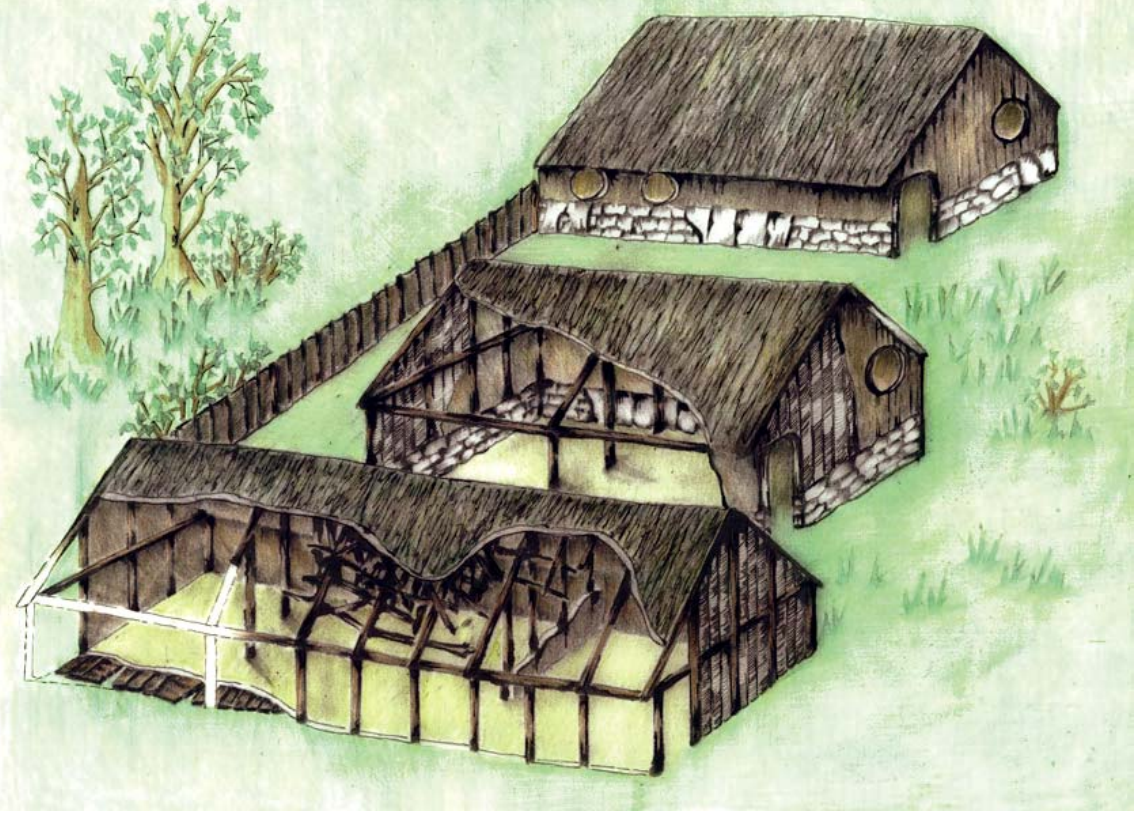


Fig.18c. Graphical reconstruction of lodgings with stone base (5,000 BC, author T. Dimov, artist Ulia Gerova)

Fig.18d. Female idolatry figure of mud (grave N 453, Durankulak necropolis, picture – T. Dimov)

Fig.18e. Antropomorphic mud vessel (Durankulak necropolis, picture – T. Dimov)

Fig.19. Cult items of gold, copper and mud (5,000 BC, Varna culture, Varna necropolis, grave N43c

Fig.20a.Remains of Neolith settlements in the Black Sea bottom in the region of Synop (underwater picture)

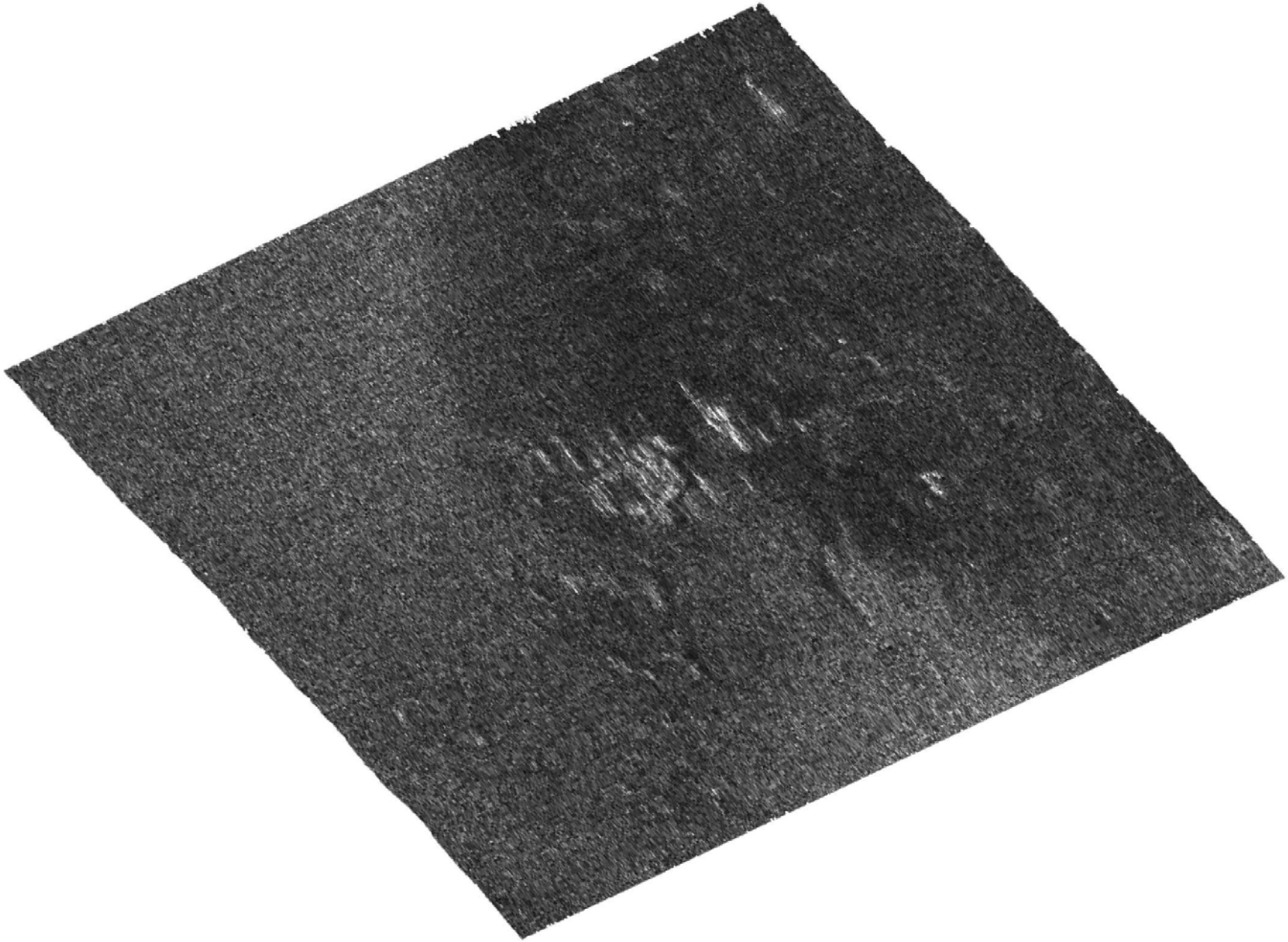


Fig.20b. Possible remains of neolith settlements in the old shorelines – 115 m depth (sonar picture)

Chapter 5

About the names of the Black Sea

Fig.21. The supposed route of Gilgamesh through the “Sea of Death”

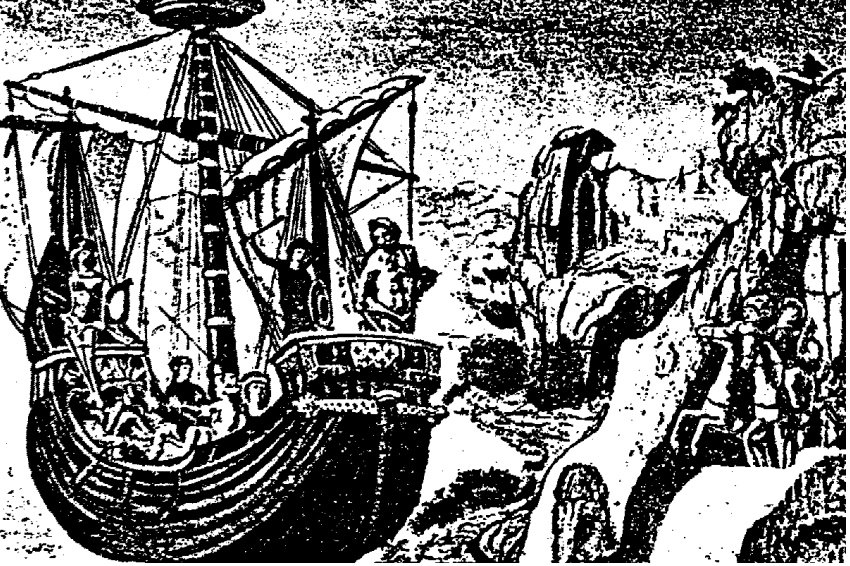


Fig.22.The Argonauts' ship "Argus" (engraving)

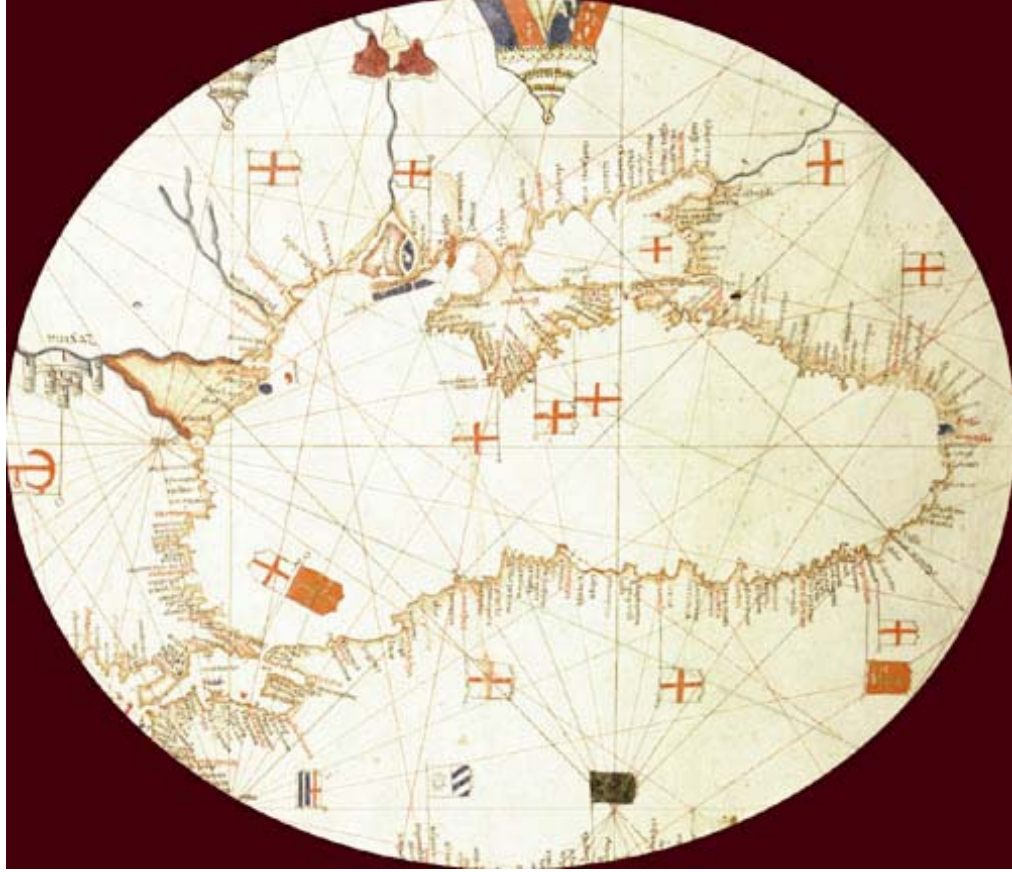


Fig.23. A map of the Black Sea (Albino de Canepa, 1498)

Chapter 6

The Black Sea – a Key to the World Flood Mystery

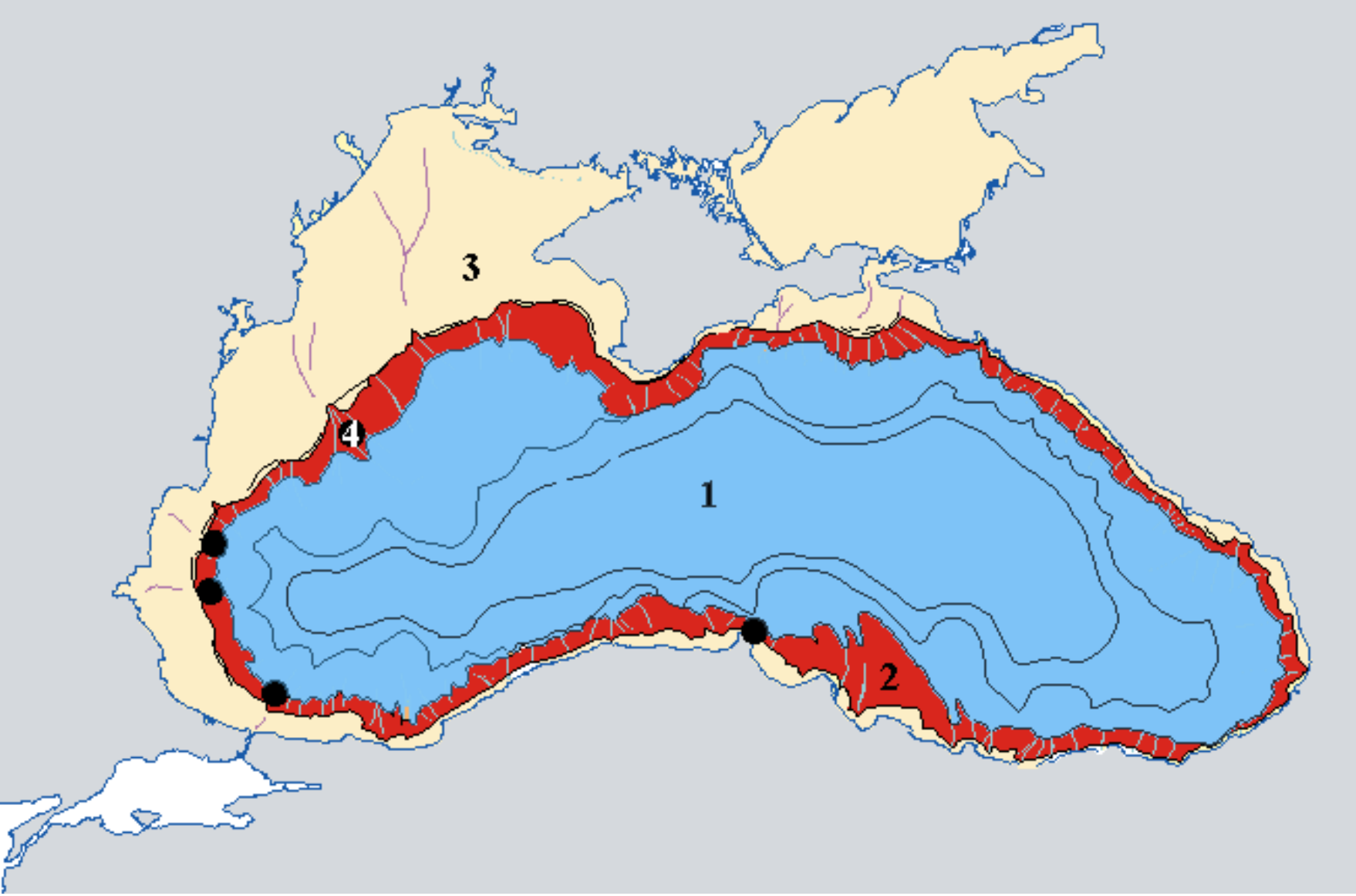


Fig.24. Paleo- geographic schema of the old Black Sea shorelines

1. **Sea-lake**
2. **Pre-Flood shorelines of the Black Sea**
3. **The Black Sea after the Flood**
4. **Possible settlements before the Flood**

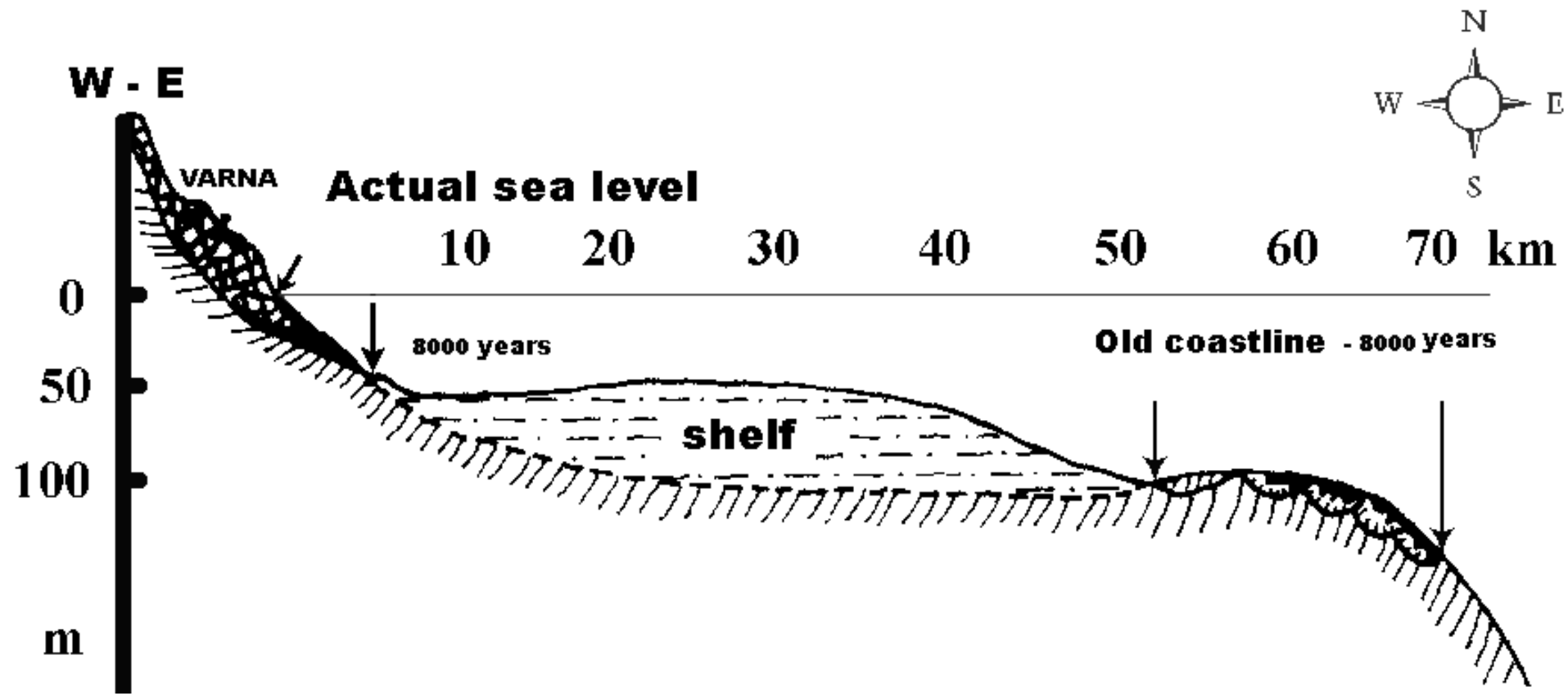


Fig. 25. Profile of the shelf and the course of the catastrophic geological events during the last 8,000 years

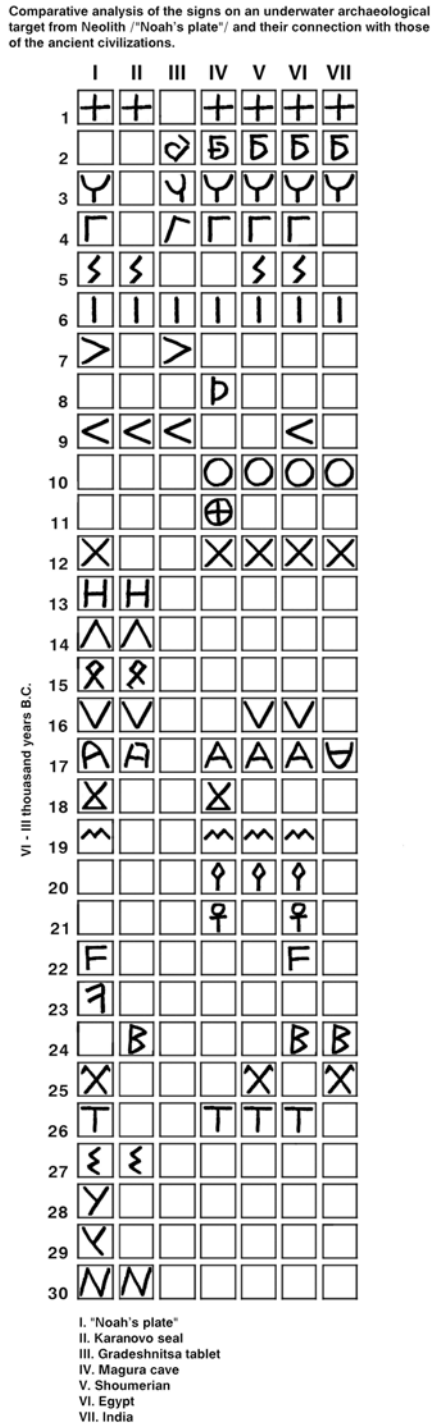
Fig.26. If the sea inhabitants could have talked about the Flood….

Fig.27a. “the Noah’s plate” – general view

Fig.27b.Symbols on the back side of the plate

Fig.28. Correlation of the symbols:

I – the Noah’s plate
II – Karanovo seal
III – tablets from Gradeshnitza
IV – Magurata inscription
V – Sumerian writing
VI – Egyptian writing
VII – Indian writing



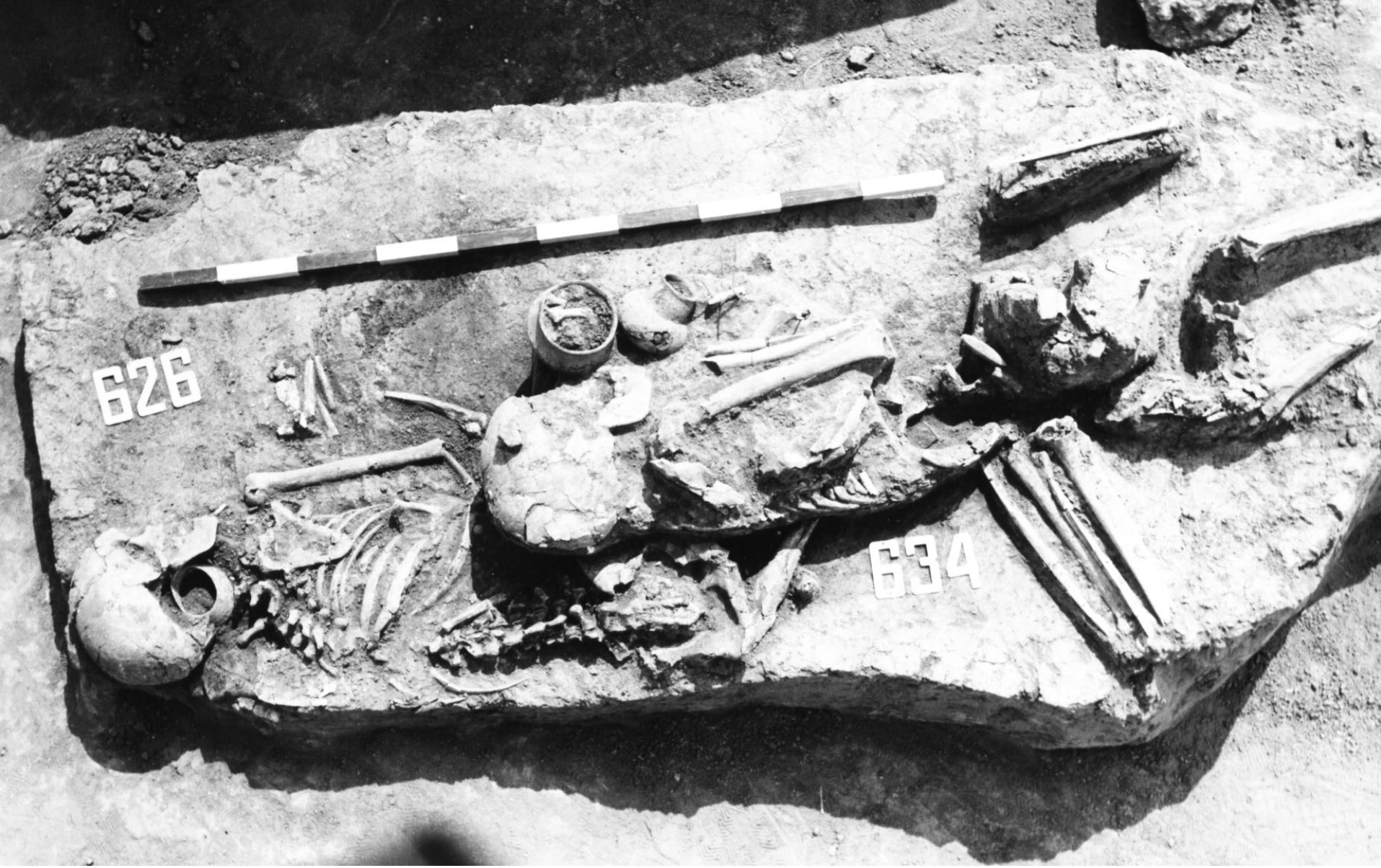


Fig.29. Graves N626 and N634 from the ancient Durankulak necropolis (6,000 – 5,000 BC, T. Dimov)

Fig.30. Reconstruction of the Bosporus sill

Chapter 6

The Sumerian Epic and the Bible Myths

Fig.35a. “The construction of the ark” (Richard and Francis Hook)

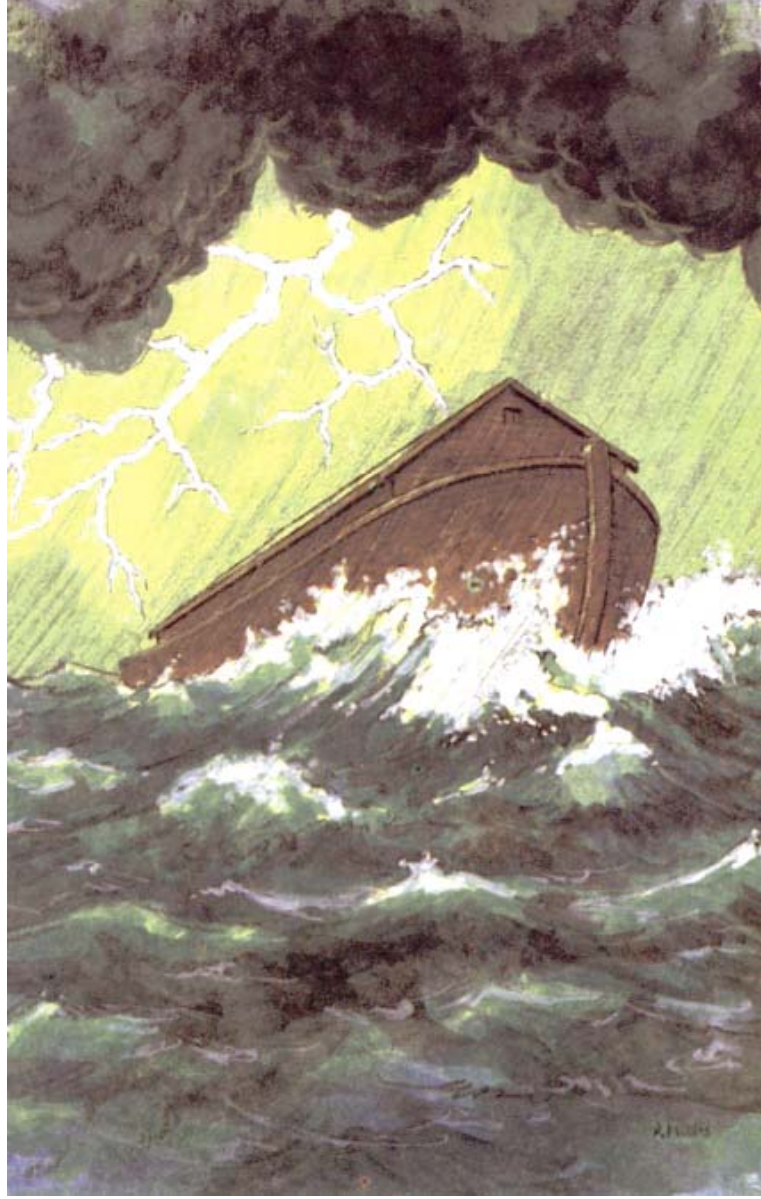


Fig.35b. “The Ark” in the waves of the Sea of Death (Richard and Francis Hook)

Conclusion

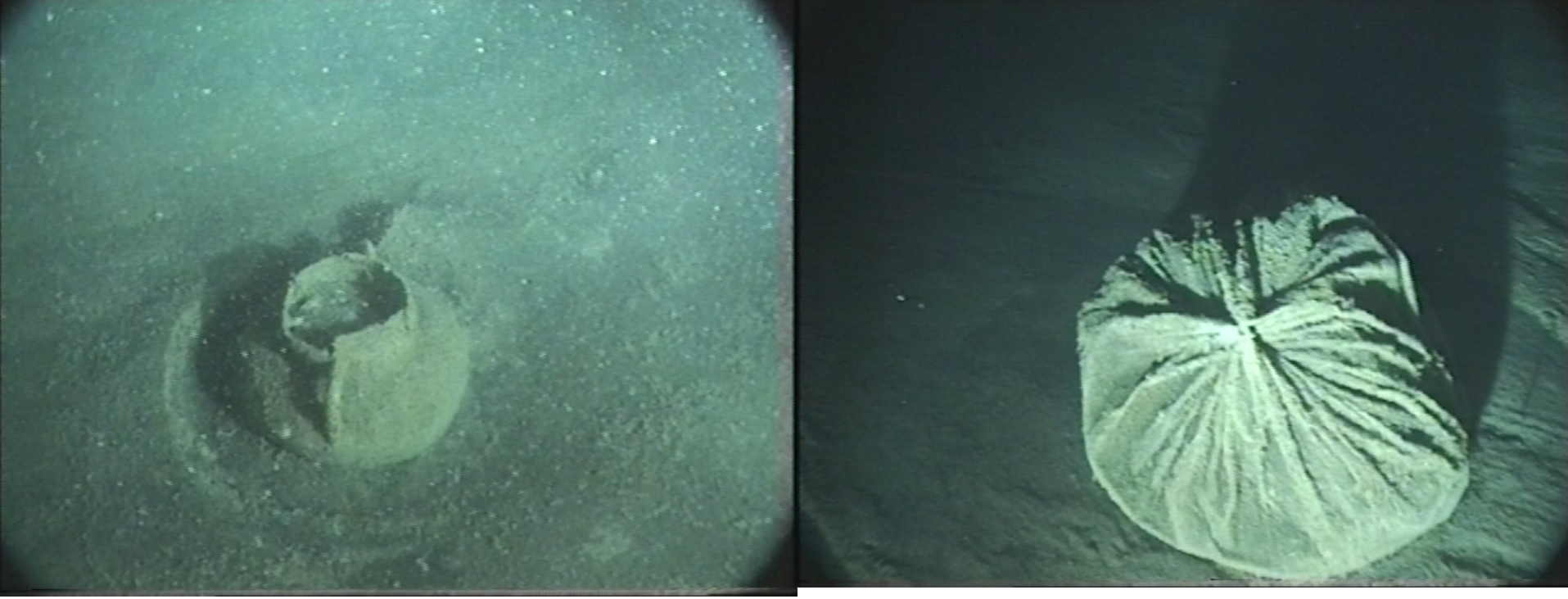


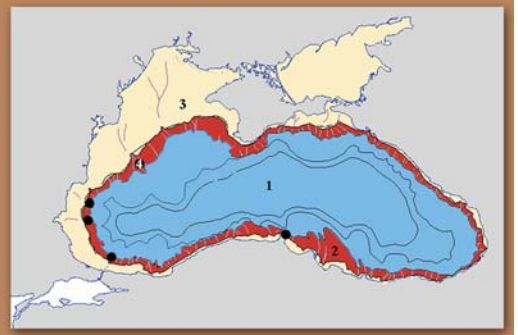
Fig. 36, a,b,c,d – flotsam on the Black Sea bottom

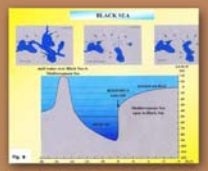
Fig.37. Ancient shipwrecks (XVI century) – underwater picture

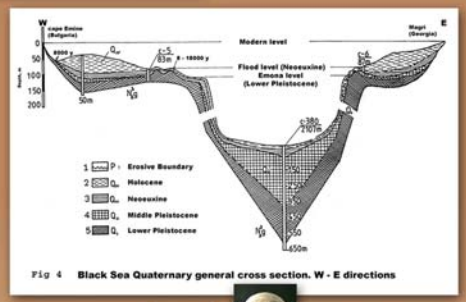
Fig. 38. Amphorae on the Black Sea bottom (shipwreck V-III AD) – underwater picture

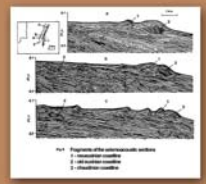

АКАДЕМИК

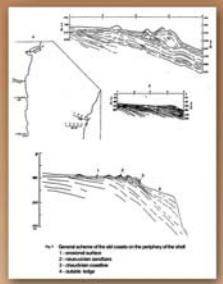
Fig. 39. Amphorae on board of the Academic ship – drawn out with the submersible PC-8 (V-III AD)

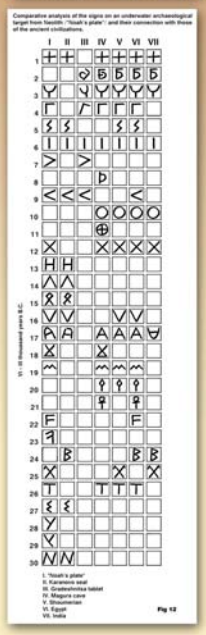


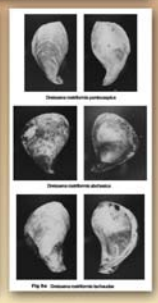


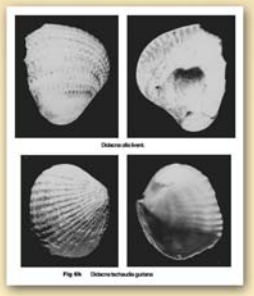












QUATERNARY COASTLINES IN THE WESTERN BLACK SEA

A Greek Period Shipwreck off Varna, Bulgaria

Dwight F. Coleman
Robert D. Ballard
URI Graduate School of Oceanography
and
Institute for Exploration, Mystic, CT

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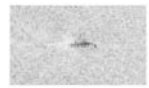
EXPLORE

With support from NOAA's Ocean Exploration Initiative and the National Geographic Society, we explored the Western Black Sea off Bulgaria and Romania for well-preserved ancient shipwrecks and potential sites of prehistoric human occupation on the continental shelf. In 2001, using a side-scan sonar and subbottom profiler, we mapped the undersea geology and collected a number of sediment cores. In 2002, we explored several significant sonar targets using the Bulgarian research submersible *PC-8B*. In addition to the discovery of several well preserved Ottoman shipwrecks, a shipwreck containing a cargo of amphora from the Hellenistic Period was discovered. A single amphora was collected and the sediment from inside the amphora was analyzed. This shipwreck tells an interesting story of Black Sea trade during the 5th to 3rd centuries BC.

Bulgarian Academy of Sciences Research Vessel *Akademik*



Sonar target of amphora pile collected by *ECHO*, a dual frequency subbottom profiling side scan sonar. The target size is 11m by 6m.

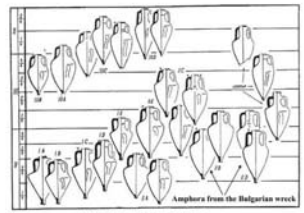
The 3-person submersible *PC-8B*, equipped with a scanning sonar, lights, an underwater video camera, and manipulator, is capable of diving to depths of 250 meters.

Video still image of the amphora pile.

The large, "industrial size" amphora that was recovered from this pile is made of fine buff colored clay with coarse black sand temper, typical of Classical amphora production from Sinop, Turkey (5th-4th c. BC).

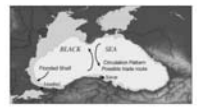
The amphora that was collected is now being conserved in the archaeological museum in Varna.

River catfish bones that indicate fish that were over 2 meters in length, were found inside the amphora. Cut marks as well as fragile spines preserved in the flesh of fish, indicate that large chunks of fish - most likely salt-fish, were being transported in these large amphora. In addition to fish bones, an olive pit was found inside the amphora.



The typology of amphorae from Sinop, Turkey, includes types which are very similar to that found on this shipwreck. Ceramic petrography of the amphora from the shipwreck includes black sand temper, typical of Sinop amphora production .

A contemporary (4th c. BC) painted amphora from Greece depicts salt fish preparation. Here, two individuals process the fish - removing the low-value parts (heads, tails) leaving "fish steaks" which could be easily transported inside the amphorae.



Map of the Black Sea. Middle arrows represent general flow of the Sea's two gyres, which are likely to represent the path of an ancient trade route between northern Turkey and the Crimea peninsula. Ancient mariners could have followed the northward flow of the western gyre from the Sinop region to the Crimea.

In the Sinop museum, several amphorae from Sinop (4th-3rd c. BC) are on display, which are similar to that found off Bulgaria.