



## **The Earthquake Sedimentary record of The Lake Hazar along the East Anatolian Fault in Turkey**

X. Boës (1), A. Hubert-Ferrari (1,2), D. Garcia (1), U. Avsar (1), E. Damci (3), N. Çagatay (3), J. Moernaut (4), and M. De Batist (4)

(1) Observatoire royal de Belgique, Section de sismologie, av. Circulaire 3, 1170 Brussels, (2) Ecole Normale Supérieure de Paris, Laboratoire de Géologie, 24 rue Lhomond, 75231 Paris CEDEX 5, (3) Istanbul Teknik Üniversitesi, Ayazaga Kampusu, Maden Fak., EMCOL, 34469 Maslak Sarıyer/\_stanbu, (4) Renard Centre of Marine Geology, Ghent University, B-9000 Gent, Belgium

There are a few places in the world where sedimentary records have been studied looking at climate and tectonic interactions. In Turkey, after the destructive Izmit 1999 earthquake, a number of projects have focused on the North Anatolian strike-slip fault in Turkey using lacustrine and marine sedimentary records available in and around the Marmara Sea to further constrain Holocene climatic changes and the occurrence of past major earthquakes. A similar type of study was conducted along the poorly studied the East Anatolian Fault in South-Eastern Turkey using the sedimentary record of the Hazar Lake. The East Anatolian Fault is the conjugate of the North Anatolian Fault, and a major left-lateral strike-slip fault at the boundary between the Anatolian plate to the North and the Arabian Plate to the South. Like the North Anatolian Fault, it has a long historical record of  $M \geq 7$  earthquakes. The Hazar Lake, in its central part, is considered as an extensional structure in between two major fault segments. The lake, which is 20 km long and 212 m deep, thus contains a unique chronostratigraphic sequence of the deformation occurring along this plate boundary. According to Cetin et al. 2003, the lake record could span the last 150 ka; this interpretation is confirmed by a new seismic survey and by the study of the first sediment cores collected in the lake in 2007. Our results show that the proximal lake basin is characterized by a continuous sedimentary sequence of ~80 m. The first five meters of lake sediments show series of thin distinct seismo-turbidites preserved between climatically induced sediments. A high resolution radiocarbon age modelling (one radiocarbon date every 200 yr) validate the continuity of the record, making this lake a new valuable high-resolution continental record for the south-east Anatolian region.

### Reference:

Cetin H., Guneylia H., Mayerb L. 2003. Paleoseismology of the Palu–Lake Hazar segment of the East Anatolian Fault Zone, Turkey. *Tectonophysics*, volume 374, 3-4, 163-197.