

# The westernmost Late Miocene-Pliocene volcanic activity in the Vardar Zone (North Macedonia)

Geochronology, petrology and geochemistry of Pakoševo, Debrište and Šumovit Greben volcanic centers

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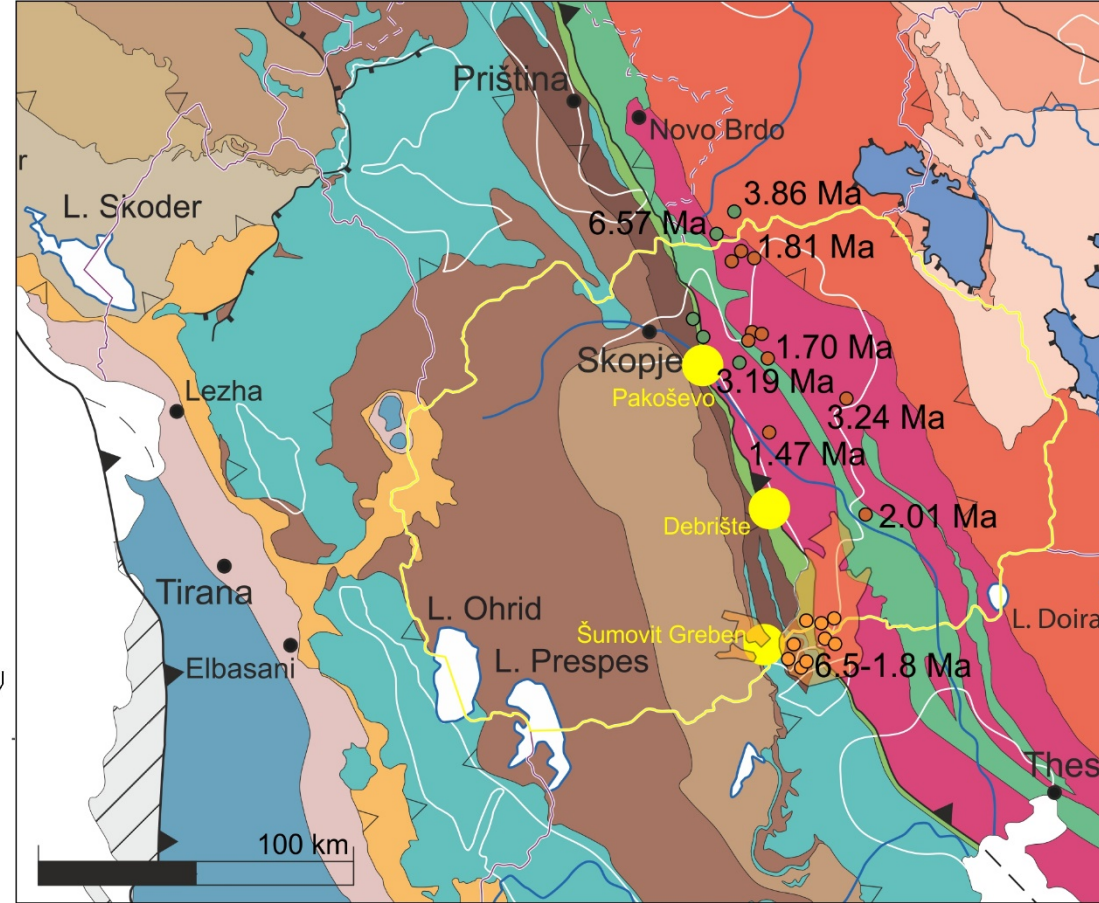
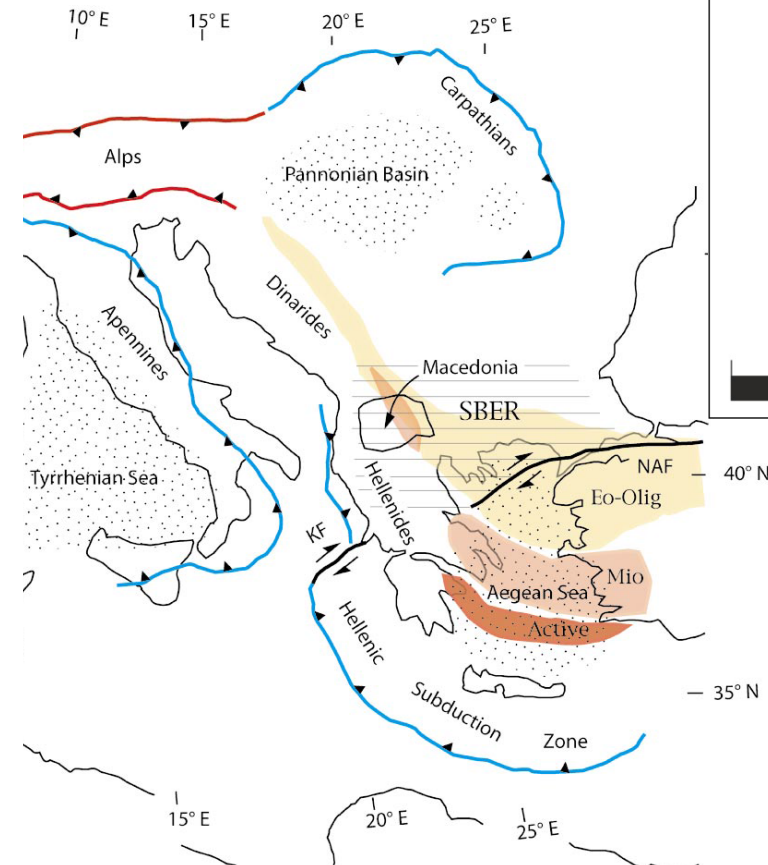
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## Geological settings of Macedonia

- part of the South Balkan Extension Regime
- contemporaneous volcanism with the Cenozoic extension



### distribution of the <10 Ma volcanics

- 2.01 Ma age
- UK volcanics
  - HMg-K volcanics
  - LMg-K volcanics
  - 👉 volcanoclastics
  - sampling location

Maps and data from  
Dumurdzanov et al., 2005; Yanev  
et al., 2008 and Schmid et al.,  
2020

Ophiolites & suture zones (mostly ophiolite bearing)

#### Suture zones

- Sava-Izmir-Ankara-Erzincan suture zone

#### Obducted ophiolites

- Western Vardar ophiolitic unit (incl. Meliata-Maliac, Mirdita, Pindos & Almopias ophiolites)
- Transylvanian & Circum-Rhodope ophiolites
- Eastern Vardar ophiolitic unit (incl. South Apuseni,

#### Rhodopes mega-unit (units of disputed origin)

- Rhodope upper unit (Kerdilion-Madan)
- Rhodope middle unit (Nestos suture zone)
- Pangaion-Pirin unit (SW Rhodopes)

#### Europe-derived allochthons in the Balkan Peninsula & Pontides

- Circum-Rhodope & Strandja units
- Subbucovinian, Bucovinian, Biharia, Supragetic, Serbo-Macedonian
- Infrabucovinian, Getic, Sredna Gora, East Balkan
- Danubian, West Balkan, Struma

#### Adria-derived allochthons in the Dinarides, Hellenides & W-Turkey

- Bükk, Jadar-Kopaonik & Tavşanlı units
- Drina-Ivanjica, Korab, upper Pelagonian, Afyon-Ören units
- East Bosnian-Durmitor, lower Pelagonian, Lycian nappes & Taurides
- Pre-Karst unit, Bosnian flysch & Beotian zone
- High Karst & Parnass units
- Budva-Cukali, Krasta, Pindos zones, Cycladic blueschists
- Dalmatian, Kruja, Gavrovo-Tripolitza zones, Menderes, Bey Dağları
- Ionian zone

#### Adriatic microplate

- S-Alpine, Apenninic & Dinaridic-Hellenic foreland

#### Major faults

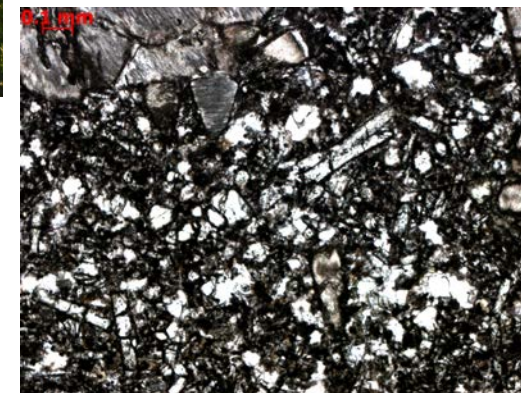
- First order thrusts
- First order normal faults
- First order strike slip faults

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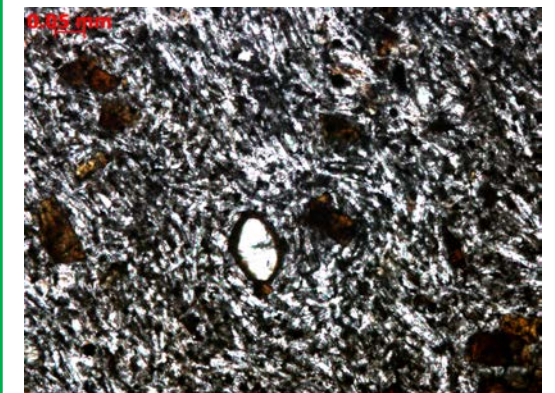




- remnant of a small-volume lava flow and, most likely, a phreatic eruption with diatreme breccia; covering Pliocene sediments at the SE edge of the Skopje basin
- few centers and remnants of lava flows along the Jurassic-Cretaceous limestone-serpentinite units at the W edge of the Tikveš basin

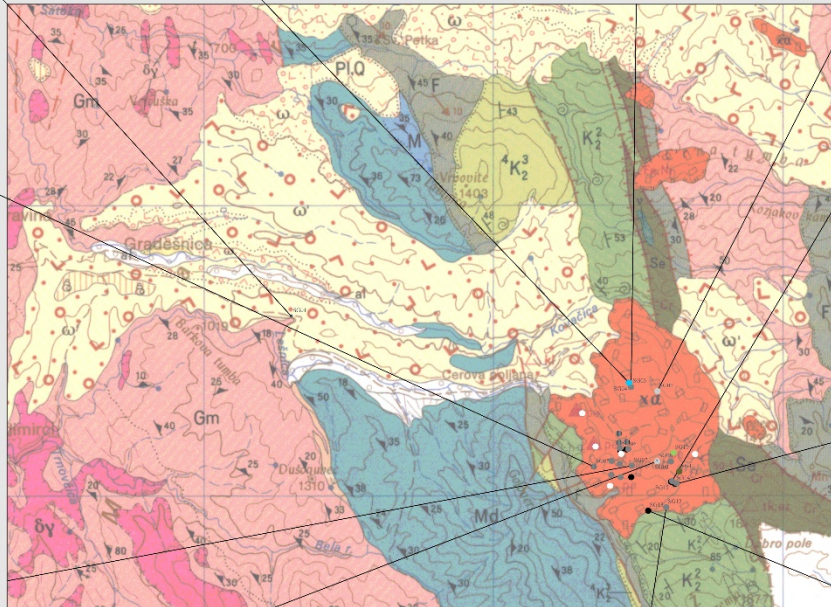


**$3.77 \pm 0.09$  Ma**

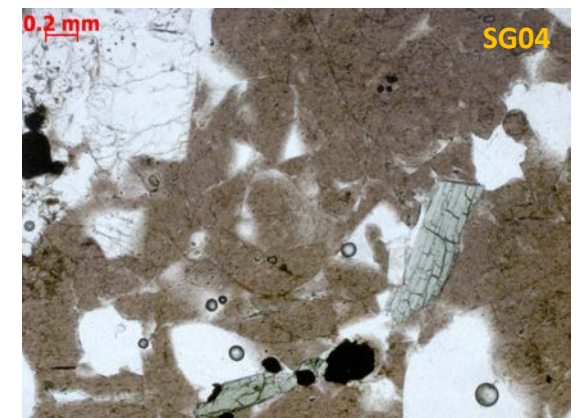


**$7.98 \pm 0.11 - 7.77 \pm 0.11$  Ma**  
(it was thought to be Pleistocene)



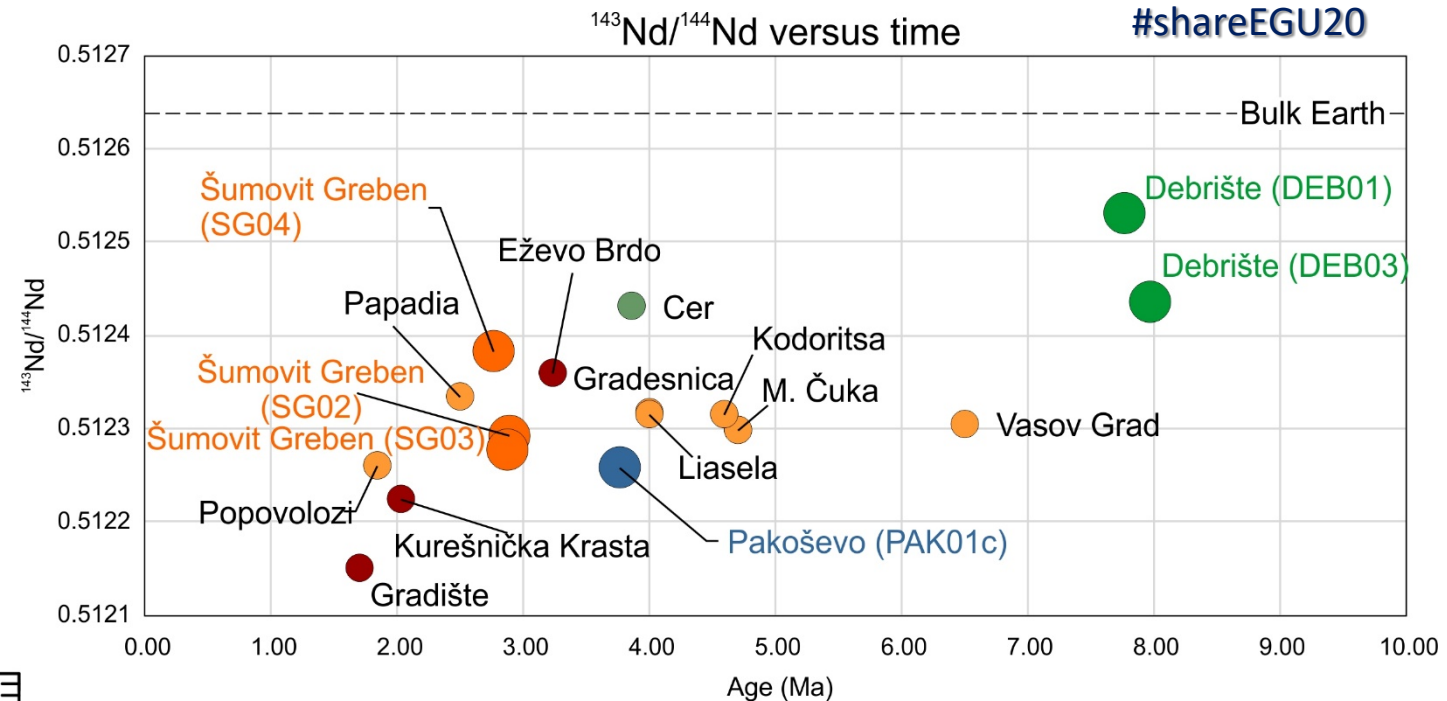
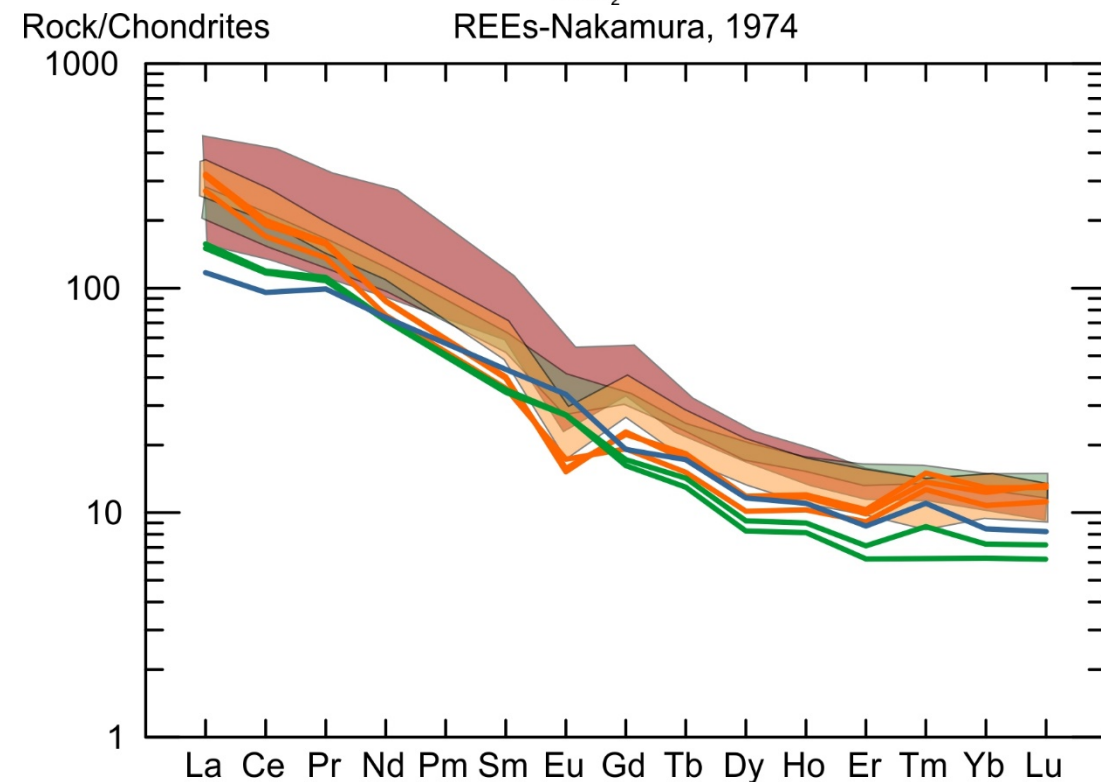
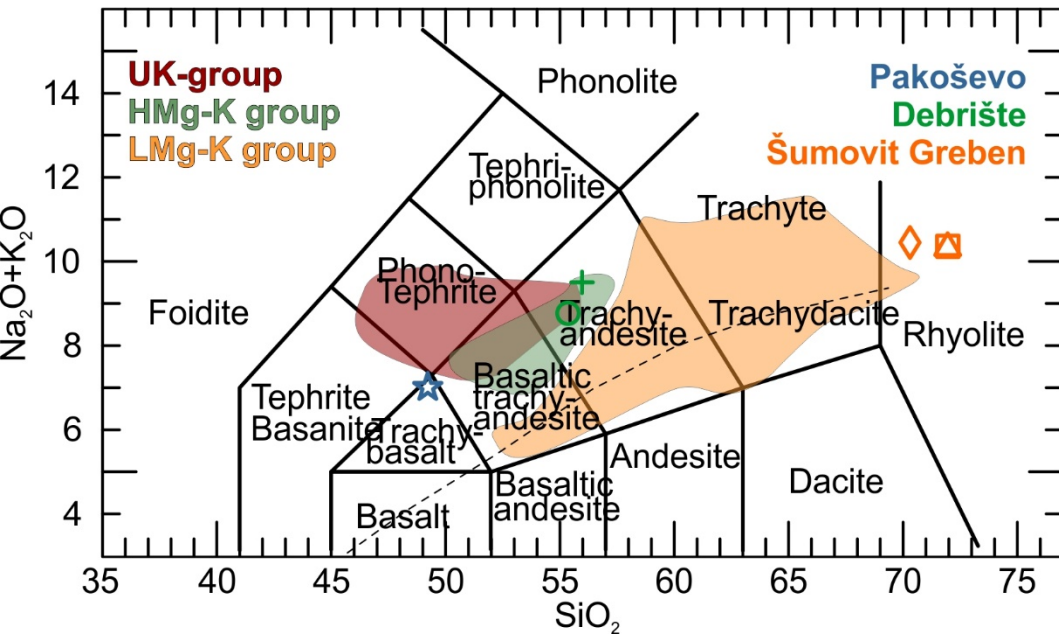


- composite (at least four units)  
rhyolitic volcanic structure at the  
SE edge of Mariovo basin, along  
the Cretaceous flysch and  
serpentinite units; a possible  
eruption center of the nearby  
ignimbrites



- sandstone
- serpentinite
- lower „obsidian“
- perlite
- darker greyish, with fluidal texture - SG03
- lighter greyish, no fluidal texture - SG02
- lighter greyish, containing darker greyish rounded clasts
- upper „obsidian“ (no Q) - SG04
- darker greyish, with fluidal texture (vertical) - neck



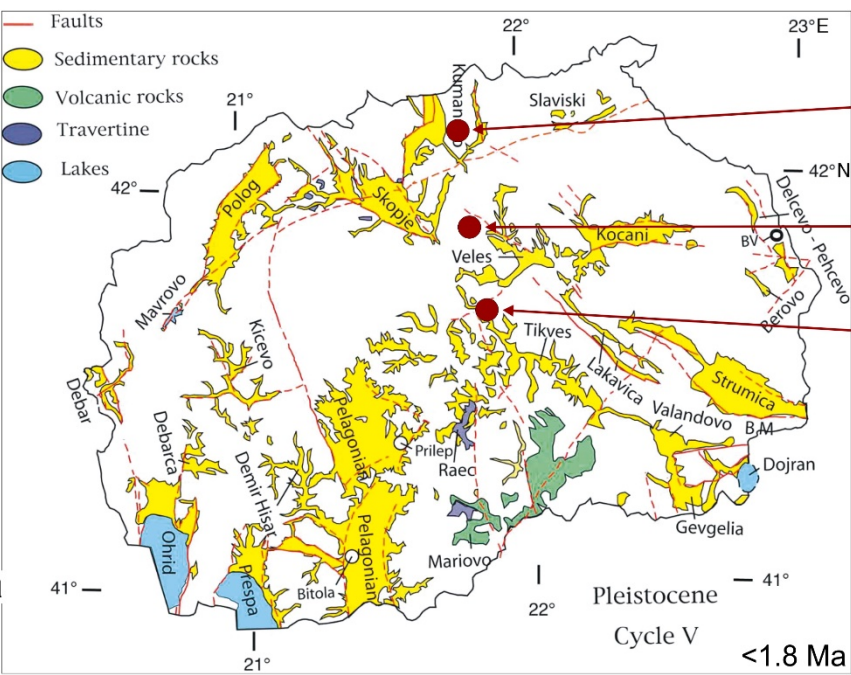
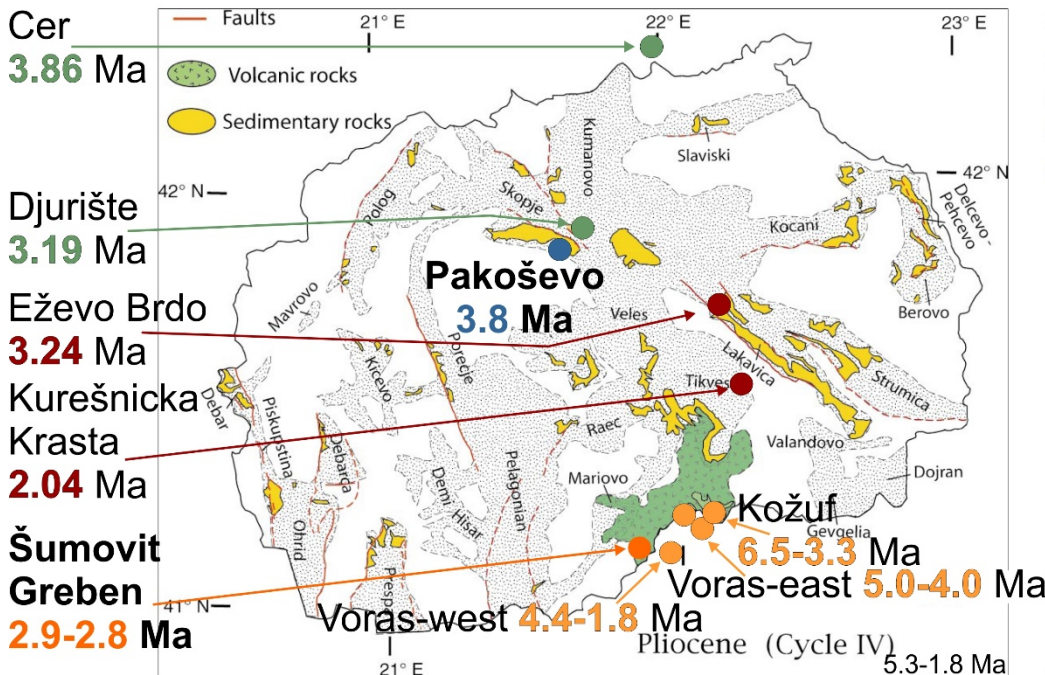
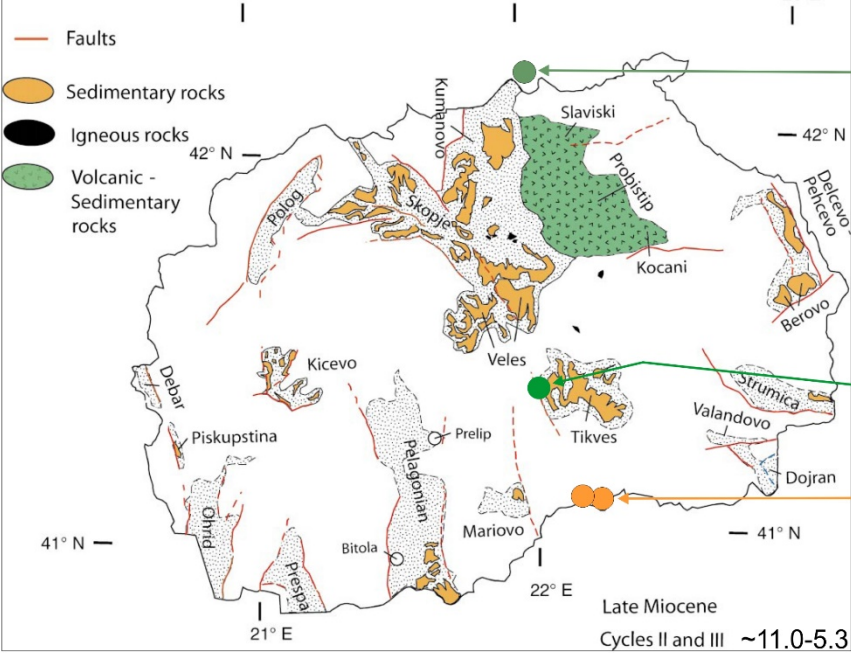
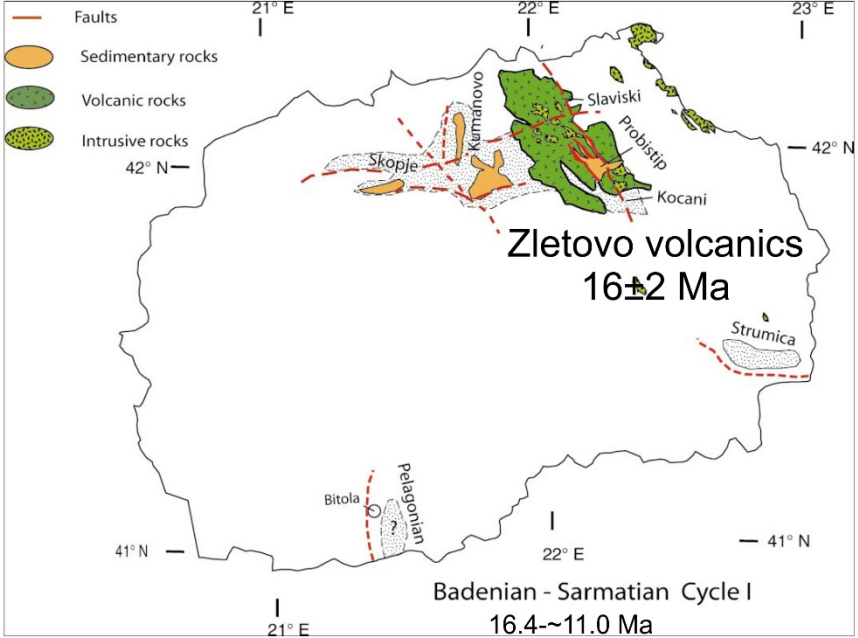


- **Pakoševo** is part of the HMg-K group, whereas **Šumovit Greben** is part of the LMg-K group of the Kozuf-Voras volcanic system;
- **Debriste** is also part of the LMg-K group but shows similarities to the HMg-K group based on the rare earth elements content
- $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  isotopic composition is gradually decreasing with time, the least metasomatic composition is exhibited by the **Debriste** samples which are the oldest (within the <10 Ma volcanics) in the region

Total alkali silica diagram (LeBas et al., 1986), chondrite normalized rare earth element diagram (Nakamura, 1974) and  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  versus time diagram based on whole rock data  
Data for comparison from Kolios et al., 1980; Boev, 1988; Eleftheriadis et al., 2003; Cvetkovic et al., 2004 and Yanev et al., 2008; classification from Yanev et al., 2008

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# Spatial relation of the basin evolution and the volcanic activity during Neogene-recent extension



Data from Kolios et al., 1980; Lippolt and Fuhrmann, 1986; Boev, 1988; Troesh and Frantz, 1992; Dumurdzanov et al., 2005; Yanev et al., 2008 and Neubauer et al., 2009