

Growth of the imbrication zone along the southeast Anatolian orogenic belt: evidence from fission track thermochronology from Gölbaşı region (SE Turkey)

Yusuf TOPAK* 

Department of Mining and Mineral Extraction, Adiyaman University, Adiyaman, Turkey

Received: 26.10.2021 • Accepted/Published Online: 02.03.2022 • Final Version: 29.03.2022

Abstract: One of the major components of continental collision zones is their imbricated zones. Such a zone along the Southeast Anatolian Orogenic Belt (SAOB) is solely controlled by a still-active convergence and accretion system between the Anatolian Plate and Arabian platform since at least Late Cretaceous. The zone is characterized by NEE/SWW-trending, northward-dipping thrust slices that are squeezed between the Tauride Block to the north and the Arabian platform to the south. The units cropping out within the zone comprise Neo-Tethys-related magmatic, ophiolitic, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks with Late Cretaceous to Miocene formation/metamorphism ages. The Karanlıkdere granitoid intrudes into Late Cretaceous Meydan ophiolite, Helete volcanics, and Malatya metamorphics. These units thrust over Cenozoic volcanic and sedimentary rocks. Although various scenarios have been proposed for the late Cretaceous to Neogene evolution of the complex region, quantitative data aiming to understand the growth mechanism of the imbrication zone in the region are limited. The zircon U-Pb and the apatite fission track (AFT) thermochronology were applied to the Karanlıkdere granitoid within the imbrication zone of the Southeast Anatolian Orogenic Belt (SAOB). The LA-ICP-MS zircon U-Pb age yields 79.67 ± 0.24 Ma with 0.23–0.65 Th/U ratios. This age is slightly younger than the previously published ages, indicating that the main body of the Karanlıkdere granitoid formed 3–4 Ma later than the small dikes intruded into other units. The AFT ages are directly controlled by altitude and range between 40.38 ± 3.4 Ma and 22.81 ± 0.63 Ma. The oldest AFT age has the highest altitude, whereas the youngest has the lowest height. The age-temperature models show a slow uplift rate between 40 Ma and 22 Ma. The results indicate that the growth of the imbrication zone in front of the Nappes of the SAOB continued in a steady-state mode with a slow uplift rate of 0.02 ± 0.005 mm/a, during middle-late Eocene to early Miocene and increasing uplift rate during early-middle Miocene, which might be explained by continental collision during early-middle Miocene.

Key words: Southeast Anatolian Orogenic Belt, imbrication zone, Karanlıkdere granitoid, apatite fission track, uplift, Gölbaşı

1. Introduction

The signs of Alpine-Himalayan orogeny in the Anatolian peninsula are manifested by the amalgamation of several microcontinents, split by different branches of the Neo-Tethyan Ocean. The main branch of the Neo-Tethyan Ocean in the region is the northern branch which separates the Eurasian Plate (Pontides) and the Gondwana Anatolide-Tauride Block (Şengör and Yılmaz, 1981). The Inner Tauride Ocean in the center splits the Gondwana-origin microplate, the Kırşehir Block, from the Anatolide-Tauride Block (Görür et al., 1984; 1998). Finally, the southern branch of the Neo-Tethyan Ocean separates the Anatolide-Tauride Block from the Afro-Arabian plates (Şengör and Yılmaz, 1981; Göncüoğlu and Turhan, 1984; Yılmaz, 1993; Okay and Tüysüz, 1999; Bozkurt and Mittweide, 2001; Robertson et al., 2012; Hinsbergen et al., 2016; Karaoğlu et al., 2016; Göncüoğlu, 2019).

The progressive demise of the southern branch of the Neo-Tethyan Ocean beneath the Tauride-Anatolide

platform in a north-dipping tectonic environment caused several collision events, including arc-continent and continent-continent collisions during Late Cretaceous-Miocene (Şengör and Yılmaz, 1981; Yılmaz, 1993; Oberhänsli et al., 2010; Oberhänsli et al., 2012; Oberhänsli et al., 2014; Ural et al., 2015; Karaoğlu et al., 2016; Yılmaz, 2019). This tectonic environment formed the Southeast Anatolian Orogenic Belt (SAOB) along the Bitlis-Zagros Suture Zone (Figure 1). The major tectonic units of the SAOB consist of the Arabian platform to the south and the nappe zone to the north, whereas a zone of imbrication formed in between these two units during the late Cretaceous-Miocene. These three zones are separated from each other by major thrusts (Yılmaz, 1993; Yılmaz et al., 1993; Yılmaz, 2019) (Figure 1).

The zone of imbrication formed a narrow (1 to 5 km) east-west trending belt. The zone hosts late Cretaceous-early Miocene deposits participating in the imbrication during and/or after their sedimentation (Yılmaz, 1993;

* Correspondence: ytopak@adiyaman.edu.tr

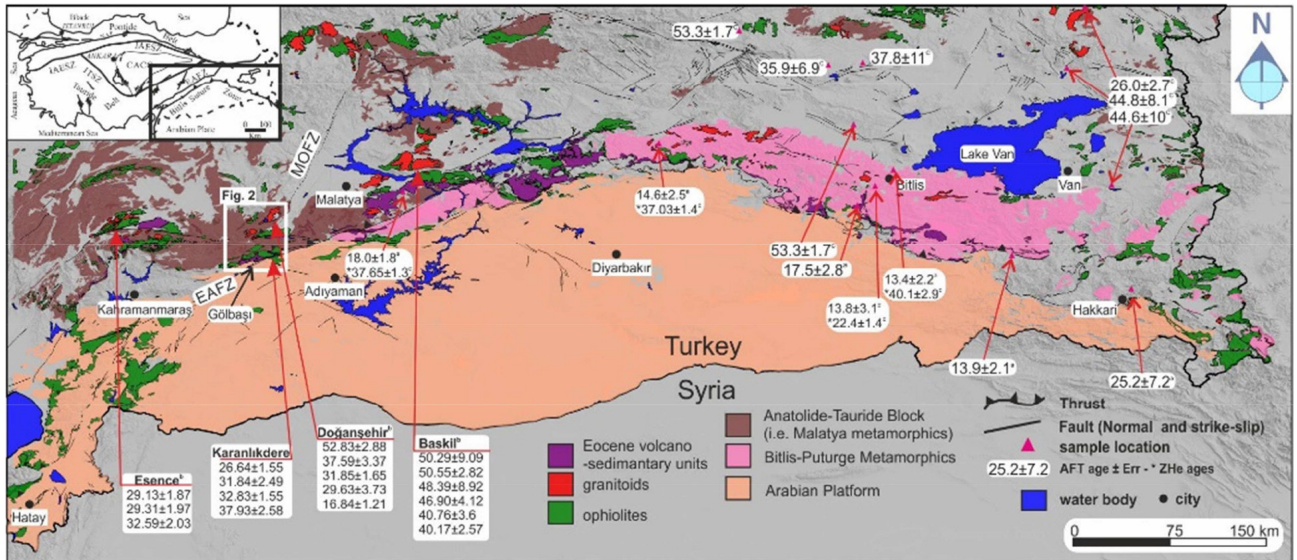


Figure 1. Generalized geological map of Southeast Anatolian Orogenic Map, SE Turkey (Yılmaz, 1993; Bozkurt and Mittweide, 2001; Bilgiç, 2002; Günay and Şenel, 2002; Şenel and Ercan, 2002; Tarhan, 2002; Ulu, 2002). Low-temperature thermochronology data from Okay et al. (2010); Karaoğlan et al. (2016); Cavazza et al. (2018) (* indicates ZHe ages). ITSZ: Inner Tauride Suture Zone; İAESZ: İzmir-Ankara-Erzincan Suture Zone; CACC: Central Anatolian Crystalline Complex; MOFZ: Malatya-Ovacık Fault Zone; EAFZ: East Anatolian Fault Zone.

Yılmaz et al., 1993; Yılmaz, 2019). The age interval of these sediments should mark the most active time interval of the imbrication. This corresponds to (i) the end of a collisional event between the Bitlis-Pütürge continental margin (latterly subduction-related metamorphic massif) in the south and a nappe zone belonging to Tauride-Anatolide plate in the north during late Cretaceous (Oberhänsli et al., 2010; Oberhänsli et al., 2012; Oberhänsli et al., 2014; Karaoğlan et al., 2016; Yılmaz, 2019), and (ii) initiation of another continental collision event in early Miocene between the subduction-related metamorphic rocks of Bitlis-Pütürge Massif in the north and the main Arabian land in the south (Robertson et al., 2012; Karaoğlan et al., 2016; Robertson et al., 2016; Açlan and Altun, 2018; Açlan and Duruk, 2018; Topuz et al., 2019; Yılmaz, 2019; Gülyüz et al., 2020).

The low-temperature thermochronology (LTT) data obtained from the region vary, based on the tectonic locations, elevations, and/or stratigraphic positions of the sampling points, between Paleocene and late Miocene showing that the different elements of the main units affected by different tectonic regimes such as collisional processes (i.e. continental or arc-continent) and/or mantle processes (i.e. delamination, slab break-off) (Okay et al., 2010; Lefebvre et al., 2015; Karaoğlan et al., 2016; Cavazza et al., 2018) (Figure 1).

Except for one, almost all LTT studies are based on individual sampling sites and scattered along the SAOB. No profile data exists for comparison and the calculation

of either the uplift rate or collision rate (Figure 1). Lefebvre et al. (2015) provide apatite U-Th/He (AHe) and zircon U-Th/He (ZHe) data from an elevation profile within the Pütürge Metamorphic Complex created by Sürgü fault. They present LTT ages for that profile ranging between 30 Ma and 5 Ma, and associate the older ages with the Oligocene activation of the Sürgü Fault. Okay et al. (2010) present apatite fission track (AFT) data for the low-temperature exhumation of Bitlis-Pütürge metamorphics. Their data scattered on the unit varies between 25–18 Ma and 13 Ma. The authors proposed that their data support an early Miocene continental collision. Cavazza et al. (2018) present AFT, ZHe, and the data from Eastern Anatolia comprising the imbrication zone and Nappe zone of the SAOB. Similar to Okay et al. (2010), their data scattered along the region vary between 67 Ma and 19 Ma. The authors proposed that the older ages are related to the exhumation of Bitlis-Pütürge metamorphics, and younger ages are interpreted as the result of a continental collision event during the mid-Miocene. On the other hand, Karaoğlan et al. (2016) deal with the Esence, Doğanşehir, and Baskil granitoids outcropping in the lower nappe. They applied zircon U-Pb, amphibole, biotite, and feldspar Ar-Ar and AFT geo/thermo-chronology methods on these granitoids. Their results show that the Esence and Baskil granitoids formed during the late Cretaceous and cooled through 300 °C in 6–10 Ma. The AFT ages of the study are grouped in Eocene and Oligocene. The authors support an uplift model indicating Eocene arc setting and Oligocene

continental collision setting for the region. In addition to the LTT data directly from the SOAB, Late Eocene to Early Miocene LTT ages of Darin et al. (2018) from the Sivas Basin, Central Anatolia, the ages of Ballato et al. (2018) from the central Pontides and Albino et al. (2014) from eastern Pontides are interpreted as the response of soft collision/trench advance (late Eocene) and hard collision (early Miocene) events along the SOAB. On the other hand, the similar LTT ages of Gülyüz et al. (2019) and Gulyuz (2020) from the southern margin of the Pontides and the Central Pontides, respectively, are interpreted as the results of continental collision and the postcollisional further convergence events along the main (northern) suture zone.

LTT studies on imbricated zones of orogenic belts are good candidates to (i) constrain the timing of the initiation, and the termination of imbrication and (ii) give quantitative growth/uplift/exhumation rates of the imbrication zones. In this sense, this study focuses on the formation and the exhumation history of the Karanlıkdere granitoid located at Gölbaşı (Adıyaman) region exposed within the imbricated zone of the SAOB which allows enlighten the uplift and/or exhumation dynamics of an imbrication zone, and also the region by using low-temperature thermochronology. The lack of LTT age-elevation profiles in the region raises doubts in interpreting the geological evolution of the region. This paper provides the first age-elevation profile of the apatite fission track data from Karanlıkdere granitoid within the imbrication zone of the SAOB, to shed some light on the progressive evolution of the imbricated zone of the SAOB.

2. Geological Setting

The Karanlıkdere granitoid is exposed in the E- W directed zone of imbrication within the SAOB between Helete (Kahramanmaraş), Gölbaşı (Adıyaman), and Erkenek (Doğuşehir- Malatya). The main body of the unit outcrops at Karanlıkdere valley near the tunnels of Gölbaşı- Erkenek road in front of the Malatya metamorphics (Figures 1 and 2).

The zone of imbrication, where the Karanlıkdere granitoid is outcropped, hosts NEE/SWW-trending, northward-dipping thrust slices squeezed between the Malatya metamorphics to the north, and the Arabian platform to the south. The imbricated thrust slices include Upper Cretaceous-Lower Miocene strata, together with the Upper Cretaceous Ophiolitic rocks and metamorphic rocks, which are generally disturbed. Imbrication in the region is clearly evidenced by the older units on top of the younger units. The uppermost stack of the imbricated zone consists of Upper Cretaceous Helete volcanics, Meydan Ophiolite, and Harami formation. All of these units thrust over the Middle to Upper Eocene volcanic and volcano-

clastic rocks (Savran and Alacık formations) in the region (Yıldırım and Yılmaz, 1991; Yiğitbaş and Yılmaz, 1996b; Yılmaz, 2019). Such imbrication association in the region is defined as an Eocene-Oligocene mélangé (Bulgurkaya mélangé) (Herece, 2008). The Eocene-Miocene units of this region were mapped as late Cretaceous Meydan Melange by Nurlu et al. (2016), but they are also defined as Eocene, Oligocene and Miocene marine units by Yıldırım and Yılmaz (1991) and Akıncı et al. (2016). The imbrication zone (mélangé), including Karanlıkdere granitoid, also thrust over the Lower Miocene Lice formation (flysch succession) of the Arabian platform in the region. However, this tectonic relation is not observed in the entire region, and at some places, the younger units unconformably cover the imbrication zone. Similar association is also valid for the nummulite bearing limestones and the older units of the imbrication zone (Figure 2) (Yıldırım and Yılmaz, 1991; Yiğitbaş and Yılmaz, 1996b; Herece, 2008; Yılmaz, 2019).

The northern basement is defined as Malatya metamorphics for this study. Metamorphism degree for this basement is proposed as greenschist facies (Perinçek and Kozlu, 1984; Yılmaz et al., 1992; Yılmaz et al., 1993; Hozathıođlu et al., 2019). The unit tectonically overlies the imbricated zone but only has reportable tectonic contact with the Harami formation and Meydan ophiolite (Figure 2, 3a). The association between turbiditic Harami formation, Meydan ophiolite, Helete volcanics, northerly located Malatya metamorphic and southerly located subduction-related metamorphics of Bitlis-Pütürge massif is explained by series of subduction, accretion, and collision events before Cenozoic (Erdođan, 1975; Perinçek and Kozlu, 1984; Yıldırım and Yılmaz, 1991; Yılmaz, 1993, 2019).

To the south of the study area, the Cambrian to Miocene sedimentary successions of the Arabian platform are exposed, but no metamorphism sign is documented for these units, even though the older units show similar successions to the Malatya metamorphics and Bitlis-Pütürge massif (Figures 2 and 3a) (Göncüođlu and Turhan, 1984; Yılmaz et al., 1993; Robertson et al., 2016; Yılmaz, 2019).

The Helete volcanics tectonically overlies the Meydan ophiolite (Karaođlan et al., 2021). However, in the previous studies, the contact was reported vice versa (Yıldırım and Yılmaz, 1991; Yıldırım, 2015; Nurlu et al., 2016). The unit is cut by the dykes of Karanlıkdere granitoid at various levels ranging from a few centimeters to hundreds of meters (Yıldırım and Yılmaz, 1991; Yıldırım, 2015; Karaođlan et al., 2021).

The Karanlıkdere granitoid; (i) intrudes into the various components of the imbrication zone such as the Meydan ophiolite, the Helete volcanics, and the Malatya

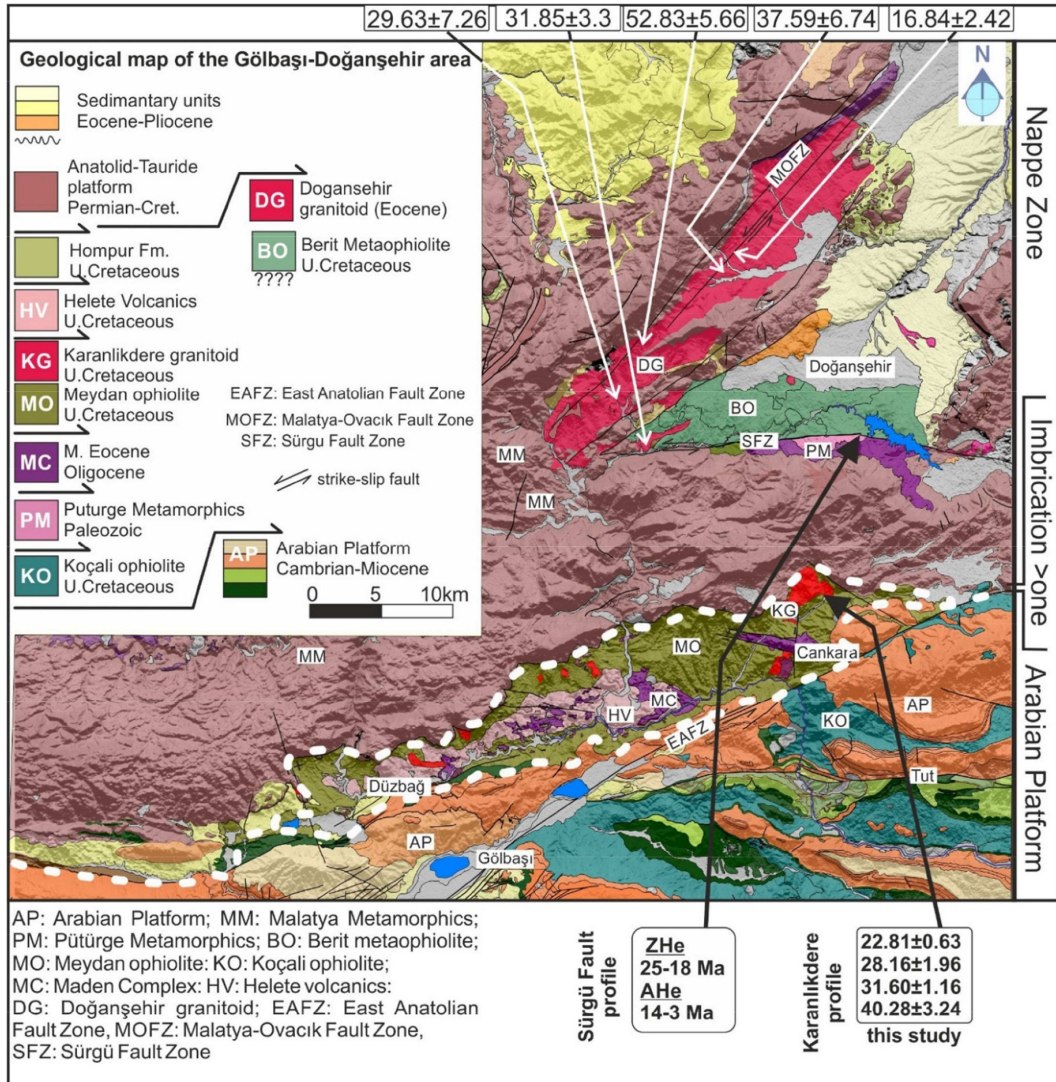


Figure 2. Geology map of the Gölbaşı (Adıyaman) and Doğaneşehir (Malatya) region (modified after (Bilgiç, 2002; Ulu, 2002; Karaođlan et al., 2013). LTT data from Lefebvre et al. (2015); Karaođlan et al. (2016).

metamorphics (Figures 2 and 3a–3d) and (ii) took place in the deformation within the imbrication zone and exhumed to the surface temperatures along the reverse faults of the imbrication system.

3. Methodology

Five samples were taken from the relatively fresh outcrops of the Karanlıkdere granitoid regarding their altitudes to illustrate the uplift rate. The altitudes were recorded using a satellite and barometry-controlled GPS.

The samples were examined under a polarized microscope for their petrographic features using a Leica polarized microscope at 2.5X.

The mineral separation, including crushing, sieving, magnetic and heavy liquid separation, was performed

at Çukurova University Geology Department (Adana, Turkey). One sample (YSF-AFT1) was selected to measure the granitoid's crystallization age. The crystallization age of the unit was measured by the LA-ICP-MS zircon U-Pb method at the Central Research Laboratories of Çukurova University.

An ESI Nd-YAG laser attached to Perkin Elmer Nexion 2000P ICP-MS was used for the U-Pb measurements. The data acquisition includes a 20 s background measurement followed by a 30 s sample ablation. The laser was used in single spot mode with 25–40 µm spot size at 6–7 J/cm² energy with a 10 Hz repetition rate. He gas was used to carry the ablated material to the ICP-MS. The ICP-MS was used in time-resolved mode and was calibrated using the standard glass NIST SRM 612 to obtain the maximum

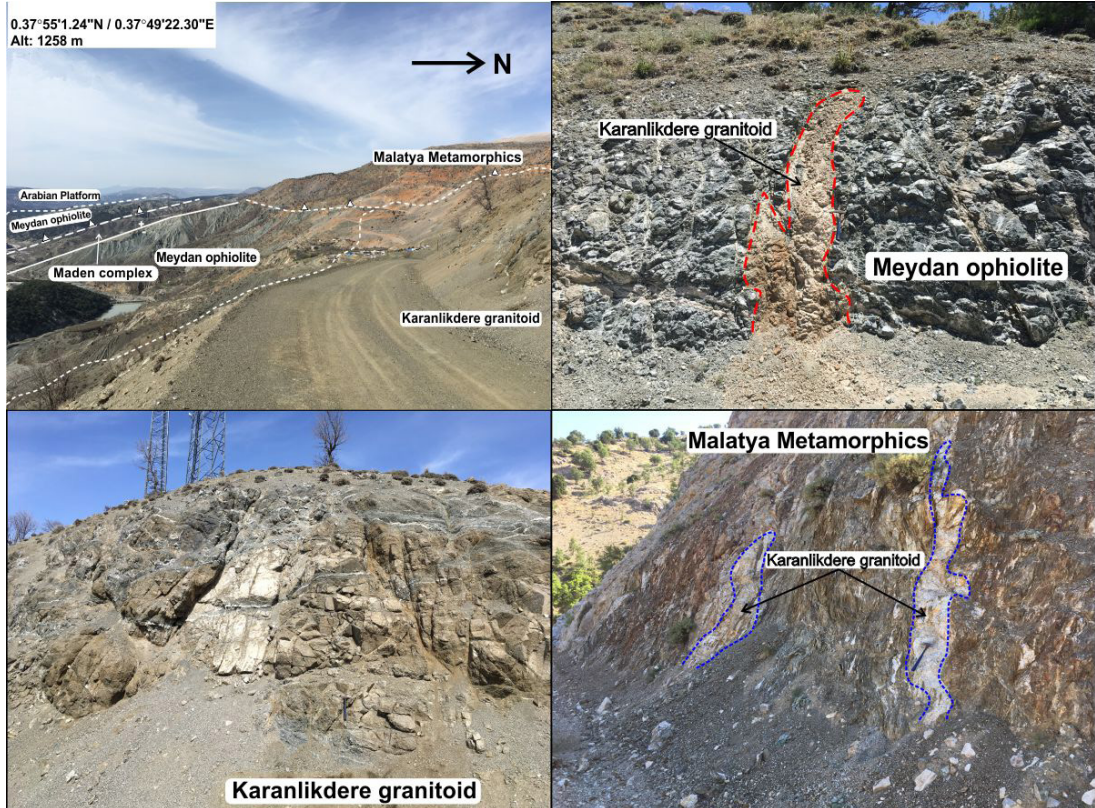


Figure 3. Field photos of the Karanlıkdere granitoid, a) general view showing the relation between the Malatya metamorphics, Meydan ophiolite, Maden mélange and the Karanlıkdere granitoid, b) general view of the Karanlıkdere granitoid, c) the schists of Malatya metamorphics cut by the Karanlıkdere granitoid, d) the gabbros of the Meydan ophiolite cut by the Karanlıkdere granitoid.

U+ signals with ThO/Th ratio <0.5%. Ar gas was used for the plasma gas, and during the analyses, ^{202}Hg , ^{204}Pb , ^{206}Pb , ^{207}Pb , ^{208}Pb , ^{232}Th , ^{235}U , and ^{238}U isotopes were measured at 10 ms, 10 ms, 40 ms, 40 ms, 10 ms, 10 ms, 10 ms, 10 ms, respectively. The GJ-1 zircon was used for the primary reference, and the Plesovice and 91500 reference zircons were used as secondary reference materials within the sample batch to test the accuracy and external reproducibility (Jackson et al., 2004; Wiedenbeck et al., 2004; Slama et al., 2008) (see supplementary file). The Iolite V4 is used for data reduction and processing (Paton et al., 2011).

Four of the five samples yielded enough apatite minerals for AFT dating. The extracted apatite minerals were mounted in epoxy resin, grinded, and polished prior to etching. The samples were etched in 5 M HNO_3 for 20 s at 20 °C to reveal spontaneous tracks (Gleadow et al., 1986). The spontaneous track counts were carried out in transmitted light at a magnification of 1000X with a Nikon Eclipse microscope equipped with an XYZ motorized stage at Karfo Industrial (İstanbul, Turkey). The grain areas and track lengths were measured at the same facility.

^{238}U measurements of the apatite grains were performed at the Central Research Laboratories of Çukurova University. The NIST 612 glass was used for calibration, and Durango (^{238}U :12 ppm) apatite was used as a secondary reference. The LA-ICP-MS data were processed using Iolite v4 (Paton et al., 2011). Absolute age calibration was used to calculate single grain AFT ages, Hasebe et al. (2004) was used to calculate the pooled ages, whereas the IsoplotR offline version was used to calculate the central ages and dispersion (Vermeesch, 2017; Vermeesch, 2018).

The track length measurements were carried out with the same microscope at a magnification of 2000X. Three samples yielded enough confined tracks without further processes such as Cf radiation or overetching. Only the confined tracks parallel to surface and TINTs were measured.

4. Analytical results

4.1. Petrography

The petrography of the samples from Karanlıkdere granitoid shows that the unit includes granite,

microgranite, granodiorite, tonalite, diorite, microdiorite and aplitic dikes.

The samples were taken on an N-S-trending ridge near Karanlıkdere valley regarding their altitudes, without any structural units between the samples for building age-elevation profiles (Table). The samples show a high degree of alteration in the outcrops. YSF-AFT1 is a granite sample with a granular texture and comprises quartz, plagioclase, and K-feldspar as major constitute. Biotite and rare muscovite, and hornblende are mafic components, whereas zircon, apatite, sphene, and opaque minerals are observed as accessory minerals. The samples YSF-AFT2 and YSF-AFT3 are granodiorite samples showing granular, micrographic, and perthitic textures. The sample includes quartz, plagioclase, and orthoclase as major mineral phases, and biotite and rare hornblende are mafic components, whereas zircon, apatite, sphene, and opaque minerals are observed as accessory minerals. The alterations of sericitization on plagioclases and K-feldspars, epidotization, and chloritization on biotite and hornblende minerals are observed. YSF-AFT4 is a granite sample with granular and perthitic textures. The sample includes quartz, plagioclase, and K-feldspar as major constitute. Biotite and hornblende are mafic components, whereas zircon, apatite, sphene, and opaque minerals are observed as accessory minerals (Figure 4).

The CL images of the zircons U-Pb age show oscillatory zoning, indicating a magmatic origin, as well as the Th/U ratios (0.23–0.65) (Figure 5, supplementary file). The zircon U-Pb age of the sample YSF-AFT1 yields a Concordia age of 79.67 ± 0.24 Ma (Figure 6, supplementary file). The crystallization age of the Karanlıkdere granitoid is slightly younger than the Southeast Anatolian late Cretaceous granitoids such as the Esence granitoid (Kahramanmaraş)

in the west and the Baskil granitoid (Elazığ) in the east, ranging between 84 and 80 Ma (Karaođlan et al., 2016). However, the dikes of the Karanlıkdere granitoid are dated between 92.9 ± 2.2 and 83.1 ± 1.5 Ma (Nurlu et al., 2016).

The single-grain FT ages have low dispersion and are significantly younger than the intrusion age of the granitoid (Table, Figure 7). The AFT ages range from 40.28 ± 3.4 and 22.81 ± 0.99 Ma, where the oldest AFT age is taken from the highest altitude (1483 m), and the youngest one is taken from the lowest height (1153 m) (Table, Figure 7). The chi-square test was used to check the distribution of the single-grain age populations. If the $P(\chi^2)$ is >0.05 , it shows that the age of the grains is composed of a single age component and the pooled age of the sample has a geological significance. On the other hand, if the $P(\chi^2)$ is <0.05 , the sample has multiple age components, and central age can be used to refer the sample is from different source regions or undergoes annealing caused by more than two thermal events (Table, supplementary File) (Galbraith and Laslett, 1993).

The sample YSF-AFT1 was taken from the lowest altitude at 1153m and yielded 22.81 ± 0.63 Ma pooled age. The probability of the chi-square test ($P(\chi^2) = 0.57$) for this sample indicates a homogeneous age distribution between intergrains. The track length (TL) distribution of YSF-AFT1 shows a unimodal distribution with a mean length of $12.69 \mu\text{m}$ and a standard deviation of $2.38 \mu\text{m}$ ($n = 121$) (Table, supplementary file).

The sample YSF-AFT2 is taken from 1216 m altitude and yields 28.16 ± 1.96 Ma pooled age. The sample passed the chi-square test indicating a homogeneous intergrain ages ($P(\chi^2) = 1$). The confined TLs show a bimodal distribution, ranging between 8 and $17 \mu\text{m}$ with a mean length of $12.80 \pm 2.72 \mu\text{m}$ (Table, supplementary file).

The sample YSF-AFT3 is taken from 1386 m altitude and yields 31.6 ± 1.16 Ma pooled age. The sample passed the chi-square test indicating a homogeneous intergrain ages ($P(\chi^2) = 0.81$). The TL distribution shows a unimodal distribution with a mean length of $13.97 \pm 1.61 \mu\text{m}$ (Table, supplementary file).

The sample YSF-AFT4 was taken at the highest altitude of the ridge at 1483 m and yielded 40.28 ± 3.4 pooled

Table 1. The AFT data of the analyzed samples.

Sample	Lat	Long	Altitude (m)	N. Of Grains	N _s	ρ _s (10 ⁵ cm ⁻²)	²³⁸ U (ppm ± 2σ)	Dpar (μm)	P(χ ²)	Disp. (%)	Pooled age (Ma ± 1σ)	Central age (Ma ± 1σ)	MTL(n)
ysf-aft1	37°55'20.52" N	37° 49' 53.538" E	1153	16	2513	168	79.5 ± 44.7	2,0	0,57	2,77	22.81 ± 0.63	26.24 ± 0.59	12.69±2.38(121)
ysf-aft2	37°55'30.318" N	37° 50' 3.168" E	1216	19	432	4	6.9 ± 9.9	1,9	1,00	29,7	28.16 ± 1.96	30.5 ± 1.46	12.85±2.69(70)
ysf-aft3	37° 56'3.978" N	37°49'25.782" E	1386	43	775	54	14.96 ± 4.9	2,4	0,81	24,7	31.6 ± 1.16	32.12 ± 0.84	13.92±1.46(114)
ysf-aft4	37° 56'4.272" N	37°49' 26.208" E	1483	26	417	2	7.83 ± 1.27	1,8	0,071	27,6	40.28 ± 3.4	42.33 ± 2.63	-----
ysf-aft5	37°55'1.4704"N	37°49'22.5228"E	1260								-----	-----	-----

Abbreviations: Ns: number of spontaneous tracks counted ;ps: spontaneous track density; Dpar: long axis of track etch pit; MTL(n): Mean Track Length(number of lengths measured)

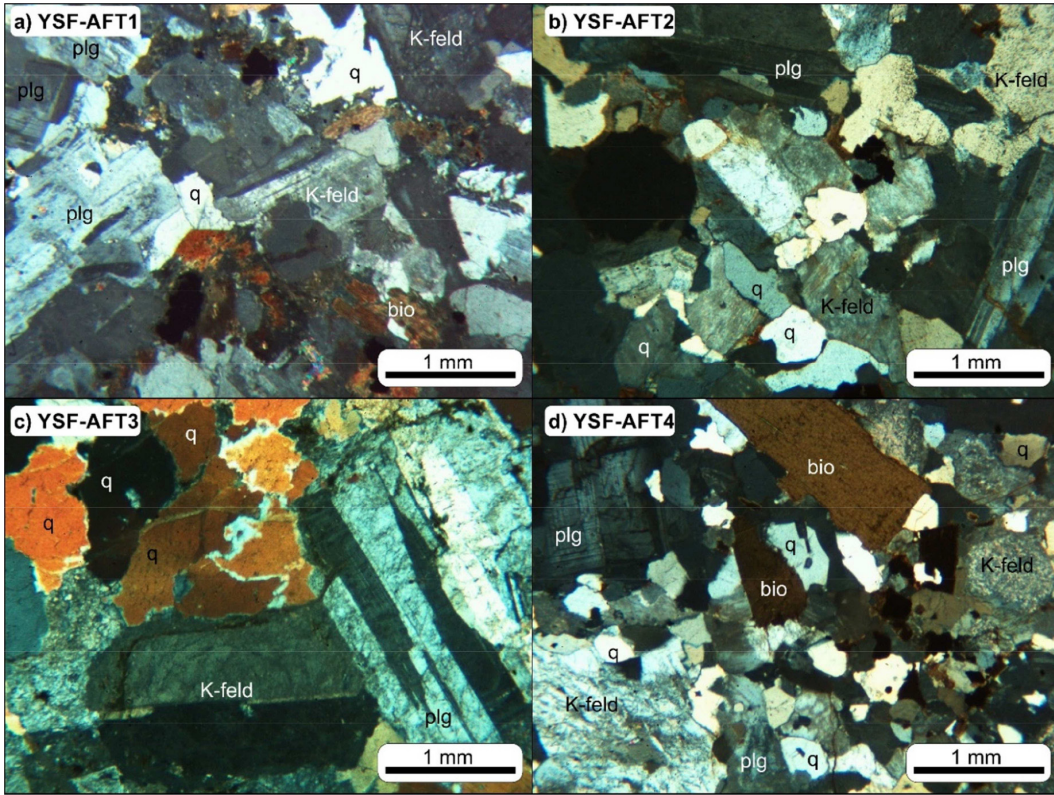


Figure 4. Thin section images of the analysed samples (q: quartz, K-feld: K-feldspar, plg: plagioclase, bio: biotite).

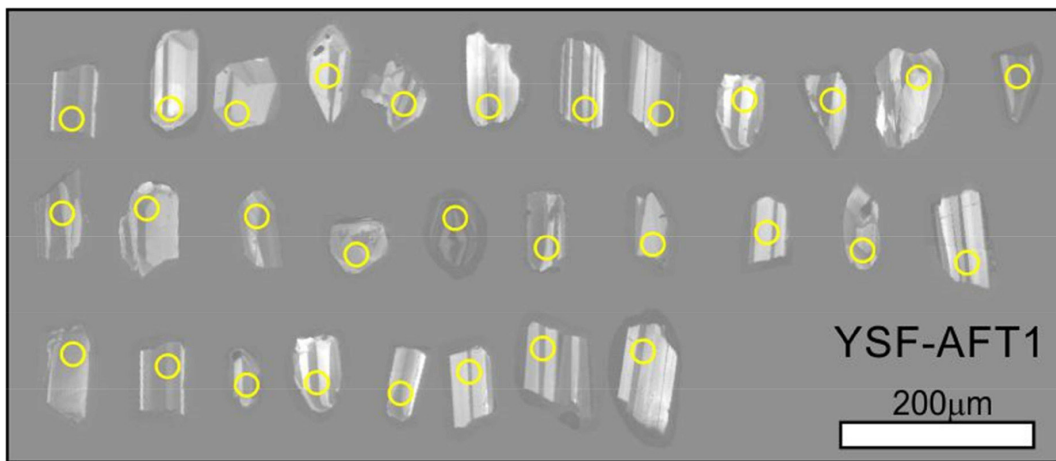


Figure 5. The CL images of the zircons extracted from sample YSF-AFT1 (yellow circles show the laser spots).

age. The sample passed the chi-square test indicating a homogeneous intergrain ages ($P(\chi^2) = 0.07$) (Table, supplementary file). This sample does not include sufficient confined tracks for meaningful statistics.

The age-elevation profile shows a direct correlation between AFT ages and their altitude (Table, Figure 7). The age-elevation profile yields an average of 0.02 ± 0.005

mm/a uplift rate indicating a slow exhumation between 40 Ma (Middle Eocene) and 22 Ma (Lower Miocene) for the late Cretaceous Karanlıkdere granitoid (Figure 7).

4.2. Thermal modeling

The HeFTy software (v1.8) was used for inverse modeling to reveal the thermal histories of the samples. The software uses track counts, confined track lengths

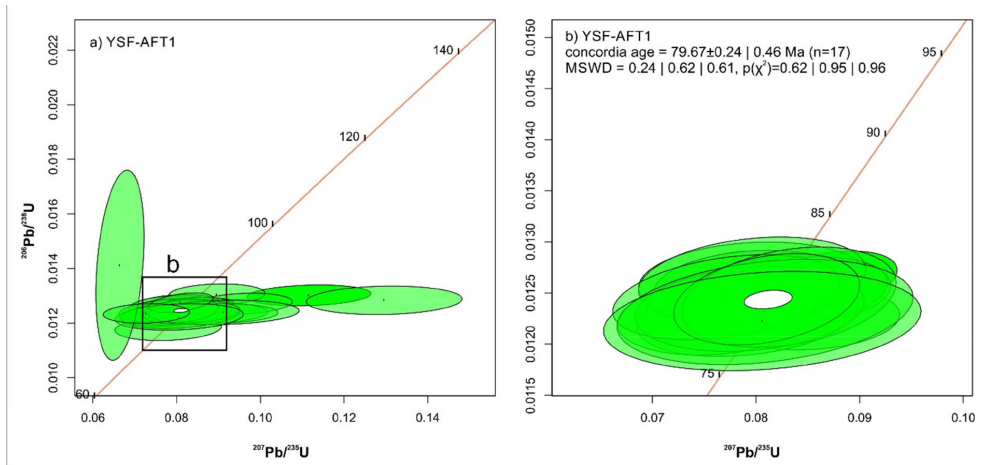


Figure 6. The Concordia diagram of the YSF-AFT1.

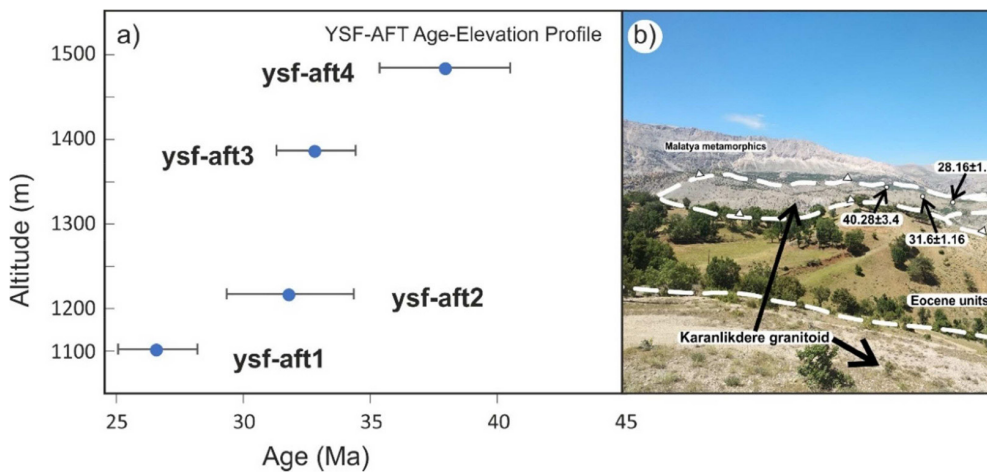


Figure 7. a) The age elevation profile of the Karanlıkdere granitoid, b) the field photo of the Karanlıkdere granitoid including AFT age data.

with c-axis angle, and Dpar values for the calculations using the annealing equation of Ketcham et al. (1999) and c-axis projection of Donelick et al. (1999). For a reliable cooling profile, at least 250 Good Paths with a minimum of 50,000 candidate temperature-time (T-t) paths were randomly generated using the Markov chain Monte Carlo algorithm for each modeling run. 79.67 ± 0.24 Ma obtained from the U-Pb dating is used for the initial constraint. YSF-AFT4 was not calculated regarding the insufficient number of track lengths to provide a statistically meaningful result.

The inverse modeling of the sample YSF-AFT1 indicates a similar age result with the measured ages (Figure 8). The sample was cooled below 120 °C after 25 Ma and remained in the PAZ until 5 Ma (Figure 8). The TL distribution implies a fast cooling rate in the PAZ after 25 Ma, which is inconsistent with the age-elevation profile and the cooling history.

The calculations indicate that the sample YSF-AFT2 was in the total annealing zone after crystallization and stayed in a flat temperature line till 20 Ma (Figure 8). The TL distribution of the sample implies that the sample remained long enough in the PAZ to shorten the old tracks, which is consistent with the slow cooling suggested by the age-elevation profile.

The sample YSF-AFT3 yields a cooling age of 30.31 ± 1.76 Ma. The T-t modeling based on track length data shows that the sample retained within the PAZ started uplifting at 35 Ma and cooled above 60 °C before 10 Ma (Figure 8).

The cooling profiles show a gradual trend of uplift above 60 °C initiated at 12-13Ma (YSF-AFT3), continued 10Ma (YSF-AFT2), and finally 5 Ma (YSF-AFT1) regarding the altitude. This uplift also indicates that the age elevation profile was not affected by any tectonic event between Middle Miocene and Upper Miocene-Pliocene (Figure 8).

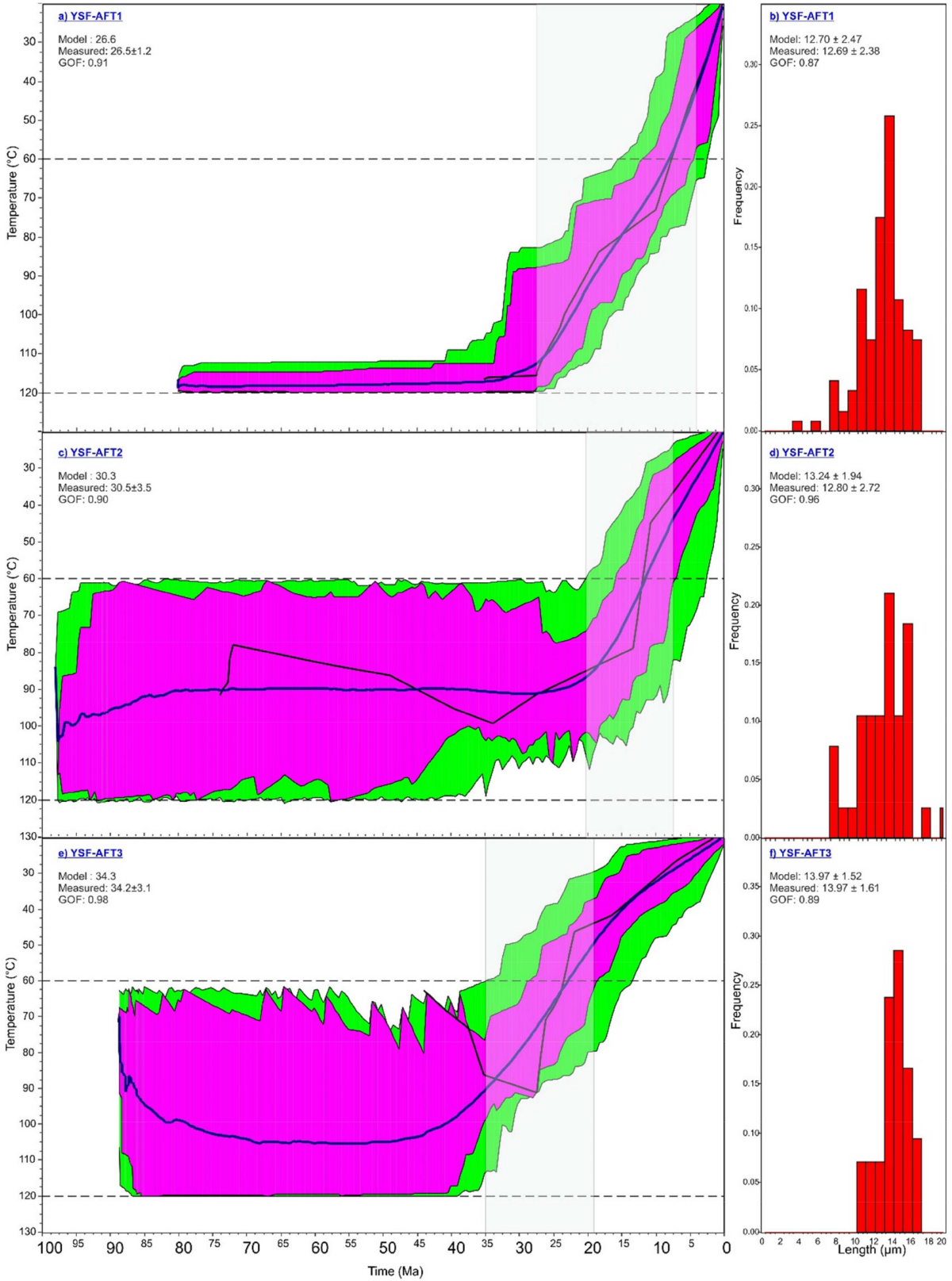


Figure 8. The inverse modeling of the samples YSF-AFT1, YSF-AFT2, and YSF-AFT3 were calculated by HeFTy (Ketcham, 2005). The black line indicates the best fit, the blue line indicates the weighted mean path, the purple area indicates good fit, and the green area indicates acceptable fit.

5. Discussion

5.1 Growth of imbrication zone along SAOB evidenced by thermal models

From four samples, three thermal models were created. Available track length measurements from the sample YSF-AFT4 were not sufficient to create a statistically consistent model. Fortunately, the rest of the samples allowed to create consistent models. According to these models, the granitoid body started to undergo relatively fast exhumation after approximately 25 Ma after stable very slow exhumation (almost flat) for the granitoid body. Such an exhumation trend for a granitoid exposure, which might be considered as a relatively deep emplaced body in an imbrication zone, can be explained by different exhumation processes. The first suggesting; (i) low deformation rate during subduction of oceanic slab or elongated continental crust (trench advance-c.f Ballato et al., 2018) of southern Neo-Tethys due to low friction rate between the overriding plate and the down-going oceanic slab and the lack of continental obstacle with low density in front of the overriding plate and latterly (ii) high deformation rate during continental collision along the SAOB, can easily explain initial (pre- approximately 25 Ma) slow and latter fast exhumation rates for the body (Figure 9). However, the geometry of thrust faults forming the imbrication stacks may also play a role in such an exhumation trend (Figure 9a). In the case of a flat or low angle decollement surface below the granitoid body during the commencement of the imbrication tectonics in the region, the body may exhume at very low rates before its arrival to steeply dipping fault surface. In the case of Karanlıkdere granitoid, the body may have exhumed at very low rates up to approximately 25 Ma and continued with high rates due to changes in the dip of the fault plane (Figure 9b). Simply, both processes might explain the exhumation trend of the Karanlıkdere granitoid. The first process (with trench advance setting) and the second processes fit with the interpretations of Ballato et al. (2018) and Darin et al. (2018) suggesting initial soft and subsequent hard collision model; however, the existence of early Miocene arc-related granitoid in the Eastern Anatolia at the north of promontory thrust of the SAOB does not support preearly Miocene collision model (Açlan and Altun, 2018; Açlan and Duruk, 2018; Oyan, 2018). In this regard, here it is suggested that initially, the granitoid body exhumed with very low rates within an imbrication zone at the southernmost margin of the overriding Anatolide-Tauride plate during oceanic slab subduction, and latterly it started to exhume with high rates due to continental collision event. Also, the low and high exhumation trends for the granitoid body were enhanced by the geometry of a thrust fault acting as an arc-shaped conveyor by lying below the granitoid (Figures 9a and 9b).

5.2. Regional implications

The zone of imbrication of the SAOB formed between the passive Arabian platform to the south and the Tauride active margin to the north, as a result of the amalgamation of the continental and oceanic fragments during the late Cretaceous-Miocene. The imbrication zone comprises trust sheets of ophiolites, mélange, granitoid bodies, volcanic arc units as well as sedimentary and volcanic units formed within this unit (Perinçek and Kozlu, 1984; Yılmaz, 1993; Yiğitbaş and Yılmaz, 1996a, b; Yılmaz and Gürer, 1996; Robertson et al., 2006; Robertson et al., 2012; Yılmaz, 2019).

The LTT data obtained from the SAOB accumulating day by day. However, the available LTT data are still restricted, the results indicate that the exhumation/uplifting across the suture zone initiated since late Cretaceous-early Paleogene and continued until the late Miocene (Oberhänsli et al., 2010; Okay et al., 2010; Oberhänsli et al., 2012; Albino et al., 2013; Oberhänsli et al., 2014; Lefebvre et al., 2015; Karaoğlan et al., 2016; Cavazza et al., 2018; Yılmaz, 2019).

The collisional processes between the Anatolide-Tauride Block and the Arabian platform are still under debate among scientists. The proposed timing of the collision according to geochemistry, magmatism, metamorphism, stratigraphy, sedimentation and field relations as well as thermochronology data; ranges from late Cretaceous to Upper-Middle Miocene (Hall, 1976; Şengör and Yılmaz, 1981; Yılmaz, 1993; Allen and Armstrong, 2008; Oberhänsli et al., 2010; Okay et al., 2010; Oberhänsli et al., 2012; Robertson et al., 2012; Oberhänsli et al., 2014; Schildgen et al., 2014; Karaoğlan et al., 2016; Duman et al., 2017; Sar et al., 2019; Yılmaz, 2019; Gülyüz et al., 2020).

Recent studies depict the existence of two oceans between Tauride-Anatolide and Arabian platform, where Bitlis-Pütürge metamorphic complex was in between these two oceans during the late Cretaceous. The Bitlis-Pütürge metamorphics collided Tauride-Anatolide platform during the late Cretaceous following the demise of the Berit ocean in a north-dipping subduction. The Bitlis-Pütürge metamorphics underwent a blueschist metamorphism during this continental collision (Oberhänsli et al., 2010; Oberhänsli et al., 2012; Robertson et al., 2012; Oberhänsli et al., 2014; Karaoğlan et al., 2016; Yılmaz, 2019). The main branch of the southern Neo-Tethys survived until the early Miocene and the oceanic or continental fragments imbricated in front of the Tauride active margin forming the zone of imbrication since the late Cretaceous (Yılmaz, 2019). The current exposures of the Meydan ophiolite and the Karanlıkdere granitoid indicate that they have not experienced either the subduction beneath the Malatya metamorphics nor obduction on to Pütürge metamorphics

or later nappe movements. This results in (i) undistribution on the LTT data of the granitoid and (ii) consistent AFT age results and thermal models indicating steady uplift of the Karanlıkdere granitoid along an elevation profile, in contrast to the Baskil, Esence and Doğanşehir granitoids cropping out within the nappe zone (Karaoğlu et al., 2016) (Figure 10).

The LTT data obtained from the Bitlis-Pütürge metamorphics and the Nappe zone of the SAOB range between early Paleocene and latest Miocene including ZHe, AFT and AHe data (Okay et al., 2010; Lefebvre et al., 2015; Karaoğlu et al., 2016; Cavazza et al., 2018). The older ages are associated with the closure of the Berit Ocean and the continental collision between the Bitlis-

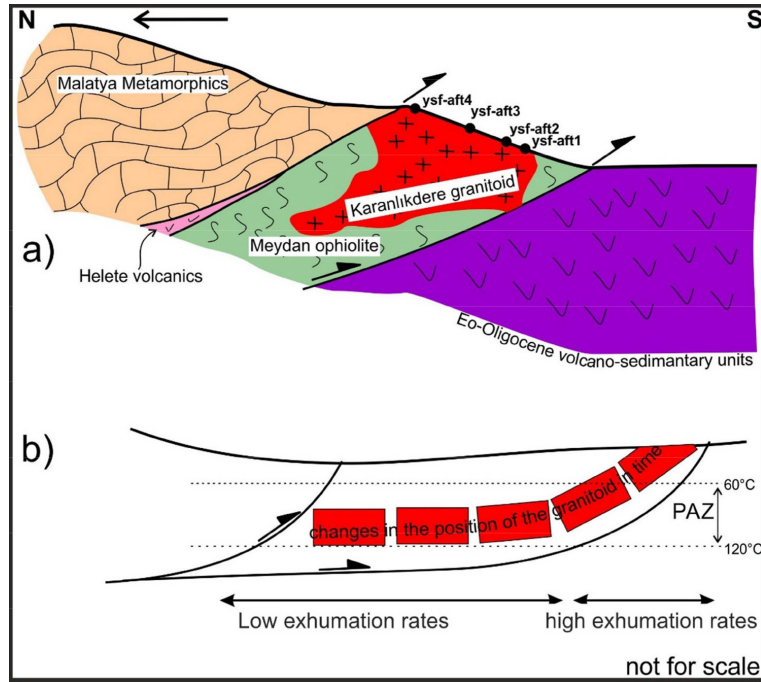


Figure 9. Cross section illustrating the trusting within the imbrication zone and sample locations, b) conceptual model explaining possible low and high exhumation rates in an imbrication zone. See text for the details.

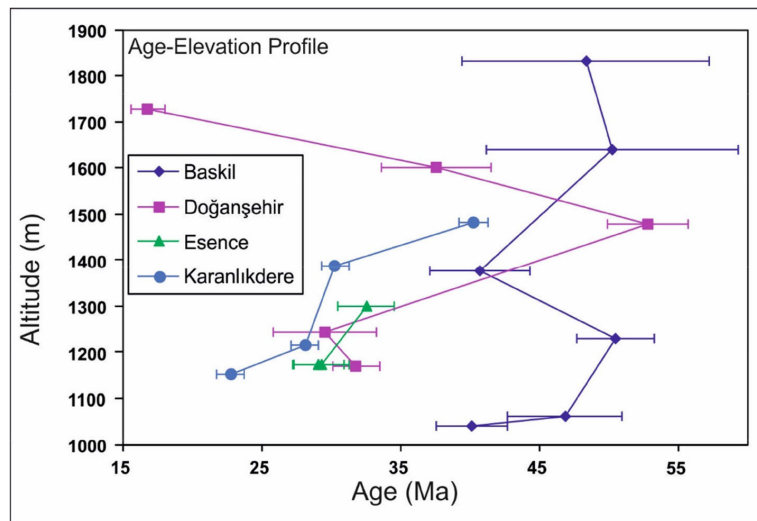


Figure 10. The AFT age-elevation profiles of the granitoids outcropped along the SAOB. Data from Karaoğlu et al. (2016) and this study.

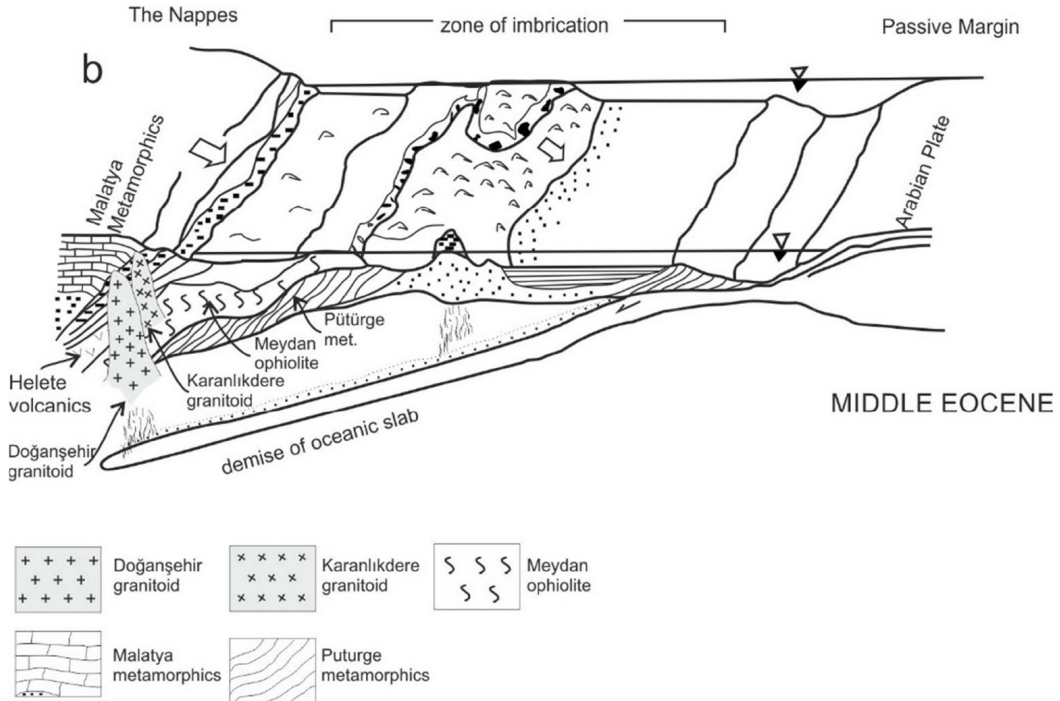


Figure 11. The middle Eocene tectonic setting of the Southeast Anatolian Orogenic Belt (adapted from Yılmaz (1993)).

Pütürge metamorphics and Tauride Block. During Eocene, arc magmatism developed in the nappe zone and intruded into nappes (i.e. Malatya metamorphics) (Karaođlan et al., 2013). This arc setting let the region uplift during Eocene within the nappe zone (Karaođlan et al., 2016) (Figure 11). In front of the nappes, the north-dipping subduction accreted the nappe piles continuously without any interruption during middle-late Eocene to early Miocene (Figure 11). The early Miocene witnesses the final continental collision between the Tauride Block to the north and the Arabian platform to the south as evidenced by low-temperature thermochronology, stratigraphy, paleomagnetism, and magmatism (Keskin, 2003; Okay et al., 2010; Cavazza et al., 2018; Yılmaz, 2019; Gülyüz et al., 2020; Robertson et al., 2021). Briefly, the thermal models presented here are consistent with the early Miocene continental collision scenario by indicating very low uplift rates during Eocene-Oligocene time interval and the initiation of fast uplift rates in the early Miocene.

6. Conclusion

LA-ICP-MS zircon U-Pb and apatite fission track thermochronology were applied to samples collected from the Karanlıkdere granitoid within the imbrication zone of the Southeast Anatolian Orogenic Belt. The samples were collected on a ridge without any tectonic structure to illustrate the age-elevation profile for the AFT data. The results indicate that:

- The Karanlıkdere granitoid formed during the late Cretaceous (79–80 Ma), similar to Esence granitoid (Kahramanmaraş) to the west, and Baskil Granitoid (Elazığ) to the east which are outcropped in the nappe zone.
- The Karanlıkdere granitoid intruded into late Cretaceous Meydan ophiolite, late Cretaceous Helete volcanics and overriding Malatya metamorphics indicating that these units were juxtaposed prior to magmatism.
- The age-elevation profiles obtained from the apatite fission track data show that the Karanlıkdere granitoid uplifted without any interruption during the middle-late Eocene to the early Miocene.
- The results indicate that the growth of the imbrication zone in front of the nappes of the SAOB continued in a steady-state mode with a slow uplift rate of 0.02 ± 0.005 mm/a between middle-late Eocene and early Miocene, which is also confirmed by the thermal models.
- The cooling profiles confirm the age-elevation profile as well as the increase in the cooling rates during the early-middle Miocene, which might be explained by continental collision during this period.

Acknowledgement

This work was financially supported by the Research Fund of the Adiyaman University (Project no: TEBMYOMAP/2019-0001). I would like to thank Dr. Fatih Karaođlan for performing AFT and zircon U-Pb analyses.

References

- Açlan M, Altun Y (2018). Syn-collisional I-type Esenköy Pluton (Eastern Anatolia-Turkey): An indication for collision between Arabian and Eurasian plates. *Journal of African Earth Sciences* 142: 1-11.
- Açlan M, Duruk Hİ (2018). Geochemistry, zircon U-Pb geochronology, and tectonic setting of the Taşlıçay Granitoids, Eastern Anatolia, Turkey. *Arabian Journal of Geosciences* 11: 336.
- Akıncı AC, Robertson AHF, Ünlügenç UC (2016). Late Cretaceous–Cenozoic subduction–collision history of the Southern Neotethys: new evidence from the Çağlayancerit area, SE Turkey. *International Journal Earth Science* 105: 315-337.
- Albino I, Cavazza W, Zattin M, Okay AI, Adamia S et al. (2013). Far-field tectonic effects of the Arabia–Eurasia collision and the inception of the North Anatolian Fault system. *Geological Magazine* 151: 372-379.
- Albino I, Cavazza W, Zattin M, Okay AI, Adamia S et al. N (2014). Far-field tectonic effects of the Arabia-Eurasia collision and the inception of the North Anatolian Fault system. *Geological Magazine* 151: 372-379.
- Allen MB, Armstrong HA (2008). Arabia-Eurasia collision and the forcing of mid-Cenozoic global cooling. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* 265: 52-58.
- Ballato P, Parra M, Schildgen TF, Dunkl I, Yıldırım C et al. (2018). Multiple Exhumation Phases in the Central Pontides (N Turkey): New Temporal Constraints on Major Geodynamic Changes Associated With the Closure of the Neo-Tethys Ocean. *Tectonics* 37: 1831-1857.
- Bilgiç T, (2002). 1:500000 ölçekli Sivas paftası Jeoloji Haritası No:10, in: Şenel, M (Ed.). MTA, Ankara, Türkiye.
- Bozkurt E, Mittweide SK (2001). Introduction to the Geology of Turkey—A Synthesis. *International Geology Review* 43: 578-594.
- Cavazza W, Cattò S, Zattin M, Okay AI, Reiners P (2018). Thermochronology of the Miocene Arabia-Eurasia collision zone of southeastern Turkey. *Geosphere* 14: 2277-2293.
- Darin MH, Umhoefer PJ, Thomson SN (2018). Rapid Late Eocene Exhumation of the Sivas Basin (Central Anatolia) Driven by Initial Arabia-Eurasia Collision. *Tectonics* 37: 3805-3833.
- Donelick RA, Ketcham RA, Carlson WD (1999). Variability of apatite fission-track annealing kinetics: II. Crystallographic orientation effects. *American Mineralogist* 84: 1224-1234.
- Duman TY, Robertson AHF, Elmacı H, Kara M (2017). Palaeozoic–Recent geological development and uplift of the Amanos Mountains (S Turkey) in the critically located northwesternmost corner of the Arabian continent. *Geodinamica Acta* 29: 103-138.
- Erdoğan T (1975). Gölbaşı civarının jeolojisi: TPAO Arama Grubu, Rapor no.929, 17s., Ankara.
- Galbraith RF, Laslett GM (1993). Statistical-Models for Mixed Fission-Track Ages. *Nuclear Tracks and Radiation Measurements* 21: 459-470.
- Gleadow AJW, Duddy IR, Green PF, Lovering JF (1986). Confined fission track lengths in apatite: a diagnostic tool for thermal history analysis. *Contributions to Mineralogy and Petrology* 94: 405-415.
- Göncüoğlu C, Turhan N (1984). Geology of the Bitlis Metamorphic Belt, In: Tekeli, O, Göncüoğlu, MC editors. *Geology of The Taurus Belt*. Mineral Research and Expolaration Institute of Turkey (MTA), Ankara, pp. 237-244.
- Göncüoğlu MC (2019). A Review of the Geology and Geodynamic Evolution of Tectonic Terranes in Turkey, In: Pirajno, F, Ünlü, T, Dönmez, C, Şahin, MB editors. *Mineral Resources of Turkey*. Springer International Publishing, Cham, pp. 19-72.
- Görür N, Oktay FY, Seymen İ, Şengör AMC (1984). Palaeotectonic evolution of the Tuzgölü basin complex, Central Turkey: sedimentary record of a Neo-Tethyan closure, In: DIXON, JE, ROBERTSON, AHF editors. *The Geological Evolution of the Eastern Mediterranean*. Geological Society Special Publications, London, pp. 467-482.
- Görür N, Tüysüz O, Celal Şengör AM (1998). Tectonic Evolution of the Central Anatolian Basins. *International Geology Review* 40: 831-850.
- Gulyuz E (2020). Apatite fission track dating of the Beypazari Granitoid: insight for the inception of collision along the Northern Neotethys, Turkey. *Geodinamica Acta* 32: 1-10.
- Gülyüz E, Durak H, Özkaptan M, Krijgsman W (2020). Paleomagnetic constraints on the early Miocene closure of the southern Neo-Tethys (Van region; East Anatolia): Inferences for the timing of Eurasia-Arabia collision. *Global and Planetary Change* 185: 103089.
- Gülyüz E, Özkaptan M, Kaymakci N, Persano C, Stuart FM (2019). Kinematic and thermal evolution of the Haymana Basin, a fore-arc to foreland basin in Central Anatolia (Turkey). *Tectonophysics*.
- Günay Y, Şenel M, (2002). Turkey Geological Map, Sheet Cizre: Ankara, Turkey: Maden Tetkik ve Arama Genel Müdürlüğü, scale 1:500,000.
- Hall R (1976). Ophiolite emplacement and the evolution of the Taurus suture zone, southeastern Turkey. *Geological Society of America Bulletin* 87: 1078-1088.
- Hasebe N, Barbarand J, Jarvis K, Carter A, Hurford AJ (2004). Apatite fission-track chronometry using laser ablation ICP-MS. *Chemical Geology* 207: 135-145.
- Herece E, (2008). Doğu Anadolu Fayı (DAF) Atlası. General Directorate of Mineral Research and Exploration (MTA), Ankara, Türkiye.
- Hinsbergen DJJ, Maffione M, Plunder A, Kaymakçı N, Ganerød M et al. (2016). Tectonic evolution and paleogeography of the Kırşehir Block and the Central Anatolian Ophiolites, Turkey. *Tectonics* 35: 983-1014.
- Hozatlıoğlu D, Bozkaya Ö, Yalçın H, Yılmaz H (2019). Göksun, Afşin Ve Ekinözü (Kahramanmaraş) Bölgesinde Yüzeylenen Metamorfik Masiflerin Mineralojik Karakteristikleri. *Bulletin of The Mineral Research and Exploration*: 1-10.

- Jackson SE, Pearson NJ, Griffin WL, Belousova EA (2004). The application of laser ablation-inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometry to in situ U–Pb zircon geochronology. *Chemical Geology* 211: 47-69.
- Karaođlan F, Parlak O, Hejl E, Neubauer F, Klötzli U (2016). The temporal evolution of the active margin along the Southeast Anatolian Orogenic Belt (SE Turkey): Evidence from U–Pb, Ar–Ar and fission track chronology. *Gondwana Research* 33: 190-208.
- Karaođlan F, Parlak O, Robertson A, Thöni M, Klötzli U et al. (2013). Evidence of Eocene high-temperature/high-pressure metamorphism of ophiolitic rocks and granitoid intrusion related to Neotethyan subduction processes (Dođanşehir area, SE Anatolia), In: Robertson, AHF, Parlak, O, Ünlügenç, UC editors. *Geological Development of Anatolia and the Easternmost Mediterranean Region*. Geological Society, London, Special Publications, London, pp. 249-272.
- Karaođlan F, Yıldırım N, Yıldırım E, Topak Y (2021). The Geology of Gölbaşı (Adıyaman) Region: The Upper Cretaceous -Eocene Evolution of the Southeast Anatolian Orogenic Belt. 73th Geological Congress of Turkey, pp. 453-454.
- Keskin M (2003). Magma generation by slab steepening and breakoff beneath a subduction-accretion complex: An alternative model for collision-related volcanism in Eastern Anatolia, Turkey. *Geophysical Research Letters* 30: n/a-n/a.
- Ketcham RA (2005). Forward and Inverse Modeling of Low-Temperature Thermochronometry Data, In: Reiners, PW, Ehlers, TA editors. *Low-Temperature Thermochronology: Techniques, Interpretations, and Applications*. Mineralogical Society of America, pp. 275-314.
- Ketcham RA, Donelick RA, Carlson WD (1999). Variability of apatite fission-track annealing kinetics: III. Extrapolation to geological time scales. *American Mineralogist* 84: 1235-1255.
- Lefebvre C, Thomson SN, Reiners PW, Whitney DL, Teyssier C (2015). Thermochronologic evaluation of the Arabia-Anatolia collision: new results from Apatite (U-Th) He and Fission Track. EGU2015, pp. EGU2015-7623.
- Nurlu N, Parlak O, Robertson A, von Quadt A (2016). Implications of Late Cretaceous U–Pb zircon ages of granitic intrusions cutting ophiolitic and volcanogenic rocks for the assembly of the Tauride allochthon in SE Anatolia (Helete area, Kahramanmaraş Region, SE Turkey). *International Journal of Earth Sciences* 105: 283-314.
- Oberhänsli R, Bousquet R, Candan O, Okay A (2012). Dating Subduction Events in East Anatolia, Turkey. *Turkish Journal of Earth Sciences* 21: 1-17.
- Oberhänsli R, Candan O, Bousquet R, Rimmel G, Okay A et al. (2010). Alpine high pressure evolution of the eastern Bitlis complex, SE Turkey, In: Sosson, M, Kaymakci, N, Stephenson, RA, Bergerat, F, Starostenko, V editors. *Sedimentary Basin Tectonics from the Black Sea and Caucasus to the Arabian Platform*. Geological Society, London, Special Publications, London, pp. 461-483.
- Oberhänsli R, Koralay E, Candan O, Pourteau A, Bousquet R (2014). Late Cretaceous eclogitic high-pressure relics in the Bitlis Massif. *Geodinamica Acta* 26: 175-190.
- Okay AI, Tüysüz O (1999). Tethyan sutures of northern Turkey, In: Durand, B, Jolivet, FL, Horváth, F editors. *The Mediterranean Basins: Tertiary Extension within the Alpine Orogen*. Geological Society, London, Special Publications, pp. 475-515.
- Okay AI, Zattin M, Cavazza W (2010). Apatite fission-track data for the Miocene Arabia-Eurasia collision. *Geology* 38: 35-38.
- Oyan V (2018). Ar-Ar dating and petrogenesis of the Early Miocene Taskapi-Mecitli (Ercis-Van) granitoid, Eastern Anatolia Collisional Zone, Turkey. *Journal of Asian Earth Sciences* 158: 210-226.
- Paton C, Hellstrom J, Paul B, Woodhead J, Hergt J (2011). Iolite: Freeware for the visualisation and processing of mass spectrometric data. *Journal of Analytical Atomic Spectrometry* 26: 2508-2518.
- Perinçek D, Kozlu H (1984). Stratigraphy and structural relations of the units in the Afşin-Elbistan-Dođanşehir region (Eastern Taurus), In: Tekeli, O, Göncüođlu, MC editors. *Geology Of The Taurus Belt*. Mineral Research and Expolaration Institute of Turkey (MTA), Ankara, pp. 181-198.
- Robertson A, Parlak O, Ustaömer T, Taslı K, Dumitrica P (2021). Late Palaeozoic-Neogene sedimentary and tectonic development of the Tauride continent and adjacent Tethyan ocean basins in eastern Turkey: New data and integrated interpretation. *Journal of Asian Earth Science*. doi: 10.1016/j.jseaes.2021.104859
- Robertson A, Boulton SJ, Taslı K, Yıldırım N, İnan N et al. (2016). Late Cretaceous–Miocene sedimentary development of the Arabian continental margin in SE Turkey (Adıyaman region): Implications for regional palaeogeography and the closure history of Southern Neotethys. *Journal of Asian Earth Sciences* 115: 571-616.
- Robertson AHF, Parlak O, Ustaömer T (2012). Overview of the Palaeozoic-neogene evolution of neotethys in the Eastern Mediterranean region (Southern Turkey, Cyprus, Syria). *Petroleum Geoscience* 18: 381-404.
- Robertson AHF, Ustaömer T, Parlak O, Ünlügenç UC, Taslı K et al. (2006). The Berit transect of the Tauride thrust belt, S Turkey: Late Cretaceous-Early Cenozoic accretionary/collisional processes related to closure of the Southern Neotethys. *Journal of Asian Earth Sciences* 27: 108-145.
- Sar A, Ertürk MA, Rizeli ME (2019). Genesis of Late Cretaceous intra-oceanic arc intrusions in the Pertek area of Tunceli Province, eastern Turkey, and implications for the geodynamic evolution of the southern Neo-Tethys: Results of zircon U–Pb geochronology and geochemical and Sr–Nd isotopic analyses. *Lithos* 350-351: 105263.
- Schildgen TF, Yildirim C, Cosentino D, Strecker MR (2014). Linking slab break-off, Hellenic trench retreat, and uplift of the Central and Eastern Anatolian plateaus. *Earth-Science Reviews* 128: 147-168.

- Şenel M, Ercan T, (2002). Turkey Geological Map, Sheet Van: Ankara, Turkey, Maden Tetkik ve Arama Genel Müdürlüğü, scale 1:500,000. Maden Tetkik ve Arama Genel Müdürlüğü, Ankara.
- Şengör AMC, Yılmaz Y (1981). Tethyan Evolution of Turkey-a Plate Tectonic Approach. *Tectonophysics* 75: 181-241.
- Slama J, Kosler J, Condon DJ, Crowley JL, Gerdes A et al. (2008). Plesovice zircon-A new natural reference material for U-Pb and Hf isotopic microanalysis. *Chemical Geology* 249: 1-35.
- Tarhan N, (2002). 1:500000 Ölçekli Erzurum Paftası Jeoloji Haritası. No:11, in: Şenel, M (Ed.). MTA, Ankara, Türkiye.
- Topuz G, Candan O, Zack T, Chen F, Li Q-L (2019). Origin and significance of Early Miocene high-potassium I-type granite plutonism in the East Anatolian plateau (the Taşlıçay intrusion). *Lithos*: 105210.
- Ulu U, (2002). 1:500000 Ölçekli Hatay Paftası Jeoloji Haritası. No: 16, in: Şenel, M (Ed.). MTA, Ankara, Türkiye.
- Ural M, Arslan M, Göncüoğlu MC, Tekin KU, Kürüm S (2015). Late Cretaceous arc and back-arc formation within the Southern Neotethys: whole-rock, trace element and Sr-Nd-Pb isotopic data from basaltic rocks of the Yüksekova Complex (Malatya-Elazığ, SE Turkey). *Ofoliti* 40.
- Vermeesch P (2017). Statistics for LA-ICP-MS based fission track dating. *Chemical Geology* 456: 19-27.
- Vermeesch P (2018). IsoplotR: A free and open toolbox for geochronology. *Geoscience Frontiers* 9: 1479-1493.
- Wiedenbeck M, Hanchar JM, Peck WH, Sylvester P, Valley J et al. (2004). Further characterisation of the 91500 zircon crystal. *Geostandards and Geoanalytical Research* 28: 9-39.
- Yiğitbaş E, Yılmaz Y (1996a). Post-Late Cretaceous Strike-Slip Tectonics and Its Implications for the Southeast Anatolian Orogen, Turkey. *International Geology Review* 38: 818-831.
- Yiğitbaş E, Yılmaz Y (1996b). New evidence and solution to the Maden complex controversy of the Southeast Anatolian orogenic belt (Turkey). *Geologische Rundschau* 85: 250-263.
- Yıldırım E (2015). Geochemistry, petrography and tectonic significance of the ophiolitic rocks, felsic intrusions and Eocene volcanic rocks of an imbrication zone (Helete area, Southeast Turkey). *Journal of African Earth Sciences* 107: 89-107.
- Yıldırım M, Yılmaz Y (1991). Güneydoğu Anadolu orojenik kuşağının ekaylı zonu [Imbrication zone of Southeastern Anatolian Orogenic Belt]. *Türkiye Petrol Jeologları Derneği Bülteni*, 3: 57-73.
- Yılmaz Y (1993). New Evidence and Model on the Evolution of the Southeast Anatolian Orogen. *Geological Society of America Bulletin* 105: 251-271.
- Yılmaz Y (2019). Southeast Anatolian Orogenic Belt revisited (geology and evolution). *Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences* 56: 1163-1180.
- Yılmaz Y, Gürer ÖF (1996). Andırın (Kahramanmaraş) Dolayında Misis-Andırın Kuşağının Jeolojisi ve Evrimi. *Turkish Journal of Earth Sciences* 5: 39-55.
- Yılmaz Y, Yiğitbaş E, Genç ŞC (1993). Ophiolitic and Metamorphic Assemblages of Southeast Anatolia and Their Significance in the Geological Evolution of the Orogenic Belt. *Tectonics* 12: 1280-1297.
- Yılmaz Y, Yiğitbaş E, Yıldırım M, Genç ŞC (1992). Güneydoğu Anadolu Metamorfik Masiflerinin Kökeni. *Türkiye 9. Petrol kongresi*.

	Tracks	Area (μm^2)	Track Density (tracks/cm2)	U238 (ppm)	2SE(int)	Age	ISE(int)			
Grain 1	133	99614	133515	8,96	0,44	28,71	2,86			
Grain 2	61	40185	151798	8,51	0,43	34,35	4,73			
Grain 3	98	87438	112079	8,71	0,45	24,8	2,81			
Grain 4	82	53882	152184	10,17	0,47	28,83	3,45			
Grain 5	67	46349	144555	8,80	0,45	31,64	4,19			
Grain 6	72	53415	134794	8,72	0,49	29,78	3,89			
Grain 7	69	54549	126492	8,03	0,49	30,35	4,1			
Grain 8	43	29660	178692	8,94	0,46	31,24	5,03			
Grain 9	89	70466	126302	8,99	0,45	27,07	3,17			
Grain 10	98	65925	148654	9,41	0,49	30,43	3,46			
Grain 11	87	49551	175577	8,81	0,44	38,37	4,54			
Grain 12	110	94049	87189	8,83	0,44	25,53	2,75			
Grain 13	67	52909	126633	10,07	0,52	24,24	3,21			
Grain 14	72	56521	127386	9,77	0,52	25,13	3,25			
Grain 15	25	17747	101426	8,85	0,52	22,09	5,37			
Grain 16	111	78406	141571	8,58	0,40	31,78	3,36			
Grain 17	72	58344	106266	8,75	0,41	27,18	3,45			
Grain 18	99	59163	167334	10,76	0,52	29,96	3,34			
Grain 19	50	34668	144225	8,80	0,42	31,57	4,71			
Grain 20	52	42027	123730	8,76	0,45	27,22	4,02			
	1557	1144868				Central Age	29,12	0,81	MSWD	1
						Pooled age	28,27	1,61	p(x2)	0,63
									Disp	0,0081

YSF-AFT1	Track	Area (μm^2)	Density (tracks/cm2)	Average DPar(μm)	DPar Std Deviation	U238 (ppm)	2SE(int)	Age	ISE(int)			
Grain 1	185	14356	1288660	2,2	0,0	83,44	2,60	29,75	2,22			
Grain 2	82	11133	934160	2,6	0,5	52,30	1,65	27,14	3,01			
Grain 3	296	17178	1437886	1,7	0,3	136,66	5,32	24,3	1,55			
Grain 4	72	7950	1232704	1,9	0,6	65,19	2,64	26,77	3,17			
Grain 5	137	17687	774580	1,6	0,5	62,47	2,10	23,9	2,06			
Grain 6	91	9911	918172	2,2	0,1	69,48	2,27	25,47	2,69			
Grain 7	38	8996	344598	2,1	0,6	31,14	1,03	26,14	4,24			
Grain 8	68	4441	1666291	2,3	0,2	108,68	4,85	27,15	3,36			
Grain 9	301	12492	1593020	2,3	0,2	181,08	8,18	25,64	1,81			
Grain 10	136	39976	457775	2,2	0,1	23,44	0,85	27,97	2,4			
Grain 11	264	23046	1076109	1,9	0,2	97,15	3,57	22,73	1,46			
Grain 12	141	14413	1304378	1,7	0,2	69,77	2,62	27,02	2,3			
Grain 13	315	22026	1430128	1,9	0,1	100,28	3,53	27,48	1,62			
Grain 14	182	9596	1490204	1,7	0,5	132,06	5,53	27,67	2,19			
Grain 15	101	35585	283827	2,1	0,4	21,11	0,79	25,91	2,58			
Grain 16	104	18164	572561	2,0	0,4	38,34	1,72	28,77	2,83			
	2513	266950	16805052	2,0				Central Age	26,21	0,58	MSWD	0,9
								Pooled Age	22,81	0,99	p(x2)	0,57
											Disp	2,77

YSF-AFT3	Tracks	Area (µm ²)	Density (tracks/cm ²)	Average DPar(µmm)	DPar Std Deviation	U238 (ppm)	2SE(int)	Age	1SE(int)			
Grain 1	54	30244	178548	2,6	0,1	9,92	0,45	34,7	4,78			
Grain 2	31	19755	156922	2,0	0,7	9,84	0,51	30,7	5,57			
Grain 3	36	15790	227992	3,0	0,3	13,62	0,65	32,2	5,43			
Grain 4	45	20993	214357	2,6	0,3	15,71	0,81	26,3	3,98			
Grain 5	54	14403	374922	1,8	0,3	27,78	1,17	26	3,58			
Grain 6	62	21733	285280	2,0	0,3	17,59	0,78	31,2	4,03			
Grain 7	101	23402	431587	1,8	0,2	26,33	1,34	31,6	3,24			
Grain 8	16	7718	207308	2,2	0,3	11,79	0,50	33,9	8,5			
Grain 9	14	8398	166706	2,8	0,3	11,35	0,51	28,3	7,59			
Grain 10	22	9381	234517	2,4	0,3	14,34	0,72	31,5	6,76			
Grain 11	32	10324	309957	2,4	0,1	12,65	0,59	47,1	8,41			
Grain 12	18	9261	194363	2,7	0,2	11,73	0,51	31,9	7,55			
Grain 13	38	12338	307992	1,6	0,0	21,83	0,90	27,2	4,45			
Grain 14	68	30050	226290	2,7	0,1	13,49	0,64	32,3	3,99			
Grain 15	39	15893	245391	2,4	0,1	15,68	0,68	30,2	4,87			
Grain 16	18	7344	245098	2,2	0,4	13,02	0,66	36,3	8,59			
Grain 17	32	17114	186981	2,7	0,1	14,15	0,65	25,5	4,54			
Grain 18	49	21277	230296	2,4	0,1	14,50	0,70	30,6	4,43			
Grain 19	28	11401	245592	1,9	0,3	14,43	0,73	32,8	6,25			
Grain 20	11	5374	204689	2,5	0,1	9,40	0,43	41,9	12,67			
Grain 21	40	12398	322633	2,1	0,0	21,55	0,95	28,8	4,6			
Grain 22	22	7864	279756	3,2	0,1	17,91	1,02	30,1	6,47			
Grain 23	19	13690	138787	2,0	0,4	10,84	0,48	24,7	5,69			
Grain 24	23	9558	240636	2,2	0,2	14,33	0,68	32,3	6,79			
Grain 25	33	19778	166852	3,0	0,0	8,84	0,50	36,3	6,41			
Grain 26	16	12157	131611	2,3	0,3	7,28	0,42	34,8	8,76			
Grain 27	38	10766	352963	2,0	0,5	18,24	0,82	37,3	6,1			
Grain 28	25	7883	317138	2,6	0,3	19,20	0,83	31,8	6,4			
Grain 29	34	7887	431089	1,6	0,1	27,76	1,34	29,9	5,18			
Grain 30	32	15561	205642	2,0	0,2	10,66	0,55	37,1	6,64			
Grain 31	37	14548	254330	2,5	0,1	15,64	0,74	31,3	5,2			
Grain 32	34	8963	379337	2,4	0,4	19,43	0,86	37,6	6,5			
Grain 33	27	9585	281690	3,2	0,3	16,06	0,76	33,8	6,55			
Grain 34	41	12360	331715	2,6	0,3	20,41	0,86	31,3	4,93			
Grain 35	19	12251	155089	2,1	1,1	9,72	0,52	30,7	7,1			
Grain 36	22	10258	214467	2,8		12,51	0,62	33	7,09			
Grain 37	16	7312	218818	2,8	0,2	12,94	0,62	32,6	8,18			
Grain 38	21	10578	198525	3,1	0,1	10,35	0,52	36,9	8,11			
Grain 39	14	7689	182078	2,2	0,4	10,05	0,44	34,9	9,36			
Grain 40	46	18417	249769	2,2	0,3	17,44	0,85	27,6	4,12			
Grain 41	72	18428	390710	2,8	0,5	16,99	0,85	44,3	5,33			
Grain 42	45	21984	204694	2,7	0,5	13,06	0,61	30,2	4,56			
Grain 43	63	30309	207859	2,5	0,4	12,80	0,61	31,3	4,01			
	1507	612417	10730981	2,4				Central Age	32,1	0,84	MSWD	0,65
								Pooled Age	31,6	1,1	p(x2)	0,96
											Disp	0,0049

YSF-AFT4	Grain	Tracks	Area (µm ²)	Density (tracks/cm ²)	Average DPar(µmm)	DPar Std Deviation	U238 (ppm)	2SE	Age	1SE(int)			
	Grain01	29	20240	143200	2,97	0,44	8,96	0,73	30,8	5,86			
	Grain02	19	7753	245100	2,83	0,39	12,49	0,94	37,78	8,78			
	Grain03	11	4783	230000	2,75	0,38	9,81	0,66	45,11	13,69			
	Grain04	10	5933	168500		0,00	9,07	0,55	35,78	11,37			
	Grain05	8	8456	94610		0,00	5,70	0,43	31,97	11,37			
	Grain06	25	12030	207800	2,76	0,31	9,76	0,63	40,98	8,3			
	Grain07	19	9387	202400	1,94	0,88	12,30	0,65	31,7	7,32			
	Grain08	18	9170	196300	1,63	0,96	13,21	0,78	28,63	6,8			
	Grain09	9	12730	70710	1,18	0,32	4,74	0,35	28,74	9,64			
	Grain10	8	10040	79710	1,54	0,57	6,55	0,52	23,45	8,34			
	Grain11	10	12620	79230		0,00	6,45	0,50	23,68	7,54			
	Grain12	14	13260	105600	1,51	0,39	6,40	0,51	31,78	8,59			
	Grain13	36	9777	368200	2,13	0,50	15,28	0,91	46,36	7,85			
	Grain14	57	8685	656300	1,88	0,81	20,98	1,35	60,12	8,2			
	Grain15	9	9238	97420	1,61	0,00	4,79	0,35	39,15	13,13			
	Grain16	9	4985	180600	1,8	0,00	5,98	0,50	58,04	19,5			
	Grain17	9	4573	196800	1,56	0,26	8,58	0,47	44,14	14,76			
	Grain18	20	10710	186700	1,47	0,37	5,76	0,45	62,3	14,14			
	Grain19	26	16700	155700	1,65	0,62	4,65	0,30	64,33	12,79			
	Grain20	15	5873	255400	1,78	0,53	8,05	0,50	60,98	15,86			
	Grain21	13	9066	143400	1,16	0,46	6,76	0,44	40,83	11,4			
	Grain22	8	8156	98090	1,62	0,67	3,71	0,32	50,85	18,11			
	Grain23	6	8842	67850	1,27	0,38	2,55	0,22	51,18	21,01			
	Grain24	10	14720	67920	1,79	0,73	2,49	0,22	52,47	16,75			
	Grain25	6	5438	110300	1,33	0,57	4,21	0,28	50,41	20,65			
	Grain26	13	10720	121300	1,62	0,62	4,81	0,37	48,50	13,58			
	SUM	417	253885	164248	1,8				Central Age	42,33	2,63	MSWD	1,40
									Pooled Age	40,28	3,4	p(x2)	0,071
												Disp	17,3

