

## **Submarine ‘salt glacier’ of Northern Tunisia, a case of Triassic salt mobility in North African Cretaceous passive margin**

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### **Abstract**

Stratigraphical, sedimentological and structural data and a Bouguer gravity map of Medjez-El-Bab (MEB) in Northern Tunisia are used to illustrate a Cretaceous example of salt extrusion on a passive continental margin. Located just south of the Teboursouk thrust front (a preferential décollement surface used by the continuous Tertiary shortening in this area), the MEB structure is a simple N40°E box anticline. Removing the two Tertiary foldings (Eocene and Miocene) leads to the exposure of the original feature of a simple submarine ‘salt glacier’. The Triassic salt rocks appear as an Albian interstratified body between two Cretaceous series with stratigraphic normal polarity, suggesting a bedding parallel extrusion (at the sediment–water interface) of the Triassic salt in Cretaceous times. The formation of such salt extrusions are associated with extensional faulting (probably both in the cover and basement), the presence of a slope and basinwards salt flow. This scenario is similar to the allochthonous salt described in other salt provinces, characterizing passive margins.