

HIGH RESOLUTION SEISMIC  
REFLECTION STUDIES OF THE  
QUATERNARY COASTAL DEPOSITS  
IN THE BAY OF MERSIN (TURKEY)  
NE-MEDITERRANEAN

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Detailed seismic reflection studies carried out inshore Mersin Bay revealed two different types of stratal relationships; an upper strata consisting of unconsolidated sediment layers of coarse to fine-grained materials and a lower strata composed of much coarser-grained and semi-consolidated sediments. The layers of the upper strata are represented by the regularly spaced acoustic reflectors in contrast to the hyperbolic reflectors of the irregular subsurface from lower strata suggesting an upward-fining sequence, which in turn progrades towards the open sea. In conjunction with sediment sampling, reconstructions from seismic profiles indicate a retrograded coast that is covered by coarse grained alluvial deposits. Scattered and naturally occurring boulder sized rock exposures off the coast (as has also been inferred from side scan sonar surveys) strongly indicate coast-line changes due to the post-glacial sea-level rise worldwide.

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