



Principles of ichnology

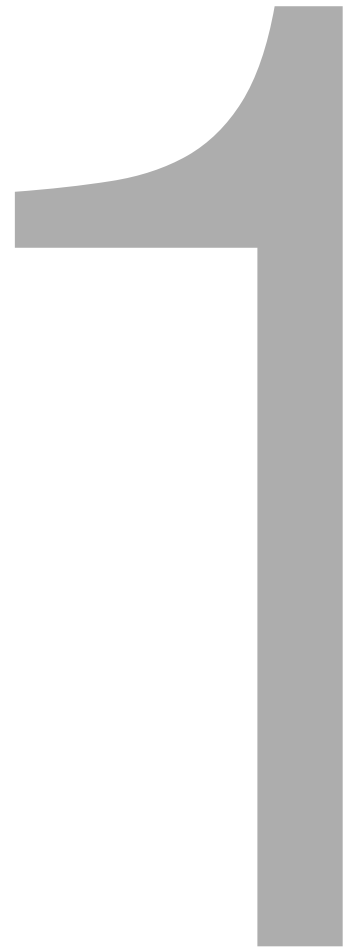
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***Kuliah Univ. Pertamina
(10 November 2020)***

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Email : earifullah27@gmail.com
bit.ly/eryarifullah

Outlines

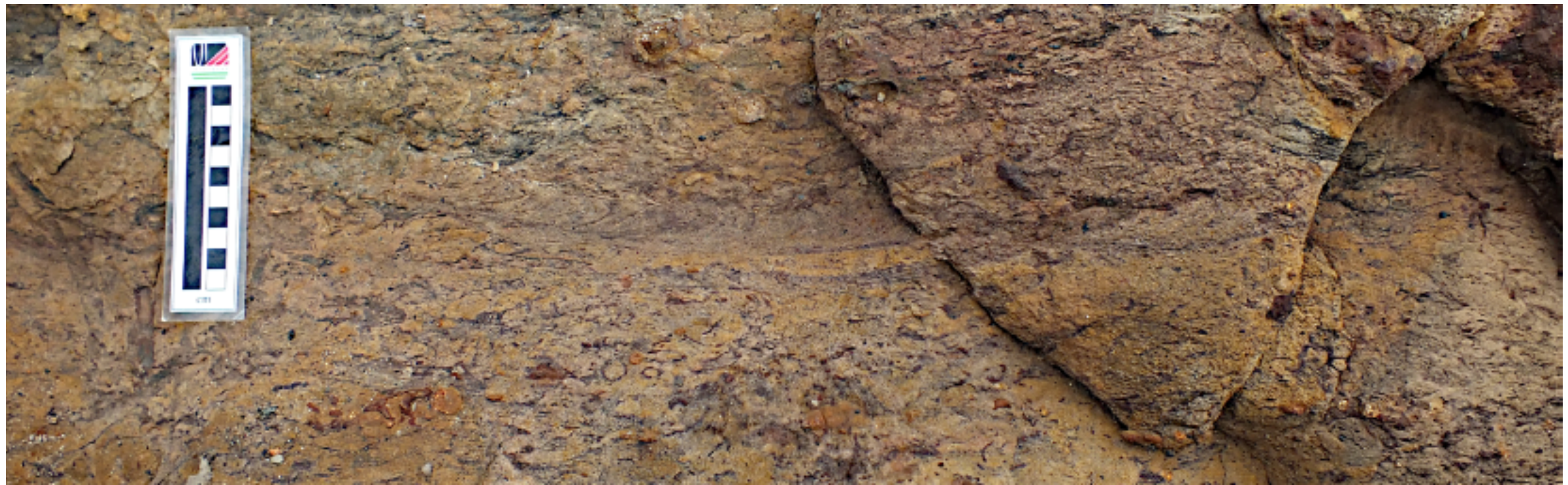
- 1. Ichnology at a glance**
- 2. Trendy approach**
- 3. Unique approach**
- 4. A case within Kutai Basin, Indonesia**
- 5. Conclusion**



Technology at a glance



Object of ichnology
is **trace (trace fossil)**
which represent the
behavioral



(Arifullah et al. 2019)

exposed & visible -> practically easy to obtain & observe

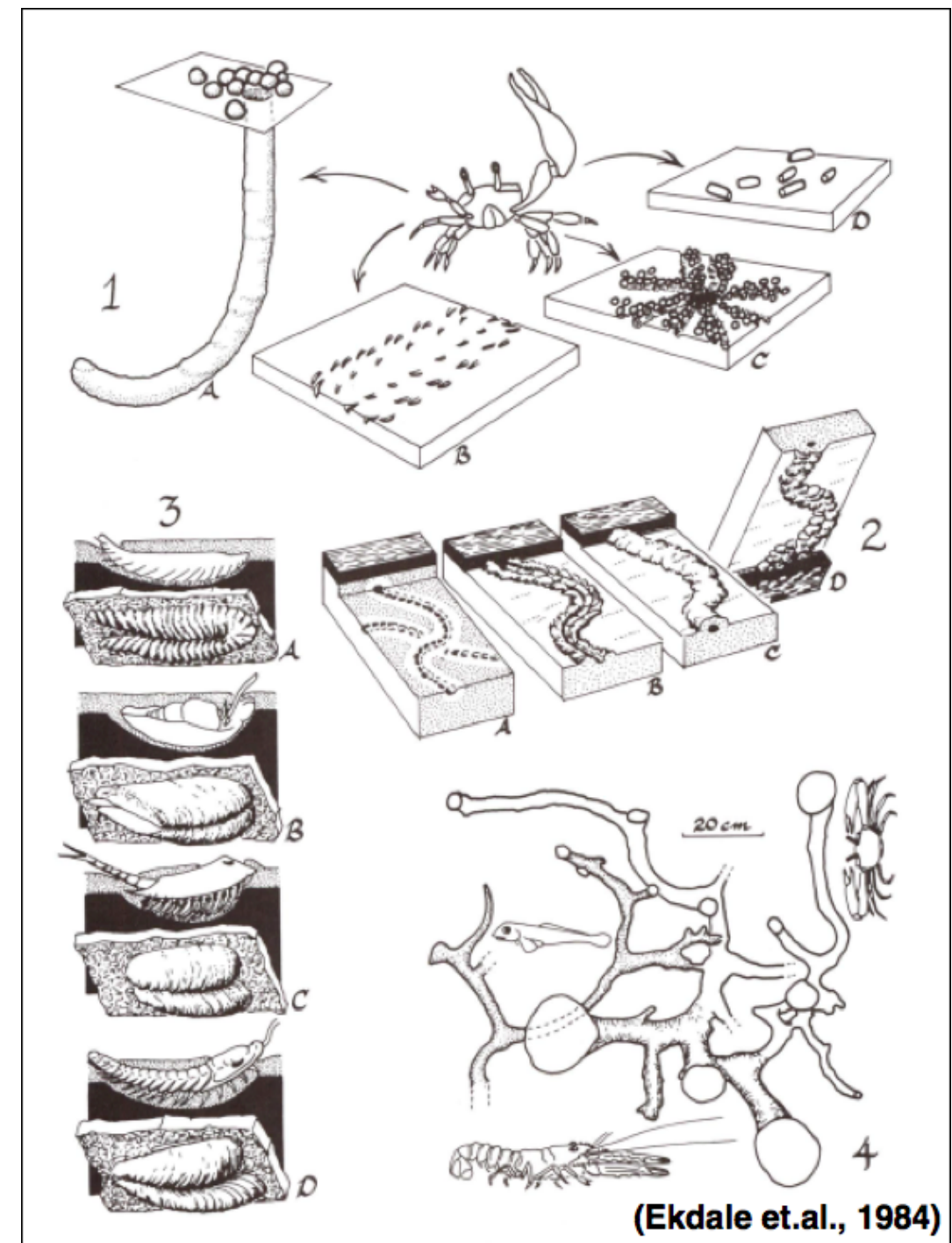
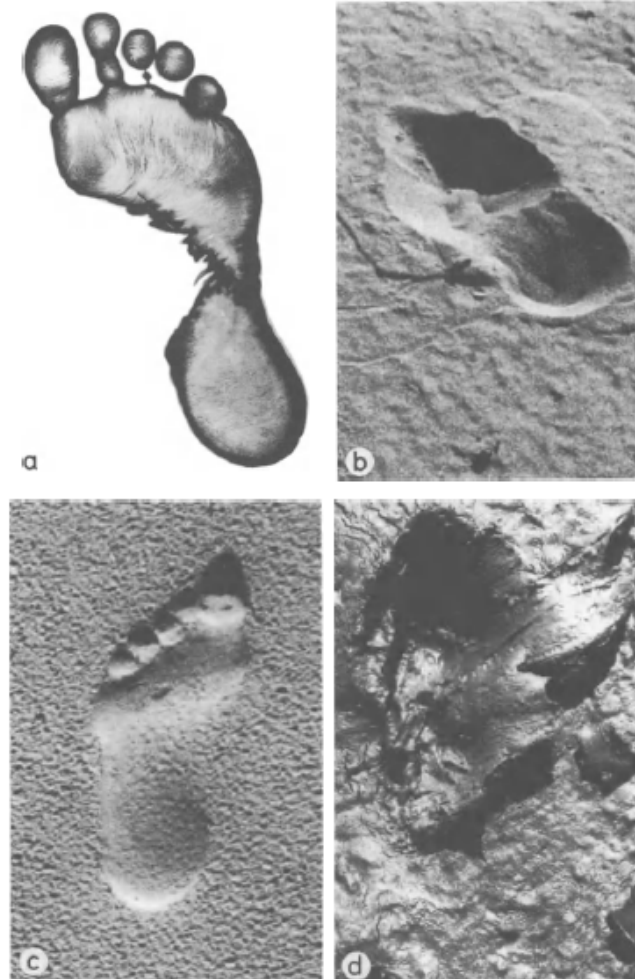


(Arifullah, 2019)

Principles

(Modified from [Ekdale et al., 1984](#))

1. The trace represents behavior
2. An animal produce several traces.
3. Differ animals with the same behavior producing similar traces.
4. A complex traces/burrow may constructed by some animals.
5. When traces preserved in different lithologies, the morphology may be different but doesn't mean the behavior is different.

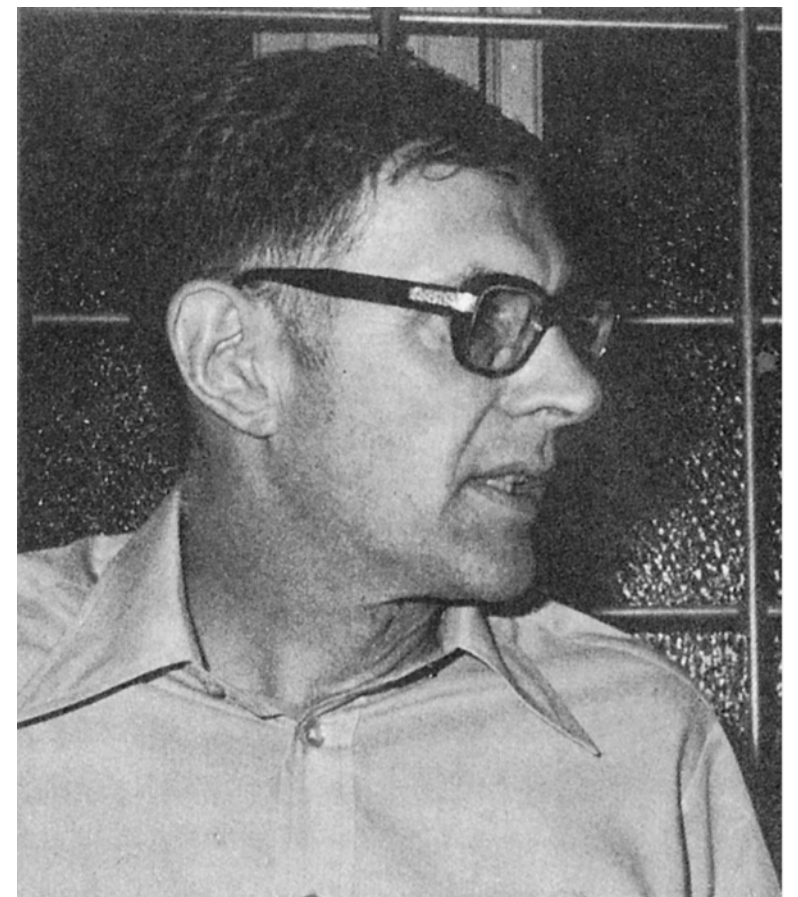


(Ekdale et.al., 1984)

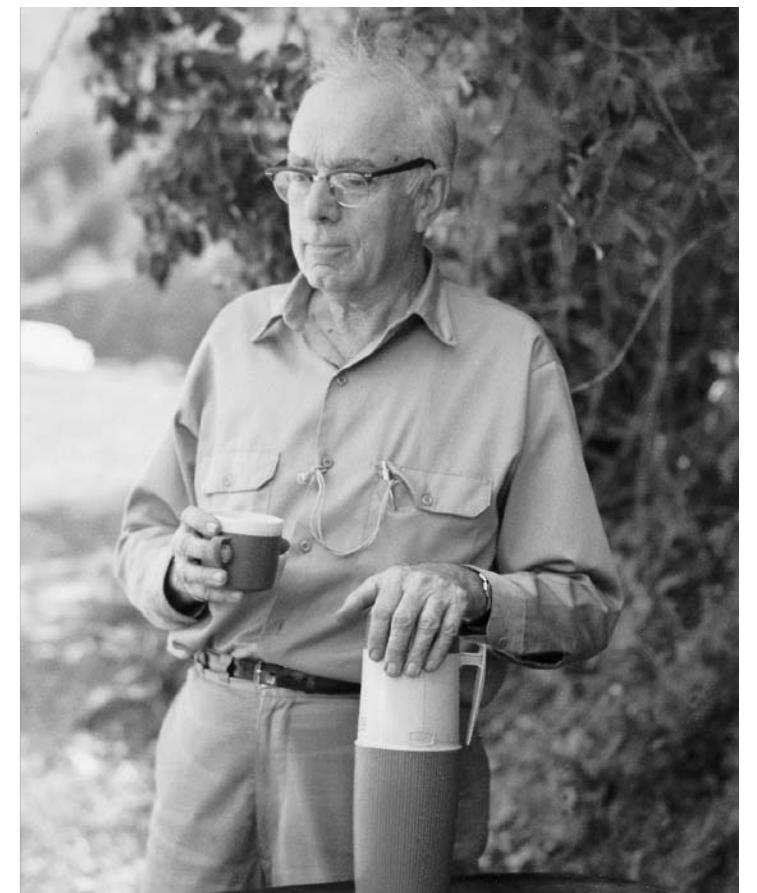
<-- (figures from Bromley, 1996)

- **Trace fossil** is a **biogenic sedimentary structure** that can be a **primary** or **secondary** sedimentary structure (see Potter & Pettijohn, 1964)

photos from **Okada, 2005**



P.E. Potter, 1965



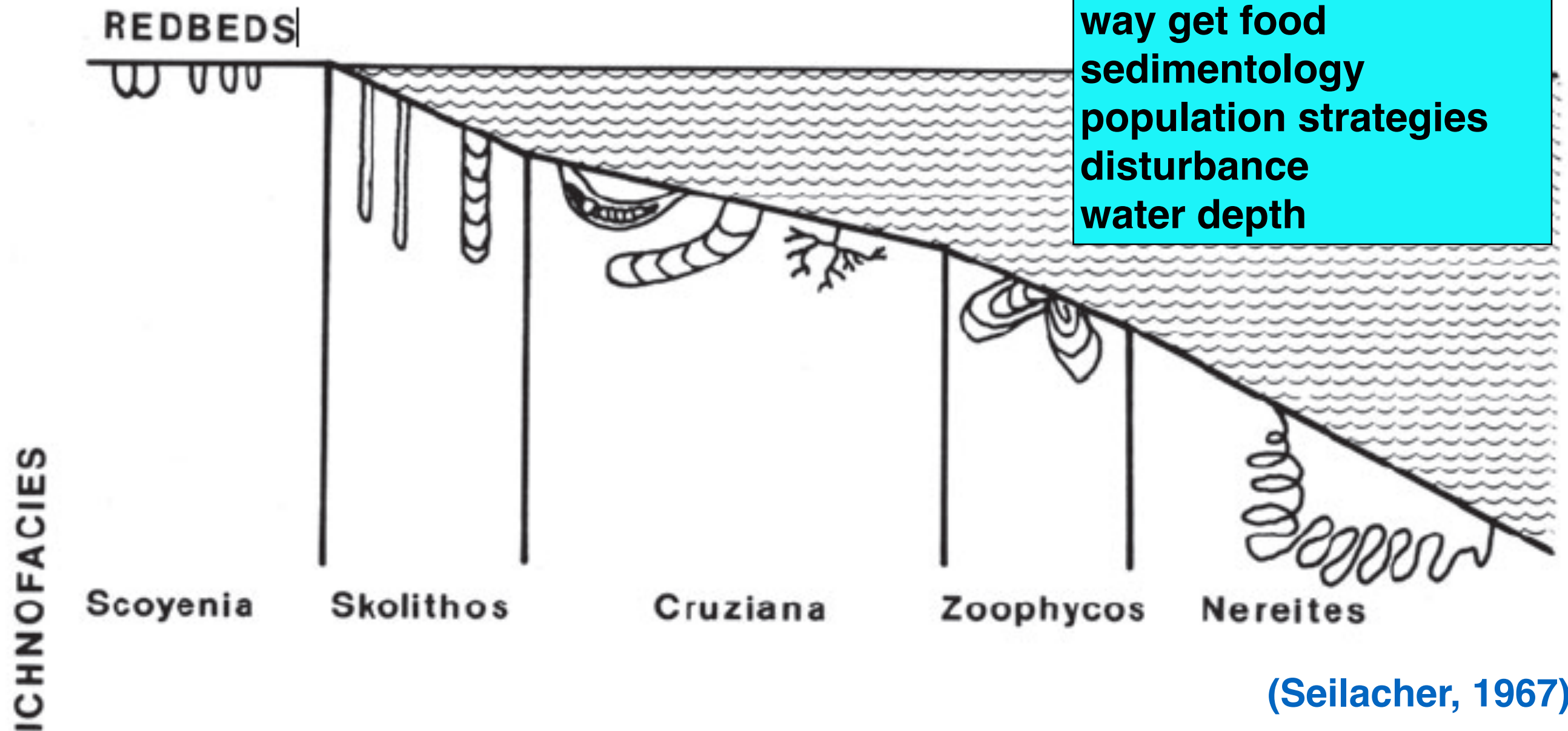
F.J. Pettijohn, 1965

Fauna is one most important agent in the formation of final fabric (*e.g.*, Dapples, 1942; Moore & Scruton, 1957; Van Straaten, 1959; Allen, 1965)



(Arifullah et al. 2017)

oxygenation
salinity fluctuation
temperature fluctuation
community structure
food supplies
way get food
sedimentology
population strategies
disturbance
water depth



not bathymetry indicator (see Byers, 1982; Goldring, 1993)

Links:

1. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cgwp8qH58Ho.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cgwp8qH58Ho)
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n3wsUYg3XV0>
3. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hsBVvIJjNtc.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hsBVvIJjNtc)
4. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Z6FdcluEfg.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Z6FdcluEfg)
5. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4seOKS95EDM.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4seOKS95EDM)
6. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y6vgAnMhGxs>
7. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w77zPAtVTuI>

2

Trendy approach

not optimized

(Van Wagoner et al. 1991)

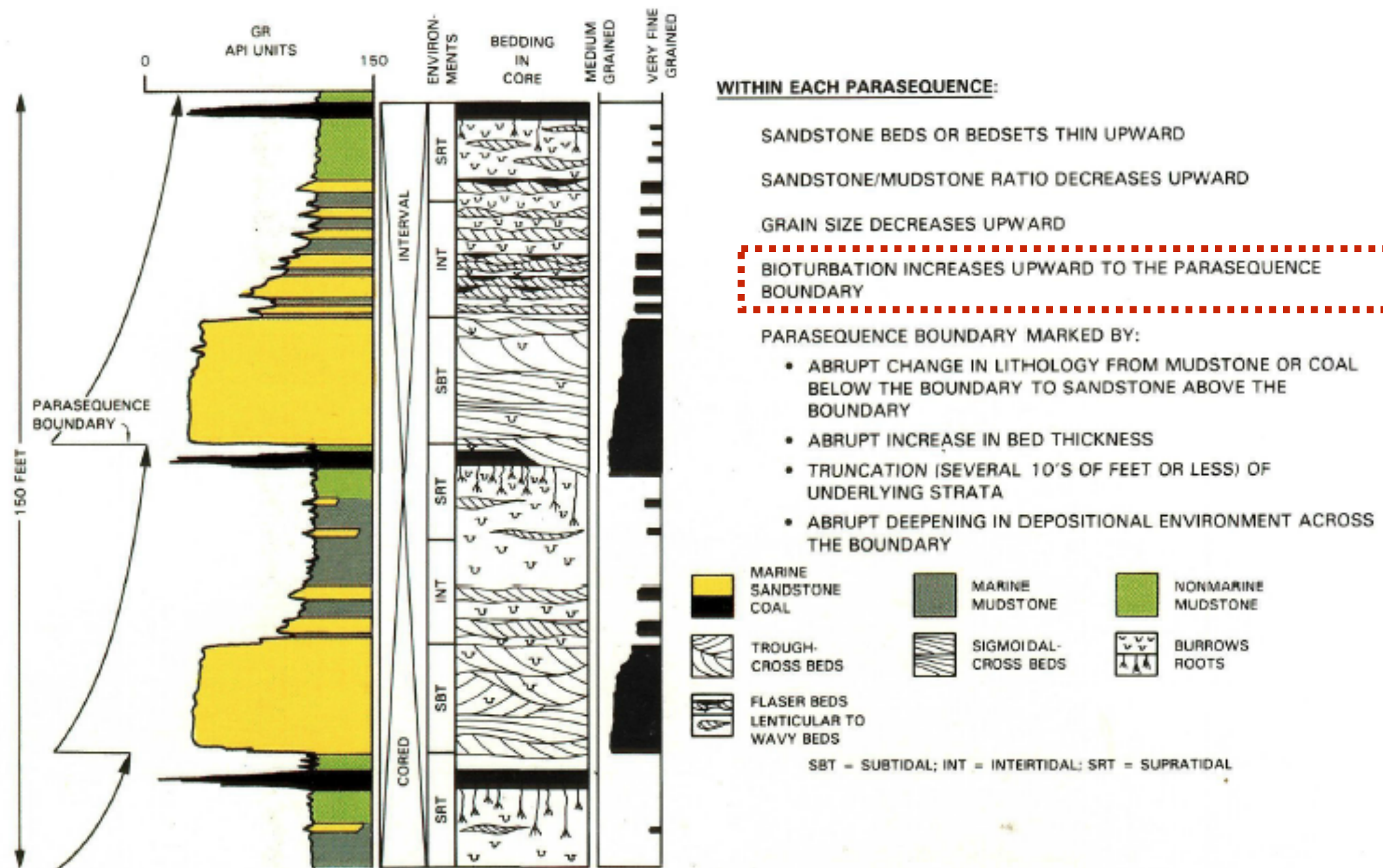
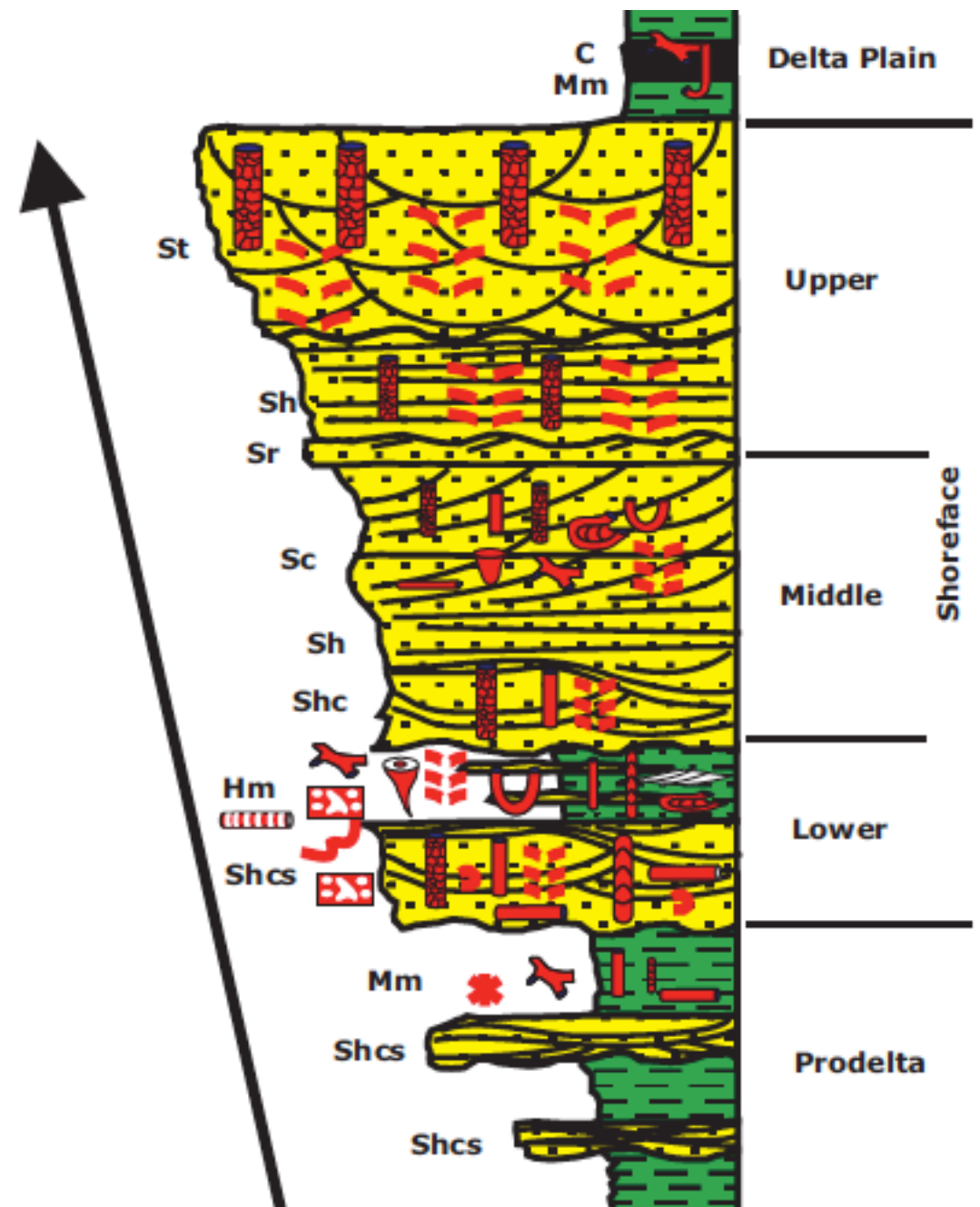


Figure 3D—Stratigraphic characteristics of two upward-fining parasequences. These types of parasequences are interpreted to form in a tidal flat to subtidal environment on a muddy, tide-dominated shoreline.

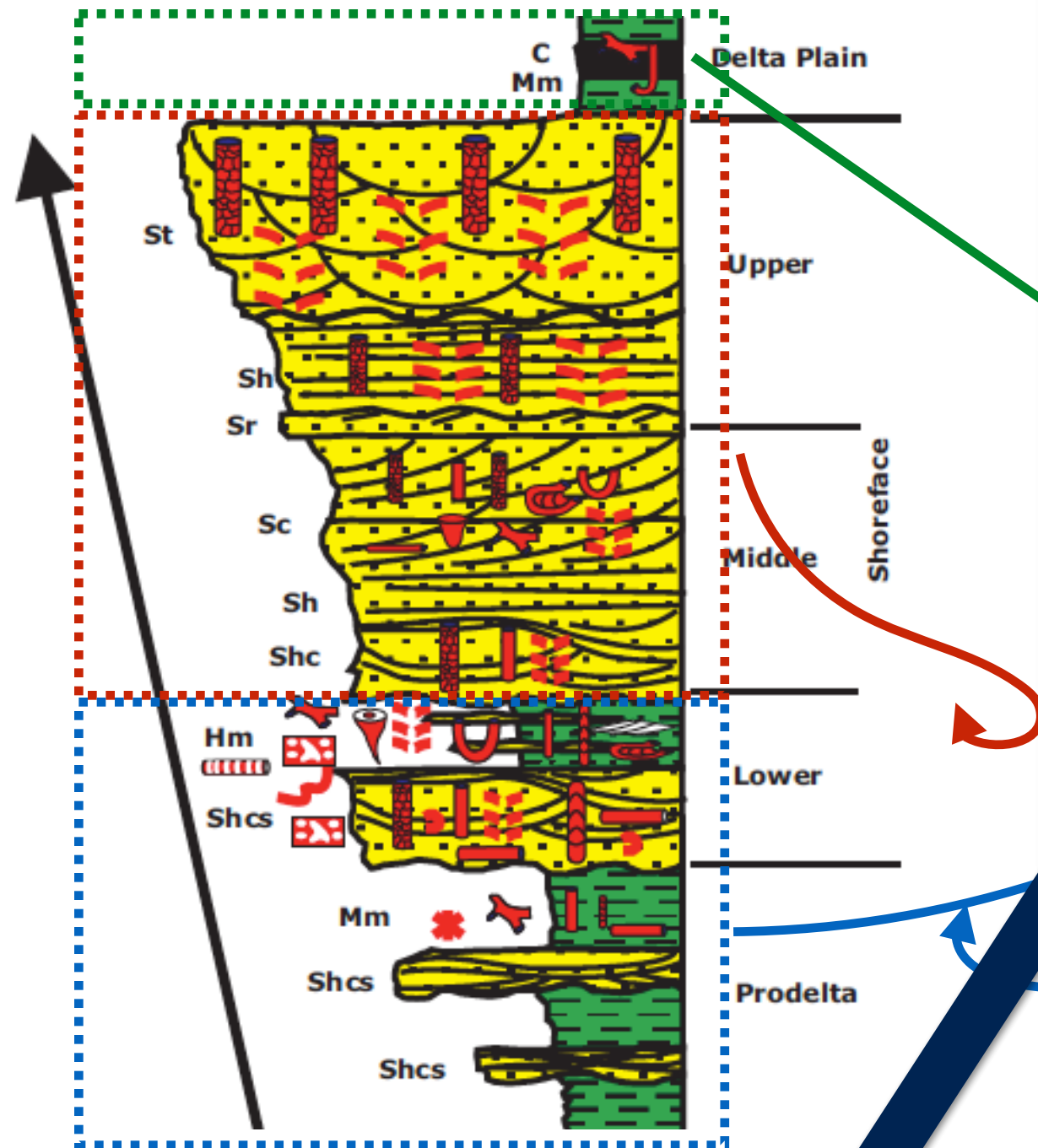
**only ichnofossil
inventory!**

Wave dominated delta?



(Arifullah, 2005)

Wave dominated delta?

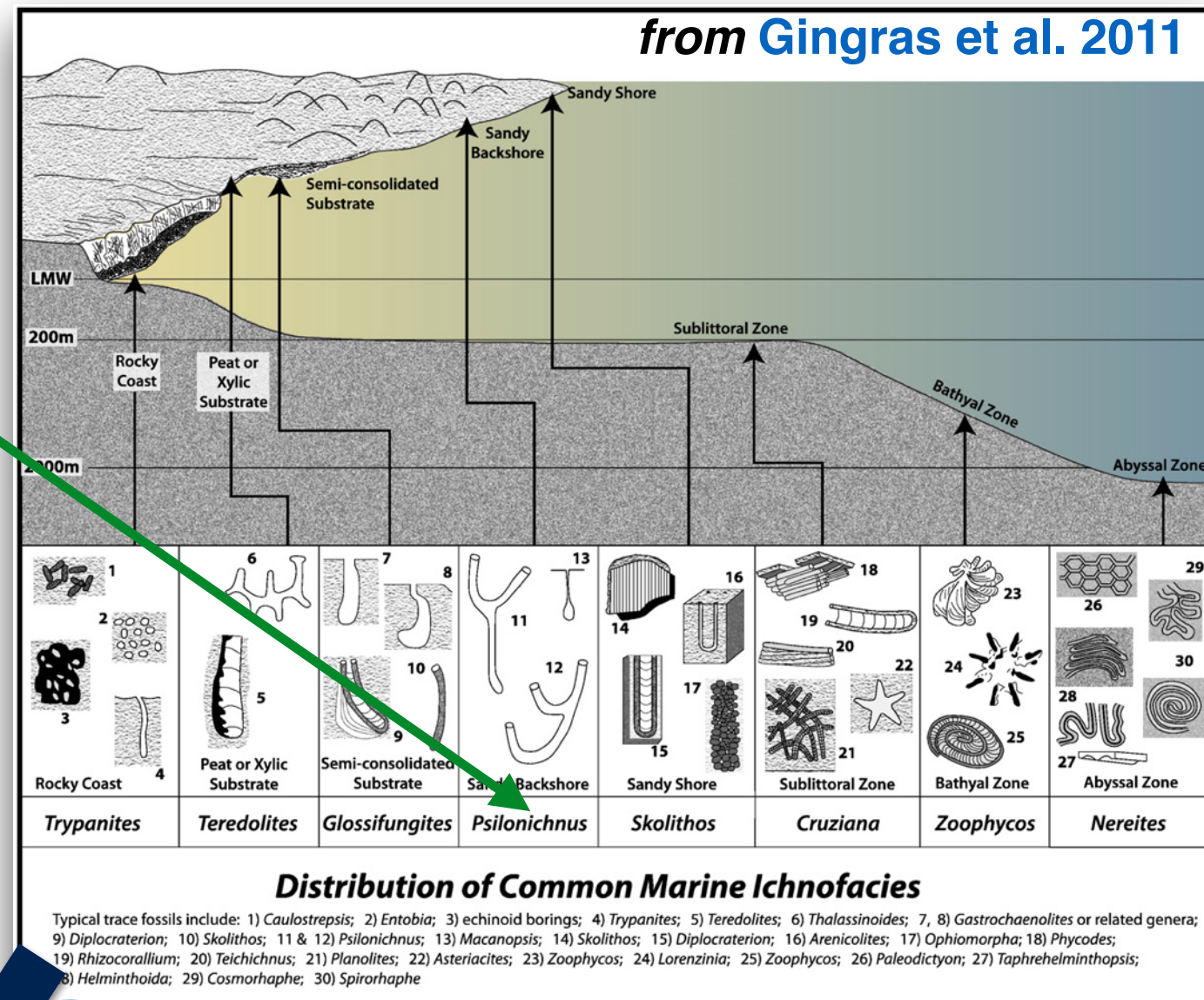


Arifullah (2005)

how it's generated?

see Seilacher, 1967

from Gingras et al. 2011



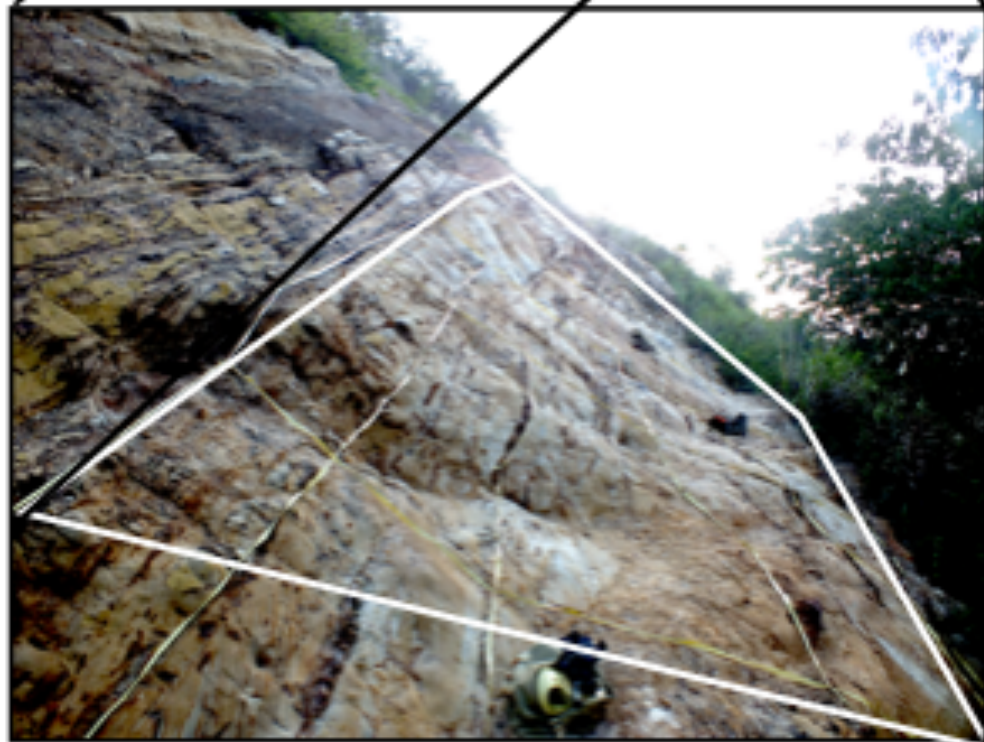
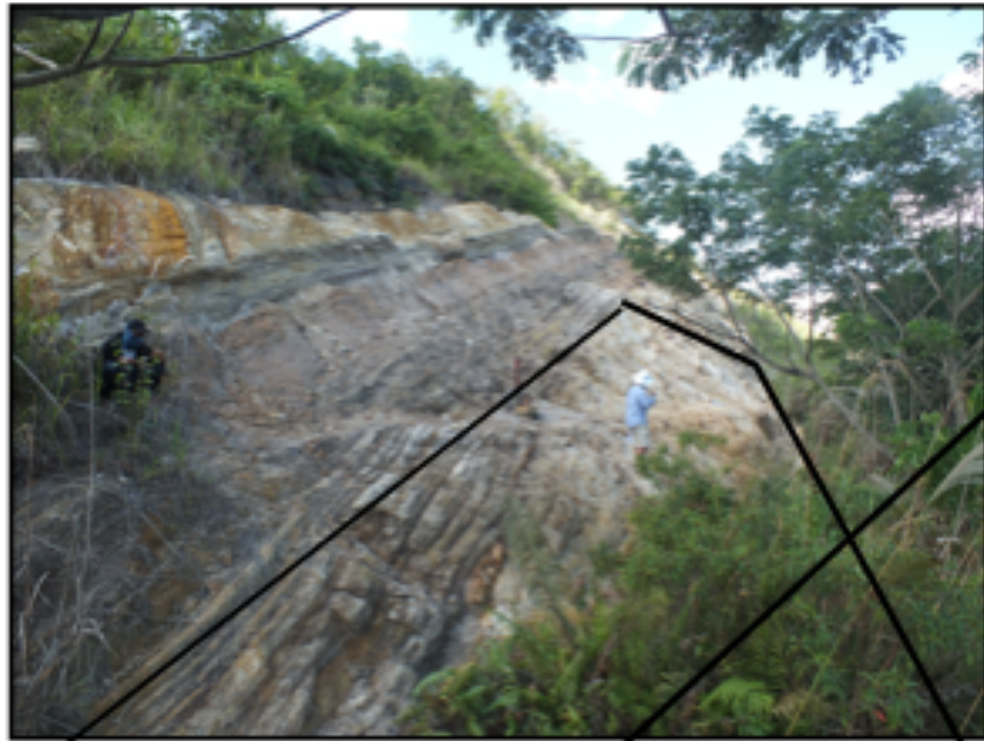
- Referring to mainstream ichnofossil model.
- Considering and comparing its regional stratigraphy.

3

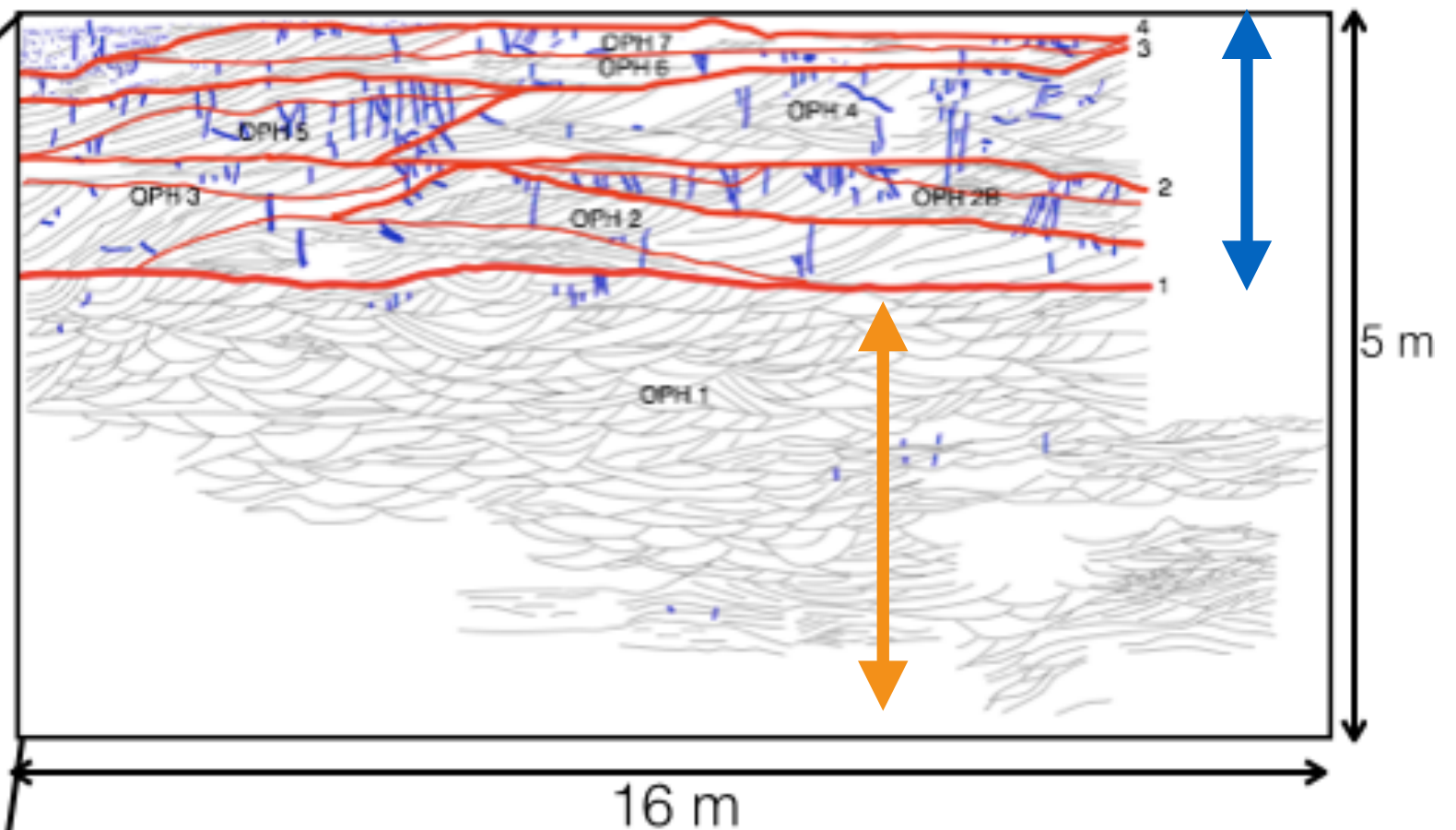
Unique approach

- **Make a sketch**
- **Determination of ichnotaxon**
- **Ichnofabric work**

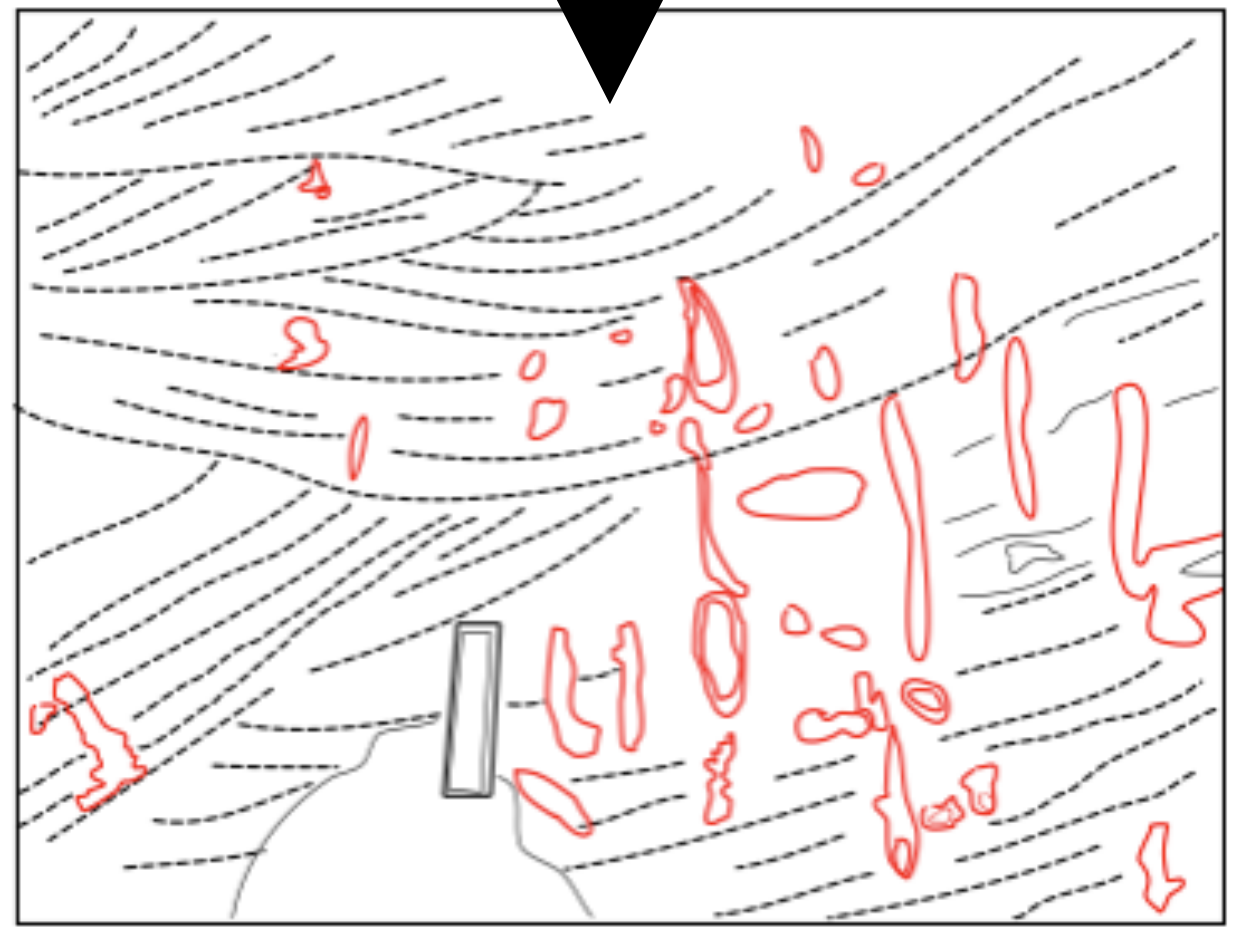
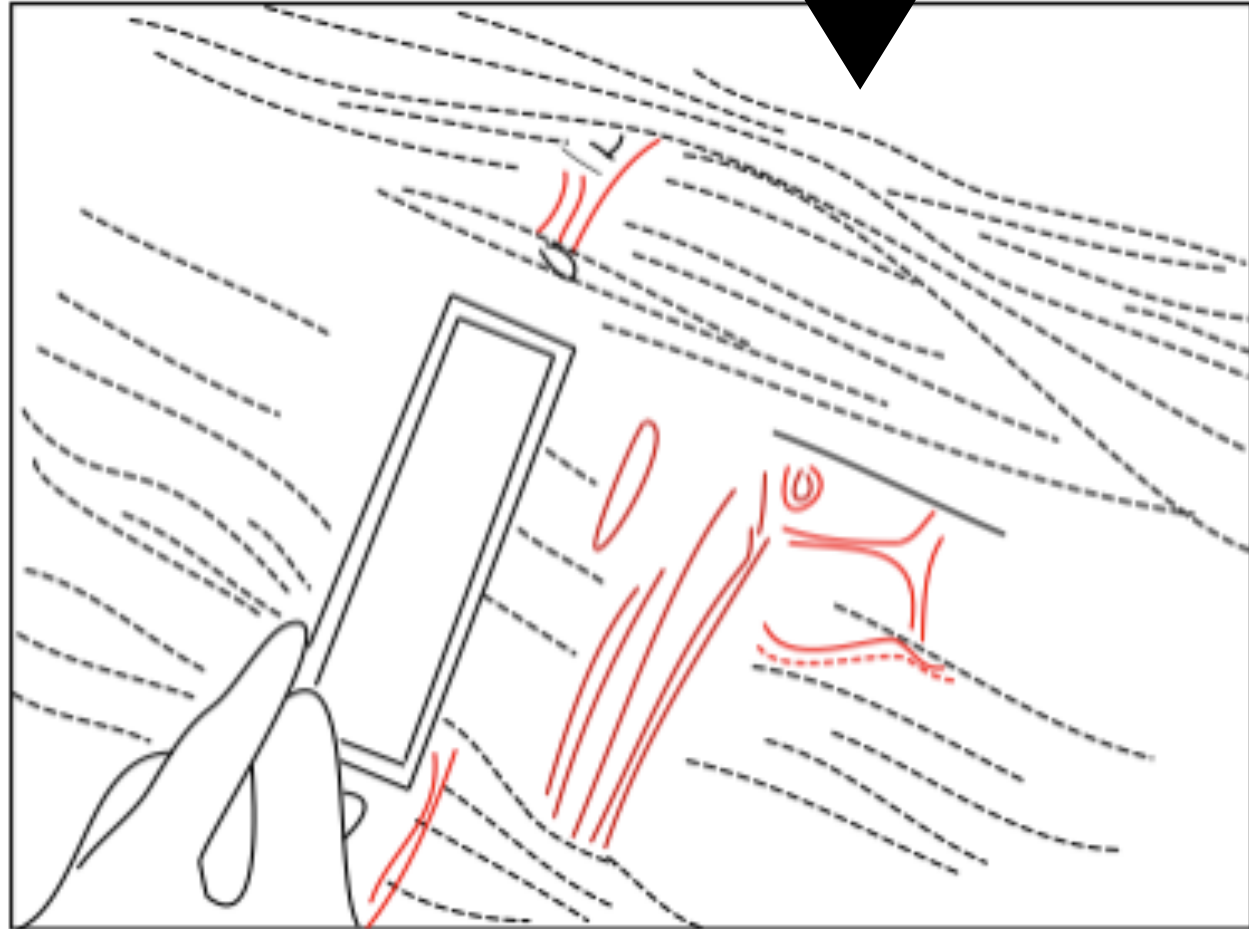
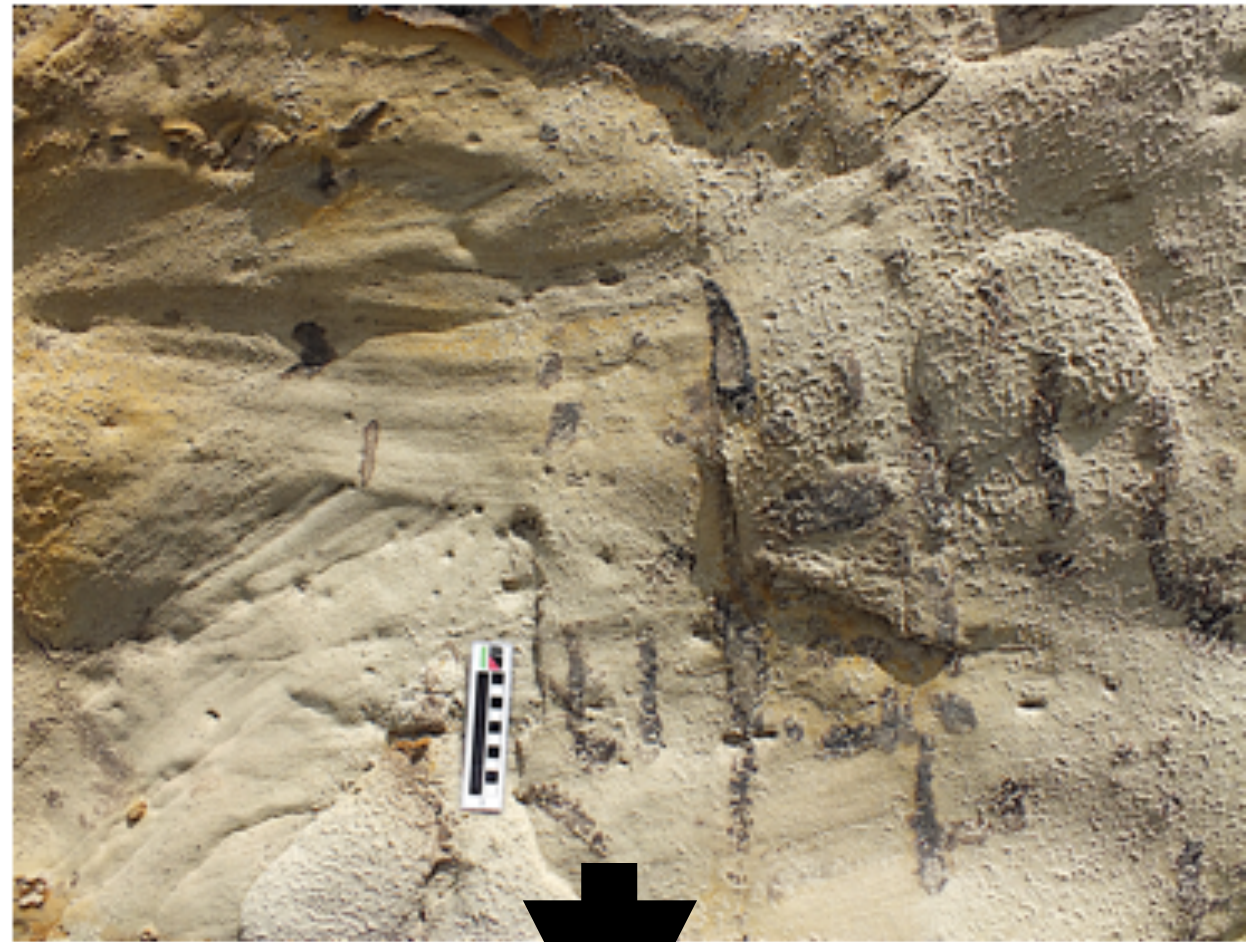
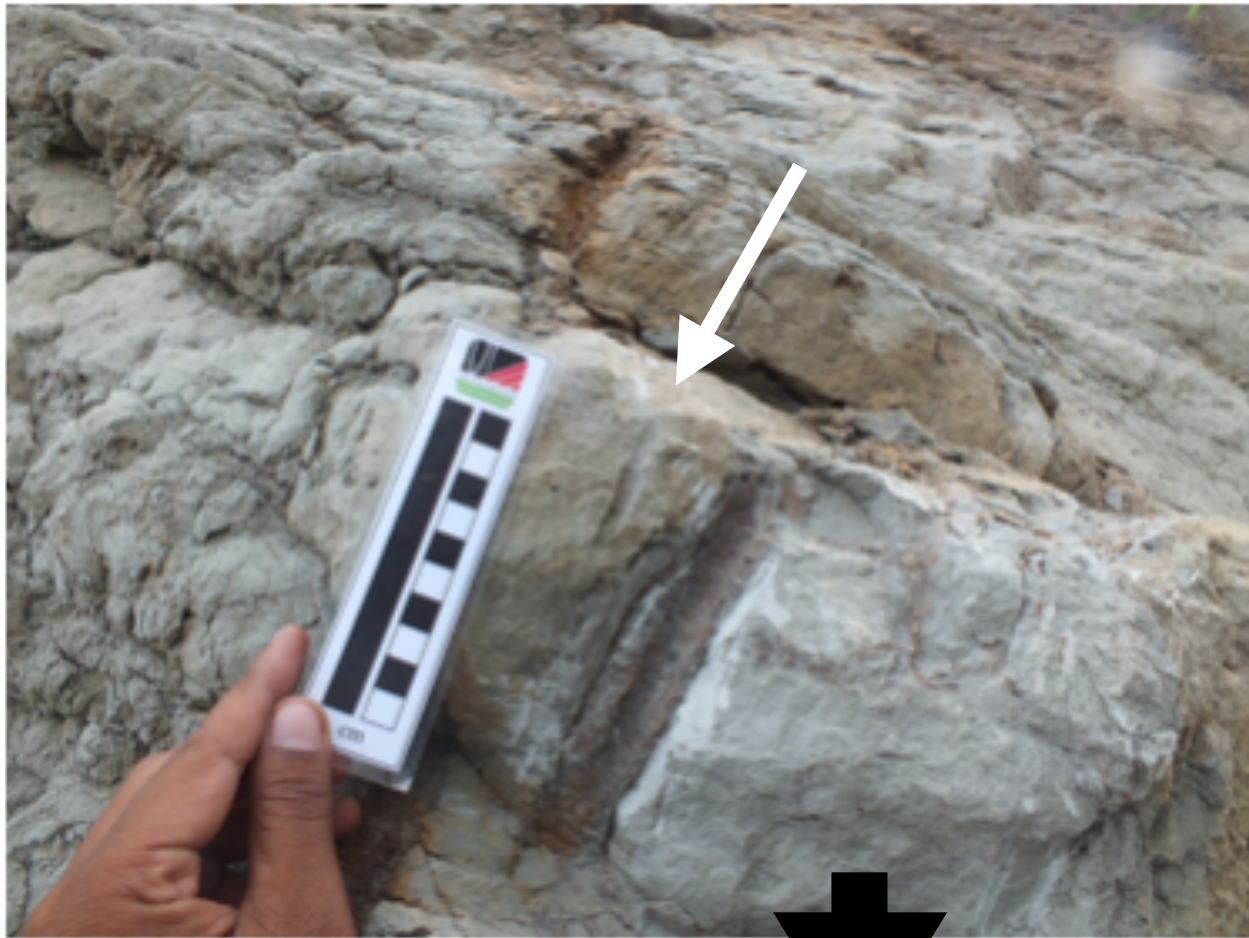
Make a sketch



intensive bioturbation



almost no bioturbation

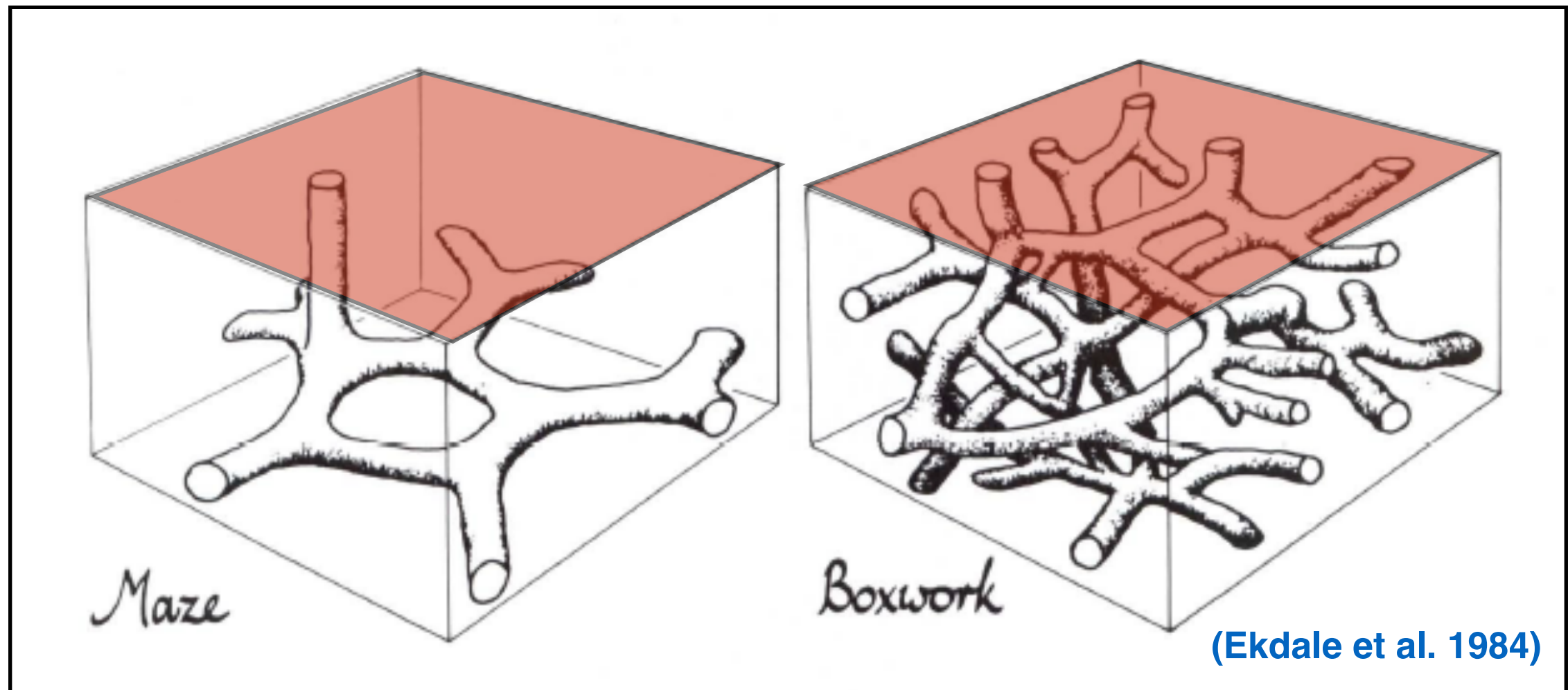


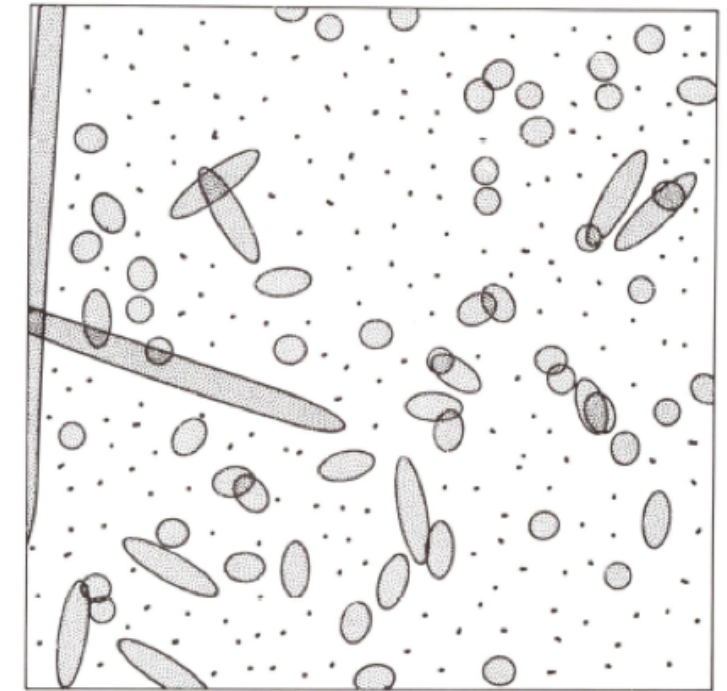
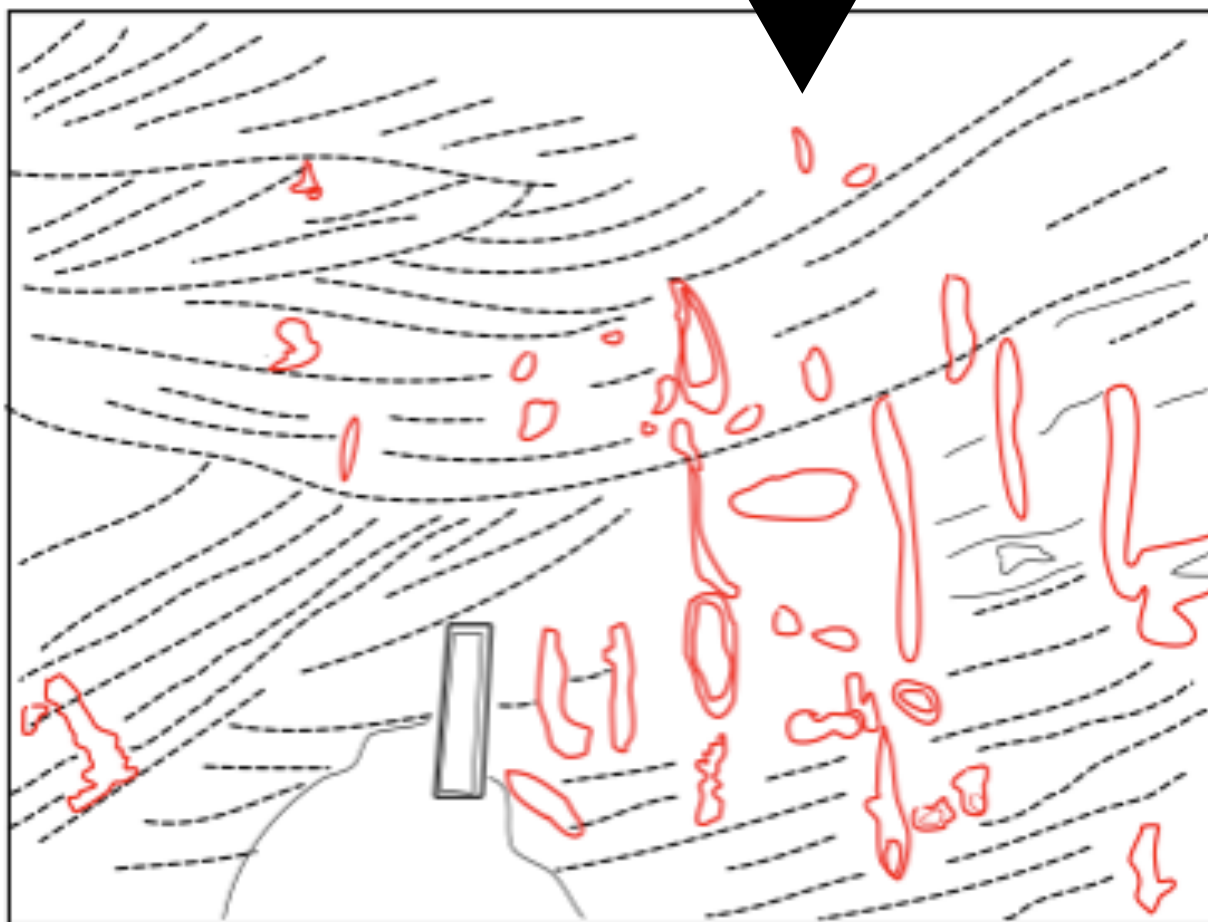
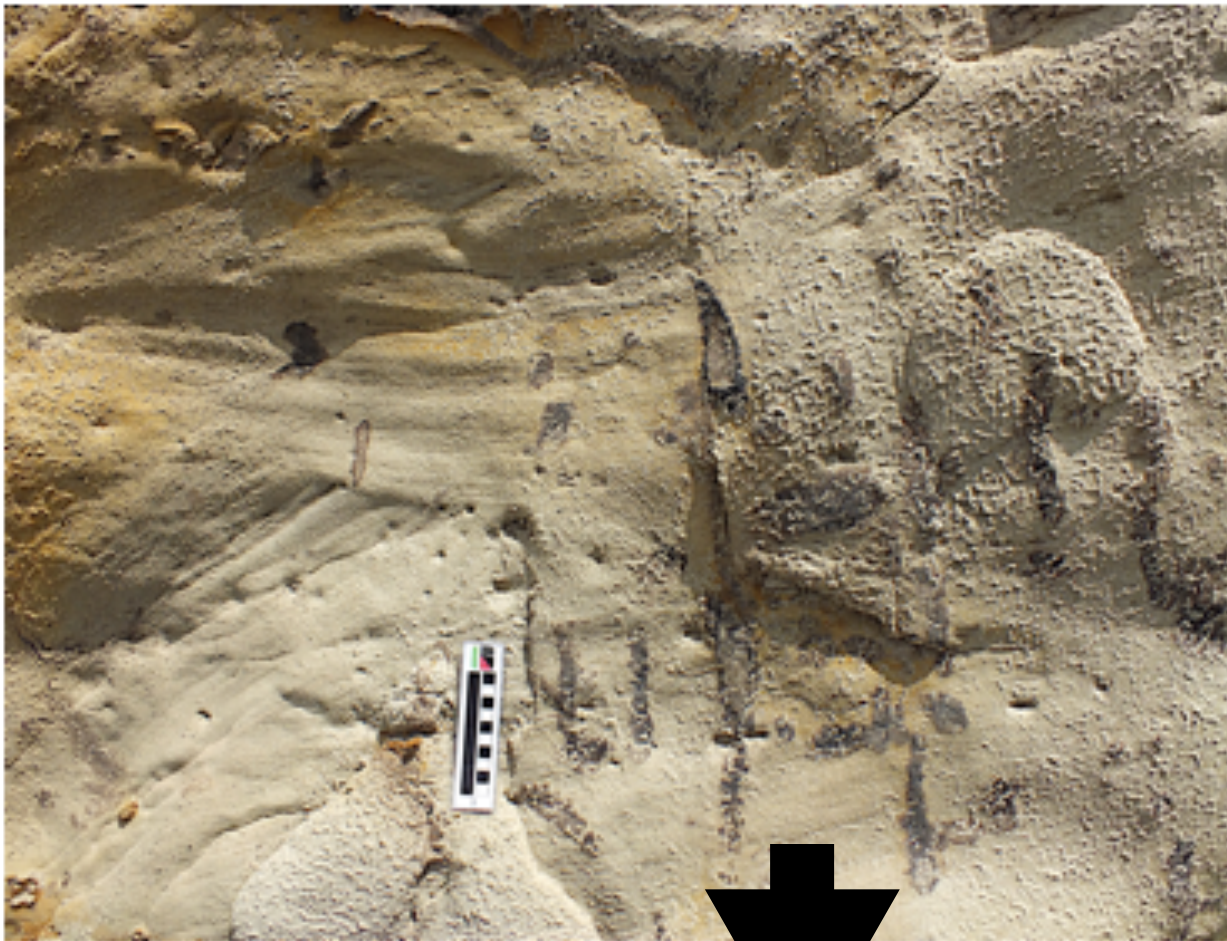
Determination of ichnotaxon

(see Knaust, 2012)

1. The **orientation** of trace fossil to the plane of **bedding surface**.
2. Presence or absence of **branching**.
3. Presence or absence of **burrow lining**.
4. **Burrow fill**.

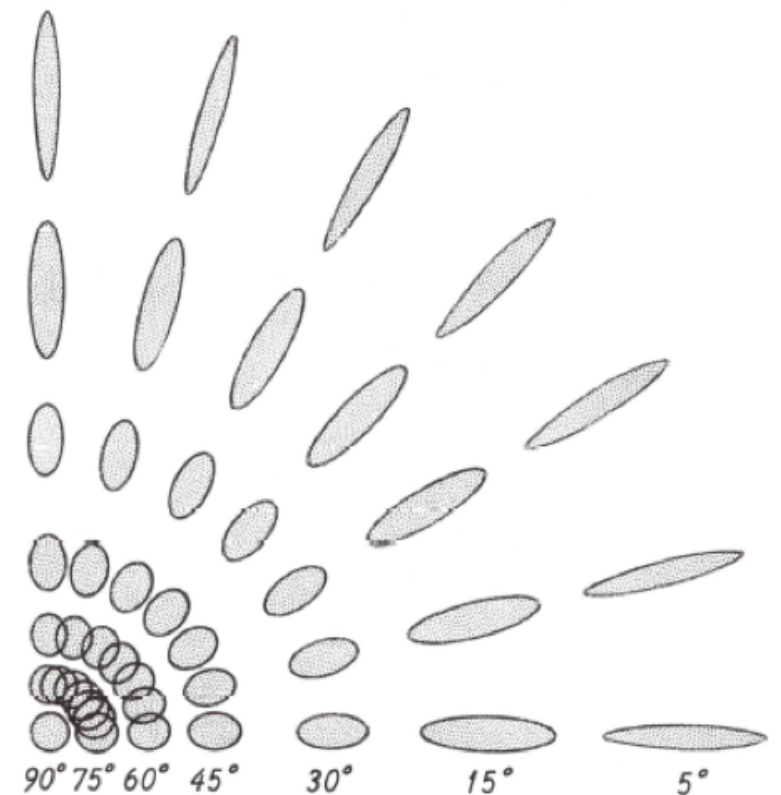
Orientation of trace fossil against the plane of bedding surface





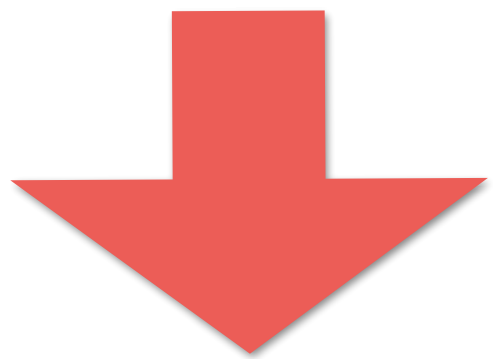
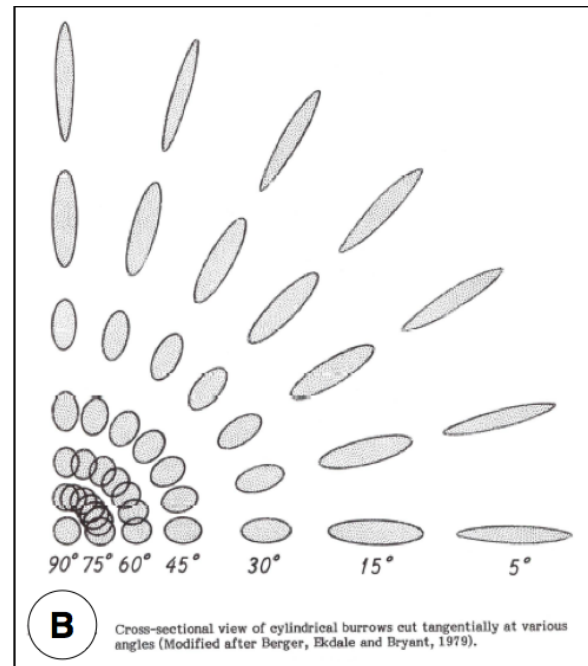
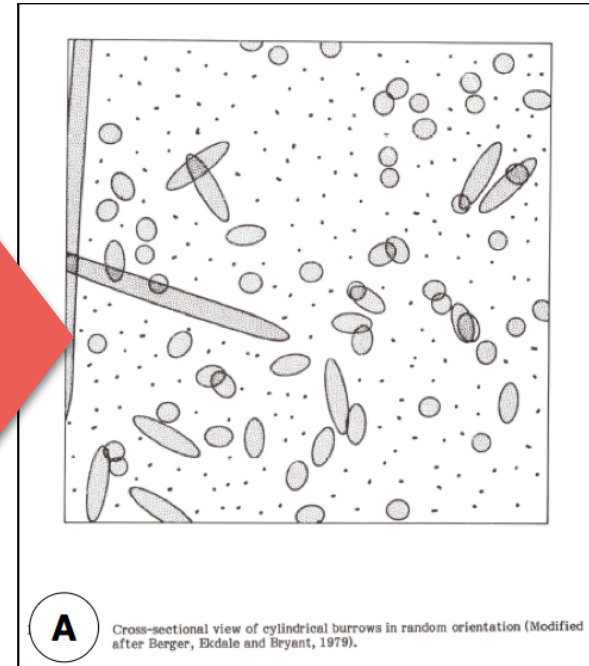
A

Cross-sectional view of cylindrical burrows in random orientation (Modified after Berger, Ekdale and Bryant, 1979).

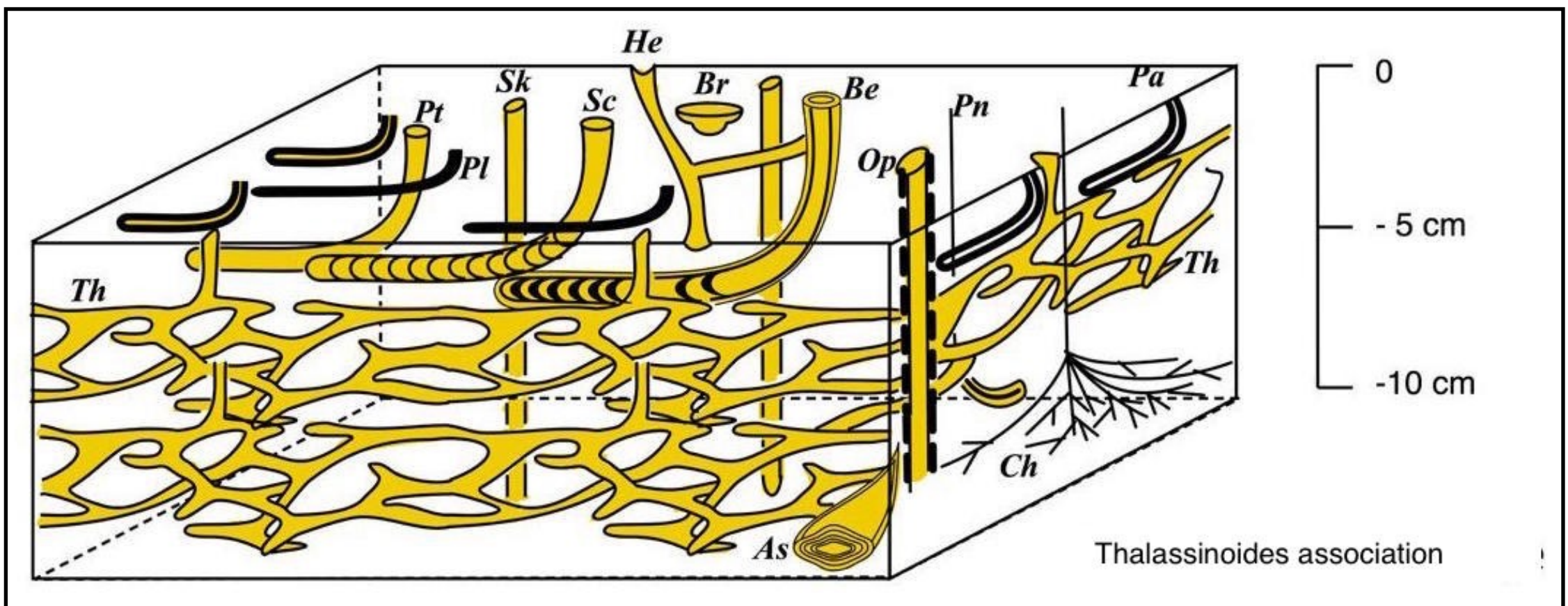


B

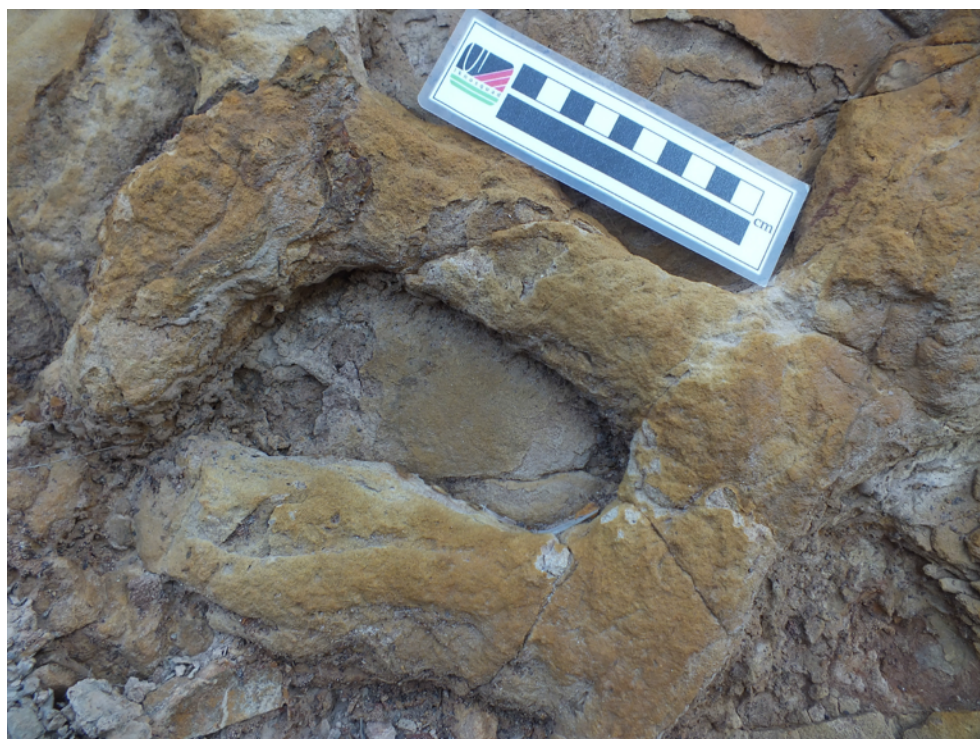
Cross-sectional view of cylindrical burrows cut tangentially at various angles (Modified after Berger, Ekdale and Bryant, 1979).



(Arifullah, 2019)



Presence or absence of branching



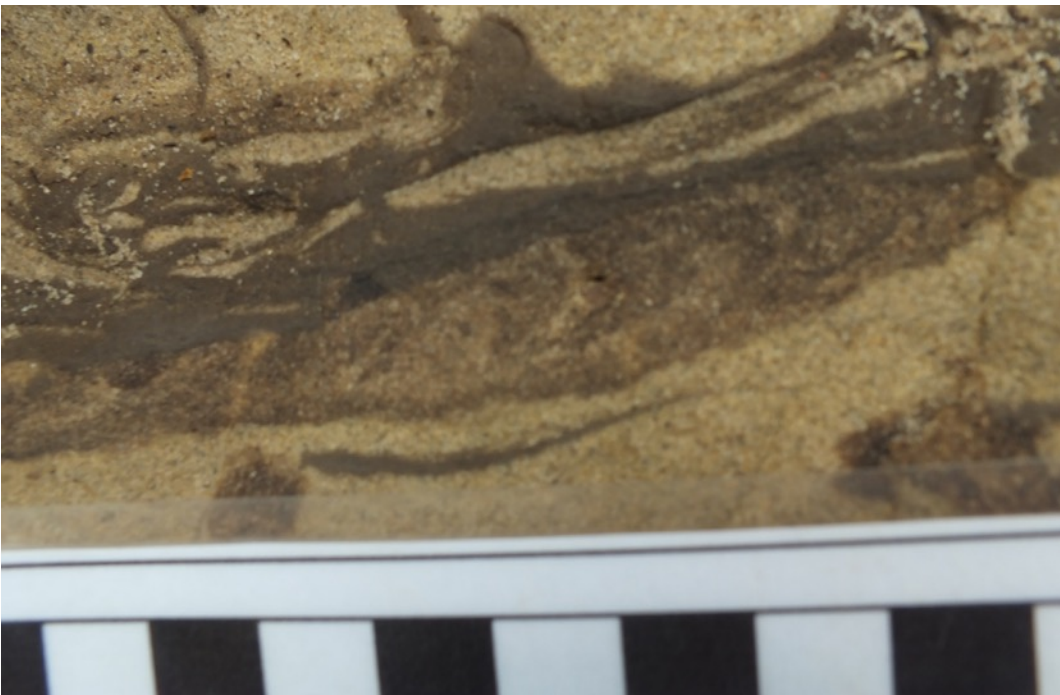
(Arifullah, 2019)

Presence or absence of burrow lining

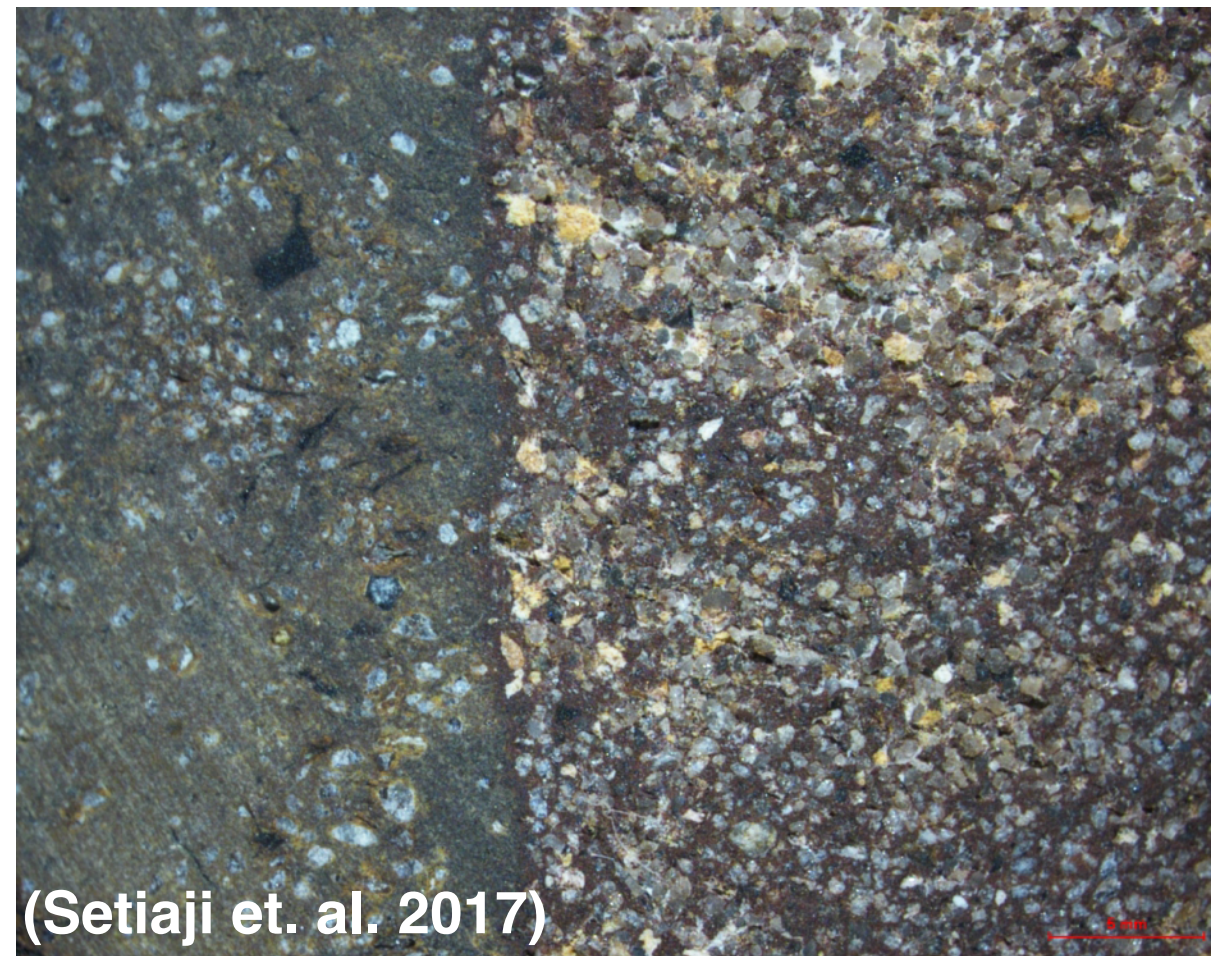


(Arifullah, 2019)

Burrow fill



(Arifullah, 2019)



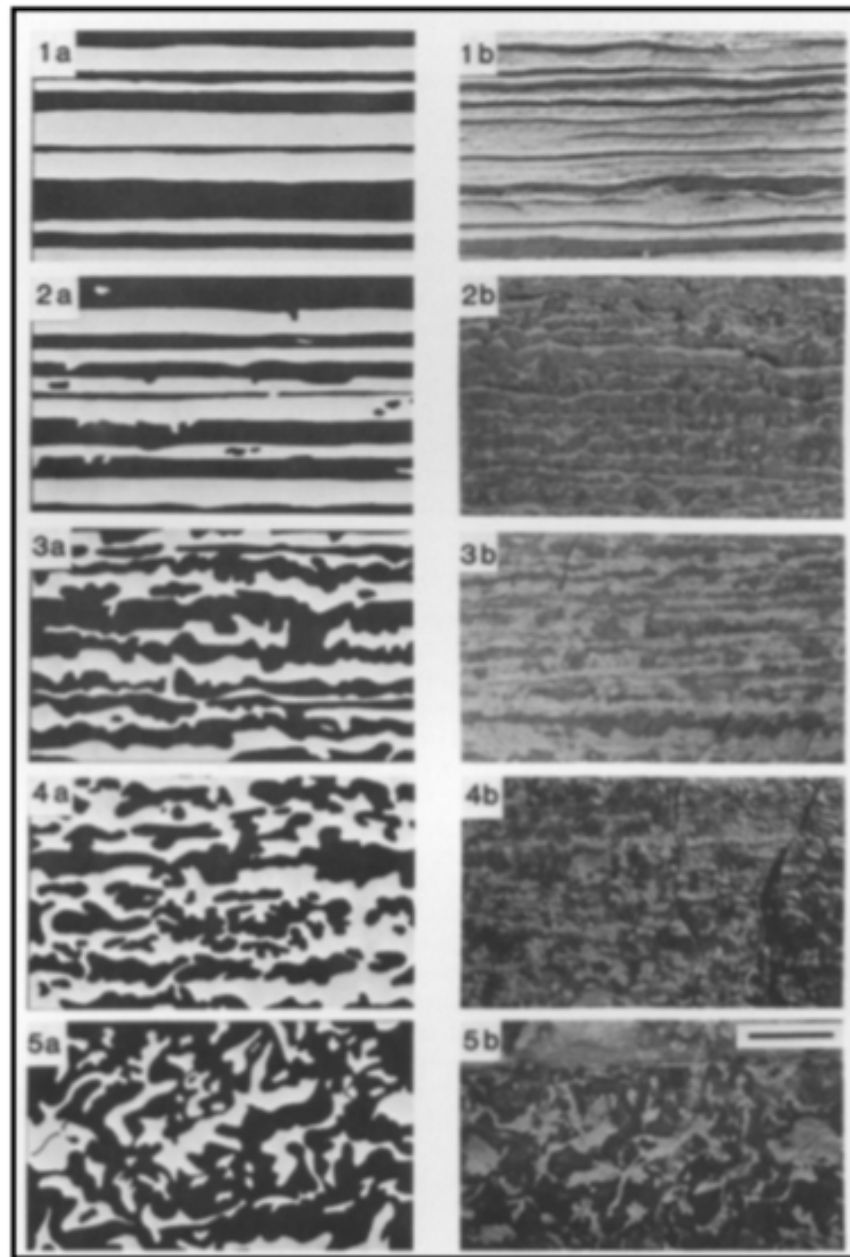
(Setiaji et. al. 2017)

Ichnofabric work

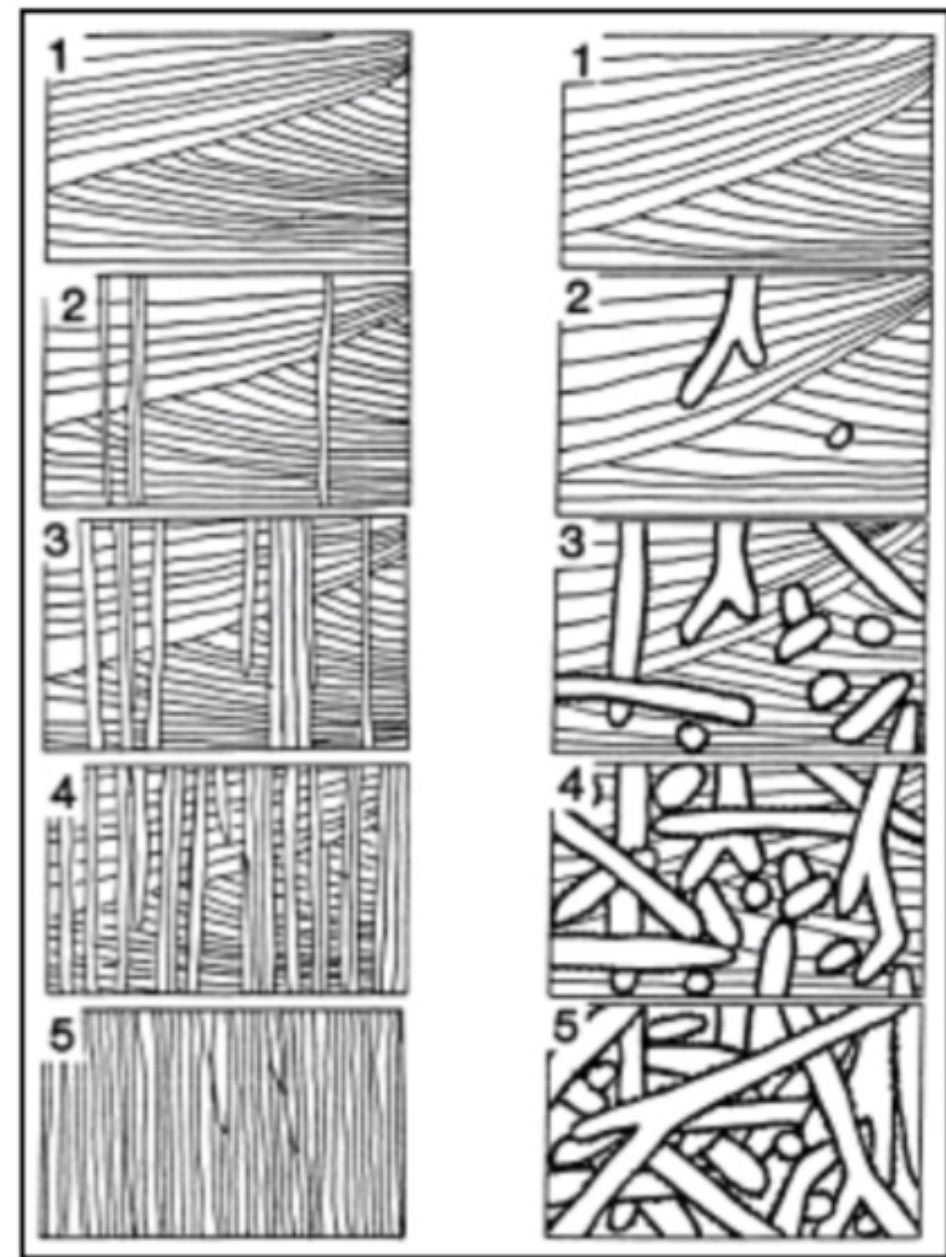
(see Arifullah, 2009)

1. Degree of bioturbation.
2. Diverse of trace fossil.
3. Number of behavior.
4. Penetration depth.
5. Diameter of burrow.

Degree of bioturbation (bioturbation index)



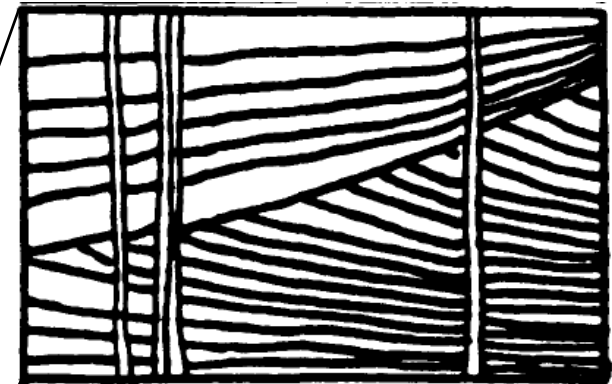
For (sub) horizontal oriented ichnofossil (**Drosser & Bottjer, 1986**)



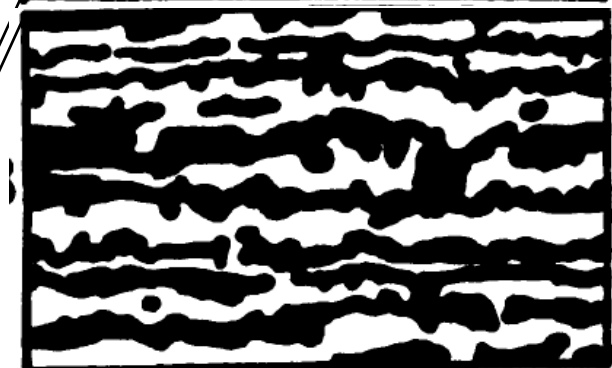
For (sub) vertical oriented ichnofossil (**Drosser & Bottjer, 1989**)

Bioturbation Index

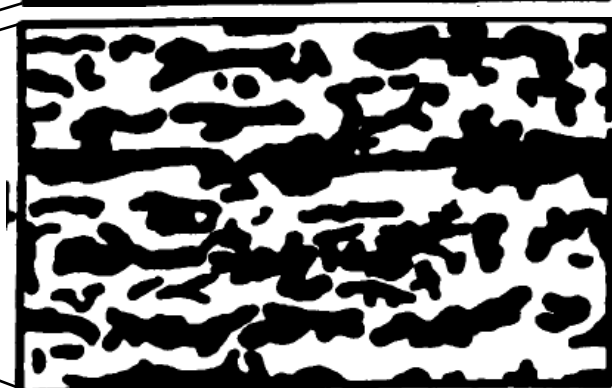
2



3

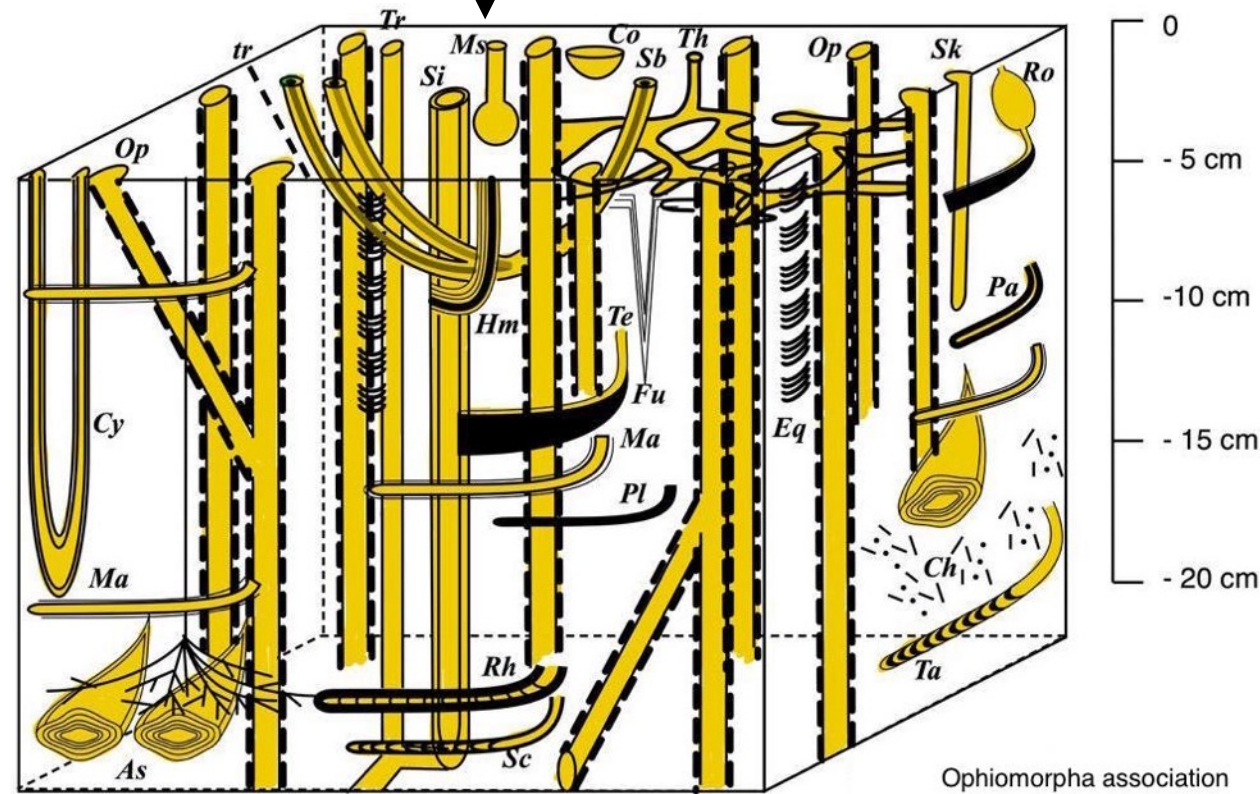


4

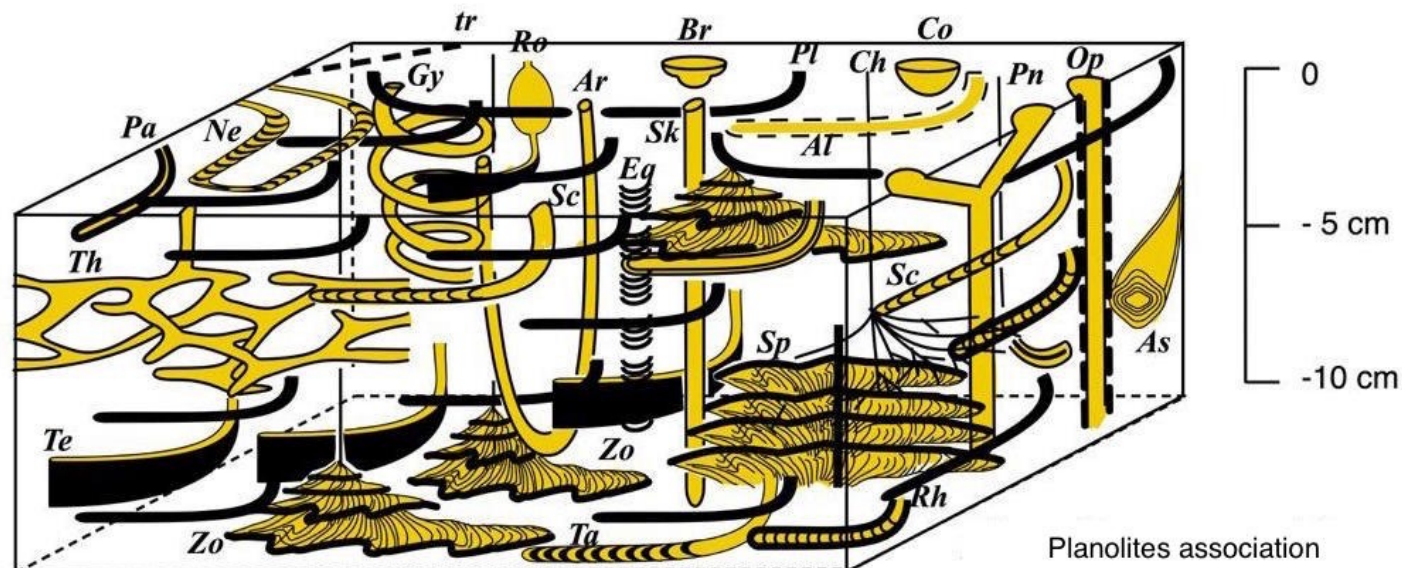


Arifullah (2017)

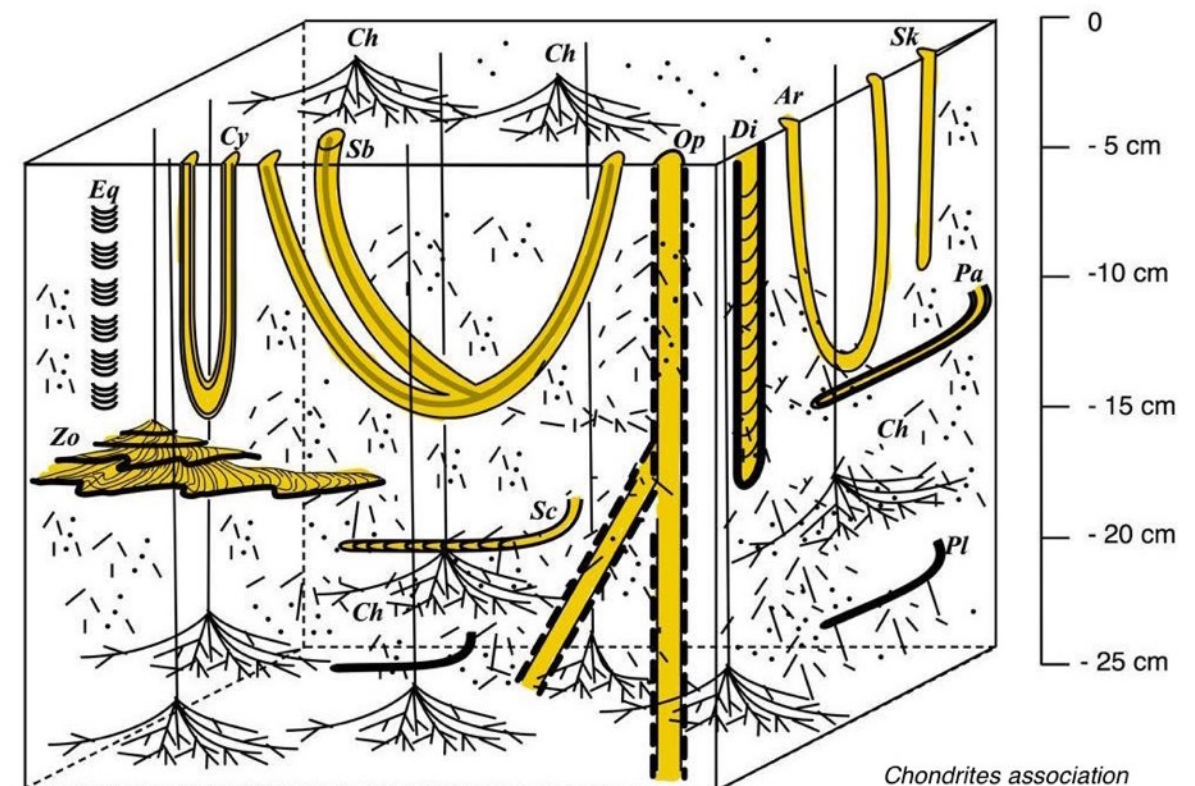
BI *Planolites* > BI *Ophimorpha* > BI *Chondrites*



Ophiomorpha association



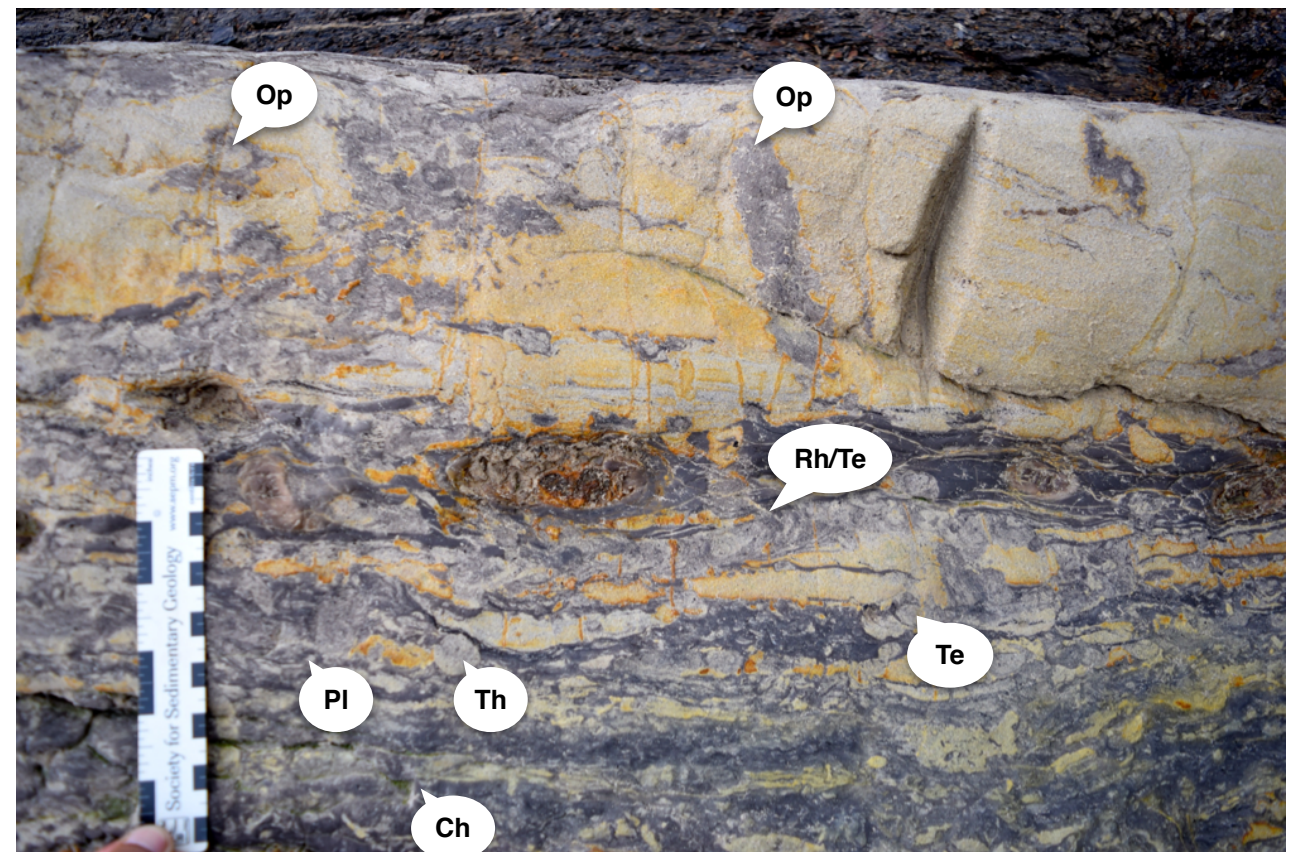
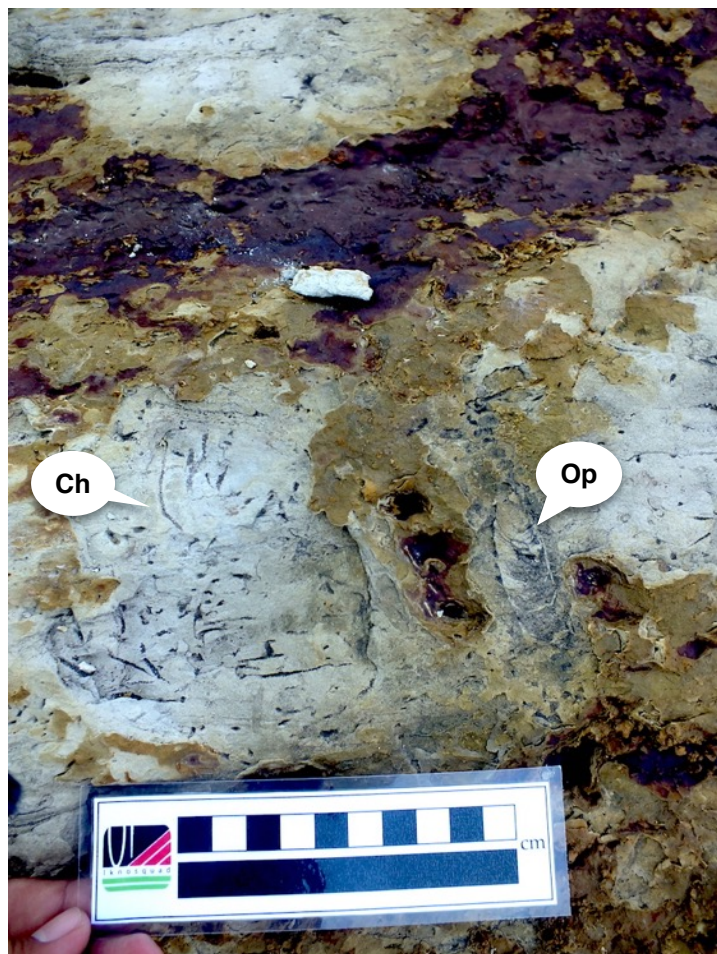
Planolites association



Chondrites association

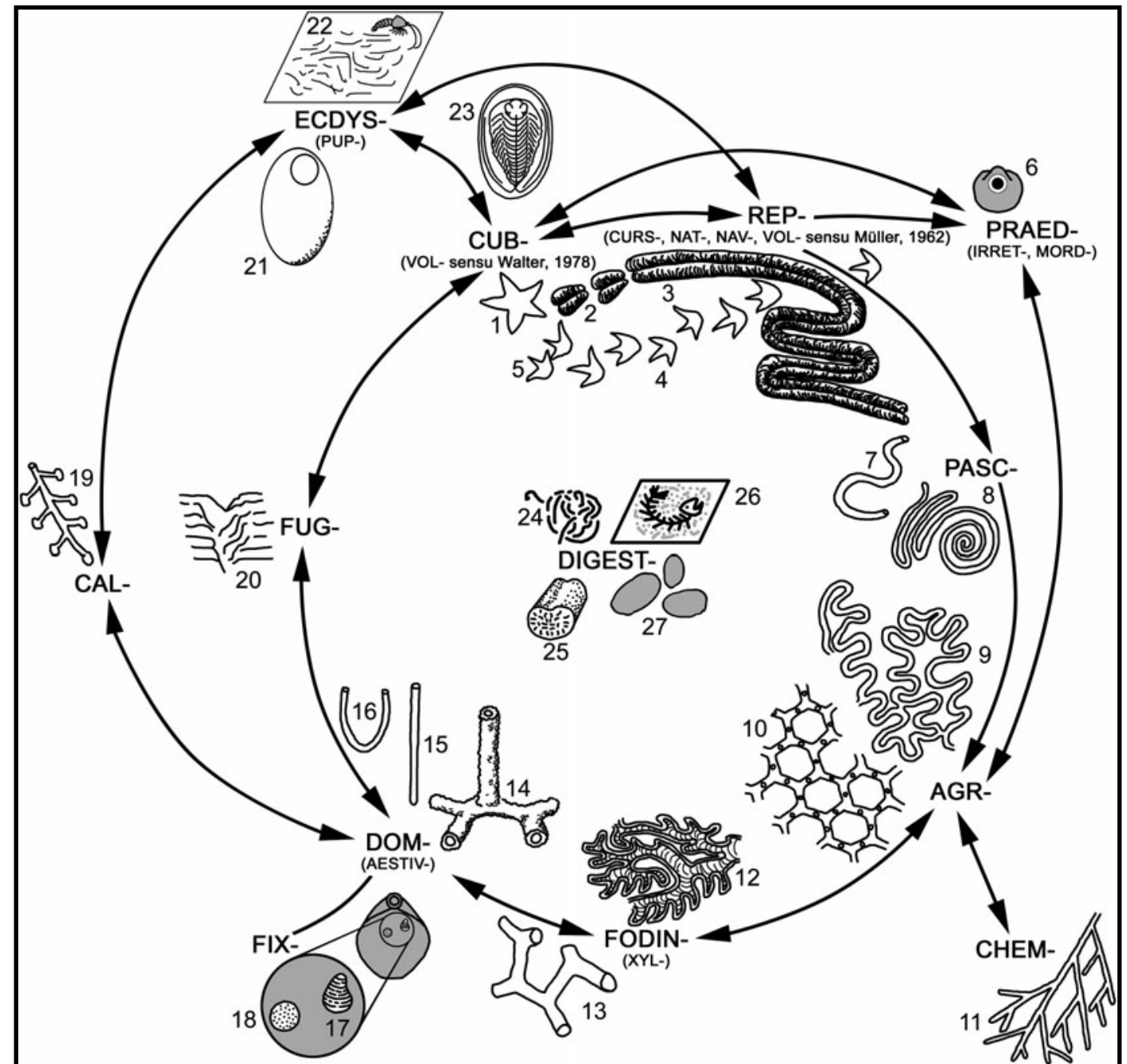
Diverse of trace fossil

- **Ichnodiversity (ID)** : number of ichnotaxon variations that exist within the ichnofabric unit (*modified from Buatois & Mangano, 2013*).



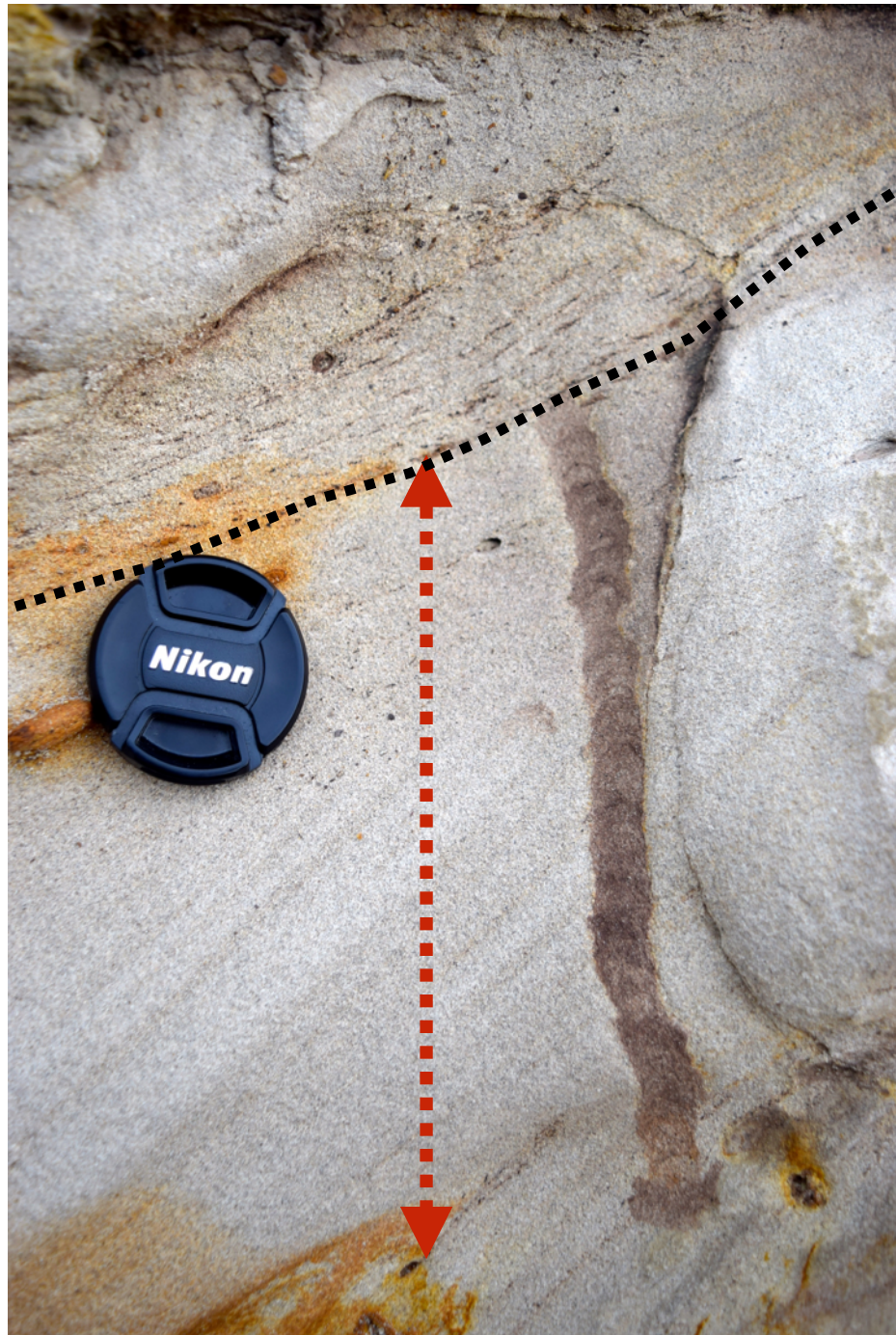
Number of behavior (NB)?

Behavior: the habits of organisms towards their environment, to maintain internal conditions, to remain constant against fluctuating external environmental conditions (Vallon et al. 2015).



(Vallon et al. 2015, also Bromley, 1996)

Penetration depth (PD)?



Arifullah (2017)

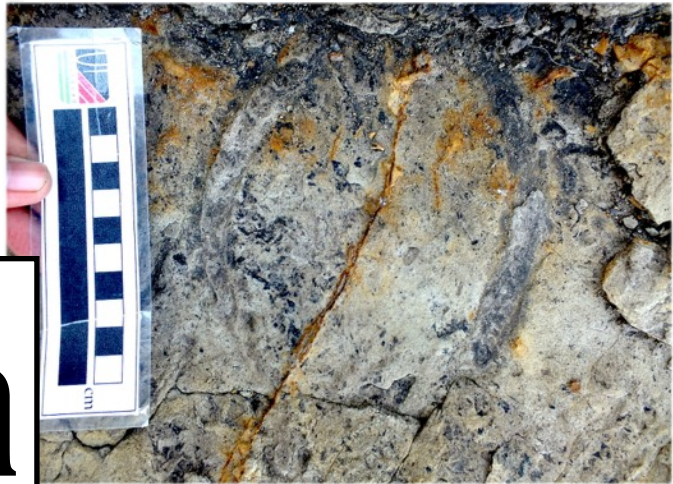
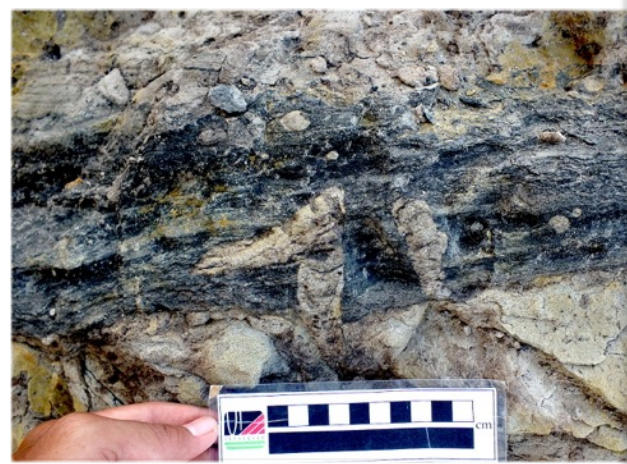


Diameter (DM)?

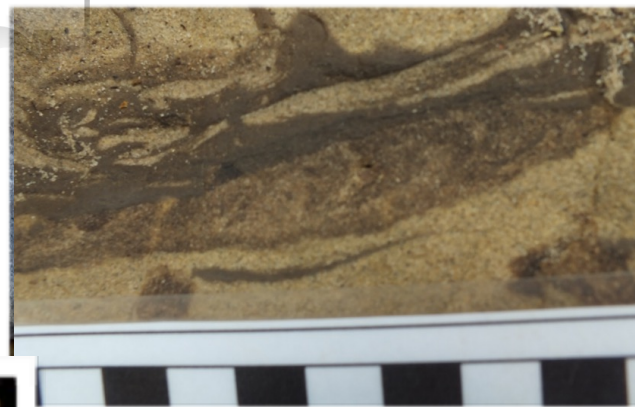


4

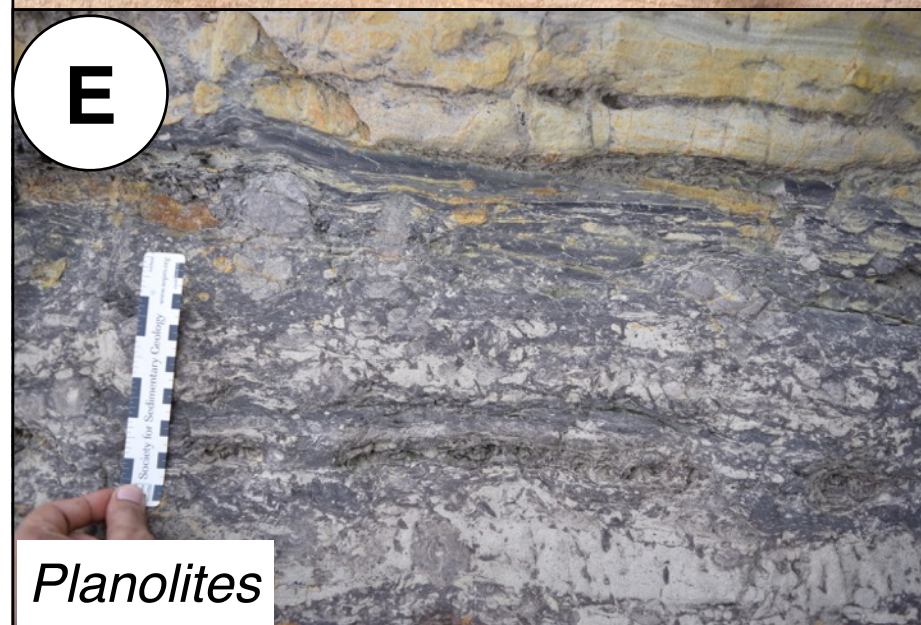
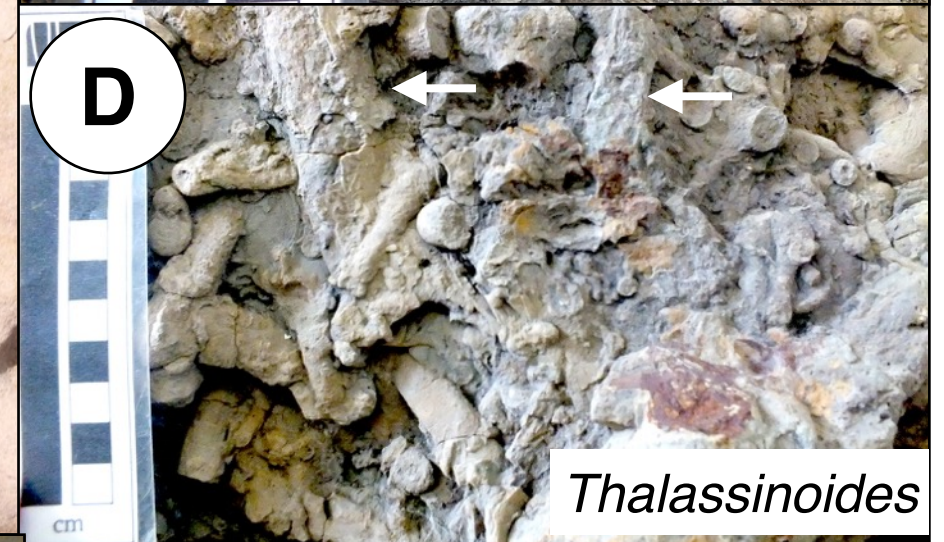
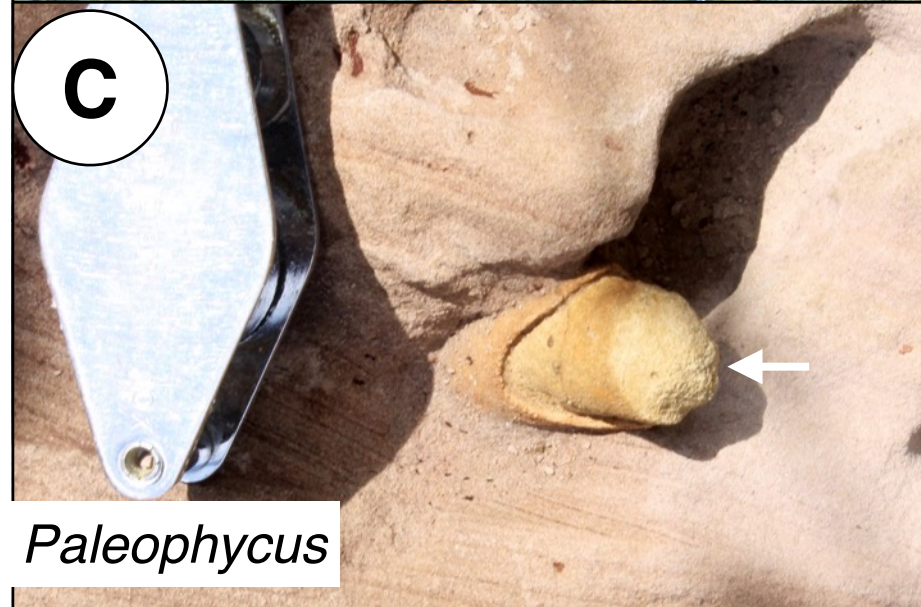
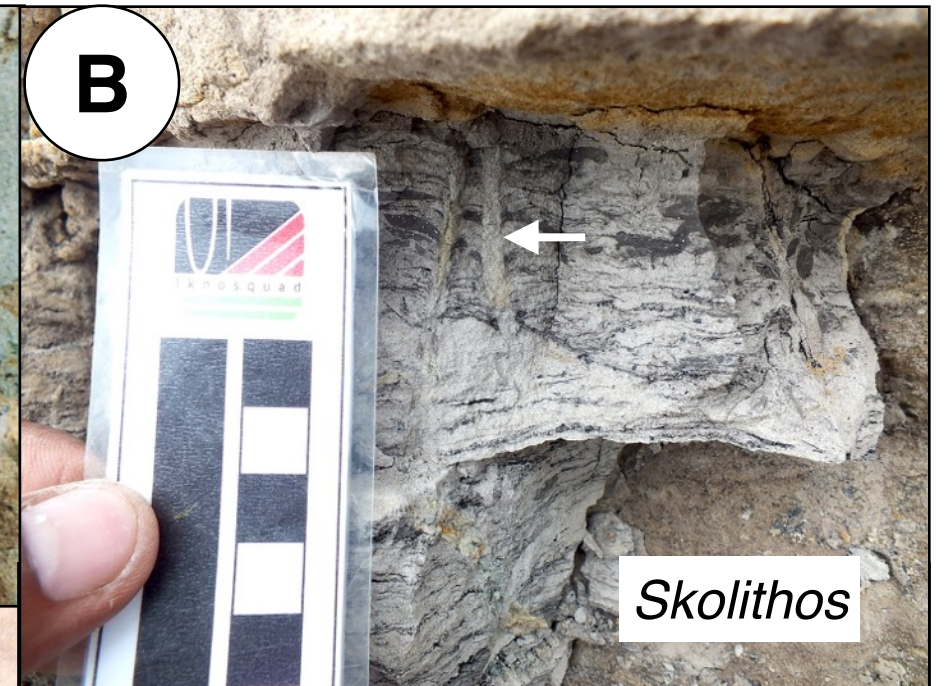
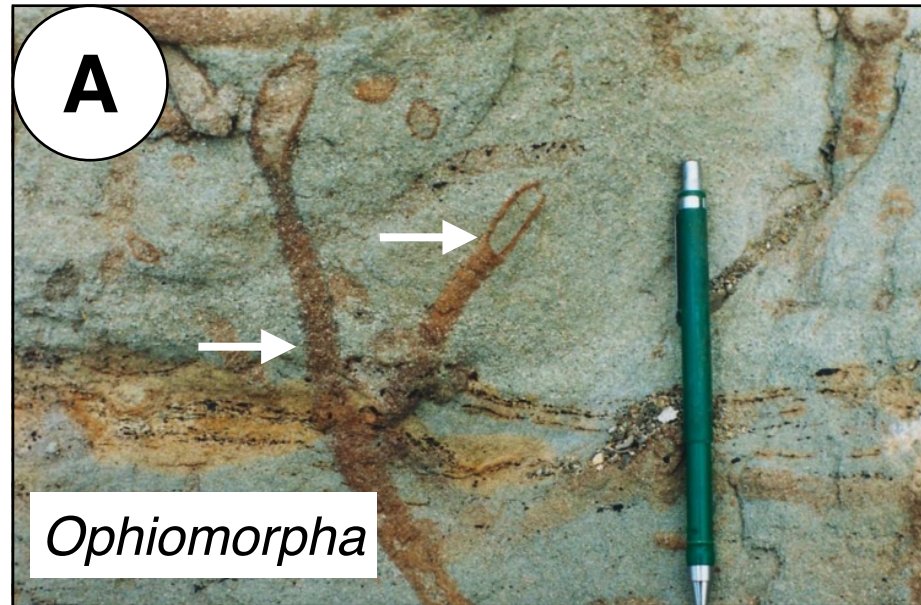
**A case within Kutai
Basin, Indonesia:
Serravallian-Tortonian**



34 ichnotaxa



6 ichnotaxa



Conclusion

5

- Ichnology is useful in sedimentology, stratigraphy and paleoecology and of course basin analysis.
- Ichnology is a blossoming field with clear directions for future study.
- In ichnological study, you need more not merely ichnofossil inventory.