Forward modelling using STRETCH (Kuznir et al. 1991) has been used to attempt to quantify the tectono-sedimentary evolution during and after the phase of extension. The program is based on the flexural cantilever model of continental lithosphere extension and is able to compute the complex interference pattern which is induced by the presence of many faults of different size, position and polarity along an investigated profile. Sediment loading, erosional unloading as well as compaction of the syn-rift sediments may be included. Furthermore, the post-rift phase which is mainly characterised by thermal subsidence can be calculated.
The analysis showed that extension by multiple faults has resulted in a complex interference pattern between the flexural footwall uplift and hangingwall collapse of each fault. In this phase of mechanical extension the basin geometry and deposition were largely controlled by the fault pattern resulting from the overall extension. Faulting led to rapid thickness variations across the tilted blocks producing a complex sedimentation pattern. The response to the subsequent post-rift stage was the gradual peneplanation of the fault-generated topography. In the study area post-rift thermal subsidence led to deepening of the basin and produced a simpler depositional pattern with a thickening towards the basin centre. The post-rift sediment package overlies the syn-faulted sediments and extends across the former basin margins.
By integrating geological and geophysical data, analysis of the depositional and structural development resulted in an improved understanding of the geodynamic evolution of the Lower Permian succession in the region.

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Neogene sequence stratigraphy of the Western Carpathian Basins

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Interaction of sea level changes and tectonics had an important influence on the paleogeography and paleoenvironment of the Central Western Carpathian basins. The depth and the shape of the basins were predominantly controlled by the main tectonic events. Eustatic oscillations, reflected in coastal onlaps were followed mostly by the rise of water paleodepth in offshore environment. The correlation of the constructed curves for the coastal onlap and predicted paleodepth with global reference curves (Haq 1991) shows some discrepancies, predominantly caused by tectonic events during the basin development.
In contradiction to the Burdigalian continuous relative sea level rise in the Mediterranean (TB 1.5 and TB 2.1 cycles), the paleoenvironment of the Vienna and East Slovakian Basins has been changed from deep water high-energy to shallow water low-energy due to the compressive collision tectonics in the front of orogen. The Late Egerian - Eggenburgian transgression (zone NN2) was followed by deepening of the sedimentary environment. The Ottnangian marine ingressions observed in the back arc area (Novohrad - Nógrad Basin) can be related to highstand conditions. Latter on, during the Late Ottnangian (zone NN3) a brackish paleoenvironment has been developed in the Vienna Basin. In the East Slovakian and Novohrad Nógrád Basins the uplift was associated with hiatus or deposition of terrestrial coal bearing formations.
The Karpatian transgression (zone NN4) and highstand depositional system can be correlated with transgression and global sea level rise of the TB 2.2 cycle. The intra-Karpatian sea level oscillations have a regional character and were tectonically controlled during the stadium of initial rifting in the Western Carpathian basins. In the East Slovakian Basin the local sea level drop led to salinity crisis. The following Langian sea level change of the global TB 2.3 cycle (zone NN4) is observable only in the East Slovakian and Nógrád - Novohrad Basins. In the Vienna and Danube Basins the erosion of uplifted areas or terrestrial deposition in depressions occurred between the Late Karpatian and beginning of the Early Badenian.
Pronounced Serravalian transgression followed by highstand is observed in the Vienna, Danube and East Slovakian Basins during the extensional synrift stage of development in the late Early Badenian and Middle Badenian (zone NN5). This relative sea level change can be correlated with the global TB 2.4 cycle. The falling stage and lowstand at the end of this cycle is expressed only in the East Slovakian Basin by the evaporite sedimentation. The next sea level change, which can be correlated with the global TB 2.5 cycle is proved by transgression followed by deepening of the sedimentary environment and stratification of water masses during the Late Badenian (zone NN6 - NN7 lower part) in all Western Carpathian basins.
The last well observed Serravalian global sea level change that can be correlated with the TB 2.6 cycle (sensu Haq 1991) was associated with Sarmatian transgression (zone NN7), highstand and gradual shallowing. The local sea level rises or falls were controlled by synsedimentary tectonics during the basin development.
The Late Miocene global sea level changes cannot by satisfyingly interpreted and correlated in the Western Carpathian basins due to their isolation and lack of relevant chrono- and biostratigraphical data in the Pannonian and Pontian deposits.

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Possible causes for the Permian-Triassic biotic crisis: palaeontologic and sedimentary evidences

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The biotic crisis close to the Permian-Triassic boundary (PTB) is the strongest Phanerozoic biotic crisis despite the fact that it was often overestimated. The search for the causes of the biotic crisis around the Permian-Triassic boundary (PTB) requires the investigation of the exact scenario of the PTB biotic crises (extinction and recovery patterns among all major faunal and floral groups of all facies) and the exact global correlation of these patterns. It also requires consideration of accompanying geological phenomena (e.g., facies changes and their sedimentary evidences, climatic changes, age and character of volcanic activity around the PTB, changes in stable isotopes, the distribution and vertical range of the oceanic anoxia, possible evidences for cosmic causes). According to Kozur (1998a, b), the following extinction and recovery patterns can be observed:

- The (siliceous) plankton (radiolarians), and the warm-water benthos, nektobenthos and nekton were most strongly affected, whereas the cold-water faunas were not or slightly,