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Edited by: Jozef Michalík and Kamil Fekete

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Edited by: Jozef Michalík (Earth Science Institute, Slovak Academy of Sciences) Kamil Fekete (Earth Science Institute, Slovak Academy of Sciences)



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WORKSHOP OF THE ICS BERRIASIAN GROUP

(JURASSIC/CRETACEOUS BOUNDARY)

JKB workshop-stratotypes:

New Bio- and Magnetostratigraphic Data at the Jurassic-Cretaceous Boundary of the Chigan Cape (Vladivostok Region, Russia)

ANDREY YU. GUZHIKOV¹, VLADIMIR V. ARKADIEV², EVGENIJ YU. BARABOSHKIN³, A. A. FEODOROVA⁴, O.V. SHUREKOVA⁴, E.E. BARABOSHKIN³, A. G. MANIKIN¹, V. V. GOLOZUBOV⁵, S. A. KASAT-KIN⁵, and V. P. NECHAEV⁵

¹Chernyshevsky Saratov State University, Saratov, Russia; aguzhikov@yandex.ru
²Saint Petersburg State University, St. Petersburg, Russia; arkadievvv@mail.ru
³Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia; EJBaraboshkin@mail.ru
⁴Research and Production Enterprise Geologorazvedka, St. Petersburg, Russia
⁵Far East Geological Institute FEB RAS, Vladivostok, Russia

We have studied the well-known Chigan section (Chigan Cape, Podiapolsky Town region, coordinates 42°57'37.8"N, 123°17'47.0"E) previously referred to Berriasella jacobi ammonite zone (Konovalov, Konovalova, 1997; Sey, Kalacheva, 1999) based on ammonite findings: *Pseudosubplanites* cf. grandis, P. aff. combesi, Berriasella ex gr. jacobi, Dalmasiceras, and others. Some geologists [5] supposed that the section contains Jurassic–Cretaceous (J/K) boundary interval. Stratigraphic description of the section was accomplished by macrofauna searching and samples collecting for the paleomagnetic and micropaleontological analysis. Outcrops consist of gray poorly sorted muddy sandstones (fig. 1).



Fig. 1. Different variants of paleomagnetic correlations of the Chigan cape section with the Geomagnetic Polarity Time Scale (GPTS) (Gradstein et al., 2012). Legend: polarity: 1 – normal, 2 – reverse, 3 – no data; 4 – correlation lines of different possible correlations; lithology: 5 – sandstones, 6 – muddy sandstones, 7 – cross-bedding, 8 – bioturbation.

Most of sandstones are intensively burrowed by Schaubcylindrichnus coronus Frey et Howard, 1981, as a dominate ichnogenus, and also contain Teichichnus isp., Thalassinoides isp., Ophiomorpha irregulaire Frey, Howard et Pryor, 1978, Phycosiphon incertum Fischer-Ooster, 1858, Rhizocorallium commune Schmid, 1876, Asterichnus lawrencensis Bandel, 1967. Bichordites monastiriensis Plaziat et Mahmoudi, 1988, Neonereites uniserialis Seilacher. 1960. Ν. biserialis Seilacher, 1960 and some non-identified taxa (Baraboshkin, Baraboshkin, 2015). The ichnoassemblage and lithology are typical for the lower shoreface zone. A specific 1.5-m level of middle-upper shoreface massive sandstones (member 4) was recognized in the middle part of the section. It is limited by the erosional surfaces at the base and at the top. The upper surface is a transgressive surface, which is overlaid by 10-cm cross-bedded sandstone, replaced laterally by bioclastic rudstones. The visible thickness of the section is 33 m. These layers crop out in steep cliffs at a distance of 500 meters. Its bedding is nearly horizontal and they are crossed by a number of Late Cretaceous gabbro dikes. For the comparison we have studied section 3050 to the south (~1.1 km), which continues the Chigan Formation (Sey, Kalacheva, 1999) and has the same stratigraphic age (Konovalov, Konovalova, 1997).

<u>Macrofauna</u>. In the rockfall at the base of the section we found the remains of ammo-

nites: an imprint of *Pseudosubplanites* cf. *combesi* Le Hégarat (fig.2) and living chamber fragment of *Pseudosubplanites* sp. In addition, in the collection of I.V. Konovalova (1993), courtesy of the "Primorgeologiya" Company, we have determined *Berriasella* cf. *jacobi* Mazenot (fig. 3) and *Pseudosubplanites* sp., also found in the debris at the base of the same



Fig. 2. *Pseudosubplanites* cf. *combesi* Le Hégarat. Collected by V.P. Nechaev, 2014.

Palynology. The plant detritus, poor preserved gymnosperms pollen and spores, rare indeterminate proximochorate – proximate cysts and dinocysts *Sirmiodinium grossii* Alberti, *Systematophora areolata* Klement and *Tubotuberella rhombiformis* Vozzhen. were found in only one sample (3046/3) of 14. This assemblage ranges from Oxfordian to Early Valanginian.

Foraminifers. It was studied 11 powders and 3 thin sections for definition of microfossils. Thin sections (№№3046-3, 3a, 10) contain hardly distinguishable cross-sections of Reophax, Bulbobaculites, Ammobaculites, Kutsevella. Flabellammina. Triplasia?. Gaudryina?, Trochammina. The assemblage of agglutinated foraminifers was found in the outcrops 3046, 3047, 3050. It consists of primitive (~ 30%) Reophax (40%), Haplophragmiidae (50%), Trochammina (10%) and rare species Ataxophragmiidae (3%). The comparison of the assemblages with Gaudryina ex gr. gerkei, Kutsevella labythnangensis, K. praegoodlandensis from Chigan Cape with foraminifera zones (f-zones) and beds of Spitsbergen, Pechora Basin, Siberia is difficult, besections. All these findings characterize the Lower Berriasian Jacobi Zone. It should be noted that *P*. cf. *combesi* differs from other *Pseudosubplanites* by evolute shell and prevalence of bifurcate ribs. It is also very similar to some Upper Tithonian forms (*Oloriziceras* type).



Fig. 3. Cast of *Berriasella* cf. *jacobi* Mazenot. Collection of I.V.Konovalova, 1993, sample 15-1547. Scale bar is 1 cm.

cause they were formed under different conditions. Chigan assemblages are closer to the shallow-water assemblages of the north Western Siberia. In Bolshekhetsky area the assemblage with Evolutinella spp., Gaudryina cf. gerkei was found together with ammonites of the Taimyrensis Zone. It has 16 species common in f-assemblage of Chigan Cape. The assemblage with Gaudryina gerkei, Trochammina rosaceaformis, which was found together with Buchia cf. volgensis (Lahusen) has 13 identical species (Naydenov et al., 2013). A similar pattern is observed in the Chigan Formation sandstones with Gaudryina ex gr. gerkei, Kutsevella labythnangensis, K. praegoodlandensis. The section 3050 contains "Volga-type" Trochammina and Evolutinella, but the section 3046 contains "the Neocomian type" Gaudryina ex gr. gerkei and a lot of Trochammina.

<u>Magnetostratigraphy</u>. Samples from 34 stratigraphic levels were studied in the sections 3046, 3047 and from three stratigraphic levels – in section 3050 (Fig. 1). The sandstones have magnetic susceptibility (K) 6-12*10⁻⁵ SI units and **NRM** 0.02-2.15*10⁻³ A/m

(The gabbro have $K=60-140*10^{-5}$ SI units, **NRM** = $100-1000*10^{-3}$ A/m). Magnetite or related titanomagnetite are the principal magnetic minerals in the sandstones and gabbro. The hematite was found at the only level (sample 3046/21 near the base of member 4) (Fig. 1). Usually such levels are related to hiatuses and active oxidation of magnetite grains. Thermomagnetic and alternating field cleaning showed reproducible results, which substantially increase the reliability of paleomagnetic measurements relative to the results based only on one of magnetic cleaning procedures. The gabbro samples have one component of the NRM – ChRM ($D=293^{\circ}$, $I=84^{\circ}$). The mean paleomagnetic direction in sandstones: $D=247^{\circ}$, $I=(-84^{\circ})$.

The paleomagnetic column of sections 3046-3047 consists of the reverse polarity zone (R). Two narrow intervals of normal polarity (N) were recorded in the middle part of the R-zone (Fig. 1). The baked contact test is positive (the sandstones from unbaked zone have a reverse magnetization; the baked zone and the gabbro have normal **NRM**). Normal polarity fixes in the outcrop 3050 (Fig. 1). These facts demonstrate the ancient nature of the magnetization. The test of reversal is negative, but this fact does not reject the hypothesis

of the ancient nature of the **NRM**, because gabbro is tens of millions years younger than the sandstone, and outcrops 3050 and 3046-3047 are located in different the tectonic blocks.

Discussion. Ammonite findings correspond to the well-known data (Konovalov, Konovalova, 1997; Sey, Kalacheva, 1999) on presence of the Jacobi Zone in this section. If the previous ammonite findings from the uppermost Chigan Formation characterized Jacobi zone, therefore the R-magnetozone can be analogue either polarity Chron M18r, or M17r. This R-zone may be equivalent to the M18 + M17r, because small N-polarity interval (samples 3046/19-21) corresponds to the break in sedimentation and a significant part of M18n could not preserve in the section (Fig. 1).

The main result of this study is the possibility of obtaining of paleomagnetic and micropaleontologic data together with the ammonite findings, which gives a hope for the determination of the J/K boundary in the Chigan Formation in future.

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