Active and fossil geothermal systems in the continental rift zones of the Menderes Massif, Western Anatolia, Turkey

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The aims of the investigation:

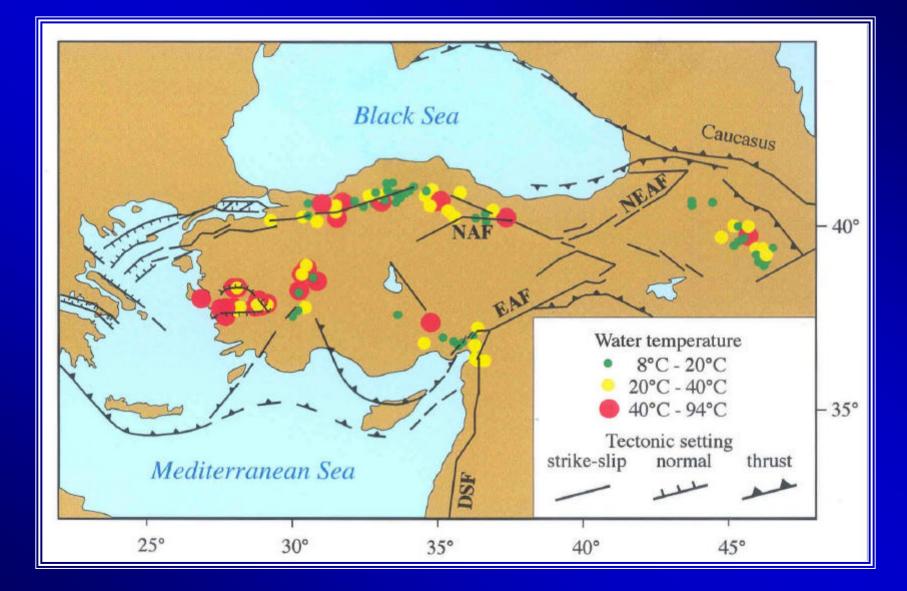
Geological and petrographic investigations to describe the relationship between active and fossil geothermal waters, tectonic features, and volcanics in the rift zones of the Menderes Massif, western Anatolia, Turkey.

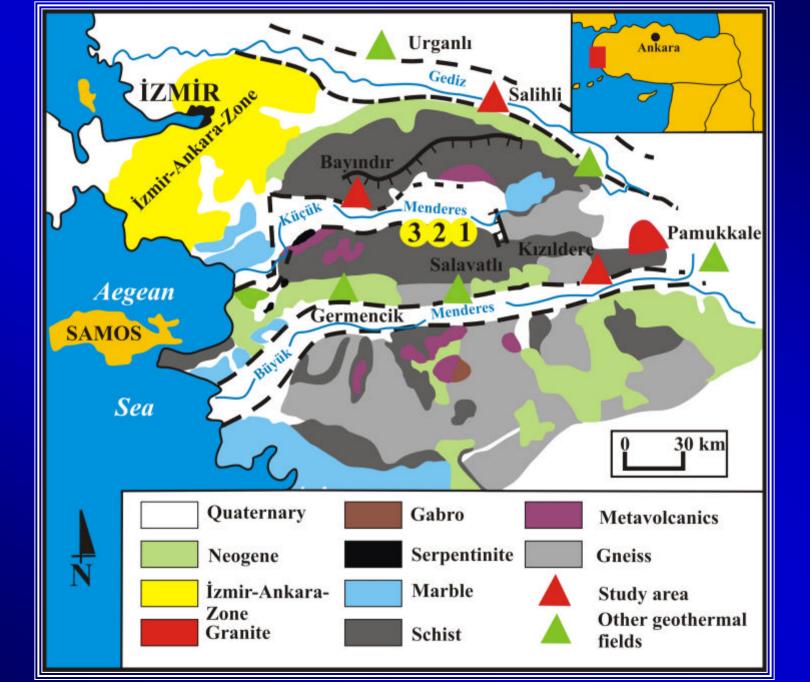
Petrographic, geochemical and isotope geochemical investigations to describe the fluid-rock interaction in the active and fossil thermal fields of the rift zones in the Menderes Massif.

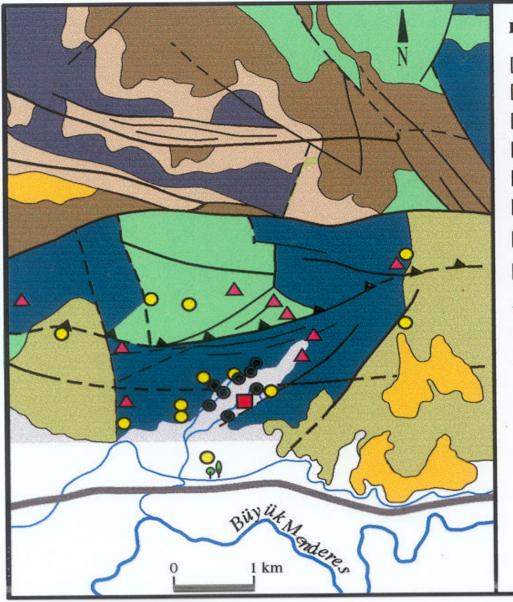
Microscopic and microthermometric investigations to understand the ore and alteration mineral assemblage of fossil geothermal systems and mineral precipitations of active geothermal systems in the rift zones of the Menderes Massif. Geochemical distributions of the major and trace elements in the rocks and ores of the fossil geothermal systems, and the element contents in the recent mineral precipitations from the thermal waters.

Hydrogeological, hydrogeochemical and isotope geochemical investigations to describe the origin and genesis of the thermal waters.

Hydrogeochemical modelling of fluid-rock interaction in thermal systems and short consideration of active and fossil geothermal systems.





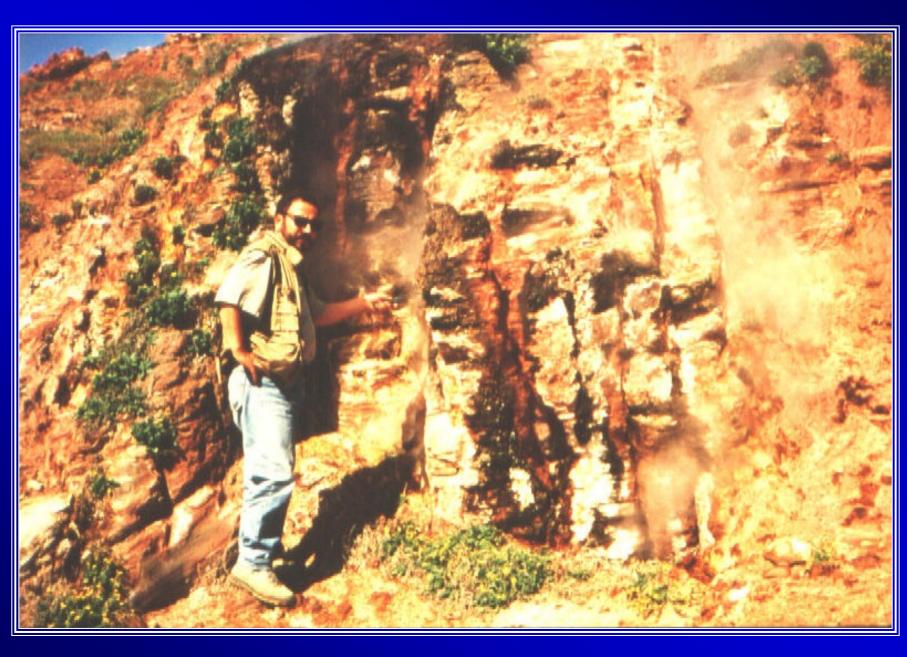




Geothermal field of Kizildere

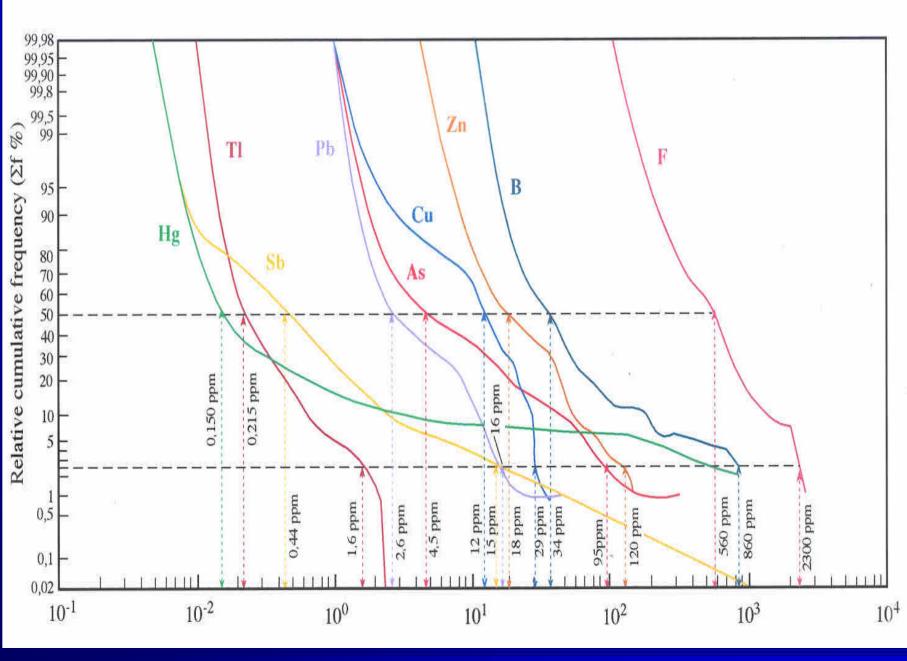


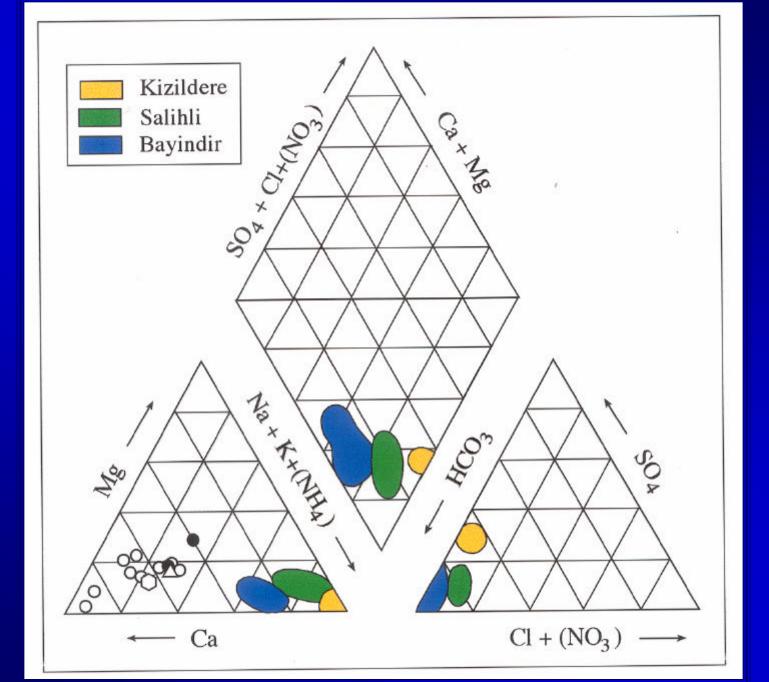


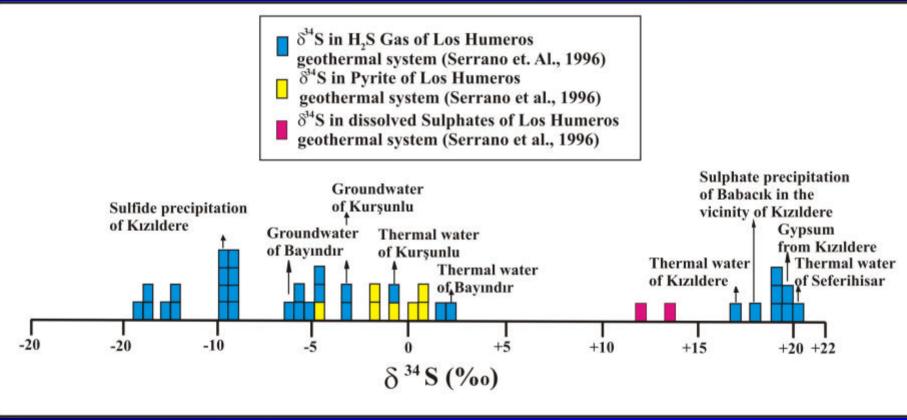


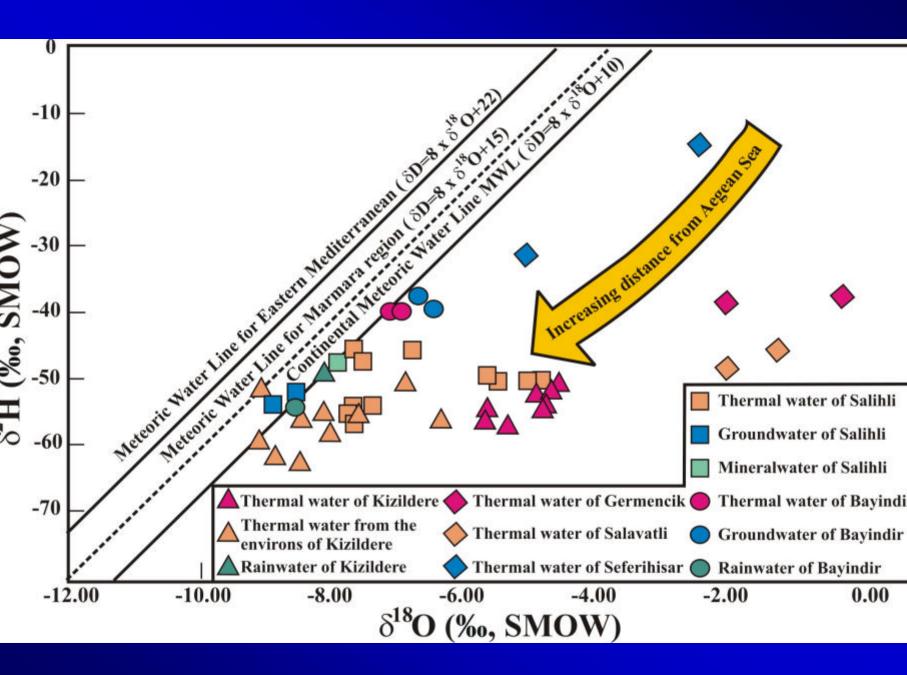


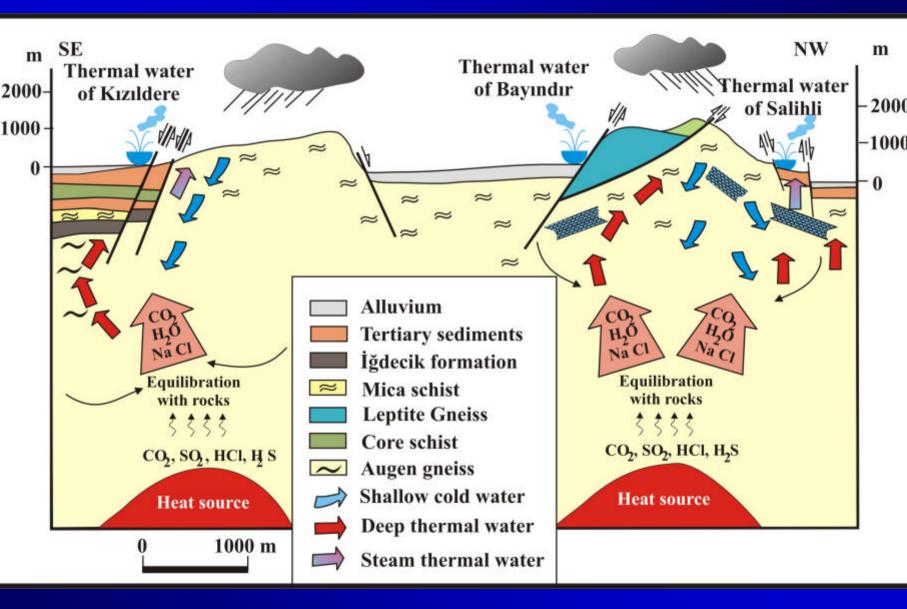


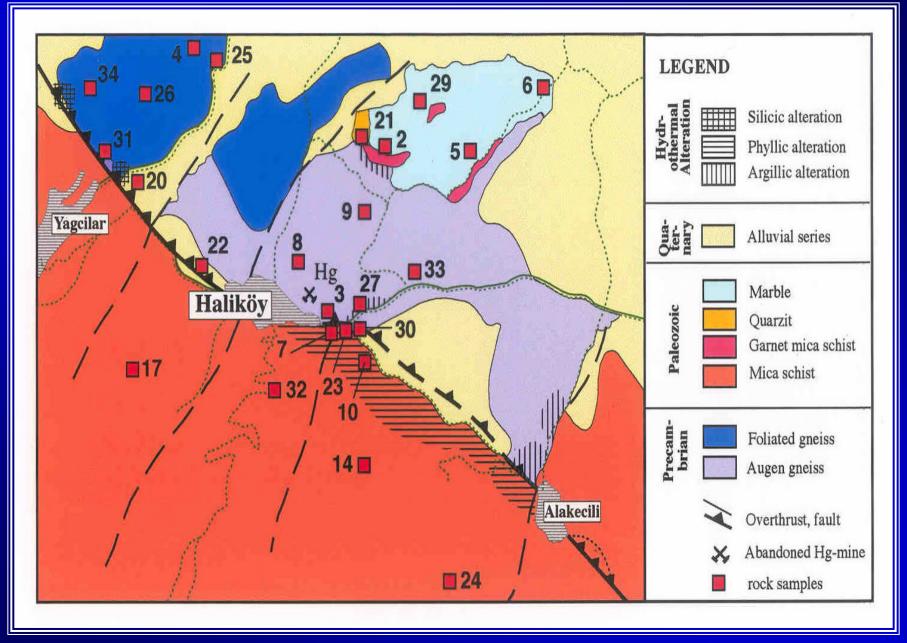


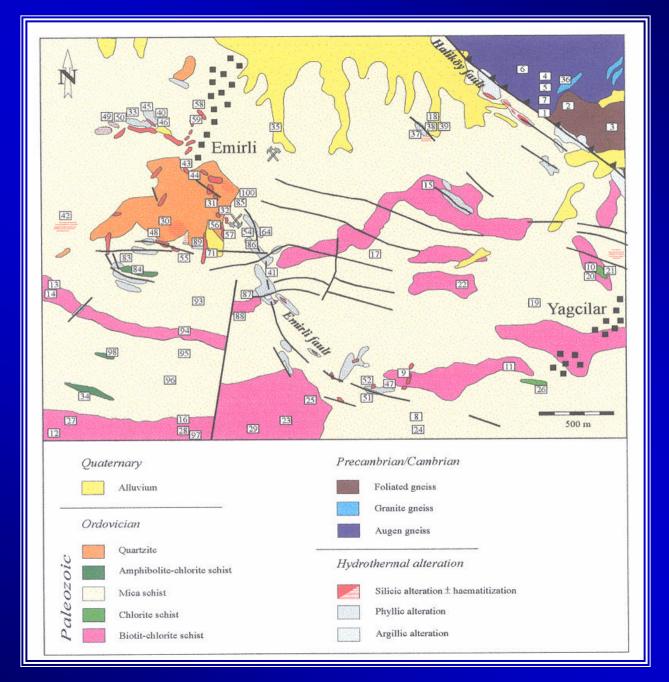


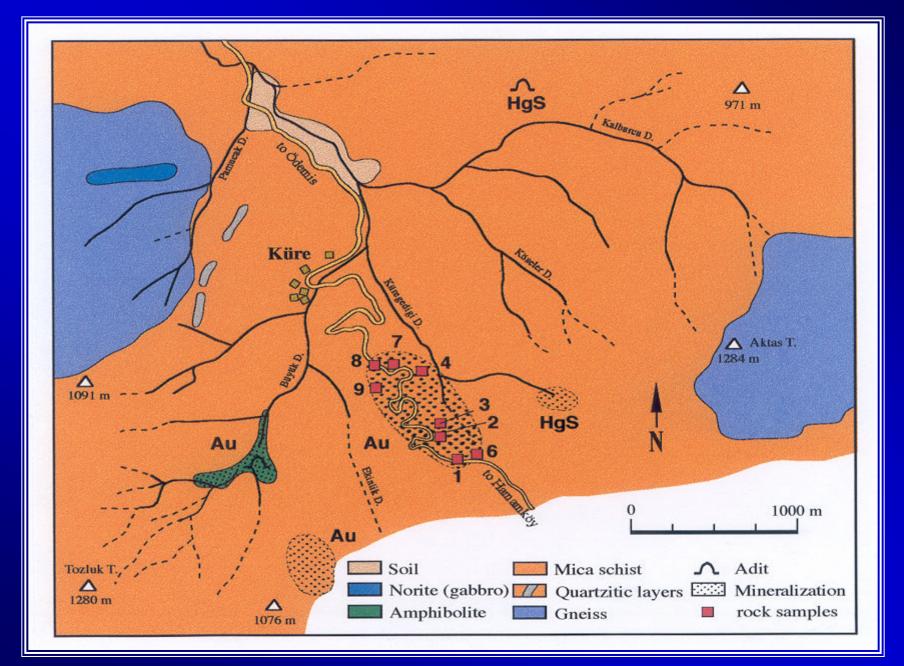




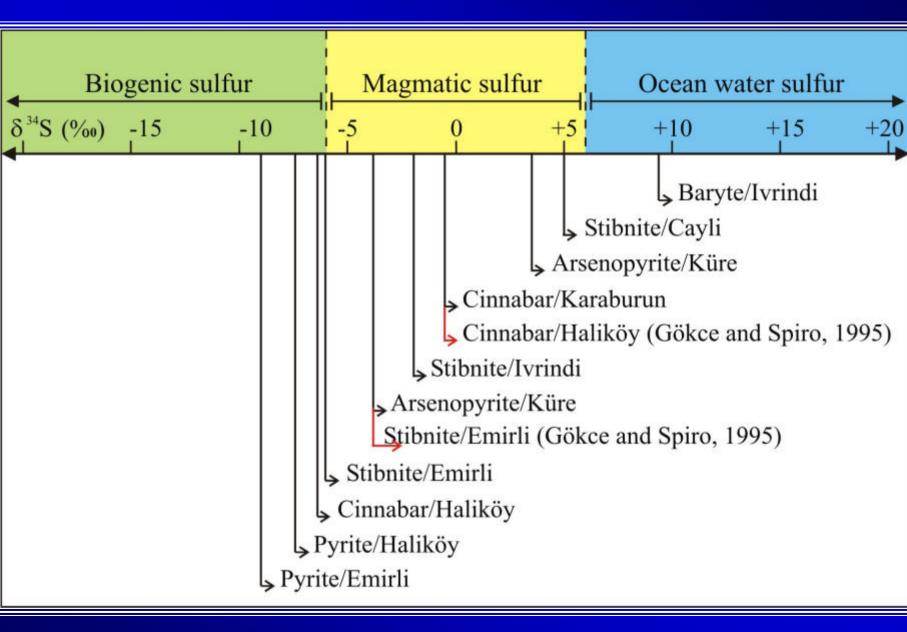


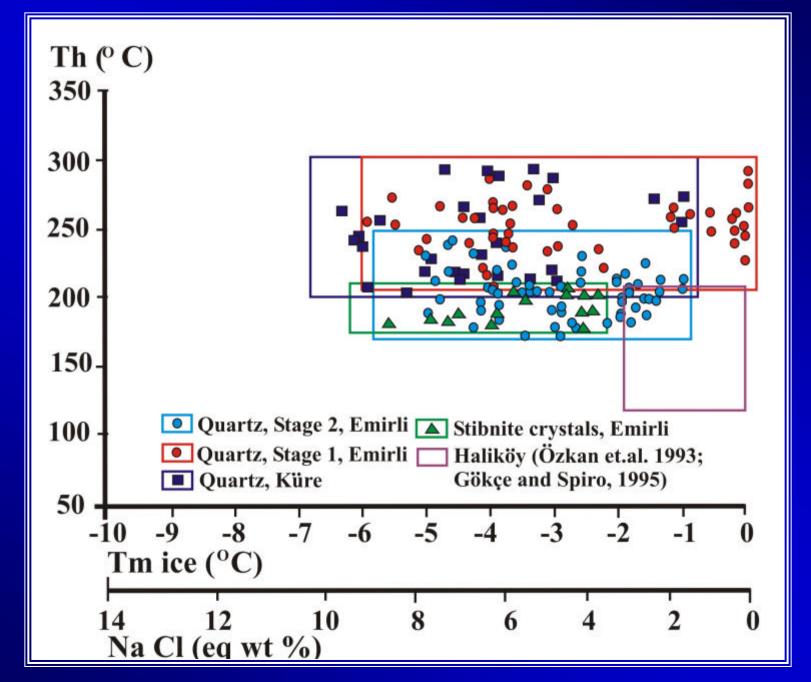


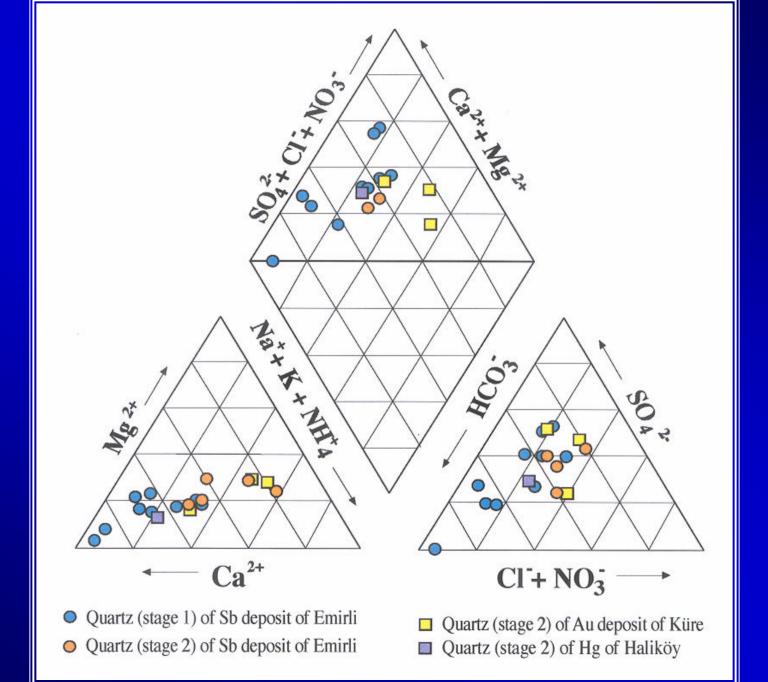


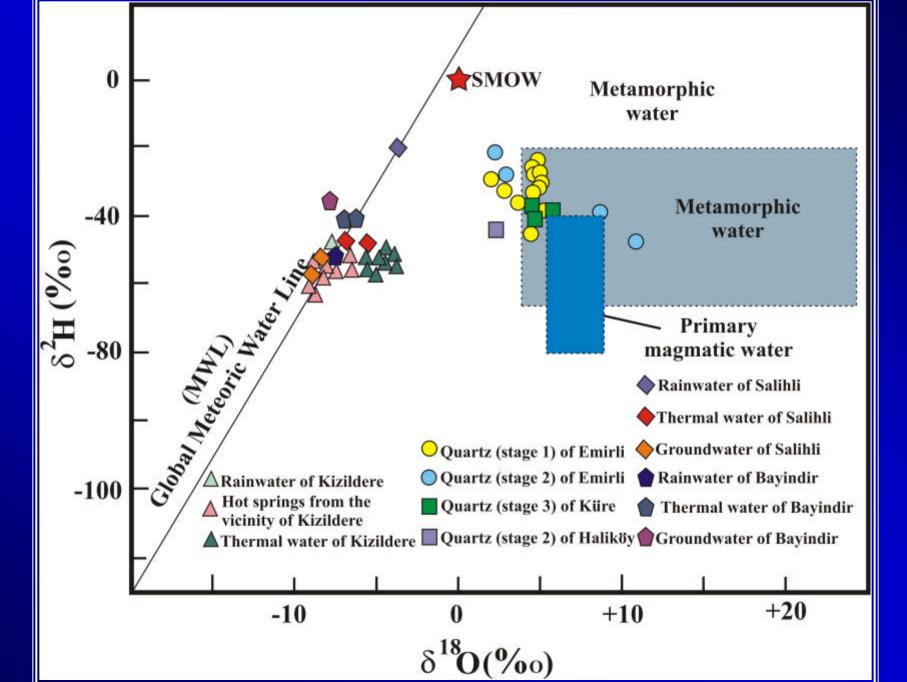


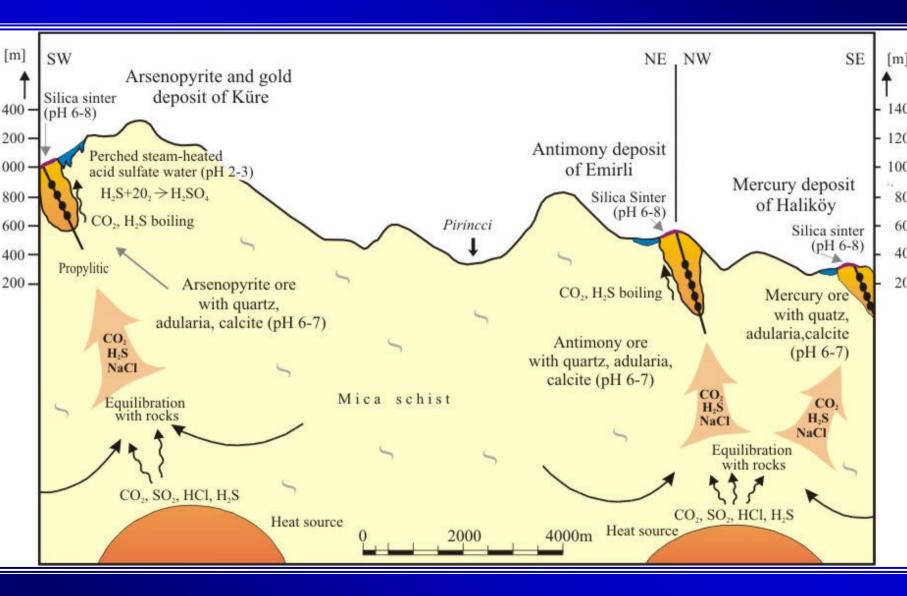
Ore deposits Mineral assemblage	Arsenopyrite and gold deposit of Küre	Antimony deposit of Emirli	Mercury deposit of Halıköy
Arsenopyrite (1)			
Arsenopyrite (2)			
Pyrite			
Chalcopyrite			
Sphalerite			
Gold (1)		10 ppm	
Quartz (1)		?	
Stibnite			
Marcasite			
Gold (2)		30 ppm	
Orpiment			
Realgar			
Cinnabar			
Quartz (2-4)			

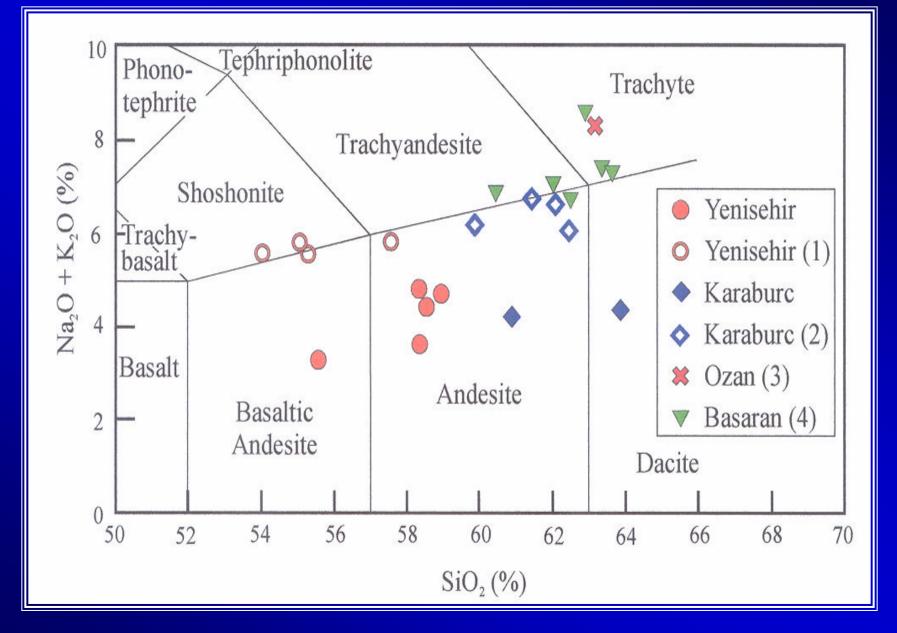


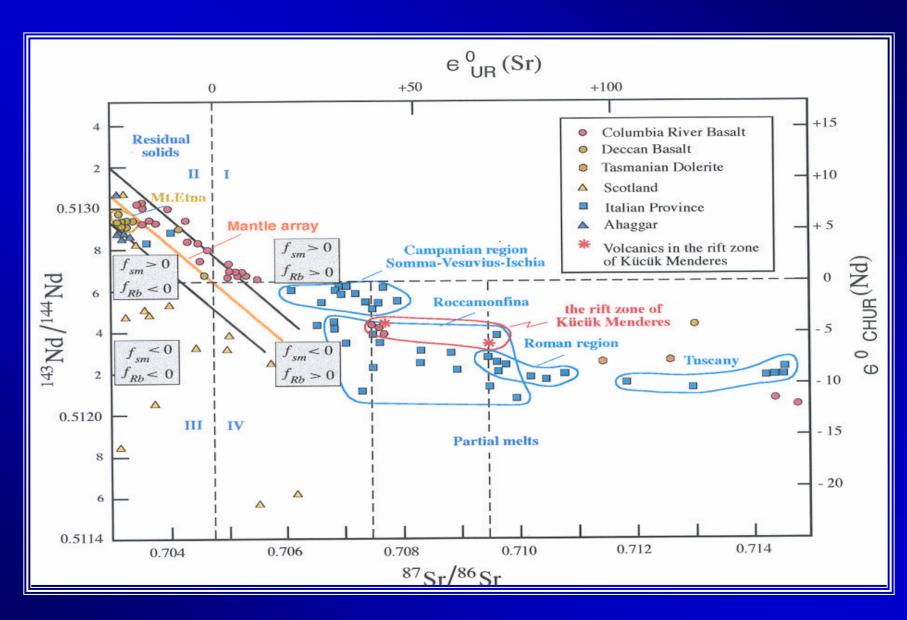




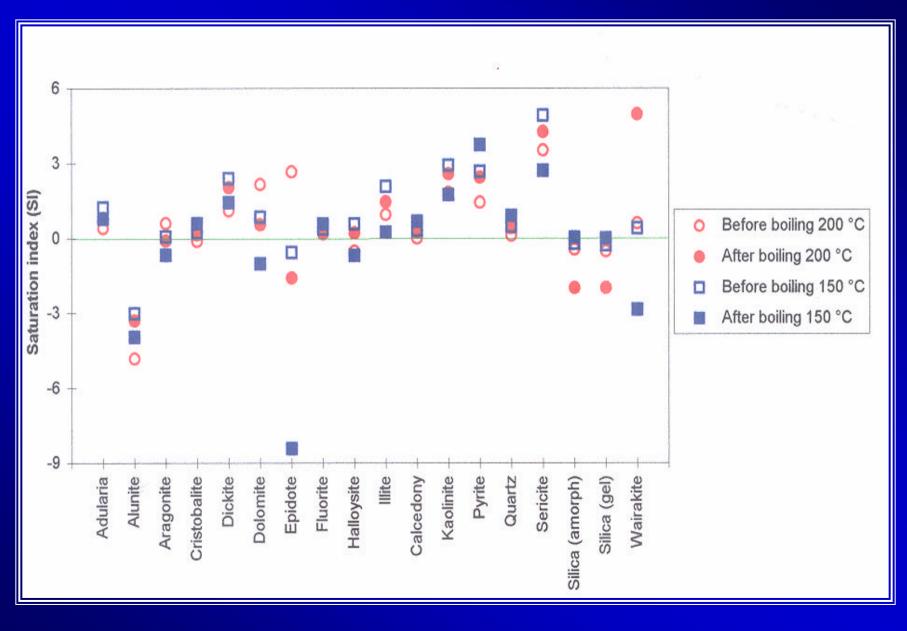


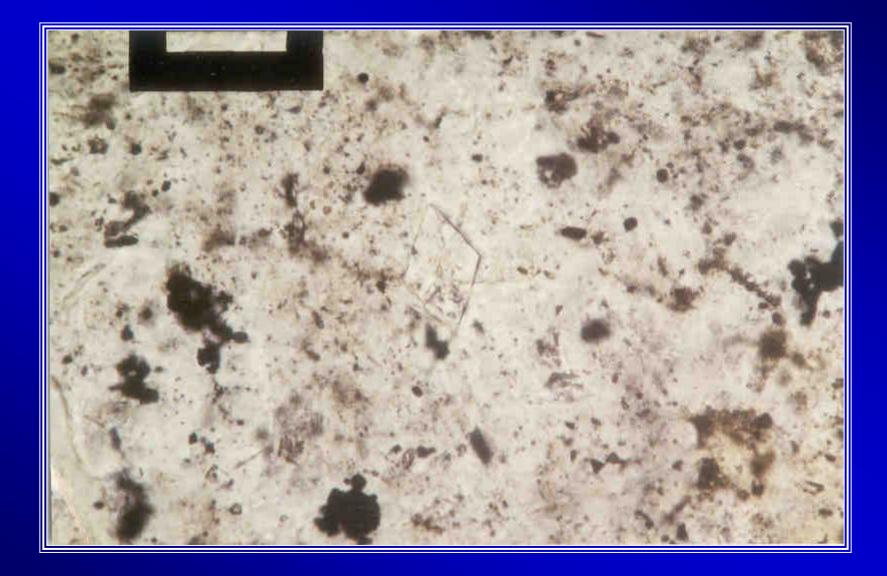












Conclusions

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There is relationship between geothermal systems, tectonic features, and volcanics in the rift zones of the Menderes Massif, western Anatolia, Turkey.

In the active and fossil geothermal systems, the hydrothermal alteration is noticeable at the surface which is distinguished by phyllic, argillic, and silicic ±heamatitization alteration zones. There are also similarities in both systems due to hydrothermal alteration features.

The geochemical temperatures of the active geothermal waters indicate a range from 220 to 260 °C which can be compared with the homogenization temperatures of quartz and stibnite crystals from 180 to 300 °C. The active geothermal waters can be considered as Na- (SO_4) -HCO₃-type which may be compared with the fossil fluids of epithermal Hg, Sb, and Au deposits.

According to stable isotopes, the active geothermal waters show a meteoric origin. In comparison, the stable isotopes in the fluids of epithermal ore deposits are enriched by fluid-rock interaction and indicate the mixing of these fluids.

The active and fossil geothermal systems are distinguished by an enrichment of these elements Hg, Sb, As, Au, Tl, and Ag on the surface. In comparison, the analyses of the drill cores show that the elements Cu, Pb, and Zn are enriched at depth. These can be attributed to (i) preferred mobilization of Hg, Sb, As, Tl, Au, and Ag by hydrothermal fluids and (ii) the low salinity of fluids due to transport of metals such as Cu, Pb, and Zn. Therefore, the present-day epithermal Hg, Sb, and Au deposits of Haliköy, Emirli, and Küre in the rift zone of the Küçük Menderes may be considered as fossil deposits of formerly active geothermal systems.

The epithermal mineralizations of Haliköy, Emirli, and Küre can be compared to the other Hg, Sb, and arsenopyrite and Au ore mineralizations in the rift zones of the Menderes Massif, similar to the epithermal Sb and Au deposits in the metallotect of Jiangnan, PR China and active and extinct geothermal systems of New Zealand, and considered as fossil equivalents of active geothermal systems.