
Foreword

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This is the second issue of **Geologica Acta** dedicated to the memory of Professor Francesc Calvet, who passed away in January 2002. Francesc was a man with great human qualities, a distinguished scientist and an inspiring teacher who was held in high esteem by all those who knew him.

The first volume contained six papers on specific areas of research in which Francesc was engaged, and a biography (*Geologica Acta*, volume 2, N° 4, 2004). This second volume is made up of contributions by colleagues and former students who wish to salute Francesc Calvet as an outstanding geologist and teacher. The papers included in this volume are also subjects in which Francesc was closely involved.

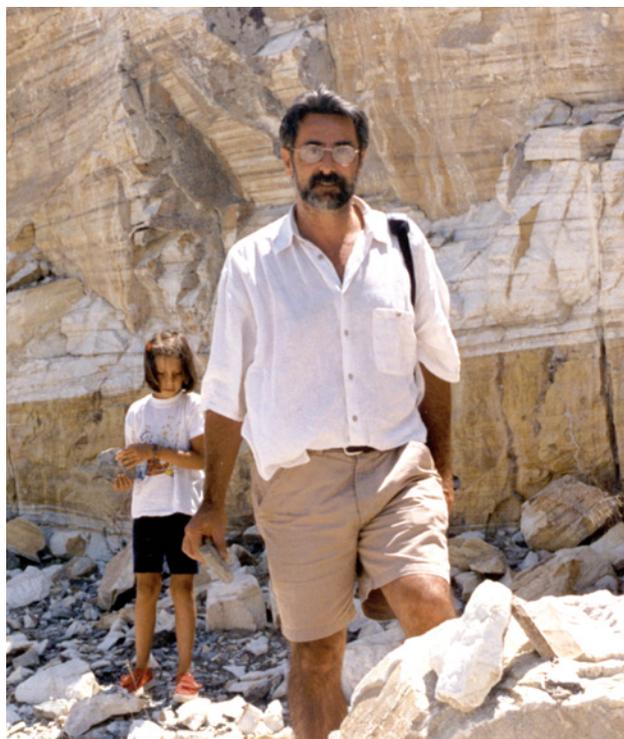
The first paper written by D. Parcerisa et al., which is a study on the Mediterranean Basin, draws on a work on Upper Oligocene rocks that crop out near Barcelona. The second paper by F. Ortí et al., provides an interesting description of different depositional models of lacustrine evaporites of the Paleogene in Ebro Basin.

The team of Marine Geology (paper by G. Lastras et al.) under the supervision of Miquel Canals, former student of Francesc, considers submarine landslides in the continental margin of NE Iberia with new data on previously known and unknown landslides. The fourth paper by X. Querol, also a former student of Francesc, and co-workers provides at pilot plant scale a synthesis of zeolitic material obtained from fly ashes of the Teruel and Narcea power stations in Spain.

The fifth paper is based on an unfinished manuscript by Francesc, and discusses the relationship between cyclicity and organic sedimentation drawing on the PhD

thesis of Giménez-Montsant, which was supervised by Francesc. The text has been updated with contributions from E. Playà, former student of Francesc, and from A. Permanyer, close friend and colleague. This paper considers the Eocene rocks in the southern Pyrenees.

Throughout his university career Francesc maintained a keen interest in karsts and the formation of calcretes. The sixth paper, by A. Alonso-Zarza in collaboration with



Francesc and his daughter Maria sampling limestones, summer 2001.

B. Jones, deals with calcrete formation related to karstic surfaces of Grand Cayman Island. These calcrete crusts constitute a good example of non-horizontal calcrete crusts.

The seventh contribution to this issue (J. Estupiñán et al.) is a petrologic and isotopic study of carbonate cements in the sandstones of the Napo Fm reservoir (Ecuador). This paper draws on the PhD thesis of Jenny Estupiñán, under the supervision of Rafaela Marfil and Albert Permanyer. This work considers the application of sedimentary petrology to the study of oil reservoirs in the Oriente Basin, one of the most oil prolific areas in Ecuador.

The penultimate paper by J.A. Luque and R. Julià, who participated with Francesc in many projects, is concerned with the dating of Quaternary travertines in the Llobregat valley.

The last contribution to this issue is by Emeritus Professor C. Virgili, who discusses the history of Geology in Spain. Carmina Virgili focuses her attention on the influence that Sir Charles Lyell (1797-1875) exerted on Geology in Spain. Lyell, a Scottish lawyer and geologist, visited Spain for the first time in the summer of 1830. Lyell's influence in Spain was due to his books and especially the translation of his "Elements of Geology" into Spanish by Ezquerro del Bayo in 1838. This book was for many years the official textbook at the School of Mines in Spain and Mexico. This article recalls Francesc's didactic skills and his passion for the History of Geology.

The guest-editors of this second volume, dedicated to the memory of Francesc Calvet, wish to thank the referees who actively participated in the preparation of this issue for their critical reviews and helpful suggestions.