

Des réservoirs d'hydrogène dans les ophiolites

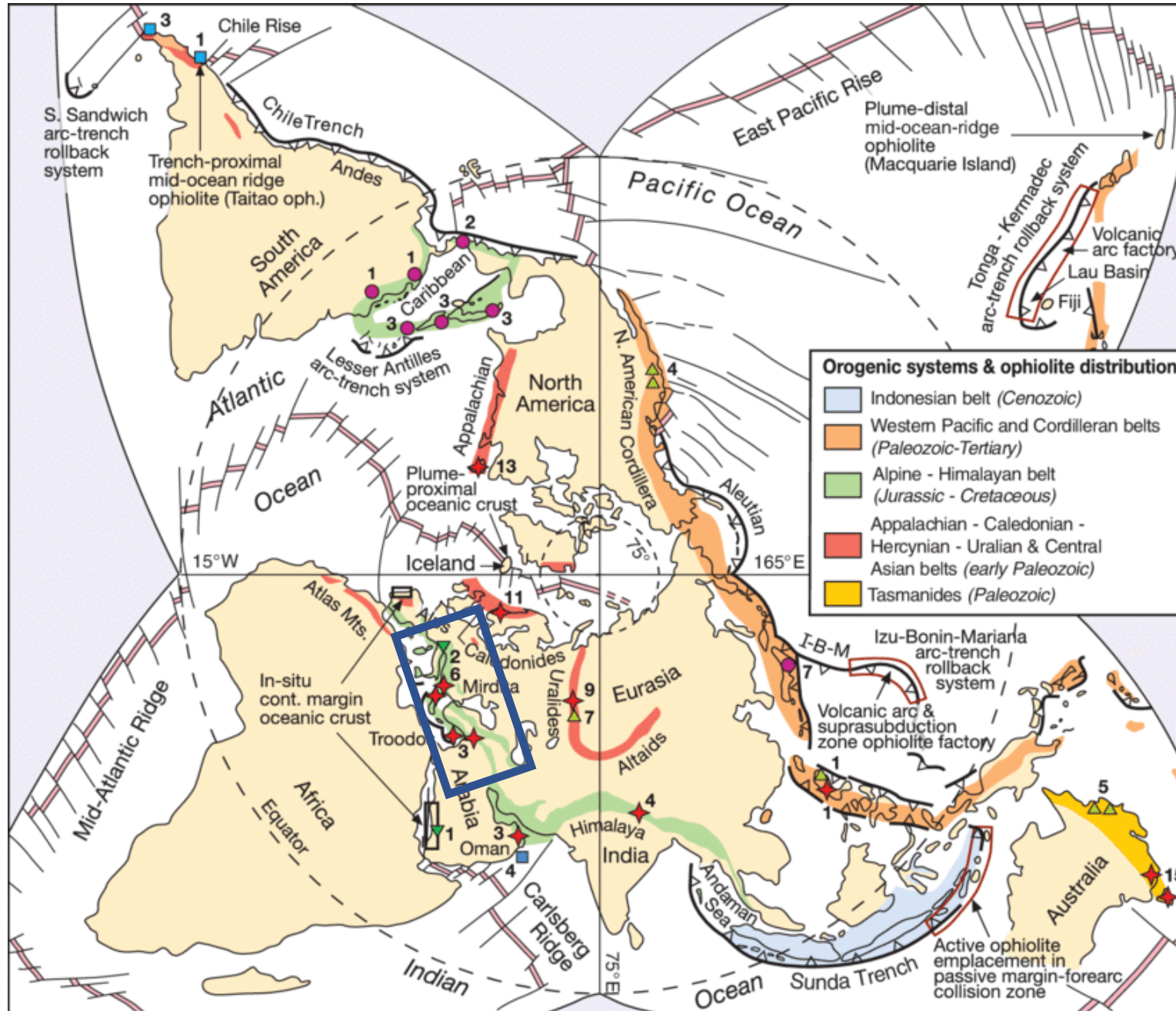
L. Truche, F-V Donzé, E. Goskolli, B. Muceku, C. Loisy, C.
Monnin, H. Dutoit, A. Cerepi

Exemple de la mine de chrome
de Bulqizë (Albanie)

15 Novembre 2023, Hydrogemm, Pau



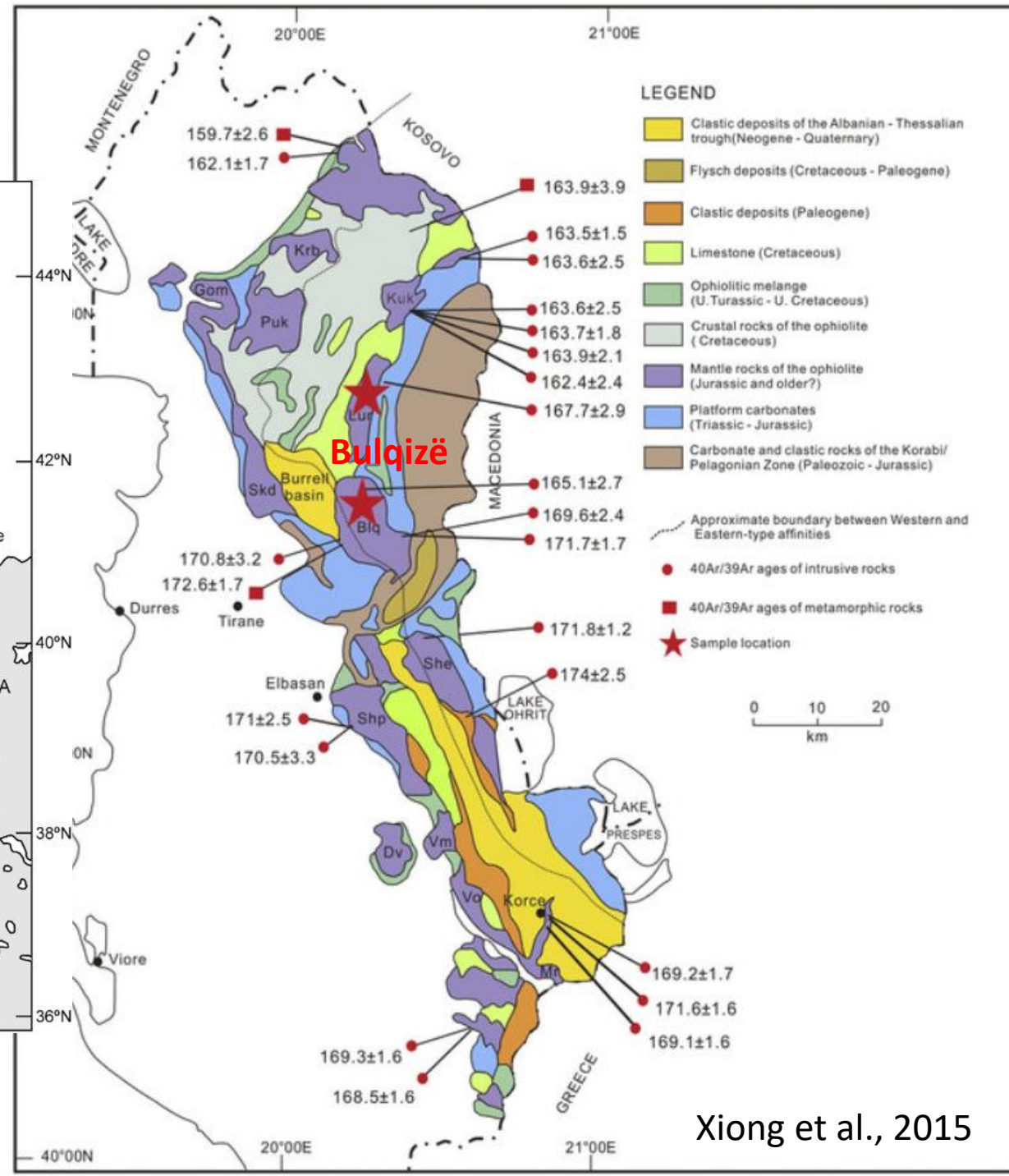
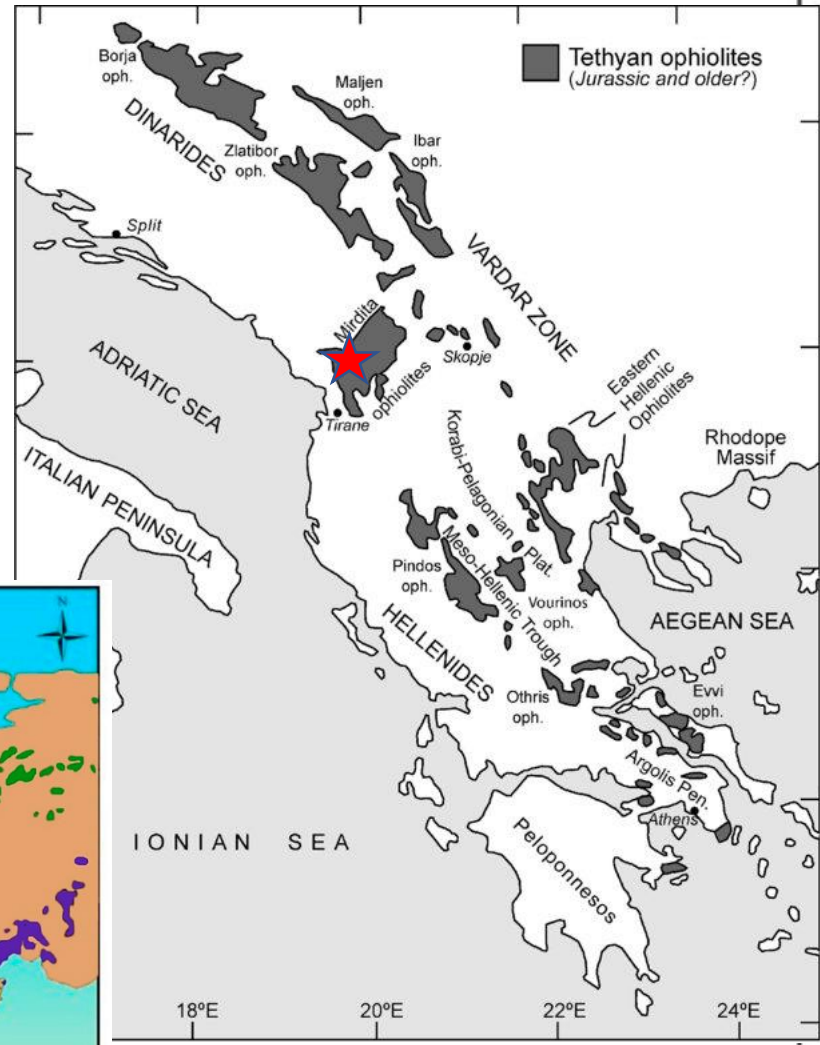
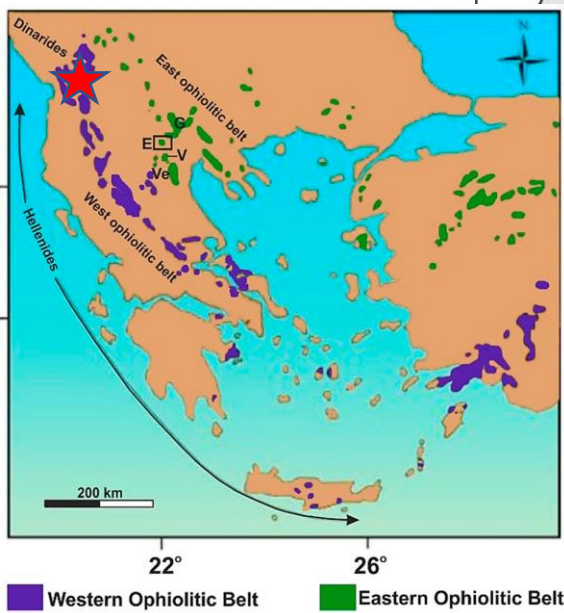
Ophiolites: the only place on the continent where H₂-rich free gas can be found at the surface



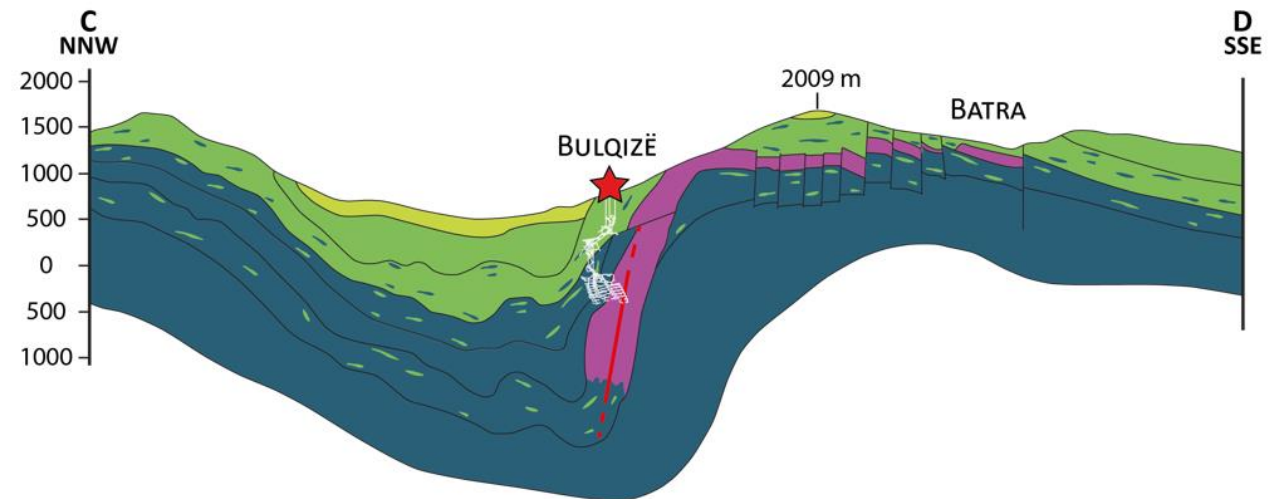
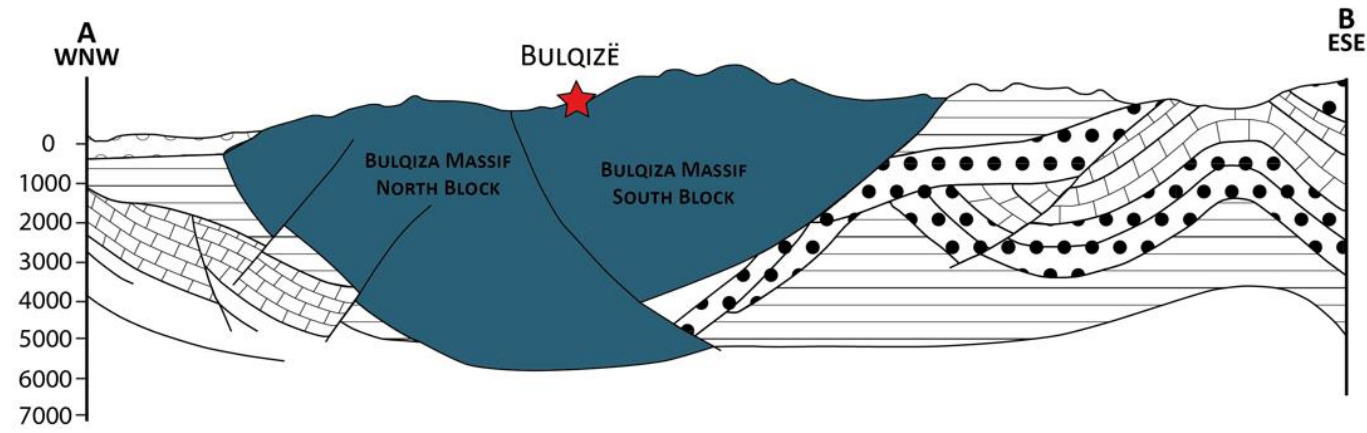
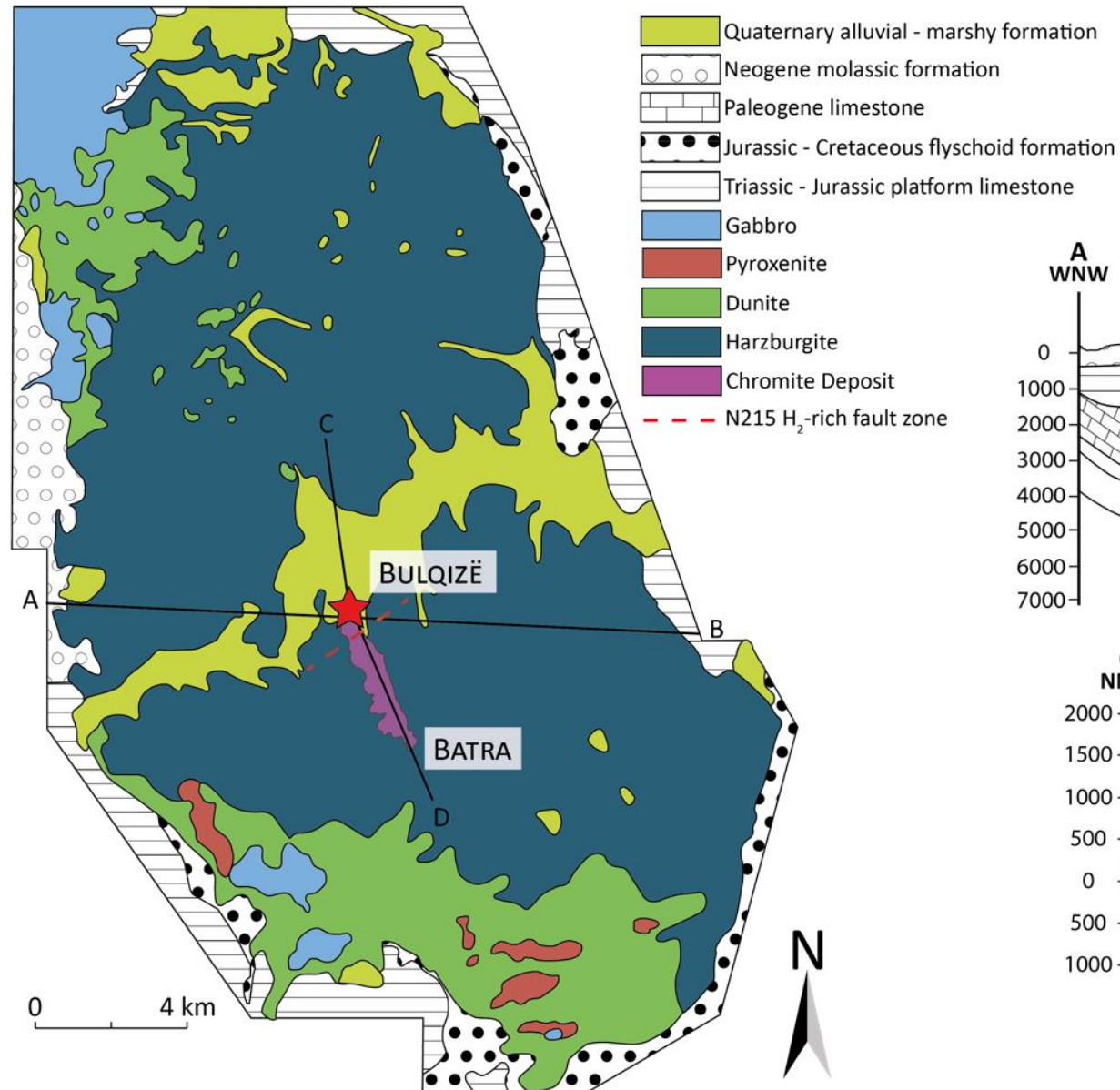
The Giant East –
Mediterranean supra-
subduction zone
ophiolite belt
> 3000 km long

Ophiolite in Albania: Bulqizë mine, chromium ore

★
Mirdita – Bulqizë
Ophiolite



Bulqizë mine: chromite ore, AlbChrome Ltd. mining company



Bulqizë mine: chromite ore, AlbChrome Ltd. mining company



2017, L19

Three missing after gas blast at Albania's Bulqize mine – report

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Published
Feb 06, 2017 14:55 EEST
TIRANA



Author: Ray Forster. Licence: Creative Commons.

February 6 (SeeNews) – A gas blast injured three workers in Albania's Bulqize chrome mine on Saturday, whereas three others were still missing 24 hours after the explosion, according to local media reports.

Rescue teams were continuing the search for the three missing workers, public broadcaster RTSH said on Sunday.

Both the wounded and the missing workers are Chinese citizens, employees of Wenzhou Mining company which is digging an additional well to extend the mine's lifespan, according to RTSH.

The wounded workers were hospitalised. Their injuries were not life-threatening, RTSH said.

BASIC MATERIALS OCTOBER 18, 2011 / 1:11 PM / UPDATED 12 YEARS AGO

2011 Albanian miner dies in chrome mine blast

By Reuters Staff

2 MIN READ



TIRANA, Oct 18 (Reuters) - An Albanian miner died and two out of seven wounded are fighting for their lives on Tuesday after the explosion of a pocket of hydrogen at the Bulqiza chrome mine managed by Austria's DCM DECOMetal .

2023, L17

KRONIKE 2023-08-14 11:25:00

Explosions in the mine, three miners were injured in Bulqiza



Shkruar nga Pamfleti



An explosion occurred in a mine in Bulqiza.

As a result, three miners were injured, while the cause is suspected to be from the gas explosion.

According to sources, the injured miners suffered severe third-degree burns. As a result, they headed to Tirana for more specialized treatment.

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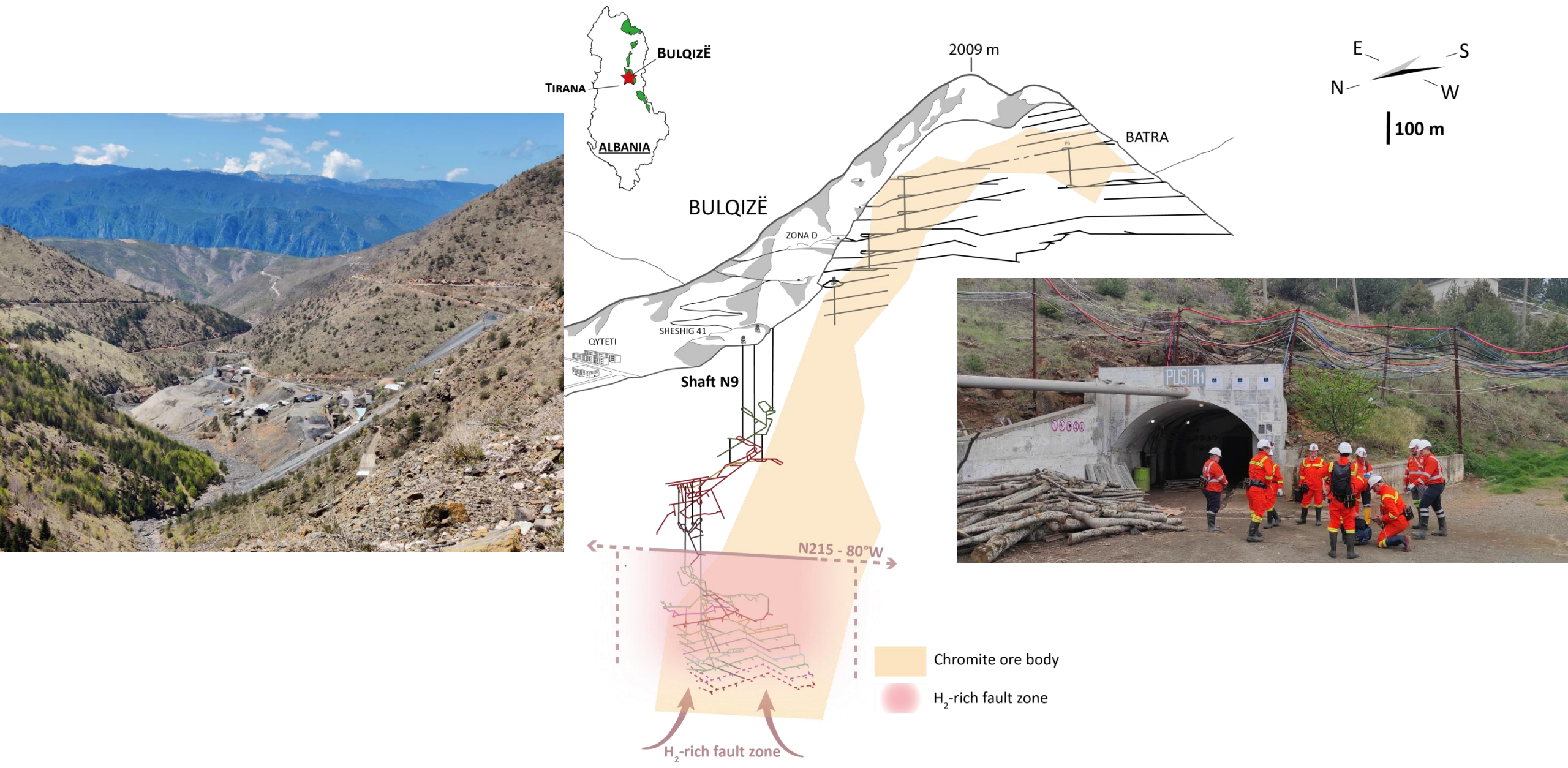


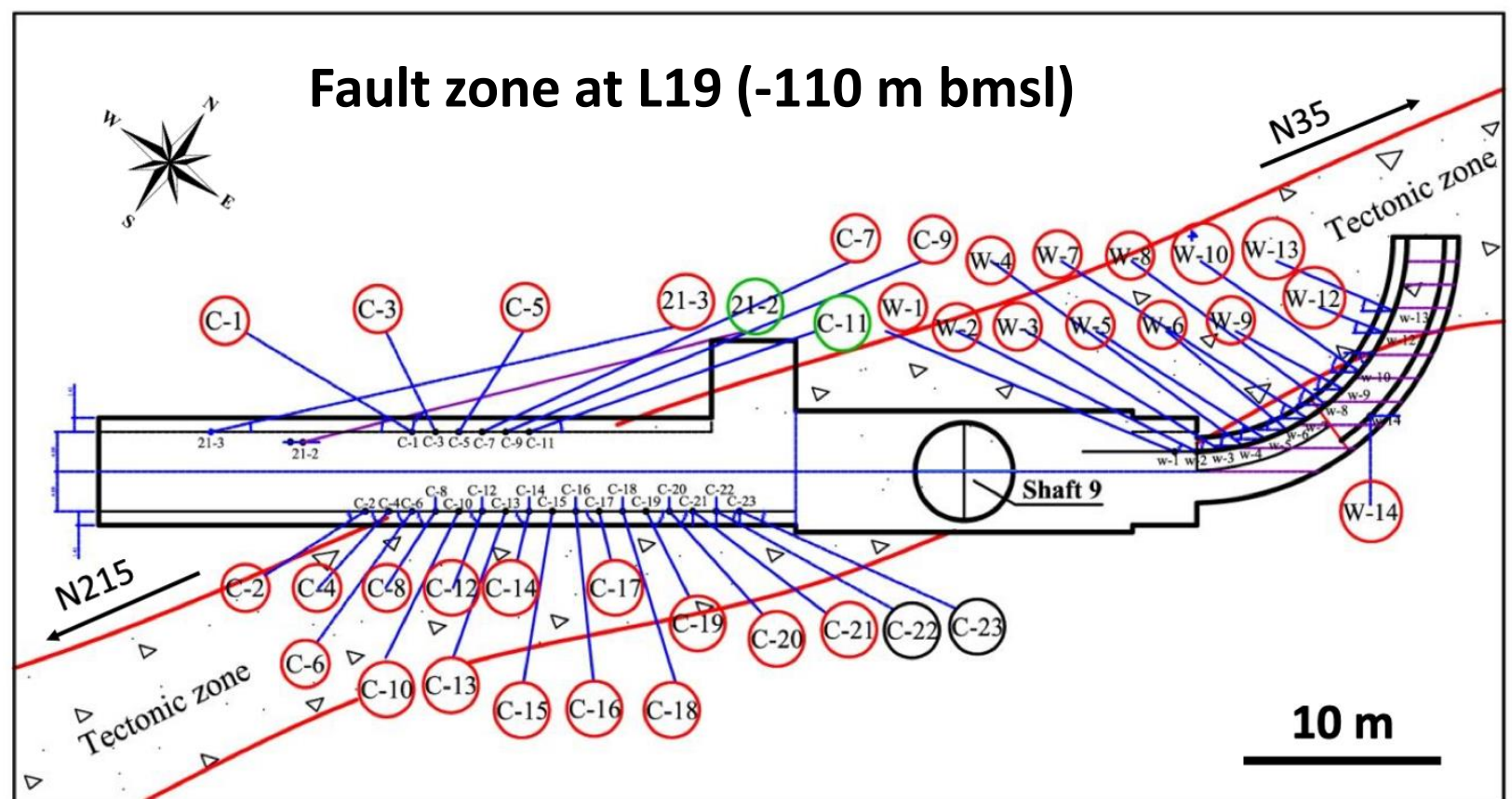
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Schematic 3D view of Bulqizë underground chromite mine. The entrance of the mine is at an altitude of 840 m above mean sea level (amsl) and the deepest level is at -180 m.





A)



B)



C)



D)



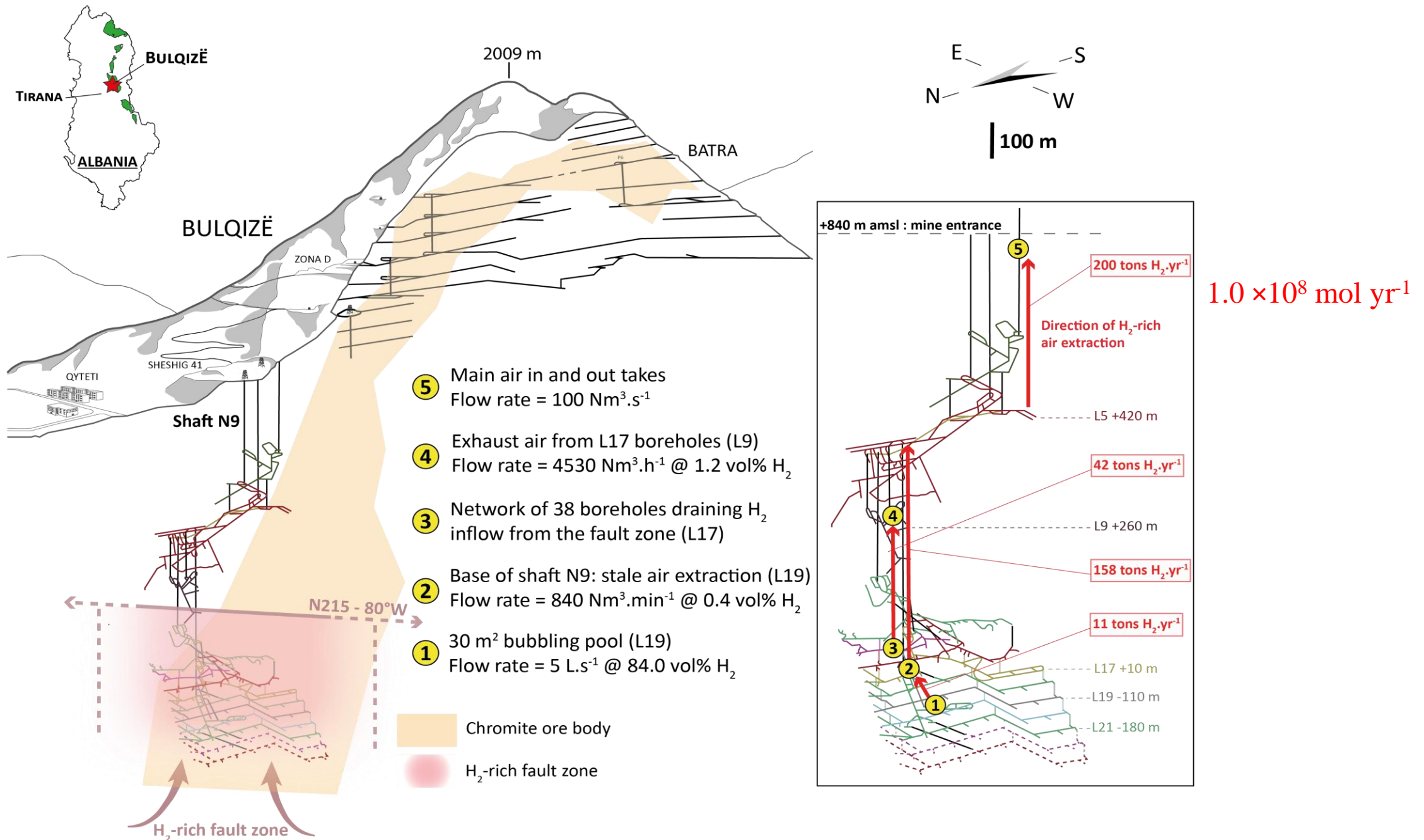
Composition of the gas samples collected in the mine as measured by GC-TCD.

Sampling Location	Concentration (vol%)			
	H ₂	CH ₄	N ₂	O ₂
Bubbling pool, L19	84.0	13.2	1.7	<10 ppmv
Ambient air, base of shaft N9, L19	0.40	0.05	78.1	20.8
Exhaust air from boreholes, L9	1.20	0.15	79.9	18.7

L 19



Schematic 3D view of Bulqizë underground chromite mine + locations of the measurements.



Outgassing rates of H₂ and concentrations of H₂ and CH₄ in the free gas phase from Bulqizë mine and other ophiolite-hosted seeps and bubbling pools.

H ₂ outgassing site	Ref.	Area (m ²)	H ₂ flow (tons yr ⁻¹)	H ₂ (vol%)	CH ₄ (vol%)	H ₂ /CH ₄ (vol/vol)
Oman, Haylayn pool (bubbles + diffuse)	20	~200	0.158	86.4	6.7	12.9
Oman, Misfah pool (bubbles + diffuse)	20	~1000	0.056	66.9	7.2	9.3
Turkey, Chimaera (diffuse dry seeps)	21	2000	3.5	9.9	87	0.11
Albania, Bulqizë mine, L19 pool (focused bubbling)	This study	30	11	84.0	13.2	6.4
Albania, Bulqizë mine, L17 tectonic zone (boreholes)	This study	400	42	1.20	0.15	8.0
Albania, Bulqizë mine, level L19 (shaft N9)	This study	~20000	158	0.40	0.05	8.0

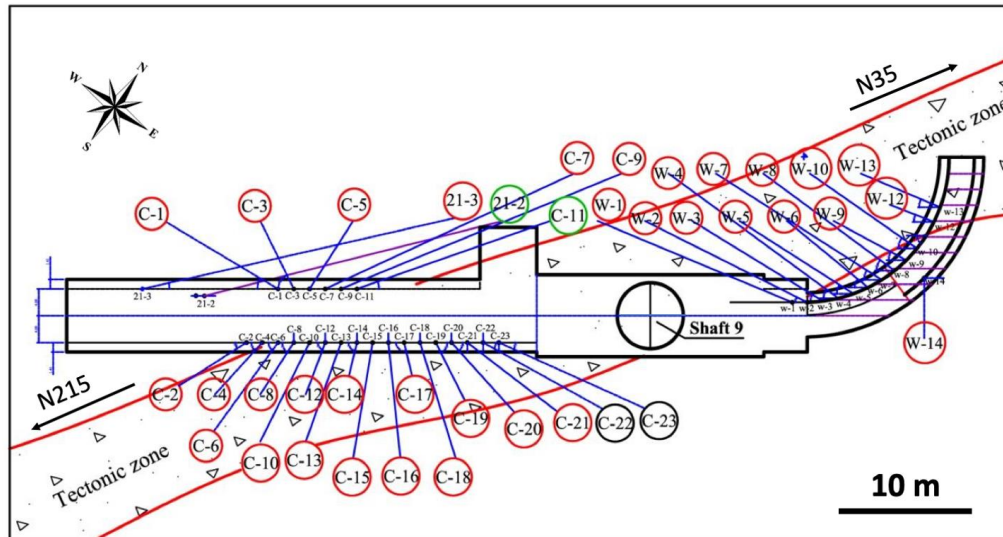
**What could support this flux of 200 tonne of H₂ per year?
(constant over 6 years)**

- 1) Fluid inclusion/occluded gas decrepitation?**
- 2) Active and pervasive serpentinization**
- 3) A deep reservoir perforated by the mine's galleries?**

A deep reservoir perforated by the mine's galleries?

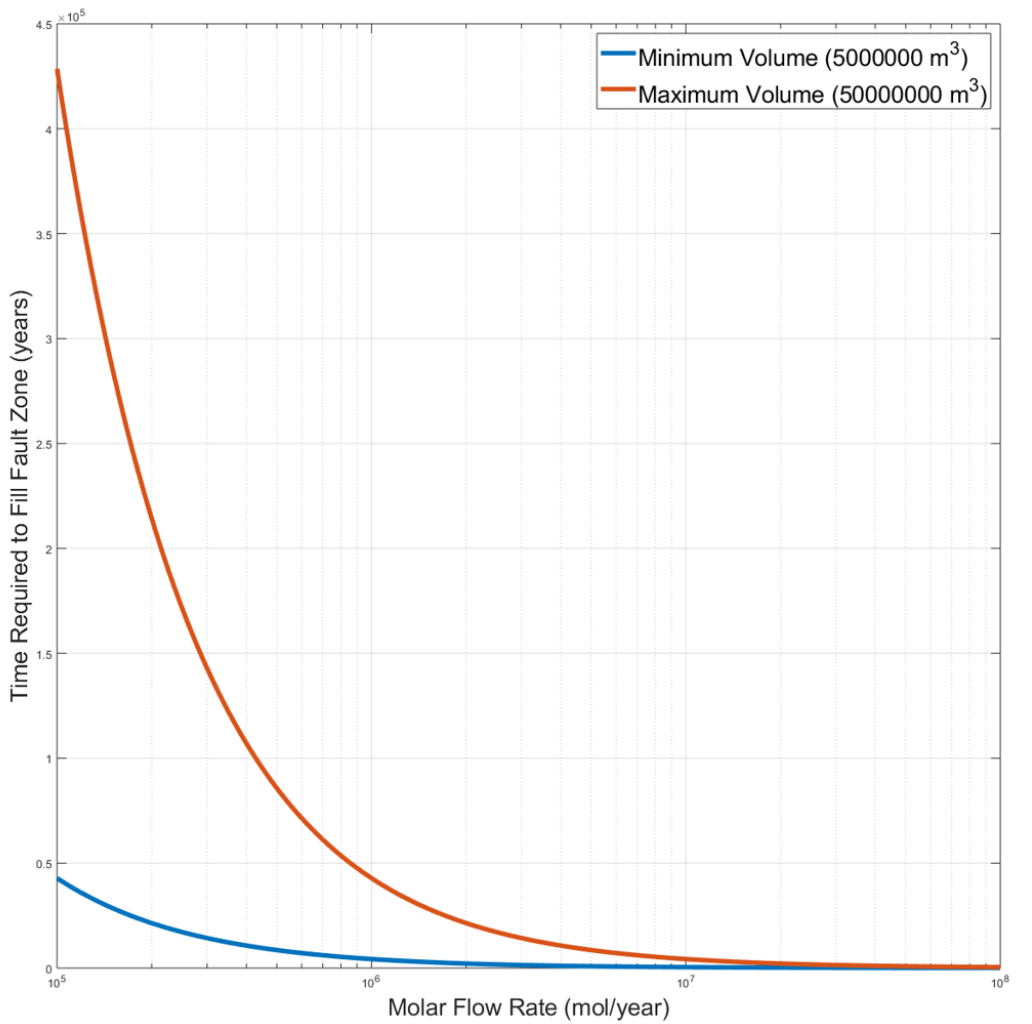
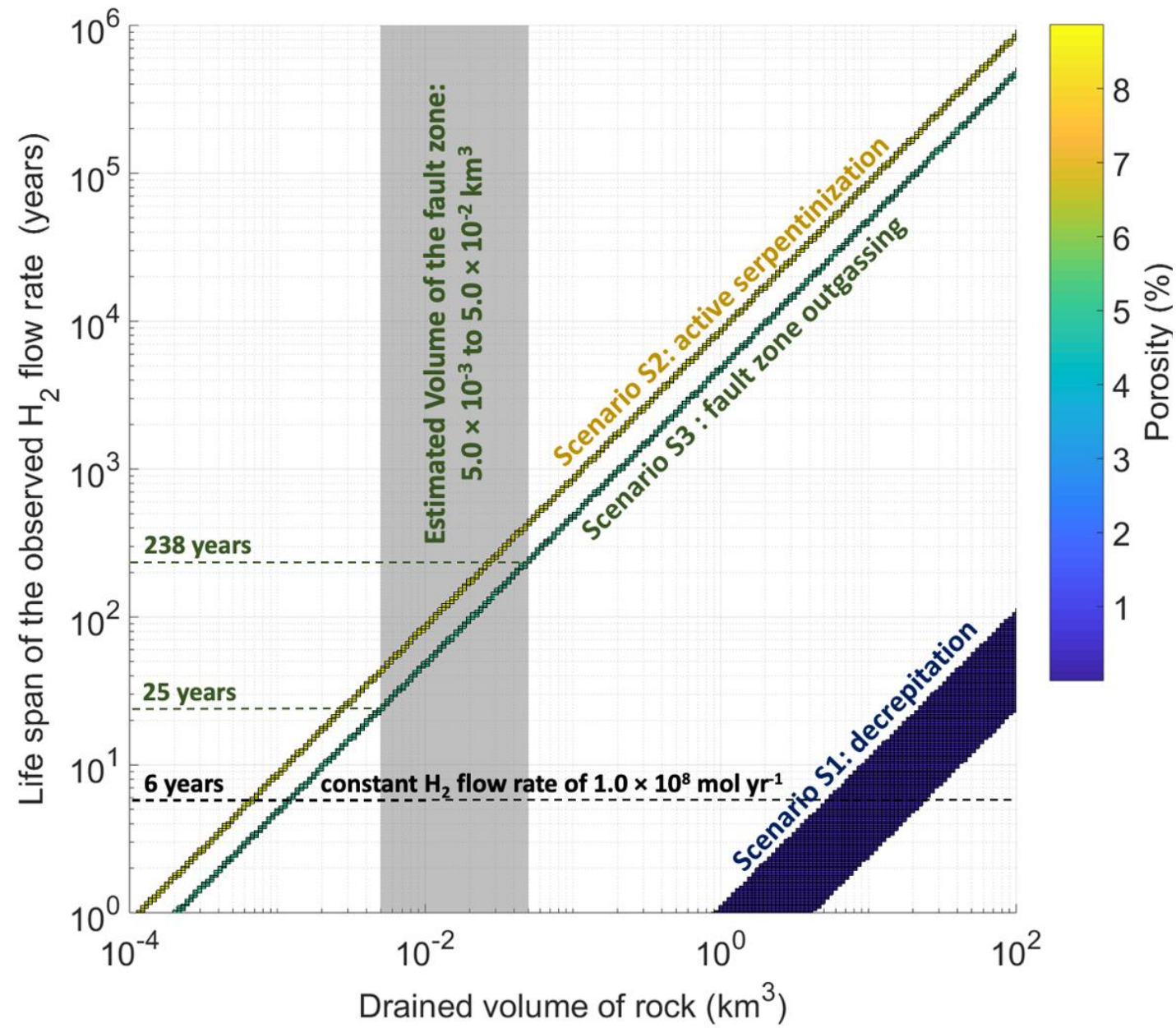
- fault zone: ≈ 10 m wide, with a length varying from 100 m to 1 km, and a maximum height of 5 km

→ volumes of rock ranging from 5.0×10^{-3} to 5.0×10^{-2} km³. Porosities has an average value 5% at depth as measured in fault zones in Oman ophiolites.



Could the fault-reservoir sustains the observed H₂ rate flow during 6 years? Let's compare!

A deep reservoir perforated by the mine's galleries?



Conclusions

- Bulqizë = 200 t/yr
- This flux cannot be sustained by an active process
- A reservoir must exist
- The fault zone being the most probable



Investigation Tools

Geochemistry

- Mini-Ruedi portable mass spectrometer (He, Ar, Kr, N₂, CH₄, CO₂, H₂ & C_xH_y)
- Gas analyzer GA 5000 (H₂, CO₂, CH₄, O₂, N₂ et H₂S)
- Radon analyzer
- Gas, liquid, soil, rock samplings

Geophysics

- MTU-A Magnetotellurics and Audio-frequency Magnetotellurics (Phoenix Geophysics Limited)
- CMD DUO Electromag device (GF Instruments)

Geotechnics

- Core drilling/shallow boreholes portable (Shaw Backpack Drill, 20 m deep)

Survey & site characterization

- Thermal and visible sensors drone for photogrammetry

Numerical modeling

- MATLAB Reservoir Simulation Toolbox (MRST) with H₂ EOS & coupling equations



Electromag:
CMD DUO

Radon: AlphaGuard



GE MIMS: Miniruedi

