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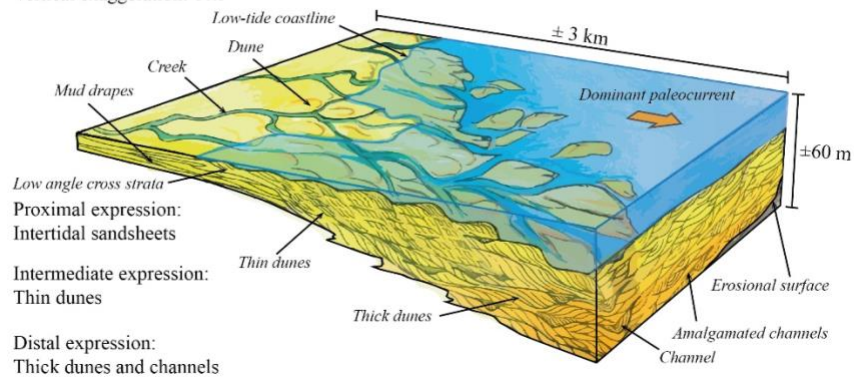


*Daan Beelen (right) and one of his field assistants: Meryem Redouane (left), University of Casablanca. Measuring late Miocene calcarenites deposited in the Rifian Corridor, near Fez, Morocco.*

2.

Strait-adjacent tide-dominated delta, Miocene Rifian Corridor, Ben Allou, Morocco

Vertical exaggeration: 10x



Schematic diagram of the strait-adjacent tide-dominated deltas at Ben Allou (vertical exaggeration is  $\pm 10x$ ). Proximal facies is periodically submerged (intertidal) sandsheets with mud drapes and rare, small channels. Intermediate facies has thin dunes with cross stratification. Distal facies are amalgamated dune complexes and large channels that are in some cases amalgamated.

3.

Sea straits are elongate basin geometries that are common in the sedimentary record and play a key role in oceanography and climate. Due to the intricate confluence of marine processes and the typically complex structural settings of sea straits, many sedimentary and stratigraphic characteristics of these depositional systems are not fully understood. To better resolve these, we study excellent exposures of marginal sea strait deposits, which crop out in the Fez-Meknes region of northern Morocco. These mixed carbonate-siliciclastic deposits represent the sedimentary fill of the Rifian Corridor, which was an ancient sea strait that existed throughout most of the Miocene, until its tectonically-driven disappearance at roughly 6 ma.

4.

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