Mesozoic sequence framework of eastern Yihezhuang salient, Jiyang depression, Bohai Bay basin, China

Guangzeng Song\textsuperscript{1,a}, Meng Xu\textsuperscript{2,b} and Guoqing Sang\textsuperscript{3,c}

\textsuperscript{1} School of Resources and Environment, University of Jinan, Jinan 250022, China  
\textsuperscript{2} No.1 Institute of Geology and Mineral Resources of Shandong Province, Jinan 250014, China  
\textsuperscript{3} School of Resources and Environment, University of Jinan, Jinan 250022, China  
\textsuperscript{a}songguangzeng2006@163.com, \textsuperscript{b}xumeng8610@126.com, \textsuperscript{c}sangguoqing@163.com

Keywords: Mesozoic succession; unconformity surface; sequence framework; first-order sequence; third-order sequence

Abstract: The Mesozoic sequence framework of the eastern Yihezhuang salient in Jiyang depression, which was a residual basin, was studied in order to improve the success rate of locating hydrocarbon reservoirs. First, through seismic profiles, well logs and cores, complemented with outcrops, totally 5 sequence boundaries in Mesozoic were recognized, which included Tg, Tmz\textsubscript{3}, Tmz\textsubscript{2}, Tgm and Tr. Based on the recognized sequence boundaries, the Mesozoic sequence framework of eastern Yihezhuang salient got established. The entire Mesozoic succession was interpreted as two first-order sequences. One first-order sequence consisted of Early and Middle Jurassic and Late Jurassic, composed of three third-order sequences, which included SQ-Fz\textsubscript{1}, SQ-Fz\textsubscript{2} and SQ-St from bottom to top. Respectively, the other first-order sequence consisted of Late Jurassic, composed of only one third-order sequence as truncated by late tectonic movement.

Introduction

In marine basins, especially those on tectonically stable continental margins, the sequence framework mainly resulted from eustatic sea level changes [1,2]. Whereas, in tectonically active basins, tectonism increased or decreased accommodation, altered depositional base level, controlled the distribution of source areas, and even influenced local climatic patterns [3-5]. Tectonism turned to be the most important factor controlling sequence frameworks [6-8]. During Mesozoic in Eastern China, Indosinian movement and Yanshan movement happening affected sequence framework pretty much, which turned to be very complex [9].

From the above, it can be concluded that the sequence frameworks in pre-Cenezoic inland basin is of much interest, so this study takes the Mesozoic succession (J\textsubscript{1+2}) in eastern Yihezhuang salient as an example to carry out this research.

Geological background

Yihezhuang salient was located in the north of Jiyang depression, and got separated from Zhanhua sag with Yinan fault trending EW in south and Yidong fault trending NE-SW in east as boundaries, respectively, close to Chezhen sag in the west and north with transitional slopes (Fig. 1). North to Chezhen sag, there is Chengnan fault, which is pretty important for the formation and evolution of Yihezhuang salient. Yihezhuang salient belongs to the up-thrown wall of Yinan fault, and down-thrown wall of Chengnan fault.
Being influenced by Indosinian movement, Yanshan movement and Himalayan movement, the Mesozoic succession in eastern Yihezhuang salient got severely denuded, with only Jurassic system developed (Table 1).

**Table 1** The stratigraphic division and basin filling evolution of the Yihezhuang salient, Jiyang depression, Bohai Bay basin (Modified after Zhang et al., 2009)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geological age</th>
<th>Strata</th>
<th>Sequence boundary</th>
<th>Sequence division</th>
<th>Sequence order</th>
<th>Tectonic stage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cenozoic</td>
<td>Rift basin, separated with underlying strata by unconformity- Tr</td>
<td>SQ-JyMy</td>
<td>III</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>LEYSM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Jurassic</td>
<td>Mengyin Formation</td>
<td>SQ-J2St</td>
<td>III</td>
<td></td>
<td>Middle Yanshanian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Jurassic</td>
<td>Sarnai Formation</td>
<td>SQ-J2St</td>
<td>III</td>
<td></td>
<td>MEYSM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Jurassic</td>
<td>Upper member of Fagzi Formation</td>
<td>SQ-J1F2</td>
<td>III</td>
<td></td>
<td>Early Yanshanian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lower member of Fagzi Formation</td>
<td>SQ-J1F1</td>
<td>III</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paleozoic</td>
<td>Cracoe, separated with overlying strata by unconformity-Tr</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LEYSM = late episode of Yanshan movement; MEYSM = main episode of Yanshan movement; IDM = Indosinian movement

**Material and methods**

The study area has always been one of the important zones for oil exploration and development in Shengli Oilfield Co. Ltd., Sinopec. Large number of geology data has been accumulated after many years of exploration and development, which provided profitable conditions for researching in this study. Moreover, we carried out one week of field work to observe early Yanshanian outcrops nearby the study area.
Recognition of sequence boundary

Identification of sequence boundaries in the study area is based on analysis of 3-D seismic profiles, complemented with well logs and core data. We recognized the sequence boundaries on the basis of the following criteria.

1. Generally, unconformities and their correlative conformities are used as sequence-bounding surfaces [10], because they represent time-barrier surfaces. Unconformable stratigraphic contacts are reflected on seismic profiles as truncations, and surfaces of onlap (Fig. 2).

![Seismic profile A in Yihezhuang salient, see location on Fig. 1](image)

**Fig.2** Annotated 3-D seismic profile across Yihezhuang salient showing sequence boundaries (sb). The boundaries are characterized by truncation and onlap.

2. Sequence boundaries are also represented by abrupt changes in physical characteristics such as lithology and sedimentary facies. Such boundaries can be identified through shapes of well logs (Fig. 3).

![Figure 3. a and b: The difference between lithology and log shapes up and down sequence boundary (sb)-Tmz3 and Tg. The lithology up Tmz3 or Tg is thick sandstone, and the log curves are box-shaped, both of which are different from the below. c: The sequence boundary can be also featured by abrupt changes in lithology colors. (See location of wells on Fig. 1)](image)

**Figure 3.** a and b: The difference between lithology and log shapes up and down sequence boundary (sb)-Tmz3 and Tg. The lithology up Tmz3 or Tg is thick sandstone, and the log curves are box-shaped, both of which are different from the below. c: The sequence boundary can be also featured by abrupt changes in lithology colors. (See location of wells on Fig. 1)

3. Channel erosion surface in one kind of unconformities and could serve as sequence boundary, which is characterized by channel floor lag deposit (Fig. 4). In Boshan, close to Yihezhuang salient, there developed perfect outcrops of Mesozoic succession (Fig. 4), which can provide obvious evidences for recognizing sequence boundaries.
Fig.4 Mesozoic outcrops and sequence boundaries in Boshan area (a: channel floor lag deposit of Santai formation in Boshan area; b: basal erosional unconformity surface of Santai formation in Boshan area, above which, there developed channel floor lag deposit)

According to the preceding three criteria recommended, the sequence framework of the study area is established (Fig.5), with two orders of unconformity-bounded sequences recognized. The entire Mesozoic succession (Tg-Tr) is considered to comprise two first-order sequences, and the Lower member of Fangzi formation, Upper member of Fangzi formation, Santai formation and Mengyin formation turn to be three third-order sequences (Table 1).

Fig.5 Pre-Cenozoic sequence framework of Eastern Yihezhuang salient, Jiyang depression

Conclusions

There were five sequence boundaries developing in eastern Mesozoic Yihezhuang salient, including Tg, Tmz3, Tmz2, Tgm and Tr in ascending order, among of which, Tg, Tgm and Tr were three first-order sequence boundaries, and Tmz3 and Tmz2 were two third-order sequence boundaries.

Succession deposited in Mesozoic constituted two first-order sequences and four third-order sequences. The Early and Middle Jurassic, consisting of SQ-Fz1, SQ-Fz2 and SQ-St, is one first-order sequence. Respectively, the late Jurassic consisting of SQ-My is the other first-order sequence.

Acknowledgements

This research was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) (51409121), the Natural Science Foundation of Shandong Province (No. ZR2016DB29), and the Natural Science Foundation of Jinan University (No. XBS1647). We thank Petroleum Development Centre of the Shengli Oilfield Company for their support and permission to use industry data for this research.
References


