

QUATERNARY TECTONIC PATTERNS ALONG THE CONTINENTAL MARGIN OF THE
SOUTHEASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

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ABSTRACT

Recently acquired data indicate that the continental margin of the SE Mediterranean is tectonically active, forming two systems of faults. The first system includes NW-SE trending faults that cross the continental margin off Israel, forming three large and complex structures - the Dor, Palmahim and Gaza offshore structures. The second system includes peripheral faults that follow the eastern outlines of the SE Mediterranean basin, forming a series of shelf-break, normal faults trending NNE-SSW off Israel. A combination of these two systems is found off Sinai, where NW-SE trending peripheral faults were encountered. It is presumed that the NW-SE trending faults are rejuvenated Miocene faults. The presently active faulting is associated with the structural evolution of the Dead Sea rift and the subsidence of the Mediterranean basin.

