## Mid/Late Devonian-Carboniferous collapse basins on the Finnmark Platform and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin, SW Barents Sea

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Abstract. The SW Barents Sea margin experienced a pulse of extensional deformation in the Middle-Late Devonian through the Carboniferous, after the Caledonian Orogeny terminated. These events marked the initial stages of formation of major offshore basins such as the Hammerfest and Nordkapp basins. We mapped and analyzed three major fault complexes, i) the Måsøy Fault

- 15 Complex, ii) the Rolvsøya fault, iii) the Troms-Finnmark Fault Complex. We discuss the formation of the Måsøy Fault Complex as a possible extensional splay of an overall NE-SW trending, NWdipping, basement-seated Caledonian shear zone, the Sørøya-Ingøya shear zone, which was partly inverted during the collapse of the Caledonides and accommodated top-to-the-NW normal displacement in Mid/Late Devonian-Carboniferous times. The Troms-Finnmark Fault Complex
- displays a zigzag-shaped pattern of NNE-SSW and ENE-WSW trending extensional faults before it terminates to the north as a WNW-ESE trending, NE-dipping normal fault that separates the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin in the northeast from the Finnmark Platform west and the Gjesvær Low in the southwest. The WNW-ESE trending, margin-oblique segment of the Troms-Finnmark Fault Complex is considered to represent the offshore prolongation of a major
  Neoproterozoic fault complex, the Trollfjord<u>en</u>-Komagelv<u>a</u> Fault Zone, which is made of WNW-ESE trending, subvertical faults that crop out on the island of Magerøya in NW Finnmark. Our results suggest that the Trollfjord<u>en</u>-Komagelv<u>a</u> Fault Zone dies out to the northwest before reaching the Finnmark Platform west. We propose an alternative model for the origin of the WNW-
  - ESE trending fault segment of the Troms-Finnmark Fault Complex as a possible hard-linked,

accommodation cross-fault that developed along the Sørøy-Ingøya shear zone. This brittle fault

decoupled the Finnmark Platform west from the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin and merged with the Måsøy Fault Complex in Carboniferous times. Seismic data over the Gjesvær Low and southwesternmost Nordkapp basin show that the low-gravity anomaly observed in these areas may result from the presence of Mid/Late Devonian sedimentary units resembling Middle Devonian, spoon-shaped, late/post-orogenic collapse basins in western and mid Norway. We propose a model for the formation of the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin and its counterpart Devonian basin in

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a bowed portion of the Sørøya-Ingøya shear zone in the Mid/Late Devonian-early Carboniferous. Exhumation may have involved part of a large-scale metamorphic core complex that potentially included the Lofoten Ridge, the West Troms Basement Complex and the Norsel High. Finally, we argue that the Sørøya-Ingøya shear zone truncated and decapitated the Trollfjord<u>en</u>-Komagelv<u>a</u> Fault Zone during the Caledonian Orogeny and that the western continuation of the Trollfjord<u>en</u>-Komagelv<u>a</u> Fault Zone was mostly eroded and potentially partly preserved in basement highs in the SW Barents Sea.

The SW Barents Sea margin is located near the Iapetus suture zone that formed when

the Giesvær Low by exhumation of narrow, ENE-WSW to NE-SW trending basement ridges along

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#### 1. Introduction

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Laurentia collided with Fennoscandia to produce the Caledonian Orogeny (Ramberg et al., 2008; Gernigon et al., 2014). This suture and possible, ly related deep-seated shear zones, which accommodatinged e.g. thrust nappe emplacement during the Caledonian Orogeny, are now covered by late Paleozoic to Cenozoic sedimentary basins that formed during multiple episodes of extension. These repeated extension events led to the breakup of the North Atlantic Ocean and formation of a transform plate margin at the boundary between the Mid-Norwegian and SW Barents Sea margins (Faleide et al., 1993, 2008; Blystad et al., 1995; Doré et al., 1997; Bergh et al., 2007; Hansen et al., 2012; Gernigon et al., 2014). The rift-margin along the SW Barents Sea, offshore Western Troms and NW Finnmark (Figure 1/Figure 1/Figure 1), consists of the Finnmark Platform and an adjacent, glacial sediment-free strandflat, and of deep offshore basins such as the Hammerfest and Nordkapp basins (Gabrielsen et al., 1990). These basins are bounded by major NE-SW trending extensional faults such as the Troms-Finnmark Fault Complex (TFFC; Gabrielsen

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et al., 1990; Smelror et al., 2009; Indrevær et al., 2013), the Måsøy Fault Complex (MFC; Gabrielsen et al., 1990; Gudlaugsson et al., 1998), and potential basement-seated ductile

detachments <u>(Figure 1)</u>. The study area also includes a deep Paleozoic basin that is located southwest of the Nordkapp Basin and east of the Hammerfest Basin, and which is bounded to the southwest by the WNW-ESE trending segment of the TFFC and to the southeast by the MFC

65 (Figure <u>1Figure 1</u>). This basin was named the "easternmost Hammerfest basin" by Omosanya et al. (2015). We find this name inappropriate and tentatively rename this basin the "southwesternmost Nordkapp basin", as argued for later in the text.

In-addition, tThe SW Barents Sea margin off Western Troms and NW Finnmark is segmented by margin-oblique, NNW-SSE to WNW-ESE trending transfer fault zones, e.g. Senja
 70 Fracture Shear Zone and Fugløya transfer zone (Indrevær et al., 2013), which are both sub-parallelmay represent analogs of to the onshore, Neoproterozoic, WNW-ESE trending Trollfjorden-Komagelva Fault Zone (TKFZ) in eastern Finnmark (Siedlecki, 1980; Herrevold et

- al., 2009) and to the Kokelv Fault on the Porsanger Peninsula (Figure 1; Figure 1; Gayer et al., 1985; Lippard & Roberts, 1987; Rice, 2013) while the coastal Langfjord Vargsund fault (LVF)
  trends NE SW, parallel to the TFFC (Figure 1). The TKFZ is believed to continue farther west, off the coast, where it is thought to interact with and merge into the WNW-ESE trending fault segment of the TFFC (Gabrielsen, 1984; Vorren et al., 1986; Towsend, 1987; Gabrielsen & Færseth, 1989; Gabrielsen et al., 1990; Roberts et al., 2011; Bergø, 2015; Lea, 2015). Onshore-nearshore, margin-
- Bergø, 2013, Lea, 2013). <u>Onshore-nearshore, marght-</u>
   parallel fault complexs include the Langfjord-Vargsund fault (LVF; Figure 1) trending NE-SW and
   possibly representing an analog to the TFFC and MFC. The geometric interaction, timing and
- controlling effects of the TFFC, MFC, TKFZ and LVF, and adjacent offshore basins and ridges are not yet resolved. In particular, the presence of potential Caledonian structures in the deeper portion of the Finnmark Platform, e.g. in the footwall of the TFFC (cf. Johansen et al., 1994; Gudlaugsson et al., 1998) is further explored in the present contribution.
- 85 The goal of this paper is to <u>contribute to the understanding of tectonic and sedimentary</u> processes in the Arctic in the Late Devonian-Carboniferous. To achieve this, we demonstrate the presence of an overall NE-SW trending, NW-dipping, basement-seated, low-angle shear zone on the Finnmark Platform, the Sørøya-Ingøya shear zone (SISZ; <u>Figure J.Figure 1</u>), and to discuss its role played in shaping the SW Barents Sea margin during late/post-orogenic collapse of 90 the Caledonides in late Paleozoic times and its influence on the formation and evolution of
- Devonian-Carboniferous collapse basins. We mapped and analyzed basin-bounding brittle faults on the Finnmark Platform and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (named the easternmost

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Hammerfest basin in Omosanya et al., 2015), such as the TFFC and the MFC (Figure 1Figure Figure 1), to evaluate the impact of the SISZ on post-Caledonian brittle faults. We aim at showing 95 the importance of structural inheritance by examining the relationship between Precambrian-Caledonian structural grains, post-Caledonian fault trends and offshore sedimentary basin geometries. Minor Carboniferous grabens and half-grabens on the Finnmark Platform (e.g. the Sørvær Basin; Figure 1 Figure 1, Figure 1), which are thought to have formed during early stages of extension shortly after the end of the Caledonian Orogeny (Lippard & Roberts, 1987; Olesen et al., 100 1990; Johansen et al., 1994; Bugge et al., 1995; Gudlaugsson et al., 1998; Roberts et al., 2011), are of particular importance to the present work. We further investigate the presence of possible Devonian sedimentary deposits on the Finnmark Platform and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin and tentatively interpret them as potential analogs to Middle Devonian basins in western Norway (Séranne et al., 1989; Chauvet & Séranne, 1994; Osmundsen & Andresen, 2001) and mid-105 Norway (Braathen et al., 2000). In this context, NE-SW to ENE-WSW trending basement ridges in the footwall of the TFFC and on the northern flank of the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin are described and analyzed, and we compare them to adjacent basement highs such as the Norsel High (Figure 1Figure 1; Gabrielsen et al., 1990; Gudlaugsson et al., 1998), the West Troms

Basement Complex (Zwaan, 1995; Bergh et al., 2010) and the Lofoten Ridge (Blystad et al., 1995;
Bergh et al., 2007; Hansen et al., 2012). Finally, we propose a model of exhumation of these ENE-WSW to NE-SW trending basement ridges as a metamorphic core complex (cf. Lister & Davis, 1989) using shear zones in Lofoten-Vesterålen as onshore analogs for the SISZ (Steltenpohl et al., 2004; Osmundsen et al., 2005; Steltenpohl et al., 2011).

## 115 2. Geological setting

The bedrock geology of the SW Barents Sea margin (Figure 1 Figure 1) consists of (i) an Archaean to Paleoproterozoic basement suite, the West Troms Basement Complex (Zwaan, 1995; Bergh et al., 2010), (ii) locally preserved autochthonous Neoproterozoic cover sequences (Kirkland et al., 2008), (iii) a series of Caledonian thrust nappes (Andersen, 1981; Ramsay et al., 1085; Corfu et al., 2014), and (iv) lote Paleoprie to Canadaria sedimentary accurace offeners

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(Kirkland et al., 2008), (iii) a series of Caledonian thrust nappes (Andersen, 1981; Ramsay et al., 1985; Corfu et al., 2014), and (iv) late Paleozoic to Cenozoic sedimentary sequences offshore (Faleide et al., 1993, 2008; Gudlaugsson et al., 1998; Worsley, 2008; Smelror et al., 2009; Figure <u>1Figure 1</u>). Archean to Paleoproterozoic basement rocks are mostly exposed in major horsts and ridges in Western Troms (Bergh et al., 2010; Indrevær et al., 2013; Indrevær & Bergh,

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2014), whereas Neoproterozoic and Caledonian rocks dominate in the eastern part of Troms and in

NW Finnmark (Kirkland et al., 2008; Corfu et al., 2014; Indrevær & Bergh, 2014; Figure JFigure JFigur

#### 2.1. Onshore Precambrian and Caledonian geology

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#### 2.1.1. Precambrian basement rocks

The Western Troms margin is characterized by Archean to Paleoproterozoic basement rocks of the West Troms Basement Complex (Bergh et al., 2010) that are preserved and exposed in a horst block formed during post-Caledonian extension (Indrevær et al., 2013). The West Troms Basement Complex consists of tonalitic, trondhjemitic and granitic gneisses, metasupracrustal rocks and mafic and felsic igneous rocks (Corfu et al., 2003; Bergh et al., 2010). These rocks were deformed during the Svecofennian orogeny, which resulted in the formation of NW-SE trending steep foliation, ductile shear zones and upright and vertical macrofolds, only weakly reworked during the Caledonian Orogeny (Corfu et al., 2003; Bergh et al., 2010).

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In NW Finnmark, Paleoproterozoic basement rocks occur in several tectonic windows of the Caledonides, e.g. Repparfjord-Komagfjord and Alta-Kvænangen tectonic windows (Zwaan & Gautier, 1980; Pharaoh et al., 1982; 1983; Bergh & Torske, 1988; Figure 1), and consist of lowgrade supracrustal metavolcanics and metasedimentary rocks of the Raipas Group. These Greenstone belts formed in-as NW-SE trending rift basins in the Archean?-Paleoproterozoic during the opening of the Kola Ocean (Bergh & Torske, 1986; 1988), although more recent studies tentatively reinterpret these rocks as foreland basin deposits derived from the Svecokarelian Orogeny (Torske & Bergh, 2004). A thin cover of Neoproterozoic to Cambrian (para-) autochthonous metasedimentary rocks occurs on top of the–Paleoproterozoic basement rockswindows. This unit is correlated with the autochthonous Tanafjord Varangerfjord Group in

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155 eastern Finnmark\_(Siedlecki, 1980; ), as well as with the Lower Allochthonous Gaissa and Laksefjord Nappes (Ramsay et al., 1985; Andresen et al. 2014; Corfu et al., 2014).

Another Other Neoproterozoic-Ordovician units in eastern Finnmark, include metasedimentary rocks of the Barents Sea and Tanafjorden-Varangerfjorden regions Group (Siedlecki, 1980; Siedlecka & Roberts, 1992), iswhich are exposed in the outer part of on the Varanger Peninsula (Figure 1 Figure 1). The rocks of the Barents Sea Group were deposited in a large scale foreland basin during the Timanian Orogeny (Andresen et al., 2014) and a

in a large scale foreland basin during the Timanian Orogeny (Andresen et al., 2014) and Cryogenian depositional age was inferred from fossil bearing assemblages (Corfu et al., 2014).

The Timanian Orogeny produced major NW-SE trending folds (Roberts & Siedlecka, 2002) and WNW-ESE trending fault complexes like the TKFZ (Jonhson et al., 1978; Herrevold et al., 2009). The TKFZ was mapped as a narrow, single-segment fault strand all the way from along the Kola Peninsula in Russia in the east, where it merges with the Sredni-Rybachi Fault Zone (Roberts et al., 1997; Roberts et al., 2011), to the Barents shelf in the west (Gabrielsen, 1984; Gabrielsen & Færseth, 1989; Gabrielsen et al., 1990; Roberts et al. 2011) to the east of the Kola Peninsula in Russia (Roberts et al., 1997). Between these areas, the TKFZ is traced along the Kola

Peninsula as the Sredni Rybachi Fault Zone (Roberts et al., 2011), We present an alternative model in which the TKFZ splays into multiple fault segments and dies out between the Varanger Peninsula and the Barents shelf. On the Varanger Peninsula, the TKFZ is well displayed on satellite and DEM images, but is generally poorly exposed. In map view, the TKFZ is irregular, with different structural segments and branching subsidiary faults both across- and along-strike, locally showing duplex structures (Siedlecka & Siedlecki, 1967; Siedlecka, 1975). The TKFZ formed along the southwestern boundary of the Timanian Orogeny in the late Cryogenian-Ediacaran (Roberts & Siedlecka, 2002; Siedlecka et al., 2004), and was later reactivated as a strike-slip fault during the Caledonian Orogeny when it accommodated significant lateral displacement constrained

to 200-250 km of dextral strike-slip movement (Bylund, 1994; Rice, 2013).

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## 2.1.2. Caledonian rocksnappes

Coastal areas of NW Finnmark are dominated by Caledonian thrust sheets of the Kalak Nappe Complex and Magerøy Nappe (Ramsay et al., 1985; Ramberg et al., 2008; Corfu et al., 2014), formed in the Neoproterozoic through Silurian (<u>Figure 1Figure 1)</u>. The Kalak Nappe Complex is composed of amphibolite facies schists, metapsammites and paragneisses, and

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comprises several allochthonous thrust sheets with Proterozoic basement rocks, clastic metasedimentary rocks, and plutonic rocks of the Seiland Igneous Province (Corfu et al., 2014). A major thrust defines the contact with the underlying pre-Caledonian basement (Ramsey et al., 1985). Dominant structures include a gently NW-dipping foliation, NNE-SSW trending, east-verging, asymmetrical recumbent folds and low-angle thrusts that accommodated top-to-the-ESE shortening (Townsend, 1987a; Kirkland et al., 2005). The Kalak Nappe Complex was previously considered to represent likely corresponds to an exotic terrane that was accreted on the Laurentian margin of Rodinia, prior to the rifting linked to the opening of the Iapetus Ocean, and to have later been thrusted over Baltica during the Caledonian Orogeny (Kirkland et al., 2008). However, paleocurrent and geochronological data suggest these rocks to be of Baltican origin (Roberts, 2007; Zhang et al., 2016).

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The Seiland Igneous Province corresponds to a large, late Neoproterozoic mafic and ultramafic intrusion linked to the early-mid rifting stages of the Iapetus Ocean (Elvevold et al., 1994; Corfu et al., 2014). Recent geophysical studies by Pastore et al. (2016) show that the base of the Seiland Igneous Province defines two deep-reaching roots located below the islands of Seiland and Sørøya constraining the thickness of the Kalak Nappe Complex in this area to a maximum of 10 km. On the Porsanger and Varanger Peninsula, ENE-WSW to NNE-SSW trending, Ediacaran metadolerite dyke swarms are particularly common, and they are as well associated to the rifting of the Iapetus Ocean (cf. Roberts, 1972; Siedlecka et al., 2004; Nasuti et al., 2015).

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The Kalak Nappe Complex is structurally overlain by the Magerøy Nappe, which consists of Late Ordovician to early Silurian greenschist facies metasedimentary and metaplutonic rocks (Andersen, 1981; 1984; Corfu et al., 2014) that crop out on the island of Magerøya (Figure 1). Figure 1: Figure 1). The Magerøy Nappe is characterized by asymmetrical, NNE-SSW trending, east-verging folds and low-angle, NW- and SE-dipping thrusts similar in trend to those observed within the Kalak Nappe Complex (Andersen, 1981), and is intruded by granitic and gabbroic plutons, e.g. the Silurian Honningsvåg Igneous Complex (Corfu et al., 2006) and the Finnvik Granite (Andersen, 1981). Remnants of the Magerøy Nappe thrust units are also found in northeastern Sørøya and on the Porsanger Peninsula (Kirkland et al., 2005; 2007; Corfu et al., 2014; Figure 1: Figure 1: Figure 1).

In nearshore areas of NW Finnmark, along the coasts of Sørøya and Ingøya, we identified on seismic sections a large NE SW trending, dominantly NW dipping zone of weakness below Formatted: Font: Not Bold
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post-Caledonian basin and faults that we tentatively interpret as a major Caledonian shear zone, which we name the Sørøya-Ingøya shear zone (Figure 1). This large weakness zone has not been described in scientific literature and we therefore proceed by describing its geometry and potential kinematics based on offshore seismic data.

## 2.2. Post-Caledonian brittle faults and basins

## 2.2.1. Post-Caledonian offshore basins

The SW Barents Sea margin was subjected to multiple episodes of extensional faulting after the end of the Caledonian Orogeny, starting with the collapse of the Caledonides in the Mid/Late Devonian-early Carboniferous, and-lasting until the early/mid Permian, although evidence of this stage is only preserved onshore western and mid-Norway (Séranne et al., 1989; Chauvet & Séranne, 1994; Braathen et al., 2000; Osmundsen & Andresen, 2001). During this period, basement ridges in Lofoten-Vesterålen (Klein & Steltenpohl, 1999; Klein et al., 1999; Steltenpohl et al., 2004; 2011; Figure 1) and in mid-Norway (Osmundsen et al., 2005; Figure 1) were exhumed as metamorphic core complexes, synchronously with the development of large half-graben basins such as the Vøring and Møre basins in mid-Norway (Blystad et al., 1995) and the Hammerfest, Nordkapp and Ottar basins in the SW Barents Sea (Gabrielsen et al., 1990; Breivik et al., 1995; Gudlaugsson et al., 1998; Indrevær et al., 2013; Figure 1Figure 1Figure 1). The main rifting events occurred in the Late Jurassic and peaked in the Early Cretaceous, when major offshore basins such as the Tromsø and Harstad basins formed. The rifting ended with full breakup of the North Atlantic Ocean and formation of a transform plate margin in the SW Barents Sea at the Paleocene-Eocene transition (Faleide et al., 1993; 2008).

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Off the coasts of Western Troms and NW Finnmark, the SW Barents Sea margin is characterized by a relatively shallow area, the Finnmark Platform (Gabrielsen et al., 1990; Figure ] [Figure ] Figure ]), which is thought to have remained relatively stable since late Paleozoic times. For example, the inner part of the Finnmark Platform, here referred to as the Finnmark Platform east (Figure ] Figure ]] Figure ]), was only affected by the formation of minor Carboniferous, ENE-WSW to NE-SW trending half-graben and graben structures (Bugge et al., 1995; Samuelsberg et al., 2003; Rafaelsen et al., 2008; Figure ]Figure ]]. In the hanging-wall of the MFC on the western part of the Finnmark Platform, the Finnmark Platform west (Figure ]]Figure ]].

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shows a prominent gravity low, the Gjesvær Low, which was ascribed to the presence of lowdensity Caledonian rocks (Johansen et al., 1994; Gernigon et al., 2014). We explore and argue for 250 an alternative explanation, i.e. the presence of Devonian collapse basin deposits draped against a low-angle extensional detachment of the SISZ, similar to the Nordfjord-Sogn Detachment Zone, a late-orogenic shear zone that bounds the Middle Devonian Hornelen, Kvamshesten and Solund sedimentary basins onshore western Norway (Séranne et al., 1989; Chauvet & Séranne, 1994; Wilks & Cuthbert, 1994; Osmundsen & Andersen, 2001). Ductile detachment surfaces of 255 comparable size, showing analog kinematics and contemporaneous timing of activity as the Nordfjord-Sogn Detachment Zone are documented as far north as the Lofoten-Vesterålen Margin (Klein & Steltenpohl, 1999; Klein et al., 1999; Steltenpohl et al., 2004; 2011), but Devonian collapse basin sedimentary rocks and extensional detachments have not yet been reported along the margins of Western Troms and NW Finnmark.

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#### 2.2.2. Post-Caledonian faults-and fractures trends

Multiple studies have reported post-Caledonian brittle faults onshore coastal areas in Lofoten-Vesterålen, Western Troms and NW Finnmark (Roberts, 1971; Worthing, 1984; Lippard & Roberts, 1987; Townsend, 1987a; Rykkelid, 1992; Lippard & Prestvik, 1997; Roberts & 265 Lippard, 2005; Bergh et al., 2007; Hansen et al., 2012; Indrevær et al., 2013; Davids et al., 2013). A common feature is the presence of rhombic, zigzag-shaped fault trends similar in geometry to offshore basin-bounding faults. Dominant fault-fracture trends of the margin strike NNE-SSW, ENE-WSW and NW-SE, respectively (Bergh et al., 2007; Eig, 2008; Eig & Bergh, 2011; Hansen et al., 2012; Hansen & Bergh, 2012; Indrevær et al., 2013). Typical examples are basin-bounding, 270 NNE-SSW and ENE-WSW trending brittle normal faults that are part of the Vestfjorden-Vanna Fault Complex, which bounds the offshore Vestfjorden Basin southeast of the Lofoten islands and which can be traced northward to Western Troms (Indrevær et al., 2013; Figure 1Figure 1Figure 1Figure 1)

4), whereas the NNW-SSE to WNW-ESE trend typically reflects the margin-oblique, transform fault trends (Faleide et al., 2008). An analog to the onshore Vestfjord-Vanna fFault cComplex in

NW Finnmark is the Langfjorden-Vargsundet fault (Figure 1Figure 1), described by

Zwaan & Roberts (1978) and Worthing (1984) as a major NE-SW trending, NW-dipping normal

fault where rocks from the Kalak Nappe Complex and the Seiland Igneous Province in the

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northwest are juxtaposed against Precambrian basement rocks of the Repparfjord-Komagfjord and Alta-Kvænangen tectonic windows in the southeast (Figure 1Figure 1Figure 1).

The NW Finnmark margin is located along the northeastward prolongation of the Lofoten-Vesterålen and Western Troms segments of the Norwegian continental shelf (Figure 1Figure Figure 1). Similar fault sets and trends as in Lofoten-Vesterålen exist in Finnmark and their interaction is thought to partly have controlled the rhombic geometry of many offshore sedimentary basins (Bergh et al., 2007; Indrevær et al., 2013). A typical example along the Western Troms and 285 NW Finnmark margins is the NW-dipping TFFC, which bounds the Harstad Basin to the east and the Hammerfest Basin to the southeast (Gabrielsen et al., 1990; Indrevær et al., 2013). The TFFC defines a system of irregular branching faults trending NNE-SSW and ENE-WSW and terminating as a WNW-ESE trending fault zone northwest of the island of Magerøya where it merges with the NE-SW trending, NW-dipping MFC at the southeastern boundary of the Nordkapp Basin (Gabrielsen et al., 1990) and of the triangular-shaped southwesternmost Nordkapp basin 290(Omosanya et al., 2015; Figure 1 Figure 1). We address a possible genetic relationship and structural inheritance of the post-Caledonian MFC with the Caledonian SISZ and argue that the MFC may have initiated as an extensional splay during the reactivation of the SISZ as an extensional detachment during the late/post-orogenic collapse of the Caledonides. Furthermore, we 295 tentatively link basement ridges such as the Norsel High in the footwall of the Nysleppen Fault Complex (Gabrielsen et al., 1990) to bowed segments of the SISZ (Figure 1Figure 1).

## 2.2.3. Post-Caledonian transfer zones

The Norwegian continental shelf is segmented by transfer fault zones of which the largest 300 is the offshore De Geer Zone (Faleide et al., 1984; 2008; Cianfarra & Salvini, 2015), which main fault segment is the Hornsund Fault Zone, an offshore NNW-SSE trending fault that runs parallel to the west coast of Spitsbergen and separates the SW Barents Sea margin from the Lofoten-Vesterålen Margin (Figure 1 Figure 1 Figure 1). In the south, the De Geer Zone proceeds through the Senja Fracture Zone and into the Senja Shear Belt onshore the island of Senja (Figure 1, Figure 305 HFigure 1). Olesen et al. (1993; 1997) suggested shifts of polarity of the Vestfjorden-Vanna Fault Complex along the Senja Fracture Zone, and they argued that the formation of the Senja Fracture Zone offshore was controlled by a major onshore basement weakness zone, the Bothnian-Senja Fault Complex (Figure 1), which provided suitably oriented basement heterogeneities for the

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development of a transfer zone (e.g. Doré et al., 1997). Similarly, Indrevær et al. (2013) proposed the existence of a fault array termed the Fugløya transfer zone to explain offsets and shifts of polarity along the Vestfjorden-Vanna Fault Complex farther northeast in WesternTroms (Figure 1). The Fugløya transfer zone trends N-S/NNW-SSE and continues onshore Western Troms, where it merges with the NW-SE trending Bothnian-Kvænangen Fault Complex, and offshore where it is thought to merge into the TFFC and the Ringvassøy-Loppa Fault Complex (Indrevær et al., 2013;

315 Figure 1 Figure 1 Figure 1).

Analogously in NW Finnmark, the WNW-ESE trending TKFZ seems to merge into a basinbounding fault, in this case the WNW-ESE trending, NE-dipping fault segment of the TFFC (Gabrielsen, 1984; Gabrielsen & Færseth, 1989; Roberts et al., 2011). In nearshore areas of NW Finnmark, the TKFZ is thought to proceed offshore and seems to correlate with a large escarpment north of Magerøya and into the Barents Sea (Vorren et al., 1986; Townsend, 1987b). In the area where it terminates, it merges and links up with the TFFC to form triangular-shaped mini-basins (Gabrielsen, 1984; Gabrielsen & Færseth, 1989; Roberts et al., 2011). We explore an alternative origin for the WNW-ESE trending fault segment of the TFFC and further examine its interaction with the onshore-nearshore TKFZ, which potentially acted as a transfer fault after the Caledonian Orogeny and contributed to offset the LVF onshore Magerøya and in adjacent coastal areas (Koehl et al., submitted; Figure JFigure JFigure 1). Other major WNW-ESE trending faults exist offshore, northeast of the Varanger Peninsula, and these bound the Tiddlybanken Basin, a large WNW-ESE trending basin that formed in Carboniferous times (Mattingsdal et al., 2015; Figure 1].Figure 1]. +).

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## 2.2.4. Absolute age dating of post-Caledonian faultings

The absolute age of post-Caledonian brittle faults onshore NW Finnmark is poorly constrained although a few contributions provide valid insights (Lippard & Prestvik, 1997; Davids et al., 2013; Torgersen et al., 2014; Koehl et al., 2016). Torgersen et al. (2014) performed K/Ar dating of brittle fault gouge in the footwall of the LVF and obtained dominantly Carboniferous to early Permian ages, as well as a subsidiary Early Cretaceous age for one of the faults. Roberts et al. (1991) and Lippard & Prestvik (1997) presented indirect evidence of early Carboniferous dolerite dykes emplaced along and cementing WNW-ESE trending brittle fault segments of the TKFZ onshore Magerøya, thus providing a minimum estimate for the latest stage of faulting along

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340 this fault. These dykes produce high positive aeromagnetic anomalies (Nasuti et al., 2015) and may be used to further identify brittle faults in NW Finnmark. Late Devonian dolerite dykes emplaced along brittle faults that trend NE-SW and N-S have been identified and dated in eastern Varanger Peninsula (Guise & Roberts, 2002) and on the Kola Peninsula (Roberts & Onstott, 1995). By comparison, Davids et al. (2013) obtained Late Devonian-early Carboniferous ages from K/Ar 345 dating of illite clay minerals for early extensional faulting along the Vestfjorden-Vanna Fault Complex and related faults in Lofoten-Vesterålen and Western Troms.

#### 2.3. Offshore sedimentary successions and well-ties

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Deep fault-bounded basins formed along the SW Barents Sea margin during successive extension events in late Paleozoic-early Cenozoic times, and- these basins contain important sedimentary successions for hydrocarbon exploration. We particularly focus on the late Paleozoic succession (Figure 3Figure 3) which sedimentary rocks were deposited on top of eroded Precambrian and Caledonian basement rocks (cf. Townsend, 1987a; Johansen et al., 1994; Bugge 355 et al., 1995; Zwaan, 1995; Gudlaugsson et al., 1998; Samuelsberg et al., 2003; Bergh et al., 2010). Late Paleozoic sedimentary deposits in the study area were penetrated by only a few exploration wells to which we tied our seismic interpretation (Figure 2). These wells include exploration wells 7120/12-4, 7124/3-1, 7128/4-1 and 7128/6-1, and shallow drill cores 7127/10-U-2 and 7127/10-U 3 from Bugge et al. (1995; Figure 2). Overlying Mesozoic to Cenozoic sedimentary units were 360 not investigated and are better described in Omosanya et al. (2015).

The nature and age of basement rocks along the SW Barents Sea margin remain relatively complex to resolve since only a handful of wells drilled through the thick post-Caledonian sedimentary cover. Nevertheless, wells 7128/4-1 and 7128/6-1 penetrated quartzitic metasedimentary rocks on the Finnmark Platform east (Figure 2Figure 2Figure 2) and these are believed to correlate with upper Proterozoic rocks involved in Caledonian thrusting in northern Finnmark (Røe & Roberts, 1992).

Devonian sedimentary rocks are yet to be reported in North Norway and along the SW Barents Sea margin\_(Figure 3Figure 3). However, Devonian sedimentary deposits however are present in western Norway (Osmundsen & Andersen, 2001) where they represent a several kmthick succession made up with clastic deposits that notably include rhythmic sandstone and coarseFormatted: Font: Not Bold, Not Italic Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Not Italic **Field Code Changed** 

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grained conglomerate units. These-that were deposited in the hanging-wall of a major, low-angle extensional shear zones, e.g. the Nordfjord-Sogn Detachment Zone (Séranne et al., 1989; Wilks & Cuthbert, 1994; Osmundsen & Andersen, 2001).

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Lower Carboniferous sedimentary rocks of the Billefjorden Group directly overlie basement rocks on the Finnmark Platform east\_-as evidenced by exploration wells 7128/4-1 and 7128/6-1 (Larssen et al., 2002; Figure 2Figure 2Figure 2 & Figure 3Figure 3). These rocks mostly correspond to fluvial clastic deposits interbeded with coal-bearing sedimentary rocks that correlate with contemporaneous deposits onshore Bjørnøya (Cutbill & Challinor, 1965; Gjelberg, 1981, 1984) and Spitsbergen (Cutbill & Challinor, 1965; Cutbill et al., 1976; Gjelberg, 1984). The total 380 thickness of Billefjorden Group sedimentary deposits evidenced by exploration wells on horstblocks on the Finnmark Platform east ranges from 350 m to 450 m. However, in the hanging-wall of a minor normal fault interpreted by Bugge et al. (1995) near the coast of northern Finnmark (Figure 2Figure 2Figure 2), shallow drill-cores 7127/10-U-2 and 7127/10-U-3 indicate that the thickness of lower Carboniferous sedimentary rocks reaches a thickness > 600 m within a NE-SW 385 trending mini-basin on the Finnmark Platform east near the coast of the Nordkinn Peninsula (cf. star symbol in Figure 1 Figure 1 Figure 1 & Figure 2 Figure 2). In the Serpukhovian, fluvial sediments of the Billefjorden Group were gradually replaced by shallow marine sediments of the Gipsdalen Group from which they are generally separated by a mid-Carboniferous (Serpukhovian) unconformity (Cutbill et al., 1976; Gjelberg, 1984; Bugge et al., 1995) potentially related to a 390 global sea-level fall (Saunders & Ramsbottom, 1986). This unconformity was recognized on the Finnmark Platform east by Bugge et al. (1995).

Shallow marine sedimentary deposits of the Gipsdalen Group are widespread along the SW Barents Sea margin and have proven prolific for hydrocarbon exploration (Larssen et al., 2002; Figure <u>3Figure 3</u>). Thus, this sedimentary succession benefits from a relatively high number of 395 well penetrations and, as a result, its lateral facies and lateral-thickness variations are wellconstrained (Gjelberg & Steel, 1981, 1983; Samuelsberg et al., 2003; Rafaelsen et al., 2008). The Gipsdalen Group was notably penetrated by wells 7128/4-1 and 7128/6-1 on the Finnmark Platform east, by well 7120/12-4 on the Finnmark Platform west and by well 7124/3-1 on the northern flank of southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (Larssen et al., 2002; Figure 2Figure 2). Sedimentary 400 strata of the Gipsdalen Group were tied to their stratigraphic equivalent onshore Bjørnøya and Spitsbergen (Gjelberg & Steel, 1981, 1983; Gjelberg, 1984; McCann & Dallmann, 1996). This

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succession consists of alluvial clastic sedimentary rocks-deposited on top of lower Carboniferous sedimentary deposits of the Billefjorden Group (McCann & Dallmann, 1996). In the upper part of the Gipsdalen Group, alluvial clastic sedimentary rocks- that are progressively replaced upwards by shallow marine platform carbonates interbedded with clastic and evaporite deposits (McCann & Dallmann, 1996). In well 7124/3-1 (Figure 2Figure 2Figure 2), Asselian evaporite deposits typically include thin layers of anhydrite and gypsum, but thicker, halite-rich end-members are found along the flanks of the Nordkapp Basin and southwesternmost Nordkapp basin where large pillows of upper Carboniferous-and-lower Permian salt were observed (Gabrielsen et al., 1992; Jensen & Sørensen, 1992; Koyi et al., 1993; Nilsen et al., 1995; Gudlaugsson et al., 1998; Koehl et al., 2017). In the Nordkapp Basin, pre-Permian deposits may in places reach a thickness of up to 7-8 km (Gudlaugsson et al., 1998). These deposits are composed of thick clastic sedimentary rocks and of upper Carboniferous to lower Permian evaporite deposits characterized by mobile salt that was involved in salt tectonism in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (Gudlaugsson et al., 1998; Koehl et al. 2017) and in the Nordkapp Basin (Gabrielsen et al., 1992; Jensen & Sørensen, 1992;

Koyi et al., 1993; Nilsen et al., 1995).

In the present work, we renamed the sedimentary basin located at the intersection of the TFFC and MFC (Figure 1) as the "southwesternmost Nordkapp basin" instead of the "easternmost Hammerfest basin" as proposed by Omosanya et al. (2015). The reason is that this basin shows more geometric similarity to the Nordkapp Basin than the Hammerfest Basin and must be treated as a separate basin (see further arguments later).

3. Methods & databases

## 425 **3.1.** Seismic data and well-ties

The seismic interpretation shown in this study is based on publicly available 2D and 3D data from the DISKOS database, thus providing reasonably tight 2D data coverage. However, only one seismic 3D survey was available in the study area. The interpretation of seismic data aims at providing good constraints for the extent and geometry of offshore brittle faults and for offshore stratigraphy on the Finnmark Platform and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin. The present study uses ties to wells 7120/12-4, 7128/4-1 and 7128/6-1 and 7124/3-1 based on publicly available

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well data (www.npd.no) and private well-tie seismograms-(Henningsen, pers. comm.) and to shallow drill-cores 7127/10-U-2 and 7127/10-U-3 from Bugge et al. (1995; Figure 2). Seven seismic profiles from the BSS01 2D seismic survey were used to analyze and describe offshore basin and fault geometries and provide the basis for discussion about the late Paleozoic evolution of the SW Barents Sea margin. Note that none of the seismic profiles used was depth-converted. Therefore, all relevant estimates of fault offsets and stratigraphic seismic unit thicknesses will be described in seconds (s) two-way time (TWT). In addition, we analyzed two time-slice from 3D seismic survey MC3D-MFZ02 to constrain fault interaction in map-view.

## 3.2. Aeromagnetic anomaly data

The offshore aeromagnetic data used in this study correspond to a compilation of the BASAR project of the Geological Survey of Norway (NGU) published by Gernigon & Brönner (2012) and Gernigon et al. (2014; <u>Figure 4Figure 4Figure 3</u>). The dataset is composed of tilt derivatives of aeromagnetic data and has been used to delineate possible magmatic intrusions (dykes) emplaced along brittle faults (cf. Nasuti et al., 2015) and abrupt changes of lithology generally recorded across major faults, thus, contributing to the mapping of post-Caledonian offshore brittle faults 450 along the SW Barents Sea margin. However, data uncertainties arise from the fact that significantly

- different rock types may yield similar aeromagnetic responses. A crucial example in northern Finnmark is the similar high positive narrow aeromagnetic anomalies produced both by subvertical folded beds of metasedimentary rocks (Roberts & Siedlecka, 2012; Roberts & Williams, 2013) and dolerite dykes intruded along brittle faults (Nasuti et al., 2015; Figure <u>4Figure 4Figure</u>
  455 3). In order to distinguish such features, we carefully analyzed onshore geology in coastal areas of
  - 55 3). In order to distinguish such features, we carefully analyzed onshore geology in coastal areas of NW Finnmark and the results of exploration wells on the Finnmark Platform and adjacent offshore basins.

## 4. Results

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- 4.1. Seismic interpretation of offshore basins and faults
- 4.1.1. Seismic units and stratigraphy

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On seismic data (Figure 5Figure 4), basement rocks typically show chaotic internal 465 reflection patterns, which complicate the task of identifying intra-basement structures and basins, and individualize layered sedimentary sequences. However, km-thick layers bearing strong basement fabrics such as widespread gently dipping foliation or pronounced mylonitic fabric commonly found along large shear zones may turn out to be resolvable at seismic scale (see chapter 4.1.2.; Fountain et al., 1984; Reeve et al., 2013; Phillips et al., 2016; Fazlikhani et al., 2017). For 470 instance, we observed a several km-thick, curved, shallow-dipping layer that is characterized by moderate-amplitude reflections, which are parallel to the layer's upper and lower boundaries (see "Sørøya-Ingøya shear zone" reflections in Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4c-g). We interpret these pronounced internal fabrics as widespread mylonitic foliation separated by internal thrusts within a large-scale shear zone. Numerous smaller basement shear zones may be present below late 475 Paleozoic-Cenozoic sedimentary rocks on the Finnmark Platform west, and these correspond to steeply to moderately dipping fabrics made of sub-parallel, moderate- to high-amplitude reflections (cf. Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4b, e, f, g & Figure 6Figure 5a-c).

Potential Devonian sedimentary deposits along the SW Barents Sea are sparse and as a result their seismic character is not well constrained (Figure 3Figure 3). This sedimentary 480 succession has not been drilled, which makes its interpretation on seismic data rather speculative. However, we believe that the best two candidates to represent Devonian sedimentary deposits analog to those in western and mid-Norway (Braathen et al., 2000; Osmundsen & Andersen, 2001; Fazlikhani et al., 2017) are located at the base of the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin and on the Finnmark Platform west near the Gjesvær Low (Figure 1Figure 1). In the 485 southwesternmost Nordkapp basin, possible Devonian sedimentary strata are located at a deep level (below 4 seconds TWT) and their seismic signature is thus largely masked by overlying sedimentary successions (Figure 5Figure 4c & d). By contrast, on the Finnmark Platform west (Figure 5Figure 4e), potential Devonian sedimentary rocks are relatively shallower, which makes their seismic pattern easier to distinguish from underlying basement rocks, and from 490 overlying Carboniferous sedimentary deposits and seismic artifacts (Figure 5Figure 4e). Devonian sedimentary rocks on the Finnmark Platform west display relatively low seismic amplitudes, partly similar to analog deposits in the North Sea (cf. seismic facies 1 in Fazlikhani et al., 2017). The internal reflection pattern is rather chaotic apart from a few discrete, shallowdipping, moderate-amplitude reflections that converge towards each other upwards and that we

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overlie basement rocks.

interpret as major sedimentary sequence boundaries (cf. dotted white "Base Devonian" reflections in Figure 5Figure 4 e & Figure 6Figure 5b & c). Furthermore, Devonian sedimentary deposits are likely separated from underlying basement rocks by an angular unconformity that appears as arcuate, high-amplitude seismic reflections ("Base Devonian" reflection in Figure <u>5Figure 4e</u> and Figure <u>6b & c</u>). We interpret these arcuate, high-500 amplitude seismic reflections as an erosional unconformity.

Lower Carboniferous sedimentary deposits of the Billefjorden Group, composed of thick clastic sedimentary deposits interbedded with occasional coal-bearing sedimentary rocks (Figure 3Figure 3), may produce high-amplitude seismic reflections related to their organic-rich content (Figure 5Figure 4a & b). Such sedimentary strata are present on the Finnmark Platform 505 east, where they appear to thicken to the southeast near the coasts of NW Finnmark (Figure 6Figure Figure 5d), whereas they are rather sparse on the Finnmark Platform west, i.e. eroded or never deposited (Figure 5Figure 4e & f). On the Finnmark Platform east, the transition from basement rocks (cf. "Top basement" reflection in Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4a & b) to lower Carboniferous sedimentary rocks is difficult to interpret on seismic sections. This is attributable to 510 the strong similarities between high seismic amplitudes displayed locally both by basement rock fabrics such as major shear zones (cf. yellow dotted lines in Figure 5Figure 4b) and by lower Carboniferous coal-bearing sedimentary deposits. Low amplitude reflections also show identical chaotic patterns in both basement rocks and clastic sedimentary rocks of the Billefjorden Group (Figure 5Figure 4a & b). In the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin, lower 515 Carboniferous sedimentary strata are believed to be present although their seismic signature certainly appears to be affected by overlying upper Carboniferous evaporite deposits (Figure <u>5Figure 5Figure 4</u>c & d). The boundary between lower Carboniferous sedimentary deposits and potential underlying Devonian sedimentary rocks was not identified in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin. Nevertheless, since the maximum thickness of Billefjorden Group sedimentary 520 strata is ca. 600 m on the Finnmark Platform east is ca. 600 m (Bugge et al., 1995), and this suggests that the several km-thick succession below the mid-Carboniferous reflection and above a thick shear zone in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin is composed of lower Carboniferous sedimentary rocks probably complemented by thick Devonian sedimentary deposits (Figure <u>5Figure 5Figure 4</u>c & d). Alternatively, sedimentary deposits of the Billefjorden Group directly Formatted Formatted **...** Formatted Formatted Formatted Formatted Formatted Formatted .... Formatted **Field Code Changed** <u>...</u> Formatted [ ... ] Formatted [ ... ] Formatted Formatted Formatted [ ... Formatted Formatted Formatted [...] Formatted Formatted Formatted [ ... ] Formatted ·... Formatted [...] Formatted **...** Formatted .... Formatted ( ... Formatted .... Formatted [...] Formatted [...] Formatted **...** Formatted [ .... ] Formatted ( ... Formatted ( ... ) Formatted Formatted [...] Formatted Formatted Formatted

On the Finnmark Platform (Figure 1 Figure 1 & Figure 2 Figure 2), the base of the upper Carboniferous sedimentary sequences succession is difficult to identify (cf. "mid-Carboniferous" reflection in Figure 3Figure 3 & Figure 5Figure 4). because it oftenIn places, it appears as a linear, moderate to low amplitude seismic reflection that separates subparallel reflections of lower and upper Carboniferous sedimentary rocks, whereas in other places their reflection is irregular and truncates either high-amplitude coal-bearing sedimentary deposits of the Billefjorden Group, and/or high-amplitude reflections produced by basement rocks (Figure 6Figure Figure 5a) similar to those of the km thick shear zone below the Finnmark Platform west and the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (see Figure 4c-g), and/or low-amplitude reflections in Devonian sedimentary strata (Figure 6Figure 5b & c). Nevertheless, this reflection generally corresponds to an angular unconformity (e.g. Figure 6Figure 6Figure 5a-c & e) and is therefore interpreted to correspond to a regional erosion surface.

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In the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin, the base of upper Carboniferous sedimentary deposits (cf. "mid-Carboniferous" reflection in Figure 3Figure 3 and Figure 5Figure 4c & d) is relatively easy to interpret as it mostly appears as a <u>clear</u>, discrete high-amplitude reflection. The strong acoustic impedance contrast producing the high seismic amplitude for the mid-Carboniferous reflection most likely arises from the presence of upper Carboniferous evaporite deposits partly composed of mobile salt (halite), which is significantly less dense than regular sedimentary rocks, (cf. "Top upper Carboniferous evaporites" reflection in Figure 3 Figure 3 and Figure 5Figure 4c & d). This evaporite succession was identified by Gudlaugsson et al. 545 (1998) and is restricted to basinal areas located northwest of the MFC and north of the TFFC (Figure <u>1 Figure 1 Figure 1 & Figure 2 Figure 2 Figure 2</u>). It is characterized by a highly variable thickness, which is due to the presence of lensoidal bodies bounded to the top and bottom by highamplitude reflections on the basin edges and to the occurrence of thick bodies made of chaotic 550 reflection patterns near the center of the basin (Figure 5Figure 4c). We interpret the lensoidal bodies on the basin edges as pillows of mobile salt and the chaotic bodies near the basin center as small salt diapirs based on similarities with large salt diapirs and evaporite deposits observed in the Nordkapp Basin (Gabrielsen et al., 1992; Jensen & Sørensen, 1992; Koyi et al., 1993; Nilsen et al., 1995). We consider that the presence of analog, late Paleozoic evaporite 555 deposits in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin and in the Nordkapp Basin (Jensen & Sørensen, 1992; Koyi et al., 1993; Gudlaugsson et al., 1998) and the absence of such deposits in the

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Hammerfest Basin constitute strong enough arguments to justify the proposed a change of name for the "easternmost Hammerfest basin" (Omosanya et al., 2015) into the "southwesternmost Nordkapp basin". However<del>Nonetheless</del>, thise southwesternmost Nordkapp basin shows large amount of normal displacement along its southern boundary fault, the NW-dipping MFC, which is opposite to the Nordkapp Basin where basin subsidence was dominantly accommodated along the SE-dipping Nysleppen Fault Complex (Figure 1 Figure 1). Hence, despite their similarities, the Nordkapp Basin and the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin should be treated as two separate basins.

565 Non-evaporitic, upper Carboniferous and Permian sedimentary deposits are characterized by subparallel, flat-lying to shallow-dipping, homogeneous, moderate to low-amplitude seismic reflections (see Figure 5Figure 4). Permian deposits are relatively thin on the Finnmark Platform and are sometimes difficult to distinguish from upper Carboniferous deposits (Figure <u>5Figure 5Figure 4</u>a, b, e, f & g). In the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin, however, late Paleozoic 570 sedimentary deposits are reasonably thicker and individual units are therefore easier to identify at seismic scale. Thus, and-we interpreted a thin unit characterized by high-amplitude reflections (cf. "Base Asselian" and "Top Asselian evaporites" reflections in Figure 3 Figure 3 and Figure 5 Figure 5Figure 4c & d) as Asselian (earliest Permian) evaporite deposits that were evidenced by exploration well 7124/3-1 on the northern flank of the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (Figure 575 <u>2Figure 2Figure 2, Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4</u>c & d). Where present, this thin Asselian evaporite succession defines the base of the Permian sedimentary succession and therefore serves as an upper boundary for the Carboniferous succession (cf. "Base Asselian" reflection in Figure 5Figure Figure 4c & d). However, Asselian evaporites are too thin and too discontinuous to be seismically resolvable on the Finnmark Platform (Bugge et al., 1995). Occasionally, Asselian evaporites are truncated by chaotic reflections of small salt diapirs sourced from deeper upper Carboniferous

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The Base Triassic reflection (see Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4) defines the (near-) top of the late Paleozoic sedimentary succession and is easily interpreted through the whole Barents Sea as it corresponds to a high-amplitude reflection that represents the top of a regionally widespread carbonate unit (Bugge et al., 1995). Other important seismic reflections interpreted in the present study include the Base Cretaceous, Base Paleocene, the Upper Regional Unconformity (URU), which corresponds to a major erosional unconformity and represents the base of Quaternary

evaporites in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (Figure 5Figure 4c).

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sediment cover (Solheim & Kristoffersen, 1984), and the seabed reflection (Figure 5Figure 5Fig 4). These reflections are penetrated by a large number of exploration wells and shallow drill-cores both on the Finnmark Platform and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin, where they all display consistently high seismic amplitudes (Faleide et al., 1984; Bugge et al., 1995; Gudlaugsson et al., 1998; Omosanya et al., 2015).

## 4.1.2. Structural architecture of the Finnmark Platform and of the southwesternmost

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In this section, we describe the most important structural elements of the Finnmark Platform and of the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (cf. Figure 1Figure 1 & Figure 2Figure 2Figure 2) based on interpreted key seismic sections (Figure 5Figure 4). We also highlight the most dominant fault trends and their interaction with major structures such as the TFFC, MFC, TKFZ and SISZ to form offshore sedimentary basins.

## Faults and shear zones within basement rocks

We identified a several km-thick, curved (in cross-section), shallow-dipping layer of moderate-amplitude reflections that we interpreted to represent a large-scale basement-seated shear 605 zone, which we name the SISZ. The upper boundary surface of the SISZ (Figure 7Figure 7 (f) appears to be relatively shallow in coastal areas on the Finnmark Platform west. On the Finnmark Platform west, the SISZ dominantly dips to the NW but switches to a dominant dip to the northeast on the Finnmark Platform east. In the footwall of the MFC and in the southwestern part of the Finnmark Platform west, the SISZ occurs at relatively shallow depth (< 1.5 s TWT). and There it 610 is believed to have been deeply eroded and is now overlain by a very thin sedimentary cover (cf. Figure 5Figure 4c-f & Figure 6Figure 5d). The SISZ shows significant lateral thickness variations that range from 2.0-2.5 seconds (TWT) near the coastline and in the footwall of the TFFC to 0.5 second (TWT) below the MFC and the TFFC (Figure 5Figure 4f). The SISZ deepens to the northwest towards the center of the Finnmark Platform west before bending 615 upwards in the footwall of the TFFC (Figure 5Figure 4e & f). The SISZ then curves down where and merges with the listric TFFC merges with the shear zone at depth, thus delineating an elongated, NE-SW trending ridge in the footwall of the TFFC (cf. "basement highsridges" in Figure JFigure 1Figure 1 and Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4e &f). A similar pattern is observed in the

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southwesternmost Nordkapp basin where the SISZ deepens to the northwest before curving up near
the center of the basin and merging with the N-boundary fault of the southwesternmost Nordkapp
basin, the Rolvsøya fault, hence giving this basin a characteristic "U" shape in cross-section (Figure 5Figure 4c & d). The SISZ also curves down in the footwall of the Rolsøya fault and defines a second elongated, ENE-WSW trending ridge (cf. "basement highs" in Figure 1Figure 1.
Figure 1). Importantly, the two basement ridges located in the footwall of the TFFC and of the Rolvøya fault ("basement highs" in Figure 1Figure 1.
Rolvøya fault ("basement highs" in Figure 1.
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Apart from this narrow trough, the attitude of the SISZ is uniform along NE-SW transects on the Finnmark Platform west and within the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin with a gentle dip to the northeast (Figure 5.

630 NotablyNoteworthy, the spoon-shaped geometry of the SISZ, with asymmetric, NE-SW trend, northeastwards-broadening, NE-plunge (Figure 7Figure 7Figure 6) appears to coincide with a basement gravity low on the Finnmark Platform west: the Gjesvær Low (Johansen et al., 1994; Gernigon et al., 2014; Figure 1 Figure 1 Figure 1) The geometry of the SISZ also matches the trend and shape of the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (Figure 1 Figure 1 & Figure 7 Figure 7 Figure Figure 6). Farther south, along the coasts of Western Troms and westwards below the Hammerfest 635 Basin, the low quality of available seismic data did not allow us to trace the SISZ more precisely (Figure 7Figure 7Figure 6). On the Finnmark Platform east, the SISZ bends from NE-SW into a more WNW-ESE trend and changes dip from gentle to steep to the northeast (Figure 7.Figure Figure 6), and as a result, the SISZ becomes too deep to interpret on seismic data in the 640 northeastern part of the Finnmark Platform east (Figure 7Figure 6). The multiple changes of trend, dip direction, dip angle and thickness of the SISZ gives the shear zone a spoon-shaped geometry (Figure 7Figure 6).

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On the Finnmark Platform west, subsidiary steep, SE-dipping high-amplitude reflections occur in basement rocks and these are truncated by the mid-Carboniferous reflection and the Base Devonian erosional unconformity in the footwall of the TFFC (see yellow dotted lines in <u>Figure 5Figure 4e-g</u>). Despite dipping southeast, these reflections resemble the dominant reflection pattern observed within the SISZ (<u>Figure 5Figure 4e & f</u>). Thus, we interpret them as SE-dipping, mylonitic shear zones (yellow dotted lines in <u>Figure 5Figure 4e-g</u>). The upper boundary of one of these SE-dipping shear zones coincides with an abrupt seismic facies

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change on the Finnmark Platform west, from moderately dipping, moderate-amplitude reflections in the west to gently dipping/sub-horizontal, low-amplitude seismic reflections in the east (Figure 5Figure 4g). This change also coincides with a ca. one second (TWT) deepening of the upper boundary of the SISZ towards the northeast (Figure 5Figure 4g), and with a small normal offset of a lensoidal, eastwards-thickening layer of sub-horizontal reflections located above the SISZ (cf. dotted black lines in Figure 5Figure 4g). We interpret these changing attributes to be related to the presence of a NNE-SSW trending, ESE-dipping brittle fault that flattens and soles into the SISZ and which may have developed along a pre-existing, steep ductile shear zone (yellow dotted lines in Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4g). This fault is likely early Carboniferous in age since it is truncated by the "mid Carboniferous" reflection and does not propagate through overlying late Paleozoic Cenozoic sedimentary rocks (Figure 4g).

Similar NE-SW trending but NW-dipping shear zones may exist in basement rocks on the Finnmark Platform east, for example in the form of steeply dipping, high-amplitude seismic reflections truncated by the mid-Carboniferous reflection (cf. yellow dotted lines in Figure 5Figure 4b and Figure 6Figure 6Figure 5a). These reflections differ from gently dipping, high-amplitude reflections of lower Carboniferous coal-bearing sedimentary deposits (Figure 6Figure 6Figure 5a) and rather resemble the SISZ reflection pattern, though these are located well above the presumed continuation of the SISZ (Figure 5Figure 4e & f). We therefore interpret these steep reflections as a NE-SW trending, NW-dipping shear zone similar to the SISZ (Figure 5Figure 4b).

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#### Faults within late Paleozoic sedimentary successions

Faults that structured thebounding Paleozoic sedimentary strata and basins include the major TFFC and MFC and numerous faults on the Finnmark Platform. The TFFC is made of alternating ENE-WSW and NNE-SSW trending, NW-dipping, listric fault segments that form a zigzag pattern and that separate the Hammerfest Basin in the northwest from the Finnmark Platform west in the southeast (Figure 1Figure 1 & Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4e & f; Gabrielsen et al., 1990; Indrevær et al., 2013). Seismic data below ENE-WSW and NNE-SSW trending fault segments of the TFFC show that these fault segments merge with and sole into shallow-dipping reflections of the SISZ at depth (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4e & f). At the northeast termination of the Hammerfest Basin, the TFFC bends 90 degrees clockwise and continues to the southeast as a

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WNW-ESE trending, NE-dipping, listric fault (Figure 1Figure 1Figure 1, Figure 2Figure 2Figure 2 & Figure 5Figure 4g). At depth, this fault merges with the SISZ (cf. Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4g). Figure 4g) near a narrow trough in the top surface of the SISZ, separating two elongated NE-SW to ENE-WSW trending basement ridges in the footwall of the TFFC and of the Rolvsøya fault (cf. "basement highs" in red in Figure <u>1Figure 1 Figure 1</u> & Figure <u>7Figure 6</u>). In map-view, 685 the WNW-ESE trending, NE-dipping fault segment of the TFFC bends anticlockwise into the main fault segment of the MFC, which corresponds to a linear, NE-SW trending, NW-dipping fault (Figure <u>1 Figure 1 Figure 2 Figure 2 Figure 2</u> and Figure <u>8 Figure 8 Figure 7</u> a & b). The interaction of these two faults in map-view gives the Finnmark Platform west and the 690 southwesternmost Nordkapp basin triangular shapes (Figure 2Figure 2 & Figure 8Figure 8Figure 2 **<u>BFigure 7</u>**a & b). The main fault segment of the MFC defines the southeastern boundary of the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (Figure 1Figure 1Figure 1, Figure 2Figure 2 & Figure 2 5Figure 5Figure 4c & d) and of a ca. 25-30 km wide graben structure on the Finnmark Platform west that is believed to be partly filled with Devonian sedimentary deposits (Figure 1Figure 1Figure 695 4, Figure 2Figure 2 & Figure 5Figure 4e & f). Northeastwards, the main segment of the MFC (Figure 5Figure 4c-f) is replaced by several minor fault segments of the MFC with limited vertical throw (Figure 5Figure 4a & b) that defines the southeastern boundary of the Nordkapp Basin (Figure 1Figure 1 Figure 1 and Figure 5Figure 4 & b). The southwesternmost Nordkapp basin is bounded to the north by an E-W to ENE-WSW trending, 700 south-dipping, listric normal fault, the Rolvsøya fault, which flattens at depth and merges into gently dipping reflections of the SISZ (Figure 5Figure 4c & d). The Rolvsøya fault separates the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin from the Ottar Basin to the northwest and from the Nordkapp Basin to the northeast (Figure 1 Figure 1 Figure 1 & Figure 2 Figure 2 Figure 2).

Late Paleozoic grabens on the Finnmark Platform east display fault patterns that are analogous to those that shape the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin and the Finnmark Platform west (Figure <u>1Figure 1Figure 1 & Figure 2Figure 2Figure 2</u>). Numerous steeply dipping, listric normal faults made of alternating, zigzag-shaped, ENE-WSW and NNE-SSW trending fault segments bound relatively narrow, few km-wide graben and half-graben structures that are filled with wedge-shaped, late Paleozoic sedimentary sequences-successions (Figure <u>2Figure 2Figure 2</u> *Figure <u>5Figure 5Figure 4a</u> & b)*. In particular, one of these zigzag-shaped faults trends NE-SW to NNE-SSW, dips to the northwest and can be traced for about 60 km from the northern coast of

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Magerøya onto the Finnmark Platform east (Figure 1Figure 1 & Figure 2Figure 2Figure 2). Southwestwards, this fault roughly aligns with a similarly shaped and oriented, NW-dipping onshore-nearshore fault complex syntethic to the TFFC described as the LVF (Figure 2Figure 2). Figure 2 & Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4a & b; Zwaan & Roberts, 1978; Lippard & Roberts, 1987; Roberts & Lippard, 2005; Koehl et al., submitted). We tentatively interpret the ca. 60 km-long, zigzag-shaped brittle fault on the Finnmark Platform east, northeast of Magerøya, as the northeastward continuation of the LVF on the Finnmark Platform east (Figure 1Figure 1Figure 1, Figure 5Figure 4a & b and Figure 6Figure 6Figure 5a).

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Below the minor northern fault segments of the MFC, we identified a large NE-SW trending, SE-dipping fault that is antithetic to the MFC (Figure <u>5Figure 4</u>a & b). Due to the rather low quality of seismic data at large depths, the interaction of the northern fault segments of the MFC with the antithetic SE-dipping fault is difficult to evaluate. Our data indicate that the northern fault segments of the MFC crosscuts the NE-SW trending, SE-dipping fault in the southwest (Figure <u>5Figure 5</u>Figure 4b), whereas farther northeast, along strike, the northern fault segments of the MFC seem to sole into upper Carboniferous evaporite deposits (Figure <u>5Figure 4a</u>).

## 4.1.3. Fault-controlled thickness variations

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In the following chapter, fault offsets and thickness variations in the sedimentary successions across brittle faults will be described as a basis to infer timing and sense of shear for brittle faults on the Finnmark Platform and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin. Regional stratigraphic thickness maps (Figure <u>9Figure 9Figure 8a-c</u>) show that late Paleozoic sedimentary strata on the Finnmark Platform east thicken from < 0.1 second (TWT) in the southeast to a maximum thickness of ca. 2 seconds (TWT) in the footwall of the MFC (see also Figure <u>5Figure 4a & b</u>). This gradual thickness increase contrasts with the abrupt thickness increase of Devonian-Carboniferous sedimentary strata in the hanging-wall of major normal faults, e.g. the WNW-ESE trending segment of the TFFC and the main segment of the MFC (Figure <u>9Figure 9Figure 8a-b</u>), thus separating depositional versus tectonic thickness changes.

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The dominant shear zone system within basement rocks on the Finnmark Platform west is the SISZ (Figure <u>5Figure 5Figure 4c-g</u>, Figure <u>6Figure 6Figure 5b-c</u> & e-f and Figure <u>7Figure 7</u> <u>7Figure 6</u>). A pronounced intra-basement unit made of sub-horizontal, high-amplitude reflections occurs above the SISZ (Figure <u>5Figure 5Figure 4g</u>). The top reflection of the SISZ and the overlying intra-basement unit are offset by a NNE-SSW trending, gently east-dipping fault, which is accompanied by thickness increase of the intra-basement unit across the east-dipping fault (cf. black dotted line in <u>Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4g</u> & <u>Figure 6Figure 5e</u>). This fault is interpreted to have a top-to-the-E, normal sense of shear (cf. dotted black lines in <u>Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4g</u> & <u>Figure 6Figure 5Figure 5e</u>), and is itself truncated by the subhorizontal mid-Carboniferous reflection, which constrains its activity to the Mid/Late Devonian-early Carboniferous (<u>Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4g</u>).

#### Fault-controlled thickness changes in Devonian-Carboniferous strata

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755 In the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin, the Devonian-lower Carboniferous sedimentary succession (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4c & d) appears to be thickest at the intersection of the TFFC and MFC (Figure <u>9Figure 9</u>Figure 8a), where vertical displacement along the MFC and TFFC is estimated to be ca. 1.5 second (TWT), based on offset of the mid-Carboniferous reflection (cf. Figure 5Figure 4d). The overlying upper Carboniferous succession displays a similar 760 attitude as shown by the broad thickening of similar sedimentary strata at the intersection of the TFFC and MFC (Figure 9Figure 9Figure 8b). These observations suggest that the WNW-ESE trending segment of the TFFC and the main segment of the MFC potentially formed simultaneously in Devonian times and acted as syn-sedimentary normal faults that contributed to the thickening of Devonian-lower Carboniferous and upper Carboniferous sedimentary deposits within the 765 southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (Figure 5Figure 4c & d). In this scenario, the Rolvsøya fault likely limits the extent of thickened Devonian-lower Carboniferous and upper Carboniferous sedimentary strata to the north. If we consider the thickness of the seismic package limited upwards by the mid Carboniferous reflection and downwards by the top reflection of the SISZ in the footwall of the Rolvsøya fault, the maximum thickness of Devonian and lower Carboniferous sedimentary 770 rocks on the northern flank of the basin does not exceed ca. 1 second (TWT). This thickness estimate is significantly thinner than what is observed within the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin, where the Devonian-lower Carboniferous succession reaches a maximum thickness of ca. 2-

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2.5 seconds (TWT; see Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4c & d). By analogy, the thickness of upper Carboniferous sedimentary strata on the northern flank of the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin decreases from ca. 1.5 seconds (TWT) to ca. 0.5-1 second across the Rolvsøya fault (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4c & d and Figure 9Figure 9b). Hence, the Rolvsøya fault was active and largely contributed to sediment thickening within the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin during the Mid/Late Devonian-Carboniferous.

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- On the Finnmark Platform west, potential Devonian sedimentary rocks are characterized 780 by low-amplitude, chaotic reflections within which we observed distinct, shallow-dipping, moderate-amplitude reflections that we interpreted as major sedimentary sequence boundaries (cf. white dotted lines in Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4e and Figure 6Figure 5b & c). These shallowdipping reflections diverge from each other downwards and define gently dipping, wedge-shaped layers of low-amplitude, chaotic reflections that thicken downwards against arcuate, high-785 amplitude basement reflections that represent an erosional unconformity (cf. "Base Devonian" reflection in Figure 5Figure 4e), and to the northwest against an ENE-WSW trending, SEdipping normal fault (Figure 5Figure 4e and Figure 6Figure 5b & c). We interpret these sedimentary sequences separated by shallow-dipping, moderate-amplitude reflections to represent growth strata deposited along an active ENE-WSW trending, SE-dipping normal fault, 790 which is parallel to SE-dipping basement shear zones (Figure 5Figure 4e and Figure <u>6Figure 5Figure 5</u>b & c). In addition, the main fault segment of the MFC shows decreasing amount of vertical displacement to the southwest, accompanied by a simultaneous thickness decrease in the upper Carboniferous succession along strikethe main segment of the MFC (Figure 9Figure Figure 8b), before the MFC eventually dies out on the Finnmark Platform west (Figure 1Figure Figure 1, Figure 2Figure 2 K Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4e & f). Analogously, upper 795 Carboniferous sedimentary deposits on the Finnmark Platform west display a wedge shape that is thickest in the southeast, near the MFC, and gradually thins towards the TFFC in the northwest (Figure <u>5Figure 4</u>e & f, Figure <u>9Figure 9</u>Figure <u>8</u>b). This upper Carboniferous sedimentary wedge likely formed by syn-tectonic sedimentary growth along the main fault segment of the MFC. 800 On the Finnmark Platform east, the offshore portion of the LVF (cf. Figure 1Figure 1Figure 1) 4 & Figure 5Figure 4a & b) downthrows the mid-Carboniferous reflection by ca. 0.5
  - second (TWT) to the northwest (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4b) and bounds a NE-SW trending graben structure filled with thickened lower Carboniferous and upper Carboniferous sedimentary strata

(cf. Figure 5Figure 4 a & b). In this graben structure, the lower Carboniferous and upper 805 Carboniferous sedimentary successions thicken against the LVF (Figure 5Figure 4b), while thickness variations become negligible farther north where the LVF dies out (Figure 1Figure <u>Figure 5 & Figure 5 Figure 4</u>a). Consequently, similar thickness increases of lower Carboniferous and upper Carboniferous sedimentary strata elsewhere within graben and halfgraben structures on the Finnmark Platform east suggest that syn-tectonic sediment deposition 810 occurred in Carboniferous times along the LVF and analog ENE-WSW to NNE-SSW trending faults mostly occurred in Carboniferous times. Furthermore, in the footwall of the northern fault segments of the MFC, we recorded anomalously thick upper Carboniferous succession (Figure <u>9Figure 9Figure 8</u>b) with a thickness comparable to what is observed within the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (Figure 9Figure 8b). This succession shows a half-ellipsoid shape in mapview with a NE-SW trending major axis parallel to the MFC (Figure 9Figure 8b). We 815 therefore argue that this thickness change on the Finnmark Platform east is the result of syn-tectonic sediment deposition in the hanging-wall of a NE-SW trending, SE-dipping fault antithetic to the MFC (Figure 5Figure 4 a & b). We suggest that the half-ellipsoid shape of the thickened upper Carboniferous sedimentary deposits on the Finnmark Platform east reflects large offset near 820 the center of a-the SE-dipping fault, and decreasing vertical throw towards the fault-tips, a feature characterizing syn-sedimentary, rift-related normal faults (Figure 9Figure 9Figure 8b).

By contrast, depositional sediment wedges may as well occur on the Finnmark Platform east, and they differ from fault-controlled thickness changes. One example is the ca. 600 m-thick lower Carboniferous succession evidenced by shallow drilling between the Nordkinn Peninsula and Magerøya (cf. "star" symbol in <u>Figure 1Figure 1Figure 1</u>; Bugge et al., 1995), which we reinterpreted as a prograding Carboniferous sedimentary system (<u>Figure 6Figure 6Figure 5d</u>). The apparent thickening of the lower Carboniferous succession near the coasts of NW Finnmark is more likely to be related to sedimentary processes during the formation of large clinoforms in a prograding sedimentary system (<u>Figure 6Figure 5d</u>) than to syn-tectonic deposition in the hanging-wall of a NE-SW trending, NW-dipping fault.

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## Fault-controlled thickness changes in Permian strata

In the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin and on the Finnmark Platform east and west, the Permian sedimentary succession is thin and shows a relatively constant thickness compared to the

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- underlying Devonian-lower Carboniferous and upper Carboniferous successions (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4a-d and Figure 9Figure 9Figure 8a-c). However, the Base Asselian and Base Triassic reflections marking the lower and upper boundary of the Permian succession show some offsets across the main fault segment of the MFC, WNW-ESE trending segment of the TFFC and Rolvsøya fault, thus accounting for minor thickness variations in the Permian succession across these faults (Figure 5Figure 4c, & d & g and Figure 9Figure 9Figure 8c). We interpret these small offsets and thickness variations as the product of minor faulting activity in the Permian and mild Mesozoic reactivation of these faults, thus This-suggestings that the main tectonic activity along
- the<u>se Rolvsøya</u> fault<u>s</u> was essentially restricted to the Mid/Late Devonian-late Carboniferous (Figure 5c, d & g). Moreover, on the Finnmark Platform west and east, most brittle faults die out within the upper Carboniferous succession and only a few faults crosscut the Permian succession
- with limited amount of offset (Figure <u>5Figure 5Figure 4</u>a, b, e, & f). Across the TFFC and the MFC, the Base Asselian and Base Triassic reflections display small offsets, which we interpret as mild Mesozoic reactivation of these faults (Figure 4c, d & g).

## 850 Fault-controlled thickness changes in Mesozoic-Cenozoic strata

Most faults observed within the late Paleozoic succession on the Finnmark Platform east and west and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin die out in the upper part of the succession before reaching the Base Triassic reflection (Figure 5Figure 4). A few exceptions exist where the MFC and the WNW-ESE trending segment of the TFFC show small offsets of Mesozoic sedimentary strata (Figure 5Figure 4c-g). The weak influence of these faults compared to offsets observed within late Paleozoic successions (Figure 5Figure 4c-g) suggests that, at least some major faults were mildly reactivated in Mesozoic times but, in general, most brittle faults on the Finnmark Platform east and west and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin remained inactive after Carboniferous times.

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## 4.2. Offshore aeromagnetic data

To better verify our 2D interpretation of faults and basin architectures on the Finnmark Platform and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin, we compare and tie our results using highresolution, offshore aeromagnetic data from Gernigon et al. (2014; <u>Figure 4Figure 4</u>Figure 3).

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Aeromagnetic anomalies, when combined with seismic interpretation, may provide useful results allowing to identify brittle faults and offset patterns (cf. Indrevær et al., 2013).

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On the Finnmark Platform east, offshore aeromagnetic data (Figure 4Figure 4Figure 3; Gernigon et al., 2014) show multiple narrow, NNE-SSW trending, high-positive aeromagnetic anomalies that bend into NW-SE/NNW-SSE orientations near the center of the Nordkapp Basin, which Gernigon et al. (2014) interpreted as arc-shaped prolongations of Caledonian nappes. A more detailed analysis of these aeromagnetic data reveals a set of triangular to rhomboidal, highnegative aeromagnetic anomalies, the largest of which was observed northeast of the island of Magerøya (dashed white lines in Figure 4Figure 4Figure 3). This high-negative anomaly is 875 bounded to the northeast and to the northwest by narrow, linear, NNE-SSW to NE-SW trending, high-positive aeromagnetic anomalies (dashed white lines in Figure 4Figure 4Figure 3). On seismic data, the locations of these linear, high-positive aeromagnetic anomalies coincide with SE-dipping normal fault for the northwestern anomaly, and the NW-dipping, zigzag-shaped LVF for the southeastern anomaly (cf. black arrows in Figure <u>5Figure 5Figure 4</u>a & b). These two faults bound 880 a triangular-shaped basin filled up with thickened Carboniferous sedimentary deposits (cf. Figure <u>5Figure 5Figure 4</u>a & b), which shape and extent mimic those of the triangular, high-negative anomaly observed on aeromagnetic data northeast of Magerøya (Figure 4Figure 4Figure 3). Such triangular-shaped, high-negative aeromagnetic anomaly may thus be indicators of offshore Carboniferous sedimentary basins.

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Similarly, on the Finnmark Platform west, a large NE-SW trending, linear, high-positive aeromagnetic anomaly is observed in the footwall of the TFFC (dotted white lines in Figure 4Figure Figure 3), where it extends northeastwards into the footwall of the Rolvsøya fault (Figure 4Figure <u>4Figure 3</u>). This NE-SW trending, high-positive aeromagnetic anomaly coincides with a NE-SW trending basement ridge in the footwall of the TFFC on the Finnmark Platform west and with the location of an ENE-WSW trending basement ridge in the footwall of the Rolvsøya fault (Figure <u>Figure 1</u> and Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4c-f). We interpret this NE-SW trending, highpositive aeromagnetic anomaly to highlight a significant compositional difference between highlymagnetic basement rocks in NE-SW and ENE-WSW trending basement ridges and poorly magnetic, adjacent basement rocks on the Finnmark Platform west and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (Figure 1, Figure 4 and Figure 5Figure 4c-f).

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#### 5. Discussion

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Our regional and detailed seismic studies of basin-boundary faults such as the TFFC, MFC, Rolvsøya fault and TKFZ on the Finnmark Platform and adjacent southwesternmost Nordkapp basin show multiple links and interactions. We focus the discussion on the interaction of these faults and associated minor faults on Late-Devonian-Carboniferous (half-) graben basins. We specifically discuss how deep-seated ductile Caledonian shear zones, i.e. the Sørøya-Ingøya shear zone and basement ridges may have been exhumed and thus enabled to control post-Caledonian 905 brittle faulting and formation of Late-Devonian-Carboniferous basins as collapse basins. In combinaison, the structural architecture, timing of faulting and fault-controlled thickness variations on the Finnmark Platform and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin provide the framework to discuss the evolution of the SW Barents Sea margin from the Mid/Late Devonian to the Permian.

#### 910 Interaction of the main segment of the Måsøy Fault Complex with the Sørøya-5.1. Ingøya shear zone

The linear, NE-SW trending geometry of the main segment of the MFC in map-view (Figure 1 Figure 1 & Figure 2Figure 2) strongly differs from the dominant ENE-915 WSW to NNE-SSW trending, zig-zag pattern typically observed for post-Caledonian faults in Mid-Norway (Blystad et al., 1995), Lofoten-Vesterålen (Bergh et al., 2007; Eig, 2008; Hansen et al., 2012), Western Troms (Indrevær et al., 2013) and NW Finnmark (Koehl et al., submitted). Notably, the anomalously linear fault segment of the MFC trends fully parallel to and soles into highamplitude, NW-dipping seismic reflections of the SISZ on the Finnmark Platform and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4c-f). This obvious merging of main 920 segment of the MFC into the basement-seated SISZ (Figure 5Figure 4c-f) suggests it formed as a brittle splay fault along an inverted portion of the SISZ, likely during the collapse of the Caledonides in the Mid/Late Devonian (Gudlaugsson et al., 1998). We suggest a similar interpretation for the Rolvsøya fault, which also flattens and merges into a bowed portion of the 925 SISZ (Figure 5Figure 4c & d), and for the northwest-boundary fault of the Devonian graben on the Finnmark Platform west soling into a minor, SE-dipping shear zone (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4e & Figure 6Figure 5b & c). These faults are thought to have remained active through the late Carboniferous as suggested by potential syn-tectonic sediment thickening within

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the upper Carboniferous succession (Figure <u>9Figure 9Figure 8</u>b) but most likely ceased before the Permian as supported by the relatively constant thickness of Permian sedimentary strata throughout the study area (Figure <u>9Figure 9Figure 8</u>c).

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By analogy, in the central–North Sea, Phillips et al. (2016) successfully tied the southernmost onshore occurrence of the Karmøy Shear Zone, a major Caledonian shear zone, to a thick seismic unit made up with sub-parallel, high-amplitude reflections similar to those ascribed to the SISZ in the footwall of the main segment of the MFC (Figure 5Figure 4d-f). Phillips et al. (2016) argue that the Åsta Fault, a large N-S trending, W-dipping, post-Caledonian fault in the North Sea, formed during a phase of extensional reactivation of the Karmøy Shear Zone. Similarly, in western Norway, Wilks & Cuthbert (1994) proposed that the Hornelen Basin formed along a brittle fault that splayed upwards from the Nordfjord-Sogn Detachment Zone during Middle Devonian late-orogenic extension.

## 5.2. Formation of the WNW-ESE trending fault segment of the Troms-Finnmark Fault Complex as a hard-linked accommodation cross-fault

945 Our data (Figure 9Figure 9Figure 8a & b) show abrupt fault-controlled thickening of the Devonian-lower Carboniferous and upper Carboniferous sedimentary successions just northeast of the WNW-ESE trending segment of the TFFC into the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin. On the Finnmark Platform west, potential Devonian sedimentary rocks are truncated upwards by the mid-Carboniferous reflection, which we interpret as a major angular unconformity (Figure 5Figure 950 Figure 4e & f). This unconformity may have been caused by a major eustatic sea-level fall in mid-Carboniferous (Serpukhovian) times that exposed large areas to coastal erosion (Saunders & Ramsbottom, 1986).-We propose, for example, that the absence of high-amplitude, coal-bearing sedimentary deposits of the Billefjorden Group (lower Carboniferous) on the Finnmark Platform west is related to this a major episode of eustatic sea-level fall in the Serpukhovian (Saunders & 955 Ramsbottom, 1986), which may have contributed to expose lower Carboniferous sedimentary rocks in this area to coastal erosion. Hence, part of the thickening of the Devonian-lower Carboniferous succession across the WNW-ESE trending segment of the TFFC might be related to extensive erosion of the Finnmark Platform west in mid-Carboniferous times. In addition, the clear deepening (plunge) to the northeast of the spoon-shaped trough formed by the three-

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960 dimensionally folded and bowed geometry of the SISZ (Figure 7Figure 6) suggests that the thickening of Devonian-lower Carboniferous sedimentary strata into the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (Figure 9Figure 9Figure 8a) is also partly controlled by the shape and attitudes of the underlying SISZ. Finally, the thickened sediment depocenter observed in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin at the intersection of the TFFC and the MFC (Figure 9Figure 9Figure 8 & b) is 965 at least partly related to syn-sedimentary normal faulting along the WNW-ESE trending fault segment of the TFFC and along the main segment of the MFC. This most likely indicates that the TFFC and the MFC had already merged and acted as a single fault zone during sediment deposition in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin from the end of the Serpukhovian and potentially from Devonian times. We propose that the WNW-ESE trending fault segment of the TFFC acted as an 970 accommodation cross-fault, as defined in Sengör (1987), that transferred displacement between the NNE-SSW trending segment of the TFFC and the main segment of the MFC, defining a step synthetic with the deepening direction of the spoon-shaped trough formed by the geometry of the SISZ (Figure 7Figure 7Figure 6). This interpretation is based on the dominant dip-slip kinematic of the WNW-ESE trending segment of the TFFC and on its sub-parallel strike to the dominant 975 WNW-ESE trending extension direction inferred along the SW Barents Sea margin during late Paleozoic times (Bergh et al., 2007; Eig & Bergh, 2011; Hansen & Bergh, 2012). Further, we infer that the strike and location of the WNW-ESE trending segment of the TFFC was controlled by the geometry of the underlying SISZ (see below), which dips gently to the northeast on the Finnmark Platform west and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin and may therefore have favorized the

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<u>7Figure 6</u>).

Alternatively, Lea (2016) proposed that the WNW-ESE trending fault segment of the TFFC corresponds to a breached relay-ramp fault between the NNE-SSW trending fault segment of the TFFC and the MFC. However, this model implies that this portion of the TFFC would have accommodated significantly fewer displacement than the two faults it links (i.e. the NNE-SSW trending segment of the TFFC and the MFC), which is clearly not the case. The offset of the mid-Carboniferous reflection and the thickness increase both of the Middle/Upper Devonian-lower Carboniferous and upper Carboniferous sedimentary successions across the WNW-ESE trending segment of the TFFC are comparable to the offset and thickness increase observed across the main

formation of a NE-dipping fault at this location (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4g & Figure 7Figure

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## 990 fault segment of the MFC (Figure <u>5Figure 5Figure 4c</u>, d & g), and the TFFC and MFC seem to have evolved synchronously in the late Paleozoic.

# 5.3. Devonian collapse basins on the Finnmark Platform west (Gjesvær Low) and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin

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Our seismic interpretation has shown that Devonian sedimentary rocks in the SW Barents Sea may exist on the Finnmark Platform west and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4c-g). The most probable occurrence is on the Finnmark Platform west, in the hanging-wall of the main segment of the MFC (Figure 1Figure 1, Figure 5Figure 5Figure 5Figure 1000 4e). The presumed Devonian seismic unit corresponds to a suite of low-amplitude reflections crosscut by a few, moderate-amplitude reflection that dip gently to the northeast (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4e). The main argument for a Devonian sequence succession is that these reflections are remarkably different from the typical seismic patterns observed for lower Carboniferous sedimentary deposits and basement rocks. Lower Carboniferous sedimentary deposits of the 1005 Billefjorden Group are characterized by high-amplitude reflections produced by coal-bearing sedimentary rocks (Figure 5Figure 4a & b and Figure 6Figure 5a), while basement rocks are mostly associated with thick packages of chaotic seismic reflections (Figure 6Figure Figure 5a-c) and thick layers of moderate- to high-amplitude, sub-parallel seismic reflections that we interpreted as basement-seated shear zones (e.g. the SISZ; Figure <u>6Figure 6Figure 5</u>f). Another 1010 argument in favor of Devonian sedimentary deposits is the presence of a NE-SW trending gravimetric low on the Finnmark Platform west: the Gjesvær Low (Johansen et al., 1994). Devonian sedimentary rocks in Svalbard show an average density of ca. 2.4 g.cm<sup>-3</sup> associated to depths of 0-8 km (i.e. average depth of 4 km; Manby & Lyberis, 1992), which is less dense than metamorphosed Caledonian rocks (2.6-3.0 g.cm<sup>-3</sup>) and Carboniferous sedimentary rocks on the 1015 Finnmark Platform west (< 2.5 g.cm<sup>-3</sup>; Johansen et al., 1994). However, taking into account the effect of burial up to a depth of 5-6 km on the Finnmark Platform (Johansen et al., 1994) and the resulting density increase for Devonian sedimentary deposits with an approximate rate of ca. 0.15 g.cm<sup>-3</sup>.km<sup>-1</sup> (cf. "all rocks density-depth gradient" in table 3 in Maxant 1980), Devonian sedimentary rocks on the Finnmark Platform may reach densities 2.55-2.7 g.cm<sup>-3</sup>. Thus, the 1020 occurrence of the Gjesvær low can be explained by the presence of intermediate-density Devonian

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sedimentary rocks below the mid-Carboniferous reflection (Figure 5Figure 4e & Figure 6Figure 6Figure 5b & c). This is as well in accordance with density variations and related estimates of Johansen et al. (1994) in the Gjesvær low.

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In addition, the discrete, moderate-amplitude, NW-dipping reflections observed within the presumed Devonian sedimentary strata on the Finnmark Platform west may represent syn-tectonic sedimentary growth strata (Figure 5Figure 4e & Figure 6Figure 5b & c). These strata are located above and thickened against arcuate, high-amplitude reflections that we interpreted as a major erosional unconformity that truncates SE-dipping Caledonian basement shear zones subparallel to the SISZ (dotted yellow lines in Figure <u>6Figure 5</u>b & c). We 1030 consider the Devonian sedimentary rocks on the Finnmark Platform west to have been deposited in wedge-shaped late/post-Caledonian extensional basins due to reactivation of a set of partly eroded, exhumed, SE-dipping Caledonian shear zones (dotted yellow lines in Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4e & Figure 6Figure 5b & c). In mid-Norway, Braathen et al. (2000) reported a similar setting of Middle Devonian sedimentary basins located above Caledonian shear zones and 1035 folded nappe stack, and proposed that Middle Devonian basins in western and mid-Norway formed during extensional reactivation of these Caledonian shear zones. Such a model is further supported by the similar geometry of the Devonian sedimentary growth strata on the Finnmark Platform west to the highly tilted geometry of sedimentary strata in Middle Devonian basins in western Norway (cf. Séranne & Seguret, 1987; Séranne et al., 1989; Wilks & Cuthbert, 1994; Osmundsen & 1040 Andersen, 2001). Moreover, the Devonian sedimentary basins on the Finnmark Platform west (Figure 5Figure 4e and Figure 6Figure 5b & c) and in the southwestermost Nordkapp basin (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4c & d) define NE-SW trending graben structures with comparable, < 50 km-wide sizes to those of the Middle Devonian Hornelen, Kvamsheten and Solund basins in western Norway (Séranne & Seguret, 1987; Osmundsen & Andersen, 2001).

1045 In the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin, the presence of Middle/Upper Devonian sedimentary rocks is more speculative and is mostly based on the maximum thickness of lower Carboniferous sedimentary deposits registered in the SW Barents Sea, which is ca. 600 m on the Finnmark Platform east (Bugge et al., 1995; Figure <u>6Figure 5</u>d). Assuming a seismic velocity < 6 km.s<sup>-1</sup> for lower Carboniferous coal-bearing sedimentary deposits, a thickness of 600 m would account for only part (maximum- 0.2 s) of the 2-2.5 second-thick (TWT) seismic unit 1050 observed below the mid-Carboniferous reflection in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (Figure

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<u>5Figure 5Figure 4c & d</u>). If basement rocks were present at the base of the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin, they would most likely produce a seismic reflection pattern similar to that of the sub-parallel, high-amplitude reflections of the underlying SISZ (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4c & d) or potentially form an unconformity to the overlying late Paleozoic sedimentary rocks. We therefore believe that the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin, which is bounded below by the SISZ, which givinges the basin a peculiar "U" shape in cross-section (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4c & d), and is composed of thick Middle/Upper Devonian sedimentary deposits overlain by lower Carboniferous sedimentary strata below the mid-Carboniferous reflection. From these arguments, i.e. Based on the brittle extensional reactivation, bowed geometry and controlling effect of the basement-seated SISZ (Figure 7Figure 7Figure 6), we suggest deposition of Devonian sedimentary rocks within a late/post-Caledonian, spoon-shaped, collapse basin formed along bowed, inverted portions of the Caledonian SISZ (Figure 5Figure 4c-f), thus representing analogs to Middle Devonian collapse basins in western and mid-Norway (Séranne et al., 1989; Wilks & Cuthbert, 1994).

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# 5.4. Formation of NE-SW to ENE-WSW trending basement ridges as exhumed metamorphic core complexes

We have argued for an upward-bowed seismic geometry of the SISZ (Figure 5Figure 1070 Figure 4c-fFigure <u>7Figure 7Figure 6</u>) into which major fault complexes such as the TFFC, the MFC and the Rolvsøya fault merge and sole into (Figure 5Figure 4c-f). In map-view (Figure <u>7Figure 7Figure 6</u>) and cross-section (Figure <u>5Figure 5Figure 4</u>c-f), the bowed geometry of the SISZ defines two, ENE-WSW to NE-SW trending ridges of basement rocks on the northwestern flanks of presumed Devonian basins. These basement ridges correlate well by 1075 displaying high-positive gravimetric (fig. 5 in Olesen et al., 2010 and fig. 5 in Gernigon et al., 2014) and high-positive aeromagnetic anomalies (Figure 4Figure 4Figure 3; Gernigon et al. 2014) that suggest these ridges are made of basement lithologies significantly different from adjacent basement rocks on the Finnmark Platform west and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin. These basement ridges seem to align with high-positive gravimetric anomalies that coincide with 1080 the NE-SW trending Norsel High (Gabrielsen et al., 1990) along the northwestern flank of the Nordkapp Basin in the northeast. Farther southwest, these basement ridges coincide with the NE-SW trending West Troms Basement Complex in Western Troms (Bergh et al., 2010; Figure 1) and

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the NE-SW trending Lofoten Ridge in Lofoten-Vesterålen (Bergh et al., 2007; Figure 1), among which at least the Lofoten Ridge was exhumed as a metamorphic core complex (Klein & Steltenpohl, 1999; Klein et al., 1999; Steltenpohl et al., 2004; 2011) along inverted Caledonian shear zones such as the Eidsfjord and Fiskefjord shear zones (Steltenpohl et al., 2011). By comparison, the SISZ seems to coincide with high-positive aeromagnetic anomalies on the Finnmark Platform west that follow the trace of the MFC (Indrevær et al., 2013) and continue past the southwestern fault-tip of the MFC (Gernigon & Brönner, 2012). The aeromagnetic anomalies visible on the dataset Gernigon & Brönner (2012) appear to line up with aeromagnetic anomalies onshore the island of Vannøya, in the northeasternmost part of the West Troms Basement Complex (Figure 1), and these onshore anomalies correlate with NE-SW trending, SE-dipping basement shear zones that were reactivated as extensional brittle faults (Paulsen et al. pers. comm.; Figure 1).

1095 These data indicate that SE-dipping portions of the SISZ propagated southwest of the MFC fault-tip on the Finnmark Platform west and possibly merged onshore Vannøya in Western Troms with a suite of NE-SW trending, SE-dipping shear zones. As a consequence, the basement ridges observed on the FinnmarkPlatform west and along the northern flank of the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin may have formed as part of a large metamorphic core complex, which included
1100 the Lofoten Ridge, the West Troms Basement Complex and possibly also the Norsel High (Figure <u>1Figure 1Figure 1</u>), exhumed along inverted Caledonian shear zones, e.g. such as the SISZ on the SW Barents shelf and the analogous Eidsfjord and Fiskefjord shear zones in Lofoten-Vesterålen (Steltenpohl et al., 2011).

The timing, nature of uplift and processes of core complex exhumation can be inferred from 1105 thickness variations of the SISZ in cross-section, for example, thickest in the footwall of the MFC and TFFC and thinnest below these two fault complexes (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4f). We link these thickness variations to excisement and incisement processes (cf. Lister & Davis, 1989) along the SISZ during core complex exhumation, after the embrittlement of the SISZ (Figure 10Figure 10Figure 9). A model of Devonian late/post-orogenic extension is proposed, when inversion of the SISZ was inverted as a low-angle, top-to-the-NW extensional detachment and extensive erosion of the Caledonides that-contributed to crustal thinning-through top to the NW tectonic transport (Figure 10Figure 10Figure 9a). Relatively rapid thinning through extension and erosion above the Formatted: Font: Not Bold Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Not Italic, Check spelling and grammar Formatted: Font: Not Bold Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Not Italic, Check spelling and grammar Formatted: Font: Not Bold Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Not Italic, Check spelling and grammar Formatted: Font: Not Bold Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Not Italic, Check spelling and grammar Formatted: Font: Not Bold Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Not Italic, Check spelling and grammar Formatted: Font: Not Bold

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upper part of the SISZ may have triggered early exhumation of basement rocks on the Finnmark

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	Platform west and along the northern flank of the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (Figure
1115	<u>10Figure 10Figure 9</u> a), causing the upper part of the SISZ to bow upwards (Figure 10Figure )
	<u>10Figure 9b</u> ). Continued crustal extension and <u>continental erosion</u> <u>further enhanced</u> exhumation of
	basement rocks below the upper part of the $SISZ_{1}$ leading the bowed portion of the SISZ to become
	unsuitably oriented to accommodate top-to-the-NW extensional displacement and therefore thus
	become inactive (dashed black line in Figure 10Figure 10Figure 9c). Further extension likely led
1120	triggered the SISZ to splay upwards splaying of the SISZ into its hanging-wall, becoming suitable
	again to accommodate top-to-the-NW extension displacement (Figure 10Figure 10Figure 9c). This
I	upward splay-faulting process is referred to as excisement by Lister & Davis (1989) and we
	tentatively apply this process to explain the observed thickening of the SISZ in the footwall of the
	MFC (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4f). Further extension/erosion-related crustal thinning along the
1125	SISZ may have <u>initiatedtriggered the</u> exhumation of basement rocks along progressively deeper
	parts of the SISZ (Figure 10Figure 10Figure 9b & c), causing bend-up of the SISZ at even deeper
	crustal levels (Figure 10Figure 10Figure 9d). Extreme bowing of lower portions of the SISZ led to
I	opposite top-to-the-SE transport direction on the Finnmark Platform west and in the
	southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (Figure 10Figure 10Figure 9d), which contributed to exhume
1130	NE-SW to ENE-WSW trending ridges of basement rocks in the footwall of the NNE-SSW trending
	segment of the TFFC (Figure 5Figure 4e & f) and in the footwall of the Rolvsøya fault
	(Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4c & d), thus forming a large spoon-shaped trough where Devonian
	sedimentary rocks deposited (Figure 7 and Figure 10d & e). Incisement (downward splaying; cf.
	Lister & Davis, 1989) may have occurred below the basement ridges during continued top-to-the-
1135	NW extension along the SISZ (Figure 10Figure 10Figure 9e) and possibly contributed to thicken
	the SISZ in the footwall of the TFFC (Figure 5Figure 4e & f) and of the Rolvsøya fault
	(Figure 5Figure 4c & d), resulting in the current geometry of the SISZ (Figure 10Figure
	<u>10Figure 9</u> f). We believe that extreme bowing of lower portions of the SISZ and associated local
	top to the SE displacement contributed to form the spoon shaped trough in which Devonian
1140	sedimentary rocks are thought to be deposited on the Finnmark Platform west and in the
11-10	southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (Figure 6 & Figure 9d & e).
	Pu comparison in portheast Graphand Sertini Bideout at al. (2006) and Hallott at al.

By comparison, in northeast Greenland, Sartini-Rideout et al. (2006) and Hallett et al. (2014) proposed that ultra-high pressure (UHP) basement rocks were exhumed along large, mylonitic, Caledonian shear zones in Late Devonian-early Carboniferous times (ca. 370-340 Ma).

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1145	The study of Sartini-Rideout et al. (2006) also shows that the last stages of exhumation were	
	accommodated by steep, brittle normal faults that strike parallel to major Caledonian shear zones,	
	i.e. similar to the main segment of the MFC that strikesstriking parallel to the SISZ along the SW	
	Barents Sea margin (Figure 1 Figure 1). In addition, results from sediment provenance and	
I	geochronological studies by McClelland et al. (2016) in Carboniferous basins in northeast	
1150	Greenland showed that the exhumation of UHP basement rocks as elongated ridges could have	
	formed a regional Serpukhovian erosional unconformity, i.e. contemporaneous with the mid-	
	Carboniferous (Serpukhovian?) unconformity observed on the Finnmark Platform east (Figure )	
	5Figure 5Figure 4a & b and Figure 6Figure 6Figure 5a; Bugge et al., 1995) and on the Finnmark	
	Platform west (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4e-g & Figure 6Figure 6Figure 5b & c), and in agreement	_
1155	with eustatic sea-level fluctuations at that time (Saunders & Ramsbottom, 1986). These	
	observations are compatible with the results of Saunders & Ramsbottom (1986) who argued that	
	major eustatic sea level fluctuations occurred in Serpukhovian times and that these fluctuations	
	included an episode of sea-level fall and continental erosion around 330 Ma in the early	
	Serpukhovian, and an episode of sea level rise at ca. 325 Ma at the end of the Serpukhovian. In	/
1160	late Paleozoic times, the northeast Greenland margin was located close to its conjugate counter-	
	part of the SW Barents Sea margin and these two areas were most likely subjected to similar	
	regional stresses and closely related sea-level fluctuations. Therefore, we suggest that the mid-	
	Carboniferous unconformity reflection observed in the SW Barents Sea (cf. Figure 5Figure 5	Ľ
	4 & Figure 6Figure 5a-c; Bugge et al., 1995), formed as a response to major eustatic sea-	
1165	level fall in the early Serpukhovian (Saunders & Ramsbottom, 1986) and due to large-scale	
	exhumation of basement rocks in Late Devonian-early Carboniferous times. Exhumation occurred	
	along inverted Caledonian shear zones (e.g. SISZ) and brittle splay faults such as the main segment	
	of the MFC, the NNE-SSW trending segment of the TFFC, the Rolvsøya fault and the NNE-SSW	
	trending, SE-dipping fault that bounds potential Devonian sedimentary strata on the Finnmark	
1170	Platform west to the northwest (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4). The timing of exhumation can be is	
I	constrained to the end of the Serpuhkovian based on deposition of thick alluvial and shallow marine	
	upper Carboniferous sedimentary deposits of the Gipsdalen Group (Figure 3 Figure 3) on top of the	
	mid-Carboniferous unconformity in the SW Barents Sea (Figure 5Figure 4), associated	
	with during an eustatic sea-level rise near in the end of the Serpukhovian (Saunders & Ramsbottom,	$\square$
1175	1986).	

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In Lofoten-Vesterålen, Steltenpohl et al. (2004) inferred a Late Devonian age for the exhumation of metamorphic core complexes and this age was refined by recent <sup>40</sup>Ar/<sup>39</sup>Ar isotopic results (Steltenpohl et al., 2011), which constrained extensional reactivation of the Eidsfjord shear zone to the Early Devonian. In the SW Barents Sea, much work is needed to better constrain the timing of late/post-Caledonian extension and collapse basin formation. Nonetheless, we believe that the Early Devonian age obtained in Lofoten-Vesterålen (Steltenpohl et al., 2011) represents a reasonable estimate for the onset of crustal thinning in the SW Barents Sea (Figure 10Figure 10Figure 9a-c). Additionally, Late Devonian-early Carboniferous timing of exhumation for basement rocks in northeast Greenland and formation of a regional mid-Carboniferous 1185 (Serpukhovian) unconformity (Sartini-Rideout et al., 2006; Hallett et al., 2014; McClelland et al., 2016) corresponds to a realistic approximation for the final stages of late/post Caledonian extension, ending with the formation of Devonian-Carboniferous collapse basins along exhumed, NE-SW to ENE-WSW trending basement ridges (Figure 10Figure 10Figure 9d-f).

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#### 1190 5.5. Interaction of the Trollfjorden-Komagelva Fault Zone with the Troms-Finnmark and Måsøy fault complexes

The prolongation of the TKFZ from onshore areas in eastern Finnmark to offshore areas of the SW Barents Sea has been a matter of debate. Most studies tend to connect the onshore TKFZ 1195 with the offshore WNW-ESE trending fault segment of the TFFC (Gabrielsen, 1984; Gabrielsen & Færseth, 1989; Roberts et al., 2011; Bergø, 2016; Lea, 2016). Our data, however, suggest that the TKFZ dies out near the coasts of NW Finnmark (present contribution and Koehl et al., submitted), and in this section we review and discuss new evidence obtained from the interpretation of offshore seismic and aeromagnetic data.

1200 First, the TKFZ was described onshore eastern Finnmark as a major sub-vertical fault that accommodated dominantly strike-slip movement (Roberts, 1972; Rice, 2013). Farther west, the TKFZ crops out onshore Magerøya, where it is made of numerous, high-frequency, subparallel, subvertical, WNW-ESE trending faults and fractures that accommodated at least small-scale post-Caledonian, strike-slip to oblique-slip displacement (Koehl et al., submitted). By contrast, seismic interpretation of the WNW-ESE trending fault segment of the TFFC shows that this fault exhibits 1205 a typical, high-angle (ca. 70°) normal fault geometry and accommodated significant amount of

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post-Caledonian normal dip-slip displacement (Figure 5Figure 4g), T thus, contrasting significantly with the geometryies of the TKFZ and of the WNW ESE trending segment of the TFFC contrast significantly with each other. Second, the imaginary prolongation of the TKFZ from 1210 the island of Magerøya to the WNW, onto the Finnmark Platform, would crosscut the Finnmark Platform west nearly 23 km southwest of the observed trace of the WNW-ESE trending segment of the TFFC (Figure 5Figure 4g). This represents an significant mismatch that is far too important to represent minor dextral strike-slip offset of the TKFZ across the main fault segment of the MFC, which dominantly accommodated normal dip-slip motions (Figure 5Figure 5Fig 1215 4c-f). Third, the interpretation of 3D seismic data at the intersection of the MFC and TFFC reveals that the footwall of the MFC is largely intact andor seismically unaffected by brittle faults (Figure <u>8Figure 8</u>Figure 7). There is rather not any evidence of intense fracturing as typically observed along the TKFZ onshore Magerøya (Koehl et al., submitted). We therefore believe that the TKFZ and the WNW-ESE trending fault segment of the TFFC represent two distinct faults. Thisese data 1220 more likely suggests that the TKFZ dies out instead of propagating onto the Finnmark Platform, and that the WNW-ESE trending fault segment of the TFFC does not continue through the MFC. This interpretation is also supported by the absence of other-WNW-ESE trending offshore faults offshore (Figure 1 & Figure 2)., such as For example, the Austhavet fault previously interpreted near the coasts of Finnmark (Townsend, 1987b; Lippard & Roberts, 1987; Roberts et al., 2011)-1225 We-was re-interpreted-the Austhavet fault as seismic artifacts related to the Djuprenna trough, a large glacial trough that trends parallel to the northeastern coast of Finnmark (Ottesen et al., 2008; Rise et al., 2015). Such a This re-interpretation conclusion is supported by shallow drillings on the Finnmark Platform east, which showing no sign of fault-related offset oin this part of the Finnmark Platform east (cf. fig. 4 in Bugge et al., 1995). Similarly, our mapping and regional analysis of 1230 brittle faults on the Finnmark Platform show very few occurrences of WNW-ESE trending faults (Figure 1 Figure 1 & Figure 2 Figure 2 Figure 2).

Our onshore studies (Koehl et al., submitted) show an increased number of large-scale WNW-ESE trending fault segments and splays along the TKFZ, varying from a single-segment fault onshore the Varanger Peninsula in eastern Finnmark (Figure 1) to multiple segments onshore and nearshore Magerøya (Figure 1), This-suggestings that the island of Magerøya is located near the fault-tip process zone (Shipton & Cowie, 2003; Braathen et al., 2013) of the TKFZ, and that the TKFZ therefore dies out to the west before reaching the Finnmark Platform and the

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Nordkinn Peninsula, high-resultion aeromagnetic data reveal the presence of highly magnetic
dolerite dykes along WNW-ESE trending fault segments of the TKFZ (Roberts et al., 1991; Nasuti et al., 2015; Koehl et al., submitted). These narrow, high-positive aeromagnetic anomalies also die out westwards (Gernigon & Brönner, 2012; Gernigon et al., 2014), therefore supporting that the dolerite dykes and, thus, the TKFZ may-die out before reaching the Finnmark Platform (Koehl et al., submitted).

southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (Figure 1; Koehl et al. submitted). Nearby Magerøya and the

1245 -We explore consider an alternative model to the fault-tip process zone of Koehl et al. (submitted)- in which Wwe argue that, during the Caledonian Orogeny, the Precambrian, orogenparallel, WNW-ESE trending TKFZ was oriented subparallel to the dominant top to the SE transport direction of Caledonian thrusts in northern Norway (Townsend, 1987a) and thus not suitably oriented to be reactivated as a major thrust or strike-slip fault during the Caledonian 1250 Orogeny. Instead, oOur data indicate that if the TKFZ extended farther west-onto the Finnmark Platform west prior to the onset of Caledonian deformation, it was certainly and was truncated and decapitated by large-scale, top-to-the-SE movement along the SISZ and associated NE-SW trending, Caledonian thrusts and shear zones during top to the SE thrusting, This is supported by dominant top-to-the-SE transport direction inferred along Caledonian thrusts onshore NW 1255 Finnmark (Townsend, 1987a). Thus, we propose that the western continuation of the TKFZ on below the Finnmark Platform may have been transported/thrusted southeastwards along the SISZ and is now most likely croded. However, if the TKFZ ever extended westwards, portions of the its western prolongation of the TKFZ-mightay have been preserved offshore in offshore basement highs such as the Loppa and Veslemøy highs (Figure 1, Figure 1, Figure 1), assuming that the TKFZ 1260 extended west of Magerøya into the SW Barents Sea prior to the Caledonian Orogeny. More work is needed on this hypothesis, but a possible insight is This is supported by the recent observation of subvertical, WNW-ESE trending brittle faults analog to the TKFZ on-in basement rocks of the

# 1265 5.6. Late Paleozoic evolution of the SW Barents Sea margin

Veslemøy High (Kairanov et al., 2016).

Based on the seismic data and discussions from previous chapters we now address the tectonic evolution of the Finnmark Platform and the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin in the late

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Paleozoic (Figure 11Figure 10). The main structural element discussed in our model is the SISZ and we link its influence on (i) the development of the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin, (ii) the geometry of the TFFC and MFC, (iii) the deposition of Mid/Late Devonian sedimentary rocks in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin and on the Finnmark Platform west, (iv) transfer faults such as the TKFZ and (v) the deposition of syn-tectonic sedimentary wedges along steep normal faults that bound triangular-shaped, <u>Carboniferous</u> basins-in the Carboniferous.

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We have demonstrated the presence of major, basement-seated, Caledonian shear zones on the Finnmark Platform west and below the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin. The largest of these shear zones is the SISZ, which strikes NE-SW and dips to the northwest (Figure 4c-g & Figure 5f). The trend and dominant northwestern dip of the SISZ (Figure 5c-g & Figure 6f) is shear zone suggest that it formed as a large thrust that accommodated top-to-the-SE tectonic transport during the Caledonian Orogeny. The SISZ has a bow-shaped, three-dimentionally folded geometry that coincides with basement ridges in the footwall of the TFFC and of the Rolvsøya fault (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4c-f, Figure 7Figure 6 and Figure 11Figure 11Figure 10). We propose that the SISZ and potential other Caledonian shear zones along the SW Barents Sea margin were inverted as low-angle extensional shear zones during late/post-Caledonian orogenic extension and subsequent collapse. This is based on analog examples in northeast Greenland (Sartini-Rideout et al., 2006; Hallett et al., 2014; McClelland et al., 2016), western Norway (Séranne & Seguret, 1987; Séranne et al., 1989; Wilks & Cuthbert, 1994; Osmundsen & Andersen, 2001), mid-Norway (Braathen et al., 2000) and Lofoten-Vesterålen (Klein & Steltenpohl, 1999; Klein et al., 1999; Steltenpohl et al., 2004; 2011; Osmundsen et al., 2005). Extensional reactivaton of such ductile shear zones along the Barents Sea margin mayight have initiated in the Early Devonian, as in Lofoten-Vesterålen (Steltenpohl et al., 2011), through by crustal thinning and orogenic collapse through-dominated by dominant top-to-the-NW displacement movement along the SISZ, and later e

Exhumation of the SISZ and underlying basement ridges as a metamorphic core complex
 was probably triggered by extensional reactivation of the SISZ combined to continental erosion,
 leading to crustal thinning. Reactivation of these exhumed basement ridges occurred by normal faulting along new, steep, brittle faults such as the main segment of the MFC and the NNE-SSW trending fault segment of the TFFC (cf. Figure 5Figure 4f), likely due to incisement and excisement processes (Figure 10Figure 10Figure 9; Lister & Davis, 1989). These processes also

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1300	contributed to <u>a the</u> progressive exhumation of basement rocks as ENE-WSW and NE-SW trending
	basement ridges along bowed portions of the SISZ (cf. Figure 5Figure 4c-f and Figure /
	<u>11 Figure 11 Figure 10</u> a & b). We believe that these ridges were part of a larger-scale NE-SW
I	trending metamorphic core complex that included the Norsel High and the two basement ridges
	located in the footwall of the TFFC and the Rolvsøya fault. Farther south, this core complex may
1305	be linked to the West Troms Basement Complex (Bergh et al., 2010) and the Lofoten Ridge
	(Blystad et al., 1995; Figure 11, Figure 11, Figure 10). Such a regional link is favored by the
I	alignement of NE-SW trending, high-positive gravimetric anomalies that characterize these ridges
	(Olesen et al., 2010; Gernigon et al., 2014). The timing of final core complex exhumation can be
	constrained to Mid/Late Devonian-early Carboniferous and possibly linked to the regional
1310	Serpukhovian unconformity on the Finnmark Platform (cf. Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4a, b, e, f & g
	and <u>Figure 6Figure 6</u> Figure 5a-c; Bugge et al., 1995), in accordance with Sartini-Rideout et al.
I	(2006) and Hallett et al. (2014) in northeast Greenland.
	The exhumation of basement ridges as metamorphic core complexes along the inverted
	SISZ and subsequent normal faulting along the MFC and TFFC created a deep, spoon-shaped
1315	topographic depression on the Finnmark Platform west and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp
	basin (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4c, d, e & g, Figure 6Figure 6Figure 5b & c and Figure 11Figure
	HFigure 10a). These depressions were filled with thick Devonian clastic deposits analog to those
I	observed in Middle Devonian collapse basins in western Norway (Séranne et al., 1989; Osmundsen

I	On the Finnmark Platform west, the final stages of core complex exhumation and a major
	phase of eustatic sea-level fall in the Serpukhovian (Saunders & Ramsbottom, 1986) led to
1325	extensive erosion of Devonian and lower Carboniferous sedimentary rocks, therefore explaining
	the absence of lower Carboniferous sedimentary deposits and the erosional truncation of Devonian
	sedimentary strata along this part of the margin (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4e-g & Figure 6Figure 6
	Figure 5b & c). On the Finnmark Platform east, lower Carboniferous sedimentary rocks are
I	preserved as minor syn-tectonic sedimentary wedges within small triangular grabens and half-
1330	grabens that correlate with aeromagnetic lows (dashed white line in Figure 4Figure 4Figure 3).

& Andersen, 2001), and with lower Carboniferous coal-bearing and clastic sedimentary rocks of

the Billefjorden Group (Figure 3 Figure 3) deposited unconformably above Devonian strata (cf. Figure 11 Figure 10b). These collapse basins are also likely responsible for the gravimetric low observed on the Finnmark Platform west,: the Gjesvær Low (Figure 4Figure 4Figure 3).

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These grabens are bounded by zigzag-shaped, Late Devonian-Carboniferous normal faults such as the LVF (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4a & b and Figure 6Figure 6Figure 5a; Koehl et al., submitted), *j* which coincide with narrow, high-positive aeromagnetic anomalies (cf. Figure 4Figure 4Figure 3 and black vertical arrows in Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4a & b). In addition, triangular basins like the graben bounded by the LVF and the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin were partly offset and segmented by WNW-ESE trending transfer faults that accommodated small amount of strike-slip displacementmotion. Examples include the TKFZ onshore NW Finnmark, which may offsets the LVF in a right-lateral fashion (Koehl et al., submitted), and accommodation cross-faults (Sengör, 1987) that accommodated large amount of orogen-parallel extension through normal dip-slip movement, for examplee.g. the WNW-ESE trending fault segment of the TFFC (Figure 5Figure 4g and Figure 9Figure 9Figure 8a).

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In the late Serpukhovian, a regional episode of eustatic sea-level rise (Saunders & Ramsbottom, 1986) flooded the Finnmark Platform east and west and allowed the deposition of sedimentary rocks of the upper Carboniferous Gipsdalen Group (Figure 3Figure 3). These rocks 1345 occur as syn-tectonic sedimentary wedges that thicken in the hanging-wall of basin-bounding normal faults such as the LVF on the Finnmark Platform east and the main segment of the MFC on the Finnmark Platform west (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4a, b, e & f and Figure 11Figure 11Figure +0c). Similarly, in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin, which may have remained flooded through the entire phase of eustatic sea-level fall and core complex exhumation, thick, partly 1350 evaporitic, upper Carboniferous sedimentary rocks were deposited in the basin and these are thickest at the intersection between of the TFFC and the MFC (Figure 5Figure 4c, d & g and Figure 9Figure 9Figure 8b). Thus, the thickening of upper Carboniferous strata probably reflects significant syn-sedimentary normal faulting along these two faults, which may have acted as a single fault during in the final stage of extension in the late Carboniferous (Figure 11 Figure 1355 <u>11Figure 10</u>c).

Most faults on the Finnmark Platform east and west and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin appear to die out below the Base Asselian reflection and those that propagate through the Base Asselian reflection show limited amount of offset within Permian and Mesozoic-Cenozoic sedimentary strata (Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4). Moreover, the Permian sedimentary succession shows a rather constant thickness through the entire study area (Figure 5Figure 4 & Figure 9Figure 8c). Thus, we argue that late/post-Caledonian extensional faulting linked to the

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collapse of the Caledonides essentially took place in the Mid/Late Devonian-Carboniferous and came to a halt towards the end of th<u>is Periode late Carboniferous</u> (Figure <u>11Figure 11Figure 10d</u>). This presumed timing is consistent with recent K/Ar radiometric dating of brittle fault gouges in Western Troms (Davids et al., 2013) and in NW Finnmark (Torgersen et al., 2014; Koehl et al., 2016), as well as with radiometric dating of dolerite dykes in NW Finnmark (Lippard & Prestvik, 1997), eastern Finnmark (Guise & Roberts, 2002) and on the Kola Peninsula in Russia (Roberts & Onstott, 1995), which constrain significant extensional faulting activity onshore northern Norway and adjacent areas in Russia to the Late Devonian-early/mid Permian. Minor reactivation of major fault complexes occurred in the Mesozoic-Cenozoic and are most likely associated with the rifting of the NE Atlantic (Faleide et al., 2008).

## 6. Conclusions

- The atypically linear, NE-SW trending, main fault segment of the Måsøy Fault Complex formed as a brittle splay of the inverted Caledonian Sørøya-Ingøya shear zone through excisement processes during the collapse of the Caledonides in the Mid/Late Devonianearly Carboniferous and was active until the end of the late Carboniferous.
- 2) The WNW-ESE trending fault segment of the Troms-Finnmark Fault Complex developed as a hard-linked, accommodation cross-fault that accommodated orogen-parallel, late/postorogen extension in the Mid/Late Devonian-Carboniferous. This fault merged with the main fault segment of the Måsøy Fault Complex and the two faults acted as a single fault at least during the late Carboniferous, but potentially from Devonian-early Carboniferous times, and accommodated the deposition of thick Devonian-lower Carboniferous and partly evaporitic upper Carboniferous deposits in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin before faulting came to a halt towards the end of the late Carboniferous.
  - 3) Low-gravity anomalies in the Gjesvær Low and southwesternmost Nordkapp basin may result from the presence of a thick, Mid/Late Devonian, spoon-shaped sedimentary basin that developed along an inverted, bowed portion of the Sørøya-Ingøya shear zone during the collapse of the Caledonides and that display a geometry similar to those of Middle Devonian, late/post-orogenic collapse basins in western and mid-Norway.

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- 4) The ENE-WSW and NE-SW trending basement ridges in the footwall of the Troms-Finnmark Fault Complex and on the northern flank of the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin formed through incisement processes and were exhumed along a bowed portion of the Sørøya-Ingøya shear zone during the collapse of the Caledonides in the Mid/Late Devonian-early Carboniferous. These basement ridges are thought to be part of a largescale, margin-parallel, NE-SW trending, metamorphic core complex that includes a succession of aligned basement highs such as the Lofoten Ridge, the West Troms Basement Complex and the Norsel High. Core complex exhumation is believed to have stopped by the end of the Serpukhovian when a major eustatic sea-level rise flooded the Finnmark Platform, leading to the deposition of widespread upper Carboniferous sediments.
  - 5) The Sørøya-Ingøya shear zone is thought to have truncated and decapitated Precambrian faults such as the Trollfjord<u>en</u>-Komagelv<u>a</u> Fault Zone through top-to-the-SE thrusting during the Caledonian Orogeny and subsequent late/post-orogenic extension. We nevertheless believe that preserved segments of these Precambrian faults might be preserved offshore on basement highs such as the Loppa and Veslemøy highs. However, more work is required in order to map and evaluate the impact of these WNW-ESE trending, subvertical Precambrian faults on the SW Barents Sea margin.
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## Data availability

The seismic data analyzed in this study are part of the DISKOS database and are publicly accessible from any Norwegian academic institution. Aeromagnetic data discussed in the present contribution are from Gernigon et al. (2014).

## 1415

## Author contribution

Jean-Baptiste Koehl interpreted the seismic and aeromagnetic data and is the main contributor to the writing process (work-load ca. 45 %). Professor Steffen Bergh provided significant input to the "Introduction" and "Geological Setting" sections as well as detailed critical reviews of the whole manuscript (work-load ca. 30 %). Tormod Henningsen helped initiating the project and provided help with seismic well-ties and regional seismic interpretation (work-load ca.

15 %). Professor Jan-Inge Faleide provided help with the writing process and helped improve the margin evolution model (work-load ca. 10 %).

## 1425 Acknowledgements

The present study is part of the ARCEx project (Research Centre for Arctic Petroleum Exploration), which is funded by the Research Council of Norway (grant number 228107) together with ten academic and eight industry partners. We would like to thank all the persons from these institutions that are involved in this project. We acknowledge the NPD, the NTNU and Schlumberger for sharing seismic data from the DISKOS database, with special thanks to Dicky Harishidayat for taking care of the transfer of the data. We thank Tom Arne Rydningen from the University of Tromsø for reviewing parts of the manuscript. We would also like to thank Hanne-Kristin Paulsen from the University of Tromsø as well as Gwenn Péron-Pinvidic and Per-Terje Osmundsen from the NGU for fruitful discussions.

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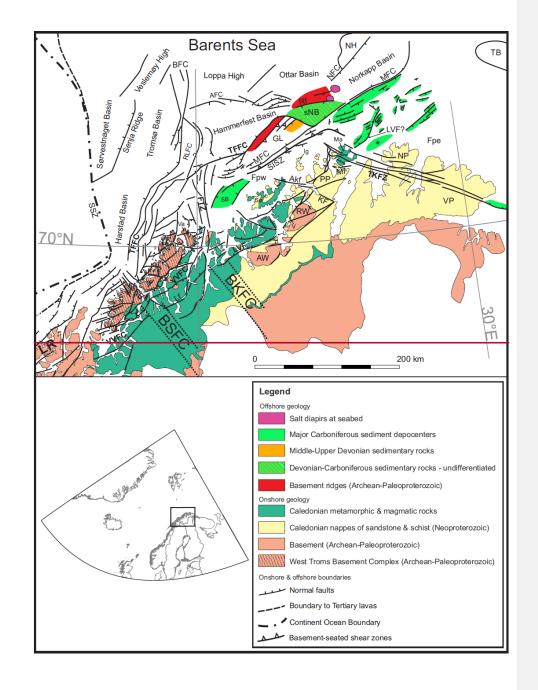
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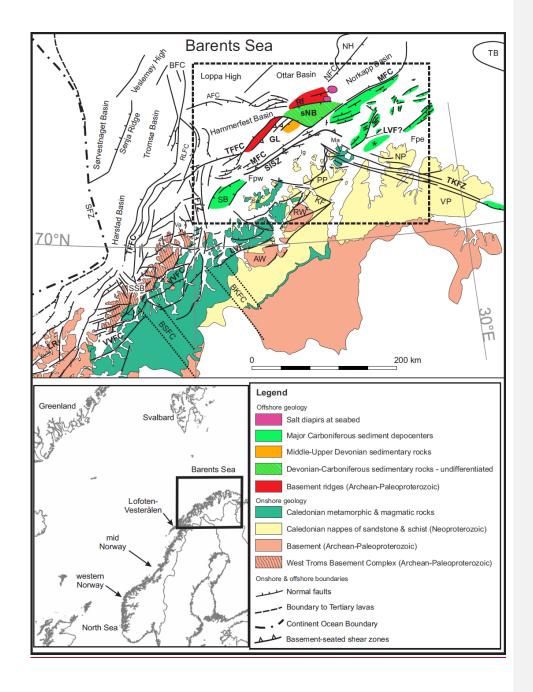
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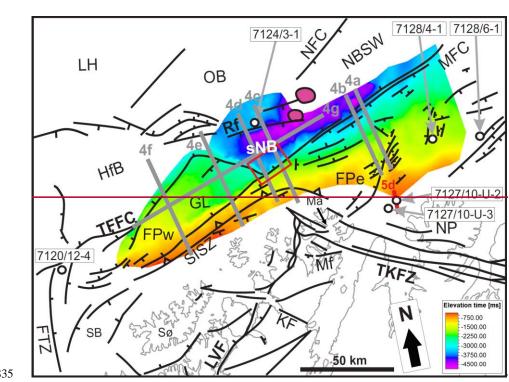
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1	820	Figure 1: Regional structural map of the SW Barents Sea margin (based on Bergh et al. 2007, Faleide et al. 2008, Hansen et
		al. 2012 and Indrevær et al. 2013 and Koehl et al. submitted). The onshore geology is from the NGU and Ramberg et al.
		(2008). Dashed black frame locates Figure 2Figure 2. The black star marks the location of the speculated half-graben
		structure described in Bugge et al. (1995), which we reinterpret as a prograding sedimentary system unconformably resting
		on basement rocks. Location of the Barents Sea shown as a black frame in lower left inset map. Abbreviations: AFC =
1	825	Asterias Fault Complex; Akf = Akkarfjord fault; AW = Alta-Kvænangen tectonic window; BFC = Bjørnøyrenna Fault
		Complex; BSFC = Bothnian-Senja Fault Complex; BKFC = Bothnian-Kvænangen Fault Complex; FPe = Finnmark
		Platform east; FPw = Finnmark Platform west; FTZ = Fugløya transfer zone; GL = Gjesvær Low; Ig = Ingøya; KF = Kokelv
		Fault; L = Langfjorden; Lf = Laksvatn fault; LR = Lofoten Ridge; LVF = Langfjord-Vargsund fault; Ma = Magerøya; Mf
		= Magerøysundet fault; MFC = Måsøy Fault Complex; NFC = Nysleppen Fault Complex; NH = Norsel High; NP = Nordkinn
1	830	Peninsula; PP = Porsanger Peninsula; Rf = Rolvsøya fault; RLFC = Ringvassøya-Loppa Fault Complex; RW = Repparfjord-
		Komagfjord tectonic window; SB = Sørvær Basin; SFZ = Senja Fracture Zone; SISZ = Sørøya-Ingøya shear zone; sNB =
		southwesternmost Nordkapp basin; SSB = Sørøy sub-basinenja Shear Belt; SSZ = Senja Shear Zone; Sø = Sørøya; TB =
		Tiddlybanken Basin; TFFC = Troms-Finnmark Fault Complex; TKFZ = Trollfjorden-Komagelva Fault Zone; V =
		Vargsund; Va = Vannøya; VP = Varanger Peninsula; VVFC = Vestfjorden-Vanna fault complex.



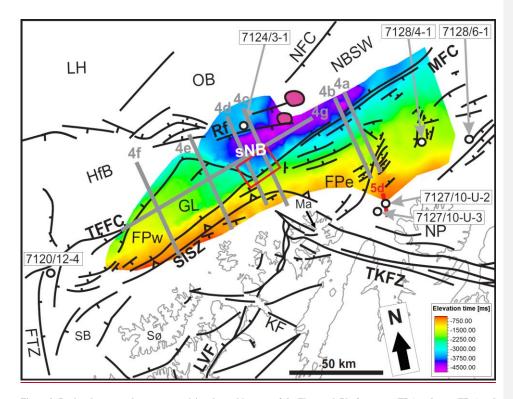
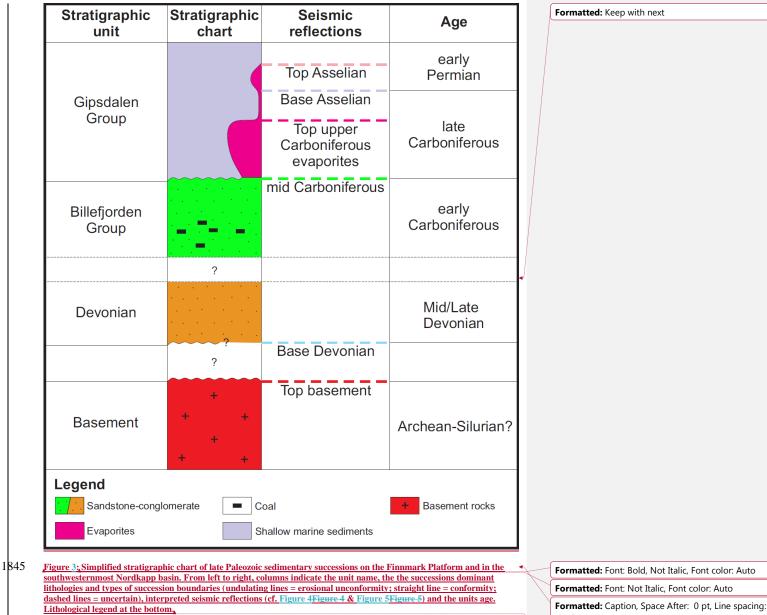


Figure 2: Regional structural map summarizing the architecture of the Finnmark Platform east (FPe) and west (FPw) and of the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (sNB). The figure includes a time map of the interpreted mid-Carboniferous reflection. Grey lines show the location of seismic profiles displayed in <u>Figure 5Figure 5</u>Figure 4a-g, the red line displays the location of the seismic section shown in <u>Figure 6Figure 6</u>Figure 5d and the red frame indicates the location of seismic Z-slices described in <u>Figure 8Figure 8</u>Figure 7. White dots show the location of exploration wells and shallow drill-cores while purple blobs represent major salt diapirs in the southernmost part of the Nordkapp Basin (NBSW). See <u>Figure 1</u>Figure 4.



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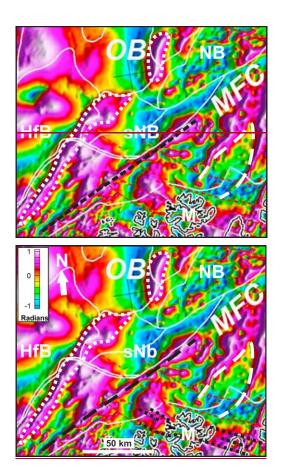
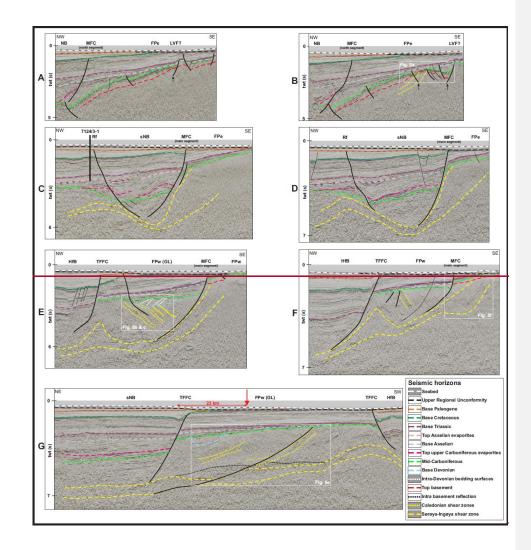
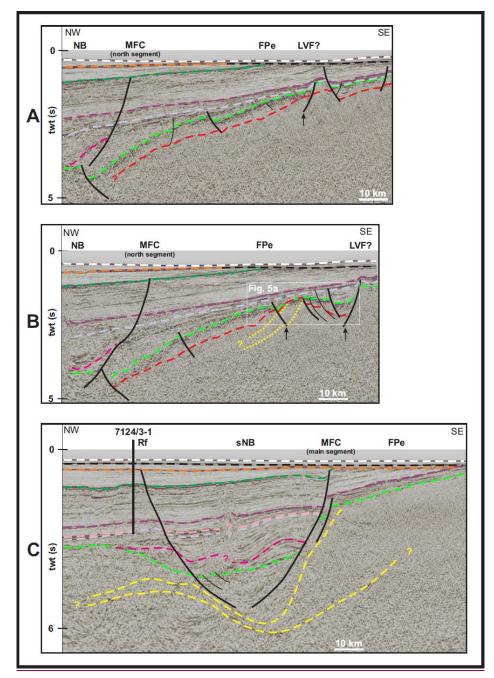
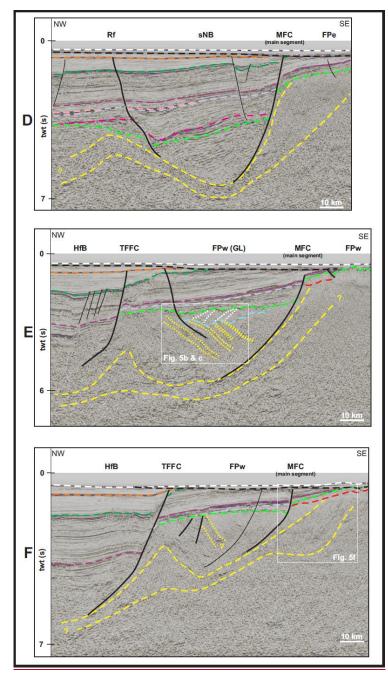


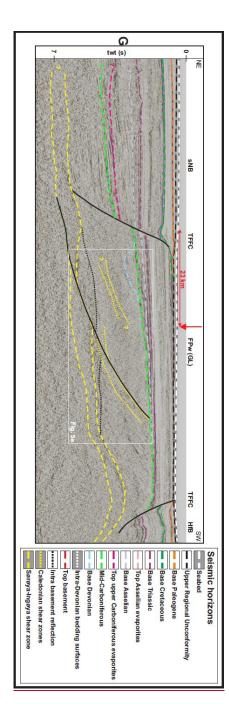
Figure 443: Zoom in offshore tilt-derivative aeromagnetic data published by Gernigon et al. (2014). The white dashed line on the Finnmark Platform east represents a triangular- to rhomboid-shaped aeromagnetic low that coincides with a Carboniferous basin bounded by zig-zag-shaped brittle faults (e.g. LVF). The dotted white lines on the Finnmark Platform west and on the northern flank of the southwesternmost basin represent ENE-WSW to NE-SW trending ridges of magnetic basement rocks. The dashed black line represents a linear, NE-SW trending, high positive aeromagnetic anomaly that has been tied to the occurrence of the main segment of the MFC (cf. Indrevær et al. 2013). <u>Dolerite dykes intruded along WNW-ESE trending fault segments of the TKFZ are shown by dotted black lines. Dashed red lines represent inferred from Gernigon et al. (2014). See Figure 1Figure 1 for abbreviations.</u>





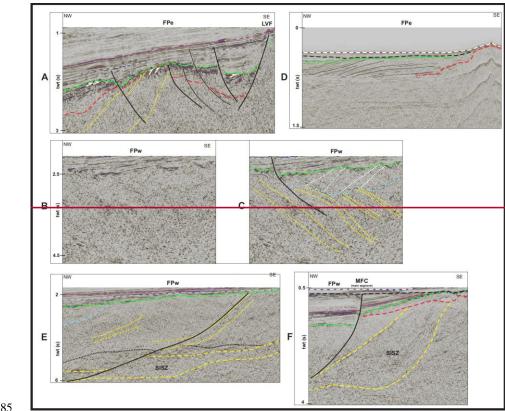


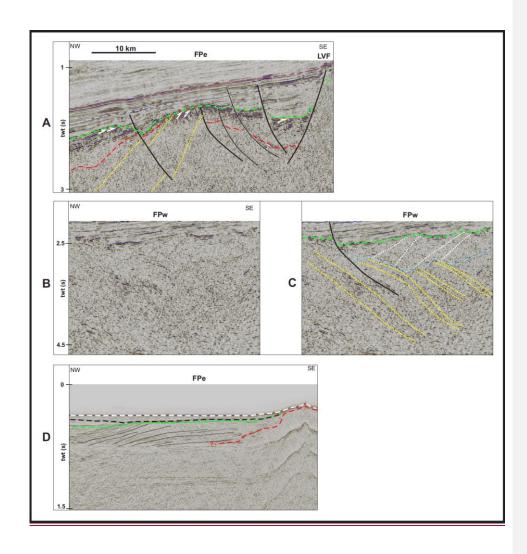




1865 Figure 554: Examples of interpreted seismic profiles from the BSS-01 survey (2D) which locations are displayed in Figure 2. Brittle faults are shown in black and depth is in seconds (s) TWT. See Figure 1Figure 1 for abbreviations; a) Interpreted seismic section that shows a system of Carboniferous horst-graben structures on the Finnmark Platform east; b) Seismic profile showing increased normal displacement across the NW-dipping LVF compared with (a) and thickening of the Carboniferous sedimentary succession within the graben bounded by the LVF. Note the insignificant 1870 amount of the displacement accommodated by the northern segment of the MFC in (a) and (b). Black arrows mark brittle faults that bound a triangular-shaped, negative aeromagnetic anomaly (cf. dashed white line in Figure 4Figure 4Figure 3); c) Seismic profile showing a highly thickened Carboniferous succession and potential Devonian-lower Carboniferous sedimentary rocks in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin. Note the large offset accommodated by the main segment of the MFC and the peculiar "U" shape of the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin. Also displayed is a lateral projection of 1875 exploration well 7124/3-1; d) Interpreted seismic section that shows the listric geometries of the main segment of the MFC and of the Rolvsøya fault; e) Seismic section showing potential Devonian sedimentary rocks deposited in a NE-SW trending graben above a set of minor, SE-dipping shear zones on the Finnmark Platform west; f) Seismic section showing the listric geometries of the TFFC and MFC, which both seem to sole into the SISZ; g) NE-SW trending seismic cross-section across the Finnmark Platform west and the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin showing the gentle dip of the SISZ to the northeast 1880 and a gradual thinning of the upper Carboniferous sedimentary succession towards the southwest. A major NNE-SSW trending, SE-dipping brittle fault seems to offset the SISZ and an intra-basement reflection on the Finnmark Platform west

before being truncated by the mid-Carboniferous reflection. The vertical red arrow shows the location of the imaginary prolongation of the TKFZ on the Finnmark Platform west as a comparison with the actual location of the WNW-ESE trending fault segment of the TFFC, which are separated by a distance of ca. 23 km.





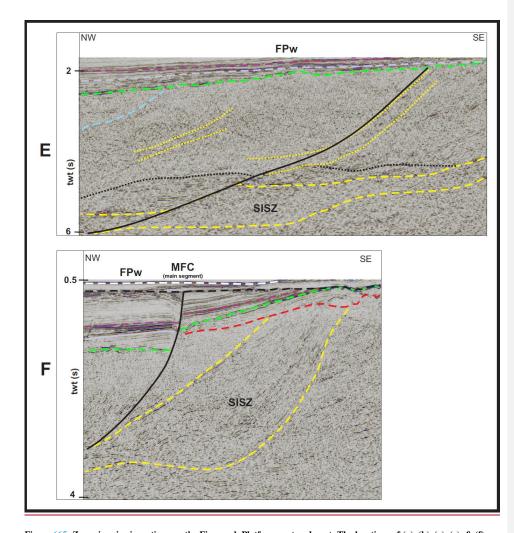
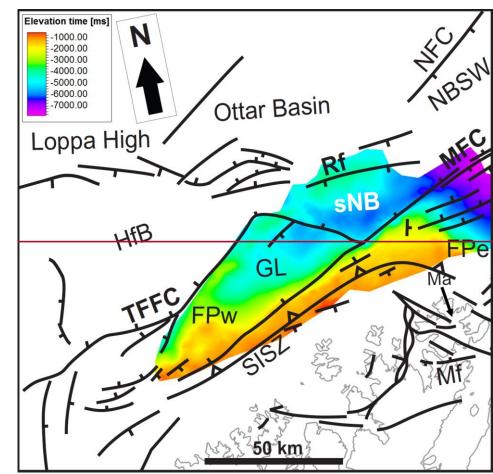


Figure 665: Zoom in seismic sections on the Finnmark Platform east and west. The locations of (a), (b), (c), (e), & (f) are displayed as white frames in Figure 5Figure 5Figure 4 and the location of (d) is shown as a red line in Figure 2Figure 2 2. See Figure 1 Figure 1 Figure 1 for abbreviations and Figure 5 Figure 5 Figure 4 for seismic reflection legend; a) Interpreted seismic section across the Finnmark Platform east. White arrows represent high-amplitude lower Carboniferous and basement seismic reflections that are truncated upwards (toplaps) by the mid-Carboniferous reflection. Note the contrast between low-amplitude upper Carboniferous-Permian reflections, gently dipping, high-amplitude lower Carboniferous reflections and steeply dipping, high-amplitude basement reflections that possibly belong to a basement-seated shear zone 1895 (yellow dotted lines); b) uninterpreted and c) interpreted seismic zoom of a section across presumed Devonian sedimentary rocks and SE-dipping basement shear zones (yellow dotted lines) on the Finnmark Platform west; d) Interpreted seismic section from the IKU-87-BA (2D) survey showing a thick lower Carboniferous succession made up of large clinoforms (thin black lines) on the Finnmark Platform east (location in Figure 2Figure 2Figure 2). Note the presence of seismic artifacts in the southeast, including several multiples and NW-dipping diffraction rays; e) Interpreted seismic section across the 1900 Finnmark Platform west that displays NE-dipping basement shear zones (yellow dotted lines) including the SISZ (yellow dashed lines); f) Seismic zoom in the SISZ in the footwall of the main segment of the MFC on the Finnmark Platform west.

The SISZ is composed of NW-dipping, moderate- to high-amplitude reflections that dip more gently than the MFC but that are steeper than basement reflections in the southeast. Note the significant thickness variations of the SISZ, thick in the footwall of the MFC and thin below the MFC.



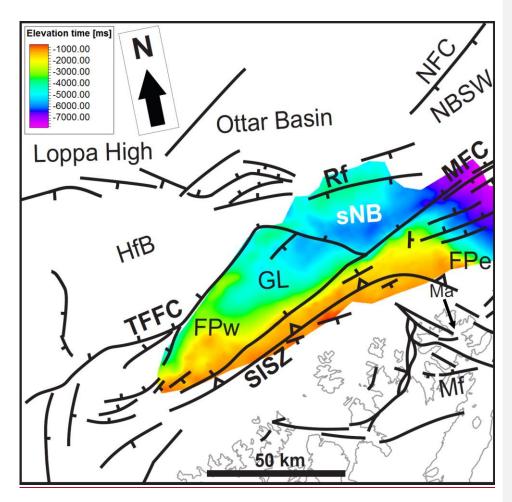
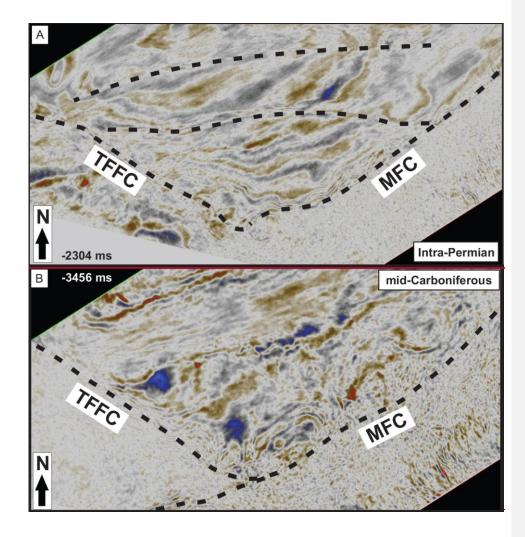


Figure 776: Time surface map of the top reflection of the SISZ and major brittle faults in the SW Barents Sea. Note the spoon-shaped depression formed by the SISZ on the Finnmark Platform west and southwesternmost Nordkapp basin, the abrupt change to a northeastward dip on the Finnmark Platform east, and the two narrow, NE-SW and ENE-WSW trending ridges in the footwall of the TFFC and of the Rolvsøya fault.



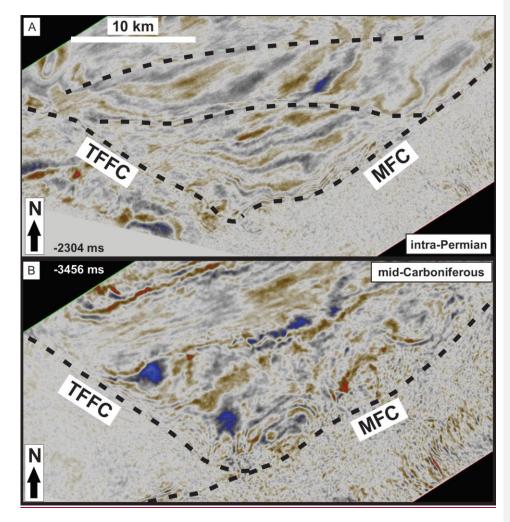
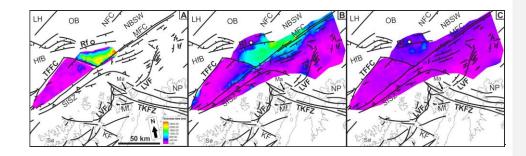
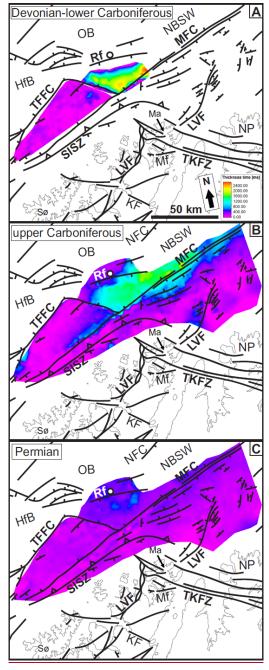


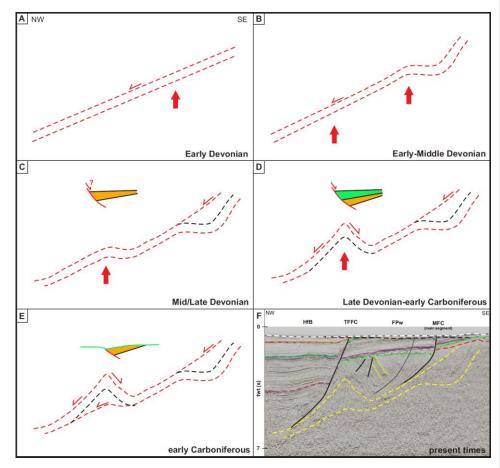
Figure <u>887</u>: (a) Intra-Permian seismic time-slice within 3D seismic survey MC3D-MFZ02 in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin. Dashed black lines correspond to interpreted brittle faults; (b) Seismic time-slice within 3D seismic survey MC3D-MFZ02 near the interpreted mid-Carboniferous reflection in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin. Black dashed lines represent interpreted brittle faults. See <u>Figure 2Figure 2</u> for location.





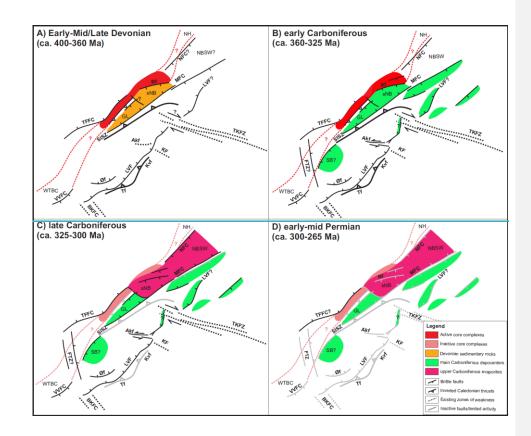
1000	Figure 998: Thickness maps in milliseconds (ms) two-way time (TWT) of late Paleozoic sedimentary successions on the
1920	Finnmark Platform and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin. Color scale in (a); a) Thickness map of the Devonian-
	lower Carboniferous succession on the Finnmark Platform west and in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin. The
	succession is thickest in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin and represents the thickest sedimentary unit of the basin.
	Note that in this part of the margin, the SISZ and basin-bounding faults were used as base Devonian reflections. On the
-	Finnmark Platform west, lower Carboniferous sedimentary rocks are missing but Devonian sedimentary deposits are
1925	possibly preserved in an ENE-WSW trending graben adjacent to the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin and bounded to
	the southeast by the MFC; b) Thickness map of the upper Carboniferous sedimentary succession showing gradual
	thickening of upper Carboniferous sedimentary rocks in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin, on the Finnmark Platform
	west in the hanging-wall of the MFC, and on the Finnmark Platform east in the hanging-wall of the LVF and of a SE-dipping
	fault that parallels the MFC; c) Thickness map of the Permian succession showing very thin Permian sedimentary deposits
1030	and your mild this mass variations within the Domnian addimentant approximation through out the study area

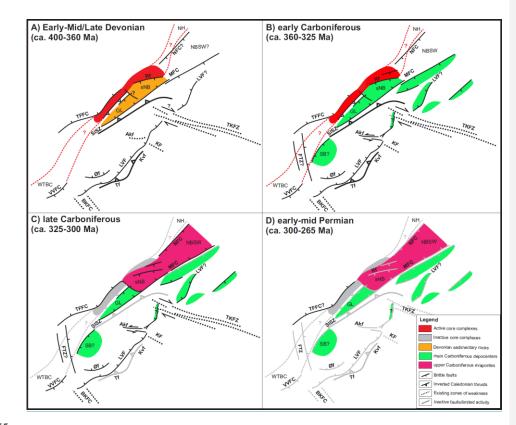
1930 and very mild thickness variations within the Permian sedimentary succession throughout the study area.



I Figure 10109: Evolutionary model that tentatively explainings thickness variations along the SISZ. Note that the timing of (a) to (e) is tentative. Dashed red lines in (a) to (e) correspond to tectonically active portions of the SISZ whereas dashed black lines show inactive portions. Red lines in (c), (d) & (e) show presumed normal faults. Thick vertical red arrows indicate 1935 exhumation of basement rocks along the SISZ. The model is adapted to the geometry of the SISZ observed below the Finnmark Platform west (see f); a) Extensional reactivation (thin red arrow) of the SISZ in Early Devonian times. Rapid crustal thinning and possible erosion along the upper part of the SISZ triggers exhumation of basement rocks near the coasts of NW Finnmark (thick red arrow); b) In the Early-Middle Devonian, continued extension and erosion, further thin the crust erustal thinning and basement exhumeation basement rocks in the footwall of the SISZ, leading the upper part of 1940 the SISZ to bow. Further Incremental crustal thinning due to continued extensional reactivation of the SISZ and continental erosion triggers exhumation of basement rocks along lower portions of the SISZ (left-hand side, thick red arrow); c) In Mid/Late Devonian times, bowed portions of the SISZ become inactive and excisement (i.e. upwards splaying; cf. Lister & Davis 1989) of the SISZ into its hanging-wall leads to thickening of the upper portion of the SISZ. Continued <u>extension and</u> <u>erosion (i.e.</u> crustal thinning) triggers bending of the lower part of the SISZ (thick red arrow) above which brittle normal faults may have formed and localized the deposition of Devonian sedimentary deposits (orange); d) Further exhumation of basement rocks along lower portions of the SISZ in the Late Devonian-early Carboniferous leads to extreme bending of the 1945 SISZ, to antithetic top-to-the-SE extensional faulting, and to early Carboniferous syn-tectonic sedimentation (green); e) Towards the end of the early Carboniferous, the lower portion of the SISZ is thickened due to incisement (i.e. downward splaying; cf. Lister & Davis 1989) of the SISZ into bow-shaped portions in its footwall. Core complex exhumation ceased in 1950 the Serpukhovian and a major sea-level fall exposed the Finnmark Platform to continental erosion (green line representing

the mid-Carboniferous reflection); f) Present times seismic expression of thickness variations along the SISZ (dashed yellow) on the Finnmark Platform west. See <u>Figure 5Figure 5</u>Figure 4 for seismic reflections color schemes.





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- Figure 111110: Map-view figures summarizing the late Paleozoic tectono-sedimentary evolution of the Finnmark Platform and southwesternmost Nordkapp basin (sNB). The tectonic evolution of onshore and nearshore faults in NW Finnmark is from Koehl et al. (submitted). Abbreviations as in Figure 1Figure 1-Figure 1. a) In the Early to Mid/Late Devonian, major Caledonian thrusts (e.g. SISZ) were inverted as low-angle extensional shear zones and exhumed metamorphic core complexes in the footwall of the TFFC and of the Rolvsøya fault. Thick Devonian sedimentary rocks were deposited within 1960 a spoon-shaped trough created by the geometry of the SISZ; b) Core complex exhumation continued through the early Carboniferous, though mostly accommodated by high-angle normal faults, which formed as brittle splays along Caledonian thrusts and shear zones (e.g. MFC, TFFC, Rolvsøya fault and LVF). Core complex exhumation ceased by the end of the Serpukhovian and the WNW-ESE trending fault segment of the TFFC formed as an accommodation cross-fault that decoupled the Finnmark Platform west from the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin, thus contributing to preserve thick 1965 Devonian and lower Carboniferous sedimentary successions in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin while these sedimentary rocks were almost completely eroded on the Finnmark Platform west. Minor graben and half-graben structures formed on the Finnmark Platform east. Precambrian, WNW-ESE to NNW-SSE trending fault zones such as the TKFZ segmented the margin and acted as minor transfer faults that accommodated limited amount of lateral displacement. Lateral movements along these faults ceased in the early Carboniferous; c) In the late Carboniferous, inverted Caledonian thrusts 1970 and shear zones became inactive and were truncated by high-angle splay-faults that accommodated the deposition of syntectonic sedimentary wedges on the Finnmark Platform east 0 and west, and of thick, partly evaporitic deposits in the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin; d) By the end of the Carboniferous, active brittle faulting came to a halt and the Finnmark Platform and the southwesternmost Nordkapp basin are believed to have remained tectonically quiet.