

## Trace fossils and depositional environments of the middle Turonian sandstones in the Upper Nysa Kłodzka Graben (Sudetes, Poland) revisited

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We provide the first reports of some rare trace fossils from the middle Turonian (Upper Cretaceous) of the Sudety Mountains (SW Poland, Upper Nysa Kłodzka Graben, Długopole Górne Quarry). These include burrows *?Ancorichnus* isp., *Asterosoma* cf. *ludwigae* Schlirf, 2000, *Asterosoma* isp., cf. *Phycodes* isp., *Dactyloidites otto* (Geinitz, 1849), *Funalichnus strangulatus* (Fritsch, 1883), *Phycodes* cf. *palmatus* (Hall, 1852), cf. *Phycodes* isp., *Phycosiphon incertum* Fischer-Ooster, 1858, *?Phycosiphon* isp., *Planolites beverleyensis* (Billings, 1862) and borings *Entobia* isp. Some body fossils, bivalves *?Brachidontes* sp., *Lima canalifera* Goldfuss, 1836, *Pinna* (*Pinna*) *cretacea* (Schlotheim, 1813) and *Rhynchostreon suborbiculatum* (Lamarck, 1801) are also reported. The trace fossil assemblage indicates a distal *Skolithos* ichnofacies and proximal *Cruziana* ichnofacies, which characterize a proximal and distal lower shoreface setting respectively. Sedimentation of the middle Turonian sandstones took place in a shallow epicontinental sea of normal salinity and a soft substrate, which was well-oxygenated under low-moderate hydrodynamic conditions. The presence of the oyster *Rhynchostreon* in the deposits studied suggests the influence of a warm Tethys Ocean.

Key words: ichnology, trace fossils, Upper Cretaceous, Sudetes, palaeoenvironment, shoreface.

### INTRODUCTION

Middle Turonian sandstones are exposed in the western part of the Upper Nysa Kłodzka Graben, in the vicinity of the Długopole Górne (Długopole-Zdrój Syncline, see Don and Gotowała, 2008; Figs. 1–3). The Upper Nysa Kłodzka Graben is one of the Late Cretaceous basins, together with the Saxonian, Danubian (Bavaria), Bohemian, Intra-Sudetic and North Sudetic basins in Central Europe, located around the Mid-European Island, which separates the temperate Boreal Realm in the north from the warm Tethyan Province in the south (Janetschke et al., 2015; Niebuhr and Seibertz, 2018; Fig. 1). Sedimentation, in these closely connected marginal basins of the shelf sea, commenced during the Cenomanian and continued up to Coniacian or Santonian (cf. Voigt et al., 2008; Niebuhr and Seibertz, 2018 and references therein).

The Upper Nysa Kłodzka Graben is one of the youngest units in the Sudetes, Poland, which originated in the late Turonian–early Coniacian (see Wojewoda, 1997). The sandstones studied belong to so-called Quadersandstein

megafacies (see Chrząstek, 2013a and references therein). Generalized sedimentological and tectonic data on sandstones from Długopole Górne Quarry were reported by Don and Wojewoda (2004), and trace fossils by Chrząstek (2013a). Sedimentological and ichnological data and interpretations of the correlative Radków Sandstones in the Intra-Sudetic Synclinorium were given by Jerzykiewicz and Wojewoda (1986), Wojewoda (1997) and Rotnicka (2005).

The newly found trace fossils (11 ichnogenera, 21 ichnospecies; 8 previously unknown from the study area), include the burrows *?Ancorichnus* isp., *Asterosoma* cf. *ludwigae* Schlirf, 2000, *Asterosoma* isp., *Dactyloidites otto* (Geinitz, 1849), *Funalichnus strangulatus* (Fritsch, 1883), *Phycodes* cf. *palmatus* (Hall, 1852), cf. *Phycodes* isp., *Phycosiphon incertum* Fischer-Ooster, 1858, *?Phycosiphon* isp., *Planolites beverleyensis* (Billings, 1862) and borings *Entobia* isp. help infer the conditions of deposition of these sandstones. Moreover, *Curvolithus simplex* Buatois, Mángano, Mikuláš and Maples, 1998, *Ophiomorpha nodosa* Lundgren, 1891, *Thalassinoides paradoxicus* Kennedy, 1967, *Thalassinoides suevicus* (Rieth, 1932) and *?Thalassinoides* isp., known earlier from the study area, have been also recorded (Table 1). A large swollen chamber (turn around, 21 cm in length) of an ophiomorid (*Thalassinoides*) has been also found.

Additionally, the body fossils *?Brachidontes* sp., *Pinna* (*Pinna*) *cretacea* (Schlotheim, 1813) and *Rhynchostreon suborbiculatum* (Lamarck, 1801) provide new palaeo-

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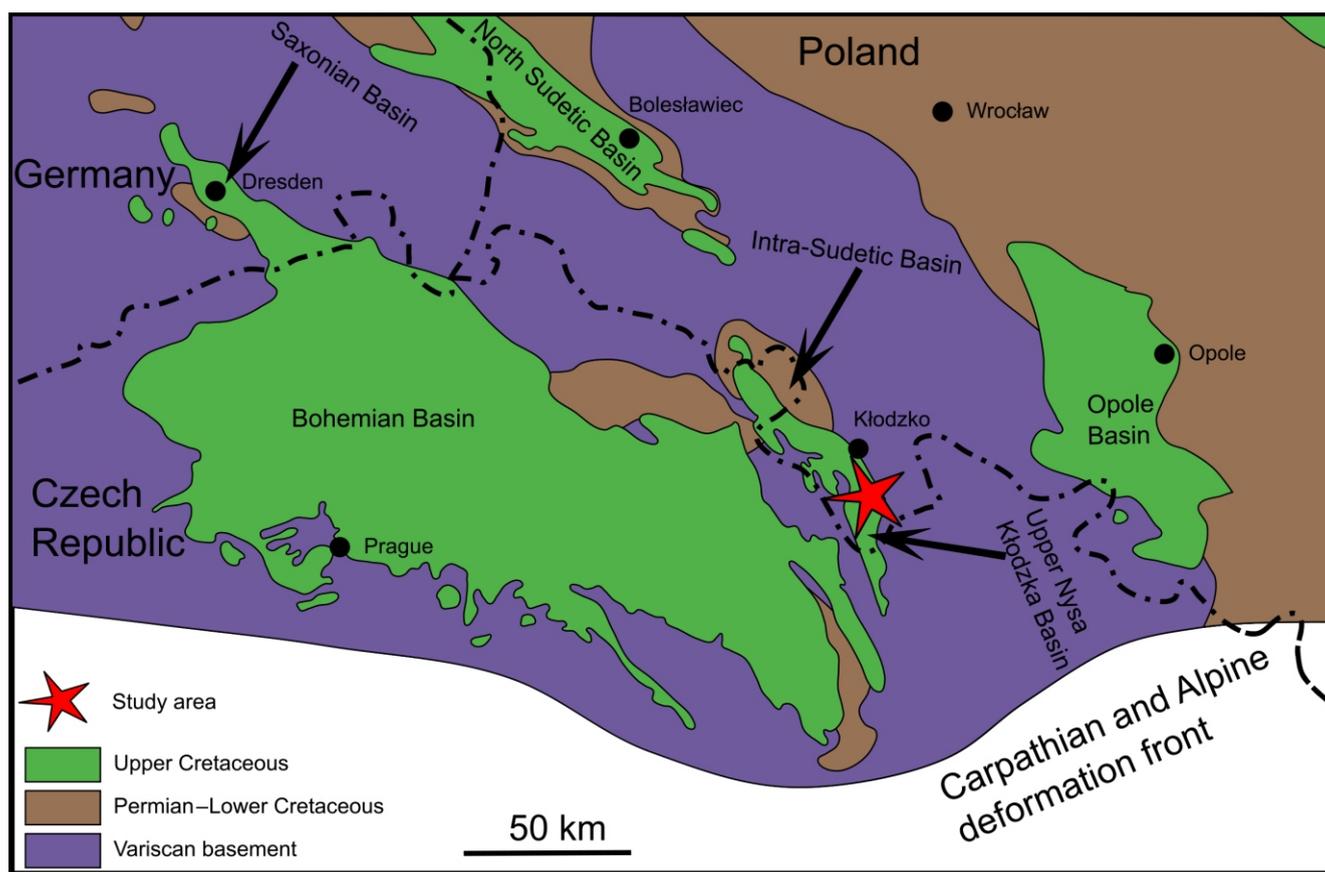


Fig. 1. Palaeogeographic map of the Sudetes region showing location of the Upper Cretaceous basins (according to Niebuhr and Seibert, 2018; slightly modified by the authors)

environmental and palaeogeographical data. *Dactyloidites* and *Funalichnus*, rare trace fossils, are previously unknown from the Upper Cretaceous of the Upper Nysa Kłodzka Graben. These ichnotaxa were described from equivalent deposits of adjacent areas (Czech Republic and Germany) by Pokorný (2008), Pokorný and Bažant (2011), Wilmsen and Niebuhr (2014a) and Niebuhr and Wilmsen (2016). The other ichnospecies, *Funalichnus bhubani* Tiwari, Rajkonwar, Patel, 2013 has been reported from the lower–middle Miocene of India by Tiwari et al. (2013). These trace fossils are good palaeoenvironmental indicators due to their restricted environmental ranges (see Uchman and Pervesler, 2007; Wilmsen and Niebuhr, 2014a). Other newly found trace fossils, such as *?Ancorichnus* isp. (a very rare form, see Uchman and Krenmayr, 2004), *Asterosoma* cf. *ludwigae*, *Asterosoma* isp., *Phycodes* cf. *palmatus*, cf. *Phycodes* isp., *Phycosiphon incertum*, *?Phycosiphon* isp. and *Planolites beverleyensis*, as well as accompanying body fossils, also provide new information on palaeoenvironmental conditions during sedimentation of the middle Turonian sandstones. *Asterosoma* and *Dactyloidites* have been recently recorded in the Upper Nysa Kłodzka Graben from the late Coniacian (Idzików Quarry; Chrząstek, 2020), and *Planolites* from middle Turonian limestones (Stara Bystrzyca Quarry; Chrząstek, 2012). Other trace fossils reported here, e.g., *?Ancorichnus* isp., *Funalichnus strangulatus*, *Phycodes* cf. *palmatus*, *Phycosiphon incertum* and borings *Entobia* isp. have not been previously described from the Upper Nysa Kłodzka Basin.

This paper describes the trace fossils collected so far, especially the previously unknown taxa (8 new ichnogenera). Palaeoecological study of the associated body fossils (bivalves) are also used in palaeoenvironmental analysis. Additionally, the trace and body fossil assemblage from the Upper Nysa Kłodzka Graben is compared, in ichnotaxonomical composition with other Upper Cretaceous assemblages from adjacent basins, e.g. the Saxony Cretaceous Basin (Elbe Group, Germany), Danubian Cretaceous Group (Bavaria, Germany), Bohemian Cretaceous Basin (Czech Republic) and North Sudetic and Intra-Sudetic basins (Poland; Fig. 1). Some sedimentologic and palaeogeographic conclusions are also drawn, e.g., the style of deposition of the succession studied and faunal interchanges between the North Temperate Realm and Tethyan Realm at the beginning of the middle Turonian.

## GEOLOGICAL SETTING

The study was conducted in Długopole Górne Quarry, in which middle Turonian sandstones are exposed (Figs. 2 and 3). The Upper Cretaceous deposits of the Upper Nysa Kłodzka Graben are composed of detrital deposits: siliceous-calcareous mudstones, calcareous mudstones, sandstones, sandy limestones and spongiolites (Wojewoda, 1997; Don and Wojewoda, 2005; Don and Gotowała, 2008), up to 1200 m in thickness. In the Cenomanian, and middle and upper Turonian, the Quadersandstein megafacies appears (see Chrząstek, 2013a).

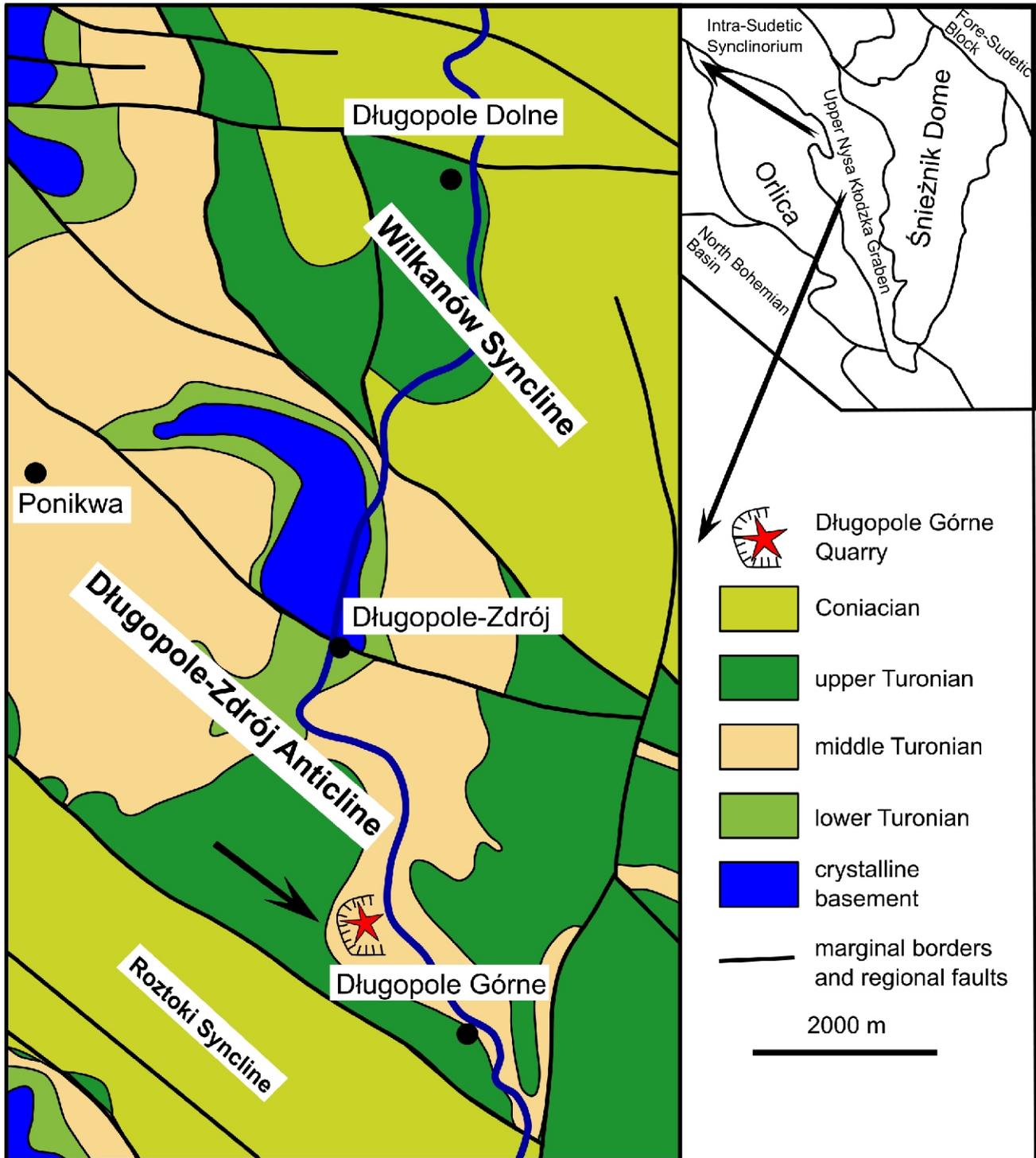


Fig. 2. Part of the geological map of the Upper Nysa Kłodzka Graben in the vicinity of Długopole Górne Quarry (after [Don and Gotowała, 2008](#)) and sketch of the Upper Nysa Kłodzka Graben (after [Cymerman, 1997](#); slightly modified by the authors)

The middle Turonian sandstones are 45 m thick in the vicinity of Bystrzyca Kłodzka and reach 110 metres in the northern and northwestern parts of the Upper Nysa Kłodzka Graben ([Don and Don, 1960](#); [Fistek and Gierwielaniec, 1964](#); [Komuda and Don, 1964](#); [Radwański 1965, 1975](#); [Wroński and Cwojdzński, 1984](#)). The sandstones studied pinch out towards the south and the south-east (see [Chrzęstek, 2013a](#)) and are 70 m thick in the neighbourhood of Długopole Górne (see also [Wroński, 1982](#)). The middle Turonian sandstones exposed in

Stara Bystrzyca and Długopole Górne Quarry represent the *Inoceramus lamarcki* Zone and probably represent the middle part of the middle Turonian (cf. [Chrzęstek, 2013a](#) and references therein). [Niedźwiedzki and Salamon \(2005\)](#), on the basis of the crinoid *Bourgueticrinus* sp., reported a late middle Turonian–earliest late Turonian age for the sandy siliceous mudstones, which were deposited in an offshore setting (see [Chrzęstek, 2012](#)).



Table 1

**Ichnodiversity and ichnoabundance of the trace fossils recorded in the middle Turonian sandstones in Długopole Górne Quarry**

|    | Ichnospecies  | Abundance:<br>abundant +++++,<br>common +++,<br>rare ++; very rare + |
|----|---|--|
| 1  | <i>?Ancorichnus</i> isp.  | +  |
| 2  | <i>Asterosoma</i> cf. <i>ludwigae</i> Schlirf, 2000                   | +  |
| 3  | <i>Asterosoma</i> isp.  | ++   |
| 4  | cf. <i>Asterosoma</i> isp.  | ++   |
| 5  | <i>Curvolithus simplex</i> Buatois, Mángano, Mikuláš and Maples, 1998 | +  |
| 6  | <i>Dactyloidites otto</i> (Geinitz, 1849)                             | +++  |
| 7  | <i>Funalichnus strangulatus</i> (Fritsch, 1883)                       | +  |
| 8  | <i>?Macaronichnus</i> isp. (Chrzastek, 2013a)                         | +  |
| 9  | <i>Ophiomorpha nodosa</i> Lundgren, 1891                              | ++++   |
| 10 | <i>Ophiomorpha</i> isp.   | +++  |
| 11 | <i>?Ophiomorpha</i> isp.  | ++   |
| 12 | <i>Palaeophycus tubularis</i> Hall, 1847 (Chrzastek, 2013a)           | ++   |
| 13 | <i>Phycodes</i> cf. <i>palmatus</i> (Hall, 1852)                      | +  |
| 14 | cf. <i>Phycodes</i> isp.  | ++   |
| 15 | <i>Phycosiphon incertum</i> Fischer-Ooster, 1858                      | +++  |
| 16 | <i>?Phycosiphon</i> isp.  | ++   |
| 17 | <i>Planolites beverleyensis</i> (Billings, 1862)                      | +  |
| 18 | <i>Thalassinoides paradoxicus</i> Kennedy, 1967                       | +  |
| 19 | <i>Thalassinoides suevicus</i> A (Rieth, 1932)                        | +++  |
| 20 | <i>Thalassinoides suevicus</i> B (Rieth, 1932)                        | ++   |
| 21 | <i>Thalassinoides</i> isp.  | ++   |
| 22 | <i>?Thalassinoides</i> isp.   | ++   |
| 23 | <i>Entobia</i> isp.   | ++   |

The middle Turonian sandstones from the Upper Nysa Kłodzka Graben may be correlated in age, facies development and style of deposition with the Radków Bluff Sandstones of the Intra-Sudetic Basin (Stołowe Mountains; Wojewoda, 1997; Don and Gotowała, 2008; Fig. 3). The middle Turonian sandstones of the Intra-Sudetic Synclinorium (Stołowe Mountains) were interpreted by Jerzykiewicz and Wojewoda (1986) and Wojewoda (1997) as sandstone foresets (so-called accumulation terraces), up to 17 m thick, which show giant-scale cross-bedding. The equivalents of the middle Turonian sandstones in the Bohemian Cretaceous Basin (Jižera Formation) have been interpreted by various authors as sandstone bodies (subaquatic dunes) forming up to 14 m thick sets of “tabular cross-bedding”, dominated by tidal and storm currents (cf. Skoček and Valečka, 1983) or deposits of a coarse-grained Gilbert-type delta (see discussion in Uličný, 2001; Laurin and Uličný, 2004). According to the latter authors, the fan-like shape of steep foreset packages, upward-coarsening trend and predominance of coarse-grained deposits may indicate deltaic sedimentation (cf. Uličný, 2001).

The depositional environment of the middle Turonian sandstones exposed in Długopole Górne Quarry (Figs. 2 and 3), has been interpreted as of shallow-marine, distal lower shoreface to upper offshore facies (Chrzastek, 2013a). The possible palaeoenvironment for the equivalents of the studied deposits was suggested by Jerzykiewicz and Wojewoda (1986) and Rotnicka (2005) as offshore, ?upper offshore respectively.

In palaeogeographic terms, the middle Turonian sandstones are regarded as regressive deposits (Wojewoda, 1997). During

the early middle Turonian, quiet pelitic sedimentation was interrupted by tectonic block movements that affected the source area and basin floor (East Sudetic Island; cf. Jerzykiewicz and Wojewoda, 1986; Wojewoda, 1997; Biernacka and Józefiak, 2009; Chrzastek and Wojewoda, 2011). Erosion in the source area produced large amounts of coarse clastic material, which was transported to the Upper Nysa Kłodzka Palaeobasin and deposited in elongated depressions, bordered by fault escarpments, forming giant foresets, i.e. accumulation terraces (cf. Jerzykiewicz and Wojewoda, 1986; Fig. 1). According to Voigt et al. (2008), in many Late Cretaceous European basins, long-term trends in relative sea-level changes (eustatic events) occurred, such as the late Cenomanian rise, the early Turonian peak and the middle Turonian low. A relative sea-level low was reached in the early middle Turonian (see also Rotnicka, 2005; Uličný et al., 2009), when sedimentation of the Długopole Górne sandstones began.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

Ichnological and sedimentological studies were carried out in Długopole Górne Quarry, PIASMAR Company (Szklary), and at the Arboretum Wojsławice (Branch of the Botanical Garden of the University of Wrocław).

Ichnological studies comprised ichnotaxonomy, ichnodiversity, ichnoabundance, ichnodisparity, bioturbation index (BI), and tiering pattern of the studied ichnoassemblage. Ichnodiversity refers to the number of ichnotaxa present, usu-

ally at ichnogenetic level (see Luo et al., 2020), while ichnoabundance was measured after Knaust (2017, slightly modified): very rare (single specimens), rare (2–6 specimens), common (7–9 specimens), very common (10–22 specimens), abundant (>23; see Table 1). Ichnodiversity was assessed following Buatois and Mángano (2013) and Buatois et al. (2017) as the number of architectural designs. Bioturbation index (BI), which refers to the amount of bioturbation on bedding planes, was conducted after Taylor and Goldring (1993) and Taylor et al. (2003), redefined recently by MacEachern and Bann (2020, fig. 2), where BI = 0 means unbioturbated (bioturbation absent), BI = 1 sparse bioturbation (1–5%), BI = 2 uncommon bioturbation – low trace density (5–30%), BI = 3 moderate bioturbation (30–60%), BI = 4 common bioturbation (60–90%), BI = 5 abundant bioturbation (90–99%) and BI = 6 complete bioturbation (99–100%). Bedding planes of the current-formed deposits, as well as crosscuts of sandstone blocks, parallel to bedding, 1.0 m long and 0.5 m high, were considered as reference levels for measuring the amount of bioturbation (bioturbation index). The tiering pattern of the studied trace fossils, understood here as distributions of burrows produced by benthic organisms above and beneath the sea floor (cf. Luo et al., 2020), was also described as shallow-, mid- and deep-tier (compare Rodríguez-Tovar et al., 2017). Tier 1 refers to surface trace fossils, shallow tier (tier 2) up to 15 cm, mid tier (tier 3) from 15 to 50 cm and deep-tier (tier 4) more than 50 cm deep. Tiering patterns were studied in vertical cross-sections of the loose sandstone blocks, mainly at the PIASMAR Company and in the Arboretum Wojsławice. The surfaces examined are 1.0 m in length and 1.0 m in high.

Ichnological analysis is based on the sedimentological-ichnological model for a wave-dominated shoreface (cf. Pemberton et al., 2012) redefined after MacEachern et al. (1999) and MacEachern and Bann (2008), in which the fair-weather wave base is located between the proximal and distal lower shoreface. The results of ichnological studies (ichnodiversity, ichnoabundance) are given in Table 1, while the distribution of the trace fossils recorded is shown in Figure 4. The sedimentological analysis was carried out on the middle Turonian sandstones in Długopole Górne Quarry, where the sedimentary structures, grain size distribution of the deposits and thickness of the individual beds were examined.

## THE MIDDLE TURONIAN SANDSTONES FROM DŁUGOPOLE GÓRNE QUARRY AND THEIR TRACE FOSSILS

The middle Turonian deposits exposed in Długopole Górne Quarry are fine to coarse-grained sandstones. They show giant-scale cross-bedding (210–230°, see Don and Wojewoda, 2004: fig. 2) and represent the Quadersandstein megafacies (Chrzęstek, 2013a). The individual beds are 0.5–3.0 m thick and lie almost horizontally (from 5–23°, see Don and Wojewoda, 2004). Some contain gravel intercalations. They are classified as quartzose-feldspathic sandstones (subarkosic arenite and quartz arenite, cf. Chrzęstek, 2013a and references therein). The sedimentological structures, including parallel lamination, are poorly visible; these sandstones are mainly structureless. In the lower and middle part of the Długopole Górne section the sandstones are yellow-grey, while in the uppermost they are dark grey. They seem to show a coarsening-upward trend. Don and Wojewoda (2004) reported the trace fossil *Ophiomorpha* and the bivalve *Exogyra columba* (now *Rhynchostreon*; see Tröger, 2003) from these deposits. The bivalves cited, as well as pectenids, had been previously reported

from the basal part of the middle Turonian sandstones by Fistek and Gierwielaniec (1964). The present author (Chrzęstek, 2013a) described, from the middle Turonian sandstones of Długopole Górne Quarry, an assemblage of trace fossils comprising *Ophiomorpha nodosa* Lundgren, 1891, *Ophiomorpha* isp., *Thalassinoides suevicus* (Rieth, 1932), *Thalassinoides* cf. *paradoxicus* Kennedy, 1967, formerly *T. paradoxicus* (Woodward, 1830), *Thalassinoides* isp., *Curvolithus simplex* Buatois, Mángano, Mikuláš and Maples, 1998, *Palaeophycus tubularis* Hall, 1847, *Macaronichnus* isp., as well as the associated body fossil *Lima canalifera* Goldfuss, 1836. In the collection of the Geological Museum of the University of Wrocław there are also specimens of the bivalve *Lima canalifera* Goldfuss, 1836 (MGUWr-1499s) and rhynchonellids (MGUWr-1883s; cf. Chrzęstek, 2013a) from this site.

The assemblage of trace and body fossils was studied mainly in the field in Długopole Górne Quarry. Moreover, studies were carried out also on loose sandstone blocks located at the PIASMAR Company (Szklary) and the Arboretum Wojsławice. Some specimens were collected and are now housed in the Geological Museum of the University of Wrocław, e.g., *Dactyloidites ottoi*, *Funalichnus strangulatus*, *Ophiomorpha nodosa*, *Thalassinoides suevicus*, *Entobia* isp., *Lima canalifera* and *Pinna* (*Pinna*) *cretacea* (MGUWr-6756s-6762s).

The trace fossils studied occur mainly in the walls of Długopole Górne Quarry (*Asterosoma* cf. *ludwigae*, *Curvolithus simplex*, *Phycodes* cf. *palmatus*, *Ophiomorpha nodosa*, *Ophiomorpha* isp., *Ophiomorpha* isp., *Planolites beverleyensis*, *Thalassinoides suevicus*, *Thalassinoides* isp., *Thalassinoides* isp.) or on extracted sandstone slabs (e.g., *Funalichnus strangulatus*, *Asterosoma* isp., cf. *Asterosoma* isp., *Dactyloidites ottoi*, cf. *Phycodes* isp., *Phycosiphon incertum*, *Phycosiphon* isp., *Thalassinoides paradoxicus* were found mainly in cross-sections of or on sandstone blocks collected at the PIASMAR Company in Szklary and in the Arboretum Wojsławice. Body fossils, bivalves e.g., *Brachidontes* sp., *Lima canalifera*, *Pinna* (*Pinna*) *cretacea* and *Rhynchostreon suborbiculatum* were found in situ in Długopole Górne Quarry and in extracted blocks gathered for further processing at the PIASMAR Company in Szklary.

In the lower part of the rock succession examined on the Długopole Górne walls, *Thalassinoides suevicus* type A (usually from 3.0 to 5.5 cm in diameter, max. 7 cm) and type B (1.5–2.0 cm) and *Ophiomorpha nodosa* prevail. Individual occurrences of *Asterosoma* cf. *ludwigae*, *Curvolithus simplex* and *Planolites beverleyensis* were recorded in the upper part of the Długopole Górne section, besides *Ophiomorpha nodosa*, *Ophiomorpha* isp., *Thalassinoides suevicus* B and *Thalassinoides* isp., which appear in abundance (Fig. 4 and Table 1). Moreover, in the uppermost part of the succession studied, *Ophiomorpha nodosa*, *Phycodes* cf. *palmatus* and a large swollen chamber of *Thalassinoides* with tunnels (up to 30 cm long) were recorded. In the middle part of the Długopole Górne section *Ophiomorpha nodosa* appears (mostly as vertical shafts) together with the bivalves *Brachidontes* sp., *Lima canalifera*, *Pinna* (*Pinna*) *cretacea* and *Rhynchostreon suborbiculatum* (Fig. 4).

## RESULTS

### DESCRIPTION OF TRACE FOSSILS

21 ichnospecies belonging to 11 ichnogenera (8 newly found) have been identified in total in the Długopole Górne Quarry section (Figs. 2–5A) and in extracted blocks of the sand-

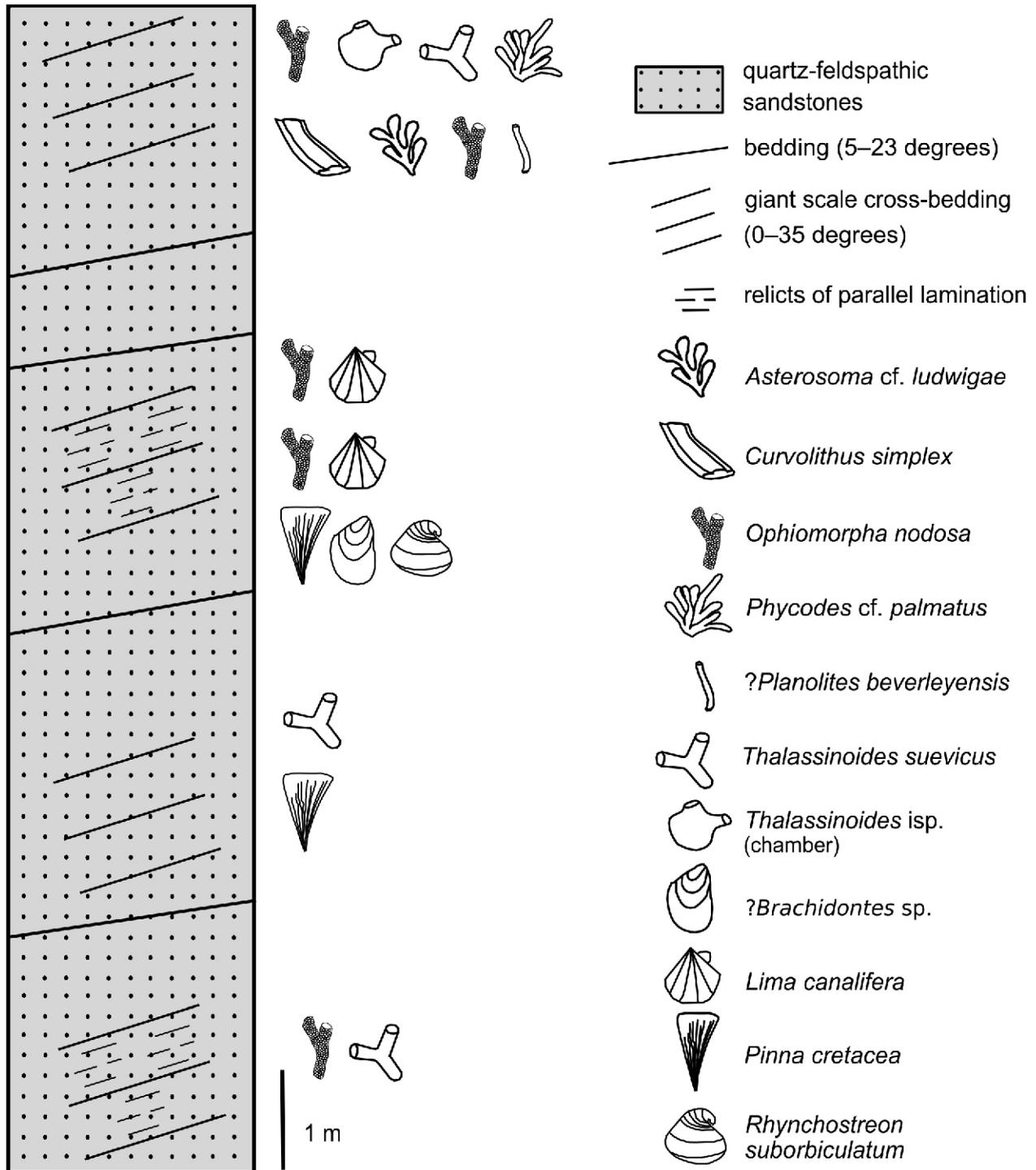


Fig. 4. Lithological log of the middle Turonian sandstones in Długopole Górne Quarry indicating distribution of trace fossils

Bedding and giant scale cross-stratification according to [Don and Wojewoda \(2004\)](#)

stones located at the PIASMAR Company (Szklary) and in the Arboretum Wojstawice. The ichnogenera identified include ?*Ancorichnus*, *Asterosoma*, *Curvolithus*, *Dactyloidites*, *Funalichnus*, *Ophiomorpha*, *Phycodes*, *Phycosiphon*, *Planolites* and *Thalassinoides*. Moreover, the boring *Entobia* and some questionable burrows occur ([Table 1](#)). The distribution of individual trace fossils on the walls of Długopole Górne Quarry is shown in [Figure 4](#), while the environmental distribution of the ichnotaxa identified is outlined in [Figure 12](#). The ichnodiversity and ichnoabundance of the trace fossil assemblage studied is shown in [Table 1](#). Five ichnogenera (*Curvo-*

*lithus*, ?*Macaronichnus*, *Ophiomorpha*, *Palaeophycus* and *Thalassinoides*) have been reported by [Chrzęstek \(2013a\)](#) from Długopole Górne Quarry.

#### BURROWS

*Ancorichnus* Heinberg, 1974  
 ?*Ancorichnus* isp.  
 ([Figs. 5B and 9C](#))

**M a t e r i a l.** – One specimen preserved as a longitudinal cross-section (Figs. 5B, 9C; PIASMAR Company, Wojsławice), which co-occurs with *Phycosiphon incertum*.

**D e s c r i p t i o n.** – *Ancorichnus* occurs as a cylindrical, horizontal, unbranched burrow parallel to the bedding plane. The burrow shows a meniscate backfill (inner fill, Fig. 5B), identical to the host rock and a structured tube-shaped mantle (outer fill). The burrow shows a weakly and irregularly winding course (Fig. 5B). The outer layer is slightly darker than the core (Fig. 5B). The total length of the structures is 15–30 cm, and the width 2–6 cm. The external layer (mantle) is 0.6–1.6 cm wide.

**R e m a r k s.** – The burrow resembles *Ancorichnus*, which is characterized by a central (inner) meniscate filling and a structured, undulating mantle or tube-shaped outer fill (see Heinberg, 1974; Dam, 1990; Keighley and Pickerill, 1994; Desai and Saklani, 2014). According to the cited authors, the mantle is not considered as a wall structure since it was formed by the locomotive behavior of the burrow producer. The specimen studied does not differ significantly from the specimens described by Keighley and Pickerill (1994: text-figs. 1, 20), Uchman and Krenmayr (2004: fig. text-fig. 5) and Boyd and McIlroy (2017: fig. 9). The presence of a mantle and lack of wall distinguishes *Ancorichnus* Heinberg, 1974 from *Beaconites* Vialov, 1962 (see Boyd and McIlroy, 2017). *Ancorichnus* is in some ways similar to another ichnogenus, *Taenidium* Heer, 1877, which also has no wall, but differs from it by having an outer mantle (cf. Keighley and Pickerill, 1994; Baucon and Neto de Carvalho, 2008). The specimens studied probably represent *Ancorichnus ancorichnus*, because the ichnogenus studied is described as monospecific (cf. Keighley and Pickerill, 1994).

*Ancorichnus* is regarded as a pascichnion (Fürsich et al., 2018) or a repichnion (Heinberg, 1974; Mángano and Buatois, 2016) or a repichnion/domichnion (Dam, 1990) produced by deposit-feeder worm-like animals, insect larvae or arthropods (Heinberg, 1974; Frey et al., 1984b; Patel et al., 2008). It characterizes the *Cruziana* ichnofacies (Baucon and Neto de Carvalho, 2008) and is typical of the shallow-marine (lower shoreface) to offshore setting (Frey and Howard, 1985; MacEachern et al., 1999; Desai and Saklani, 2014). It is known from the Jurassic to the present (Heinberg, 1974; Mángano and Buatois, 2016).

*Asterosoma* von Otto, 1854  
*Asterosoma* cf. *ludwigae* Schlirf, 2000  
(Fig. 5C)

**M a t e r i a l.** – One specimen preserved as a full relief oblique section, visible in Figure 5C (Długopole Górne Quarry).

**D e s c r i p t i o n.** – A cross-section of several bulbs (3–76), showing concentric or irregular lamination, and a fragmentarily preserved cylindrical tunnel (axis) is visible on the sandstone surface. The study specimen is arranged horizontally along the bedding-plane and enlarged in one direction. The bulbs seem slightly narrower at their terminations. The length of the whole structure is 28–30 cm, and its width 8 cm. A fragmentarily preserved axis is 1.5 cm in width. The probable bulbs are up to 6 cm in width and 8 cm in length.

**R e m a r k s.** – The study specimen, which resembles the cross-section of a partially preserved cylindrical axis and several bulbs arranged in one direction, shows similarities to *Asterosoma ludwigae* Schlirf, 2000. It is similar to the speci-

mens reported by Leszczyński (2010: fig. 14E; 2018: fig. 33C) from the Santonian of the North Sudetic Synclinorium and by Neto de Carvalho et al. (2010: fig. 4D) from the Jurassic of Portugal. It might resemble a third morphotype of *Asterosoma* (cf. Neto de Carvalho and Rodrigues, 2007: figs. 7F, H, 9) in which ramification tends to be more numerous in a single direction while burrow bundles (consisting usually of 4–6 bulbs) reach various lengths (up to 30 cm).

*Asterosoma* is interpreted as a fodinichnia of detritus-, suspension- or selective deposit-feeders (Neto de Carvalho and Rodrigues, 2007; Knaust, 2017 and references therein). Crustaceans (crabs, lobster-like animals) and polychaetes are suggested as the potential trace makers (Häntzschel, 1975; Głuszek, 1998; Pemberton et al., 2001). This ichnogenus characterizes mainly the *Cruziana* ichnofacies (MacEachern et al., 2007, 2012), though can also appear in the *Skolithos*, *Zoophycos* and *Nereites* ichnofacies (Knaust, 2017). *Asterosoma* occurs from marginal-marine (paralic) to deep-marine environments, but it is especially common in shallow-marine settings (Bromley and Uchman, 2003; Rindsberg and Martin, 2003; Knaust, 2017 and references therein). It is most characteristic of the proximal lower shoreface (cf. Pemberton et al., 2001; Pervesler and Uchman, 2004). Its stratigraphical range is from the Cambrian (Mángano and Buatois, 2016) to the present (Häntzschel, 1975; Dashtgard et al., 2008).

*Asterosoma* isp.  
(Fig. 6A–C)

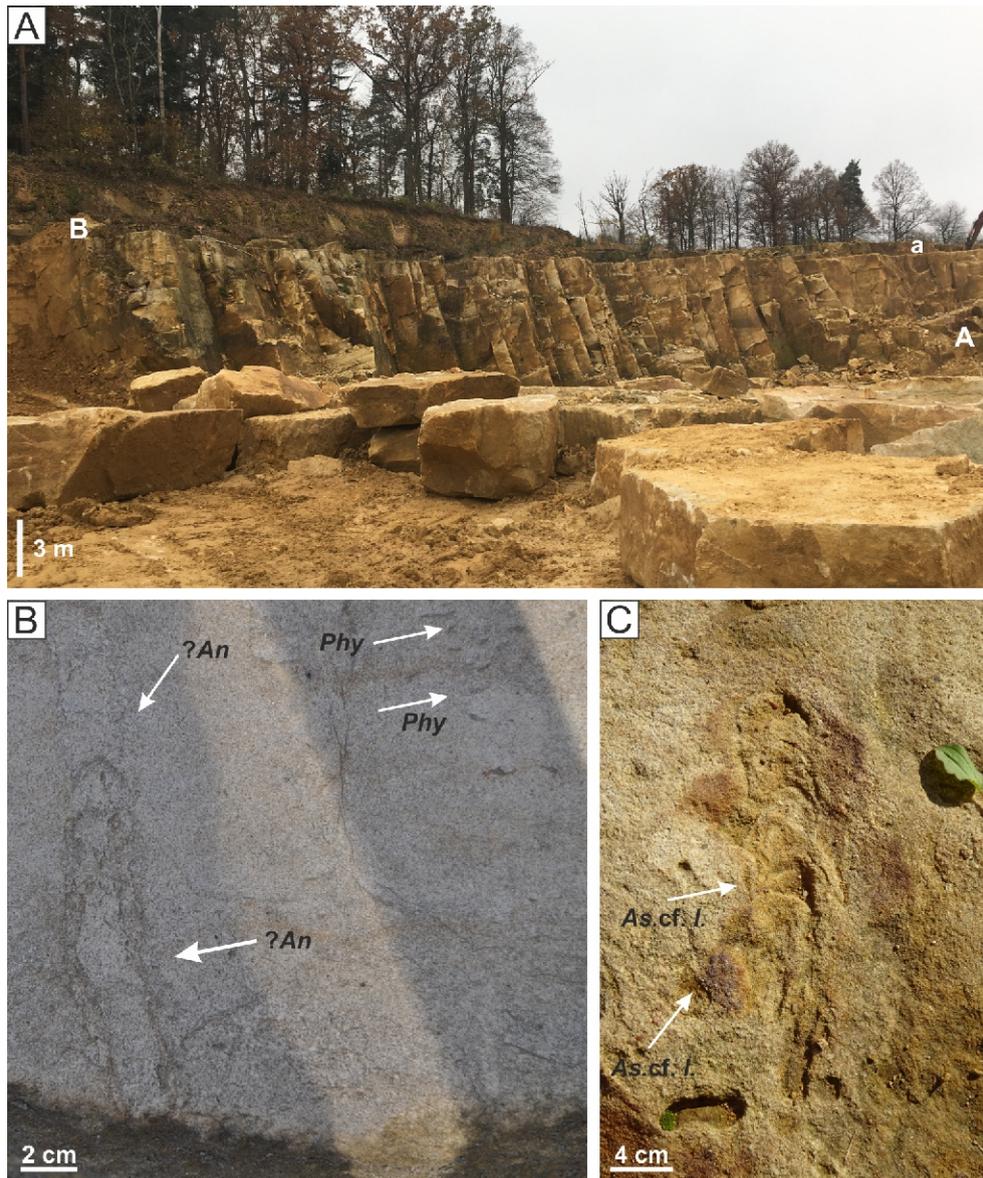
**M a t e r i a l.** – A few specimens on sandstone block surfaces or as cross-sections (Wojsławice). Their features are unclear, while questionable forms, ?*Asterosoma* isp. and cf. *Asterosoma* isp., are also present (Fig. 6B and 6C from Szklary and Wojsławice, respectively). A cross-section is shown in Figure 6A.

**D e s c r i p t i o n.** – *Asterosoma* appears as a complex trace fossil composed of a bunch of bulb-shaped structures and associated tubes (as a tree-like structure; Fig. 6B), 10 cm long and 12 cm wide. Cross-sections across the individual bulbs, which have preserved concentric internal structure, were also observed (Fig. 6A). These are up to 5 cm wide. One cross-section of a bulb with poorly preserved concentric structure was described as cf. *Asterosoma* isp. (Fig. 6C).

**R e m a r k s.** – The specimens are most similar to *Asterosoma* in having tubes with bulbs, which show concentric laminae in the fill. They differ from the similar trace fossil *Rosselia* Dahmer, 1937, which occurs as a single bulb, in their lack of lining (cf. Hoffmann and Grimmberger, 2011).

*Curvolithus* Fritsch, 1908  
*Curvolithus simplex* Buatois, Mángano, Mikuláš and Maples, 1998  
(Fig. 6D)

**M a t e r i a l.** – One specimen preserved in positive relief on the upper surface of a sandstone bed, co-occurring with *Asterosoma* cf. *ludwigae* (Długopole Górne Quarry). The second specimen, described by Chrząstek (2013a: fig. 6A) is preserved as horizontal, epichnial structure.



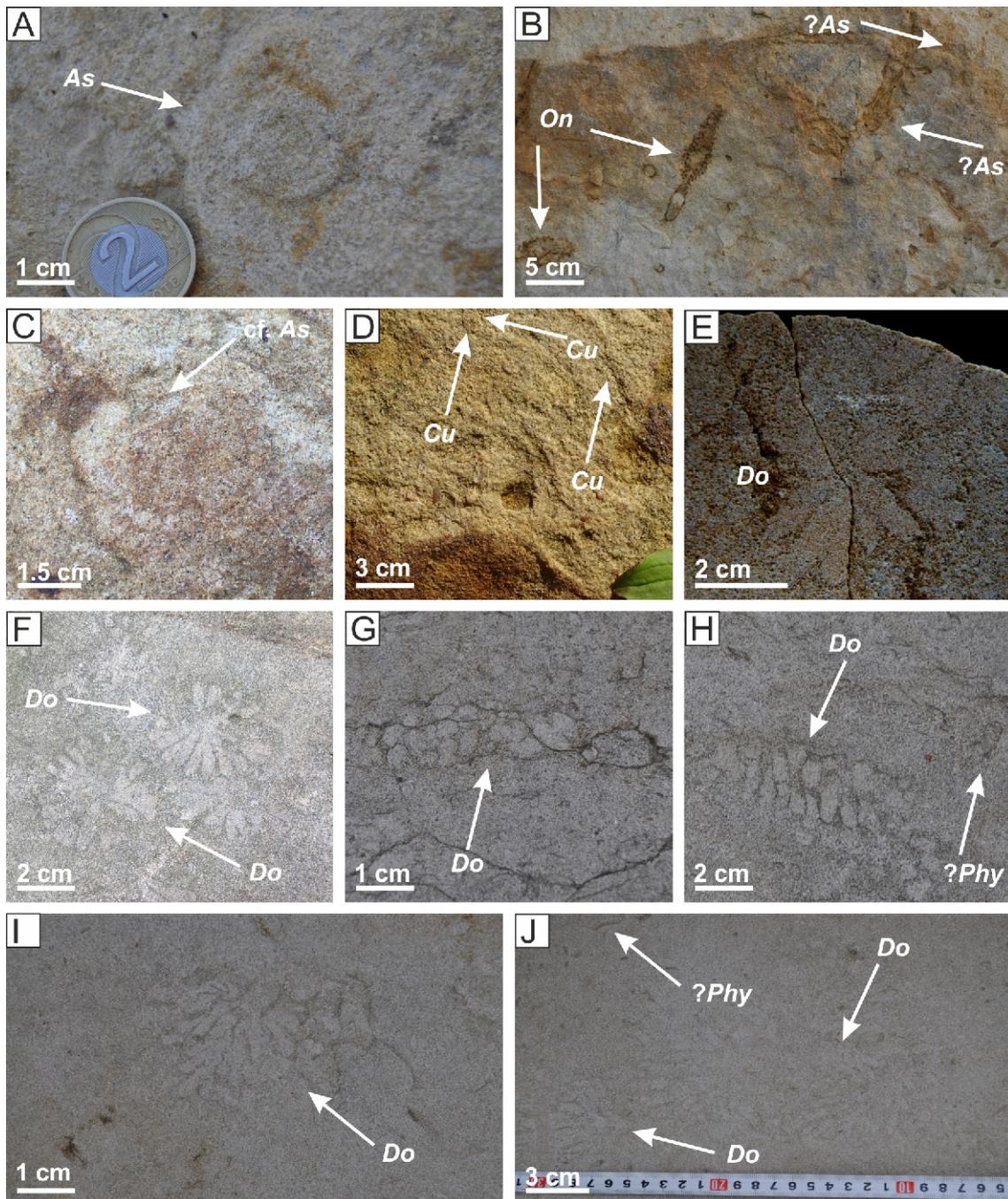
**Fig. 5.** Długopole Górne Quarry and trace fossils *?Ancorichnus* isp., *Asterosoma* cf. *ludwigae* and *Phycosiphon* *incertum*

**A** – Middle Turonian sandstones from Długopole Górne Quarry, **A** – fine-medium grained sandstones, **B** – medium-coarse grained sandstones, **a** – the place where the *Thalassinoides* chamber was found; **B** – *?Ancorichnus* isp., *Phycosiphon* *incertum* (in longitudinal cross-section parallel to bedding), Wojślawice, loose block; **C** – *Asterosoma* cf. *ludwigae* on a bedding plane, longitudinal section, Długopole Górne Quarry (rock *in situ*), photograph – M. Stempień-Sałek; abbreviations: *?An* – *?Ancorichnus* isp., *As* cf. *l.* – *Asterosoma* cf. *ludwigae*, *Phy* – *Phycosiphon* *incertum*

**Description.** – *Curvolithus* appears as an unbranched, horizontal, straight to meandering tongue-like structure. It is trilobate, consisting of three rounded lobes. A central lobe (up to 1.8 cm) is wider than the lateral ones (each 0.6 cm) and is separated from them by shallow furrows. It seems generally smooth. The visible length of this winding tunnel is 25 cm. The specimen, described previously by Chrzęstek (2013a), occurred as a flattish, slightly winding structure, 2 cm in width and 8 cm in length.

**Remarks.** – The study specimen is most similar to *Curvolithus*, in having a trilobate, flattened shape (cf. Buatois et al., 2017). It shows also some similarities to the locomotion-feeding (pascichnia) traces of the echinoid *Scolicia* de

Quatrefages, 1849 (see Phillips et al., 2011: fig. 3E; López Cabrera and Olivero, 2014: fig. 2f; Carmona et al., 2020) in having two distinctive concave lobes which resemble parallel strings, most characteristic of this ichnogenus, as well as a flat to slightly concave-up area between them. However, it differs from *Scolicia* in lacking the typical laminated backfill. *Curvolithus* is a locomotion trace (repichnion) made by gastropods, polychaetes, nemerteans, holothurians or flatworms (Heinberg and Birkelund, 1984; Lockley et al., 1987; Seilacher, 2007). *Curvolithus* is typical of the *Cruziana* ichnofacies sensu Seilacher (1967) or *Curvolithus* subichnofacies sensu Lockley et al. (1987), corresponding to deltaic-influenced nearshore environments (cf. Baucon and Neto de Carvalho, 2008). It is com-



**Fig. 6. Trace fossils from the middle Turonian sandstones**

**A** – *Asterosoma* isp., Wojślawice (loose block, bedding plane); **B** – whole specimen of *?Asterosoma* isp. and *Ophiomorpha nodosa*, Szklary (loose block, bedding plane); **C** – cf. *Asterosoma* isp., Wojślawice (loose block); **D** – *Curvolithus simplex* on the upper part of a sandstone bed, Długopole Górne Quarry (rock *in situ*), photograph – M. Stempień-Sałek; **E** – *Dactyloidites ottoi*, Szklary (loose block, bedding plane); MGUWr-6756s; **F** – *Dactyloidites ottoi*, Wojślawice (loose blocks, bedding plane); **G, H** – *Dactyloidites ottoi* preserved in vertical cross-section, Wojślawice (loose blocks); **I, J** – *Dactyloidites ottoi* and *?Phycosiphon* isp. preserved on a bedding-parallel surface, Szklary (loose block); abbreviations: As – *Asterosoma* isp., cf. As – cf. *Asterosoma* isp., Cu – *Curvolithus simplex*, Do – *Dactyloidites ottoi*, ?Phy – *?Phycosiphon* isp., On – *Ophiomorpha nodosa*

mon in shallow marine or marginal marine settings, up to the upper offshore zone (Maples and Suttner, 1990; Buatois et al., 1998). It is reported from the Ediacaran to Holocene interval (Lockley et al., 1987).

*Dactyloidides* Hall, 1886  
*Dactyloidides ottoi* (Geinitz, 1849)  
(Figs. 6E–J and 7A–E)

**M a t e r i a l.** – Several specimens preserved as shallow- to mid-tier forms (in vertical section and on bedding planes), recorded in sandstone blocks found at PIASMAR Company (Szklary) and in the Arboretum Wojślawice (MGUWr-6756s). In some cases, they co-occur with *?Phycosiphon* isp. (Fig. 6J).

**D e s c r i p t i o n.** – The specimens studied appear as several rosettes, palmate or fan-shaped spreite-like structures, originating from a central point. The radial elements (up to 20), which are of different length, form incomplete circular rosettes (from 210 up to 270°), 3.5–6.0 cm wide (Figs. 6E, F and 7A–C). The individual radial elements, which are subhorizontal protrusive vertical spreiten, are usually up to 0.6 cm in width and 2.0–2.5 cm in length. In some cases, some primary radial elements of individual rosettes, in their uppermost part, bifurcate (Figs. 6F and 7A). The secondary radial elements are 1.0 cm in length and 0.4 cm in width. Radial elements within individual structures were also observed in vertical or oblique sections relative to bedding, appearing as elliptical to circular structures, in some cases elongated in a vertical direction (Figs. 6G–J and 7D, E). They are arranged in up to four tiers (structures which touch each other).

**R e m a r k s.** – The presence of several rosette-like structures, which represent the uppermost tier, preserved in horizontal section and radial elements stacked together in up to a few tiers in vertical section, suggests assignment to *Dactyloidites ottoi* (cf. Fürsich and Bromley, 1985: figs. 1, 3, 4). Other ichnospecies of *Dactyloidites*, e.g., *Dactyloidites asteroides* (Fitch, 1850) differs in having a smaller number of ridges (4–6) in comparison to the study specimens. *Dactyloidites peniculus* Uchman and Pervesler, 2007 has pellets which distinguish it from other ichnospecies of *Dactyloidites* (see discussion in Uchman and Pervesler, 2007). *Dactyloidites jordii* Boyd and McIlroy, 2016 also differs from the current ichnospecies in having an incomplete rosette and long, narrow rays while the component burrows can branch both horizontally and vertically. The study specimens show also some similarities to other radial to rosetted trace fossils (cf. Buatois et al., 2017) *Gyrophyllites kwassizensis* Glocker, 1841 and *Gyrophyllites cristinae* Muñoz, Mángano and Buatois, 2019 in having horizontal, swollen leaf-like lobes (radial elements), radiating from a central shaft (cf. Uchman, 1998). However, they differ from *G. kwassizensis* in their lack of slightly curved overlapping lobes and an outer convex arc which rim the individual rosettes (Strzeboński and Uchman, 2015: figs. 6D, 7A, B, 8F). These specimens also show some affinities to *Gyrophyllites cristinae*, which possess five to six petaloid non-overlapping, smooth and oval lobes (see Muñoz et al., 2019: figs. 4, 5A), but the main difference is the presence only one level of circular, unbranched lobes in the case of *G. cristinae*.

*Dactyloidites ottoi* is ethologically a fodinichnion (Fürsich and Bromley, 1985; Pickerill et al., 1993). The potential trace makers of *Dactyloidites* are worm-like organisms, producing a set of rosettes from the same central shaft in searching for food (Uchman and Pervesler, 2007; Wilmsen and Niebuhr, 2014a).

Crabs are also suggested as potential producers of *Dactyloidites* (Gibert et al., 1995). *Dactyloidites* is typical of the lower *Skolithos* and upper *Cruziana* ichnofacies (see Wilmsen and Niebuhr, 2014a). *Dactyloidites ottoi* occurs in shallow-water, nearshore to deltaic, nutrient-rich siliciclastic settings, usually between the fair-weather and storm wave bases, commonly at the top of shallowing-upwards cycles (Fürsich and Bromley, 1985; Agirrezabala and Gibert, 2004; Mayoral et al., 2013). *Dactyloidites ottoi* is a relatively rare form, known from the ?Triassic, Jurassic to Neogene (Wilmsen and Niebuhr, 2014a).

*Funalichnus* Fritsch, 1883  
*Funalichnus strangulatus* (Fritsch, 1883)  
(Fig. 8A)

**M a t e r i a l.** – One specimen visible on the surface of a loose sandstone block, Długopole Górne Quarry (MGUWr-6757s).

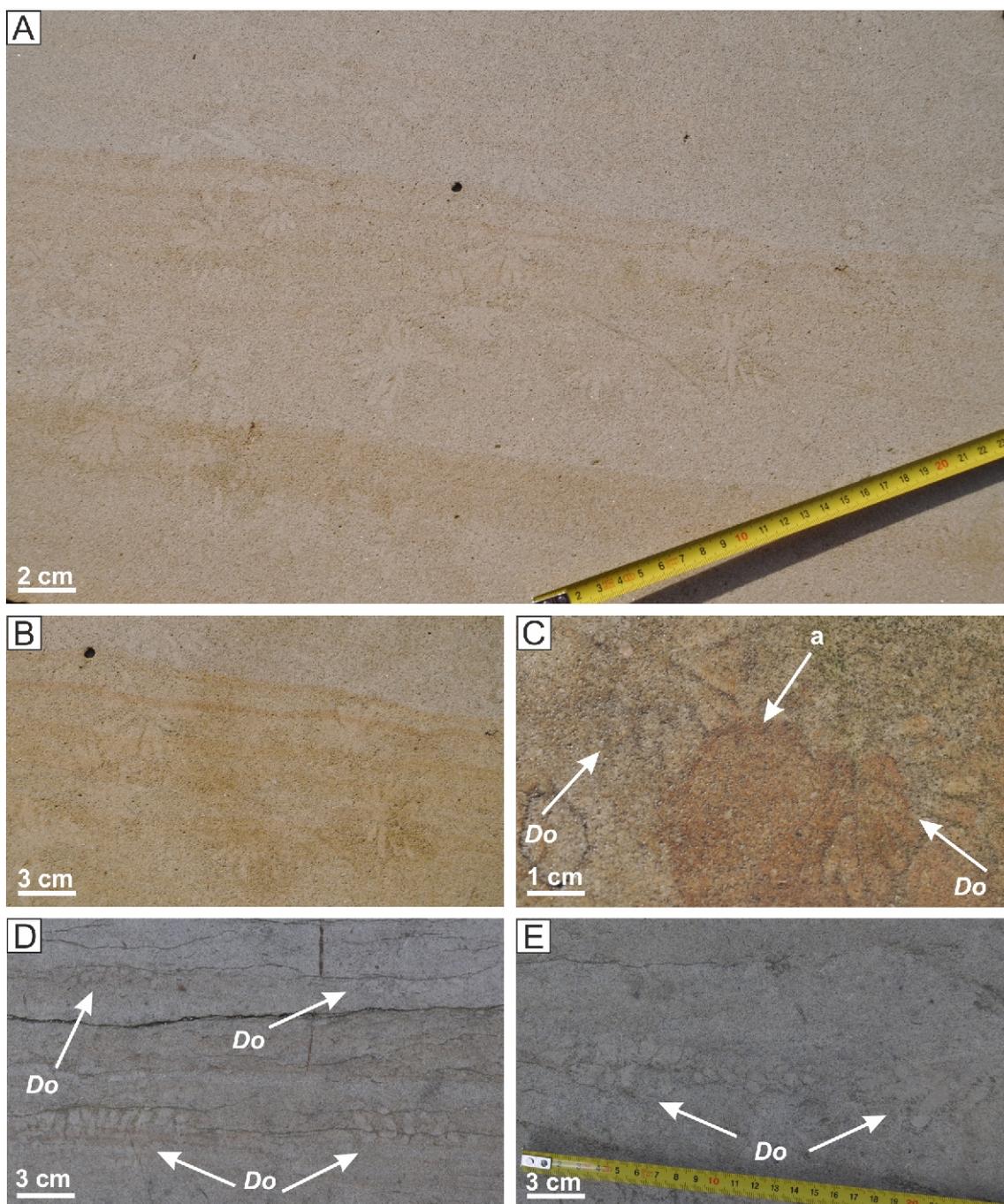
**D e s c r i p t i o n.** – Straight, oblique, cylindrical, unlined and unbranched burrow, ornamented by closely spaced, distinct, swollen ribs, which are oriented slightly obliquely towards the longitudinal axis. The interspaces between the cylindrical ribs form curved depressions. The burrow fill is structureless. The burrow is circular to subcircular in cross-section. The diameter of the burrow ranges from 1.0–1.5 cm. The visible length is 7.5 cm.

**R e m a r k s.** – The specimen studied does not differ from similar burrows described by Pokorný (2008: figs. 4–6) and Pokorný and Bažant (2011), from the upper Turonian of the Czech Republic, in having closely spaced ribs, which are oriented obliquely to the axis of the burrow. The lower termination of the burrow, which is usually smooth and tapering, is not observed. The specimen differs from another ichnospecies, *F. bhubanii* Tiwari, Rajkonwar and Patel, 2013, especially in lacking perpendicular oriented segments to the axis (Tiwari et al., 2013).

*Funalichnus* probably represents a domichnion but this ethologic interpretation is still unclear (cf. Pokorný, 2008). Annelids are suggested as the possible trace makers. This ichnotaxon characterizes the *Skolithos* and *Cruziana* ichnofacies (Pokorný, 2008), occurring in deposits of a shallow-marine setting of moderate to high energy (fore-shore-shoreface, see Tiwari et al., 2013; Rajkonwar et al., 2015). *Funalichnus strangulatus* occurs in the upper Cenomanian, as well as in the middle–upper Turonian of the Czech Republic (Bohemian Cretaceous Basin, see Pokorný, 2008) and Germany (Saxonian and Danubian basins, see Wilmsen and Niebuhr, 2014a; Niebuhr and Wilmsen, 2016). Tiwari et al. (2013) reported this ichnogenus from the lower–middle Miocene of India.

*Ophiomorpha* Lundgren, 1891  
*Ophiomorpha nodosa* Lundgren, 1891  
(Figs. 8A–M and 9D, 10F)

**M a t e r i a l.** – Several specimens preserved on the sandstone walls of the Długopole Górne Quarry (MGUWr-6758s), as well as in blocks and in the cross-sections (Szklary, Wojślawice), earlier described by Chrzęstek (2013a: figs. 6B–F, 7A–D) from the current sandstones.



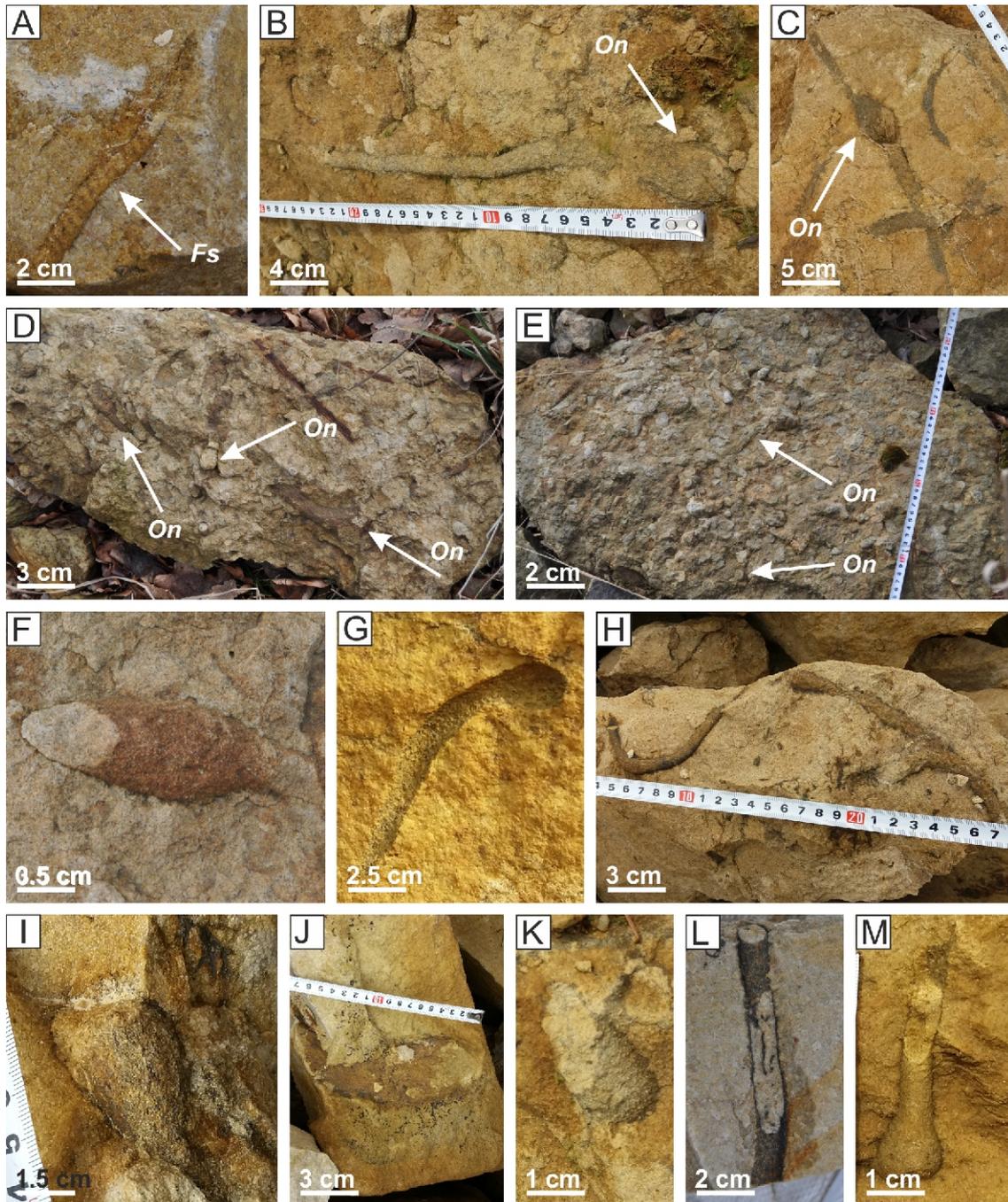
**Fig. 7. *Dactyloidites ottoii* from the middle Turonian sandstones**

**A, B** – *Dactyloidites ottoii*, Szklary (cut surfaces of loose sandstone blocks, parallel to bedding); **C** – *Dactyloidites ottoii* and questionable specimen in the form of a concave ring, loose sandstone block, Szklary; **D, E** – *Dactyloidites ottoii* in vertical section (loose blocks, Wojślawice); *Do* – *Dactyloidites ottoii*, *a* – questionable trace fossil

**Description.** – *Ophiomorpha nodosa* appears mainly as single, tubular isolated, unbranched shafts with pelleted walls (horizontal, vertical or inclined) or create boxwork consisting of tubular tunnels. Pellets are ovoid or elongate, up to 1 cm in length. The visible length of the studied specimens varies from a few cm to several dozen cm (25–30 cm), while width from 0.5 to 1.5 cm. Elliptical to circular cross-sections are also common. In the studied deposits the swollen chambers (turn arounds) are abundant (Fig. 8B–D, F–K, M). They are usually from 2 cm up to 10 cm in length and 2 cm up to 6 cm in width. The wall of

these swollen chambers is usually composed of large pellets, up to 1 cm long. Some cross-sections with poorly preserved walls were determined as *Ophiomorpha* isp. (Fig. 8M) or ?*Ophiomorpha* isp. (Figs. 9D and 10F).

**Remarks.** – These specimens are assigned to *Ophiomorpha nodosa* due to the presence of a characteristic pelleted wall, diagnostic for this ichnogenus (Fig. 8B–D, F–K; Frey et al., 1978) and chambers typical of ophiomorphids (Uchman, 1995; Seilacher, 2007). Niebuhr and Wilmsen (2016) postulated replacement of *Ophiomorpha nodosa* Lundgren,



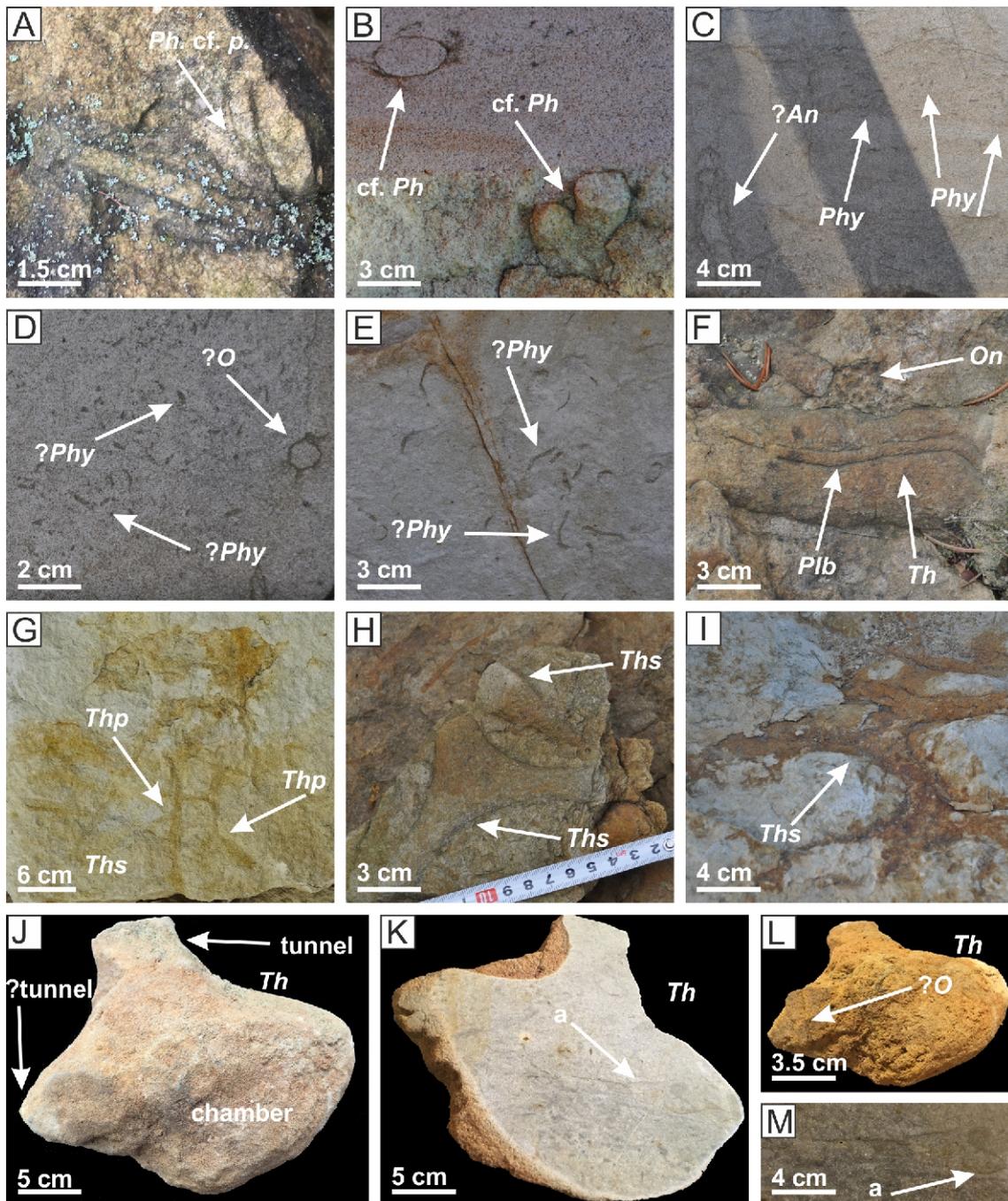
**Fig. 8.** *Funalichnus strangulatus* and *Ophiomorpha nodosa* from Długopole Górne Quarry

**A** – *Funalichnus strangulatus*, loose block; MGUWr-6757s; **B, C** – *Ophiomorpha nodosa* on the surfaces of loose sandstone blocks; **D, E** – *Ophiomorpha nodosa* on the upper surfaces of sandstone slabs; **F–M** – *Ophiomorpha nodosa* and its swollen chambers on the sandstone surfaces, **G–M** – rocks *in situ*, **F, H–L** – loose blocks; abbreviations: *Fs* – *Funalichnus strangulatus*, *On* – *Ophiomorpha nodosa*

1891 by *Ophiomorpha saxonica* (Geinitz, 1842) on the basis of work by Geinitz (1842: Taf. XXIII, fig. 2), who defined *Spongites saxonicus*. They included into *Ophiomorpha saxonica* (Geinitz, 1842) some specimens described earlier by Chrzastek (2013a) as *Ophiomorpha nodosa* Lundgren, 1891. The taxonomy of trace fossils of the ophiomorphid group is not simple (see papers by Fürsich, 1973; Frey et al., 1978; Schirf, 2000, 2005; Rindsberg, 2018). It seems that some of the current specimens with very well preserved swollen chambers and large pellets (up to 1 cm) might have been assigned to *O. saxonica sensu*

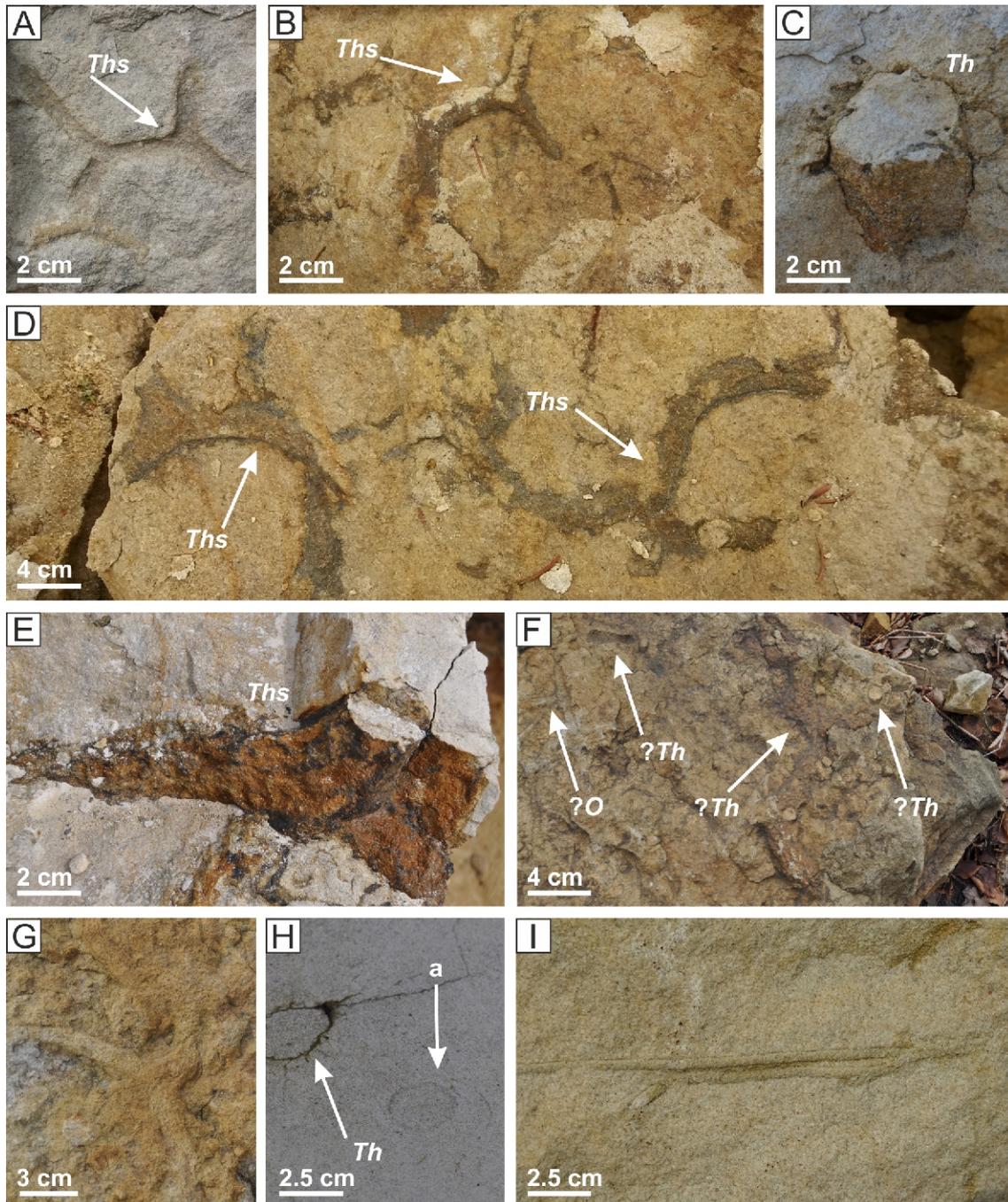
Niebuhr and Wilmsen (2016; Figs. 8C, D, F–K). However, some other specimens of *Ophiomorpha* with poorly preserved walls or walls built of smaller pellets, may be determined as *O. nodosa* (e.g., Fig. 8L, M).

*Ophiomorpha* ethologically is a domichnion or domichnion/fodnichnion (Frey et al., 1978; Uchman and Gaździcki, 2006). The potential trace makers are suspension- or deposit-feeders or farmers (Bromley, 1996). *Ophiomorpha* is produced by callianassid shrimps, decapods of the infraorders Gebiidea and Axiidea (Hyžný et al., 2015, 2018). This



**Fig. 9.** Trace fossils from the middle Turonian sandstones

**A** – *Phycodes* cf. *palmatus*, Długopole Górne Quarry, loose block; **B** – cf. *Phycodes* isp., Wojsławice, loose block; **C** – *Phycosiphon incertum*, ?*Ancorichnus* isp., Wojsławice (surface parallel to bedding); **D**, **E** – ?*Phycosiphon* isp. and ?*Ophiomorpha* isp., Wojsławice and Szklary, respectively (cut surfaces of sandstone); **F** – *Planolites beverleyensis* in *Thalassinoides* isp. filling, *Ophiomorpha nodosa*, Długopole Górne Quarry (rock fragment); **G** – *Thalassinoides paradoxicus*, Wojsławice (bedding plane, loose sandstone block); specimen found by R. Niedźwiedzki, photograph – R. Niedźwiedzki; **H**, **I** – *Thalassinoides suevicus* type A, Długopole Górne Quarry (upper surfaces of loose block); **J** – *Thalassinoides* chamber, Długopole Górne Quarry (extracted from rock *in situ*); **K** – vertical cross-section of a chamber, a – ?crustacean trace fossil; **L** – ?*Ophiomorpha* isp. on the outer surface of a *Thalassinoides* chamber; **M** – crustacean trace fossil (?) preserved inside *Thalassinoides* chamber (in cross-section); abbreviations: ?*O* – ?*Ophiomorpha* isp., *Ph* cf. *p.* – *Phycodes* cf. *palmatus*, cf. *Ph* – cf. *Phycodes* isp., *Plb* – *Planolites beverleyensis*, *Thp* – *Thalassinoides parvius*, *Ths* – *Thalassinoides suevicus*, *Th* – *Thalassinoides* isp.; other abbreviations as in [Figures 5 and 6](#)



**Fig. 10. *Thalassinoides* and questionable trace fossils from the middle Turonian sandstones**

**A, B** – *Thalassinoides suevicus* type B, Długopole Górne Quarry (upper surfaces of loose sandstone blocks); **C** – cross-section of *Thalassinoides* isp., Wojślawice (loose block); **D, E** – *Thalassinoides suevicus* type A, Długopole Górne Quarry (bedding planes, rock fragments); **F** – ?*Thalassinoides* isp. and ?*Ophiomorpha* isp., Długopole Górne Quarry (loose sandstone blocks); **G** – ?*Thalassinoides* isp., upper surface of loose block, Długopole Górne Quarry. **H** – cross-section of *Thalassinoides* isp., a – questionable specimen similar to ?*Schaubcylindrichnus*, Szklary (surface parallel to bedding, loose sandstone slab); **I** – questionable trace fossil resembling *Tisoo*, Wojślawice (upper surface of sandstone block); specimen collected by R. Niedźwiedzki, photograph – R. Niedźwiedzki; ?*Th* – ?*Thalassinoides* isp., other abbreviations as in Figure 9

ichnospecies characterizes the *Skolithos* and *Cruziana* ichnofacies (MacEachern et al., 2007, 2012). In shallow-marine siliciclastic deposits *Ophiomorpha nodosa* occurs from the fore-shore to the upper offshore, being common in middle-upper shoreface settings (Curran, 1985; Pollard et al., 1993; Goldring and Pollard, 1995; Leaman et al., 2015). The stratigraphical range of *Ophiomorpha* is from Permian to Holocene (Frey et al., 1978) or from the Pennsylvanian (Anderson and Droser, 1998).

*Phycodes* Richter, 1850  
*Phycodes* cf. *palmatus* (Hall, 1852)  
 (Fig. 9A, B)

**M a t e r i a l.** – Two specimens (epichnia) preserved in full relief on sandstone blocks and a few in cross-section from Długopole Górne Quarry and Wojślawice.

**D e s c r i p t i o n.** – The specimens occur as horizontal, branched structures, which consist of a few (2–5) rounded, smooth, cylindrical tunnels. These tunnels seemingly originate from nearly the same point, maybe from a single stem, in a palmate-like structure (Fig. 9A). However, this part of the trace fossils is poorly developed. The cylindrical tunnels are oval in cross-section (Fig. 9B). The diameter of the cylindrical branches is 1.0–2.5 cm, while the length of individual tunnels is up to 5.0 cm.

**R e m a r k s.** – These specimens show close similarity to those reported by Han and Pickerill (1994: fig. 5/12), Knaust (2004: fig. 7/3) and Singh et al. (2008: fig. 4b, c), described as *Phycodes palmatus* (Hall, 1852), which is a horizontal bundle burrow and consists of a few thick and rounded branches (tubes) that originate in a palmate structure. The occurrence of a branched structure, subdivided into 2–5 cylindrical tunnels probably diverging from the same point, and oval cross-sections, might suggest similarity to *Phycodes palmatus*. However, the current specimens are fragmentarily preserved, e.g. the initial stem is not well visible, and so they were assigned to *Phycodes* cf. *palmatus* and cf. *Phycodes* isp., respectively (Fig. 9A, B).

*Phycodes* is regarded as a fodinichnion of deposit-feeders, probably annelids or sea-pens (Fillion and Pickerill, 1990; Han and Pickerill, 1994). It is typical of the *Cruziana* ichnofacies (MacEachern et al., 2012) and characterizes mainly shallow-marine settings (Singh et al., 2008). *Phycodes* is common in lower shoreface deposits (Buatois and Mángano, 2011; Pemberton et al., 2012), though can also appear in shallower and deeper settings. This ichnogenus is known from the lower Cambrian to the Pliocene (Han and Pickerill, 1994).

*Phycosiphon* Fischer-Ooster, 1858  
*Phycosiphon incertum* Fischer-Ooster, 1858  
 (Figs. 5B and 9C)

**M a t e r i a l.** – Several specimens preserved as cross-sections in sandstone blocks, Wojślawice.

**D e s c r i p t i o n.** – *Phycosiphon* occurs as a small spreite burrow consisting of repeated narrow, U-shaped lobes with dark fine-grained cores and a light coarse-grained mantle. The spreite, which extends between the arms of the lobes, is made of the same material as the mantle of the tube. The burrow system is parallel to bedding. The specimens occur also as several black circular dots, comma-shaped dots and fish-hook shapes. The diameter of the tubes is up to 1 mm and the lobes

are up to 1 cm wide (Figs. 5B and 9C). A well preserved lobe, 5.0 cm in length, is observed. In some cases, the preserved fragments of individual lobes are up to 1 cm long (Figs. 5B and 9C). Spreiten between lobes are poorly and only fragmentarily preserved (Fig. 5B).

**R e m a r k s.** – The well preserved recurving lobes or many characteristic black, comma-shaped dots and fish hook shapes (Figs. 5B and 9C) suggests the assignment to *Phycosiphon incertum* (cf. Wetzel and Bromley 1994: figs. 4–6; Bromley, 1996: fig. 8.4; Naruse and Nifuku, 2008; Rodríguez-Tovar et al., 2014a).

*Phycosiphon* is considered to be a fodinichnion (Wetzel and Bromley, 1994) or a pascichnion/fodinichnion (Rodríguez-Tovar et al., 2014a). It is typical of the *Cruziana*, *Zoophycos* and *Nereites* ichnofacies (Knaust, 2017). *Phycosiphon* trace makers may be small vermiform organisms, being selective deposit feeders (cf. Bednarz and Mclroy, 2009). *Phycosiphon* is common in oxygen- and nutrient-rich fine-grained siliciclastic softground deposits (Rodríguez-Tovar et al., 2014a). This ichnospecies is characteristic of the proximal and distal lower shoreface to lower offshore and even deep-sea settings in calmer conditions (Dashtgard et al., 2012; Vakarelov et al., 2012; Wesolowski et al., 2018; MacEachern and Bann, 2020). It is known from the Cambrian to the Holocene (Naruse and Nifuku, 2008; Hammersburg et al., 2018).

?*Phycosiphon* isp.  
 (Figs. 6H, J and 9D, E)

**M a t e r i a l.** – Some questionable specimens preserved as cross-sections, Szklary and Wojślawice.

**D e s c r i p t i o n.** – Abundant, horizontal cylindrical specimens preserved as cross-sections (Fig. 9D, E) are meandering, cylindrical and unbranched burrows. The specimens are mostly curved, rarely straight. The burrows are densely packed. The specimens are elliptical in cross-section. Their filling is darker than the host rock. Their length is from 1.0–3.0 cm, while 0.2–0.4 cm wide. One specimen, which occurs as a U-shaped lobe, 2.0 cm long and 1.0 cm wide, is also present (Fig. 6H).

**R e m a r k s.** – These questionable specimens show similarities to *Phycosiphon* in having a winding course, with thickness and darker fill typical of this ichnogenus. They also seem similar to *Planolites*, especially ?*Planolites montanus* Richter, 1937 (cf. Patel et al., 2008: fig. 3g, f; Chrzęstek, 2013b: pl. 3/8; Stachacz, 2016: fig. 12D), in their winding course, which usually changes over short distances (cf. Rodríguez-Tovar et al., 2014b: fig. 7G; Feng et al., 2017: figs. 8H, 9E). However, these burrows are moderately to highly curved as for *Planolites*. The state of preservation is not good, thus these specimens were assigned as ?*Phycosiphon* isp. The specimens also show some resemblances to *Macaronichnus segregatis degiberti* Rodríguez-Tovar and Aguirre, 2014 due to their winding course (see also Nara and Seike, 2019; Olivero and López Cabrera, 2020: fig. 5). The main difference is the lack of a mineralogical segregation within a tube, typical of this ichnogenus (Clifton and Thompson, 1978; Bromley et al., 2009).

*Planolites* Nicholson, 1873  
*Planolites beverleyensis* (Billings, 1862)  
 (Fig. 9F)

**Material.** – One specimen preserved in a *Thalassinoides* isp. infill, co-occurring with *Ophiomorpha nodosa*; Długopole Górne Quarry.

**Description.** – The specimen appears as a straight to winding, unbranched cylindrical horizontal tunnel, without wall, elliptical in cross-section. The fill of a burrow may be slightly different to the surrounding rock (*Thalassinoides* filling). The outer surface of the burrow is moderately smooth. The length is 8 cm, width 0.5 cm.

**Remarks.** – The specimen shows similarities to the ichnogenus *Planolites* Nicholson, 1873 in having a slightly undulating, flattened, unbranched, cylindrical tunnel, without wall (Fig. 9F). It is especially similar to *Planolites beverleyensis* (Billings, 1862) described by Chrzęstek (2013b: pl. 3/8), Stachacz (2016: fig. 12C) and Feng et al. (2017: figs. 5C, D, 10D, E), which usually has a straight to slightly winding course and flattened tunnel. It differs from *Palaeophycus* Hall, 1847 in the lack of wall and constant width of the cylindrical tunnel (cf. Chrzęstek, 2013b: pl. 2/2; Stachacz, 2016: fig. 12F). The specimen (Fig. 9F) occurs in a *Thalassinoides* infill. Probably, for some producers of trace fossils, other burrows could be additional food resources (cf. Izumi, 2015; Knaust, 2020b).

*Planolites* is regarded as a pascichnion or fodinichnion produced by deposit-feeders or predators, mainly polychaetes (Alpert, 1975; Pemberton and Frey, 1982; Keighley and Pickerill, 1995; Bromley, 1996; Schlirf, 2003) or molluscs (Knaust, 2007). This ichnogenus is common in the *Skolithos* and *Cruziana* ichnofacies (Frey and Seilacher, 1980). This eurybathic and facies-crossing ichnogenus is abundant in shallow-marine settings (lower shoreface-lower offshore; Pemberton et al., 2001, 2012; Buatois and Mángano, 2011; MacEachern and Bann, 2020). It is known from the Ediacaran to the present (Häntzschel, 1975; Uchman, 1998; Mángano and Buatois, 2016).

*Thalassinoides* Ehrenberg, 1944

*Thalassinoides paradoxicus* Kennedy, 1967  
(Fig. 9G)

**Material.** – One specimen preserved on a sandstone slab, Wojsławice. Two specimens preserved on sandstone blocks were reported by Chrzęstek (2013a: fig. 10A, B).

**Description.** – Cylindrical, unlined, irregularly branched specimen, which forms a burrow network. Vertical, horizontal and inclined shafts also appear. T-shaped branching pattern predominant relative to Y-shaped branches. Some swellings are present. The specimen diameter ranges from 0.7–1.5 cm. The visible length is up to 35 cm.

**Remarks.** – The occurrence of irregular pattern of branching, in which T-shaped branches of variable diameter predominate, suggests assignment to *Thalassinoides paradoxicus* (cf. Howard and Frey, 1984). It does not differ from the specimens described by and Knaust (2017: fig. 5.159b; 2020a: fig. 1c, d) and Chrzęstek et al. (2018: fig. 8A). The specimen differs from *T. suevicus* in the presence of predominantly vertical components and in having more irregularly arranged ramifications (cf. Carmona et al., 2008).

It is regarded as a domichnion, fodinichnion or agrichnion (Myrow, 1995; Bromley, 1996; Ekdale and Bromley, 2003). The possible trace makers are crustaceans (thalassinidean shrimps, crabs, lobsters, crayfish) or cerianthid sea anemones, fish, enteropneusts (Frey et al., 1984a; Myrow, 1995; Dworschak and Rodrigues, 1997; Ekdale and Bromley, 2003;

Neto de Carvalho et al., 2007). *Thalassinoides* is typical of the *Cruziana* and *Glossifungites* ichnofacies (MacEachern et al., 2007, 2012), but can appear also in the *Psilonichnus*, *Teredolites*, *Zoophycos* and *Nereites* ichnofacies. *Thalassinoides paradoxicus* characterizes soft- and firmgrounds (cf. Knaust 2020a: fig. 2). *Thalassinoides* can appear in deposits ranging from marginal marine to deep sea, but in siliciclastic deposits is especially abundant in well-oxygenated shallow marine settings (Archer and Maples, 1984), in the distal lower shoreface (Pemberton et al., 2001, 2012; Uchman and Krenmayr, 2004; Buatois and Mángano, 2011). It ranges from the Cambrian (Mikuláš, 2000) to the Holocene (Mángano and Buatois, 2016), being common from the Ordovician (Jin et al., 2012; Chrzęstek and Pluta, 2017).

*Thalassinoides suevicus* (Rieth, 1932)  
(Figs. 9F, H–M and 10A–E)

**Material.** – Several specimens preserved on upper sandstone surfaces (quarry walls, sandstone blocks) and as cross-sections, Długopole Górne Quarry, Szklary, Wojsławice (MGUWr-6759s). This ichnogenus was described by Chrzęstek (2013a: fig. 9C–F) from the current site. One probable turning chamber of *Thalassinoides* was also recognized (Fig. 9J–M).

**Description.** The specimens appear as horizontal, cylindrical, unlined burrows with a Y-shaped branching pattern, which commonly forms a boxwork on the sandstone surface (Figs. 9I and 10A, B, D). Two different categories of burrows were distinguished: *Thalassinoides suevicus* type A (3.0–5.5 cm, up to 7 cm in diameter; Figs. 9F, H, I and 10C–E) and *T. suevicus* type B (1.5–2.0 cm in diameter; Fig. 10A, B). The visible length is up to 80 cm (Fig. 10D). The *Thalassinoides* filling differs from the surrounding rocks in colour, being darker, rusty or brownish. Some cross-sections, described as *Thalassinoides* isp. also appear (Fig. 10C, H). The other specimen occurs as a structure, 30 cm in length, up to 16 cm high and 11 cm wide, which consists of a vertical to oblique cylindrical shaft, 7 cm in diameter, terminating in an oval chamber, elliptical in shape (Fig. 9J–M). At the left end of the chamber there may be a second tunnel, 8.5 cm in length and 7 cm in width (Fig. 9J). The angle between the two horizontal tunnels is 120 degrees. On the outer surface and in the cross-section of the chamber (21 cm long), some other trace fossils appear, e.g., *Ophiomorpha* (Fig. 9K–M).

**Remarks.** – The study specimens show strong affinities to *Thalassinoides suevicus* in having a predominantly Y-shaped branching pattern and boxwork (Figs. 9H, I and 10A, B, D). The burrows of *Thalassinoides* are clearly visible on the sandstone surfaces due to the contrasting brownish infill, especially when they form a branching network (Figs. 9H, I and 10B, D). Some *Thalassinoides* openings (Figs. 9J and 10C, H) seem to be slightly resemble *Ophiomorpha irregulaire* Frey, Howard, Pryor, 1978 (Frey et al. 1978; López Cabrera and Olivero, 2014) in having “flame-like structures” (Fig. 10C; cf. Boyd et al., 2012), though these structures might be caused by compaction. The specimen shown in Figure 9J–L, due to the presence of a slightly flattened chamber and two canals, suggests assignment to *Thalassinoides*, most probably to *T. suevicus*. The chamber seems to be swollen (turn around) at the diverging point of the ophiomorphid burrow, perhaps used by the trace makers for changing the direction of locomotion or for feeding, e.g., for storage of detritus for later consumption (see discussion in Chrzęstek et al., 2018 and references therein). The specimen shows also some

affinities in shape to *Macanopsis plataniformis* Muñiz and Mayoral, 2001 and *M. astreptum* Bown and Krauss, 1983 in having a cylindrical subvertical tunnel and basal chamber. The main difference is the presence of two cylindrical tunnels in the study specimen instead one.

?*Thalassinoides* isp.  
(Figs. 10F, G)

**Material.** – Two epichnial specimens preserved on sandstone blocks (Długopole Górne Quarry).

**Description.** – The study specimens are preserved as horizontal, branched burrows with scratch marks, resembling longitudinal ridges, on their surfaces (Fig. 10G). Some circular, ?sandy cores (cross-sections) with paler filling are observed (Fig. 10F). The tunnels are 4 cm wide and up to 40 cm long. The cross-sections of these specimens are smaller in diameter than the those of the cylindrical tunnels. They are 1.0–1.5 cm in width (Fig. 10F).

**Remarks.** – These specimens show some affinities to two ichnogenera, *Thalassinoides paradoxicus* Kennedy, 1967 and *Lamellaecylindrica paradoxica* (Woodward, 1830; cf. Knaust 2020a: fig. 1a, c, d respectively) in creating horizontal burrows, consisting of ramified cylindrical tunnels with scratches and openings resembling sandy cores (Fig. 10F, G). They seem most similar to *T. paradoxicus* in having a variable diameter and probably vertical shafts, which have been seen in cross-section (see Fig. 10F). One probably blind tunnel was also observed (Fig. 10G). However, they differ from *L. paradoxica* in the lack of a thick, concentrically laminated muddy wall, observed in cores (Fig. 10F). The specimens also resemble *Spongeliomorpha* Saporta, 1887 (Fig. 10G, see Gibert and Ekdale, 2010: figs. 3, 4), in having a similar burrow morphology (e.g., branching pattern, blind tunnel), but differ in lacking the distinctly marked characteristic scratches typical of this ichnogenus.

Unidentified burrows (in open nomenclature)  
(Figs. 7C and 10H, I)

**Material.** – Some poorly preserved, uncertain burrows, recorded as cross-sections (Figs. 7C and 10H, Szklary). Another questionable specimen is preserved in full relief on a sandstone slab (Fig. 10I, Wojślawice).

**Description.** – The questionable specimens appear as concave rings (mounds with a central depression), of diameter up to 4 cm (Figs. 7C and 10H). The second specimen appears as two parallel cylindrical tubes, which seem to be connected in the distal part (Fig. 10I). The surface of the burrow is smooth. The length is 12 cm, and the width of the entire structure is 0.8 cm. Each tube is 0.3 cm wide.

**Remarks.** – Due to poor preservation the assignment of these specimens is uncertain, and so they are left in open nomenclature. The closest similarities are to ?*Schaubcylindrichnus* Frey and Howard, 1981 (Fig. 7C; Löwemark and Hong, 2006: figs. 4b, 5b) in having a circular ring with a central depression. On the other hand, similar structures have been suggested as ?jellyfish impressions (cf. Hammersburg et al., 2018: fig. 22/4-5; see discussion in Chrzęstek, 2020). The study specimens also show affinities to trace fossils from the newly erected ichnofamily Siphonichnidae (Knaust, 2015: figs.

1, 2, 4E), which comprises burrows consisting of vertical tubes with core and mantle or lining (e.g., *Siphonichnus* Stanistreet, le Blanc Smith and Cadle, 1980 or *Laevicyclus* Quenstedt, 1879, see discussion in Chrzęstek, 2020).

The other questionable specimen (Fig. 10I) shows some similarities to *Tisoa* de Serres, 1840, especially *Tisoa habichi* Lissón, 1904 (previously *Diplocraterion habichi*) or *Paratisoa* (cf. Knaust, 2019: figs. 1, 2), in having two cylindrical horizontal closely spaced tubes (cf. Knaust, 2019: figs. 8H, 10E, F). However, this doubtful structure might also represent *Ophiomorpha*.

BORINGS

*Entobia* Bronn 1837  
*Entobia* isp.  
(Fig. 11A, B)

**Material.** – Borings preserved in two bivalve moulds, Długopole Górne Quarry (MGUWr-6760s).

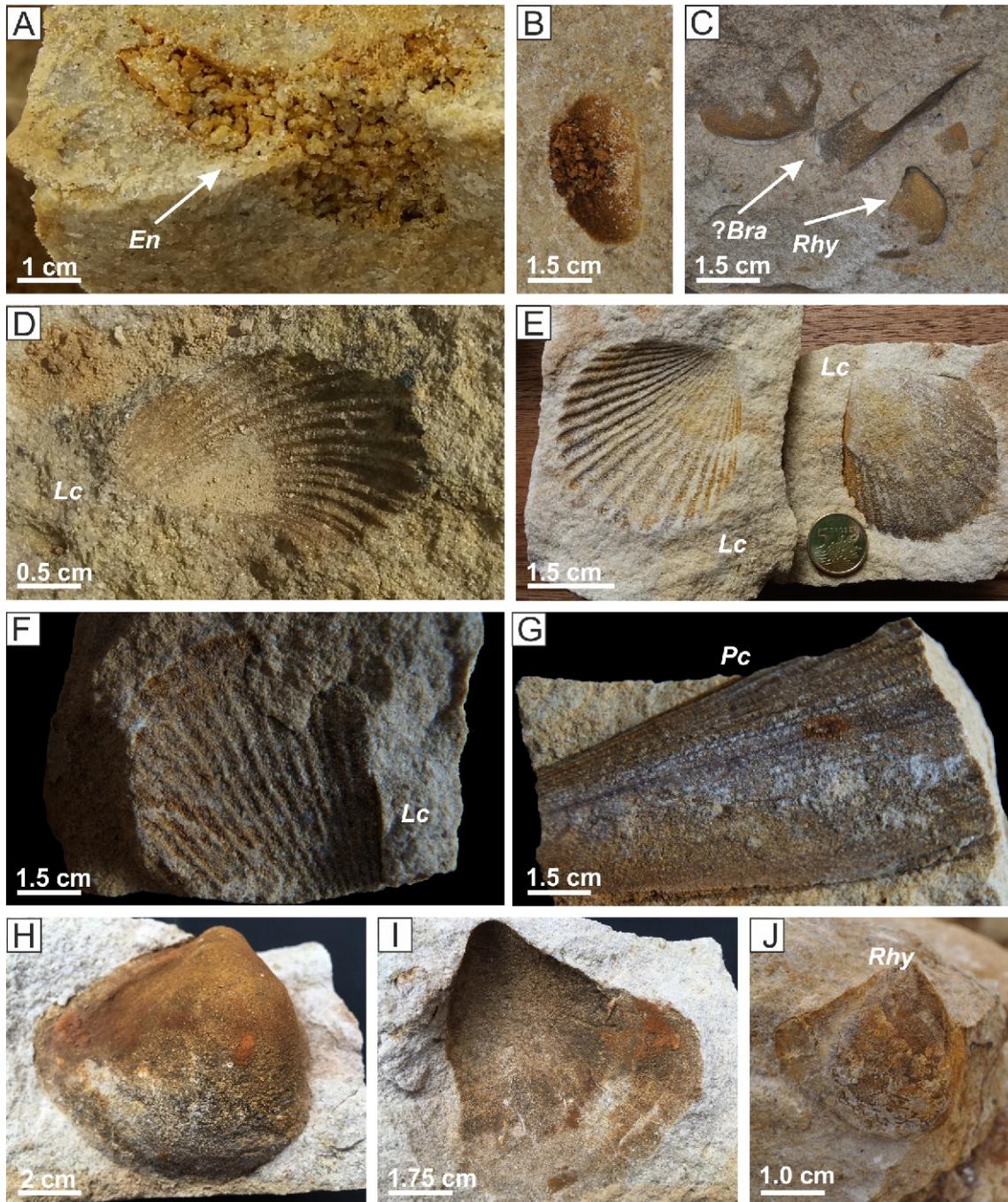
**Description.** – The specimens appear as circular to subcircular apertures of boxwork chambers interconnected by canals on the original shell surface. Aperture diameters range up to 0.5 cm.

**Remarks.** – The morphology indicates assignment to *Entobia* (cf. Bromley and D'Alessandro, 1984). The trace makers are sponges of the family Clionidae (Bromley and D'Alessandro, 1984). The specimens belong to the *Entobia* or *Gnathichnus* ichnofacies and to the newly erected family Entobiaidae (cf. Wisshak et al., 2019). Frey and Seilacher (1980) erected the *Trypanites* ichnofacies, and Bromley and Asgaard (1993) the *Entobia* ichnofacies. Recently, the *Entobia* ichnofacies was suggested to comprise Mesozoic and Cenozoic records (since the Jurassic; see Gibert et al., 1998, 2007), with the *Trypanites* ichnofacies for Paleozoic records (El-Hedeny and El-Sabbagh, 2018). The *Entobia* ichnofacies, similarly to the *Trypanites* ichnofacies, corresponds to long-term bioerosion (deep-tier), while the *Gnathichnus* ichnofacies is associated with surficial bioerosion structures (shallow-tier). Earlier, MacEachern et al. (2007) regarded *Entobia* and *Gnathichnus* as ichnocoenoses in the *Trypanites* ichnofacies. Due to the shallow-tier occurrence in bivalve shells the current specimens might represent the *Gnathichnus* ichnofacies. *Entobia* may occur in a relatively wide spectrum of depositional settings, ranging from marginal-marine to offshore (after Buatois and Mángano, 2011; Demircan, 2012; El-Hedeny and El-Sabbagh, 2018). However, clionaid sponges, the possibly producers of *Entobia*, prefer low energy nearshore, shallow-marine environments (Schmidt-Neto et al., 2018). They range from Jurassic to present (Pineda Salgado et al., 2015) or from Devonian to Recent (Wilson, 2007).

ASSOCIATED BODY FOSSILS

In the middle Turonian deposits studied, body fossils, the bivalves ?*Brachidontes* sp. (Fig. 11C), *Lima canalifera* Goldfuss, 1836 (Fig. 11D–F; MGUWr-6761s), *Pinna* (*Pinna*) *cretacea* (Schlotheim, 1813) (Fig. 11G; MGUWr-6762s) and *Rhynchostreon suborbiculatum* (Lamarck, 1801) (Fig. 11C, H–J), were also collected.

?*Brachidontes* Swainson, 1840 (suspension-feeder bivalve) is regarded as an important palaeoecological indicator, common in the shallow littoral zone (Aguirre et al., 2006; Morton et al., 2020). This genus is typical of turbulent, moderate to high



**Fig. 11. The boring *Entobia* and body fossils from Długopole Górne Quarry**

**A, B** – *Entobia* isp.; MGUWr-6760s; **C** – *?Brachidontes* sp., *Rhynchostreon suborbiculatum* (rock in situ, wall of the quarry); **D–F** – *Lima canalifera*; MGUWr-6761s (loose blocks); **G** – *Pinna (Pinna) cretacea*; MGUWr-6762s (rock fragment); **H** – *Rhynchostreon suborbiculatum* (loose block, positive specimen); **I** – *Rhynchostreon suborbiculatum*, the same specimen as in H, preserved as negative; **J** – *Rhynchostreon suborbiculatum* (loose block); abbreviations: *En* – *Entobia* isp., *?Bra* – *?Brachidontes* sp., *Lc* – *Lima canalifera*, *Pc* – *Pinna (Pinna) cretacea*, *Rhy* – *Rhynchostreon suborbiculatum*

energy, normal salinity waters, or in some cases brackish waters (polyhaline-euryhaline, see [Scott, 1970](#); [Sara and Pirro, 2011](#)). Other authors ([Scott, 1970](#); [Ekdale and Ekdale, 2018](#)) also reported this genus from shallow, nearshore marine settings.

The bivalve *Lima canalifera* Goldfuss, 1836 is common in well-oxygenated environments, usually up to 40 m deep ([Wilmsen et al., 2007](#); [Schneider et al., 2011](#)). According to the

cited authors, this taxon is known from the Cenomanian to Campanian in Germany. *Lima canalifera* was previously reported by [Chrzęstek \(2013a\)](#) from the current site. The study specimens show similarities to *L. canalifera* in having up to 20 radial costae, instead of 30 ribs as possesses *L. multicostrata* Geinitz, 1839 (cf. [Schneider et al., 2011](#) and references therein).

*Pinna (Pinna) cretacea* is a suspension-feeder, that inhales waters at the posterior end of the shell, which is usually elevated above the sea floor (cf. Seeling and Bengtson, 2003; fig. 4A–C; Bengtson et al., 2014; fig. 2). The study specimen might represent *Pinna (Pinna) cretacea cretacea*, a new subspecies adopted recently by Bengtson et al. (2014), in having several ribs (up to 18) and nearly straight dorsal and ventral margins. This subspecies, according to the cited authors, is typical of the Turonian, while the other subspecies *Pinna (Pinna) cretacea brevis* usually appears from the late Turonian to the Coniacian. Recent Pinnidae occur mainly in shallow waters, under low energy conditions, from a few metres to 50 m down, commonly on the lower shoreface (Bengtson et al., 2014; Carmona et al., 2020). *Pinna (Pinna) cretacea* is a stratigraphically (Albian-Maastrichtian) and geographically widely distributed species (Seeling and Bengtson, 2003). This taxon was described from the middle Turonian of Saxony, Germany by Wilmsen and Niebuhr (2014b).

*Rhynchostreon suborbiculatum* is a nearshore oyster, which is characteristic of shallow-marine, moderate to high energy, well-oxygenated and nutrient-rich settings (see Seeling and Bengtson, 1999; Moussavou, 2017; Tröger 2017). Abdelhady (2009) reported this species from normal salinity environments. Dhondt et al. (1999) and Ayoub-Hannaa and Fürsich (2011) described it from mid-shelf environments (25–30 m deep), and Herkat (2007) and Richardt et al. (2013) from settings up to 50 m deep. According to Seeling and Bengtson (1999) and Nagm and Boualem (2019), *Rhynchostreon* (earlier *Exogyra columba*; cf. Tröger, 2003), a cosmopolitan species, is widely distributed in the Cenomanian–lower Turonian of the Tethys Ocean (Tröger, 2003; Ayoub-Hannaa et al., 2014). According to these authors, its appearance in the Upper Cretaceous of Europe (North Temperate Realm), indicates a northward faunal migration (a strong southern influence). Thus, exogyrine oysters are a very useful tool for palaeobiogeographic reconstructions (Ayoub-Hannaa et al., 2014). The oyster *Rhynchostreon* is abundant in the Upper Cretaceous of Germany (Saxony, Bavaria) and is also widespread in the Bohemian Cretaceous Basin (Tröger, 2003, 2017; Schneider et al., 2013; Janetschke and Wilmsen, 2014).

#### PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL RECONSTRUCTION BASED ON TRACE AND BODY FOSSILS

##### CHARACTERISTIC OF TRACE FOSSIL ASSEMBLAGE

In the middle Turonian sandstones of Długopole Górne Quarry an ichnoassemblage comprising burrows and borings was found, representing several ethological categories: domichnia or domichnia/fodinichnia (*Ophiomorpha*, *Funalichnus*), fodinichnia (*Dactyloidites*, *Asterosoma*, *Thalassinoides*, *Phycodes*, *Phycosiphon*), repichnia (*Curvolithus*) repichnia/pascichnia (?*Ancorichnus*) and pascichnia (*Planolites*). Borings *Entobia* (domichnia) were also recorded. In the assemblage studied fodinichnia prevail, while domichnia or domichnia/fodinichnia are common and repichnia/pascichnia rare. Trace makers are suspension- and deposit-feeders or carnivores. The trace fossils studied characterize the *Skolithos* and *Cruziana* ichnofacies. Ichnological analysis shows the presence of a moderately diverse trace fossil assemblage (13 ichnogenera, 23 ichnospecies; Table 1). Of these, *Palaeophycus*, ?*Macaronichnus*, *Curvolithus*, *Ophiomorpha* and *Thalassinoides* were previously reported by Chrzęstek (2013a). *Ophiomorpha* is most abundant in the Długopole Górne Quarry section, while *Thalassinoides*, *Dactyloidites* and *Phycosiphon* are common (Table 1). Other trace fossils are

rare or very rare. Ichnodiversity is also moderate, with 11 architectural designs (two categories dominate, cf. Buatois et al., 2017). In these middle Turonian sandstones maze and boxwork burrows prevail (*Ophiomorpha*, *Thalassinoides*), while radial to rosetted burrows (*Dactyloidites*) are common. The collected trace fossils represent mainly shallow-tier (up to 15 cm deep, *Ancorichnus*, *Curvolithus*, *Phycodes*) and mid-tier (15–50 cm deep) assemblages, e.g., *Asterosoma*, *Dactyloidites*, *Phycosiphon*, *Thalassinoides* (cf. Rodríguez-Tovar et al., 2017). The Długopole Górne Quarry deposits are unbioturbated to commonly bioturbated (bioturbation index, BI = 0–4). The highest values of bioturbation index (BI = 4; 60–90%) are in the sandstone beds bioturbated by *Dactyloidites* and *Ophiomorpha*. Moderate bioturbation (BI = 3; 30–60%) was recorded in beds bioturbated mainly by *Thalassinoides* and *Phycosiphon*.

#### ICHOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS ON DEPOSITIONAL ENVIRONMENT

The moderately diverse assemblage studied represents a wide spectrum of different ethologies and is characteristic of both the *Skolithos* and *Cruziana* ichnofacies (Pemberton et al., 2001; Pervesler and Uchman, 2004). Due to the presence of traces which represent different ethological categories, nutrients were available both in suspension and deposit (see Baucon and Neto de Carvalho, 2008).

*Thalassinoides* and *Ophiomorpha*, the most common ichnogenera in the Długopole Górne Quarry section, are abundant in lower shoreface settings (Pemberton et al., 2001, 2012; Uchman and Krenmayr, 2004; Pervesler et al., 2011; Bayet-Goll et al., 2015). In the uppermost part of the Długopole Górne section a large *Thalassinoides* chamber – turn around (21 cm in length), was found. Similar enlarged chambers at diverging points of ophiomorids (*Thalassinoides*) were reported by Giannetti et al. (2007, up to 22 cm long) and El-Sabbagh et al. (2017, up to 18 cm long, see fig. 3) from shallow-marine settings. Chrzęstek et al. (2018) reported crustacean burrows of similar size (*Rosarichnoides sudeticus*), consisting of eight swollen chambers (up to 10 cm long each), from an upper shoreface setting (Coniacian sandstones, North Sudetic Synclinorium). *Dactyloidites*, which is also common in the middle Turonian sandstones of Długopole Górne Quarry, is regarded as a good palaeoenvironmental indicator, due to its occurrence under specific conditions (bathymetry, salinity, availability of nutrients) in a restricted environment, beneath the fair-weather wave base (cf. Uchman and Pervesler, 2007; Wilmsen and Niebuhr, 2014a and references therein). Moreover, the presence of rare, newly recognized trace fossils, such as ?*Ancorichnus*, *Asterosoma*, *Dactyloidites*, *Funalichnus*, *Phycodes*, *Phycosiphon*, *Planolites* indicate sedimentation of the deposits studied below the fair-weather wave base, in a lower shoreface setting (see Pemberton et al., 2001, 2012; Pokorný, 2008; Buatois and Mángano, 2011; Wilmsen and Niebuhr, 2014a). *Planolites* and *Curvolithus* are also described mainly from shoreface-upper offshore environments (Buatois et al., 1998; Pemberton et al., 2012). In the Długopole Górne section *Phycosiphon* commonly co-occurs with *Dactyloidites* (Fig. 6H, J) or with ?*Ancorichnus* isp. (Figs. 5B and 9C). These ichnotaxa have usually been reported from environments ranging from the lower shoreface to offshore (Desai and Saklani, 2014; Wilmsen and Niebuhr, 2014a; MacEachern and Bann, 2020). Moreover, *Planolites beverleyensis* appears also in a *Thalassinoides* infill (Fig. 10F). Earlier, Chrzęstek (2013a), described ?*Macaronichnus* within a *Thalassinoides* infill from these deposits. *Macaronichnus* has usually been reported from foreshore-upper shoreface settings, but in storm-origin deposits can occur up to a lower shoreface setting (Pemberton et al.,

2001; Uchman and Krenmayr, 2004; Olivero and López Cabrera, 2020). The newly found borings *Entobia* are known from the marginal-marine to offshore settings (Wilson, 2007; El-Hedeny and El-Sabbagh, 2018), but with increasing water depths they become less common (Bromley and Asgaard, 1993; El-Sabbagh, 2008). Schmidt-Neto et al. (2018) reported that in Mesozoic and Cenozoic deposits, *Entobia* occurs usually in settings below the fair-weather wave base.

In the ichnoassemblage studied, horizontal traces prevail, but vertical burrows also appear. Horizontal and radial burrows, attributable to deposit- or detritus-feeders (?*Ancorichnus*, *Curvolithus*, *Asterosoma*, *Planolites*, *Dactyloidites*, *Phycosiphon*, *Phycodes*, *Thalassinoides*), characterize low energy conditions typical of the proximal *Cruziana* ichnofacies (beneath the fair-weather wave base), while vertical ones, typical of suspension-feeders (*Ophiomorpha*, *Funalicchnus*), point to more energetic conditions, characteristic of the distal *Skolithos* ichnofacies (slightly above the fair-weather wave base). Additionally, the boring *Entobia*, which characterizes the *Gnathichnus* ichnofacies, is also associated with low energy conditions, when the bivalve moulds were bioeroded (Belaústegu et al., 2015; Schmidt-Neto et al., 2018 and references therein). The moderate ichnodisparity of the assemblage, and the presence of burrows with horizontal spreiten, radial to rosetted structures or maze and boxwork burrows (cf. Buatois et al., 2017), also suggests the predominance of generally lower energy conditions during deposition of these sandstones. The proximal *Cruziana* ichnofacies suggests quiet sedimentation, under low energy hydrodynamic conditions on a distal lower shoreface, while the distal *Skolithos* ichnofacies is typical of more energetic conditions, probably connected with more common and abundant sand supplies, on a proximal lower shoreface. *Dactyloidites*, *Phycosiphon*, ?*Ancorichnus*, *Phycodes* and horizontal burrows of *Ophiomorpha* are commonly associated with fine- and medium-grained sandstones, and *Asterosoma*, *Curvolithus*, *Thalassinoides* and *Ophiomorpha* (shafts) with medium-coarse grained deposits. This might also indicate slightly higher-energy conditions in the case of the latter burrows. Moreover, in the lower and upper part of the middle Turonian section at Długopole Górne Quarry, *Thalassinoides* and *Ophiomorpha* are common. In the middle and upper part of the Długopole Górne section *Ophiomorpha* dominates (mostly as vertical burrows) and bivalves prevail (Fig. 11C–H). Other trace fossils, e.g., *Asterosoma* cf. *ludwigae*, *Curvolithus simplex*, *Phycodes* cf. *palmatus*, *Thalassinoides* isp. (swollen chambers) appear in the uppermost part of this middle Turonian succession (Figs. 4 and 5A). In the upper part of the succession, trace fossils are more abundant (especially ophiomorids), than in its lower and middle part (Fig. 4), similar to the case of their equivalents in the Intra-Sudetic Synclinorium, the Radków Sandstones (cf. Jerzykiewicz and Wojewoda, 1986). This might suggest the greater hydrodynamic energy and a slightly shallower palaeoenvironment during deposition of the upper part of the Długopole Górne deposits.

Sedimentation of these middle Turonian sandstones probably took place in a normal salinity and well-oxygenated environment. *Asterosoma* and *Phycosiphon* are regarded as trace fossils strongly associated with fully marine, stenohaline conditions (Bromley and Uchman, 2003; MacEachern and Gingras, 2007; Gingras et al., 2011), while *Planolites*, *Ophiomorpha*, *Thalassinoides* (so called facies-crossing ichnogenera) are also known from brackish conditions (mesohaline). *Dactyloidites*, though, has been regarded as a trace fossil typical of mesohaline settings (Aguirrezabala and Gibert, 2004), but has also been reported from entirely marine environments (Wilmsen and Niebuhr, 2014a), similarly to *Curvolithus* (Buatois

et al., 1998). Other burrows, such as ?*Ancorichnus*, *Funalicchnus* and borings *Entobia* are commonly reported from open marine settings (El-Sabbagh, 2008; Pokorný, 2008; Luo et al., 2020). The moderately diverse trace fossil assemblage, comprising a variety of ethological categories, as well as the presence of common *Thalassinoides* point to a well-oxygenated environment (Buatois and Mángano, 2011; Gingras et al., 2011; Hofmann et al., 2011). *Phycosiphon*, though, is regarded as an indicator of low-oxygen conditions, when present in monospecific assemblages (Bromley and Ekdale, 1984; Baucon et al., 2020). In moderately to highly diverse ichnoassemblages this ichnotaxon usually occurs in well-oxygenated environments.

*Asterosoma*, *Dactyloidites*, *Phycodes* and *Phycosiphon* are evidence of an episodically nutrient-rich environment. The presence of both suspension- and deposit-feeders suggests availability of food in suspension and in the deposit (see Baucon and Neto de Carvalho, 2008). The occurrence of *Planolites beverleyensis* (the present study) and ?*Macaronichnus* (Chrzęstek, 2013a) in *Thalassinoides* might suggest burrow fillings as additional food resources for some trace makers (cf. Rodríguez-Tovar, 2005; Łaska et al., 2017). Moreover, according to the authors cited, the darker colour of *Ophiomorpha* and *Thalassinoides*, than the host sediment, might be connected with the deposition of rusty layers during sedimentation of the sandstones or with growth of bacteria and algae on the burrow walls (see also Vlahović et al., 2011; Chrzęstek, 2013a).

In summary, ichnological analysis, such as a moderately diverse trace fossil assemblage, moderate ichnodisparity (11 architectural designs), with sparse to common ( $Bi = 0-4$ ), commonly of low to moderate bioturbation ( $BI = 2-3$ ) and the presence of shallow- to mid-tier trace fossils produced mostly by deposit-feeders indicates a trace fossil assemblage characteristic of proximal to distal lower shoreface settings (Fig. 12). Sedimentation took place in a well-oxygenated, soft-ground, occasionally nutrient-rich basin with normal salinity under gentle to moderate hydrodynamic conditions, interrupted by more energetic conditions probably associated with more common or abundant sand supplies.

#### PALAEOECOLOGICAL, SEDIMENTOLOGICAL AND PALAEOGEOGRAPHICAL IMPLICATIONS

The associated bivalves, mostly suspension-feeders, especially oysters (e.g., *Rhynchostreon*), also suggest a shallow marine, well-oxygenated, nutrient-rich low to moderate energy setting (Dhondt et al., 1999; Seeling and Bengtson, 1999; Moussavou, 2017; Wetzel et al., 2020), up to 25–30 m deep (Schneider et al., 2011; Ayoub-Hannaa et al., 2014). Pinnids indicate mostly lower energy conditions (see Bengtson et al., 2014), e.g. in a lower shoreface setting (Carmona et al., 2020). The presence of brachiopods (cf. Chrzęstek, 2013a) also indicates a normal salinity (stenohaline) environment.

The middle Turonian sandstones exposed in Długopole Górne Quarry, showing giant-scale cross-bedding, are probably part of a progradational accumulation terrace deposited on fault-controlled scarps parallel to the Cretaceous palaeoshore (cf. Don and Wojewoda, 2004). The deposits studied are mainly structureless, but parallel lamination is locally observed (see also Don and Wojewoda, 2004). Other sedimentary structures, as hummocky cross-stratification, cross-stratification or ripple marks, were not observed. Moreover, a coarsening-upwards trend in the succession was also observed, especially in the southern part of Długopole Górne Quarry (cf. Jerzykiewicz and Wojewoda, 1986: fig. 5; Wojewoda, 1997;

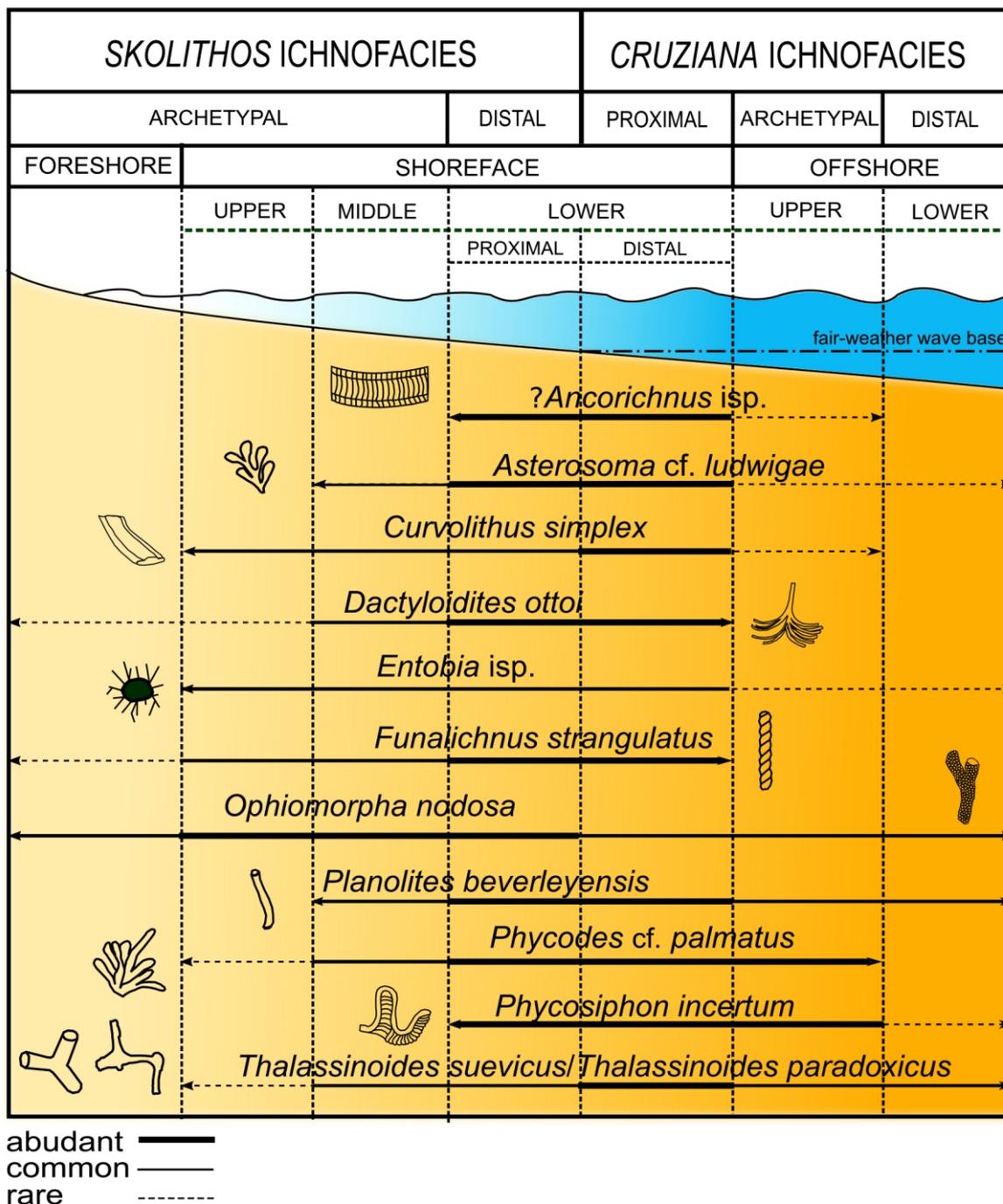


Fig. 12. Environmental distribution of the trace fossil assemblage reported in the middle Turonian sandstones of Długopole Górne Quarry and in loose blocks located at Szklary and Wojślawice (some details after [Mayoral et al., 2013](#))

Fig. 5A). However, within the deposits studied, medium-grained sandstones prevail. The dominance of burrows characteristic of the *Cruziana* ichnofacies and lack of the trace fossils of suspension-feeding organisms, such as *Skolithos*, *Arenicolites*, *Diplocraterion*, *Conichnus* and escape traces (fugichnia), typical of the *Skolithos* ichnofacies support this interpretation and do not point to a storm origin of these deposits (cf. [Chrzęstek, 2020](#)). The sedimentary structures (giant-scale cross-lamination), coarsening-upwards trend of the succession, as well as the abundance of trace fossils in the upper part of the sandstones studied are in agreement with the hypothesis on the

style of deposition suggested earlier by [Jerzykiewicz and Wojewoda \(1986\)](#), [Wojewoda \(1997\)](#) and [Rotnicka \(2005\)](#), see *Ophiomorpha* ichnofabric) for their counterparts in the Intra-Sudetic Basin (Radków Sandstones).

The coeval deposits of the adjacent Bohemian Cretaceous Basin, due to the presence of steep foreset packages, a coarsening-upwards trend and the dominance of coarse-grained deposits, were regarded recently as the deposits of coarse-grained Gilbert- or fan-type deltas ([Uličný, 2001](#); [Laurin and Uličný, 2004](#)). This style of deposition was also suggested for the Coniacian deposits from the Bohemian Basin (see [Uličný et al.,](#)

2009). The deltaic origin of the equivalents from the Bohemian Basin seems to be doubtful for the deposits in Długopole Górne Quarry. The sedimentological pattern recorded in the Długopole Górne strata, e.g., predominance of fine- to medium-grained sandstones and lack of small scale trough cross-stratification (cf. Nadaskay and Uličný, 2014: fig. 7C) are not evidence of a Gilbert-delta origin of these sandstones (cf. Uličný, 2001; Laurin and Uličný, 2004). Though all trace fossils recorded in the deposits studied have been described from fan- or Gilbert-type deltas, e.g., *Curvolithus*, *Ancorichnus*, *Phycosiphon*, *Phycodes*, *Ophiomorpha*, *Thalassinoides* (see discussion in Hovikowski et al., 2019 and Chrzęstek, 2020), the predominance of traces typical of the *Cruziana* ichnofacies, lack of fugichnia and other re-equilibration structures and high values of bioturbation index (BI = 0–4, commonly 2–3), are not consistent with the high energy events characteristic for such a style of deposition (compare also MacEachern and Bann, 2020). In the coeval deposits from the Bohemian Cretaceous Basin, regarded as Gilbert-type facies, the values of bioturbation index are low (BI = 1–2) and monotypic trace fossil assemblages appear (cf. Laurin and Uličný, 2004). Moreover, gravelly sandstones, up to conglomeratic, often occur next to fine- to coarse-grained deposits, a pattern absent in the Polish part of the Late Cretaceous Basin (Upper Nysa Kłodzka Graben). Due to the lack of a small scale trough cross-stratification in these deposits, the other hypothesis suggested for the depositional environment of the sandy bodies from the Bohemian Basin, offshore bars, by Skoček and Valečka (1983), seems not to be appropriate for the sandstones from the Upper Nysa Kłodzka Basin.

The current study, especially the new trace fossils finds, supports the previous suggestion of Chrzęstek (2013a) that sedimentation of the middle Turonian sandstones took place in a shallower environment, on the lower shoreface, than previously suggested, e.g., offshore or ?upper offshore (cf. Jerzykiewicz and Wojewoda, 1986; Don and Wojewoda, 2004; Rotnicka, 2005).

The ichnoassemblage studied shows close affinity in ichnotaxonomical composition to those of other adjacent Late Cretaceous basins, e.g. Intra-Sudetic, North Sudetic (Poland), Bohemian and Saxonian (Czech Republic, Germany respectively; Fig. 1), though the different source areas (e.g., East or West Sudetic islands), and their independent tectonic activity, caused some differences in the evolution of their sedimentary successions (cf. Niebuhr and Seibertz, 2018). The succession studied is most similar in style of deposition to that of the Intra-Sudetic Basin (accumulation terraces), while in facies (sandy) to those of the Bohemian and Saxonian Cretaceous basins (Uličný, 2001; Janetschke and Wilmsen, 2014). Similar ichnotaxa, e.g., *Palaeophycus*, *Ophiomorpha*, *Asterosoma*, *Thalassinoides* and *Phycosiphon* were reported by Rotnicka (2005) from the middle Turonian of the Intra-Sudetic Basin, while *Thalassinoides*, *Ophiomorpha*, *Planolites*, *Funalichnus* are known from the equivalent deposits of the Bohemian Basin (Uličný, 2001; Laurin and Uličný, 2004; Pokorný, 2008). Moreover, trace fossils recorded in the middle Turonian sandstones have also been described from coeval deposits in the North Sudetic Basin and Saxonian Basin, e.g., *Asterosoma*, *Ophiomorpha*, *Thalassinoides*, *Funalichnus*, *Dactyloidites*, *Planolites* and the boring *Entobia* (cf. Niebuhr and Wilmsen, 2016). The trace fossils studied have also been reported from other Upper Cretaceous successions (upper Turonian–Coniacian) from the basins cited (Mikuláš, 2006; Leszczyński, 2010, 2018; Chrzęstek and Wypych, 2018; Chrzęstek, 2020).

Furthermore, associated body fossils reported from the current deposits, such as oysters (*Rhynchostreon*), pinnids, limids

and rhynchonellid brachiopods have also been described from the middle Turonian of Germany, Saxony (Wilmsen and Niebuhr, 2014b), Bavaria (Wilmsen et al., 2007; Schneider et al., 2011, 2013) and the Czech Republic (Drahota, 1995; Tröger, 2003). The abundance of *Rhynchostreon suborbiculatum* (Fig. 12C, G, H, J) in the middle Turonian sandstones of Długopole Górne Quarry (Upper Nysa Kłodzka Graben) confirms the presence of Tethyan oysters also in Poland (North Temperate Realm).

## DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

In the middle Turonian sandstones of Długopole Górne Quarry a moderately diverse trace fossil assemblage has been recognized, comprising burrows and borings (21 ichnospecies, 11 ichnogenera), some of them unknown earlier from the study area or from the Upper Nysa Kłodzka Graben (8, 5 respectively; Table 1). Fodinichnia or pascichnia/fodinichnia (*Asterosoma* cf. *ludwigae*, *Asterosoma* isp., *Dactyloidites ottoii*, *Phycodes* cf. *palmatus*, cf. *Phycodes* isp., *Phycosiphon incertum*, ?*Phycosiphon* isp., *Planolites beverleyensis*, *Thalassinoides paradoxicus*, *Thalassinoides suevicus* type A and B) prevail in the assemblage. Domichnia or domichnia/fodinichnia are common (*Ophiomorpha nodosa*, *Ophiomorpha* isp., *Funalichnus strangulatus*), while pascichnia, pascichnia/repichnia and repichnia are rare (?*Ancorichnus* isp., *Curvolithus simplex*, respectively). Moreover, the boring *Entobia* and some associated body fossils, bivalves (?*Brachidontes*, *Lima canalifera*, *Pinna cretacea*, *Rhynchostreon suborbiculatum*), in the majority previously unknown from the study area, were also recorded.

The presence of *Dactyloidites*, *Phycodes*, *Phycosiphon* and *Thalassinoides*, typical of the *Cruziana* ichnofacies, indicates slow sedimentation under low energy hydrodynamic conditions. The presence of *Ophiomorpha*, which is characteristic of the *Skolithos* ichnofacies, might suggest slightly higher (moderate) energy conditions, probably associated with more abundant sand supplies (cf. Rotnicka, 2005).

The moderate ichnodiversity and ichnodisparity of the ichnoassemblage, with sparse to common bioturbation (BI = 0–4), commonly low to moderate (BI = 2–3), indicates the proximal *Cruziana* ichnofacies, which characterizes the distal lower shoreface and the distal *Skolithos* ichnofacies typical of the proximal lower shoreface. The sedimentation took place in a shallow basin, well-oxygenated with normal salinity, occasionally rich in nutrients (e.g., *Dactyloidites ottoii*, *Asterosoma* cf. *ludwigae*, *Phycodes* cf. *palmatus*, *Phycosiphon incertum*), under low-moderate energy conditions, close to the fair-weather wave base. Accompanying body fossils, the oysters *Rhynchostreon* and pinnids *Pinna* (*Pinna* *cretacea*), also point to a shallow-marine environment, up to 35–50 m deep.

Ichnological studies supports the sedimentological interpretations of these deposits by Jerzykiewicz and Wojewoda (1986) and Wojewoda (1997), in that these middle Turonian sandstones might be a part of a giant-scale cross-bedding accumulation terrace. The occurrence of coarser-grained sandstones and abundant ophiomorphid burrows in the upper part of the succession might suggest a shallowing-upwards trend.

Neither the ichnological nor the sedimentological analyses point to a storm origin for these deposits. Moreover, there is no evidence of their deltaic origin, suggested for their counterparts in the Bohemian Basin (see discussion in Uličný, 2001; Hovikowski et al., 2019; MacEachern and Bann, 2020).

The trace fossil assemblage shows most affinity in ichnotaxonomical composition to the equivalent assemblages from the Intra-Sudetic Basin and the Bohemian and Saxonian

Cretaceous basins (Uličný, 2001; Rotnicka, 2005; Pokorný, 2008; Niebuhr and Wilmsen, 2016).

The study documents the occurrence of several bivalve (pinnids, oysters, limids) and brachiopod taxa (rhynchonellids), recorded earlier from coeval deposits of the Bohemian Basin, Bavaria and Saxony, indicating Tethyan influences in these regions.

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