

## A REVIEW OF TEPHROSTRATIGRAPHY IN CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN ITALY DURING THE LAST 65 KA

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### ABSTRACT

This work presents an attempt at correlating tephra layers through different proxies in central and southern Italy over the last 65 ka. On the basis of the recent refinement of stratigraphy of some Italian volcanoes (mainly Somma-Vesuvius and Phlegrean Fields) and new lacustrine and marine cores (from Lago Grande di Monticchio and south Adriatic sea) 35 dated tephra layers among terrestrial, lacustrine and marine settings are correlated. These correlations supply a detailed and comprehensive chronostratigraphic scheme previously not available. In particular, 9 tephra layers were related to the Somma-Vesuvius, 16 to the Phlegrean Fields, 3 to Ischia, and 1 to Procida, Etna, Lipari, Salina, Pantelleria and Palinuro seamount explosive activity. One tephra layer has an uncertain source between Ischia Island and Phlegrean Fields. Finally, dispersal maps of selected tephra layers are shown.

### RIASSUNTO

Questo lavoro presenta un tentativo di correlazione di livelli di tephra di età minore di 65 ka rinvenuti in depositi marini e lacustri con i corrispondenti livelli piroclastici prossimali. L'area interessata dall'indagine comprende carote marine dai mari Tirreno, Adriatico, Ionio e dal Bacino di Bannock, mentre i dati dei tephra lacustri provengono da carote ottenute nei laghi di Monticchio, Vico, Mezzano, Nemi, Valle di Castiglione e da depositi di versante della conca del Fucino. Una carota proviene inoltre dalla laguna di Mljet in Croazia. Le correlazioni di dettaglio dei tephra marini e lacustri con i depositi prossimali sono state possibili grazie al recente affinamento dei dati riguardanti la cronostatigrafia di alcuni vulcani italiani (in particolare Somma-Vesuvio e Campi Flegrei) e ai dati provenienti da nuove carote perforate nel mare Adriatico e nel Lago Grande di Monticchio. Dei 35 livelli di tephra correlati 9 appartengono ad eruzioni del Somma-Vesuvio, 16 ai Campi Flegrei, 3 ad Ischia e 1 a Procida, Etna, Lipari, Salina, Pantelleria e Palinuro seamount rispettivamente. Un solo livello di tephra risulta difficilmente discriminabile tra una origine flegrea o ischitana. Infine le mappe di dispersione di alcuni di questi livelli di tephra sono state tracciate sulla base dei dati prossimali e delle carote marine e lacustri distali.

Keywords: Tephra layers, marine, lacustrine, proximal deposits, italian volcanoes, central Mediterranean sea.

Parole chiave: Livelli di Tephra, Tephra marini, Tephra lacustri, vulcani italiani, Mediterraneo centrale.

### INTRODUCTION

Over the last 50 years, tephra layers have been extensively investigated, since their widespread presence in marine and lacustrine sediments are an invaluable tool used to support geochronological and climatological studies (Kennett, 1982; Mangerud *et al.*, 1984; Bard *et al.*, 1994; Paterne *et al.*, 1990; Siani *et al.*, 2001; Ton-That *et al.*, 2001, among many others). Indeed, tephrochronological studies provide precise chronostratigraphic constraints for proxy records and their correlation. Moreover, they improve our knowledge of both the areas affected by pyroclastic deposition and the mass of erupted magmas in the past (Sparks & Huang, 1980). These data are of primary importance in volcanic hazard mitigation, as they are hardly obtained only from terrestrial data. This is especially true for the distal products of ancient eruptions.

In the Mediterranean Sea, a lot of research has dealt with the study of marine cores from Tyrrhenian, Adriatic, Aegean or Levantine Seas. One of the earliest drilling expeditions in the area was carried out in 1947-48 (Norin, 1958), but the first comprehensive study of tephra layers is that of Keller *et al.* (1978). Further on, a refinement of the data was provided by Paterne *et al.* (1986; 1988), McCoy & Cornell (1990), Fontugne *et al.* (1989), Vezzoli (1991), Calanchi *et al.* (1994), Siani *et al.* (2003) for the Tyrrhenian, Adriatic and South Ionian (Bannock Basin) seas. In particular, Paterne *et al.* (1986; 1988) and Paterne & Guichard (1993) provided a detailed chronological and geochemical record of tephra layers over the last 80,000 years.

On the other hand tephra layers in lacustrine settings were investigated in detail in recent years, mostly inside the EU funded projects PALICLAS and EURO-MAARS (i.e. Narcisi, 1996; Calanchi *et al.*, 1996a;

Calanchi *et al.*, 1996b; Watts *et al.*, 1996; Narcisi, 1999a; Ramrath *et al.*, 1999). Several sedimentary successions of some lakes from central and southern Italy were drilled and investigated by interdisciplinary research. In particular, seven lakes (Fig. 1) have been considered in this work (Lakes of Mezzano, Vico, Albano, Nemi, Valle di Castiglione, Monticchio and Fucino basin), owing to the presence in their sediments of tephra layers of interest in the investigated time span (<65 ka).

This large set of data on marine and lacustrine tephra can be profitably matched with the new stratigraphic, geochemical and chronological data obtained in recent years for some important Quaternary volcanoes of southern Italy, such as Somma-Vesuvius (Andronico *et al.*, 1995; 1996; Cioni *et al.*, 2003a), Phlegrean Fields (Orsi *et al.*, 1996a; Di Vito *et al.*, 1999; Pappalardo *et al.*, 1999; Sulpizio *et al.*, 2003), Mt Etna (Coltelli *et al.*, 2000).

This paper deals with a review of tephrochronologic correlations among terrestrial (intended as deposits recognised on land, mostly in proximal sites), lacustrine and marine proxies of central-southern Italy, with the aim of proposing a comprehensive chronostratigraphic scheme of the tephra succession and dispersion for the last 65 ka. In particular, the tephrochronologic correlations are better detailed for the last 18 ka, owing to the availability of a major amount of data on both marine-lacustrine and terrestrial environments (Andronico *et al.*, 1995; Narcisi, 1996; Di Vito *et al.*, 1999; Siani *et al.*, 2001; Wulf *et al.*, 2001; Siani *et al.*, 2003). However, the correlation in 18-65 ka time span are mainly based on the work of Sulpizio *et al.* (2003), which correlate several poorly-known terrestrial deposits to marine tephra of Adriatic and Tyrrhenian seas.

## THE TERRESTRIAL RECORD

In the investigated time span (<65 ka) the explosive activity of the Italian volcanoes was mainly concentrated in the Neapolitan area (Rosi & Sbrana, 1987; Santacroce, 1987; Poli *et al.*, 1987; Vezzoli, 1988; Andronico *et al.*, 1995; Orsi *et al.*, 1996a; Di Vito *et al.*, 1999; Sulpizio *et al.*, 2003), while few large explosive eruptions occurred at Mount Etna (Kieffer, 1979; Coltelli *et al.*, 2000) and Eolian Islands (Keller, 1980; Pichler, 1980; Frazzetta *et al.*, 1983; Crisci *et al.*, 1991; Calanchi *et al.*, 1993; De Astis *et al.*, 1997; Gioncada *et al.*, 2003). During this time span, the Roman Province, Mount Vulture and Roccamonfina volcanoes were not active, while Pantelleria was characterised by a very weak activity out the Green Tuff eruption (45 ka; Gillot, 1984; Civetta *et al.*, 1984; Mahood & Hildreth, 1986; Orsi *et al.*, 1991).

The stratigraphic record of Neapolitan volcanoes has been improved in recent years, especially for the Late Pleistocene-Holocene. In particular, detailed sets of both stratigraphic, chronologic and geochemical data are available for Somma-Vesuvius (Santacroce, 1987; Andronico *et al.*, 1995; Cioni *et al.*, 2003a) and Phlegrean Fields (Rosi & Sbrana, 1987; Di Vito *et al.*, 1999; Orsi *et al.*, 1996a; Pappalardo *et al.*, 1999; Sulpizio *et al.*, 2003). Minor detail exists for the data from Ischia and Procida volcanoes (Vezzoli, 1988; Di Girolamo & Stanzone, 1973; Poli *et al.*, 1987; Crisci *et al.*, 1989; Orsi *et al.*, 1996b).

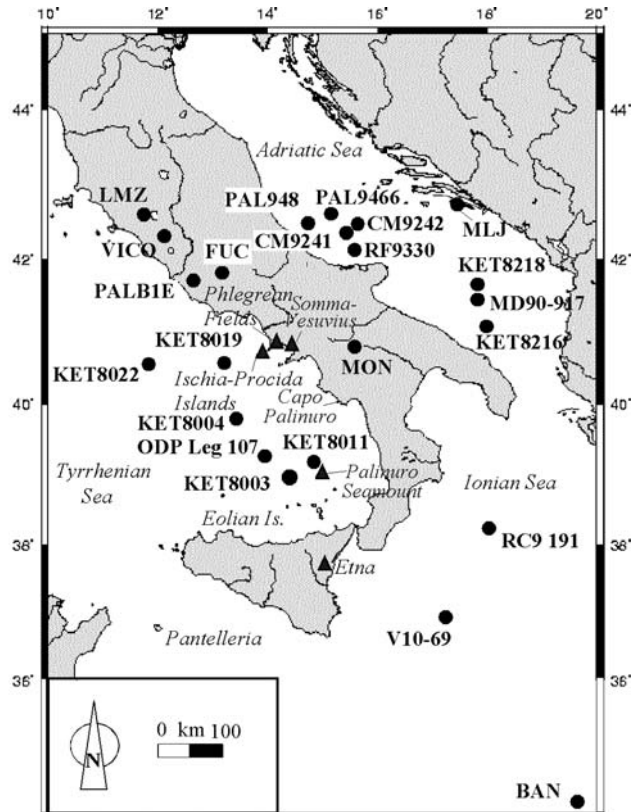


Figure 1 - Location map of the lacustrine and marine cores considered for this study. LMZ – Lago di Mezzano (Ramrath *et al.*, 1999; Narcisi, 1999b); VICO – Lago di Vico (Narcisi, 1999b); PALB1E – Lago di Albano, Lago di Nemi and Valle di Castiglione (Calanchi *et al.*, 1996a; Narcisi, 1999a); FUC – Conca del Fucino (slope deposits on the border of the basin; Narcisi, 1993); MON – Lago Grande di Monticchio (Narcisi *et al.*, 1996; Wulf, 2000; Wulf *et al.*, 2001); MLJ – Mlijet Lagoon (Jahns & van den Bogaard, 1998); PAL948, PAL9466, CM9241, CM9242, RF9230 – Central Adriatic sea cores (Calanchi *et al.*, 1998); KET8216, KET8218, MD90-917 – South Adriatic sea cores (Paterne *et al.*, 1988; Fontugne *et al.*, 1989; Siani *et al.*, 2001; 2003); KET8003, 8004, 8011, 8019, 8022, ODP Leg 107 – Tyrrhenian sea cores (Paterne *et al.*, 1988; Kallel *et al.*, 1997; Calanchi *et al.*, 1994); V10-69, RC9-191 – Ionian sea cores (Keller *et al.*, 1978); BAN – Bannock basin cores (Vezzoli, 1991).

From this chronostratigraphic scheme, the explosive activity of Somma-Vesuvius and Phlegrean Fields emerges characterising the last 18 ka, whereas Phlegrean explosive activity dominates the 18-65 ka time span, with only few explosive events of Pantelleria, Ischia and Procida islands.

Tables 1 and 2 summarises the chronology and the main lithological and chemical characteristics of the proximal pyroclastic deposits used in this work for the correlation with marine and lacustrine tephra layers.



## THE LACUSTRINE RECORD

In recent years seven lakes in central and southern Italy (Lakes Mezzano, Vico, Albano, Nemi, Valle di Castiglione, Fucino and Monticchio; Fig. 1) were drilled, mainly with the aim of studying environmental and climatic conditions in central-southern Italy in the past. Tephra layers recognised in these lacustrine environments have been investigated in detail by Calanchi *et al.* (1996a, b), Ramrath *et al.* (1999), Narcisi (1996; 1999a, b), Wulf (2000) and Wulf *et al.* (2001). The Lago Grande di Monticchio (Mt Vulture; Fig. 1) shows the most abundant and representative record of tephra layers, due to its location downwind of the Neapolitan volcanoes (Fig. 1). Narcisi (1996) provided the correlation of 13 tephra layers from the Lago Grande di Monticchio succession to the activity of Neapolitan volcanoes, while Wulf (2000) and Wulf *et al.* (2001) reported the same layers and several others not recognised by Narcisi (1996; Fig. 3). Indeed, Wulf *et al.* (2001) reported the occurrence of many tephra layers of unknown origin, but, unfortunately, they did not provide chemical analyses, thus preventing their correlations to terrestrial or marine correspondents. For this reason

only the well-known and widespread tephra layers Y3 and Y1, together with the trachytic tephra of Agnano M. Spina, the latitic tephra of Solchiaro and the leucititic-tephrite-phonolite tephra of Pollena (AD 472) have been added to the Lago Grande di Monticchio succession reported by Narcisi (1996). The tephra layers recognised in the Lago Grande di Monticchio cores pertain to the major explosive eruptions of Somma-Vesuvius and Phlegrean Fields, which occurred in the last 18 ka, whereas the origin of tephra layers in the 18-65 ka time span is less clear, even if the predominance of Phlegrean Fields and Ischia Island sources can be inferred by geochemical data (Narcisi, 1996; Sulpizio *et al.*, 2003; Fig. 3).

Figure 3 shows some differences in respect to the previous correlations of tephra layers from Lago Grande di Monticchio made by Narcisi (1996). In particular, layer L3, previously attributed to the interplinian activity between Avellino and AD 79 eruptions of Somma-Vesuvius (Narcisi, 1996), has been correlated to the Avellino eruption of Somma-Vesuvius. This different correlation has been suggested by EDS chemical analyses (especially by the high content of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>; Cioni *et al.*, 2000) and dispersal of fall deposits of APs and Avellino

Table 1 - Chronology and main lithological characteristics of the proximal terrestrial deposits of the last 18.3 ka correlated to the marine and lacustrine tephra layers. <sup>a</sup>- <sup>14</sup>C age from Andronico *et al.* (1995); <sup>b</sup>- <sup>14</sup>C age from Siani *et al.* (2001; 2003); <sup>c</sup>- <sup>14</sup>C age from Di Vito *et al.* (1999); <sup>d</sup>- <sup>14</sup>C age from Calanchi *et al.* (1993). <sup>e</sup>- Lacustrine layer from Wulf *et al.* (2001), marine layer from Fontugne *et al.* (1989); <sup>f</sup>- Keller *et al.* (1978); <sup>g</sup>- Narcisi *et al.* (1996), attribution to Avellino eruption: this work; <sup>h</sup>- Siani *et al.* (2003); <sup>i</sup>- Calanchi *et al.* (1998); <sup>j</sup>- Paterno *et al.* (1988), Paterno & Guichard (1993), Paterno (1985). Characteristics of proximal deposits and lithology of juvenile fragments of Pollena, Pompeii, Avellino, Mercato, Greenish, Pomici di Base from Santacroce (1987); AP1-2 from Andronico & Cioni (2002); Astroni, Agnano P.P. and Neapolitan Yellow Tuff from Rosi & Sbrana (1987); Agnano M. Spina from de Vita *et al.* (1999); Gabelotto-Fiumebianco from Crisci *et al.* (1991); GM1 from Zanchetta *et al.* (2000); Upper Pollara from Calanchi *et al.* (1993); Lago Amendolare from Andronico (1997); Biancavilla Ignimbrite from De Rita *et al.* (1991).

Eruption	Age	Characteristics of proximal deposits	Lithology of juvenile fragments	Inferred source	Tephra layer
Pollena	AD 472	Pyroclastic fall deposit comprises a thin basal layer of greenish-grey pumice followed by several layers of dark grey scoria. Accidental lithics are mainly carbonate and lava fragments. Pyroclastic flows abundant in proximal areas.	Greenish-grey pumice: highly vesicular, porphyritic (lc+pyr+san). Tephri-phonolitic chemical composition. Dark grey scoria: highly to incipiently vesicular, porphyritic (lc+pyr+san). Leucititic-tephrite-phonolite chemical composition.	Somma-Vesuvius	Pollena <sup>a</sup>
Pompeii	AD 79	Pyroclastic fall deposit comprises a basal layer of white-pinkish pumice followed by an upper layer of grey pumice. Accidental lithics are mainly carbonate and lava fragments. Pyroclastic flows abundant in proximal areas.	White-pinkish pumice: highly vesicular, moderately porphyritic (san). Phonolitic chemical composition. Grey pumice: highly to moderately vesicular, moderately porphyritic (san+pyr). Tephri-phonolitic chemical composition.	Somma-Vesuvius	Z1 <sup>f</sup>
AP1-2	3,220±65 <sup>g</sup>	Pyroclastic fall deposits comprise a thin basal layer of white pumice followed by an alternation of grey scoria and ash beds. Pyroclastic flow deposits are very scarce.	White pumice: highly vesicular, almost aphyric. Phonolitic chemical composition. Grey scoria: highly to moderately vesicular, moderately porphyritic (san+pyr).	Somma-Vesuvius	L1-2 <sup>g</sup>
Avellino	3,760±70 <sup>a</sup>	Pyroclastic fall deposit comprises a basal layer of white pumice followed by an upper layer of grey pumice. Accidental lithics are mainly carbonate and lava fragments with subordinate syenites, cumulates and skarns. Pyroclastic flows abundant in proximal areas.	White pumice: highly vesicular, porphyritic (san). Phonolitic chemical composition. Grey pumice: highly to moderately vesicular, porphyritic (san+pyr). Tephri-phonolitic chemical composition.	Somma-Vesuvius	L3 <sup>g</sup>



Segue Table 1

Eruption	Age	Characteristics of proximal deposits	Lithology of juvenile fragments	Inferred source	Tephra layer
<b>Astroni 3</b>	3,820±50 <sup>b</sup>	Massive deposit formed by light grey pumice. Sparse accidental lithics, mainly lava fragments. Pyroclastic flows abundant in proximal areas.	Highly vesicular, porphyritic (san+plag+pyr+bt), light grey in colour. Trachytic to alkali-trachytic in composition.	Phlegrean Fields	140-17 <sup>h</sup>
<b>Agnano M. Spina</b>	4,130±50 <sup>c</sup>	Pyroclastic fall deposit comprises several poorly sorted pumice layers separated by thin, fine ash beds. Accidental lithics are hydrothermally altered lava fragments. Pyroclastic flows abundant in proximal areas.	Highly vesicular, porphyritic (san+plag+pyr+bt+lc). Pumice fragments show a yellowish patina. Inner colour: grey; outer colour: yellowish-brown. Trachytic to alkali-trachytic chemical composition.	Phlegrean Fields	AMS <sup>i</sup>
<b>Gabellotto-Fiumebianco</b>	7,770±35 <sup>b</sup>	Several pumice and ash layers interbedded by massive and cross-stratified ashes	Highly vesicular, almost aphyric. Colour: white. Rhyolitic chemical composition	Lipari (Eolian) Islands	E1 <sup>i</sup>
<b>Mercato</b>	8,010±35 <sup>a</sup>	Pyroclastic fall deposit comprises three main layers of white brown pumice separated by thin, pinkish-brown ash beds. Accidental lithics are mainly lava fragments and subordinate carbonates. Pyroclastic flows abundant in proximal areas.	Highly vesicular, almost aphyric. Colour: white. Phonolitic chemical composition.	Somma-Vesuvius	V-1 <sup>i</sup>
<b>Palinuro Seamount</b>	9,990±90 <sup>b</sup>	Co-ignimbrite deposits of brown, fine ash. Accidental lithics are absent.	Variably vesicular glass shards of trachytic composition	Palinuro Seamount	275-17 <sup>h</sup>
<b>Agnano P. P.</b>	10,480±90 <sup>b</sup>	Pyroclastic fall deposit comprises three main layers of light brown pumice separated by thin, fine ash beds. Accidental lithics are lava fragments. Pyroclastic flows abundant in proximal areas.	Highly vesicular, porphyritic (san+plag+pyr+bt). Pumice fragments show a pinkish-brown patina. Inner colour: grey; outer colour: pinkish-brown. Trachytic chemical composition.	Phlegrean Fields	C1 <sup>i</sup>
<b>Neapolitan Yellow Tuff</b>	12,100±170 <sup>b</sup>	Several pumice and ash layers interbedded by massive and cross-stratified ashes	Juvenile fragments are highly vesicular, light grey in colour, almost aphyric (san+pl+pyr+bt) and alkali-trachytic to latitic in composition.	Phlegrean Fields	C2s.l. <sup>i</sup> /395-17 <sup>h</sup>
<b>GM1</b>	12,600±110 <sup>b</sup>	Pyroclastic fall deposit comprises an alternation of three layers of vesicular ash and light coloured pumice. A thick co-ignimbrite ash layer forms the upper part of the deposits.	Highly vesicular, aphyric, light grey in colour. Trachytic chemical composition.	Phlegrean Fields	405-17 <sup>h</sup>
<b>Upper Pollara</b>	12,750±140 <sup>d</sup>	Alternation of pyroclastic fall and flow deposits that comprise white pumice.	Highly vesicular, porphyritic (bt+pyr+hbl+ol+pl), white in colour. Dacitic chemical composition.	Salina (Eolian Islands)	E2 <sup>i</sup>
<b>Lagno Amendolare</b>	13,070±90 <sup>b</sup>	Pyroclastic fall deposit comprises a basal layer of white pumice followed by fine brown ashes. Upper layer comprises mixed white and black pumice. Sparse accidental lithics, mainly lava fragments.	Highly vesicular, aphyric. Colour light to dark grey. Both types are trachytic in composition.	Phlegrean Fields	435-17 <sup>h</sup>
<b>Biancavilla Ignimbrite</b>	14,230±85 <sup>b</sup>	At least four ignimbritic flow units of ash and juvenile scoriae.	Highly to moderately vesicular. Colour varies from light to dark grey. Benmoreitic composition.	Mount Etna	Y1 <sup>i</sup> /Et1 <sup>i</sup>
<b>Greenish Pumice</b>	16,070±170 <sup>b</sup>	Pyroclastic fall deposit comprises an alternation of fine to coarse lapilli and ash layers. Different types of juvenile clasts mixed in the same layer. Accidental lithics are lava and carbonate fragments. Few pyroclastic flow deposits in proximal areas.	Highly to moderately vesicular, almost aphyric (san+pyr). Colour from light grey to dark green and brown. Trachytic composition.	Somma-Vesuvius	L8 <sup>g</sup> /530-17 <sup>h</sup>
<b>Pomici di Base</b>	18,300±180 <sup>a</sup>	Pyroclastic fall deposit comprises a white pumice basal layer followed by a black scoriae upper layer. Accidental lithics are lava and carbonate fragments. Some pyroclastic flow deposits in proximal areas.	White pumice: highly vesicular, almost aphyric (san+pyr), trachytic composition. Black scoriae: moderately vesicular, aphyric, latitic composition.	Somma-Vesuvius	595-17 <sup>h</sup>

eruptions (Andronico & Cioni, 2002; Cioni *et al.*, 2000). The correlation of layer L10 to the Sarno eruption was questioned by Sulpizio *et al.* (2003), on the basis of the attribution of the Sarno deposits to the distal products of the Pomici di Base eruption (Bertagnini *et al.*, 1998; Andronico *et al.*, 1995; 1996). Indeed, the layer L10 can be correlated to the TAU1-e eruption, very similar in lithology (light and dark coloured juvenile fragments; Table 2), chemical composition (trachytes-latites; Table 3) and age (about 24 ka) to the previously attributed Sarno eruption. Furthermore, the Codola eruption, previously reported as a Plinian eruption of Somma-Vesuvius (Santacroce, 1987), has been recently attributed to the activity of Phlegrean Fields, on the basis of lithology and dispersal of fall deposits (Andronico *et al.*, 1995; 1996; Sulpizio *et al.*, 2003). The recognition of tephra layers in cores from the other lakes is more sporadic and limited to the Somma-Vesuvius eruption of Avellino (Lago di Nemi and Lago di Albano), Biancavilla Ignimbrite (Lago di Albano, Lago di Mezzano and in the slope deposits on the flanks of the Fucino basin) and Neapolitan Yellow Tuff (Valle di Castiglione; Fig. 3).

## THE MARINE RECORD

Siani (1999) and Siani *et al.* (2001; 2003) provided a detailed study and correlation of 11 tephra layers of the last 18 ka from a core located in the Adriatic Sea (MD90-917; Fig. 1). Three of these tephra layers belong to the eruptions of Agnano M. Spina (tephra AMS/PF), Agnano Pomici Principali (tephra C1) and Biancavilla Ignimbrite (tephra Et1/Y1) previously recognised in marine cores (Keller *et al.*, 1978; Paterne *et al.*, 1988; Vezzoli, 1991; Calanchi *et al.*, 1998). A fourth tephra of rhyolitic composition (tephra E1) has been correlated to the Gabelotto-Fiumebianco eruption of Lipari (Eolian Islands) on the basis of chemistry and chronology. The other seven tephra layers have been for the first time correlated to terrestrial proximal deposits, on the basis of their chemistry, lithology and chronology (Table 1). Two of them (tephra 595-17 and 530-17) have been related to the Pomici di Base (Santacroce, 1987; Bertagnini *et al.*, 1998) and Greenish (Santacroce, 1987; Cioni *et al.*, 2003b) eruptions of Somma-Vesuvius respectively, whereas the tephra layer 275-17 has been related to the activity of Palinuro Seamount (Fig. 4 and Table 1). The other four tephra layers have been related to the Phlegrean Fields activity. In particular the tephra layer 140-17 has been correlated to the Astroni eruption, while tephra layers 395-17, 405-17, 435-17 clustered in a stratigraphic position very close to the previously recognised C2 tephra (Paterne *et al.*, 1988; Calanchi *et al.*, 1998), related to the Neapolitan Yellow tuff eruption (Paterne *et al.*, 1988). Indeed, the accurate sampling of the core (every 3 cm; Siani, 1999; Siani *et al.*, 2003) allowed to recognise three dif-

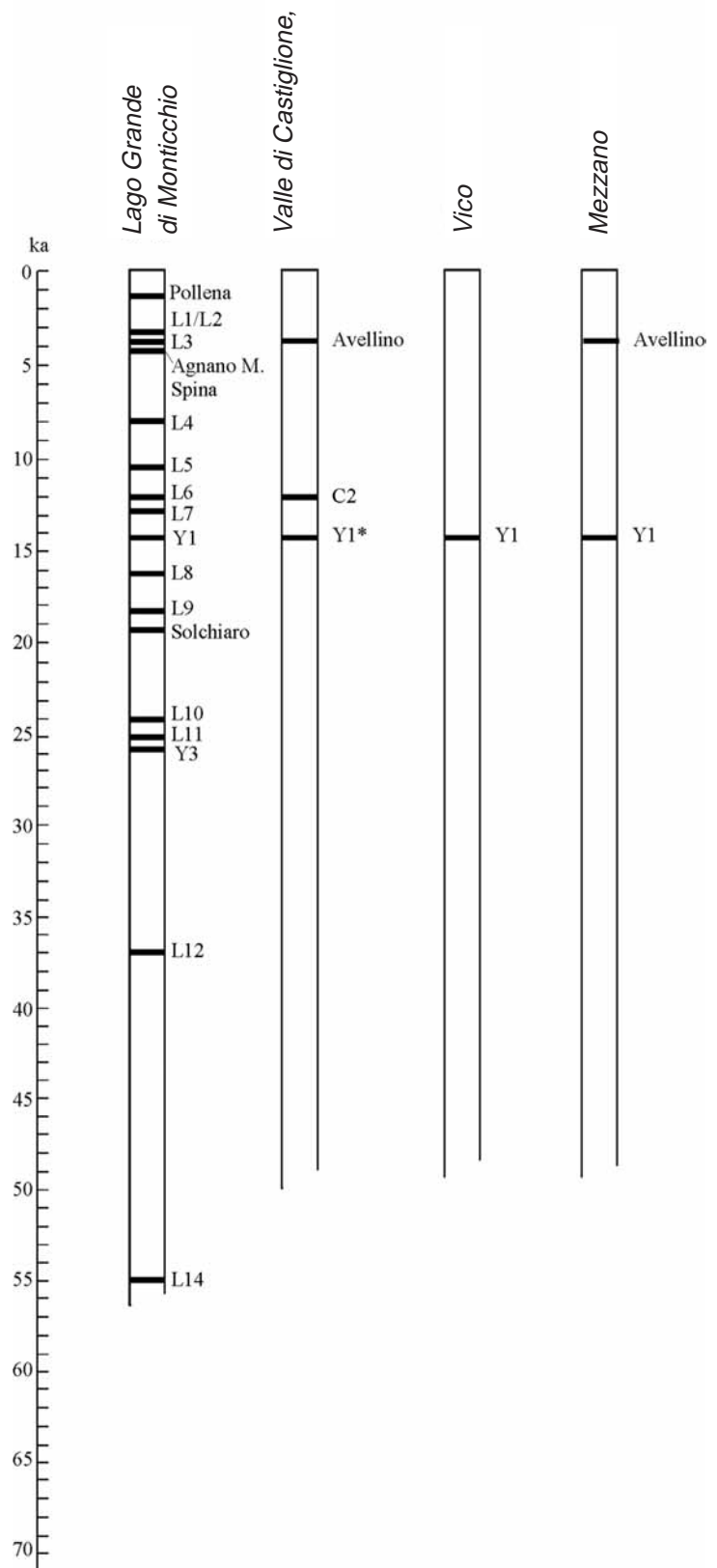


Figure 3 - Schematic correlation among tephra layers recognised in the lacustrine cores considered in this study. See Fig. 1 for locations. \* Recognised in the detrital deposits on the flanks of Fucino basin (Narcisi, 1993).

Table 2 - Chronology and main lithological characteristics of the proximal terrestrial deposits of the 18.3-65ka time span correlated to the marine and lacustrine tephra layers. <sup>m</sup>- <sup>14</sup>C age from Paterne *et al.* (1988); <sup>n</sup>- <sup>14</sup>C age from Sulpizio *et al.* (2003); <sup>o</sup><sup>14</sup>C and <sup>39</sup>Ar/<sup>40</sup>Ar ages from Deino *et al.* (1994) and Ton-That *et al.* (2001); In Italic are shown the ages calculated by interpolation of <sup>14</sup>C data in marine cores (Paterne *et al.* 1988; Paterne & Guichard, 1993). <sup>1</sup>-Keller *et al.* (1978); <sup>9</sup>-Narcisi *et al.* (1996); <sup>10</sup>-Siani *et al.* (2003); <sup>11</sup>-Paterne *et al.* (1988), Paterne & Guichard (1993), Paterne (1985); <sup>12</sup>-Calanchi *et al.* (1994). Characteristics of proximal deposits and lithology of juvenile fragments of TAU1-d, e, SMP1-a, c, d, e, CA1-a, SC2-a, SA3-a, SA2-a, Codola and S. Lucia from Sulpizio *et al.* (2003); Solchiaro/Taurano from Di Girolamo & Stanzione (1973) and Zanchetta *et al.* (2000); Schiava Pumice from Zanchetta *et al.* (2000); Campanian Ignimbrite from Rosi & Sbrana (1987); Green Tuff of Pantelleria from Mahood & Hildreth (1986); Green Tuff of Ischia from Vezzoli (1988).

Eruption	Age (ka)	Characteristics of proximal deposits	Lithology of juvenile fragments	Inferred source	Tephra layer
Solchiaro/Taurano	19.62±0.27 <sup>m</sup>	Massive layer formed by well sorted, black, scoriaceous, coarse lapilli. Sparse accidental lithics, mainly lava fragments.	Poorly vesicular, sub-aphiric (amph+pyr+san). Inner colour: N3-Dark grey; outer colour: N5-Medium grey. Latitic chemical composition.	Procida Island	C4 <sup>1</sup>
TAU1-e	24	Basal layer formed by light coloured pumice followed by an upper layer of black scoriae. Accidental lithics are scarce and mainly are lava fragments.	Light coloured pumice: moderately vesicular, almost aphiric (amph+pyr). Colour N5, medium grey. Trachytic chemical composition. Black scoriae: moderately vesicular, almost aphiric (amph+pyr). Colour N3, dark grey. Latitic chemical composition.	Phlegrean Fields	L10 <sup>9</sup> C6 <sup>1</sup>
Codola	25.1±0.4 <sup>m</sup>	Double alternation of fine grained, vesicular ash and light to dark grey pumice lapilli layers. Fine grained pumice lapilli scatterly occur inside the ash layers. Accidental lithics are dark coloured lava fragments.	Highly to medium vesicular, aphiric, pumice and scoria. Presence of banded pumice fragments. Color:5Y 8/1- Yellowish grey; N4-Medium dark grey. Trachytic chemical composition.	Phlegrean Fields	L11 <sup>9</sup> C8 <sup>1</sup>
SMP1-e	25.82±0.27 <sup>n</sup>	Massive ash with sparse, light grey pumice lapilli. Absence of coarse accidental lithic fragments.	Highly vesicular, aphiric, pumice. Color:5Y 8/1-Yellowish grey. Trachytic chemical composition.	Phlegrean Fields	Y3 <sup>1</sup>
TAU1-d	27.8	Massive pyroclastic fall deposit of light brown pumice lapilli. Sparse accidental lithics mainly are lava fragments.	Highly vesicular, aphiric pumice. Inner colour: 5Y 8/1-Yellowish grey; outer colour: 10YR 8/2-Very pale orange. Trachytic chemical composition	Phlegrean Fields	332-04 <sup>1</sup>
SMP1-d	28.5	Massive pyroclastic fall deposit of brown, scoriaceous, coarse lapilli with good sorting. Sparse accidental lithics, mainly are lava fragments.	Highly vesicular, porphyritic (pyr+bt+san) scoria. Presence of cumulate xenoliths. Inner colour: 5Y 6/1-Light olive grey; outer colour: 10YR 6/2-Pale yellowish brown. Latitic chemical composition	Phlegrean Fields	360-18 <sup>1</sup>
Schiava Pumice	36	Alternation of 5 fine grained, light brown, vesicular ash and 4 well sorted, light grey pumice lapilli layers. Accidental lithic are scarce and are lava fragments.	Highly microvesicular, sub-aphiric (bt+san), pumice. Colour: N8-Very light grey. Trachytic chemical composition	Ischia Island	C-9 <sup>1</sup>
Campanian Ignimbrite	37-41 <sup>o</sup>	Basal pyroclastic fall layer followed by impressive pyroclastic flow deposits which form the ignimbrite s.s. Large variability of juvenile fragments, which comprise light coloured pumice and dark, porphyritic scoriae. Accidental lithics are mainly lava fragments	Pumice fragments are highly vesicular, moderately porphyritic (san+bt). Colour: from pinkish-brown to light grey. Trachytic chemical composition	Phlegrean Fields	C13a <sup>1</sup>
SMP1-c	~40	Basal massive layer of pumice lapilli that graded into an alternation of ash and lapilli. Accidental lithics are scarce and are lava fragments	Highly vesicular, sub-aphiric (san+bt+pyr), pumice. Tubular vesicles. Colour: 5Y 6/4-Dusty yellow. Trachytic chemical composition	Phlegrean Fields	C13b <sup>1</sup>
SMP1-a	42	Massive, well to moderately sorted layer of greyish pumice lapilli. Accidental lithics are scarce and are lava fragments.	Highly vesicular, sub-aphiric (san+bt+pyr), pumice. Tubular vesicles. Colour: 5Y 6/1-Light olive grey. Trachytic chemical composition	Ischia Island/ Phlegrean Fields	C14 <sup>1</sup>
Green Tuff	45	flow deposits, sometimes welded in proximal areas.	Alternation of pyroclastic fall and -	Pantelleria	Y6 <sup>1</sup>
Santa Lucia	47.5±2.6 <sup>n</sup>	Alternation of brown fine grained ash and light grey pumice lapilli layers. Fine grained pumice lapilli scatterly occur inside the ash layers. Accidental lithics are dark coloured lava fragments.	Highly vesicular, sub-aphiric (san+bt), pumice. Tubular vesicles. Inner colour: 5Y 6/1-Light olive grey; outer colour: 10YR 6/2-Pale yellowish brown. Trachytic chemical composition.	Phlegrean Fields	C15 <sup>1</sup>

Segue Table 2

Eruption	Age (ka)	Characteristics of proximal deposits	Lithology of juvenile fragments	Inferred source	Tephra layer
CA1-a	51	Massive, well to moderately sorted layer of greyish brown coarse pumice lapilli. Accidental lithics are scarce and are lava fragments.	Highly vesicular, sub-aphiric (san+bt+pyr), coarse pumice lapilli. Tubular vesicles. Inner colour: 5Y 6/1-Light olive grey; outer colour: 10YR 6/2-Pale yellowish brown. Trachytic chemical composition	Phlegrean Fields	C16 <sup>i</sup>
Green Tuff	55	Mainly pyroclastic flow deposits, sometimes welded in proximal areas, rich in accidental lithics and blocks of poorly vesicular juvenile fragments.	From highly to incipiently vesicular, porphyritic (san+pl+pyr). Colour from whitish to yellowish. Trachytic chemical composition.	Ischia Island	L14 <sup>a</sup>
SC2-a	57	Alternation of grey, fine grained pumice lapilli and brown coarse ash layers. Accidental lithics are scarce and are lava fragments.	Fine grained, highly vesicular, sub-aphiric (bt), pumice lapilli. Elongated shape. Tubular vesicles. Colour: 5GY 6/1-Greenish grey. Trachytic chemical composition.	Ischia Island	C(i)6 <sup>i</sup>
SA3-a	60.3	Basal layer formed by brown, fine ash followed by a well-sorted, massive, yellowish brown pumice lapilli layer. Accidental lithics are scarce and are lava fragments.	Highly vesicular, sub-aphiric (bt), pumice lapilli. Colour 5Y 6/4-Dusty yellow. Trachytic chemical composition.	Phlegrean Fields	C18/Y7/ T003 <sup>p</sup>
SA2-a	62.3	Basal, dark coloured pumice lapilli layer overlaid by black, vesicular, fine ash with sparse fine pumice lapilli. Accidental lithics are reddish lava fragments.	Highly vesicular, sub-aphiric (bt+px+san), pumice. Inner colour: 5Y 4/1-Olive grey; outer colour: 10YR 6/2-Pale yellowish brown. Trachytic chemical composition.	Somma-Vesuvius	666-04 <sup>i</sup>

ferent peaks of homogeneous glass shards in the 12-13 ka time span, correlable to the proximal pyroclastic deposits of Lagno Amendolare (tephra 435-17), GM1 (tephra 405-17) and Neapolitan Yellow Tuff (tephra 395-17; Table 1). The record of tephra layers younger than 18 ka is completed by the recognition of E2, V1, Avellino and Z-1, respectively related to Pollara eruption from Salina Island (Eolian Archipelago; Paterne *et al.*, 1988), Mercato, Avellino and AD 79 eruptions from Somma-Vesuvius (Keller *et al.*, 1978; Paterne *et al.*, 1988; Fontugne *et al.*, 1989). Anyway, the correlations regarding two of these tephra layers need some further comments. Tephra layer Z-1 has been related to the AD 79 eruption from Somma-Vesuvius, even if Keller *et al.* (1978) reported a possible correlation with the Avellino eruption from Somma-Vesuvius (3.8 ka; Cioni *et al.*, 1995; 2000). Anyway, mineralogical characteristics of tephra layer Z-1 (presence of melanite and leucite; Keller *et al.*, 1978) rules out the possible correlation with Avellino deposits, characterised by the presence of scapolite and nepheline (Cioni *et al.*, 2000). Up to now the tephra layers RF93-30 (530), recognised in the Adriatic sea (Calanchi *et al.*, 1998), has not been correlated to a precise Somma-Vesuvius explosive event due to its chemical similarity to both AD 79 and Avellino products (Calanchi *et al.*, 1998). Indeed, both EDS chemical analyses of proximal deposits (Cioni *et al.*, 2000), age of RF93-30 (530) tephra layer ( $>3660 \pm 100$  yr BP; Calanchi *et al.*, 1998) and diversity in dispersal of fall deposits (NE for Avellino, SE for AD 79 deposits; Cioni *et al.*, 2000; Sigurdsson *et al.*, 1985) support the correlation of RF93-30 (530) tephra layer to the Avellino eruption.

The correlation of many of the tephra layers older

than 18 ka with terrestrial deposits still remains difficult, with the only exceptions of the Solchiaro eruption from Procida island (tephra layer C4; Paterne *et al.*, 1988; Paterne & Guichard, 1993), Campanian Ignimbrite eruption from Phlegrean Fields (tephra layer Y5/C13; Keller *et al.*, 1978; Paterne *et al.*, 1988; Ton-That *et al.*, 2001) and Green Tuff from Pantelleria (tephra layer Y6; Keller *et al.*, 1978). Several authors (Keller *et al.*, 1978; Paterne *et al.*, 1988; Paterne & Guichard, 1993; Calanchi *et al.*, 1994; 1998) correlated numerous tephra layers of age between 18 and 65 ka from Tyrrhenian and Adriatic sea cores (Fig. 4) to different sources such as Etna, Eolian Islands and Ischia volcanoes, usually grouping together Phlegrean Fields and Somma-Vesuvius due to the chemical homogeneity of their products. However, the contribution of Somma-Vesuvius to the tephra record in the 18-65 ka is negligible, as testified by the lack of pyroclastic deposits of comparable age in the terrestrial record (Fig. 2). On the basis of lithology, chemistry and chronology (Tables 2 and 3), Sulpizio *et al.* (2003) correlated fourteen tephra layers of age between 18 and 65 ka to terrestrial pyroclastic deposits from Phlegrean Fields, Ischia, and dubitatively Somma-Vesuvius (Fig. 5). These correlations allow to unravel some important points about the existence of many primary vs secondary tephra layers in this time span (questioned by McCoy & Cornell, 1990 and Narcisi & Vezzoli, 1999) and the attribution of the tephra layers to precise volcanic sources, in many cases different to the previously hypothesised (Keller *et al.*, 1978; Paterne *et al.*, 1988; Paterne & Guichard, 1993; Calanchi *et al.*, 1994). In particular, tephra layers C6 and C8 (Paterne, 1985; Paterne *et al.*, 1988) have been correlated to the pyro-



Table 3 - Chemical analyses of the proximal pyroclastic deposits older than 18.3 ka of the Campanian area and the correlated tephra layers. EDS analyses for all lacustrine and marine tephra layers. <sup>a</sup>-XRF chemical analyses. n=number of analysed samples.

Eruption	TAU1-e		L10b		L10a		C6		Codola		L11		C8		SMP1-e		Y3		TAU-d <sup>a</sup> 332-04		SMP1-d			
	white <sup>a</sup>	black <sup>a</sup>	st. dev.	st. dev.	st. dev.	st. dev.	st. dev.	st. dev.	L. grey <sup>a</sup>	(n=2)	D. grey <sup>a</sup>	st. dev.	st. dev.	st. dev.	st. dev.	EDS	XRF	st. dev.	(n=20)	EDS	XRF	st. dev.	(n=20)	
SiO <sub>2</sub>	63.3	61.78	1.23	63.87	0.05	63.58	58.75	0.04	60.73	60.01	0.05	60.4	62.02	62.26	63.81	63.48	56.45	59.78	0.73	60.27	56.45	59.78	0.73	60.27
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.56	0.6	0.39	0.12	0.41	0.32	0.64	0.01	0.57	0.55	0.28	0.23	0.35	0.43	0.49	0.31	0.74	0.18	0.11	0.53	0.74	0.18	0.11	0.53
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	18.02	19.13	18.36	0.26	18.24	0.23	18.36	0.02	18.11	20.56	1.31	20.02	18.66	18.4	18.07	19.31	15.41	18.1	0.36	19.09	15.41	18.1	0.36	19.09
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	3.21	3.62	3.26	0.36	3.21	0.24	4.85	0.44	4.21	2.79	1.26	2.69	3.2	3.59	3.06	2.94	6.05	4.26	0.3	4.15	6.05	4.26	0.3	4.15
MnO	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.12	0.1	0.1	0.14	0.01	0.13	0.09	0.07	-	0.15	0.11	0.13	-	0.12	0.06	0.08	-	0.12	0.06	0.08	-
MgO	0.7	0.65	0.38	0.18	0.5	0.22	1.12	0.33	0.86	0.47	0.43	0.04	0.7	0.93	0.58	0.38	4.83	1.2	0.19	0.16	4.83	1.2	0.19	0.16
CaO	2.29	2.4	2.13	0.2	2.02	0.19	4.8	0.38	3.93	4.73	0.92	3.15	2.4	2.69	1.83	2.31	7.88	3.8	0.42	3.64	7.88	3.8	0.42	3.64
Na <sub>2</sub> O	4.38	4.05	2.14	0.29	2.39	0.41	3.55	0.66	3.78	2.92	0.52	4.38	4.2	4.13	3.96	3.12	2.46	4.31	0.19	3.6	2.46	4.31	0.19	3.6
K <sub>2</sub> O	7.34	7.53	8.63	0.63	8.95	0.45	7.7	1.86	7.56	7.58	1.36	9.05	8.2	7.47	7.98	8.12	5.74	8.29	0.27	8.52	5.74	8.29	0.27	8.52
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.06	0.07	0.35	0.23	0.28	0.15	0.13	0.03	0.11	0.26	0.17	-	0.11	-	0.07	-	0.33	-	-	-	0.33	-	-	-
L.O.I.	4.79	4.52	3.67	2.65	6.99	1.55	3.58	0.06	2.74	4.62	1.94	-	2.8	4.54	4.21	-	1.99	-	-	-	1.99	-	-	-
Nb	67	74	-	-	-	-	53	9	54	-	-	-	-	-	68	-	28	-	-	-	28	-	-	-
Zr	458	504	-	-	-	-	309	30	315	-	-	-	-	-	542	-	235	-	-	-	235	-	-	-
Y	38	43	-	-	-	-	31	4	30	-	-	-	-	-	41	-	26	-	-	-	26	-	-	-
Sr	861	916	-	-	-	-	1125	95	1037	-	-	-	-	-	344	-	555	-	-	-	555	-	-	-
Rb	234	242	-	-	-	-	284	16	283	-	-	-	-	-	277	-	217	-	-	-	217	-	-	-
Ce	270	284	-	-	-	-	133	12	142	-	-	-	-	-	229	-	96	-	-	-	96	-	-	-
Ba	1036	1091	-	-	-	-	1817	400	1506	-	-	-	-	-	274	-	1063	-	-	-	1063	-	-	-
La	152	147	-	-	-	-	73	6	74	-	-	-	-	-	131	-	48	-	-	-	48	-	-	-
Ni	3	4	-	-	-	-	6	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	73	-	-	-	73	-	-	-
Cr	3	4	-	-	-	-	10	2	7	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	202	-	-	-	202	-	-	-
V	61	66	-	-	-	-	91	17	78	-	-	-	-	-	56	-	153	-	-	-	153	-	-	-
Co	4	5	-	-	-	-	9	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	21	-	-	-	21	-	-	-
Total	100.01	99.99	100.03	-	99.97	-	100.01	-	99.99	99.96	-	99.96	99.99	100	99.98	99.97	100.01	100	-	99.96	100.01	100	-	99.96
Total Alkali	11.72	11.58	10.77	-	11.34	-	11.25	-	11.34	10.5	-	13.43	12.4	11.6	11.94	11.24	8.2	12.6	-	12.12	8.2	12.6	-	12.12
K <sub>2</sub> O/Na <sub>2</sub> O	1.68	1.86	4.03	-	3.74	-	2.26	-	2	2.6	-	2.07	1.95	1.81	2.02	2.6	2.33	1.92	-	2.37	2.33	1.92	-	2.37

3a)

Segue Table 3

Eruption	Schiaiva <sup>a</sup> st. dev. (n=3)		C9		SMP1-c <sup>a</sup> C13b		SMP1-a <sup>a</sup> C14		S. Lucia <sup>a</sup> st. dev. (n=8)		C15		CA1-a <sup>a</sup> st. dev. (n=4)		C16		st. dev. (n=2)		C18		SA2-a <sup>a</sup> st. dev. (n=2)		SA3-A <sup>a</sup> C18		SA2-a <sup>a</sup> st. dev. (n=2)		666-04			
	st. dev.	(n=3)	st. dev.	(n=3)	st. dev.	(n=8)	st. dev.	(n=8)	st. dev.	(n=8)	st. dev.	(n=8)	st. dev.	(n=4)	st. dev.	(n=4)	st. dev.	(n=2)	st. dev.	(n=2)	st. dev.	(n=2)	st. dev.	(n=2)	st. dev.	(n=2)	st. dev.	(n=2)	st. dev.	(n=2)
SiO <sub>2</sub>	67.71	0.41	66.16	62.24	63.14	59.74	0.35	61.35	61.09	1.14	61.63	0.93	63.46	0.36	64.37	1.08	62.3	61.36	59.24	0.47	60.8	60.8	59.24	0.47	60.8	60.8	59.24	0.47	60.8	60.8
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.21	0.01	0.24	0.47	0.28	0.51	0.03	0.29	0.46	0.05	0.31	0.09	0.53	0	0.13	0.13	0.45	0.31	0.66	0	0.36	0.36	0.66	0	0.36	0.36	0.66	0	0.36	0.36
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	16.42	0.34	17.82	19.21	19.2	18.62	0.69	19.13	18.07	0.08	19.09	0.22	17.78	0.23	18.55	0.07	18.32	18.96	17.64	0.1	19.64	19.64	17.64	0.1	19.64	19.64	17.64	0.1	19.64	19.64
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	2.27	0.04	1.98	3.84	2.58	5.03	0.25	3.06	4.45	0.59	2.97	0.47	3.86	0.04	2.39	0.22	3.57	3.17	5.64	0.26	3.09	3.09	5.64	0.26	3.09	3.09	5.64	0.26	3.09	3.09
MnO	0.14	0	-	0.24	-	0.15	0.01	-	0.14	0	-	-	0.32	0.01	-	-	0.18	-	0.14	0	-	-	0.14	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
MgO	0.41	0.01	0.04	0.56	0.13	1.24	0.14	0.13	1.09	0.18	0.14	0.07	0.51	0.04	0.01	0.02	0.63	0.32	2	0.42	0.09	0.09	2	0.42	0.09	0.09	2	0.42	0.09	0.09
CaO	2.29	0.07	2.26	1.9	1.54	3.40	0.19	1.95	3.07	0.39	1.84	0.29	1.62	0.04	1.56	0.16	2.15	2.78	4.79	0.16	2.59	2.59	4.79	0.16	2.59	2.59	4.79	0.16	2.59	2.59
Na <sub>2</sub> O	3.79	0.06	3.6	4.92	5.76	3.26	0.34	6.52	3.37	0.04	6.27	0.49	5.59	0.06	4.99	0.99	3.99	3.4	3.31	0.5	4.93	4.93	3.31	0.5	4.93	4.93	3.31	0.5	4.93	4.93
K <sub>2</sub> O	6.73	0.11	7.85	6.55	7.34	7.88	0.34	7.53	8.12	0.21	7.72	0.54	6.32	0.1	7.98	0.42	8.34	9.68	6.36	0.41	8.47	8.47	6.36	0.41	8.47	8.47	6.36	0.41	8.47	8.47
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.03	0	-	0.07	-	0.17	0.02	-	0.15	0.04	-	-	0.04	0	-	-	0.06	-	0.23	0.03	-	-	0.23	0.03	-	-	-	-	-	-
L.O.I.	3.8	0.08	-	5.39	-	3.98	0.61	-	4.05	0.54	-	-	4.56	0.11	-	-	3.92	-	3.04	0.21	-	-	3.04	0.21	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nb	48	3	-	114	-	47	4	-	48	2	-	-	157	2	-	-	64	-	45	7	-	-	45	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Zr	393	10	-	701	-	325	16	-	335	13	-	-	1026	8	-	-	404	-	332	50	-	-	332	50	-	-	-	-	-	-
Y	27	2	-	60	-	30	3	-	32	1	-	-	99	1	-	-	41	-	36	3	-	-	36	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sr	189	7	-	56	-	736	50	-	730	33	-	-	35	13	-	-	396	-	826	29	-	-	826	29	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rb	383	8	-	352	-	261	19	-	259	13	-	-	427	4	-	-	276	-	208	11	-	-	208	11	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ce	147	5	-	240	-	154	12	-	153	3	-	-	468	11	-	-	210	-	165	24	-	-	165	24	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ba	92	3	-	18	-	1203	168	-	1073	72	-	-	34	10	-	-	149	-	1158	141	-	-	1158	141	-	-	-	-	-	-
La	90	2	-	131	-	85	8	-	86	4	-	-	252	3	-	-	114	-	87	20	-	-	87	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ni	4	2	-	4	-	6	3	-	5	2	-	-	4	1	-	-	3	-	10	5	-	-	10	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cr	4	1	-	2	-	9	4	-	7	3	-	-	3	2	-	-	2	-	27	27	-	-	27	27	-	-	-	-	-	-
V	17	1	-	17	-	84	8	-	68	14	-	-	15	1	-	-	34	-	106	1	-	-	106	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Co	3	1	-	5	-	10	1	-	8	2	-	-	5	1	-	-	5	-	13	1	-	-	13	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	100	-	99.95	100	99.97	100	-	99.96	100	-	99.97	-	100.01	-	99.98	-	99.99	99.98	100	-	99.97	-	100	-	99.97	-	-	-	-	-
Total Alkali	10.53	0.14	11.45	11.47	13.1	11.13	0.64	14.05	11.49	0.22	13.99	-	11.91	0.16	12.97	-	12.33	13.08	9.67	0.08	13.4	13.4	9.67	0.08	13.4	13.4	9.67	0.08	13.4	13.4
K <sub>2</sub> O/Na <sub>2</sub> O	1.78	0.03	2.18	1.33	1.27	2.43	0.18	1.15	2.41	0.06	1.23	-	1.13	0	1.6	-	2.09	2.85	1.95	0.42	1.72	1.72	1.95	0.42	1.72	1.72	1.95	0.42	1.72	1.72

3b)

clastic fall deposits of TAU1-e and Codola (Table 2) respectively, while the widely dispersed Y3 tephra layer (Keller *et al.*, 1978) has been correlated to the co-ignimbrite deposit SMP1-e, dated at  $25.82 \pm 0.27$  ka (Tables 2 and 3). The attribution of tephra layer C8 to Codola

eruption needs some comments. This tephra layer was recognised in cores KET 8004, 8011 and 8218 from Tyrrhenian and Adriatic seas, and dated at  $26.7 \pm 0.8$  ka (Paterne, 1985). Anyway, in more recent papers (Paterne *et al.*, 1988; Paterne & Guichard, 1993) C8

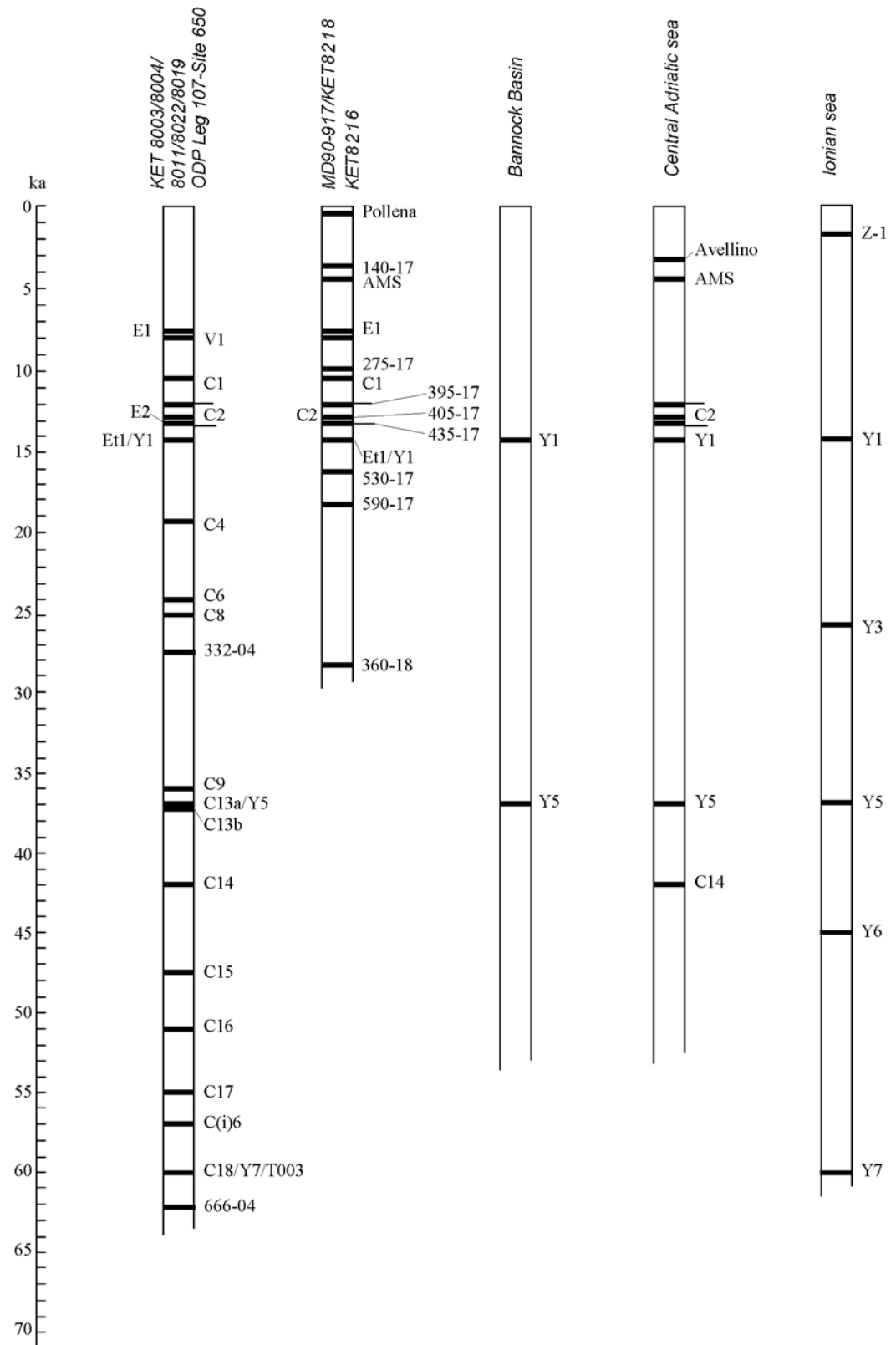


Figure 4 - Schematic correlation among tephra layers recognised in the marine cores considered in this study. See Figure 1 for locations.

tephra layer is not reported, due to the misleading attribution of tephra layer C10 to the Campanian Ignimbrite eruption made by Paterne et al. (1988) and the following “forced” adjustment of the stratigraphy of core KET 8004 on the basis of a C10 age of 33.5 ka (Paterne et al., 1988). Indeed, new <sup>14</sup>C and <sup>39</sup>Ar/<sup>40</sup>Ar data aged the terrestrial Campanian Ignimbrite deposits to about 37-39 ka (Deino et al., 1994; De Vivo et al., 2001), in agreement with the new correlation of these deposits to tephra layer C13 (dated at about 41 ka; Ton-That et al., 2001). On the basis of these evidences the original stratigraphy of core KET 8004 reported by Paterne (1985) and age of tephra layer C8 of 26.7±0.8 ka have been considered correct and adopted for the correlation with proximal deposits. Similar problems affect also the tephra layers 332-04 and 360-18, which have been correlated to the TAU1-d and SMP1-d pyroclastic fall deposits. These two tephra layers were dated at about 33.5-33.7 ka (Paterne et al., 1988), but these ages must not be considered correct, being influenced by the double error introduced by the correlation of layer C10 to the Campanian Ignimbrite deposits and to the age of 33.5 ka attributed to its proximal terrestrial deposits (Paterne et al., 1988). On the basis of these considerations the original ages of 27.8 and 28.5 ka for tephra layers 332-04 and 360-18 (Paterne, 1985) have been adopted.

Moreover, an accurate inspection of chemical and stratigraphic data of C13 tephra layer shows the coexistence of at least two different tephra with similar chemical composition (peralkalic trachyte and trachyte; Paterne, 1985; Paterne et al., 1988), here labelled C13a and C13b (Tables 2 and 3). Indeed, only the C13a tephra layer belong to the Campanian Ignimbrite deposits, while the C13b tephra layer has been correlated to

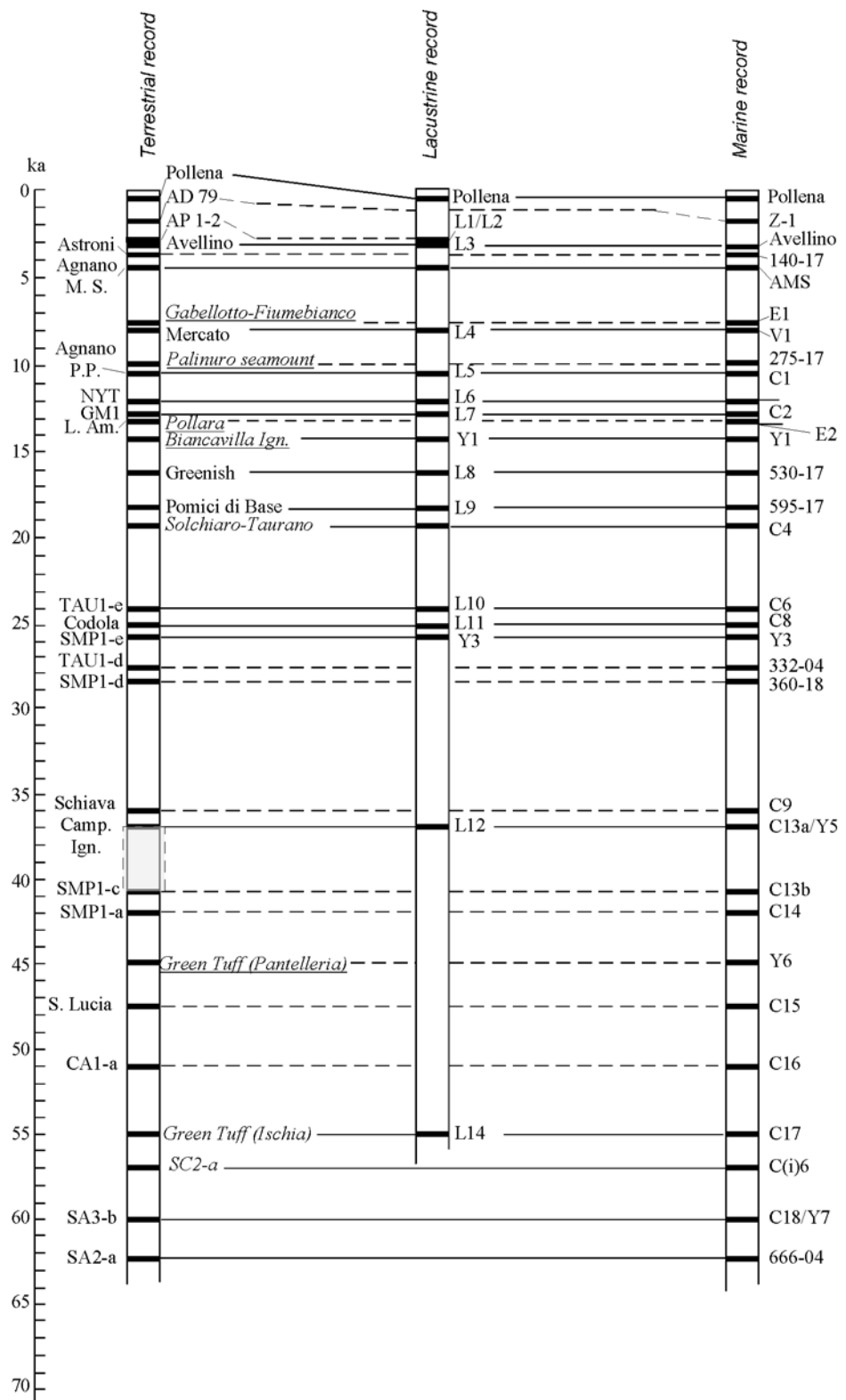


Figure 5 - Schematic correlation among terrestrial deposits and tephra layers recognised in lacustrine and marine cores. Dashed lines indicate the lack of tephra layer in lacustrine or marine cores. On the left of the terrestrial record column are shown the deposits from Phlegrean Fields activity, whereas on the right are shown the deposits of Somma-Vesuvius (Plain text), Ischia-Procida (Italic text) and Etna-Eolian Islands-Palinuro seamount-Pantelleria (underlined Italic text). The grey dashed box indicates the uncertainties in the age of Campanian Ignimbrite deposits.



the SMP1-c pyroclastic fall deposit, emplaced very close to the Campanian Ignimbrite eruption (Sulpizio *et al.*, 2003). The recognition of SMP1-c deposits can also help in the unravelling the discussion about the single or multiple occurrence of Campanian Ignimbrite(s) (Paterne *et al.*, 1988; Scandone *et al.*, 1991; Narcisi & Vezzoli, 1999). As shown for the C2 tephra layer (Siani *et al.*, 2003), this is probably due to the clustering of different large explosive eruptions of similar chemical composition occurred in a relatively short time span, which frequently results in a thick, single, marine tephra layer.

The correlation of tephra layer C9 (dated at 36 ka; Paterne & Guichard, 1993) to the Schiava eruption is supported by the most evolved chemical composition in the whole set of data shown by both deposits (Table 3), while tephra layer C14 has been correlated to the SMP1-a pyroclastic fall deposit (Tables 2 and 3).

The C15-C18 tephra layers were grouped in the Green Tuff Series by Paterne *et al.* (1988), and attributed to the activity of the Ischia Island. Indeed, only the tephra layer C17 can be correlated to the Green Tuff eruption of Ischia, while the other tephra layer have been correlated to terrestrial proximal deposits on the basis of chronology, lithology and chemical composition (Tables 2 and 3). Among them the only tephra layer correlable to Ischia activity is the C(i)6, dated at 57 ka (Paterne *et al.*, 1988), which correspond to the SC2-a pyroclastic fall deposit (Tables 2 and 3). The other tephra layers of the Green Tuff Series have been correlated to the explosive activity of Phlegrean Fields (Table 2; Sulpizio *et al.*, 2003). In particular, C15 tephra layer has been correlated to the large explosive eruption of S. Lucia, dated at  $47.5 \pm 2.6$  ka (Sulpizio *et al.*, 2003; Table 2), while C16 tephra layer has a terrestrial counterpart in the CA1-a pyroclastic fall deposit (Tables 2 and 3). Tephra layer C18 appear very widespread in the central Mediterranean cores, and correspond to the tephra layer 003 from ODP Leg 107-Site 650 (Calanchi *et al.*, 1994), and to the tephra layer Y7 (Keller *et al.*, 1978). It has an interpolated age of 60.3 ka (Paterne *et al.*, 1988; Paterne & Guichard, 1993) and corresponds to the terrestrial proximal deposit SA3-b (Tables 2 and 3). Finally, the oldest tephra layer correlated to a terrestrial counterpart is 666-04, dated at 62.3 ka by Paterne *et al.* (1988), which corresponds to SA2 pyroclastic fall deposit (Tables 2 and 3).

## CORRELATIONS AMONG DIFFERENT PROXIES

Figure 5 shows a schematic correlation among terrestrial, lacustrine and marine proxies. It represents an up-to-date, detailed chronostratigraphic scheme of the last 65 ka, useful for the correlation of different archives in the Mediterranean region. Seventeen tephra layers were correlated in the last 20 ka among the three proxies, while two tephra layers (AP1-2) were correlated between proximal terrestrial and lacustrine proxies. Most of them are concentrated in the <4.5 ka and in the 10.5-20 ka time spans, with the occurrence of only two tephra layers (Mercato and E1 tephra layers) in the 4.5-10.5 ka (Fig. 5). Other sixteen tephra layers were correlated in the 20-63 ka time span among terrestrial, marine and lacustrine proxies. A cluster of five tephra layers

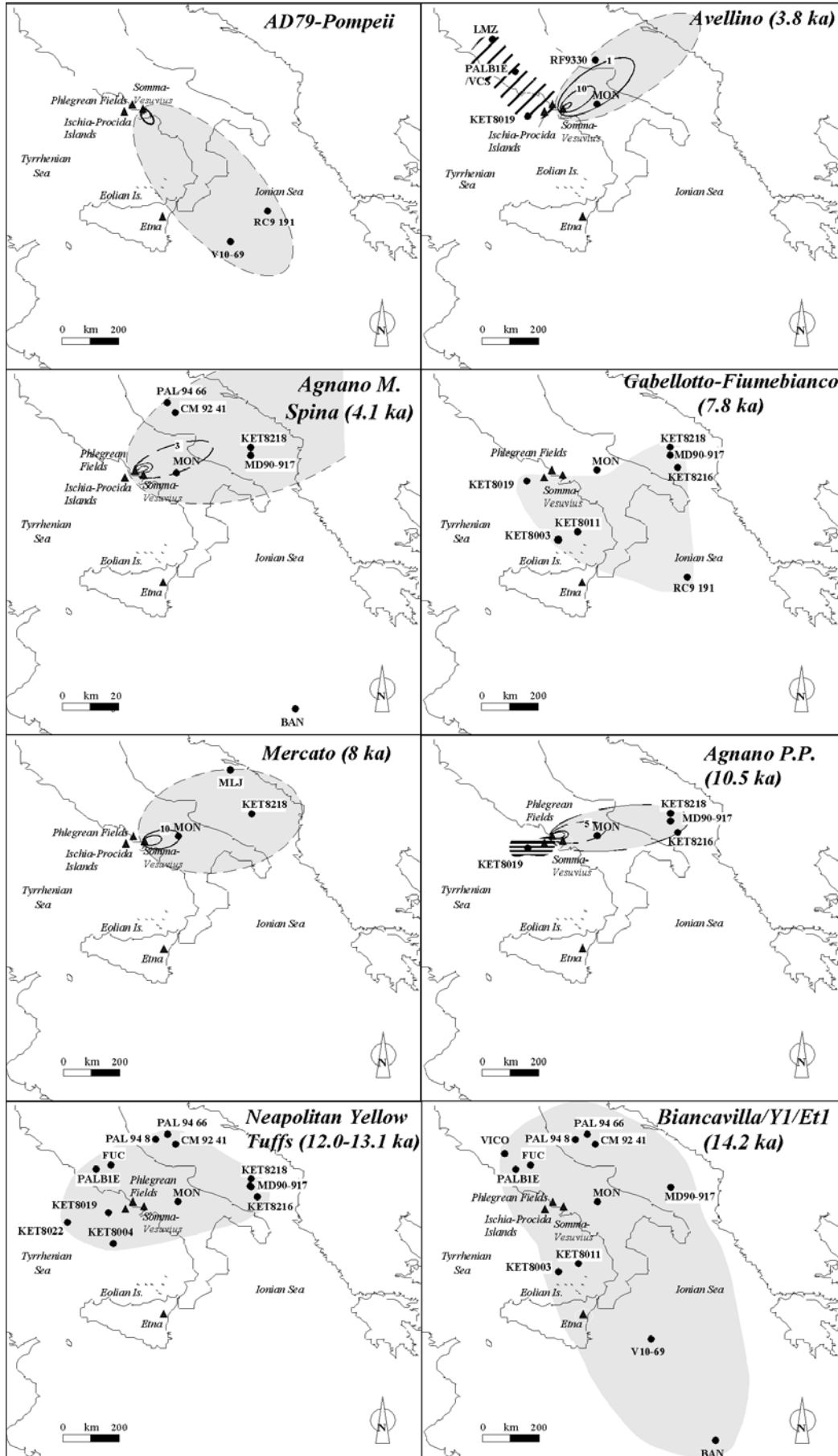
occurs between 24-27 ka, whereas ten tephra layers, almost regularly spaced, characterise the >35 ka time span (Fig. 5). Moreover, sources from Neapolitan volcanoes dominated throughout the whole succession, with the occurrence of only two Eolian (E1/Gabellotto-Fiumebianco and E2/Pollara; Paterne *et al.*, 1988; Calanchi *et al.*, 1993; Siani *et al.*, 2001; 2003) and Etnean (Y1/Et1/Biancavilla Ign.; Keller *et al.*, 1978; Paterne *et al.*, 1988) tephra.

On the basis of the proposed correlations the dispersal areas of several of these tephra layers can be traced (Figs. 6 and 7). These areas, even broadly defined and strongly dependent on the recognition of tephra in the marine and lacustrine cores, are generally in agreement with the main direction of dispersal of fall deposits of several well-known eruptions from Somma-Vesuvius and Phlegrean Fields, such as AD 79, Avellino, Agnano M. Spina, Mercato, Agnano P.P., Greenish, Pomici di Base, TAU1-e and S. Lucia (Figs. 6 and 7). In some cases, the dispersal areas indicate in Figures 6 and 7 comprise sites (i.e. cores) where the tephra layer has not been recognised. Several causes can account for this lack of recognition, such as settling of the marine tephra as multiparticle aggregates (Carey, 1997), erosion due to bottom currents or coring process. On the other hand, pyroclastic fall deposits are frequently dispersed along a defined dispersal axis and the isopach maps enclose ellipse-shaped areas, even if changes in dispersal axis is possible in very distal areas (Cas and Wright, 1987). In this way, in Figures 6 and 7 we traced the indicative dispersal areas on the basis of proximal isopachs, irrespective of the presence or not of the tephra layer in all the cores enclosed. Instead, broader and irregular dispersions characterise the tephra layers correlated to single (i.e. Campanian Ignimbrite) or clusters (Biancavilla, NYT) ignimbrite-forming eruptions (Fig. 6 and 7), due to the different eruptive dynamic and dispersal of volcanic clouds not linked to large convective columns (Cas and Wright, 1987).

## CONCLUDING REMARKS

The proposed correlations highlights only part of the tephra layer record reported for the central Mediterranean region (i.e. Keller *et al.*, 1978; Paterne *et al.*, 1988; Vezzoli, 1991; Narcisi, 1996; Calanchi *et al.*, 1998; Wulf *et al.*, 2001), but more work is necessary to reach a comprehensive correlation among terrestrial, lacustrine and marine records. The correlations proposed in this work, although being as comprehensive as possible, intend to be preliminary. Indeed, it is only of transitory usefulness, because the knowledge of past activity for some Italian volcanoes is in tumultuous growth and in the near future new data will be available. In particular, the knowledge of stratigraphy and chronology of tephra layers older than 18 ka of central-southern Italy need to be supported by extensive studies on terrestrial records near volcanic centres. Specific studies should be addressed in this direction and it should be a specific task since active volcanoes are often studied only in respect to recent activity for the obvious purpose of hazard assessment.

6)



7)

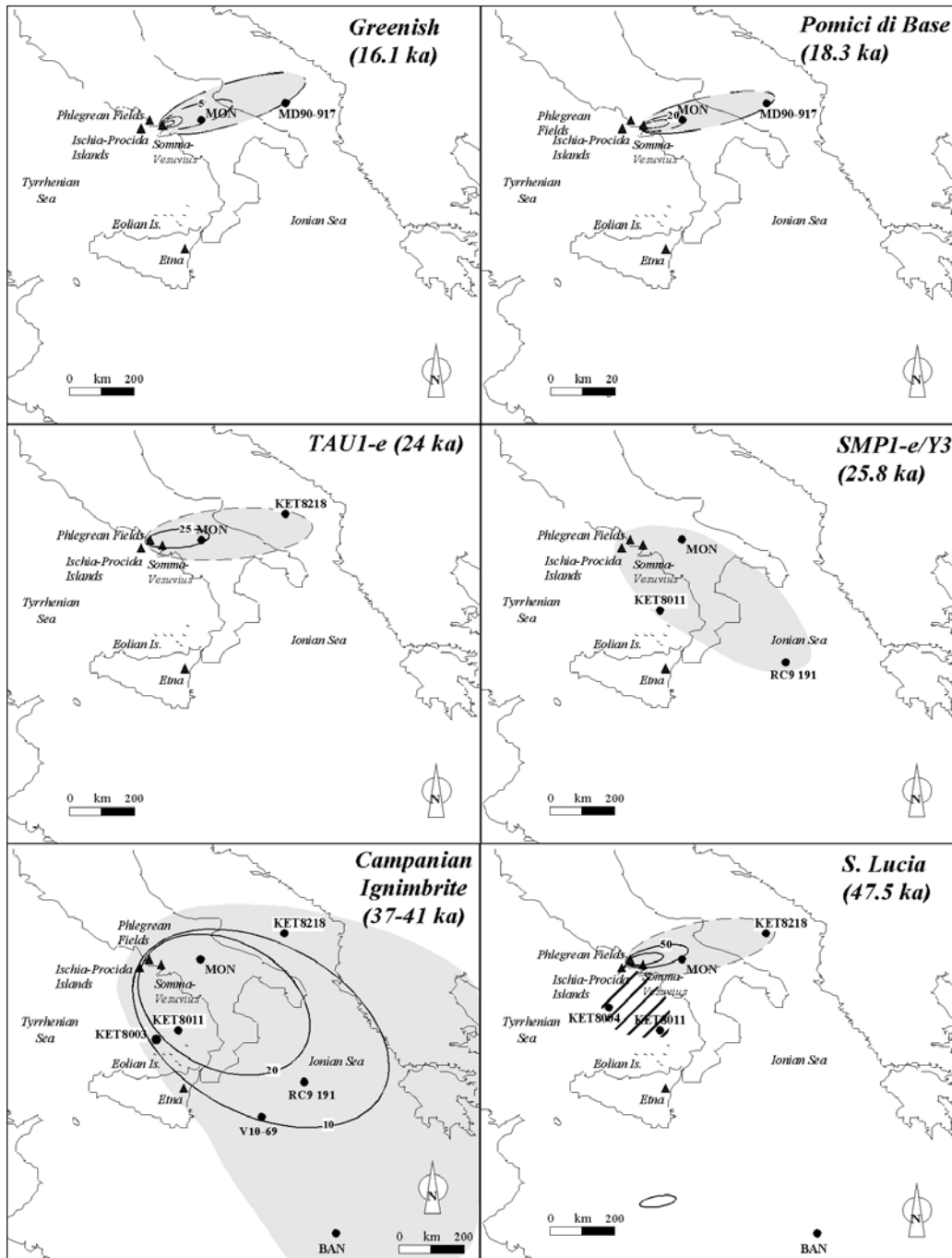


Figure 6 and 7 - Maps showing selected dispersal areas inferred from the recognition of tephra layers in lacustrine and marine cores. For deposits from sustained columns (fall deposits) the dispersal area has been traced using an ellipse with the same eccentricity of the proximal isopachs and delimited with a dashed line. The dashed areas in the Avellino, Agnano P.P. and S. Lucia maps indicate secondary lobes of dispersion of tephra. For co-ignimbrite deposit (Neapolitan yellow Tuffs, Biancavilla Ignimbrites and Campanian Ignimbrite) and for the Gabelotto-Fiumebianco eruption the shaded area indicates the present day limit of recognition of the respective tephra layers. Proximal isopach maps from: AD 79-Sigurdsson *et al.* (1985); Avellino-Cioni *et al.* (2000); Agnano M. Spina-de Vita *et al.* (1999); Mercato-Santacroce (1987); Agnano P.P.-Rosi & Sbrana (1987); Greenish-Cioni *et al.* (2003b); Pomici di Base-Bertagnini *et al.* (1998); TAU1-e-Sulpizio *et al.* (2003); Campanian Ignimbrite-Cornell *et al.* (1983); S. Lucia-Sulpizio *et al.* (2003).

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