Stratigraphic Position of the Rangsi Conglomerate in Sarawak

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The Rangsi conglomerate that outcrops in the Tatau Horst area in Sarawak has for a long time been regarded as the basal unit of the Tatau formation. The interpretation was, however, primarily based on the succession of the geological formations, and no detailed stratigraphic work was done to support the interpretation. A study conducted in this area using seismic stratigraphic technique shows that the Rangsi conglomerate is much younger than the Tatau

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formation. This conglomeratic rock unit is possibly equivalent to the Balingian formation that is of late Miocene age. Furthermore, the area that is called Tatau Horst, seismically does not represent structural feature such as a "horst" of extensional tectonics. Instead, it is characterized by positive flower structure, suggesting that the structure was formed as a result of a transpressional strike-slip tectonic episode, during early to late Miocene times.