Discrimination of provenance using heavy minerals
Productive Series, South Caspian Basin

Distribution of sand types during Kirmaky to Sabunchi Suite deposition

Crossplots of mineral ratios showing clear differentiation between sands of Palaeo-Volga and Palaeo-Kura origin.

Sand provenance is a major issue in exploration of the Productive Series in the South Caspian Basin. Sands of Palaeo-Volga origin have good reservoir quality, whilst sands of Palaeo-Kura origin are poor. Heavy minerals provide a very sensitive guide to identify and map distribution of both sand types.