INTRODUCTION

Various large-scale tectonic models have been proposed for the later stages of structural development of the Lachlan Fold Belt. These include sublatitudinal contraction (folding, thrusting, subduction) or dextral or sinistral transpression, developed either episodically (‘deformations’ and ‘orogenies’) or as a single final event, or progressively over a protracted period (Powell 1984a, 1984b; Packham 1987; Fergusson & Conen 1992; Glen 1992; Scheibner & Basden 1998; Foster et al. 1999; Scheibner & Veevers 2000; Willman et al. 2000). Such models should be compatible with detailed structural histories observed in local areas: in particular, the orientations, kinematics (thrust, wrench, extension or oblique), sequence and timing with respect to stratigraphy of the local structures. Relatively few attempts have been made to decipher multiple deformations affecting the younger (Upper Silurian to Lower Carboniferous) rock series of the Lachlan Fold Belt in New South Wales (Powell et al. 1985; de Roo 1989; Fowler 1989; Glen & Watkins 1994, 1999; Lennox et al. 1998). Part of the problem is the existence of a single or dominant penetrative cleavage throughout much of the stratigraphical succession of the fold belt (Rickard 1978), which reinforces the often-expressed view that the structures, whether formed episodically, continuously, or by a single major event, are ‘submeridional’. However, structural grain, both fold-belt wide and locally (Figures 1a, 7), can show considerable variation between northwest and northeast trends.

To determine the cause of this variation and its possible tectonic implications, detailed field studies of fold and fault systems are required in local areas. In this paper we report on multiple convergent deformations in Lower to Upper Devonian strata of the Black Range Synclinorium between Yass and Wee Jasper in the central part of the Eastern Lachlan Fold Belt of New South Wales. Particular attention is directed to structures in the Lower Devonian limestones. These structures can be correlated with, and indicate the 3-D incremental strain directions and kinematics of, the fold events. Early folding shows a predominantly wrench style of deformation and appears to be related to wrench motion on the bounding faults. North-northwest-trending F1 folds are 30° clockwise to faults and, together with associated small-scale wrench indicators, suggest sinistral shear on these faults. North-northwest-trending F2 folds are associated mainly with reverse faulting, indicating a change in kinematic style. These are in turn overprinted by wrench motion associated with ‘minor north/north-northwest compression. The results of this study suggest a multiphase contraction and wrench history that is more complex than previously proposed for this part of the Eastern Lachlan Fold Belt.

KEY WORDS: deformation (structural geology), Kanimblan, Lachlan Fold Belt, New South Wales, reverse faults, strike-slip faults, stylolites, Tabberabberan, Taemas Bridge, veins.

Sequence and kinematics of multiple deformation around Taemas Bridge, Eastern Lachlan Fold Belt, New South Wales

D. I. A. HOOD* AND D. W. DURNEY

Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, Macquarie University, NSW 2109, Australia.

The area around Taemas Bridge in the Gilgandra–Cowra–Yass Zone, southwest of Yass, contains Devonian limestone, silicic volcanics and terrestrial sedimentary rocks that are folded by four deformations of inferred Carboniferous age. Interference between folds is well developed, mainly as Type 1 and Type 2 interference patterns. The two most prominent fold trends can be found more widely throughout the Lachlan Fold Belt as northwest/north-northwest and north/north-northeast regional trends. Early folds may be more localised. The fold axes associated with consecutive generations display an anticlockwise directional sequence, suggesting that incremental strain axes rotated anticlockwise during the Carboniferous deformation. North-northwest-trending faults in the area are inferred to have moved by both sinistral strike-slip and reverse mode at different times. Small-scale structures, such as veins, vein arrays and tectonic stylolites, are well developed in the Lower Devonian limestones. These structures can be correlated with, and indicate the 3-D incremental strain directions and kinematics of, the fold events. Early folding shows a predominantly wrench style of deformation and appears to be related to wrench motion on the bounding faults. North-northwest-trending F1 folds are 30° clockwise to faults and, together with associated small-scale wrench indicators, suggest sinistral shear on these faults. North-northwest-trending F2 folds are associated mainly with reverse faulting, indicating a change in kinematic style. These are in turn overprinted by wrench motion associated with ‘minor north/north-northwest compression. The results of this study suggest a multiphase contraction and wrench history that is more complex than previously proposed for this part of the Eastern Lachlan Fold Belt.

KEY WORDS: deformation (structural geology), Kanimblan, Lachlan Fold Belt, New South Wales, reverse faults, strike-slip faults, stylolites, Tabberabberan, Taemas Bridge, veins.

*Corresponding author and present address: 4 Cheriton Avenue, Castle Hill, NSW 2154, Australia (david.hood@pocketmail.com.au).
subhorizontal extension (wrench-type). This information is not normally available from inspection of folds and cleavages on their own. Together with the fold sequence, it constrains possible movement senses on adjoining faults and the characterisation of the late-stage tectonic evolution of this part of the Fold Belt.

Setting
LOCATION AND REGIONAL STRUCTURE
Taemas Bridge is located on the Wee Jasper – Yass road crossing of the Murrumbidgee River at 556685E 61248N [AMG references: 1:100 000 topographic sheets Brindabella

Figure 1
(a) Location of Taemas Bridge area in the Eastern Lachlan Fold Belt (shaded) in New South Wales (modified after Scheinbner & Basden 1996). (b) Regional structure of the Black Range Synclinorium showing the main fold trends, F, NE–SW (heavy dotted line), F, NE–SW and F, NW–SE (solid lines), F, WSW–ENE (fine dotted line), and significant faults (thicker solid lines). Major structural elements are: WJS, Wee Jasper Syncline; NA, Narrangullen Anticline; TS, Taemas Synclinorium. The locations of Figures 3 and 7 are indicated by rectangles; other figure localities are shown as black dots labelled Fig. 10–12. Localities identified as letters are: C, 'Cavan'; P, 'Patmores'; WJ, Wee Jasper. Modified from Hood (1996); geology based on Cramsie et al. (1975) and Owen and Wyborn (1979).
The Taemas Bridge area and adjoining sites belong to the southern part of the Gilgandra–Cowra–Yass Zone of Scheibner and Basden (1996) in the Eastern Belt of the Lachlan Orogen (Glen 1992) or Eastern Lachlan Fold Belt (Gray 1997) (Figure 1a). The chief structure here is the Black Range Synclinorium (Cramsie et al. 1975; Owen & Wyborn 1979), which includes a major fold triplet some 25 km wide and 180 km long, comprising the Wee Jasper Syncline, Narrangullen Anticline and Taemas Synclinorium (Figure 1b). Within the study area, all three of the major folds are doubly plunging, open to close structures with a predominant north-northwest–south-southeast trend and steep west-dipping axial surfaces. The Taemas Bridge local area contains smaller wavelength parasitic folds on the eastern margin of the easternmost major fold, the Taemas Synclinorium. The fold triplet contains a succession of Lower Devonian volcanics and volcanoclastics (Black Range Group) and overlying Lower Devonian limestones (Murrumbidgee Group) in the two major synclines.

Both sides of the main triplet structure are downthrown against bounding faults: the Long Plain Fault Zone to the west and Dingo Dell Fault, Warroo Fault and Deakin–Devils Pass Fault to the east (Browne 1959; Owen & Wyborn 1979). The antecedents of these faults probably pre-date the Devonian sequence and controlled the original Early Devonian margins of the depositional basin (Durney 1984). On the western side there are Silurian metasedimentary and mafic to silicic intrusive and extrusive rocks (e.g. Micalong Swamp Complex, Goobarragandra Volcanics) and to the east, Silurian volcanic and sedimentary rocks including the Yass Basin sequence to the northeast.

We presume that the basement rocks for the synclinorium are Ordovician flysch (Nungar beds) and Upper Silurian igneous rocks and polite-carbonate sequences (Paddys River Volcanics), which occur beneath the Mountain Creek Volcanics to the south (Cramsie et al. 1978; Owen & Wyborn 1979; Durney 1984).

**STRATIGRAPHY**

The Black Range Synclinorium contains terrestrial units including extrusive rhyolites, volcanocigenic sediments, redbeds and marine limestones (Cramsie et al. 1975, 1978; Owen & Wyborn 1979) (Figure 1b). The Lower Devonian (Lochkovian to Emsian) succession commences with the Black Range Group, which comprises the basal Mountain Creek Volcanics, overlain by the Kirawin Formation (which wedges or is faulted out in the eastern Taemas Synclinorium) and the Sugarloaf Creek Formation. These units are predominantly exposed around the edges of the Black Range Synclinorium and in the core of the Narrangullen Anticline.

The conformably overlying Murrumbidgee Group forms the core of the Taemas Synclinorium and most of the Wee Jasper Syncline, and comprises three formations. The oldest is the Cavan Limestone ranging from well bedded to massive and nodular limestone. It grades into the Majurgong Formation, which comprises fine-grained, cross-bedded sandstone, shale, and minor quartzite and provides a useful marker unit. The Majurgong Formation grades into the overlying Taemas Limestone (Browne 1959). The Taemas Limestone is a mixture of alternating prominent (massive) and recessive (shaly) limestone units that are folded into complex patterns due to their differences in competency. The first five members of the Taemas Limestone at ‘Cavan’ are, from the base upwards: recessive Spinella yassensis Limestone, prominent Currajong Limestone, recessive Bloomfield Limestone, prominent Receptaculites Limestone and recessive Warroo Limestone. The youngest member, the Crinoidal Limestone Member; occurs only in a large F1 basin at ‘Patmores’. The Crinoidal Limestone Member is a very distinctive prominent calcarenite to calcirudite, composed almost entirely of well-sorted and frequently cross-bedded, crinoid ossicles. The stratigraphy at ‘Cavan’ youngs in a north to northwest direction from the basin edge.

The youngest unit present in the Black Range Synclinorium is the Middle Devonian (Eifelian) terrestrial Hatchery Creek Conglomerate, which forms the core of the Wee Jasper Syncline (Figure 1b) (Pedder et al. 1970 figure 1). Owen and Wyborn (1979) and Powell (1984a) suggested that the contact with the underlying Taemas Limestone is paraconformable to disconformable. However, our observations support previous mapping by Pedder et al. (1970), which showed this contact relationship to be completely concordant. Pedder et al. (1970) and Scheibner and Basden (1998) correlated the Hatchery Creek Conglomerate with the Middle to Upper Devonian Hervey Group, the latter authors regarding it as part of the molassic overlap sequences of the Lambian Transitional Province. Powell (1984c) included the Middle to Upper Devonian, Lambie Group, Merimbula Group, Hervey Group, Cocoparra Group and the Hatchery Creek Conglomerate as correlatives under the general name ‘Lambie Facies’. Powell (1984b) indicated that the base of the ‘Lambie Facies’ is diachronous, and Scheibner and Basden (1998) expand on this by noting that the onset of deposition progressed west to east across the Lambian Transitional Province. Young and Gorter (1981) used fossil fish evidence to suggest that the base of the Hatchery Creek Conglomerate is Eifelian, which means that there is very little time break with the Emsian Taemas Limestone. There is, however, evidence of a very gentle angular relationship regionally at about this level as Upper Devonian Hervey Group rocks rest on Illunie Rhyolite (a correlative of the Mountain Creek Volcanics?) in an extension of the Taemas Synclinorium approximately 90 km to the north (Brunker & Offenberg 1976; D. J. Pogson pers. comm. 2000). This structural relationship between the Taemas Limestone and Hatchery Creek Conglomerate is important when considering the age of the deformations in this area. The different lithologies at this level seem to more markedly reflect a depositional change, rather than a structural discordance.
Previous work (Black Range Synclinorium)

Several aspects of the geology are described in the 1:100 000 scale geological sheets and explanatory notes for Yass (Cramsie et al. 1975, 1976) and Brindabella (Owen & Wyborn 1979). Browne (1959) mapped the basic structure of the Taemas Synclinorium as part of a combined palaeontological, stratigraphical and structural study. Williams (1974) and Khaiami (1977) examined deformation features in limestone at ‘Cavan’ and ‘Mountain Creek’ and Durney (1984) presented initial data for multiple deformations and suggested a multiphase northeast/northwest-trending F₁ and a later west-southwest/southwest-trending F₂.

OBSERVATIONS AND RESULTS

Methods

The primary evidence for multiple deformation episodes in the area, symbolised as Dₙ (where n is a sequential episode number), is interference patterns between folds (Fₙ) of different attitude. The folds of the Black Range Synclinorium are predominantly gently plunging and steeply inclined structures of differing trends. They show Types 0, 1 and 2 interference patterns (Ramsay & Huber 1987), which are typical of sequential subhorizontal shortening in different directions (see experimental models in Ghosh 1993 section 15.5).

Type 0 or re-tightened folds are hybrid structures where an early fold is tightened, and possibly rotated, by later deformation without developing separate folds. This process can explain instances where a single compromise fold direction occurs instead of separate directions. We designate composite folds Fₙ/Fₙ₋₁ where merging of fold generations Fₙ (earlier) and Fₙ₋₁ (later) is observed, and Fₙ if the fold interferences could not be resolved. Relative timing cannot be determined from this pattern. Type 1, or dome–basin interference, produces alternating or crossing fold trends that help to separate the fold groups in the area. However, ambiguity about whether a given fold direction is inherited from an earlier structure or is superposed later means that relative timing on the basis of the fold directions alone is uncertain. Type 2 interference patterns show curvature of the axial surface of an earlier fold crossing a later one, which we consider diagnostic of relative age. These patterns may develop either by hinge replacement (Ghosh 1993: i.e. side-to-side rolling of early fold hinges) or by bending of tight early folds (Ghosh 1993 pp. 341–345; Grujic 1993).

At Taemas, Type 2 geometry is used for assessing relative timing without regard to the particular mechanism involved. Type 2 is often called crescent–mushroom interference, based mainly on outcrop patterns formed by moderately to gently dipping early folds (Ramsay & Huber 1987). This type of early fold and outcrop pattern is not well represented in this area. The term ‘megakinking’ (Powell et al. 1985) has been used where the early folds are more upright, as at Taemas Bridge. However, ‘megakinks’ can also be subhorizontal folds without Type 2 interference (Rixon et al. 1983). Also, the large Type 2 folds in the area are more often rounded than kink-like. Therefore, no term in the literature adequately describes the particular variety of Type 2 refolds in our area. So we suggest the term ‘banana’ for generally rounded, near-upright, Type 2 refolds, by analogy with a longitudinally cut half of a banana resting on a horizontal surface.

Penetrative cleavages in the area are expressed in outcrop by a distinctive ‘Field 2’ or ‘transverse blade’ type of fissility (Durney & Kisch 1994). This previously unrecognised structure is marked by a single plane of splitting with a pronounced, steeply pitching, linear direction and often weakly defined strike. The cleavages may transect nearby folds (Durney 1984). Field 2 fissilities have been attributed to tectonic contraction in more than one direction (Durney & Kisch 1994; Durney 2000a). Together with the observation that the penetrative cleavage/bedding intersection (in mudstone) closely parallels the Y-axis of total tectonic strain shown by deformed mudcrack polygons (Shearsby Anticline, 5 km southwest of Taemas Bridge: Durney & Hood 2000 figure 2.13), this indicates that the cleavage represents the sum of tectonic deformations undergone by the rock, as found by Lüneburg and Lebit (1998). Thus, the penetrative cleavage here is associated with all of the folds. It is not temporally correlatable with any one group of folds and so is not useful for differentiating stages of deformation.

In contrast, wavy to stylolitic spaced cleavages (Durney & Kisch 1994) frequently appear as multiple sets in limestones in the area and can be correlated with particular fold groups. These structures are pressure-solution surfaces that cut across bedding and can contribute a significant proportion of the strain associated with folding (Groshong 1975). They have been used widely in European limestone terrains for determination of regional strain directions (Choukrone 1969; Plessman 1972; Alvaro 1975; Tremolieres 1981; Letouzey 1988). The stylolitic cleavages of the Taemas Bridge area have mostly angular to rounded teeth, indicating a local shortening approximately normal to the stylolitic surfaces (Fletcher & Pollard 1981). The cleavage surfaces are designated Sₙ according to similarity in attitude of their bedding intersections (Iₙ) with nearby fold axes (Fₙ). Bedding/cleavage intersections are here designated Iₙ to simplify the terminology of these structures (cf. the alternative Lᵥ in the Bell and Duncan (1978) scheme). We call the axes of teeth related to the stylolite surfaces Tₙ.

Vein-stylolite pairs, vein-arrays and minor shear sets and are used as indicators of 3-D kinematic axes or principal incremental strain axes: X (principal extension), Y (intermediate axis) and Z (principal shortening) as shown in Figure 2. Two or more of these structures with mutually compatible timing and kinematic axes are called a system. Systems are designated thrust, wrench or extensional according to whether the X, Y or Z axis, respectively lies at a high angle to bedding. One or more of such systems commonly relate to a local stylolitic cleavage or fold axis, allowing it to be correlated with a particular fold episode Fₙ. Cross-cutting and superposition relations between elements of these systems may provide additional evidence for timing relations between the incremental deformations and between fold episodes. Veins can occur in several sets and are, therefore, labelled V₁, V₂, etc. according to their inferred relative time sequence at each site, without
implying a correlation between sites or with fold episodes. Not all veins and stylolites form ideal orthorhombic groups as indicated in Figure 2. The procedure in such cases has been to assign priority to the mean vein-tip attitude as an indicator of the incremental YZ plane. For example, the error in this method, if the veins occur in a single cross-parallel array (Figure 2d) (Smith 1996), is probably no greater than approximately 20°. Minor shears are comparatively rare and were found to closely follow ideal orthorhombic symmetry.

![Figure 2 Models for 3-D kinematic axes associated with four types of small-scale discontinuous-structure systems (adapted from Mattauer 1976; Hancock 1985; Smith 1996). (a) Orthogonal stylolitic cleavage and extension veins. (b) Conjugate minor shears with stepped slip-fibres. (c) Conjugate arrays of bisector-parallel \textit{en échelon} veins. (d) Conjugate arrays of cross-parallel \textit{en échelon} veins.](image)

![Figure 3 Geological map of Taemas Bridge area, 'Cavan' property. F1 to F4 fold traces (numbered by generation) and their interference patterns. See Figure 1 for location. Notable marked features include Type 2 banana bending of submeridional F2–F3 folds by F4 (A), plunge reversals due to early F1 folds (B), crescent-mushroom Type 2 patterns towards the centre of the map (C) and banana Type 2 bending of F1 by F2/F3 in a T-shaped structure (D). Specific examples mentioned in the text are given numerals (A1, B1, C1–C3, D1). Locations for Figures 5 and 6a–c are shown as rectangles and Figure 8a as a black dot. After Hood (1996).](image)
All azimuths are referred to local grid north. Linear attitudes are given in inclination/plunge-azimuth format, and planar structures in strike-azimuth/dip/dip-sector format. Approximate structural directions are given in abbreviated form (e.g. N for north). Bedding-plane sketches and rose diagrams are viewed north or south, with respect to strike of bedding. All stereographic plots use the lower hemisphere equal-area Schmidt projection. Calculated bedding/cleavage intersections were determined from bedding/stylolite plane pairs in single outcrops by vector methods on a Microsoft Excel worksheet (Hood 1996). Calculated fold axes were derived from multiple bedding-plane attitudes in small domains by the eigenvector method [using Georient version 4.1 (R. J. Holcombe) and SpheriStat version 2 (Pangaea Software) software].

Fold groups (Taemas Bridge)
The presence of multiple fold generations, with wavelengths ranging from metres to kilometres, observed in conspicuous to subdued outcrop, means that several characteristics are required to differentiate and group them. The fold groups are defined using data from the Taemas Bridge area, 1 km south of Taemas Bridge in the eastern half of Figure 3. Figure 3 shows the fold relationships and

![Figure 4](image-url)  
Figure 4  Synoptic equal-area stereographic projections for D1 to D4 structures from the Taemas Bridge area. See text for discussion. Density contours (0%, 4%, 8% area) for domain- and site-based fold axes; ○, poles to site-based stylolitic cleavage planes; +, site-based stylolitic-cleavage/bedding intersection lineations. D1 structures from fold D1, Figures 3 and 5 (14 F1, 3 S1 and I1). D2 structures (40 F2, 48 S2 and I2) from the whole area. D3 structures (25 F3, 39 S3 and I3). D4 structures (18 F4, 18 S4 and I4).
interference patterns in this area and in the adjoining areas to the west.

Attitude and style were the main criteria used for separating the different fold groups. Calculated and measured fold axes from 97 domains or individual sites fall into four broad orientation groups (Table 1; Figure 4). These cluster around west/west-southwest (F1), north/north-northeast (F2), north-northwest (F3) and west-northwest (F4). The submeridional F2 and F3 are the dominant fold groups and were generally readily differentiated on the basis of fold trend. The sublatitudinal F1 and F4 groups are mostly weaker and were less easily differentiated. Data of uncertain affinity have also been measured (Hood 1996), but are not included in Figure 4.

In addition to attitude and style, superposition relations have been used to separate the fold groups (discussed in the following section). Interference with earlier or later folds indeed accounts for much of the scatter in Figure 4. Fold-axis azimuth varies most in the two earliest fold groups, F1 and F2, due to Type 2 refolding by F3, and to a lesser extent by F4. All fold groups show plunge reversals due to Type 2, and especially Type 1, interference (see Table 1 for fold cluster centres, determined by cluster analysis using SpheriStat). Some additional subsets were identified by Hood (1996), but we discuss only the broad clusters here. The plunge reversal effect is especially marked for F4, which transects close F2 and F3 folds at a high angle, but is also evident for F2 and F3 due to local interference between these.

**Table 1** Fold-groups and associated cleavage, Taemas Bridge area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fold groups</th>
<th>D1</th>
<th>D2</th>
<th>D3</th>
<th>D4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distinctness</td>
<td>F1</td>
<td>F2</td>
<td>F3</td>
<td>F4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only locally distinct</td>
<td>Distinct in east</td>
<td>Distinct in centre, north and south</td>
<td>Poorly to moderately distinct</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution</td>
<td>1 definite major fold (D1) and 3 inferred/possible folds (B, C1)</td>
<td>Throughout</td>
<td>Centre and west</td>
<td>Throughout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wavelength</td>
<td>Mainly &gt; 4000 m</td>
<td>20–400 m</td>
<td>20–1000 m</td>
<td>5–1000 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fold-axis clusters</td>
<td>0°/199°, 26°/274°</td>
<td>33°/005°, 26°/168°</td>
<td>49°/333°, 26°/103°</td>
<td>56°/289°, 47°/103°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Axial-plane dip</td>
<td>Upright–steep S</td>
<td>Steep W and steep E</td>
<td>Upright–steep E</td>
<td>Upright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interlimb angle</td>
<td>Gentle–tight</td>
<td>Open-nearly isoclinal, small majority close</td>
<td>Open-close</td>
<td>Mainly gentle, some folds may be tight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shape</td>
<td>?Sinusoidal</td>
<td>Mainly chevron</td>
<td>Sinusoidal–chevron</td>
<td>Mainly sinusoidal, some chevron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleavages</td>
<td>S1</td>
<td>S2</td>
<td>S3</td>
<td>S4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stylolitic cleavage limestone</td>
<td>Little–none</td>
<td>Common axial-planar to F2</td>
<td>Common to well-developed axial-planar to F3</td>
<td>Sporadic, none in limestone to F4 hinges</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Deformation episodes (Dn) are based on the fold groups (Fn) and related cleavages in limestones (Sn). Observations and locations in this table refer to the area in Figure 3.
groups (Figure 3) and interference between them and a broad F1 syncline (fold D1: Figure 3).

Data for stylolitic cleavages are also included in Figure 4 and Table 1. The cleavage planes tend to be variable, mainly on account of refraction through beds of different attitude. Bedding/cleavage intersections are nevertheless broadly consistent with the fold axis distributions (Figure 4), which was our basis for correlating them with the folds.

Fold groups (Black Range Synclinorium)

Fold groups F1 to F3 are also recognised more widely across the Black Range Synclinorium. The dominant group is F3, which accounts for the north-northwest–south-southeast trend of the major fold triplet: the Wee Jasper Syncline, Narrangullen Anticline and Taemas Synclinorium (Figure 1b). The Wee Jasper Syncline is a close–tight fold with a steep west-dipping axial plane in all sedimentary units, similar to F3 at Taemas Bridge. Thus, D3 deformation occurred with similar direction and intensity throughout this fold and across the Black Range Synclinorium. The many parasitic F3 folds at Taemas share these characteristics (Table 1) and so belong to the same episodes as the larger structures, an effect known as polyharmony (Ramsay & Huber 1987).

The more north–south fold trends in the north and southeast of Figure 1b may be attributed to F2, and the trace of the depression in the major fold triplet (dotted line in Figure 1b) to F1.

Fold interference patterns and timing relationships

The time relationships will be discussed mainly for the Taemas Bridge area (Figure 3), the ‘Patmores’ area farther north, and the Black Range Synclinorium as a whole. Folds in Figure 3 are marked with numerals showing their designated groups, while letters (A, B, C, D) denote types of interference patterns: late bananas, basins, crescents and early bananas, respectively. Initial assessments for tens of metres to kilometre-size folds were made from fold interference patterns seen on aerial photographs. Axial traces determined from aerial photographs in most cases closely approach the actual trends, as the axial planes are generally steep (Figures 3, 7). Type 1, or dome-and-basin,
refolding is responsible for the large interference structures present in the study area. In a number of cases, these structures merge into hybrid Type 0 folds. Type 2 or banana interference is used for determining time relations. This type occurs at both small and large scales of observation and is developed between all of the four fold groups.

**F2–F1 INTERACTIONS**

While later fold sets are generally well differentiated on the basis of trend, fold style and overprinting, a critical question concerns the separation and relative timing of F1 and F2, which locally both trend in the same direction (north-northeast in the eastern part of Figure 3). Evidence for these relationships is as follows.

1. The southeast limb of the main F1 syncline (Figure 5) shows small north–south folds that are discordant in both trend and plunge to the local F1 hinge. These are, consequently, a separate set with an oblique Type 1 alternating relationship to F1.

2. The main F1 syncline fold (D1 in Figure 3) is responsible for a major north–south plunge reversal of later folds across this point. To the east, this is expressed by reversed plunges in a north/north-northeast-trending elongate Type 1 saddle-and-basin pair (Figure 3 fold A1, Figure 6a). The plunge reversal here is unlikely to be caused by the east–west F4 folding (also present) as the north–south folds are close to tight and should, thus, respond by lateral bending (banana folding) rather than by dome-and-basin folding under the weak north–south D4 compression (cf. Grujic 1993). Therefore, the plunge reversal is attributed to F1, which must, albeit cryptically, turn through this point east–west and orthogonal to the north–south folds. The more variable trend of this fold supports the conclusion that it is earlier than F2.

3. From north to south, F2 folds continue with regular trend across the plunge reversal, whereas the visible F1 folding (Figures 3, 5) swings sharply away to the west, again indicating a separate and earlier system. To the north, F1 shares the same direction as F2 and therefore generates a Type 0 interference pattern.

4. At the scale of the basin syncline, the regional plunge reversal weaves about in an overall northeast direction (Figure 1b, heavy dotted line). This feature is likewise oblique to the regional north to north-northeast F2 folds and is thus F1.

5. Major north-trending F2 or hybrid F2/F3 folds at the southern and northern ends of the Taemas Synclinorium (Figure 1b) are oblique to the northeast-trending regional fold-envelope traces at the northern and southern ends of the Black Range Synclinorium, further supporting a separate northeast-trending F1.

**F3–F1 INTERACTIONS**

F1 is related to a major banana (Type 2) fold in the Taemas Bridge area (Figure 5). The banana fold is designated F3 as it is shown to be distinct from an F2 fold north of this refold (Figure 5) (Hood & Durney 2000b). There may nevertheless be some influence of F2 in the banana fold, which could thus also be considered a hybrid F2/F1 fold. Another prominent

**Figure 8** Vein-stylolite pairs showing wrench-kinematic deformation associated with F2 and ?F3 folding. (a) Bedding-plane view of stylolites and four vein sets near the hinge of a gently S-plunging F2 anticline (23°/194°) with local superimposed F3 (22°/168°) (Hood 1996; Site 568, Cavan Limestone, 5566997E 612313N). (b) Sketch of (a) showing S2 stylolites (I2 intersections 44°/225°, 20°/204°) contemporaneously related to youngest veins (Vd), representing wrench-style deformation during D2. Thin, straight en échelon veinlets (Vc), show similar, but more clockwise trend and are probably also related to D2. These structures cross cut pre-D2 extensional veins (Vb). (c) Stereoplot for this site and immediately adjacent outcrops: △, fold axis; +, bedding–stylolite intersection lineation.
Type 2 example (Figure 3 fold C1) is shown in detail in Figure 6b. Type 1 and 2 interference between the northeast-trending F1 megasyncline and major north-northwest-trending F3 folds (Figure 1b) is the pattern mainly responsible for the structure of the Black Range Synclinorium as a whole.

**F3–F2 INTERACTIONS**

F2 and F3 are generally readily distinguished on the basis of different trends, and are often expressed as large-scale oblique Type 1 interference (Figure 3). Major merged F2/F3 folds are also common: for example, the Shearsby Anticline and the syncline immediately to the west (a distinctive elliptically outcropping structure at 662E 218N), which are north- to north-northwest trending folds that are transected anticlockwise by the northwest-trending penetrative cleavage (Durney 1984).

A case of Type 2 F3–F2 interference is shown in Figure 6c (Figure 3 fold C2). The pattern here is that of two crescent structures, one anticlinal the other synclinal, separated by a fault. The curved north-northeast fold traces (F2) clearly pre-date the north-northwest bending traces (F3). However, these directions merge to the north (Figure 3).

**F4–F3/F2 INTERACTIONS**

Gentle latitudinal bending of F2 and F3 folds and fold limbs occurs at a range of scales. The steeply plunging kinks and bananas on the limbs of tight host folds are Type 2 interference structures and are likely to be F4 folds. They are best developed at the margins of the Taemas Synclinorium. Figure 5 shows examples of steep mesoscopic kinks on an F2/F1 fold limb. Figure 7 shows map-scale kinking of a major synclinal fold trace further north along the Taemas Synclinorium.

**Kinematics (Taemas Bridge and ‘Patmores’)**

Three-dimensional kinematic axes associated with particular fold groups were determined using compatible systems of tectonic stylolites, veins, vein arrays and minor shears. These structures indicate mainly wrench kinematics, with three separate systems identified. Many limestone outcrops at ‘Cavan’ contain examples of vein arrays with wrench kinematic attitudes. A smaller number of outcrops also contain low-angle thrust veins that have been cut by wrench veins of D2 or later generations. Earlier systems are also present and may be D1.

**PRE-D2 KINEMATICS**

At least three sets of veins pre-date D2-related veins and their kinematics appear to be both wrench and probably thrust. Examples of these systems are shown in Figure 8a and b. The earlier systems occur with easily recognisable (although occasionally ambiguous) cross-cutting relationships between each other, and with D2.

**D2 KINEMATICS**

The first known wrench system is associated with D2, where vein-stylolite and vein-array sets are present in or near the closures of F2 folds. Figure 8a–c shows examples of wrench vein-stylolite sets that are related to D2. Principal shortening was east-southeast/southeast to west-northwest/northwest, which corresponds to the direction expected for north-northeast-trending F2 folds. The vein–stylolite–bedding geometry indicates that the F2 folds were stretched parallel to the fold axis during their formation (Durney 2000a).

**D3 KINEMATICS**

At ‘Patmores’, there are clear geometric and timing relationships between mesoscale thrust faults and a north-northwest/northwest-trending F3 fold. Southwest-dipping thrust faults (Figure 9a) occur in a complex anticlinal hinge structure that is parallel to the major 12°/324°-plunging F3 syncline 100 m to the east (Figure 7). The intimate relationship between folding and faulting in the fold and the consistency of compression directions for the two structures suggest that they are closely related in time. Stepped slip-fibres on the fault planes and low-angle
feather-veins associated with the faults show hangingwall movement to the northeast. Conjugate arrays of low-angle en échelon veins are also intimately associated with the faults. Kinematic axes for this system (D3a) were determined from eigenvectors of the combined mean conjugate shear- (fault- and array-) planes and the corresponding two mean veins planes (cf. Figure 2b and d). The directions are X: 80°/060°, Y: 1°/325° and Z: 10°/234° (Figure 8a). The shortening axis (Z) is orthogonal to F3 and is, thus, in the direction expected for F3 folding at this site.

The second wrench system (D3b) is interpreted to post-date D3a. Steep east-west- and east-northeast–west-
southwest-trending, wrench-style, cross-parallel (Smith 1996), en échelon veins in the steep western limb of the major F3 syncline on ‘Patmores’ show a mean principal shortening Z: 18°/255° (Figure 9b). This is approximately consistent with F3 folding and the D3 thrusts (Z: 10°/234°). However, the extension direction (X: 7°/160°) is nearly parallel to F3, analogous to the D2 wrench veins at Taemas Bridge. The wrench veins at ‘Patmores’ both cut, and are cut by, well-developed bedding-parallel stylolites. The stylolites are interpreted to have been original compaction structures that were reactivated by east-northeast–west-southwest shortening late in the F3 folding (they are best developed on steep fold limbs). We, therefore, assign this system to late D3.

It is reasonable to conclude, then, that D3 contains elements of both thrusting and wrenching, either sequentially or alternating, depending on slight variations in the strain field. Of the two D3 deformation styles, thrusting appears to be more widespread, as indicated by common occurrences of low-angle (?)D3 veins in roadside exposures of the Taemas Bridge area.

D4 KINEMATICS

The thrust faults at ‘Patmores’ are overprinted by minor wrench faults with subhorizontal slip-fibres. Veins associated with the wrench faults cut thrust-fault-related veins. Dextral faults trend northwest–southeast and sinistral faults trend north–south (Figure 9c). The mean shortening direction, determined from the mean fault and vein planes (Z: 12°/149°) is consistent with east-northeast–west-southwest D4 folding in the area (Figure 7).

Stylolite–stylolite relations (west of Taemas Bridge)

Some limestone beds, notably in the Cavan Limestone, contain two or more stylolitic cleavages (transverse to bedding), which provide further evidence of multiple contractional deformation in the region. Different sets can be recognised according to preferred orientations of their intersections (I0) with bedding and/or their column or teeth axes (T0), which lie in the plane of bedding.

Figure 10, from a distinctive syncline approximately 5 km southwest of Taemas Bridge (Figure 1b), shows two examples with north–south and northwest–southeast stylolites. Each of the two directions appears to have developed by the process of ‘anticrack’ propagation (Fletcher & Pollard 1981) normal to its respective maximum principal compressive stress (principal incremental shortening strain) direction. The north-trending set is the more continuous of the two (Figure 10a, b). We explain this by interrupted propagation: propagation of the northwest set is interrupted by the prior existence of the north set. Thus, the northwest set is more discontinuous and inferred to be younger. The stylolite teeth (T3) of the northwest-trending stylolites are superimposed on the northwest-trending stylolites (Figure 10d, e). The teeth of a pre-existing stylolite, when subjected to an oblique shortening, may be reactivated and grow in the new shortening direction and may, thus, appear oblique to the stylolite trend. This also places the northwest set after the north set in time. As these sets correlate geometrically with D3 and D4, respectively, their time relation corroborates evidence from fold superposition that F3 (D3) structures post-date F2 (D2).

As shown in Figure 11, desiccation cracks may control the local stylolite-trace directions in some beds and become strongly indented by the stylolitisation process. Three sets are recognised from stylolite teeth directions. The thick north–south set has been reactivated by oblique compression, opened and filled with vein calcite in places, subsequent to its dissolution stage. As the opening best correlates with D4, this reinforces the inferred sequence that the north–west–southwest stylolite set (S3) post-dates the north–south

![Figure 11](image-url)
set (S₂). A further compression direction is shown here by the east-northeast stylolite set, which is presumed to be S₄ (D₄) as the stylolite teeth appear to be undisturbed.

Up to four stylolite-trace directions and teeth directions are present in the Wee Jasper Syncline (Figure 12). Although relative timing is less clear in this example, the three main sets (labelled I₂ to I₄) show orientations roughly similar to F₂ to F₄ folds and S₂ to S₄ stylolitic cleavages in the Taemas Synclinorium (Figures 4, 11). This strongly suggests that deformation associated with the D₂ to D₄ events also exists in the Wee Jasper Syncline and, thus, throughout the Black Range Synclinorium.

**Faults**

There are two major faults in the Taemas Bridge area, which extend approximately north-northwest–south-southeast for kilometres. The easternmost is the Deakin–Devils Pass Fault, which separates the Lower Devonian basin sequence from the Silurian Yass Basin rocks to the east (Figure 1b). The Warroo Fault, approximately 500 m to the west, shows sinistral strike-slip displacement of the major F₁ fold with a component of east-side-down dip-slip (Figure 3). Approximately 2 km further west again, a steeply west-dipping reverse fault that we call the Three Oaks Fault, displaces and attenuates the east limb of a north–south F₂/F₃ anticline (Figure 3). In our interpretation this fault, rather than the Warroo Fault, may join the Dingo Dell Fault to the south (Figure 1b).

Faulting post-dates the Murrumbidgee Group and truncates the F₁ and F₂ fold generations and, at ‘Patmores’, F₃. No F₄ fold traces were found displaced by faults. The Devils Pass and Warroo Faults are slightly sinuous and concordant with F₃, indicating that they both could have...
been folded by $F_4$. Certainly, the Three Oaks Fault is gently folded by outcrop scale $F_4$. Although the downthrow on the Devils Pass Fault is stratigraphically to the west, the presence of $F_2$ folds with predominant wrench deformation approximately 30° clockwise from this fault (Figure 3) is geometrically and kinematically compatible with possible sinistral movement on the fault (Hood & Durney 2000b). The Three Oaks Fault probably also began to form at about this time, although its orientation is north–south and its movement is reverse rather than wrench.

The minor faults trend predominantly northwest–southeast and northeast–southwest and some of these link up to the major faults, suggesting that they may be splay faults, particularly near the major fault terminations (Ramsay & Huber 1987; Bürgmann & Pollard 1994).

DISCUSSION

Superposed folding: Black Range Synclinorium

This study suggests that the deformation history of Devonian rocks in the Black Range Synclinorium is more complex than previously envisaged. As noted by Browne (1959) in earlier 1:44 000 mapping, ‘domes and basins’ and folds with a ‘sinuous course’ are fairly common in the Taemas Synclinorium. These patterns can also be found in strata of similar age in other parts of the Eastern Lachlan Fold Belt, such as the northern part of the Hill End Trough (Colquhoun et al. 1997), although a single ‘submeridional’ fold direction usually dominates. In the Black Range Synclinorium, the dominant fold direction is north-northwest, but is ornamented by patterns of the kind referred to by Browne (1959). In the more complex southeastern margin of the Black Range Synclinorium at Taemas Bridge, detailed 1:10 000 to 1:280 scale mapping and domain analysis (Hood 1996) has shown four distinct fold trends and associated stylolitic cleavages, which, as discussed here, can be established in a time sequence using critical Type 2 fold-interference relations. Elsewhere, the first three of these generations could be recognised across the entire Black Range Synclinorium from Type 1 (dome and basin) and Type 0 (hybrid, north–south, $F_2/F_3$) patterns and from stylolitic cleavage and stylolite teeth directions in certain limestone units (multiple stylolite generations in Figures 10–12). Only $F_4$ seems to be restricted to the Taemas Synclinorium, although minor stylolites of this possible age are present in the western (Wee Jasper) region as well (Figure 12). These observations show that the successive $D_3$ to $D_4$ convergent ductile deformations, which range widely in direction, are not restricted to the Taemas Bridge area, but exist regionally throughout the Black Range Synclinorium.

The only other detailed structural sequence to our knowledge was reported in brief excursion notes (Durney 1984) for an area around ‘Mountain Creek’, 3 km southwest of Taemas Bridge. This area is representative of the more common situation where Type 2 interference is absent to weakly developed. The main overall folding and penetrative cleavage were referred to as $F_1$ and $S_1$, respectively, with four subsets of $F_1$ being recognised on the basis of restricted domains of differing fold trend and fold tightness.

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Figure 13  Development of ideas on structural orientation groups in the Taemas Synclinorium. Sp, penetrative cleavage; F, folds; Ss, stylolitic cleavage; K, kinematics. Numbers and letters represent time episodes and stages, respectively.
Superposed folding: correlated in other Eastern Lachlan Fold Belt localities

Farther afield, Powell et al. (1985) have recognised west-northwest and east-northeast ‘megakink’ zones (Type 2 refolds) in Silurian to Upper Devonian units around the Hill End Trough, implying an episode of north–south shortening imposed on earlier ‘submeridional’ structures, both deformations being of Carboniferous age. Lennox et al. (1998), using new and existing radiometric data from granites in the Molong Zone, also recognised Carboniferous north–south compression, but interpreted submeridional foliation in granite as Middle Devonian. In contrast, Glen and Watkins (1999) suggested a period of Middle Devonian north–south shortening prior to the submeridional folding from observations on the eastern margin of the Hill End Trough. Our observation of D5, north–south shortening late in the history of the Black Range Synclinorium is theoretically compatible with the sequence of Powell et al. (1985), and has the correct kinematics for kink or banana style refolding (wrench-kinematic, consistent with flexural slip about a steeply plunging axis). But the D5 structures here are relatively weak and localised and do not appear to generate folds of megasynclinorium scale. We suggest that much of the sinuosity in the Black Range Synclinorium can be attributed instead to oblique Type 1 superposition of F2 and F3, evidenced by frequent plunging pencil structure in S3, a feature now explained by non-coaxial deformation during the S3 (Durney 1984) cleavage event (Durney 2000a). Ideas on the kinematics and structural systems for the Taemas Synclinorium presented by various workers are shown in Figure 13.

Fold timing

Brown (1959) suggested that the folding in the Taemas Synclinorium ‘probably’ occurred in the Tabberabberan event (approximately Middle Devonian), a view that does not appear to have been much questioned in later writings about this region (apart from a reference to possible Cambrian effects by Owen and Wyborn (1979)). Scheibner and Basden (1998) further suggested that Middle to Upper Devonian Lambie–Hervey-type facies sedimentary sequences were deposited in ‘foreland basins’ that formed in response to coeval thrusting and thrust-loading. We have been unable to find evidence for any Middle Devonian convergent or fold-forming deformation event in the Black Range Synclinorium. Our earliest recognised convergent event, D1, post-dates Middle Devonian Hervey-facies beds of the Hatchery Creek Conglomerate in the Wee Jasper Syncline. The outcrop pattern of the Hatchery Creek Conglomerate appears to be controlled by a combination of an F1 syncline, and a pronounced hybrid F2/F3 syncline to produce a basin structure. The eastern half of the Taemas Synclinorium itself can be traced to the north along the north-northwest F2 trend into the Koorawatha Syncline (Brunker & Offenberg 1970), a structure that folds the Upper Devonian Hervey Group on alternating north-northwest and north/north-northeast trends similar to F3 and F5 at Taemas Bridge (Durney 2000a).

Critical to this question is the nature of the Hatchery Creek Conglomerate and its contact with the underlying Taemas Limestone in the Wee Jasper Syncline. As noted earlier, no angular discordance has been observed in this area, the two units being completely concordant with one another both at map scale (Figure 1b and, in more detail, Pedder et al. 1970 figure 1) and where we have seen the contact in the field (on both limbs of the syncline). In addition, it would appear that, on current palaeontological evidence, no definite time gap can be inferred to separate the two formations. If thrusting occurred during deposition of the Hatchery Creek Conglomerate, from the time of D1 onwards, immature detritus of the Silurian Goobragandra Volcanics and associated intrusive complexes would have been expected to be shed into the Hatchery Creek Conglomerate from the upthrown block situated immediately to the west. No clasts of these rock types have been reported, or observed by us. The Hatchery Creek Conglomerate is composed principally of mature quartz-rich sediment, including quartzite and vein quartz, suggesting derivation from a distant source. A recent palaeontological review by Mawson and Talent (2000) places the Hatchery Creek Conglomerate in the latest Emsian to middle Eifelian, which theoretically allows Tabberabberan folding and thrusting after deposition of the Hatchery Creek Conglomerate and before the Upper Devonian Hervey Group (Owen & Wyborn 1979). However, this would have produced significant discordance between, or possibly within either of, the Middle and Upper Devonian successions. No such discordances have been reported from the northern Eastern Lachlan Fold Belt, nor any internal discordances or fold-related thickness variations within these groups of the kind that would be expected if deposition occurred during thrusting and folding (Ford et al. 1997).

The conclusion we draw from these observations is that all four of our convergent folding events, D1 to D4, together with associated or later faulting, post-date the Middle to Upper Devonian sequences. That is, the deformation occurred during the Carboniferous Kaniblan event. This
Multiple deformation, Taemas Bridge, NSW

Episodic or continuous deformation?

Concerning episodicity versus continuity of convergent tectonic activity, our finding of a Carboniferous age for the folding would indicate that the Devonian succession experienced only a terminal, and therefore single, convergent tectonic event. However, as shown by the multiple fold systems that were formed, there was a progressive anticlockwise rotation of the shortening direction, relative to the affected rocks, during this time in the Black Range Synclinorium. This may indicate a rotation of the external stress field, either through partitioning as suggested by Glen (1992) or fundamental changes such as changing plate motion vectors. The alternative—a clockwise rotation of the rocks in small blocks during constantly orientated strain—lacks evidence for the required blocks and their independent rotations.

Kinematics: wrenching and thrusting

The alternation of wrench and thrust kinematics further suggests that changes in applied strain occurred. Folds associated with D2 show slight en échelon characteristics adjacent to the eastern bounding faults and have possible early thrust kinematics, but predominantly wrench kinematics. This indicates that D2 involved either sinistral transpression [cf. Gray and Mortimer (1996) on folds in the Mt Wellington Fault Zone] or sinistral shear motion parallel to the north–northwest–trending boundary faults (Hood & Durney 2000a). The reverse situation is associated with D3 structures, which show predominant northeast–southwest-directed thrust kinematics overprinted by two later wrench-deformation events. This later wrenching is both integral with D3 and related to weak D4 deformation. Thrust(?)-faulting may be more widespread, as at Bungonia to the northeast where Glen (1992) and Fergusson (1998) noted the presence of west-dipping thrusts affecting Lower Devonian limestone and also the Upper Devonian associations.

CONCLUSIONS

Four generations of convergent deformation, called Taemas D1 to D4, have been established for the Lower Devonian carbonate sediments of the Taemas Bridge area in the Eastern Lachlan Fold Belt using map-scale banana Type 2 fold superposition relations and associated stylolitic cleavages, S1 to S4, and are recognised regionally across the Black Range Synclinorium: D1—broad, gentle, sinuous, northeast folds, responsible for regional north to south plunge-reversals of later submeridional synclinoria; D2—north to north-northeast map-scale folds and stylolitic cleavage in limestone; D3—dominant north-northwest map-scale to regional folds and associated north-northwest to northwest stylolitic cleavage in limestone; and D4—mesoscale to map-scale gentle sublatitudinal warping of close F2 and F3 folds on the eastern margin of the Taemas Synclinorium and related weak stylolitic cleavage regionally in limestone.

Type 0 and oblique Type 1 interference between F2 and F3 folds are common. Mudrocks display a single north-northwest/northwest penetrative cleavage that is believed to represent the sum total of all of the deformation systems.

Kinematic indicators, comprising vein arrays, stylolite-vein pairs, minor faults and fault-vein pairs, show a minimum of five kinematic stages alternating between wrench and thrust deformation during D1 to D3 folding. Combined with the trend of the fold structures, the D3 kinematics indicate a dominant sinistral wrenching or transpression on the eastern bounding faults, whereas D3 indicates a dominant contraction normal to these faults. D4 kinematics are consistent with subhorizontal flexural slip on steeply dipping F2 and F3 fold limbs. The possible role of D1 is unclear and requires further examination.

These deformations post-date the Middle to Upper Devonian Hervey-facies sediments of the region, and are therefore ascribed to the Early Carboniferous (Kanimblan) regional folding event. No evidence is found for fold-forming deformation of Early, Middle (Tabberabberan event) or Late Devonian age in the Black Range Synclinorium and its continuation to the north.

The results suggest that simple tectonic models and two-stage histories, (east–west shortening followed by north–south shortening) for the Kanimblan event in the area need to be reviewed in light of the nature of the observed deformation history. The sequence of deformations shows a marked anticlockwise, non-coaxial progression of incremental shortening with time, accompanied by alternations between wrench- and thrust-style kinematics. The extent and cause of this pattern are presently unknown, although the results suggest that the Kanimblan deformation in the Lachlan Fold Belt could be more complex than previously envisaged.

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