



## GEOLOGICAL FEATURES IDENTIFIED FROM FIELD OBSERVATIONS AND REMOTE SENSING DATA ON THE UM TAGHIR AREA, EASTERN DESERT, EGYPT

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**ABSTRACT.** The current study presents the integration between field observations and remotely sensed data for detection and extraction of geological structural features using Sentinel-2A and Aster DEM images. The area under investigation is represented by the Neoproterozoic East African Orogeny encompassing a part of the Arabian Nubian Shield. All the rock units studied belong to the Late Cryogenian-Ediacaran periods that are divided into two large terrains (continental arc terrain and oceanic arc terrain). The metagabbro and metavolcaniclastic rocks make up the oceanic terrain, while the gabbro, tonalite, granodiorite, dokhan volcanic, monzogranite and alkali feldspar granite comprise continental arc terrain. The Sentinel-2A remote sensing and ASTER DEM data have meaningful application in respect of geological interpretation. Lineament analysis is one of the most useful tools in geological mapping and mineral exploration. Several methods of processing and extracting lithological information and lineaments were applied to the Sentinel-2A and ASTER DEM data covering the present study. The methods include various image enhancements (FCC, MNF and PCA) and the application of directional filters (Sobel). The study results show that the area was subjected to stresses of various directions (WNW – ESE, NW-SE, NE-SW, N-S, NNE – SSW, and E-W). There occurred some important structure-related and mineralization events like migmatization (in granodiorites) and bearing mineralization (in gabbro), which are associated with major elements of evidence-based structural control of the area and with the proximity of the Quena Safaga shear zone-related mineralization.

**KEYWORDS:** ASTER DEM; lineaments extraction; Sentinel-2A; Um Taghir; Egypt

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## ГЕОЛОГИЧЕСКИЕ ПРИЗНАКИ, ВЫЯВЛЕННЫЕ ПО ДАННЫМ ПОЛЕВЫХ НАБЛЮДЕНИЙ И ДИСТАНЦИОННОГО ЗОНДИРОВАНИЯ В РАЙОНЕ УМ ТАГИР, ВОСТОЧНАЯ ПУСТЫНЯ, ЕГИПЕТ

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**АННОТАЦИЯ.** Темой исследования является интеграция данных полевых наблюдений и дистанционного зондирования с целью обнаружения и извлечения геолого-структурных признаков с помощью спутниковых снимков Sentinel-2A и цифровой модели рельефа ASTER DEM. Исследуемый район представляет собой неопротерозойскую восточно-африканскую орогению, охватывающую часть Нубийско-Аравийского щита. Изучаемые толщи пород относятся к позднему криогению – эдиакарию и образуют два террейна (континентальный дуговой террейн и океанический дуговой террейн). Океанический террейн сложен метагаббро и метавулканокластическими породами, а габбро, тоналиты, гранодиориты, доханские вулканиты, монцониты и щелочные полевошпатовые граниты слагают континентальный дуговой террейн. Данные со спутника Sentinel-2A, а также данные ASTER DEM используются для геологической интерпретации. Линеаментный анализ является одним из наиболее полезных инструментов геологического картирования и разведки полезных ископаемых. В рамках исследования были использованы методы для обработки данных Sentinel-2A и ASTER DEM, извлечения литологической информации из снимков и проведения линеаментного анализа снимков. Это различные методы увеличения изображения (FCC, MNF и PCA) и применения направленных фильтров (Sobel). Результаты исследования указывают на то, что в данной области имели место напряжения различной направленности (ЗСЗ – ВЮВ, СЗ-ЮВ, СВ-ЮЗ, С-Ю, ССВ – ЮЮЗ и В-З). Образовалось несколько крупных сопутствующих структур и произошло несколько событий в процессе минерализации, таких как мигматизация (в гранодиоритах) и минерализация по простиранию (в габбро), обусловленных главными элементами научно обоснованного структурного контроля территории и близостью нахождения минерализованной зоны сдвига Кена-Сафага.

**КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА:** ASTER DEM; извлечение линеаментов; Sentinel-2A; Ум Тагир; Египет

**ФИНАНСИРОВАНИЕ:** Работа выполнена в рамках Программы сотрудничества между Египтом и Российской Федерацией.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Um Taghir area is one of the Neoproterozoic components of the North Arabian–Nubian Shield that was constrained to the East African Orogen (EAO) during the consolidation of Gondwana through the accretion of plateaus [Stern, 1994; Kröner et al., 1994; Abdelsalam, Stern, 1996]. A detailed description is provided about three key orogenies that eventually shaped the formation of Greater Gondwana. The EAO resulted from the collision of the Arabian – Nubian Shield (ANS) and amalgamated arc terrains with the Sahara and Congo–Tanzania cratons to the west, as well as with Amazonia and Afif terrains to the east, which gave rise to the formation of major continental blocks between the Congo–Tanzania – Bangwenla Craton and the Indian Shield [Collins, Pisarevsky, 2005]. The ANS is about 3500 km in length and about 1500 km in width, thereby representing the world’s biggest span of mantle-derived, juvenile Neoproterozoic crust, whereas the EAO is just around  $2.7 \times 10^6$  km<sup>2</sup> [Johnson et al., 2011]. The studied area belongs to the rock units cropping out in the far north-western section of the ANS and is assigned the late Cryogenian-Ediacaran age (690–600 Ma) [Johnson et al., 2011]. In the northern part of the ANS, there occur the protoliths that are assigned the

middle-late Cryogenian age (780–680 Ma). In this study, the field research was conducted in the area that is influenced by the Qena-Safaga Shear zone, the Egypt’s largest fault shear zone in the central Eastern Desert [El-Gaby et al., 1988]. This shear zone has caused the formation of both metamorphic and non-metamorphic magmatic rocks in the study area, thereby dividing the studied rock units into two major terrains – oceanic magmatic arc terrain (metavolcaniclastic sequences and metagabbro) and continental magmatic arc terrains (metavolcaniclastic sequences and metagabbro) (late-to-post-orogenic magmatism). The low-grade metamorphic rocks of the oceanic terrains along the Qena-Safaga Shear Zone represent a part of the old upper crust, that thrusts over the young lower crust composed of high-grade metamorphic rocks (gneisses and migmatites) [El-Leil et al., 2015]. Undoubtedly, the remote sensing data application has brought new opportunities for the lithological identification and structural mapping. Several spatial and spectral resolutions of remote sensing data provide global coverage of the Earth’s surface [Soulaimani et al., 2014; Dos Reis Salles et al., 2017]. This can provide detailed information on surface features at different levels. The most important features of the surface are the linear

features and the rock units [Pirasteh et al., 2013]. The study of the concept of lineament extraction from digital satellite images has been aimed at conducting structural and tectonic analysis [Madani, 2001; Sedrette, Rebai, 2016; Si Mhamdi et al., 2017] and mineral exploration [Mars, Rowan, 2006; Farahbakhsh et al., 2018].

In general, there are distinguished two types of linear features man-made/artificial (e.g. roads, railroads, etc.) and natural ones (e.g. geological lineaments, drainage networks, etc.). These features are easily detected/detectable by remote sensing data processing techniques. Determining linear features in remote sensing images can be complicated because their spatial and spectral characteristics vary across the extensions [Wang, Howarth, 1993]. There are several techniques to derive some linear features from digital satellite data for various applications, particularly for the road network determination [Valero et al., 2010]. Lineament identification and extraction in remote sensing can be carried out through two approaches including manual extraction, which mainly depends on visual interpretation and general knowledge of an interpreter [Ramli et al., 2010], and automatic lineament extraction using computer software and algorithms [Morris, 1991; Prasad et al., 2013]. Several studies have been carried out to extract lineaments automatically using computer algorithms. Many researchers used LINE module of PCI Geomatica [Kocal et al., 2004; Adiri et al., 2017; Javhar et al., 2019].

Analysis and interpretation of the aeromagnetic and remote sensing data allowed mapping the subsurface and surface extension of geologic structures [Abuelnaga et al., 2019; Eldosouky, 2019; Sehsah, Eldosouky, 2020; Eldosouky, Saada, 2020; Pham et al., 2020, 2021; Eldosouky, Mohamed, 2021].

The remote sensing helped several researchers to carry out geological mapping and Earth exploration [Sulaksana, Helman, 2014; Abdullah et al., 2013; Papadaki et al., 2011]. The structural geology features, and economic and environmental-geologic behavior were detected based on the fault as one of the most important geologic structures in the fieldwork study [Colwell et al., 1983; Drury, 1987].

In the last decade, the use of remote sensing applications in lithological and structural mapping was more effective. Based on the previous studies and pre-drawn geological maps, as well as on the Enhanced Thematic Mapper Plus (ETM+), ASTER DEM and Sentinel-2A, the remote sensing data are used to make an initial geological interpretation. Sentinel-2A is the most advanced satellite with data freely available for long range and high frequency remote sensing applications. Sentinel-2A data is one of the effective tools for remote sensing applications [Mandanici, Bitelli, 2016]. The Sentinel-2A remote sensing data provides more detail on the NIR and SWIR ranges, which can be applied successfully in different contexts including geological mapping, agriculture monitoring, and natural disaster management. The Sentinel-2A data is being used for applications like-rock study, structural mapping, and mineral exploration [Van der Meer et al., 2014; El Kati et al., 2018; Li et al., 2018]. Some authors have conducted many

studies on structural lineament length and density [Casas et al., 2000; Koike et al., 1995; Ni et al., 2016; Liu et al., 2021]. These studies applied advanced technology and computer programs to compute and analyze the length and density data. The Sentinel-2A data processing analysis involves the relationship between spectral absorption/emission and mineralogical compositions of rock units to characterize the rocks under investigation. Here we present the preliminary results of the study aimed to apply the Sentinel-A2 remote sensing and ASTER DEM data to identify structural features and to construct a new geological map of the study area. The Um Taghir area is located west of Safaga City at the extreme northern boundary of the Central Eastern Desert of Egypt (Fig. 1). Its area is about 900 km<sup>2</sup>, between longitudes 33°35'00" and 33°50'00" and latitudes 26°35'00" and 26°49'00".

## 2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

This study was based on the data set of Sentinel-2A remote sensing and ASTER DEM data. We aimed to discriminate between lithological units and structural lineaments and collect field evidence related.

There have been several data sources and materials used in this work. The remote sensing dataset collected includes the Sentinel-2A and ASTER DEM data used for lithological identification and structural lineament extraction with field validation. Based on ASTER DEM, the study area is characterized by low to relatively high topography reliefs varying from 599 to 1032 m above the sea level (Fig. 2, a), as well as it is displayed on the previous geologic map (Basement rock of Safajah Quadrangle map 1:100000 of the Egyptian Geological Surveying and Mining Authority [Boulos et al., 1987] (Fig. 2, b).

The extraction of lineaments includes several steps: 1) pre-processing of remote sensing data (correction) using specific software programs (Envi 5.1, Erdas 2014 and QGIS), 2) processing of remote sensing data by PCI Geomatica 16 software to extract the lineament features from the raster data (Sentinel-2A and ASTER DEM data). A new layer must be corrected by removing and filtering irrelevant structures with knowledge-based ArcGIS v10.2.2 software. After that, the resultant structural lineaments were subjected to geometric calculation to obtain polyline angles using Rockworks 17 software to create a rose diagram. The rose diagram shows lineament directions. There have been produced structural lineament density maps.

Sentinel-2A Multi-Spectral Instrument (MSI) is the result of cooperation between the European Space Agency (ESA) and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). It is a part of a larger set of ESA missions focusing on different aspects of the Earth observation. The first Sentinel-2A satellite was launched on June 23, 2015 at 01:52 UTC on a Vega launch vehicle. It has an orbital swath width of 290 km, ID, S2A\_MSIL1C\_20180824T081601\_N0206\_R121\_T36RWQ\_20180824T103944.SAFE, and a sun-synchronous polar orbit with a 10-day cycle. The Sentinel-2 satellite pair has an altitude of 786 km and provides the 5-day repeat coverage. The Sentinel-2A multi-Spectral Instrument (MSI)



Fig. 1. Sentinel-2A (4, 2 and 1) image showing the location of the study area.

Рис. 1. Снимок изучаемой территории со спутника Sentinel-2A (4, 2 и 1).

Table 1. Sentinel-2A bands

Таблица 1. Полосы захвата Sentinel-2A

Sentinel-2A bands	Central wavelength (nm)	Bandwidth (nm)	Spatial resolution (m)
Band 1 - Coastal aerosol	442.7	21	60
Band 2 - Blue	492.4	66	10
Band 3 - Green	559.8	36	10
Band 4 - Red	664.6	31	10
Band 5 - Vegetation red edge	704.1	15	20
Band 6 - Vegetation red edge	740.5	15	20
Band 7 - Vegetation red edge	782.8	20	20
Band 8 - NIR	832.8	106	10
Band 8A - Narrow NIR	864.7	21	20
Band 9 - Water vapour	945.1	20	60
Band 10 - SWIR - Cirrus	1373.5	31	60
Band 11 - SWIR	1613.7	91	20
Band 12 - SWIR	2202.4	175	20



The Sentinel-2A satellite remote sensing data was used herein to detect and identify the lithological units and lineament extraction features (faults, joints, and dikes) distributed throughout the study area.

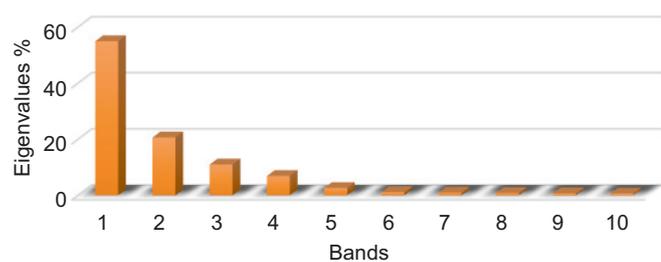
The Minimum Noise Fraction (MNF), the False Color Composite (FCC), the Principal Components Analysis (PCA) and the Color Ratio Composite (CRC) enhancement techniques have been applied to Sentinel-2A images for their differentiation and contrast theme channel.

Two MNF (3, 2, 1) and (3, 4, 2) in the RGB images were selected to detect different rock units and linear features in the study area. The FCC (12, 8, 2) in the RGB was the most appropriate alternative to provide the ability to distinguish between different rocks, representing a larger number of different lineament features overdetermined in the study area. PCA from bands (5, 1, 2) and (4, 1, 5) were chosen to enhance lithological features and compared to band ratio combinations (2/7, 5/10, 8/2) and (3/7, 5/9, 6/10) to extract the lineament easily.

**Table 2.** Parameters used as input values for the automated feature extraction algorithm

**Таблица 2.** Параметры, используемые в качестве входных значений для алгоритма автоматического извлечения признаков

Name	Description	Values
RADI	Radius of filter in pixels	10
GTHR	Threshold for edge gradient 90	110
LTHR	Threshold for curve length 30	30
FTHR	Threshold for line fitting error	12
ATHR	Threshold for angular difference	30
DTHR	Threshold for linking distance 20	20



**Fig. 3.** Histogram shows Eigenvalues % of Sentinel-2A of the study area.

**Рис. 3.** Гистограмма собственных значений % Sentinel-2A изучаемой территории.

**Table 3.** Eigenvectors and eigenvalues (%) for the Sentinel-2A images of the study area

**Таблица 3.** Собственные векторы и собственные значения (%) для анализа изображений изучаемой территории со спутника Sentinel-2A

Bands	B2	B3	B4	B5	B7	B7	B8a	B8	B11	B12	Total
Eigenvector	139.47	52.33	27.82	17.51	6.52	2.78	2.36	1.98	1.75	1.48	254.03
Eigenvalues %	54.90	20.60	10.95	6.89	2.56	1.09	0.93	0.78	0.69	0.58	100 %

The minimum noise fraction (MNF) technique is applied to the remote sensing raw data to segregate noise in the data, and to shorten the set of subsequent computational requirements [Boardman et al., 1995]. Ten bands of Sentinel-2A data (Visible (2-3-4), VRE (5-6-7), NIR (8a-8) and SWIR (11-12)) were used in the minimum noise fraction techniques because they contain timely information to detect lithology of the rocks studied. The outcome results of the application of MNF on Sentinel-2A data showed an inverse relationship between the eigenvalues and noise (Table 3; Fig 3). MNF (3,2,1) was chosen as best because of its high-rate eigenvalues and less noise, and the ability to discriminate between the lithological units and detect the lineament features in these MNF combinations.

### 3. GEOLOGIC SETTING

The investigated rock units originate from the EAOs Late Cryogenian-Ediacaran magmatism as they are represented by the Island Arc assemblage (Oceanic crust terrain) and late-to-post-amalgamation (Continental crust terrain) [Johnson et al., 2011]. The metavolcaniclastic sequence and metagabbro of the island arc assemblage form the oceanic terrain, whereas the various magmatic rocks, such as gabbro, tonalite-granodiorite, dokhan volcanic, monzogranite, alkali feldspar granites and dikes represent the continental crust terrain as seen in Table 4 and Fig. 4 and Fig. 5.

### 4. REMOTE SENSING DATA ANALYSIS

Currently, the remotely sensed data is one of the most effective tools for geological mapping. The analysis of Sentinel-2A remotely sensed data can serve a basis for an easy and accurate identification of; lithological units and their boundaries in a study area.

#### 4.1. Minimum Noise Fraction

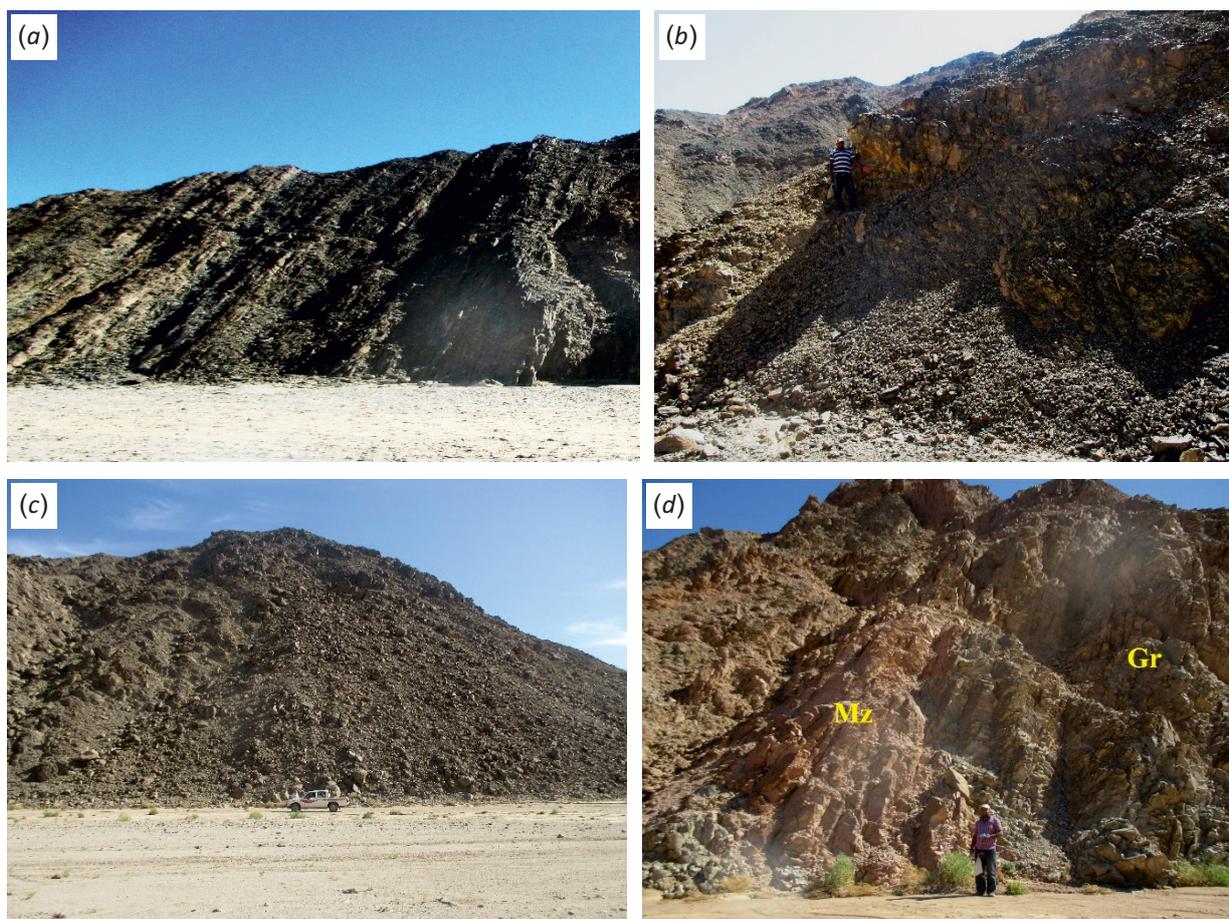
The proposed Sentinel-2A MNF images (3, 2, 1) and (3, 4, 2) in the RGB are the best MNF false-color combinations used for geological discrimination of the study area.

The older rock unit (metavolcanoclastic) in the study area has a reddish blue color, while the metagabbro is characterized by a blue color. On the other hand, the gabbroic rock is shown having light blue color, and dokhan volcanic is characterized by a cyan color (Fig. 6). The granitoid rocks are differentiated into four types: tonalite (light pink), granodiorite (yellowish-brown), monzogranite (dark red) and alkali feldspars (red color). The basic dikes and the leucocratic granitic dikes have violet and pale pink colors, respectively, while wadi deposits appear to be green.

**Table 4.** Geochronology of the basement rocks in the study area

**Таблица 4.** Геохронология пород фундамента в пределах изучаемой территории

Late Cryogenian-Ediacaran magmatism	Orogenic setting					Rock units	Age (Ma)	Reference (Age)
	East African orogen EAO	Late-post amalgamation	Late to post-orogenic	Continental crust assemblage	Late to post-orogenic	Dikes	650–542	[Johnson et al., 2011]
Arc amalgamation	Early orogenic	Oceanic crust	Island arc assemblage	Alkali-feldspar granite				
				Monzogranite				
				Dokhanvolcanic				
					Tonalite- granodiorite	>650		
				Gabbro				
					Metagabbro metavolcanoclastic			



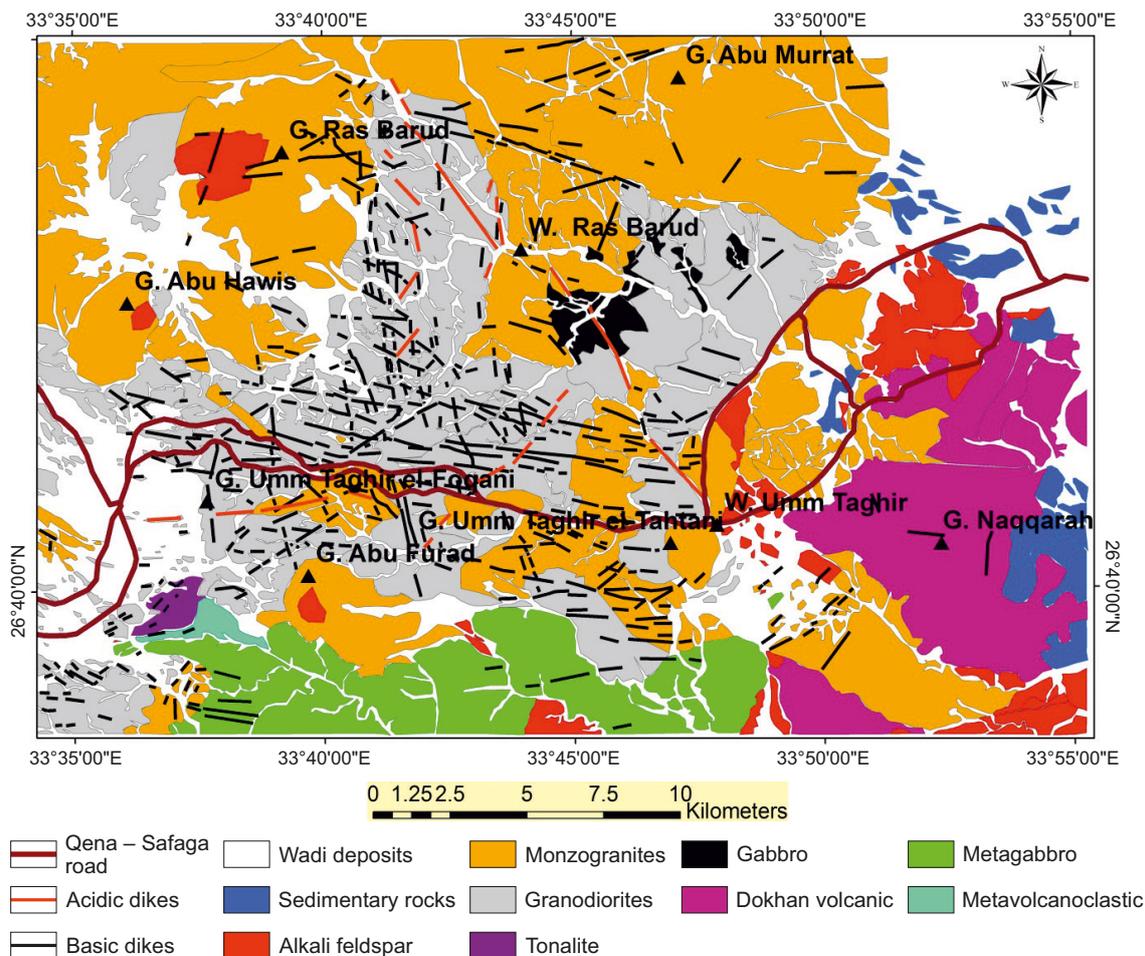
**Fig. 4.** Field photographs of schist (a), metagabbro (b), low hill of gabbro (c) and granodiorite (Gr) intruded by monzogranite (Mz) (d).  
**Рис. 4.** Фотографии сланцев (a), метагаббро (b), низкогогорья, сложенного породами габбрового состава (c) и гранодиоритов (Gr), интродированных монцогранитами (Mz) (d), сделанные в полевых условиях.

Another best MNF composite image is (3, 4, 2) in the RGB (Fig. 7), with the lithological units easily discriminated. The metavolcanoclastic and metagabbro rocks are characterized by clearly defined brownish-green and green colors. The granitic rocks are differentiated into granodiorite (dark pink), monzogranite (yellowish green) and alkali granite (green color), whereas tonalite rock as well as the MNF (3, 4, 2) failed to be identified as tonalite rock. The gabbroic rock exhibits a light green color, while the dokhan volcanic is

distinguishable by violet color. On the other hand, wadi deposits are characterized by a cyan color.

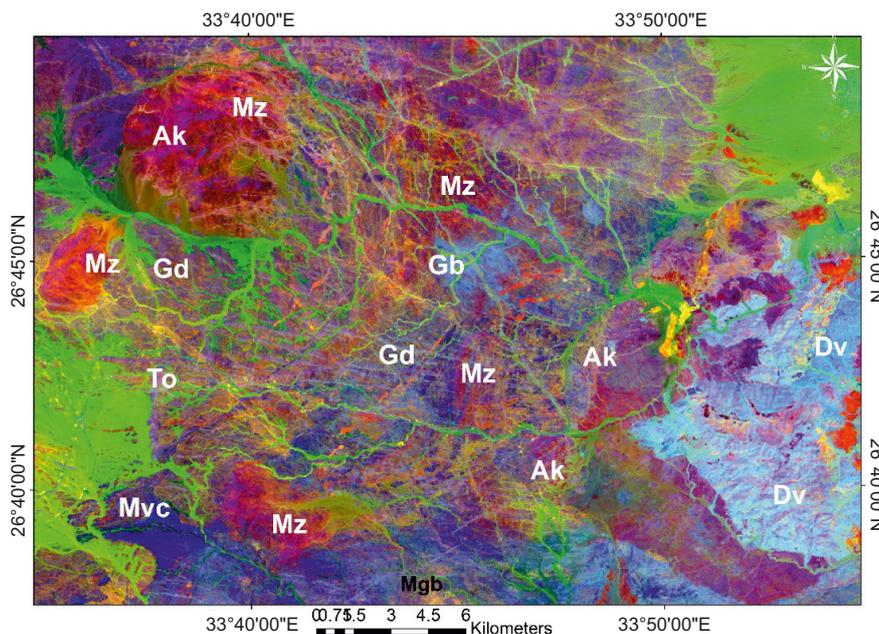
**4.2. False Color Composite (FCC)**

The False-color composite representation of the Sentinel-2A images shows differentiation between the rock units. In addition, it is used to detect the lineament features that are marked by contrast differences. The boundaries between geological units in the present study are better defined on



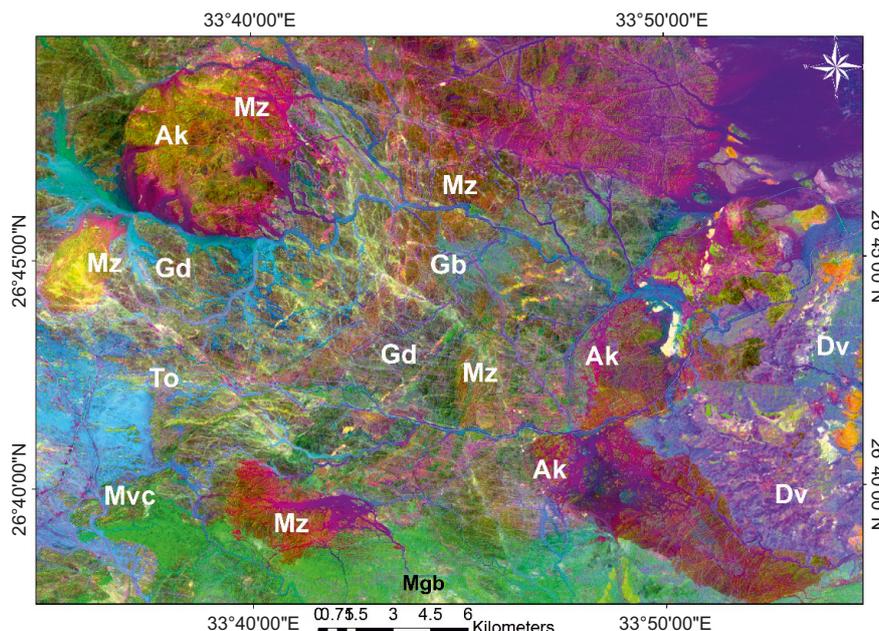
**Fig. 5.** Simplified geological map of the Um Taghir area, based on the data obtained by the integration of the remotely sensed data processing and field observations [Awad et al., 2022].

**Рис. 5.** Упрощенная геологическая карта района Ум Тагир, составленная на основе интеграции данных дистанционного зондирования и полевых наблюдений [Awad et al., 2022].

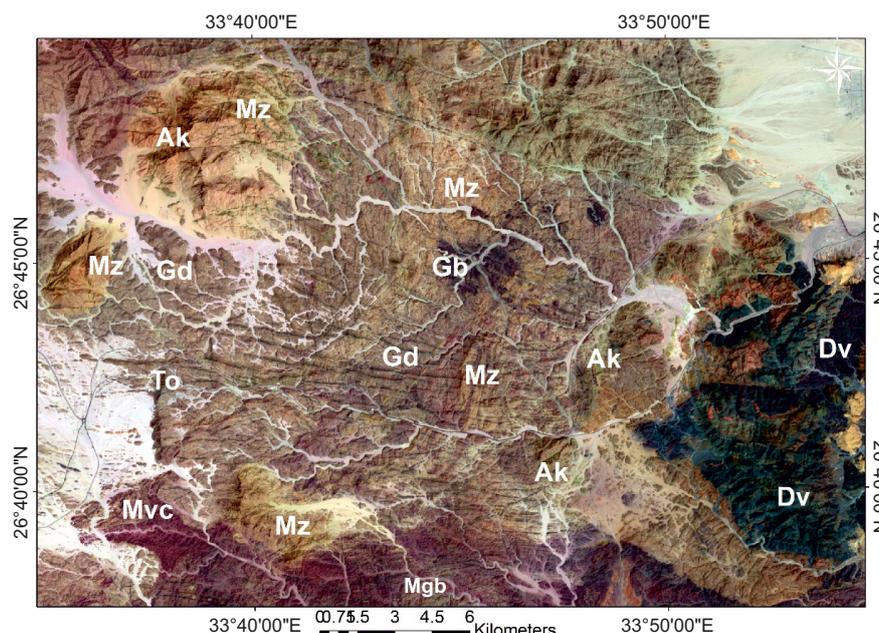


**Fig. 6.** Minimum noise fraction (3, 2, 1) of Sentinel-2A image of Um Taghir area.

**Рис. 6.** Минимальная доля шума (3, 2, 1) на изображении района Ум Тагир со спутника Sentinel-2A.



**Fig. 7.** Minimum noise fraction (3, 4, 2) of Sentinel-2A image of Um Taghir area.  
**Рис. 7.** Минимальная доля шума (3, 4, 2) на изображении района Ум Тагир со спутника Sentinel-2A.



**Fig. 8.** FCC-derived image (12, 8, 2) of the Um Taghir area.  
**Рис. 8.** Снимок района Ум Тагир в режиме FCC (12, 8, 2).

the false color composite image (12, 8, 2) which was used as a complement for geological mapping. These combinations attempted to select the best color composite image to extract meaningful information about visual lithological discrimination between the rock units studied (Fig. 8).

**4.3. Principal Component Analysis (PCI)**

The principal components analysis (PCA) is one of the most important image enhancement techniques, which separates noise components from the original data as well

as reduces their dimensionality [Singh, Harrison, 1985]. Moreover, the PCA transformation identifies lithologic units more effectively than the other image enhancement techniques [Liu et al., 2014; Nair, Mathew, 2012; Amer et al., 2010].

According to the PCA’s eigenvectors and eigenvalues statistics, the first principal component (PCA1) has high weighting compared to the other (PCA) bands. PCA1 accounts for 96.71 % of the data’s total variance as seen above (see Table 1). The second PCA is PCA2, with a variance of

about 2.27 % (Table 5). Based on eigenvector loadings for bands, the best PCA sections used in this study are PCA 2, PCA 1 and PCA 6 in (RGB). From the image interpretation, all granitic rocks in the study have relatively high reflectance in bands 1 and 2, and low reflectance in band 6, as well as metagabbro and metavolcanoclastic rocks have high reflectance in band 2 and low reflectance in bands 1 and 6. On the other hand, the gabbro and dokhan volcanic rocks are characterized by high reflectance in band 6 and low reflectance in bands 1 and 2. So, these PCA combinations are excellent at differentiating between different lithological units in the current study area.

The metagabbro and metavolcanoclastic rocks have violet color. The gabbro and dokhan volcanic rocks are characterized by blue color. Monzogranite shows reddish-gold, while Alkali granite exhibits bluish gold. The oldest granites are differentiated into two types, tonalite of brown color and granodiorite of gold color. Wadi deposits are shown in green, and the dikes have dark blue color (Fig. 9, a).

Another Sentinel-2A composite color of PCA bands (5, 1, 4) is found in RGB (Fig. 9, b). Based on this PCA composite image, the differentiation between lithological units have become clearer than that of the above PCA (2, 1, 6). Eigenvectors and eigenvalues of PCA (5, 1, 4) are high, so that all rock units in the study area can be easily detected and recognized. The metavolcanoclastic and metagabbro rocks are characterized by pink and reddish violet colors, while gabbro rocks have a violet color. Dokhan volcanic rock shows dark pink. The granitic rocks are differentiated into four types: tonalite (pink), gran-odiorite (light pink), monzogranite (green to greenish pink) and alkali granite (reddish gold); moreover, this PCA composite helped us to identify alkali granites in Gable Baroud.

### 5. ANALYSIS OF LINEAMENTS

The main goal of remote sensing is to make a profound contribution to structural mapping as it provides some information on spatial distribution and surface relief of structural

Table 5. Eigenvector matrix for ten Sentinel-2A bands

Таблица 5. Матрица собственных векторов для десяти полос захвата Sentinel-2A

Input Bands	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6	Band 7	Band 8	Band 9	Band 10	Eigenvalues %
PCA 1	-0.315802	-0.316106	-0.316381	-0.316391	-0.316394	-0.316364	-0.316374	-0.316338	-0.315958	-0.31617	96.71
PCA 2	0.61172	0.44618	0.102988	0.059917	-0.044727	-0.111567	-0.061754	-0.177806	-0.519084	-0.30529	2.27
PCA 3	-0.357035	-0.13571	0.126292	0.198142	0.241493	0.334396	0.253667	0.291249	-0.366527	-0.58758	0.51
PCA 4	0.220373	-0.120372	-0.562733	0.223836	0.283103	0.277767	-0.57613	0.271417	-0.06823	0.051231	0.23
PCA 5	0.285087	-0.152581	-0.366344	-0.582909	0.040323	-0.002112	0.492972	0.361404	-0.184973	0.109423	0.14
PCA 6	0.192429	0.129673	-0.109906	-0.191806	-0.0334	-0.037976	-0.048833	0.094351	0.667812	-0.66142	0.055
PCA 7	0.227831	-0.409135	-0.146205	0.175801	0.502104	-0.059293	0.297534	-0.607927	-0.075507	0.09483	0.024
PCA 8	-0.047884	0.12719	-0.512984	0.577551	-0.446707	-0.152095	0.39818	0.036849	0.041829	-0.02186	0.019
PCA 9	0.277464	-0.51754	0.310655	0.256333	-0.055267	-0.548341	-0.085647	0.423075	-0.00744	-0.05326	0.014
PCA 10	-0.31708	0.420215	-0.171339	-0.013925	0.549525	-0.608045	0.002218	0.142759	-0.027172	0.022571	0.001

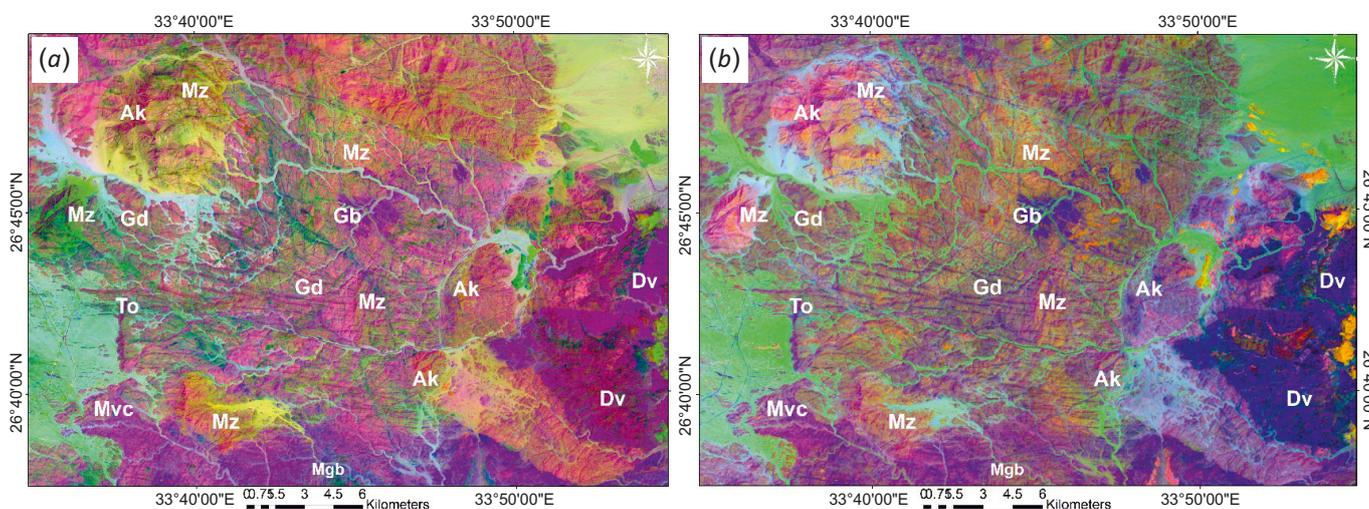


Fig. 9. Principal components analysis (a) – (2, 1, 6) in RGB; (b) – (5, 1, 4) in RGB of Sentinel-2A image of Um Taghir area.

Рис. 9. Анализ главных компонент изображения района Ум Тагир со спутника Sentinel-2A: (a) – (2, 1, 6) в RGB; (b) – (5, 1, 4) в RGB.

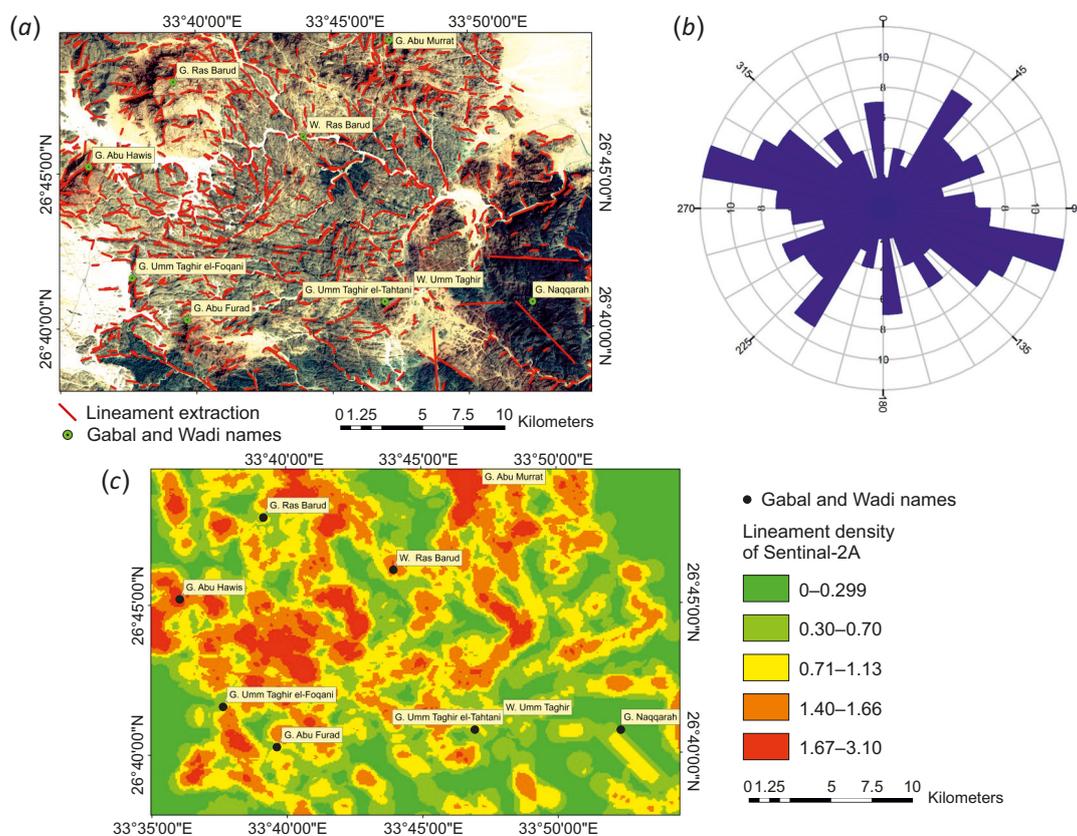
elements. The high-resolution Sentinel-2A data (10 m with scale 1:40000) and Aster DEM (30 m with scale 1:100000) were used to detect the various linear features in Um Taghir area. The automatic lineaments extraction from Sentinel-2A and ASTER DEM of the study area was carried out with in the new PCI Geomatica package parameters proposed. The number and length of lineaments of each ASTER DEM are calculated and tabulated from each band in each data type after correction, as given in (Table 6). The lineament features are interpreted as the result of the fieldwork and analysis of the Satellite images. The structure features include compressional and extensional forces resulting in thrusting, schistosity and folding, and lineament identification such as faults, joints, and dikes. The Sentinel-2A image used in the present paper consists of 13 bands with different spatial resolutions. High spatial resolution is 10 m, while low spatial resolution is 60 m. So, the lineaments were automatically extracted from high spatial resolution bands. In this study, a false color composite of bands 432 in the RGB with a high spatial resolution of 10 m was chosen to be used in lineament extraction, because band 4-3-2 with a spatial resolution of 10 m allows extracting much larger number of features (Fig. 10, a). Sobel edge detector was applied to FCC Sentinel-2A. The results of lineament extraction are based on of FCC FCC 432 Sentinel-2A image. The total lineament number and length of the Um Taghir area

are 1067 and 577.02 km, respectively. Rose diagram shows that these lineaments' major trend has two directions, WNW – ESE and NE-SW, followed by those oriented NW-SE, N-S and E-W (Fig. 10, b). A lineaments density map was generated to highlight areas with the prevalence of structures. Thus, red represents areas with the highest prevalence, while green represents areas with the lowest prevalence

**Table 6.** Summarized numbers and lengths of lineaments extracted from each ASTER DEM in the Um Taghir area

**Таблица 6.** Суммарные количества и суммарные длины ли-неаментов, извлеченных из каждой ЦМР ASTER DEM района Ум Тагир

Sentinel-2A		Target	Number	Length (km)
		FCC 4-3-2	1067	577.02
Azimuth angles	1	0°	224	342.09
	2	45°	216	384.81
	3	90°	187	339.57
	4	135°	289	464.59
	5	180°	349	536.35
	6	225°	375	560.85
	7	270°	326	480.97
	8	315°	328	479.17
1	Faults		43	126.01
2	Dikes		506	301.58



**Fig. 10.** Lineaments extracted by FCC432 in RGB (a), orientation of lineaments extracted from FCC Sentinel-2A image (b) and Lineament density classes and their areal extent (c).

**Рис. 10.** Линеаменты, извлеченные FCC432 в RGB (a), ориентация линеаментов, извлеченных из снимка Sentinel-2A в режиме FCC (b) и классы плотности линеаментов и их площадное распространение (c).



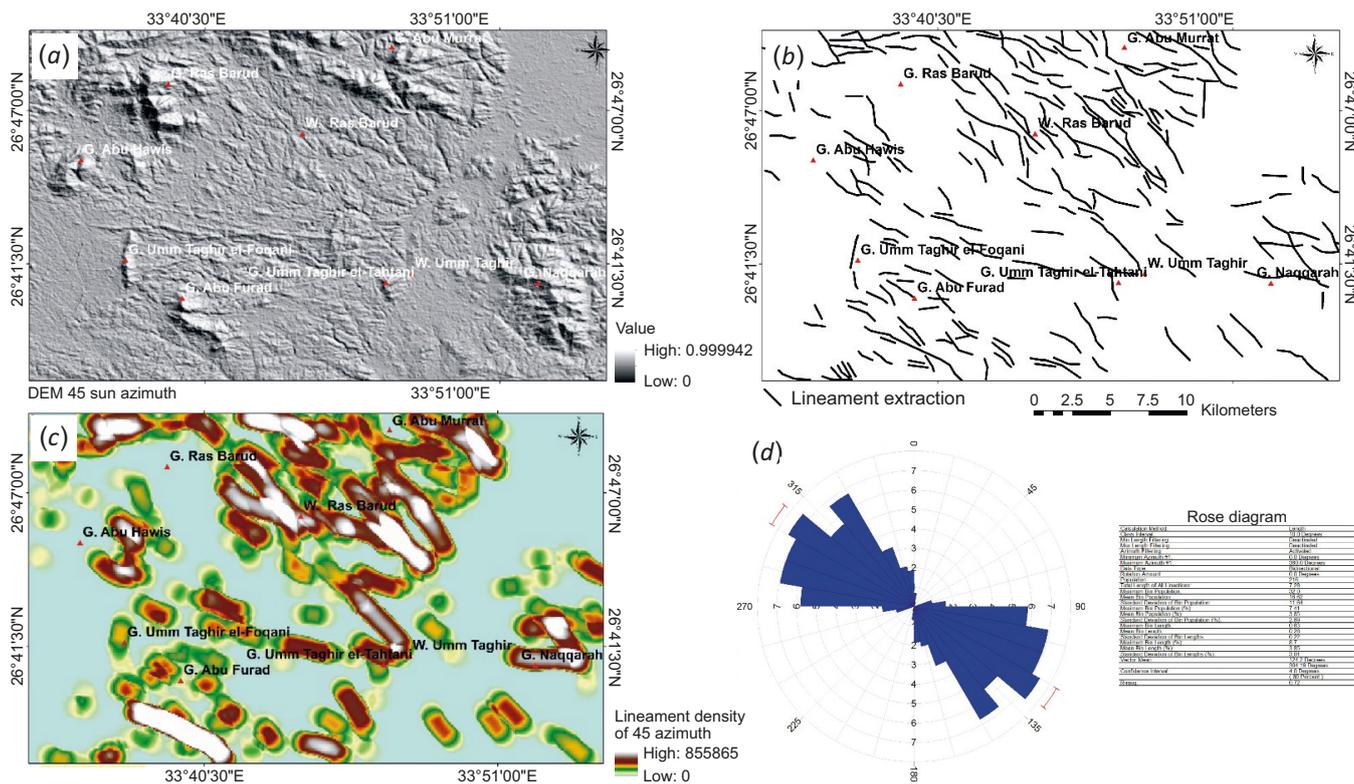


Fig. 12. 45° Azimuth angle (a), lineaments extracted by 45° Azimuth angle (b), lineament density classes and their areal extent (c) and orientation of lineaments extracted from ASTER DEM (d).

Рис. 12. Азимутальный угол 45° (a),,lineаменты, извлеченные при азимуте 45° (b), классы плотности,lineаментов и их площадное распространение (c) и ориентация,lineаментов, извлеченных с помощью использования ASTER DEM (d).

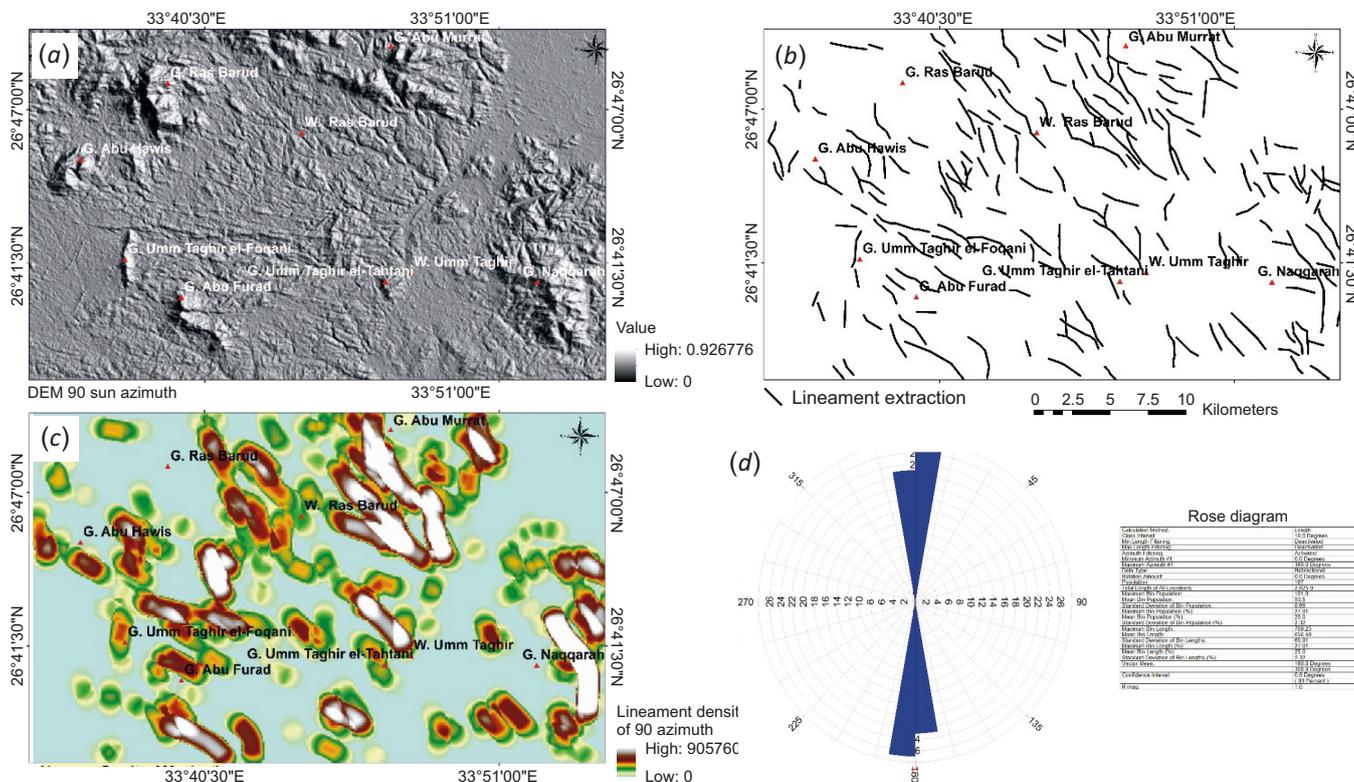


Fig. 13. 90° Azimuth angle (a), lineaments extracted by 90° Azimuth angle (b), lineament density classes and their areal extent (c) and orientations of lineaments extracted from ASTER DEM (d).

Рис. 13. Азимутальный угол 90° (a),,lineаменты, извлеченные при азимуте 90° (b), классы плотности,lineаментов и их площадное распространение (c) и ориентация,lineаментов, извлеченных с помощью использования ASTER DEM (d).



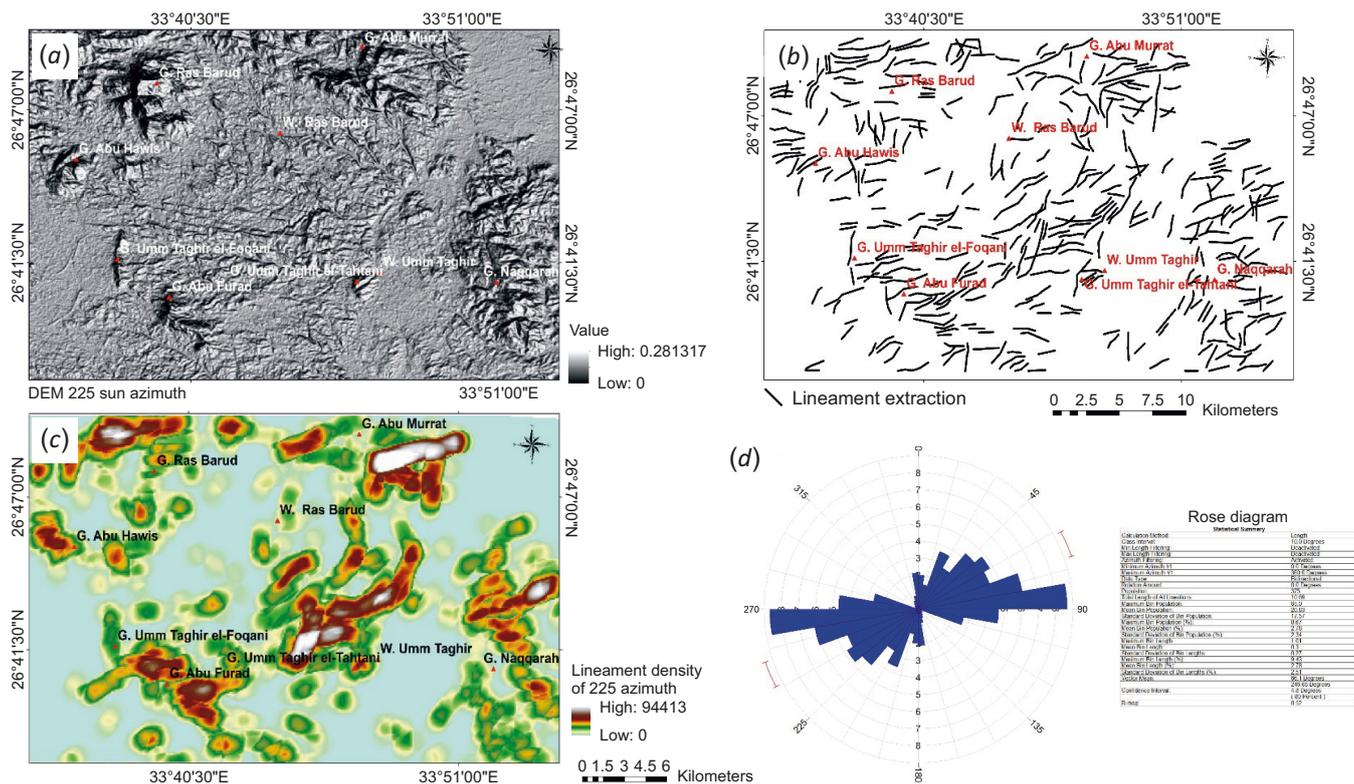


Fig. 16. 225° Azimuth angle (a), lineaments extracted by 225° Azimuth angle (b), lineament density classes and their areal extent (c) and orientations of lineaments extracted from ASTER DEM (d).

Рис. 16. Азимутальный угол 225° (a), линейменты, извлеченные при азимуте 225° (b), классы плотности линейментов и их площадное распространение (c) и ориентация линейментов, извлеченных с помощью использования ASTER DEM (d).

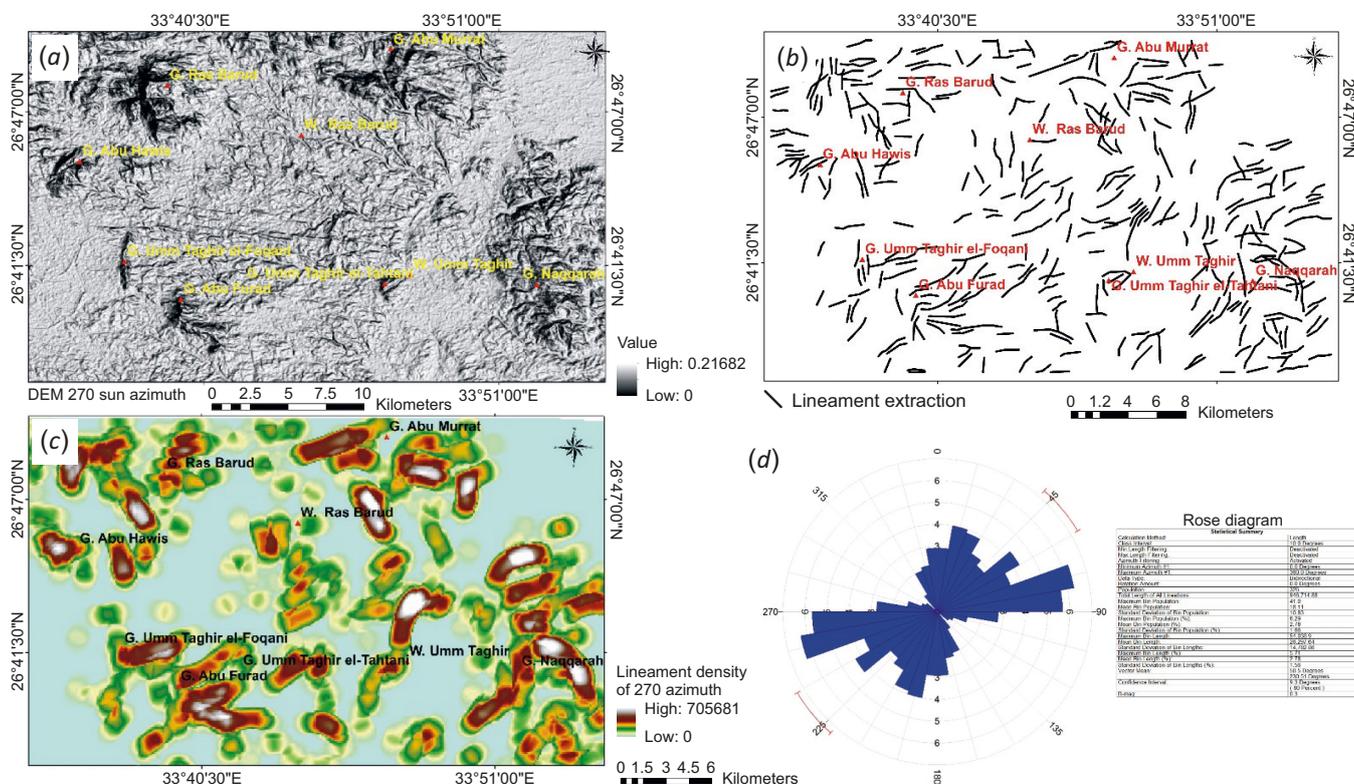


Fig. 17. 270° Azimuth angle (a), lineaments extracted by 270° Azimuth angle (b), lineament density classes and their areal extent (c) and orientations of lineaments extracted from ASTER DEM (d).

Рис. 17. Азимутальный угол 270° (a), линейменты, извлеченные при азимуте 270° (b), классы плотности линейментов и их площадное распространение (c) и ориентация линейментов, извлеченных с помощью использования ASTER DEM (d).



deformed and cataclastic rocks are found along the thrust zone. Another thrust fault in the study area is located on the northern side of Qena-Safaga road. The metavolcanoclastic rocks show pronounced schistosity with NE and NW trends and a dip varying from about 25° NE to 50° SW. There occur layering and sheeting, particularly in the metavolcanoclastic rocks (Fig. 19, b).

**Folding.** The Um Taghir synclinal fold is a major folded structure at the southern part of the study area. It was formed mostly due to elastic properties of metavolcanoclastic rock; E-W axial plane indicates that N-S compressional stress was subjected to the study area (Fig. 20, a, b).

**5.2. Tensional features**

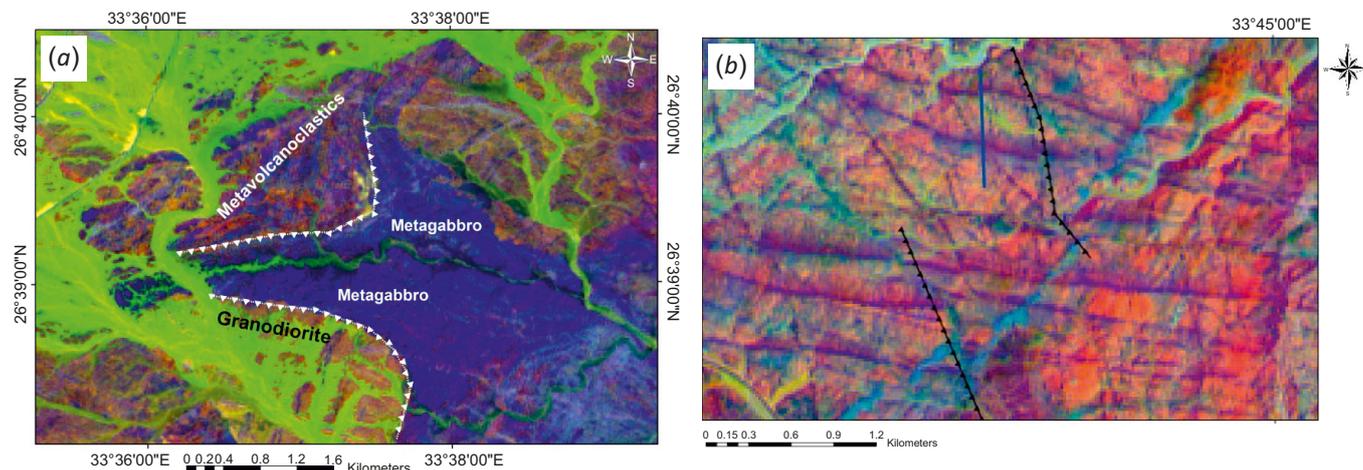
**Normal faults.** Normal faults are abundant and common in the study area. They dissect almost all the mapped rock units (Fig. 21, a); rose diagram of normal faults indicates that the predominant trends of faults in the area are NE-SW and WNW – ESE, while E-W trend is less common

(Fig. 21, b, c). A number of features such as displacement of dikes and drainage alignment observed therein occurred due to various forces affecting different rock units.

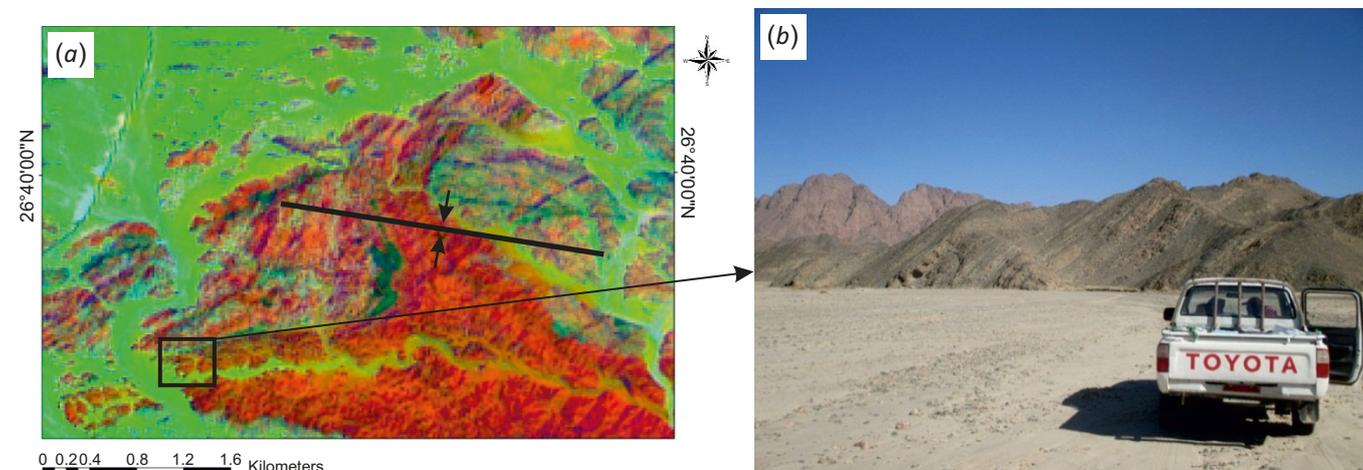
**Joints.** Joints are recorded due to tension force acting on a rock mass. Generally, they are well-defined in all the rocks investigated, mostly. Joints have NE, NNW, NW, SW and N-S trends. Granites show three sets of joints (Fig. 22, a). Exfoliation in granite and gabbro is common in the study area (Fig. 22, c, d). On the other hand, columnar joints are observed mainly in the Dokhanvolcanic porphyry at the Qena-Safaga Road. Metavolcanoclastic rock is confined to the southern part of the study area and affected by high-joint sets mainly trending NE-SW (Fig. 22, b).

**5.3. Shear structure features**

**Strike-slip movement.** Differently scaled strike-slip faults are common in the Wadi Um Taghir area. They can easily be recognized on the Sentinel-2A satellite image and observed in the field (Figs. 23, 24).



**Fig. 19.** Sentinel-2A image showing thrust faults in the study area.  
**Рис. 19.** Снимок надвиговых разломов на изучаемой территории со спутника Sentinel-2A.



**Fig. 20.** Sentinel-2A image (a) and Field photograph showing synclinal fold in Um Taghir area (b).  
**Рис. 20.** Снимок синклиальной складки в районе Ум Тагир со спутника Sentinel-2A (a) и фотография синклиальной складки в районе Ум Тагир, сделанная в полевых условиях (b).

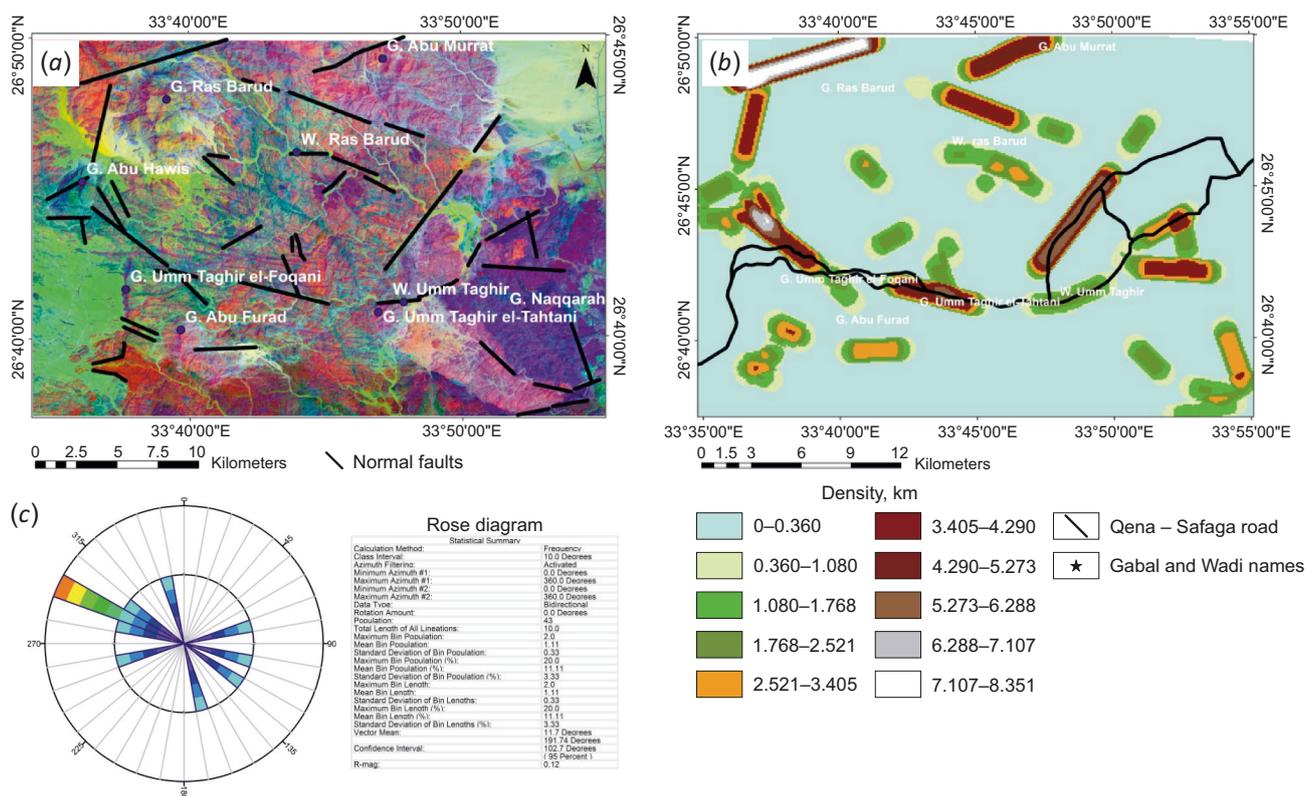


Fig. 21. Structural fault types in the study area (a), faults density classes and their areal extent (b) and rose diagram of fault types (c).

Рис. 21. Типы структурных разломов на изучаемой территории (a), классы плотности разломов и их площадное распространение (b) и роза-диаграмма типов разломов (c).

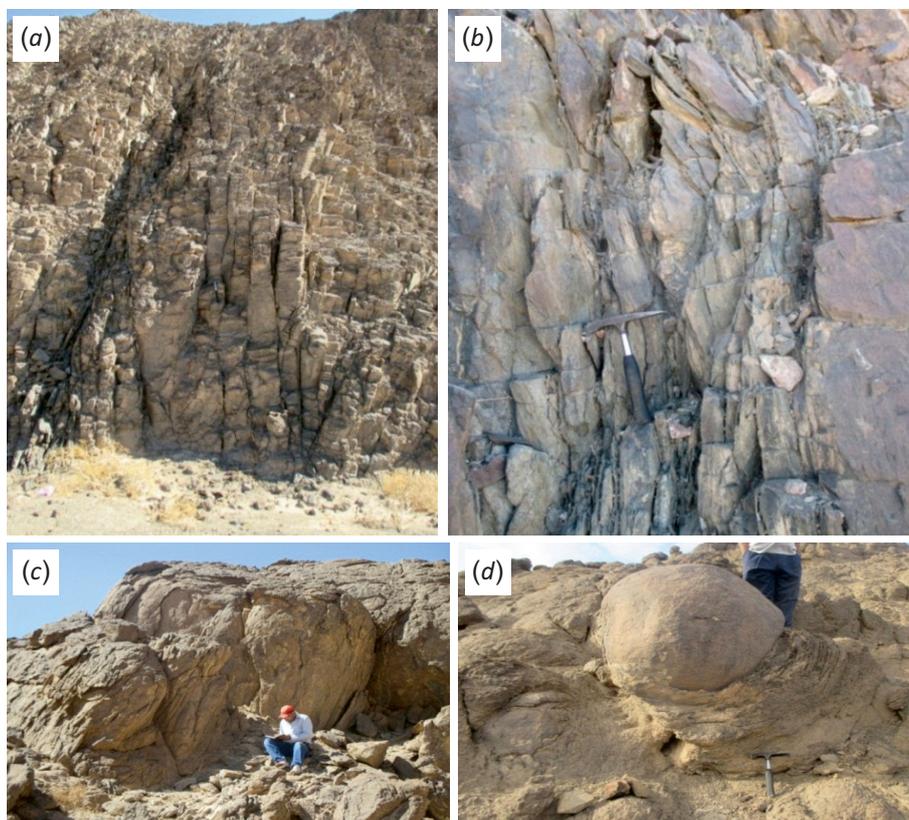


Fig. 22. Field photographs showing joint types in Um Taghir area.

Рис. 22. Фотографии типов трещин в районе Ум Тагир, сделанные в полевых условиях.

The Wadi Al Baroud area is an area of left-lateral strike-slip faults which trend WNW – ESE with about 1.6 km horizontal displacement. The northern part of the Gable Al Baroud granodiorites is displaced laterally about 1 km east (see Fig. 23, a). This movement has produced an opportunity to observe many features, such as some tilted dikes and fractured monzogranites. At the southwestern part of the study area in Gable Abu Furad metavolcanoclastic and metagabbro rocks undergo left-lateral strike-slip faulting with a lateral displacement of about 600 m and a width of about 250 m (see Fig. 23, b). The left-lateral strike-slip faults in the studied area trend NW-SE and E-W.

On the other hand, the right-lateral strike-slip faults are common and clearly defined at the Qena-Safaga road. The lateral displacement along the fault is about 2.5 km (Fig. 24, a). Another dextral strike-slip fault in the study area is located at the eastern part of the study area in Gable Nakkara. The length of the fault is about eight km based on the Sentinel-2A image and Google Earth Pro. The lateral displacement is 1.5 km towards EW (Fig. 24, b). However,

the right lateral strike-slip faults mainly trend E-W, N-S and NNE-SSW.

**5.4. Dikes and veins**

Dikes and veins of different shapes and compositions, invading the older rocks, are easily interpreted on the Landsat image by their colour, tone, contrast, linear shape, and field relationships. Dikes are widely distributed in the mapped area, particularly in the granitic rocks, and stretch in different directions (Fig. 25, a). The density map of these dikes shows that they are concentrated in the middle part of the study area (Fig. 25, b). They have different compositions and thicknesses, and are more resistant than country rocks. Based on the study area’s dikes’ rose diagram, the predominant trends are WNW – ESE and NW-SE, with minor trends directed E-W and N-S (Fig. 25, c). Dikes range in thickness from 30 cm to about 15 m and extend about 10 km. They comprise basic, intermediate, and acidic sets represented by basalts, andesites, and granites (Fig. 25, d). It has been noted that some of these dikes are tilted, which is

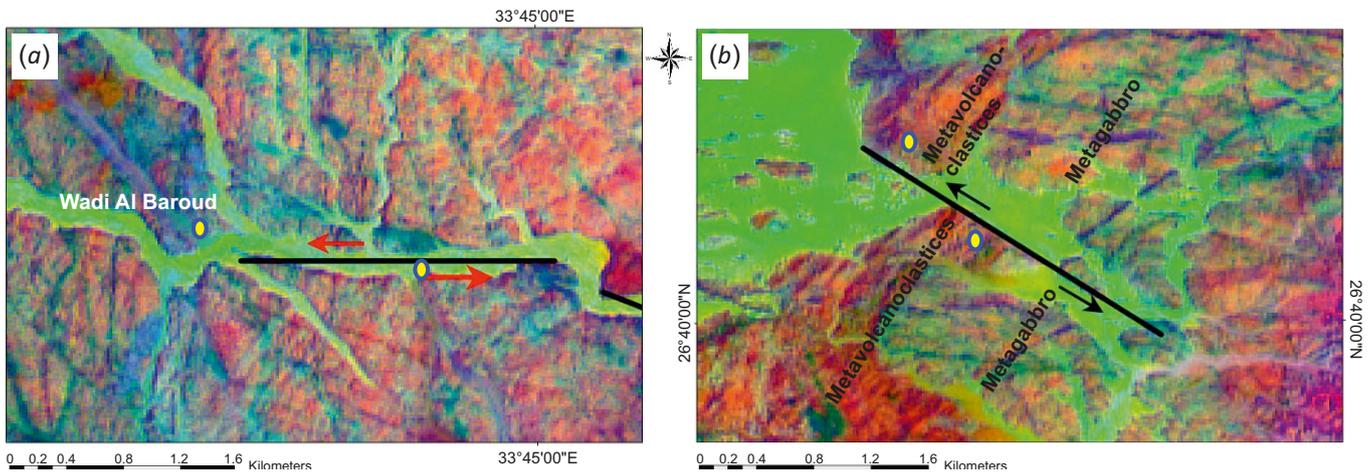


Fig. 23. Sentinel-2A image showing left-lateral strike-slip faults in the study area.

Рис. 23. Снимок левосторонних сдвиго-сбросов на изучаемой территории со спутника Sentinel-2A.

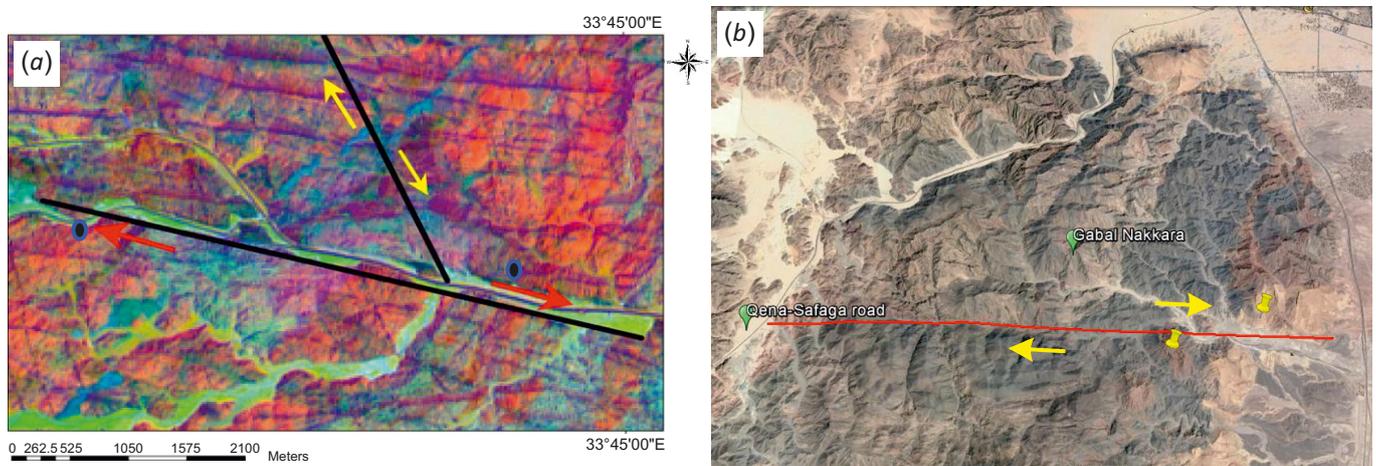


Fig. 24. Sentinel-2A image showing right-lateral strike-slip faults in the study area.

Рис. 24. Снимок правосторонних сдвиго-сбросов на изучаемой территории со спутника Sentinel-2A.



probably due to the EW strike-slip movement affected the alkali feldspar granite of Abu Hawies, Al Baroud and Um Taghir (Fig. 26).

## 6. CONCLUSION

The Um Taghir area is confined to the extreme northern boundary of the central Eastern Desert of Egypt at the west of Safaga City. This is one of the Neoproterozoic components of the North Arabian–Nubian Shield that was constrained to the East African Orogen (EAO) during the consolidation of Gondwana-through the accretion of plateaus. The Um Taghir area is covered by the island-arc and the late-to-post-magmatic rocks. The lineament density is high in the areas closer to the Wadi Um Taghir (Qena-Safaga road), with the maximum lineament density parallel to the trend of the Qena-Safaga shear zone. The analysis of the study area lineaments (as can be inferred from later accounts shows that they are stretching in different directions reflecting the multiple episodes of deformation events that occurred in the area over geological time. However, despite the variety of trends, there occurs the dominance of the NW-SE, WNW – ESE, N-S and NE-SW directions, followed by the trends directed EW and NNW – SSE. An abundance of tectonic and geological events in the study area gave rise to the formation of many lineament features as dikes and faults. From this standpoint, there have been monitored and identified some fractures that fill magmatic swarms like dikes and veins, mostly in the WNW direction and near the Qena-Safaga shear zone. It is worthy of note that these lineaments have a profound impact on the granite rocks, especially granodiorites. Therefore, it was concluded that migmatized granodiorites of the Wadi Al-Baroud area and those extending to the north, at Gable Abu Murrat, are oriented NW-WNW and show intensive growth near the contact zone affected by granodiorite dikes.

## 7. CONTRIBUTION OF THE AUTHORS / ЗАЯВЛЕННЫЙ ВКЛАД АВТОРОВ

The authors contributed equally to this article.

Все авторы внесли эквивалентный вклад в подготовку публикации.

## 8. CONFLICT OF INTERESTS / КОНФЛИКТ ИНТЕРЕСОВ

The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

Авторы заявляют об отсутствии у них конфликта интересов. Все авторы прочитали рукопись и согласны с опубликованной версией.

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