

STRUCTURAL CONTROL OF THE DRAINAGE: EXAMPLES OF THE SOLIMÕES AND NEGRO HIDROGRAPHIC BASINS

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The area studied is localized in the Amazon state, in Brazil, between the parallels 0° and 4° S, and the meridians 60° and 66° WGr. In this area, the drainage pattern of the hidrographic basins of the Solimões and Negro rivers, shows control by the neotectonic structuring, characterized in that region as a transtensive rhombohedron of regional expression. This rhombohedron is defined by the left step-over of two systems of dextral strike-slip faults, of general orientation E-W, linked by normal faults oriented NW-SE. The northern system, controls the course of the Negro river from the meridian 64° WGr for west, where shows a straight pattern evidencing a accentuated declivity of its thalweg caused by the uplift of the external borders of the rhombohedron and downlift of its interior. The straight pattern is locally complicated by normal faults NW- SE, causing sinuosities in the channel, exposure of protherozoics rocks, as in the islands positioned in the mouth of the rivers Uneiuxi, Jauaperi, Urubaxi and Tea, and formation of terraces and alluvial plains. The southern system, control the course of the Solimões river, from the meridian 63° Wgr., causing anomalies in arch and elbow due to the control for dextral strike-slip faults with orientation WSW-ENE and WNW- SSE, as in the Codajás area. The normal faults that define the closing of the rhombohedron, also control the course of the Solimões and Negro rivers and their tributaries.