The series of 20 paleogeographic maps completed at the Department of Geology, University of Texas at Arlington, Texas by Blakey (2010) which show the Earth in Mollweide projection (Grafarend and Krumm, 2006) has been analyzed to study the global continent-ocean distribution during the last 600 Ma. Our results show that despite the remarkable changes in the continental distribution during the Phanerozoic, the ratio between the areas covered by continents and oceans underwent relatively little change. From the constancy of the continent-to-ocean ratio through Pz and from the smallness of the continental area above sea level in Neoproterozoic it follows that at the border between Ptz and Pz there has been a large change of the length of the shelf zones. This change can explain contemporary change of the despinning rate from about 0.35 ms/century to about 1.79 ms/century. In general our findings suggest a change in tectonic regime at the border between Ptz and Pz (Varga 2006, Varga and Mentes, 2006).

References
Blakey R, (2010) http: //jan.ucc.nau.edu/~rcb7/paleogeographic.html, all maps are copyright to R. Blakey, NAU Geology

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