Magnetic Anomalies in Extensional Detachments: The Xistral Tectonic Window of the Lugo Dome (NW Spain)

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Magnetic Anomalies in Extensional Detachments: The Xistral Tectonic Window of the Lugo Dome (NW Spain)

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Abstract The Eastern Galicia Magnetic Anomaly (EGMA) is a conspicuous feature of the aeromagnetic map of Iberia which structurally overlaps the Lugo and Sanabria domes, two spatially linked late Variscan extensional structures that delineate a segment of the Ibero-Armorican Arc. In the northern part of the Lugo Dome, the Xistral Tectonic Window exposes a deep section of the continental crust which includes several extensional detachments and associated shear zones. The aim is to check whether or not there is a correlation between the extensional process and the EGMA. A map of the magnetic anomaly of the Xistral Tectonic Window acquired on land improves the resolution of the aeromagnetic data and shows that the EGMA is actually composed by several shorter wavelength anomalies reaching amplitudes up to 1214 nT. Their location in relation to outcropping rocks and structures, together with 2D modeling shows a conspicuous link between the anomalies and the extensional detachments. On a larger scale, the EGMA forms the northern part of a large anomaly occupying the core of the Central Iberian Arc. This anomaly can be related to extension caused by gravitational collapse of the thickened Variscan crust, implying that like the EGMA, local anomalies might reflect extensional structures, many of which may remain buried. Our study may shed light on the origin of magnetic anomalies in other gneiss domes as it shows that they can be related with the doming process instead of being inherited from older rocks presently outcropping at the core of the domes.

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1. Introduction

Gneiss domes are common major structures of orogens. The original definition of Eskola [1949] of a core of migmatites, granites and other high-grade metamorphic rocks overlain by metamorphic rocks of lesser grade has been expanded to any domal structure cored by gneisses and granitoids. A gneissic basement cropping out in a dome surrounded by sediments and/or volcanic rocks may be included in this category. Gneiss domes may result from very different processes. They may form by constrictional buckling or interference of large buckle folds [Yin, 2004], with large wavelengths favored by contrasting competence. They can be fault-bend folds in thrust belts involving cover and basement [Fisher and Olsen, 2004]. Alternatively they can develop from gravity instabilities, commonly in the internal parts of cordilleran and collisional orogens, related with late- or post-orogenic extensional processes, such as arching of detachment faults due to isostatic rebound [core complexes; Coney and Harms, 1984; Lister and Davis, 1989], or flow of partially molten rocks [e.g. Whitney et al., 2004, Vanderhaeghe, 2004]. Only the latter represent the original concept of Eskola [1949].

Some gneiss domes exhibit magnetic anomalies, e.g., the Baltimore gneiss domes, where this characteristic was used to identify one of them [Higgins et al., 1973]. Positive magnetic anomalies characterize many other Appalachian domes, such as those of the Bronson Hill Anticlinorium in New England, and domes and basement outcrops in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey and SE New York [Harwood and Zietz, 1974; Zietz et al., 1980]. The cause of these anomalies has been ascribed to the existence of magnetic rocks in the basement, so they may not necessarily result from the doming process. The same accounts for the Baltimore gneiss domes, where the anomalies are magnetic lows, which could be explained by remanent magnetization from a geological period of reverse polarity of the Earth’s magnetic field. However, Harwood and Zietz [1974] report that in the Berkshire Highland, straddling between Connecticut and New York, magnetite is abundant in local gneiss units that underwent the higher grades of Paleozoic metamorphism. They suggest that metamorphism could explain the different magnetic patterns found on the Precambrian basement.

Magnetic anomalies also occur in gneiss domes in the Variscan belt, such as the Saxon Granulite Massif and the Erzgebirge, in the Bohemian Massif [Gabriel et al., 2011]. These are late orogenic domes, and their magnetic components may be inherited from the Saxothuringian continental basement. However, it is also possible that they developed metamorphic ferromagnetic minerals during the Variscan orogeny, when they were subducted and then exhumed by an extensional detachment or as a hot, low-viscosity intrusion [Franke and Stein, 2000 and references therein].

A case for magnetization related with extensional collapse and doming was made for the Eastern Galicia Magnetic Anomaly (EGMA) in the late Variscan Lugo and Sanabria domes by Ayarza and Martínez Catalán [2007]. This anomaly was defined by Aller et al. [1994], and is a salient feature of the aeromagnetic map of the Iberian Peninsula, as shown in Figure 1. It is a roughly N-S band, 190 km long and 50 km wide, slightly concave to the E, with maximum amplitude of 190 nT.

This paper aims to improve our understanding of the EGMA. New ground-based magnetic data have been acquired in and around the Xistral Tectonic Window of the Lugo Dome, improving the resolution of the previous aeromagnetic map. Based on the new map, on additional measurements of magnetic susceptibilities of rocks and on a good knowledge of the
geology of the area, several cross sections have been modeled to link the anomalies with their sources and the Variscan evolution.

2. Geological Setting

The geology of NW Iberia includes an autochthonous domain, a paraautochthonous thrust sheet a few kilometers thick, and an allochthonous nappe stack. A cross section along the northern Spanish coast (Figure 2a) depicts these domains together with the main structures, and an interpretation of the present continuation of the main crustal-scale contractual shear zones deep in the crust. The latter is largely based on four reflection seismic profiles (Figure 2b), two of them acquired on land, ESCIN-1.1 and 1.2, and two offshore, parallel to the coast, ESCIN-3.2 and 3.3 [Pérez-Estaún et al., 1994, 1995; Álvarez-Marrón et al., 1995, 1996; Martínez Catalán et al., 1995; Ayarza et al., 1998, 2004]. Their location is shown in Figure 1a.

The Autochthon is formed by metasediments, metavolcanics and orthogneisses respectively deposited, extruded and intruded during the Neoproterozoic and Paleozoic in the northern Gondwana margin, as indicated by sedimentary and faunal evidence and by detrital zircon age populations [Robardet, 2003; Martínez Catalán et al., 2004; Shaw et al., 2014; Gutiérrez-Alonso et al., 2015].

The Parautochthon consists of Cambrian, Ordovician and Silurian metasediments and volcanics exhibiting stratigraphic and igneous affinities with the Autochthon, and representing a distal part of the Gondwanan continental margin [Farias et al., 1987; Dias da Silva et al., 2014a]. Deformation and metamorphism are Variscan, and early Carboniferous syn-orogenic flysch-type deposits related with the emplacement of the allochthonous complexes occur in both the Autochthon and Parautochthon, [Martínez Catalán et al., 2008; 2016; Dias da Silva et al., 2014b].

The Allochthon is formed by units characterized by a unique lithologic association and tectonometamorphic evolution. They are grouped by their lithologic affinities and their relative position in the nappe pile, and appear separated from each other by thrusts or extensional detachments. These units include pieces of the outermost basement of Gondwana, ophiolites derived from a Paleozoic oceanic realm, and fragments of an ensialic Cambro-Ordovician island arc [Arenas et al., 2007; Martínez Catalán et al., 2007; Sánchez Martínez et al., 2007].

Figure 3 illustrates the main structural features of the three domains in northern Galicia (NW Spain). The aeromagnetic and Bouguer gravity anomalies of the same region are shown in Figure 4. The Cabo Ortegal, Órdenes and Malpica-Tui allochthonous complexes appear in the western half of the map, together with the Parautochthon, and include allochthonous units belonging to three different groups. Many of these units registered early Variscan high pressure metamorphism related with subduction during the closure of the ocean [Martínez Catalán et al., 2009, and references therein]. This was followed by a Variscan collisional evolution in common with that of the Parautochthon and Autochthon, and which includes contractual (C) and extensional (E) events. The Autochthon is represented in the map by the West Asturian-Leonese Zone (WALZ), which occupies its eastern half, and the Ollo de Sapo Domain of the Central Iberian Zone (CIZ), a narrow, curved strip in the center. The name of the latter derives from the Ollo de Sapo (toad’s eye) Fm., a Lower Ordovician ensemble of porphyritic felsic volcanic, volcanioclastic and subvolcanic rocks with bluish quartz and large K-feldspar phenocrysts [Parga Pondal et al., 1964; Díez Montes et al., 2010].
The three allochthons where assembled in an accretionary prism during early Variscan plate convergence, (Middle and Upper Devonian), related with oceanic closure and subduction [Martínez Catalán et al., 2009; Arenas et al., 2016]. At the beginning of the Carboniferous, a collisional regime was installed, and several contractional episodes have been distinguished [Martínez Catalán et al., 2014; Alcock et al., 2015]. C1 produced recumbent folds with Evergence in the three tectonic domains. It was followed by thrusting of the Allochthon above the Parautochthon, and by the emplacement of the whole pile above the Autochthon of the CIZ. Then, thrusting and imbrication continued in the WALZ and the Cantabrian Zone (CZ). This episode is described as C2, and as C1, it was diachronous, progressing toward the E, that is, toward the foreland. In the hinterland, C1 and C2 occurred during the Lower and Middle Mississippian, but in the CZ, a typical foreland thrust belt, imbrication was active until the end of Carboniferous [Pérez-Estaún et al., 1988].

Major contractional Variscan structures are depicted in Figure 2a, which includes a sketch of the evolution of the different deformation episodes along the section in relation with their ages. The figure is based on data by Pérez-Estaún et al. [1988], Dallmeyer et al. [1997], Martínez Catalán et al. [2003, 2014] and Alcock et al. [2015]. Large recumbent folds are especially well developed in the Mondoñedo Nappe (Figure 3, Section 1), whereas several large thrust faults occur in the Allochthon and the Parautochthon [Martínez Catalán et al., 2002]. The Mondoñedo Nappe, originally defined as a large recumbent fold by Matte [1968], is bounded by a basal thrust fault [Bastida et al., 1986; Aller and Bastida, 1993] which was partially reactivated later as an extensional detachment.

Gravitational collapse followed the main phases of compression and crustal thickening after 10-20 m.y. of thermal relaxation [Alcock et al., 2009, 2015]. Low-dipping extensional detachments played the main role in crustal thinning, but also domes triggered by heating gave rise to collapse and extension. The extensional process was active during the whole Pennsylvanian in the internal zones. However, it was interrupted by upright folding associated with strike-slip, ductile shear zones, such as the left-lateral Palas de Rei and a right-lateral shear zone to the W of the Malpica-Tui Complex (Figure 3). Tight, upright folds characterize the Ollo de Sapo Antiform and the Malpica-Tui and Cabo Ortegal synforms. These structures are ascribed to event C3, and consequently, we differentiate two extensional events, E1 and E2, pre- and postdating C3 respectively.

Domes and detachments are clearly related. Some detachments were formed in the limbs of domes, but also, E2 domes frequently overprinted previous (E1) extensional detachments and in some cases developed their own new detachments, as is the case of the Viveiro shear zone and fault in the Lugo Dome. E1 domes are recognized because they were affected by later upright folds, while others developed after C3. Late Variscan migmatites and inhomogeneous granitoids, partly derived in situ by partial melting of high-grade paragneisses, are abundant in the domes, and were intruded by younger but still Variscan homogeneous leucogranites. All these features characterize gneiss domes [Whitney et al., 2004], which result from regional-scale crustal flow with the addition of magmas of crustal density [Block and Royden, 1990; Thompson and McCarthy, 1990]. Structural and metamorphic descriptions of the main Galician detachments can be found in Martínez Catalán et al. [1996, 2003], Díaz García et al. [1999], Arenas and Martínez Catalán [2003], Gómez Barreiro et al. [2010] and Díez Fernández et al. [2012].

The large domes alternate with large synforms and structural basins where low-grade metasedimentary rocks occur. The allochthonous complexes are preserved as klippen in some of these synforms, usually lying above low- to medium grade metasedimentary rocks of the Parautochthon.
The largest synform is occupied by the Órdenes Complex, whose structure is shown in the geological sketch of Figure 3, Section 2. A detailed magnetic map of this complex was acquired on land, and an interpretation of the gravimetric and magnetic anomalies was made by Martínez Catalán et al. [2012]. There, the sources of magnetic anomalies are serpentinitized ultrabasic rocks, and in some cases basic rocks, occurring in units bounded by thrust and detachment faults.

The EGMA coincides with two late Variscan structural, metamorphic and locally anatectic domes. The Lugo Dome [Capdevila, 1969], to the N, occurs in the WALZ at the limit with the adjacent CIZ, while the Sanabria Dome, to the S, is entirely inside the CIZ, in the Ollo de Sapo Domain (Figure 1). At the northern part of the Lugo Dome, the Xistral Tectonic Window exposes deep parts of the middle crust, revealing the tectonometamorphic history of late Variscan extension [Martínez Catalán et al., 2003; Arenas and Martínez Catalán, 2003; Alcock et al., 2009].

The basal thrust of the Mondoñedo Nappe was partially reactivated as a detachment downthrown to the E, and several other detachments developed at its relative autochthon (Figures 3 and 5), the main of which is the Lower Extensional Detachment. It underlies the Xistral Quartzite, formed almost exclusively of quartz and whose resistance to weathering and erosion has formed the Sierra do Xistral. This quartzitic unit reached locally a structural thickness of c. 5000 m after folding (Section 1 in Figure 3). The Lower Extensional Detachment overprints previous recumbent folds and thrust faults, and is actually the upper boundary of a ductile shear zone where intense shearing affects underlying schists, quartzites and paragneisses. These rocks crop out between Viveiró and Xove (Figure 5), at the core of an open antiform where abundant migmatites and inhomogeneous granites are also found. It is the same fold that defines de Lugo Dome and controls the geometry of the Xistral Tectonic Window. Kinematic criteria indicate a top to the E sense of motion of the detachment, and a subtractive metamorphic offset indicates that this is an extensional structure [Arenas and Martínez Catalán, 2003; Martínez Catalán et al., 2003].

The Lugo Dome folded the Mondoñedo thrust sheet, whose relative autochthon crops out at the tectonic window (Figure 5), and also the reactivated basal shear zone and other extensional detachments. However, the Viveiro Fault was coeval with the rise of the dome, and represents the latest extensional detachment in the region.

Early Variscan granitoids in the northern part of the Lugo Dome have yielded U-Pb zircon and monazite ages of 315 ± 2 Ma for the Viveiro granodiorite, a synkinematic intrusion cropping out between Viveiró and Vilachá, and c. 317 ± 7 Ma for the Penedo Gordo granite, between Ourol and Viveiro (Figure 5). The latter is deformed in the shear zone associated to the Viveiro Fault. The youngest massifs include A Tojiza granodiorite, a rounded pluton cropping out between Ferreira and Mondoñedo, dated at 295 ± 2 Ma, and the San Cibrao leucogranite, dated at 286 ± 2 Ma [Fernández-Suárez et al., 2000]. The inhomogeneous granites and the late Variscan leucogranites are commonly weathered, and given the outcropping conditions, these two lithologies are difficult to discern, and are mapped together in Figure 5.

Slates, schists and granites of the Mondoñedo thrust sheet in and around the Lugo Dome yielded 40Ar/39Ar ages between 298 and 274 Ma [Dallmeyer et al., 1997]. These data imply that high temperatures in the dome lasted from before 315 to 275 Ma. On the other hand, the geometry of the dome is asymmetrical, marked by the development of a late extensional detachment to the W, the Viveiro Fault. Comparing with thermomechanical models of Tirel et al. [2004] both, ages and geometry indicate a slowly developing dome that has reached its mature stage.
3. Geophysical Framework

3.1. Magnetometry

The first interpretation of the magnetic anomaly occurring at the western of the Lugo Dome was made by Aller [1986] using the residual anomaly extracted from the isolines of the total magnetic field of Spain [Instituto Geográfico Nacional, 1975], a low-resolution map based on ground measurements. He also used an aeromagnetic map of eastern Galicia and NW of the León province provided by the Compañía General de Geofísica S.A. Aller [1986] modeled the anomaly using a block with a flat upper surface at a depth of 5 km, and a contrast of magnetic susceptibility of 0.0126 SI in relation with the country rocks. Geologically, he interpreted the anomaly as due to a series of igneous intrusives of intermediate or basic composition.

After the publication of the aeromagnetic map of the Spanish part of the Iberian Peninsula [Instituto Geográfico Nacional, 1987; Ardizone et al., 1989], Aller et al. [1994] named this feature as it is known today, the Eastern Galicia Magnetic Anomaly (EGMA). The authors made 2.5D models of five sections using magnetic susceptibilities \( \kappa = 0.045-0.055 \) SI for the most magnetic blocks, and suggested that the source could be basic and ultrabasic rocks imbricated in the middle crust by the Mondoñedo Nappe basal thrust and by an underlying eastern Galicia thrust. Other possible sources envisaged by Aller et al. [1994] were peridotites, pyroxenites and hornblendites, locally serpentinized, cropping out in the vicinity of the Viveiro Fault, in association with Variscan synkinematic calc-alkaline granodiorites [Galán, 1987]. However, these rocks do appear only in just a few small spots, and never at the Viveiro Fault. Moreover, their relationship with the synkinematic granodiorites was put into question by the age of 293 ± 3 Ma obtained in the hornblendites by Fernández-Suárez et al. [2000], at odds with the 317 ± 7 Ma calculated for the granodiorites by the same authors.

Ayarza and Martínez Catalán [2007] made a different interpretation of the EGMA based on the aeromagnetic map of Ardizone et al. [1989]. They also relied on \textit{in situ} measurements of the magnetic susceptibility of outcropping rocks, and on realistic, newer geological grounds which disregarded the staircase geometry assumed for the Mondoñedo Nappe basal thrust by Aller et al. [1994]. Alternatively, the extensional tectonics overprinting thrust tectonics was given a prior role, and an extensional origin was proposed for the dome and the anomaly. \textit{In situ} measurements were critical, as it was found that rocks cropping out abundantly at the core of the Xistral Tectonic Window –paragneisses, migmatites and inhomogeneous granites– often had high susceptibilities.

The authors found that multi-domain magnetite was the main carrier of induced magnetization, reaching sizes visible to the naked eye in migmatites (Figure 6) and inhomogeneous granites. It occurs as equigranular, often idiomorphic individual grains up to 1 cm in diameter. Petrographic analysis using reflected light shows exolved ilmenite in magnetite grains, as well as replacement of the latter by hematite [Ayarza and Martínez Catalán, 2007]. Elongated magnetite grains were found in well-foliated paragneisses, also partially replaced by other Ti-Fe oxides. Small massifs of basic and ultrabasic rocks inside the migmatites and high-susceptibility iron ore bodies sparsely distributed in low-grade Middle Ordovician slates were found to contribute to the anomaly only to a minor extent.

Consequently, 2D-2.75D models were built for four sections along the Lugo Dome using a large, lens-shaped body of migmatites, up to 12 km thick and 80-130 km wide, with \( \kappa = 0.030 \) SI. Models with the large lens of migmatites with \( \kappa = 0.020 \) SI, plus a magnetic lower crust with \( \kappa = 0.025 \) SI, were considered equally valid, except for depths below the Curie
temperature for magnetite (575 °C). This interpretation ruled out the need of basic/ultrabasic rocks as magnetic sources, since they are really scarce at surface and probably also at moderate depths, according to the Bouguer gravity anomaly (Figure 4b).

The EGMA has been also related with magnetic anomalies at the South Armorican continental shelf, based on their continuity on each side of the Bay of Biscay, and their similar wavelengths and intensities [de Poulpiquet, 2012]. According to this author, the magnetic arc defined by these anomalies fits the geometry of the Ibero-Armorian Arc. Thus, he interpreted the anomaly as the result of an aborted Cambro-Ordovician rift which created a narrow oceanic basin in the present Armorican continental platform, and a sedimentary trough, perhaps an aulacogen, in NW Iberia.

In his contribution, de Poulpiquet [2012] pointed out that in the Armorican continental plateau, the magnetic anomaly is accompanied by a positive gravity anomaly, which is absent in the EGMA. He describes a positive, long wavelength (80 km) gravity anomaly in the central part of the EGMA, between the Lugo and Sanabria domes, which he interprets as resulting from a deep, dense source between 12.5 and 23 km, similar to that of Aller et al. [1994]. His model also includes an upper source, 4.5-11 km deep, corresponding to the low density magnetic migmatites of Ayarza and Martínez Catalán [2007]. However, its gravity maximum is displaced 10 km to the SW with respect to the magnetic maximum, and coincides with the Middle Ordovician slates of the Ollo de Sapo Domain, whereas the magnetic maximum lies above the Viveiro Fault.

Regardless of its relationship with the South Armorican anomalies, the EGMA is not an isolated feature. In the Iberian Massif, it represents the northern branch of a much larger anomaly that can be continued until central Spain and then to the NW in central and northern Portugal, forming the inner region of an arc defined by anomalies of lesser wavelength and amplitude (Figure 1b). This arc is also delineated by early Variscan folds and has been historically called Castillian bend [Staub, 1926, 1928], Oretain-Iberian Arc [Llopis Lladó, 1966], and Central Iberian Arc [Martínez Catalán, 2012], while Aerden [2004] considered it as part of an S-shaped Ibero-Armorian orocline.

3.2. Gravimetry

The Bouguer gravity anomaly map of the Iberian Peninsula and the Balearic Islands was published by the Instituto Geográfico Nacional [1996; see also Mezcua et al., 1996]. Two years later, 973 new gravity measurements were made in Galicia in the framework of a project led by the Spanish Agency of Nuclear Wastes (ENRESA), and merged with the pre-existing data. A new Bouguer anomaly was recalculated for the entire new dataset using the Geodetic Reference System formula of 1967 (GRS-67) and a mean density of 2670 kg/m³. Figure 4b shows the Bouguer gravity anomaly in northern Galicia and Figure 4c shows its vertical derivative. The intensity of the latter is proportional to that of the magnetic anomaly reduced to the pole when the source of gravity and magnetism coincides. However, the existence of magnetic remanence disturbs the distribution of magnetic maxima and minima, and integration of both datasets should be treated with caution. Figure 4 allows us to further analyze if the source of the EGMA might correspond to dense basic rocks. The largest elongated maxima of the Bouguer’s vertical derivative surrounding the Lugo Dome reflect the outcrop of dense rocks, the Ordovician and Cambrian slates W of the Viveiro Fault and at the Bretoña Synform, to the E of the dome (Section 1 in Figure 3). Conversely, the magnetic anomaly is caused by lighter rocks, and its maxima occur between the two elongated maxima.
of the gravity vertical gradient, coinciding with the central and western parts of the Lugo Dome.

A gravity model for Section 1 (Figures 3 and 4b), built with GM-SYS, Geosoft Inc., is shown in Figure 7. It cuts across the Cabo Ortegal Complex, the Ollo de Sapo Antiform, the Lugo Dome and the Mondoñedo thrust sheet. The densities are similar to those used in previous models by Ayarza and Martínez Catalán [2007] and Martínez Catalán et al. [2012], and are mean values—rounded to multiples of 10—of samples collected in the different domains and measured in the laboratory, with the exception of those for the lower crust and mantle. The value for migmatites (2650 kg m\(^{-3}\)) has been lowered somewhat to adapt the calculated anomaly to the rather well constrained geology. The density for the Upper Allochthon of the Cabo Ortegal Complex (2860 kg m\(^{-3}\)) is a weighted average between that of basic rocks (3000-3500 kg m\(^{-3}\)), and paragneisses (2700 kg m\(^{-3}\)), except in the basal lens (2870 kg m\(^{-3}\)), where amphibolites dominate. The ophiolites at the western side of Cabo Ortegal Complex and those to the W, which belong to the adjacent Órdenes Complex, have been modeled with the same density (2870 kg m\(^{-3}\)). High densities (2790 kg m\(^{-3}\)) characterize non-weathered Cambrian and Ordovician slates corresponding to the low-temperature zone of the greenschist facies. But density decreases when higher temperatures were reached, and 2640-2680 kg m\(^{-3}\) were typically measured in schists. The final values used in the model are shown in Table 1 and depicted in Figure 7.

The Bouguer anomaly, which shows an irregular but generalized decrease to the SE, is modeled with a step at Moho level, roughly beneath the Viveiro Fault or the Ollo de Sapo Antiform (Figures 2 and 7). This geometry is based on the image provided by seismic reflection profiles shown in Figure 2b [Álvarez-Marrón et al., 1966; Martínez Catalán et al., 1995; Ayarza et al., 1998, 1999]. The Moho discontinuity is assumed to occur at the base of a highly reflective band representing the lower crust. Its thickness varies from 8-12 s two-way travel time (TWTT) in profile ESCIN-1.1, to 9-12 s in profile ESCIN-1.2, to 7-12 s in most of profile ESCIN-3.3, and to 8-10 s at its westernmost edge and in profile ESCIN-3.2. The Moho step separates the more internal, seismically transparent and thinner crust under the GTMZ and CZ from a thicker reflective crust to the E, beneath the WALZ and CZ.

The 7-12 s reflections of profile ESCIN-3.3, actually consists of two reflective bands suggesting a duplication of the lower crust. Ayarza et al. [1998] interpreted this feature as due to the important shortening (> 50%) underwent by the CZ, a thin-skinned thrust belt 180 km wide [Pérez-Estaún et al., 1994; Martínez Catalán et al., 2003]. As its basement was not involved in the upper crustal imbrications, some 100 km of it could have underthrust the WALZ to the W late in Variscan times, [Ayarza et al., 1998, 2004], its edge forming the Moho step seen in profile ESCIN-3.3 [Martínez Catalán et al., 2003, 2014].

The same authors suggested the possibility that the duplication were due to the Alpine convergence, based on another seismic profile oriented N-S acquired in the SE of the CZ, and where a crustal imbrication is seen [Pulgar et al., 1996]. This is not however our preferred option because the base of the crust occurs there at 12 s TWTT far from the Alpine imbrication, and reaches more than 15 s when imbricated. We assume that 12 s represent the typical crustal thickness of the CZ and WALZ, because profile ESCIN-1.2 images the CZ/WALZ transition, and a highly reflective lower crust reaching 12 s straddles both zones.

Underthrusting of the CZ basement does not represent a mechanical. Extension in the CIZ and the western part of the WALZ developed following severe crustal thickening mostly due to the emplacement of the Allochthon at c. 345-340 Ma (Figure 2a). Thrusting continued until c. 325 Ma in the WALZ and until 295 Ma in the CZ, but crustal thickening was moderate because only the sedimentary cover became involved [Pérez-Estaín et al., 1988, 1994;
Dallmeyer et al., 1997; Martínez Catalán et al., 2003, 2009, 2014; Alcock et al., 2015]. The extensional detachments and domes developed at c. 330-295 Ma. This implies that while the crust of the CIZ and western WALZ was being re-equilibrated, that of the CZ remained cold while being deformed by thin-skinned tectonics. The more external parts of the CZ were strongly shortened by imbrication at the very end of the Carboniferous, around 300 Ma, and its cold basement was then underthrust beneath the relatively thin central and eastern parts of the WALZ and its already re-equilibrated and thin western part.

In the gravity model, the crust W from the Moho step is 27 km thick, while to the E, it reaches 35 km (Figure 7). The step would then represent a preserved root of the Cantabrian Zone, while the crustal-scale shear zones that probably existed separating the roots of the other significant domains (Navia and Alto Sil, Mondóñedo Nappe and Parautochthon) are no longer preserved due to re-equilibration (dotted lines in Figure 2a).

In addition, the model shows that the gravity minimum in the middle of the profile (Figure 7) responds to the low density massive Xistral Quartzite and the migmatites cropping out in the tectonic window. However, these low densities are not enough to fit the anomaly. Accordingly, differences in crustal thickness are needed to explain the low gravity values. This option is supported by the results of deep seismic reflection profiling, while the alternative hypothesis of significant increase in crustal density to the W lacks of any independent support and opposes estimated densities of outcropping geology. Thus, dense rocks are not necessary to fit the Bouguer anomaly in the EGMA area.

4. Magnetic Anomaly of the Xistral Tectonic Window

Previous interpretations of the Magnetic Anomaly of the Lugo-Sanabria Dome, some of them crossing the Xistral Tectonic Window, are based on the aeromagnetic map of Spain of Ardizone et al. [1989] or even on older sources [Aller, 1986]. Being important to the regional scale, the aeromagnetic map of Spain has a limited resolution, as it was flown at 3000 m above sea level, and along N-S lines separated 10 km with E-W control lines every 40 km. The acquisition lines are drawn in Figure II.2 of Ardizone García [1998], and are shown in Figure 4a, which shows the northern half of the EGMA. The whole EGMA was sampled by 12 N-S and 8 E-W lines, while the Xistral Tectonic Window was sampled just by barely 5 N-S and 2 E-W flight lines (Figure 4a). Even if the nominal separation between measurements along the lines was 34 m, the line interval is too large to image the shorter wavelength anomalies related to outcropping lithologies and structures such as those shown in Figure 5. To obtain a higher resolution magnetic map, new ground data have been acquired covering the whole tectonic window and its surroundings.

4.1. Data Acquisition and Processing

Two Geometrics G-856 proton magnetometers with a resolution of 0.1 nT were used in the acquisition. One of them registered the Earth’s magnetic field in a base station every 5 minutes in order to control the diurnal variation. A preliminary land survey was made in this area in September, 2009, but most data were acquired in two campaigns in April, 2015 and May, 2016. Both seasons coincided with a period of rather stable solar activity, which was checked every day in NOAA’s space weather scale (http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/SWN/). The reference base station was established 3 km S of Viveiro (UTM: E613923, N4832265; height: 141 m), in the NW of the Xistral Tectonic Window. Measurements were taken as far as possible from power lines, buildings, cars and other metallic objects, and looking for the best
signal intensity and coherence of measured magnetic field intensity in places with strong magnetic gradients.

The survey covered an area of c. 750 km$^2$, with 315 measured stations, implying a density of 0.42 data km$^{-2}$. Diurnal and secular variations were corrected, and absolute anomalies were calculated with respect to the International Geomagnetic Reference Field (IGRF) using the package Oasis montaj of Geosoft Inc. All data were referred to April 14$^{th}$, 2015, for which, the IGRF at the base station was 45861 nT, with an inclination of 58.72º N and a declination of 2.537º W (Table 1). Data acquired during this survey are provided in Table S1 of Supporting information.

The highest and lowest values of the absolute anomaly were 777 and -437 nT. All values were recalculated and plotted in a grid of 250 m for which maximum and minimum are respectively 737 and -403 nT. Despiking was not considered necessary given the smooth distribution of absolute values, and the fact that gridding eliminated the extreme values. The absolute anomaly map is shown in Figure 8a, where faults and contacts have been included to allow comparison with the geological map of Figure 5. A map of the absolute anomaly reduced to the pole (RTP) is depicted in Figure 8b, aiming to place each anomaly above its source.

Figure 8c shows a map of geological domains and dominant lithologies, together with values of the magnetic susceptibility ($\kappa$) measured with a portable susceptometer Kappameter KT-6. Each datum represents the mean of several measurements in an outcrop, and only locations where $\kappa \geq 0.001$ SI are shown. These measurements, together with their coordinates, are provided in Table S2 of Supporting information. Figure 8d shows the vertical derivative of the Bouguer anomaly for the study area. An upward continuation of the measured magnetic anomaly to 3000 m above sea level is shown in Figure 9a, to allow comparison with the aeromagnetic map flown at the same height (Figure 9b).

Some lenses of amphibolites, up to 3 km long, had been mapped in the southern part of the Xistral Tectonic Window (Figure 5). They are pre-Variscan basic and ultrabasic intercalations in the Xistral Quartzite, probably sills [Capdevila, 1966]. In one of the lenses, a high susceptibility, up to 0.1 SI was measured, but $\kappa$ was very low in the lenses cut across by Section D (Figure 4). For that reason, and also because of their relatively small volume, these rocks have not been further considered in the models.

Rocks with high magnetic susceptibility also exist outside the Xistral Tectonic Window, in the Middle Ordovician Luarca Slates of the Ollo de Sapo Domain, to the W and NNW of Viveiro. Sedimentary deposits of ooidal iron oxides are common in the Luarca Slates, but there, a 2 to 20 m thick layer was locally transformed in ironstone rich in magnetite by contact metamorphism induced by the intrusion of a Variscan granitoids [Lunar Hernández, 1977]. The ironstone was worked between 1896 and 1966 in A Silvarosa and Galdo mines, W and SW from Viveiro [Gutiérrez-Marco and Rábano, 2014], and susceptibilities up to 0.2 and 0.4 SI were measured in some outcrops (Figure 8c). But the contribution to the regional anomaly is unnoticeable in the aeromagnetic map (Figure 9b), and minimum in the ground-based map (Figure 8a).

In addition to ground-based measurements of the Earth’s magnetic field and in situ sampling of the magnetic susceptibility, oriented samples were drilled in outcrops of the Xistral Tectonic Window. The rocks sampled include Cambrian schists and quartzites inside the shear zones under the Lower Extensional Detachment and the Viveiro Fault, the underlying paragneisses and migmatites corresponding to the Neoproterozoic Vilalba Series, and
inhomogeneous granites that represent advanced stages of migmatization involving large amounts of partial melting.

The drilled cores have been analyzed for anisotropy of magnetic susceptibility (AMS) and remanent magnetization using alternate fields and thermal demagnetization. Magnetic mineralogy was identified by their thermomagnetic curves and using a Variable Field Translation Balance (MMVFTB, Laboratory of Paleomagnetism, University of Burgos). The results, involving more ongoing analyses, will be presented in another contribution aimed to interpret magnetic remanence and processes leading to magnetization. Some of the data necessary for the interpretation of the anomalies in terms of the macrostructure are advanced here.

4.2. Structural Interpretation of the Ground-based Magnetic Anomaly

Four sections across the magnetic anomaly shown in Figure 8a were modeled in 2D using GM-SYS. The sections were chosen across the Xistral Tectonic Window and cutting representative structures, mainly extensional detachments (Figure 5), at places where they coincide with maxima and minima of the magnetic anomaly. The RTP version of the anomaly (Figure 8b) shows a coincidence between several highs and the extensional detachments, with most important maxima occurring along the Viveiro Fault. For modeling purposes, we have used an upward continuation to 200 m to smooth the short-wavelength anomalies caused by highly magnetic outcropping rocks without modifying them substantially.

4.2.1. Models Using Magnetic Susceptibility

Figure 10 shows the results of modeling assuming that magnetization is entirely induced by the present Earth magnetic field, thus using the magnetic susceptibility as the only source of the anomaly. Geological cross sections in the background, including the faults and the different units, are depicted using the same colors as in Figure 5. A preliminary version of these sections was used as a backdrop to correctly place the model blocks in relation with the structures. This version was later slightly modified in depth to fit the structures to the model blocks, and the sections shown in Figure 10 result from this adjustment.

The calculated magnetic anomaly (thin black line) has been approached using the observed values of the absolute anomaly, shown by black dots. The thick grey line shows the RTP anomaly, for comparison with the outcrop of detachments. Magnetic blocks are depicted bounded by a red line, with the value of magnetic susceptibility indicated. Outside these blocks, susceptibility is assumed to be zero.

Models are limited to a depth of 5 km because the effect of the rocks underneath is negligible on the ground-based anomaly. Only in Section D blocks have been continued laterally down to 6 and 8 km to adjust both ends of the anomaly. 2D modeling is used due to the along-strike continuity of the structures (Figure 5), and because it was observed that limiting the blocks to ± 10 km in the direction of structures (nearly perpendicular to the sections) had no a significant effect on the calculated anomaly.

The Bouguer anomaly is included in Figure 10 but was not modeled, except for Section C, a part of geological Section 1 of Figure 3 for which the gravity model is shown in Figure 7. In all four sections, the gravity anomaly shows a relatively steep drop above the tectonic window, which is mainly related with the step at the Moho level that characterizes the thicker crust in the E shown in Figure 7, but also with lithologies E and W of the Viveiro Fault.
In situ measurements of magnetic susceptibility show an extreme variability (Figure 8c), suggesting a rather inhomogeneous original distribution of magnetite, although differences in weathering may also play an important role. High susceptibilities are only found in the Middle Ordovician ironstones to the W of the Viveiro Fault, and in quartzites, paragneisses, migmatites and inhomogeneous granites inside the tectonic window. Cores were drilled in 39 sites in the tectonic window at places where field susceptibility values were higher than 0.001 SI. Detailed values of those samples were later measured with a susceptometer Kappabridge KLY 45 in the Laboratory of Paleomagnetism of the University of Burgos. For each site, 2 to 12 cores were used and a mean value was calculated. The mean of all these samples is \( \kappa = 0.0099 \) SI (see Table 1 for a list of numerical values).

Given the inhomogeneous distribution of magnetization, we have tried to build the models as simple as possible using integer multiples of \( \kappa = 0.01 \) SI for the blocks, except for A Tojiza granodiorite in Section C, whose susceptibility measured in situ is around 0.001 SI. The magnetic field used in all models is the mean value of the IGRF calculated for all the stations at April 14th, 2015: \( B = 45817.6 \) nT, \( I = 58.6^\circ \), \( D = -2.5^\circ \).

As shown in Figure 10, the magnetic anomalies have a relatively short wavelength, about 10-12 km, and locally 3 km in Section C. Variability is related with the spacing of sampling and that of the main extensional structures, which had been identified previously [Martínez Catalán et al., 2003]. Wavelengths in the newly acquired data are always lesser that the c. 28 km shown by the EGMA in the aeromagnetic flight (Figures 4a and 9b). Even the upward continuation to 3000 m of the ground anomaly (Figure 9a) lacks the smooth appearance of the aeromagnetic dataset due to its higher resolution.

Next, we include a description of the models explaining how the blocks of Figure 10 have been designed and why:

- The Middle Ordovician, magnetite-rich ironstone has been modeled as a rather thin folded bed in Section A, as it may be responsible for the first, weak maximum to the WNW. Two different susceptibilities have been used, 0.04 for the uppermost part, and 0.08 for the rest. Although values up to 0.4 SI were measured in localized outcrops, our values fit the anomaly in combination with the thickness used. Thinner blocks combined with higher susceptibilities would equally match the measured anomaly.

- The Neoproterozoic Vilalba Series show different degrees of migmatization, often transformed into inhomogeneous granites and variably intruded by late Variscan leucogranites. The ensemble has been modeled in all sections as a 1-4 km thick band with a magnetic susceptibility \( \kappa = 0.02 \) SI. The block is folded by the Lugo Dome and crops out at its core in Sections A and B. The \( \kappa \) value chosen is higher than most measured values, but this is a common problem encountered in all lithologies of the Xistral tectonic window, and is attributed to weathering close to the surface and to heterogenities. This block can be interpreted as a downward continuation of the shear zone below the Lower Extensional Detachment. Its thickness is not constrained, and could be increased without significantly changing the calculated anomaly.

- The lowermost part of the Cambrian crops out beneath the Lower Extensional Detachment, and their metasedimentary rocks are often characterized by high magnetic susceptibilities. They include schists, paragneisses and quartzites of the Cándana Group that were deformed in the shear zone beneath the detachment and the Xistral Quartzite, which occupies its hanging wall. It is worth noting that the same rocks from the Mondoñedo thrust sheet do not exhibit magnetic properties, except at its reactivated basal shear zone. The shear zone has been modeled with blocks 0.5-2 km thick folded by the
Lugo Dome, with $\kappa = 0.04$ SI. Two lenses with $\kappa = 0.06$ SI have been added in Section C to match the observed anomaly.

- Another extensional structure, interpreted as joining the Lower Extensional Detachment toward the SE, was mapped in the Xistral Quartzite to the SW of Rúa, and supposedly continues in the inhomogeneous granites to the NE (Figure 5). The inhomogeneous granites, like the migmatites, are frequently magnetic, while the late Variscan leucogranites are not, although both lithologies are undifferentiated in Figure 5. This detachment coincides with a local maximum in Sections A and B, and has been modeled with small blocks of limited, variable thickness and $\kappa = 0.02$ and 0.04 SI.

- The Mondoñedo Nappe Basal Thrust was overprinted or reactivated by an extensional shear zone, folded by the Lugo Dome and whose large SE limb dips 15-25º SE [Martínez Catalán et al., 2014]. This extensional structure affects Cambrian schists and quartzites with high magnetic susceptibilities, and has been modeled as a thin block with $\kappa = 0.02$ or 0.04 SI.

- The Viveiro Fault was the latest extensional structure, and its associated shear zone seems to be the main contributor to the EGMA. High magnetic susceptibilities have been measured even in the Xistral Quartzite, which is non-magnetic in the rest of the tectonic window, probably because it occurs at the hanging wall of the Lower Extensional Detachment, and so, it was only weakly affected at its base by the shear zone. However, when sheared by the Viveiro Fault, magnetite grew even in these nearly pure quartzites. The shear zone has been modeled with blocks dipping 15º-25º NW, 1-3 km thick, and with $\kappa = 0.06$ and 0.08 SI. Thickness and susceptibility were increased in the southern sections to fit the observed high anomaly values. The Viveiro shear zone overprints the one under the Lower Extensional Detachment, whose blocks had been thinned or suppressed in all models but Section D.

### 4.2.2. Models Including Magnetic Remanence

Remanent magnetization ($M_r$) was measured in 39 samples in the Laboratory of Paleomagnetism of the University of Burgos with a 2G-755 cryogenic magnetometer, using 2 to 12 cores for each site. The magnetic susceptibility ($\kappa$) had been previously measured, and the induced magnetization ($M_i$) was calculated using a magnetic field of 36.1186 A m$^{-1}$. Then, the Königsberger ratio ($Q_n = M_r/M_i$) was obtained, with twenty five samples yielding values below 1, ten samples with $Q_n$ between 1 and 15, and four with $Q_n$ higher than 100, with a maximum at 1100. Keeping these off-range values aside, mean $M_r = 0.267$ A m$^{-1}$ and $Q_n = 0.875$ were obtained.

The orientation of $M_r$ could be measured in 31 samples. Results were also rather variable, but for most of the window, a reverse magnetization with a relatively low inclination toward the N was found [Ayarza et al., 2017]. A mean orientation $I = -28^\circ$, $D = 156^\circ$ with a confidence limit of 9.9º for $\alpha_{95}$ probability was computed from 14 measurements in the central and southern part of the tectonic window, which is used to model all sections.

Samples in 12 sites yielded higher inclinations. These are mainly close to the coast, between Vilachá and Rúa, and showed mean values of $I = -61^\circ$ and $D = 162^\circ$ with a confidence limit of 9.5º for $\alpha_{95}$ probability was computed from 12 sampled sites. The change may be related with the structure of the antiform where the tectonic window crops out. Its axis plunges gently to the SSW in most of the antiform, but at the coast, it plunges to the NNE. A rotation about a WNW-ESE horizontal axis may explain the c. 30º change in the inclination of $M_r$. This
rotation can be related with movements of the faults of the same direction, which is also that of the coast. However, the possibility of a different magnetization affecting the coastal section in relation with the opening of the Biscay Bay should not be ruled out.

The orientation of $M_r$ in the coastal region is not very different to that of the present Earth magnetic field used in the models ($I = 58.6^\circ, D = -2.5^\circ$), except for the fact that the $M_r$ shows a reverse polarity. As the average $Q_n$ is close to 1, this implies that $M_r$ and $M_i$ cancel each other to a significant amount, making modeling a difficult task. The fact that the anomaly in Section A is somewhat lesser than in the central and southern sections may suggest that the high inclination of $M_r$ is meaningful.

For values of $Q_n > 0.1$, remanence is strong enough to be considered in modeling together with susceptibility. In our case, average $Q_n$ approaches 1, meaning that contribution by $M_r$ is comparable to that of $M_i$. Models including both magnetic susceptibility and remanence are shown in Figure 11. They use the same integer multiples of $\kappa = 0.01$ SI as in Figure 10, and multiples of $M_r = 0.267$ A m$^{-1}$ with $I = -28^\circ, D = 156^\circ$ for the remanence, except in Section A (1), where multiples of $\kappa = 0.0105$ and the values of $M_r$ found close to the coast have been used: multiples of $M_r = 0.243$ A m$^{-1}$ with $I = -61^\circ, D = 162^\circ$.

Figure 12 depicts the blocks of models that include only induced magnetization (a) and those that also consider remanent magnetization (b). The main differences between both groups of models, and the procedure followed for building the latter are:

- The effect of $M_r$ is a displacement to the WNW of maxima and minima and a decrease in the anomaly amplitude. This is due to the reverse character of the remanent component, opposite to the normal polarity of the present Earth magnetic field, and is especially notorious when using the $M_r$ values obtained close to the coast.

- To fit the observed anomaly, we have started from models in Figure 10 and tried different combinations of $\kappa, M_r$, and geometry of the blocks, making them bigger and displacing them toward the ESE. We might have changed the Königsberger ratio ($Q_n$) –the relationship between the remanent and induced components– since a decrease in $Q_n$ (and $M_r$) increases the similarity between models with and without $M_r$. However, we have preferred to adhere to our statistical results and avoided the use of arbitrary $M_r$ values, which would distort the aim of using geophysical data to constrain geology.

- The geometry of geological structures in the sections in Figure 11 needed to be partly modified with respect to those of Figure 10, in accordance with the requirements of $M_r$. This includes all sections but Section A, where the geometry has been kept the same for versions (1) and (2) to better compare with the result using the high-inclination values.

- The shape of the Middle Ordovician, magnetite-rich ironstone has been little modified in relation with the model without $M_r$, and in Section A (1), it is somewhat thicker to avoid increasing the values of $\kappa$ and $M_r$, that was another possible option.

- The block of migmatites developed in the Vilalba Series has been kept with a $\kappa = 0.02$ SI, but its thickness has been slightly increased and/or its WNW limit displaced to the ESE.

- The block corresponding to the lower extensional shear zone has been kept with $\kappa = 0.04$ SI in Sections B, C and D, maintaining in Section C a couple of lenses with $\kappa = 0.06$ SI. However, $\kappa$ was increased to 0.06 SI for the whole shear zone in Section A (2), and to 0.084 SI in Section A (1). Changes in thickness were made locally, but are significant in Sections A (2) and B, and very important in Section A (1). The block modeling the detachment joining the lower extensional shear zone in Sections A and B has been
merged with the shear zone in a single block with the same parameters. This implies increasing $\kappa$ in the detachment to 0.084 SI in Section A (1), 0.06 SI in Section A (2) and 0.04 SI in Section B, and also making changes on its shape.

- The block modeling the reactivation of the Mondoñedo basal shear zone has been increased in susceptibility and/or thickness, except in Section B, where susceptibility has been halved, compensating the calculated anomaly by thickening the lower extensional shear zone.
- The block modeling the Viveiro shear zone has undergone changes in its geometry, increasing its westward dip from 15º-25º to 27º-50º, as a result of displacing its deeper parts to the ESE. Susceptibility was increased in Sections A (1) and B, but lowered in Sections A (2) and C.

5. Discussion

The ground-based magnetic map of the Xistral Tectonic Window shows complexities not revealed by the lower resolution aeromagnetic map of the Iberian Peninsula. Also, the new data provide clues for interpretation of the large arcuate aeromagnetic anomaly [Ardizone et al., 1989; Miranda et al., 1989] that occupies most of the NW quadrant of the Iberian Peninsula and delineates the Central Iberian Arc [Martínez Catalán, 2012], with the EGMA forming its northernmost part (Figure 1).

5.1. Highlights for the Xistral Tectonic Window

The relatively short wavelengths and high amplitude of the anomalies found in the newly acquired ground data have enabled us to model these features with bodies whose top is shallower than 1-3 km. Source rocks need to crop out, or nearly so, to match the anomalies in many cases. Magnetic bodies at depths greater than 5-8 km are not needed to explain the observed anomaly.

Rocks with high magnetic susceptibility ($\kappa$) crop out in the Xistral Tectonic Window, and are the main candidates for being the source of the anomaly. They are felsic rocks, including quartzites, schists, paragneisses, migmatites and inhomogeneous granites. The scarcity of basic and ultrabasic rocks at the surface, the weak or not magnetic character of these rocks, and the low value of the Bouguer anomaly above the tectonic window suggest that basic rocks do not represent significant magnetic sources.

Detailed magnetic surveying has also revealed that high $\kappa$ values are not particular to any lithology, but appear in various types of high-grade metasedimentary rocks and their anatectic derivatives whenever they are associated with late Variscan extensional structures.

The Viveiro Fault and its associated shear zone seem responsible for the main anomaly, but other maxima have appeared at places where extensional detachments had been mapped. A major one occurs below the Lower Extensional Detachment, in a wide shear zone mostly occurring at its footwall beneath the Xistral Quartzite. This shear zone crops out in the central and N parts of the window. A magnetic maximum in the N, close to Vilachá, and two more in the center, at Viveiró (do not mistake with Viveiro) and 4 km to the S, occur where the detachment crops out (Figure 8), and are modeled by Sections A and C. In a broad strip c. 10 km N and S of Section B, the detachment is so close to the Viveiro Fault that the respective anomalies cannot be distinguished. However, in Section C, they are clearly separated. Due to the SSW plunge of the dome axis, the detachment does not crop out to the S, and Section D...
shows only the maximum related with the Viveiro Fault. However, the assumed continuation of the detachment under the surface helps to adjust the models. Other subordinate magnetic maxima coincide with other detachments, as at Burela, or 8 km SW of Rúa.

An important question raised by this work is why magnetization is linked to extensional structures. Multidomain magnetite seems to be the primary carrier and responsible for the induced magnetization, while other iron oxides resulting from alteration, exsolution and replacement may be responsible for the remanence [Ayarza et al., 2017]. The P-T paths of the inner parts of the Mondoñedo Nappe and the Lugo Dome draw a clockwise loop characterized by intermediate-P Barrovian metamorphism, followed by high-T and low-P, typical of collisional belts [Martínez Catalán et al., 2014 and references therein]. The latter conditions reflect extensional collapse of the orogen that followed crustal thickening by recumbent folding and thrusting, and subsequent thermal relaxation. In the Xistral Tectonic Window, magnetite is a metamorphic mineral grown during decompression at high temperature, and inside the structures responsible for decompression.

Laboratory experiments have demonstrated that iron-rich rocks (goethite) with small amounts of organic matter may form magnetite after moderate reductive heating [Till et al., 2015]. The main magnetic blocks in the model represent rocks from the Vilalba Series and Cándana Group, essentially consisting of metasediments derived from shale, quartzite and greywacke. The same stratigraphic ensembles crop out in low-grade parts of the Mondoñedo Nappe and its relative autochthon to the E, but there, magnetite was not found. Accordingly, magnetite was developed exclusively inside the extensional shear zones because these are characterized by high temperatures, relatively low pressures, and synkinematic recrystallization.

Growth of magnetite as a metamorphic phase is a petrological problem beyond the scope of this paper. It is worth noting, however, that magnetite is a typical mineral of contact metamorphism. Magnetite-rich ironstones of the Luarca Slates to the W of the Viveiro Fault, derived from sedimentary ooidal iron oxides originated in this way. Contact metamorphism in slates is characterized by high-T effects upon low-grade metamorphic rocks that were not deeply buried at the time of granite intrusion. So, the P-T conditions at which magnetite was formed by contact metamorphism are probably similar to those of the Lugo Dome during extensional collapse, although the previous evolution differs and no significant coeval deformation accompanies contact metamorphism.

The main outcome of the models presented in this paper is the spatial magnetic correspondence between the EGMA and the outcropping extensional structures. The contribution of the models to constrain the geometry of these structures is however limited by the inhomogeneous distribution of magnetic properties, only partially controlled at surface and fully unknown at depth. The models including magnetic remanence achieve a better fit, and not only because remanence is significant in the analyzed samples. A good example is the dip of the Viveiro Fault, which can be approximately established from S-C, or S-C’ structures [Platt, 1984; Blenkinsop and Treloar, 1995; Passchier and Trouw, 1996]. Microshears in the Viveiro shear zone dip 45-60º W in the Viveiro area [Martínez et al., 1996], which agree better with the models including remanence (Figures 10 and 11).

### 5.2. The Curved Magnetic Anomaly at NW Iberia

According to the models, deep sources do not explain the waveforms of the ground-based magnetic anomaly in the Xistral Tectonic Window. Figure 13a shows the radially averaged power spectrum of the ground-based magnetic anomaly of the Xistral Tectonic Window and the depths estimated for the origin of the anomalies. Significant changes in the wavelength of
the anomalies are indicated by changes in the slope of the power spectrum, and allow the
separation of meaningful depths for the sources. The depths are then calculated in km
dividing by $4\pi$ the slope of the straight lines that fit different parts of the spectrum. In this
case, the results confirm the shallowness of the magnetic sources, the deepest of which lies at
4.1 km whereas other sources would be located at 1.8 km and 1.2 km (red, green and blue
lines respectively).

Deeper sources cannot be ruled out, however, because buried extensional detachments may
exist, and migmatites and associated granitoids could continue beneath 5 km, and could bear
ferrimagnetic components. In the central and southern parts of the Lugo Dome, the only
detachment cropping out is the Viveiro Fault, and no rocks with significant magnetic
susceptibility have been found. But the Lower Extensional Detachment and the migmatites
continue beneath the surface, buried due to the southward plunge of the dome axis. The same
holds for the Sanabria Dome, which forms the southern part of the EGMA.

The radially averaged power spectrum obtained for the whole EGMA using the aeromagnetic
data indicates wavelength components implying sources at 15.2, 7.1 and 2.9 km (Figure 13b),
although the height of flight above the surface (mean 2.6 km) must be subtracted. These
values should be taken as a reference, and comparison between the results from the two
datasets used in Figure 13 should be made with caution, because altitude and sampling
interval differ. For the EGMA spectrum, the uppermost and intermediate depths
(approximately 0.3 and 4.5 km once corrected) reflect sources at or close to the surface and
down to the maximum depth used in most of the 2D models presented here. So, they seem to
represent the contribution of the Xistral Tectonic Window. However, the deep sources
calculated in Figure 13b suggest that the migmatites and inhomogeneous granites continue
downward, reaching a depth of 12 km or more. The work of Ayarza and Martínez Catalán
[2007] modeled the aeromagnetic data set across the EGMA and addressed its origin at a
magmatic lens shaped body outcropping in the Xistral window but reaching mid crustal
depths. The aeromagnetic anomaly (Figure 9b) is wider than the upward continuation of the
ground level map (Figure 9a) probably because the latter is less sensitive to the effect of deep
structures, as it has a higher sampling rate and covers a smaller area.

The EGMA coincides with the Lugo and Sanabria Domes. Deep extension-related sources
probably account for other magnetic anomalies occurring in the continuation of the EGMA
toward central Spain, coinciding with the Tormes and Gredos Domes. From the latter, the
anomaly turns to the W and NW in central and northern Portugal, through the Ciudad Rodrigo
Dome, a series of granitic batholiths around Guarda and finally the granitic and migmatitic
Porto-Viseu Belt (Figure 1a). In fact, magnetite was developed in the latter during
migmatization, and the rocks there are characterized by high magnetic susceptibilities and
thermal remanent magnetization [Ribeiro et al., 2015].

The curved shape of the broad magnetic anomaly closely follows the alignment defined by the
domes and together, they delineate the core of the Central Iberian Arc (Figure 1b). Moreover,
the magnetic anomaly surrounds the Galicia-Trás-os-Montes Zone (GTMZ), which represents
the preserved part of a large and thick allochthonous nappe stack. It is thought that dome
development followed crustal thickening, largely induced by nappe emplacement. And both
the domes and the anomaly reflect the shape of the Allochthon [Martínez Catalán et al., 2014;
Alcock et al., 2015]. Actually, other domes occur among the allochthonous complexes
(Celanova, Padrón and Peares; Figure 1a), confirming that they developed under the nappe
pile, and positive magnetic anomalies occur at the Padrón Dome (Figure 1).
6. Conclusions

A ground-based magnetic map has been acquired in an extensional, late Variscan structural and metamorphic dome coinciding with the Eastern Galicia Magnetic Anomaly (EGMA). Our survey covers the Xistral Tectonic Window, where the relative autochthon of the Mondoñedo thrust sheet outcrops.

The new map shows anomalies with relatively short wavelength and high amplitude that need to be modeled with shallow magnetic bodies. The maxima coincide with outcrops of previously identified extensional shear zones associated with late Variscan detachments. The two most important ones are the Viveiro Fault and the Lower Extensional Detachment, whose ductile shear zones are a few kilometers thick. They both are responsible for the highest amplitude anomalies.

Magnetic properties are essentially linked to high-grade metasedimentary rocks deformed in late Variscan extensional structures, and in their anatectic derivatives. Large metamorphic grains of magnetite occur in Lower Cambrian and Neoproterozoic quartzites, schists, paragneisses, migmatites and inhomogeneous granites, and are responsible for the induced magnetization, while secondary iron oxides may be responsible for remanence. Outcropping basic and ultrabasic rocks are scarce and poorly magnetized, and the low value of the Bouguer gravity anomaly indicates that they are not volumetrically important at depth.

2D modeling was carried out using only induced magnetization and also including magnetic remanence. The models support the relationship of the magnetic anomalies with extensional structures. Models including remanence seem more accurate, as they match better the geometry of large structures such as the Viveiro Fault. However, the ability of the models to constrain the geometry of the structures in detail is limited by the inhomogeneous and largely unknown distribution of magnetic properties in the shear zones at depth.

Sources deeper than \( c.5 \) km are not needed to explain the waveforms of the ground-based magnetic anomaly in the Xistral Tectonic Window, but they exist, as indicated by the radially averaged power spectrum of the aeromagnetic dataset. No outcropping extensional detachments, continuation of those identified at the tectonic window and even deeper ones probably occur in the central and southern parts of the EGMA, down to depths of 12 km or more.

The continuation of the EGMA by a broad anomaly to the S and SE until central Spain, and then to the W and NW in Portugal, also overlaps extensional structures, either cropping out or buried. Accordingly, we hereby relate magnetic anomalies at the core of the Central Iberian Arc with migmatitic domes and/or with large granitic batholiths below which large migmatitic domains could be expected. The age of magnetization could shed some light on the timing of tectonics events in the Iberian Massif.

Finally, the existence of metasediments in an extensional tectonics setting has been addressed as an important source of magnetization. Similar structures should be searched for and identified worldwide in an effort to understand magnetization processes.

Acknowledgements. This contribution has been funded by the research projects CGL2011-22728 of the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation, CGL2016-78560-P and CGL2016-77560 of the Spanish Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness, as part of the National Program of Promotion of Scientific and Technical Research of Excellence, in the frame of the National Plan of Scientific and Technical Research and Innovation 2013-2016, and by research project SA065P17 from the regional government (Junta de Castilla y León).
The two first and the last projects provided funds for all authors except JJV, whose research was covered by the third project. The Bouguer gravity anomaly data can be downloaded from the Bureau Gravimétrique International (BGI), http://bgi.obs-mip.fr, previous request, and for NW Spain they were compiled by A. Casas and V. Pinto, of the Departamento de Geoquímica, Petrología y Prospección Geofísica, Universidad de Barcelona, whose contribution is acknowledged. Data of the aeromagnetic map of Spain are property of the Instituto Geográfico Nacional (IGN), www.ign.es/web/ign/portal, and can be obtained under request. We thank I. Socías, of the Instituto Geográfico Nacional, and J. M. Miranda, of the Centro de Geofísica da Universidade de Lisboa, for providing the data used in plotting the aeromagnetic map of the Iberian Peninsula. Supporting information: Table S1 includes ground-level data; Table S2 includes values of magnetic susceptibility measured in situ. The rest of the data used are listed in the references. Jean-Bernard Edel and Christine Syddoway are acknowledged for their careful insights of the manuscript, allowing us to significantly improve the final version.

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Tables

Table 1. Model parameters and significant magnetic values

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Densities for the Bouguer anomaly model</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bouguer correction</td>
<td>2670 kg m$^{-3}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabo Ortegal Complex</td>
<td>2860-2870 kg m$^{-3}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ophiolites of Cabo Ortegal and Órdenes complexes</td>
<td>2870 kg m$^{-3}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-grade Cambro-Ordovician slates</td>
<td>2790 kg m$^{-3}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xistral Quartzite</td>
<td>2630 kg m$^{-3}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migmatites</td>
<td>2650 kg m$^{-3}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Tojiza granodiorite</td>
<td>2670 kg m$^{-3}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper and middle crust</td>
<td>2670 kg m$^{-3}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower crust</td>
<td>2900 kg m$^{-3}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mantle</td>
<td>3260 kg m$^{-3}$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Magnetic acquisition and processing data

| Base station for diurnal and secular corrections | UTM Zone 29: E613923, N4832265, 141 m |
|Reference date for corrections                  | April 14th, 2015 |
|IGRF of base station at the reference date      | $B = 45861$ nT, $I = 58.72^\circ$, $D = -2.537^\circ$ |
|Corrected maximum and minimum values             | 777 and -437 nT |
|Maximum and minimum values of gridded data       | 737 and -403 nT |

Parameters for the magnetic models

| Mean susceptibility of drilled samples | $\kappa = 0.0099$ SI |
|Mean susceptibility of the coastal section  | $\kappa = 0.00105$ SI |
|Earth’s magnetic field used in the models   | $B = 45817.6$ nT, $I = 58.6^\circ$, $D = -2.5^\circ$ |
|Susceptibilities used in model blocks       | Multiples of $\kappa = 0.01$ SI |
|Maximum and minimum values used             | 0.08 and 0.02 SI; 0.001 SI in granodiorite |
|Exception: Figure 10, Section A (1)         | Multiples of $\kappa = 0.0105$ SI; 0.084 and 0.021 SI |
|Field $H$ used for magnetic induction ($M_r = \kappa \cdot H$) | 36.1186 A m$^{-1}$ |
|Magnetic remanence ($M_r$) used in models    | Multiples of 0.267 A m$^{-1}$ (the same used for $\kappa$) |
|Orientation of $M_r$                        | $I = -28^\circ$, $D = 156^\circ$ |
|Exception: $M_r$ for Section A (1) in Figure 10 | Multiples of 0.243 A m$^{-1}$ (the same used for $\kappa$) |
|Orientation of $M_r$ for Section A (1) in Figure 10 | $I = -61^\circ$, $D = 162^\circ$ |
Figure captions

Figure 1. (a) Map showing the outcrops of the Variscan basement in the Iberian Peninsula and the subdivision in zones of the Iberian Massif. Gneiss domes around the allochthonous complexes and the main strike-slip shear zones are included. Dashed purple lines approximately separate zones in areas covered by Mesozoic and Cenozoic sediments. Blue lines show the position of seismic profiles in Figure 2b. Abbreviations: CIA: Central Iberian Arc; IAA: Ibero-Armorican Arc. Gneiss domes: CR: Ciudad Rodrigo; Ce: Celanova; Gd: Guadarrama; Gr: Gredos; Gu: Guitiriz; Lu: Lugo; Pa: Peares; Sa: Sanabria; Tr: Tormes; PV: Porto-Viseu. Strike-slip shear zones: BCSZ: Badajoz-Córdoba; DBSZ: Douro-Beira; JPSZ: Juzbado-Penalva; PTSZ: Porto-Tomar; SISZ: Southern Iberian. (b) Aeromagnetic map of the Iberian Peninsula. Data from Ardizone et al. [1989] for Spain and Miranda et al. [1989] for Portugal.

Figure 2. (a) Geological section across NW Iberia showing the major contractional and extensional structures and above, the age of deformation episodes along the section. C1: recumbent folding; C2: thrusting; C3: upright folding and ductile wrenching; E1 and E2: extension, characterized by detachments and domes. (b) Composite seismic section built from vertical incidence seismic reflection profiles from NW Iberia, and representing approximately the equivalent parts of the geological section (profiles ESCIN 1.1, 1.2, 3.2 and 3.3). Thin red lines mark limits of reflection packages, and the lowermost line in each part of the section represents the Moho, assumed to occur at the base of one or more bands of reflective lower crust. For abbreviations and location of seismic profiles, see Figure 1a.

Figure 3. Geological map and cross sections of northern Galicia (NW Spain), based on Martínez Catalán et al. [2007, 2014]. The scale of the sections is twice that of the map. Red lines in the map mark the location of the geological sections. The rectangle in the map shows the studied area, whose geology is detailed in Figure 5. Section 1 was used to model the Bouguer gravity anomaly (Figures 4b and 7), and its yellow part indicates the location of the magnetic model corresponding to Section D (Figures 10, 11 and 12).

Figure 4. (a) Magnetic anomaly of northern Galicia. Data from the aeromagnetic map of Spain [Ardizone et al., 1989], reduced to the pole. Flight lines are shown in white. (b) Bouguer gravity anomaly of northern Galicia. The black line marks Section 1 of Figure 3, modeled as shown in Figure 7. (c) Vertical derivative of the Bouguer gravity anomaly. Contacts and faults are included in (a) and (c) to allow comparison with the geologic map of Figure 3. Rectangles locate the study area.

Figure 5. Geological map of the northern part of the Lugo Dome including the Xistral Tectonic Window. A to D: sections whose magnetic anomaly has been modeled. Coordinates are UTM, Zone 29, in km.

Figure 6. (a) Typical migmatite of the core of the Xistral Tectonic window c. 4 km NNE from Viveiro. The melanosome consists of paragneisses derived from the Neoproterozoic Vilalba Series. (b) Detail of the leucosome. Idiomorphic dark dots are magnetite grains. These
contain ilmenite exolved along crystallographic planes and are partially replaced by hematite, mostly along the borders. The pictures depict a large block from the Santa Rosa quarry, 3 km NE of Viveiro (see Figure 5). Rocks in the quarry show magnetic susceptibilities ranging between 0.005 and 0.2 SI.

Figure 7. Model of the Bouguer gravity anomaly along Section 1 (Figures 3 and 4b). Only blocks with significant density contrasts have been modeled. Density in kg m$^{-3}$. No vertical exaggeration.

Figure 8. (a) Absolute magnetic anomaly map of the Xistral Tectonic Window calculated from 315 ground measurements. (b) Map of the absolute magnetic anomaly reduced to the pole (RTP). (c) Map of geological domains and values of the magnetic susceptibility measured \textit{in situ} and equal or higher than 0.001 SI (values multiplied by 10$^3$). QTC: Quaternary and Tertiary cover; VGR: Variscan granitoids; OSD: Ollo de Sapo Domain; MND: Mondoñedo Nappe Domain; XTV: Xistral Tectonic Window. (d) Vertical derivative of the Bouguer gravity anomaly map for the same area. Contacts and faults included to allow comparison with the geologic map of Figure 5.

Figure 9. (a) Upward continuation to 3000 m above sea level of the magnetic anomaly acquired at ground level. (b) Detail of the aeromagnetic anomaly [data from Ardizone et al., 1989], for the Xistral Tectonic Window area. Contacts and faults are included.

Figure 10. 2D models of the magnetic anomaly in four sections across the Xistral Tectonic Window. Only induced magnetization is considered. For modeling, the ground-based anomaly (dots) was used, but the anomaly reduced to the pole is also shown (grey line). The Bouguer gravity anomaly is shown but is not modeled. The model blocks are bounded by a red line, and the magnetic susceptibility ($\kappa$, SI) used for each of them is indicated. For legend of lithology and stratigraphy of the geological sections, see Figure 5.

Figure 11. 2D models of the magnetic anomaly in four sections across the Xistral Tectonic Window, including induced and remanent magnetizations. Two models of Section A with different values for $M_r$ are shown. The model blocks are bounded by a red line, and the magnetic susceptibility ($\kappa$, SI), and magnetic remanence (A m$^{-1}$, inclination and declination), used for each of them are indicated. Legend of the geological sections as in Figure 5.

Figure 12. Block distribution resulting from 2D models of the magnetic anomaly in the four sections of Figures 10 and 11 shown in grey shades. Darker grey represents higher magnetic susceptibilities. The figure intends to allow comparison among models that include only induced magnetization (a) and those that also consider remanent magnetization (b).

Figure 13. Radially averaged power spectra and depth estimates of the sources of magnetic anomalies. (a) Data from the ground-based magnetic anomaly of the Xistral Tectonic Window. (b) Data from the whole Eastern Galicia Magnetic Anomaly. In both cases, three slopes, corresponding to deep (red), intermediate (green) and shallow (blue) sources have
been traced. The values in axes horizontal (wave number) and vertical (interval of ln Power) are used to calculate slopes, which divided by $4\pi$ yield the corresponding depths in km.
GNEISS DOMES

STRIKE-SLIP SHEAR ZONES

ZONES OF THE IBERIAN MASSIF

Galicia-Trás-os-Montes (GTMZ)
Allochthonous Complexes
Central Iberian (CIZ)
West Asturian-Leonese (WALZ)
Cantabrian (CZ)
Ossa-Morena (OMZ)
South Portuguese (SPZ)

Fig. 4a

MAGNETIC ANOMALIES

b
VARISCAN STRUCTURAL EVOLUTION OF NW IBERIA

Faults:
- Normal or strike-slip
- Extensional detachment
- Thrust fault

Regions:
- GTMZ
- CIZ
- WALZ
- CZ
- MALPICA-TUI COMPLEX
- ALLOCHTHON
- ÓRDENES COMPLEX
- CABO ORTEGAL COMPLEX
- OLLO DE SAPO ANTIFORM
- LUGO DOME
- MONDOÑEDO NAPPE
- NAVIA AND ALTO SIL
- ROOT OF THE CANTABRIAN ZONE

Age (Ma):
- VARISCAN STRUCTURAL EVOLUTION OF NW IBERIA
Fig. 5

Section 1
CABO ORTEGAL COMPLEX, OLLO DE SAPO ANTIFORM, LUGO DOME AND MONDOÑEDO NAPPE

Section 3
MALPICA-TUI COMPLEX

Section 2
ORDENES COMPLEX

COVER
Quaternary and Tertiary
Stephanian
VARISCAN GRANITOIDs
Postkinematic
Synkinematic, including migmatitic complexes
AUTOCHTHON
Middle Ordovician to Devonian
Armorican Quartzite
Cambrian-Lower Ordovician Oollo de Sapo Fm.
Vegadeo Limestone
Upper Cándana-Xistral Qtzte.
Cambro-Ordovician orthogneisses
Neoproterozoic (Ediacaran)
PARAUTOCHTHON
Schistose Domain
ALLOCHTHON
UPPER ALLOCHTHON: IP UNITS
Metasediments
Cambro-Ordovician orthogneisses
Pre-Variscan metagabbros
UPPER ALLOCHTHON: HP-HT UNITS
Eclogites, mafic granulites and amphibolites
Metasediments
Ultramafics
MIDDLE ALLOCHTHON: OCEANIC UNITS
Metagabbros and amphibolites
Ultramafics
Metasediments
LOWER ALLOCHTHON
Metasediments
Cambro-Ordovician orthogneisses
Amphibolites
STRUCTURES
Normal or wrench fault (map)
Normal or wrench fault (sections)
Thrust fault (map)
Thrust fault (sections)
Reactivated thrust fault
Extensional detachment
**XISTRAL TECTONIC WINDOW**
**RADially AVERAGED POWER SPECTRUM**

**DEPTH ESTIMATE**

**EGMA**
**RADially AVERAGED POWER SPECTRUM**

**DEPTH ESTIMATE**