

## ***Interactive comment on “Tectonothermal evolution in the core of an arcuate fold and thrust belt: the southeastern sector of the Cantabrian Zone (Variscan belt, NW Spain)” by M. L. Valín et al.***

**Anonymous Referee #1**

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In this article a series of complementary analytical techniques, together with structural data are used to establish the tectonothermal evolution of the easternmost part of the Cantabrian Zone. This is an interesting topic that contributes to the knowledge of a much studied part of the Variscan chain of the Iberian Peninsula.

The paper is well written and its content is within the scope of Solid Earth. The figures are necessary for the understanding of the text and its quality is good. However in some of them, due to the amount of information they contain, the font size of the legend is too small (see pdf). The discussion analyzes clearly the results which, combined with extensive information on the chain structure allows to establish relevant conclusions.

References are very thorough, and they allow the reader to understand the level of ex-  
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isting knowledge on the structure of the region as well as the techniques used, however sometimes the excessive number of citations obscures the reading of the text.

As an specific comment should be interesting to know the reason why "The hydrothermal post-Variscan episodes probably lasted less than 50 Ma" (lines 207-209)

A listing of technical corrections is included in the pdf.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<http://www.solid-earth-discuss.net/se-2016-53/se-2016-53-RC1-supplement.pdf>

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