

We have made the corrections regarding stratigraphic terminology as suggested by the editors (Upper for Late Cretaceous etc.)

We have added a short segment in parantheses in page 1 line 16-17 to explain the meaning of the term "Variscan" in terms of both basement and orogen. We have also substituted the term Variscan (which we believe is nowadays more widely recognised internationally) for Hercynian (which in any case can cause confusion with respect to the name of the Subhercynian Cretaceous Basin), throughout the paper. We have modified paragraphs 1 and 2 of section 2 to both give a more complete description of the geological history of the region and link it better to figure 3. In particular, we have added an explanation of the Zechstein transgression and basal unconformity, which we have also now highlighted in figure 3 (blurred, blue, dashed line). We have also added a reference (Ziegler and Dèzes, 2006) for the general purposes of explaining the denudation and levelling of the earlier Variscan orogen through the Permian. We have been more clearly explained the reason why the base Zechstein unconformity can be seen as a regional marker of Late Cretaceous subsidence, whereas the overlying Mesozoic records both Late Cretaceous shortening and subsidence.

We have changed the code availability to reference the new, GitHub repository, where all the source code is available.