



1 **Chronostratigraphic framework and provenance of the**  
2 **Ossa-Morena Zone Carboniferous basins (SW Iberia)**

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17 **Abstract.** Carboniferous siliciclastic and silicic magmatic rocks from the Santa Susana-São  
18 Cristovão region contain valuable information regarding the timing of synorogenic processes in  
19 SW Iberia. In this region of the Ossa-Morena Zone (OMZ), Late Carboniferous terrigenous  
20 strata (i.e. the Santa Susana Formation) unconformably overlie Early Carboniferous marine  
21 siliciclastic deposits alternating with volcanic rocks (i.e. the Toca da Moura volcano-  
22 sedimentary complex). Lying below this intra-Carboniferous unconformity, the Toca da Moura  
23 volcano-sedimentary complex is intruded and overlain by the Baleizão porphyry. Original  
24 SHRIMP and LA-ICP-MS U-Pb zircon are presented in this paper, providing  
25 chronostratigraphic and provenance constraints, since available geochronological information is  
26 scarce and only biostratigraphic ages are currently available for the Santa Susana-São Cristovão  
27 region. Our findings and the currently-available detrital zircon ages from Paleozoic terranes of  
28 SW Iberia (Pulo do Lobo Zone- PLZ, South-Portuguese Zone- SPZ, and OMZ), were jointly  
29 analyzed using the K-S test and MDS diagrams to investigate provenance. The marine  
30 deposition is constrained to the age interval of c. 335-331 Ma (Viséan) by new U-Pb data for  
31 silicic tuffs from the Toca da Moura volcano-sedimentary complex. The Baleizão porphyry,  
32 intrusive in the Toca da Moura volcano-sedimentary complex, yielded a crystallization age of c.  
33 317 Ma (Bashkirian), providing the minimum age for the overlying intra-Carboniferous  
34 unconformity. A comparison of detrital zircon populations from siliciclastic rocks of the  
35 Cabrela and Toca de Moura volcano-sedimentary complexes of the OMZ suggests that they



36 derived from distinct sources more closely associated with the **SPZ and PLZ** than the OMZ.  
37 Above the intra-Carboniferous unconformity, the Santa Susana Formation is either the result of  
38 the recycling of distinct sources located in the Laurussian-side (SPZ and PLZ) and Gondwanan-  
39 side (OMZ) of the Rheic suture zone. The best estimate of the crystallization age of a granite  
40 cobble found in a conglomerate from the Santa Susana Formation yielded c. 303 Ma  
41 (Kasimovian-Gzhelian), representing the maximum depositional age for the terrestrial strata.  
42 The intra-Carboniferous unconformity seems to represent a stratigraphic gap of approximately  
43 12-14 Ma, providing evidence of the rapid post-accretion/collision uplift of the Variscan  
44 orogenic belt in SW Iberia (i.e. the OMZ, PLZ and SPZ).

45

#### 46 **1. Introduction**

47 U-Pb geochronology of detrital zircon from siliciclastic rocks has been extensively used in  
48 stratigraphic correlation studies for estimating the maximum depositional age and investigating  
49 the provenance of sedimentary sequences (Fedo et al., 2001; Dickinson and Gehrels, 2009). The  
50 youngest detrital zircon grains found in siliciclastic rock commonly provide useful information  
51 about depositional age, especially in areas that experienced active volcanism during sediment  
52 accumulation (Gehrels, 2014). The maximum depositional age obtained for siliciclastic rock is  
53 often not necessarily coincident with the biostratigraphic age as defined by key fossil  
54 assemblages (Pereira et al., 2019). Therefore, in order to overcome any doubt about the true age  
55 of deposition, it is desirable that volcanic rocks interstratified with fossiliferous siliciclastic  
56 rocks should be dated (Fedo et al., 2001; Bowring et al., 2006). Furthermore, the application of  
57 zircon U-Pb geochronology to volcano-sedimentary and sedimentary sequences that are  
58 separated by unconformities, by means of the comparative analysis of their age populations,  
59 may be useful for estimating time intervals and revealing changes in provenance. Volcanic  
60 rocks that lie beneath or overlie sedimentary sequences and unconformities can provide  
61 maximum and minimum ages, respectively. When detrital zircon geochronology is linked to the  
62 geochronology of crosscutting younger igneous rocks, then both a maximum and minimum age  
63 bracket for deposition can be determined (Fedo et al., 2001).  
64 The Variscan orogen that extends from central Europe to Iberia was reworked through discrete  
65 Carboniferous sedimentary cycles during the Laurussia-Gondwana convergence, giving rise to  
66 the formation of marine and ~~terrestrial~~ basins. In SW Iberia, stratigraphic correlation has been  
67 proposed for the Carboniferous synorogenic strata found in the three main tectonostratigraphic  
68 divisions of the Variscan Orogen: the Ossa-Morena (OMZ), Pulo do Lobo (PLZ) and South  
69 Portuguese (SPZ) zones (Quesada and Oliveira, 2019, and references therein).  
70 The Carboniferous siliciclastic strata in the Santa Susana-São Cristovão region (OMZ) includes  
71 fossils indicating Carboniferous to Kasimovian biostratigraphic ages (Teixeira, 1938-1940, 1941;  
72 Lemos de Sousa and Wagner, 1983; Wagner and Lemos de Sousa, 1983; Pereira et al., 2006;



73 Machado et al., 2012; Lopes et al., 2014). In the Santa Susana-São Cristovão region, Late  
74 Carboniferous siliciclastic strata of the Santa Susana Formation unconformably overlies: i) the  
75 poorly-dated Baleizão volcanic-subvolcanic suite, and ii) the Early Carboniferous Toca da  
76 Moura volcano-sedimentary complex, which includes volcanic rocks that have never been  
77 dated. This intra-Carboniferous unconformity was generated as consequence of regional uplift  
78 and falling sea level, leading to a change in depositional environment from Early Carboniferous  
79 marine to Late Carboniferous terrestrial (Gonçalves and Carvalhosa, 1984; Oliveira et al., 1991;  
80 Machado et al., 2012). The provenance of the above-mentioned Carboniferous strata has been  
81 discussed based on petrographic, paleontological and detrital zircon geochronology evidence  
82 (Pereira et al., 2006; Machado et al., 2012; Lopes et al., 2014; Dinis et al., 2018).  
83 In this paper, SHRIMP and LA-ICP-MS U-Pb analyses were performed on zircon grains from  
84 silicic volcanic, subvolcanic, and siliciclastic rocks sampled in the Santa Susana-São Cristovão  
85 region (OMZ, SW Iberia). The aim of this geochronology study is to establish the  
86 chronostratigraphic framework of the Carboniferous strata in the Santa Susana-São Cristovão  
87 region and to discuss their provenance using a statistical approach (Kolmogorov-Smirnov test  
88 and  $\mu$ -scaling diagrams). Thus, we pay tribute to J.R. Martínez-Catalán, who devoted part of  
89 his career to investigating the Carboniferous synorogenic basins of NW Iberia.

90

## 91 **2. Geological setting**

92 In SW Iberia, the tectonic limit between the OMZ (Gondwanan-side) and the PLZ and SPZ  
93 (Laurussian-side) has been regarded as constituting the tectonically reworked suture zone of the  
94 Rheic Ocean (Andrade, 1983; Quesada et al., 1994; Simancas et al., 2005; Díaz-Apiroz et al.,  
95 2006; Ribeiro et al., 2007; Pereira et al., 2017a) (Fig. 1). This Paleozoic suture zone has been  
96 defined along the Beja-Acebuches ophiolitic complex (Fonseca et al., 1999, and references  
97 therein). The Beja-Acebuches ophiolitic complex is separated from the Beja Igneous Complex  
98 (Jesus et al., 2007, 2016) by a strike-slip fault. Metabasalts and metagabbros (i.e. the Mombeja  
99 unit of Andrade, 1983) from the Beja-Acebuches ophiolitic complex have been dated at c. 340-  
100 332 Ma (U-Pb zircon; Azor et al., 2008), while in the Beja Igneous Complex gabbro and  
101 granitic rocks are relatively older, yielding crystallization ages of c. 353-342 Ma (U-Pb zircon;  
102 Jesus et al., 2007; Pin et al., 2008). Trace element and isotopic signatures of Beja Igneous  
103 Complex plutonic rocks indicate crustal contamination of parental magmas deriving from a  
104 depleted asthenospheric mantle reservoir (Santos et al., 1990; Pin et al., 2008; Jesus et al.,  
105 2016). The plutonic rocks of the Beja Igneous Complex show well-defined intrusive contacts  
106 with previously deformed and metamorphosed sedimentary and igneous rocks of the OMZ  
107 basement (Rosas et al., 2008; Pin et al., 2008). The Beja Igneous Complex also includes the São  
108 Cristovão-Alcáçovas subvolcanic complex (Gonçalves and Carvalhosa, 1984), composed of  
109 silicic sub-volcanic and volcanic rocks (i.e. the Baleizão unit of Andrade, 1983), granophyres



110 and porphyries dated at c. 324 Ma (K-Ar on biotite; Priem et al., 1986), associated with  
111 diabases. The major and trace element geochemistry of the Baleizão porphyries indicates a calc-  
112 alkaline rhyolitic, rhyodacitic and andesitic composition typical of magmas produced at  
113 convergent plate boundaries (Santos et al., 1987; Caldeira et al., 2007; Ferreira et al., 2014). The  
114 Baleizão porphyries occur as dykes and sills (Andrade, 1927) (Figs. 3a, b), overlying  
115 (Gonçalves and Carvalhosa, 1984) the Early Carboniferous siliciclastic and volcanic rocks of  
116 the Toca da Moura volcano-sedimentary complex (Santos et al., 1987, and references therein)  
117 (Fig. 2).

118 The Toca da Moura volcano-sedimentary complex is mainly composed of pelites (i.e.  
119 “Xistinhos”; Teixeira, 1944; Fig. 3a) and greywackes, associated with andesite-to-rhyolite  
120 volcanic rocks (lava flow and tuffs; Figs. 3c, d, e), andesitic basalt (Fig. 3f), chert layers  
121 (Gonçalves and Carvalhosa, 1984), and a few olistoliths of basalt and limestone. Siliciclastic  
122 rocks contain well-preserved in-situ palynomorph assemblages of Tournaisian to Visean age  
123 and reworked palynomorphs ranging in age from the Middle Cambrian to the Early Tournaisian  
124 (Pereira et al., 2006; Lopes et al., 2014). Based on geochemical information, this volcanism was  
125 interpreted by Santos et al. (1987) as deriving from calc-alkaline magma produced in a  
126 continental magmatic arc. A stratigraphic correlation was established between the Toca da  
127 Moura volcano-sedimentary complex and the Cabrela volcano-sedimentary complex (Pereira et  
128 al., 2006) which is located 15 km to the NW, in the Évora Massif (Pereira et al., 2007; 2012a)  
129 (Fig. 1b). The presence of variable-scale soft-sediment structures (i.e. slumps, intraclast  
130 conglomerates and olistoliths) in both complexes indicates gravity-induced instability during  
131 marine sedimentation. Detrital zircon ages of a siliciclastic rock from the Cabrela volcano-  
132 sedimentary complex are mainly Middle-Late Devonian (82%) and Early Carboniferous (14%),  
133 also including a few older grains (sample OM-200 from Pereira et al., 2012a).

134 The Santa Susana Formation (i.e. Santa Susana basin, Domingos et al., 1983; Quesada et al.,  
135 1990, Oliveira et al. 1991) siliciclastic rocks that ~~outcrop~~ along a NNW-SSE-trending narrow  
136 discontinuous band which is 0.1-5 km wide and 12 km long unconformably overlie the Baleizão  
137 Porphyry and the Toca da Moura volcano-sedimentary complex (Fig. 2), forming the geological  
138 contact between these stratigraphic units often defined by faults (Gonçalves and Carvalhosa,  
139 1984). The Santa Susana Formation is divided into two members (Machado et al., 2012, and  
140 references therein): i) the lower member is mainly composed of coarse-grained sandstone and  
141 conglomerate beds (Figs. 4a, b, c, d); these conglomerates include pebbles and cobbles of silicic  
142 porphyry, rhyolite, andesite, basalt, granite, felsic tuff, pelite, sandstone, greywacke, quartzite,  
143 phyllite, chert, and quartz (Figs. 4e, f); ii) the upper member represents a repetitive sequence of  
144 alternating beds of pelite and sandstone interbedded with coal seams, and few beds of  
145 conglomerate (Fig. 2). These terrestrial deposits were most probably deposited in an  
146 alluvial/fluviol-to-fluvial/lacustrine (floodplain lakes and/or abandoned channels with abundant





147 vegetation) system. The plant fossils identified in the siliciclastic rocks of the Santa Susana  
148 Formation indicate a Moscovian-Kasimovian biostratigraphic age (Wagner and Lemos de  
149 Sousa, 1983). Pelitic beds from the Upper member include palynomorph assemblages assigned  
150 with Kasimovian age (Machado et al., 2012). Palynomorphs ranging in age from the middle  
151 Cambrian to the early Moscovian were also found in siliciclastic rocks of the Santa Susana  
152 Formation sampled from a borehole at a depth of around 400 m (Lopes et al., 2014). Detrital  
153 zircon ages from upper member sandstones (Dinis et al., 2018) are mainly distributed over  
154 Devonian–Carboniferous (41–51%), Paleoproterozoic (23–30%) and Ediacaran–Cryogenian (16–  
155 23%) groups, and also a few Stenian–Tonian and Archean grains.

156

### 157 **3. Rational and analytical methods**

158 In this study, SHRIMP U-Pb analyses were performed for the first time on magmatic zircon  
159 from two samples of tuff from the Toca da Moura volcano-sedimentary complex (TM-1 and  
160 SCV-2; Figs. 3c, d), one from the Baleizão silicic porphyry (SCV-30; Fig. 3b), and a cobble of  
161 granite (SCV-7; Fig. 4e) found in a conglomerate from the lower member of the Santa Susana  
162 Formation. Estimations of the crystallization age of samples SCV-2 and TM-1 (syndepositional  
163 volcanism), and sample SCV-30 (post-depositional) were used to validate the Tournaisian-  
164 Viséan biostratigraphic age previously attributed to the Toca da Moura volcano-sedimentary  
165 complex based on palynological assemblages (Pereira et al., 2006; Lopes et al., 2014). The  
166 presence of granite cobbles and pebbles in conglomerate layers from the lower Santa Susana  
167 Formation indicates denudation and recycling of a crystalline basement involving granite whose  
168 age is unknown. The dating of the granite cobble (sample SCV-7) is useful for discussing  
169 provenance and estimating the maximum depositional age of the Santa Susana conglomerate. In  
170 addition, LA-ICP-MS U-Pb analyses were performed on detrital zircon grains from two samples  
171 of sandstone from the upper and lower members of the Santa Susana Formation (samples SS-1  
172 and SS-2, respectively; Fig. 5g, h), and a sample of pelite from the Toca da Moura volcano-  
173 sedimentary complex (sample TM-3; Fig. 5e). This new U-Pb data is useful for discussing  
174 provenance and determining the maximum depositional ages of the two sedimentary sequences  
175 separated by an intra-Carboniferous unconformity. Sample locations in the Santa Susana-São  
176 Cristóvão region are indicated in Figure 2. Finally, detrital zircon grains of siliciclastic rock  
177 from the Cabrela volcanic-sedimentary complex (sample CBR-11; Fig. 5f; equivalent to sample  
178 OM-200 of Pereira et al. 2012a) were analyzed to test for the existence of pre-Devonian ages.  
179 The new U-Pb results obtained in the present study are compared with previously-reported age  
180 spectra for pre-Kasimovian siliciclastic rocks from the OMZ, PLZ and SPZ siliciclastic  
181 sequences of SW Iberia, using statistical tools.

182 Zircon grains for U-Pb geochronology were selected using traditional techniques: density  
183 separation using a wilfley table (Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain) and also using





184 granulometric separation using sieves with a mesh size of less than 500 microns, density  
185 (panning) separation procedures, and mineral identification using a binocular lens and  
186 preparation of epoxy resin mounts with zircon grains (Universidade de Évora, Portugal). U-Pb  
187 measurements were obtained at IBERSIMS (Universidad de Granada, Spain) using SHRIMP,  
188 and also at the Senckenberg Naturhistorische Sammlungen Dresden (Museum für Mineralogie  
189 und Geologie, Germany) using a LA-ICP-MS. U-Pb measurements using SHRIMP and LA-  
190 ICP-MS followed the procedures previously described by Dias da Silva et al. (2018) and Pereira  
191 et al. (2012a), respectively. U-Pb results are listed in Tables S1 and S2 (Supplementary  
192 Material). Concordia curves and weighted-average means were obtained using Isoplot 4  
193 (Ludwig, 2003) (Figs. 6 and 7). Kernel density estimation (KDE) diagrams were produced with  
194 90-110 % concordant  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  ages for grains younger than 1.0 Ga, and  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages for  
195 older grains (for further details, see Frei and Gerdes, 2009) using IsoplotR (Vermeesch, 2018)  
196 (Figs. 8a, b). Cathodoluminescence-imaging was performed at TU Bergakademie Freiberg  
197 (Germany) and at IBERSIMS.

198 The K-S test and the MDS technique were used in conjunction to compare populations of  
199 detrital zircon U-Pb ages obtained from the Carboniferous siliciclastic rocks of the Santa  
200 Susana-São Cristovão region using a method designed for a recent study of the provenance of  
201 Triassic sandstones (Gama et al., in press, and references therein). The K-S test is a non-  
202 parametric statistical tool that has been successfully used for the comparison of two populations  
203 of detrital zircon U-Pb ages by evaluating whether they are significantly different, i.e. indicating  
204 whether zircon age populations correlate with a similar source or not, regardless of whether they  
205 are of different sizes, while including at least 20 measurements (DeGraaff-Surpless et al., 2003).  
206 The probability of the observed maximum vertical difference between the cumulative  
207 probability curves (D-value; Fig. 7c) being unrelated to age differences between the two detrital  
208 zircon populations is given by a P-value corresponding to a confidence interval of 95%  
209 (Barbeau Jr. et al.; 2009; Guynn and Gehrels, 2010) (Fig. 9a). High P-values and low D-values  
210 indicate that the observed difference between the two detrital zircon populations may be  
211 explained by the existence of common sources (Gama et al., in press, and references therein). K-  
212 S analyses were carried out using an Excel spreadsheet published on the University of Arizona  
213 Geochronological Center website at <https://sites.google.com/a/laserchron.org/laserchron/>. The  
214 MDS technique provides a means for the comparison of samples based on quantified pairwise  
215 comparisons of their detrital zircon ages, and is extremely useful for visualising the degree of  
216 similarity between samples in two dimensions, i.e. greater distances between samples represent  
217 a greater degree of dissimilarity between points on MDS diagrams (Vermeesch, 2013; Spencer  
218 and Kirkland, 2015; Wissink et al., 2018) (Fig. 9b). MDS diagrams were produced using  
219 IsoplotR (Vermeesch, 2018).

220



## 221 **4. U-Pb geochronology: Results**

### 222 **4.1. Volcanic silicic rocks of the Toca da Moura volcano-sedimentary complex**

223 Sample SCV-2 is a fine-grained banded rhyolitic tuff consisting of variable size and shape  
224 quartz and K-feldspar phenocryst and lithoclasts (less than 1mm in diameter) dispersed in ash  
225 matrix (Fig. 5a). Zircon grains appear as stubby-to-elongated euhedral prisms (50-150  $\mu\text{m}$  in  
226 diameter), mostly showing oscillatory concentric zoning growing on distinct cores or as simple  
227 crystals. There are some dark inclusions, unzoned patches and transgressive variably  
228 luminescence embayments. A total of 44 U-Th-Pb SHRIMP analyses of 44 grains yielded U  
229 content ranging from 262 to 628 ppm, and Th/U ratios ranging from 0.17 to 0.95 (mean = 0.42).  
230 A group of 23 grains with  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  ages (discordance  $\leq 5\%$ ) yielded a weighted mean  
231  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  age of  $331 \pm 4$  Ma (MSWD = 1.2; Fig. 6a), which probably represents the  
232 crystallization age of tuff.

233 Sample TM-1 is a fine-grained banded rhyolitic tuff consisting quartz, K-feldspar and biotite  
234 phenocrysts, flattened dark-brown pumice (i.e. fiamme) and lithoclasts (less than 1mm in  
235 diameter) enclosed in ash matrix (Fig. 5b). The zircon population is characterized by stubby  
236 euhedral-to-sub-euhedral small (30-100  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter) grains. Magmatic grains are either  
237 simple with concentric zoning or composite showing variably luminescence cores with  
238 concentric zoning, unzoned, or banded zoned. These cores are surrounded by overgrowths with  
239 concentric zoning and are occasionally diffuse or unzoned. A total of 120 U-Th-Pb LA-ICP-MS  
240 analyses yielded U content ranging from 87 to 4136 ppm, and Th/U ratios ranging from 0.04 to  
241 2.29 (mean = 0.53). 28  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  ages (90-110% of concordance) yield a weighted mean  
242  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  age of  $341 \pm 10$  Ma with a very poor fit (MSWD = 6.9; Fig. 6b), as indicated by the  
243 scattering of ages along the Concordia curve. A coherent group of 21 grains with  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  ages  
244 yielded a weighted mean  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  age of  $335 \pm 6$  Ma (MSWD = 1.5; Fig. 6b), providing the  
245 best age estimate for the volcanic rock (Fig. 6b). The youngest zircon grain (c. 302 Ma)  
246 probably experienced Pb loss. The six oldest zircon grains present Paleoproterozoic (c. 2 Ga),  
247 Neoproterozoic (c. 715 Ma) and Devonian (c. 395-378 Ma) ages, suggesting inheritance.

248

### 249 **4.2. Baleizão porphyry**

250 Sample SCV-30 is a porphyritic rhyodacite-rhyolite consisting of quartz, plagioclase, K-  
251 feldspar, biotite and amphibole phenocryst (less than 3mm in diameter) embedded in a fine-  
252 grained silicic matrix (Fig. 5c). The zircon population contains grains (30-120  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter)  
253 from subrounded subhedral to prismatic euhedral. Prisms are equant to moderately elongate  
254 showing simple internal structure characterized by concentric and sector zoning to unzoned. A  
255 concentric zoned or unzoned rim surrounds unzoned cores of few composite grains. A total of  
256 20 U-Th-Pb SHRIMP analyses for sample SCV-30 yielded U content ranging from 267 to 581  
257 ppm, and Th/U ratios ranging from 0.34 to 0.52 (mean = 0.41). 15 analyses were obtained for



258 zircon with discordance  $\leq 5\%$ , distributed along the concordia curve from ca. 355 to 312 Ma,  
259 and yielded a weighted mean  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{Th}$  age of  $332 \pm 9$  Ma (mean square of weighted deviates,  
260 MSWD = 4.3; Fig. 7b). Some of the spread observed could be due to the presence of  
261 inheritance. Five grains in the age range ca. 334-312 Ma yielded a weighted mean  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  age  
262 of  $317 \pm 12$  Ma (MSWD = 2.1; Fig. 7a), which is regarded as the best estimate for the  
263 crystallization age of subvolcanic silicic rock. The remaining oldest 10 grains yielded  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$   
264 ages of c. 355-337 Ma which probably indicates inheritance.

265

#### 266 4.3. Cobble of granite found in a conglomerate from the Santa Susana Formation

267 Sample SCV-7 is a cobble (20 cm in diameter) of pinkish medium-grained granite consisting of  
268 quartz, alkali feldspar and biotite (Fig. 5d). Most zircons are stubby and elongated subeuhedral  
269 to euhedral prisms (80 to 150  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter). Morphologically zircon grains are mostly simple  
270 showing concentric zoning, sector zoning to unzoned, and few are composite with irregular and  
271 unzoned small cores surrounded by a rim with concentric zoning. 40 U-Th-Pb SHRIMP  
272 analyses were performed on sample SCV-7 with U content ranging from 348 to 3177 ppm, and  
273 Th/U ratios ranging from 0.3 to 1.25 (mean = 0.5). Of this total of analyses 24 U-Pb ages with  
274 discordance  $\leq 5\%$ , scattered along the concordia curve from ca. 349 to 294 Ma, yielded a  
275 weighted mean  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  age of  $327 \pm 7$  Ma (MSWD = 4; Fig. 7b). A group of six zircon grains  
276 in the age range of c. 309-294 Ma yielded a weighted mean  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  age of  $303 \pm 6$  Ma  
277 (MSWD = 0.98; Fig. 7b), which is taken as the probable crystallization age of the granite. The  
278 remaining 19 zircon grains yielded  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  ages of c. 349-326 Ma, suggesting inheritance.

279

#### 280 4.4. Siliciclastic rocks from the Toca da Moura and Cabrela volcano-sedimentary 281 complexes

282 Sample TM-3 is a laminated poorly-sorted siltstone with quartz-rich silt layers, containing  
283 feldspar and tourmaline grains, and lithoclasts (Fig. 5e), which are intercalated with darker  
284 layers of clay. The zircon population is mostly characterized by stubby to elongated prismatic  
285 small grains (less than 100  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter). It includes simple and composite zircons showing  
286 concentric, sector and banded zoning. Of a total of 82 U-Th-Pb LA-ICP-MS analyses, with U  
287 content ranging from 19 to 4630 ppm, and Th/U ratios ranging from 0.01 to 4.53 (mean = 0.75),  
288 36 zircon grains yield 90-110% concordance. The Paleozoic population of detrital zircon (36%)  
289 includes Early Carboniferous (9%, c. 353, 349 and 340 Ma), Ordovician (14%, c. 476-456 Ma),  
290 Cambrian (7%, c. 531-500 Ma) and Late Devonian (6%, c. 369 and 362 Ma) grains (Fig. 8a).  
291 The Precambrian population (64%) is predominantly Neoproterozoic (36%; c. 983-587 Ma), but  
292 also includes Paleoproterozoic (14%; c. 2-1.8 Ga), Mesoproterozoic (8%; c. 1.3-1 Ga) and  
293 Archean (6%; c. 2.7-2.5 Ga) grains. The three youngest zircon grains (c. 353-340 Ma) yielded a  
294 maximum depositional age of c. 348 Ma (Tournaisian), which is in accordance with the



295 sedimentary age inferred from biostratigraphic constraints (Late Tournaisian to Middle-Late  
296 Viséan; Pereira et al., 2006; Lopes et al., 2014).  
297 Sample CBR-11 is a fine-grained poorly-to-moderate sorted siltstone consisting predominantly  
298 of quartz and few feldspar grains and lithoclasts enclosed in silt-clay-sized particles (Fig. 5g).  
299 Most of zircon grains are small (less than 100  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter), euhedral to subeuhedral. They  
300 are simple grains (short, stubby to equant prisms) with oscillatory concentric and banded  
301 zoning, and only few are composite grains with rounded cores. Of a total of 20 U-Th-Pb LA-  
302 ICP-MS analyses, with U content ranging from 54 to 1379 ppm, and Th/U ratios ranging from  
303 0.2 to 1.69 (mean = 0.81), 10 grains yielded 90-110% of concordance. Five grains are Paleozoic  
304 (Carboniferous: c. 359, 351 and 346 Ma; Cambrian: c. 514 and 511 Ma) and five are  
305 Precambrian (Paleoproterozoic: c. 2.4, 2.1 and 1.8 Ga; Mesoproterozoic: 1 Ga; Neoproterozoic:  
306 c. 603 Ma). By combining our new data with those from sample OM-200 (Pereira et al., 2012a),  
307 it was found that the detrital zircon population (CB; Fig. 8a) is largely dominated by Paleozoic  
308 grains (90%): Late-Middle Devonian (68%), Early Carboniferous (15%), Cambrian (4%) and  
309 Early Devonian (2%) grains, being distinct from sample TM-3 described above (Fig. 8a). The  
310 youngest zircon population (N = 5; c. 353-346 Ma) yielded a weighted mean age of c. 351 Ma  
311 (Tournaisian), suggesting a maximum depositional age which is slightly older than the  
312 sedimentary age inferred from biostratigraphic constraints (Late Tournaisian to Middle-Late  
313 Viséan; Pereira et al., 2006).

314

#### 315 4.5. Siliciclastic rocks from the Santa Susana Formation

316 Sample SS-2 represents medium-to-coarse grained poorly-sorted sandstone. It is mainly  
317 composed of lithoclasts (siltstone, mudstone, quartzite, phyllite, rhyolite, basalt) and quartz  
318 grains, but also includes muscovite and feldspar grains (Fig. 5g). The zircon population is  
319 mostly characterized by stubby to prismatic, subrounded to subangular, grains (120-300  $\mu\text{m}$  in  
320 diameter). Morphologically were found simple and composite grains. Cathodoluminescence  
321 imaging shows that most zircon grains have concentric oscillatory zoning, irregular zoning and  
322 are banded or unzoned. A total of 153 U-Th-Pb LA-ICP-MS analyses were performed on  
323 detrital zircon grains. They show U content ranging from 15 to 6158 ppm, and Th/U ratios  
324 ranging from 0.02 to 3.57 (mean = 0.66). A population with 51 grains yielding U-Pb ages with  
325 90-110% concordance (Fig. 8b) is dominated by Precambrian ages (64%): Neoproterozoic  
326 (37%; c. 801-551 Ma), Paleoproterozoic (25%; c. 2.4-1.6 Ga) and Neorchean (2%, c. 2.5 Ga).  
327 The Paleozoic grains (36%) are Carboniferous (20%; c. 359-303 Ma), Late Devonian (14%; c.  
328 378-362 Ma), and Early Ordovician (2%; c. 447 Ma). The youngest grain (c. 303 Ma;  
329 Kasimovian-Gzhelian) is slightly younger than the sedimentary age inferred from  
330 biostratigraphic constraints (Middle Moscovian to Kasimovian; Lemos de Sousa and Wagner,  
331 1983; Machado et al., 2012; Lopes et al., 2014).



332 Sample SS-1 represents a very-coarse grained sandstone consisting of rounded-to-subangular  
333 mono- and polycrystalline quartz, feldspar and muscovite grains, and a wide variety of  
334 lithoclasts (chert, phyllite, rhyolite, siltstone and sandstone; Fig. 5h) . Zircon grains are rounded  
335 to subangular, stubby and elongated prisms (less than 280  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter). The zircon  
336 population includes simple grains with oscillatory concentric, banded and sector zoning, and  
337 composite grains with cores with distinct internal morphologies surrounded by variable width  
338 rims. A total of 150 U-Th-Pb LA-ICP-MS analyses performed on detrital zircon grains yielded  
339 U content ranging from 24 to 9819 ppm, and Th/U ratios ranging from 0.05 to 2.89 (mean =  
340 0.72). A group of 71 grains yielding U-Pb ages with 90-110% concordance are dominated by  
341 Paleozoic ages (82%), predominantly made up of Carboniferous (49%; c. 358-315 Ma) and  
342 Devonian (25%; c. 389-359 Ma), and a few Late Ordovician-Silurian (5%; c. 434, 429 and 425  
343 Ma) and Cambrian (3%; c. 533 and 491 Ma) grains (Fig. 8b). The Precambrian grains (18%) are  
344 Neoproterozoic (10%; c. 702-542 Ma), Paleoproterozoic (4%; c. 2.1-1.6 Ga), Mesoproterozoic  
345 (3%, c. 1.4 and 1.6 Ga) and Neorchean (1%, c. 2.8 Ga). The youngest zircon population ( $N = 3$ ;  
346 c. 319-315 Ma) yielded a maximum depositional age of c. 316 Ma (Bashkirian-Moscovian),  
347 which is slightly older than the sedimentary age inferred from biostratigraphic constraints  
348 (Middle Moscovian to Kasimovian; Lemos de Sousa and Wagner, 1983; Machado et al., 2012;  
349 Lopes et al., 2014).

350

### 351 5. K-S test and MDS analysis: results

352 The K-S test performed on the Santa Susana sandstones show that the detrital zircon  
353 populations of sample SS-2 (lower member) and SS upper member (i.e. includes samples StS2  
354 and StS4 from Dinis et al., 2018) are ‘not significantly different’ (all ages- P-value = 0.169;  
355 pre-Carboniferous ages- P-value = 0.879) at the 5% confidence level (Fig. 9a). A comparison of  
356 samples SS-1 and SS-2 reveals that they are “significantly different” (P-value  $\leq 0.01$ ). Unlike  
357 sample SS-2, the sample SS-1 detrital zircon population is “significantly different” (P-value  $<$   
358 0.01) from the SS upper population (Fig. 9a), indicating distinct sources. Besides this, sample  
359 SS-1 is much closer to that of the SS upper (D-value = 0.323), and more distant from sample  
360 SS-2 (D-value = 0.465) as regards the distance between cumulative probability curves (Fig. 8c).  
361 In Figure 9b, the MDS diagram produced with all ages shows sample SS-1 adjacent to Cabrel  
362 and Mértola siliciclastic rocks, while sample SS-2 is near the Mira, Santa Iria and Represa  
363 detrital zircon populations. In the MDS diagram for pre-Carboniferous ages, sample SS-2 is  
364 juxtaposed with sample TM-3, and closest to the Mira, Phyllite-Quartzite and Tercenas  
365 formations (Fig. 9c) suggesting likely sources. Nevertheless, the probable contribution to SS-2  
366 samples of sediment derived from the oldest siliciclastic rocks from the PLZ and SPZ (i.e. Pulo  
367 do Lobo, Gafo, Ribeira de Limas, Atalaia and Ronquillo formations), and OMZ sources cannot  
368 be excluded. Their detrital zircon populations are ‘not enough significantly different’ (all ages-



369 P-value = 0.003), and ‘not significantly different’ (pre-Carboniferous ages- P-value = 0.113-  
370 0.165) at the 5% confidence level (Fig. 9a). This similarity is also illustrated in the  
371 approximation between SS-2, P-G-R-A-R and OMZ populations in the MDS diagrams (Figs.  
372 9b, c).  
373 K-S test results for the comparison between samples SS-2 and TM-3 indicate that they present  
374 ‘not significantly different’ detrital zircon populations (all ages- P-value = 0.399; pre-  
375 Carboniferous ages- P-value = 0.0411) at the 5% confidence level (Fig. 9a). Furthermore, their  
376 cumulative probability curves are much closer (Fig. 8d): D-values are 0.195 (all ages) and 0.203  
377 (pre-carboniferous ages) (Fig. 9a). The close relationship of the two detrital zircon populations  
378 suggests that the Toca da Moura volcano-sedimentary complex directly supplied sediment to the  
379 Santa Susana basin. However, the relationship described above does not extend to the entire  
380 Santa Susana basin since sample SS-1 presents a greater degree of similarity with the Cabrela  
381 detrital zircon population as regards the proximity between cumulative probability curves (Fig.  
382 8d) and MDS diagrams (Figs. 9b, c).  
383 In addition, Cabrela siliciclastic rocks are ‘significantly different’ at the 5% confidence level  
384 from sample TM-3 (P-values < 0.01) as regards the significant distance between them on the  
385 MDS diagram (Figs. 9b, c), and the significant distance between cumulative curves (Fig. 8d),  
386 with a D-value interval of 0.712-0.731 (Fig. 9a). The difference found in the detrital zircon  
387 populations suggests that Cabrela and Toca da Moura siliciclastic rocks probably derived from  
388 different sources.  
389 As result of the K-S test and MDS analysis, the Horta da Torre Formation is ‘significantly  
390 different’ (Fig. 9a), and is clearly separate (Figs. 9b, c) from all the other detrital zircon  
391 populations, ruling out the possibility of it being a source for the Toca da Moura and Cabrela  
392 volcano-sedimentary complexes or Santa Susana Formation siliciclastic rocks.

393

## 394 **6. Discussion**

### 395 **6.1. Chronostratigraphic framework**

396 The geochronological data presented in the present study provide the basis for the first  
397 chronostratigraphic record for the Carboniferous basins of the Santa Susana-São Cristóvão  
398 region (SW Iberia). Dating of silicic volcanic rocks interbedded in the Toca da Moura volcano-  
399 sedimentary complex constrain an interval of felsic magmatism to occurring from c. 335 Ma to  
400 331 Ma (Viséan; Fig. 6), complementing currently-available biostratigraphic information for  
401 Toca da Moura siliciclastic rocks (Pereira et al., 2006; Lopes et al., 2014). U-Pb ages of the  
402 youngest detrital zircon grains from the siliciclastic rocks of the Toca da Moura and Cabrela  
403 volcano-sedimentary complexes (TM-3 and CB, respectively; Fig. 8a) provide maximum age  
404 constraints for these marine deposits. Their maximum depositional ages (c. 351-348 Ma;  
405 Tournaisian) are slightly older than currently-available biostratigraphic ages (Pereira et al.,





406 2006; Lopes et al., 2014), but provide confirmation that both marine deposits are broadly  
407 contemporaneous.  
408 Furthermore, the best estimate of the crystallization age of the Baleizão silicic intrusion  
409 provides a minimum age of c. 317 Ma (Bashkirian; Fig. 7a) for the intra-Carboniferous  
410 unconformity. Zircon extracted from a pebble of granite found in a Santa Susana conglomerate  
411 yielded a crystallization age of c. 303 Ma for plutonic rock (Fig. 7b). This age estimate overlaps  
412 the age interval of c. 305-303 Ma (i.e. the maximum depositional age range) obtained for the  
413 youngest population of detrital zircon grains from sandstone of the upper member (Dinis et al.,  
414 2018), complementing the currently-available biostratigraphic information for the Santa Susana  
415 Formation (Machado et al., 2012; Lopes et al., 2014). Given the findings described above, a  
416 stratigraphic interval of approximately 12-14 Ma can be established for the intra-Carboniferous  
417 unconformity, marking a change in depositional environment from marine to terrestrial in the  
418 OMZ. Basin-drainage and infill patterns most probably changed due to rapid uplift of the  
419 Variscan-Appalachian orogenic belt, active during the waning stages of Laurussia-Gondwana  
420 collision (i.e. Late Carboniferous).

421

## 422 6.2. Provenance and evolutionary model

423 An initial important finding based on the comparison of detrital zircon populations of Viséan  
424 siliciclastic rocks from the Toca da Moura and Cabrela volcano-sedimentary complexes  
425 provides evidence that they derived from different sources. The TM-3 population presents 64%  
426 Precambrian detrital zircon grains, while the CB population contains only 10% (Fig. 8a). Toca  
427 da Moura siliciclastic rocks have a greater affinity with the Phyllite-Quartzite, Tercenas, Santa  
428 Iria and Represa formations (Fig. 9), indicating that detrital zircon populations were reproduced  
429 faithfully in SPZ and PLZ (Laurussian-type) sources. A contribution from the oldest siliciclastic  
430 sequences of PLZ (Pulo do Lobo, Atalaia, Gafo and Ribeira de Limas formations) and OMZ  
431 (Gondwanan-type) sources cannot be ruled out for sample TM-3 (Fig. 9). The number of Late-  
432 Middle Devonian zircon grains in sample TM-3 (6%) is smaller than that of the CB population  
433 (68%) (Fig. 8a), suggesting that Cabrela siliciclastic rocks were most likely derived largely from  
434 a Devonian source consistent with a limited contribution from recycled ancient rocks. This  
435 indicates that the origin of the Viséan Toca da Moura and Cabrela basins is most likely more  
436 closely linked to sources located in the SPZ and PLZ (Laurussian-type) than in the OMZ  
437 (Gondwanan-type). The evidence in the Viséan Toca da Moura basin for dissection of the  
438 inactive Devonian magmatic arc and the erosion of its plutonic roots, together with the recycling  
439 of the PLZ and SPZ Frasnian-Tournaisian siliciclastic sequences and OMZ basement rocks,  
440 differs from the evidence in the Cabrela basin. The significance of the involvement of distinct  
441 sources is that part of the region located on the boundary between the OMZ- PLZ and the SPZ  
442 (SW Iberia) was subjected to uplift while the remaining part underwent flexural subsidence. A



443 similar tectonic setting has been put forward as an explanation for differences in stratigraphy  
444 found in the Pedroches syn-orogenic basin located along the OMZ-Central Iberian Zone  
445 boundary (Armendáriz et al., 2008, and references therein) (Fig. 1). In the Visean, following the  
446 closure of the Rheic Ocean (i.e. subduction beneath the Laurussian margin up to the end of  
447 Devonian; Pérez-Cáceres et al., 2015; Pereira et al., 2017a, and references therein),  
448 sedimentation occurred simultaneously with igneous activity on both the Laurussian-side and  
449 the Gondwanan-side (Pereira et al., 2012b-~~Tecton~~). The upwelling of the asthenosphere and the  
450 underplating of mantle-derived magmas could have triggered partial melting of crustal materials  
451 and the intra-orogenic extension, creating the right conditions for the onset of gneiss domes  
452 (Pereira et al., 2009; Dias da Silva et al., 2018). The emplacement of voluminous magmatism  
453 with a composition typical of magmas produced, at convergent plate boundaries (Santos et al.,  
454 1990; Jesus et al., 2007, 2016; Pin et al., 2008; Lima et al., 2012; Pereira et al., 2007, 2015a;  
455 Moita et al., 2009, 2015), was simultaneously with flexural subsidence, marine sedimentation  
456 and volcanism in the Visean (Pereira et al., 2012b) (Fig. 10a). A factor which may explain this  
457 thermal anomaly is the subduction of an oceanic ridge beneath the OMZ (Gondwanan-side)  
458 during the initial closure of the Paleotethys Ocean in the Carboniferous, whereas other regions  
459 of the Appalachian-Variscan orogenic belt experienced oblique collision and rapid uplift  
460 (Armendáriz et al., 2008; Pereira et al., in press), but as yet there is no consensus on this  
461 (Simancas et al., 2009; Cambeses et al., 2015).

462 A second significant finding is that detrital zircon populations from the Santa Susana Formation  
463 (samples SS-1 and SS-2) also show significant differences (Figs. 8 and 9). Basal conglomerate  
464 (sample SS-2) presents a greater percentage of Precambrian grains (64%) than uppermost  
465 sandstone (SS-1 sample; 28%), and presents a great degree of affinity with the detrital zircon  
466 population of sample TM-3. Sample SS-2 presents a great degree of similarity with the detrital  
467 zircon populations of overlying SS upper-member sandstones (samples StSz-2 and StSz-4;  
468 Dinis et al., 2018) sampled as part of the same stratigraphic profile. SS-2 and SS upper-age  
469 populations show a great degree of affinity (Fig. 9), suggesting that the two detrital zircon  
470 grains were mainly derived from the erosion of the Toca da Moura volcano-sedimentary  
471 complex, the Santa Iria and Represa formations (PLZ) and the Mira Formation (SPZ). However,  
472 regarding the detrital zircon grains with pre-Carboniferous ages, additional contributions from  
473 other PLZ (Pulo do Lobo, Atalaia, Gafo and Ribeira de Limas formations), SPZ (Brejeira,  
474 Phyllite-Quartzite, Tercenas and Ronquillo formations) and OMZ sources cannot be ruled out  
475 (Figs. 9a, c). The zircon age population of sample SS-1, which is distinct from the SS-2  
476 population, presents a great degree of affinity with the CB population, suggesting lateral  
477 changes in sources during deposition of Santa Susana uppermost sandstones. The great degree  
478 of affinity of the SS-1, Cabrela volcano-sedimentary complex, with Mértola Formation detrital  
479 zircon populations suggests a close association between the two and a common source. Cabrela



480 and Mértola siliciclastic rocks may be regarded as the main source for sample SS-1 and an  
481 intermediate sediment repository as they are derived from the erosion of a Devonian source  
482 partially represented by the Cercal porphyries from the SPZ. As result of rapid uplift, the  
483 progressive erosion of the Devonian magmatic arc (including its plutonic roots), and that of  
484 PLZ, SPZ and OMZ rocks, is evidenced in the Santa Susana Formation. The volumetrically  
485 significant contribution of Carboniferous sources to the Santa Susana basin fill confirms  
486 derivation from the erosion of: i) Pyrite Belt volcanic rocks, and Phyllite-Quartzite, Tercenas,  
487 Mértola, Mira and Brejeira siliciclastic rocks (SPZ); ii) the Santa Iria and Represas formations  
488 (PLZ); iii) Gil Marquez granitic rocks and other plutons of the Sierra del Norte Batholith (SPZ  
489 and PLZ); iv) the Beja igneous complex, which includes the Baleizão porphyries (OMZ), and  
490 Évora and Pavia plutonic and high-grade metamorphic rocks (OMZ); and v) the Cabrela and  
491 Toca da Moura volcanic-sedimentary complexes (OMZ) and Mértola turbidites (SPZ). U-Pb  
492 dating of magmatic zircon extracted from a pebble of granite (c. 303 Ma; Fig. 7b) found in a  
493 conglomerate of the Santa Susana Formation lower member suggests provenance from the  
494 direct erosion of Permo-Carboniferous plutons (i.e. original primary source), such as Santa  
495 Eulália-Monforte granitic and gabbro-dioritic rocks (OMZ). This c. 303-297 Ma calc-alkaline  
496 plutonic suite is coeval with the Nisa-Albuquerque and Los Pedroches batholiths, located on the  
497 OMZ-Central Iberian Zone boundary (Fig. 1), **probably representing a magmatic arc related to**  
498 **the subduction of the Paleotethys Ocean (Pereira et al., 2015b, 2017b, in press).** These Permo-  
499 Carboniferous plutons were emplaced at shallow crustal levels consistent with the low  
500 assimilation of country rocks and the sharp contacts, and therefore, they may have experienced  
501 denudation shortly after its crystallization without being required unrealistic uplift rates.  
502 In Kasimovian-Ghzelian, sedimentation probably occurred through the opening of the pull-apart  
503 terrestrial basin related to the movement of major strike-slip faults (i.e. **Porto-Tomar fault zone,**  
504 **Machado et al., 2012, and references therein**) during the waning stages of oblique continental  
505 collision between Laurussia and Gondwana, simultaneously with the progressive uplift of the  
506 Appalachian-Variscan orogenic belt (i.e. OMZ, PLZ and SPZ; Fig. 10b).

507

## 508 7. Conclusions

509 The main conclusions of this study are the following:

- 510 1. Viséan marine deposition in the Santa Susana-São Cristovão region is constrained to the age  
511 interval of c. 335-331 Ma by the new U-Pb data for volcanic rocks intercalated within  
512 siliciclastic rocks of the Toca da Moura volcano-sedimentary complex.
- 513 2. U-Pb dating of the Baleizão porphyry provides a minimum age of c. 317 Ma (Bashkirian) for  
514 the overlying intra-Carboniferous unconformity.
- 515 3. Viséan siliciclastic rocks from the Cabrela and Toca de Moura volcano-sedimentary  
516 complexes are derived from distinct sources, which probably include a Devonian continental



517 magmatic arc, and are likely to be more **closely associated** with the SPZ and PLZ (Laurussian-  
518 type sources) than the OMZ (Gondwanan-type sources).  
519 4. Terrestrial siliciclastic rocks from the Santa Susana Formation are probably the result of the  
520 recycling of distinct sources associated with the SPZ, PLZ and OMZ.  
521 5. The best estimate of crystallization of a granite pebble found in Santa Susana Formation  
522 conglomerate yielded a maximum depositional age of ca. 303 Ma (Kasimovian-Gzhelian);  
523 together with the youngest U-Pb ages (< c. 317 Ma) of detrital zircon grains, these findings  
524 provide evidence of the denudation of primary crystalline sources during the rapid post-  
525 accretion/collision uplift of the Variscan orogenic belt in SW Iberia (i.e. Gondwanan- and  
526 Laurussian-type sources).  
527 6. The intra-Carboniferous unconformity that separates the Toca da Moura volcano-complex  
528 and the Baleizão porphyry from the Santa Susana Formation indicates a notable time interval of  
529 approximately 12-14 Ma.

530

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817
- 818 **Figure captions**
- 819 Figure 1: A- Inset with location of SW Iberia in the Iberian Variscan belt with regional  
820 distribution of the main Paleozoic terranes: CIZ- Central Iberian Zone; CZ- Cantabrian Zone;  
821 GTMZ- Galicia-Trás-os-Montes Zone; OMZ- Ossa-Morena Zone; PLZ- Pulo do Lobo Zone;  
822 SPZ- South-Portuguese Zone and WALZ- West Asturian-Leonese Zone. B- Simplified  
823 Geological Map of SW Iberia showing the South-Portuguese, Pulo do Lobo and Ossa-Morena  
824 zones (Modified from Pereira et al. 2017a, 2019 and references therein; Quesada and Oliveira,  
825 2019).  
826
- 827 Figure 2: Simplified geological map and schematic stratigraphy of the Santa Susana-São  
828 Cristovão region (Ossa-Morena Zone; Modified from Gonçalves and Carvalhosa, 1984;  
829 Machado et al., 2012). Sampling locations of the Carboniferous sedimentary and igneous rocks  
830 used for geochronology are indicated with yellow stars.



831

832 Figure 3: Photographs of the Carboniferous igneous rocks of the Santa Susana-São Cristovão  
833 region: A- Baleizão porphyry intrusive contact (yellow arrow) with siliciclastic rocks of the  
834 Toca da Moura volcano-sedimentary complex; B- Baleizão porphyry; C-D- Rhyolitic tuffs of  
835 the Toca da Moura volcano-sedimentary complex; E- Volcanic breccia with fragments of  
836 siltstone (black) and rhyolite (yellow) at the base of the silicic tuffs from the Toca da Moura  
837 volcano-sedimentary complex; F- Pillow-lava of andesitic basalt-to-basalt intercalated in the  
838 siliciclastic rocks of the Toca da Moura volcano-sedimentary complex.

839

840 Figure 4: Photographs of the Carboniferous sedimentary rocks of the Santa Susana Formation  
841 lower member: A- View of dipping meter-thick beds of medium-coarse grained sandstone  
842 intercalated with conglomerate; B- Planar-bedded coarse-grained sandstone; C- Plant imprints  
843 in sandstone; D- Conglomerate with cobbles and pebbles of granite (G), quartzite (Q), silicic  
844 porphyry (SP) and mafic volcanic rock (M); E- Conglomerate with pebbles of rhyolite (R),  
845 phyllite (P), felsic tuff (T) and quartzite (Q).GG

846

847 Figure 5: Petrographic images of the Carboniferous sedimentary and igneous rocks of the Santa  
848 Susana-São Cristovão region: A- Rhyolitic-rhyodacitic tuff of the Toca da Moura volcano-  
849 sedimentary complex showing quartz and feldspar phenocrysts enclosed in ash matrix; B-  
850 Rhyolitic tuff showing flattened dark-brown millimeter-sized pumice and lithoclasts enclosed in  
851 ash matrix; C- Porphyritic texture of the Baleizão rhyodacite-rhyolite characterized by quartz,  
852 plagioclase, K-feldspar, biotite and amphibole phenocryst embedded in a fine-grained silicic  
853 matrix; D- Cobble of fine-grained granite showing graphic intergrowths of quartz and alkali  
854 feldspar, found in conglomerate from the Santa Susana Formation; E- Siltstone of the Toca da  
855 Moura volcano-sedimentary complex mostly composed of quartz grains and a few grains of  
856 plagioclase (P), tourmaline (T), and rock fragments (L); F- Siltstone of the Cabrela volcano-  
857 sedimentary complex showing fining upwards grading and a slump-fold; G-H, Sandstones from  
858 the Santa Susana Formation with high percentage of lithoclasts (L) and a few feldspar (F).

859

860 Figure 6: Concordia diagrams, weighted mean of  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  ages of analyzed zircon grains  
861 extracted from silicic tuffs of the Toca da Moura volcano-sedimentary complex.

862

863 Figure 7: Concordia diagrams, weighted mean of  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  ages of analyzed zircon grains of:  
864 A- the Baleizão porphyry and B- the cobble of granite found in conglomerate from the Santa  
865 Susana Formation.

866



867 Figure 8: Pie diagrams and Kernel Density Estimation (KDE) with U-Pb detrital-zircon ages of  
868 siliciclastic rocks from: A- the Toca da Moura (TM-3, this study) and Cabrela (CB: CBR-11,  
869 this study; and OM-200, Pereira et al., 2012a) volcano-sedimentary complexes, and B- the Santa  
870 Susana Formation (SS-1 and SS-2, this study; and SS Upper member, StSz2 and StSz4 from  
871 Dinis et al., 2018); C- U-Pb age cumulative frequency plots applied to the U-Pb ages (90-110%  
872 concordance) of detrital zircon grains from the Toca da Moura and Cabrela volcano-  
873 sedimentary complexes, and the Santa Susana Formation.

874  
875 Figure 9: A- Results of the K-S (Kolmogorov-Smirnov) test and B- Multi-Dimensional Scaling  
876 diagrams (Vermeesch, 2018) applied to the U-Pb ages (90-110% concordance) of detrital zircon  
877 grains from the Toca da Moura (TM-3) and Cabrela (CB) volcano-sedimentary complexes, and  
878 the Santa Susana Formation (SS1, SS2, SS upper member), and different potential sources:  
879 OMZ (Linnemann et al. 2008; Pereira et al. 2008, 2012c), PLZ (Pereira et al. 2017; Pérez  
880 Cáceres et al. 2017), SPZ (Braid et al. 2011; Pereira et al., 2012a, 2014; Rodrigues et al. 2014).  
881 Abbreviations: MT- Mértola Formation; MR- Mira formation; BJ- Brejeira formation; PQ-  
882 TRC- Phyllite-Quartzite and Tercenas formations; SI-REP- Santa Iria and Represa formations;  
883 P-G-R-A-R- Pulo do Lobo, Gafo, Ribeira de Lima, Atalaia and Ronquillo formations; HT-  
884 Horta da Torre Formation.

885  
886 Figure 10: Sketches showing inferred tectonic evolution and sedimentation recorded in SW  
887 Iberia Carboniferous stratigraphy during Laurussian-Gondwana oblique collision; A- Early  
888 Carboniferous; B- Late Carboniferous.

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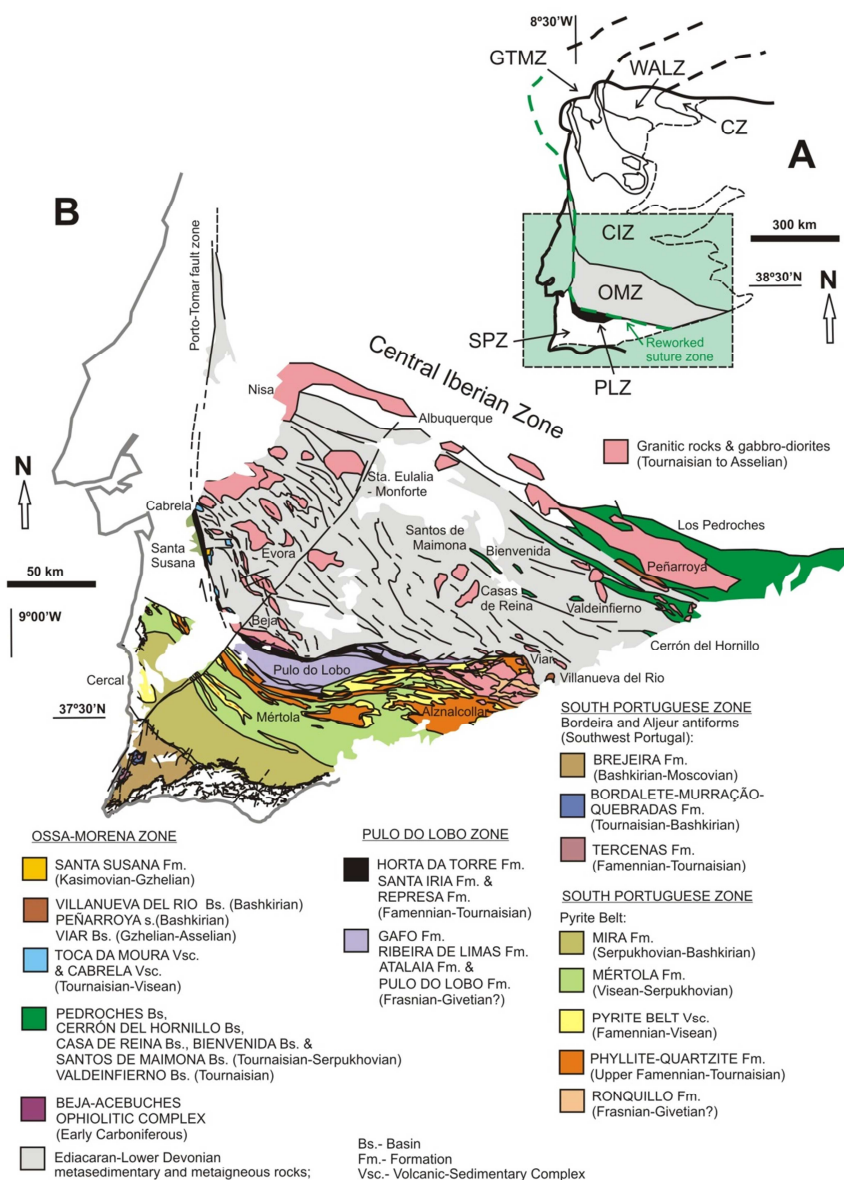


Figure 1



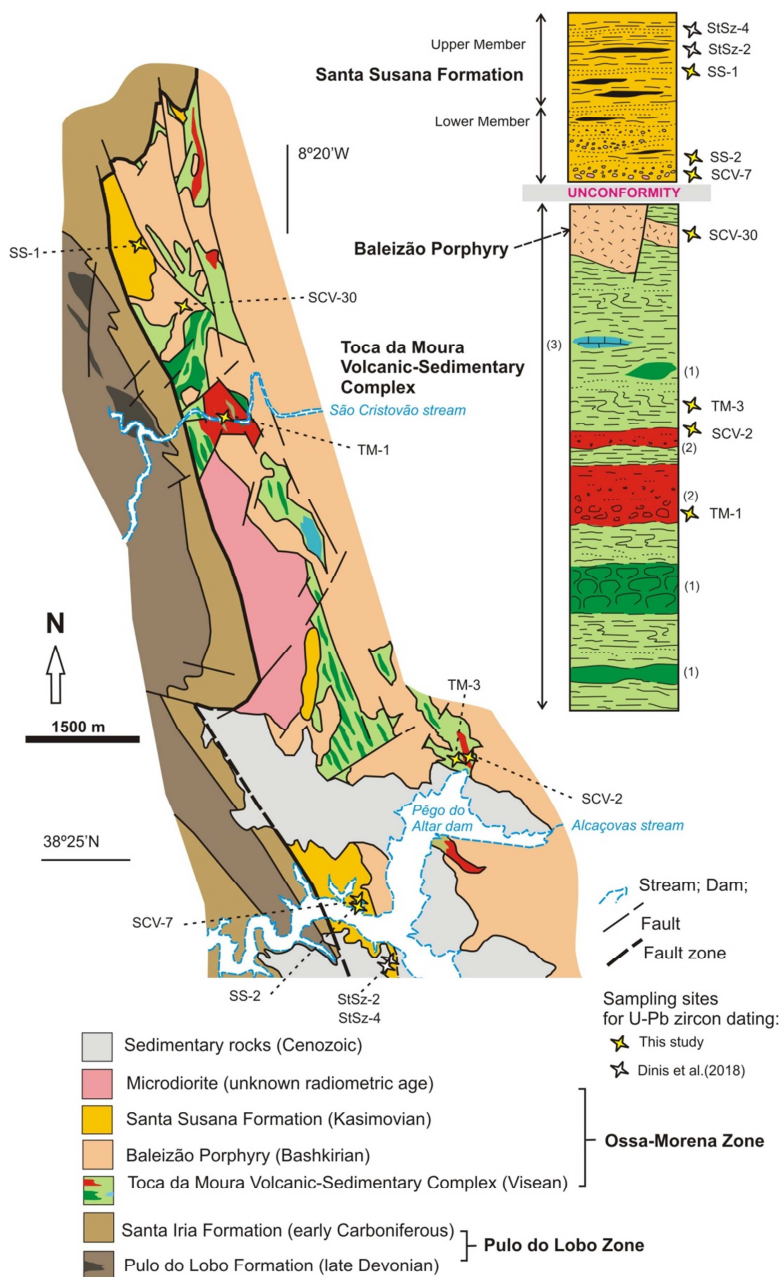


Figure 2

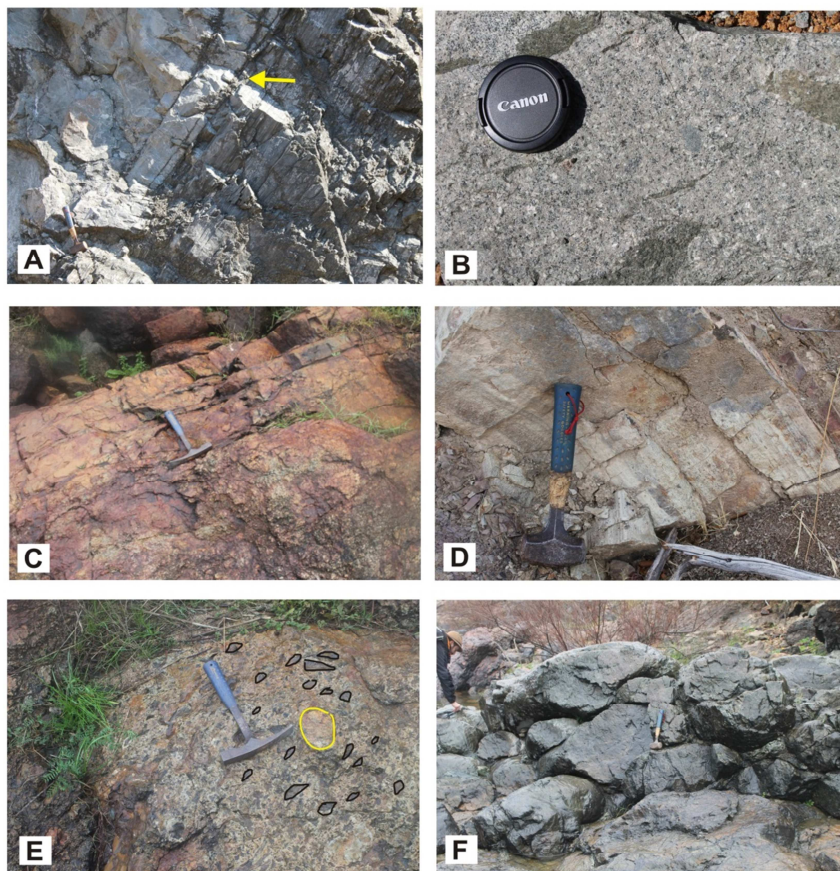


Figure 3

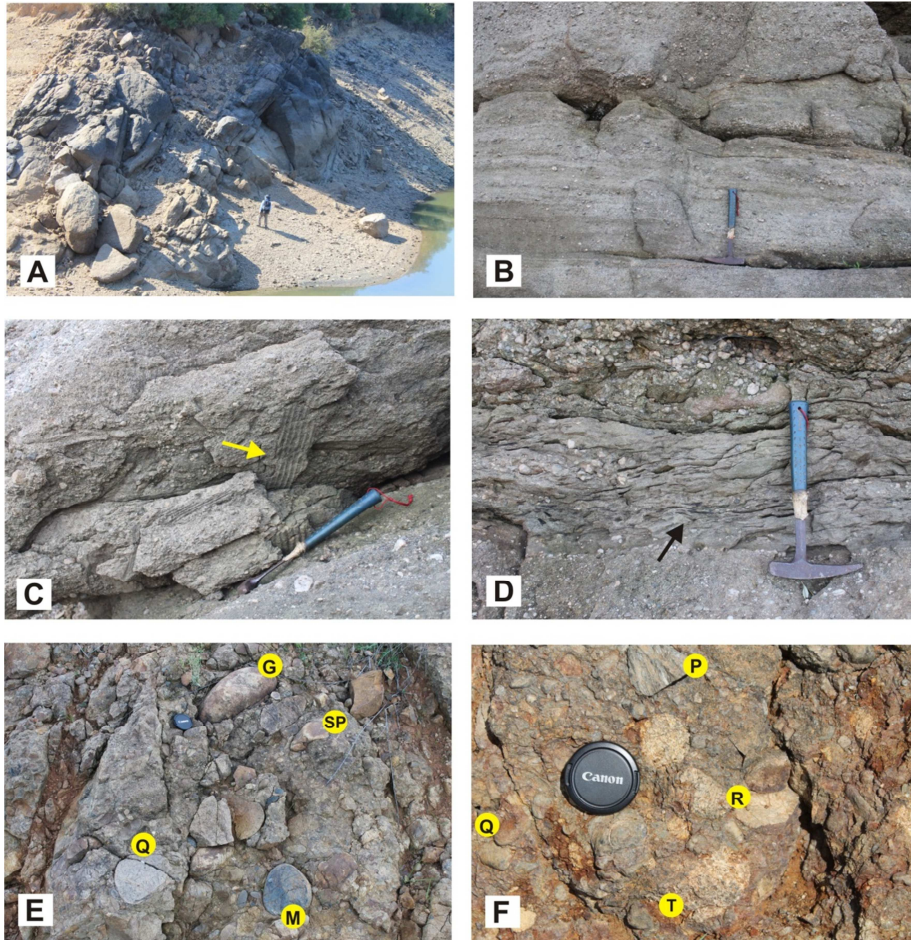


Figure 4



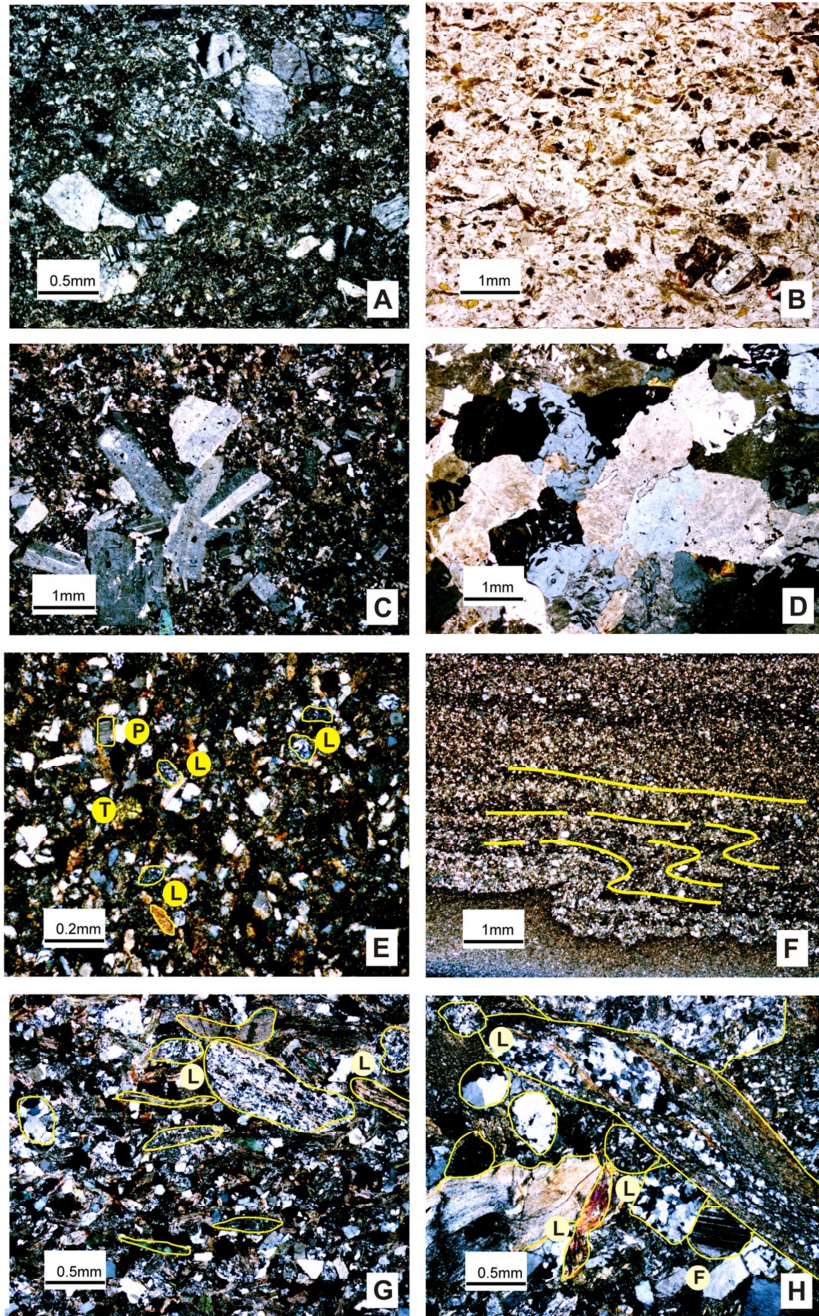


Figure 5

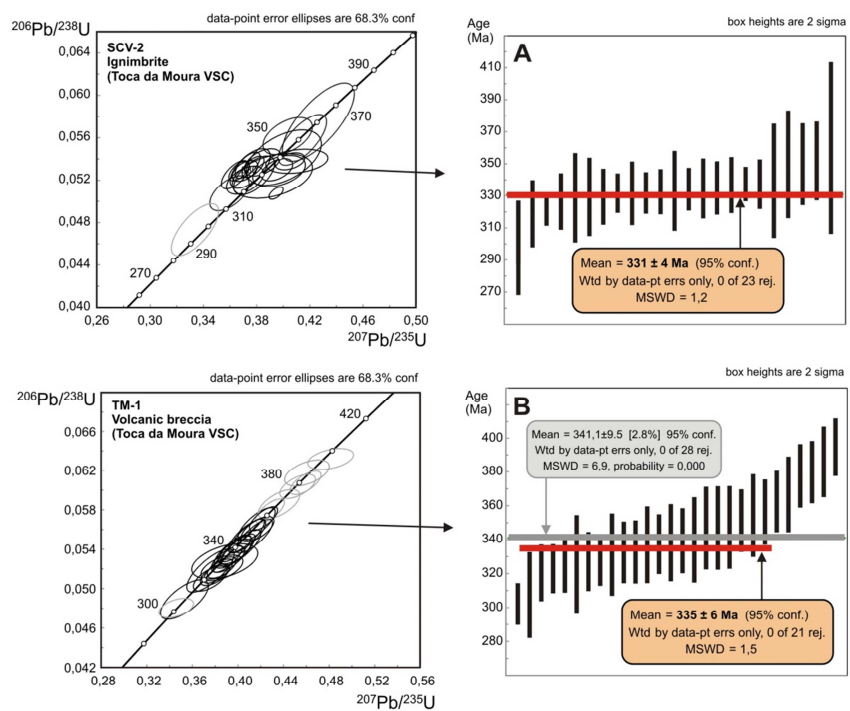


Figure 6

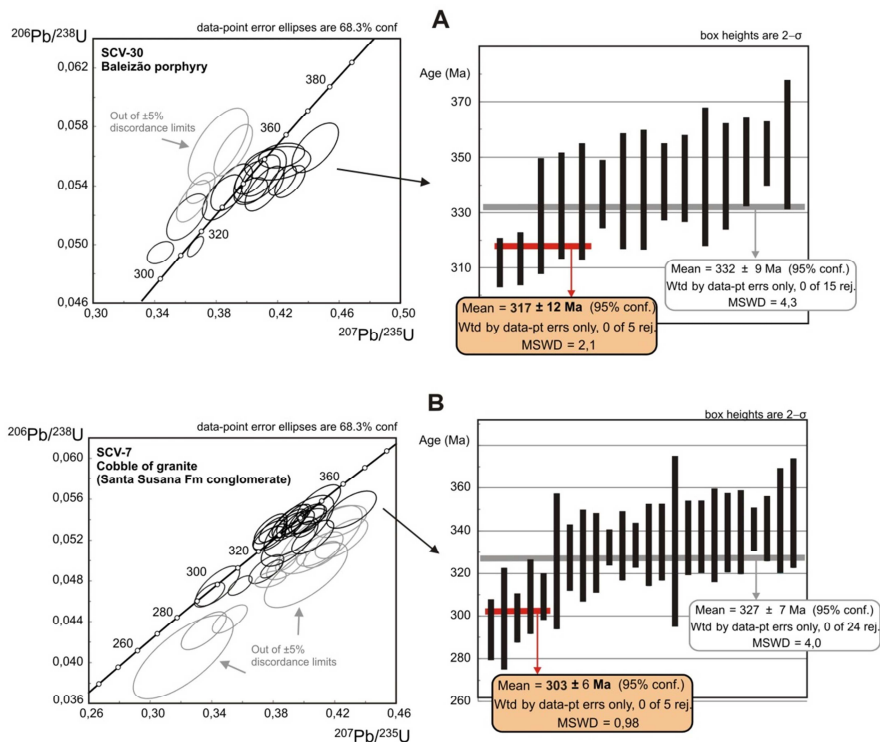


Figure 7

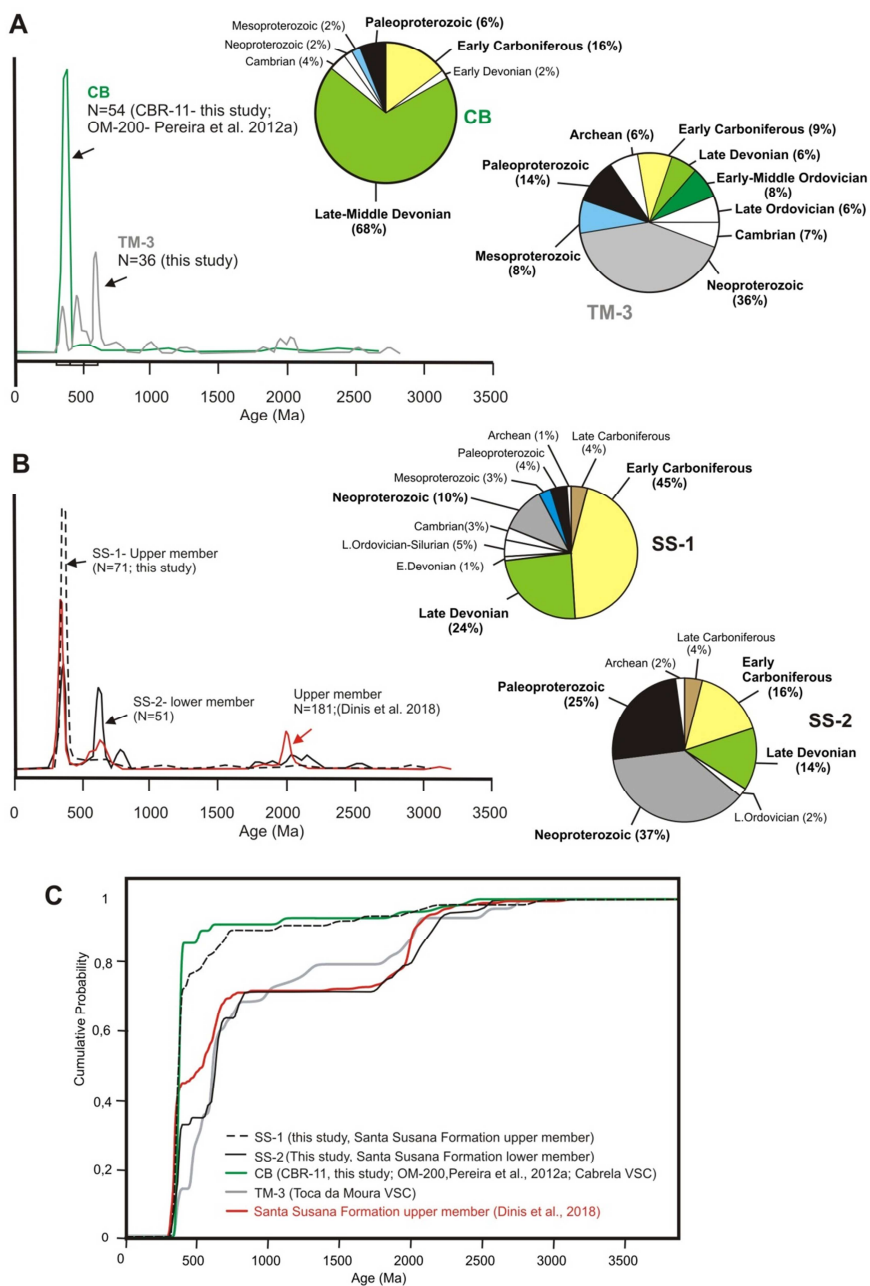


Figure 8





### A Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test

**All ages**

	TM-3	CB	SS1	SS2	SS upper mb.	MT	MR	BJ	PQ-TRC	SI-REP	P-G-R-A-R	HT	OMZ
TM-3		0.000	0.000	0.391	0.004	0.000	0.761	0.458	0.496	0.308	0.003	0.000	0.003
CB	0.731		0.003	0.000	0.000	0.158	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
SS1	0.637	0.330		0.000	0.000	0.049	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
SS2	0.195	0.552	0.465		0.163	0.000	0.856	0.001	0.038	0.756	0.000	0.000	0.000
SS Upper mb.	0.323	0.412	0.323	0.176		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
MT	0.608	0.183	0.200	0.511	0.358		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
MR	0.122	0.617	0.522	0.096	0.215	0.538		0.000	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
BJ	0.150	0.806	0.691	0.285	0.406	0.675	0.193		0.177	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
PQ-TRC	0.145	0.715	0.620	0.210	0.357	0.656	0.160	0.091		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
SI-REP	0.168	0.568	0.508	0.167	0.323	0.514	0.199	0.245	0.177		0.000	0.000	0.000
P-G-R-A-R	0.304	0.871	0.781	0.336	0.473	0.818	0.292	0.173	0.163	0.308		0.000	0.000
HT	0.492	0.867	0.754	0.522	0.524	0.779	0.558	0.501	0.515	0.589	0.477		0.000
OMZ	0.309	0.876	0.790	0.352	0.481	0.824	0.298	0.163	0.194	0.359	0.168	0.480	

**D-values using error in the CDF**

Pre-Carboniferous ages

	TM-3	CB	SS1	SS2	SS upper mb.	MT	MR	BJ	PQ-TRC	SI-REP	P-G-R-A-R	HT	OMZ
TM-3		0.000	0.003	0.411	0.074	0.000	0.044	0.397	0.398	0.487	0.003	0.000	0.003
CB	0.712		0.015	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
SS1	0.427	0.347		0.001	0.000	0.516	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.000
SS2	0.203	0.696	0.451		0.870	0.000	0.715	0.388	0.652	0.068	0.165	0.000	0.113
SS Upper mb.	0.246	0.734	0.452	0.109		0.000	0.020	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.004	0.000	0.002
MT	0.492	0.243	0.161	0.608	0.606		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
MR	0.257	0.779	0.496	0.121	0.191	0.644		0.205	0.044	0.000	0.036	0.000	0.038
BJ	0.158	0.795	0.459	0.149	0.231	0.606	0.105		0.182	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
PQ-TRC	0.169	0.719	0.458	0.121	0.211	0.616	0.135	0.082		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
SI-REP	0.145	0.573	0.313	0.213	0.281	0.471	0.312	0.235	0.180		0.000	0.000	0.000
P-G-R-A-R	0.306	0.856	0.599	0.178	0.178	0.757	0.125	0.162	0.141	0.289		0.000	0.000
HT	0.491	0.848	0.633	0.454	0.352	0.721	0.499	0.496	0.507	0.581	0.478		0.000
OMZ	0.309	0.862	0.597	0.194	0.196	0.755	0.131	0.151	0.182	0.350	0.167	0.479	

**D-values using error in the CDF**

Legend:  
 P-value > 0.05: "not significantly different" (green)  
 0.05 > P-value > 0.001: "not enough significantly different" (yellow)  
 P-value < 0.001: "significantly different" (grey)

### MDS diagrams

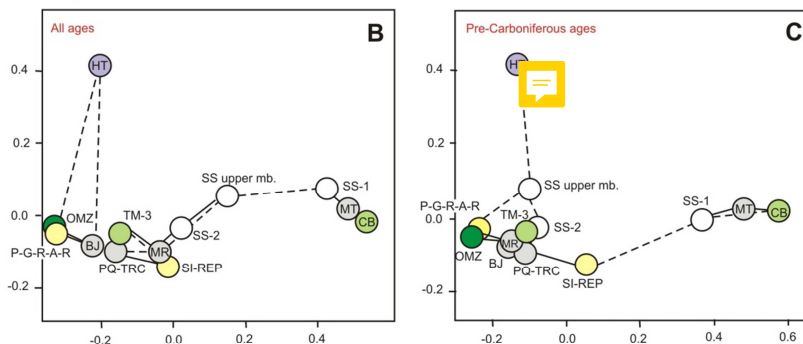


Figure 9

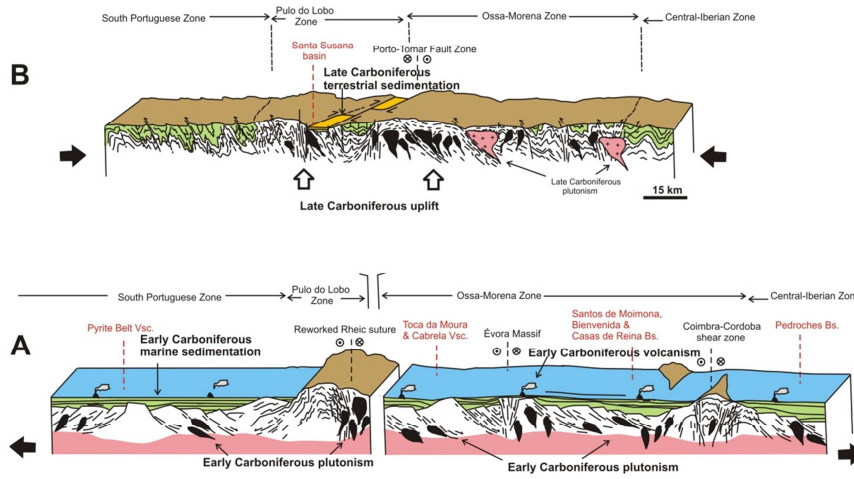


Figure 10