

1 **Evaluation of pinnacle reef distribution at shallow subsurface using integrated geophysical**  
2 **methods: a case study from the Upper Kimmeridgian (Spain)**

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9 **Abstract**

10 The well exposed outcrops of the upper Kimmeridgian shallow-marine carbonates at  
11 Jabaloyas (Iberian Chain, NE Spain) permit the evaluation of geophysical methods for the  
12 identification of sedimentary facies. Direct measurement of magnetic susceptibility in facies  
13 and detailed grids of magnetometry, electromagnetic multifrequency and ground-penetrating  
14 radar (50 to 500 MHz antennas) have been performed in two study areas where the upper  
15 Kimmeridgian rocks are nearly horizontal. Magnetometry indicates negative anomalies in  
16 residual magnetic field and vertical magnetic gradient related to reef pinnacles and faults.  
17 Electromagnetic data reveal that positive anomalies of apparent conductivity correlate with  
18 non-reefal facies. The areal distribution of magnetometry and EM data does not permit the  
19 unequivocal identification of pinnacles and faults at the studied area. By contrast, ground  
20 penetrating radar profiles and maps of relative reflectivity in two way travel time slices are  
21 useful for the identification of faults (hyperbolic anomalies) and reefal and non-reefal facies  
22 (radar facies A and B, respectively). The integration of geophysical data, mainly ground  
23 penetrating radar, has permitted the 3D reconstruction of reef pinnacles and its tectonic  
24 framework.

25 **Keywords:** Magnetometry, electromagnetic multifrequency, ground-penetrating radar,  
26 shallow-marine carbonates, pinnacle reefs, Kimmeridgian, Iberian Chain.

## 27 **1. Introduction**

28 Limited well data and low resolution of seismic surveys are often the origin of  
29 uncertainties at subsurface at different phases in the hydrocarbon field analysis. Modern and  
30 ancient sedimentary models facilitate the understanding of sedimentological data, being  
31 crucial to better define reservoir heterogeneities (e.g. Asprion and Aigner, 2000; Mancini et al.,  
32 2004; Borgomano et al., 2008). These models provide for multi-scale sedimentary  
33 heterogeneities that together with diagenetic porosity-enhancing processes can predict the  
34 permeability distribution (van Koppen et al., 2015).

35 The well exposed outcrops of the Upper Jurassic at Jabaloyas in the Sierra de  
36 Albarracín (Iberian Chain, NE Spain; Fig. 1a) allow identification of the detailed facies  
37 architecture of the upper Kimmeridgian shallow-marine pinnacle reefs and related non-reefal  
38 facies which are potential outcrop analogue of carbonate reservoirs in the Middle East and  
39 Gulf of Mexico (Mancini et al., 2004; Bádenas and Aurell, 2010; Alnazghah et al., 2013; Pomar  
40 et al., 2015; San Miguel et al., 2013). Well exposed outcrop conditions of the Kimmeridgian  
41 rocks, especially in the Jabaloyas area, also provide the opportunity for integrated sedimentary  
42 and geophysical analyses, including ground-penetrating radar, to evaluate the presence of  
43 geophysical contrasts between sedimentological facies.

44 The application of ground-penetrating radar (GPR) in the characterization of carbonate  
45 rocks has been especially focused on tufa deposits (Pedley, 1993; Hill et al., 1998; Brusi et al.,  
46 1998; Pedley et al., 2000; Pedley and Hill, 2003, Pedley, 2009; McBride et al., 2012), but also  
47 on shallow-marine carbonates (e.g. Pratt and Miall, 1993; Sigurdsson and Overgaard, 1998;  
48 Dagallier et al., 2000; Grasmueck and Weger 2002; Asprion et al., 2009; Jorry and Bievre,  
49 2011), some of them including carbonate buildups (Asprion and Aigner 2000; Mukherjee et al.,

50 2012; Nielsen et al. 2004). These works have showed the high resolution of GPR analyses to  
51 evaluate the architecture of carbonate rocks, especially for those formed in highly  
52 heterogeneous shallow environments where lateral facies changes are usually present. In  
53 addition, the combined analysis of GPR analysis and diagenetic and tectonic structures can be  
54 suitable for deciphering controls on porosity systems and lateral changes of permeability.  
55 Good results have been obtained in the evaluation of carbonate rocks, especially where  
56 changes in porosity and internal structure between reefal and related non-reefal facies are  
57 present (e.g. Asprion and Aigner, 2000; Mukherjee et al., 2012). GPR quantitative  
58 characterization in outcropping sedimentological units is also a future promising field (e.g.  
59 Grasmueck et al., 2005; Takayama et al., 2008; Forte et al., 2012).

60 Due to abrupt lateral facies changes of shallow-water marine carbonates, the high-  
61 resolution GPR analysis of these sedimentary bodies requires a detailed grid of survey profiles  
62 and a short separation distance between profiles. Detailed surveys are also indispensable  
63 when targets are not linear or when their evaluation requires avoiding spatial aliasing  
64 (Grasmueck et al., 2005; Forte et al., 2012). Moreover, other geophysical survey techniques  
65 can be also evaluated as a tool for the 3D characterization of carbonate facies architecture. In  
66 this work different geophysical techniques, including magnetometry, magnetic susceptibility,  
67 electromagnetic multifrequency (EM) and ground-penetrating radar (GPR) have been applied  
68 to measure magnetic and electromagnetic behaviors of the different facies at the subsurface  
69 and in outcrops and selected samples. The surveys have been carried out in a detailed grid of  
70 profiles along two sectors: 1) a structural platform exposing a 4 Ha sedimentary surface of reef  
71 and non-reefal facies; and 2) along a 200 m-long cliff. The two main objectives have been the  
72 3D geophysical characterization of reefal buildups and related non-reefal facies, and the  
73 evaluation of the distribution of faults affecting the studied rocks.

## 74 **2. Geological and stratigraphic context**

75           The studied upper Kimmeridgian carbonate rocks belong to the Torrecilla Formation  
76   cropping out around Jabaloyas in the Sierra de Albarracín (Iberian Chain, NE Spain; Fig. 1a).  
77   These rocks originated in the shallow marginal areas of the Iberian basin, on a vast carbonate  
78   ramp deepening to the east towards the Tethys Ocean. The sedimentary succession is  
79   organized in 5-20 m-thick high-order sequences (Aurell and Bádenas, 2004; Bádenas and  
80   Aurell, 2010). Present work concentrates in the thicker high-order sequence (around 20 m)  
81   that contains the best outcropping pinnacle reefs (up to 13 m thick and up to 30 m wide), and  
82   the widest variety of non-reefal facies (sequence C from Aurell and Bádenas, 2004; Bádenas  
83   and Aurell, 2010; San Miguel et al., 2013; Fig. 1b).

84           From a structural point of view, the studied upper Kimmeridgian rocks were affected  
85   by two major tectonic events: an Early Cretaceous rifting stage, with evidences of first pulses  
86   during Tithonian times, and a Paleocene compressive event that reactivated previous normal  
87   faults and lifted up the area up to 1600 m (e.g., Salas et al., 2001). Around Jabaloyas, the  
88   Kimmeridgian rocks are nearly horizontal or dip slightly towards the SE, and NNW-SSE and  
89   ENE-WSW sub-vertical normal faults compartmentalize small-size blocks. These blocks tend to  
90   form structural platforms of the upper Kimmeridgian sedimentary units where geophysical  
91   surveys were carried out.

### 92   **3. Geophysical survey**

#### 93   **3.1. Methodology**

94           A geophysical survey including magnetometry, EM and GPR has been carried out in a  
95   structural platform at Puntal de Montero (Figs. 1a and 2a), where pinnacle reefs can be  
96   identified in the field and in the aerial photograph. The reefs are presented as circular to  
97   elliptical “spots”. Moreover, they outcrop in a number of 2D windows on cliffs near Jabaloyas  
98   (Barranco de la Canaleja; Fig. 1b), which allow direct observations and geophysical  
99   measurements of reefal and non-reefal facies.

100 Magnetometry has included the measurement of intensity of magnetic field and  
101 vertical magnetic gradient in a total of 14.267 points (sensor separation of 0.5 m: Overhauser  
102 effect GSM-19 with a plugged GPS). During survey, natural variations of Earth magnetic field  
103 were also registered by a second magnetometer. Diurnal correction and residual magnetic  
104 anomalies were calculated from both structural platform and cliff datasets. Magnetic  
105 susceptibility was measured with a KT-10 device along the outcropping facies in the cliff and at  
106 selected hand samples.

107 EM data at 5 different frequencies (0.5, 5, 18, 35 and 65 KHz) were measured along a  
108 grid of parallel profiles on the structural platform, and on profiles over the cliff and close to the  
109 cliff edges (18530 points measured). Both surveys were carried out with a GEM-02 device from  
110 Geophex. Based on measured data, apparent susceptibility and apparent conductivity were  
111 calculated from in-phase and quadrature values (Huang and Won, 2000; Huang, 2005).

112 GPR analysis was carried out using 50, 100, 250 and 500 MHz antennas with different  
113 frequencies (CUI-2 electronic system from Ramac Geosciences with unshielded 50 MHz  
114 antennas and 100, 250 and 500 MHz shielded antennas). The 50 MHz survey was repeated  
115 changing the polarization array with respect to the displacement including parallel and  
116 perpendicular arrays (PL-BD and PR-BD). A preliminary survey evaluated the different antennas  
117 to be used in the final survey that in total encompassed around 13 km. Processing consisted in  
118 zero time correction, amplitude gain (linear and exponential), out of range frequencies filter  
119 and subtract mean trace.

120 From the direct analysis of GPR profiles, radar facies were defined *sensu* Baker (1991).  
121 These correspond to rock bodies characterized by changes in reflectivity, attenuation, internal  
122 structure and impedance changes, as well as contacts within and between units. In the case of  
123 the high-frequency antennas, net change between the identified radar facies allowed the  
124 analysis in TWT (Two Travel Time) slices (see similar approach in Mukherjee et al. 2012). The

125 objective was to evaluate its applicability for the automatic mapping of sedimentological units  
126 (e.g. Pueyo Anchuela et al., 2011). The actual depth from TWT intervals was calculated from  
127 hyperbolic fitting anomalies (e.g. Reynolds, 1997) with mean values of 9.8 m/ $\mu$ s.

## 128 **4. Results**

### 129 **4.1. Geophysical survey along the structural platform Puntal de Montero**

130 The studied site at the Puntal de Montero is a platform with homogeneous topography  
131 that cut a nearly horizontal sedimentary surface of the upper Kimmeridgian rocks (Fig. 2a). The  
132 surveyed area is around 4 Ha. The analysis of the 1/5000 scale aerial photograph permits visual  
133 identification at surface of circular to elliptical geometries related to pinnacle reefs (“spots”  
134 with more reflectivity in the photographs) and the presence of lineaments that can be  
135 interpreted as faults.

136 Magnetic survey was carried out in 12.388 points along N-S and E-W profiles with a  
137 separation below pinnacle dimensions (Fig. 2b). The obtained data of residual magnetic field  
138 anomaly showed a low variability of about 4 nT (Fig. 2c). Changes in the vertical magnetic  
139 gradient were below 2 nT/m (Fig. 2d). Data map along the surveyed area permitted to identify  
140 clusters of higher magnetic field and vertical magnetic gradient but without a clear areal  
141 distribution.

142 EM data at 5 different frequencies (ranging from 0.5 to 65 KHz) were obtained from  
143 the N-S oriented profiles (Fig. 3a). They include 18.324 measured points. The calculated  
144 apparent magnetic susceptibility shows a homogeneous general trend with the highest  
145 contrasts for the most surficial (65 KHz) frequency (Fig. 3b). In the case of the apparent  
146 conductivity, changes of this property showed in general very low values and anomalies of  
147 some mS/m to some 10's of mS/m (Fig. 3). Measurements with high frequencies (65 and 18  
148 KHz) showed general low to very low values. Data maps reflect an alignment of peaks with

149 higher values along the central zone of the study area and some local high values in the  
150 eastern zone (Fig. 3c, d). At lower frequencies (5 and 0.5 KHz), just isolated peaks of high  
151 contrast of apparent conductivity are identified (Fig. 3e, f).

152 GPR was carried out first in the entire (4 Ha) survey area through mainly E-W oriented  
153 profiles using 50, 100, 250 and 500 MHz antennas (Fig. 4). Subsequently, a higher resolution  
154 GPR acquisition (250 MHz antenna) was carried out in the zone with higher concentration of  
155 pinnacle “spots”. Comparison of GPR data obtained with different antennas along the same  
156 profile evidences changes in the style of GPR reflectors (Fig. 5a, b) that are more clearly  
157 identified at high-frequency antennas (i.e.250 and 500 MHz; Fig. 5c). Areas with a high  
158 concentration of hyperbolic anomalies and apparent higher penetration of GPR (radar facies A;  
159 Fig. 5a) can be differentiated from areas with lower penetration and higher reflectivity (radar  
160 facies B; Fig. 5b). These two facies can be also identified at 100 MHz (Fig. 5d), but are not  
161 evident at 50 MHz (Fig. 5e). Reflectors of radar facies A are usually heterogeneous in  
162 comparison with the clear reflector definition of radar facies B (Fig. 5b). At shallow subsurface,  
163 areas of radar facies B have concave-plane geometries, adapting with on-lap geometries to the  
164 areas of radar facies A; in other cases the boundary between these radar facies is sharp. In  
165 detail, meter-scale hyperbolic anomalies have been also identified at higher depths, more  
166 clearly at high frequency profiles. These anomalies include isolated anomalies with  
167 symmetrical and asymmetrical branches (see Fig. 5c).

168 A geophysical profile of the stratigraphic platform has been selected to evaluate the  
169 correlation of magnetic and electromagnetic data with aerial photograph and field data (Fig.  
170 6). The direct comparison is not univocal, although a subtle correlation between apparent  
171 conductivity peaks, magnetic dipoles and changes in radar facies can be identified. By contrast,  
172 GPR and field data show a more clear correlation, as radar facies A is usually coincident with  
173 reefal facies in the field, and radar facies B with non-reefal facies. Hyperbolic anomalies at

174 middle depths or net interruptions of the lateral continuity of reflectors at shallow conditions  
175 are considered to be related to faults, being some of them identifiable in the aerial  
176 photograph.

#### 177 **4.2. Geophysical survey along the cliff: Barranco de la Canaleja**

178 The cliff at Barranco de la Canaleja, close to Jabaloyas village, has been analyzed in  
179 order to directly compare the different sedimentological facies together with magnetic and  
180 electromagnetic data measured in the field (Fig. 7).

181 Magnetic susceptibility has been measured directly on the different facies in outcrops  
182 and hand samples (229 measured points; Fig. 7a). Data show low values and overlapping  
183 distribution, with values from reefal facies ranging between  $-2$  to  $6 \times 10^{-6}$  SI, whereas non-  
184 reefal facies have higher values between  $3$  and  $10 \times 10^{-6}$  SI. The highest identified values  
185 correspond to mud-supported non-reefal facies.

186 In spite of these low contrasts, the magnetometry survey on top of the cliff and cliff  
187 edges (1879 points in total) reflects some anomalies of Earth magnetic field that seems to be  
188 related to the volumetric contribution of each facies in the vertical profile (Fig. 7b). Lower  
189 values of residual magnetic field are found in areas with highest contribution of reefal facies,  
190 whereas values systematically increase, in the range of  $2$ -  $4$  nT, in areas with higher  
191 contribution of non-reefal facies. The combination of field and magnetometry data permits to  
192 identify the relationship between facies changes and distribution of magnetic anomalies;  
193 however, non univocal interpretations can be done from the magnetic data without field  
194 information. By contrast, the vertical magnetic gradient, which is more sensitive than the  
195 intensity of the magnetic field, permits to identify anomalies at the contacts between reefal  
196 and non-reefal facies (Fig. 7b).



197 Similarly, EM results with different frequencies have been compared with the  
198 outcropping units in the cliff (Fig. 8a). Obtained data of apparent conductivity show  
199 subhorizontal trends or changes that do not correlate with facies changes. Only 1.5 KHz data  
200 define 3 net anomalous peaks of high values, which correspond to non-reefal facies (Fig. 8a).  
201 The apparent susceptibility values show homogeneous trends (except for the 18 KHz frequency  
202 that shows high values in the central zone), but without correlation with sedimentological  
203 facies changes. In order to evaluate more directly the distribution of apparent conductivity  
204 changes and facies, a tomography of apparent conductivity was done (Fig. 8b). Although there  
205 is not a point- to- point correlation with the identified facies, a general decrease of apparent  
206 conductivity is observed in sectors including reefal facies and, conversely, a progressive or  
207 sudden increase of the apparent conductivity correlates with non-reefal facies.

## 208 **5. Discussion**

### 209 **5.1. EM and magnetometry data**

210 In the studied structural platform, the independent evaluation of magnetometry and EM  
211 data maps has no clear usefulness to characterize the distribution of pinnacle reefs and related  
212 non-reefal facies in subsurface. In the cliff, there are some relationships of geophysical data  
213 with sedimentological facies (i.e., positive anomalies in magnetic field and apparent  
214 conductivity related to non-reefal facies; anomalies in the vertical magnetic gradient recorded  
215 at the contacts between reefal and non-reefal facies), but without enough contrast to permit  
216 their univocal interpretation.

217 Magnetometry and EM data obtained in the detailed studied zone at the structural  
218 platform have been compared and contrasted with the mapping of pinnacle “spots” and fault  
219 traces obtained from field and aerial photograph data (Fig. 9a, b). This comparison reveals  
220 that, as a general rule, reefal facies coincide with relative lower values of magnetic field and  
221 vertical magnetic gradient, whereas non-reefal facies correlate with positive anomalies,

222 although these anomalies do not exactly fit with the pinnacle geometry in the subsurface. It is  
223 noteworthy that positive anomalies in magnetic field also relate to non-reefal facies in the cliff  
224 (see Figs. 7 and 8) and high values of magnetic susceptibility has been measured directly in  
225 mud-supported non-reefal facies. These results are coherent with measured susceptibility and  
226 earth magnetic field values and they can be interpreted in terms of presence of higher matrix  
227 mud proportions within the non reefal facies. In addition, distribution of magnetic anomalies  
228 (lineaments of dipoles), especially in vertical gradient, correlates with the identified fault  
229 traces. In other cases, these anomalies are parallel but not exactly coincident with the  
230 identified faults traces.

231         Concerning EM results, the apparent susceptibility values show very low changes and do  
232 not define any geometry potentially correlatable with pinnacles in the underground (see Figs.  
233 8 and 9). However, the apparent conductivity with intermediate frequencies reveals areas of  
234 high values that correlates with non-reefal facies, specially where the identified faults in the  
235 field are superimposed (Fig. 9e, f). This is coherent with data obtained in the cliff, where peaks  
236 of high values of apparent conductivity were identified in the profiles and in the tomography  
237 (see Fig. 8b).

238         In summary, negative anomalies in the Earth magnetic field, vertical gradient and  
239 apparent conductivity relate in general to pinnacles at the subsurface. However,  
240 magnetometry and EM data without direct field observations are not enough for the  
241 interpretation of facies distribution (Table 1). In spite of this, these techniques could be  
242 systematically performed for selecting sectors where detailed GPR analysis can be performed.

## 243 **5.2. GPR data**

244         GPR data reflect clear different reflector patterns for pinnacle reefs (radar facies A)  
245 and non-reefal facies (radar facies B). Changes in geometry and style of different radar facies  
246 of reefal and non-reefal facies have been also documented by Asprion and Aigner (2000).

247 Reefal buildups have been identified as radar facies with abundant reflections dominated by  
248 overlapping of hyperbolas (Sigurdsson and Overgaard, 1998). Even reflectivity changes have  
249 been used to evaluate the distribution of reefal facies (Mukherjee et al., 2012). In all these  
250 cases, an increase of penetration of GPR was identified for reefal facies against non-reefal  
251 facies.

252           Similar conclusions can be inferred from the GPR data obtained in this case study,  
253 regarding radar facies, penetration depth and distribution. GPR has resulted as a valuable tool  
254 for the identification of the two main reefal and non-reefal facies, in particular with 500 and  
255 250 MHz antennas (see Fig. 5), and where the reefs are nearly exposed. In addition, data from  
256 the detailed studied zone in the structural platform (see Fig. 9a, b) reveal that GPR can be  
257 useful for the 2.5D evaluation of facies. GPR profiles obtained with 250 MHz antennas (Fig. 10)  
258 show a clear differentiation between high concentration of anomalies and high apparent  
259 penetration (radar facies A: pinnacle reefs) and areas with homogeneous and reflective media  
260 with minor penetration (radar facies B: non-reefal facies). These changes have been followed  
261 both along different parallel profiles (Fig. 10a), but also along transversal directions (Fig. 10b).  
262 GPR data from 250 MHz or 500 MHz also reflect a general net contact between both radar  
263 facies at middle depths; and on-lap geometries of radar facies B (non-reefal facies) over radar  
264 facies A (reefal facies) at shallow depths. These data are coherent with the net or on-lap  
265 sedimentary contacts between reefal and non-reefal facies and local fault contacts observed in  
266 the field (Fig. 1b). Different penetration of each radar facies and reflective variations between  
267 them allow the quantitative evaluation of relative reflectivity in terms of TWT slices (e.g.  
268 Mukherjee et al., 2012). The analysis of the relative reflectivity through time slices has been  
269 performed for the 250 MHz profiles of the detailed studied zone of the structural platform (Fig.  
270 11a). Based on the different penetration of reflectors of each radar facies, high relative  
271 reflectivity at shallow TWT slices would be related to non-reefal facies, whereas at higher  
272 depths, positive anomalies of relative reflectivity indicate reefal facies due to the high

273 attenuation of reflectors at non-reefal facies. Lastly, obtained results of the relative reflectivity  
274 through TWT slices with the 250 MHz devices and comparison with the aerial photograph (Fig.  
275 11c) confirm these predictions. In particular: 1) for time intervals shallower than 1 m, pinnacles  
276 do not show distinctive signatures in the slice or they correspond to negative anomalies of  
277 relative reflectivity. Positive anomalies surround some of the identified pinnacles, especially in  
278 sectors where non horizontal and accommodated reflectors of radar facies B are identified; 2)  
279 at greater depths (e.g.  $z > 1.7$  m), groups of circular positive anomalies are identified and  
280 correlate with pinnacles. Boundaries of these circular anomalies are defined by high gradients  
281 in reflectivity change, which locally can involve more than one isolated anomaly; and 3) in  
282 some cases, the limits of the positive anomalies present rectilinear margins, which almost  
283 correlate with mapped faults without significant vertical movement (Table 1). However, these  
284 faults do not produce significant reflectivity anomalies and their identification is more evident  
285 when they bound both radar facies. Otherwise, where there is not a net change in reflectivity,  
286 the faults are identified by the anisotropy of the external envelopes of reflectivity changes or  
287 their nearly rectilinear shape (Fig. 11c).

### 288 **5.3. Integrated 2.5D data model**

289 GPR data show a clear distinction of radar facies A (corresponding to sedimentological  
290 reefal facies) and B (non-reefal facies). However their distribution and lateral contacts can be  
291 only achieved at the high-frequency profiles that have enough resolution only at shallow  
292 depths (up to 7-8 m depth; see Fig. 5). This limited penetration excludes the possibility to study  
293 the complete pinnacle thickness, which is expected to be up to 13 m (see Fig. 1b). In another  
294 hand, the use of low-frequency antennas that reach higher depths does not permit a clear  
295 discrimination of both radar facies (see Fig. 5). These problems in data resolution can be  
296 avoided by comparing low- and high-frequency profiles. For example, the compared analysis of

297 50 MHz and 250 MHz profiles (Fig. 12a) allows identifying sharp contacts between radar facies  
298 at the high-frequency devices that can be prolonged in depth at the low-frequency profiles.

299 The correlation between high-frequency and low-frequency profiles has permitted to  
300 create a 2.5D data model of pinnacle distribution (radar facies A) for the studied zone (Fig  
301 12b). The model has been carried out identifying the radar facies in shallow subsurface, i.e. in  
302 high-frequency profiles, and prolonging their contacts in depth through the low-frequency  
303 profiles. Reached depth of the survey was not clearly identified as a reflector, being observed a  
304 general attenuation and progressive loose of resolution with depth. The lower contact in the  
305 model has been considered as the average actual reached depth of the studied profiles. The  
306 lateral distribution of radar facies and the interpretation of their prolongation in depth have  
307 permitted to obtain a 2.5 model to evaluate the distribution of pinnacles and faults in a 3D  
308 fashion. In field view the pinnacles appear as isolated buildups, but the model indicates they  
309 can also be coalescent forming “ribbons” of pinnacles. This agrees with data obtained by direct  
310 measurements of 89 pinnacle reefs around the Jabaloyas area (San Miguel et al., 2013).  
311 Pinnacles tends to grow more vertically than laterally in distal domains, with height/width  
312 ratios close to 1 and higher density towards proximal areas, where can form 50 m-long  
313 “ribbons” in proximal domains. The identification of this kind of distribution allows not only a  
314 better definition of the pinnacle morphology in the studied zone, but also to understand the  
315 3D facies changes at isolated outcrop windows of such kind of units.

## 316 **6. Conclusions**

317 Integrated geophysical analyses and calibration of data with direct outcrop  
318 measurements has been carried out at the upper Kimmeridgian shallow-water pinnacle reefs  
319 and related non-reefal facies at Jabaloyas (NE Spain). These results have allowed evaluating  
320 the usefulness of these techniques for the identification of reef pinnacles and faults in the  
321 shallow subsurface. Moreover these data defines the interest of integration of magnetometry,

322 EM and GPR analysis to improve knowledge of the sedimentological heterogeneities and their  
323 3D distribution.

324 Magnetometry and EM results indicate negative anomalies in the Earth magnetic field or  
325 vertical magnetic gradient and apparent conductivity negative anomalies over the reef  
326 pinnacles. In addition, direct measurements of magnetic susceptibility reveal lower values for  
327 these reefal facies. However, the contrast of magnetometry and EM data between reefal and  
328 non-reefal facies is not enough to permit the univocal interpretation of the facies distribution  
329 in the subsurface. In spite of that, these techniques can be used to select areas for later  
330 detailed GPR analysis, as similar shallow-water successions without pinnacle reefs should show  
331 relative homogeneous magnetic and electromagnetic behaviors.

332 GPR survey has allowed identifying two main radar facies A and B that correspond to  
333 reefal and non-reefal facies, respectively. Integrated evaluation of field and GPR data has  
334 permitted to obtain maps of the reef distribution through direct analysis of GPR profiles and  
335 through relative reflectivity changes in TWT slices. Both approaches have allowed evaluating  
336 the applicability of GPR for the characterization of facies changes at shallow subsurface, but  
337 also to correlate these changes along deeper intervals in low-resolution profiles. In addition,  
338 these data have permitted to create a 2.5D model that defines the morphology and the lateral  
339 extension of pinnacles and the location and distribution of fractures affecting the studied  
340 stratigraphic interval.

341

#### 342 **Acknowledgements**

343 This research has been supported by Research Groups of Zaragoza University H54  
344 (Reconstrucciones Paleoambientales; IUCA) and E27 (Geotransfer) supported by Aragón  
345 Government and FEDER funds, and project CGL2014-53548 (Spanish Ministry of Science and

346 Innovation). Authors want to acknowledge comments and suggestions from Alex MacNeil,  
347 associate editor, and three anonymous reviewers.

#### 348 **Figure and table captions**

349 **Figure 1.** (a) Geological map and location of the upper Kimmeridgian rocks in the two studied  
350 sectors, Barranco de la Canaleja and Puntal del Montero, close to Jabaloyas (Teruel province,  
351 NE Spain) A simplified log of the geological series from the studied zone is included. (b)  
352 Overview of the reef pinnacles and related non-reefal facies in the cliff of Barranco de la  
353 Canaleja close to Jabaloyas. These facies belongs to a deepening-shallowing high-order  
354 sequence (sequence C in Aurell and Bádenas, 2004; Bádenas and Aurell, 2010; San Miguel et  
355 al., 2013). Inset a detail from the facies changes in the upper part of the reefs is included.

356 **Figure 2.** Magnetometry data in the structural platform at Puntal del Montero. (a) Aerial  
357 photograph of the structural platform. Faults (see straight lineaments) and pinnacle reefs (see  
358 “spots” with high reflectivity) can be identified (see cartography in figure 8b). (b) Location of N-  
359 S and E-W oriented profiles of the magnetic survey, which encompass a total of 12388  
360 measured points (c, d) Maps of the obtained data of residual magnetic anomaly and vertical  
361 magnetic gradient, respectively.

362 **Figure 3.** EM data in the structural platform at Puntal del Montero. (a) Location of EM profiles,  
363 which encompass a total of 18324 measured points. (b) Map of apparent susceptibility  
364 obtained for the measurement at 65 KHz frequency. (c, d, e, f) Maps of apparent conductivity  
365 with 65 to 0.5 KHz antennas.

366 **Figure 4.** Location of the GPR survey at the structural platform in Puntal de Montero, with 500  
367 MHz antenna (2 profiles, see blue arrow), 100 and 200 MHz antennas (14 profiles each, see  
368 yellow arrows) and 50 MHz antenna in the detailed studied zone (56 profiles in total). GPR  
369 results are included in figures 5 and 10.

370 **Figure 5.** Compared analysis of GPR results obtained at the structural platform in Puntal del  
371 Montero for the same profile with different central frequencies antennas. (a) Location of the  
372 analyzed profile (see red arrow). (b) Detail of the 250 MHz profile (see red box in c) indicating  
373 the two identified radar facies A and B. (c, d, e) GPR data obtained from different antennas.  
374 Note that different depths have been analyzed for each antenna. In figure c, isolated  
375 asymmetric and symmetric anomalies are also indicated. In figure e, 50 MHz profiles include  
376 different orientation of antennas during survey (PL-BD and PR-BD). Note radar facies A and B  
377 are not evident at 50 MHz.

378 **Figure 6.** Compared analysis for the most representative geophysical data obtained at the  
379 structural platform in Puntal de Montero in a selected profile (see black line in the aerial  
380 photograph). Radar facies A and B identified in the GPR profile are also indicated. Note there is  
381 not a clear correlation of magnetometry and EM data with GPR and field data. However, GPR  
382 and field data can be correlated: radar facies A corresponds to pinnacle reefs and radar facies  
383 B correlates with non-reefal facies. Hyperbolic anomalies at middle depths or net interruptions  
384 of the lateral continuity of reflectors at shallow conditions are considered as related to faults.

385 **Figure 7.** Magnetometry and EM data obtained in the cliff of Barranco de la Canaleja close to  
386 Jabaloyas. (a) Plot of the apparent susceptibility data for reefal and non-reefal facies measured  
387 at outcrop and hand samples (see detailed distribution of facies in figure 1b). Highest values of  
388 apparent susceptibility correspond to mud-supported non-reefal facies. (b) Photograph from  
389 the Barranco de la Canaleja cliff and distribution of magnetometry data (residual magnetic  
390 anomaly and vertical magnetic gradient). Two different profiles are included in order to  
391 evaluate data variation, anomalies and data trends along the same transect over the cliff (see  
392 green and purple lines). Potential noisy areas are also indicated.



393 **Figure 8.** (a) EM data (apparent conductivity and apparent susceptibility) and (b) tomography  
394 of apparent conductivity along the same transect for different analyzed frequencies. The  
395 yellow line in the field image corresponds to 1.5 KHz frequency.

396 **Figure 9.** Comparison of field, aerial photograph data, magnetometry and EM data in the  
397 detailed studied zone of the structural platform at Puntal del Montero. (a, b) Location of the  
398 detailed studied zone (see black box in a) and mapping of pinnacle reefs and faults. (c, d, e, f)  
399 Magnetometry data (residual magnetic field and vertical magnetic gradient) and EM data  
400 (apparent conductivity for 18 KHz and 0.5 KHz). The cartography of faults and pinnacles is  
401 superimposed for comparison.

402 **Figure 10.** GPR profiles with 250 MHz antennas along the detailed studied zone of the  
403 structural platform (see location in figure 9a). (a) E-W parallel profiles indicating the two  
404 defined radar facies. Note the sudden and subvertical contact between both radar facies. (b) In  
405 the N-S profile, shallow reflectors of radar facies B are tilted to the S.

406 **Figure 11.** Analysis of relative reflectivity in TWT slices along the detailed studied zone of the  
407 structural platform (see location in figure 9a). a) Aerial photograph from the detailed studied  
408 zone and mapping of pinnacle reefs and faults. In the aerial photograph, processing has been  
409 applied to highlight the identified areas with higher reflectivity (pinnacle reefs). (b) Example of  
410 identified radar facies along a high-frequency profile for comparison with their  
411 electromagnetic characteristics in different TWT slices ( $z$ = depth). (c) Relative reflectivity for  
412 different TWT slices. The location of the deepest slice (i.e. slice 6) is indicated with a blue line  
413 in figure b. The location of the profile and the cartography of faults and pinnacles is also  
414 indicated.

415 **Figure 12.** Model of distribution of pinnacles and faults in the studied zone based on the  
416 integrated GPR data in the detailed studied zone of the structural platform. (a) Compared  
417 analysis of two selected 50 and 250 MHz GPR profiles. Note that the discrimination between

418 radar facies A (pinnacle reefs) and B (non-reefal facies) can be easily performed in the 250 MHz  
419 profile, but not in the 50 MHz profile. However the sharp contacts between radar facies in the  
420 250 MHz profile can be prolonged in the 50 MHz profile. Considering this correlation, the  
421 reached depth of GPR survey can be increased integrating both groups of profiles. (b) Model of  
422 distribution of pinnacles and faults based on the integration of 50 and 250 MHz profiles. In  
423 some cases, pinnacles show straight contacts that correspond to faults, seen in the aerial  
424 photograph or indentified in the GPR profiles as hyperbolic anomalies. The grey area at the  
425 bottom indicates the mean reached depth of the GPR survey (around 11 m).

426 **Table 1.** Summary of the geophysical data obtained in the upper Kimmeridgian at Jabaloyas  
427 and their applicability for identification of facies and faults at shallow subsurface.

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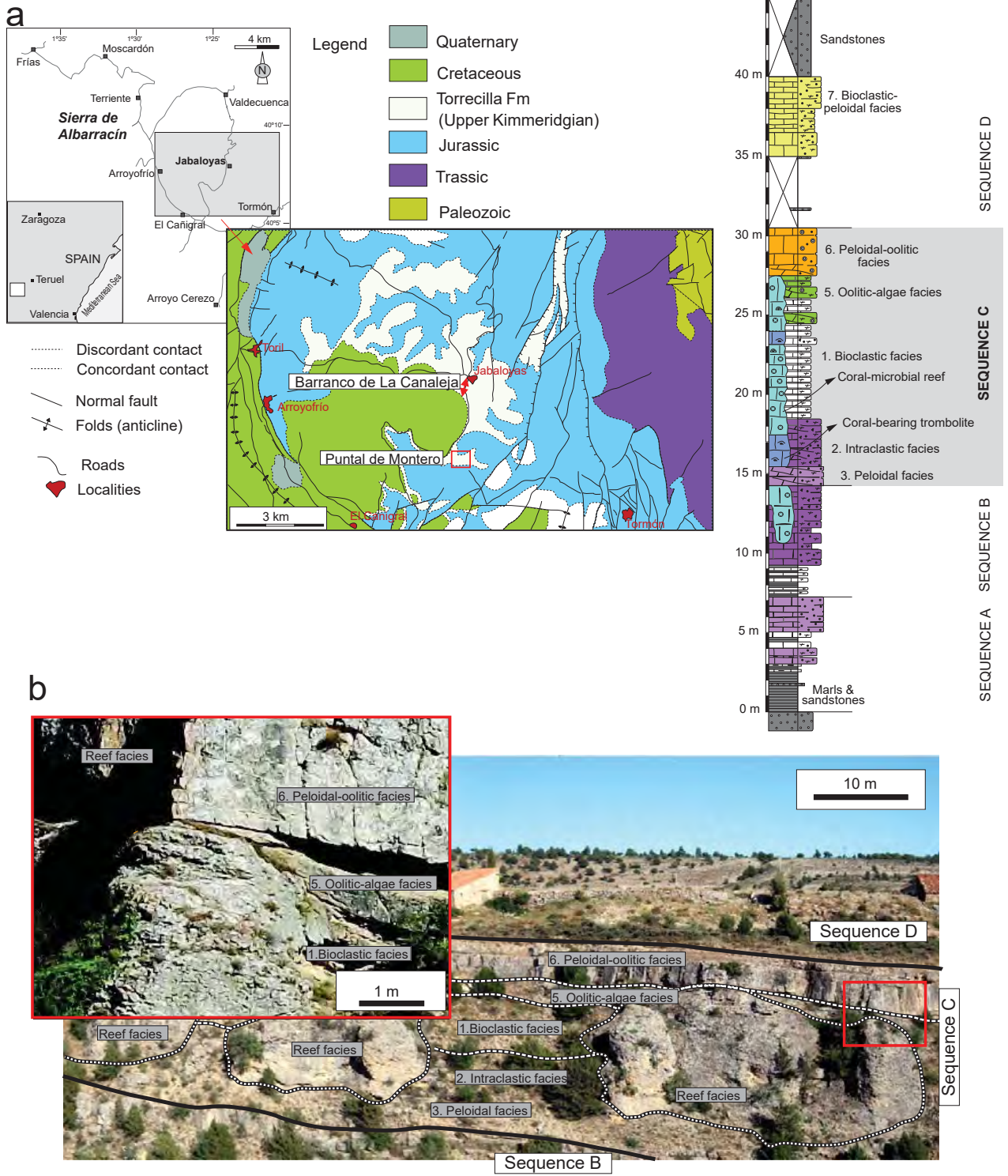


Figure 1

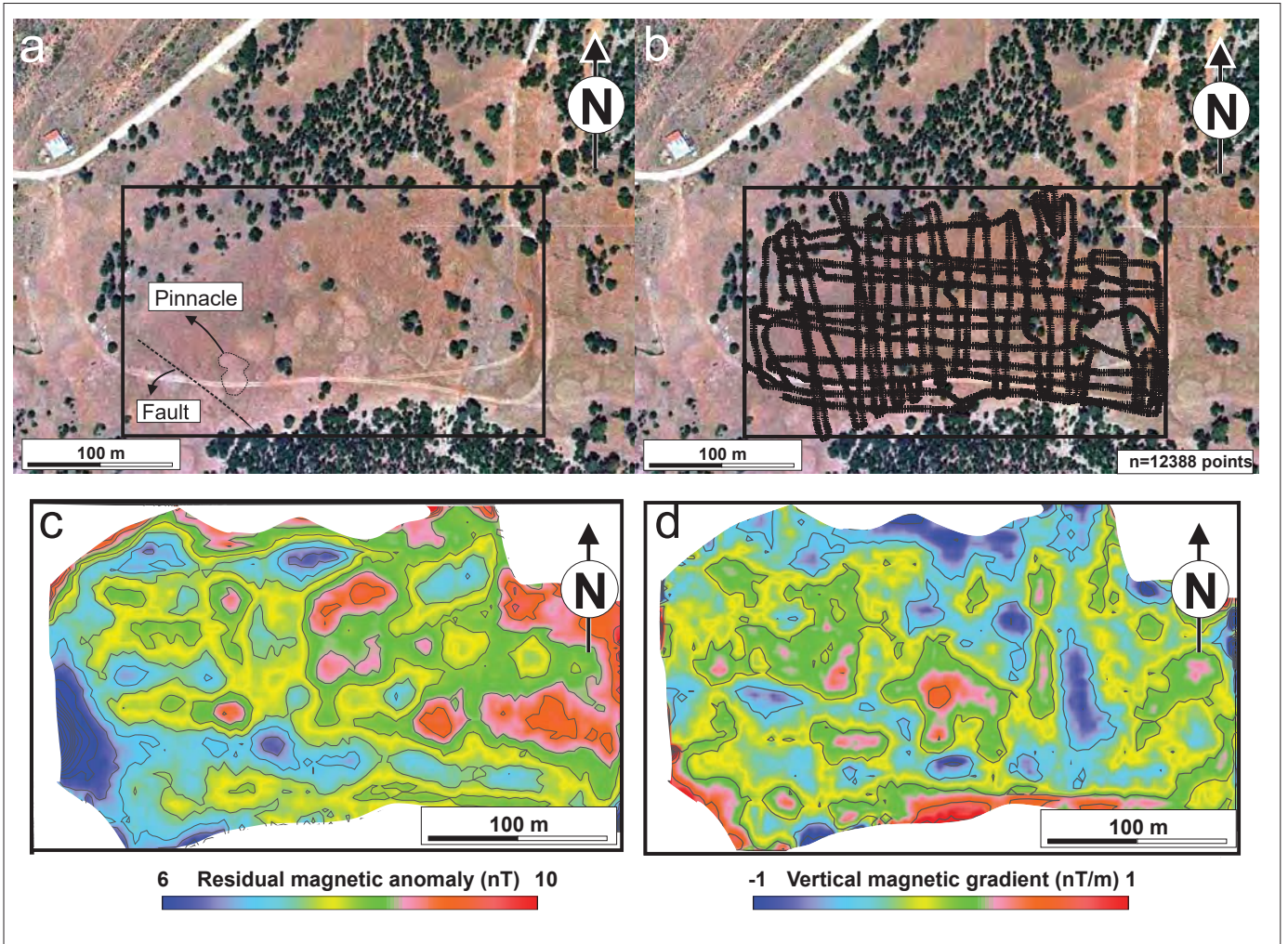


Figure 2



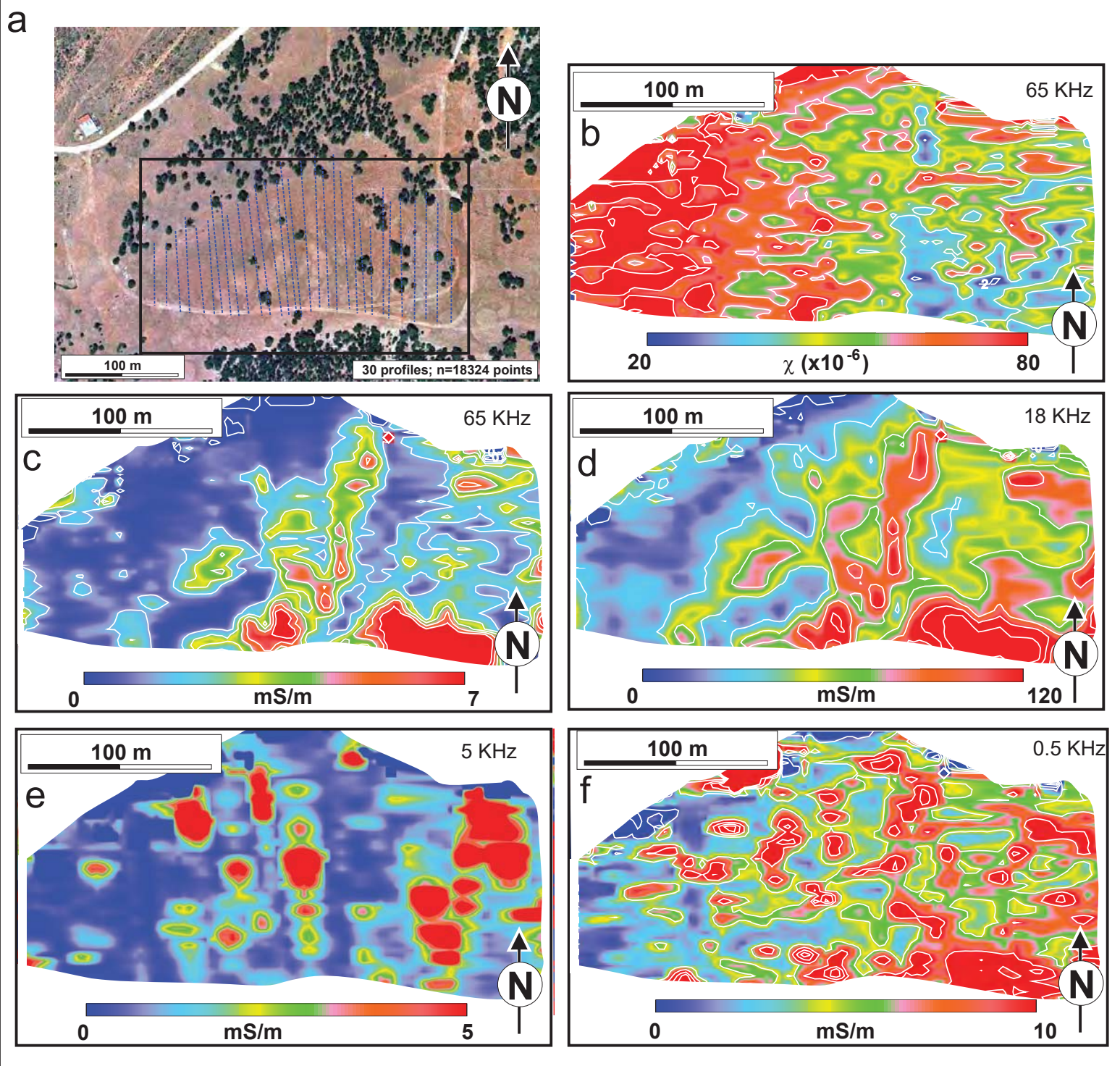


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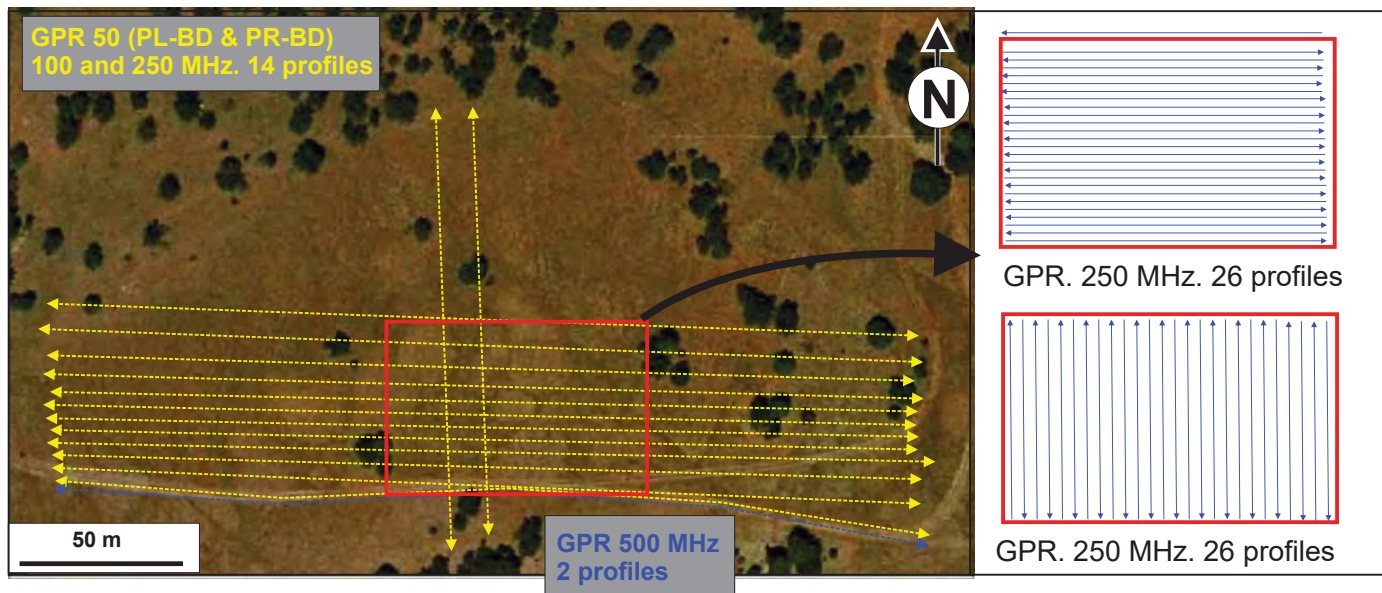


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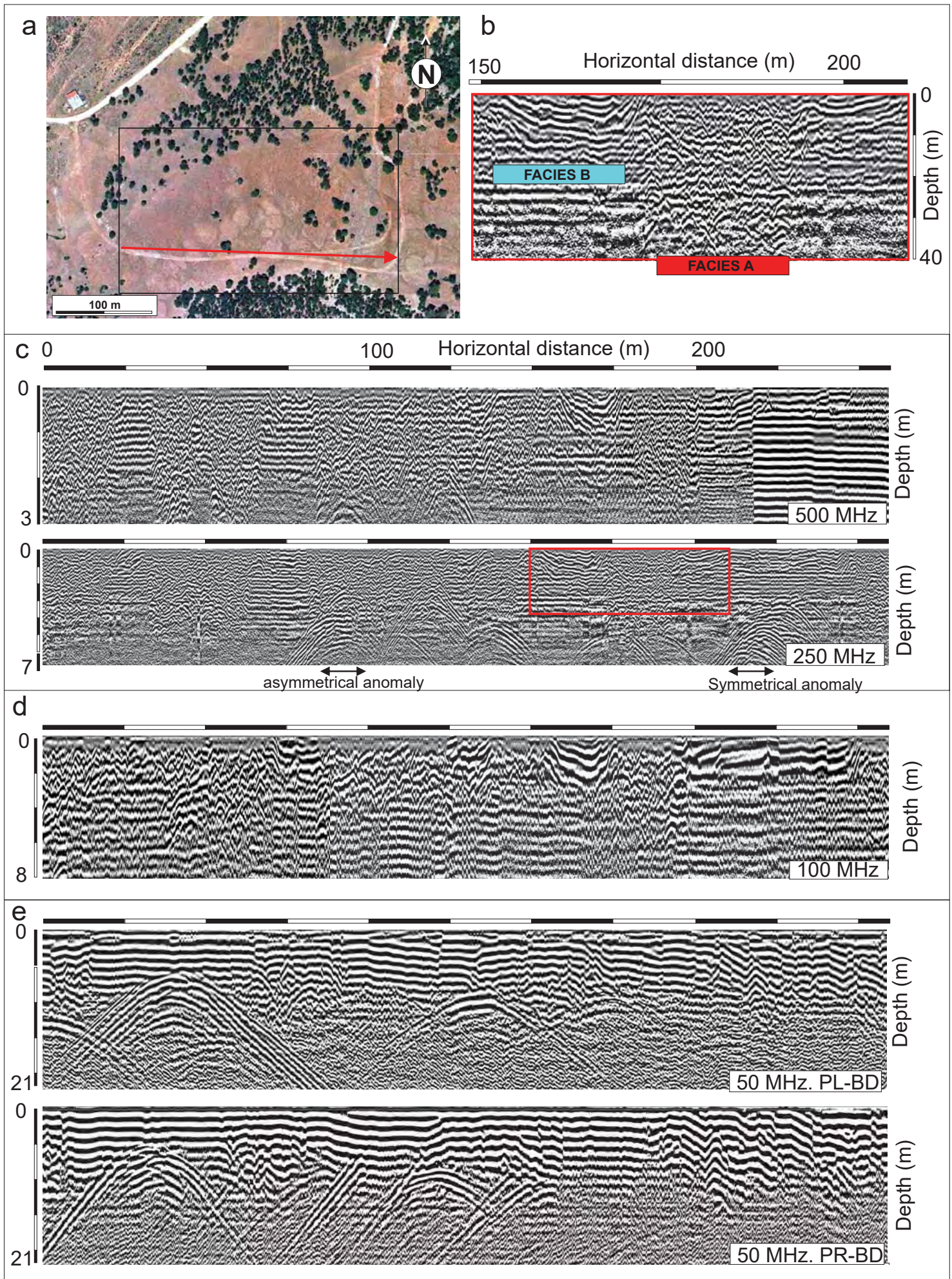


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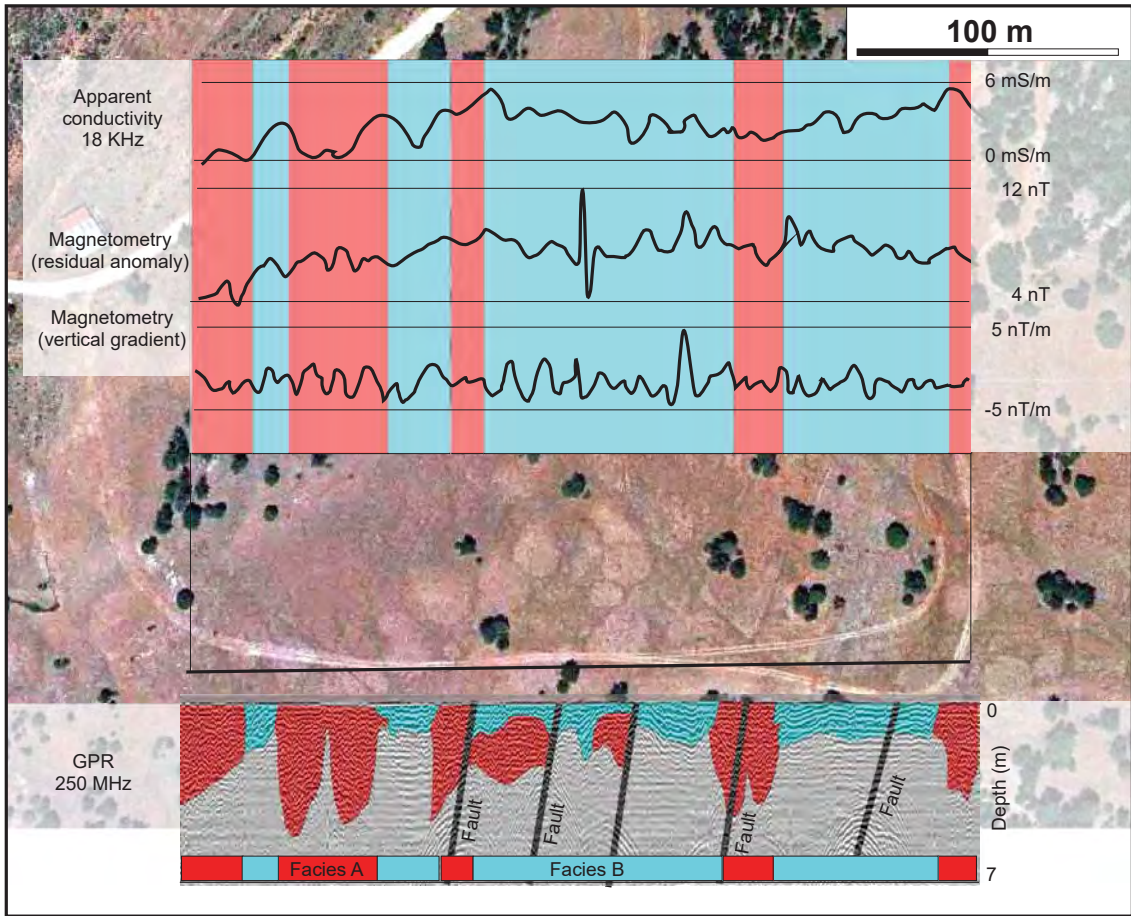


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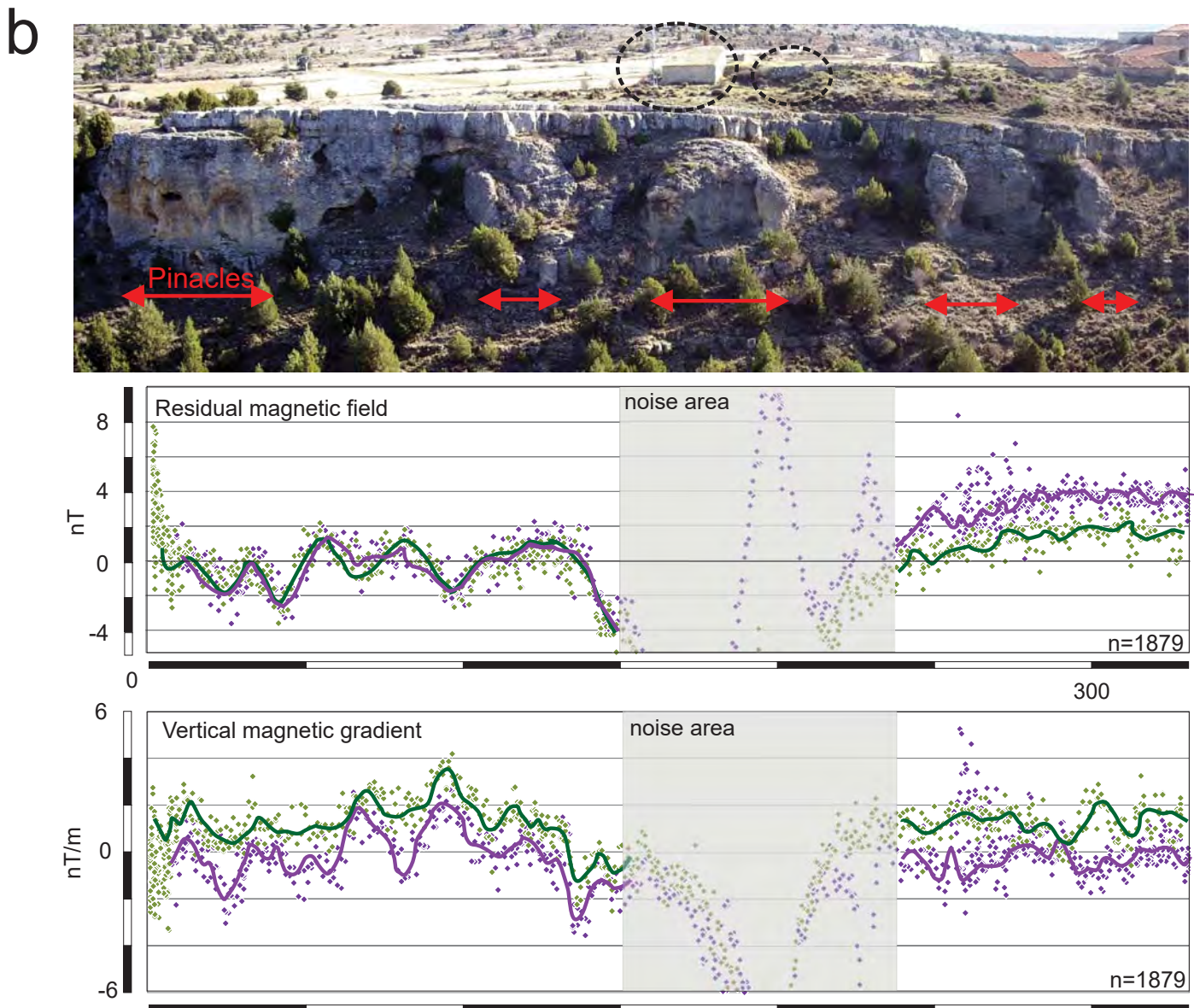
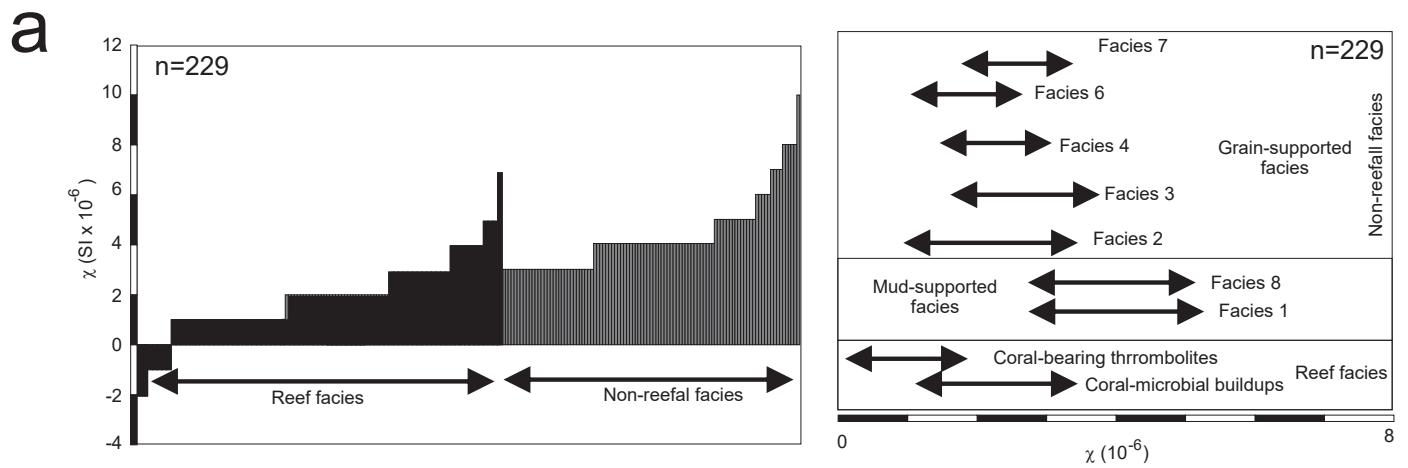
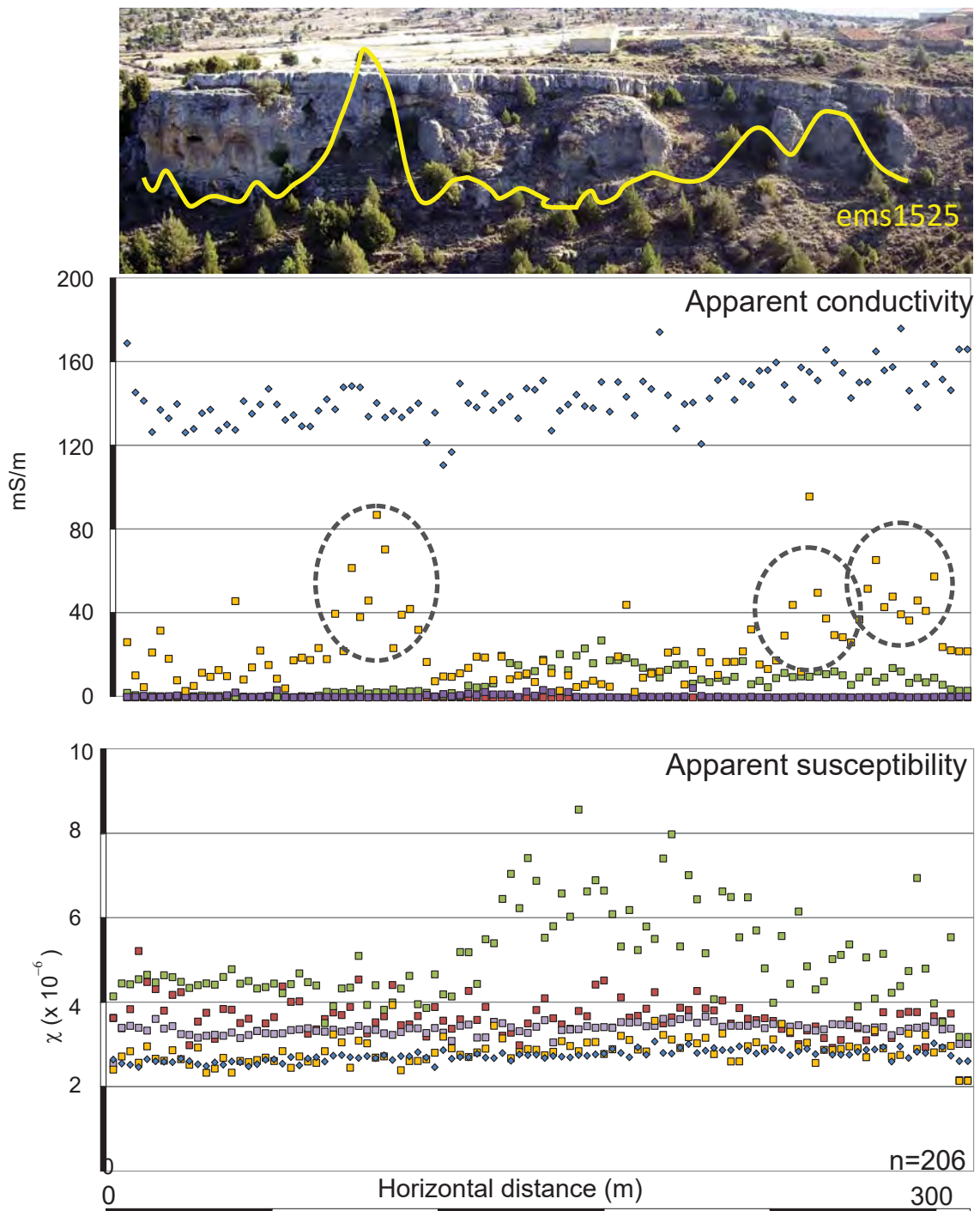
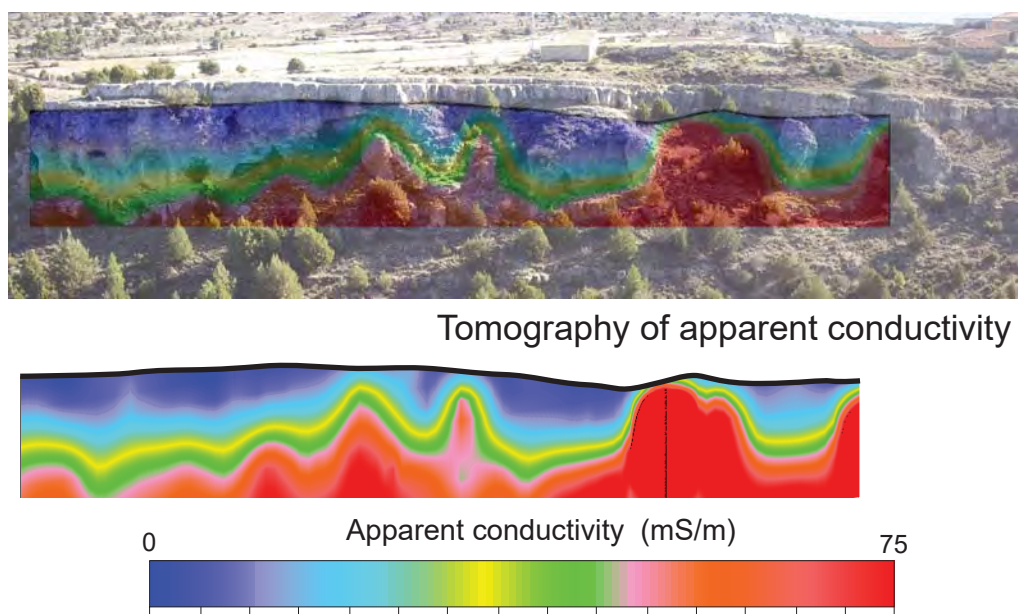
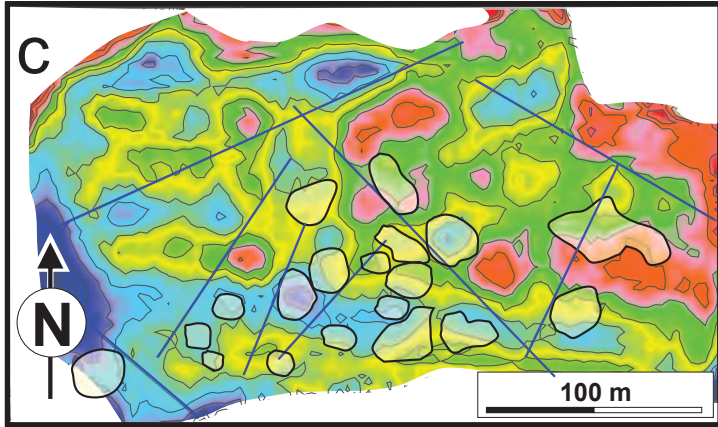
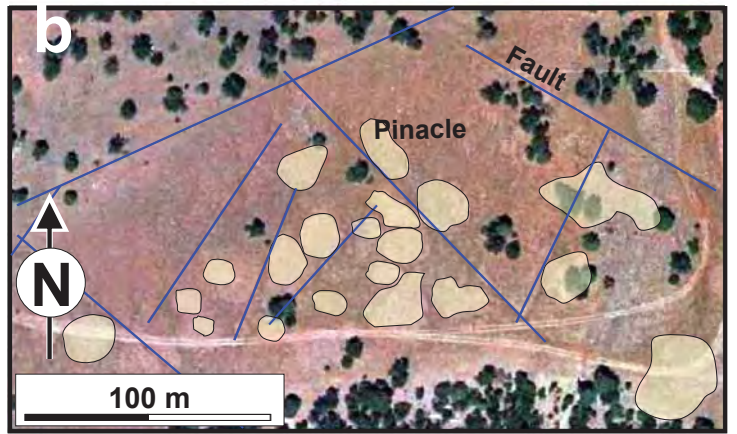
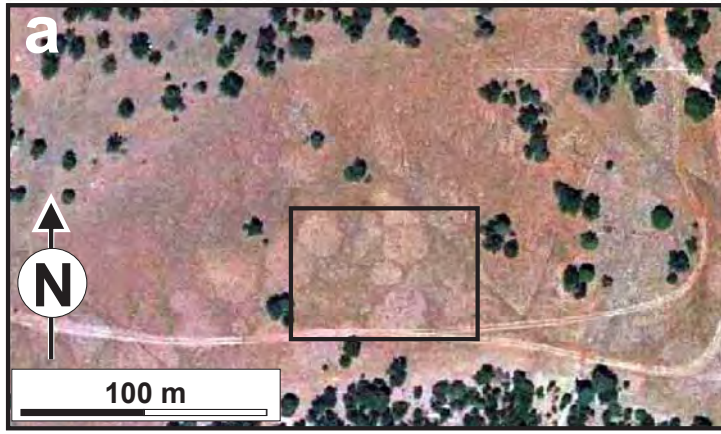


Figure 7

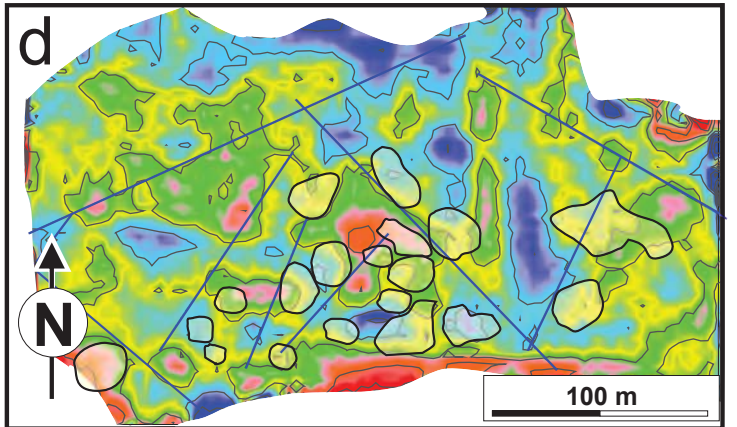
**a**

■ em65KHz ■ em18KHz ■ em5KHz ■ em1.5KHz ◆ em0.5KHz

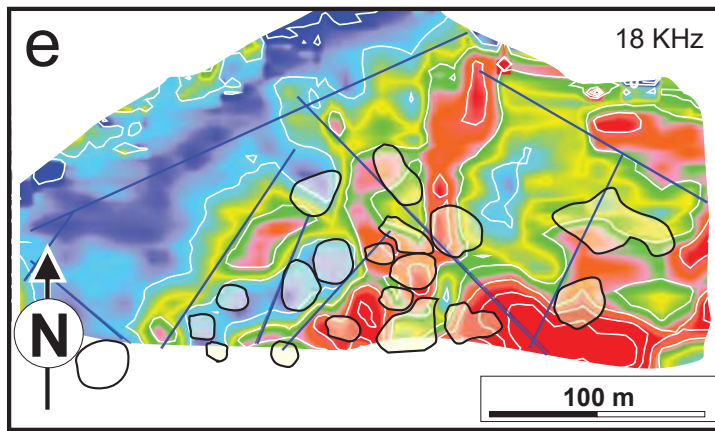
**b****Figure 8.-**



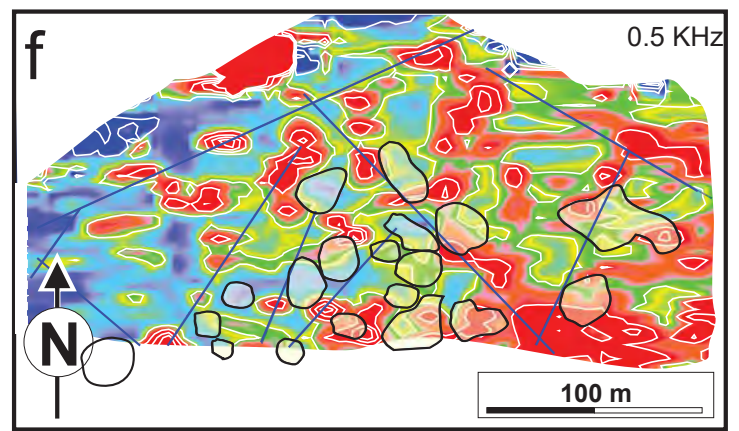
6 Residual magnetic anomaly (nT) 10



-1 Vertical magnetic gradient (nT/m) 1



0 Apparent conductivity (mS/m) 120



0 Apparent conductivity (mS/m) 10

Figure 9

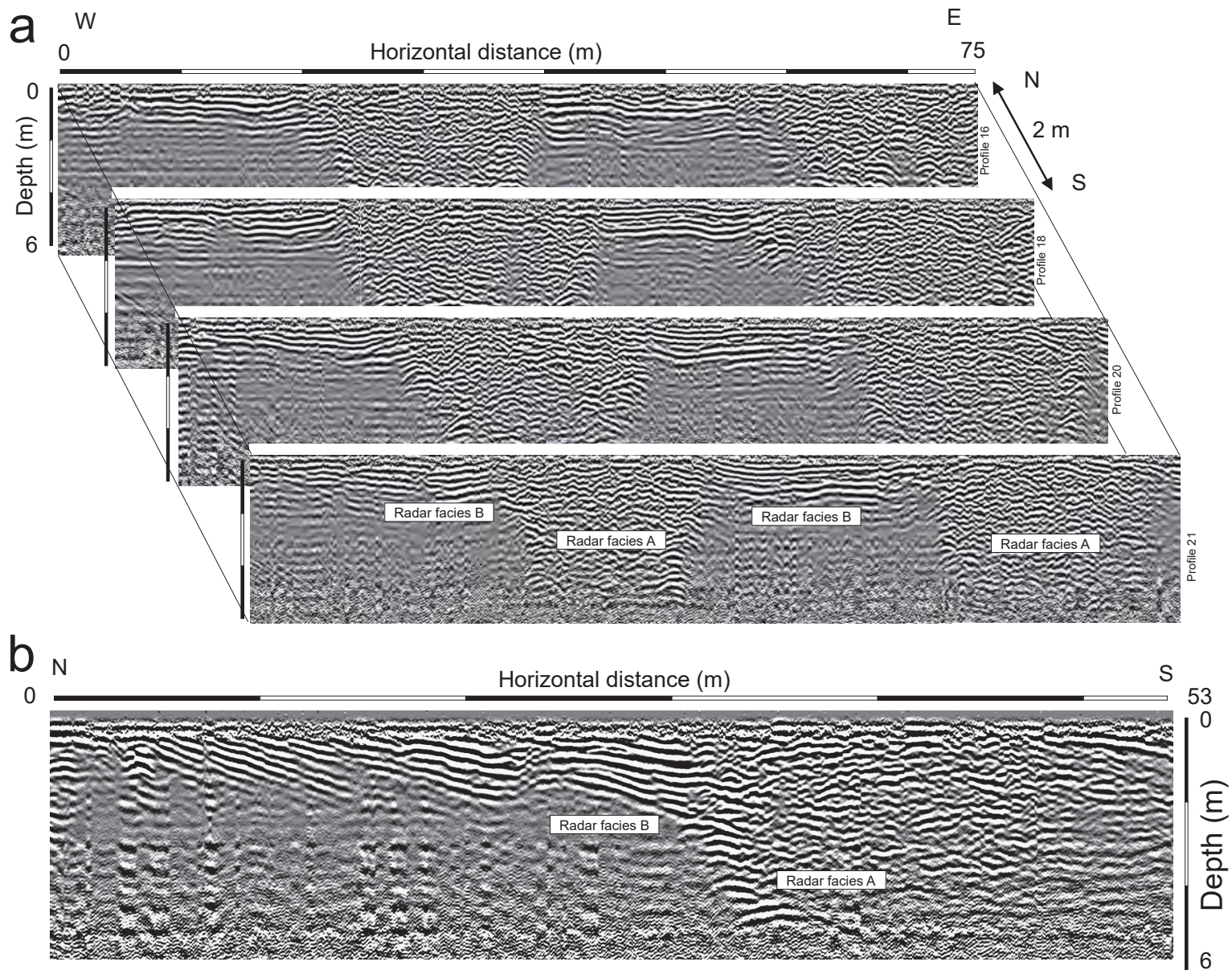


Figure 10



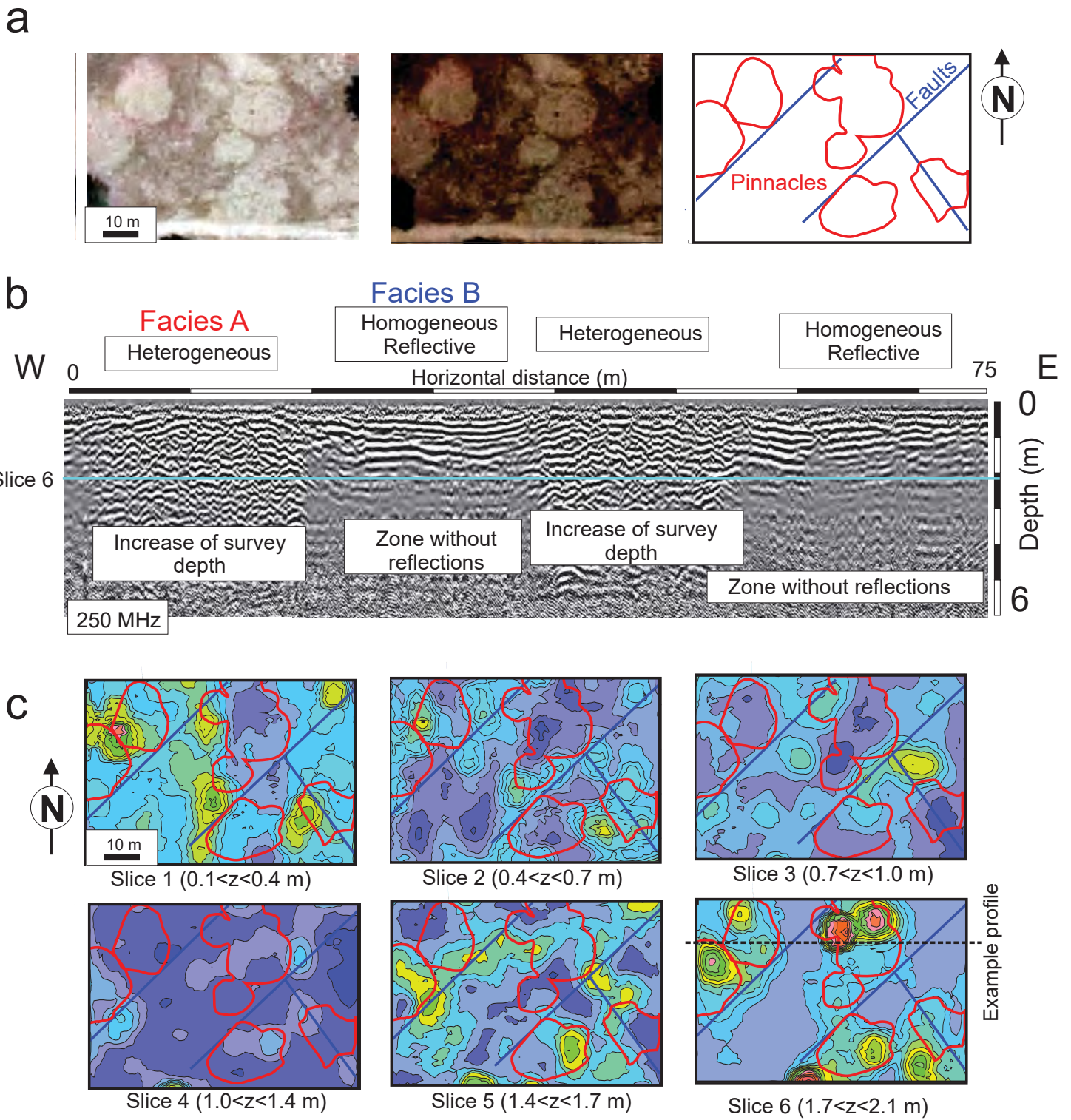


Figure 11

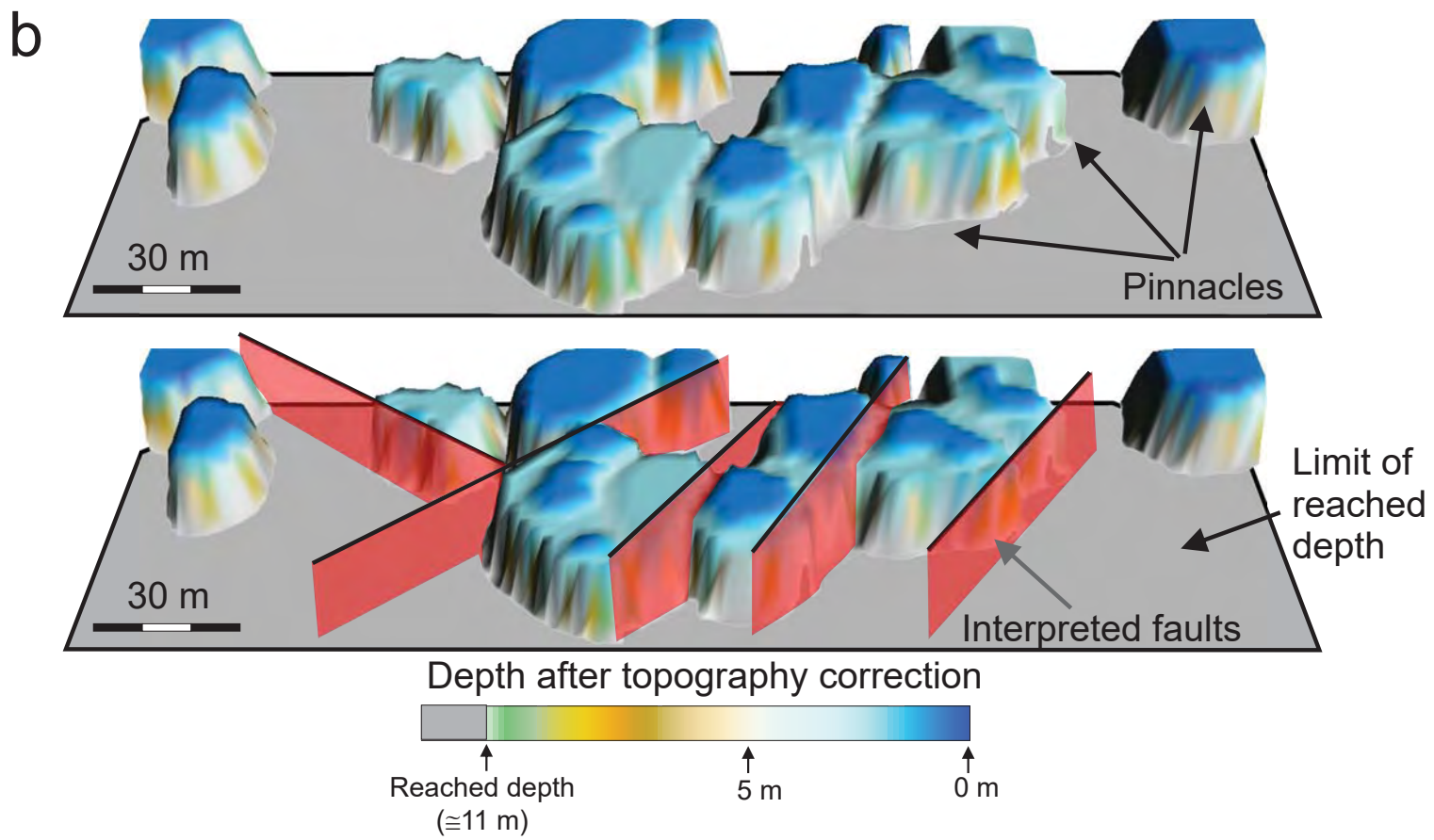
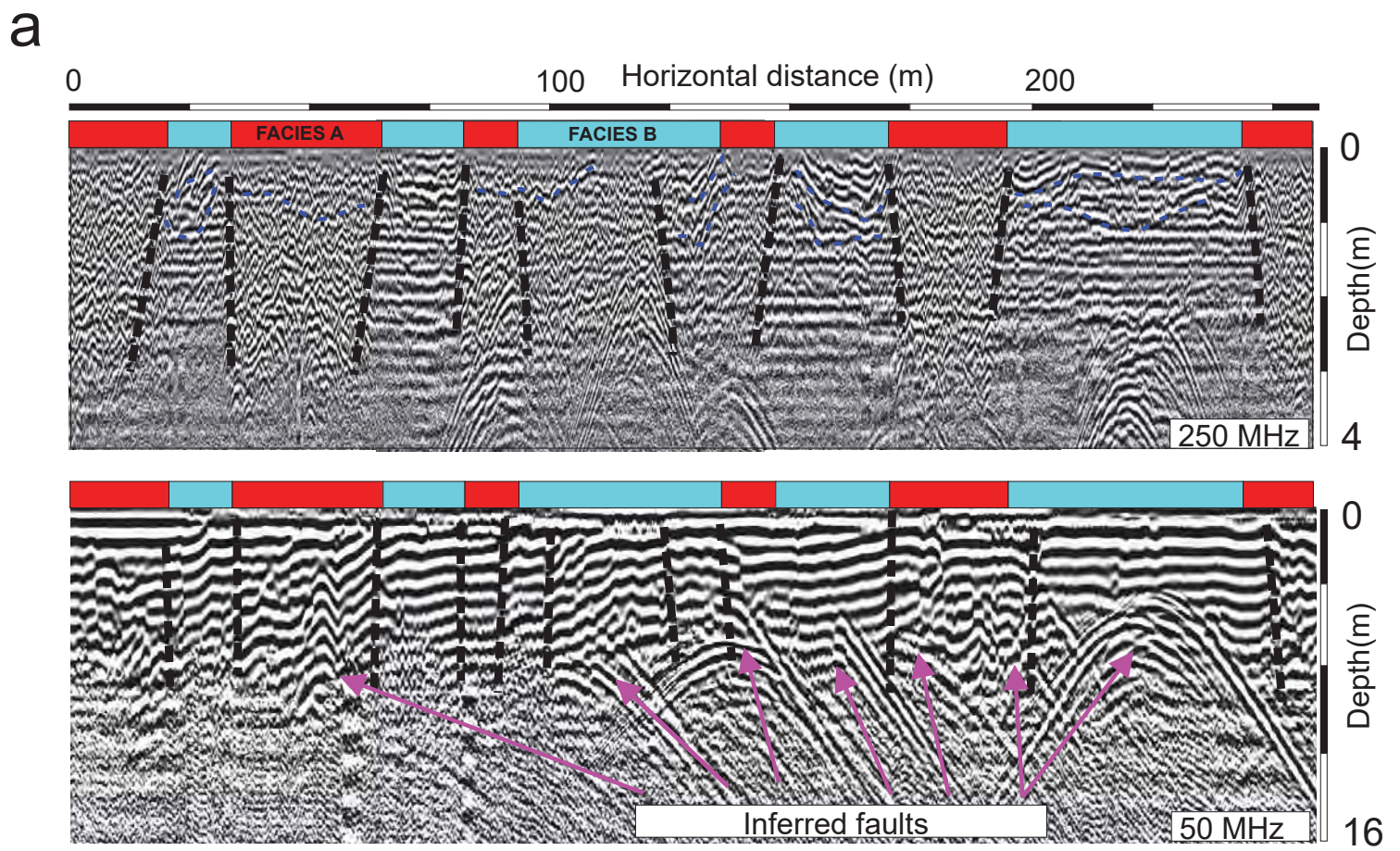


Figure 12

Geophysical survey	Studied areas		Applicability
	Structural platform	Cliff	
<b>Magnetometry</b>			
Residual magnetic anomaly	Pinnacle reefs: usually negative anomalies	Pinnacle reefs: low values	Not useful for univocal identification of facies and faults in subsurface
Vertical magnetic gradient	Pinnacle reefs: usually negative anomalies Faults: lineaments of dipoles	Anomalies at the contact between pinnacle reefs and non-reefal facies	
<b>Magnetic susceptibility</b>			
	-	Pinnacle reefs: negative values (highest values in mud-supported non-reefal facies)	-
<b>EM</b>			
Apparent susceptibility	No clear relationship with facies	No clear relationship with facies	Not useful for univocal identification of facies and faults in subsurface
Apparent conductivity	Non-reefal facies: positive anomalies	Non-reefal facies: positive values and positive peaks in tomography	
<b>GPR</b>			
Profiles	Pinnacle reefs: radar facies A (heterogeneous reflective, increase of survey depth) Non-reefal facies: radar facies B (homogeneous reflective) Faults: hyperbolic anomalies	-	Useful for identification of facies and faults in subsurface
TWT slices	Pinnacle reefs: positive anomalies at deep conditions. Faults: anisotropy (rectilinear contacts) of external envelopes of positive anomalies	-	