

1 Feeding and growth of a dyke-laccolith system (Elba Island, 2 Italy) from AMS and mineral fabric data

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11
12 **Abstract:** Dykes feed laccoliths and sills, however the link between feeder and intrusion is
13 rarely observed. The felsic San Martino laccolith displays a clear feeder-intrusion link,
14 allowing reconstruction of the influence of the size and location of feeder dykes on magma
15 flow during formation of sub-horizontal intrusions. This work uses anisotropy of magnetic
16 susceptibility (AMS) combined with mineral shape-preferred orientations of sanidine
17 megacrysts to examine magma flow pathways through feeders into a laccolith. Strong
18 correlation between AMS and K-feldspar data sets indicates that alteration affecting the
19 paramagnetic mineralogy did not influence AMS results. The well established field
20 relationships between feeder and laccolith provided a robust "geo-logical" model for flow
21 pathways that we have used as a framework to aid interpretation of AMS data. The position
22 and size of the main feeder dyke helped to predict the flow paths in the overlying laccolith.
23 Our results show that magma spread laterally from the feeding system and built the
24 laccolith layers with propagating and inflating divergent flow where tabular particles
25 became aligned perpendicular to the magma displacement direction. The lack of internal
26 discontinuities indicates that the magma was injected as a single pulse or a series of
27 quickly coalescing pulses.

28
29 **Supplementary material:** AMS methods, AMS data and detailed fabric maps are available
30 at <http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/SUP0000>.

31
32 Shallow igneous intrusions record the link between plutonic and volcanic processes. In
33 particular, models of magma supply, accommodation and storage in intrusive bodies
34 contribute to explain the evolution of felsic magma chambers (Miller & Miller 2002;
35 Bachmann *et al.* 2007; Bachmann & Bergantz 2008). Recent multidisciplinary studies have
36 led to the widely held view that igneous bodies often grow by incremental
37 thickening/inflation of initially thin, sheet-like or tabular bodies by the addition of
38 successive magma pulses (McCaffrey & Petford 1997; Cruden & McCaffrey 2001; Saint-
39 Blanquat *et al.* 2001; Rocchi *et al.* 2002; Menand 2008), overlapping of sub-horizontal
40 sheets (Horsman *et al.* 2005; Saint-Blanquat *et al.* 2006; Morgan *et al.* 2008) or
41 amalgamation of magma fingers and tongue-like lobes (Stevenson *et al.* 2007). Incremental
42 magma intrusion is also a common interpretation of geophysical observations of
43 deformation episodes at active volcanoes (Biggs *et al.* 2011).

44 This study contributes to understanding magma flow during feeding and growth of
45 shallow-level intrusions (< 3-4 km deep) by investigating their internal structures.
46 However, rock fabrics can be difficult to disentangle for several reasons. First, the final rock

47 fabric may result from “pure” magmatic processes (e.g., emplacement flow, convection),
48 late magmatic processes (thermal contraction, gravitational compaction) or tectonic
49 processes (syn-emplacement deformation, post-emplacement deformation), or a multiple
50 overprinting of them all. Second, magmatic fabric reflects finite strain produced by
51 progressive magmatic flow rather than directly recording a simple flow direction (Saint-
52 Blanquat *et al.* 2006; Paterson *et al.* 1998).

53 We therefore performed a multidisciplinary analysis: relevant data are represented by field
54 observations, structural measurements of mineral foliations and lineations, and a large
55 collection of anisotropy of magnetic susceptibility data (AMS). Additionally, this study
56 focuses on fabrics in both a laccolith system and its feeder dykes, hence these data
57 constrain the movement of magma in feeders as well as in the main sites of accumulation.

58 Here we use the late Miocene San Martino felsic laccolith, Elba Island, Italy, as a case study.
59 Its geometry and emplacement/tectonic history are well defined (Dini *et al.* 2002; Rocchi *et al.*
60 *et al.* 2002; Westerman *et al.* 2004; Dini *et al.* 2006; Rocchi *et al.* 2010), thanks in part to
61 serendipitous tectonic tilting that exposed several transects of the laccolith layers from top
62 to bottom. This igneous body offers the chance to study internal structures that are
63 undoubtedly magmatic since it crystallized very quickly, experienced no detectable
64 subsequent ductile deformation, and local brittle tectonics (sliding and tilting of the
65 laccolithic complex as a single rigid body) did not affect internal structures. Geometric data
66 for the San Martino laccolith led to infer a two-stage growth model, with initial expansion
67 of a thin sill followed by a vertical inflation stage (Rocchi *et al.* 2002). Our new fabric data
68 allows the reconstruction of internal structures and presents a more refined picture of
69 magma emplacement during laccolith growth.

70

71 **Geological framework**

72

73 *The Setting*

74

75 The Elba Island region was involved during late Cretaceous-early Miocene in the
76 convergence-collision process between the Sardinia-Corsica block and Adria plate. This
77 process resulted, on Elba Island, in a stack of thrust complexes (Fig. 1) (Bortolotti *et al.*
78 2001). Collision was followed by extensional processes coupled with eastward-propagating
79 emplacement of igneous complexes (Serri *et al.* 1993; Serri *et al.* 2001). Between ~8.5 and
80 5.8 Ma, the two uppermost thrust complexes (comprised of a Jurassic ophiolite sequence
81 with its cover, and a Cretaceous-Eocene turbidite unit) were intruded by laccoliths, plutons
82 and dykes. In western-central Elba the igneous sequence started with the emplacement of
83 the two-layers Capo Bianco aplite (~8.5 Ma) (Maineri *et al.* 2003; Dini *et al.* 2007). These
84 layers were intruded and fragmented by the four intrusive layers of the felsic, sanidine-
85 phytic Portoferraio porphyry (7.95 Ma) (Dini *et al.* 2002). Then, intrusion of the felsic,
86 sanidine-megacrystic San Martino porphyry followed (7.4 Ma) (Dini *et al.* 2002).
87 Altogether, these intrusions are defined as multilayer laccoliths (Rocchi *et al.* 2002) based
88 on the overall parallelism of intrusive contacts and host rock anisotropies (Fig. 2c),
89 tapering of visible terminations, and upward-convex roofs and flat to upward-convex floors
90 (Dini *et al.* 2006). The layers of each intrusive unit are connected by dykes (Fig. 2d),
91 generating an overall geometry typical of a nested Christmas-tree laccolith complex (Corry
92 1988). Magma was emplaced at a depth between 1.9 and 3.7 km, mostly along planar
93 anisotropies such as thrust surfaces between tectonic complexes, secondary thrusts inside

94 complexes, and bedding within the turbidite sequence.
95 Emplacement of the laccoliths was followed by intrusion of the ~2.5 km-thick
96 monzogranitic Monte Capanne pluton (7 Ma) (Dini *et al.* 2002; Farina *et al.* 2010) and the
97 Orano mafic dyke swarm (6.95 Ma) (Dini *et al.* 2008). The laccolith complex, originally
98 intruded in the present western Elba area, was translated eastwards along with country
99 rock by gravitationally driven tectonic collapse along the Central Elba Fault (Fig. 1). The
100 lower section is now exposed in western Elba while the upper resides in central Elba
101 (Trevisan 1950; Pertusati *et al.* 1993; Daniel & Jolivet 1995; Westerman *et al.* 2004).
102 Following this eastward translation, west-side-up normal movement occurred along the
103 Eastern Border Fault with a throw of 2-3 km near the margin of the pluton.

104

105 *The San Martino Laccolith System*

106

107 The laccolith consists of porphyritic rock, with prominent euhedral sanidine megacrysts
108 set in a very fine-grained groundmass (<100 μm ; Fig. 2a, b). Megacrysts are dominantly
109 tabular on (010) and elongated on the *c* axis; minor prismatic crystals elongated on *a* are
110 also present. Megacryst abundance is 50-200 crystals/ m^2 with an average size of 5x2x1 cm
111 (max 14x6x3 cm), corresponding to 3-12 vol%. Phenocrysts also include quartz (1-20 mm),
112 plagioclase (1-5 mm) and biotite (1-5 mm). Groundmass consists of an equigranular,
113 isotropic aggregate of quartz and feldspars, along with accessory apatite, zircon and
114 monazite. Weathering and hydrothermal alteration are widespread, with replacement of
115 plagioclase by calcite+sericite, sanidine by sericite, and biotite by chlorite, plus additional
116 formation of titanite, anatase and/or rutile, and scattered late-magmatic tourmaline spots.

117 The San Martino laccolith is composed of three main, westward-dipping subparallel layers
118 cropping out in central Elba, as well as several dykes in central Elba below the laccolithic
119 layers and in western Elba as the roots of the original laccolith complex left behind after its
120 eastward translation (Fig. 1). The emplacement level for this unit is as shallow as ~2 km
121 (Rocchi *et al.* 2002). Contact metamorphic effects in the host rock are practically absent.
122 The filling time of the 21 km^3 intrusion has been estimated around 100 years, based on the
123 size of the dykes in western Elba and assuming a conservative ascent rate of $3 \times 10^{-3} \text{ ms}^{-1}$
124 (Rocchi *et al.* 2002). Internal magmatic layering and/or contacts are not observed.

125 Layer 1 is topmost and most voluminous, reaching a thickness of ~700 m (tapering toward
126 both the northern and southern ends) with a N-S length of 8.3 km (Fig 3). It is
127 characterized by branching patterns toward its margins. A prominent southern branch on
128 the west shore of Marina di Campo Bay exposes a ~250 m thick bottom-top section that
129 trends N-S and dips 30° W. Its base is marked at the south end by a gently west-dipping,
130 ~300 m thick cross-section at Punta Mele; at the north end the base is well exposed at La
131 Biodola Bay as a ~500 m thick bottom-top section. Layer 2 represents less than 5% of the
132 total laccolith volume, striking NW-SE for about 1 km in the northern half of the complex.
133 Its thickness decreases from ~150 to ~100 m from south to north. The lowermost Layer 3
134 parallels Layer 2 with an exposure length of 2 km and a thickness of ~250 m.

135 Six steeply dipping dykes of San Martino porphyry are mapped in western Elba (Fig. 1).
136 The largest, the WNW-ESE Marciana dyke 1500 m long and 10 to 20 m thick, is interpreted
137 as the main feeder (Rocchi *et al.* 2002). In central Elba, the subvertical NE-SW oriented
138 Sansone dyke is the most significant, exposed over 400-500 m with widths of 3-20 m. Its
139 structural location below the laccolith (Figs. 1 and 2d) suggests it locally fed Layer 3.

140 With the aim of describing and interpreting the fabric data in their original geometric

141 context, i.e. before eastward translation and rotation (Fig. 1) (Westerman *et al.* 2004), all
142 central Elba data has been rotated west-side-up by 30° around a N-S horizontal axis. Data
143 discussed in the text, therefore, refers to a body having sub-horizontal basal contacts and
144 slightly upward convex tops, with steeply-dipping dykes below.

145 146 **Fabric results**

147
148 Two approaches were taken to establish the igneous fabric within the San Martino laccolith
149 complex: direct determination by measuring the orientation of sanidine megacrysts (Fig.
150 3a), and indirect determination by measuring anisotropy of magnetic susceptibility (AMS)
151 parameters (Fig. 3b). The use of multiple independent fabric determinations is of
152 fundamental importance in validating fabric analysis.

153 154 *Megacryst fabric*

155
156 Shape-preferred orientations of sanidine megacrysts have been measured using (010)
157 faces of tabular crystals, while magmatic lineations were determined using the *c* axes of
158 elongated/tabular crystals or the *a* axes of prism-like crystals elongated on *a*. Tabular
159 crystals with weak elongation yielded only foliation data. These crystallographic features
160 are best recognized where crystals show 3D exposures (Fig. 2a, b), such as along
161 weathered shorelines cliffs. Statistically controlled foliation values were determined at 48
162 stations and lineation at 36 stations, with both values measured at 34 of those sites (Table
163 1S). Foliation measurements were made on 25 to 99 contiguous crystals at each station,
164 while lineation measurements derived from 30 to 97 crystals. Foliation measurements
165 based on average crystal patterns were made at an additional 19 sites.

166 Throughout the laccolith system, the investigation of megacryst attitudes points out well-
167 defined magmatic foliations along with weak magmatic lineations. In fact, foliation poles in
168 85% of the stations (41/48) have the main eigenvalue (E_1) > 0.6 and almost 60% (28/48)
169 have $E_1 > 0.7$. In contrast, magmatic lineations in 50% of the stations have the main
170 eigenvalue > 0.6 and in only the 13% (5/36) have $E_1 > 0.7$ (Table 1S).

171 Taken together, magmatic foliations within Layer 1 (Fig. 3a) show distinctive patterns that
172 change progressively, emanating from the west-central part of the layer where a distinct N-
173 S striking foliation has been measured. This N-S attitude continues to the east, but foliation
174 attitudes rotate clockwise toward the south and anticlockwise toward the north. In the
175 southern part of this layer, foliations rotate progressively to a NE-SW attitude, then to E-W,
176 and finally to NW-SE at the south-westernmost exposures. A detailed study at the southern
177 edge of Layer 1 ("Casa Ischia"; Fig. 2S) shows changes in orientation from NW-SE in the
178 lower portions, to N-S in the central part, to NE-SW in the upper portion, all with variable
179 dips. In the northern part, the rotation shows a mirrored pattern, progressing through a
180 widespread NW-SE orientation, to E-W attitudes along the northernmost margin of the
181 layer. A second detailed study of sanidine megacryst fabric in the north ("Lamaia sheet";
182 Fig. 3S) reveals homogeneous fabric from bottom to the top. Dips of foliation throughout
183 Layer 1 are highly variable with no clear spatial patterns.

184 Two lower laccolith sheets are exposed in the northern part of the system. Layer 2 has a
185 dominant fabric with foliation and lineation trending predominantly NE-SW, while fabric in
186 Layer 3 is generally NW-SE for much of the unit but transitions anticlockwise through E-W
187 toward the NW terminus of the laccolith. Lineations are distributed at various attitudes,

188 within the plane of foliation and, more commonly than not, either close to strike or running
189 down dip. Where observed, sanidine foliation in both the Sansone and Marciana dykes are
190 sub-parallel to the steeply inclined dyke walls.

191

192 *Magnetic parameters*

193

194 The second approach to determining the internal fabric of the San Martino laccolith was to
195 determine anisotropy of magnetic susceptibility (AMS) parameters, which is controlled by
196 the orientation of crystals of the mineral(s) dominating the magnetic signal. AMS is a
197 technique that gives a quantitative description of the crystalline fabric of a rock by
198 determining the variation of magnetic susceptibility with direction such that the
199 eigenvector K_1 represents the magnetic lineation while K_3 is the pole of the magnetic
200 foliation (Tarling & Hrouda 1993; O'Driscoll *et al.* 2008).

201 We sampled 150 sites in the laccolith horizons and their feeder dykes (Fig. 4S). In addition,
202 clusters of samples were collected at selected locations to investigate the distribution of
203 magnetic parameters at a very local scale (e.g., thin branches of the layers, outer and inner
204 parts of dykes). The relationship between the mineral preferred orientation and magnetic
205 fabric depends on the nature of the magnetic mineralogy, here represented by biotite, with
206 rare tourmaline and very minor Ti-rich oxides. Biotite is commonly chloritised, but no
207 significant formation of Fe-oxides is also supported by: (1) low measured susceptibilities
208 ($1.9 \times 10^{-4} \div 2.2 \times 10^{-5}$ SI units), typical of rocks characterized by paramagnetic mineralogy
209 (Tarling & Hrouda 1993); (2) K_m for altered/weathered samples similar to K_m of the
210 freshest rocks (Table 2S); (3) heating/cooling experiments on fresh, chloritised, and
211 chloritised/weathered samples all showing an overall paramagnetic behaviour (Fig. 4).

212

213 *Magnetic fabric in dykes*

214

215 Data for all the dykes indicate that both the shape parameter T and the anisotropy degree
216 P_j are quite variable (Fig. 5). Site mean values of T vary from -0.554 to 0.918 while P_j values
217 are general low (1.009 to 1.129). The map of the Marciana dyke in western Elba (Fig. 6)
218 suggests an overall parallelism between magnetic fabric and dyke walls. The
219 perpendicularity of the best-fit great circles of lineations and poles to foliation confirms
220 that K_1 (lineation) lies within the plane of foliation. Detailed fabric analysis shows local
221 "normal" fabric (Rochette *et al.* 1992) with K_3 sub-orthogonal and K_1 sub-parallel to the
222 outer walls; fabric close to the walls shows upward-SE imbrication in both horizontal and
223 vertical sections. Lineations near dyke walls are generally oblique with imbrication
224 plunging toward the walls; interior lineations are sub-horizontal. Elsewhere, strong fabric
225 asymmetry occurs with no reversal of imbrication across the dyke. Magnetic foliation and
226 lineation in the Sansone dyke in central Elba (Fig. 6) commonly parallel the overall N55E
227 strike of the dyke, with dips less steep than dyke walls.

228

229 *Magnetic fabric in the main laccolith body*

230

231 In the main laccolith body, the shape parameter T ranges from -0.836 to 0.891 (Fig. 5;
232 Table 2S). Data from the middle and lower parts the laccolith reveals oblate range of
233 ellipsoid shapes, while shapes for the upper part are predominantly oblate, illustrating that
234 fabrics are dominated by foliation (flattening) rather than lineation (constriction). The T

235 parameter is highly variable at both the laccolith and local scale. Values of the degree of
236 anisotropy (P_j) in the laccolith are fairly low, ranging from 1.006 to 1.081 (Fig. 5) as is
237 typical in granitic rocks (Horsman *et al.* 2005). The use of AMS allowed recognition of a
238 well-defined magnetic fabric that is almost everywhere quite strong: 86% of the samples
239 (129/150) have $e_3 < 25^\circ$ while 75% of the samples (113/150) have $e_1 < 25^\circ$, where e_1 and
240 e_3 are the semi-angles (measured in degrees) of the confidence ellipses around the mean-
241 value of K_1 (magnetic lineation) and K_3 (pole of magnetic foliation). Only 6% of the samples
242 (9/150) have both e_1 and $e_3 > 25^\circ$.

243 Magnetic fabrics (Fig. 3b) are decidedly similar to those revealed by sanidine megacryst
244 analyses (Fig. 3a), with clockwise rotation of AMS fabric in Layer 1S, mirrored by an
245 anticlockwise rotation in Layer 1N. Detailed study at Casa Ischia on the southern coast
246 (cross-section southern termination of the main body; Fig. 2S) shows the same progressive
247 bottom to top changes described above for magmatic fabric. The lowermost 100 m has
248 magnetic foliations striking NNW-SSE with dips $35-70^\circ$ NE, while foliations in the
249 uppermost 150 m strike NE-SW and dip variably. Results of a similar detailed study in the
250 Lamaia sheet on the north shore (Fig. 3S) show E-W strikes of magnetic foliation like their
251 sanidine counterparts, but dips increase progressively from $<30^\circ$ at the base, to $30-60^\circ$ in
252 the core, to sub-vertical near the upper contact. Data for Layer 2 show consistently NE-SW-
253 striking foliation, with gentle SE dips at the southern termination and steep dips further
254 north. In the lowermost Layer 3 the foliation has NW-SE mean strike with variable dip.

255

256 Discussion

257

258 *Correlation of AMS and megacryst fabric data*

259

260 AMS fabric data and shape-preferred orientations of sanidine megacrysts, along with
261 structural reconstructions, allow development of an internally consistent model of magma
262 flow and laccolith growth. Before presenting the model, some concerns will be addressed.
263 First, some recent work suggests caution in interpreting flow structures in intrusive rocks,
264 owing to possible subsolidus development of phenocryst-bearing texture in cases of
265 thermal cycling (Mills *et al.* 2011). However, this doesn't apply to the San Martino laccolith,
266 which suffered unidirectional quick cooling as supported by the sanidine structure of its K-
267 feldspar megacrysts.

268 Secondly, many previous studies did illustrate how AMS can be used successfully to
269 determine magmatic fabric patterns by direct correlation between fabrics from mineral
270 shape-preferred measurements and AMS fabrics (Bouillin *et al.* 1993; Saint-Blanquat *et al.*
271 2001; Saint-Blanquat *et al.* 2006; Horsman *et al.* 2005; Guillet *et al.* 1983; Darrozes *et al.*
272 1994). Nevertheless, we tested the correlation of igneous foliation preserved by sanidine
273 megacryst attitudes and that of biotite as revealed by AMS for the San Martino laccolith.
274 Results from 25 sites where both AMS and detailed megacryst fabric data were collected
275 reveal general concordance (Table 1): the angle between magnetic foliation and the
276 megacryst foliation is $<30^\circ$ in 16/25 (65%) stations and the angle between magnetic and
277 megacryst lineation is $<30^\circ$ in 6/7 (85%) stations. Given that highly oblate biotite crystals
278 generate the AMS fabric, the observed parallelism of tabular sanidine and AMS fabrics
279 indicates that both crystal sets recorded similar strains (magmatic flow).

280 Correlations between lineations derived from the two methods are not so easily explained,
281 since the AMS lineation comes from biotite crystals, that are not elongated. We conclude

282 that the K_1 lineation is most likely due to the platy biotite crystals being preferentially
283 oriented along a “zone axis” within the plane of mineral foliation (Bouchez 1997). This
284 requires that the highly oblate biotite wobble within the plane of foliation, and also that
285 this line be coincident with the line along which elongated sanidine crystals trend, most
286 probably corresponding to the axis of maximum stretching during magma flow.

287

288 *Relation of magmatic fabric to magma flow*

289

290 Having established that AMS fabric in the San Martino system mimics megacryst attitudes,
291 the next assessment concerns how such petrofabric data can preserve evidence of magma
292 flow paths. This is problematic since (i) fabric can result from multiple events (flow,
293 tectonic deformation, hydrothermal activity, etc.), and (ii) fabric reflects finite strain
294 generated by differential stress due to progressive magmatic flow (Paterson *et al.* 1998).

295 Based on the absence of appreciable signs of solid-state deformation, an overprint of
296 igneous AMS fabrics by regional deformation can be ruled out, even though the post
297 emplacement history included tectonic translation from western to central Elba.
298 Additionally, regularly varying patterns of fabric within the intrusions show that stresses
299 were local and, therefore, not a record of regional paleostress. Other processes able to
300 impart a fabric, such as filter pressing or porous flow, are also unrealistic in this case due to
301 the low percentage and homogeneous distribution of phenocrysts in the magma during
302 emplacement flow. Additionally, this laccolith was emplaced rapidly (Rocchi *et al.* 2002)
303 and was quickly solidified (very fine-grained matrix). We can thus infer that the observed
304 fabrics reflect the final increments of strain as the magma was moving and solidifying.

305 The lack of magmatic layering, internal magmatic contacts and/or internal shear zones in
306 the laccolith suggests that the magma was injected to form the different layers as either a
307 single pulse or as batches coalescing shortly after or during injection. In the latter
308 hypothesis, the time gap between pulses had to be shorter than the solidification time of
309 the preceding pulse. While this thermal requirement is more feasible for slowly cooling,
310 deep-seated igneous bodies (Farina *et al.* 2010), there are examples of such processes in
311 shallower, but more mafic, igneous bodies (depth ~2.5 km) such as the Black Mesa
312 intrusion (Saint-Blanquat *et al.* 2006). These constraints suggest that our fabric markers
313 formed during the waning stages of a single episode of flow: the fabric represents only the
314 strain occurring in the final stages of emplacement making it difficult to test the two-stage
315 (horizontal spreading then vertical inflation) model for this system (Rocchi *et al.* 2002).

316 Given these conditions, it is fundamental to define which fabrics can be generated by the
317 different types of magmatic flow (Paterson *et al.* 1998). If magma flows in any way other
318 than with a uniform velocity field, such that crystals are not forced to rotate to a preferred
319 orientation, then a stress field will be produced that will orient tabular and linear crystals.
320 Tabular crystals become oriented perpendicular to the direction of maximum shortening
321 and linear crystals get aligned parallel to the direction of maximum stretching. Three end-
322 members of non-uniform flow may be considered here: (i) convergent flow, occurring
323 when magma moves to a progressively narrowing region with associated velocity increase;
324 crystals align their longest axes and largest crystal faces with the particle path; (ii)
325 divergent flow, occurring when magma spreads in progressively widening regions with
326 divergence of flow lines and velocity decrease; planar fabrics develop in the plane of
327 flattening perpendicular to particle paths, while lineation develops in the flattening plane,
328 parallel to the stretching direction; (iii) non-coaxial flow, generated by drag along a

329 boundary surface affected by simple shear, with velocity increasing away from a boundary
330 surface; fabric forms a variable angle with that surface.

331 All of these may be present over short distances to define units of flow where non-coaxial
332 flow is combined with either convergent or divergent flow, as in flow lobes (Stevenson *et al.*
333 *2007*). Nevertheless, laccolith emplacement is characterised by lateral spreading and
334 filling, with the cross-sectional area of the feeding system remaining quite constant (i.e. a
335 feeder dyke) while the cross-sectional area of the laccolith grows. Such conditions would
336 make divergent flow the norm within filling laccoliths. Transitions in fabric-flow
337 relationships have been documented in experiments (Kratinová *et al.* 2006) where
338 magnetic fabric inside the feeder (i.e. constricted) was parallel to the transport direction of
339 the "magma", but further away (i.e. diverging), the fabric rotated by 90° to become
340 perpendicular to the transport direction. On the other hand, in thin dykes where all the
341 magma is relatively close to the walls, non-coaxial flow generates an imbricated foliation
342 along dyke walls. Similarly, in sub-horizontal sheets, where the centre of each igneous
343 sheet flowed more rapidly than the edges (Correa-Gomes *et al.* 2001; Gil-Imaz *et al.* 2006),
344 symmetrical imbrication of foliation planes develops at the upper and lower contacts
345 (Komar 1972, 1976), as shown also by analog modelling (Kratinová *et al.* 2006).

346 This discussion on fabric-flow relationships relates to the issue that published papers
347 commonly present a seamless transition between maps showing shape-preferred
348 orientation and/or AMS fabrics, and maps or diagrams presenting the magma flow history
349 as deduced from the fabrics. However, a variety of fabric-flow relationships are used in
350 interpreting these fabric data, according to the different types of inferred magma flow.

351

352 *Magma flow in feeder dykes*

353

354 Magma flow in dykes has traditionally been inferred with the assumption that K_1 is
355 oriented parallel to the direction of magma flow (Rochette *et al.* 1991), with the sense of
356 flow determined using the symmetrical imbrication of K_1 (Knight & Walker 1988).
357 However, magnetic lineation can be perpendicular to magma flow (Rochette *et al.* 1999;
358 Rochette *et al.* 1991; Dragoni *et al.* 1997) and the intersection of magnetic foliations can
359 result in an apparent magnetic lineation (Callot & Guichet 2003). For these reasons some
360 authors (Geoffroy *et al.* 2002) established that imbrication of magnetic foliation better
361 constrains magma flow direction than does simple magnetic lineation.

362 Flow histories for the Marciana and Sansone dykes have been interpreted from both AMS
363 and sanidine petrofabric data, using the theoretical and empirical bases noted above.
364 Investigation of internal structures has mainly focused on interpretation of the attitudes of
365 foliation due to the planar and oblate nature of the magnetic carrier (biotite), along with
366 the tabular shape of most sanidine megacrysts (Fig. 6). Marciana dyke in western Elba lies
367 beneath the former location of the San Martino laccolith. The sub-vertical fabric, general
368 parallelism, and imbricated orientation of AMS foliation and lineation near the dyke walls,
369 combined with moderately inclined foliations (and lineations) in the dyke core with
370 respect to the walls, suggests that the dominant magma flow was sub-vertical. Fabrics in
371 the Sansone dyke at the base of the laccolith in central Elba are also suggestive of vertical
372 magma flow, in that foliation is typically subparallel and imbricated with respect to dyke
373 walls, while lineation is generally steeper near the dyke walls than in the core.

374

375 *Magma flow in laccolith horizons*

376

377 When an intrusion grows in two stages, such as a sill inflating to a laccolith as Papoose Flat,
378 the relationships between fabric and magma flow also evolve through time (Saint-Blanquat
379 *et al.* 2001). A foliation parallel to the sill shape develops during the sill formation stage.
380 During inflation and transition to laccolith shape, when flow is mainly vertical, foliation
381 develops perpendicular to flow, retaining the pattern with foliation parallel the upper
382 contact in the core of the body away from the solid-state fabric. Lineations close to the
383 contact (<1 m) are parallel to flow due to wall rock interaction and shear, while below that,
384 lineations are parallel to the stretching direction perpendicular to flow. The case of magma
385 flowing in lobes is illustrated by the Trawenagh Bay granite, where AMS fabric data define
386 frozen lobes of granitic magma (Stevenson *et al.* 2007). Foliations are aligned parallel to
387 the lateral margins of the lobes and wrap concentrically around lobe noses, while
388 lineations trend parallel to the elongation of lobes. In thin sills with fingers, like in the
389 Henry Mountains, magnetic foliation trends sub-parallel to contacts with lineations
390 presenting a radiating pattern in the fingers off the main body of the sill (Horsman *et al.*
391 2005). In a nearby small, flat pluton, strong parallelism of concentrically arranged
392 foliations from both AMS and field fabric data is reported (Saint-Blanquat *et al.* 2006).

393 These interpretations of flow history seem entirely plausible, yet the rules for getting from
394 fabric to flow are not generally presented. The rules used appear to vary considerably,
395 largely because the assumptions used to interpret flow patterns are not always clearly
396 stated. Our approach to interpreting the San Martino flow history has been to start with the
397 structural data (shape, geometry, location of feeders, etc.) and postulate a reasonable
398 emplacement model to be tested using multiple fabric data sets and basic fabric-flow
399 principles. We have thus far established that tabular and elongated sanidine megacrysts
400 and biotite carrying the paramagnetic AMS signal have similar shape-preferred orientation
401 that varies widely but in organized patterns. After considering available explanations for
402 this coherence of fabric, we have concluded that crystal alignment recorded the strain
403 produced by the stress field acting during the waning stages of magma flow.

404 The magnetic fabric is mainly oblate throughout the laccolith, probably linked to the
405 dominance of flattening processes during the intrusion growth. Flattening in thick sheets is
406 usually associated with divergent flow where particles align their largest faces orthogonal
407 to flow directions. For this reason it has been assumed that the magma displacement
408 direction (magma flow) in the laccolith layers was orthogonal to the foliation. On the basis
409 of these considerations, AMS and megacryst fabric data can be used together to depict
410 models for magma flow through feeder dykes and into the laccolith layers.

411 The Marciana dyke in western Elba is assumed to have been the primary feeder for the San
412 Martino Christmas-tree laccolith system above, with smaller dykes serving as connectors
413 between individual laccolith horizons. A schematic inset in Figure 7 (upper left) illustrates
414 the diverging particle paths in magma spreading horizontally from a dyke with length less
415 than the laccolith diameter. We assumed that flow within the sheets was away from the
416 centrally located E-W feeding system. Given that the cross-sectional area of the feeder dyke
417 was on the order of 0.2 km², while the horizontal area of the laccolith sheets reached 55
418 km² with multiple layers up to 700 m thick (Rocchi *et al.* 2002), divergent flow is assumed
419 to have been the norm during laccolith growth. Figure 7 presents a map of interpreted flow
420 directions assuming that flow was in the direction perpendicular to magmatic foliation (i.e.
421 the plane of flattening), and parallel to the pole to such foliations. Note that foliation values
422 on this map are corrected for subsequent tectonic rotation, while the map itself presents

423 the current distribution of the laccolith sheets that dip 30° westward on average.
424 Nevertheless, logical patterns develop when one assumes that poles to foliation preserve
425 particle paths, and therefore, that foliation dips in the direction of upwardly inclined flow
426 but dips away during downwardly inclined flow.

427 To interpret this map and the resulting emplacement model, we start along the western
428 edge near the roof of the uppermost sheet of the system. Flow arrows plunge shallowly
429 toward the east as a result of upward flow being directed eastward near the roof of the
430 laccolith. Further east (and lower in the section), arrows diverge to show both northward
431 and southward movement of the magma near the eastern termini of the sheet. Southern
432 central Elba is dominated by southeastward flow, locally inclined upward, but
433 predominantly plunging in the direction of flow. Flow paths have been confirmed in this
434 area where strained quartz phenocrysts in the outer 1 cm skin of the sheet are aligned NW-
435 SE parallel to the magmatic fabric measured several meters below.

436 Further to the south, flow rotates to predominantly due south, with local divergence.
437 Detailed study near Casa Ischia (Fig. 2S) shows southward flow in the lowermost part of
438 the sheet, with flow of the upper (western) part to the ESE. This sense is confirmed with
439 strained quartz phenocrysts in the upper contact exhibiting differential flow. Magma below
440 the skin flowed ESE to produce bookshelf structures of quartz, strained with aspect ratios
441 up to 40. Further rotation of foliation at the south-westernmost exposures of San Martino
442 porphyry indicates flow toward the SW. North of the central feeder system, flow patterns
443 show particle paths reflecting northward movement of magma, with local divergence
444 above and below a large septum of host flysch, and predominant flow toward the NE along
445 much of the base of the uppermost San Martino sheet. Two smaller underlying sheets show
446 general filling by NE-directed flow with divergence. Northernmost exposures, much like
447 their mirror counterpart to the south, show the maximum rotation of flow off to the NW.

448 Figure 7 schematically presents the relationships between fabric, flow and position in the
449 reconstructed laccolith system. Magma flowed sub-vertically within a central feeder dyke,
450 as indicated by symmetrical imbrications of the sub-vertical AMS markers in sections
451 orthogonal to the dyke plane. The dyke fed a laccolithic main body by lateral spreading of
452 the magma, during which the oblate sanidine and biotite crystals became parallel to the
453 plane of flattening that developed perpendicular to the magma displacement direction
454 before the melt solidified to form the porphyry matrix. Reconstruction of reasonable
455 patterns of filling for the laccolith horizons and the 3D patterns of flow within them was
456 based on (i) correspondence of sanidine megacryst fabric and the biotite AMS fabric, and
457 (ii) a model generated from detailed maps and reconstructions of the geology.

458

459 *Implications*

460

461 The possibility of interpreting all the megacryst and AMS fabric data in a unique frame of
462 flow suggests that each laccolith layer grew in a single inflation episode. This inference
463 implies that spreading and inflation were simultaneous as suggested on a theoretical basis
464 (Michaut 2011), supporting laccolith emplacement as modelled by the elastic plate theory
465 (Michaut 2011; Bungler & Cruden 2011). Alternatively, traces of the initial horizontally
466 expanding sill are lost or yet to be documented, e.g. by collecting data along contacts where
467 quenched magma shows deformation features compatible with extreme stretching.

468 Additionally, a fabric compatible with a single inflation episode could imply that (i)
469 laccolith filling was by a single magma pulse, or alternatively, (ii) filling was by means of

470 multiple, yet quickly coalescing pulses. Both possibilities agree with the short time scale
471 inferred for laccolith formation based on the size of the feeding system (Rocchi *et al.* 2002),
472 as well as on a theoretical basis (Michaut 2011). On the other hand, significantly longer
473 times are suggested by calculating minimum filling rates for magma chambers (Annen
474 2011) or by dividing a laccolith volume by isotopically determined, highly resolved
475 emplacement times (Michel *et al.* 2008). However, these timings have to be considered as
476 averages, likely composed of emplacement bursts separated by intervals of inactivity
477 (Cottam *et al.* 2010; Leuthold *et al.* 2012; Michel *et al.* 2008).

478

479 **Conclusions**

480

481 The strong correlation between megacryst and magnetic fabrics strengthens the use of
482 AMS as a magma strain indicator. Furthermore, while megacrysts commonly give poor
483 lineation data, AMS provides the magmatic lineation as a “zone axis”.

484 Fabric (strain) in the rock and magma flow are closely related, thanks to fast emplacement
485 and cooling, as well as to the lack of post-emplacement tectonic deformation. The magma
486 feeding the laccolith layers flowed sub-vertically from a sizable central dyke. Magma then
487 spread laterally as a single pulse or a series of pulses that quickly coalesced.

488

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491

492 **Figure Captions**

493

494

495 **Figure 1.** Location map: **a)** Location of Elba Island, **b)** Geological map of Elba Island
496 (Rocchi *et al.* 2010), **c)** Geological cross section illustrating the results of the tectonic
497 history of Elba Island.

498

499 **Figure 2.** Images of San Martino porphyry: **a)** Typical outcrop with strong alignment of the
500 megacrysts; **b)** Outcrop showing the typical size and shape of the megacrysts; **c)** Sill above
501 the San Martino main sheet at the southern termination, Marina di Campo Bay; **d)** Sansone
502 Dyke.

503

504 **Figure 3. a)** Restored sanidine magmatic fabric foliation data plotted on background
505 geological map (Dini *et al.* 2006). Dip values as black numbers refer to detailed analyses;
506 grey numbers indicate field estimates. **b)** Restored magnetic data showing magnetic
507 foliation in red and magnetic lineation in blue. Numbers beside symbols are dip values. All
508 measured values have been processed using Stereonet v.6.3.3 of R.W. Allmendiger
509 (<http://www.geo.cornell.edu/geology/faculty/RWA/programs>).

510

511 **Figure 4. a)** Photomicrograph and **b)** SEM images of chloritised biotite. **c, d, e)** Results of
512 heating experiments showing homogeneous decrease of susceptibility characteristic of
513 paramagnetic minerals (biotite) during heating. Differences in paths of heating and cooling
514 curves reflect oxidization during the heating with formation of maghemite. Susceptibility
515 values are negative because the uniform influence of the sample-holder with a negative
516 susceptibility of roughly -140 E-3 has not been removed. **c)** Fresh sample SLC3, with
517 homogeneous decrease of susceptibility during heating (paramagnetic minerals) disturbed
518 by a small bump at 570° (T° Curie of magnetite), suggesting a very minor ferromagnetic
519 contribution; **d)** strongly chloritised sample ENF11; **e)** strongly weathered and chloritised
520 sample BAR10.

521

522 **Figure 5.** T (shape anisotropy) vs. P_j (anisotropy degree) plot (Jelinek 1981) showing that
523 flattening processes (positive T) are dominant, especially in the upper portions of the
524 laccolith.

525

526 **Figure 6. – a)** Map of Marciana dyke in western Elba with strikes of K_1 - K_2 planes (magnetic
527 foliation) in red and trends of K_1 (magnetic lineation) in blue, measured at 19 sites
528 including a complete transversal section. Owing to the variable strike of the dyke and to
529 simplify reading of data, stereographic projections of foliations and lineations are plotted
530 in relation to strike of the dyke rotated to E-W orientation for every site. The Marciana
531 dyke remained in western Elba below the décollement surface of the Central Elba Fault,
532 therefore these data have not been rotated for any tectonic restoration. **b)** Map of Sansone
533 dyke with symbols as above, measured at 10 sites, with 3 complete transversal sections.
534 Stereographic projections of magmatic foliations and lineations have been restored by 30°
535 clockwise rotation around a horizontal N-S axis.

536

537 **Figure 7.** Magmatic flow pattern based on poles of restored magmatic and magnetic
538 foliations projected on the current map pattern. Stereograms of foliations for Layer 1-

539 northern part, Layer 1-southern part, Layer 2 and Layer 3. Blue line trending E-W marks
540 separation of N and S halves of Layer 1, with the west end representing the approximate
541 eastern terminus of the Marciana feeder system. Upper left: conceptual model of fabric-
542 flow relationships in the feeder dyke and a laccolith layer.

543

544

545 **Table Captions**

546

547 **Table 1** - Angles between AMS data and megacryst measurements.

548

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751

Table 1. *Angles between AMS data and megacrysts measurements*

AMS station	Foliation		Megacryst station	Strike	Dip	Angle
	Strike	Dip				
SM-BAR2	231.7	64.1	BardellaInf2	199	20	48
SM-CBAL2	142.7	23.3	Napoleone	158	38	17
SM-CI1A	30.5	42.2	CasaIschia6a	60	50	22
SM-CI1B	62.8	53.1	CasaIschia6b	78	49	17
SM-CI1C	52.5	69.3	CasaIschia6c	74	64	20
SM-CI5	324.0	23	CasaIschia3/4	94	5	33
SM-CI4	51.0	44	CasaIschia5	45.6	42.7	7
SM-CI3	264.8	66.3	CasaIschia1	291	49	29
SM-CI6	247.0	64.0	CasaIschia2	20	46	48
SM-CI9c	229.0	3.0	CasaIschia0a	329	11	13
SM-DWF3	151.7	84.8	DykeWFonza	321	78	20
SM-ENF34	69	82	ViticcioNorth	53	69	26
SM-ENF4	59.0	61.7	ViticcioStreet	231	89	28
SM-ENF53	351	40	ViticcioSouth	15	25	19
SM-FOR2b	231.2	38.1	Forno2	208	58	26
SM-LAM6	289.0	86.0	Lamaia2	261	25	72
SM-LAM1	308.1	14.3	Lamaia3	286	16	6
SM-LAM10	264.3	56.3	Lamaia6	235	33	29
SM-LAM12	253.7	36.8	Lamaia8	242	35	7
SM-LAM2	254.9	54.3	Lamaia5	241	30	26
SM-LAM3B	253.4	24.8	Lamaia9	270	19	8

SM-LAM4	84.7	69.1	Lamaia1	238	20	87
SM-LAM9	240.4	59.6	Lamaia6	225	49	16
SM-PM1	156.4	34.2	PuntaMele1	206	27	52
SM-PM2	338.0	75.9	PuntaMele2	163	32	72
% of stations where angle between two datasets is < 30°:						71

Lineation

AMS station	Bearing	Plunge	Megacryst station	Bearing	Plunge	Angle
SM-ENF4	71.5	21.8	Viticcio street	227	12	40
SM-LAM9	55.5	8.2	Lamaia6	26	21	29
SM-LAM10	43.7	44.3	Lamaia7	29	18	28
SM-CI3	62.8	40.4	CasaIschia1	74	36	10
SM-PM1	328.3	5.5	PuntaMele1	354	11	27
SM-BAR1	293.6	27.8	BardellaInf1	314	14	23
% of stations where angle between two datasets is < 30°:						83

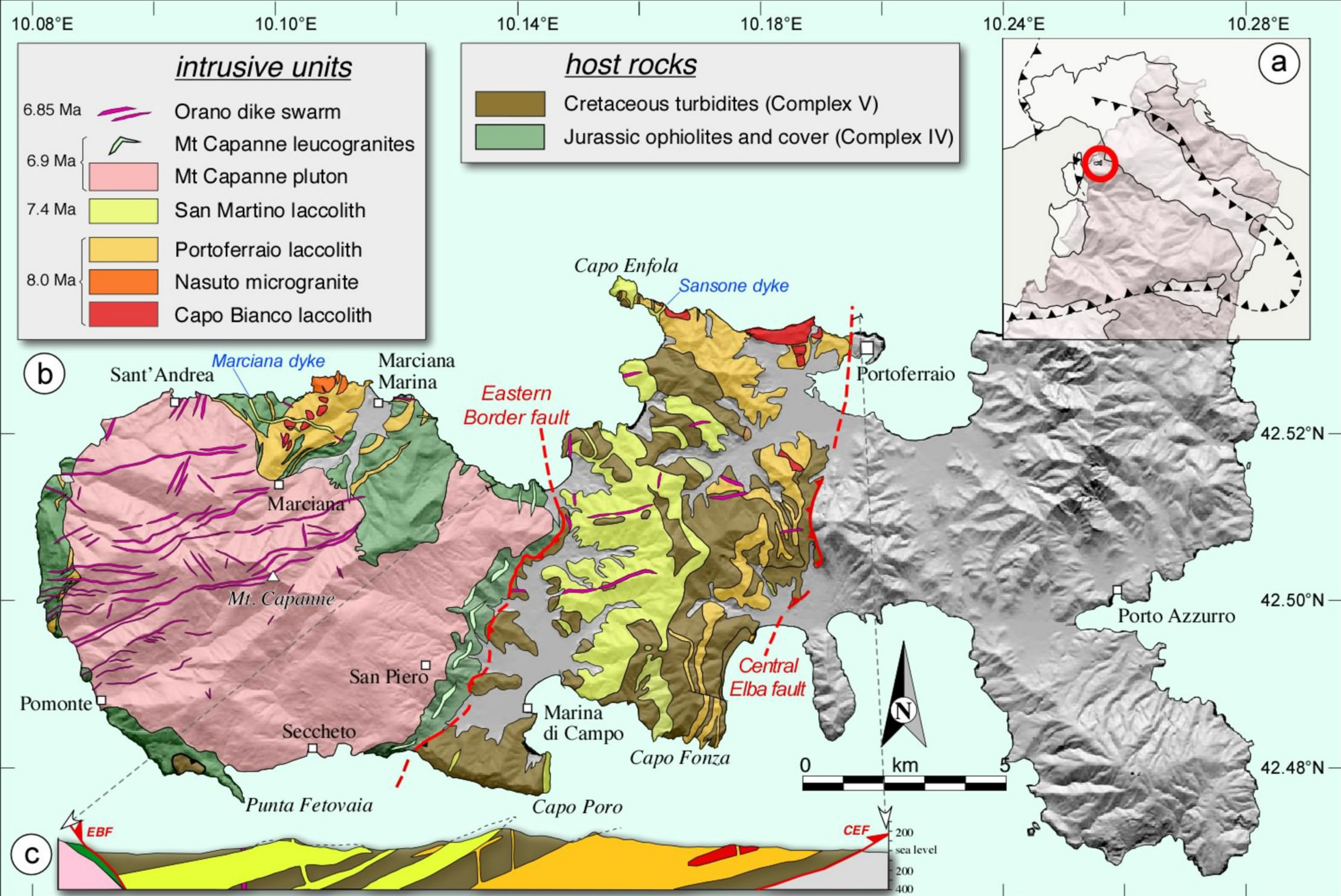
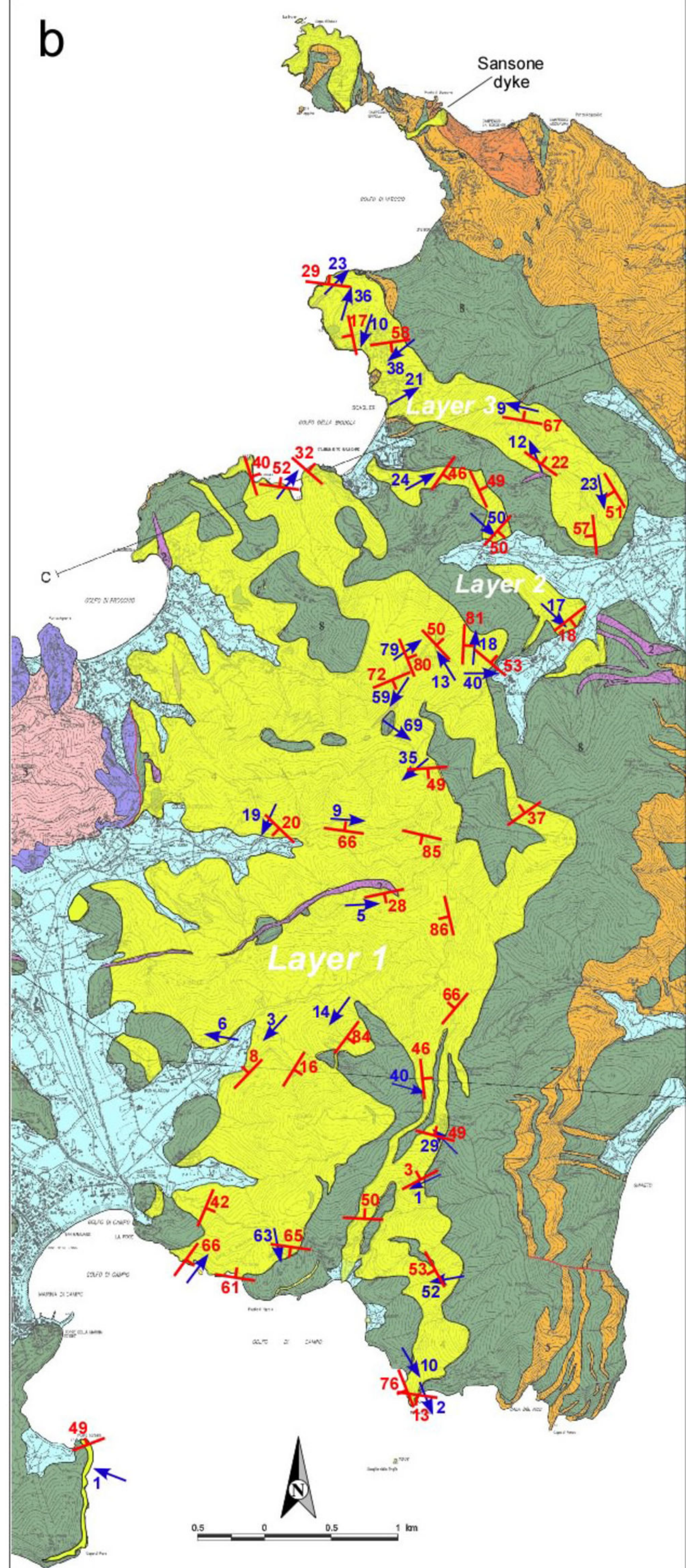
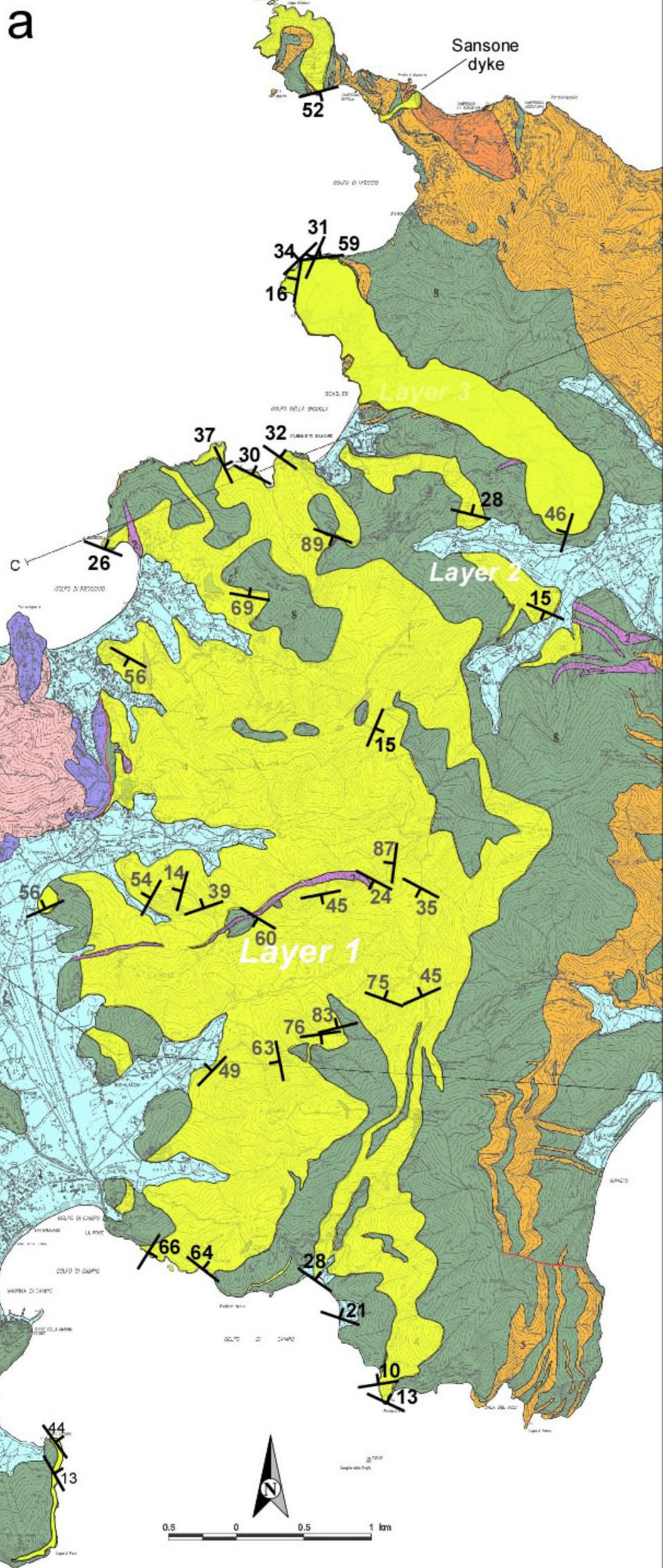
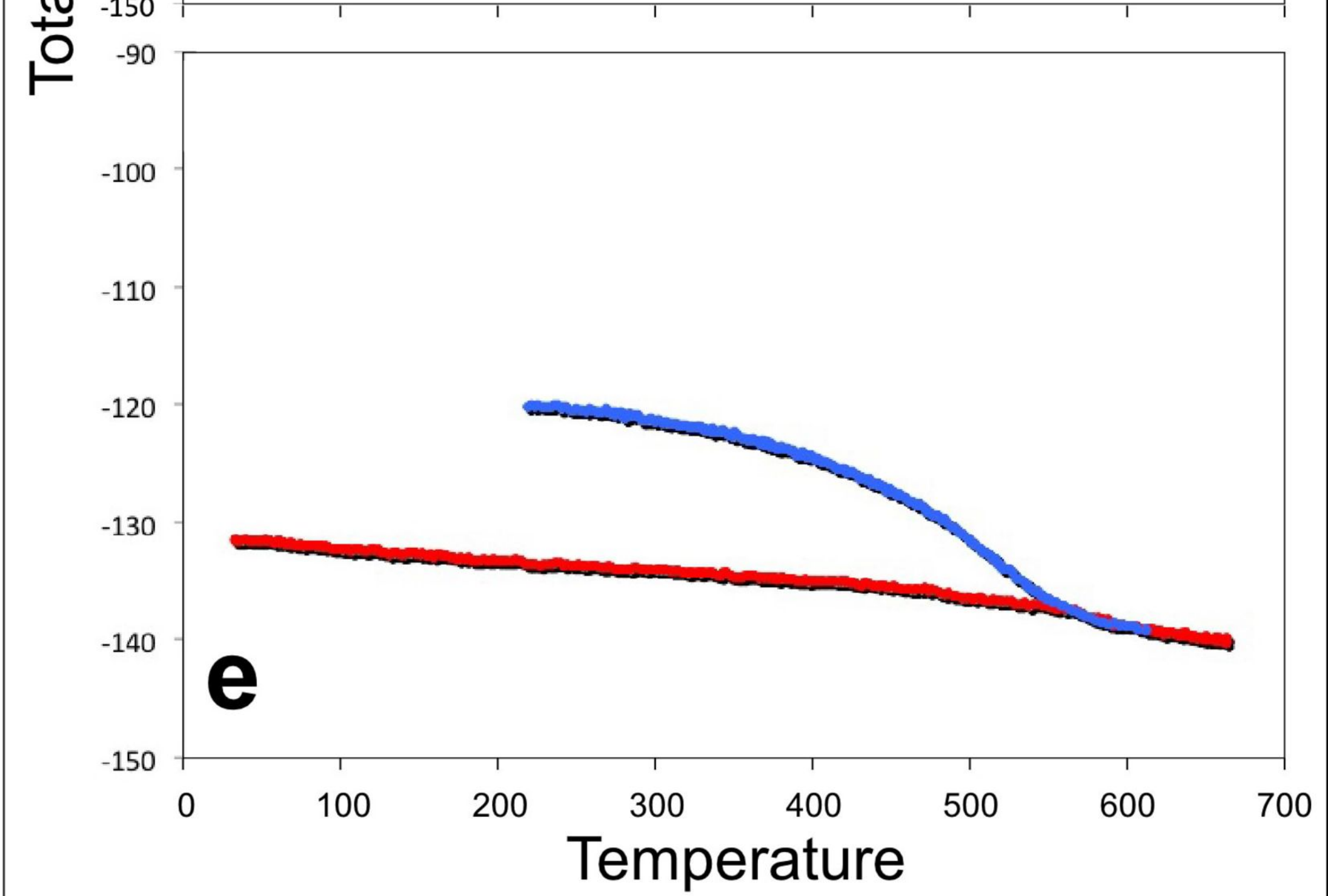
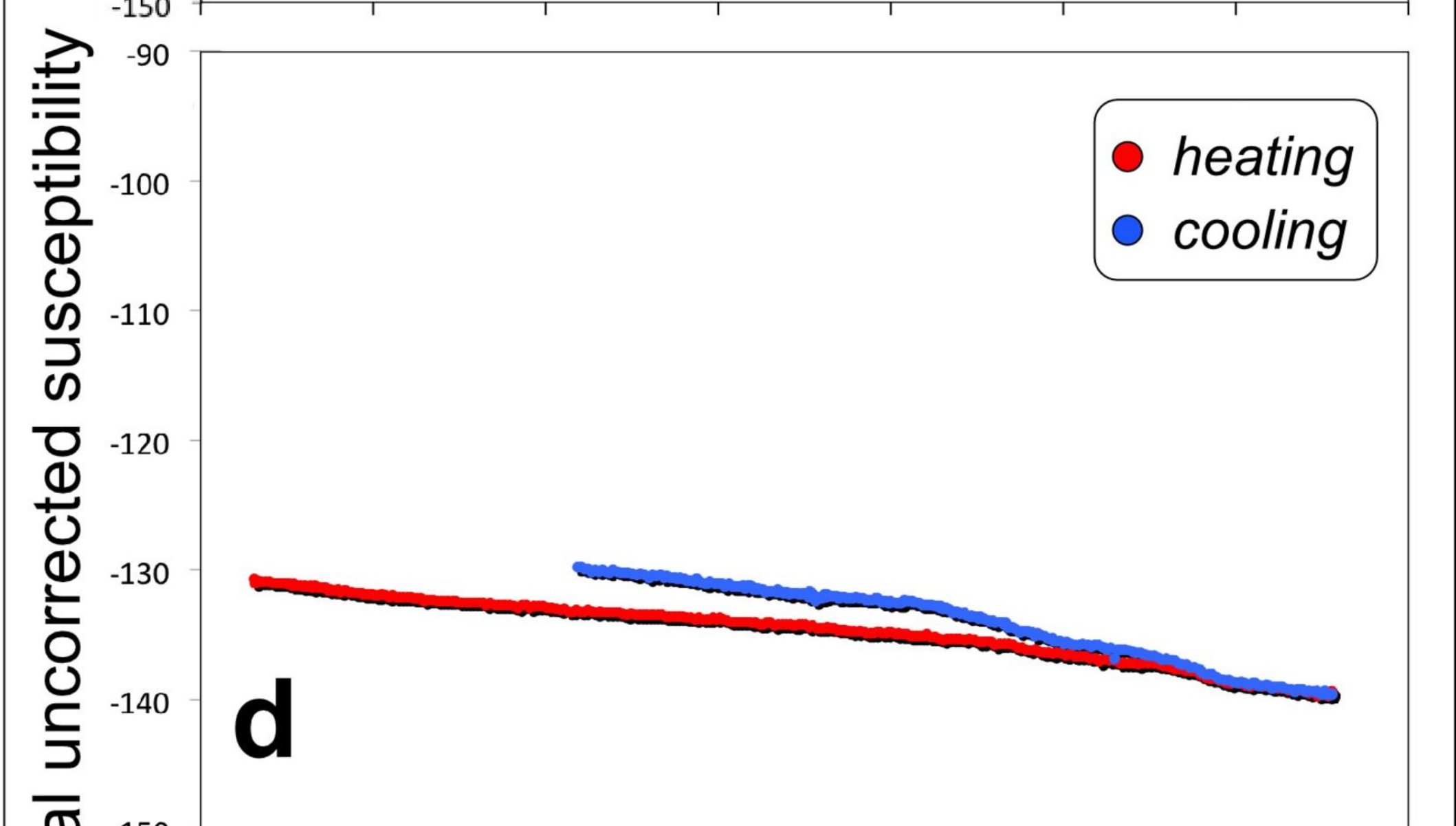
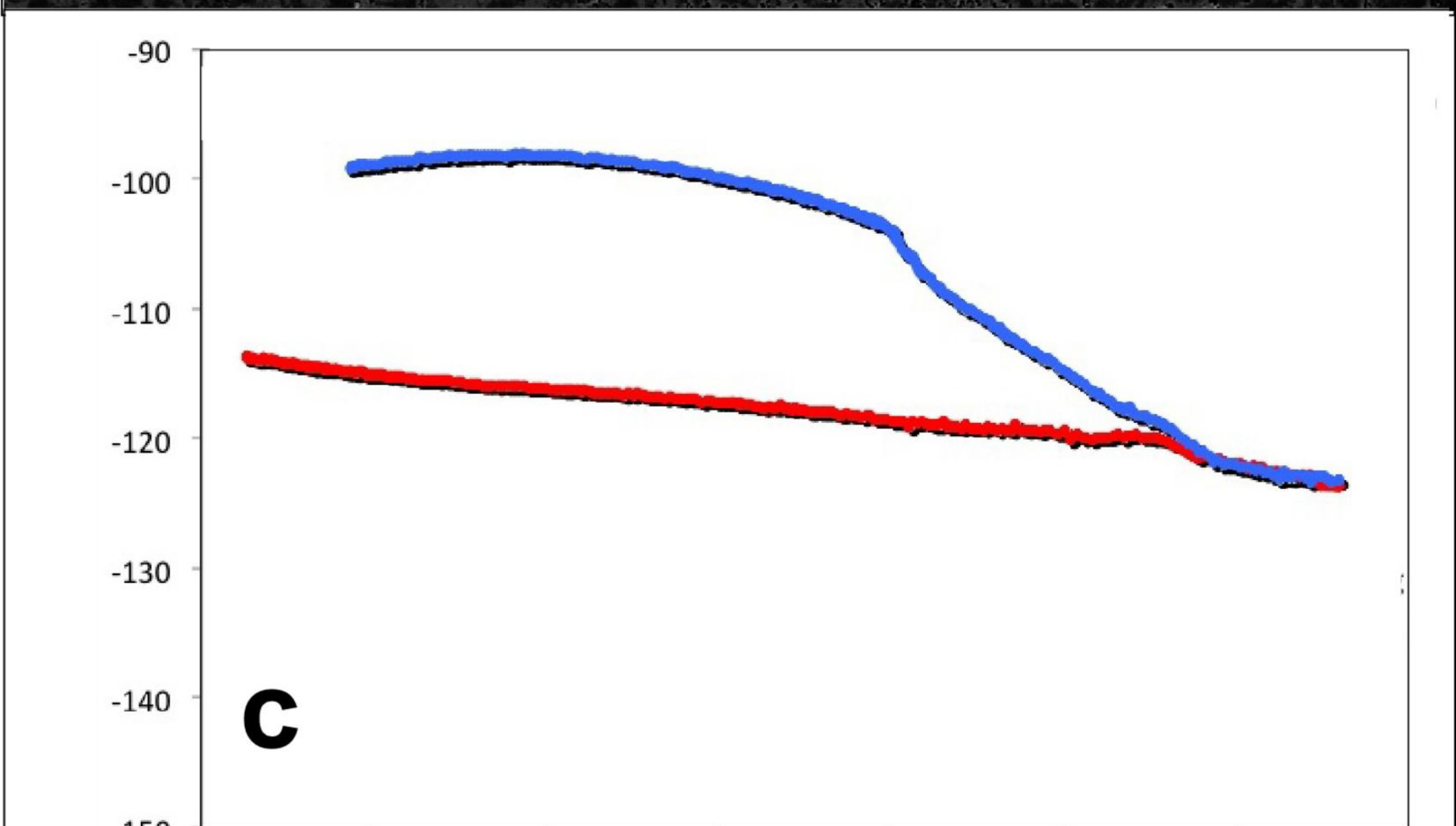
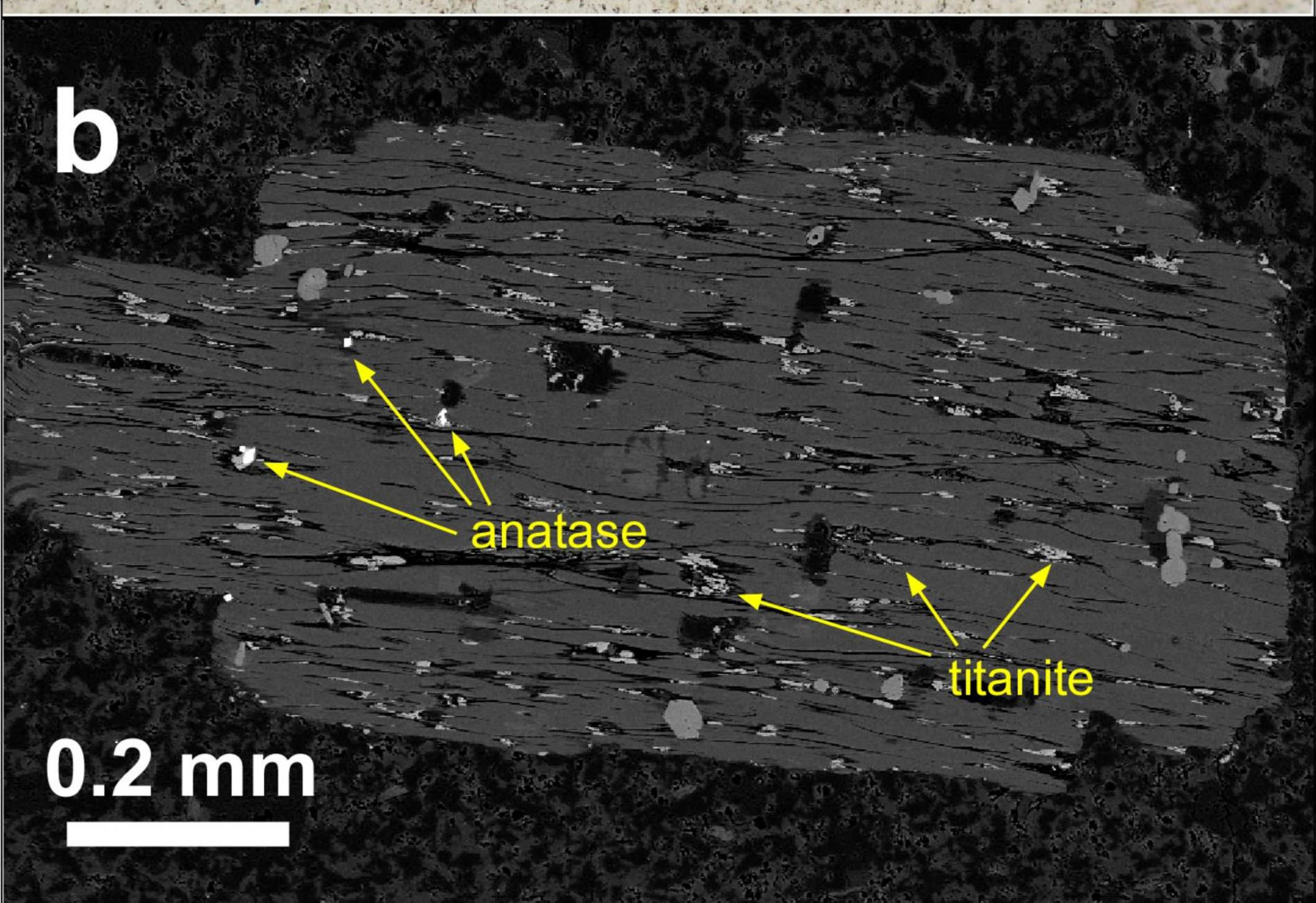


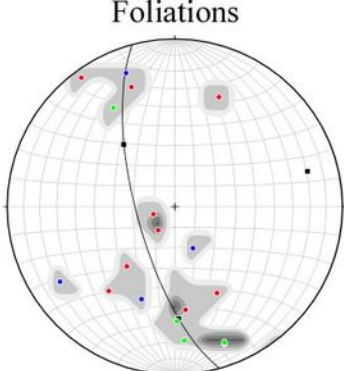
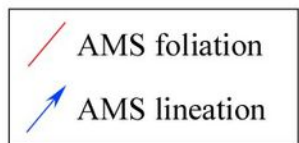
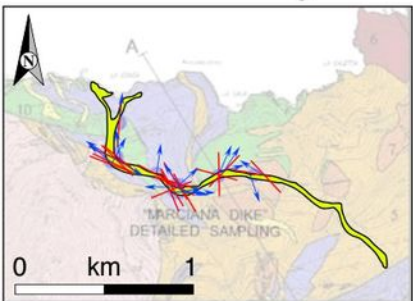
Figure 1



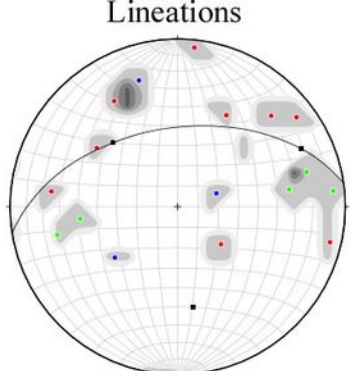




Marciana dyke

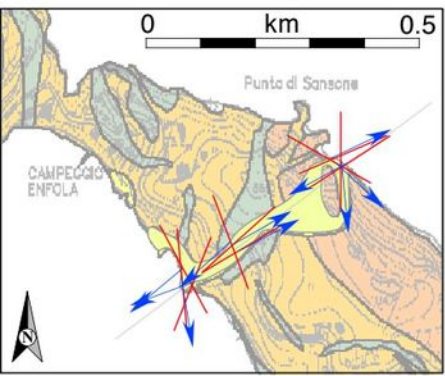


N=19 C.I.=2%/1% area

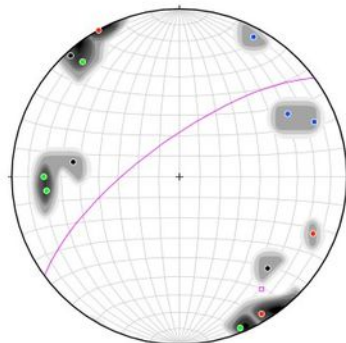


N=19 C.I.=2%/1% area

Sansone dyke

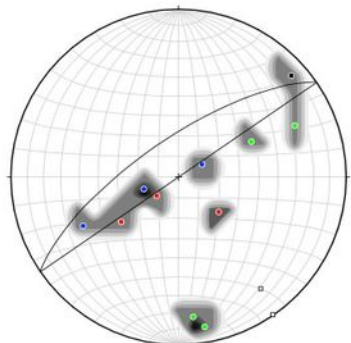


Foliations

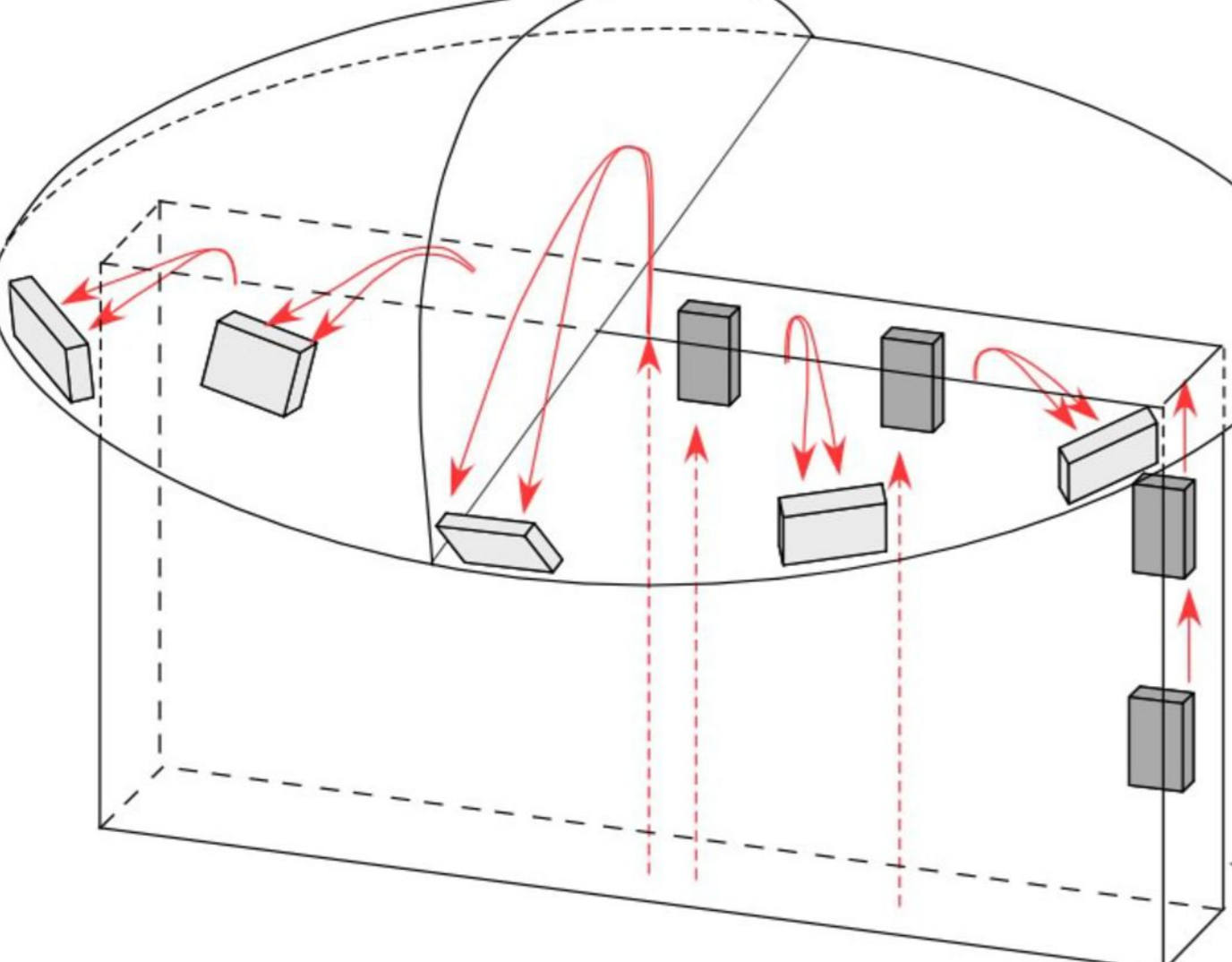
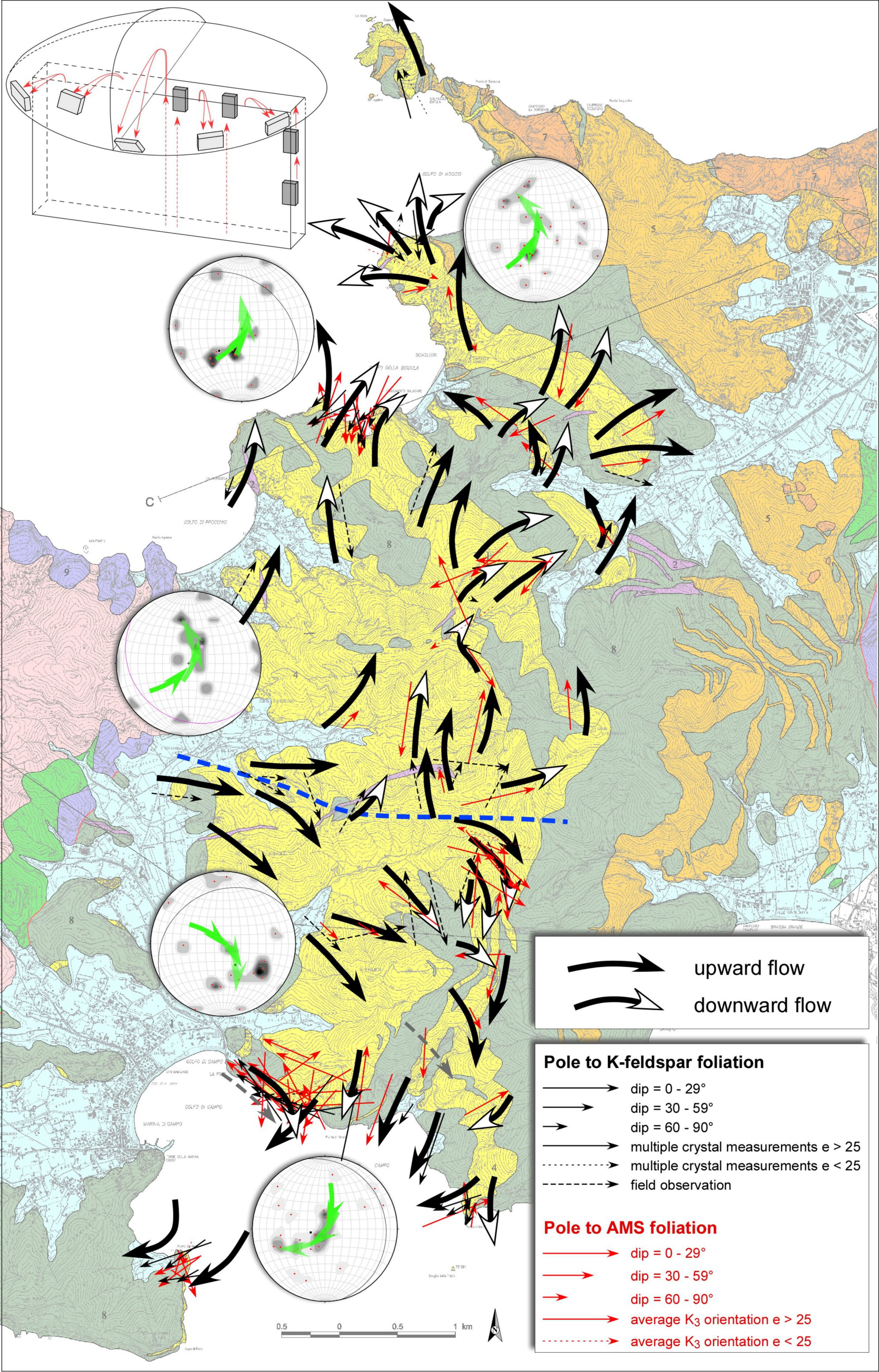




N=11 C.I.=2%/1% area

Lineations

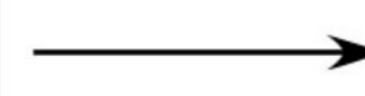

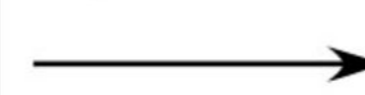
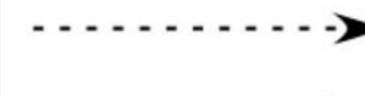




N=11 C.I.=2%/1% area








 upward flow
 downward flow

Pole to K-feldspar foliation

-  dip = 0 - 29°
-  dip = 30 - 59°
-  dip = 60 - 90°
-  multiple crystal measurements $e > 25$
-  multiple crystal measurements $e < 25$
-  field observation

Pole to AMS foliation

-  dip = 0 - 29°
-  dip = 30 - 59°
-  dip = 60 - 90°
-  average K_3 orientation $e > 25$
-  average K_3 orientation $e < 25$

