Links between remagnetizations and superchrons. New experiments and new results.

J.J. Villalaín, P. Calvín, M. F. Bógalo, I. Falcón, and A. M. Casas

BACKGROUND Widespread cretaceous remagnetizations in inverted Mesozoic basins of the Iberia and North Africa













Expected directions in The High Atlas

Systematic paleomagnetic studies in the Moroccan High Atlas



Systematic paleomagnetic studies in the Central High Atlas (CHA)



NRM OF REMAGNETIZED JURASSIC LIMESTONE

The CHA cretaceous remagnetization has been observed in all these sites with the same magnetic properties: a viscous paleomagnetic component with maximum unblocking temperatures of 200-250°C and the remagnetization normal polarity component up to 450–500°C.







Aiming to perform a 3D palinspastic restorations using interfolding remagnetizations a high resolution sampling has been made.

- 10.000 Km²
- 20 profiles
- 600 paleomagnetic sites (calculating 600 paleobeddings)







PALEOMAGNETIC DIRECTION AND LOCATION





PALEOMAGNETIC DIRECTION AND LITHOLOGIES



Timing of the remagnetization



The mechanism proposed for this type of this burial widespread remagnetizations in limestones is the generation of magnetite grains due to the heating related with burial. The homogeneous direction of the remagnetization seems to suggest an acquisition for a short event at 100 Ma.

However, the extensional stage of these basins lasts tens of millions years keeping the necessary burial conditions for growth of magnetite grains covering several polarity chrons including the CNS. In this work we address the question of timing under with these processes happened, i.e. short vs. long remagnetization periods.

Progressive

or

punctual?





Progressive generation of magnetite during deep basin condition

Magnetite grow blocking the magnetic moment at Vc. Two population of **N** and **R** SSD magnetite grains

We propose the hypothesis that the ca. 100 Ma paleomagnetic direction shows by the remagnetization is just the average of magnetic moments the entire SSD magnetite of population that grow from the Middle Jurassic up to the Cenozoic. Grains block the magnetic moments when they grow above their critical keeping the volume, magnetic polarity generating over time a distribution of grains in normal and reverse polarity groups.









EXPERIMENT to test the presence of SSD magnetite grains with opposed magnetic moments.

OBJETIVE: Quantify the effectiveness of the SSD magnetite grains contributing to the NRM

METHOD

Sequence:

- AF demagnetization of NRM
- ARM acquisition
- AF demagnetization of ARM
- ARM acquisition in progressive DC field

Puntual thermal event (one population of SSD magnetite) VS Progresive model (two N and R population of SSD magnetite)











Sequence: AF-ARM-AF

