

# Fabrics of pre- and syntectonic granite plutons and chronology of shear zones in the Eastern Borborema Province, NE Brazil

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## Abstract

We used the fabrics of two granite plutons and U/Pb (SHRIMP) zircon ages to constrain the tectonic evolution of the E-trending Patos shear zone (Borborema Province, NE Brazil). The pre-tectonic Teixeira batholith consists of an amphibole leucogranite locally with aegirine-augite. Zircons from a syenogranite yielded crystallization ages of  $591 \pm 5$  Ma. The batholith fabrics were determined by anisotropy of magnetic susceptibility (AMS) and mineral shape preferred orientation. The fabrics support pre-transcurrent batholith emplacement, as evidenced by: (i) magmatic/magnetic fabrics in low susceptibility ( $<0.35$  mSI) leucogranites highly discordant to the regional host rock structure, and (ii) concordant magnetic fabrics restricted to high susceptibility ( $>1$  mSI) corridors connected to shear zones branching off from Patos. One of these satellite shear zones controlled the syntectonic emplacement of the Serra Redonda pluton, which yields a crystallization age of  $576 \pm 3$  Ma. This late shearing event marks the peak regional deformation that, south of Patos, was coupled to crustal shortening nearly perpendicular to the shear belt. The chronology of the deformational events indicates that the major shear zones of the eastern Borborema are late structures active after the crustal blocks amalgamated.

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**Keywords:** Granite fabrics; Anisotropy of magnetic susceptibility; Shear zones; U/Pb geochronology; Tectonics

## 1. Introduction

The Patos and Pernambuco shear zones are major Neoproterozoic structures that played a fundamental role in deforming various crustal domains of the Borborema Province, northeastern Brazil (Fig. 1; Corsini et al., 1991; Vauchez and Silva, 1992; Davison and MacCarthy, 1995). These shear zones consist mainly of mylonites up to several kilometers wide, usually with partial melting of the host rocks. Many granite plutons linked with shear zones that splay off from Patos and Pernambuco show evidence of syntectonic emplacement (Vauchez and Neves, 1997; Archanjo et al., 2002; Weinberg et al., 2004). The relation between igneous rocks

and shear zones is important as plutons may provide a means of determining the ages of the deformational events that make up an orogenic system. In particular, measuring the magmatic fabric pattern of bodies that usually “massive” in field studies can help address the link between magma emplacement and tectonics. Granites are usually anisotropic and have mineral fabric that may record the strain field of the magma during the final stages of emplacement. Abundant literature (Hutton, 1988; Brown and Solar, 1998; Paterson et al., 1998; Rosenberg, 2004) indicates that emplacement can be considered either tectonically controlled (syntectonic) if the magmatic fabric pattern is consistent with the regional strain field, or magma-pressure driven if the pattern is independent (post-tectonic). Although most granite appears homogeneous, measurements of the anisotropy of magnetic susceptibility (AMS) can provide details about fabric patterns. The

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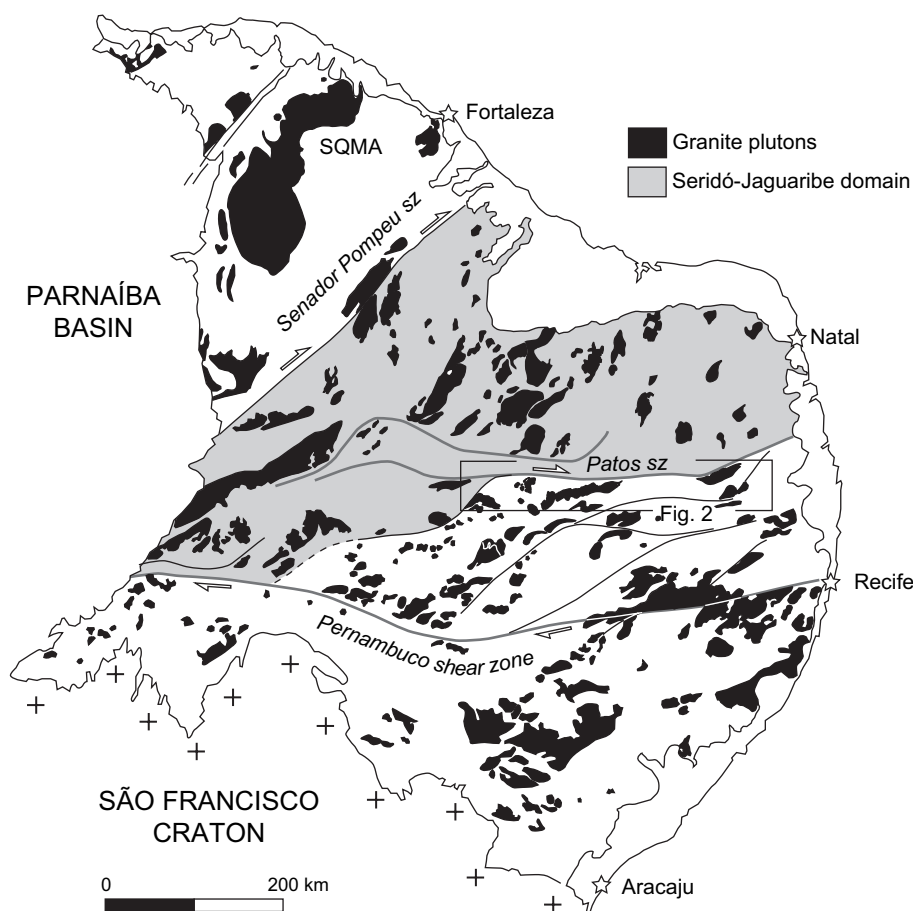


Fig. 1. Borborema Province (northeastern Brazil) highlighting the Brasiliano-Pan African plutonic rocks and shear zones. SQMA, Santa Quitéria Magmatic Arc.

theoretical background of AMS is described elsewhere (Borradaile and Henry, 1997; Bouchez, 1997); the essence is that magnetic fabric provides a fast and accurate determination of the igneous structure of granitoids.

The central and eastern segments of the Patos shear zone delimit two crustal blocks with different Neoproterozoic magmatic and kinematic histories. In the Seridó–Jaguaribe domain north of the Patos shear zone (Fig. 1), porphyritic granite–diorite plutons have remarkably uniform magmatic fabrics parallel to the N- to NE-trending regional extension (Archanjo et al., 2002). This syntectonic magmatism emplaced  $580 \pm 5$  Ma must record the peak regional deformation. In contrast, plutons south of Patos have different compositions and crystallization ages (Ferreira et al., 1998; Guimarães et al., 2004). The oldest granodiorite to tonalite plutons of about 630 and 610 Ma ages were emplaced before developing the transcurent structures (Neves et al., 2006), and were likely related to a continental arc setting represented by the Santa Quitéria Magmatic Arc (SQMA, Fig. 1; Fetter et al., 2003). This magmatism has not been found in the Jaguaribe–Seridó domain, suggesting that the amalgamation of crustal blocks occurred late in the Borborema Province. A second magmatic event about 580 Ma consists of a porphyritic granite and diorite association similar to that described in the Seridó–Jaguaribe domain. Its emplacement

was coeval with strike-slip shearing in a bulk transpressive setting (Neves et al., 2006). Finally, a late magmatic episode of Early Cambrian (545–530 Ma) granite plutons and subvolcanic dikes was related to a generalized episode of crustal extension.

This paper focuses on the plutons of Teixeira and Serra Redonda, located just south of the Patos shear zone. It combines U/Pb SHRIMP zircon geochronology and AMS to constrain the timing of emplacement and its relation to the regional strain field. Magmatic and host rock fabrics allow us to postulate that the Patos and its satellite shear zones are late deformational structures that combined crustal-scale shearing and bulk regional shortening at a high angle to major faults.

## 2. Geological setting

The central and eastern Patos and São José dos Cordeiros shear zones enclose an ENE-trending corridor of Early Neoproterozoic rocks regionally called the Alto Pajeú belt (Fig. 2; Brito Neves et al., 2000). It consists of orthogneiss, intermediate to felsic metavolcanic and pelitic to psamitic metasediments between 1.1 and 0.9 Ga old (Brito Neves et al., 2001). Shear zones separate the Alto Pajeú belt from the Paleoproterozoic basement and, to the west, from Neoproterozoic low grade pelitic metasediments. The contact between the metapelites

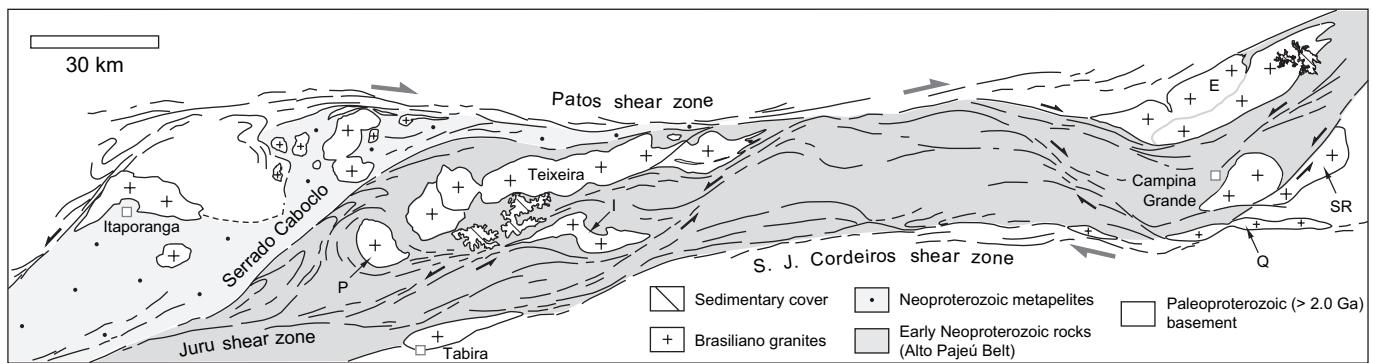


Fig. 2. Structural sketch map between Patos and São José dos Cordeiros and Juru shear zones and the distribution of granite plutons and satellite shear zones that crosscut the Alto Pajeú belt. E, Esperança; SR, Serra Redonda; Q, Queimadas; I, Itapetim; P, Palmeira.

and the Alto Pajeú belt occurs along the Serra do Caboclo mylonite zone, which joins the shear zones of Patos to the north and Juru to the south. The belt is limited to the east by the NE-trending Galante shear zone, which, approaching the Atlantic coast, joins the Patos mylonites. The Teixeira batholith and Serra Redonda pluton are located along lithological contacts; between the metasedimentary rocks and orthogneisses of the Alto Pajeú belt and between the Early Neoproterozoic orthogneiss and the Paleoproterozoic basement, respectively.

The shear zones that crosscut the Alto Pajeú Belt form a conjugate set, particularly well-developed around the plutons of Campina Grande (Fig. 2). They consist of medium- to high-grade mylonites, usually with steep foliations and subhorizontal stretching lineations (Vaucher et al., 1995; Archanjo and Fetter, 2004). Far from these mylonitic corridors, the foliation becomes anastomosed around lower strain rocks, some forming domes cored by granite plutons (Palmeira and Itapetim, Fig. 2). Some granite plutons, like Teixeira, Tabira, Serra Redonda and Queimadas, form elongated sheets parallel to the host regional foliation. The regional transcurrent structures overprint an older thrust fabric better recognized to the south of São José dos Cordeiros shear zone (Neves et al., 2006). In Campina Grande, the development of the transcurrent fabric as well the metamorphic peak appears to be related to the emplacement of coarse porphyritic granite–diorite plutons of Campina Grande ( $581 \pm 2$  Ma, Guimarães et al., 2004) and Queimadas dike ( $570 \pm 24$  Ma, Almeida et al., 2002).

### 2.1. The Teixeira batholith

The ENE-trending elongate Teixeira batholith, 80 km long and approximately 10 km wide, is an equigranular, leucocratic, granite to quartz-syenite in composition, except to the west in Mãe D'Água in that it is porphyritic (Fig. 3). As its texture and mineralogy differ from the remaining batholith, we hereafter call it the Mãe D'Água pluton. In map view, the pinch-and-swell shape of the batholith is related to the conjugate fractures and fault zones that crosscut the body. The two major necked regions allow to informally divide the Teixeira batholith to the west and east into the Mãe D'Água pluton and the Jabre, Teixeira, São Sebastião and Pedra

D'Água domains, respectively (Fig. 3). The Mãe-D'Água pluton consists of biotite and green hornblende porphyritic granite. Opaque grains are not visible in thin section. The Jabre and Teixeira form roughly wedge-shaped domains limited by the Tendó shear zone. They consist of medium-grained biotite-amphibole monzogranite to syenogranite. Microstructure is magmatic to sub-magmatic (Bouchez et al., 1992), but near the southern contact with the host orthogneiss it develops a gneissic fabric. Opaque grains are not visible in thin sections within the Jabre and Teixeira domains, except close to sheared and fractured zones, where they usually occur with mafic minerals. The São Sebastião domain forms a roughly triangular body limited to the west and to the east, respectively, by the Guaritas fracture zone and the Itapetim shear zone (Fig. 3). It consists mostly of a medium-grained Fe-hastingsite syenogranite. Unlike the Jabre and Teixeira domains, opaque grains are visible in thin section, and biotite is absent or occurs locally as an accessory mineral. The microstructure is dominantly submagmatic, consisting of fractured feldspar plagioclase with tapered Carlsbad twins to locally gneissic consisting of elongate ribbons with finely recrystallized quartz and feldspar. Opaque grains are usually found with amphibole generally infilling internal microfractures. An aegirine-augite quartz syenite with blue amphibole occurs in the eastern border of the São Sebastião domain in contact with the Itapetim shear zone. The pyroxene shows a deep green pleochroism and, in contrast with the amphibole, has a large optical axial angle. Microstructure is submagmatic with pyroxene and amphibole grains exhibiting a fairly good shape preferred orientation. The aegirine-augite quartz syenite is an equigranular, leucocratic body texturally similar to the São Sebastião, Teixeira and Jabre domains.

Finally, the Pedra D'Água domain consists of a set of elliptical to elongate biotite-amphibole granite sheets located between the Itapetim and Taperoá shear zones (Fig. 3). Disrupted lenses of host rocks can be found between the granite sheets that, approaching the eastern host rock contact, develop a "dactylitic-type" structure consisting of alternating orthogneisses and granite dikes. The sheets are entirely foliated. The lineation, consisting of stretched mafic aggregates, plunges gently throughout. Since its gneissic fabric can be

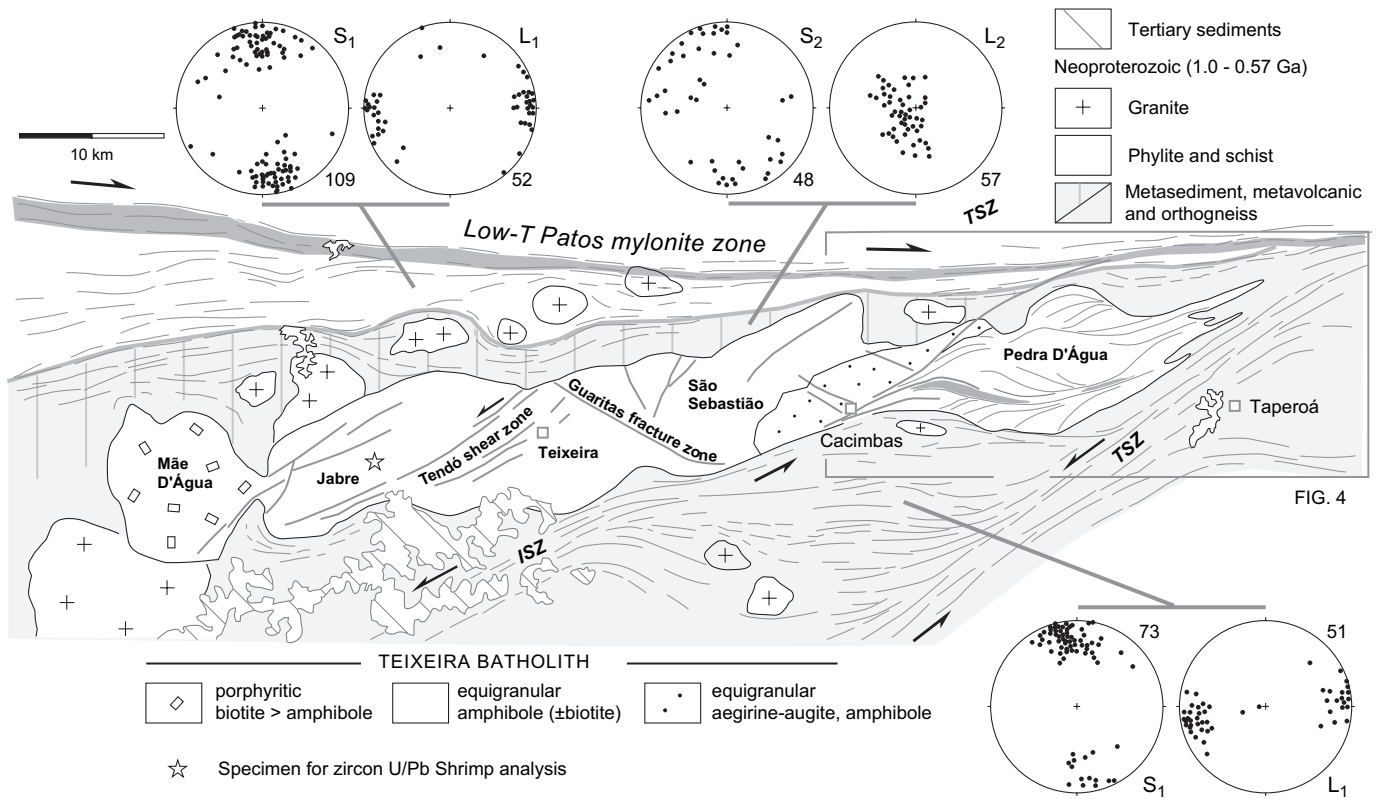


FIG. 4

Fig. 3. Structural map of the Teixeira batholith and host rocks. S, foliation pole; L, lineation. Schmidt stereogram, lower hemisphere. ISZ and TSZ correspond to, respectively, the Itapetim and Taperoá shear zones.

easily measured in the field, these sheets were not sampled for AMS.

### 2.1.1. Country rocks structures and shear zone kinematics

The batholith occupies the contact zone between Early Neoproterozoic metasediments and orthogneisses, but its eastern termination (Pedra D'Água domain) is surrounded by orthogneiss. Further north, the metasediments are juxtaposed with Neoproterozoic metapelites by a sheared contact. The batholith pinches against retrogressed greenschist mylonites of the Patos shear zone. In the metapelite, the fabric is similar to that found along the Patos mylonites. It consists of a steeply dipping fanlike axial-plane foliation ( $S_1$ ) transposing tight to isoclinal normal folds. Stretching and intersection lineations ( $L_1$ ) are normally subhorizontal and parallel to fold axes (Fig. 3). The same fabric style occurs to the south in the host orthogneiss. The gneissic foliation trends E–W to ENE and progressively bends to NE approaching the major mylonitic corridors of the Itapetim and Taperoá shear zones. These enclose the Pedra D'Água domain to form sigma-type granite sheets consistent with the left-lateral movement of NE-trending shear zones (Fig. 4). The foliation within the sheets is subvertical, parallel to the flattening plane formed by the left-lateral shear zones. A different fabric style marks the metasediments of the northern contact of the batholith. There, an asymmetric crenulation ( $D_2$ ) develops vertical folds with vergence to the east. An anastomosed to planar NE-trending foliation ( $S_2$ ) dips steeply, while the lineation ( $L_2$ ),

defined by intersection surfaces (bedding  $\times S_1$ ) and mineral alignment, usually plunges in a down-dip (Fig. 3).

### 2.2. The Serra Redonda pluton

The Serra Redonda pluton is an elongate intrusive body approximately 45 km long and 6 km wide, consisting of coarse porphyritic granite and diorite. The diorite occupies the eastern border of the pluton, either in contact with the SE-dipping Bacamarte thrust or as a small elongate stock in contact with the Galante shear zone. Near the contact the coarse porphyritic granite and diorite are converted to mylonite or protomylonite. The transcurrent Galante shear zone places the Paleoproterozoic basement against the Early Neoproterozoic and places the Serra Redonda in contact with the Campina Grande pluton. The latter is also composed of coarse porphyritic granite and diorite, which led Almeida et al. (2002) to consider them a single magmatic body. The coarse texture and alignment of feldspar phenocrysts allowed the magmatic foliation of these bodies to be mapped. The “teardrop” shape of the Campina Grande pluton shows concentric foliations dipping inward, while foliations in Serra Redonda are roughly parallel to the pluton elongation (Fig. 5, inset). Along the Galante shear zone, foliation is vertical. In the center and towards the eastern border, the foliation dips moderately to the SE. The magmatic lineation, usually preserved in the internal parts of the pluton, trends NE, parallel to the stretching direction of the Galante shear zone.





Fig. 4. Satellite image of the eastern termination of the Teixeira batholith (Pedra D'Água domain, see localization on Fig. 3). Note the sigma shape of the leucogranite sheets between Patos, Itapetim and Taperoá shear zone system.

#### 2.2.1. Country rocks structures and shear zone kinematics

Host rock fabrics in the Campina Grande and Serra Redonda plutons vary in metamorphic degree and orientation. The foliation, generally parallel to gneissic banding of the Paleoproterozoic basement, dips moderately to the southeast in the eastern domain (Fig. 5). Down-dip lineations occur principally where banded gray gneisses are thrust over diorites. Quartz-feldspatic veins and melted pockets crosscutting the foliation of the hangingwall rocks attest to high temperature conditions. A few meters above the contact zone, diorite dikes cut the banded gneisses at a low to moderate angle. The dikes usually display a pinch-and-swell shape, while drag folds form in the wall rock foliation (Fig. 6). These features indicate that the dikes were emplaced in the final stages of the emplacement of Paleoproterozoic rocks over the granite footwall.

The Paleoproterozoic basement and the Alto Pajeú belt are juxtaposed by the Galante shear zone, which, together with the Matinhas shear zone, forms the regional NE-trending sinistral branch of conjugate shear structures (Archanjo and Fetter, 2004). These are characterized by low- to medium-grade steeply dipping mylonites. Stretching lineations are subhorizontal (Fig. 5). Between the Galante and Matinhas shear zones (northeast domain), the host rock foliation forms gentle to open folds distributed around a zone axis parallel to the subhorizontal NE-trending lineation. The foliation steepens progressively approaching the shear zones. Near the Queimadas dike to the south, the foliation and lineation, including the Galante shear zone, bend progressively to merge with the São José dos Cordeiros shear zone (Fig. 2). Regional fabrics and shear zone kinematics are consistent with a bulk NNW–SSE shortening direction, which, in addition could have caused the boudinage of the Queimadas dike. Because the magmatic fabric of the Serra Redonda pluton remains coaxial with the regional strain field, we conclude that the compressive structures around Campina Grande were formed during or shortly after the emplacement of the pluton.

#### 2.3. U/Pb zircon geochronology

We obtained U/Pb SHRIMP ages for two samples, a hornblende leucogranite from the Jabre domain (Teixeira batholith) and a porphyritic granite (Serra Redonda pluton). Samples were processed using a jaw crusher, wifley table, heavy liquids (bromoform and methylene iodide) and a Frantz isodynamic separator at the Geochronology Research Center, University of São Paulo. Representative zircon grains were hand picked under a binocular microscope, mounted in epoxy resin and polished to approximately half their thickness to expose internal morphological features. Zircon standards were included in the mounts and analyzed sequentially with the unknowns. Transmitted and reflected light microscopy and cathodoluminescence imaging were taken for the selected zircon grains to determine internal complexities before analysis. The study focused on igneous growth sectors to obtain zircon crystallization ages.

Analyses were performed on a SHRIMP II at the Research School of Earth Sciences (RSES) at the Australian National University, Canberra. The analytical procedure is detailed in Williams (1998). Data were collected and reduced as described by Williams and Claesson (1987) and Compston et al. (1992), using the SQUID Excel macro of Ludwig (2000). U/Pb ratios were referenced to the TEM standard (417 Ma), and U and Th concentrations were determined with those measured in RSES zircon standard SL13. Correction for common Pb was made using measured  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  and assuming the model Pb composition from Stacey and Kramers (1975). Errors in the isotopic ratios and ages are quoted in Table 1 at  $1\sigma$  errors. Concordia ages and statistical assessments were performed using the geochronological ISOPLOT/Excel 3.00 software of Ludwig (2003); errors are given at the 95% confidence level.

Zircons extracted from sample JAB1 (Teixeira batholith) are prismatic, from 150 to 250  $\mu\text{m}$  in length and with variable aspect ratios. The color varies between clear, pinkish and light brown. All grains display typical primary oscillatory zoning;

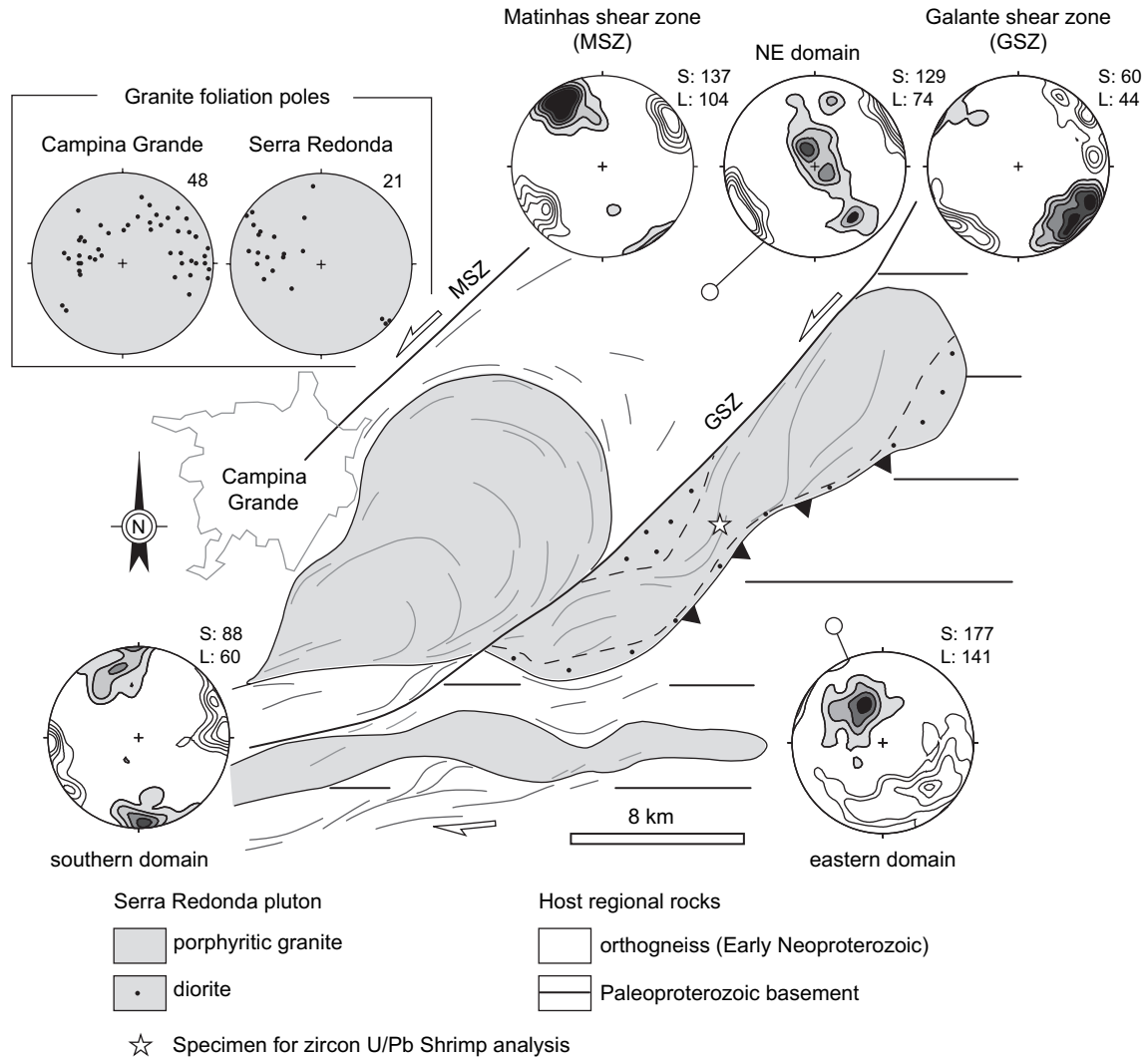


Fig. 5. Structural map of the Campina Grande Magmatic Complex and country rocks. In the orientation stereograms the foliation pole (S, shaded area) and lineation (L) are shown on Schmidt net (lower hemisphere). Inset: the planar magmatic fabric of Campina Grande and Serra Redonda plutons. MSZ and GSZ correspond to, respectively, the Matinhas and Galante shear zones.



Fig. 6. Drag-fold in banded gneiss hosting a diorite dike. The banded gneiss forms the hanging wall rocks thrust on porphyritic granite and diorite of the Serra Redonda pluton. The feature suggests the dike crosscut the gneissic banding in the latest ductile stage of the thrust movement.

some of them show a crosscutting relationship with a second, later, magmatic domain. Cores occur in most of the grains. These are rounded in shape; generally, complex internal structures are absent. Radial microfractures from the cores are also present, probably induced by metamictization-related volume expansion of the crystal lattice (e.g. Lee and Tromp, 1995). Fifteen analyses were performed on different zircon grains (Table 1) and plotted on a conventional Wetherill U/Pb Concordia diagram (Fig. 7). Eight analyses are significantly discordant, and were excluded from the age calculation. Two analyses (spots #11, #15) with high  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages, are attributed to inherited, old zircons. The five remaining analyses (spots #1, #3, #4, #5, #6) define a Concordia age of  $591 \pm 5.3$  Ma, the best estimate for crystallization of the Teixeira pluton.

Zircons extracted from the Serra Redonda pluton (sample SR1) are prismatic and euhedral, between 200 to 300  $\mu\text{m}$  in length. The color varies from pinkish to light brown. CL images reveal typical magmatic oscillatory zoning. Eighteen zircon grains were dated (see Table 1). Most of the analytical points

Table 1  
U/Pb SHRIMP isotopic data on zircons from the Teixeira and Serra Redonda granite plutons (NE Brazil)

Grain Spot	% $^{206}\text{Pb}_c$	U ppm	Th ppm	$^{232}\text{Th}/^{238}\text{U}$	$^{206}\text{Pb}^*$ ppm	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ Age <sup>a</sup>	$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ Age <sup>a</sup>	% Discordant	Total $^{238}\text{U}/^{206}\text{Pb}$	±%	Total $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$	±%	$^{238}\text{U}/^{206}\text{Pb}^a$	±%	$^{207}\text{Pb}^*/^{206}\text{Pb}^{*a}$	±%	$^{207}\text{Pb}^*/^{235}\text{U}^a$	±%	$^{206}\text{Pb}^*/^{238}\text{U}^a$	±%	err. corr
<i>Teixeira</i>																					
1.1	0.26	695	158	0.24	58.1	596.7 ±3.9	597 ±20	0	10.285	0.68	0.06195	0.54	10.312	0.68	0.05983	0.92	0.8	1.1	0.09698	0.68	0.596
2.1	0.52	603	270	0.46	48.7	576.4 ±3.9	596 ±25	3	10.637	0.71	0.064	0.58	10.692	0.71	0.05979	1.1	0.771	1.3	0.09353	0.71	0.528
3.1	0.53	832	225	0.28	69.3	593.6 ±3.9	625 ±22	5	10.313	0.68	0.0649	0.59	10.367	0.68	0.0606	1	0.806	1.2	0.09646	0.68	0.552
4.1	0.94	837	170	0.21	69.2	587.1 ±4.6	598 ±38	2	10.389	0.8	0.06751	0.47	10.488	0.81	0.0599	1.7	0.787	1.9	0.09535	0.81	0.423
5.1	0.61	902	180	0.21	73.7	582.7 ±4.4	654 ±21	11	10.507	0.78	0.06634	0.46	10.571	0.78	0.06141	10	0.801	1.3	0.0946	0.78	0.616
6.1	0.20	487	87	0.19	40	587.2 ±4	599 ±31	2	10.464	0.7	0.06152	1.2	10.485	0.7	0.05987	1.4	0.787	1.6	0.09537	0.7	0.437
7.1	3.53	1053	787	0.77	85.2	560.6 ±4.6	576 ±49	3	10.618	0.82	0.08804	0.67	11.007	0.86	0.0592	2.2	0.742	2.4	0.09085	0.86	0.358
8.1	4.89	1017	502	0.51	81.4	547.7 ±3.9	523 ±70	-5	10.727	0.67	0.0977	1.1	11.278	0.75	0.0578	3.2	0.707	3.3	0.08867	0.75	0.229
9.1	2.63	1040	800	0.79	70.8	478.9 ±3.3	536 ±82	11	12.626	0.67	0.0795	2	12.967	0.71	0.0582	3.8	0.619	3.8	0.07712	0.71	0.186
10.1	2.15	518	152	0.30	38.2	520.9 ±5.9	623 ±79	16	11.63	1.1	0.0779	1.9	11.88	1.2	0.0605	3.7	0.702	3.8	0.08416	1.2	0.305
11.1	2.90	926	247	0.28	198	1396.9 ±9.5	1910 ±31	27	4.013	0.71	0.1409	0.96	4.133	0.75	0.117	1.8	3.902	1.9	0.242	0.75	0.395
12.1	6.48	1758	977	0.57	128	492.5 ±5.4	640 ±320	23	11.78	0.65	0.1134	4.6	12.6	1.1	0.061	15	0.668	15	0.07939	1.1	0.078
13.1	1.49	894	223	0.26	71.9	569 ±3.7	636 ±45	11	10.676	0.67	0.07302	1.3	10.837	0.69	0.0609	2.1	0.775	2.2	0.09228	0.69	0.313
14.1	3.82	836	377	0.47	66.9	553.2 ±3.9	566 ±57	2	0.14	0.68	0.09013	0.73	11.161	0.73	0.059	2.6	0.729	2.7	0.0896	0.73	0.271
15.1	1.02	522	118	0.23	53	714.1 ±7.7	1276 ±86	44	8.449	1.1	0.0915	3.9	8.536	1.1	0.0833	4.4	1.345	4.5	0.1171	1.1	0.252
<i>Serra Redonda</i>																					
1.1	0.22	408	208	0.53	33.3	584.2 ±4	578 ±23	-1	10.52	0.72	0.06109	0.71	10.543	0.72	0.0593	1.1	0.7756	1.3	0.09485	0.72	0.565
2.1	0.15	456	251	0.57	36.7	576.6 ±4	575 ±20	0	10.671	0.73	0.06046	0.68	10.688	0.73	0.05921	0.91	0.7639	1.2	0.09357	0.73	0.628
3.1	0.19	488	258	0.55	39.1	573.9 ±3.9	581 ±22	1	10.721	0.7	0.06092	0.65	10.741	0.71	0.05939	1	0.7624	1.2	0.0931	0.71	0.571
4.1	0.00	438	243	0.57	36.8	601.1 ±4.2	616 ±15	2	10.233	0.74	0.06034	0.7	10.233	0.74	0.06034	0.7	0.8131	1	0.09772	0.74	0.724
5.1	0.05	595	412	0.72	47.5	572.3 ±3.9	591 ±23	3	10.765	0.7	0.0601	0.98	10.771	0.7	0.05966	1.1	0.7637	1.3	0.09284	0.7	0.554
6.1	0.14	374	194	0.53	30.2	578.6 ±4	599 ±20	3	10.635	0.72	0.06101	0.73	10.65	0.72	0.05986	0.93	0.775	1.2	0.0939	0.72	0.616
7.1	1.30	631	334	0.55	50.6	567.6 ±3.8	570 ±52	0	10.724	0.68	0.06965	0.99	10.865	0.7	0.0591	2.4	0.75	2.5	0.09204	0.7	0.282
8.1	0.42	535	265	0.51	42.9	572.3 ±4.9	598 ±25	4	10.725	0.88	0.06332	0.6	10.771	0.89	0.05986	1.1	0.766	1.4	0.09284	0.89	0.615
9.1	0.22	539	301	0.58	43.7	580.8 ±3.9	568 ±21	-2	10.583	0.69	0.06086	0.61	10.607	0.7	0.05903	0.94	0.7673	1.2	0.09428	0.7	0.594
10.1	0.34	478	270	0.58	38.5	575.2 ±3.9	528 ±28	-9	10.678	0.71	0.06076	0.67	10.715	0.71	0.05795	1.3	0.746	1.4	0.09333	0.71	0.492
11.1	0.10	567	296	0.54	45	569 ±3.9	592 ±18	4	10.825	0.71	0.06052	0.69	10.837	0.71	0.05968	0.82	0.7593	1.1	0.09228	0.71	0.654
12.1	0.02	491	259	0.54	39.3	573.8 ±3.8	596 ±14	4	10.739	0.7	0.05995	0.63	10.741	0.7	0.05979	0.66	0.7675	0.96	0.0931	0.7	0.727
13.1	0.13	522	249	0.49	42.1	577.7 ±4	597 ±22	3	10.653	0.71	0.06085	0.62	10.667	0.72	0.05981	1	0.773	1.2	0.09375	0.72	0.581
14.1	0.23	503	267	0.55	41	582.9 ±4	579 ±30	-1	10.543	0.72	0.0612	1.1	10.568	0.72	0.05933	1.4	0.774	1.5	0.09463	0.72	0.468
15.1	0.14	458	236	0.53	36.5	571.7 ±4.9	586 ±24	2	10.768	0.9	0.06067	0.67	10.783	0.9	0.05953	1.1	0.761	1.4	0.09273	0.9	0.631
16.1	0.14	522	275	0.54	41.6	572.1 ±5.4	596 ±23	4	10.76	0.98	0.06093	0.63	10.77	0.99	0.05979	1	0.765	1.4	0.09281	0.99	0.687
17.1	0.17	587	353	0.62	45.9	560.6 ±5.2	582 ±26	4	10.99	0.96	0.06082	0.6	11.01	0.96	0.05942	1.2	0.744	1.5	0.09085	0.96	0.628
18.1	0.15	462	229	0.51	36.2	562 ±3.8	584 ±26	4	10.962	0.71	0.06072	0.98	10.979	0.71	0.05946	1.2	0.747	1.4	0.09109	0.71	0.508

Errors are 1-sigma; Pb<sub>c</sub> and Pb\* indicate the common and radiogenic portions, respectively. Error in Standard calibration was 0.23% (not included in above errors but required when comparing data from different mounts).

<sup>a</sup> Common Pb corrected using measured <sup>204</sup>Pb.



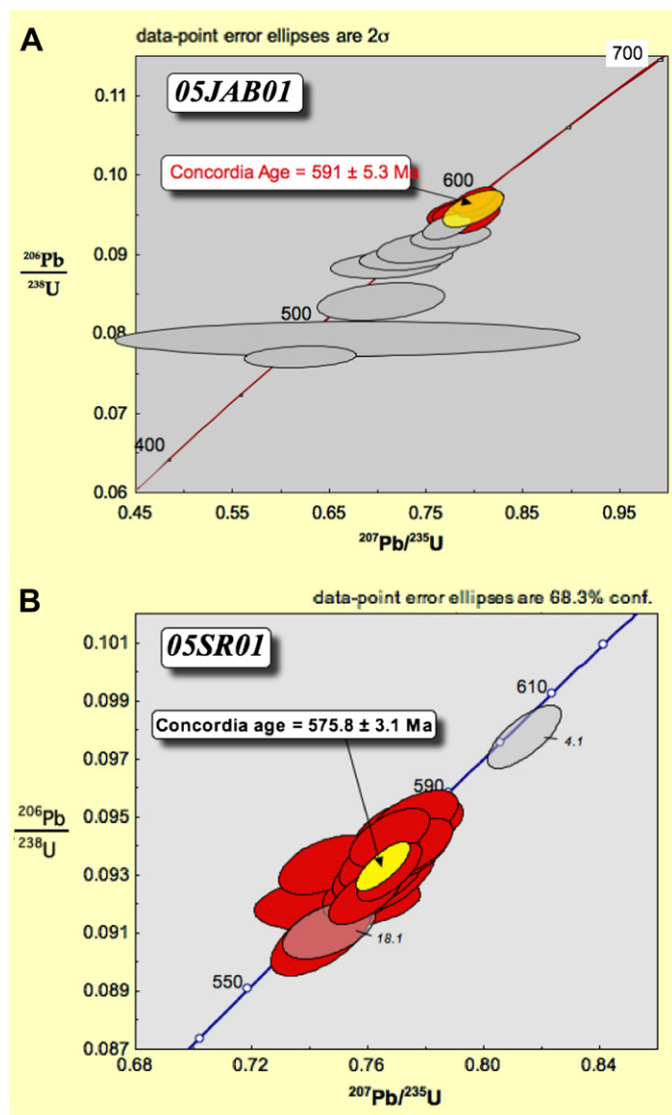


Fig. 7. Wetherill U/Pb concordia diagram for a hornblende leucogranite from the Teixeira batholith (A) and for a porphyritic syenogranite from the Serra Redonda pluton (B; see localization on Figs. 3 and 5). The discordant data represented by unshaded ellipses were not included in the concordia age calculations. For the diagrams, the data-point error ellipses are plotted with  $1\sigma$  errors.

cluster near the Concordia curve, with just one older, probably inherited grain (spot #4), with a relatively high  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{Pb}$  ratio. A weighted  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{Pb}$  mean date for fifteen zircons, after excluding three discordant analyses (spots #4, #17, #18), yielded an age of  $575.4 \pm 2.1$  Ma (MSWD = 1.45; probability = 0.12). This age is indistinguishable from the Concordia age of  $576 \pm 3.1$  Ma calculated without spots #4 and #18 (Fig. 7).

### 3. Anisotropy of magnetic susceptibility of the Teixeira batholith

#### 3.1. Sampling and AMS determination

AMS was applied only in the Teixeira batholith as its massive, equigranular microstructure made it extremely difficult to

determine its magmatic fabric using standard field measurements. The technique consists of measuring the magnetic susceptibility ( $k$ ) of a rock in different directions and defining the magnitude (intensity and orientation) of the three principal axes  $k_1 \geq k_2 \geq k_3$ . We measured the AMS of 554 specimens from 129 sites from the Mãe D'Água pluton to the Itapetim shear zone (Fig. 8). Some regions to the west and south of Mãe D'Água were not sampled due to problems with access. In Mãe D'Água, Jabre and Teixeira, we studied 49 (12 sites), 108 (33 sites) and 172 (36 sites) specimens, respectively. In the São Sebastião domain, which includes the aegirine-augite quartz syenite, we studied a total of 225 specimens (48 sites) of which 55 (14 sites) were of the quartz syenite. Included in the São Sebastião domain are 24 specimens (6 sites) just to the east of the Itapetim shear zone. At each site, we extracted two or three cylindrical cores nearly 7 cm of length and 2.5 cm of diameter with a portable gasoline-powered rock drill. The cores were oriented in place with a magnetic compass. In the laboratory, each cylindrical core was cut to produce two 2.2-cm-long specimens, so the AMS parameters (tensor magnitudes and directions) of each site are characterized by four to five specimens. Low-field AMS was measured in a KLY-2 Kappabridge device (AGICO) in the *Laboratório de Propriedades Físicas de Materiais Geológicos* (Natal, UFRN). Specimen susceptibility and its normalized tensor principal directions were calculated using the Jelinek (1981) protocol.

Table 2 shows the average-site AMS parameters ( $K_1 \geq K_2 \geq K_3$ ) of the batholith (small caps symbols designate AMS specimen parameters). The symmetry of the magnetic fabric is represented by the T factor expressed by  $T = [2(\ln K_2 - \ln K_3) / (\ln K_1 - \ln K_3)] - 1$ .  $T = -1$  are for prolate ellipsoids ( $K_1 > K_2 = K_3$ ) and  $T = 1$  are for oblate ellipsoids ( $K_1 = K_2 > K_3$ ). Neutral or triaxial ellipsoids have  $T = 0$  ( $K_1 > K_2 > K_3$ ). The degree of anisotropy is indicated by  $P = K_1/K_3$ , which ranges from one (isotropic) to higher values.

#### 3.2. Low-field magnetic susceptibility data

The magnetic susceptibility ( $k$ ) of the porphyritic granite of Mãe D'Água (0.11 mSI, st.dev., 0.02) and the aegirine-augite quartz syenite (6.22, st.dev, 5.92) shows a dominant unimodal distribution, while the Jabre, Teixeira and São Sebastião domains have a bimodal distribution (Fig. 9). The contrasting values of  $k$  in the porphyritic and aegirine-augite quartz syenite are typical of the paramagnetic and ferromagnetic granite series, respectively (Ishihara, 1977). The dominant ferromagnetic mineral in granites is usually magnetite, while in the paramagnetic granites most of the susceptibility contribution comes from Fe/Mg silicates. This agrees with the rock content of opaque grains in the Teixeira batholith, absent in thin sections of the Mãe D'Água porphyritic granite and common in the aegirine-augite quartz syenite.  $k$  shows a bimodal distribution in the equigranular granites of Jabre, Teixeira and São Sebastião, peaking between 0.10 and 0.30 mSI and between  $>1$  and 10 mSI. The highest  $k$  values occur when opaque grains are visible in thin section. In addition, there is



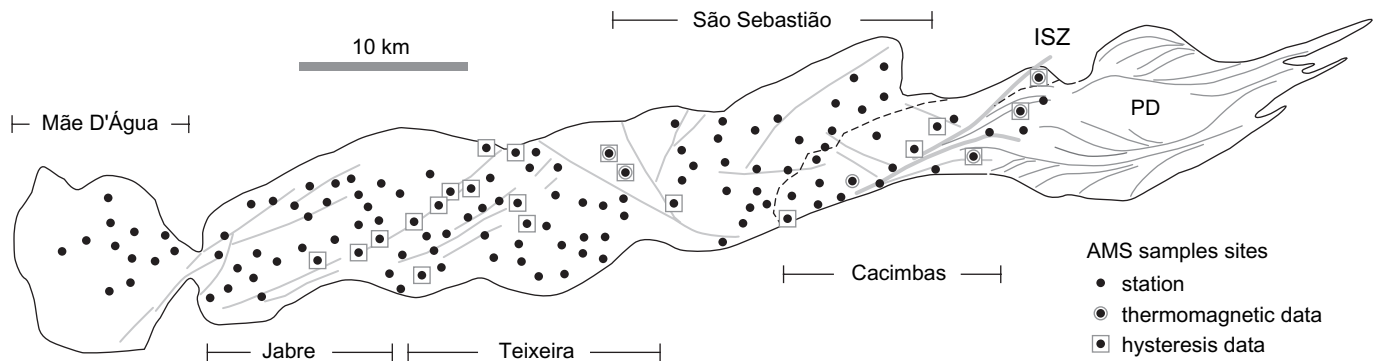


Fig. 8. Sites of anisotropy of magnetic susceptibility (AMS) measurements in the Teixeira batholith. The distribution of sites with thermomagnetic and hysteresis data published by Lima et al. (1999) is also indicated. Dashed lines correspond to the contact of hornblende granite and aegirine-augite quartz syenite. ISZ, Itapetim shear zone. The foliation trajectories in the Pedra D'Água domain (PD, not sampled to AMS) are shown by thin lines. Shaded lines to the west of ISZ correspond to the main fracture and fault zones within the batholith.

a clear relation between  $k > 1$  mSI and the shear and fracture zones that crosscut the batholith (Fig. 9).  $k < 0.25$  mSI is typical in the Jabre and Teixeira domains and increases approaching the Tendó and Guaritas fracture zones. Close to the Itapetim shear zone,  $k$  can reach values  $>10$  mSI. In the same way, the degree of anisotropy ( $P = k_1/k_3$ ) increases to the east from the Mãe D'Água pluton ( $P = 1.02$ ; st.dev. 0.01) to Jabre (1.06; 0.03), Teixeira (1.07; 0.06) and São Sebastião (1.08; 0.05) (Table 1); in the fracture and shear zones anisotropy reaches its highest magnitudes (1.11 to 1.13).

The magnetic mineralogy of the Teixeira batholith is detailed in Lima et al. (2000). Thermomagnetic data coupled with backscattered electron microscopy investigations show Ti-poor magnetite as the dominant ferromagnetic oxide. Hysteresis ratios of 19 specimens with a  $k > 0.35$  mSI plot on Day et al. (1977) plot on the right side of the pseudomain field. Grains with this hysteresis ratio may correspond to mixtures of ferromagnetic particles with different susceptibilities and/or coercivity values (Dunlop, 2002). Mixtures of magnetite and hematite are probable candidates for the high remanent coercivity values of some specimens. Hematite was observed locally in small isolated grains or partially replacing magnetite (Lima et al., 2000). Results indicated that the regional variation of  $k$  and  $P$  depends mainly on the amount of magnetite, and is spatial related with the faulted and fractured zones within the batholith. The oxide contents as well the  $k$  values decrease far from the deformed zones, suggesting a secondary origin for the magnetite and hematite grains.

### 3.3. Magnetic fabric

When we examine the magnetic lineations and foliations, two contrasting fabric styles become apparent. Foliations dip moderately to steeply ( $>45^\circ$ ; shaded area in Fig. 10) along the southern contact, close to the necked zone of Mãe D'Água, along the Itapetim shear zone and at the intersection of the Tendó and Guaritas fracture zones. The corresponding lineation plunges gently mostly to the east (mean lineation: 083,11). The magnetic fabric of the “batholith parallel” structures shows a different orientation. The magnetic foliation dips

gently (Jabre and Teixeira) or moderately (Mãe D'Água, São Sebastião), while the lineation is transverse to the batholith elongation (mean lineation: 341,2). Furthermore, in the Jabre and Teixeira domains the foliation forms gentle basin- and dome-like structures, respectively. In São Sebastião, the magnetic fabric is nearly transverse to the batholith elongation, but approaching the Itapetim shear zone it progressively bends to become parallel to the stretching direction formed by the Itapetim and Taperoá shear zone system.

The transition of the magnetic fabric, especially the lineation, occurs from west to east along the batholith (Fig. 10). The Mãe D'Água pluton and Jabre-Teixeira domains show dominant NW- and N-trending lineations. Two sets of orthogonal lineations occur in the São Sebastião and Cacimbas domains and foliation rotates from NW-trending to E-trending approaching the Itapetim shear zone.

### 3.4. Significance of magnetic fabric

The relation between magnetic and mineral fabric directions in two cross-sections where they are highly discordant to the batholith elongation were studied by image analysis. 3-D mineral shape preferred orientation (SPO) was determined by combining fabric data from three mutually orthogonal 2-D rock sections (Robin, 2002), and the results were compared to AMS. Implementations and applications of this technique can be found in Launeau and Robin (2005).

The study of the preferred orientation of mafic minerals concerned five sites along the Jabre and four along Teixeira cross-sections (Fig. 11). Field oriented rock blocks of c. 10 cm dimensions and small quarries mined for pavement and local home constructions were used. The blocks were cut into three perpendicular sections and each face carefully oriented. After cleaning each block section or quarry face, high-resolution digital images were taken and later transferred to a microcomputer for treatment and mineral classification. Dark minerals are readily isolated from the leucocratic quartz-feldspar by threshold. The resulting binary image is improved by smoothing filters, which remove misclassified pixels

Table 2  
Anisotropy of magnetic susceptibility parameters of the Teixeira batholith

Site	$K_m$ (mSI)	P	T	$K_1$	$K_3$
<i>Mãe D'Água</i>					
10	0.010	1.021	0.68	315,42 (25.6)	073,27 (14.4)
11	0.140	1.013	−0.31	209,2 (21.1)	117,37 (28.0)
127	0.112	1.023	−0.05	320,9 (14.6)	210,6 (63.6)
128	0.112	1.021	0.39	145,1 (33.2)	057,28 (11.8)
129	0.100	1.015	0.17	327,6 (11.5)	064,68 (14.4)
130	0.093	1.027	0.05	329,7 (20.4)	158,82 (18.5)
131	0.091	1.017	−0.13	151,5 (18.9)	050,62 (39.9)
132	0.114	1.014	−0.38	263,34 (60.1)	352,32 (43.5)
133	0.090	1.016	−0.48	336,7 (22.4)	104,77 (20.9)
134	0.084	1.033	0.25	326,2 (32.0)	064,45 (26.5)
137	0.095	1.020	−0.17	332,5 (16.2)	066,41 (15.3)
138	0.092	1.017	0.23	178,6 (60.6)	071,48 (35.9)
<i>Jabre</i>					
01	0.391	1.080	−0.45	053,8 (23.4)	138,14 (45.6)
31	0.157	1.035	0.39	001,7 (24.0)	102,55 (7.5)
38	0.153	1.031	0.82	346,25 (48.7)	139,56 (21.8)
39	0.138	1.041	0.98	117,6 (49.7)	354,79 (3.4)
40	0.087	1.049	0.42	005,12 (16.8)	270,79 (3.4)
42	0.156	1.048	0.50	341,9 (10.3)	160,81 (10.8)
43	0.900	1.067	−0.19	098,8 (23.4)	002,36 (45.3)
44	0.140	1.033	0.59	115,6 (25.5)	306,86 (14.5)
45	0.146	1.042	0.38	174,8 (10.8)	294,73 (7.1)
47	0.130	1.051	0.64	340,18 (7.7)	119,67 (3.2)
53	1.852	1.078	0.40	250,1 (21.9)	155,70 (6.7)
54	0.129	1.041	0.65	003,4 (23.2)	113,77 (4.6)
55	0.133	1.046	0.37	358,21 (12.8)	167,69 (8.5)
56	0.116	1.039	0.76	307,14 (54.5)	170,75 (24.3)
60	1.480	1.048	0.17	002,32 (39.8)	247,37 (34.2)
61	1.099	1.091	0.62	194,1 (33.2)	094,84 (5.4)
62	0.167	1.038	0.55	171,12 (24.9)	032,74 (11.1)
63	0.120	1.035	0.71	191,9 (12.4)	019,81 (4.2)
64	0.121	1.050	0.67	185,5 (10.8)	071,78 (2.3)
65	0.116	1.043	0.92	232,5 (55.9)	334,70 (4.7)
66	0.121	1.042	0.55	207,2 (16.8)	110,75 (9.3)
67	0.135	1.037	0.74	248,7 (25.1)	090,82 (4.0)
68	0.735	1.111	0.71	175,8 (40.2)	271,35 (18.6)
69	2.629	1.071	0.49	106,22 (51.9)	310,58 (40.4)
70	0.131	1.055	0.67	348,10 (7.3)	114,74 (3.7)
71	0.142	1.041	0.43	182,0 (9.1)	294,89 (8.3)
72	5.258	1.038	−0.19	069,9 (9.9)	331,42 (8.5)
<i>Teixeira</i>					
02	0.697	1.143	0.11	085,45 (7.0)	335,22 (13.2)
03	0.155	1.023	0.23	184,21 (14.8)	304,53 (14.2)
04	0.096	1.054	0.19	024,17 (32.2)	130,6 (46.3)
05	0.192	1.039	0.19	170,10 (6.5)	285,67 (3.8)
06	0.130	1.051	0.16	154,2 (11.1)	248,63 (9.7)
07	0.170	1.051	0.13	164,14 (7.7)	333,76 (8.0)
08	0.102	1.035	0.81	178,2 (27.6)	279,77 (12.4)
09	1.269	1.027	−0.38	297,0 (23.3)	032,8 (34.2)
12	0.145	1.039	0.39	157,20 (18.7)	344,70 (2.9)
13	0.150	1.030	0.35	190,13 (34.7)	013,79 (15.5)
14	1.037	1.048	−0.17	065,33 (16.1)	174,28 (33.2)
15	0.102	1.026	0.46	058,44 (25.7)	291,29 (12.9)
16	0.067	1.027	−0.20	078,42 (14.2)	338,12 (17.4)
17	0.135	1.029	−0.21	085,30 (17.5)	359,12 (17.9)
18	0.117	1.019	0.36	199,10 (59.8)	335,43 (50.1)
19	0.133	1.032	−0.03	080,12 (12.9)	175,19 (9.3)
20	0.064	1.030	0.58	060,53 (28.6)	179,18 (6.4)
21	0.022	1.056	−0.56	080,12 (10.0)	173,10 (15.8)
22	0.083	1.033	0.50	146,7 (39.2)	029,74 (12.2)

(continued on next page)

Table 2 (continued)

Site	$K_m$ (mSI)	P	T	$K_1$	$K_3$
23	0.184	1.069	-0.43	176,16 (15.0)	068,44 (44.1)
24	0.375	1.102	0.57	124,2 (12.7)	022,81 (5.5)
25	0.997	1.148	0.55	218,6 (23.2)	015,82 (10.0)
26	0.157	1.043	0.15	150,6 (5.1)	253,66 (6.1)
27	0.138	1.028	0.59	333,0 (18.3)	062,73 (5.1)
28	0.062	1.064	0.23	268,4 (12.4)	360,7 (6.3)
29	1.766	1.089	-0.23	220,10 (9.3)	048,80 (9.6)
30	2.025	1.156	0.23	239,3 (35.3)	332,74 (18.7)
32	0.173	1.059	0.59	334,22 (9.3)	209,55 (6.1)
33	0.925	1.104	0.90	158,1 (64.2)	255,86 (6.3)
34	0.304	1.057	0.11	340,29 (12.7)	185,56 (13.1)
35	1.675	1.090	0.62	020,2 (20.8)	261,88 (18.2)
36	0.132	1.022	0.29	115,18 (26.1)	000,56 (18.4)
37	0.251	1.054	0.53	033,1 (26.0)	125,74 (14.3)
41	0.083	1.016	0.57	098,17 (7.2)	193,17 (41.5)
46	0.149	1.045	0.25	341,19 (36.4)	116,62 (22.8)
48	0.662	1.189	0.56	087,25 (29.9)	221,55 (8.4)
49	0.121	1.066	0.85	057,35 (31.8)	240,53 (16.3)
50	0.121	1.061	0.83	120,19 (29.3)	250,64 (7.0)
51	0.127	1.066	0.65	100,39 (11.7)	267,50 (5.2)
52	0.747	1.070	-0.21	035,22 (14.8)	296,18 (18.8)
73	0.292	1.066	0.39	135,49 (35.8)	276,36 (9.7)
74	1.363	1.188	0.75	119,16 (18.3)	232,52 (6.6)
75	0.083	1.082	0.32	185,2 (17.1)	282,66 (10.7)
<i>São Sebastião</i>					
57	0.103	1.049	0.74	353,7 (24.7)	210,82 (5.2)
58	0.156	1.049	0.54	358,30 (17.9)	227,48 (8.2)
59	1.557	1.064	-0.06	358,16 (41.8)	136,70 (43.0)
76	4.121	1.092	0.32	007,30 (22.0)	246,42 (12.0)
77	6.687	1.108	0.11	021,33 (9.5)	250,45 (11.7)
78	0.109	1.029	-0.07	123,26 (8.4)	270,60 (13.4)
79	0.100	1.042	0.32	342,37 (10.9)	209,44 (21.5)
80	0.121	1.039	0.22	342,40 (6.6)	210,39 (15.5)
81	0.127	1.071	0.73	359,15 (9.4)	232,66 (4.9)
82	1.200	1.143	0.01	261,25 (31.2)	359,13 (23.6)
83	7.742	1.080	0.52	127,5 (8.9)	225,56 (13.1)
84	0.122	1.092	0.74	341,27 (24.1)	203,57 (8.8)
85	0.129	1.058	0.63	002,31 (25.7)	235,45 (4.2)
86	3.806	1.110	0.08	243,10 (24.8)	331,3 (15.3)
87	1.305	1.017	-0.82	294,17 (31.6)	029,26 (59.5)
88	8.640	1.162	0.15	134,1 (12.4)	229,67 (11.0)
89	2.653	1.181	-0.04	299,18 (15.2)	197,35 (11.6)
90	10.610	1.053	0.20	323,16 (11.0)	206,56 (10.2)
97	0.179	1.030	0.11	358,23 (15.2)	252,36 (18.8)
98	0.133	1.112	0.41	354,15 (10.0)	234,62 (6.8)
99	4.633	1.095	0.74	137,13 (9.0)	268,70 (7.0)
100	13.853	1.125	0.39	134,6 (6.6)	237,64 (4.8)
101	0.186	1.040	-0.29	167,16 (16.5)	062,42 (24.8)
102	0.565	1.026	0.49	110,13 (28.9)	002,73 (25.2)
103	0.627	1.048	0.32	162,24 (30.6)	347,66 (30.8)
104	8.027	1.079	0.70	130,17 (7.4)	297,72 (7.0)
105	3.721	1.062	-0.53	358,14 (39.7)	193,66 (51.6)
114	1.305	1.066	0.15	321,30 (13.2)	188,48 (7.8)
115	0.161	1.019	0.24	076,36 (35.4)	231,55 (30.6)
116	2.072	1.063	0.92	234,14 (52.4)	025,74 (12.0)
117	1.877	1.233	-0.44	100,2 (18.1)	012,64 (28.0)
118	2.902	1.034	-0.41	286,66 (45.1)	080,50 (45.5)
119	0.226	1.062	0.76	336,30 (39.4)	181,53 (24.7)
120	12.551	1.164	-0.45	172,27 (4.0)	032,57 (42.0)
121	0.445	1.058	0.02	190,58 (12.1)	359,31 (6.4)
125	0.578	1.056	-0.03	263,24 (37.4)	024,42 (32.6)
126	2.639	1.069	0.17	241,6 (12.9)	336,28 (16.7)
135	0.120	1.050	0.79	332,15 (33.3)	225,44 (10.5)

Table 2 (continued)

Site	$K_m$ (mSI)	P	T	$K_1$	$K_3$
136	0.137	1.069	0.64	340,8 (18.8)	239,50 (13.4)
<i>Cacimbas</i>					
91	13.765	1.151	0.57	258,12 (4.5)	002,50 (5.4)
92	4.063	1.071	0.17	104,14 (2.6)	000,44 (9.6)
93	13.443	1.310	0.03	078,14 (4.2)	335,42 (2.1)
94	0.336	1.086	0.09	255,5 (9.0)	350,51 (12.0)
95	8.027	1.121	0.17	091,8 (3.8)	357,23 (4.8)
96	9.704	1.692	-0.03	078,8 (6.0)	343,30 (8.0)
106	6.685	1.056	-0.13	074,1 (17.9)	164,22 (28.6)
107	16.465	1.138	0.06	283,15 (11.4)	178,45 (4.0)
108	2.125	1.306	-0.03	260,15 (6.1)	160,34 (5.0)
109	4.227	1.099	0.54	086,23 (3.4)	343,29 (6.0)
110	0.893	1.040	-0.18	090,41 (32.6)	203,18 (31.8)
111	8.655	1.076	-0.33	288,2 (11.2)	018,4 (26.8)
112	0.140	1.068	-0.47	095,12 (7.3)	185,1 (14.6)
113	6.041	1.083	0.04	096,16 (3.6)	258,73 (7.7)
122	0.498	1.027	-0.03	113,11 (16.4)	012,47 (20.1)
123	0.708	1.058	-0.08	065,38 (22.0)	334,3 (21.8)
124	0.102	1.060	0.46	069,4 (19.4)	336,28 (12.9)

$K_m$ , mean-site susceptibility ( $10^{-1}$  SI); P, degree of anisotropy; T, shape parameter;  $K_1$  and  $K_3$ , respectively, mean-site maximum and minimum susceptibility directions (azimuth and dip). In parentheses the angular dispersion ( $1.5\text{-}\sigma$ ) about the AMS principal directions is given.

such as isolated pixels or one-pixel-thick lines and shapes of  $<32$  pixels.

The binary images consist of mafic minerals in a blank background, and were analyzed using the Intercept Method (Launeau and Robin, 1996), which provides a record of the orientation distribution of the boundaries of the mafic phase. The individual image is then divided into four sub-images and, on each subset, the orientation distribution of the boundaries described by a 2-D shape tensor. The resulting shape tensors of the three perpendicular faces from a single block or quarry are then combined in  $3^4$  different ways to reconstruct a 3-D shape ellipsoid. A confidence cone ( $1.5\sigma$ ) encloses the principal directions ( $A > B > C$ ) of 64 ellipsoids calculated after dividing each “full” image in four sub-images

(Fig. 11). Solid symbols are for the “bulk” ellipsoid found by combining SPO parameters of each full image (single set, combination  $3^1$ ). If the tensor principal directions of the “bulk” ellipsoid fall inside the  $1.5\sigma$  cone interval, the counting window data are considered enough and the fitted ellipsoid has high bulk compatibility. Moreover, a “compatibility index” between the sought ellipsoid and the respective sectional ellipses is given by the  $\sqrt{F}$  parameter. The ellipsoid fit is considered well defined for  $\sqrt{F} = 0\%$  and poorly defined when  $\sqrt{F} > 10\%$  (Robin, 2002; Launeau and Robin, 2005).

### 3.4.1. Results

The SPO parameters of the 3-D distribution of the mafic phase for the Jabre and Teixeira cross-sections are summarized

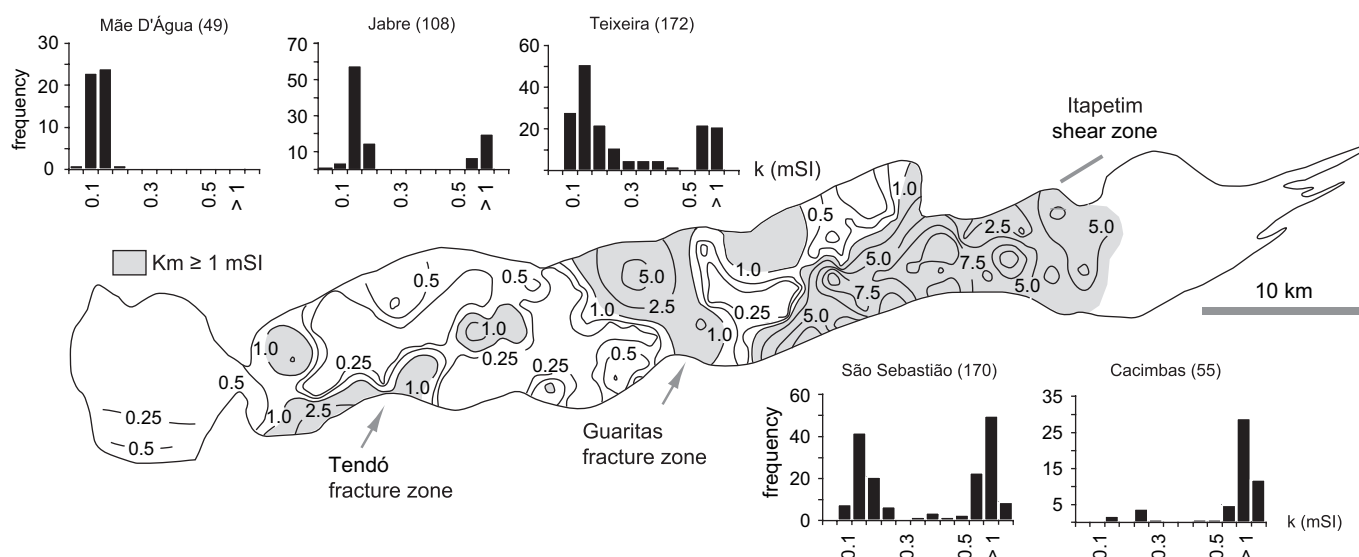


Fig. 9. Magnetic susceptibility of the Teixeira batholith. The frequency histograms correspond to the different domains of the batholith (see text).



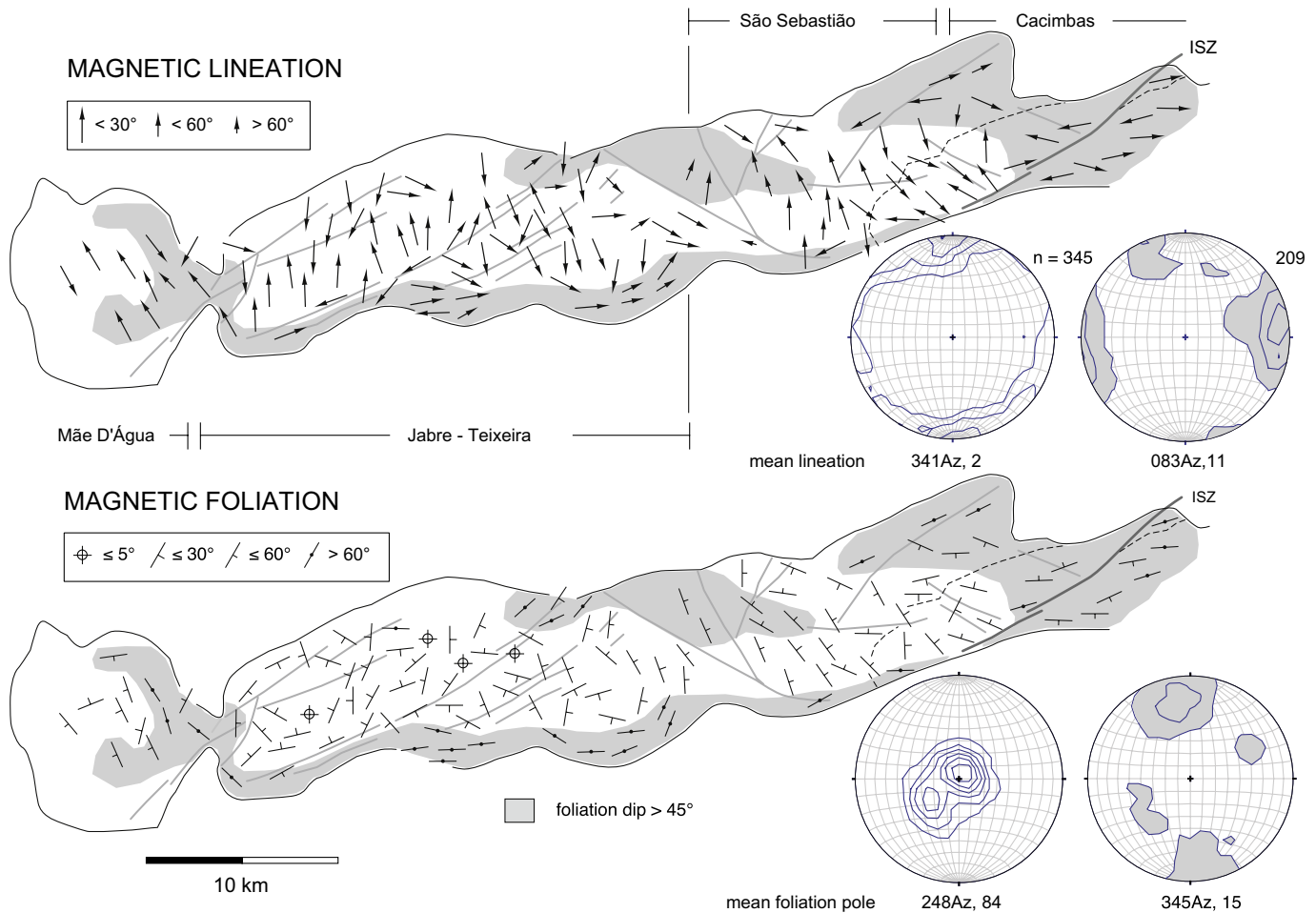


Fig. 10. Magnetic fabric (lineation and foliation) of the Teixeira batholith. The magnetic foliation was used to define two fabric domains in the batholith, dipping lower than or higher (shaded area) than  $45^\circ$ . Light grey lines are traces of fracture and fault zones. ISZ, Itapetim shear zone. Schmidt stereogram of lineation and the foliation poles, lower hemisphere (contours of 2%, 4%... 12% per 1% area).

in Table 3. The calculated ellipsoid fits well with the sectional ellipses as indicated by low  $\sqrt{F}$  values, typically below 3.0%, with 6.2% in one site (PG). The ellipsoid shape ratio (SR) varies between 1.14 and 1.20 in the Jabre cross-section but reaches 1.41 in the Teixeira cross-section. SPO anisotropies are much higher than magnetic anisotropies (Table 2), indicating that the mafic fabric is better defined than AMS. The ellipsoid shape changes for both cross-sections, typically oblate in the Jabre and prolate in the Teixeira cross-section.

In the Jabre cross-section, the shape foliation (normal to the short axis, C) is subhorizontal (#70, #60), although approaching the southern granite contact, it dips moderately to northwest (#50, #40). At one site the foliation dips steeply to the west (#80). Along the cross-section, the shape lineation (parallel to long axis A) remains transversal or highly oblique to the pluton elongation. In the Teixeira cross-section, the foliation varies while the lineation maintains a consistent orientation approximately at a high angle to the pluton elongation.

This study shows that AMS and mafic mineral fabrics have similar orientations in both cross-sections. Dominant prolate or oblate ellipsoids are found in the Teixeira and Jabre cross-sections, respectively. In the former, the prolate mafic

fabric is attributed to amphibole prisms that describe the mineral preferred orientation. An inversion of B and C principal axes occurs at one site (PG) with a moderate prolate shape ( $T = -0.49$ ). Biotite and amphibole outline the mafic fabric of the Jabre cross-section. Only at one site (#80) is the dip of the mineral foliation significantly higher than the magnetic foliation, although its respective lineations remain similar. At the remaining sites of the Jabre cross-section, AMS and mineral fabric are nearly coaxial.

#### 4. Discussion

Image analysis to compare magnetic and mineral fabrics supports the use of AMS to describe the orientation of the magmatic fabric of the Teixeira batholith. The orientation varies from highly discordant in its central and western domains to concordant when the fabric becomes gneissic and magnetite is crystallized. We postulate that the discordant magmatic fabric corresponds to emplacement structures formed before the strike-slip shearing related to the Patos–Itapetim–Taperoá shear zone system. Thus, the Teixeira would be a pre-transcurrent batholith. The Serra Redonda

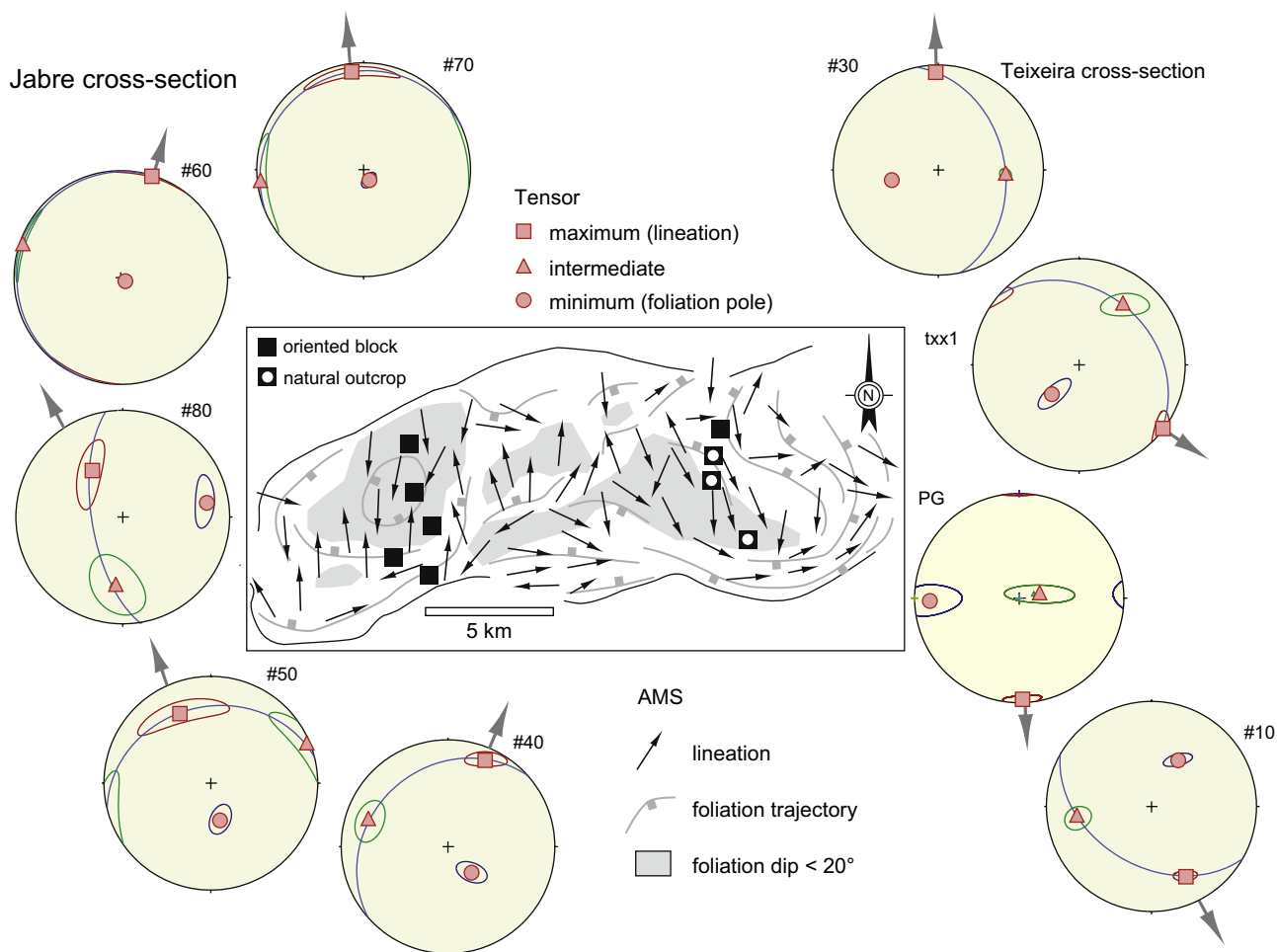


Fig. 11. Shape preferred orientation of mafic mineral in cross sections of the Jabre and Teixeira domains. Solid symbols are for the “full ellipsoid”, i.e. that described by the tensor principal directions resulting from the combination of all data on each of the three mutually orthogonal sections. The cone projections ( $1.5\sigma$ ) enclose the distribution of  $64 (= 4^3)$  “subset ellipsoids” found after dividing the counting windows in four sub-images and combining them in each section (cf. Launeau and Robin, 2005). Arrow points the mean direction of the mineral lineation. Schmidt stereogram, lower hemisphere.

pluton, on the other hand, shows fabric orientations consistent with the host regional strain field, and is considered syntectonic.

Internal discordant or concordant fabrics in the Teixeira batholith are related to the external wall-rock structure. There are steeply dipping foliations parallel to the batholith margins with subhorizontal ( $D_1$ ) or, particularly along its northern margin, steeply plunging ( $D_2$ ) lineations. Both  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  structures are attributed to a transpressive regional deformation that combined simple shear and a bulk N- to NW-shortening. The vergence of asymmetric  $D_2$  folds formed during right-lateral movement of the Patos shear zone, squeezing and displacing “soft” metasediments against the “hard” hanging-wall (batholith). This implies that the batholith was entirely crystallized when the shear zone system was active, as illustrated in the Pedra D’Água domain (Fig. 4). There, the connection between Patos, Itapetim and Taperoá shear zones develops a typical asymmetric extensional structure, with the Itapetim and Taperoá branches corresponding to the NE-trending shear band components, while the E-trending Patos branch corresponds to the C-plane shear component. The

shear bands turn progressively to merge further north with the Patos mylonites. The sigma-shaped sheets of Pedra D’Água granite between the Itapetim and Taperoá shear zones are entirely foliated with a fabric similar to the host orthogneisses. Shear deformation decreases towards the São Sebastião, Teixeira and Jabre domains as shortening is accommodated by a set of conjugate fractures and fault zones. Locally, as in the Tendó fracture zone, a strong comminution of the equigranular granite forms narrow and discontinuous bands of mylonite and ultramylonite together with intense fracturing. Far from these domains, however, the granite fabric is medium-grained equigranular.

A magmatic fabric predating shear zone deformation occurs in the inner parts of the Teixeira batholith. AMS is characterized by gently dipping foliations locally forming basin (Jabre) and dome (Teixeira) structures, and by lineations trending N- or NW (Figs. 10 and 11). Mean susceptibility values of 0.25 mSI contrast with the “batholith-concordant” magnetic fabric, in which mean susceptibility is higher than 1 mSI. The “batholith-discordant” magnetic fabric would have been acquired during the magma crystallization at about

Table 3  
Shape preferred orientation of mafic minerals from cross sections in the Teixeira batholith determined by the Intercept Method

	SR	T	vF (%)	A	B	C
<i>Jabre cross-section</i>						
#70	1.18	0.54	1.7	352,09 (21.6)	262,03 (21.6)	154, 81 (5.2)
#60	1.20	0.62	0.9	019,00 (16.3)	289,03 (16.3)	109,87 (1.7)
#80	1.14	0.35	1.9	323,47 (20.8)	185,34 (20.6)	079,23 (13.3)
#50	1.15	0.29	2.0	338,28 (24.2)	069,03 (23.9)	165,61 (9.0)
#40	1.13	−0.10	1.8	023,11 (10.7)	288,24 (10.5)	137,63 (9.5)
<i>Teixeira cross-section</i>						
#30	1.15	0.09	1.0	358,08 (3.2)	094,36 (4.0)	258,53 (3.8)
Tx1	1.30	−0.26	3.1	128,02 (10.1)	037,29 (14.3)	220,60 (12.4)
PG	1.23	−0.49	1.0	159,06 (2.6)	040,78 (13.4)	250,11 (13.4)
#10	1.16	−0.32	1.1	154,27 (6.4)	261,30 (9.2)	029,48 (8.8)

SR, shape ratio; T, shape parameter; vF, incompatibility index; A, B and C, azimuth and plunge of the long, intermediate and short axis, respectively, of the mineral fabric, with the semi-angle (measured in degrees) of the 1.5-sigma ellipse of confidence around the mean axis given in parentheses.

591 ± 5 Ma. Although the shape of the batholith was later modified by strike-slip shearing, its dike-like aspect and emplacement along the contact between metasediments and orthogneisses of the Alto Pajeú belt appear to constitute primary features. In addition, it shows remarkably homogeneous composition and texture, with no evidence of internal sheeting, structures indicative of forceful emplacement, or hornfels at the contact with metapelites. If there was contact metamorphism, it was overprinted during the development of D<sub>1</sub> and D<sub>2</sub> events. Furthermore, subhorizontal fabrics found in the Jabre and Teixeira domains suggest that the present exposure level, at least in these domains, corresponds to the cupola of the intrusion. The occurrence of aegirine-augite and blue amphibole in the Cacimbas pluton places the Teixeira batholith in the peralkaline magmatic series, which includes syenite plutons and stocks, ring dikes and dike swarms (Ferreira et al., 1998).

The Serra Redonda pluton, on the other hand, shows magmatic fabrics coupled with the host rock strain. It includes thrusts and a conjugate strike-slip shear zone set consistent with bulk NNW-shortening, which also stretched the pluton parallel to the contact between the Paleoproterozoic basement and the Early Neoproterozoic rocks. Evidence for syntectonic emplacement also comes from diorite dikes that crosscut the thrust hanging-wall, and were deformed by the regional strain. Several processes could account for the observed patterns of strain variation within plutons emplaced in a contractional setting, such as local dilation created by syn-melting shear zone movement (D'Lemos et al., 1992), or dilation assisted by melt-enhanced embrittlement (Davidson et al., 1994). Recent numerical models predict the emplacement of magmas in a bulk transpressive setting if shear zones are localized at contacts between rocks with different rheological properties (Weinberg et al., 2004). The resulting strain field forms fragile, low-mean pressure traps into which melts can ascend to form a pluton. These syntectonic bodies generally form sheeted plutons. If the pluton exhibits little compositional variation, evidence of internal sheeting can only be identified by the presence of wall rock screens or inclusions along its contacts (Hutton, 1992). Although no wall-rock screens separate the

magmatic units of the Serra Redonda pluton, the intrusion of the diorite at the pluton border parallel to the contact with the porphyritic granite is attributed to a sheeting mechanism. Its crystallization age of 576 ± 3 Ma, obtained from zircons from a coarse porphyritic granite, is a good approximation for the age of the NNW-shortening that affected this domain of the province.

Tectonic fabrics in the Alto Pajeú belt record a bulk transpressive strain field: there are strongly foliated rocks, anastomosing less deformed km-scale lenses, conjugate shear zones and belt-parallel subhorizontal stretching. Conjugate sets of shear bands indicating that the principal compressive stress is oriented at a high angle to the rocks flanking the shear zone have been described in several fault systems (Jones and Tanner, 1994; Pereira and Silva, 2004). These suggest that the transpressive strains were partitioned into a pure shear component stronger than the simple shear component. Conjugate structures along hundreds of kilometers south of the Patos shear zone lead us to postulate that the deformation of the Alto Pajeú belt includes a strong regional shortening component at a high angle to the belt margins. This component is attributed to far-field stresses resulting from the convergence of Paleoproterozoic cratons, especially the São Francisco to the south, which would have squeezed and laterally displaced the crustal blocks of eastern Borborema.

## 5. Conclusion

Magmatic fabric of the Teixeira batholith and the Serra Redonda pluton indicate they are, respectively, pre- and syn-kinematic regarding the Patos and its satellite shear zones. Evidence for the emplacement of the Teixeira batholith preceding the transcurrent deformation comes from AMS and structural data. Magnetic/magmatic fabrics transversal to the batholith elongation are found in granites with mean susceptibility values ≤ 0.25 mSI. They contrast with the orientation of the metamorphic fabric in the wall-rocks. Shear zones that branch off from Patos mylonites rework partially the magmatic fabric. Near the batholith margins and close to the fracture and fault zones the fabric changes its orientation to parallel to the body

elongation. These secondary, post-emplacement fabrics occur in granitoids with susceptibility values  $>1$  mSI related to the recrystallization of magnetite and, locally, hematite. The reactivation of magmatic and host rock metamorphic fabrics in the Teixeira batholith is attributed to E-trending shearing coupled to a bulk N- to NW compressive deformation. Similar strain regime controlled the emplacement of the Serra Redonda pluton. A concordant U/Pb Shrimp zircon age of  $576 \pm 3$  Ma from a coarse porphyritic granite offers the best estimation for its syntectonic crystallization as well for the development of the regional transpression that reworked part of the Teixeira batholith.

The deformation of the Early Neoproterozoic Alto Pajeú belt country rocks, partitioned between sets of conjugated strike-slip shear zones and belt-perpendicular shortening, is attributed to the collisional tectonics related to the convergence of Paleoproterozoic cratons. The onset of the collision-related structures, focused on this study on the Patos and its satellite shear zones, must be younger than  $591 \pm 5$  Ma as indicated by crystallization ages of the Teixeira batholith.

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