1	3D electrical resistivity of Gran Canaria Island using magnetotelluric data		
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#### 33 Abstract

Gran Canaria, one of the two main islands of the Canary Archipelago of NW Africa, has 34 been volcanically active for at least 15 million years. The island went through several 35 volcanic cycles that varied greatly in composition and extrusive and intrusive activity. 36 The complex orography of the island has excluded extensive land geophysical surveys on 37 the island. A review of the available geophysical information on the island shows that it 38 has been obtained mainly through marine and airborne geophysical surveys. A new 39 dataset comprising 100 magnetotelluric soundings acquired on land has been used to 40 obtain the first 3D electrical resistivity model of the island at crustal scale. The model 41 42 shows high resistivity values close to the surface in the exposed Tejeda Caldera that 43 extends at depth to the SE cutting the islands in half. Outside the inferred limits of the Tejeda Caldera the 3D model shows low resistivity values that could be explained by 44 hydrothermal alteration at deeper levels and the presence of marine saltwater intrusion at 45 shallower levels near the coast. The presence of unonnected vertical-like structures, with 46 very low resistivity (<10 ohm m) could be associated to small convective cells is 47 confirmed by the sensitivity analysis carried out in the present study. Those structures are 48 49 the most likely candidates for a detailed analysis in order to determine their geothermal economic potential. A comprehensive review of existing geophysical data and with the 50 51 new 3D electrical resistivity model is presented.

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#### 53 **1. Introduction**

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Gran Canaria island is part of the Canary Archipelago (Spain), a large intraplate volcanic 55 56 oceanic island chain forming a 450 km long east-west volcanic belt some 200 km off the northwestern African coast (Fig. 1). Intraplate volcanic islands are systems in which its 57 58 growth, a result of mantle processes, and degradation by mass wasting could be related 59 among the different intraplate volcanic islands (Schmincke and Sumita, 2014). Thus, the 60 evolution of the long-lived older Canary Islands compared to the relatively short-lived Hawaiian Islands has been discussed in detail by (Schmincke and Sumita, 2011). The 61 62 Canary Islands rest on top of a rigid and thick oceanic lithosphere of Jurassic age (Schmincke et al., 1998) that has limited the amount of subsidence of the archipelago 63 compared to the Hawaiian Islands. 64

65 Gran Canaria is nearly circular, has a diameter of about 45 km and rises to 1956 m above

sea level (m.a.s.l.) in Pico de las Nieves, in the central part of the island. Gran Canaria is 66 likely one of the most intensely studied oceanic islands in the world (see review in 67 Schmincke and Sumita, 2011). The geological map of the island (Fig. 1) shows a complex 68 multi-stage basaltic shield cut by a ca. 20-km collapse caldera, the source of several tens 69 of rhyolitic to later phonolitic ignimbrites, dominating a broad belt inside the marginal 70 basaltic shield lava formations. The well-exposed center of the island is made-up of a 71 72 huge trachytic-phonolitic cone sheet swarm cut by local syenite intrusions. A clear NW-73 SE lineation that divides the island into two parts (Fig. 1A), is basically a boundary 74 between a stable southwest and a northeastern half highly susceptible to mass wasting since the basaltic shield stages. The geological and morphological contrasts between the 75 76 SW and NE parts of the island have been noted for almost 100 years and were commonly interpreted as due to major faulting. Schmincke (1968) interpreted this boundary zone as 77 78 basically due to mass wasting largely controlled by climate, north/northeast trade winds 79 having been constant during the evolution of the island since the Miocene. Thus, 80 instability and repeated flank collapses have dominated the evolution of the NE part of Gran Canaria. This lineament has been confirmed by gravity and aeromagnetic data 81 82 (Blanco-Montenegro et al., 2003; Camacho et al., 2000), although its depth extent is unknown. The intra caldera margin rocks show evidence of hydrothermal alteration at 83 surface (Donoghue et al., 2008), however controversy exists in respect to the exact timing 84 and spatial extent of the hydrothermal activity (Pérez Torrado et al., 2004). The number 85 of geophysical studies on land at crustal scale of the island is reduced to the 3D gravity 86 model of Camacho et al. (2000) that was based on a limited number of measurements that 87 88 did not cover the whole island uniformly. Moreover, the steep morphology of the island prevents the application of other land high-resolution geophysical methods (i.e. active 89 seismic methods). 90

Magnetotelluric surveys (MT) have been used extensively to unravel the electrical 91 resistivity distribution and the geothermal potential in different environments 92 (Abdelfettah et al., 2018; Ars et al., 2019; Lee et al., 2019; Maithya and Fujimitsu, 2019; 93 94 Mun<sup>o</sup>z et al., 2010; Yoshimura et al., 2018). On neighboring islands, magnetotelluric 95 data have been acquired (Coppo et al., 2008; García-Yeguas et al., 2017; Garcia and Jones, 2010; Piña-Varas et al., 2014, 2015, 2018; Pous et al., 2002) and in combination 96 with other geophysical and geochemical datasets (García-Yeguas et al., 2017; Rodríguez 97 et al., 2015) has allow to characterize the main volcano structures and their geothermal 98 capabilities. In this paper, we provide a comprehensive review of existing geophysical 99

data and models of Gran Canaria Island and their comparison with new magnetotelluric
data and the first 3D electrical resistivity model of the island that allows to determine not
only the deep structure of the main NW-SE lineation but also the spatial extent of
hydrothermal alteration at depth.

The energy budget of the Canary archipelago, and the Gran Canaria Island, has an 104 105 important deficit from a renewable point of view. Only a 2% of the required energy is 106 generated by renewable sources (solar, hydraulic, wind power, biomass) as describes in the Anuario Energético de Canarias (2018). The amount of geothermal energy produced 107 is negligible and related to private installations and neither district heating nor high 108 109 enthalpy geothermal projects have been yet developed despite the geothermal potential 110 of this volcanic island. This study is a required step toward the future development of the geothermal potential of the island that will allow to become more carbon-neutral in the 111 112 future.

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## 114 **2.** Geological setting

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The Canary Islands are located within the African plate very close to its Atlantic 116 continental passive margin. In fact, the distance between Fuerteventura and Juby Cape 117 118 (in the African continent) is about 100 km (Fig. 1). The Jurassic crust (formed between 165-176 Ma) in which the Canary Islands were constructed, is considered one of the 119 120 oldest, coldest and thickest oceanic crusts of the planet. It is characterized by a very high 121 rigidity that allows sustaining the different Canarian edifices over million years without evident signs of subsidence. This feature contrasts with other well-known archipelagos, 122 especially those in the Pacific plate like the Hawaiian Islands, where the lithosphere is 123 young, thin and flexible allowing rapid subsidence of the volcanic edifices and formation 124 125 of atolls and guyots (Schmincke and Sumita, 2011).

The geological evolution of Gran Canaria has been separated into three main evolutionary stages: the Miocene stage consisting of several overlapping basaltic shield volcanoes. The center of the island was cut by a 20 km diameter collapse caldera, source of several tens of rhyolitic to later phonolitic ignimbrites covering much of the basaltic shield and ending at ca 8 Ma, followed by an intense period of erosion and slope collapses during which the height of the islands was reduced by possibly as much as 2000 m or more. A large composite volcanic structure (Roque Nublo stage) grew between ca 5 and 3.3 Ma. The Roque Nublo phase was followed by massive basaltic and minor phonolitic volcanism in
the central part of the island, and the Pliocene basaltic and later Pleistocene to Holocene
alkaline volcanic activity in the northern to northeastern part of the island.

The chronostratigraphic division of Gran Canaria included three magmatic cycles 136 separated by erosional intervals (Van den Bogaard and Schmincke, 1998; Hoernle and 137 Schmincke, 1993; Lietz and Schmincke, 1975; Schmincke, 1976): Cycle I (from 15 to 138 139 8.0 Ma), an erosional interval of about 3 Ma; Cycle II (the Roque Nublo Group); and Cycle III (Post-Roque Nublo Group), see Fig. 1B. For simplicity, we here consider two 140 main phases of the subaerial construction of the island: a shield stage (ca. 15-8.0 Ma) and 141 142 a rejuvenated or post-erosive stage (ca. 5 Ma to present), both separated by a period of 143 volcanic inactivity of ca. 3 Ma.

144 The subaerial Miocene phase started with the rapid formation of the exposed mildly 145 alkalic shield basalts with a decrease in age from west to east, it constitutes, by large, the most abundant material on the island. The shield basalts are covered by a thick pile (up 146 to 500 m) of ignimbrite sheets and minor lavas of predominantly rhyolitic composition 147 forming the Mogan Group. The Mogan Group ignimbrites in turn are overlain by a pile 148 (>300 m) of trachyphonolitic lava flows and ignimbrites forming the Fataga group (Fig. 149 1B). Volcanic activity was practically absent on the islands between 8 to 5 Ma. During 150 this time the island became deeply eroded. The Pliocene phase began with minor 151 152 nephelinites at 5 Ma. Subsequently Pliocene Roque Nublo volcanism formed a stratocone, possibly as high as 3000 m.a.s.l. while its lavas filled the deep canyons carved 153 154 into Tejeda caldera. The southern and northern sectors of the Roque Nublo complex 155 collapsed at 3.5 Ma. Following a possible brief gap in volcanism, highly undersaturated mafic lavas erupted. Quaternary volcanism is restricted to the northern half of the island. 156 Tejeda Caldera was formed synchronously with the eruption of the Mogan ignimbrites 157 (Fig. 1B). It must have been underlain by a high-level magmatic reservoir, source area 158 159 for some 15 large-volume ignimbrites and minor early lava flow. The eruption of massive ignimbrite which emptied this reservoir initiated a complex interplay of repeated inflation 160 and deflation cycles (Troll et al., 2002). The gravitational and vertical collapse of the 161 reservoir roof opened ring fractures at the caldera perimeter (Troll and Schmincke, 2002). 162 163 Surface mapped major ring fractures are located on the southern part of the island, in 164 agreement with the largest outcrop of hydrothermally altered rocks of the island (Fig. 2A). This elliptical caldera ( $20 \times 17$  km wide; Fig.1A) has a vertical displacement 165

166 of its interior of more than 1000 m (Schmincke and Sumita, 2011).

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## 168 **3. Review of previous geophysical studies**

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170 The volcanic, structural, and petrological evolution of Gran Canaria has been studied in 171 extraordinary detail (see summary in Schmincke and Sumita, 2011). However, geophysical studies of the whole island at crustal scale are sparse. In the following we 172 173 review the previous geophysical surveys carried out to study the upper crust of Gran 174 Canaria Island. The number of geophysical surveys made on land to characterize the 175 upper part of the crust of Gran Canaria is scarce due in part to the complex orography. 176 Bosshard and Macfarlane (1970) report on a previous on land gravity survey in 1965 in Gran Canaria, although given the rough topography and the lack of good elevation models 177 at that time, not terrain correction was applied on this land data to obtain the bouguer 178 179 anomaly map of the Gran Canaria Island. The anomaly map presented two maximum 180 values in the NW and SE of the island with a minimum value in the center of the island. 181 A NW-SE data transect crossing the island was used to create a 2D density model of the island showing two high density structures in the upper crust associated to the data 182 183 maxima. The last on land geophysical survey reported on the island was the regional component of the gravity survey (Camacho et al., 2000), using 98 measurement points 184 irregularly distributed, leaving some areas of the island without coverage. Given the 185 suspected high observational noise and the very rugged topography of the island the final 186 187 bouguer map has up to 3 mGal of uncertainty that corresponds to a more than 10 % error in the final map of the observed Bouguer anomaly. The Bouguer map shows an anomaly 188 with a NW-SE trend associated with the main structural directions of the island. Their 189 final 3D density model also shows this trend, although is not as clear as in the data (Fig. 190 191 4C). Bosshard and Macfarlane (1970) were the first ones to study the deep crustal structure of the Canary Islands using marine seismic refraction data. Another deep seismic 192 refraction experiment to study the whole crustal structure of the Canary archipelago was 193 194 conducted in the late 70's (Banda et al., 1981). In Gran Canaria Island twelve seismic 195 station were installed along a NW-SE profile crossing the island and two off-shore shots were fired at each extreme of the profile side. The data was interpreted using a three-layer 196 197 model with velocities of 3.3, 6.3 and 8 km/s respectively and the contact of the layers was 198 located at 1-2 km (b.s.l) and 14 km (b.s.l) (Banda et al., 1981; Suriñach, 1986). Given the

design of the experiment and the reduced number of stations on land, no lateral velocity
variations were observed. The drillings in the framework of IODP program around the
island in the 90's (Schmincke and Sumita, 1998) were accompanied by the acquisition of
seismic data mainly in the northern part of the island (Funck et al., 1996; Funck and
Schmincke, 1998).

204 Krastel and Schmincke (2002) derived a 3D model of the P-wave velocity structure of the 205 northern part of the island using both, land and ocean bottom receivers (Ye et al., 1999). 206 All the shots were done offshore and only eight seismic stations were located on the island, manly in its northern part. Ye et al. (1999), using the same data, obtained 2D 207 208 seismic velocity models along three radial profiles from the center to the island up to 209 more than 60 km form the coast to the N and NE from wide-angle reflection and refraction seismic data. Beneath the island the velocities in the upper part of the volcanic edifice 210 show strong lateral changes at different depths from the surface up to 10 km depth. In 211 order to determine the lateral velocity variation within the volcanic edifice, Krastel and 212 213 Schmincke (2002) invert the travel times obtained in the same experiment to image the three-dimensional P-wave velocity structure of the central and northern part of the island. 214 215 The island is characterized by a heterogeneous structure with large lateral velocity variations, especially in the upper part of the volcanic edifice. The depth slices of the 3D 216 inversion model of Krastel and Schmincke (2002) show an NW-SE orientation of the high 217 Vp structures (Fig. 4B, Krastel and Schmincke, 2002). A fast velocity anomaly (> 5.5 218 219 km/s) which extends from the lower crust into the volcanic edifice is interpreted as dense intrusions and cumulates formed during the major volcanic cycles. Slow velocities (< 5.0 220 221 km/s) may correspond to weaker, porous, subaerial lava or an area with large fractures 222 are observed at shallower levels of the model near the coastline. When compared with the 223 previous 2D seismic refraction experiment (Banda et al., 1981) the 3D seismic velocity model shows higher velocity values and a NW-SE increase of the velocity values with 224 225 depth.

In 1993 the Spanish National Geographical Institute carried out an aeromagnetic survey
of the Canary Islands. The data above Gran Canaria, Fig. 4D, was reprocessed, modelled
and interpreted by Blanco-Montenegro et al. (2003). The main result of their work is the
magnetic anomaly map of Gran Canaria and surrounding oceanic region at 3800 m a.s.l.
that was reduced-to-the-pole (RTP) in order to obtain a crustal model of Gran Canaria.
Two transects, NW-SE and SW-NE, were interpreted using a 2.75D forward modelling

trial and error approach, The 2.75 D model represents the geology as polygonal prisms 232 233 with horizontal axes and either finite or infinite extent in the strike direction. However, given that their main purpose was to model the deeper part of the island they 234 approximated the shallower part of the island by a homogeneous body. The most 235 important lateral magnetization structures are located beneath the island between 4 and 236 237 15 km depth (b.s.l.) where a mafic core with different values for the module of the total magnetization vector is observed. Moreover, a body with null magnetization, located 238 between 4-7 km depth (b.s.l.), is present in their model and is associated to a shallow 239 240 syenitic plutonic body. Moreover, the authors identify that the main positive magnetic 241 anomalies displayed over Gran Canaria follow three directions, red discontinuous lines 242 in Fig. 4.

In summary, the geophysical data acquired in Gran Canaria to date was addressed to study 243 244 the deeper structure of the island (aeromagnetic data, seismic and gravity) and except for the aeromagnetic data the coverage of the seismic and gravity experiments on land were 245 246 neither uniform nor complete and their results could be constrained by the geometry of 247 the experiments. To gain insight into the upper crust of Gran Canaria we present the 248 results obtained from the 3D inversion of new magnetotelluric data, that represent the 249 first comprehensive geophysical survey at crustal scale acquired on land covering the 250 whole island that will play a key role in the exploitation of geothermal resources.

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### 252 4. Magnetotelluric data

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The magnetotelluric method involves measuring the temporal fluctuations of the 254 255 horizontal components of the natural electromagnetic field at the Earth's surface to infer the lateral and vertical variations of electrical conductivity of the Earth's interior (Chave 256 257 et al., 2012, and references therein). We acquired a dataset of 100 new magnetotelluric 258 soundings distributed around the island (Fig. 1A) from July 2017 to September 2017. 259 Instrumentation consisted of three Metronix ADU-07 and two ADU-06, along with 260 EPF06 electrodes and MFS06/07 magnetic coils. Only horizontal electric and magnetic 261 fields were recorded for at least 48 h in NS and EW directions. We used standard multisite remote reference processing methodology based on Fourier transform (Chave and 262 Thomson, 2004) and wavelet-based methodology for high frequencies (Larnier et al., 263 264 2018) to obtain the magnetotelluric response functions for the period range 0.001–1000

s. The main electromagnetic noise sources are associated to small population nuclei in the 265 266 interior of the island, while industrial areas are located near the coast, except in the western side due to the morphology. In general, data quality is good up to 256 s, at longer 267 268 periods the data quality decreases and were not considered during the 3D inversion procedure. Given the complex volcanic evolution of the island and the periods of the 269 270 impedance tensor considered a 3D inversion of the data is mandatory. However, a dimensionality analysis was performed based on the phase tensor (Booker, 2014; 271 Caldwell et al., 2004; Krieger and Peacock, 2014) and the WALDIM (Martí et al., 2005, 272 273 2009) decomposition. This analysis is required not only to confirm the 3D behavior of 274 the resistivity distribution over the island (see figures S1 and S2 supplementary material) 275 but also to determine if there are any structural lineaments. For Gran Canaria, neither 276 phase tensor nor WAL invariants results show any special feature that can be associated 277 with the main geological structures outcropping on the island. This lack of strong 278 relationship between the surface geology and the magnetotelluric data could be associate 279 to the complex structure at crustal scale of the island.

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- 281 5. 3D magnetotelluric data inversion
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283 The 3D electrical resistivity model of the island has been obtained from the full impedance tensor inversion using ModEM code (Egbert and Kelbert, 2012; Kelbert et al., 284 2014). The initial model consisted of  $77 \times 73 \times 98$  layer grid in which the topography and 285 286 the surrounding bathymetry of the island were fixed, and the land resistivity was 100 ohm m. The horizontal mesh size in the island was 968 m, increasing outside of the island by 287 288 a factor 1.3. Given that the average distance between the MT sites recorded is 4 km the number of horizontal cells between each MT site, in average, was 4. In the vertical 289 290 direction the initial mesh size was 5 m increasing by a factor 1.2 with depth till a maximum size of around 100 m up to 1.5 km b.s.l. in order to capture the orography of 291 the island. Thus, 45 vertical layers were used for the topography and the bathymetry close 292 to the island. The covariance (between 0 and 1) controls the behavior of the model norm, 293 294 a higher covariance results in a smoother overall model with fewer small-scale and rough 295 features which are more heavily penalized (Robertson et al., 2020). In our case we choose a value of 0.2 for the horizontal and vertical directions that is a tradeoff between fitting 296 297 the data and obtaining a geologically plausible model. To obtain the final inversion model,

the four components of the impedance tensor of 100 MT sites were considered using 19 298 periods in the 0.001-256 s range. The error floor for the off-diagonal impedance 299 300 components was 5% of each component and for the diagonal components 10%. The final RMS was 1.70, after 109 iterations, for all the periods and stations considered. Figure S3 301 302 in the supplementary material shows a map of RMS distribution for the full tensor and for the different components. Figure S7 in the supplementary material shows the 303 comparison between the measured apparent resistivities and phases of the four tensor 304 components, and model responses for all the sites. 305

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#### 307 5.1. 3D resistivity model

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The final 3D resistivity inversion model is shown in Fig. 2 as six horizontal depth slices 309 and 2 vertical cross-sections. The upper part of the model (-500 m.a.s.l.), is very 310 311 heterogeneous and shows major resistivity contrasts that can be associated to the presence 312 of highly porous materials and fractures with or without meteoritic water and clays that 313 can produce the observed resistivity contrast. However, at depth, the most obvious feature 314 is the high resistivity (> 500 ohm m) (label R1 in Fig. 2) central region surrounded by a 315 less resistive structure (20-50 ohm.m), label C1 in Fig. 2. This high resistivity structure seems to be delimited by the walls of the Tejeda Caldera up to depths of -2000 m.a.s.l. 316 317 With increasing depth, the high resistivity structure elongates in SE direction and at -5000 m.a.s.l. is cutting in two the island. In the vertical cross-sections (Fig. 2b), also the most 318 319 obvious feature is the presence of a high resistivity anomaly (R1) associated with the 320 Tejeda Caldera. It shows a near vertical contact with the surrounding materials. Inside the 321 Tejeda caldera the presence of an intrusive complex of cone sheet swarm surrounding a central core of hypabyssal syenite stocks (Schmincke and Sumita, 2011; Fig. 1A) as well 322 323 as the fluid-rock interaction sealing the fractures will reduce the permeability of the central part of the island drastically and produce the observed high resistivity in the 3D 324 325 model.

The low resistivity values found in the caldera rim can be associated with the presence of hydrothermal alteration especially along the major caldera boundary fault (Schmincke, Schmincke and Sumita, 1998). Another striking result is the pervasive low resistivity (20-50 ohm.m) observed around the Tejeda caldera that covers practically all the island at depth. Moreover, there are a few near-vertical low resistivity structures (<10 ohm m) (label C2 in Fig. 2) in the south and in the eastern part of the island.

Given the geological evolution of the island with Miocene shield basalts forming the core 332 of the island and probably saturated in fresh water a resistivity value of a few hundred 333 ohm.m or higher was expected (Drury, 1979; Flóvenz et al., 2005). To explain these 334 observed values, we can consider two end members: hydrothermal alteration or presence 335 of saline fluids. Hydrothermal alteration has been observed in the Tejeda Caldera rim 336 337 (Fig. 1A) and it is invoked in many cases to explain the low resistivity cap observed in many volcanic areas (Aizawa et al., 2009; Flóvenz et al., 2005; Komori et al., 2013; Piña-338 Varas et al., 2014). Geothermal fields in volcanic areas usually present a low resistivity 339 340 structure (smectite) above a resistive core, the bottom of the low resistivity structure is 341 usually associated to the change from smectite to chlorite at around 230 °C. The resistivity value of smectite in geothermal reservoirs is reported to have values between 1-10 ohm 342 m (Gunderson et al., 2000; Ussher et al., 2000a), and in our 3D electrical resistivity model 343 the zones that present this range of values are small with a vertical-like structure and do 344 345 not show connections among them (see figure S4 in the supplementary material). In comparison with neighboring Tenerife where a thick and continuous low resistivity 346 347 structure was associated to the clay cap (Piña-Varas et al., 2014) Gran Canaria lacks this regional clay cap with low electrical resistivity. High temperature hydrothermal alteration 348 processes may increase the resistivity of some rocks by converting smectite clays to illitic 349 or chloritic clays (Ussher et al., 2000b), but this increase is frozen in and does not change 350 351 when the system cools down. Thus, we can interpret that most of the deep island rocks have been exposed to a pervasive high temperature hydrothermal alteration (>230 °C) due 352 353 to the longevity of the overall Tejeda caldera structure cooling, roughly between the start 354 of the P1 Ignimbrite eruptions (14 Ma) and the late Fataga period (8 Ma).

355 The observed vertical-like structures (label C2 in Fig. 2) could be associated to hydrothermal alteration, smectite clays, produced by small isolated convective cells. 356 357 Their size and distribution is similar to that observed in geothermal fields (i.e. Taupo 358 Volcanic Zone, Bibby et al., 1995; Masaya hydrothermal system, Pearson et al., 2012). 359 The number of convection cells and their dimensions are dependent primarily on rock permeability and heat or fluid injection rate for a given geometry (Pearson et al., 2012). 360 361 In Gran Canaria the top of all these structures is located around 660 m.b.s.l. implying that 362 at this depth a regional, more impermeable layer, within the shield basalts, must be present to stop the progression of the convection cell to the surface. A sensitivity analysis of these 363

structures was carried removing each of them individually from the final model and calculating the 3D MT forward problem (Fig. 3). The presence of all these structures is justified by the misfit in the apparent resistivity and phases curves of the MT sites located close to each structure. The misfit is mainly observed in the off-diagonal components but can also be observed in the diagonal ones. The sites located in the southern part of the island (sites 11, 27, 40 and 86) are more affected by the removal of this structures than the sites located in the eastern part of the island (sites 79 and 92).

- Saline water intrusion (SWI) occurs in the island due to the overexploitation for 371 372 agricultural and touristic developments (Cabrera and Custodio, 2004). Figure S5 373 (supplementary material) shows the map of Cl- (ppm) obtained from the data available at 374 the control network of Consejo Insular de Aguas de Gran Canaria (CIAGC, 2007–2015). Near the cost the SWI can reach up to 10 km inland in the SE of the island with chloride 375 content reaching up to 2000 ppm. In the 80's the Spanish Geological Survey (IGME) 376 carried out two boreholes in the SE of the island for geothermal purposes (IGME, 1981) 377 378 see Fig. 1 for location. The two boreholes, located inland more than 7 km from the coast, 379 reached 600 m depth trough the basaltic shield. The average temperature gradient of both 380 drillholes was 6.5 °C/100 m reaching more than 65 °C at their bottom. The analysis of the different geophysical logs reports a medium porosity of 22 % and 5000 Cl- ppm that 381 corresponds to a water salinity of 1 ohm m. Those porosity values agree with the ones 382 found for the interbedded rhyolitic-trachypohonolitic volcaniclastic sediments correlated 383 384 with the Miocene Fataga and Mogán Groups in the borehole logs of site 953C of the Ocean Drilling Program (Weaver et al., 1998). Using these values of porosity and water 385 386 salinity in Archie's law gives a bulk resistivity between 20 ohm m and 60 ohm m, that agree with the observed resistivity values in the 3D model. Outside the Tejeda Caldera 387 388 the chloride content of the water is, on average, 100 ppm and 200 ppm for the northern and southern part of the island respectively, and the associated bulk electrical resistivity 389 390 derived from Archie's law gives values of thousands of ohm.m. In these areas electrolytic 391 conduction is ruled out to explain the observed resistivity.
- The presence of water, with different chloride composition, and the observed porosity values might explain the low resistivity values observed in the shallower to intermediate, z > -500 m.a.s.l. parts of the 3D electrical resistivity model near the coast but is unlikely to explain both, the deeper low resistivity values observed in all the model and the near surface value around the Tejeda Caldera. Saline magmatic fluids also can decrease the

resistivity, but they are not expected to be found at present time at the depths imaged by 397 398 our resistivity model. The study of Plio-Quaternary volcanic activity in the northeastern 399 part of the island (Aulinas et al., 2010) and their thermobarometric studies suggest a 400 multistage magma ascent with evident signals of magma mixing between hot basic pristine magmas (mantle origin) and more evolved magmas at crustal levels. Their 401 402 analysis of clinopyroxenes found in recent volcanic deposits indicate that its crustal crystallization happened between 7-15 km depth with a notable increase in depth of the 403 eruptions occurring in the last 10 ka, ruling out the presence of shallow magmatic fluids 404 405 at present.

406 A combination of both, hydrothermal alteration for the deeper parts of the island and the 407 presence of mixed waters with a moderate amount of salinity within medium-high 408 porosity and highly fractured Miocene shield basaltic rocks in the shallow parts near the 409 coast are considered as the most likely explanations of the observed resistivity values.

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# 411 6. Discussion and conclusions

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In this section, we will compare the electrical resistivity model with the seismic velocity 413 model of Krastel and Schmincke (2002), the density model of Camacho et al. (2000) and 414 415 the magnetic anomalies of the island (Blanco-Montenegro et al., 2003). Although the degree of resolution of each of the three models (p-wave velocity, density and electrical 416 417 resistivity) are different, and the data of the seismic and density models do not uniformly 418 cover the island, it is still possible to compare the models at depth. Vp-seismic velocity and density models are not digitally available. We only have the published images, so the 419 420 comparison has only been possible with the images published in plan view at 5 km depth (b.s.l) for the Vp-seismic velocity and 6 km depth (b.s.l) for the density model as well as 421 422 the magnetic anomalies map (Fig. 4).

It can be observed (Fig. 4) that velocities inside the island are generally high (Vp > 5.5km/s) with an increase towards the center of the island (up to 7 km/s). This increase in velocity in the central part of the island was interpreted as dense intrusions (Krastel and Schmincke, 2002). At 5 km depth, the zone with a maximum horizontal gradient of the velocity model (white line) delineates a NW-SE limit that coincides with the northern limit between the more resistive island center and the less resistive northern part of the island. A velocity of 5.5 km/s can be considered high for a basalt (Christensen and

Salisbury, 1973) suggesting that the pores may be fully saturated with water that will 430 431 agree with the possible explanation of the low resistivity observed. The 3D density model of Camacho et al. (2000) was obtained using only 98 gravity measurements mainly 432 covering the N-NE part of the island. The data show a NW to SE trend that is reflected in 433 the final inversion model. In their inversion procedure they assume that the subsurface 434 435 anomalous structures may be described by a fixed positive or negative density contrast. Thus, positive-density structures with a NW-SE alignment (white discontinuous line) are 436 present in the northwest and in the southeast sectors of the island. Those bodies roughly 437 438 agree with the high resistivity structures crossing the island. The scarcity of gravimetric 439 data and the inversion procedure followed do not allow a more detailed comparison with 440 the other geophysical observables. The main positive magnetic anomalies over Gran 441 Canaria (Blanco-Montenegro et al., 2003) can be clearly correlated with the NW-SE 442 structural trend dividing the island in two. The ENE-WSE magnetic trend (red discontinuous line) that is evident in the NW part of the island is also present in the density 443 444 and electrical resistivity models. The available regional geophysical data and models show that the deeper structure of the island is mainly controlled by NW-SE structural 445 446 trends.

The main electrical resistivity distribution observed in the 3D model can be correlated 447 with previous geological interpretations. Thus, using previous geological interpretations 448 by several authors (Donoghue et al., 2010; Schmincke and Sumita, 1998) we constructed 449 450 a SE-NW geological cross-section (Fig. 5) on top of the electrical resistivity model. The lateral limits of the Tejeda Caldera at depth (black solid line on Fig. 5) coincide with the 451 452 highest gradient zones. Inside the Tejeda Caldera the white discontinuous line shows the possible location of the Fataga and Mogán crystallized magma chambers that are no 453 454 longer actives (Carracedo and Troll, 2016). Their resistivity is around 100 ohm m and roughly coincide with a body with null magnetization located between 2 and 5 km depth 455 (Blanco-Montenegro et al., 2003), in contrast with more resistive syenitic intrusions 456 located on top near the surface. The low resistivity observed at shallow levels in the 457 458 caldera can be due to meteoritic water circulation. Outside the Tejeda Caldera the prevalent low resistivity observed is concurrent with the low velocity observed in the 3D 459 460 velocity model (Krastel and Schmincke, 2002). Those electrical resistivity and velocity values are likely due to the combination of hydrothermal alteration and fractures 461 originated during all the eruptive episodes on the island. 462

We have obtained the first 3D regional geophysical model of the whole island using 100 463 464 broadband MT stations regularly distributed along the island. The final 3D electrical resistivity model shows a shallower depth, a high resistivity structure in the center of the 465 466 island that coincides with the surface trace of the Tejeda Caldera. This high resistivity structure grows to the SE with increasing depth and correlates with the seismic and 467 gravity anomalies previously found by other geophysical models as well as with magnetic 468 data. Outside the Tejeda Caldera, a prevalent low resistivity structure is imaged with 469 resistivity values in the range 20-50 ohm.m. The origin of this low resistivity values can 470 471 be caused by several factors but a combination of hydrothermal alteration and the 472 presence of mixed waters with a moderate amount of salinity within medium-high 473 porosity Miocene shield basaltic rocks are considered as the most likely explanations. 474 From a geothermal point of view further and detailed studies of those anomalies are 475 required in order to determine their economic potential.

476

#### 477 Acknowledgments

478

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<u>018-0848-y</u>

695

## 696 Figure captions.

Figure 1. A. Geological map of Gran Canaria Island. Black points: location of the
magnetotelluric stations. B. Eruptive rates and ages of the main Volcano-stratigraphic
units of Gran Canaria. Modified from Schmincke and Sumita, 2010.

700

Figure 2. a): Horizontal cross-sections of the 3D electrical resistivity model. The white
continuous line on the top left horizontal cross-section shows the limit of the saltwater
intrusion (SWI), see figure S5 from the supplementary material for further details; b):
Vertical cross sections SW-NE across the island.

705

Figure 3. Sensitivity analysis of the low resistivity vertical-like structures of the 3D
electrical resistivity model. The data recorded in the southern part of the island (sites 11,
27, 40 and 86) are more affected by the removal of this structures than the sites located
in the eastern part of the island (sites 79 and 92).

710

Figure 4. Comparison of horizontal cross sections of the electrical resistivity model at 5 km b.s.l. (A), seismic velocity model at 5 km b.s.l. (Krastel and Schmincke, 2002) (B), density model from Camacho et al. (2000) at 6 km b.s.l (C). and the magnetic anomaly map from Blanco-Montenegro et al. (2003) (D). Continuous white line corresponds to the limit between low and high velocities; dashed white line: contour of the high-density anomalies; red dashed lines: Magnetic alignments revealed by the aeromagnetic anomaly map of Gran Canaria.

718

Figure 5. Geological interpretation of the electrical resistivity model. The background 719 720 model corresponds to the vertical SW-NE cross-section of the 3D electrical resistivity model. The pervasive low resistivity observed outside the Tejeda Caldera is likely due to 721 722 the combination of hydrothermal alteration and fractures originated during all the eruptive episodes on the island. The Tejeda Caldera is imaged as a resistive structure, the deeper 723 724 Fataga and Mogan group magmatic chambers are imaged as resistive structures in comparison with the structures outside of the caldera but less resistive than the syenitic 725 726 cone sheet swarm located on top.

- 727
- 728

# Figures













Figure 4



Figure 5

Appendix A. Supplementary data (Supporting Information).

# **Supporting Information for**

# 3D electrical resistivity of Gran Canaria island using magnetotelluric data

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Figures S1 to S7



**Figure S1.** Phase tensor ellipses at four periods for the whole dataset. The color fill of the ellipses is the skew angle. In general, all the data shows a 3D behavior.



**Figure S2.** WAL invariants results for different period bands. Black arrows represent the strike direction for the 2D cases. Size of the arrow is inverserly proportional to the error of the strike angle.



**Figure S3.** Root mean square (RMS) for the full impedance tensor components and individual components in the period range 0.001 to 256 s between the raw data and the responses of the 3D electrical resistivity of the final model. The average nRMS for all the sites is 1.70.



**Figure S4.** Localization of the near-vertical low resistivity structures of the 3D resistivity model labeled as C2 in figure 2.



**Figure S5**. Map of Cl- (ppm) obtained from the database available at the CIAGC (2007-2015).

# Figure S6.

Vertical cross sections of the 3D model in NW-SE and perpendicular NE-SW directions.




















LOG10[Resistivity (Ohm.m)]









LOG10[Resistivity (Ohm.m)]













## Figure S7.

Comparison between the four components of the apparent resistivity and phases curves of the model response and the measured data.









Site: site\_005





Site: site\_007













Site: site\_013

















Site: site\_022





Site: site\_024



Site: site\_025 Zxx Zxy Zyx Zyy - Predicted Measured 5.00 . LOG10 [App. Resis. (ohm.m)] 4.00 3.00 2.00 1.00 ۲ ● 0.00 -1.00 -3.00 1.00 -2.00 -1.00 0.00 2.00 LOG10 [Periods (s)] 180 9 150 120 90 Phase (Deg.) 60 30 é 0 ۲ -30 -60 -90 -120--150 -180 -2.00 -3.00 -1.00 0.00 1.00 2.00 LOG10 [Periods (s)] Total RMS = 3.34 Overview Map Zxx RMS = 0.75Zxy RMS = 1.75 Zyx RMS = 1.91 Zyy RMS = 5.76



Site: site\_027




Site: site\_029 Zxx Zxy Zyx Zyy - Predicted Measured LOG10 [App. Resis. (ohm.m)] 1.00  ${\color{red} \bullet}$ 0.00 -3.00 -2.00 -1.00 0.00 LOG10 [Periods (s)] 180 150 120-90 Phase (Deg.) 60 30 0 -30 -60 -90 -120--150--180 -3.00 -2.00 -1.00 0.00 LOG10 [Periods (s)] Total RMS = 1.67 Overview Map Zxx RMS = 0.00Zxy RMS = 1.42Zyx RMS = 1.76 Zyy RMS = 0.00







Site: site\_035













Site: site\_043



Site: site\_044



Site: site\_045



Site: site\_046



Site: site\_047



Site: site\_048



Site: site\_049





Site: site\_054





Site: site\_056















Zxy RMS = 0.75Zyx RMS = 0.85 Zyy RMS = 0.98



Site: site\_065



Site: site\_066






















Site: site\_081











Site: site\_088 Zxx <mark>Zxy</mark> Zyx Zyy Predicted Measured LOG10 [App. Resis. (ohm.m)] 1.00 0.00 -1.00 -2.00 -3.00 -2.00 0.00 1.00 2.00 -1.00 LOG10 [Periods (s)] 180 150 120 90 Phase (Deg.) 60 30 0 -30 -60 -90 -120--150 -180 -3.00 -2.00 -1.00 0.00 1.00 2.00 LOG10 [Periods (s)] Total RMS = 0.71 Overview Map Zxx RMS = 0.71 Zxy RMS = 0.70 Zyx RMS = 0.68 Zyy RMS = 0.75







Site: site\_093



Site: site\_094





Site: site\_099





Site: site\_102



Site: site\_103



Site: site\_105

