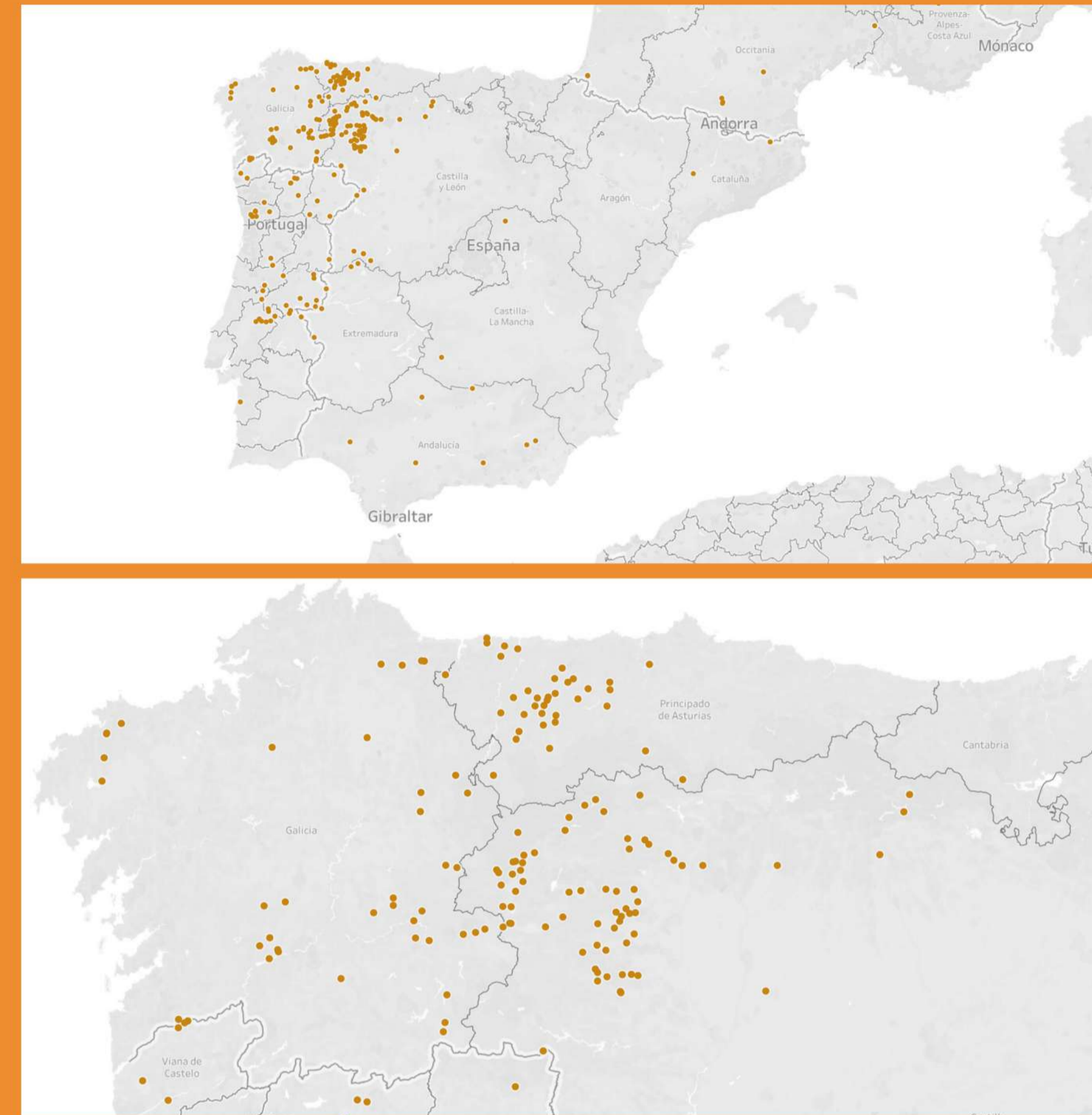


# The Traceability of Gold

The fame of the **metal riches** of the **Hispanic soil** surpassed reality and was sometimes presented by the classical authors in fantastic ways, becoming a literary topos that animated the imagination of conquerors and go-getters. For example, Appian recalls the episode experienced by the Roman general Lucius Licinius Lucullus when he took inventory of the loot obtained from the capture of Intercatia (151 BC) and was disappointed to see that there was 'no gold or silver that made Iberia famous' (APP. Hisp. 9.54). -On gold in contexts of conquest, see JPG 2020; GCG, TNH 2021-



In addition, we must not forget that gold is considered as a **positional good**, in the sense that it is generally a scarce commodity by nature which cannot be created, but only redistributed. Thus, the ability to acquire it is confined exclusively to those of a high social status. Pliny already mentioned the scarce amount of gold known in the world when comparing it with the plentiful quantity of other precious metals, on account of the tributes demanded from the conquered nations were always in silver (PLIN. HN 33.16)

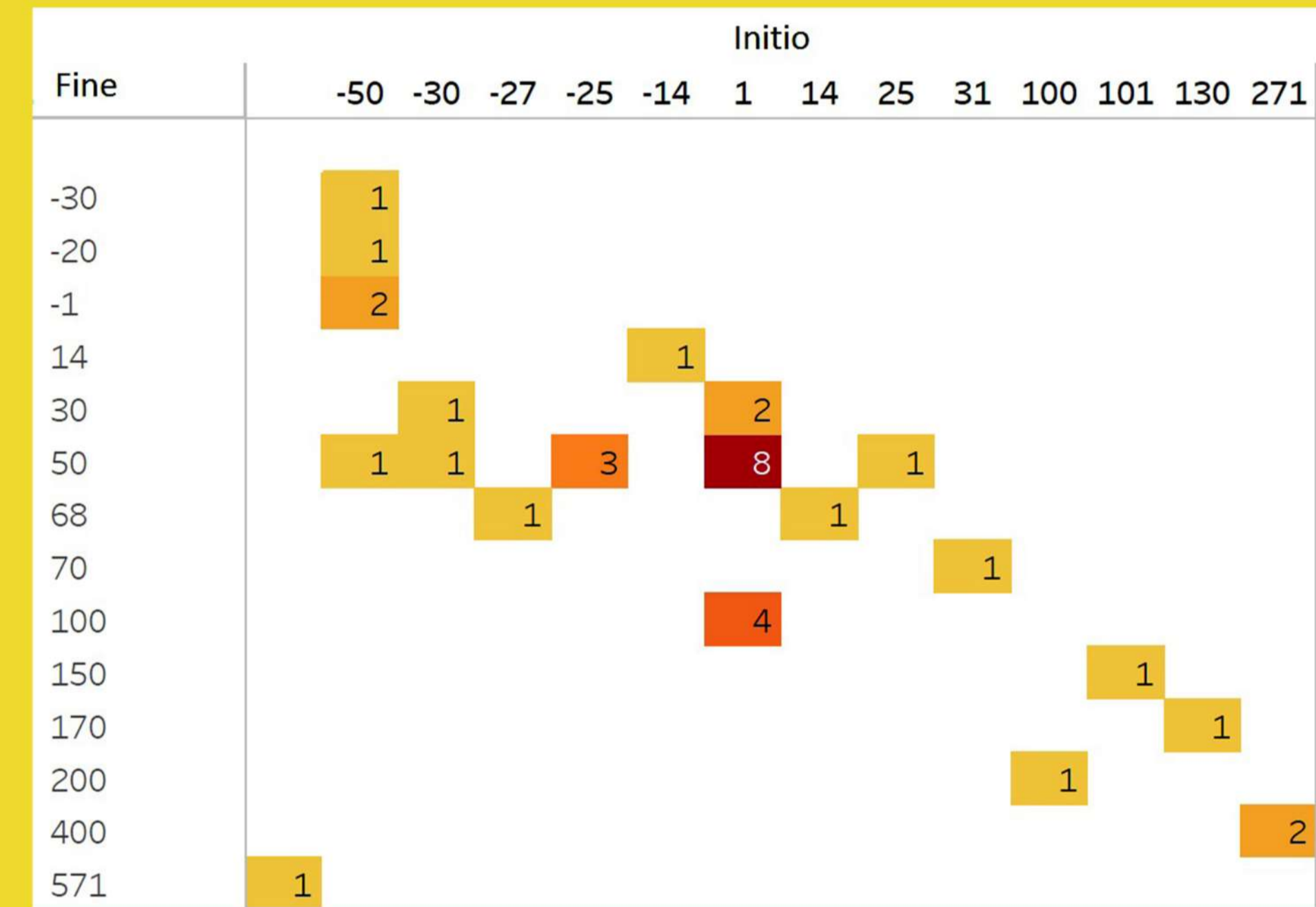
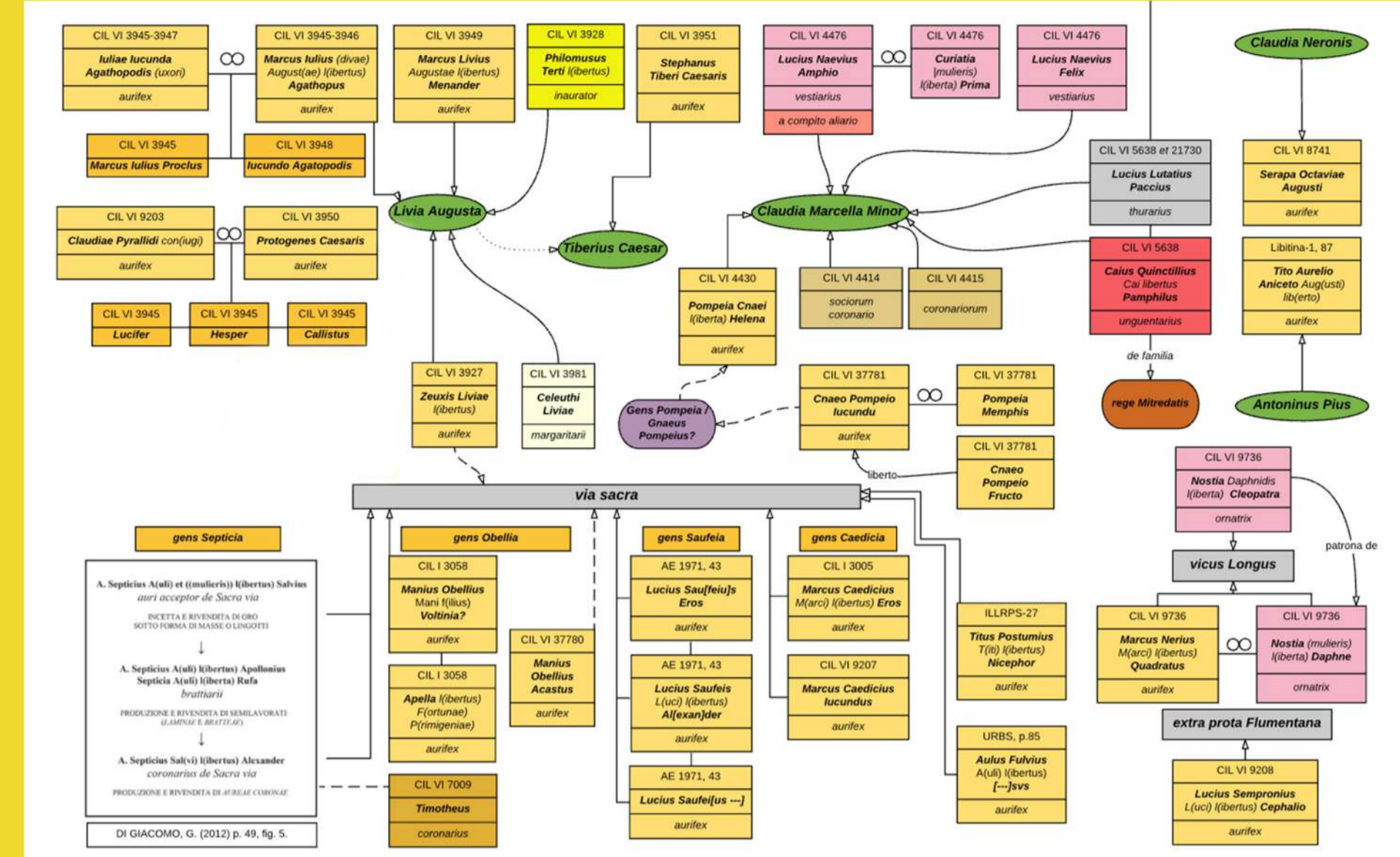
I would like to consider that the exploitation, transformation and commercialization of gold and other precious metals were all in imperial hands.

Whereas, during the Republic, the State had allowed the exploitation of the mines by means of contracts to notable Roman characters, the weight of the new State would end this non-interventionist model. The exploitation of the gold mines was always under the **control** of the **imperial house**. The reorganization of the State by Augustus is linked to the inventory of all resources, including all mining exploitation throughout the Roman territories.

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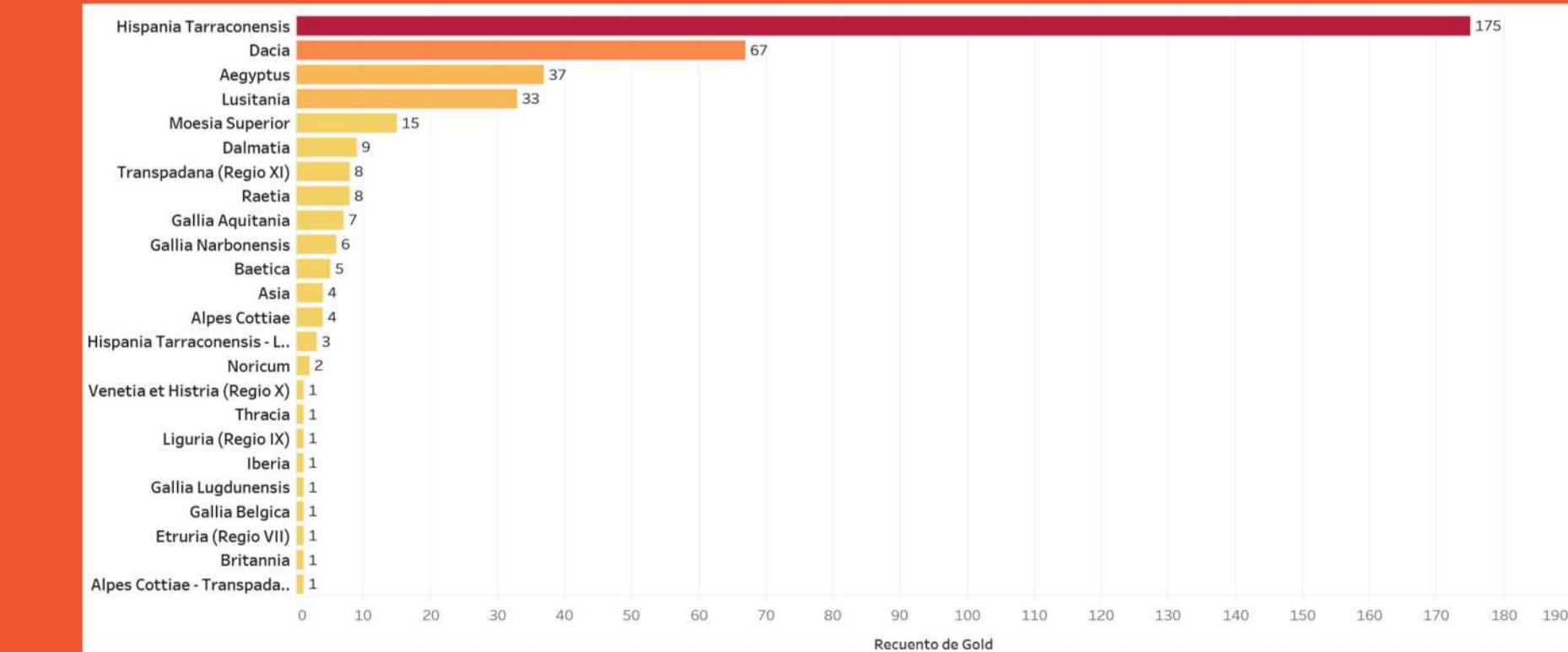
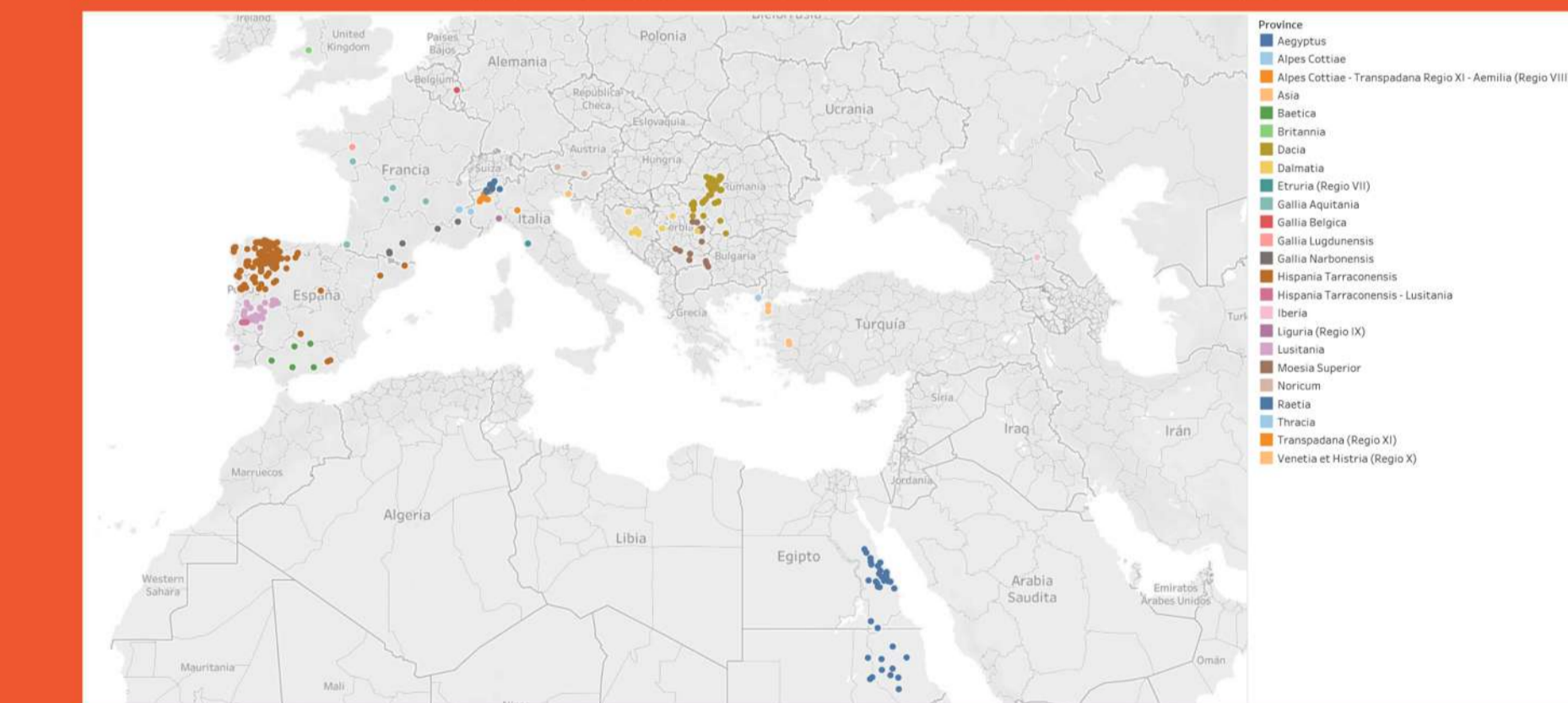
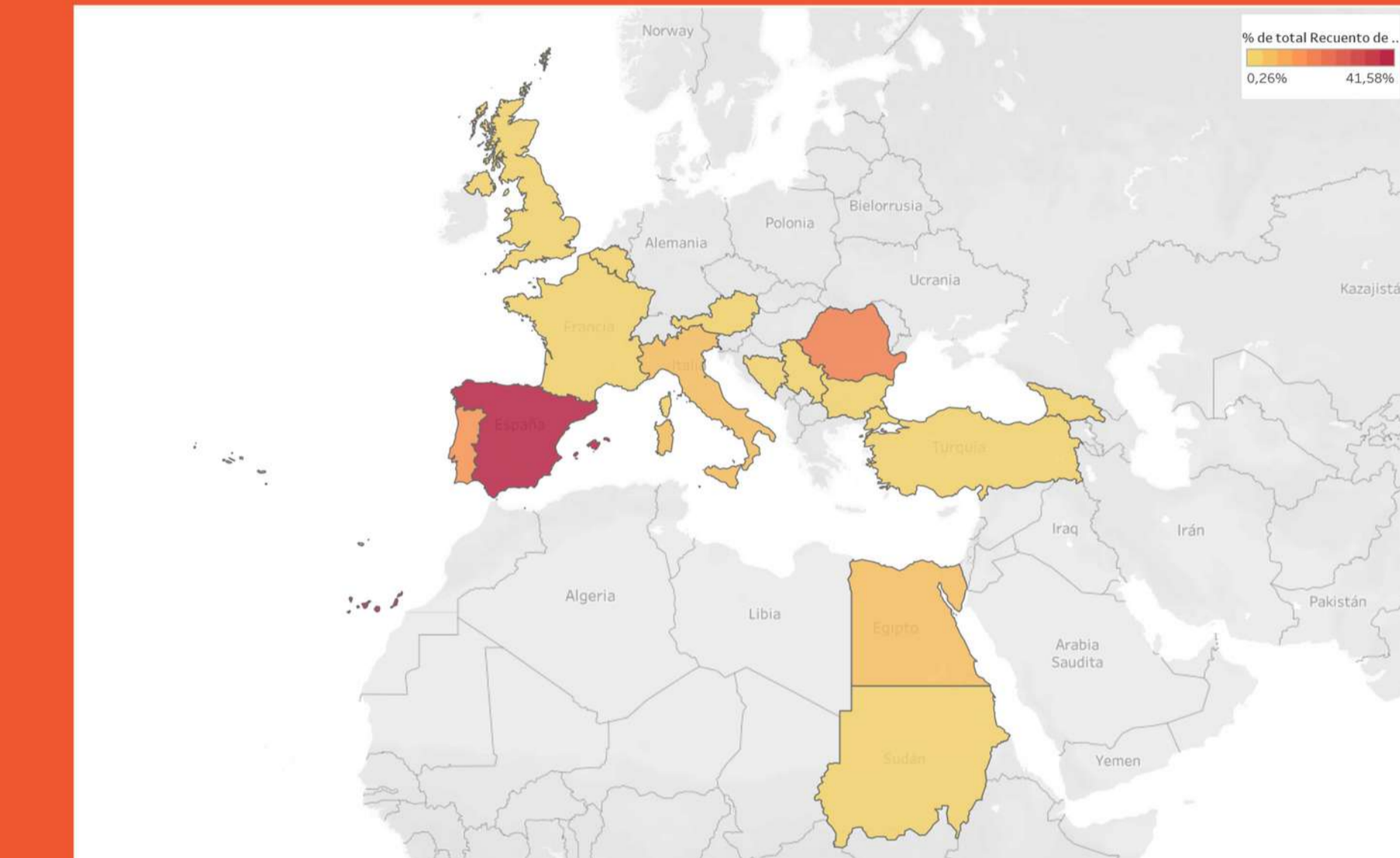
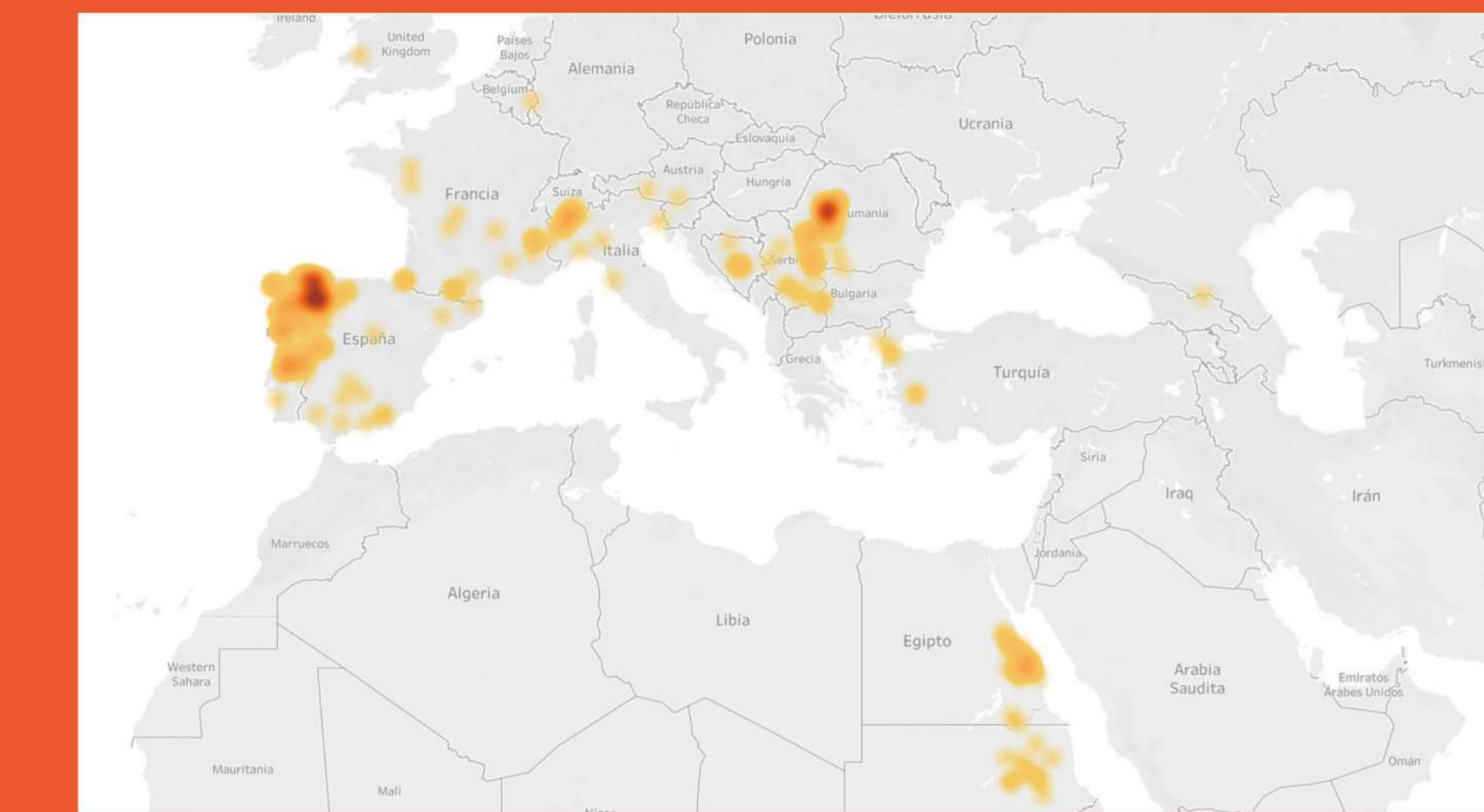
GCG, TNH 2021 =  
Cabezas-Guzmán, G., Naco del Hoyo, T. 2021. Spoils, army wages and supplies in Rome's early military intervention in Hispania, in Rosellari, S., Helm, M. (Eds.) *Spoils in the Roman Republic*. Stuttgart.



Once sent to **Rome**, the gold would be worked in the central governmental workshop. Our studies concerning the **goldsmiths** of the capital have linked a well-known group of gold-artisans with the imperial family, who made **jewels** and other **elite gifts** for the consumption of the court and as prestigious institutional gifts to other international elites (JPG 2017a). The appearance at the epigraphic level of various goldsmiths under the **protection** of the **imperial family** can perhaps be understood as further testimony of the **direct control** exerted by the emperor over these **metals**. I have interpreted these results first to represent an increase in gold controlled by the emperor due to the discovery and exploitation of new gold territories, (e.g. northwestern Hispania) and second, as a sign of the emerging specialization of a group of people dedicated to the development and marketing of gold products in Rome

Their goods would also be for sale outside for **potential consumers**, and they may have been used to make gifts to deliver to other members of the Roman or foreign elites. From a **chronological perspective**, an increase in this business can be traced to the **first century AD**, specifically during the **Julio-Claudian dynasty**, which was surely the moment of the greatest arrival of **Hispanic gold** to Rome. Consequently, until at least the end of the first century AD, the **fame** of **Hispanic gold** became common in the **daily life** of the Romans, so that the origin of gold was linked to Hispania, as Martial comments (MART. Epig. 12.57.9-10)

-On gold in transnational relations, see JPG 2017b-



Download Dataset



Gijón/Xixón, 13 al 15 de mayo de 2021

45 COLOQUIO INTERNACIONAL DE LA AFEAF

LA EUROPA DE LAS MATERIAS PRIMAS EN EL 1ER MILENIO A.N.E. Explotación, transformación y difusión



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Founded by: Juan de la Cierva-Formación-2019;

REF: FJC2019-040688-I, HAR2017-85635-P y 2017 SGR 512.

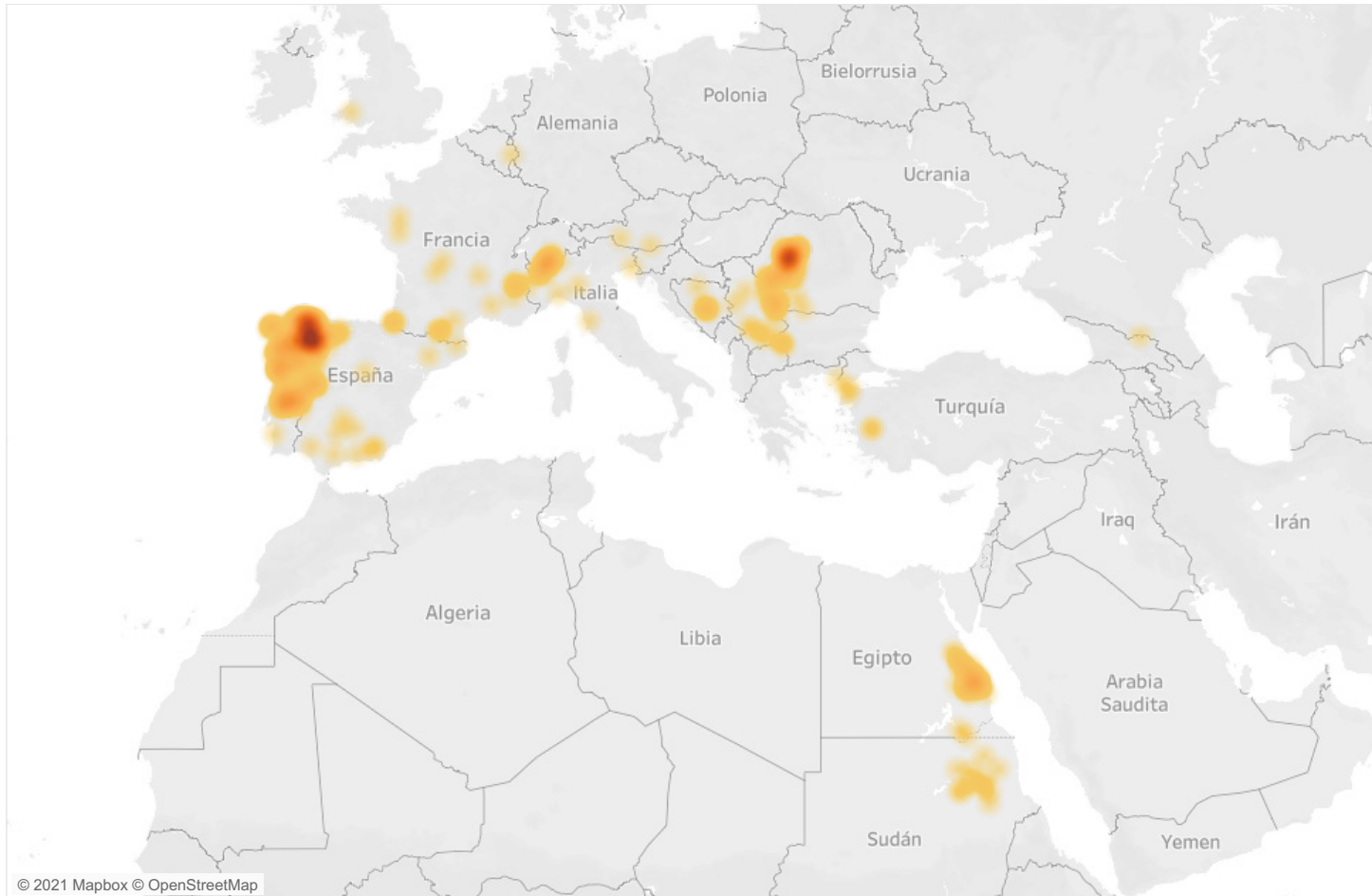
Stories - Tableau



# Las Fuentes del oro de Roma

Fuentes del oro (mapa de densidad)	Fuentes del oro (nodos)	Provincias y regiones	Hispania Dorada	Noroeste peninsular	Timeline (siglos II a.C.-V d.C.)
------------------------------------	-------------------------	-----------------------	-----------------	---------------------	----------------------------------

...*"Orbem iam totum victor Romanus habebat [---] si quis sinus abditus ultra, si qua foret tellus, quae fulvum mitteret aurum, hostis erat ...* (Petr. 119)



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Dataset: <https://github.com/JordiPerezGonzalez/FuentesOroRoma.git>

Gijón/Oleón, 13 al 15 de mayo de 2021 45 COLOQUIO INTERNACIONAL DE LA AFEAP

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Explotación, transformación y difusión

Universitat de Girona



Jordi Pérez González

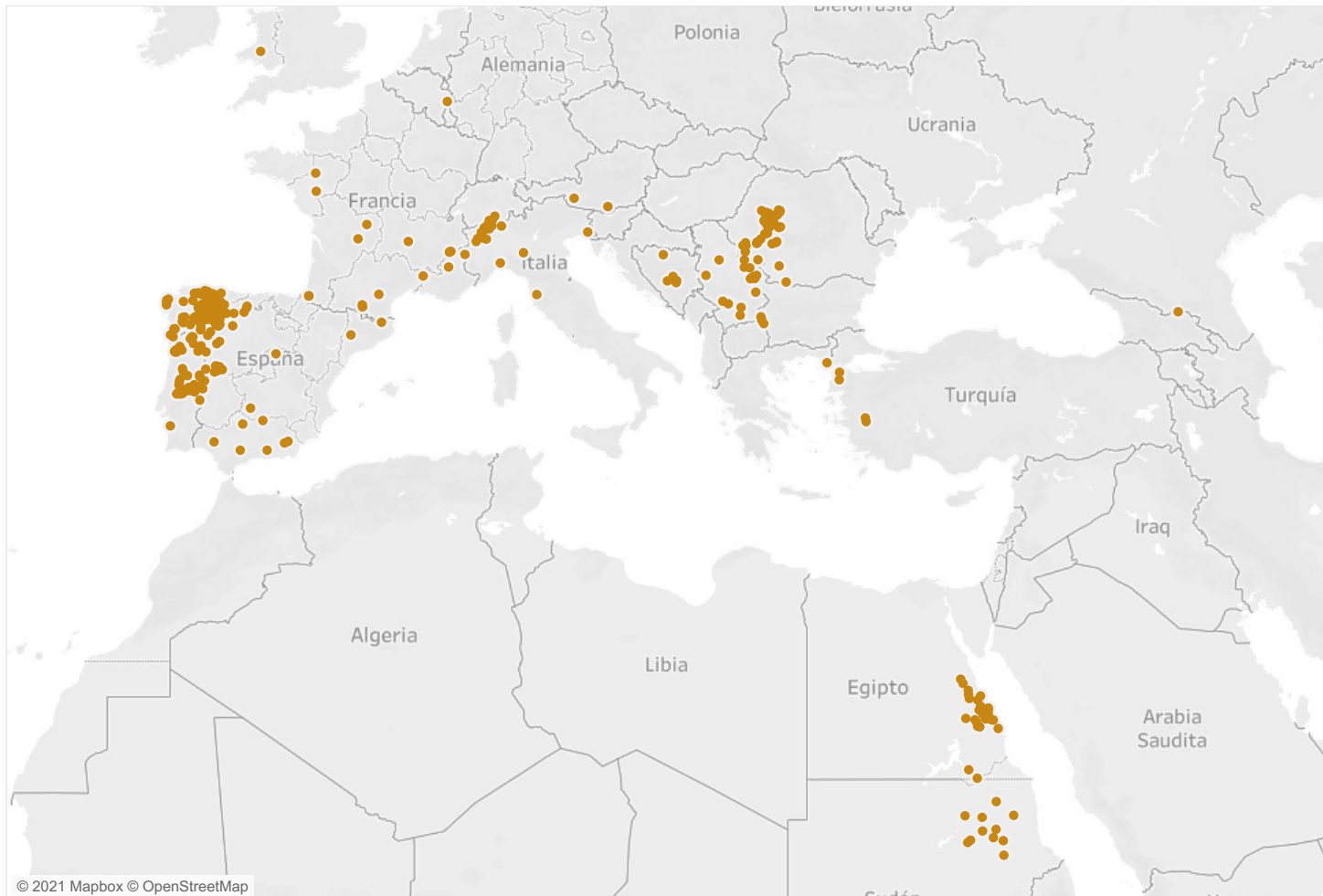
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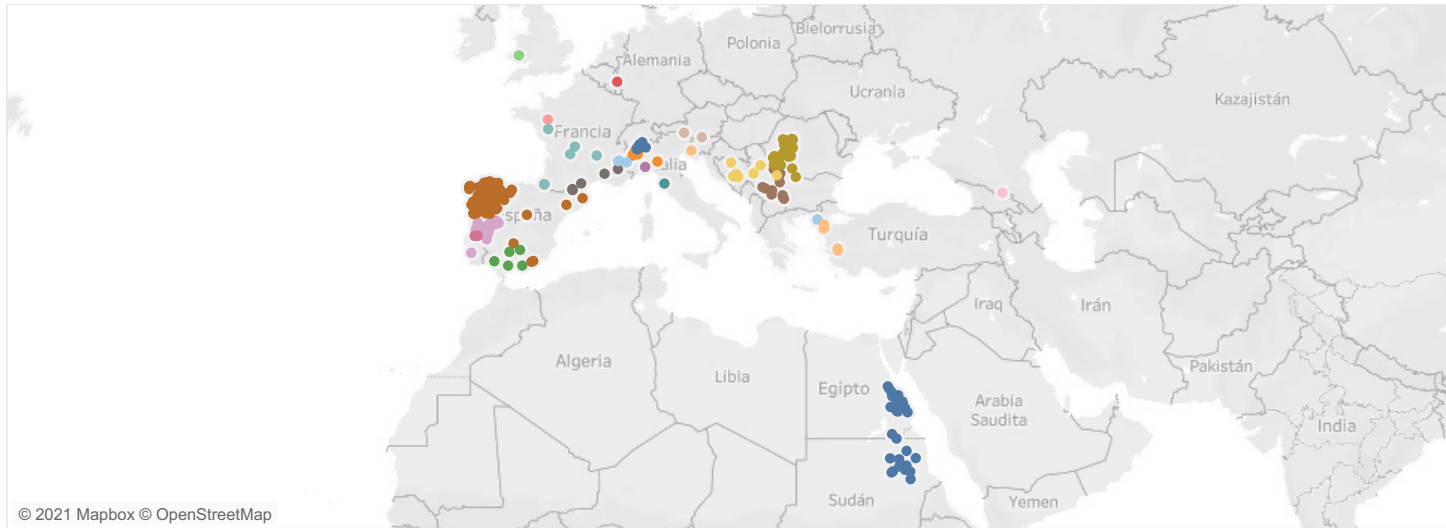
" [asturiam, callaeciam et lusitaniam] neque in alia terrarum parte tot saeculis perseverat haec fertilitas (PLIN. Nat. 33.22-25).



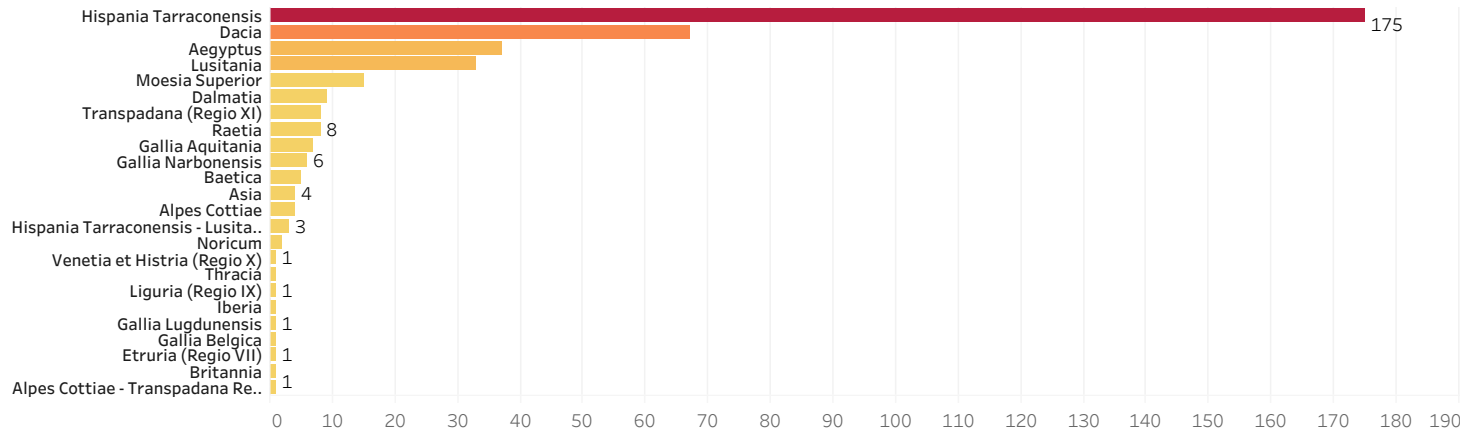
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## Provincias y regiones



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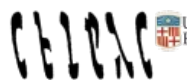


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LA EUROPA DE LAS MATERIAS PRIMAS  
EN EL 1<sup>er</sup> MILENIO A.N.E.  
Explotación, transformación y difusión



Jordi Pérez González

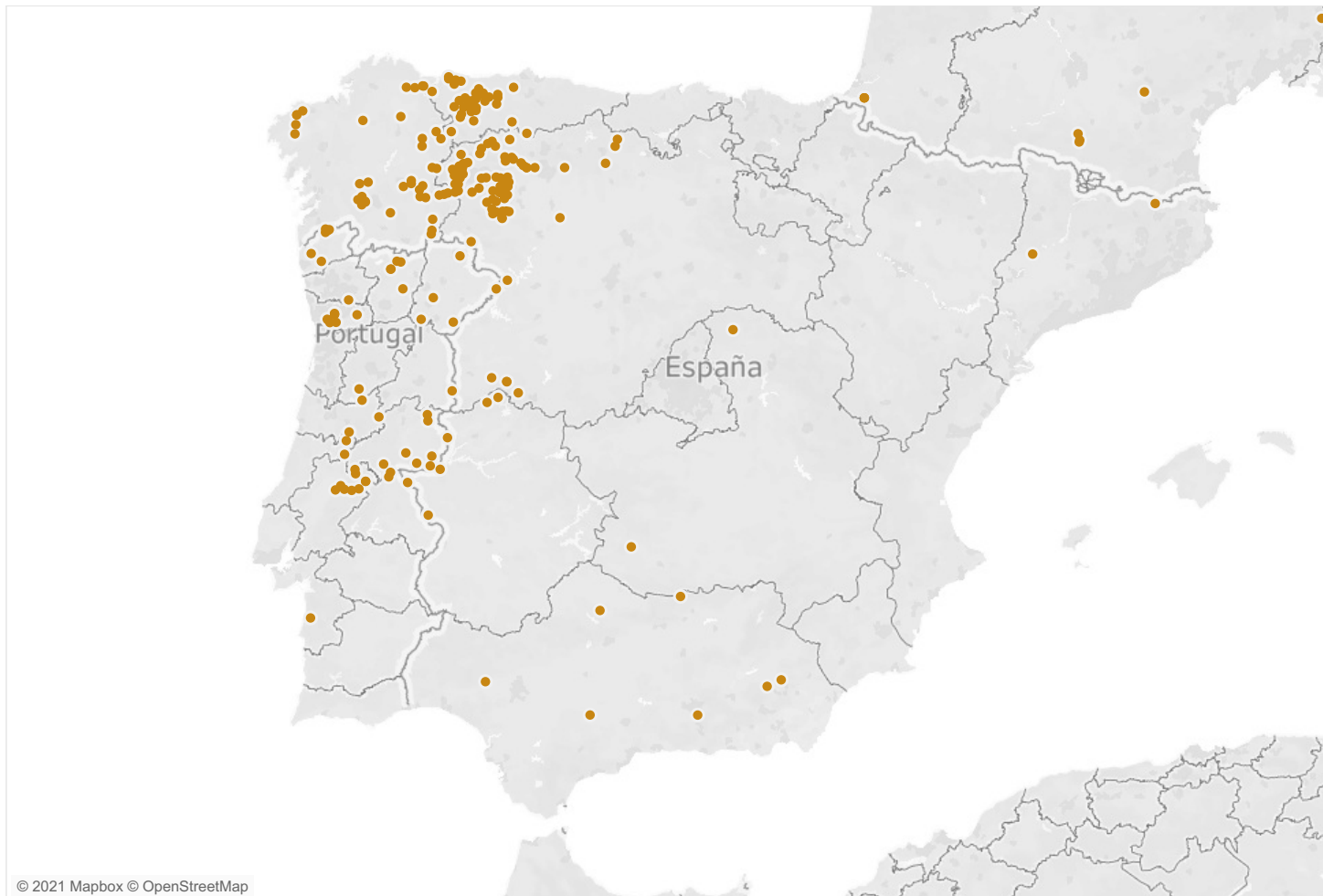
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# Las Fuentes del oro de Roma

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------------------------------------	-------------------------	-----------------------	-----------------	---------------------	----------------------------------

[---] *metallis plumbi, ferri, aeris, argenti, auri tota ferme hispania scatet ...* (Plin. 3.3 (4). 30-33).



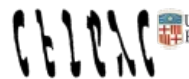
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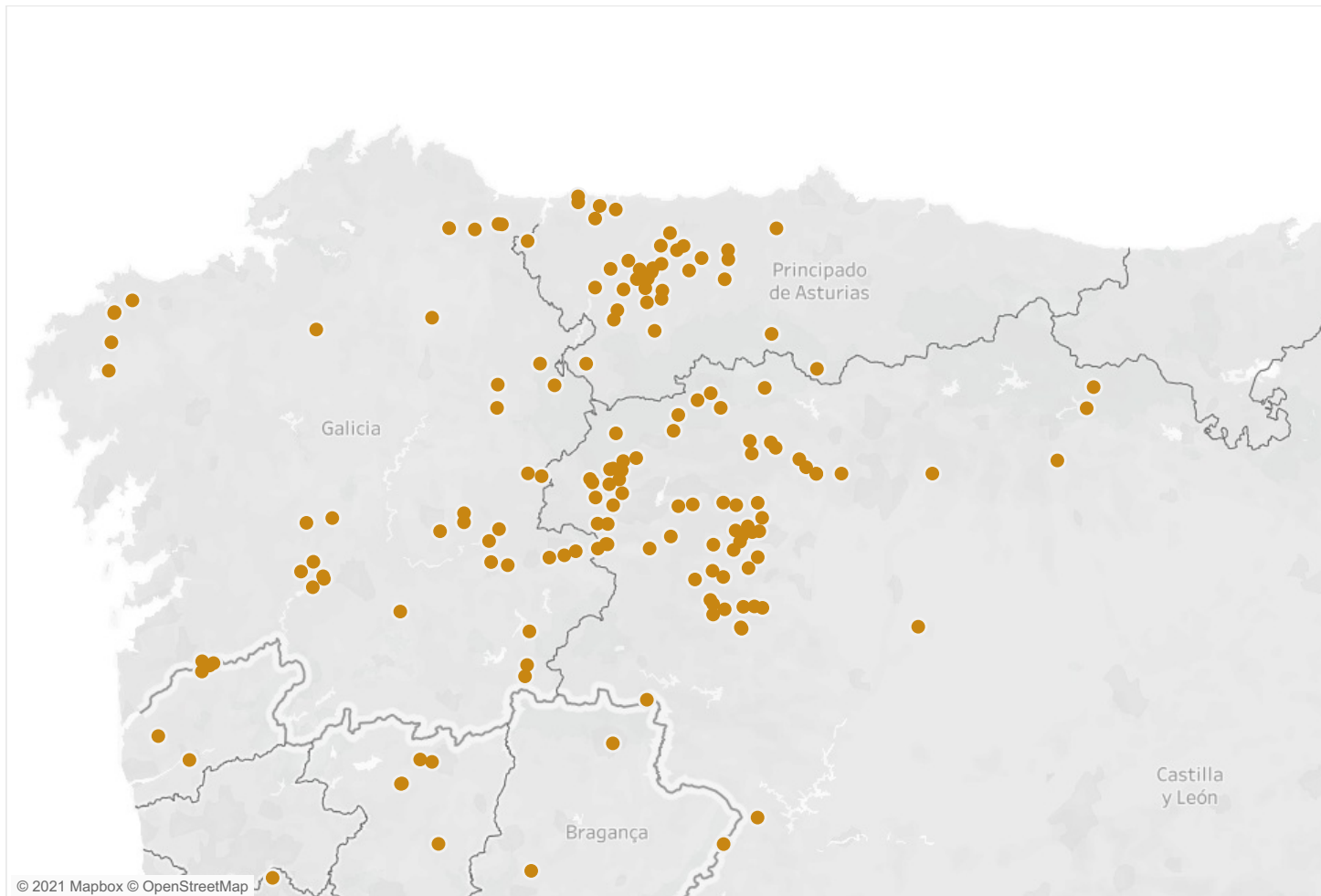
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------------------------------------	-------------------------	-----------------------	-----------------	----------------------------	----------------------------------

...hinc otiosus sordidam quatit mensam Neroniana nummlarius massa, illinc balucis malleator Hispanae tritum nitenti fuste uerberat saxum. (MART. Epig. 12.57.7-10).



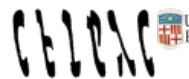
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Explotación, transformación y difusión



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# Las Fuentes del oro de Roma

Fuentes del oro (mapa de densidad)	Fuentes del oro (nodos)	Provincias y regiones	Hispania Dorada	Noroeste peninsular	Timeline (siglos II a.C.-V d.C.)
------------------------------------	-------------------------	-----------------------	-----------------	---------------------	----------------------------------

Timeline - 150-50 BC



- Time**
- 150-50 BC
  - 123 BC-499 AD
  - 31 BC - 638 AD
  - 27 BC-303 AD
  - 27 BC-486 AD
  - 27 BC - 410 AD
  - 19 BC - 299 AD
  - 28 BC -238/250 AD
  - 32 BC - 480 AD
  - 46-699 AD
  - 106-271/275 AD

Time  
150-50 BC  
 Mostrar historial

Pulsa 'Play'