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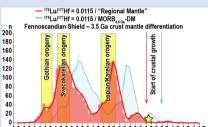
Refining Hf crust formation ages in Precambrian terranes

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Abstract

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The mechanisms and timing of long term chemical differentiation of the Earth are fundamental questions in the geosciences. We present detrital zircon U-Pb, O and Hf isotope data from Fennoscandia to assess how crustal growth can be reconciled with its known >1.5 billion year geological history. A broadly linear evolution (176 Lu/ 177 Hf = 0.0403), from chondritic mantle at the age of the oldest identified Fennoscandian crust, to present day MORB values ($\epsilon_{\rm Hf(0~Ma)} \approx +16$), provides a good fit with the most radiogenic zircon and whole rock Hf isotope data from the region. This mantle reference gives crustal growth peaks that correlate with known regional orogenic events. In contrast, a conventional 4.5 Ga strongly

conventional 4.5 Ga strongly depleted mantle generates growth peaks outside of known geologic activity. Applying the same approach to the East Pilbara Terrane and SW Greenland yields model age peaks that also align with known magmatic activity. We propose that more geologically relevant crust formation ages are obtained *via* referencing a mantle source defined by the most radiogenic zircons/samples in the studied region.

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Introduction

The mechanisms and timing of long term chemical differentiation of the Earth are fundamental questions in the geosciences. Depleted mantle curves based on Hf isotopes typically depict a quasi-linear evolution since planetary formation (e.g., Vervoort and Blichert-Toft, 1999), and these curves have important implications when calculating continental crust formation ages (see Vervoort and Kemp, 2016). The most commonly used depleted mantle curves project from chondritic compositions at ca. 4.5 Ga to current radiogenic mid-ocean ridge basalt (MORB) values of $\epsilon_{Hf} \approx +16$, herein termed MORB_{4.5 Ga}-DM (e.g., Vervoort and Blichert-Toft, 1999). A consequence of using MORB_{4.5 Ga}-DM for estimating times of crust formation is that it regularly predicts up to several hundred million years between the juvenile crust extraction and subsequent reworking into felsic lithologies (e.g., Lancaster et al., 2011). This implies that crust generation and crustal differentiation may have occurred in different tectonic settings and requires a mechanism for long term survival of presumably mafic protocrust before reworking into continental materials. The inferred times of crust formation are also commonly cryptic, with little expression in the geological record, and therefore the geodynamic controls on crust generation are unclear (Vervoort and Kemp, 2016). Furthermore, it is increasingly recognised that radiogenic isotope data from juvenile felsic and mafic rocks in many Archean-Proterozoic terranes show indications of not being consistent with derivation from MORB_{4.5 Ga}-DM. Instead, Nd and Hf isotope data suggest a globally near-chondritic to mildly depleted mantle source for Eo- to Paleoarchean continental crust (e.g., Guitreau et al., 2012;

Fisher and Vervoort, 2018; Petersson et al., 2019a, 2020; Whitehouse et al., 2022; Kemp et al., 2023).

One test of the applicability of a chosen mantle curve for calculating times of crust generation is whether the model crust formation ages can be reconciled with the observed geology. An ideal location to assess this question is the Scandinavian portion of the Fennoscandian Shield, which preserves a protracted orogenic history that spans from *ca.* 2.7 Ga to *ca.* 1.0 Ga. While there is abundant zircon Hf isotope data from central and southern Sweden (Andersson *et al.*, 2011; Petersson *et al.*, 2015, 2017; Petersson and Tual, 2020), comparatively few Hf isotope data exist from further north. Hence, to fully characterise the Archean-Proterozoic Hf isotope evolution of the Fennoscandian mantle, additional data from the central to northern regions are required.

We here examine the initial Fennoscandian crustal growth history through zircon U-Pb, O and Lu-Hf isotope data from detrital zircons from six major river systems in central to north eastern Sweden (Fig. 1). A model is developed to interpret these data, together with previously published zircon and whole rock Hf isotope data, in the context of a mantle source corresponding to the existing geological evolution of the region. An outcome of this model is that growth of Fennoscandian crust occurred mainly in Proterozoic orogenic events, with only limited crust formation in the Archean. We show that for Fennoscandia, and for several other Archean cratons, the approach of using a geologically constrained mantle source curve eliminates the requirement of long time gaps between initial crust extraction and differentiation to produce felsic crust, and leads to a better

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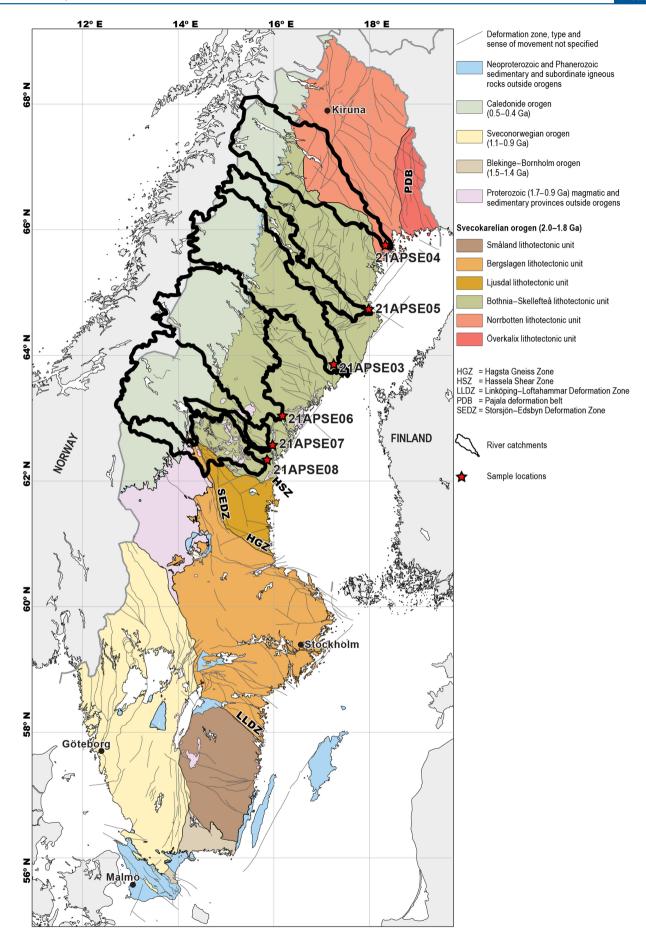


Figure 1 Simplified map of Sweden showing sample locations and the lithotectonic units of the 2.0–1.8 Ga Svecokarelian orogen and sampled river catchments. The map is largely based on the map of Stephens and Bergman (2020).



alignment between times of inferred crustal growth and periods of known orogenic activity.

Results

The zircon U-Pb, O and Hf isotope data from the Fennoscandian detrital zircon grains are summarised in Figure 2 (see Supplementary Information for details of the geological setting, sample information and analytical protocols). The age spectrum of the Fennoscandian detrital zircon grains matches the published igneous rock data from the region, with major age peaks at ca. 1.88 and 1.80 Ga, and a minor peak at 2.7 Ga. Zircon oxygen isotopes, expressed as δ^{18} O values, range between +4.7 ‰ and +10.7 ‰. Zircon grains with heavy δ^{18} O values (*i.e.* above the mantle range of 5.3 ± 0.6 %; Valley et al., 2005) occur in all river samples. The Paleoproterozoic detrital zircon grains have a wide range of Hf isotope compositions ($\varepsilon_{Hf(t)}$ from -9.1 to +8.2), while Archean detrital grains cluster around the chondritic uniform reservoir (CHUR), with $\epsilon_{Hf(t)}$ values between -2.7 and +3.5(Fig. 2). Overall, there is good correspondence between the isotope signatures of detrital zircon from this study and previously reported Hf isotopes of zircon from (meta-)igneous rocks from the Fennoscandian Shield (Fig. 2).

Tracing the Fennoscandian Mantle Source. To accurately interpret the crustal growth, reworking and evolution of the Fennoscandian Shield using zircon isotope data requires characterisation of the mantle source from which the crust was ultimately extracted. In this context, we note that collectively, the most radiogenic Fennoscandian zircon and whole rock Hf isotope signatures increase with time, where the upper envelope of the large data compilation intersects CHUR at *ca.* 3.5 Ga (Fig. 2). Such a pattern is difficult to reconcile with crustal separation from a depleted mantle source formed at *ca.* 4.5 Ga. If crust was extracted from a MORB_{4.5 Ga}-DM source mantle, this

would require that crustal residence times increase systematically with age (see arrows on Fig. 2), exceeding several hundred million years for Archean zircons. However, the likelihood that the linear trend amongst the most radiogenic Fennoscandian Hf isotope data (i.e. the yellow line on Fig. 2) would be so well defined in such an ad hoc scenario seems unlikely (see Whitehouse et al., 2022). As noted by Kemp et al. (2023), time scales for differentiation of basaltic protoliths into felsic igneous rocks may be short, far shorter than the >200 Myr required to generate the Hf isotope signatures seen in Fennoscandia if derivation from a MORB_{4.5 Ga}-DM source is invoked. Additionally, data from mantle-derived (ultra-) mafic samples from Fennoscandia, which potentially represent the closest equivalents for source rocks for TTG magmatism and crustal differentiation, follow the same trend as the zircon Hf data (see Supplementary Information). Whether the evolution of the global depleted mantle Hf isotope composition is truly linear over Earth history is difficult to assess. It is conceivable that the periodicity of crust generation leads to complex spatiotemporal patterns of mantle depletion that produce multiple evolutionary trajectories in Hf versus time space, although such variably depleted mantle domains could be convectively mixed out on longer time scales. In any case, the approximately linear trend described by radiogenic Hf isotope data from the terranes studied herein, and the compatibility of crust formation calculations using this trend with the preserved geology, favours a broadly linear evolution for the mantle source of new crust through time.

When examining the zircon isotope data in δ^{18} O *versus* $\epsilon_{\rm Hf(f)}$ space (Fig. S-4), reworking of ancient continental crust unaffected by the hydrosphere (δ^{18} O < ca. 6 %) and supracrustal rocks affected by hydrosphere interaction (δ^{18} O > ca. 6.5 %) is inferred. Not surprisingly, due to larger volumes of crust and the Svecokarelian Orogeny, indications of reworking are stronger during the 2.0–1.8 Ga time period than during the

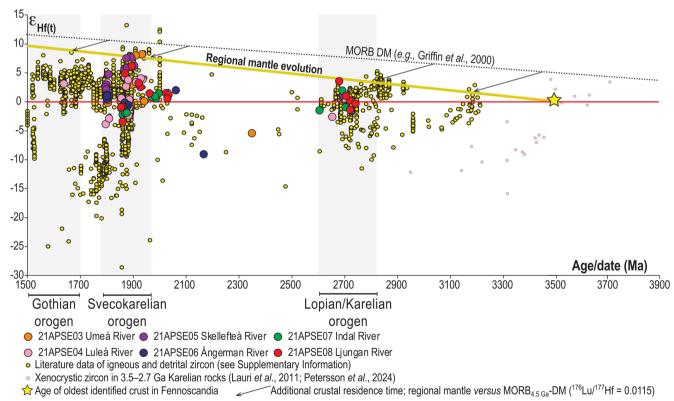


Figure 2 Zircon $\varepsilon_{Hf(t)}$ versus age of river zircon and Fennoscandian literature data. $\varepsilon_{Hf(t)} = [(^{176}Hf/^{177}Hf)_{unknown}/(^{176}Hf/^{177}Hf)_{CHUR} - 1)] \times 10^4$.



Archean, but both during the Archean and during the Paleoproterozoic, the combined zircon Hf and O isotope data trends project back to a *ca.* 3.5 Ga chondritic mantle. A few xenocrystic >3.0 Ga zircon cores from the Pudasjärvi Complex (Mutanen and Huhma, 2003; Lauri *et al.*, 2011; Petersson *et al.*, 2024a) have unradiogenic Hf isotope signatures that suggest reworking of >3.5 Ga crust (Fig. 2). These zircon hint at an even older crustal components in Fennoscandia, but as these have been shown to originate in the North Atlantic Craton they do not represent Fennoscandian crustal growth and/or mantle depletion (Petersson *et al.*, 2024a).

Linking Crust Formation to Regional U-Pb-Hf Isotope Signatures

The oldest rock in the Fennoscandian Shield is the Siurua gneiss of the Pudasjärvi gneiss complex in Finland, which has a protolith age of *ca.* 3.5 Ga (Mutanen and Huhma, 2003; Petersson *et al.*, 2024a). We infer that this sample represents the onset of crust formation in the area. Since the upper envelope of Hf isotope signatures project back to CHUR at this time (*ca.* 3.5 Ga), this

intersection is interpreted to define the onset of significant Fennoscandian crust-mantle differentiation and crustal growth. Very few Hf isotope data plot above this line, attesting to the overall mildly depleted nature of the mantle from which Fennoscandian crust was extracted. Considering that laser ablation data typically have a reproducibility of $\geq 1.5~\epsilon_{\rm Hf}$ units (at 2 s.d.) when analysing REE-rich zircon (Fisher and Vervoort, 2018), data points plotting $\it ca.$ 1.5 $\epsilon_{\rm Hf}$ units above the true value are to be statistically expected. Hence, collectively, the Hf isotopic signatures of the most radiogenic zircon and whole rocks in Fennoscandia from 3.5 to 1.5 Ga suggest a mildly depleted non-MORB_{4.5 Ga}-DM source.

Comparable situations are recognised in other Archean terranes. For example, in the East Pilbara Terrane, Australia, the upper envelope of Hf isotope signatures projects back to CHUR at the time of the oldest identified rocks in the craton, at 3.6 Ga (green line in Fig. 3b) (Amelin *et al.*, 2000; Kemp *et al.*, 2015, 2023; Petersson *et al.*, 2019a, 2019b, 2020). Similarly, in southern West Greenland the most radiogenic zircon Hf isotope signatures intersect CHUR at 3.9 Ga, where meta-igneous rocks with chondritic compositions suggest initial crustal growth at this time (orange line in Fig. 3c) (*e.g.*, Kemp *et al.*, 2009, 2019;

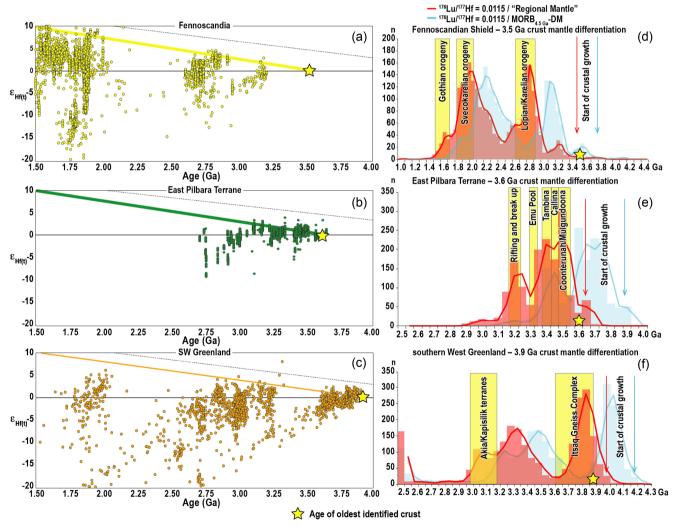


Figure 3 (a–c) Zircon $\epsilon_{Hf(t)}$ versus age, showing regional mantle curves defined by the most radiogenic Hf isotope signatures traced back to a chondritic mantle at the age of the oldest known regional crust. (a) Fennoscandian Shield. (b) East Pilbara Terrane, Western Australia. (c) Southern West Greenland. (d–f) Histograms showing respective two stage model ages based on a bulk continental crustal 176 Lu/ 177 Hf = 0.0115 evolution. Red data using a regional mantle references and blue data are based on a MORB_{4.5 Ga}-DM. Yellow boxes denote major events in each region; orogenies, rifting and major magmatic events.



Guitreau et al., 2012; Fisher and Vervoort, 2018). Some data spread is apparent between 3.9 and 3.7 Ga, but always inside the expected reproducibility of a chondritic zircon analysed by LA-ICP-MS. We propose that a modelling approach, based on regional juvenile crustal rocks, better represents the evolution of the mantle in ancient terranes than an assumed linear evolution from a primordial composition at ca. 4.5 Ga to modern radiogenic MORB. As every craton and/or larger crustal region may be unique, crust formation ages are ideally calculated using mantle references that are specific to each region. The method implemented here applies to ancient terranes, and involves initial, significant crust-mantle differentiation at the time defined by the intersection between CHUR and the upper envelope of the most radiogenic Hf isotope signatures from the studied region. In the herein studied regions these intersections coincide with the time of the oldest identified crust in the area. Furthermore, the broadly linear trends of the upper envelopes (yellow, blue and red lines in Fig. 3a-c) project towards present day MORB values of ε_{Hf} = +16. We further propose that a similar approach could be used for other ancient cratons/regions in order to generate more geologically meaningful crust formation ages, that could be used in global crustal growth models or for comparing evolutionary histories of different tracts of Archean crust.

Linking Crust Formation Ages to Orogenic Events

In Figure 3, we calculate crust formation ages from the Fennoscandian zircon and whole rock Hf isotope data using a regional mantle curve, where initial depletion occurs at 3.5 Ga, and a bulk continental crustal ¹⁷⁶Lu/¹⁷⁷Hf of 0.0115 (Vervoort and Patchett, 1996). This yields crustal growth peaks that correlate with known orogenies, *i.e.* the 2.8–2.6 Ga Lopian/Karelian orogeny and 2.0–1.8 Ga Svecokarelian orogeny, and even a minor peak during the 1.7–1.5 Ga Gothian orogeny (Fig. 3d). Using the same crustal evolutionary trajectories, but a MORB_{4.5 Ga}-DM, yields growth peaks at *ca.* 3.15 Ga and 2.3 Ga, which are periods of magmatic quiescence in Fennoscandia. Hf model ages calculated this way also suggest initial crust formation at *ca.* 3.8 Ga, much older than any known crust so far identified within the Fennoscandian Shield, and thus likely erroneous.

These results are based on a bulk continental crustal source with a $^{176} \rm Lu/^{177} Hf$ of 0.0115 (Vervoort and Patchett, 1996). Changing the $^{176} \rm Lu/^{177} Hf$ to values more typical of felsic (0.009) or more mafic (0.022) crust does not affect the peaks significantly when using a regional mantle model, but the shift in model age peaks is more marked for a MORB_{4.5 Ga}-DM source mantle (Fig. 4).

In the East Pilbara Terrane, using a mantle reference that deviates from CHUR at 3.6 Ga (Fig. 3b), results in Hf model ages with peaks at *ca.* 3.5 Ga, 3.4 Ga and 3.2 Ga. These are all times of known juvenile magmatic activity within the East Pilbara Terrane, with 3.5 Ga being the time of emplacement of the Coonterunah Subgroup within the *ca.* 15 km thick Warrawoona Group, consisting mainly of komatiitic basalt, basalt, andesite and dacite (Hickman, 2021). At 3.4 Ga, the Tambina Supersuite and the Salgash Subgroup were emplaced, and 3.2 Ga is the inferred time of rifting and breakup of the Paleoarchean volcanic plateau, accompanied by voluminous eruption of basalt and komatiite (Hickman, 2021). Using a MORB_{4.5 Ga}-DM reference yields major peaks at 3.75 Ga and 3.6 Ga, when the oldest known significant crustal growth event in the Pilbara Craton is 3.5 Ga and older material only being

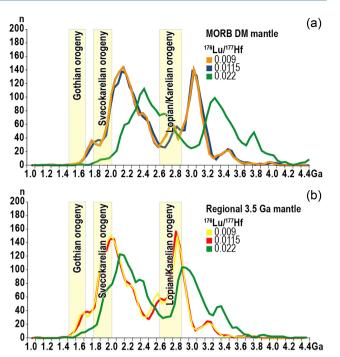


Figure 4 Probability density plots showing the change in crustal growth peaks with different ¹⁷⁶Lu/¹⁷⁷Hf values for the **(a)** MORB DM and **(b)** regional 3.5 Ga mantle sources.

identified as sparse zircon xenocrysts in very limited outcrops (Fig. 3e; Petersson *et al.*, 2019a, 2020).

Southern West Greenland primarily comprises tonalitetrondhjemite-granodiorite gneisses that range from ca. 3.9 Ga to 3.65 Ga. When using a mantle reference that diverges from CHUR at 3.9 Ga, the reference line tangents the most radiogenic Meso- to Neoarchean zircon Hf isotope data in the region (Fig. 3c). The main crustal growth peak calculated using this model mantle composition is at ca. 3.85 Ga, in line with known magmatic emplacement ages, and in stark contrast to the 4.1 Ga peak obtained using a conventional MORB_{4.5 Ga}-DM, which is 200 Myr older than any identified crust on Greenland (Fig. 3f). A second growth peak at ca. 3.1-3.0 Ga coincides with the emplacement of the Akia and Kapisilik terranes (Nutman et al., 2015). The geological evolution of the Pilbara Craton and southern West Greenland are very different from the Fennoscandian Shield with, for example, the Pilbara Craton evolving via episodic and protracted mantle derived mafic and felsic magmatism resulting in development of a classic dome and keel architecture (Petersson et al., 2019a). Hence, the geodynamic processes that generated continental crust in these regions differ vastly, making it even more striking that the zircon Hf model ages, using a regional mantle curve, align with orogenic events in all three cratons.

The regions discussed above suggest different timing for initial crust-mantle differentiation (3.9–3.5 Ga), which would result in a heterogeneous, variably depleted global Eo-Paleoarchean mantle. Long and short lived isotope signatures in some mantle derived rocks such as komatiites show that parts of the mantle have been depleted (e.g., Boyet and Carlson, 2005; O'Neil et al., 2024). These depleted components are, however, not registered in the crustal record via zircons as they are highly infertile and do not melt to generate continental crust. A scenario where initial melting generating basalt and komatiite leaving a refractory harzburgitic residue and primordial fertile mantle is continuously tapped from a less depleted reservoir is envisaged by Petersson et al. (2024b). Stracke (2012) argues for a heterogeneous Archean mantle, but



primarily attribute this to enrichment via erosion and subduction of the lower continental crust. However, in the regions outlined above, as the chondritic mantle composition at the time of initial significant crust generation may predate the onset of significant amounts of subduction, this becomes a less viable explanation. Instead, we favour a lack of wholesale crust-mantle differentiation as the primary cause behind the preserved chondritic signatures into the Eo- and Paleoarchean. We note that the ¹⁴²Nd anomalies recognised in some cratons suggest Hadean Sm/Nd fractionation (e.g., Boyet and Carlson, 2005; O'Neil et al., 2024). Such anomalies are yet to be found in the Pilbara Craton or in the Fennoscandian Shield, and it remains unclear whether the ancient Sm/Nd fractionation was associated with formation of continental crust, and whether the amount of mantle differentiation needed to generate 142Nd anomalies had a resolvable effect on the Lu-Hf isotope system. Furthermore, this Hadean Sm/Nd differentiation episode(s) does not seem to have generated complementary global crust-mantle reservoirs with respect to long lived radiogenic systems such as Hf isotopes.

We conclude that global Hf isotope heterogeneity amongst different Archean-Proterozoic terranes warrant regional mantle references, based on the most radiogenic samples from each region, in order to obtain reliable crust formation ages that align with the known geological evolution of the studied region.

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Additional Information

Supplementary Information accompanies this letter at https://www.geochemicalperspectivesletters.org/article2435.



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Refining Hf crust formation ages in Precambrian terranes

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Supplementary Information

The Supplementary Information includes:

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- > Analytical Protocol
- Samples and Results
- > Supplementary Discussion
- Tables S-1 to S-3
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Geological Setting

The Fennoscandian Shield preserves more than 3 Ga of crustal evolution and growth. It has an Archean nucleus, suggested to have its origin in the North Atlantic Craton (Petersson et al., 2024a), in the northeast and increasingly younger Precambrian rocks towards the southwest, representing growth by progressive lateral accretion (Stephens, 2020). The Svecokarelian Orogen in central to northern Sweden and Finland is dominated by 3.2–2.6 Ga Archean basement and 2.5–2.0 Ga Paleoproterozoic cover rocks to the east of the Pajala deformation belt (Bergman et al., 2006) and northeast of the Finnish Raahe-Ladoga shear complex (Kärki et al., 1993). To the west and southwest of these respective shear zones, the dominant rocks formed between 1.9 and 1.8 Ga and are commonly agreed to have formed syn-orogenically during subduction-related processes in a convergent continental margin (e.g., Hermansson et al., 2008; Stephens, 2009; Petersson et al., 2015a). Interestingly, southwest of the Pajala deformation belt, very little felsic magmatism has been recognised between ca. 2.5 and 2.1 Ga (e.g., Claesson et al., 1993; Bingen and Solli, 2009). Post ca. 2.1 Ga, the Fennoscandian Shield entered a stage of continental growth via lateral accretion of microcontinents and volcanic and continental arcs that ended in a continental collision (Korja et al., 2006). Magmatic activity began at ca. 2.02 Ga, peak activity has been recorded to between 1.91 and 1.87 Ga, and between 1.82 and 1.75 Ga post-collisional granitic magmatism took place (Bingen and Solli, 2009). This Svecokarelian magmatic event was accompanied by metamorphism and reworking of existing crust (e.g., Bergman et al., 2001; Weihed et al., 2005). Subsequently, the mainly felsic alkali-calcic magmatism of the N-S trending Transscandinavian Igneous Belt was emplaced episodically between ca. 1.89 and 1.65 Ga (e.g., Högdahl et al., 2004). Within the Eastern Segment of the Sveconorwegian Orogen, a parautochthonous domain comprising reworked rocks of the Transscandinavian Igneous Belt is made up of predominantly felsic rocks ranging from ca. 1.86 to 1.60 Ga, with increased magmatic activity between ca. 1.80 and 1.64 Ga. This activity peaks at 1.80, 1.69 and 1.68 Ga (Appelquist et al., 2008; Bingen et al., 2008; Connelly et al., 1996; Rimša et al., 2007; Söderlund et al., 1999, 2002, 2008). This basement was subsequently intruded by rapakivi granite plutons at ca. 1.65–1.50 Ga (Haapala et al., 2005). The next major orogenic events to



affect the Fennoscandian Shield were the *ca.* 1.47–1.41 Ga Hallandian (Eastern Segmant; Hubbard, 1975; Brander and Söderlund, 2009) and Danopolonian (East and South of the Protogene Zone; Bogdanova *et al.*, 2008; Waight *et al.*, 2012; Johansson *et al.*, 2016) orogenies.

Central and northern Sweden can be divided into different lithotectonic units, with the Norrbotten unit in the north, the Överkalix unit in the northeast and the largest unit, the Bothnia-Skellefteå unit, covering a large area from north of the Hagsta Gneiss Zone to just south of Luleå and Jokkmokk (Stephens and Bergman, 2020). The two northernmost units, the Norrbotten and Överkalix lithotectonic units are unique in that they are the only units that host Archean rocks (*ca.* 2.8–2.6 Ga). However, Archean rocks only crop out in the southernmost part of the Överkalix unit (the Simo Complex) and in the northernmost parts of the Norbotten unit (the Råstojaure Complex), and hence our understanding of the earliest evolution of north-western Fennoscandia is limited to these scarce outcrops (Bergman and Weihed, 2020). During accretionary growth towards the present day southwest, Paleoproterozoic mafic and ultramafic rocks intruded the Archean basement between 2.5 and 2.4 Ga and together were overlain by syn-orogenic *ca.* 2.0–1.8 Ga supracrustal rocks (Gaál and Gorbatschev, 1987). Between *ca.* 1.9 and 1.8 Ga, mainly felsic volcanic rocks were emplaced during a period of accretionary tectonics along an active continental margin (Bergman and Weihed, 2020). Turbiditic greywacke and argillite deposited between *ca.* 1.96 Ga and 1.86 Ga dominate the Bothnian basin (in the Bothnia-Skellefteå unit), and were intruded by sequential magmatic pulses at 1.95–1.93, 1.90–1.88, 1.87–1.85 and 1.81–1.76 Ga (Skyttä *et al.*, 2020). Metamorphic grade and deformation vary and are connected to the major shear zones in the region (Skyttä *et al.*, 2020).

Analytical Protocol

Zircon U-Pb SIMS age determination

SIMS (Secondary ion mass spectrometry) U-Pb isotope analyses, and age determination of zircon were carried out using a large geometry CAMECA IMS1280 at the Swedish Museum of Natural History in Stockholm, Sweden. Instrument set-up closely followed that of Whitehouse et al. (1999) and Whitehouse and Kamber (2005). An O₂ primary beam with -13 kV primary and +10 kV secondary was used during sputtering. The primary beam operated using a hyperion source in critical focusing mode, and a 5 µm raster, resulting in ca. 15 µm spots. Automatic presputtering using a 25 µm raster for 120 s; centring of the secondary ion beam in the 3000 µm field aperture (FA), mass calibration optimization, and optimization of the secondary beam energy distribution were executed for each run. FA and energy adjustment were optimized using the ${}^{90}\mathrm{Zr_2}{}^{16}\mathrm{O}^+$ species at nominal mass 196. At the start of each session, mass calibration of all peaks in the mono-collection sequence was done; within-run mass calibration optimization was performed using the $^{90}\text{Zr}_2^{16}\text{O}^+$ peak, applying a shift to all other species. A mass resolution (M/ Δ M) of ca. 5400 was used to guarantee satisfactory separation of Pb isotope peaks from nearby HfSi+ masses. Ion-signals were detected using an axial ion-counting electron-multiplier. Analyses were run in fully automated sequences. The data reduction assumes a power-law relationship between Pb⁺/U⁺ and UO₂⁺/U⁺ with an empirically derived slope used to calculate actual Pb/U, which are based on results from the reference zircon 91500. Concentration of U and the Th/U are referenced to the M257 zircon standard. Common Pb correction was made in cases where the ²⁰⁴Pb signal exceeded average background and was assumed to have a ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁶Pb ratio of 0.83 (equivalent to present day model terrestrial Pb; Stacey and Kramers, 1975). Decay constants follow the recommendations of Jaffey et al. (1971) compiled by Steiger and Jäger (1977). All age calculations were done using Isoplot 4.15 (Ludwig, 2008) and are quoted at the 2σ uncertainty level. External uncertainties in standard zircon analyses are propagated. All data from secondary reference zircon, 91500 and OGC, yield results that are within uncertainties indistinguishable from their respective accepted reference values. All zircon U-Pb results are presented in Table S-1.

Ion microprobe oxygen isotope analysis in zircon

Zircon oxygen isotopes (18 O/ 16 O) were analysed using the same large geometry CAMECA IMS1280 at the Swedish Museum of Natural History in Stockholm, Sweden. Post U-Pb analyses, the sample mounts were carefully cleaned using detergent, distilled water followed by submerging the sample in ethanol in an ultrasonic bath. The samples were subsequently recoated with a 30 nm coat of Au. Pre-sputtered was carried out over a 10×10 µm area with a 10 kV, Gaussian Cs⁺ beam and an intensity of ca. 2–3 nA yielding a total impact energy of 20 keV. To ensure charge compensation during the analyses, an electron gun was used. Secondary ions were admitted into the double focusing mass spectrometer via a 170 µm entrance slit and then focused in the centre of a 2500 µm field-aperture (FA) (×100



magnification). The ions were energy filtered using a 30 eV band pass with a 5 eV gap toward the high-energy side. 16 O and 18 O were simultaneously collected using Faraday cup detectors fitted with 10^{10} Ω (L'2) and 10^{11} Ω (H1) resistors, respectively, working at a mass resolution M/ Δ M \approx 2500. The magnetic field was controlled using nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) control. All analysis involved a 30 s pre-sputtering to remove the Au-coating, which was followed by an automatic centring of the secondary ions in the field aperture (FA), in the contrast aperture and the entrance slit. All analyses subsequently comprised of twelve four-second cycles, yielding an average internal precision of ca. 0.1 % (2 s.d.). At least two bracketing standards between every five to six unknown (sample) analyses were used to monitor the analytical session for drift. Instrumental mass fractionation (IMF) was corrected for using the standard reference zircon 91500 (Wiedenbeck *et al.*, 2004). Spot to spot reproducibility was 0.29 % during session 1 and 0.31 % during session 2 (2 s.d.) on 91500 zircon standards. Additional zircon references, M257 (Nasdala *et al.*, 2008) and OGC (Petersson *et al.*, 2019a), were used for quality control. The δ ¹⁸O uncertainty for each analysis was calculated by propagating the uncertainty of the IMS determination, including the standard deviation (s.d.) of the average 18 O/ 16 O measured on the primary standard (91500) during each session and the internal uncertainty on each analysis. Raw 18 O/ 16 O and corrected δ ¹⁸O, including data for all reference zircon analyses (all quoted with respect to Vienna Standard Mean Ocean Water, VSMOW) are presented in Table S-2.

LA-MC-ICP-MS zircon Lu-Hf analyses

Zircon Lu-Hf analyses were performed using a 193 nm Cetac Analyte G2 excimer laser, a two-volume HelEx2 sample cell, and a Thermo-Scientific Neptune+ multicollector ICP-MS, at the School of Earth Sciences at the University of Western Australia. The spot of the Lu-Hf analyses overlapped pits from the SIMS U-Pb analyses, and wherever possible, also the O isotope analyses. Circular laser spots were used, with a diameter of 40–50 µm. A 60 s baseline measurement preceded all analysis, and was by followed by an ablation sequence of 60 s, comprising 60 integration cycles of one second each. A 4 Hz laser pulse repetition rate was used and a laser energy of ca. 5 J/cm². That equals an ablation rate of approximately 0.05 µm per pulse for zircon. A He-carrier gas, set to 1.0 L/min, was used to carry the ablated particles from the sample chamber to the plasma. The He gas was combined with Ar-gas, using a flow rate of ca. 0.6 L/min and N gas (ca. 0.012 L/min) further downstream prior to entering the argon plasma. Masses ¹⁷¹Yb, ¹⁷³Yb, ¹⁷⁵Lu, ¹⁷⁶(Hf+Lu+Yb), ¹⁷⁷Hf, ¹⁷⁸Hf, ¹⁷⁹Hf and ¹⁸⁰(Hf+W+Ta) were measured simultaneously using Faraday cups. Isobaric interference of ¹⁷⁶Yb and ¹⁷⁶Lu on ¹⁷⁶Hf was calculated using the measured intensities of ¹⁷¹Yb and ¹⁷⁵Lu along with the known ratios of 176 Lu/ 175 Lu = 0.02655 (Vervoort *et al.*, 2004) and 176 Yb/ 171 Yb = 0.897145 (Segal *et al.*, 2003). The exponential law was used to calculate the mass bias corrections. The measured intensities of ¹⁷⁹Hf and ¹⁷⁷Hf and a ¹⁷⁹Hf/¹⁷⁷Hf ratio of 0.7325 were used for calculations of βHf, and βYb was calculated using the measured intensities of 173 Yb and 171 Yb and the known ratio of 176 Yb/ 171 Yb = 1.130172 (Segal *et al.*, 2003). The mass bias behaviour of Lu was assumed identical to that of Yb. Mud Tank was used as the primary zircon reference, and three secondary zircon standards (FC1, R33 and OGC) were used for quality control. All standard results correspond with accepted reference values. FC1: weighted mean 176 Hf/ 177 Hf = 0.282188 ± 0.000003 (n = 31, 2 σ , solution reference 176 Hf/ 177 Hf = 0.282184 ± 0.000016; Woodhead and Hergt, 2005); R33: weighted mean 176 Hf/ 177 Hf = 0.282760 ± 0.000005 ($n = 16, 2\sigma$, solution reference 176 Hf/ 177 Hf = 0.282764 ± 0.000014 ; Fisher *et al.*, 2014); OGC: weighted mean 176 Hf/ 177 Hf = 0.280640 ± 0.000004 (n = 17, 2 σ , reference 176 Hf/ 177 Hf = 0.280633 ± 0.000034; Kemp *et al.*, 2017). The analysed ¹⁷⁶Hf/¹⁷⁷Hf of the unknown sample zircon were normalised based on a comparison between the average of analysed ¹⁷⁶Hf/¹⁷⁷Hf of the Mud Tank reference zircon measured in the given session and its known 176 Hf/ 177 Hf = 0.282507 determined *via* solution analysis (Woodhead and Hergt, 2005) and itself reported relative to the JMC475 ¹⁷⁶Hf/¹⁷⁷Hf = 0.282160. Zircon Lu-Hf isotope data are summarised in Table S-3.

Two-stage Hf model ages have been calculated using the 176 Lu/ 177 Hf of the zircon for the first step (back-calculating to the age of zircon crystallisation), and an interpreted source 176 Lu/ 177 Hf for the second step (from crystallisation – back to mantle differentiation of the source material). 176 Lu/ 177 Hf = 0.009 for a felsic source, 176 Lu/ 177 Hf = 0.0115 for a bulk continental source and 176 Lu/ 177 Hf = 0.022 for a mafic source (Vervoort and Patchett, 1996; Rudnick and Gao, 2003).

Zircon BSE images and all spot locations of all analyses are found on Figures S-1 and S-2.



Penglay 91500 21APSE03 21APSE04 21APSE05 91500 Older (Archean) Concordant **OGC** Discordant Oxygen spot) Hf spot

Figure S-1 Zircon BSE images and spot locations for U-Pb, O and Lu-Hf isotope analyses.



Figure S-2 Zircon BSE images and spot locations for U-Pb, O and Lu-Hf isotope analyses.





Samples and Results

Zircon Data Filtering

To ensure data quality, and to minimise possible effects of Pb-loss, and erroneous ages, a strict cut-off of 1 % discordance at the 2σ -level (at closest approach to the ellipse) has been implemented. Additionally, all individual analysis with uncertainties in excess of 25 Ma for the 207 Pb/ 206 Pb date (at the 1σ -level), which are largely the result of high common Pb corrections, are also omitted from further consideration.

21APSE04 Luleå River

The sample locality is within the Norrbotten lithotectonic unit that predominantly consists of 1.91–1.87 Ga granites and syenites, but rare occurrences of Archean ca. 2700–2650 Ma TTG occur (Lundqvist et al., 1996, 2000; Öhlander and Schöberg, 1991). The actual sampling site is underlain by 1891 ± 32 Ma metagranodiorite (Mellqvist et al., 2003), but less than 20 km upstream a granodioritic gneiss was dated to 2661 ± 3 Ma (Sadeghi and Hellström, 2018) and across the river from the sampling locality, a granite xenolith in the Bälinge magmatic breccia was dated to 2638 ± 19 Ma (Wikström, 1996).

Among the *ca.* 400 picked grains, the majority are subhedral with rounded external features and very few grains have sharp pyramidal terminations. The zircons vary between 50 and 400 µm in length along their C-axis. The zircons vary from clear to dark yellow and brown and some are cracked. Rounded grains are commonly more cracked and are darker coloured. Complex grains with visible cores and rims make up about 50 % of the sample population, and the majority of all grains show igneous oscillatory zoning in BSE, but clear and unzoned grains also occur.

Zircon Isotope Data

U-Pb analyses in 111 grains, of which 101 remain after data filtering, give 207 Pb/ 206 Pb dates between 2693 Ma and 1350 Ma. A majority of the analyses (n = 95), however, yield dates between 1937 Ma and 1776 M, with only two analyses, n6476-13 and n6476-17, recording Archean dates. Three grains give 207 Pb/ 206 Pb dates around 1600 Ma, one at 1350 Ma. Two main clusters of dates form peaks at ca. 1800 Ma and ca. 1880 Ma. Th/U range between 0.1 and 1.3 with an average of 0.4, and there is a general decrease in Th/U with decreasing age.

Seventy spots, all in different concordant zircon grains were analysed for O-isotopes, returning ratios equivalent to δ^{18} O ranging between 4.7 ‰ and 8.0 ‰. Eleven analyses yield signatures within uncertainty of mantle values (5.3 ‰ \pm 0.6, 2 σ ; Valley *et al.*, 2005), while the remaining 63 analyses give heavier signatures.

Hf isotopes analyses of twenty-one dated zircon (2693 Ma to 1638 Ma) yield measured ¹⁷⁶Hf/¹⁷⁷Hf ranging between 0.28102 and 0.28186. Corresponding $\varepsilon_{\rm Hf(t)}$ range from -3.9 to +4.2. No obvious trends can be deciphered in the Proterozoic zircon, and the Archean zircon (n=2) gives $\varepsilon_{\rm Hf(t)}$ of -2.7 and +1.1 respectively.

21APSE05 Skellefteå River

Rocks in the surroundings of the sample locality are dominated by 1.91 to 1.87 Ga granites and subordinate syenites belonging to the Bothnia-Skellefteå lithotectonic unit (Rutland *et al.*, 2001; Weihed *et al.*, 2002; Guitreau *et al.*, 2014). The closest dated rock is, however, a 1798 ± 4 Ma granite (Weihed *et al.*, 2002), but upstream the majority of the dated intrusions fall within the 1.91 to 1.87 Ga age span (*e.g.*, González-Roldán, 2010; Bejgarn *et al.*, 2013; Mercier-Langevin *et al.*, 2013).

In this sample *ca*. 300 grains have overall euhedral to subhedral external morphologies with about 50 % of the grains having clearly rounded features and *ca*. 10 % have sharp pyramidal terminations. In size this zircon population vary between 50 and 350 µm along their C-axis. The colours vary from clear to dark yellow and brown and some with cracks. Rounded grains are commonly more cracked and are darker coloured. Complex grains with visible cores and rims make up about 50 % of the sample population, and the majority of all grains show igneous oscillatory zoning in BSE, but clear and unzoned grains also occur.

Zircon Isotope Data

Ninety-nine U-Pb analyses, of which eleven were discarded due to above stated criteria, give 207 Pb/ 206 Pb dates between 2694 Ma and 930 Ma. The majority of the analyses (n = 72) give dates between 1938 Ma and 1780 Ma, with a single Archean (2694 Ma) grain and 15 analyses giving dates younger than 1780 Ma. Two main clusters of dates



form peaks at *ca.* 1800 Ma and *ca.* 1900 Ma. Th/U range between 0.01 and 1.0 with an average of 0.4, with no correlation between Th/U and age.

Fifty-one O-isotope analyses, of which one (-68) was omitted due to analysing a crack, yield δ^{18} O ranging between 5.0 % and 9.2 %. Six analysed grains yield signatures within uncertainty of mantle values.

Thirteen dated 2694 Ma to 1797 Ma zircons were analysed for Lu-Hf isotopes and yield 176 Hf/ 177 Hf ranging between 0.28111 and 0.28189. Corresponding $\varepsilon_{\rm Hf(t)}$ ranges from +1.0 to +7.6. Zircons with *ca.* 1800 Ma dates yield $\varepsilon_{\rm Hf(t)}$ between +1.0 and +4.7, while zircons aged between 1910 Ma and 1850 Ma yield the most radiogenic signatures with $\varepsilon_{\rm Hf(t)}$ between +5.4 and +7.6. The 2694 Ma zircon gives a $\varepsilon_{\rm Hf(t)}$ of +1.2.

21APSE03 Umeå River

Few rocks have been dated close to the sampling locality, but the general region of the Svecofennian Bothnian Basin around Umeå is dominated by ca. 1.95–1.85 Ma plutonic rocks (Lundqvist et~al., 1998). Upstream, in the Knaften region 1954–1939 Ma granites (Wasström, 1993; Wasström et~al., 2019) and 1866 \pm 11 Ma dioritic intrusions (Billström et~al., 2002) have been dated. Further upstream two granodiorites have been dated to 1890 \pm 7 Ma (Welin et~al., 1993) and 1902 \pm 2 Ma (Björk and Kero, 1996).

Among the *ca.* 300 picked grains, the majority are euhedral to subhedral with about 50 % of the grains having rounded external features and *ca.* 10 % have sharp pyramidal terminations. In size the grains vary between 50 and 300 µm in length along their C-axis. The zircon morphology and colour vary vastly from clear homogeneous to dark yellow and brown and some grains are cracked. Complex grains with visible cores and rims make up about 25 % of the sample population, and the majority of all grains show igneous oscillatory zoning in BSE.

Zircon Isotope Data

Seventy-one analyses, all in different grains, of which four were omitted, yield 207 Pb/ 206 Pb dates between 2350 and 935 Ma. The vast majority of the data (ca. 80 %) cluster around 1800 Ma, with ca. 10 % of the analyses yielding dates between 1943 Ma and 1896. One concordant grain gives a 207 Pb/ 206 Pb date of 2350 Ma and four analyses return dates between 1249 and 935 Ma. Th/U ranges from 0.01 to 1.0 but most analyses have ratios close to the mean of 0.42, and there is no correlation between date and Th/U. The two main age groups do not differ morphologically, but the oldest grain, n6411-26, is rounded and unzoned in BSE. The main age-cluster forms a peak at ca. 1805 Ma with smaller peaks at ca. 1905 Ma (n = 5) and ca 1940 Ma (n = 2).

Forty-five analyses, all in different concordant zircon grains yield δ^{18} O ranging between 6.0 ‰ and 9.6 ‰, with only one grain (-10) within uncertainty of the mantle reference values.

Eleven dated 2350 Ma to 1801 Ma zircon were analysed for Lu-Hf isotopes and yield 176 Hf/ 177 Hf ranging between 0.28114 and 0.28182. Corresponding $\varepsilon_{\rm Hf(t)}$ range between -5.4 and +8.2. While the ca. 1800 Ma zircons cluster around chondritic signatures, two 1935 and 1911 Ma zircons give the most radiogenic signatures in this study, with $\varepsilon_{\rm Hf(t)}$ of +8.2 and +8.0. The oldest zircon grain in this river population gives a $\varepsilon_{\rm Hf(2350 \ Ma)}$ of -5.4.

21APSE06 Ångerman River

Rocks surrounding the sampling locality are from the Bothnia-Skellefteå lithotectonic unit and are dominated by 1.85-1.75 Ga granitic rocks, as well as Proterozoic (post-1.8 Ga) magmatic and sedimentary rocks. The most proximal dated rocks upstream include the 1931 ± 11 Ma Seltjärn granodiorite (Claesson and Lundqvist, 1995; Lundqvist *et al.* 1998); a pegmatite, dated using U-Pb on columbite-tantalite to 1795 ± 1 Ma (Romer and Smeds, 1997) and a 1870 ± 2 Ma metarhyolite (Lundqvist *et al.*, 1998).

Of the ca. 300 picked grains about 50 % are clear grains with sharp terminations. The remaining zircon grains vary from clear to dark brown with slightly rounded features. Zircon size vary between ca. 50 and 400 μ m along their C-axis. Oscillatory zonation is the most common feature seen in BSE, but patchy irregular zonation is also common. Complex grains with cores and rims make up ca. 25 % of the populations.

Zircon Isotope Data

Eighty-six U-Pb analyses in 85 different grains, of which 14 were discarded due to discordance and two due to excessive uncertainties, yield 207 Pb/ 206 Pb dates between 2062 Ma and 986 Ma. The majority of the data (n = 67) give dates ranging between 1883 Ma and 1783 Ma with a major peak at ca. 1800 Ma and a minor peak at ca. 1870 Ma. One



grain gives an older date at 2062 Ma and two grains yield <1300 Ma dates. Th/U ranges between 0.8 and 0.2 with a mean of 0.3 and there is no correlation between Th/U and dates.

Of thirty-six analyses, all in different concordant grains, one (-48) was omitted due to analysing an inclusion. The remaining 35 analyses return signatures that correspond to zircon δ^{18} O ranging between 8.1 ‰ and 9.7 ‰.

Thirteen dated 2168 Ma to 1802 Ma zircons were analysed for Lu-Hf isotopes and yield 176 Hf/ 177 Hf ranging between 0.28117 and 0.28169. Corresponding $\epsilon_{\rm Hf(t)}$ ranges between -9.1 and +1.9. The ca. 1800 Ma zircons cluster at slightly supra-chondritic signatures (+0.4 to +1.1), while 1880–1870 Ma zircons give slightly sub-chondritic signatures (-0.1 to -1.3). The oldest grain in this sample, a 2168 Ma grain yields a strongly negative $\epsilon_{\rm Hf(t)}$ of -9.1.

21APSE07 Indal River

The sample locality is within the Bothnia-Skellefteå unit and the principal surrounding geology is dominated by 1.85–1.75 Ga granitic rocks and metagreywacke, mica schist, graphite- and/or sulphide-bearing schist, paragneiss, migmatite, quartzite, amphibolite (ca. 1.96–1.87 Ga). The closest dated igneous rocks are the 1863 \pm 6 Ma Härnö Granite (Högdahl et~al., 2012) and the 1891 \pm 12 Ma Helvetesbrännan granodiorite (Delin and Aaro, 2002). Upstream a quartzite has been dated to an upper intercept age of 1993 \pm 4 Ma using discordant detrital zircon (Welin et~al., 1993) and a granodiorite to 1883 \pm 14 Ma (Lundqvist and Lundin, 1999).

About 300 grains were picked from this sample, which consists of *ca.* 50 % clear and 50 % brown (turbid) crystals that range in size from 50 to 350 µm along their C-axis. Grains are commonly slightly rounded to subhedral, but euhedral grains are present with a higher proportion amongst the clear grains. Oscillatory zoning is most common in BSE, but unzoned and sector zoned grains occur. Grains with cores and rims are common, especially amongst larger brown grains.

Zircon Isotope Data

Eighty-four analyses, of which six were discarded due to >1 % discordance at the 2σ level, have a range in $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ dates if between 3115 Ma and 1025 Ma. The data form two main age peaks at ca. 1800 Ma (n = 24) and ca. 1870 Ma (n = 19), and a smaller peak at ca. 1980 Ma (n = 6). Four >99 % concordant analyses yield Archean dates, and one 1.6 % discordant analysis gives a date of 3257 Ma. Three analyses give < 1600 Ma dates. Th/U ranges between 1.2 and 0.05 with an average of 0.4 with a slight correlation between Th/U and dates, where the most extreme Th/U are found in grains within the 1979–1780 Ma range.

Fifty-eight different zircon grains were analysed for O-isotopes, of which four (-10, -44, -47 and -72) were discarded due to analysing a crack and/or inclusion. Of the remaining 54 analyses, two analysed zircons yield signatures within uncertainty of the depleted mantle reference, and the remainder spread to heavier values (δ^{18} O ranging between 5.4 % and 10.7 %). The 3257 Ma grain from the Indal river gives a δ^{18} O of +7.8, but since the U-Pb is slightly (1.6 %) discordant, and hence shows indication of disturbance, this result may be unreliable.

Twelve Hf isotope analyses of zircon grains dated to 3115–1861 Ma return 176 Hf/ 177 Hf ranging between 0.28094 and 0.28160. Corresponding $\epsilon_{Hf(t)}$ range between -2.2 and +3.9. The two ca. 1870 Ma grains give slightly sub-chondritic signatures, while five 1997–1968 Ma zircons cluster just above chondritic values. The oldest 3115 Ma grain in this sample yields the most radiogenic signature with an $\epsilon_{Hf(t)}$ of +3.9. One more zircon (-43), a 3257 Ma grain, was analysed, but as the grain was too small for the 40 μ m beam to sample purely core, and the analyses yield a mixed signal of core and rim (of unknown age) returning a Hf isotope signature corresponding to a $\epsilon_{Hf(t)}$ of +22, clearly erroneous. This analysis was hence omitted from further considerations. Due to the small size of the zircon grain and core ($<40~\mu$ m wide), a similar scenario with less incorporation of rim, is likely for the 3115 Ma grain (-44) analysis. Hence, the $\epsilon_{Hf(3115~Ma)}$ of +3.9 is considered unreliable, and this analysis is omitted from further considerations.

21APSE08 Ljungan River

The area immediately up stream belongs to the Bothnia-Skellefteå unit. The predominant lithologies in the surrounding area is made up of granite, pegmatite, granodiorite and subordinate diorite and gabbro (ca. 1.87–1.84 Ga) as well as metagreywacke, mica schist, graphite- and/or sulphide-bearing schist, paragneiss, migmatite, quartzite, amphibolite (ca. 1.96–1.87 Ga) (Högdahl et al., 2012). The closest dated igneous rocks, ca. 3 km to the northeast, are the Härnö granite, 1863 \pm 6 Ma (igneous monazite age from Högdahl et al., 2012). Further upstream, close to the



border to the Ljusdal lithotectonic unit, Delin and Aaro (1994) dated a metagranite to 1856 ± 19 Ma, and Wilson *et al.* (1985) dated the Rätan granite to 1698 ± 25 Ma, both using ID-TIMS on zircon.

Of the *ca.* 400 picked grains the majority are brownish, cracked and rounded of which many have clear cores and rims. Clear, more euhedral zircon occur, but in lesser amounts compared to the other samples in this study. The size range is similar, 50 to 4000 µm along their C-axis, but the average size is larger than in the other samples. BSE imaging reveals many grains with complex zonation patterns and core/rim relations, but overall oscillatory zonation is the most common feature.

Zircon Isotope Data

Seventy-five analyses, of which six were discarded due to >1 % discordance at the 2σ level and one due to excess uncertainties, yield $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ dates between 2742 Ma and 1499 Ma. The majority of the data form a peak at ca. 1865 Ma with a smaller peak at ca. 1930 Ma. Ten grains give dates between 2035 Ma and 1959 Ma and a group of five analyses form a concordant cluster at ca. 2725 Ma. Th/U ranges between 1.4 and 0.0 with no correlation apparent between dates and Th/U.

Out of 57 zircon O-isotope analyses all but one (-18, 0.5 % disc.) in concordant grains, two analyses (-29 and -53) were omitted due to analysing a crack and/or inclusion. The remaining 55 analyses return δ^{18} O ranging between 5.2 % and 10.3 %. Eight analyses are within uncertainty of the mantle reference values.

Sixteen zircon Hf isotope analyses of dated 2742–1551 Ma grains return 176 Hf/ 177 Hf ranging between 0.28103 and 0.28179, corresponding to a range in $\epsilon_{Hf(t)}$ between -3.5 and +6.1. The two *ca.* 1870 Ma grains give slightly subchondritic signatures, while five 1997–1968 Ma zircons cluster just above chondritic. The Proterozoic (2035–1855 Ma) zircon spread between -3.5 and +4.9, while the Archean (2742–2680 Ma) zircon give $\epsilon_{Hf(t)}$ between -1.4 and +3.5.

Supplementary Discussion

Ensuring primary signatures

Th/U of the analysed zircons from all samples ranges from 0.01 to 1.43 with an average of 0.47, where 76 % of the analyses yield Th/U > 0.3 suggesting primarily magmatic signatures (Fig. S-3). Low (<0.3) Th/U zircon are exclusively restricted to the period around the Svecokarelian Orogeny (2.0–1.8 Ga), but as there is no correlation between Th/U and $\epsilon_{Hf(t)}$, nor between Th/U and δ^{18} O. Fifteen analyses, with the majority from the Indal and Ljungan rivers, yield Th/U < 0.1, and hence a metamorphic origin for these rocks can't be dismissed entirely. However, as no other data from these grains (207 Pb/ 206 Pb, δ^{18} O, $\epsilon_{Hf(t)}$) deviate from remaining populations metamorphic effects on these isotopic ratios are deemed negligible (Fig. S-3).



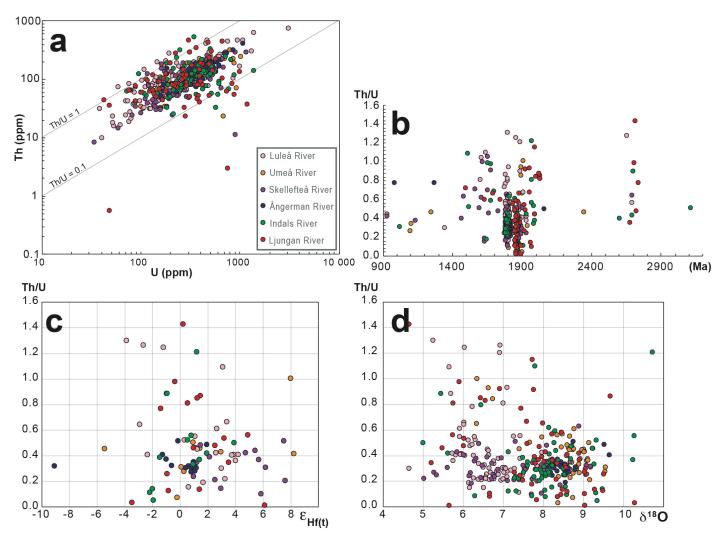


Figure S-3 (a) Zircon Th (ppm) *versus* U (ppm). (b) Zircon Th/U *versus* 207 Pb/ 206 Pb dates (Ma). (c) Zircon Th/U *versus* 818 O.

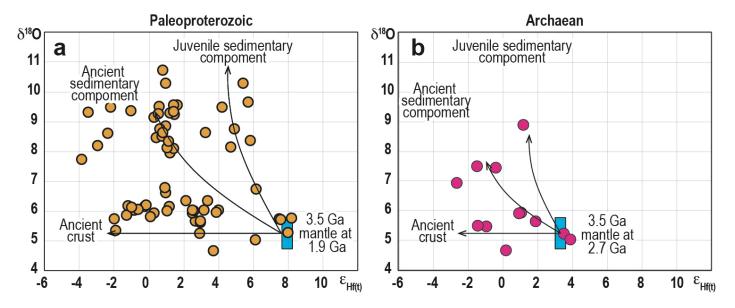


Figure S-4 Zircon δ^{18} O *versus* zircon $\epsilon_{Hf(t)}$ showing isotopic trends tracing back to a *ca.* 3.5 Ga chondritic mantle. Blue boxes denote mantle composition at 1.9 Ga and 2.7 Ga respectively. (a) <2.0 Ga zircons. (b) Archean zircons.

Literature data filtering

Very few data-points plot above the regional mantle reference line proposed in this study. However, a few data deviate from this trend, including zircon from two granulites from the Iisalmi region, central Finland (Lauri *et al.*, 2011), and these data require closer examination. Lauri *et al.* (2011) concluded that the existence of a few supra-chondritic initial ratios in single zircon is not clear evidence for a reservoir similar to the present-day depleted mantle, but interpret their data to support a chondritic to mildly supra-chondritic mantle reservoir. Importantly, all Karelian samples of Lauri *et al.* (2011) that give supra-chondritic initial zircon Hf isotope ratios are from zircon in granulite facies rocks that show evidence for unsupported radiogenic Pb, yielding ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁶Pb dates that are spuriously old (see Whitehouse *et al.*, 2022). For example, reversely discordant data and an increase in the error ellipse caused by decoupling of the Pb and U signals are apparent in all these samples (see Lauri *et al.*, 2011). This is not uncommon in UHT (Ultra-High-Temperature) rocks and is interpreted to be caused by the formation of metallic Pb nanospheres (*e.g.*, Kusiak *et al.*, 2013; Whitehouse *et al.*, 2014). This clear correlation between unreliable age determinations and supra-chondritic initial zircon Hf isotope signatures, questions the geological significance of these few supra-chondritic signatures, and these analyses have hence been omitted from the compilation in Figure 2 (main manuscript).

Primitive versus felsic sources

To accurately interpret the crustal growth and evolution of the Fennoscandian Shield using zircon Lu-Hf isotope data requires a characterization of the mantle from which the crust was ultimately extracted. Even though zircon Hf isotope data from global compilations provide an important first order check and indicate a chondritic mantle from 4.5 Ga until ca. 3.5 Ga (e.g., Voice et al., 2011; Condie et al., 2011; Belousova et al., 2010; Dhuime et al., 2012), these data are derived from silica-rich rocks that are not directly sourced from mantle peridotite (Reimink et al., 2023). Hence, looking at the best preserved (i.e. least metamorphosed and altered), most primitive and mantle-derived rocks will provide a good complement, and a clearer insight to the chemical and isotopic composition of the mantle that underlies Fennoscandia. A characteristic feature of Fennoscandia is that existing data (especially for mafic rocks) show a restricted range in ε_{Hf} over a long period of time (ca. 2.8 Ga to 1.2 Ga), with compositions mostly scattering around and just above the chondritic reference (Fig. 4; Valbracht, 1991; Claesson and Lundqvist, 1995; Andersson et al., 2006, 2007; Rutanen et al., 2011; Petersson et al., 2017). These previous studies interpret such Hf isotope data as evidence for mild time-



integrated depletion of the Fennoscandian mantle, perhaps reflecting <~2.3 Ga re-enrichment of depleted mantle as a result of long-term subduction beneath Fennoscandia (Andersen et al., 2009a; Anderson et al., 2011; Petersson et al., 2015a, 2015b; Rutanen et al., 2011). If the near chondritic isotope signatures in Paleoproterozoic mantle-derived mafic rocks in Fennoscandia represent long-term enrichment of a well-mixed upper mantle or SCLM (sub-continentallithospheric-mantle), it is reasonable to assume that the mantle would have originally been more strongly depleted prior to the onset of this process. However, as noted by several studies (e.g., Andersson et al., 2006, 2007; Rutanen et al., 2011; Petersson et al., 2017), no Paleoproterozoic or older rocks in Fennoscandia show radiogenic Hf signatures that support derivation from a strongly depleted mantle source. We contend that this complicates a re-enrichment model, and that an alternative explanation for these isotope signatures is required. Several primitive intrusions in Fennoscandia negates a MORB depleted source, like the ca. 2.9 Ga Kuhmo komatiites and komatiitic basalts in the Karelian Province in eastern Finland (Svetov et al., 2001), which have flat primitive mantle normalized trace-element patterns consistent with derivation from a mildly-depleted mantle source, less depleted than would be the case for a mantle reservoir backcalculated from modern radiogenic MORB (Hölttä et al., 2014). The Al-undepleted signatures of these komatiites suggest derivation from a source more similar to a primitive upper mantle (Hölttä et al., 2014). These signatures from primitive komatiites are compatible with a Paleo- to Mesoarchean chondritic mantle where the long-term extraction of continental crust was insufficient to cause long-term incompatible-element depletion in the upper mantle. The ca. 2.8 Ga Kostomuksha komatiites in western-most Russia, within the north-western parts of the Karelian Province, have whole-rock $\varepsilon_{Hf(t)}$ values that cluster tightly between +5.3 and +4.8 (Blichert-Toft and Puchtel, 2010), suggestive of a moderately depleted mantle (Fig. S-5). Similarly, 2.31 Ga dolerite dykes in the Lake Upper Kuito area in the Western Karelian province, give $\varepsilon_{Nd(t)}$ values of +0.5 to +0.8, just slightly above a chondritic composition (Stepanova *et al.*, 2015). Mafic plutonic, ca. 1.8 Ga rocks from the southern parts of the Fennoscandian Shield, that have $\varepsilon_{Nd(i)}$ just above CHUR and below a MORB-like depleted mantle, show no correlation between isotopic signatures and major element concentrations, e.g., Mg# (Andersson et al., 2007). The same lack of correlation between $\varepsilon_{Nd(i)}$ and Mg# and $\varepsilon_{Nd(i)}$ and (Nb/La)_N is seen in 2.4 Ga basalts from the Karelian province (Bogina et al., 2015), arguing against crustal contamination being responsible for lowering $\varepsilon_{Nd(i)}$ values. The Penikat layered intrusion, which is related to ca. 2.50 to 2.44 Ga plume magmatism in Finnish Lapland and the Kola Province has ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr_(i) ranging between 0.7020 to 0.7040 (Luolavirta et al., 2021) suggesting negligible contamination from crustal components in this mantle-derived ultramaficmafic intrusion. Maier et al. (2018) similarly concluded that contamination with country rocks is not required in order to generate the chemical and isotopic signatures found in the Penikat intrusion. Additionally, a gabbro from the ca. 1.7 Ga Rymmen intrusion with ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr_(i) indicative of mantle origin without crustal contamination (Claeson, 2002), and a coeval primitive gabbro from the Kleva intrusive complex, both from southern Sweden, give zircon $\epsilon_{Hf(t)}$ signatures (Petersson et al., 2017) that fall on the proposed ca. 3.5 Ga mantle evolution trend-line (Fig. 4). It is also noteworthy that even granitic rocks of the Transscandinavian Igneous Belt yield primitive ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr_(i) between from 0.703 to 0.705 (see review by Högdahl et al., 2004). Furthermore, in southern Sweden, at Norra Kärr, a ca. 1.5 Ga agpaitic nepheline syenite, which is interpreted to have evolved from a mantle source, yields zircon Hf isotope signatures with a mean $\varepsilon_{\rm Hf(i)}$ value of ca. 7.5, equivalent to a moderately depleted source (Sjöqvist et al., 2017). A few data points, at around 2.8 Ga (West Troms; Laurent et al., 2019) and 1.9 Ga (Skellefteå; Guitreau et al., 2014) do plot slightly above the proposed regional mantle evolution trend. However, as argued by Petersson et al. (2020), considering that laser ablation data typically have a reproducibility of $\geq 1.5 \, \epsilon_{\rm Hf}$ units (at 2 s.d.) when analysing REE-rich zircon (Fisher and Vervoort, 2018), data points plotting ca. 1.5 EHf units above the true value are to be statistically expected. Hence, collectively, the isotopic signatures of the primitive and mantle derived rocks of Fennoscandia from 3.5 to 1.5 Ga suggest an uncontaminated, mildly depleted mantle source (Fig. S-5).

It is noteworthy that, when comparing the Hf isotope signatures from (ultra-)mafic and felsic rocks, their most radiogenic signatures fall more or less on the same line (Fig. S-5). While mafic and felsic rocks share an upper boundary of their most radiogenic signatures, the mafic rocks lack less radiogenic signatures (Fig. S-5). If, as argued above, the least fractionated, most primitive rocks in Fennoscandia mirror the isotope composition of the mantle source, then felsic rocks (zircon) giving matching signatures to the (ultra-)mafic rocks, is consistent with rapid differentiation from juvenile



mantle additions (basalts) to more evolved sialic compositions, as occurs in Phanerozoic ocean arc settings (see Kemp *et al.*, 2009). This is, however, not a feature restricted to Phanerozoic arcs, but can also be seen in the isotopic record of the Pilbara Craton, were Hf isotope compositions of (ultra-)mafic rocks have signatures only slightly more radiogenic than coeval TTGs, arguing for rapid reworking of juvenile mantle-derived crust (Kemp *et al.*, 2023).

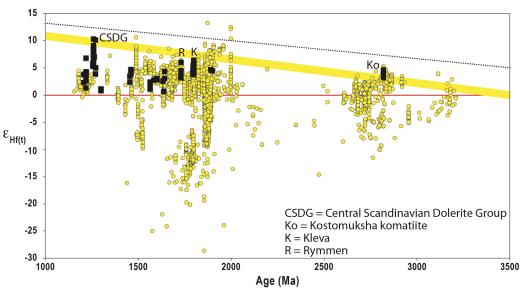


Figure S-5 Hf isotope data from primitive (black) and felsic (yellow) rocks of Fennoscandia.

Supplementary Tables

Table S-1 Zircon U-Pb isotope data.

Table S-2 Zircon O isotope data.

Table S-3 Zircon Lu-Hf isotope data.

Tables S-1 to S-3 are available for download (.xlsx) from the online version of this article at http://doi.org/10.7185/geochemlet.2435.

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