Os-Hf-Nd Isotope Constraints on Subcontinental Lithospheric Mantle Evolution, Slave Craton (Canada)

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The Slave Craton is an amalgamation of Meso- and Neoarchaean terranes, which is underlain by strongly stratified subcontinental lithospheric mantle (SCLM) with a ultradepleted shallow (SL) and a less depleted deep layer (DL) (Griffin et al., 1999). We have analysed the ¹⁸⁷Os/¹⁸⁸Os of peridotitic sulfide from the deep layer by LAM MC ICPMS and the ¹⁷⁶Hf/¹⁷⁷Hf and ¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd of garnet (gt) and clinopyroxene (cpx) from peridotitic kimberlite-derived xenoliths by solution MC ICPMS to obtain constraints on the origin and evolution of the SCLM.

¹⁸⁷Os/¹⁸⁸Os of DL-sulfide ranges from 0.1002 to 0.4732 (γOs = -21.1 to +272), giving T_{RD} up to 3.9 Ga. A subset of samples lies on an isochron with an age of 3.27±0.24 Ga. This is older than the 2.7 Ga overlying terrane but coincides with crustal ages in the neighbouring terrane, suggesting subcretion of older beneath younger mantle during collision.

Nd-Hf isotope date were obtained from 2 SL-harzburgites and 8 DL-lherzolites. The two SL-harzburgites were metasomatised by a carbonatite-like melt leading to low $\epsilon_{\rm Nd}$

(-54) in one sample (¹⁷⁶Hf^{'177}Hf not measurable) and moderate ε_{Nd} (2.6) but high ε_{Hf} in another sample (+181). Both samples are argued to be at least 3.2 Ga old, suggesting that the SL has been subducted beneath 2.7 Ga crust along with the DL. The age of metasomatism is more difficult to constrain, due to multiple modification of parent/daughter, but the minimum age for the oldest metasomatism (lowest ε_{Nd}) is 2.3 Ga. Cpx in a DLlherzolite with low ε_{Nd} (-14.4) but radiogenic Hf (+43) may record the same metasomatic event. However, for most of the DL this older metasomatism was obscured by a younger overprint involving a silicate melt, which led to both Nd and Hf addition, and ε_{Hf} and ε_{Nd} around 0. The age of the younger metasomatism is constrained to <350 Ma based on near-constant ε Nd at variable Sm/Nd.

References

Griffin, W.L., Doyle, B.J., Ryan, C.G., Pearson, N.J., O'Reilly, S.Y., Davies, R., Kivi, K., van Achterbergh, E. and Natapov, L.M., (1999), *J. Petrol.* 40. 705-727