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**GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA  
OPEN FILE 8876**

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(1999-2002) samples from northern Manitoba**

**N.M. Rayner**

**2022**

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# Report on U-Pb geochronology results from legacy (1999-2002) samples from northern Manitoba

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## Description of Content

This report contains U-Pb geochronological results for 16 rock samples from the Southern Indian Lake, Lynn Lake and Kisseynew domains of northern Manitoba collected between 1999 and 2002. While results from other samples collected during this time interval were published previously, the results included here were not, primarily due to uncertainty about the interpretation of the results. The purpose of this report is to release the existing data with the required sample and laboratory metadata along with a limited, preliminary interpretation so that this information is available for consideration by future researchers.

This report contains two Excel spreadsheets, each containing the results for either isotope dilution thermal ionization mass spectrometry (ID-TIMS, Appendix 1) analysis or sensitive high resolution ion microprobe (SHRIMP, Appendix 2) analysis conducted at the Geological Survey of Canada. Each spreadsheet consists of a worksheet containing the data and a series of sheets containing the concordia diagram for each sample. For the six samples analysed by SHRIMP, the scanning electron microscope zircon images annotated with the SHRIMP spot location are included as separate Adobe pdf files. Details for each sample (location, lithology, interpretation of results) are given below and a summary of the interpreted age is provided on an accompanying kml file to be viewed in GoogleEarth.

## Analytical Methods

All samples were disaggregated using standard crushing/pulverizing techniques followed by density separation using the Wilfley table and heavy liquids. Zircon grains were selected after examination under a binocular microscope.

Zircon grains analysed by ID-TIMS were treated with the air abrasion method (Krogh, 1982) or the chemical abrasion method (Mattinson, 2005) before being submitted for U-Pb chemistry. Dissolution

of zircon in concentrated HF, extraction of U and Pb, and mass spectrometry followed the methods described by Parrish et al. (1987). Data reduction and numerical propagation of analytical uncertainties follow Roddick (1987). Decay constants used follow the recommendations of Steiger and Jäger (1977).

For SHRIMP analysis, zircon grains were cast in 2.5 cm diameter epoxy mounts along with fragments of the GSC laboratory standard zircon (z6266, with  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  age = 559 Ma). The mid-sections of the zircons were exposed using 9, 6, and 1  $\mu\text{m}$  diamond compound. The internal features of the zircons (such as zoning, structures, alteration, etc.) were characterized in cathodoluminescence (CL) and/or back-scattered electron (BSE) mode utilizing scanning electron microscope. Hard-copy images of the zircon grains were numbered and annotated with the location of the SHRIMP spot. Scans of these annotated images are included as separate pdf files for each sample. SHRIMP analytical procedures followed those described by Stern (1997) and Stern and Amelin (2003). Off-line data processing was accomplished using customized in-house software. Decay constants used follow the recommendations of Steiger and Jäger (1977). The  $1\sigma$  external errors of  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  ratios reported in the data table incorporate the error in calibrating the reference material. Common Pb correction utilized the Pb composition of the surface blank (Stern, 1997).

For both TIMS and SHRIMP results, Isoplot v. 4.15 (Ludwig, 2012) was used to generate concordia plots and calculate weighted means. The error ellipses on the concordia diagrams and the weighted mean errors are reported at the 95% confidence level.

## Results

**Lab number:** 5803

**Sample number:** CXA99-D005

**Lithological description:** Coarse-grained megacrystic granite; weak foliation

**Location:** approx. 75 km east of the town of Lynn Lake

**Latitude:** 56.7297°N (all coordinates reported using NAD27 datum)

**Longitude:** 99.9921°W (all coordinates reported using NAD27 datum)

Five TIMS fractions were analysed yielding discordant (1-2%)  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages between 1798.4-1822.5 Ma (Appendix 1). A free regression through all 5 fractions yields an upper intercept age of  $1834 \pm 22$  Ma, but with excess scatter (MSWD = 7.5). While imprecise, this is the best estimate of the crystallization age of the megacrystic granite phase of the Eden Lake pluton. Alternatively, a minimum crystallization age could be constrained by the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of the least discordant fraction which is  $1822.5 \pm 2.2$  Ma.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lab number:** 6208

**Sample number:** CXA99-D002

**Lithological description:** Fine-grained, homogeneous, tonalite/diorite; weak foliation

**Location:** About 2 km southeast of Ruttan mine

**Latitude:**  $56.4787^\circ\text{N}$

**Longitude:**  $99.6192^\circ\text{W}$

Three TIMS fractions yield an upper intercept age of  $1881.5 \pm 2.5$  Ma (MSWD = 0.17) which is the crystallization age of the tonalite/diorite (Appendix 1).

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lab number:** 6209

**Sample number:** CXA99-D004

**Lithological description:** Homogeneous, partly recrystallized, moderately foliated granodiorite

**Location:** Road-cut outcrop between Leaf Rapids and Lynn Lake

**Latitude:**  $56.6033^\circ\text{N}$

**Longitude:**  $99.9358^\circ\text{W}$

Five TIMS zircon fractions were analysed (Appendix 1). The crystallization age of this sample of the Outlaw Bay tonalite is best constrained by the weighted mean  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of 3 fractions (2 concordant/near-concordant and 1 discordant) at  $1861.3 \pm 2.5$  Ma (MSWD = 0.13). One concordant fraction with a  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of 1852 Ma and one discordant fraction with an age of 1822 Ma were excluded from the calculation.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lab number:** 6323

**Sample number:** CXA99-D001

**Lithological description:** Foliated medium-grained granodiorite

**Location:** On highway between Thompson and Leaf Rapids, approx. 80km south of Leaf Rapids

**Latitude:**  $55.82^\circ\text{N}$  (coordinate approximate based on notes)

**Longitude:**  $99.6^\circ\text{W}$  (coordinate approximate based on notes)

Four TIMS zircon fractions were analysed (Appendix 1). Two of them (Z1A, Z1B) contain elevated levels of common Pb and thus returned imprecise results. The two low common Pb fractions are approximately 0.8% discordant. Thus the best estimate for the crystallization age of the granodiorite is the oldest of these at  $1836.7 \pm 2.2$  Ma. As this age is derived from a discordant  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age, it should be considered a minimum age.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lab number:** 6324

**Sample number:** CXA99-D003

**Lithological description:** Massive magnetite-biotite granite

**Location:** Roadcut between Leaf Rapids and Ruttan mine

**Latitude:** 56.77°N (coordinate approximate based on notes)

**Longitude:** 100.4°W (coordinate approximate based on notes)

The crystallization age of this granite is  $1860.7 \pm 2.0$  Ma, constrained by the weighted mean  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of 3 TIMS fractions (MSWD = 0.28, Appendix 1)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lab number:** 7035

**Sample number:** CXA-01-D45A

**Lithological description:** Meta-andesite, sub-volcanic intrusion, mixing of andesitic and rhyolitic magma

**Location:** Pukatawagan Bay

**Latitude:** 57.07942°N

**Longitude:** 98.83274°W

Five TIMS zircon fractions yielded non-reproducible discordant (2.7-5.7%) results ranging from 1794-2986 Ma ( $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age, Appendix 1). Two TIMS titanite fractions returned near-concordant but non-reproducible  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages of 1785 Ma and 1797 Ma. No crystallization age determination was possible for this sample.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lab number:** 7479

**Sample number:** CXA-02-N5a

**Lithological description:** Diorite

**Location:** Granville Lake

**Latitude:** 56.2720°N

**Longitude:** 100.6051°W

This sample is part of a suits of sills with unique geochemistry referred to as the Blacktrout diorite which elsewhere has returned an Archean Sm-Nd model age (Murphy and Zwanzig, 2021) but whose crystallization age was unknown. No zircon was recovered from this sample. Three titanite fractions were analysed by TIMS and returned a concordia age of  $1773 \pm 17$  Ma (MSWD of concordance + equivalence = 1.9, Appendix 1). This is considered a cooling age for this diorite.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lab number:** 7480

**Sample number:** CXA-02-D66a

**Lithological description:** Magnetite-biotite granite in tectonic contact with Sickle group quartzite

**Location:** Granville Lake

**Latitude:** 56.3352°N

**Longitude:** 100.4130°W

The crystallization age of this granite is  $1857.7 \pm 3.7$  Ma, constrained by upper intercept of a regression through 3 TIMS fractions (MSWD = 2.6, Appendix 1).

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lab number:** 7483

**Sample number:** CXA-02-D66b

**Lithological description:** Muscovite-bearing impure quartzite

**Location:** Granville Lake

**Latitude:** 56.3352°N

**Longitude:** 100.4130°W

Thirty-four zircons were analysed by SHRIMP and gave ages ranging from 1.85 Ga to 1.94 Ga with the dominant mode at 1.87 Ga (Appendix 2). Replicate analyses were conducted on the youngest grains and constrain the maximum age of deposition for this sample at  $1849 \pm 30$  Ma (grain 94, n=4, MSWD = 0.35, probability = 0.79).

This quartzite is in contact with variably foliated biotite granite (CXA-02-D66a, described above) that shows a strain increase towards the contact with the quartzite. The presence of pebble conglomerate in the quartzite and the absence of quartzite xenoliths in the granite, suggest that this may be a reworked unconformity. However, the possibility that it is a reworked intrusive contact could not be ruled out in the field. It was hoped that U-Pb analysis of both the quartzite and the granite would resolve this issue. While the age of the granite and the youngest detrital zircon overlap within error, the data are more consistent with a reworked unconformable relationship, rather than an intrusive one.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lab number:** 7497

**Sample number:** CXA-02-D37

**Lithological description:** Biotite monzogranite

**Location:** Granville Lake

**Latitude:** 56.29635°N

**Longitude:** 100.51063°W

Three zircon TIMS fractions returned discordant (1.7-12%) results with an upper intercept of  $1854 \pm 40$  Ma (MSWD = 5.3). Given the poor fit of the regression, the resulting error is very large. Instead, the best estimate of the crystallization age of the monzogranite is  $1848.4 \pm 2.0$  Ma, the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of the most concordant fraction. As this analysis is slightly discordant, this is considered a minimum age of crystallization.

Two fractions of monazite were also analysed by TIMS and they return a mean  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of  $1807.1 \pm 2.1$  (MSWD = 2.1) which is interpreted as a metamorphic age.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lab number:** 7498

**Sample number:** CXA-02-D28

**Lithological description:** Granite cutting mafic volcanic rocks

**Location:** Granville Lake  
**Latitude:** 56.29518°N  
**Longitude:** 100.8394°W

The crystallization age of this granite is  $1791.2 \pm 1.1$  Ma, constrained by upper intercept of a regression through 5 TIMS fractions (MSWD = 1.06, Appendix 1).

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lab number:** 7481  
**Sample number:** CXA-02-N1  
**Lithological description:** Wacke  
**Location:** South end of Wheatcroft Lake  
**Latitude:** 56.19569°N  
**Longitude:** 100.7191°W

Thirty-four detrital zircons were analysed by SHRIMP; their ages range from 1.83 Ga to 1.90 Ga with the dominant mode at 1.85 Ga (Appendix 2). Replicate analyses were conducted on the youngest grains to try and constrain the maximum age of deposition. Three replicates on grain 66 yields a weighted mean  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of  $1836 \pm 12$  Ma (MSWD = 2.2) which is indistinguishable from the dominant mode. In order to resolve this further, five single grain TIMS fractions were analysed. These yielded concordant to near-concordant  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages between 1852.3–1856.6 Ma (Appendix 1). The maximum age of deposition is considered to be  $1855.1 \pm 1.8$  Ma, the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of the most concordant TIMS analysis.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lab number:** 7482  
**Sample number:** CXA-02-N4  
**Lithological description:** Highly strained conglomerate  
**Location:** Muhekan Bay, south end of Granville Lake  
**Latitude:** 56.23591°N  
**Longitude:** 100.68160°W

Thirty-five detrital zircons were analyzed by SHRIMP and gave ages ranging from 1.81 Ga to 2.56 Ga (Appendix 2). The older ages (2.30 –2.56 Ga) are observed in 5 grains. Plotted on a cumulative probability curve, the majority of the data form a roughly Gaussian distribution curve, centered at ca. 1.86 Ga. These thirty analyses, ranging from 1813 to 1892 Ma, were pooled to yield a weighted mean  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of  $1857 \pm 7$  Ma, with an MSWD of 0.57 indicating no detectable geological scatter in the dataset. Since the youngest zircon is not statistically distinct from the rest of the analysed zircons, a single youngest detrital grain is not identified.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lab number:** 7494  
**Sample number:** CXA-02-D20  
**Lithological description:** Fine-grained to massive rock with feldspar crystals; possible felsic volcanic  
**Location:** South end of Granville Lake  
**Latitude:** 56.22814°N

**Longitude:** 100.59357°W

Forty-two zircons were analysed by SHRIMP and gave ages ranging from 1774 Ma to 1923 Ma (Appendix 2). The weighted mean  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of 37 of these analyses is  $1873 \pm 4$  Ma (MSWD = 0.83). The zircons recovered from this sample are slightly rounded/resorbed, not the sharply faceted prisms one would expect in a volcanic rock, thus these zircons may be volcaniclastic in origin. This result is most cautiously interpreted as the maximum depositional age of this volcanic/hypabyssal/volcaniclastic rock. Five young analyses were excluded from this calculation, one discordant (17%) analysis, two from low U zircon with large errors ( $\pm 40$  and  $\pm 57$  1s) and two low Th/U analyses (ca. 1.78-1.79 Ga). While these zircon are not distinctive in appearance, they are distinctive in composition and are inferred to represent a metamorphic overprint.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lab number:** 7552

**Sample number:** CXA-02-N8

**Lithological description:** Syenogranite, moderately to strongly deformed

**Location:** East of the Thompson-Leaf Rapids road, south of Leaf Rapids

**Latitude:** 56.212°N

**Longitude:** -99.991°W

The crystallization age of this syenogranite is  $1861 \pm 6$  Ma, constrained by the weighted mean  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of 11 SHRIMP analyses (MSWD = 0.42, Appendix 2). In addition, two low Th/U zircons yield a weighted mean  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of  $1808 \pm 12$  Ma (MSWD = 0.015) which is interpreted to represent a metamorphic overprint. A single low U zircon returned a  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of 2064 Ma, which is interpreted to be inherited. This sample was collected in order to test whether or not Archean basement rocks are present locally to account for the Archean model age of the nearby Black Trout diorite (see titanite data for CXA-02-N5a above).

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lab number:** 7554

**Sample number:** CXA-02-N9

**Lithological description:** Syenogranite gneiss

**Location:** East side of the Thompson-Leaf Rapids road, south of Leaf Rapids, right by the highway

**Latitude:** 56.212°N (location approximate)

**Longitude:** -99.991°W (location approximate)

The crystallization age of this syenogranite gneiss is  $1883 \pm 6$  Ma, constrained by the weighted mean  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of 13 SHRIMP analyses (MSWD = 0.45, Appendix 2). In addition, two low Th/U zircon rims yield a weighted mean  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of  $1821 \pm 12$  Ma (MSWD = 0.62) which is interpreted to represent a metamorphic overprint. This sample was collected in order to test whether or not Archean basement rocks are present locally to account for the Archean model age of the nearby Black Trout diorite (see titanite data for CXA-02-N5a above).

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