# Crustal thermal processes & Low-T thermochronology in Fennoscandia

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*Lecture on the Short course on low temperature thermochronology* 

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#### **Crustal thermal processes – Quick overview**

Heat flow Temperatures in crust Sedimentation and erosion Intrusions Extension Crustal thickening

#### Low-T thermochronology in Fennoscandia

Geological evolution in central Fennoscandia after the Svecofennian orogeny Phanerozoic geological history of Fennoscandia Sedimentary rocks on the peneplain in Fennoscandia AFT, U-Th/He and Ar-Ar data and models by Murrell AFT compilation in Fennoscandia by Hendriks et al. Outokumpu deep drill hole data Eridanos river system and late erosion

## Heat flow from inside the Earth

• Heat flow is determined with Fourier's first law of heat conduction

$$Q = -\lambda \frac{\partial T}{\partial z}$$

• In words the above equation tells that

## *Heat flow = Thermal conductivity × Temperature gradient*

• The common unit applied for heat flow is mW m<sup>-2</sup>

**Conductive temperatures in the crust** are calculated by solving Fourier's second law of heat conduction with appropriate boundary conditions

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{A}{\rho c} + \frac{\lambda}{\rho c} \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial z^2}$$

F-2 in 1D

- *T* is *temperature*
- t is time
- *A* is *heat generation rate* (W m<sup>-3</sup>)

 $\lambda$  *is thermal conductivity which* expresses the ability of matter to conduct heat energy (unit Wm<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-1</sup>),

*c* is *specific heat capacity* (unit J kg<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-1</sup>) which expresses the ability of matter to store heat

*s is diffusivity* (unit m<sup>2</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>) expresses the ability of matter to react for temperature changes

$$\frac{\lambda}{\rho c} = s$$

### **Calculation of crustal temperatures (geotherms)**



Alternative 1: Starting from surface heat flow  $Q_0$ 

Ζ

## Calculation of crustal temperatures (geotherms) (cont.)

Alternative 2: Starting from mantle heat flow



Ζ

# **Tectonic phases of the Wilson cycle**

#### Extension

Opening of sea basin

Production of oceanic crust in the mid-oceanic ridge



Subduction of an oceanic plate

Subduction of a ridge

Closure of basin Collision

#### Stüwe 2002

### **Duration of conductive thermal disturbances in the lithosphere**

$$t = \frac{L^2}{s} \tag{10.1}$$

#### where

t is the thermal time constant of the lithosphere after which time the disturbances have vanished, L is lithosphere thickness and s is diffusivity

Examples Thick lithosphere : L = 150 km, a = 1 10<sup>-6</sup> m<sup>2</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>, t = 710  $\cdot$ 10<sup>6</sup> a Thin lithosphere L = 50 km, a = 1 10<sup>-6</sup> m<sup>2</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>, t = 80  $\cdot$ 10<sup>6</sup> a

### Heat sources in different tectonic processes of the crust

Heat source/mechanism of heat transfer	Importance	Characteristic parameter
Conduction	Big	Characteristic time $\tau = L^2 / s$
Advection		
Fluid flow	small	Peclet number
Magma		Pe = uL / s (Pe >1)
-Intrusions	Big (locally)	
- underplating	Big (locally)	
Erosion, exhumation	Big	
Heat production		
Radioactive	Big	
Chemical		
-latent heat	Big (locally)	$S \times t$
-reactions	Short-lived, local	(S is heat production)

Modified from Stüwe 2002

## Effect of erosion, sedimentation and uplift

Effect of uplift and erosion on geotherms



- The thermal effect of sedimentation and erosion are analogous to convective heat transfer problems
- Moving bedrock transports heat with itself
- Heat conduction equation in 1D:

$$s\frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial z^2} = \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + u\frac{\partial T}{\partial z}$$
(10.2)

where

s is diffusivity and

u is the velocity of the medium relative to the boundary surface

(if z is positive downward, **positive velocity is for sedimentation** and **negative for erosion**)

$$T = T_0 + g_b z$$
 when t = 0 (10.3)

and when t > 0, the surface temperature is

The solution from Carslaw and Jaeger (1959) and repeated by Powell et al. (1988) is:

$$T(z,t) = T_0 + g_b(z - vt) + \frac{1}{2} \left[ g_b + \frac{g_b u}{v} \right] \times \left[ (z + vt) e^{\left(\frac{vz}{s}\right)} erfc\left(\frac{z + vt}{2\sqrt{st}}\right) - (z - vt) erfc\left(\frac{z - vt}{2\sqrt{st}}\right) \right]$$

(10.4)

where

u is the (constant) rate of movement of the boundary with respect to a fixed reference (uplift) and

v is the (constant) velocity of the moving medium with respect to a point fixed on the moving boundary (sedimentation, erosion)

 $g_b$  is the undisturbed gradient

 $g_L$  is the decrease of soil temperature with elevation (lapse rate)

The corresponding effect on temperature gradient is obtained from:

$$g(z,t) = \frac{\partial T(z,t)}{\partial z}$$

$$= g_b \frac{1}{2} \left( g_b + \frac{g_L u}{v} \right) \left[ -erfc \left( \frac{z - vt}{2\sqrt{st}} \right) - \frac{z + vt}{\sqrt{\pi st}} e^{\left( \frac{vz}{s} \right)} e^{-\left( \frac{z + vt}{2\sqrt{st}} \right)^2} + \frac{z - vt}{\sqrt{\pi st}} e^{-\left( \frac{z - vt}{2\sqrt{st}} \right)^2} + \left( 1 + \frac{vz}{s} + \frac{v^2 t}{s} \right) e^{\left( \frac{vz}{s} \right)} erfc \left( \frac{z + vt}{2\sqrt{st}} \right) \right]$$

$$(10.5)$$

Some results for erosion and sedimentation are shown in the next two slides

## Effect of erosion on gradient at the earth's surface

- E.g., erosion rate of the Svecofennian mountains (roots presently in southern Finland) was about 0.15 0.37 mm/a during 1.84-1.82 Ga
- The erosion rate of mountains decays appr. exponentially with time
- In a system eroding rapidly the surface heat flow is markedly disturbed after times of about 10 100 Ma of steady erosion



## Effect of sedimentation on gradient at earth's surface

- Typical rates of sedimentation are 1 0.1 mm a<sup>-1</sup>
- The surface heat flow is markedly (>20%) affected only after 1- 100 Ma



EFFECT OF SEDIMENTATION

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Powell et al. 1988

**Erosion and uplift in a steady-state.** The following special cases can be solved in a steady-state condition

1. The upper boundary temperature of the medium (surface temperature) is constant  $T_{z=0} = 0$  and the lower boundary temperature is effectively at infinite depth  $T_{z \to \infty} = T_{\infty}$ . Then the solution is

$$T = T_{\infty} \left( 1 - e^{-\frac{uz}{s}} \right) z \to \infty$$
(10.6)

2. Upper boundary temperature is constant  $T_{z=0} = 0$  and lower boundary is at depth z = L (eg., Moho or lithosphere/asthenosphere boundary) is T =  $T_L$ . Then the solution is

$$T = T_L \left( \frac{1 - e^{-uz/s}}{1 - e^{-uL/s}} \right)$$
(10.7)

In the figure (next page) the results of these special cases are shown.

#### Effect of erosion in steady-state conditions

$$T_{z=0} = 0$$
  

$$T_{z \rightarrow \infty} = T_{\infty} = 1000^{\circ}C$$
  

$$s = 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

 $T_{z=0} = 0$   $T = T_L = 1000^{\circ}C$  L = 100 km $s = 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ 

Contours: advection (erosion) rates in m/Ma



## Effect of sedimentary cover on temperature (schematically)

- (a) Comparison geotherm: Conditions before sedimentation
- (b) Sediment conductivity and heat production are the equal with the basement
- (c) Effect of thermal conductivity of sediment: curve IV: low conductivity, III: high conductivity
- a, b: original z-T conditions, a', b': new equilibrium conditions after sedimentation



## Effect of sedimentation when time is taken into account

10 km of sedimentation and subsidence during 20 Ma



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## Extension: "Pure shear" and "simple shear"

 Extension is one of the fundamental tectonic processes leading to formation of sedimentary basins and breaking up of continents

**Pure shear** (b): Lithosphere thins by extension

- After extension mid-crustal rocks do not outcrop at erosion level
- Sedimentation covers the extended part

**Simple shear** (c): Lithosphere thins by shearing (along a low-angle normal fault)

• Due to uplift high-grade rocks are exhumed to surface level



### MacKenzie-type extension models

- Extension is **by pure shear** in MacKenzie models
- Extension is assumed to take place much faster than the thermal relaxation time of the lithosphere (t =  $L^2/a$ ) (In the model extension takes place instantaneously)
- The extended part of lithosphere extends by a factor β
- Typically in intracontinental basins β is about 1-2
- In continental margin basins  $\beta\,$  ranges fom about 1 on continental slopes onshore to 4...5 offshore
- The MacKenzie model (1978) has been widely used due to its simplicity, and there are many refinements of it in the subsequent literature
- Presently extension modeling is most often done with numerical models

## **Principles of the MacKenzie model**

- Prior to onset of extension (t<sub>1</sub>)
- At the end of the stretching phase (t<sub>2</sub>)
- During subsequent thermal equilibration of the lithosphere (t<sub>3</sub>)



#### Phases of the MacKenzie extension model



Initial equilibrium lithosphere

- Heat production is neglected in the model
- Crust and mantle have equal conductivities

Instantaneous extension by factor  $\beta$ 

- Increase of geothermal gradient by factor β
- Upwelling of astenospheric material

Cooling and re-thickening of the lithosphere

- Thicknening of the mantle part relases a transient pulse of heat
- With long times, lithosphere equilibrates again

Temperature of the lithosphere before extension :

$$T = T_0 + (T_L - T_0)(z/L)$$
(10.8)

And after extension :

$$T = T_0 + \left(T_L - T_0\right) \times \left(\beta z / L\right)$$
(10.9)

where

 $T_0$  is surface temperature,

 $T_L$  is the temperature at the lower boundary of the lithosphere (astenosphere temperature),

L is the thickness of the lithosphere before extension

 $\beta$  is the extension factor.

We assume for simplicity that  $T_0 = 0$ , then the temperature after extension is

$$T = T_L \times \left(\beta z / L\right) \tag{10.10}$$

Aftwer extension the geotherm finds a new equilibrium and heat is released due to re-thicknening of the lithospheric mantle:

$$H = 0.5 \times L \times \rho c \times T_L (1 - 1/\beta) \text{ [J m}^2 \text{]}$$
(10.11)

Extension produces a transient increase in heat flow.

The temperature of the lithosphere after the extension can be obtained with the transient solution of a 1-dimensional layer (Carslaw and Jaeger, 1959):

$$T(z,t) = T_L\left(\frac{z}{L}\right) + T_L\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[a_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi z}{L}\right) \exp\left(-s\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 t\right)\right]$$
(10.12)

where s is diffusivity and the factors  $a_n$  are

$$a_n = \frac{2\beta}{(n\pi)^2} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{\beta}\right) \tag{10.13}$$

Heat flow at the surface after extension is :

$$Q = \lambda \frac{T_L}{L} \left\{ 1 + 2\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{\beta}{n\pi} \sin \frac{n\pi}{\beta} \right] \exp\left( -s \left( \frac{n\pi}{L} \right)^2 \right) \right\}$$
(10.14)

• The heat flow equation is valid for times **longer than the characteristic time defined as** 

$$\tau = \frac{L^2}{\pi^2 s} \tag{10.15}$$

• The heat flow evolution is shown in the figure on next page.

### Change of heat flow due to extension



 Heat flow increases at maximum by factor β

Parameters of dimensionless time:

- L is thickness of lithosphere before extension
- *s* is diffusivity
- *t* is time

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Beardsmore and Cull 2001

The thinning of lithosphere due to extension produces

- isostatic subsidence of lithosphere (S<sub>i</sub>)
- uplift of astenosphere.

• The amount of subsidence depends on the amount of stretching, initial crustal thickness  $(t_c)$  and lithosphere thickness (L) and the densities of crust, lithospheric mantle and astenosphere.

• The densities are affected by thermal contraction and expansion

•The isostatic subsidence (S<sub>i</sub>) is obtained from

$$S_{i} = \left(1 - \frac{1}{\beta}\right) \frac{\left[t_{c}\rho_{c} + \left(L - t_{c}\right)\rho_{m} - L\rho_{a}\right]}{\left(\rho_{w} - \rho_{a}\right)}$$
(10.16)

where

 $\rho_{a} = \rho_{m0}[1 - \alpha T_{1}] = \text{density of the asthenophere}$   $\rho_{m} = \rho_{m0}[1 - \alpha(T_{0} + 0.5 (T_{L} - T_{0})(1 + t_{c}/L)] = \text{density of the lithospheric mantle}$   $\rho_{c} = \rho_{c0}[1 - \alpha(T_{0} + 0.5 (T_{L} - T_{0})(t_{c}/L)] = \text{density of crust}$   $\rho_{w} = \text{density of water filling the extension basin}$   $T_{0} = \text{surface temperature}$   $\alpha = \text{thermal expansion coefficient of rock}$ 

 $ho_{m0ja}
ho_{c0}$  are the densities of mantle and crust at reference temperature (0°C)

# **Extension by normal faulting (simple shear)**

- Low-angle normal fault intersects the whole lithosphere
- Development of **passive continental margins**
- At location A extension **decreased the thickness of the mantle part** of lithosphere
- At B extension decreased the thickness of the crust
- As a result there is **isostatic uplift the of the passive margin of A and subsidence at B**



## Thermal effects of a plate-form intrusion

- We assume the intrusion to be an infinitely long plate (a sill or dyke) located at a sufficiently long distance from the surface (full-space medium)
- Heat conduction equation without heat production :



The solution is once again provided by Carslaw and Jaeger (1959)

$$\Delta T(z,t) = \frac{\Delta T_0}{2} \left[ erfc \frac{(w-z)}{2\sqrt{st}} + erfc \frac{(w+z)}{2\sqrt{st}} \right]$$
(10.19)

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#### Example of a cooling dyke.

The dyke is 2 m thick, w = 1 m,  $T_0 = 1000$  °C, T = 0, s = 1.10<sup>-6</sup> m<sup>2</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>.

Temperatures at the centre of the dyke :

T (0, 1 week) = 640°C T (0, 1 month) = 340°C T (0, 1 year) = 100°C

 $\rightarrow$ dykes cool very rapidly!

There are rules of thumb for the temperature at the center of the dyke :

$$\Delta T \approx \frac{\Delta T_0}{2}$$
, when  $t = \frac{w^2}{s}$  (10.20)

$$\Delta T \approx \frac{\Delta T_0}{4}$$
, when  $t = \frac{5w^2}{s}$  (10.21)

For the area **outside the dyke** there are the following approximations :

• Temperature maximum reached at 2w:

$$\Delta T(2w) \approx \frac{\Delta T_0}{4} \tag{10.22}$$

• Temperature maximum reached at w+/4:

$$\Delta T(w + \frac{w}{4}) \approx \frac{\Delta T_0}{2} \qquad (10.23)$$

### **Cooling of a dyke near surface**



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### Cooling of a dyke in lower crust



## **Examples of models of cooling intrusions**

#### Stüwe 2002



## Cooling of a plate, cylinder and sphere



Carslaw and Jaeger, 1959

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r = b initially at V. In all cases the numbers on the curves are the values of  $\kappa t/a^2$ .
In the C & J figure (plate-cylinder-sphere) the curve parameter is the *Fourier number* 

$$F = st/b^2$$
 (10.23)

where b is dyke thickness, radius of cylinder or radius of sphere

**Example**, let's assume a dyke : Thickness 2 km, initial temperature 1000 °C above host rock,  $s = 1 \cdot 10^{-6} m^2 s^{-1}$ 

The Curve'5' corresponds to a time of about 160 000 years (dyke is quite cool already)

#### Note! On using conductive plate models in geological applications:

- The requirement of the distance from surface means a (**homogeneous) full-space** medium
- Moreover, the latent heat of melt has not been taken inot account

# **Cooling dyke: Difference between half-space and full-space media**



A: dyke in full-space medium

B: dyke in half-space medium close to surface

Curve parameter is the Fourier number

 The proximity of the surface kept at a constant temperature decreases the temperatures above the dyke and modifies them inside the dyke

#### Numerical modeling of thermal effect of intrusions

- (a) 7.5 km thick sill intrudes at 15 km depth
- (b) Temperature at 12 km, sill is formed with one intrusion pulse of magma, or in 10 pulses



#### Paleoclimatic effects on subsurface temperatures

- Variations in ground surface temperature diffuse downward and attenuate in amplitude
- Temperatures are transient and do not represent steady-state conditions



# Building mountains by collision and imbricating crustal blocks









**Before collision** 

Collision and thrusting < 10-25 Ma

Thickened crust; heating of stack, uplift erosion begins Partial melting in middle/lower crust 10-50 Ma

Uplift, continued erosion, cooling 50-300 Ma

#### Principles of conductive thermal modelling of crustal stacking



#### **Temperature effects of crustal thickening**



Temperature-depth-time plot

 $t_0$  initial geotherm at time of collision  $t_{0_{\!\!\!\!,}}$  ,  $t_1$  ,  $t_2$  ,  $t_3$  ,  $t_4$  geotherms at later times



#### Low-T thermochronology in Fennoscandia

- Thermochrometers in general
- Mesoproterozoic Phanerozoic geological history of Fennoscandia
- Apatite fission track results in Fennoscandia
- Geologically recent uplift and erosion the Eridanos river system

#### **Closure temperatures of common thermochronometers**

Method	Mineral	Closure Temperature (°C)	Reference
K–Ar	Hornblende	$500 \pm 50$	Harrison (1981)
K–Ar	Muscovite	$350\pm50$	Hames and Bowring (1994)
K–Ar	Biotite	$300 \pm 50$	Harrison et al. (1985)
K–Ar	K-feldspar	150 - 350	Lovera et al. (1989)
(U–Th)/He	Zircon	200 - 230	Reiners et al. (2002)
(U-Th)/He	Titanite	150 - 200	Reiners and Farley (1999)
(U-Th)/He	Apatite	$75\pm5$	Wolf et al. (1998)
Fission track	Zircon	$240 \pm 20$	Brandon et al. (1998)
Fission track	Titanite	265 - 310	Coyle and Wagner (1998)
Fission track	Apatite	$110\pm10$	Gleadow and Duddy (1981)

 Table 1.1. Estimated closure temperatures for some commonly used

 thermochronometers

# Example: Applying several thermochronometers on a single sample from Swiss Alps



### Geological evolution of Fennoscandia – from Archaean to Phanerozoic



Fig. 13.1. Geological time scale with a sketch diagram of igneous activity and the presence of supracrustal rocks. Major orogenic events are also indicated.



#### Rämö & Kohonen, 2005



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Mesoproterozoic to Cambrian sedimentary rocks and mafic dyke swarms

*Fig. 13.3.* Distribution of Mesoproterozoic to Cambrian sedimentary rocks and mafic dike swarms in the central Fennoscandian Shield to the east of Sveconorwegian and Caledonian tectonic fronts. Dikes and other rock units simplified from Koistinen et al. (2001) and Mertanen et al. (1996a).

Rämö & Kohonen, 2005



*Fig. 13.4.* Map of the Satakunta sandstone area in southwestern Finland. The paleocurrent directions are according to Kohonen et al. (1993). For location, see Figure 13.2.



**Fig. 13.6.** Map showing the distribution of the Mesoproterozoic diabase dikes, cratonic sedimentary cover, and rapakivi granite intrusions in southern Finland and surrounding areas. Initial  $\varepsilon_{Nd}$  values of the diabase dikes (Rämö, 1990; Patchett et al., 1994; this work) are indicated, as are the U-Pb zircon/baddeleyite ages for the Finnish dikes (Suominen, 1991).

#### Sedimentary cover in Estonia



Fig. 13.12. Cross-section showing the uniform thickness of the cover units in northern Estonia to the north of Uljaste (for location see Figure 13.2). Simplified from Puura et al. (1996).

#### **Mesoproterozoic – Paleogene evolution (part 1)**



#### **Mesoroterozoic – Paleogene evolution (part 2)**



#### Mesoroterozoic – Paleogene evolution (part 3)





#### Present day geology

Fig. 1. Present day map of Fennoscandia showing geologic features referred to in the text. Lightly dotted area shows extent of sub-Cambrian peneplain in Finland. Solid grey shows extent of Phanerozoic (light) and Late-Proterozoic (dark) sediments. Black dots show intrusions of the Kola Alkaline Province and black triangles the Kimberlite provinces (taken from Kukkonen and Peltonen, 1999).

Murrell and Andriessen, 2004

#### **Murrell and Andriessen: Sample locations for AFT ages**



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**Murrell and Andriessen: Summary of AFT ages** 

Murrell and Andriessen, 2004

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Fig. 3. Showing model results, grain age radial plots and length distributions for each sample.

Murrell and Andriessen, 2004



Murrell 2001:

- Ar-Ar
- AFTT model ages
- (U-Th)/He ages





Distribution of AFT ages in Finland



#### AFT ages in Fennoscandia

Hendriks et al., 2007

Fig. 3: Pattern of Apatite Fission Track ages in Fennoscandia. Out of a total of 677 available ages, 375 are selected based on elevation, apatite chemistry and analytical approach and data quality (see text for explanation). Areas where no published data exist or where data are excluded as a result of the filtering criteria are blanked. Insets: barrier polylines used as breaklines for contouring. Transects refer to Figure 5. Spatial reference: WGS84, Gauss-Krueger, central meridian 21°E, Latitude of Origin 63°N, false easting 1500 km.

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### Time-temperature history model Outokumpu 157 m AFTT model (Pecube)



Andriessen and Kukkonen (unpublished)

### Time-temperature history model Outokumpu 1818 m AFTT model (Pecube)



Time (Ma)

Andriessen and Kukkonen (unpublished)

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# North Sea and Fennoscandia: The *Eridanos* fluvio-deltaic system



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Lithosphere structure and dynamics

#### **Present topography and bathymetry**



Topographic and bathymetric data from IUGG Data Centre, Boulder (2 arc minute resolution)

#### Present topography and bathymetry: Detail image



Lithosphere structure and dynamics

#### Present topography, bathymetry and major geological units



Riphean: 1400 – 800 Ma; Mesoproterozoic: 1600 – 1000 Ma

Lithosphere structure and dynamics

Eon	Era	a	Period, subera	Epoch, subperiod	Age (Ma)		
C			Quaternary Q	Holocene	0.01		
				Pleistocene	1.8		
	Ceno	zoic		Pliocene	5.3		
				Miocene	23.8		
			Tertiary TT	Oligocene	33.7		
				Eocene	54.8		
				Palaeocene	65.0		
	Mesozoic		Crotocous K	Late	99.0		
			Cretaceous K	Early	111		
			Jurassic J	Late	150		
				Middle	100		
				Early	100		
0				Late	200		
zoio			Triassic Tr	Middle	227		
roz				Early	242		
ane			Denis D	Late	248		
ha			Permian P	Early	256		
_			0 1 17 0	Pennsylvanian	290		
			Carboniferous C	Mississippian	323		
				Late	354		
	Palaeozoic		Devonian D	Middle	370		
				Farly	391		
				Late	417		
			Silurian S	Farly	423		
				Late	443		
			Ordovician O	Middle	458		
				Farly	470		
			Cambrian e	Merioneth	490		
			oumbrianc	St David's			
				Caerfai			
c	Lato			Caerrai	543		
zoi	Middle	Hadrynian					
SLO	Forly	<sup>a</sup> Helikian Aphebian					
ote	Earry						
Р	~	(Canada)					
-	Late	Kenoran Transvaal Shamvaian					
ean	Middle	e Witwatersrand Bulawayan					
hae	Early		Pon	Pongola Belingwean			
Arc		Pilbara Barberton Sebakwian Isua					
4		(Canada) (Australia) (S. Africa) (Zimbabwe) (Greenland)					
		Zircons in Jack Hills (Australia)					
Origin of Earth							

#### **Reminder: Geologigal time scale**

• Age in million of years (Ma)

#### Aikajaksojen suomenkieliset nimitykset

Eon: aioni, puolesta miljardista kahteen miljardia vuotta

Era: maailmankausi, yleensä satoja miljoonia

#### vuosia

Period: kausi, yleensä alle sata miljoonaa vuotta Epoch: epookki, yleensä kymmeniä miljoonia vuosia

#### The Baltic Sea and subareas: areas, volumes and depths

Basin or Deep	Area (km²)	Volume (km³)	Max (m)	Mean (m)	Sill depth (m)
Baltic Proper	209,200	13,600	459	67	17
Arkona Basin	,		55		17
Bornholm Basin			105		45
Gotland Sea			245		60
Gdansk Basin			116		88
Gotland Deep			249		140
Central Basin			219		115
Landsort Deep			459		138
Western Gotland					
Deep			205		100
Gulf of Riga	18,100	410	51	28	20
Gulf of Finland	29,600	1130	123	38	а
Åland Sea	5200	410	301	77	b
Archipelago Sea	8300	200	104	23	а
Gulf of Bothnia	103,600	5830	294		70
Bothnian Sea	66,000	4340	294	68	70
Bothnian Bay	36,800	1490	147	43	25
Baltic Sea, total	374,000	21,580	459	60	17

<sup>a</sup> No clear sill.

<sup>b</sup> Several deep but narrow channels up to 150 m.

Ignatius et al. (1981)

# North Sea and Fennoscandia: The *Eridanos* fluvio-deltaic system



I. Kukkonen 14.12.2016

Lithosphere structure and dynamics

# Pliocene-Pleistocene sedimentation on the Eridanos delta in the North Sea and Fennoscandian uplift



Overeem et al. 2001

Lithosphere structure and dynamics
## Back-of-the-envelope calculation on erosion depths in the last 5 Ma

- Average accumulation rate of sediments in the North Sea 10 × 10<sup>3</sup> km<sup>3</sup>
- Area of the Eridanos river system 1000 km x 200 km
- $\rightarrow$  about 250 m of rock has been removed
- Average depth of the Baltic Sea and basins is 60 m
- Deep basins 150 460 m
- Thus, relatively recent uplift of Fennoscandia and erosion in the Eridanos system would explain the sedimentation rates and young-looking erosional features in the Baltic Sea

It would seem to me that there's a lot of undiscovered issues in low-T thermochronology in Fennoscandia.

Thank you for your attention!