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1 The provenance of the Devonian Old Red Sandstone
2 of the Dingle Peninsula, SW Ireland – the earliest
3 record of Laurentian and peri-Gondwanan sediment
4 mixing in Ireland.

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17

18 **Abstract**

19 The Lower Old Red Sandstone (LORS) in southern Ireland is hosted in the Lower
20 Devonian Dingle Basin which lies immediately south of the Iapetus Suture on the
21 Dingle Peninsula, County Kerry. The basin developed as a post-Caledonian pull-
22 apart structure prior to Acadian deformation which in turn was followed by end-
23 Carboniferous Variscan deformation. Detrital zircon U-Th-Pb geochronology is
24 complimented by mica Ar-Ar and apatite U-Pb geochronology to gain a

25 comprehensive understanding of the provenance of the Lower Devonian LORS of
26 the Dingle Basin and assess contributions of major tectonic components (e.g.
27 Laurentia, Ganderia). Sedimentary rocks in the LORS have similar detrital zircon age
28 distributions which are dominated by ca. 1.2 Ga zircons as well as late
29 Neoproterozoic grains. This indicates a dominant contribution of detritus of
30 Laurentian affinity as well as contributions from westerly and southerly derived
31 Ganderian detritus. Caledonian uplift of the area north of the Iapetus Suture would
32 have facilitated a large contribution of (peri-)Laurentian material. The Upper Old Red
33 Sandstone on the Dingle Peninsula has a distinctly different detrital zircon character
34 including few late Neoproterozoic zircons and abundant zircons of ca. 1.05 Ga age,
35 indicating sediment derivation only from Laurentia and no recycling from the LORS.

36

37 **Supplementary material:** the full detrital U-Pb zircon (Table-1) and apatite (Table-2)
38 analytical dataset as well as revised detrital mica age dataset (Table-3) is available
39 at xxxxx.

40

41 The Dingle Basin in County Kerry, southwest Ireland represents the only record of
42 Early Devonian sedimentation south of the Iapetus Suture in Ireland. Its structure
43 records a critical period in the tectonic history and development of Ireland, having
44 been affected by both the Acadian and Variscan Orogenies (Meere & Mulchrone
45 2006). Furthermore, the basin's sedimentary rocks offer an opportunity to
46 understand the palaeogeography of the basin, possibly recording Grampian to Late
47 Caledonian (430-420 Ma) detrital input following the final Silurian accretion of
48 Ganderia to the margin of Laurentia.

49 Existing provenance studies (e.g. Todd 2000; Ennis *et al.* 2015) have greatly
50 improved our understanding of the development and palaeogeography of the Dingle
51 Basin. However, a comprehensive investigation utilising detrital single-grain
52 techniques has yet to be undertaken. Such a study would serve to elucidate regional
53 sediment source contributions in a basin which is intimately associated with the
54 Iapetus Suture (Todd 2000) – arguably the most important structural entity for in the
55 Phanerozoic tectonic history of Ireland.

56 This study provides the first multiproxy (zircon, apatite, mica) single-grain
57 datasets from the area, with the aim of determining the provenance of the Lower Old
58 Red Sandstone (LORS) in the Dingle Group of the Lower Devonian Dingle Basin and
59 assessing the roles of Laurentian and peri-Gondwanan domains in contributing
60 detritus. The study also considers the detrital zircon provenance of the Upper Old
61 Red Sandstone (UORS) on the Dingle Peninsula.

62 **Regional Geology and Review of Terranes in the British Isles**

63 The oldest potential source of detrital zircons lies to the north of the Iapetus
64 Suture Zone (ISZ) in the form of the long-lived Laurentian craton (Fig. 1). A
65 compilation of existing detrital zircon data of known Laurentian sources (Fig. 2)
66 shows three broad peaks that correspond to major crust-forming events which
67 contributed to the formation of Laurentia (Cawood *et al.* 2007). These peaks occur in
68 the Archaean, Palaeoproterozoic and Mesoproterozoic recording essentially
69 uninterrupted zircon production from 1.9 Ga to 0.9 Ga. A major characteristic of
70 detrital zircon distributions from this sector of the Laurentian continent is the absence
71 of zircons of late Neoproterozoic age due to the absence of an active margin on the
72 Laurentian continent at this time (Pointon *et al.* 2012). The Rhinns Complex on the
73 island of Inishtrahull off the north coast of County Donegal and the Annagh Gneiss

74 Complex in County Mayo comprise the exposed Proterozoic Laurentian basement in
75 Ireland, and are also the oldest rocks exposed in Ireland. The Grenville Orogeny,
76 represented by the large peak in late Mesoproterozoic zircon ages in Figure 2, is
77 recorded in the Annagh Gneiss Complex by the 1.17 Ga Doolough gneiss, the 1.01
78 Ga Doolough Granite and by 0.99 to 0.96 Ga late orogenic pegmatites and
79 migmatitic leucosomes (Daly 1996). A variety of marine sedimentary (e.g. Clew Bay
80 Complex), ocean-arc-volcanic (e.g. Lough Nafooy Arc – see (Chew *et al.* 2007) and
81 ophiolitic rocks (e.g. Deer Park Complex) make up the material accreted to the
82 margin of Laurentia during the Grampian Orogeny (465-475 Ma) in Ireland which
83 represents the early stage of the Caledonian orogenic cycle (Chew & Stillman 2009).
84 This was followed by sinistral transpressive docking of a peri-Gondwanan terrane to
85 the newly-accreted Laurentian margin (Dewey & Strachan 2003).

86 The term 'peri-Gondwanide' was first proposed by Van Der Voo (1988) to
87 describe a number of tectonostratigraphic elements which existed as terranes in the
88 Iapetus Ocean during the Ordovician period. Using palaeomagnetic evidence, Van
89 Der Voo (1988) suggested that these terranes were proximal to northwest African
90 Gondwana, rather than Laurentia. This has since been supported by other studies
91 (see Nance *et al.* 2008, and references therein). We use the term *domain* to refer to
92 tectonostratigraphic units consisting of one or more terranes (Hibbard *et al.* 2007).
93 Peri-Gondwanan domains include Avalonia, Ganderia, Megumia, Carolina in
94 present-day North America, and Avalonia and Cadomia (including Iberia, Bohemia
95 and Armorica) in Europe (Nance *et al.* 2008). Those domains that had the potential,
96 given their Devonian positions relative to southern Ireland, to provide sediment to the
97 basin being investigated include Avalonia, Ganderia and Megumia. For a
98 comprehensive review of peri-Gondwanan terranes, the reader is referred to Nance

99 *et al.* (2008). The correlation of the Meguma terrane to the Harlech Dome is
100 discussed by Waldron *et al.* (2011), White *et al.* (2012) and Nance *et al.* (2015).

101 The main rock exposures of pre-Devonian basement south of the Iapetus Suture
102 Zone in Ireland are found in the Leinster Massif in the southeastern part of the
103 island. The massif hosts a number of Cambrian to Silurian volcanic and sedimentary
104 units intruded by Caledonian-Acadian granites. There has been wide acceptance
105 that pre-Silurian southern Ireland represents part of Avalonia (e.g. Van Der Voo
106 1983; Livermore *et al.* 1985; Van Der Voo 1988; Pickering *et al.* 1988; Ford *et al.*
107 1992; Cocks *et al.* 1997; McConnell & Morris 1997; Keppie *et al.* 2003; Tyrrell *et al.*
108 2007; Woodcock & Strachan 2012; Fullea *et al.* 2014; Todd 2015), but others have
109 suggested linkages to different peri-Gondwanan domains. One school of thought
110 contends that southern Ireland, Wales and southern England formed part of a
111 number of terranes that collectively formed Cadomia (e.g. Soper & Hutton 1984;
112 Max *et al.* 1990).

113 Kennedy (1979) first implied that southern Ireland is a trans-Atlantic extension of
114 Ganderia. Van Staal *et al.* (1996) (and references therein) extend the Gander Zone
115 of Newfoundland, where Ganderia was first described, into Ireland, Wales, England
116 and the Isle of Man. As evidence of this they cited a correlation of Cambrian and
117 Ordovician clastic successions, a similarity of overstepping successions,
118 juxtaposition of mafic to ultramafic, possibly ophiolitic rocks (e.g. Rosslare Complex)
119 and a similarity in fossil fauna. This extension of Ganderia into southern Ireland is
120 further supported by Van Staal *et al.* (1998) who suggest that Avalonia and
121 Ganderia may have become juxtaposed at least during the late Cambrian. If this is
122 the case then it was an amalgamated Avalonia-Ganderia microcontinent that
123 collided with Laurentia during the Caledonian Orogeny. More recently, Waldron *et*

124 *al.* (2014) have drawn similarities between detrital zircon ages from Monian
125 Composite Terrane (county Wexford) and Leinster-Lakesman samples and samples
126 analysed by Fyffe *et al.* (2009) for Ganderia in New Brunswick and Maine. The
127 difference between Ganderian detrital zircon samples from Cambrian sedimentary
128 rocks and West Avalonian samples is that the latter are lacking in Mesoproterozoic
129 and Palaeoproterozoic zircons (Waldron *et al.* 2014). Waldron *et al.* (2014) attribute
130 these Mesoproterozoic and Palaeoproterozoic zircons in Ganderian sediments to a
131 possible Amazonian source in West Gondwana.

132 Distinguishing between Avalonia and Ganderia by detrital zircon populations
133 alone is difficult (Fig. 2). Stratigraphic, faunal and other isotopic evidence is
134 required, as exemplified in a review of the East Avalonian terranes by Schofield *et*
135 *al.* (2016). They use geochronological data as well as magmatic whole-rock Sm-Nd
136 and O-isotopes to show that what is currently viewed as East Avalonian basement in
137 England has closer isotopic and age affinities to Ganderia than to West Avalonia.
138 Elimination of East Avalonia in the British Isles simplifies the interpretation of the
139 provenance of Neoproterozoic detrital zircons in Devonian sedimentary rocks in the
140 region. Although Ganderia is the most proximal potential source of Neoproterozoic
141 zircons, one cannot eliminate the possible detrital influence from other peri-
142 Gondwanan sources.

143 Waldron *et al.* (2011) proposed that the Cambrian successions of the Meguma
144 terrane of Nova Scotia and the Harlech Dome of Wales be considered a single
145 palaeogeographical domain which they named 'Megumia'. They show that detrital
146 zircon age distributions from the Harlech Dome have greater similarity to those in
147 the Meguma terrane than those in Avalonia. The major difference in detrital zircon
148 age distributions between Megumia and Avalonia is the significant presence of 1.95

149 to 2.1 Ga zircons in Megumia and the lack thereof in Avalonia. These zircon ages
150 are believed to be associated with Eburnean orogenic magmatic activity (Waldron *et*
151 *al.* 2011). For the purpose of this study, a significant contribution of Neoproterozoic
152 zircon grains to the sediments under investigation is used predominantly as a tool to
153 distinguish between peri-Gondwana-derived and Laurentia-derived zircons, due to
154 the fact that Laurentia is not known to have any major source of Neoproterozoic
155 zircons (Fig. 2). Furthermore, given the Devonian age and tectonic setting of the
156 sediments, it is likely that they represent heterogeneous source areas. However, the
157 reader is urged to bear in mind the complexities associated with sources of
158 Neoproterozoic zircons in the British Isles, as described above.

159 The Grampian Orogeny, which occurred in the Ordovician period, is considered
160 to be the first stage of the Caledonian orogenic cycle (Chew & Stillman 2009) and
161 records the collision of an oceanic arc (recognised in Ireland as the Lough Nafooe
162 Arc) with the Laurentian margin (Chew & Strachan 2014). Ordovician sediments
163 from the South Mayo Trough record dominant input of zircons in the age range ca.
164 490 to ca. 467 Ma (McConnell *et al.* 2009). However, this range bears two
165 populations, one around 487 Ma and one between ca. 474 and ca. 467 Ma,
166 interpreted by McConnell *et al.* (2009) to be sourced from the Lough Nafooe
167 Arc/Clew Bay Complex and the Connemara orthogneiss suite respectively. The
168 Tyrone Igneous Complex is also of similar age to the Connemara suite (Cooper *et*
169 *al.* 2011). The Grangegeeth volcanic terrane in eastern Ireland has a maximum age
170 of ca. 465 Ma and inherited zircon within it indicate that it is of Laurentian origin,
171 perhaps being related to the Tyrone Igneous Complex (McConnell *et al.* 2010). Its
172 anomalous position south of the Southern Uplands – Longford Down terrane is
173 attributed to transpressive strike-slip deformation in Middle Silurian times

174 (McConnell *et al.* 2010). To the south of the Grangegeeth terrane lies the
175 Bellewstown terrane (Fig. 1. Regional map of the British Isles showing the major
176 terranes of Ireland. The rectangle indicates the study area shown in Figure 3). This
177 terrane is considered part of the Ganderian margin and zircons dated from a
178 sandstone within a volcanogenic breccia place the age of volcanism in the terrane at
179 ca. 474 Ma (McConnell *et al.* 2015).

180 Plagiogranite boulders from Silurian conglomerates which lie unconformably
181 upon the Lough Nafoeey Group are considered to be sourced from the Lough
182 Nafoeey Arc (Chew *et al.* 2007). U-Pb zircon ages of around 490 Ma from these
183 boulders, supported by Nd-isotope data, led Chew *et al.* (2007) to conclude that the
184 arc had encountered Laurentian margin sediments by this time. This represents a
185 source of Early Ordovician detrital zircons. The Southern Uplands – Longford Down
186 terrane predominantly consists of Ordovician to Silurian metasedimentary rocks that
187 were originally deposited in the Iapetus Ocean on the margin of Laurentia and were
188 subsequently accreted to this margin (McConnell *et al.* 2016; Waldron *et al.* 2008).
189 On the Irish side, McConnell *et al.* (2016) found that these sediments contained
190 Proterozoic zircons indicative of a Laurentian origin. In addition, their samples
191 contained an abundance of Early to Middle Ordovician zircons which they interpret
192 as representing a volcanic arc source (e.g. Tyrone Igneous Complex, Lough
193 Nafoeey Arc). On the Scottish side, Waldron *et al.* (2008) and Waldron *et al.* (2014)
194 found that the majority of detrital zircons are of Proterozoic age and sourced from
195 Laurentia. Generally, samples from these studies produced fewer Early to Middle
196 Ordovician zircons relative to those from the Irish side of the terrane.

197 Another potentially important Ordovician zircon source occurs in the Duncannon
198 and Ribband Groups in the Leinster Massif. The minor calc-alkaline volcanic rocks

199 in the Ribband Group represent arc development during initial stages of subduction
200 of the Iapetus Ocean crust beneath Ganderia (East Avalonia) in Tremadocian times
201 (Woodcock 2012). The Duncannon Group volcanic suite consists of basalts and
202 rhyolites, extruded in Caradoc times (Sandbian-Katian) which is considered
203 indicative of a back-arc region (Woodcock 2012). These volcanic suites have not yet
204 been isotopically dated and their ages are largely constrained by faunal evidence in
205 associated sedimentary successions (e.g. Owen & Parkes 2000).

206 The final welding of Ganderia to the margin of Laurentia, which included an
207 accreted ocean arc following the Grampian Orogeny, was achieved during the
208 Caledonian Orogeny, by about 430-425 Ma (Mac Niocaill 2000; Waldron *et al.*
209 2014). However, abundant evidence of Late Caledonian (including Acadian, *sensu*
210 Chew & Stillman 2009) magmatism exists in the form of widely distributed intrusions
211 in Ireland and Britain. These range in age from ca. 430 Ma to 380 Ma (Fig. 2). An
212 example of such an intrusion, which has been proposed as a proximal source of
213 detritus to the Munster Basin (e.g. Penney 1980) and which represents the age of
214 the majority of these intrusions (Fig. 2), is the Leinster granite batholith. O'Connor *et al.*
215 (1989) obtained a U-Pb monazite age of 405 ± 2 Ma for the batholith. However,
216 recent work by Fritschle *et al.* (2017) shows that it was emplaced over an extended
217 period from ca. 417 Ma to 405 Ma. Vermeulen *et al.* (2000) have shown, by seismic
218 analysis of southern Ireland, that the UORS south of the Killarney-Mallow Fault
219 Zone is likely to be concealing a granitic body. Such an interpretation has been
220 suggested by other studies (e.g. Ford *et al.* 1991; Meere 1995; Masson *et al.* 1998;
221 Vermeulen *et al.* 2000; Todd 2000). Todd (2000) suggested that, based on clast
222 analysis of the Trabeg Conglomerate Formation, a granite body similar to the
223 Leinster Batholith was exposed in the southern hinterlands of the Dingle Basin

224 during its development and that the Leinster terrane therefore extends westward
225 following Caledonian trends. Other examples of intrusives of Late Caledonian age in
226 Ireland include the Donegal (418-388 Ma), Galway (412-380 Ma) and Newry
227 Granites (403-387 Ma) and the Carnsore and Saltees Granites (436-428 Ma). The
228 age ranges presented above are, in most cases, the result of dating by multiple
229 geochronological techniques which yield different ages. The studies from which these
230 ages are obtained are reviewed in Chew & Stillman (2009). The Newry Igneous
231 Complex has recently been redated by Cooper *et al.* (2016) who showed that, like
232 the Leinster Batholith, the complex was emplaced over a similarly extended period
233 from 414 Ma to 407 Ma.

234 Following the closure of the Iapetus Ocean, a Silurian to Early Devonian period
235 of sinistral transtension accommodated deposition of the LORS in the Dingle Basin
236 and elsewhere in the southern British Isles (Todd 1989; Soper & Woodcock 2003).
237 This Emsian transtension across the ISZ in Ireland and Britain possibly initiated
238 emplacement of granites of similar age on either side of the ISZ (Brown *et al.* 2008;
239 Cooper *et al.* 2016). The rocks of the Dingle Basin record an Emsian deformational
240 event which is considered to be part of the Acadian orogenic episode (Todd 1989;
241 Todd 2000; Meere & Mulchrone 2006; Todd 2015). Deformation occurred in a
242 transpressive regime but its kinematic character in the Dingle Basin is debated (e.g.
243 Todd 1989; Meere & Mulchrone 2006; Todd 2015) because the structural fabrics
244 within the LORS are complicated by Carboniferous Variscan overprinting.

245 **Local Geology and Sample Location**

246 The majority of the rocks that crop out on the Dingle Peninsula, southwest
247 Ireland, form part of the Lower to Middle Devonian Lower Old Red Sandstone of the
248 Dingle Basin. Basement to this basin is also exposed on the peninsula in the form of

249 the Ordovician Annascaul Formation and the Silurian Dunquin Group (Todd *et al.*
250 2000) (Fig. 3). These have been correlated with Ordovician and Silurian rocks in the
251 Leinster Massif and therefore have a peri-Gondwanan affinity (Todd *et al.* 2000). The
252 axis of the Dingle Basin approximates the regional northeast-southwest Caledonian
253 trend in Ireland. The basin's sedimentary fill is complicated by a series of
254 unconformities which separate five lithostratigraphic groups (Boyd & Sloan 2000).
255 Todd *et al.* (1988) consider the main mechanism of subsidence to be in the form of a
256 sinistral pull-apart structure. Meere and Mulchrone (2006) recognise two broad
257 phases of extension: an Early Devonian phase that accommodated Dingle Basin
258 sediments, and a Late Devonian to Carboniferous phase that accommodated the
259 sediments of the Munster Basin. An intervening Middle Devonian transpression,
260 likely recording the Acadian orogenic event (Dewey & Strachan 2003; Soper &
261 Woodcock 2003), led Ennis *et al.* (2015) to consider the possibility of sedimentary
262 recycling from the Dingle Basin into the Munster Basin. Such recycling of the Dingle
263 Basin LORS into the UORS of the Munster Basin has also been suggested by Todd
264 (2015).

265 Within the Dingle Basin, the Dingle Group, which is the most voluminous,
266 represents a fluvial/alluvial environment in which axial (flowing from southwest to
267 northeast along the basin axis) braid-plains and flood sheets, represented by the
268 Eask, Coumeenoole, Sleah Head and Ballymore Formations, were deposited by
269 generally perennial axial river systems that flowed from the southwest (Todd 2000).
270 These were abutted by alluvial fans, mainly represented by the Glashabeg
271 Conglomerate Formation in the north and the Trabeg Conglomerate Formation in the
272 south, that drained transversely into the basin (Todd 2000). Spores from the Eask
273 and Sleah Head Formation have yielded ages of Early Pragian and Early Emsian

274 respectively (Higgs 1999). Two samples from the LORS of the Dingle Basin were
275 taken from the Coumeenoole Formation and the overlying Sleah Head Formation from
276 the Dingle Group (Fig. 3) in close proximity to the locations of equivalent samples
277 from Ennis *et al.* (2015).

278 Todd (2000) carried out an extensive study of clasts from the correlative
279 Glashabeg Conglomerate, Sleah Head and Trabeg Conglomerate formations in the
280 Lower to Middle Devonian Dingle Basin. Based on the large number of mafic to
281 intermediate volcanic clasts and the presence of limestone clasts in the Glashabeg
282 Conglomerate Formation, he concluded that the source area was dominated by
283 Ordovician volcanic rocks lying in close proximity to the north of the basin and likely
284 intersecting the Iapetus Suture Zone. Rivers feeding the Sleah Head Formation (and
285 the conformably underlying Coumeenoole Formation, which has a similar palaeoflow
286 direction) flowed axially through the basin toward the northeast, draining an area to
287 the southwest (Todd 2000). Pebble clasts indicate sediment derivation from Silurian
288 volcanic rocks and from an extension of the Leinster Massif basement (Todd 2000).
289 The Trabeg Conglomerate Formation formed the southern flank of the Sleah Head
290 system and drained an area to the south and southwest of the basin which was
291 made up of rocks similar to those observed in the Leinster Massif (Todd 2000).

292 Unconformably overlying the Dingle Group is the Smerwick Group, which consists
293 of sedimentary rocks of aeolian and fluvial origin (Todd *et al.* 1988). The two groups
294 are truncated by an unconformity that developed due to erosion during Late Emsian
295 Acadian basin inversion (Meere & Mulchrone 2006). This was followed by deposition
296 of the Pointagare Group, exposed only on the northern coast of the peninsula, and
297 the Caherbla Group to the south which contains the Inch Conglomerate Formation.
298 These formations are thought to have been deposited in Middle Devonian (Eifelian)

299 times (Todd 2015, and references therein). Finally, the overstepping sandstone and
300 conglomerate successions of the Slieve Mish Group were deposited during the Late
301 Devonian and are considered by Williams (2000) to be a correlative of the
302 Ballinskelligs Formation and equivalents in the Munster Basin. Sample AK17 was
303 obtained from a pebbly sandstone of the fluvial to lacustrine (Todd 2015) Cappagh
304 Sandstone Formation of the Slieve Mish Group.

305 **Analytical procedures and sampling**

306 The apatite U-Pb data were originally generated as part of a bedrock thermal
307 history study utilising the apatite fission track (AFT) low-temperature
308 thermochronometer (Cogné *et al.* 2014), because the laser ablation-inductively
309 coupled plasma-mass spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS) approach to AFT analysis permits
310 U-Pb and AFT ages to be determined on the same grains during a single analytical
311 session (Chew & Donelick 2012). The sampling and separation process is therefore
312 different to the zircon separation process.

313 **Zircon U-Pb**

314 Data to produce the source 'signals' shown in Figure 2 were derived from a
315 number of sources. Data from samples interpreted to be of Laurentian origin were
316 sourced from Cawood *et al.* (2003), Friend *et al.* (2003), Cawood *et al.* (2007),
317 Kirkland *et al.* (2008), Waldron *et al.* (2008), McAteer *et al.* (2010), Cawood *et al.*
318 (2012), Strachan *et al.* (2013), Waldron *et al.* (2014) and Johnson *et al.* (2016). Data
319 from samples interpreted from Cadomia-Armorica are from Fernandez-Suarez *et al.*
320 (2002), Samson *et al.* (2005), Linnemann *et al.* (2008) and Strachan *et al.* (2008).
321 Data from sample of Ganderian association are from Fyffe *et al.* (2009), Waldron *et*
322 *al.* (2014) and Willner *et al.* (2014). Data from samples interpreted to be of
323 Megumian affinity are from Krogh & Keppie (1990), Waldron *et al.* (2009, 2011) and

324 Pothier *et al.* (2015). 'East' Avalonia data were taken from Collins and Buchan
325 (2004), Murphy *et al.* (2004b), Strachan *et al.* (2007), Linnemann *et al.* (2012) and
326 Willner *et al.* (2013). Data from samples interpreted to be sourced from 'West'
327 Avalonia are from Keppie *et al.* (1998), Thompson & Bowring (2000), Barr *et al.*
328 (2003), Murphy *et al.* (2004a, 2004b), Pollock (2007), Satkoski *et al.* (2010),
329 Thompson *et al.* (2012), Dorais *et al.* (2012); Barr *et al.* (2012), Force & Barr (2012),
330 Pollock *et al.* (2012), Willner *et al.* (2013) and Henderson *et al.* (2016). Caledonian
331 granite ages are from Ireland only and include various isotopic geochronological
332 techniques. The granite data were sourced from a compilation by Chew & Stillman
333 (2009).

334 Sample separation was undertaken at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. Detrital
335 zircons were liberated from samples using a jaw crusher and disc mill. Density
336 separation was achieved using diiodomethane in a centrifuge as per Ijlst (1973) and
337 magnetic separation using a Frantz magnetic separator. Zircons of all morphologies
338 and colours, between 60 and 250 μm , were hand-picked under binocular
339 microscope. Typically, between 120 and 180 zircons per sample were mounted in
340 epoxy disks and ground and polished to expose the approximate centre of the
341 grains. Cathodoluminescence (CL) imaging was undertaken at the University of St.
342 Andrews and at Trinity College Dublin in order to identify optimal positions for laser
343 ablation.

344 Uranium, thorium and lead isotopes were measured by laser ablation-sector
345 field-inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometry (LA-SF-ICP-MS) at the
346 Museum für Mineralogie und Geologie (Geoplasma Lab, Senckenberg
347 Naturhistorische Sammlungen Dresden) using a Thermo-Scientific Element 2 XR
348 sector field ICP-MS coupled to a New Wave UP-193 Excimer Laser System. Each

349 analysis consisted of approximately 15 s background acquisition followed by 30 s
350 data acquisition. A common-Pb correction based on the interference- and
351 background-corrected ^{204}Pb signal and a model Pb composition (Stacey & Kramers
352 1975) was carried out if necessary. The necessity of the correction is judged on
353 whether the corrected $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ lies outside of the internal errors of the measured
354 ratios. Raw data were corrected for background signal, common Pb, laser induced
355 elemental fractionation, instrumental mass discrimination, and time-dependant
356 elemental fractionation of Pb/Th and Pb/U using a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet
357 program developed by Axel Gerdes (Institute of Geosciences, Johann Wolfgang
358 Geothe-University Frankfurt, Frankfurt am Main, Germany). Concordia diagrams
359 and concordia ages were produced using Isoplot/Ex 3.7 of Ludwig (2012).
360 Frequency and kernel density estimation (KDE) curves were plotted using
361 DensityPlotter (Vermeesch 2012). Frequency plots were assigned a binwidth of 25
362 Ma. KDEs were plotted using a bandwidth of 20 Ma and a Gaussian kernel. This
363 bandwidth was chosen by trial and error (by comparison to histograms and
364 probability density plots) because in many cases the 'optimal bandwidth' calculated
365 in DensityPlotter caused severe oversmoothing. More importantly, the same
366 bandwidth was applied to all samples and to detrital zircons from potential source
367 areas so that comparisons were like-for-like. Multi-dimensional scaling (MDS)
368 analysis was performed using the R package `provenance` by Vermeesch *et al.*
369 (2016).

370 **White mica Ar-Ar**

371 Detrital white mica Ar-Ar ages for the Coumeenoole Formation in the Dingle
372 Group from Ennis *et al.* (2015) are recalculated in this study using the $28.201 \pm$
373 0.046 Ma age of Kuiper *et al.* (2008) for the Fish Canyon sanidine standard,

374 generally increasing the age of individual grains by ca. 1 % . This was done to
375 facilitate comparison of future detrital white mica analyses which will be conducted
376 using this age for the standard. Details of analytical procedures can be found in
377 Ennis *et al.* (2015).

378 **Apatite U-Pb**

379 At each outcrop, ~10 kg of material was collected across several adjacent beds to
380 reduce any bias arising during deposition from localized heavy mineral concentrating
381 processes. Subsequent sample preparation and analysis were conducted at Trinity
382 College Dublin. The sub-300 µm nonmagnetic heavy mineral fraction was obtained
383 by standard jaw crushing, sieving, magnetic, and heavy liquid separation techniques.
384 Grains were mounted in epoxy resin, ground to expose internal surfaces, and
385 polished. To avoid sample bias, no attempt was made to exclude anhedral or
386 inclusion-bearing grains; the LA-ICP-MS technique permits identification and
387 exclusion of U-rich inclusions (e.g., zircon) from the time-resolved (i.e., downhole)
388 ablation signal of the appropriate isotopes.

389 Analyses were conducted using a Photon Machines Analyte Excite 193 nm ArF
390 Excimer laser ablation system coupled to a Thermo Scientific iCAP Qc ICPMS,
391 employing laser spots of 30 µm, a fluence of 4.5 J cm⁻², a repetition rate of 5 Hz, and
392 an ablation time for each spot of 45 s followed by a 25 s background measurement.
393 Repeated measurements of the primary Madagascar apatite mineral standard
394 (Thomson *et al.* 2012) were used to correct for downhole U-Pb fractionation, mass
395 bias, and intrasession instrument drift using the “VizualAge_UcomPbine” data
396 reduction scheme for IOLITE (Chew *et al.* 2014; Paton *et al.* 2011), while the
397 secondary McClure Mountain and Durango apatite standards were analysed as
398 unknowns (Schoene & Bowring 2006; McDowell *et al.* 2005). Unlike phases that

399 exclude common (initial or nonradiogenic) Pb during crystallization, such as zircon,
400 the often high common-Pb content in apatite typically renders apatite grains
401 discordant in the U-Pb system. Common-Pb in the Madagascar apatite primary
402 standard was corrected for using a ^{207}Pb -based correction method using a known
403 initial $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ ratio (Chew *et al.* 2014). Variable common-Pb content in the
404 detrital apatite unknowns was corrected using an initial common-Pb composition
405 derived from a terrestrial Pb evolution model (Stacey & Kramers 1975) applied to an
406 initial estimate for the age of the apatite, and then by adopting an iterative approach
407 based on a ^{207}Pb correction (Chew *et al.* 2011). The ^{207}Pb -based correction assumes
408 U-Pb* (radiogenic Pb) concordance – a reasonable assumption in the case of
409 standards and magmatic grains, but one which may not be the case for detrital
410 grains that have experienced partial Pb loss. As a result, independent geological
411 evidence is required to discriminate between partially and wholly reset detrital U-Pb
412 ages, similar to partially reset AFT ages (Mark *et al.* 2016).

413 Due to the ^{207}Pb -based correction, no apatite U-Pb age data can be excluded
414 based on discordance criteria. However, the relatively low U content of apatite
415 (sometimes <1 ppm) and consequent near-zero radiogenic Pb content of some
416 grains can result in undesirably large analytical uncertainties. We therefore excluded
417 grains with 2σ errors >25%, similar to the approach of Zattin *et al.* (2012).

418 As post-deposition temperatures exceeded the thermal sensitivity of the AFT
419 technique (ca. 120-60 °C; e.g., Gallagher *et al.* 1998), the resultant AFT ages
420 typically defined a single population for each sample. Because only a single AFT age
421 population was defined for each sample, it was only necessary to analyse ca. 20-30
422 grains for each sample.

423 **Detrital zircon U-Th-Pb results**

424 Two hundred and seventy three zircons were analysed from the Lower Devonian
425 Dingle Group on the Dingle Peninsula. Another 119 detrital zircon grains were
426 analysed from the Upper Devonian Slieve Mish Group on the Dingle Peninsula. The
427 number of concordant ages obtained from each sample ensures an extremely low
428 probability of missing an age component that contributes 10 % of the detrital zircon
429 age population of the analysed sediment (Vermeesch *et al.* 2016). For all three
430 samples, where age populations contribute over six percent, interpretations can be
431 made at the 95 % confidence level.

432 Age uncertainties reported in the text are at the 2σ level unless otherwise stated.
433 Core-rim analyses were undertaken where these features could be identified in CL
434 images and where grains were large enough. Only rim ages are used for provenance
435 interpretations in order to determine the most recent source of sediment. The results
436 are presented as Wetherill concordia (Wetherill 1956), frequency and KDE plots
437 (Figs 4 and Fig. 5). The $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ age is reported where the $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ age is
438 greater than 1.0 Ga because the $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ age is more precise in older zircon
439 grains (e.g. Gehrels *et al.* 2008).

440 **Coumeenoole Formation - Sample AK19**

441 Sample AK19, collected at Connor Pass, consists of grey, moderately sorted,
442 medium- to coarse-grained sandstone and is the stratigraphically oldest sample in
443 the study area. One hundred and fourteen zircon grains were analysed yielding a
444 total of 86 concordant analyses ranging from 394 ± 9 Ma to 2142 ± 16 Ma (Fig. 4a).
445 Thirty seven grains (43 %) yielded Mesoproterozoic ages which form a major peak at
446 around 1.20 Ga (Fig. 5a). Neoproterozoic zircons make up 26 % ($n = 22$) of the
447 sample, the second largest peak in the sample occurring at around 550 Ma. The rest

448 of the sample is composed of 14 (16 %) Palaeoproterozoic zircons and 13 (15 %)
449 Palaeozoic zircons. Of the Palaeozoic grains, four are Cambrian, four are
450 Ordovician, two are Silurian and three are Devonian. Two of the Devonian zircons,
451 the youngest in the sample, have ages of 394 ± 9 Ma and 402 ± 10 Ma and have
452 length:width ratios of 3:1 and 5:1 respectively. Kostov (1973) suggests that high
453 length-width ratios may indicate rapid cooling rates. However, such ratios may
454 simply represent first order detrital zircons that have not been reworked (Poldervaart
455 1955).

456 **Slea Head Formation - Sample AK21**

457 This sample was taken from Cooleen Pier in Ventry Bay and consists of dark
458 grey, medium- to coarse-grained, pebbly sandstones. Ninety eight concordant ages
459 were obtained from measurement of 159 zircon grains. Ages range from 395 ± 8 Ma
460 to 2765 ± 29 Ma and the largest peak is developed at 1.18 Ga (Figs Fig. 4b and Fig.
461 5b). Mesoproterozoic zircons form the bulk of the sample at 40 % ($n = 39$). Twenty
462 six zircon grains (27 %) are Neoproterozoic in age, forming a major peak at ca. 630
463 Ma. Palaeoproterozoic zircons contribute 13 % ($n = 13$) of the sample. Eighteen
464 grains are Palaeozoic in age, including one Cambrian zircon, eight Ordovician
465 zircons, three Silurian zircons and six Devonian zircons. This sample, unlike AK19,
466 also contains Archaean grains ($n = 2$). A concordia age of 405 ± 4 Ma ($\text{MSWD}_{\text{conc}} =$
467 0.18 ; $p_{\text{conc}} = 0.67$) was calculated using the six Devonian zircons. Two of these
468 zircons display length:width ratios of greater than 3:1.

469 **Cappagh Sandstone Formation - Sample AK17**

470 This sample, consisting of grey to pink, poorly sorted medium- to coarse-grained,
471 pebbly sandstone, was taken from an outcropping ridge at Aughils, north of the
472 R561. One hundred and nineteen zircons were analysed, producing 84 concordant

473 ages ranging from 403 ± 9 Ma to 3677 ± 21 Ma (Fig. 4c). The majority of these
474 grains are Mesoproterozoic in age (43 grains representing 51 % of the sample) and
475 the largest peak in the sample is Mesoproterozoic at ca. 1.05 Ga (Fig. 5c). Sixteen
476 grains (19 %) are Palaeoproterozoic in age and represent the second largest
477 population in the sample. Neoproterozoic zircons represent 12 % ($n = 10$) of the
478 sample. Palaeozoic zircons represent 10 %, including one Cambrian zircon, three
479 Ordovician zircons, three Silurian zircons and one Devonian zircon. Seven Archaean
480 zircon grains are present in the sample. There is a paucity of zircon ages ($n = 3$)
481 between ca. 550 Ma and ca. 980 Ma.

482 **Apatite U-Pb and Mica $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$ Geochronology**

483 **Apatite U-Pb**

484 These data were generated concurrently with apatite fission track analyses that were
485 undertaken for bedrock thermal history studies by Cogné *et al.* (2014), but were not
486 previously published. Due to the low number of detrital apatite grains analysed, the
487 data must be interpreted with caution. In some cases, samples from the same
488 formation are combined to yield the minimum statistical requirement of 60 analyses,
489 as per Dodson *et al.* (1988). The limited variability in detrital apatite ages in these
490 larger samples suggests that it is unlikely that multiple apatite sources of significantly
491 different age and thermal history were being sampled by the sediments under
492 investigation. The apatite U-Pb ages were not utilised in the aforementioned study.
493 Therefore the data have been included in this study (**Fig. 6**) to provide a
494 geochronological proxy which has an intermediate closure temperature (ca. 375-550
495 °C; Cochrane *et al.* 2014) between the mica $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$ and zircon U-Pb systems. The
496 sampling transect was collected from Mount Brandon on the Dingle Peninsula (Fig.
497 3). This transect intersected two formations and includes four samples taken from

498 the Ballymore Sandstone Formation and one sample from the Farran Sandstone
499 Formation.

500 Combined analyses from four samples (Mb-1, Mb-4, Mb-5 and Mb-7) from the
501 Ballymore Sandstone Formation, the uppermost formation in the Dingle Group,
502 yields a KDE spectrum composed of 70 ages forming a single KDE peak at ca. 420
503 Ma. Detrital apatite ages in this formation range from 356 ± 80 to 896 ± 30 Ma (Fig.
504 6a). However, 63 % of grains have ages between 380 and 440 Ma and 10 % have
505 ages of less than 393 Ma (end-Emsian). Eighteen apatite grains were analysed from
506 the Farran Sandstone Formation (sample Mb-9), the lowest formation in the
507 Smerwick Group. These grains range in age from 347 ± 58 to 1356 ± 227 Ma. The
508 KDE spectrum (Fig. 6b) shows the highest age concentration at ca. 420 Ma.

509 **Mica $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$**

510 Ennis *et al.* (2015) acquired detrital white mica ages for a sample from the
511 Coumeenoole Formation, at a similar location (Connor Pass) to detrital zircon
512 sample AK19. These ages have been recalculated here using the revised Fish
513 Canyon standard age of Kuiper *et al.* (2008). Detrital white mica ages in the sample
514 range from 308 ± 10.3 Ma to 440 ± 7 Ma, including two main age groups forming
515 KDE peaks at ca. 414 Ma and ca. 382 Ma (**Fig. 7**).

516 **Discussion**

517 The overall age distribution of detrital zircons in samples from the Coumeenoole
518 and Sleah Head formations (similar Proterozoic distributions, a gap in ages between
519 730 and 940 Ma, mostly continuous distributions between 390 and 730 Ma and
520 major KDE peaks at around 1.2 Ga) suggests a common source throughout their
521 deposition (Kolmogorov-Smirnov test p-value of 0.871). Palaeozoic peaks in both
522 samples, at around 430 Ma, likely correspond to a Caledonian (430-420 Ma) source.

523 A mean $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ age of 432 ± 3 Ma as well as a whole-rock Rb-Sr isochron age
524 of 428 ± 11 Ma was obtained by O'Connor *et al.* (1988) for the Carnsore granite. A
525 Rb-Sr whole-rock isochron age of 436 ± 7 Ma for the Saltees granite by Max *et al.*
526 (1979) led O'Connor *et al.* (1988) to conclude that the two intrusions are genetically
527 related. These intrusions are the only ones of this age in Ireland and the 430 Ma age
528 of detrital zircons from the LORS, as well as the northerly directed palaeoflow of the
529 Trabeg Conglomerate Formation (Todd 2000), suggests that the intrusions extend
530 westward beneath the Munster Basin along the strike of Caledonian lineaments. The
531 idea of such a buried granite is not new; it was first proposed by Murphy (1960) and
532 has since been expanded upon by a number of authors (e.g. Ford *et al.* 1991; Meere
533 1995; Masson *et al.* 1998; Vermeulen *et al.* 2000; Todd 2000). Vermeulen *et al.*
534 (2000) interpreted seismic profiles across southern Ireland as showing a shallow,
535 granitic body buried beneath the UORS just south of the Killarney-Mallow Fault
536 Zone. Todd (2000) suggested that granite clasts within the Trabeg Conglomerate
537 Formation might represent the unroofing of a presently buried granitic intrusion which
538 forms part of an extension of the Leinster Massif.

539 Detrital apatite ages from the uppermost part of the Dingle Group, in the
540 Ballymore Formation, yield a single peak at ca. 420 Ma (**Fig. 6a**) which is compatible
541 with a Late Caledonian granitic source. Williams *et al.* (1999) obtained an age of 411
542 Ma for the Cooscrawn Tuff Bed in the Ballymore Formation which is older than 22 of
543 the 70 detrital apatites analysed in this formation. A concordia age from six zircons in
544 the underlying Sleah Head Formation provides a minimum depositional age of 405 ± 4
545 Ma ($\text{MSWD}_{\text{conc}} = 0.18$; $p_{\text{conc}} = 0.67$) and suggests that the Cooscrawn Tuff age is
546 likely erroneous. Palynological evidence places the deposition of the Sleah Head
547 Formation in early to possibly middle Emsian times and is compatible with the

548 youngest group of detrital zircons in this formation. The high length to width ratio of
549 some of the youngest zircons in both the Coumeenoole and Sleah Head formations
550 may suggest an igneous source that had cooled rapidly (Kostov 1973) – possibly a
551 syn-sedimentary volcanic source. Although U-Pb ages of apatite grains from the
552 Ballymore Formation are younger, they are nonetheless indistinguishable from the
553 zircon ages of the Coumeenoole and Sleah Head formations at the 2-sigma level. A
554 dominant age peak of ca. 420 Ma (**Fig. 6b**) is also observed for 17 detrital apatite
555 grains in the Farran Sandstone Formation (Smerwick Group) which unconformably
556 overlies the Ballymore Formation.

557 A lower Palaeozoic source of detrital mica is reflected in the oldest age peak (ca.
558 414 Ma, **Fig. 7**) from a sample from the Coumeenoole Formation. However, the
559 dominant age peak is much younger, at ca. 382 Ma. This peak is much younger than
560 the Emsian depositional age of the host sedimentary rock and suggests that the
561 LORS experienced a thermal resetting event. A review of the potential causes of
562 resetting is provided in Ennis *et al.* (2015) and the extension associated with Lough
563 Guitane Volcanism in the Munster Basin is briefly mentioned. Given that Williams *et*
564 *al.* (2000) obtained a U-Pb zircon age of 378.5 Ma for the Horses Glen Volcanic
565 Centre and 384.5 Ma for the Killeen Volcanic Centre (which lie to the southeast of
566 the Dingle Basin), it is likely that the younger detrital mica ages represent resetting
567 by high heat flow associated with extension and volcanism which may have been
568 caused by emplacement of a granitic body at depth below the Munster Basin (Avison
569 1984). Alternatively, these younger ages could represent partial resetting due to low-
570 grade Variscan metamorphism at the end of the Carboniferous Period.

571 The low proportion of Palaeozoic zircons in the Dingle Group does not reflect the
572 high proportion of volcanic clasts reported by Todd (2000) and interpreted to have

573 been derived from rocks of Ordovician to Silurian age. This, however, may simply be
574 a function of low zircon fertility in the volcanic source due to the dominant mafic to
575 intermediate compositions (Todd 2000).

576 Determination of the ultimate source of late Neoproterozoic detrital zircons in
577 these samples is relatively straightforward because of the lack of abundant known
578 sources of this age on this part of the Laurentian craton (Fig. 2). The LORS samples
579 also contain some 1.9 to 2.1 Ga zircons, considered to be indicative of the
580 Gondwanan Eburnean Orogeny (Nance *et al.* 2008). Late Neoproterozoic zircons
581 are ubiquitous in peri-Gondwanan terranes as a result of arc magmatism at that time
582 (Nance *et al.* 2008) and therefore represent the most likely source. It should be
583 noted, however, that Cawood & Nemchin (2001) report extensional magmatism
584 associated with rifting in Laurentia between 520 and 555 Ma. But sedimentary rocks
585 interpreted to be of Laurentian affinity do not record extensive Neoproterozoic zircon
586 production (Fig. Fig. 2). Combined detrital zircon ages from various Cambrian
587 formations in the Leinster Massif (Waldron *et al.* 2014) yield a high proportion in the
588 range 500 to 770 Ma forming a peak at around 590 Ma (**Fig. 8d**). Waldron *et al.*
589 (2014) proposed that these zircon ages represent a Ganderian source for the host
590 sediments. If the source of granitic material for the Dingle Group was indeed Late
591 Caledonian granites as suggested above, then, by extension, the Cambrian to
592 Ordovician rocks into which the granites intrude are also a viable source of detritus.
593 Support for derivation of late Neoproterozoic zircons from recycling of peri-
594 Gondwanan sediments can be found in the study by Todd (2000) who found coticule
595 and tourmalinite clasts akin to rocks found in the Ordovician Ribband Group. Todd
596 (2000) also suggests that quartzite clasts in the Trabeg Conglomerate Formation
597 could be related to quartzites of the Cambrian Bray Group. The similarity in the

598 ranges of detrital zircon ages younger than 800 Ma in both the Coumeenoole and
599 Slea Head formations suggests that this southerly source remained available
600 throughout their deposition.

601 Zircons with ages in the range of 1.1 to 1.25 Ga, the most abundant in both
602 samples, are likely ultimately sourced from Laurentia. Cawood and Nemchin (2001)
603 consider grains in this age range to be representative of magmatic and metamorphic
604 activity associated with the Grenville Orogeny. Zircons of similar age are present in
605 the Ganderia-derived Cambrian sediments in the Leinster Massif. However, the far
606 greater abundance of zircons of this age range relative to zircons of late
607 Neoproterozoic age in the Dingle Group samples requires an additional source from
608 which the older zircons can be derived.

609 Constructing a palaeodrainage pattern for the Coumeenoole and Slea Head
610 formations requires a source (or sources) of detritus that meet the following criteria:

- 611 a) Abundant zircons yielding ca. 1.2 Ga U-Pb ages (likely of ultimate Laurentian
612 affinity).
- 613 b) Presence of late Neoproterozoic and 1.9 to 2.1 Ga zircons (of peri-
614 Gondwanan affinity)
- 615 c) Paucity of zircons between 730 and 940 Ma
- 616 d) Low proportion of Palaeozoic zircons
- 617 e) Late Caledonian apatite U-Pb and white mica $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$ ages (ca. 420 Ma and
618 414 Ma, respectively).

619 Transverse drainage, as indicated by palaeocurrent directions (Todd 2000),
620 particularly from the south but possibly also from the north, was the likely means by
621 which Late Caledonian and peri-Gondwanan material was supplied to the Dingle
622 Basin (**Fig. 9**). Evidence of Late Caledonian detrital input to the basin is given by 420

623 Ma apatite and 414 Ma mica ages. Although the ultimate source of Mesoproterozoic
624 zircons in the Coumeenoole and Sleah Head formations was probably the Grenville
625 Orogeny, defining the immediate source area is more problematic because a source
626 of abundant 1.2 Ga zircons has not been found in Ireland. Ordovician and Silurian
627 sediments from the Southern Uplands – Longford Down terrane show an abundance
628 of 1.1 Ga (**Fig. 8a** and **Fig. 8c**) and Ordovician zircons (**Fig. 8b**). This accretionary
629 wedge material is therefore a poor candidate unless the source character of these
630 sedimentary rocks changes westward, along strike. The apparent dissimilarity,
631 revealed by multi-dimensional scaling analysis, between the Dingle Group samples
632 and samples of Laurentian derivation in the Southern Uplands – Longford Down
633 terrane (**Fig. 8g**) reflects the lack of 1.2 Ga zircons in the available source data and
634 presence of late Neoproterozoic zircons of peri-Gondwanan affinity in the Dingle
635 Group samples.

636 Given the bulk northeastward palaeoflow in the Coumeenoole and Sleah Head
637 Formations (Todd *et al.* 1988), it is likely that most of the detritus was deposited as a
638 result of this flow. A source to the southwest of the Dingle Basin must account for
639 the high proportion of Laurentian zircons in the analysed samples. Therefore,
640 although the main river course likely flowed from the west and southwest, we
641 suggest that Caledonian highlands in the north produced a large number of
642 tributaries flowing from north to south, into the main Coumeenoole/Sleah Head
643 system (Fig. 9). Alternatively, it is also possible that the Iapetus Suture forms a
644 regional S-shape and that the strike of the suture swings from roughly east-west
645 onshore to southwest-northeast off the southwest coast of Ireland. This is highly
646 speculative however, as there is no other supporting evidence for such a hypothesis.

647 Unlike the LORS on the Dingle Peninsula, the UORS, represented by sample
648 AK17 from the Cappagh White Sandstone Formation, contains very few late
649 Neoproterozoic zircons but is instead dominated by Mesoproterozoic grains. Also
650 unlike the LORS, the UORS contains a dominant 1.05 Ga peak as opposed to the
651 1.2 Ga peak of the LORS. The lack of late Neoproterozoic grains, dominant 1.05 Ga
652 KDE peak and similarity to detrital zircon age spectra of Laurentian affinity (**Fig. 8a**,
653 **Fig. 8c** and **Fig. 8g**) indicates a northerly-derived source area and no input from
654 sources south of the Iapetus Suture. It would also indicate that recycling of the LORS
655 into the UORS in southern Ireland, as previously suggested, is not likely to have
656 occurred. It is more conceivable that this sediment was recycled from material similar
657 to that found in the Longford Down terrane.

658 It is becoming widely accepted that a period of regional sinistral transtension
659 occurred across the Iapetus Suture Zone in the Early Devonian Period (Todd 1989;
660 Phillips *et al.* 1995; Dewey & Strachan 2003; Brown *et al.* 2008; Cooper *et al.* 2016).
661 In the present study, the discrepancy between 1.2 Ga Laurentian zircons found in
662 the Dingle Group and 1.1 Ga Laurentian zircons found in the Longford Down and
663 Southern Uplands terranes as well as the abundance of 1.05 Ga zircons in the
664 UORS of the Dingle Peninsula is supportive of large-scale sinistral transtensional
665 displacement along the Iapetus Suture, removing the 1.2 Ga source of detrital zircon
666 and introducing the 1.05-1.1 Ga source to the UORS in the Late Devonian Period. Of
667 course, this discrepancy may not have tectonic significance and may simply be
668 representative of topographic separation of sources or complete denudation of the
669 1.2 Ga source and subsequent exhumation of the 1.1 Ga source. High resolution
670 detrital zircon sampling of younger formations within and overlying the Dingle Group
671 would serve to elucidate the nature and timing of the change in source character.

672 Finally, a minimum depositional age of ca. 405 Ma for the Coumeenoole Formation
673 adds to growing evidence (Soper & Woodcock 2003, and references therein) of a
674 discrete Emsian orogenic event in the British Isles.

675 **Conclusions**

676 This paper presents the first multi-proxy, single-grain detrital geochronological
677 study of the LORS in the Lower Devonian Dingle Basin in southwestern Ireland
678 which suggests the following:

- 679 1) The Dingle Basin sedimentary fill is dominated by Laurentian detritus but
680 also includes a mixture of peri-Gondwanan and Late Caledonian (430-420
681 Ma) to Acadian (410-390 Ma) source areas.
- 682 2) A dominant drainage area lay to the west but the basin must have received
683 much detritus from transverse drainage to the north which intersected
684 Laurentian material.
- 685 3) Detrital zircons from the UORS Cappagh White Sandstone Formation
686 show very different characteristics to the LORS where sediment was being
687 supplied solely from detritus of Laurentian affinity.
- 688 4) The paucity of late Neoproterozoic zircons in the UORS compared to the
689 high proportion in the LORS suggests that the UORS was not derived from
690 recycling of LORS sediments as previously suggested.
- 691 5) Well documented regional sinistral transtension during the Early Devonian
692 Period was likely responsible for a switch in Laurentian source character
693 from the LORS (prevalence of 1.2 Ga detrital zircons) to the UORS
694 (prevalence of 1.1 Ga detrital zircons).

695

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710

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1157

1158 **Figure Captions**

1159 **Fig. 1.** Regional map of the British Isles showing the major terranes of Ireland. The
1160 rectangle indicates the study area shown in Figure 3 (modified after McIlroy & Horák
1161 2006; Waldron *et al.* 2014; McConnell *et al.* 2016; alternative ISZ after Todd *et al.*
1162 1991). Inset: regional map showing broad tectonic domains (Linnemann *et al.* 2007;
1163 Nance *et al.* 2012; Waldron *et al.* 2014; Waldron *et al.* 2011; Waldron *et al.* 2009)
1164 Key: BT, Bellewstown Terrane; CG, Carnsore Granite; DB, Dingle Basin; GG,
1165 Galway Granite; GT, Grangegeeth Terrane; ISZ, Iapetus Suture Zone; NIC, Newry
1166 Igneous Complex; SG, Saltees Granite; TIC, Tyrone Igneous Complex.

1167

1168 **Fig. 2.** Kernel density plots (bandwidth = 20 Ma) of published detrital zircon ages
1169 from various potential source terranes (modified and expanded after Pointon *et al.*
1170 2012). Laurentia data from Cawood *et al.* (2003); Friend *et al.* (2003); Cawood *et al.*
1171 (2007); Kirkland *et al.* (2008); Waldron *et al.* (2008); McAteer *et al.* (2010); Cawood
1172 *et al.* (2012); Strachan *et al.* (2013); Waldron *et al.* (2014); Johnson *et al.* (2016).

1173 Cadomia-Armorica data from Fernandez-Suarez *et al.* (2002); Samson *et al.* (2005);
1174 Linnemann *et al.* (2008); Strachan *et al.* (2008). Ganderia data from Fyffe *et al.*
1175 (2009); Waldron *et al.* (2014); Willner *et al.* (2014). Megumia data from Krogh &
1176 Keppie (1990); Waldron *et al.* (2009, 2011); Pothier *et al.* (2015). `East' Avalonia
1177 data from Collins & Buchan (2004); Murphy *et al.* (2004); Strachan *et al.* (2007);
1178 Linnemann *et al.* (2012); Willner *et al.* (2013). `West' Avalonia data from Keppie *et al.*
1179 (1998); Thompson & Bowring (2000); Barr *et al.* (2003); Murphy *et al.* (2004a,
1180 2004b); Pollock (2007); Satkoski *et al.* (2010); Thompson *et al.* (2012); Dorais *et al.*
1181 (2012); Barr *et al.* (2012); Force & Barr (2012); Pollock *et al.* (2012); Willner *et al.*
1182 (2013); Henderson *et al.* (2016). Caledonian granite ages are from Ireland only and
1183 include various isotopic geochronological techniques. The Caledonian data are taken
1184 from Chew & Stillman (2009).

1185

1186 **Fig. 3.** Geological map and generalised north-south geological cross section of the
1187 Dingle Peninsula showing sample locations (modified after Todd 1989; Ennis *et al.*
1188 2015). Detrital apatite and detrital zircon sample location marked by bold asterisks
1189 and white stars respectively.

1190

1191 **Fig. 4.** Wetherill concordia plots for all detrital zircon samples analysed in this study
1192 (youngest ages inset). (a) Coumeenoole Formation (sample AK19). (b) Sleah Head
1193 Formation (sample AK21). (c) Cappagh Sandstone Formation (sample AK17).

1194

1195 **Fig. 5.** Detrital zircon age KDE, histogram plots and age percentage distribution plots
1196 from Dingle Peninsula samples. (a) Coumeenoole Formation (sample AK19). (b)

1197 Slea Head Formation (sample AK21). (c) Cappagh White Sandstone Formation
1198 (sample AK17).

1199

1200 **Fig. 6.** KDE and histogram plots for detrital apatite U-Pb ages in (a) the Ballymore
1201 Formation and (b) the Farran Sandstone Formation.

1202

1203 **Fig. 7.** Histogram and KDE plots of revised detrital white mica ages from a sample
1204 from the Coumeenoole Formation at Connor Pass on the Dingle Peninsula (original
1205 data from Ennis *et al.* 2015). Bold arrow represents approximate depositional age
1206 (see text for explanation of 382 Ma peak).

1207

1208 **Fig. 8.** KDE plots of detrital zircon ages from various potential local sediment
1209 sources as well as age distributions for detrital zircons analysed in this study. (a)
1210 Upper Ordovician to Llandovery sedimentary rocks of the Southern Uplands terrane
1211 (Waldron *et al.* 2008, 2014) with dominant Laurentian provenance. (b) Upper
1212 Ordovician to Llandovery sedimentary rocks of the Longford Down terrane showing
1213 peri-Laurentian arc provenance (McConnell *et al.* 2016). (c) A single sample from the
1214 Llandovery Lough Avaghon Formation in the Longford Down terrane showing
1215 dominant Laurentian provenance (McConnell *et al.* 2016). (d) Ganderian provenance
1216 of Cambrian sedimentary rocks in the Leinster terrane (Waldron *et al.* 2014). (e)
1217 UORS on the Dingle Peninsula. (f) Composite of two samples from the LORS Dingle
1218 Group. (g) Multi-dimensional scaling map of individual samples used in plots (a)-(f).
1219 Labels indicate broad provenance interpretations from original studies. Axes values
1220 are dimensionless K-S distances (Vermeesch 2013). The most closely related

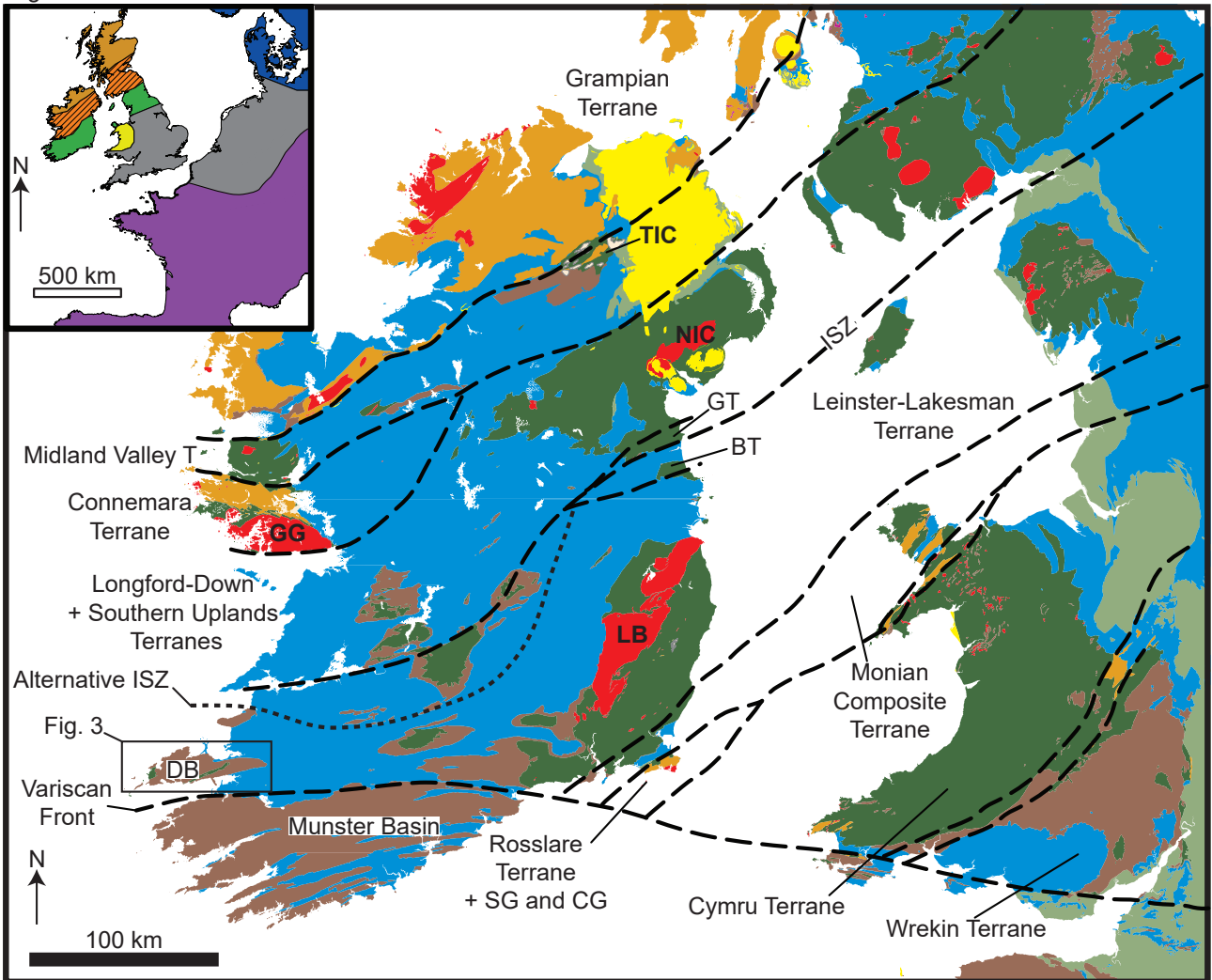
1221 samples are joined by a solid line and the second closest are marked with a dashed
1222 line. N, number of samples; n, number of single zircon grain ages.

1223

1224 **Fig. 9.** Possible palaeodrainage pattern in the Dingle basin during deposition of the
1225 Coumeenoole and Sleah Head Formations (modified after Todd 2000). CG, Carnsore
1226 Granite; DBL, Dingle Bay Lineament; GG, Galway Granite Batholith; LB, Leinster
1227 Batholith; NKL, North Kerry Lineament.

1228

Figure 1



- Main map:
- Cenozoic rocks
 - Mesozoic rocks
 - Carboniferous + Permian rocks
 - Devonian + Pridoli rocks
 - Caledonian intrusions
 - Cambrian-Silurian rocks
 - Precambrian

- Inset:
- Cadomia
 - Avalonia
 - Ganderia
 - Megumia
 - Peri-Laurentia
 - Laurentia
 - Baltica

Figure 2

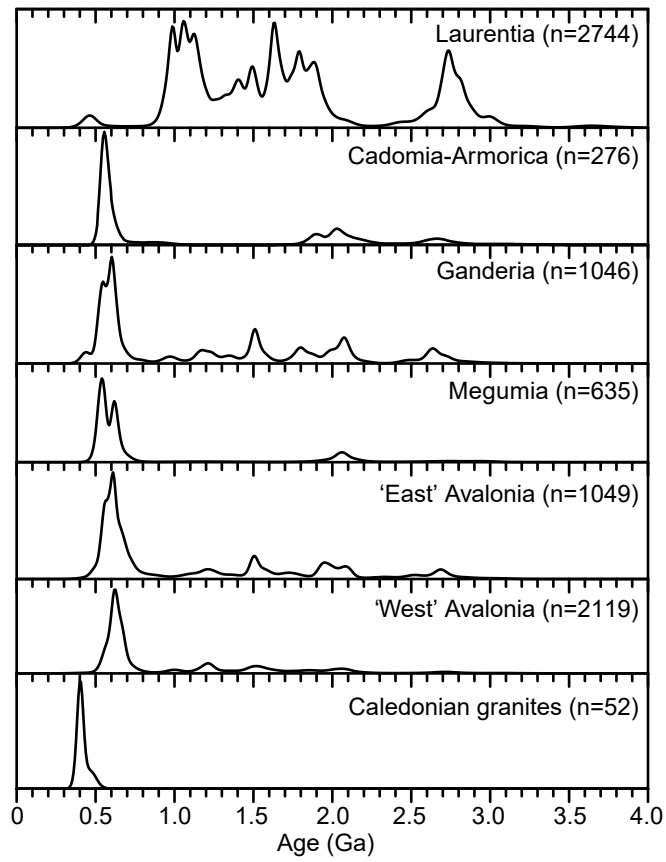


Figure 3

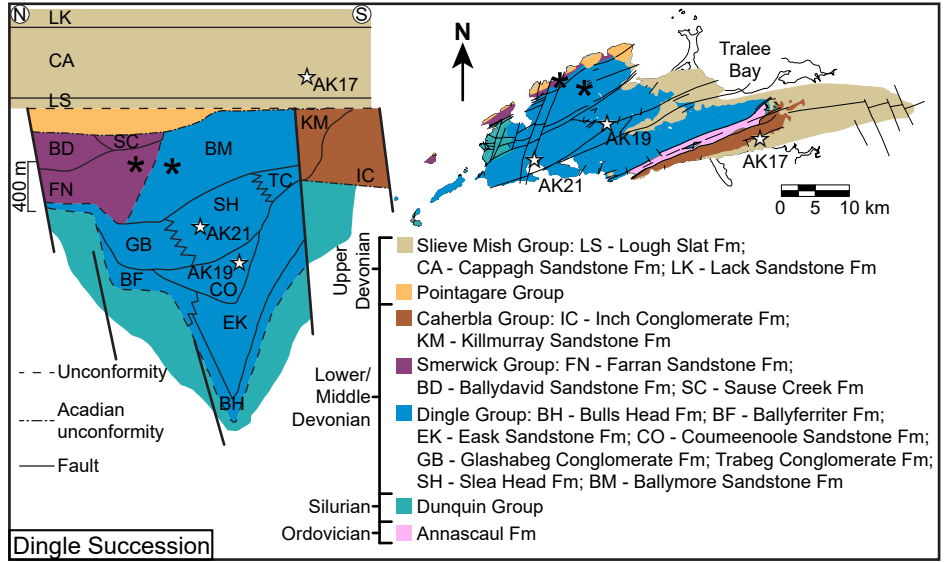


Figure 4

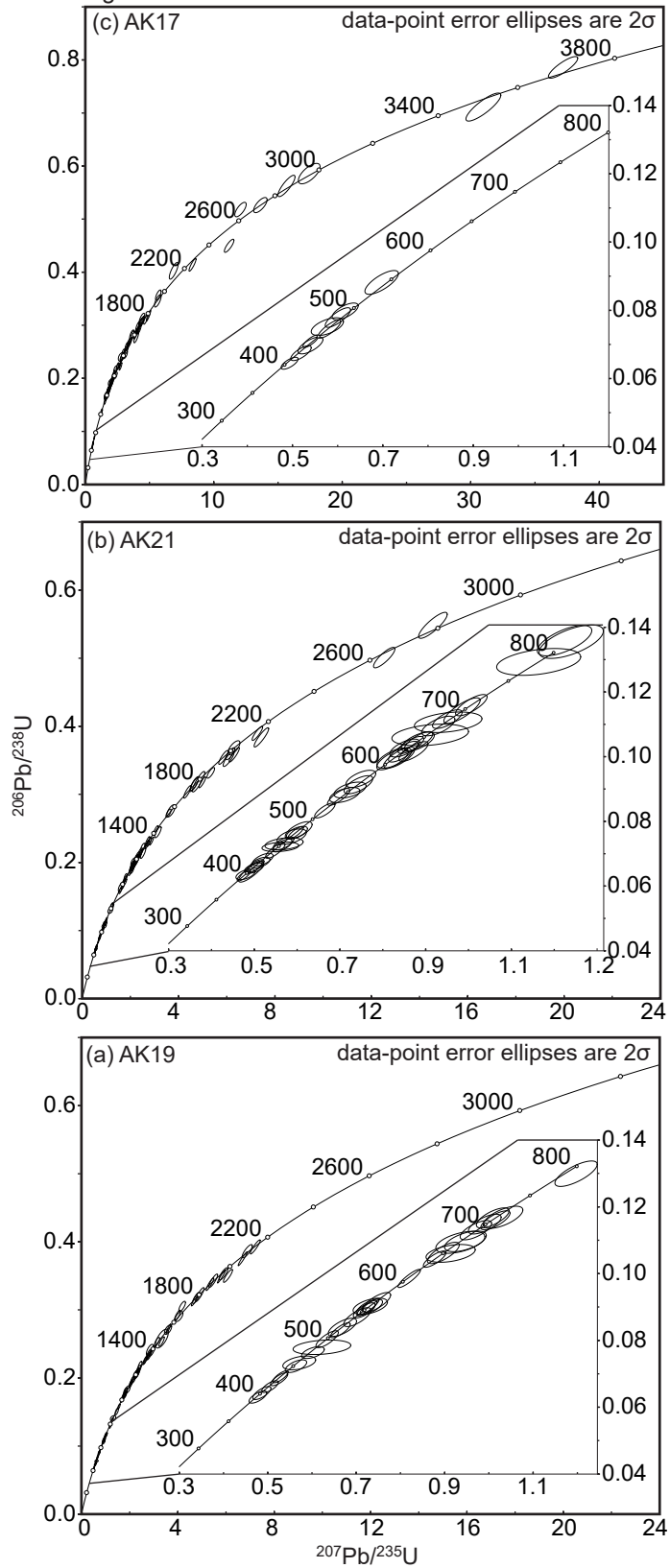


Figure 5

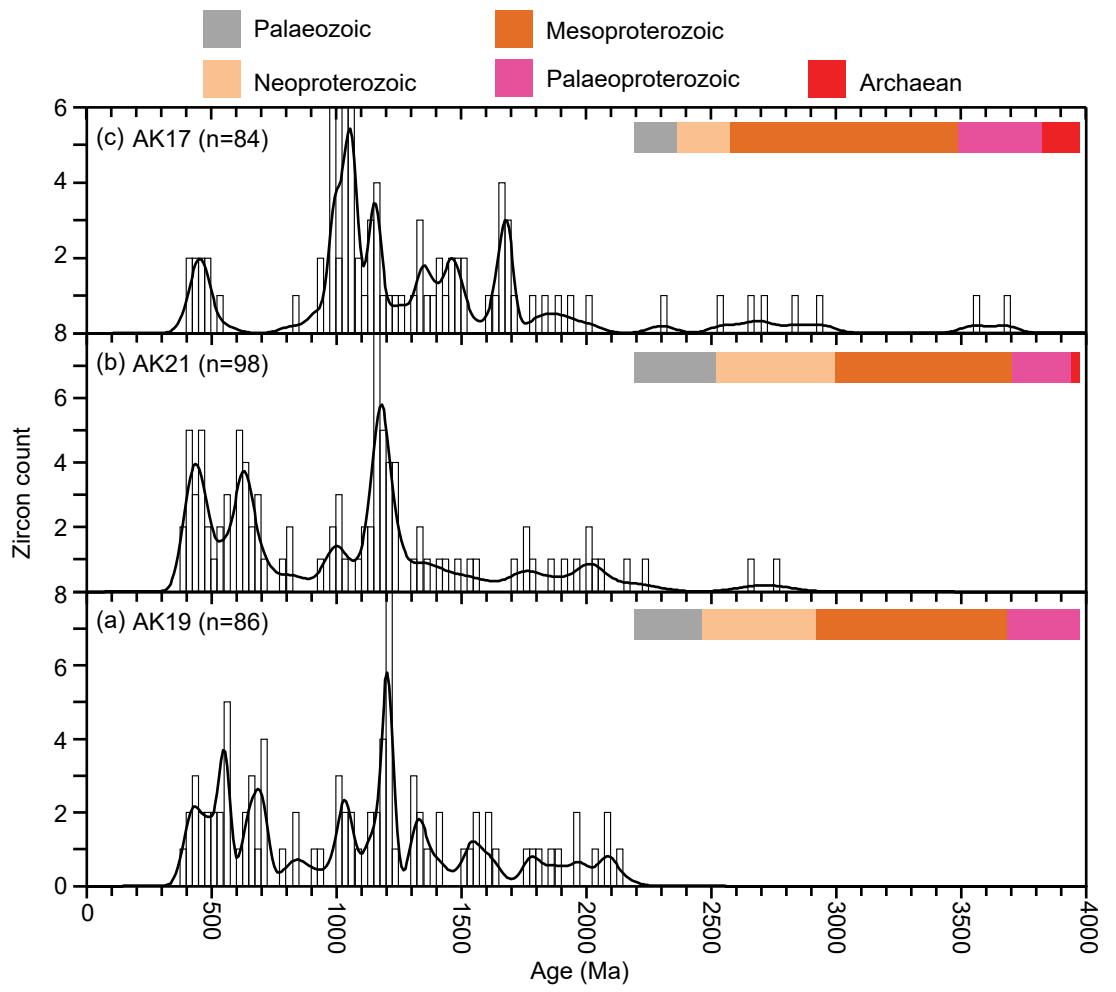
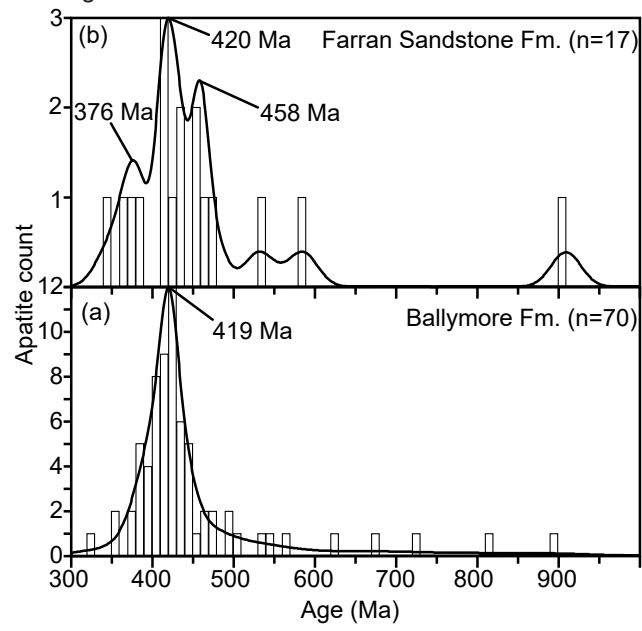


Figure 6



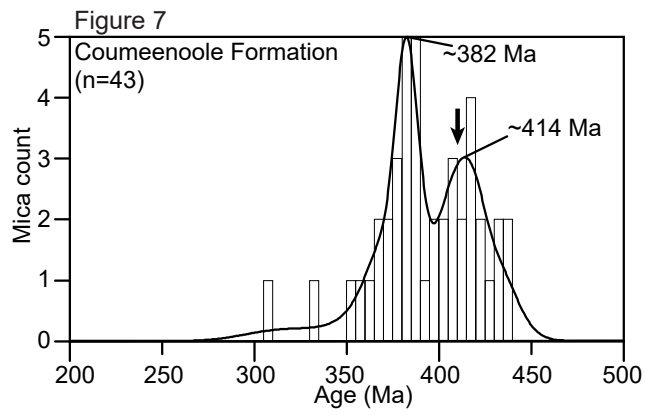


Figure 8

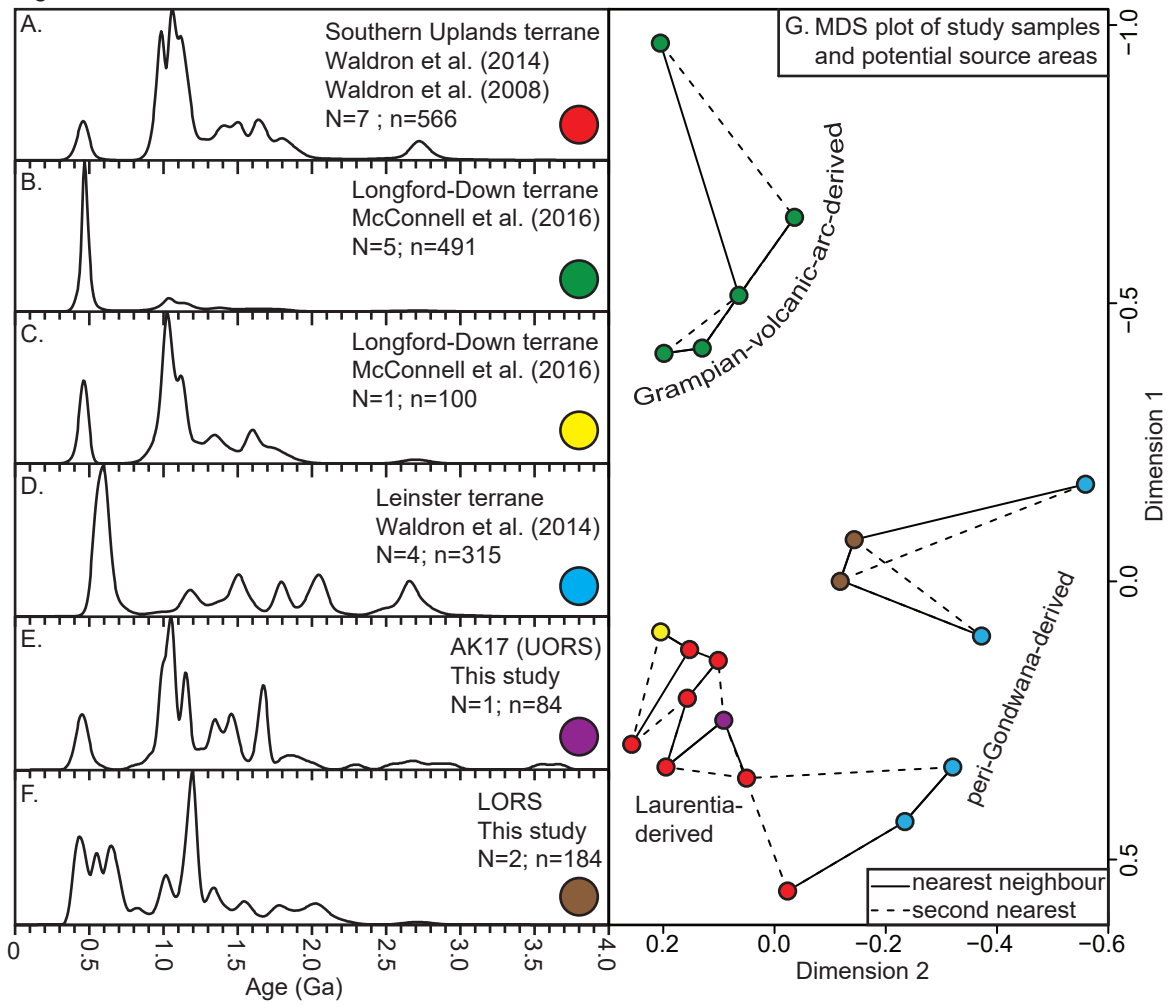


Figure 9

