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Key Points:

- Sikhote-Alin terranes were supplied by the Bureya-Jiamusi-Khanka Block and the North China Craton
- The Sikhote-Alin terranes were transported northward after deposition during Jurassic to Cretaceous

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U-Pb Dating and Lu-Hf Isotopes of Detrital Zircons From the Southern Sikhote-Alin Orogenic Belt, Russian Far East: Tectonic Implications for the Early Cretaceous Evolution of the Northwest Pacific Margin

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Abstract The Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt in Russian Far East is comprised of several N-S trending belts, including the Late Jurassic to Early Cretaceous accretionary prisms and turbidite basin which are now separated by thrusts and strike-slip faults. The origin and collage of the belts have been studied for decades. However, the provenance of the belts remains unclear. Six sandstone samples were collected along a 200 km long east-west traverse across the major belts in the southern Sikhote-Alin for U-Pb dating and Lu-Hf isotope analysis to constrain the provenance and evaluate the evolution of the northwest Pacific margin at this time. The result reveals that the sediments from the main Samarka belt was mainly from the adjacent Bureya-Jiamusi-Khanka Block (BJKB); the eastern Samarka belt and the Zhuravlevka turbidite basin were supplied by detritus from both the North China Craton (NCC) and the BJKB; the Taukha belt was mainly fed by sediments from the NCC; whereas the data from the Sergeevka nappes are insufficient to resolve their provenance. In the Late Jurassic to Early Cretaceous, collision and subduction was important in the initial collage of most belts in Sikhote-Alin. However, merely E-W trending collage cannot explain the increasing importance of the NCC provenance from west to east. It is proposed that the main Samarka belt was located adjacent to the BJKB when deposited, whereas the other belts were farther south to accept the materials from the NCC. Sinistral strike-slip faulting transported the eastern belts northward after their initial collage by thrusting.

1. Introduction

The East Asian continent consists of three major cratons which are, from north to south, the Siberia Craton, North China Craton, and South China Craton (Figure 1). Several orogenic belts/suture zones welded the cratons to form the tectonic framework of northeastern Asian continent.

The Central Asian Orogenic Belt (CAOB) is located between the Siberia and North China cratons. This gigantic orogenic belt is composed of many arcs, basins, and continental blocks within the Paleo-Asian Ocean which was closed in the Late Paleozoic (Chen et al., 2016; Rowley et al., 1985; Şengör, 1984; Şengör et al., 1993; Şengör & Natal'In, 1996; Song et al., 2015; Wilde, 2015; Windley et al., 2007; Xiao et al., 2003; Xu et al., 2015; Zhao et al., 2013; Zonenshain, 1973). The eastern segment of the Mongol-Okhotsk Ocean between the CAOB and Siberia Craton did not close until the Early Cretaceous (Donskaya et al., 2013; Khanchuk, Didenko, Popeko, et al., 2015; Kravchinsky et al., 2002). The South China Craton (SCC) collided with and was subducted beneath the North China Craton (NCC) along the Dabie-Sulu Orogen between ca. 240–225 Ma, resulting in high-pressure and ultrahigh-pressure metamorphism (Liu & Liou, 2011; Wu & Zheng, 2013; R. Zhang et al., 2009), whereas the orogenic belt along the East Asian margin belongs to the Pacific tectonic realm or the Pacific orogenic belt, which was active after the collage of the three major cratons (Zhou & Li, 2017). There are numerous Mesozoic to Cenozoic accretionary complexes, arcs, and continental blocks in the Pacific tectonic realm, extending from Taiwan to Kamchatka for ~3,000 km. The Pacific orogenic belt is named as “Nipponides” by Şengör and Natal'In (1996).

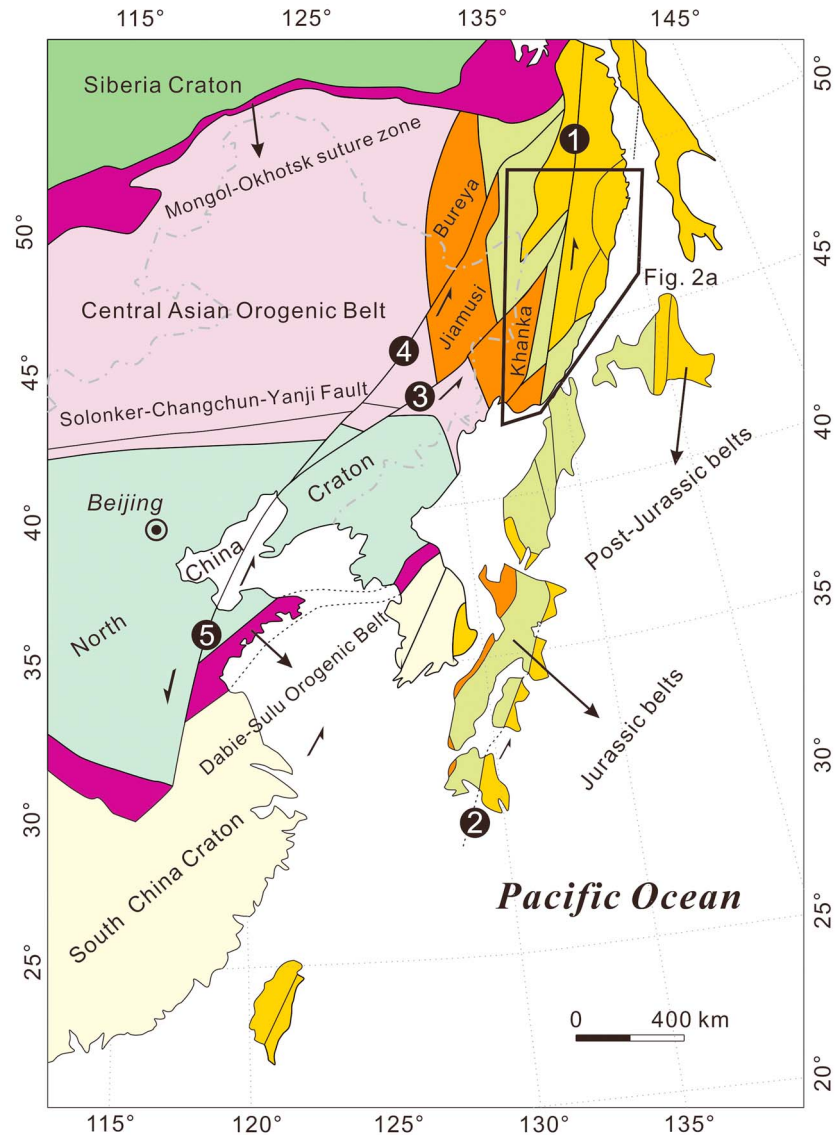


Figure 1. Tectonic framework of East Asia at the end of the Early Cretaceous after termination of northward transport. Modified after Sun, Xu, Wilde, & Chen (2015) and Xu et al. (1987). Japanese Islands are moved back to the Asian continental margin before the opening of the Sea of Japan (Khanchuk, 2001; Kojima, 1989; Taira, 2001). The main strike-slip faults in East Asia are (numbers in black circles): 1. Central Sikhote-Alin Fault; 2. Median Tectonic Line; 3. Dun-Mi Fault; 4. Jia-Yi Fault; and 5. Tan-Lu Fault.

The Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt is part of the Pacific orogenic belt and is located along the eastern margin of the CAOB (Figures 1 and 2). Over the past 30 years, many studies on paleontology, stratigraphy, and paleomagnetism were carried out to reveal the geological history of the NNE trending belts of the Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt and adjacent areas. The lithology and structural features of belts in Sikhote-Alin were compared and associated with the Japanese Islands, especially SW Japan. However, the origin and tectonic evolution of these belts are still very controversial. Based on the “terrane tectonics” theory, many late Mesozoic “tectonostratigraphic terranes” were identified in NE China, Sikhote-Alin, and Japanese Islands (Figure 1; Howell et al., 1985; Khanchuk, 2001; Kojima, 1989; Kojima et al., 2000; Mizutani, 1987; Shao & Tang, 1995). Most boundaries between these terranes/belts are thrusts or strike-slip faults. The terranes were believed to be transported from south to north by the strike-slip faults, and the displacement was estimated from hundreds to thousands of kilometers (Gilder et al., 1999; Khanchuk, 2001, 2016; Lee, 1999; Xu et al., 1987; Xu & Zhu, 1994; Yin & Nie, 1993). However, collisional orogeny was recognized in SW Japan and some other places in

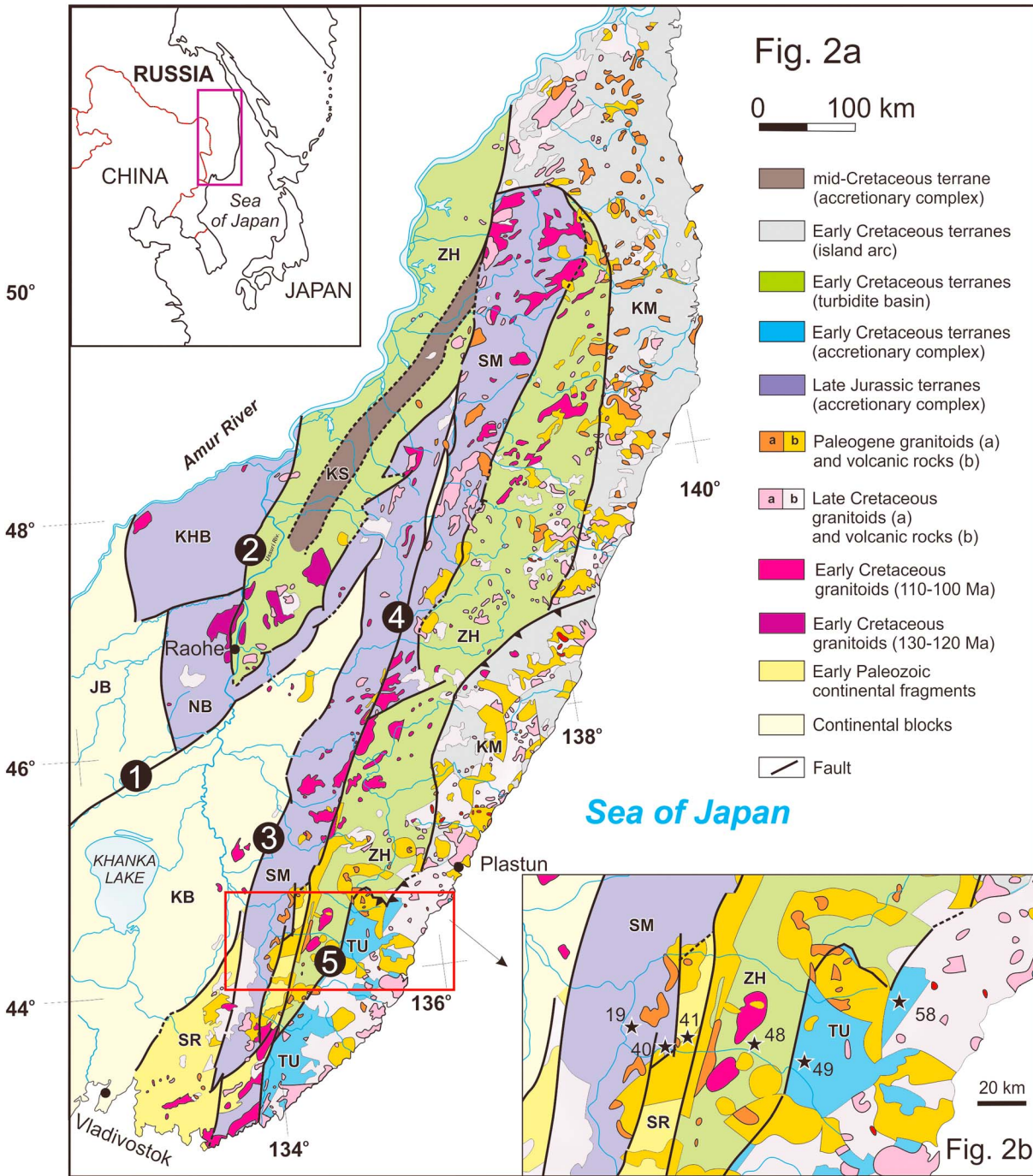


Figure 2. (a) Geological map of the southern Sikhote-Alin. Modified after Grebennikov et al. (2016). Abbreviations: JB = Jiamusi Block; KB = Khanka Block; SR = Sergeevka nappes; KHB = Khabarovsk belt; NB = Nadanhada-Bikin belt; SM = Samarka belt; KS = Kisilevsky belt; ZH = Zhuravlevka turbidite basin; TU = Taukha accretionary complex; KM = Kema arc. Faults (numbers in black circles): (1) Dun-Mi Fault, (2) Koukansky Fault, (3) Arsen'evsky Fault, (4) Central Sikhote-Alin Fault, and (5) Fourmanovsky Fault. (b) Sample locations in the southern Sikhote-Alin belts. Numbers are abbreviated from samples SAL-19, SAL-40, SAL-41, SAL-48, SAL-49, and SAL-58.

the continental margin (Charvet et al., 1985; Faure et al., 1986; Natal'in, 1993; Otsuki, 1992). The collision of buoyant blocks (mature arcs or continental blocks) onto the hinterland is considered to be very important to shape the tectonics of the East Asia, such as the large thrust sheet/nappe tectonics. There are some other studies suggesting that the Pacific tectonic realm is a typical "accretionary orogen," especially for the Japanese Islands. In their models, Japanese Islands were basically an accretionary complex built in

long-term subduction of the Paleo-Pacific Ocean. High-pressure metamorphism and ridge subduction were important for the deformation and magmatism in the SW Japan according to their models (Isozaki et al., 2010; Maruyama, 1997).

In Sikhote-Alin, detailed research has been implemented on structural geology, micropaleontology, and magmatism (Golozubov et al., 1999; Jahn et al., 2015; Khanchuk, 2001; Khanchuk et al., 1996; Kemkin & Kemkina, 2000; Kojima, 1989; Kojima et al., 2008; Tang et al., 2016). However, the provenance issue, which is very significant to understand the origin and tectonic history of the belts, remains unclear. U-Pb dating and Lu-Hf isotopes of detrital zircons are an effective means for determining the provenance of sediments (Bingen et al., 2001; Cawood et al., 2012; Fernández et al., 2010; Fernandez-Suarez et al., 2002; Gehrels, 2014; Grasse et al., 2001; Gutiérrez-Alonso et al., 2003; Wyld & Wright, 2001). Here we present U-Pb dating and Lu-Hf isotopic data for detrital zircons from the southern Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt in order to ascertain their maximum depositional age, their provenance, and to better understand the tectonic processes operating along the eastern Asian continental margin during the Late Jurassic to Early Cretaceous.

2. Geological Outline of the Southern Sikhote-Alin Orogenic Belt

The southern Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt is located to the east of the Bureya-Jiamusi-Khanka block (BJKB), which has a Neoproterozoic basement ca. 850–960 Ma in age and records late Pan-African granulite-facies metamorphism at ~500 Ma (Figure 1; Wilde et al., 1997; Wilde et al., 2003; Yang et al., 2017). After Jurassic, the BJKB became the easternmost part of the CAOB. However, the location of the BJKB prior to the Jurassic is controversial, with some authors considering it to be part of the CAOB that underwent rifting in the Triassic (Zhou et al., 2009), whereas others have considered it is an exotic block that was accreted to the CAOB in the Jurassic (Wu, Han, et al., 2007), possibly being derived from Gondwana (Wilde et al., 1999) or Siberia (Zhou et al., 2009). New detrital zircon data show that the Jiamusi Block may have affinity of the Tarim Craton (Luan et al., 2017). These various hypotheses have been invoked to explain the origin of the Heilongjiang Complex, developed along the western margin of the Jiamusi Block, which is an accretionary complex that welded the Jiamusi Block to the Songliao Block of the CAOB in the Early Jurassic (Wu, Han, et al., 2007; Zhou et al., 2009). Significantly, terrigenous rocks in the Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt along the eastern margin of the BJKB were mainly deposited after the Early Jurassic. The N-S trending belts/zones investigated in this study are, from west to east, the Samarka accretionary complex (Jurassic), the Zhuravlevka turbidite basin (Early Cretaceous), and the Taukha accretionary complex (Early Cretaceous). In addition, the Sergeevka nappes are thrust over the southern Samarka accretionary complex. The northwestern boundary of the Taukha belt and the boundary between the Kema and Zhuravlevka belts are likely thrusts. However, the western boundary of the Taukha belt is sinistral strike-slip fault. Likewise, the Central Sikhote-Alin Fault, the boundary between the Samarka belt and the Zhuravlevka basin, is a famous sinistral strike-slip fault in the Russian Far East (Figures 2a and 2b).

The oldest units in the Sikhote-Alin are the Sergeevka nappes (SR on Figure 2a), which include several separate early Paleozoic continental fragments that were thrust over the Samarka belt (SM on Figure 2a). These nappes are also known as the Sergeevka Terrane in the Russian literatures (Khanchuk et al., 2016), although it is inappropriate to refer to these as a terrane because they are present in several areas and do not form a coherent geological unit (Figure 2a). The Sergeevka nappes contain Early Ordovician granitoids with a biotite Ar-Ar age of 491 Ma (Figure 2a; Khanchuk et al., 1996). The fragments mainly comprise gabbro, diorite, migmatite, and amphibolite and are themselves overlain by Jurassic conglomerate and sandstone (Figures 3, 4, and 5c and 5d). Some blueschist-facies metamorphic rocks are present between the Jurassic sedimentary rocks and Early Paleozoic continental fragments, representing a pre-Cretaceous orogeny (Khanchuk, 2006; Khanchuk et al., 2016).

The Samarka belt is a Late Jurassic accretionary complex (SM on Figure 2a) that consists of several deformed tectonic slices or thrust sheets (Figure 4). The boundaries between slices are reverse faults/thrusts. In each slice, the depositional sequence changes from chert and siltstone upward into sandstone. At the top of some slices, sedimentary rocks were faulted and folded into mélangé that is characterized by strong deformation and contains blocks of various sizes (Figures 3 and 5a and 5b; Kemkin, 2008). The chert varies in age from Late Permian to Early Jurassic and represents pelagic sediments. In contrast, the clastic rocks are mainly terrigenous and Late Jurassic in age (Kemkin et al., 2006). The mélangé contains blocks of limestone, chert, and

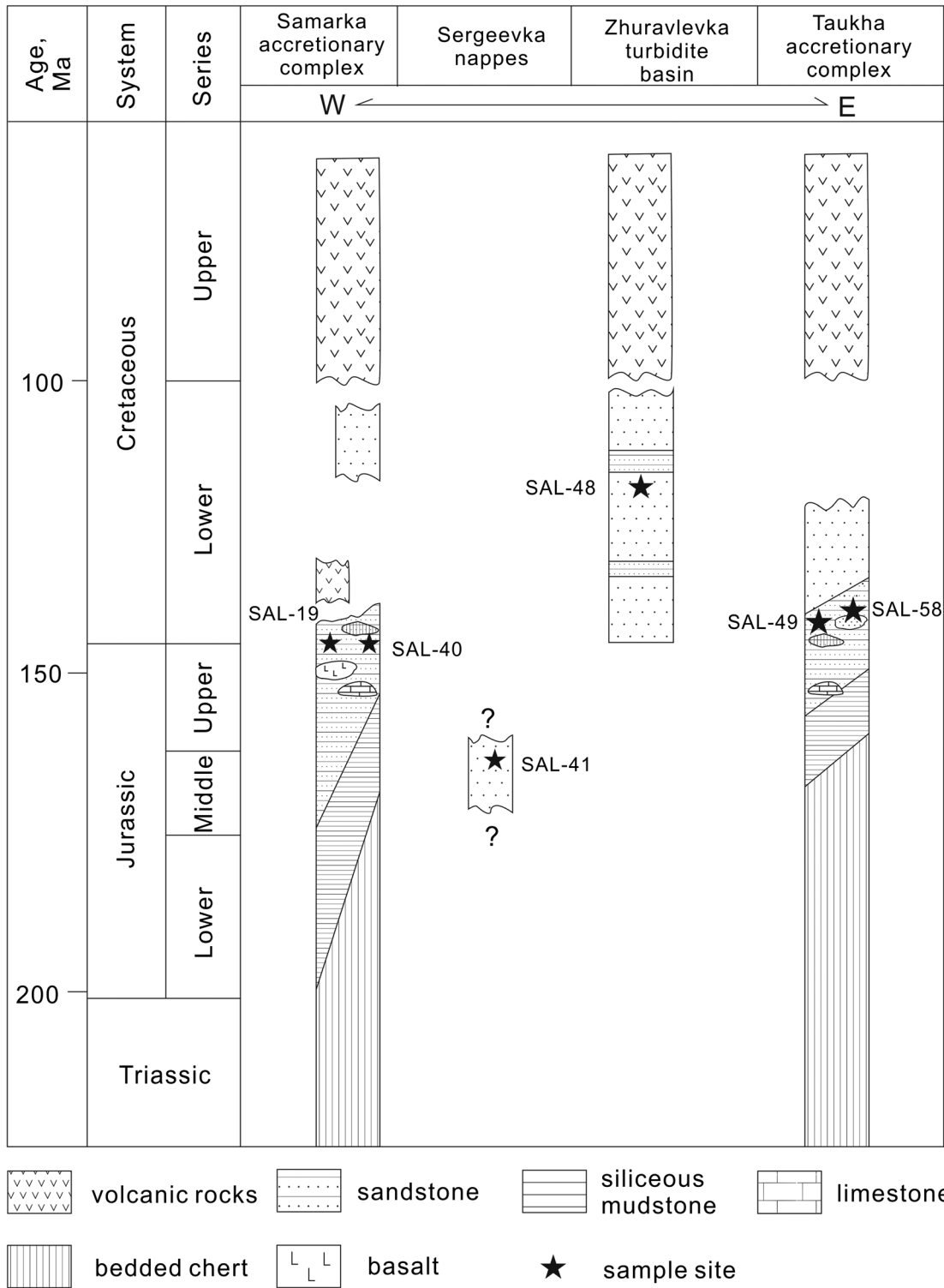


Figure 3. Tectonostratigraphic column of the southern Sikhote-Alin belts, modified after Kemkin (2008), Kemkin and Kemkina (2015), Khanchuk et al. (2016), and Malinovsky and Golozubov (2011). Only part of the Sergeevka nappes is shown on this figure because the stratigraphic information is incomplete.

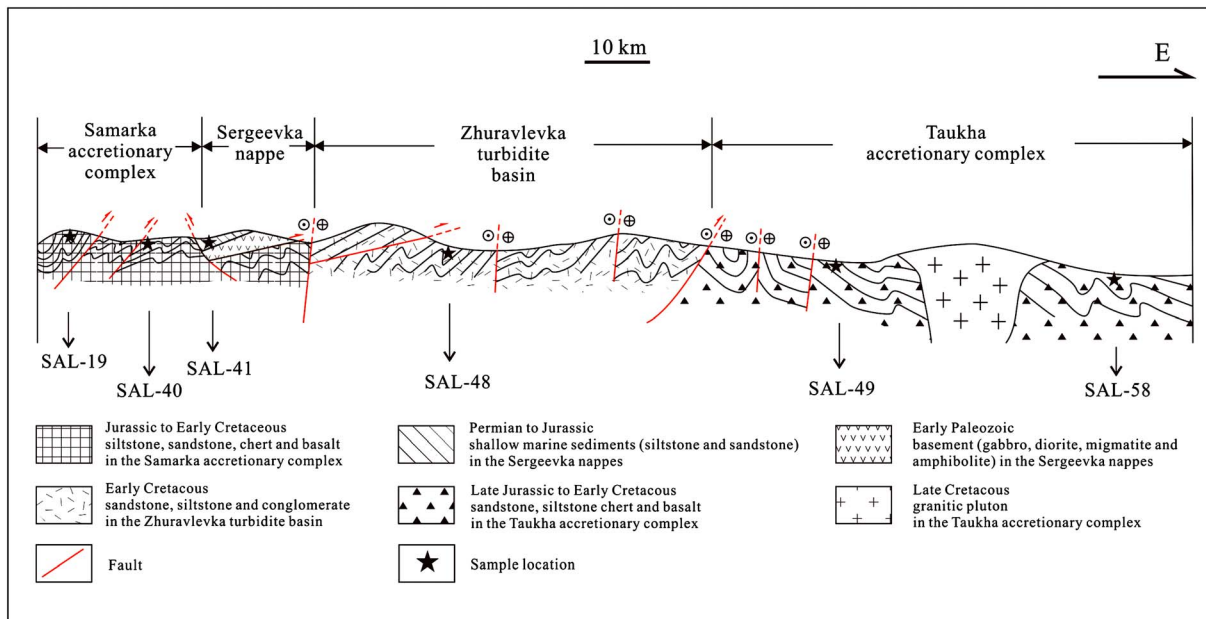


Figure 4. Cross section along the sampling traverse in the southern Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt.

basalt within a siltstone matrix. Another feature of the Samarka accretionary complex is that it contains fragments of Paleozoic ophiolites, including peridotite, gabbro, and basalt pillows, interpreted as components from an oceanic plateau but now outcropped as nappe/klippe in the Samarka accretionary complex (Khanchuk & Vysotskiy, 2016). The age of ophiolite was estimated as Late Devonian to Early Carboniferous based on the conodont and foraminifera research in the sedimentary rocks contacting the pillow basalts (Khanchuk & Vysotskiy, 2016).

To the east, the Zhuravlevka turbidite basin (ZH on Figure 2a) is truncated by the Central Sikhote-Alin Fault (Figure 2a). The basin was mainly filled by turbidites showing well-developed Bouma sequences (Figure 5e), with some chert and conglomerates cropping out locally. Faults accompanied by vertically dipping strata are present near the boundaries of the basin, whereas deformation in the interior is represented by broad folds, less steeply inclined strata and several NNE trending strike-slip faults and thrusts (Figure 4). Heavy mineral studies and paleontological evidence suggest that depositional age spans the whole of the Early Cretaceous (from the late Berriasian to late Albian) and that these sediments were mainly derived from mature continental crust (Malinovsky & Golozubov, 2011).

Along the margin of the Sea of Japan, the Taukha belt (TU on Figure 2a) is a Late Jurassic to Early Cretaceous accretionary complex lying to the east of the Zhuravlevka turbidite basin and to the south of the Kema belt, an Early Cretaceous island arc (KM on Figure 2a). The boundary between the Taukha belt and the Zhuravlevka basin is mainly sinistral strike slip with thrust characteristic in the north segment (Figure 4; Golozubov, 2006; Kemkin & Kemkina, 2000). The rock types in the Taukha accretionary complex are similar to those in the Samarka accretionary complex although the age is younger. For example, in some areas where the original stratigraphic sequence has survived, the chert that has been dated from Late Triassic to Late Jurassic in age, changes upward to chert-mudstone, siltstone, turbidite, and olistostromes, which are latest Jurassic to Early Cretaceous in age (Figures 3 and 5f; Kemkin & Kemkina, 2000). This chert-siltstone-sandstone sequence is considered to represent oceanic plate stratigraphy (Berger & Winterer, 1974; Isozaki et al., 1990). Some mélanges crop out where the siltstone and sandstone are strongly deformed by folds and faults in the northern Taukha belt. Jurassic basalts overlain by Late Jurassic chert are found locally in the northwest Taukha belt (Kemkin & Kemkina, 2000; Kemkin et al., 2016). Radiolarian research suggests that the limestone and chert blocks in the mélanges could be as old as Late Devonian or Permian (Figure 2b; Kemkin & Kemkina, 2000, 2015).

The Jurassic to Cretaceous belts in the southern Sikhote-Alin are separated by a series of faults which are, from west to east, the Arsen'evsky Fault, the Central Sikhote-Alin Fault, and the Fourmanovsky Fault (Faults 3, 4, and 5, respectively, on Figure 2a). The Central Sikhote-Alin Fault is a sinistral strike-slip fault which is



Figure 5. Outcrop photographs of the southern Sikhote-Alin belts. (a) Foliated siltstone in the Samarka accretionary complex, (b) folded chert in the Samarka accretionary complex. Red curves mark the folds, (c) conglomerate in the Sergeevka nappes, including clasts of gabbro, sandstone, chert and quartzite, (d) cumulate gabbro in the Sergeevka nappes, (e) turbidite in the Zhuravlevka turbidite basin; (f) mélangé in the Taukha accretionary complex, involving different-size sandstone lenses in foliated siltstone.

traceable for over 1,000 km in length (Utkin, 2013), and the offset on this fault may be greater than 200 km, based on the dislocated Samarka and Zhuravlevka belts (Figures 1 and 2a; Utkin, 1993). Deep seismic sounding shows that the Arsen'evsky and Central Sikhote-Alin faults cut the Moho at a depth of ~40 km (Argentov et al., 1976). The Fourmanovsky Fault is characterized by sinistral strike slip in the western part with thrusting in the north part (Figure 2).

During the Early Cretaceous to Paleogene, felsic magmatic rocks were emplaced extensively into the belts of the southern Sikhote-Alin (Figure 2a). The earliest granitoids are 131 to 124 Ma in age and are rare, only being found in the Nadanhada-Bikin accretionary complex and the adjacent part of the Zhuravlevka turbidite basin (Figure 2a; Cheng et al., 2006; Grebennikov et al., 2016; Jahn et al., 2015). However, magmatism was interrupted between 130 and 110 Ma in the other belts, after which it was reactivated by rapid oblique Paleo-Pacific subduction (the Izanagi Plate) and became quasi-continuous from 110 Ma to 56 Ma (Jahn et al., 2015; Kruk et al., 2014; Tang et al., 2016).

The correlation between the Jurassic to Cretaceous belts in NE China, Sikhote-Alin, and SW Japan has been discussed for decades. Based on paleontological and paleomagnetic data, Kojima (1989) proposed that the Late Jurassic Nadanhada-Bikin accretionary complex in NE China and Sikhote-Alin are the northern extension of the Tanba-Mino belt in SW Japan (Figure 1). Khanchuk (2001) also connected the arc magmatism and accretionary complexes in the Sikhote-Alin with equivalents in SW Japan. The correlation between the Taukha belt and the Northern Kitakami belt was supported by the paleontological research and stratigraphic characteristic (Kojima et al., 2008).

3. Sample Locations and Petrology

Six sandstone samples were collected along a 200 km traverse, extending from west to east in the southern Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt, in order to evaluate any changes in provenance within the belts, especially across the Central Sikhote-Alin Fault (Figures 2b, 3, and 4).

Sample SAL-19 was collected in the central part of the Samarka belt. It is a sandstone within a fine- to medium-grained Bouma sequence. However, the chert-siltstone-sandstone stratigraphic sequence is disrupted because of faults and folds (Figure 5a). Some basalt blocks are present near the contact between the sandstone and the underlying folded and thinly bedded chert. Sample SAL-19 is a dark grey, fine-grained sandstone that is poorly sorted with angular quartz grains that are 15–30 μm in length (Figure 6a) and composed mainly of quartz (25%) and plagioclase (30%), with minor muscovite (1%). The space between the grains is filled by lithic fragments (45%), which are mainly felsic volcanic fragments.

Sample SAL-40 was collected from the eastern Samarka belt, separated from sample SAL-19 by an unnamed fault (Figure 2b). This fault cuts Paleogene granitoids, indicating movement after granitoid emplacement, although the precise timing of movement is unknown. Sample SAL-40 is a dark grey, coarse-grained sandstone that is poorly sorted or rounded (Figure 6b). The main minerals are quartz (45%), plagioclase (25%), K-feldspar (10%), sericite (3%), and clay minerals (2%), with felsic lithic fragments (15%). The clastic grains are mainly 70–100 μm in length. Subgrained quartz and local quartz veins are observed in thin section (Figure 6c). Adjacent to these areas, K-feldspar and quartz are weakly oriented and reduced in grain size (15–40 μm) due to granulation (Figure 6c).

Sample SAL-41 was collected from a Jurassic sandstone interbedded with conglomerate from one of the Sergeevka nappes. The conglomerate contains fragments of gabbro, chert, sandstone, and quartzite (Figure 5c). Because the sample is small in size and was used to obtain zircons as a whole, no thin section was made of this sample. However, based on the outcrop, it is a grey, medium- to coarse-grained sandstone that is poorly sorted or rounded. Some small angular fragments of chert and gabbro, 0.5–2 cm in diameter, were observed.

Sample SAL-48 was obtained from the Zhuravlevka turbidite basin, located 50 km to the east of sample SAL-41. Sample SAL-48 is separated from samples SAL-40 and SAL-41 by the Central Sikhote-Alin Fault (Fault 4 on Figure 2a). The outcrop consists of turbidite with interbedded mudstone and siltstone defining a Bouma sequence. Grains in sample SAL-41 are angular and poorly sorted and 30–150 μm in length (Figure 6d). It mainly comprises quartz (60%), plagioclase (25%), opaque minerals (10%), and lithic fragments (5%).

Two samples (SAL-49 and SAL-58) were collected from the Taukha accretionary belt (Figure 2b). The former was located 40 km to the east of sample SAL-48 and the latter 110 km northeast of SAL-48. Both samples from the Taukha accretionary complex are separated from sample SAL-48 (in the Zhuravlevka basin) by the Fourmanovsky Fault (Fault 5 on Figure 2a). Sample SAL-49 is a coarse sandstone that contains minor subangular chert fragments (0.5–3 cm), and it is moderately well sorted and with poorly rounded grains that range in length from 100–200 μm . The main minerals are quartz (55%), K-feldspar (35%), and muscovite (5%),

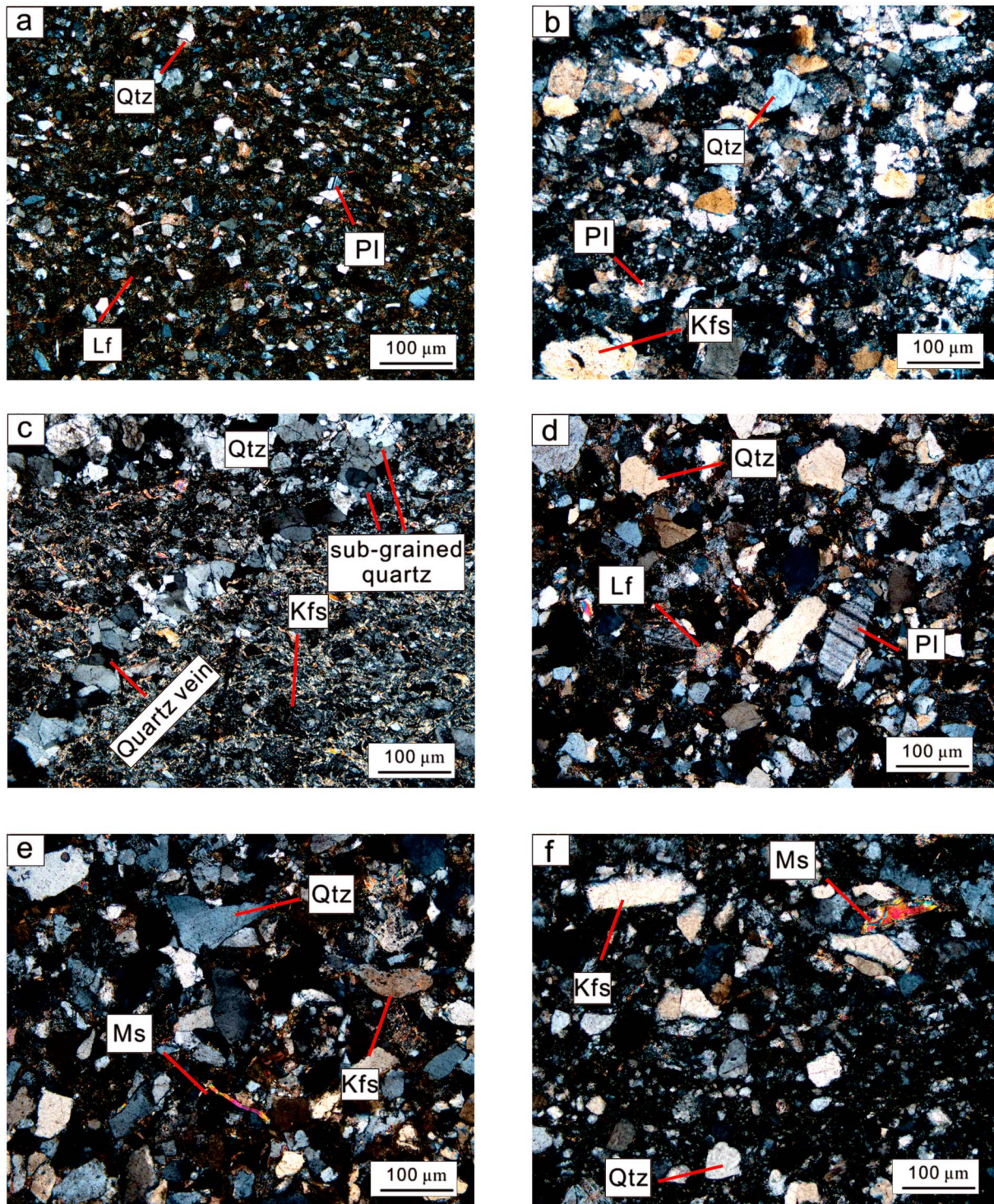


Figure 6. Photomicrographs of sandstone samples. (a) Sample SAL-19, (b) sample SAL-40, (c) deformed zone of sample SAL-40, in which weak deformation and sub-grained quartz can be observed, (d) sample SAL-48, (e) sample SAL-49; and (f) sample SAL-58. Abbreviation: Qtz = quartz; PI = plagioclase; Kfs = K-feldspar; Lf = lithic fragments; Ms = muscovite.

with lithic fragments (5%; Figure 6e). Sample SAL-58 was collected from a mélange that occurs in the northern Taukha belt, 60 km to the southwest of Plastun (Figure 2a). There are numerous sandstone blocks within a matrix of siltstone (Figure 5f), with the size of blocks varying from 5 to 150 cm in diameter. Sample SAL-58 shows no sign of deformation and the mineralogy consists of quartz (70%), K-feldspar (15%), and muscovite (5%), with lithic fragments (10%). The grains are poorly sorted with lengths from 20 to 150 μm (Figure 6f).

Overall, in the southern Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt, sandstones are always interbedded with mudstones and underlain by folded and/or faulted chert, showing a change from a typical pelagic marine sequence to terrigenous sedimentation. Some sandstones include angular fragments of chert and/or mudstone and show graded bedding (including Bouma sequences), suggesting strong hydrodynamic conditions related to turbidity currents. The quartz and feldspar grains are all poorly sorted and angular, with lithic fragments and feldspar collectively greater than quartz in some units. All these features are typical of sediments deposited on a continental slope and trench, resulting from erosion of an adjacent continental margin or an arc, with deposition by turbidity currents after short-distance transport.

4. Methodology

Zircons were separated from the six samples by standard heavy-liquid and magnetic techniques and hand-picked under a binocular microscope. About 200 zircon grains from each sample were embedded in a 25 mm epoxy resin disk and polished to approximately half of the grain's thickness. Cathodoluminescence (CL) imaging was obtained using a Quanta 200 FEG Scanning Electron Microscope at the Key Laboratory of Orogenic Belts and Crustal Evolution of the Education Ministry of China, Peking University in order to observe the internal structure of the zircons.

Zircon U-Pb isotopic analyses were carried out using laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS) at the Key Laboratory of Continental Collision and Plateau Uplift, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing. Laser sampling was performed using a NewWave and ATL 193 nm ArF excimer laser ablation system (UP193FX), with short pulses (<4 ns) and a spot size of 35 μm . Element and isotope ion-signal intensities were acquired by an Agilent 7500a ICP-MS. Both high-purity helium and argon were used as carrier gases, which were mixed via a T-connector before entering the MS. Helium was adjusted by a mass flow controller installed in the laser system, whereas argon was controlled by the ICP-MS. Helium and argon carrier gas flows were optimized by ablating National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Standard Reference Material (SRM) 612 reference glass to obtain maximum signal intensity for ^{238}U and ^{208}Pb , minimum oxide, and double-charge interference, minimum gas blank, and most stable signal intensity. The analytical procedure was 15–20 s gas blank acquisition (warm up), 40 s data acquisition from the sample aerosol (ablation), and 45–55 s washout time in the spot sampling mode and TRF data acquisition mode of the Agilent ChemStation. Zircon 91500 was used as an external standard for the matrix-matched calibration. NIST SRM 612 reference glass was analyzed as an external standard for the trace element content calibration. The 91500 zircon and NIST SRM 612 standards were analyzed after each 5 to 10 analyses. Off-line isotope ratios and trace element concentrations were calculated using the GLITTER_Ver4.0 program (Van Achterbergh et al., 2001); U-Pb concordia diagrams, weighted mean calculations, and probability density plots of U-Pb ages were made using Isoplot/Ex_ver 3 (Ludwig, 2001).

The zircon Lu-Hf isotopes were analyzed at the State Key Laboratory of Geological Processes and Mineral Resources of the China University of Geosciences, Wuhan. Based on the in-house instrumentation and data acquisition protocols (Hu et al., 2012), the analyses were conducted with a beam of 44 μm , using the ICPMSDataCal program to conduct the off-line signal selection and integration and mass bias calibrations (Liu et al., 2010). The Lu-Hf isotopes of zircons were obtained from the same LA-LCP-MS sites or adjacent domains of same CL structure when insufficient material was available. Data were acquired using a Neptune MC-ICP-MS (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Germany) in combination with a Geolas 2005 excimer ArF laser ablation system (Lambda Physik, Göttingen, Germany). In order to correct for isobaric interferences, the mass bias of Hf (β_{Hf}) and Yb (β_{Yb}) were calculated using $^{179}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf} = 0.7325$ and $^{173}\text{Yb}/^{171}\text{Yb} = 1.13017$, which were normalized by an exponential correction for mass bias (Segal et al., 2003). By measuring the interference-free ^{173}Yb isotope and using $^{176}\text{Yb}/^{173}\text{Yb} = 0.79381$, the interference of ^{176}Yb on ^{176}Hf was corrected (Segal et al., 2003). Similarly, the interference of ^{176}Lu on ^{176}Hf was corrected by measuring the interference-free ^{175}Lu and using $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{175}\text{Lu} = 0.02656$ (Blichert-Toft & Albarède, 1997). Because of the similarity between Yb and Lu,

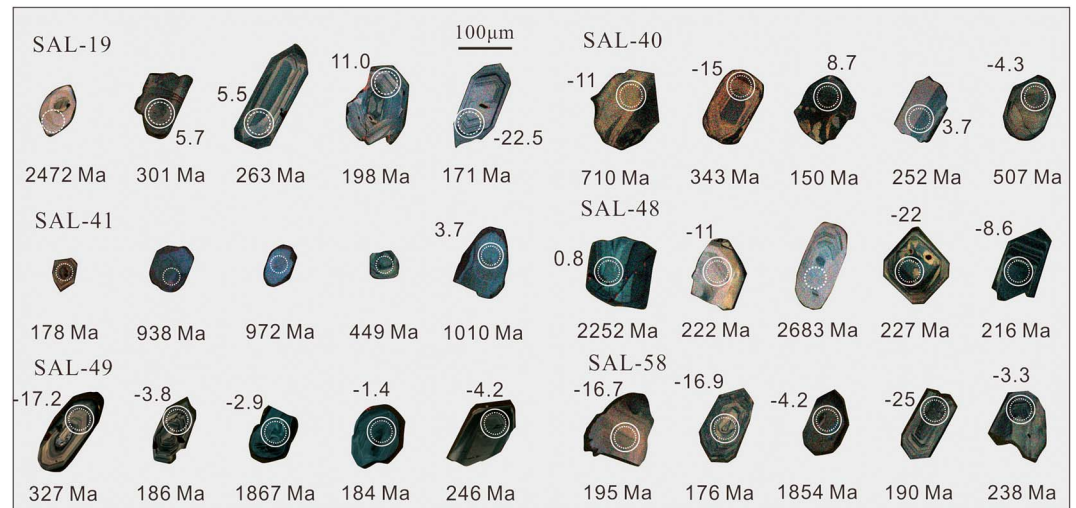


Figure 7. Representative CL images of detrital zircons. Dashed and solid circles represent analytical spots of U-Pb and Lu-Hf isotopes, respectively. The numbers beside the circles are U-Pb ages and $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values.

the mass bias of Yb (β_{Yb}) was used to calculate the mass fractionation of Lu (Hu et al., 2012). Other parameters used to calculate the isotopes were as follows: $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ratios were 0.282793 (chondrite) and 0.28325 (depleted mantle), $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ratios were 0.0338 (chondrite) and 0.0384 (depleted mantle), the radioactive decay coefficient of ^{176}Lu to ^{176}Hf was $1.867 \times 10^{-11} \text{ a}^{-1}$, and the $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ratio of bulk continental crust was 0.015 (Griffin et al., 2004; Iizuka et al., 2015; Söderlund et al., 2004).

5. Results

Representative CL images of the analyzed detrital zircons are shown in Figure 7. The results of U-Pb dating and Lu-Hf isotopic analysis are shown in Figures 8 and 9, respectively, with detailed analytical data presented in Tables 1 and 2, respectively. The ages of young zircons (<1,000 Ma) are shown by $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ ages in Figures 8 and 9, whereas the old ones (>1,000 Ma) use $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ ages. Zircon U-Pb ages with high discordance (>10%) were excluded from the calculations.

When the age $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ of zircon is younger than 1,000 Ma,

$$\text{Discordance} = \left(\text{Age}^{206\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}} / \text{Age}^{207\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{U}} - 1 \right) \times 100\%;$$

When the age $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ of zircon is older than 1,000 Ma,

$$\text{Discordance} = \left(\text{Age}^{207\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{U}} / \text{Age}^{207\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}} - 1 \right) \times 100\%.$$

Discordance is expressed by absolute value.

Because of their sizes (<50 μm), not all the zircons could be analysed for Lu-Hf isotopes. Most detrital zircons are from felsic magmatic rocks which were melted from crust. Thus, $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ and T_{DM2} are used here to evaluate the characteristics of the Lu-Hf isotopes, representing the isotopic feature of the crust in which the zircons were crystallized.

5.1. The Samarka Accretionary Complex

5.1.1. Sample SAL-19

Most zircons are 30–200 μm in length and show magmatic oscillatory zones (Figure 7), although a few zircons have core-rim structures. Seventy-three concordant ages were obtained from 95 analyses and define six age groups (Figure 8a): 162–227 Ma (33%), 236–268 Ma (19%), 275–434 Ma (12%), 452–579 Ma, 729–1,197 Ma (12%), and 1,580–2,756 Ma (11%). Three peak ages are shown in the spectrum, 181 Ma, 263 Ma, and 502 Ma (Figure 8a). The Th/U ratios of 72 of the concordant analyses vary from 0.19 to 2.38, indicating a magmatic origin, and only one zircon with an age of 503 Ma has a Th/U ratio of 0.07, possibly indicating a

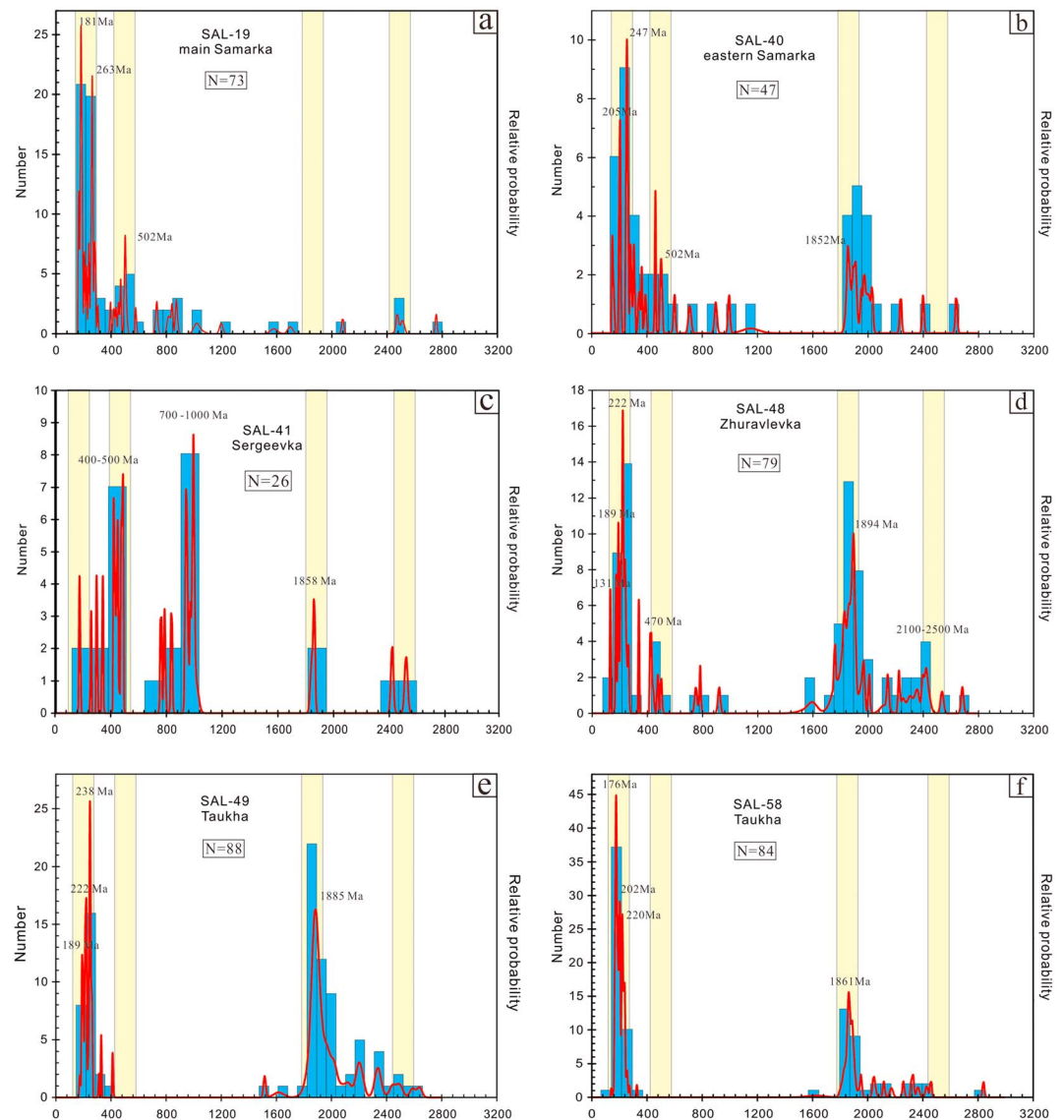


Figure 8. Age spectra of detrital zircons. The spectra diagram uses $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ ages for young zircons ($<1,000$ Ma) and $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ ages for old ones ($>1,000$ Ma). Zircons with high discordance ($>10\%$) are excluded. (a) Sample SAL-19 from the central Samarka accretionary complex, (b) sample SAL-40 from the eastern Samarka accretionary complex, (c) sample SAL-41 from the Sergeevka nappes, (d) sample SAL-48 from the Zhuravlevka turbidite basin, (e) sample SAL-49 from the Taukha accretionary complex, and (f) sample SAL-58 from the Taukha accretionary complex. Four common age groups are marked by yellow bands, namely, 170–260 Ma, 450–550 Ma, 1.6–1.9 Ga, and 2.3–2.6 Ga. The late Pan-African age of 450–550 Ma is important in the BJKB, whereas the ~ 1.8 Ga and 2.5 Ga ages are dominant in the NCC.

metamorphic origin. Zircons from the Early Permian to Early Jurassic account for 59% of the analyses. Thirty zircons were analyzed for Lu-Hf isotopes and the $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values of 23 of these vary between -3 and 11 (Figure 9a), with T_{DM2} model ages from 494 to 1,456 Ma. However, four zircons with ages of 162–180 Ma show quite different $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$, ranging from -23 to -6 , with T_{DM2} model ages of 3.8–2.1 Ga.

5.1.2. Sample SAL-40

Zircons from sample SAL-40 range from 40 to 150 μm in length and have a variety of structures and crystal forms. Some zircons show magmatic oscillatory zones, whereas some are sector zoned and others are only weakly zoned (Figure 7). Sixty-two zircons were analyzed, and 47 concordant ages were obtained with the Th/U ratios ranging from 0.1 to 7.1. In this sample, 36% of zircon ages range from 1.8 to 2.6 Ga with a peak age at 1.85 Ga, forming a major age group. There are five other age populations defined by Phanerozoic

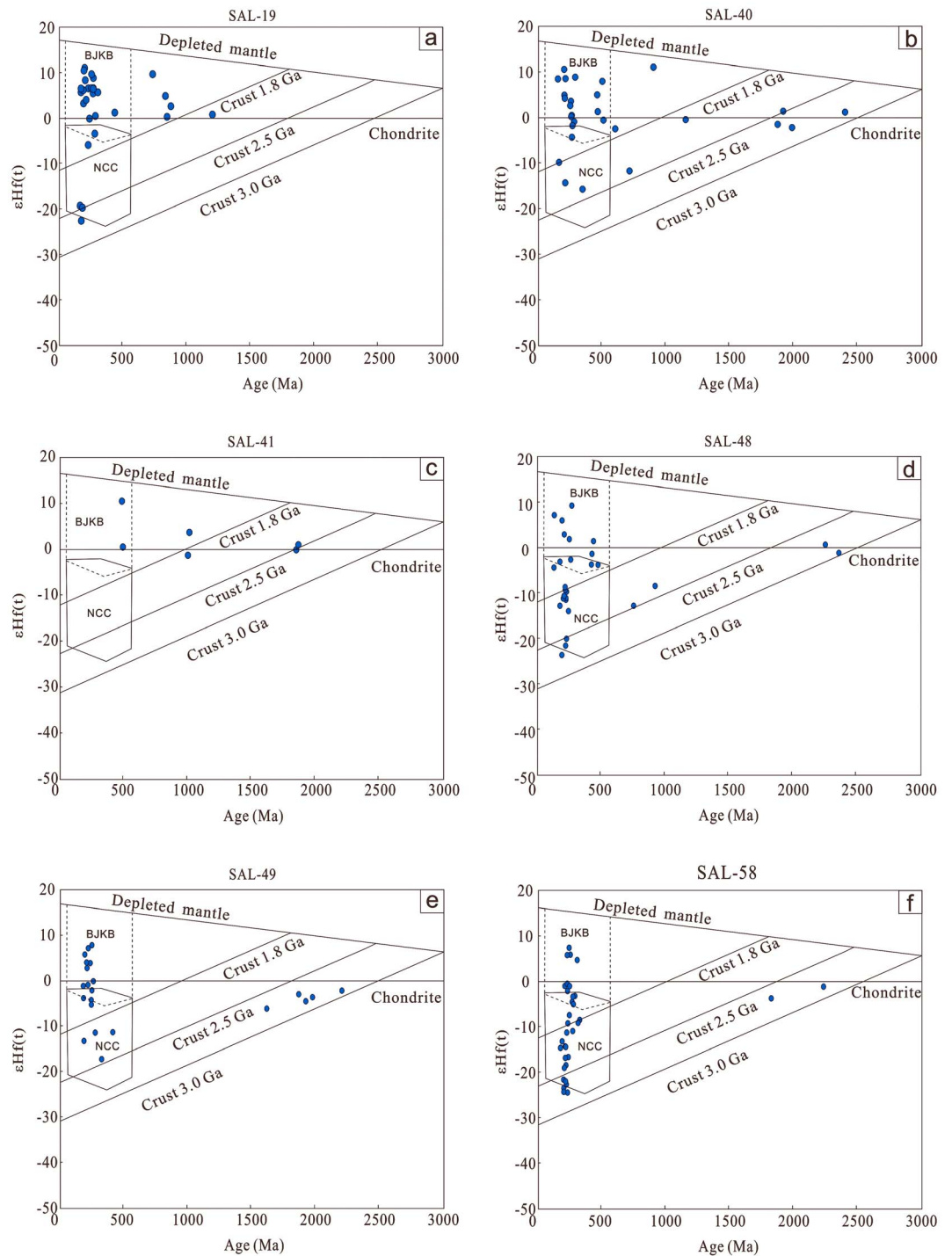


Figure 9. Zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values versus $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ ages. (a) Sample SAL-19 from the central Samarka accretionary complex, (b) sample SAL-40 from the eastern Samarka accretionary complex, (c) sample SAL-41 from the Sergeevka nappes, (d) sample SAL-48 from the Zhuravlevka turbidite basin, (e) sample SAL-49 from the Taukha accretionary complex, and (f) sample SAL-58 from the Taukha accretionary complex. The fields of zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values of the BJKB and NCC are modified after Cheong et al. (2013) and Yang et al. (2006).

Table 1 (continued)

Sample and analyses spot number	Th (ppm)	U (ppm)	Th/U	Isotopic ratios				Ages (Ma)				Discordance (%)				
				²⁰⁷ Pb/ ²⁰⁶ Pb	²⁰⁷ Pb/ ²³⁵ U	²⁰⁶ Pb/ ²³⁸ U	²⁰⁷ Pb/ ²⁰⁶ Pb	²⁰⁷ Pb/ ²³⁵ U	²⁰⁶ Pb/ ²³⁸ U	1 s	1 s		1 s	1 s		
SAL-58-76	0.291	0.67	0.43	0.04977	0.00227	0.19611	0.00863	0.02858	1.874	1.874	7	1,874	7	1,874	10	0.00
SAL-58-77	0.0444	0.0437	1.02	0.15714	0.00406	0.93988	0.02176	0.04339	1.885	1.885	24	1,885	18	1,885	17	0.00
SAL-58-78	0.302	0.539	0.56	0.05006	0.00171	0.20631	0.00672	0.0299	1.889	1.889	7	1,887	7	1,886	10	0.16
SAL-58-79	0.0435	0.0387	1.12	0.05016	0.00161	0.21937	0.00665	0.03173	1.887	1.887	7	1,886	7	1,886	10	0.05
SAL-58-80	0.321	0.582	0.55	0.11178	0.0016	0.50539	0.05803	0.32796	1.889	1.889	9	1,888	9	1,887	11	0.11
SAL-58-81	0.0339	0.0296	1.15	0.11326	0.00127	4.53737	0.03363	0.29063	1.885	1.885	11	1,886	10	1,888	12	0.16
SAL-58-82	0.0401	0.035	1.15	0.09997	0.00341	3.68469	0.12113	0.26731	1.896	1.896	8	1,896	8	1,896	11	0.00
SAL-58-83	0.0547	0.0259	2.11	0.05143	0.00191	0.28036	0.00991	0.03955	1.907	1.907	7	1,908	7	1,909	11	0.10
SAL-58-84	0.0417	0.0264	1.58	0.12597	0.00161	6.48147	0.06209	0.37326	1.938	1.938	16	1,937	14	1,936	15	0.10
SAL-58-85	0.0438	0.028	1.56	0.13562	0.00212	7.49507	0.09875	0.40093	1.952	1.952	6	1,969	7	1,985	11	1.66
SAL-58-86	0.293	0.297	0.99	0.05087	0.00252	0.26304	0.01263	0.03751	2.042	2.042	8	2,043	8	2,045	12	0.15
SAL-58-87	0.0791	0.0639	1.24	0.05044	0.0032	0.23856	0.01477	0.03431	2.050	2.050	12	2,051	11	2,052	14	0.10
SAL-58-88	0.0356	0.0267	1.33	0.05111	0.00475	0.2641	0.02407	0.0375	2.117	2.117	7	2,117	8	2,118	12	0.05
SAL-58-89	0.0384	0.0223	1.72	0.11381	0.00147	5.25815	0.05167	0.33517	2.172	2.172	12	2,172	12	2,173	15	0.05
SAL-58-90	0.0352	0.0225	1.56	0.05044	0.00557	0.23952	0.02604	0.03445	2.259	2.259	7	2,258	8	2,258	12	0.04
SAL-58-91	1.57	1.89	0.83	0.04917	0.00185	0.17343	0.00626	0.02559	2.317	2.317	5	2,316	6	2,316	12	0.04
SAL-58-92	0.0478	0.0297	1.61	0.04931	0.00179	0.18701	0.00648	0.02751	2.331	2.331	5	2,330	7	2,330	12	0.04
SAL-58-93	0.0407	0.0244	1.67	0.05069	0.00205	0.24188	0.00957	0.03461	2.365	2.365	11	2,364	12	2,365	16	0.00
SAL-58-94	0.0545	0.0452	1.21	0.05057	0.00343	0.24606	0.01633	0.0353	2.428	2.428	10	2,428	11	2,428	16	0.00
SAL-58-95	0.1	0.217	0.46	0.11462	0.00137	5.3292	0.04513	0.33731	2.458	2.458	6	2,459	7	2,460	13	0.08
SAL-58-96	0.353	0.784	0.45	0.11877	0.00216	5.73577	0.09183	0.35034	2.839	2.839	7	2,833	9	2,825	16	0.50

and Neoproterozoic zircons (Figure 8b): 150–210 Ma (15%), 246–285 Ma (19%), 302–389 Ma (11%), 458–507 Ma (9%), and 599–1,151 Ma (11%). Two age peaks are defined by the Phanerozoic zircons, namely, 205 Ma and 247 Ma. The $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values of the Phanerozoic zircons (507–150 Ma) are similar to those in sample SAL-19, mostly ranging from -0.7 to 10.7 (Figure 9b), with T_{DM2} model ages from 1,211 to 508 Ma. One zircon with an age of 898 Ma recorded the most positive $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ value of 11.2. The $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values of 2.4–1.9 Ga zircons range from -2 to 1.6 , with T_{DM2} model ages from 2.8 to 2.2 Ga.

5.2. The Sergeevka Nappes

Approximately 100 zircons were obtained from sample SAL-41, and most were too small to analyze ($15\text{--}40\ \mu\text{m}$ in diameter). Suitable zircons ranged from 40 to $100\ \mu\text{m}$ in diameter and show weak or no zoning (Figure 7), with Th/U ratios of $0.30\text{--}1.96$. There were 26 concordant U-Pb ages from 49 analyses, with 11 Neoproterozoic zircons ($761\text{--}1,010$ Ma) accounting for 42% of the total, much higher than in other samples (Figure 8c). The late Pan-African and Paleozoic zircons are the second most important population (seven zircons with ages from 301 to 489 Ma), whereas only one Mesozoic zircon was obtained with an age of 178 Ma. Only six zircons were large enough to be analyzed for Lu-Hf isotopes. Two Pan-African zircons show positive $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values of 0.5 and 10.5 (Figure 9c); two other zircons with ages of ~ 1.0 Ga have $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values of -1.3 and 3.7 , whereas those of two zircons ~ 1.8 Ga in age are -0.1 and 1.0 (Figure 9c).

5.3. The Zhuravlevka Turbidite Basin

Zircons from sample SAL-48 can be divided into two groups. One group is characterized by oscillatory zones and the grains are $80\text{--}200\ \mu\text{m}$ in length, whereas the other group has weak oscillatory zoning, sector zoning, or no zoning at all and these grains have lengths from 80 to $150\ \mu\text{m}$ (Figure 7). Seventy-nine concordant zircon U-Pb ages were recorded from 99 analyses. The Th/U ratios mostly range from 0.05 to 1.92 , although two zircons have Th/U ratios of 0.04 and 0.05 possibly indicating a metamorphic origin. The age populations (Figure 8d) are $129\text{--}132$ Ma (3%), $175\text{--}209$ Ma (11%), $216\text{--}228$ Ma (10%), $240\text{--}267$ Ma (6%), $337\text{--}502$ Ma (8%), $752\text{--}920$ Ma (4%), $1.6\text{--}2.1$ Ga (43%), and $2.2\text{--}2.7$ Ga (14%). There are five age peaks in the spectrum: 131 Ma, 189 Ma, 222 Ma, 470 Ma, and 1.9 Ga. Two zircons with ages of 129 and 132 Ma are the youngest recorded in this study. The Hf isotopic features are distinct from the previous samples, with most Phanerozoic zircons (72%) having negative $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values (-23.5 to -1.3), with T_{DM2} model ages from 2.4 to 1.3 Ga, whereas only six zircons (21%) record positive values (1.6 to 9.4), with T_{DM2} model ages from 636 to 1,029 Ma.

5.4. The Taukha Accretionary Complex

5.4.1. Sample SAL-49

Zircons from sample SAL-49 are 50 to $150\ \mu\text{m}$ in length. Of 98 analyses, 88 were concordant. The Phanerozoic zircons show weak oscillatory zones with small inclusions of opaque material, whereas the Precambrian ones are weakly zoned, sector zoned, or no zoning at all (Figure 7). The Th/U ratios range from 0.22 to 1.55 . About 70%

of the zircons are in the range 1.5–2.6 Ga with a peak age at 1.9 Ga (Figure 8e). The other 30% range in age from 414 Ma to 176 Ma, with three age ranges, 176–226 Ma (17%), 239–262 Ma (10%), and 309–414 Ma (3%). Five zircons with ages ranging from 1.5 to 2.6 Ga were selected for Lu-Hf isotope analysis, recording $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values of -10.1 to -2.1 (Figure 9e). Seventeen Phanerozoic zircons were also analyzed for Lu-Hf isotopes, and their $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values vary from -17.2 to 7.9 . However, $\sim 70\%$ record negative values from -17.2 to -1 , with T_{DM2} model ages from 2.1 to 1.1 Ga.

5.4.2. Sample SAL-58

Zircons from sample SAL-58 range from 50 to 200 μm in length/diameter. Most show magmatic oscillatory zones in CL, with some showing sector zones (Figure 7). Eighty-eight concordant ages were obtained from a total of 96 analyses. The Th/U ratios are >0.5 , which are the highest of the six samples. The age spectrum is similar to sample SAL-49; however, the proportion of 1.5–2.6 Ga zircons (41%) is smaller (Figure 8f). Phanerozoic zircons account for 59%, with three age ranges: 145–210 Ma (35%), 217–239 Ma (15%), and 250–270 Ma (5%). Two Precambrian zircons and 32 Phanerozoic zircons were analyzed for Lu-Hf isotopes. The $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ of the Phanerozoic zircons is mainly negative (80%), ranging from -24.5 to -0.5 , with T_{DM2} model ages from 2.5 to 1.1 Ga, whereas the $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ of the two Precambrian zircons (~ 1.8 Ga and 2.3 Ga) are -4.2 and -1.2 , respectively, with T_{DM2} model ages of 2.6 Ga and 2.8 Ga, respectively (Figure 9f).

6. Discussion

6.1. Depositional Ages of Sandstones in the Southern Sikhote-Alin Orogenic Belt

Detrital zircon data can help determine the maximum depositional age of the analyzed sandstone sample (Dickinson & Gehrels, 2009; Gehrels, 2014). Generally, in the active continental margin, the youngest zircon age is close to the depositional age because the supply of volcanic materials from arc magmatism. However, only one youngest zircon age is not enough to constrain the depositional age. In this study, the youngest peak age in the spectrum (Gehrels, 2014) and previous paleontological research are applied together to solve this issue.

In the Samarka belt, the youngest zircon ages recorded from samples SAL-19 and SAL-40 are 162 Ma and 150 Ma, respectively, implying that they were deposited after the Middle Jurassic. According to Russian paleontological research, sandstone near sample SAL-19 is underlain by the Olenekian-Bathonian chert and the Oxfordian-Tithonian mudstone and siltstone (Kemkin, 2008; Khanchuk, 2001), which means the sandstone was deposited after the Late Jurassic.

In the Sergeevka nappes, a shallow-marine and clastic rock assemblage ranges in age ranging from Devonian to Jurassic (Khanchuk, 2006; Khanchuk et al., 2016). The youngest zircon U-Pb age recorded in this study is 178 Ma in sample SAL-41. However, no fossil data in the outcrop of sample SAL-41 are available to further constrain this, so it is proposed that deposition may occur in or after the Middle Jurassic.

The Zhuravlevka basin is composed mainly of turbidites with depositional ages ranging from the Berriasian to Albian (Malinovsky & Golozubov, 2011). But the youngest zircon in sample SAL-48 has an age of 129 Ma and the youngest peak is ~ 131 Ma, constraining the depositional age in the late Early Cretaceous. This maximum depositional age is verified by the faunal research in the sandstone and siltstone from the same outcrop, showing an Aptian to Albian age (Golozubov, 2006).

In the Taukha accretionary complex, the age of turbidite is Berriasian to Valanginian (i.e., Early Cretaceous: 145–133 Ma) according to detailed faunal research (Golozubov et al., 1992; Kemkin & Kemkina, 2000). The new zircon ages support this result, with the youngest zircon U-Pb age constraining the maximum depositional age of the sandstone at 145 Ma.

6.2. Possible Provenance of the Detrital Zircons

In the Late Jurassic to Early Cretaceous of NE Asia, four geological units had the potential to feed the southern Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt (Figure 1): the Siberia Craton (SC), the eastern CAOB, especially the Bureya-Jiamusi-Khanka Block (BJKB), the North China Craton (NCC), and the South China Craton (SCC).

Although the northern Korean Peninsula is a contiguous part of the eastern NCC (Zhao et al., 2005), the southern Korean Peninsula has tectonic affinities with the SCC because of the similarities in rock

assemblages and metamorphic history from the Neoproterozoic to Mesozoic. With respect to the provenance of the Sikhote-Alin area, we will discuss the whole of the Korean Peninsula along with the eastern NCC because they have been a united source area following collision along the Imjingang Belt in the Middle Triassic (Figure 1; Cheong et al., 2013; Kim et al., 2008).

6.2.1. Possible Provenance of the Precambrian Detrital Zircons

The Precambrian zircons in the southern Sikhote-Alin show two major peaks at 2.5 and 1.8 Ga, with a much smaller population at around 0.8 Ga (Figures 8b–8f).

Late Archean and Paleoproterozoic ages (2.5 and 1.8 Ga) are most widespread in the eastern NCC. The oldest units in the eastern NCC are early Archean in age, including ~3.8 Ga, 3.7–3.6 Ga, and 3.3–3.1 Ga rocks (Wu et al., 2008). However, the predominant rocks are 2.7–2.5 Ga in age, including high-grade tonalitic-trondhjemitic-granodioritic (TTG) gneisses and granitoids (Zhai & Zhai, 2013). Paleoproterozoic rocks (1.95–1.85 Ga) mainly crop out in three linear tectonic belts in the western, central, and eastern NCC. One view is that these belts represent continent-continent collisional belts (Wilde et al., 2002; Zhai & Santosh, 2011; Zhao et al., 2012, 2005, 2001; Zhao & Zhai, 2013), whereas other researchers propose that they were generated as continental rifts within a single continent (Li et al., 2005, 2004, 2006; Zhang & Yang, 1988). Minor mafic dykes were emplaced in the NCC from ~1.8 to 0.9 Ga (Peng et al., 2008, 2011). Precambrian granitoids and metamorphic rocks are also found in the Korean Peninsula. In North Korea, the TTG gneisses and granitic rocks have ages ranging from 1.93 to 1.85 Ga (Zhai et al., 2007; Zhao et al., 2006). In the Ryeongnam massif of South Korea, granite gneisses with ages of 1.9–2.1 Ga are likewise reported (Turek & Kim, 1996). The detrital zircons from the river mouths in North Korea are also dominated by Paleoproterozoic populations (~2.2–2.1 Ga and 1.9–1.8 Ga) with minor Archean zircons (~2.5 Ga; Wu, Yang, Lo, et al., 2007).

In the Hida metamorphic complex of Japan, zircons with ages of 1.8 Ga and 1.1 Ga were obtained from meta-sedimentary gneiss and a few Permian to Triassic granites, and the 1.1 Ga peak is less important (Horie et al., 2010; Sano et al., 2000). Thus, there is a possibility that the Hida metamorphic complex contributed Precambrian zircon to the Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt. However, the 2.5–2.0 Ga zircons are absent in both gneiss and granite, indicating that the Hida metamorphic complex cannot be the main source area.

Paleoproterozoic A- and S-type granites formed at 1.9–1.8 Ga are also found in South China (Chen et al., 2015; Qiu et al., 2000; Zheng et al., 2004, 2006). However, the most widespread magmatic and metamorphic rocks in the SCC are from 1.0 to 0.75 Ga, for example, the igneous rocks of 1,000–850 Ma related to the collision between the Yangtze and Cathaysia blocks, and the bimodal magmatism at 850–750 Ma due to rifting of the Rodinia supercontinent (Charvet, 2013; Charvet et al., 2010; Li et al., 1999; Z. X. Li et al., 2002; X. H. Li et al., 2002; Li & Li, 2007). The 1.0–0.75 Ga zircons are always well represented in sandstones from the SCC (Jia et al., 2010; Yang et al., 2012). However, the age population of 1.0 to 0.75 Ga in age is small in the southern Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt, so it is considered that the SCC is unlikely to be the source area. Instead, the 1.0–0.75 Ga zircons in the southern Sikhote-Alin are most likely derived from the Neoproterozoic basement of the BJKB (Kim et al., 2008; Lee et al., 1998, 2003; Luan et al., 2017; Wilde et al., 2015; Wu et al., 2011; Yang et al., 2017).

Zircon age spectra with peak ages at 3.3, 3.0, 2.6, and 1.8 Ga, especially the 1.8 Ga ages, were also reported in the southern Siberia Craton (Rojas-Agramonte et al., 2011), which is consistent with zircon ages from the Zhuravlevka and Taukha belts. However, the eastern segment of the Mongol-Okhotsk Ocean between the Siberia Craton and the eastern CAOB was not closed before the Early Cretaceous, which makes it unlikely that sediments were transported to the Sikhote-Alin, because the transport distance would be too large given that the sedimentary characteristics of sandstones from the Sikhote-Alin indicate that they resulted from near-source deposition (Figure 5; Donskaya et al., 2013; Khanchuk et al., 2016; Kravchinsky et al., 2002). Thus, it is proposed that the Siberia Craton could not be the source area for the southern Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt.

6.2.2. Potential Provenance of Phanerozoic Zircons

In the BJKB, the Pan-African metamorphic and igneous rocks range in age from 540 to 480 Ma with a peak of ~500 Ma (Wilde et al., 2000; Zhou et al., 2011). In the middle Paleozoic, only a few inherited zircons with 390–290 Ma ages are reported in the granitic rocks along the western BJKB (Miao et al., 2015). A magmatic arc belt (290–274 Ma in age) was generated along the eastern margin of the Jiamusi Block (Bi et al., 2015; Meng et al., 2008; Sun, Xu, Wilde, Chen, et al., 2015; Yu et al., 2013), whereas there are 270–244 Ma I-type granodiorites and 220–170 Ma highly fractionated I-type granitoids in the western BJKB and adjacent areas

(Jahn et al., 2015; Liu et al., 2017; Wu et al., 2003a, 2003b, 2011; Xu et al., 2013; Yang et al., 2015b). These granites are mostly the result of reworking of juvenile crust, commonly with weak negative to positive zircon $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values from -4 to 16 (Cao et al., 2011; Meng et al., 2011; Yang et al., 2006; Yu et al., 2012).

In the Phanerozoic, Mesozoic magmatism, especially the granitoids and relevant volcanic rocks, was generated in the NCC (Griffin et al., 1998; Menzies et al., 2007, 1993; Qi et al., 2015; Wilde et al., 2003; Yang et al., 2008; Zhang et al., 2014; Zhu et al., 2012). Intrusive and volcanic rocks were emplaced in the NCC from the Early Triassic to Late Cretaceous, with the Triassic magmatic rocks mainly located along the western segment of the northern margin of the NCC. Thus, it is unlikely to be the source of the Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt. After the Jurassic, magmatism moved eastward and also increased in volume (Zhang et al., 2014). The most important zircon age populations are 180 – 150 Ma and 130 – 110 Ma, usually with negative to weakly positive zircon $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values of -32 to 5 , because of the involvement of basement in the magma source (Yang et al., 2009; Zhang et al., 2007; R. Zhang et al., 2009; S. H. Zhang et al., 2009; Zheng et al., 2004; Zhu et al., 2012). Similar magmatic events also took place in the Korean Peninsula at this time. The northern Korean Peninsula is characterized by middle Cretaceous granites (~ 110 Ma) and also contains some granites ranging in age from 250 to 170 Ma (Wu, Yang, Lo, et al., 2007). In the southern Korean Peninsula, 190 – 160 Ma is the most important magmatic episode, with local early Paleozoic arc magmatism at 440 – 370 Ma and Triassic granites at 260 – 220 Ma (Cheong et al., 2013, 2014; S. Kim et al., 2011; J. Kim et al., 2011; Kim et al., 2015). In addition, zircon Lu-Hf isotopes of Korean Peninsula rocks imply that Paleoproterozoic crust provided important source materials to these granitoids, and thus, the zircon $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values are negative from -31 to -2 (Cheong et al., 2013, 2014, 2015). However, there are minor granitoids (265 – 252 Ma) recording positive zircon $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values of 10 to 15 , with T_{DM2} model ages from 600 to 400 Ma (Cheong et al., 2013).

In the eastern Siberia Craton and adjacent coastal areas, the Paleo-Pacific subduction-related magmatism mainly took place in the Late Cretaceous, located along an active continental margin (up to $3,000$ km long) and is the most important magmatic event regionally (Kirillova, 2003). However, it is younger than the depositional age of sandstones in the southern Sikhote-Alin, meaning that eastern Siberia and adjacent areas cannot be the source area for these rocks.

6.3. Provenance Analysis in the Southern Sikhote-Alin Orogenic Belt

6.3.1. The Samarka Accretionary Complex

The spectrum of zircon ages in sample SAL-19 is similar to that of the Nadanhada accretionary belt, which is located along the eastern margin of the BJKB, where the sediments were shown to be derived from the eastern CAO, especially the BJKB, although no Archean zircons were reported from the latter (Sun, Xu, Wilde, & Chen, 2015; Zhou et al., 2014; Figures 8a, 8g, and 10).

In sample SAL-19, zircons with ages of 268 – 236 Ma and 227 – 162 Ma were most likely derived from the adjacent magmatic rocks in the western BJKB, whereas the Early Permian ages (275 – 302 Ma) mostly likely came from the magmatic rocks in the eastern and central BJKB (Bi et al., 2015; Sun, Xu, Wilde, Chen, et al., 2015; Sun, Xu, Wilde, & Chen, 2015; Wu et al., 2011; Yang et al., 2015). The Phanerozoic zircons show weakly negative to positive $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values from -6 to 11 which are similar to those from the BJKB (Figure 9a). In addition, the age groups of ~ 502 Ma and $1,000$ – 700 Ma are in accord with the Pan-African and Neoproterozoic basement ages, respectively, in the Jiamusi-Khanka Block (Yang et al., 2017; Zhou et al., 2014). However, there are some zircons with ages of 1.6 – 2.7 Ga ($<10\%$), indicating a possible minor contribution from the eastern NCC, which is consistent with the evidence that three Jurassic zircons have negative $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values (-20 to -22.5).

Although collected in the same belt, sample SAL-40 shows a different provenance (Figures 8b). Late Pan-African (458 – 507 Ma) and Neoproterozoic (599 – $1,151$ Ma) zircon ages indicate that the BJKB likewise supplied sediments to the unit hosting sample SAL-40, with most Phanerozoic zircons showing positive $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values with young T_{DM2} model ages, further supporting this view (Figure 9b). However, ages from 1.8 to 2.6 Ga are more important in sample SAL-40, accounting for 36% , which implies that the eastern NCC and/or Korean Peninsula provided more detritus to this part of the Samarka accretionary complex.

There is an unnamed but significant fault that separates the two sample sites, marking the boundary between different components or thrust sheets/slices within the Samarka accretionary complex, which are called the main Samarka belt (sample SAL-19) and eastern Samarka belt (sample SAL-40), respectively. According to

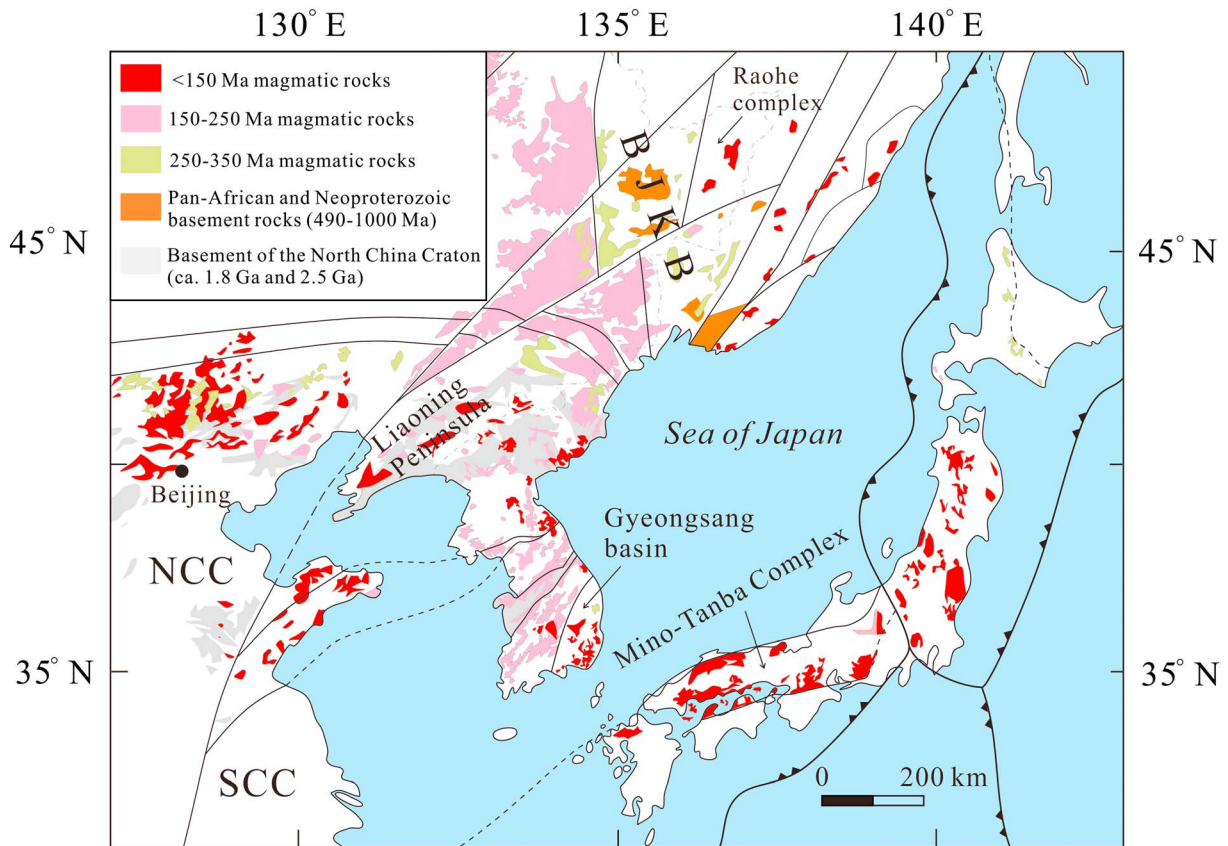


Figure 10. Distribution of Archean to Early Cretaceous magmatism in the possible source areas for the Sikhote-Alin belts (Cheong et al., 2013; Jiang et al., 2013; Kim et al., 2011; Wu, Yang, Wilde, et al., 2007; Zhang et al., 2013; Zhao & Zhai, 2013).

recently published data, detrital zircons from the “coastal Samarka belt” (the southernmost part of the Samarka accretionary complex adjacent to the coast of the Sea of Japan) show an age spectrum with peaks at 189 Ma, 247 Ma, and 1.8 Ga, similar to sample SAL-40 in this study, implying that significant detritus was derived from the NCC and Korean Peninsula (Tsutsumi et al., 2016). Thus, the Samarka accretionary is not a single geological unit and was divided into several thrust slices/sheets according to the structural analysis and geometry (Figure 4). Different components of the Samarka belt show at least two kinds of provenance characteristic, one is the BJKB and the other is the NCC.

6.3.2. The Sergeevka Nappes

The nappes include fragments of the Paleozoic continental margin, and the major rock types are silica-unsaturated mafic rocks containing much fewer zircons than the granitoids (Figure 7). The number of zircons in sample SAL-41 is thus too small for a valid provenance analysis. However, it is inferred that the Neoproterozoic zircons and late Pan-African zircons with positive $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values may have originated from the BJKB or the local denudation of mafic and metamorphic rocks (Figures 8c and 9c). The zircons with Paleoproterozoic ages could have been supplied from the NCC or the Korean Peninsula. A source in the SCC is also possible for this sandstone because of the abundance of zircons with ages from 700 to 1,000 Ma. Thus, the provenance of the Sergeevka nappes remains uncertain based on this study and requires further research.

6.3.3. The Zhuravlevka Turbidite Basin

The zircon age spectrum of sample SAL-48 is similar to that of sample SAL-40, suggesting derivation from both the NCC and BJKB (Figure 8d).

Zircons with an age of 420–500 Ma are an important component of the BJKB and the adjacent blocks of the eastern CAOB. However, the abundance of 420–500 Ma zircons is much lower than that of the Neoproterozoic and Archean zircons, suggesting the eastern NCC and Korean Peninsula was also an important source of detritus. Precambrian zircons make up 57% of the population and show major peaks at 1.8 Ga

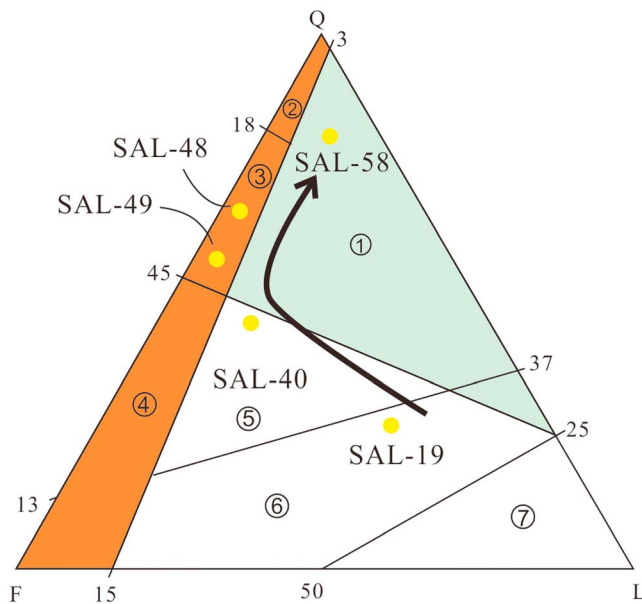


Figure 11. Q-P-L diagram for the sandstones in the Samarka, Zhuravlevka, and Taukha belts (Dickinson, 1985; Dickinson et al., 1983). Numbers in the figure: 1. Recycled orogen; 2. Craton interior; 3. Transitional continent; 4. Basement uplift; 5. Dissected arc; 6. Transitional arc; 7. Undissected arc. The arrow shows the change in trend of the tectonic setting of the provenance area from an arc to a transitional continent and finally to a recycled orogen, during which the contribution from the old craton is increasingly important.

and 2.5 Ga, which is characteristic of the eastern NCC and Korean Peninsula (Darby & Gehrels, 2006; Li & Huang, 2013; Zhao et al., 2005; Zhu et al., 2012). This is further verified by the Phanerozoic zircon Lu-Hf isotopes, with up to 73% having negative $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values (Figure 9d). The age population at ~250 Ma is small, whereas zircons with Middle Jurassic to Cretaceous ages are abundant, which correlates with the most important period of Mesozoic magmatism in the eastern NCC and Korean Peninsula (Cheong et al., 2013, 2014; Qi et al., 2015; Zhang et al., 2013; Zhu et al., 2012).

6.3.4. The Taukha Accretionary Complex

Both samples SAL-49 and SAL-58 from the Taukha accretionary complex are characterized by two main age groups; one Paleoproterozoic and the other Phanerozoic (Figures 8e and 8f). The absence of late Pan-African and Neoproterozoic ages indicates that the BJKB did not supply sediments to the Taukha accretionary complex during the Late Jurassic to Early Cretaceous. Thus, the eastern NCC (including the Korean Peninsula) was the most likely source. The zircons with ages of ~2.5 Ga and 1.8 Ga record basement ages of the NCC (Zhao et al., 2005). The zircons with ages of 420–300 Ma could be derived from arc magmatism in the central Korean Peninsula (Kim et al., 2015), and those with ages of 260–230 Ma might be related to arc magmatism and the continent-continent collision belt along the Imjingang Belt (the possible extension of the Sulu-Dabie orogenic belt into the Korean Peninsula; Cheong et al., 2014; J. Kim et al., 2011). Zircons with ages of 220–150 Ma are likely related to collisional magmatism in the eastern NCC and/or Paleo-Pacific subduction-related magmatism in the southern Korean Peninsula (Kusky et al., 2007; Li et al., 2013; S. H. Zhang et al., 2009; Zhang et al., 2013). About 70–80% of the Phanerozoic zircons have negative $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values in samples SAL-49 and SAL-58, consistent with a NCC source (Figures 9e and 9f; Yang et al., 2006; Sun, Xu, Wilde, & Chen, 2015). However, there are also a few zircons with positive $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values; for example, five Mesozoic zircons in sample SAL-49 show positive $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values from 2.8 to 7.9. These values are consistent with the Neoproterozoic juvenile crustal component in South Korea (Cheong et al., 2013).

6.4. Provenance Variation in the Southern Sikhote-Alin Orogenic Belt

According to the composition of sandstones in the southern Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt, different samples show different tectonic settings for the provenance area, changing gradually from an arc to a continental setting (Figure 11).

For sample SAL-19, a transitional arc setting fits the absence of a zircon age peak at 1.8 Ga from the NCC and the abundance of Jurassic zircons most likely derived from the continental arc in the eastern CAOB, which is supported by their negative $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values. Sample SAL-40 has less lithic fragments and more quartz, illustrating the growing importance of sediments from the Asian continental basement. Samples SAL-48 and SAL-49 plot in the transitional continental area, implying that the deformation belt at the northern margin of the NCC and Korean Peninsula was the main source area. For sample SAL-49, a likely minor contribution from South Korea is indicated by the similar positive $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values of five Mesozoic zircons (Cheong et al., 2013). Finally, sample SAL-58 was likely fed by a recycled orogen, such as existed

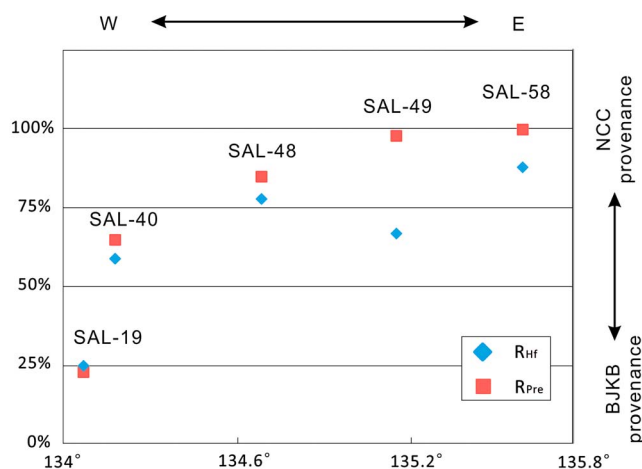


Figure 12. Ratios (R_{Hf} and R_{Pre}) versus the longitude of the sample locations. The two ratios are calculated to show the different provenance of samples investigated in this study. R_{Hf} is the ratio of the number of Phanerozoic zircons with positive $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values divided the number of the Phanerozoic zircons in each sample. R_{Pre} is the ratio of the number of Archean and Paleoproterozoic zircons in each sample divided the number of Precambrian zircons. Both ratios increase from west to east, meaning that in these samples the contribution from the eastern NCC and/or Korean Peninsula increases from west to east. This is because the Phanerozoic zircons with positive $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values are mostly from the eastern BJKB, whereas the Archean and Proterozoic zircons are mostly from the eastern NCC. Sample SAL-41 is not shown because the number of analyses is insufficient for a meaningful result.

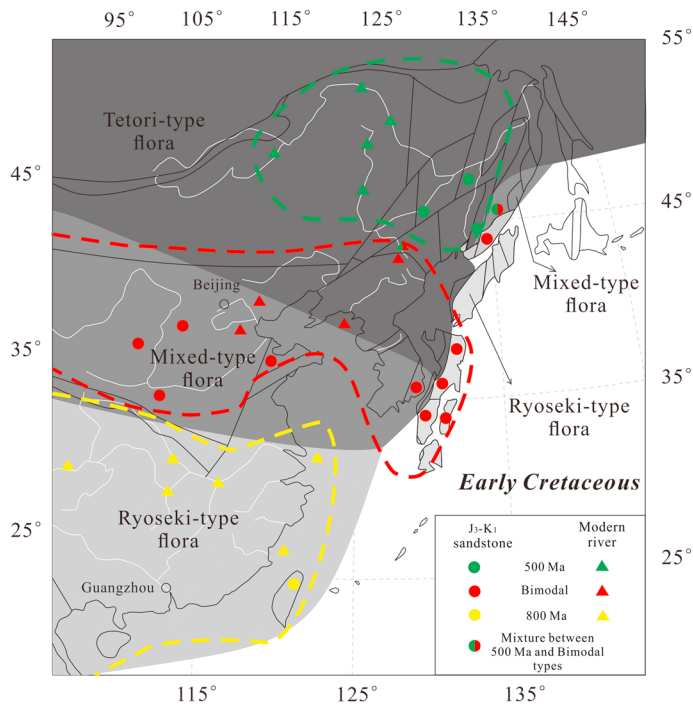


Figure 13. Provinces in the Early Cretaceous East Asia show different types of detrital zircon spectra. The dashed lines show the range of each province. The green dashed line shows the 500 Ma-type province; the red one shows the bimodal-type province; the yellow one shows the 800 Ma-type province. The paleophytogeographic provinces are also shown, modified after Kimura (1979, 2000) and Golozoubov et al. (1999).

accretionary complex and suture zone/fold-thrust belts of collision orogen (Dickinson et al., 1983). Collision events between mature block/arcs happened in the Japanese Island from Late Paleozoic to Mesozoic and accretionary complexes were built in the gaps of collision (Charvet, 2013; Charvet et al., 1983; Isozaki, 1997; Maruyama, 1997). The highlands associated with the pre-Early Cretaceous subduction and collision events were possible to supply detritus to the Taukha accretionary complex. However, the first-cycle of sediments shows that the eastern NCC and Korean Peninsula were the initial source areas indicated by the bimodal zircon age spectrum.

Along the sample traverse (Figure 2b), the proportion of zircons with 1.8 and 2.5 Ga ages and Phanerozoic zircons with negative zircon $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values increases from west to east, which likewise indicates the growing importance of the NCC and/or Korean Peninsula as the source (Figure 12). For sample SAL-49, the decoupling of R_{Pre} and R_{Hf} in Figure 10 is attributed to the five Mesozoic zircons with positive $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values, most likely showing the minor proportion contributed by Neoproterozoic juvenile crust in South Korea (Cheong et al., 2013).

7. Tectonic Implications

Three provinces with different zircon age spectra can be recognized along the eastern Asian continental margin from southeastern Russia to south China (Figure 13), based on the U-Pb age data of detrital zircons collected from the Late Jurassic to Early Cretaceous sandstones and modern river sands. Each zircon age spectrum is generally limited to within a particular area, which helps us better understand the specific geological characteristics in different areas and thus allows to compare that with the southern Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt.

1. Bimodal type: This type of zircon age spectrum shows two important age groups, that is, a Phanerozoic group and a Paleoproterozoic to Archean group (with peaks at ~1.8 and 2.5 Ga; Figure 14a). Very few, if any, zircons with ages between the two major groups have been found. The bimodal-type spectrum appears in the Late Jurassic to Early Cretaceous sandstones from the basins in the interior of the NCC (Li & Huang, 2013; Wang et al., 2016), SW Japan (Aoki et al., 2014; Fujisaki et al., 2014; Isozaki et al., 2010; Nakama et al., 2010) and South Korea (Lee et al., 2015). Modern river sands along the coast of the eastern NCC and Korean Peninsula also have similar spectra (Wu, Yang, Lo, et al., 2007; Yang et al., 2009).
2. 500 Ma type: This type of zircon age spectrum is characterized by important peaks at ~180, 220, 250, and 500 Ma, but ages around ~1.8 or 2.5 Ga are much lesser abundant than in the Bimodal type, or, indeed, sometimes absent (Figure 14b). A minor age group from 0.7 to 1.0 Ga can also be found in the interior of the eastern CAOB, consistent with the Neoproterozoic basement of the BJKB (Khanchuk et al., 2010; Wilde et al., 1997; Yang et al., 2017). The 500 Ma-type spectrum is also found around the BJKB, such as the Heilongjiang Complex and Nadanhada belt (Zhou et al., 2009, 2015; Sun, Xu, Wilde, & Chen, 2015), and the river sands from the middle reach of the Amur River.
3. 800 Ma type: The spectra in the eastern SCC always contain a prominent age peak at ~0.8 Ga, which is the most significant characteristic of this area (Figure 14c; Wang et al., 2014; Yui et al., 2012). Zircon peaks at ~130 Ma, 170 Ma, 1.8 Ga, and 2.5 Ga are also present in this type, derived from Jurassic-Cretaceous magmatism and basement rocks of the SCC. This type of spectrum is dominant in almost all of the modern river sands collected from the Yangtze River and its branches (Yang et al., 2012). However, very few Late Jurassic to Early Cretaceous sandstones can be found in the present SCC, except perhaps the Tananao complex in Taiwan which fits well with the 800 Ma-type spectrum (Li et al., 2012; Yui et al., 2012).

In the southern Sikhote-Alin, sample SAL-19 from the main Samarka accretionary complex shows a 500 Ma-type spectrum. Samples SAL-49 and SAL-58 from the Taukha accretionary complex have typical bimodal-type

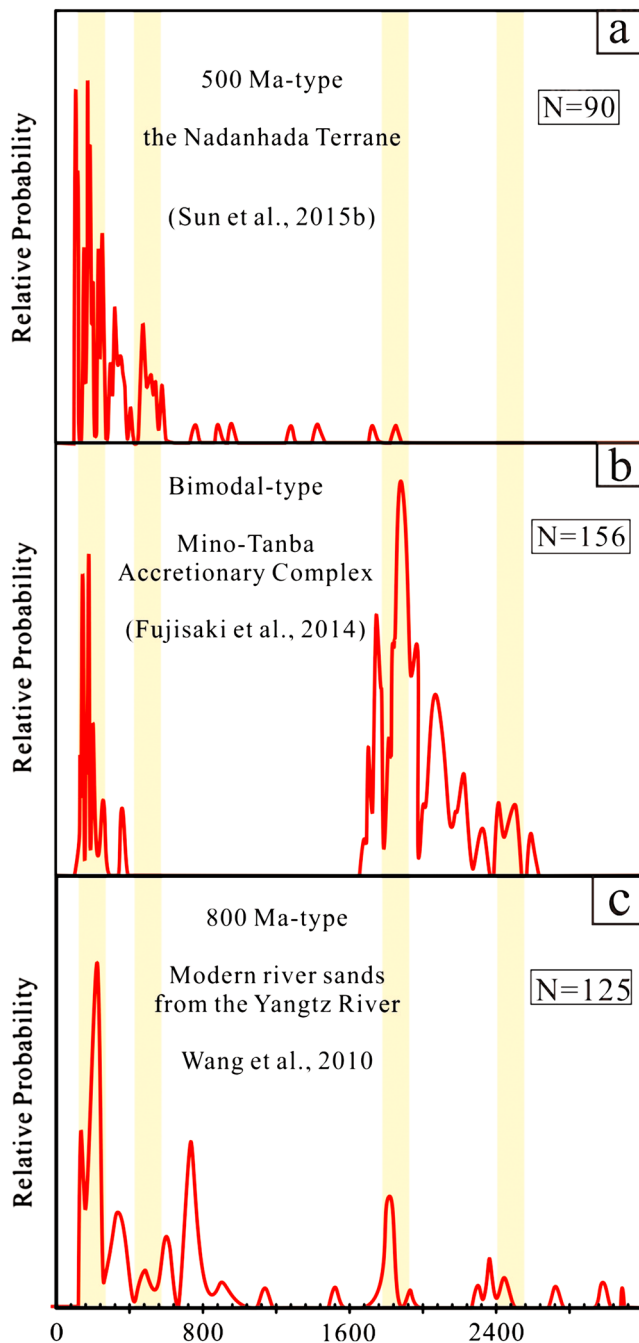


Figure 14. Typical spectra of detrital zircons in the (a) 500 Ma-type, (b) bimodal-type, and (c) 800 Ma-type provinces in the Early Cretaceous of East Asia.

spectra. However, sample SAL-40 from the eastern Samarka belt and sample SAL-48 from the Zhuravlevka basin are a mixture of sediments with the 500 Ma type and bimodal type. The detrital monazite ages in the Samarka belt and Zhuravlevka basin also support this viewpoint (Tsutsumi et al., 2016). In the main Samarka belt, there is a significant peak at ~500 Ma, which is not shown in the monazite data from the Zhuravlevka or Taukha (Figure 15). Thus, the influence from the BJKB to the Zhuravlevka and Taukha was quite weak. Importantly, located in their present geographic positions, it is difficult for the eastern Samarka accretionary complex, the Zhuravlevka turbidite basin, and the Taukha accretionary complex to be fed by sediments from the eastern NCC or Korean Peninsula (Figures 1 and 10). It is also virtually impossible for the Taukha belt to exclude sediments from the BJKB in its present location. This strongly indicates that the belts in the southern Sikhote-Alin area were moved by tectonic movement significantly, such as subduction, collision, and strike slip. Therefore, discussing the tectonic settings will be very necessary in order to explain the abrupt changing of provenance types across the Central Sikhote-Alin Fault.

Many hypotheses have been raised in the past decades in the Pacific tectonic realm to explain the collage of the numerous belts in this region, including the (1) collision orogeny, (2) accretionary orogeny, and (3) strike-slip faulting along a transform margin.

In SW Japan, collision orogeny was identified based on the discovery of large thrust sheet and nappes (Charvet et al., 1985; Faure et al., 1986). These nappe tectonics are explained by the intermittent docking of continental blocks/mature arcs to the hinterland. The Sr-Nd isotopic research of granitoids in SW Japan supports this viewpoint because the participation of old crust can be detected in the felsic magmatism (Jahn, 2010). Structural geological analysis also reveals nappe/thrust tectonics similar to that in the classical collisional orogenic belt (Charvet et al., 1985). Faure et al. (1995) proposed similar model in Sikhote-Alin, underlining the importance of continental blocks in orogeny. Recently, Jahn et al. (2015) studied the Sr-Nd isotopes in the granitoids in Sikhote-Alin. The result also supports the possible existence of an old crust basement. However, the explanation of Sr-Nd isotopes is argued because the remelting of the sedimentary rocks in Sikhote-Alin, including abundant detritus from old continental blocks/cratons, can also explain the isotopic data (Khanchuk et al., 2016; Krug et al., 2014).

Some other studies suggest that accretionary orogeny, instead of collision, was dominant in the Japanese Island (Isozaki et al., 2010; Maruyama, 1997). In their models, the Japanese Islands are basically a large accretionary prism which was influenced by high-pressure metamorphism, accretion of sea mount/plateau, and ridge subduction.

As a result, the Japanese Islands grew continuously eastward due to persistent subduction and underthrusting of the oceanic plate. The age of the thrust sheets, therefore, tends to be younger from hinterland to the ocean side.

According to some Russian geologists, the eastern Asian margin was a transform plate boundary in Early Cretaceous, alike to the modern plate margin in California, alike to the Saint Andreas Fault (Golozoubov, 2006; Golozoubov et al., 1999; Khanchuk, 2001; Khanchuk et al., 2016). Accretionary orogeny associated with subduction took place in the Jurassic and Late Cretaceous in their representative model (Khanchuk et al., 2016). Whereas in the Early Cretaceous (145–100 Ma), the collage of some major units in Sikhote-Alin was

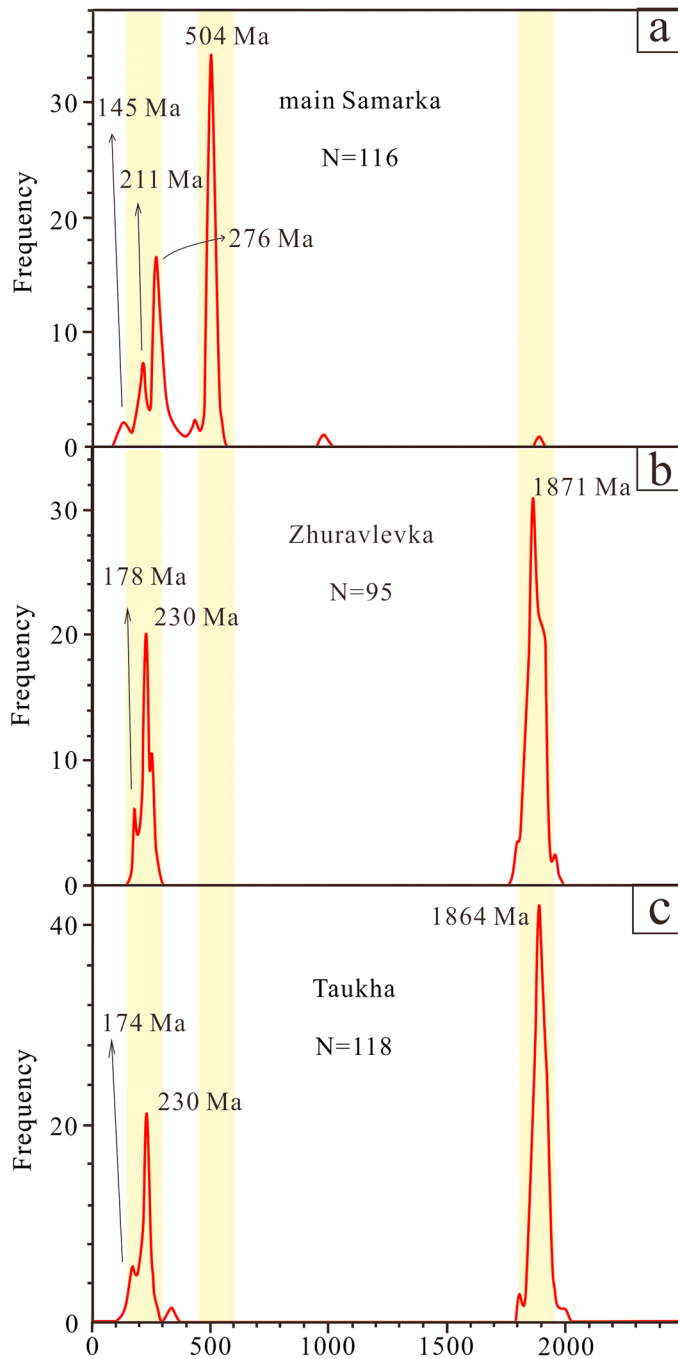


Figure 15. Spectra of detrital monazite collected in (a) the main Samarka, (b) the Zhuravlevka, and (c) the Taukha belts (Tsutsumi et al., 2016).

attributed to the northward displacement by strike-slip faults. It is noted that strike-slip faulting is also emphasized by the “collisional orogeny” and “accretionary orogeny” models, although it is not considered to be the only/major geodynamic mechanism. For example, the post-collision strike-slip faulting was important in reworking of the south Kitakami-Kurosegawa continental block after its collision with the hinterland of Japan (Charvet, 2013; Kato & Saka, 2003, 2006). In the previous models for Sikhote-Alin, the “terrane” were suggested to be built near South China and then moved northward to its present location by sinistral strike-slip faulting (Natal’in, 1993).

In the southern Sikhote-Alin, nappe/thrust tectonics can be identified in the Sergeevka nappes (Figures 2 and 4), in which the two-stage evolution is similar to that of the south Kitakami-Kurosegawa block in Japan, namely, the thrusting at the early stage and reworking by strike-slip faulting at the later stage (Figure 16a). High-pressure metamorphism (blueschist facies) happened when the slab was subducted and then exhumed during the collision. These nappes were thrust upon the Samarka accretionary complex, suggesting a collisional orogeny (Khanchuk et al., 2016). At the first stage, the subduction and collision between the Sergeevka and Samarka were responsible for the emplacement of the nappes (Figure 16a). At the later stage, the continental block was dismembered into several fragments, which is clearly shown on the regional geological map (Figure 2).

One of the key questions about the tectonics in Sikhote-Alin is that if the collisional orogeny played an important role. In the northern Sikhote-Alin area, Faure et al. (1995) identified a continental block, the Anuy microcontinent, which was proposed to collide with the western belts in the middle Cretaceous. Nd isotopes of granites also indicate that the basement of the Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt may be an old crust, instead of a juvenile one (Jahn et al., 2015). However, this conclusion should be drawn carefully now. In reality, there is no valid geochronological data showing any evidence of “old continental basement” so far. Thus, in addition to the Sergeevka block, the existence of other old crust/continental block is difficult to assure, making it difficult to identify the collisional orogeny in Sikhote-Alin. This issue still needs more detailed research in future.

Anyway, no matter accretion or collision model of the belts from east to west does not fit the new data in this study. The detrital zircon dating and Lu-Hf isotopes reveal that the provenance features of belts separated by the Central Sikhote-Alin Fault are quite different. The affinity of NCC/Korean Peninsula is recognized in the eastern Samarka belt, Zhuravlevka basin, and Taukha accretionary complex, whereas the Nadanhada and main Samarka accretionary complexes were dominated by the BJKB. The provenance of the Nadanhada and main Samarka belts is comprehensible because they are adjacent

to the BJKB. But it is very difficult to explain the weak signal of the BJKB and strong influence from the NCC in other belts because they are adjacent to the eastern CAOB as well. In this study, the sinistral strike-slip faulting, represented by the Central Sikhote-Alin Fault, is proposed to be responsible for this issue. It is suggested that the eastern Samarka, Zhuravlevka, and Taukha belts were not located adjacent to the BJKB when deposited, but farther south than their present locations, possibly near the Korean Peninsula to accept the sediments from the NCC (Figure 16b). The sinistral strike-slip faulting system transported the belts to north. This strike-slip faulting system should be active after the collision of the Sergeevka nappes and the initial collage between the Zhuravlevka, Kema, and Taukha belts (Figure 16c) because the

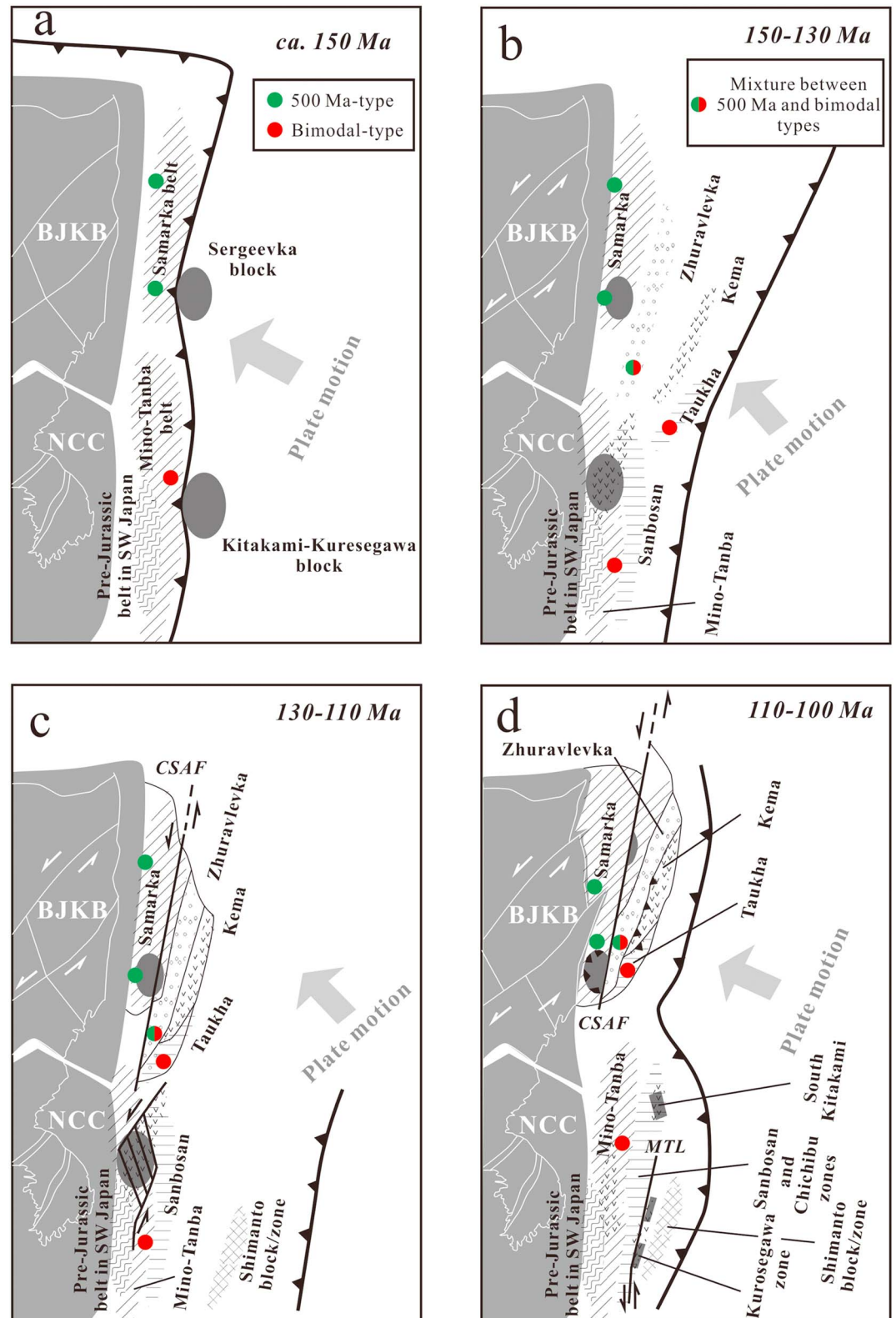


Figure 16. Tectonic reconstruction of the East Asian continental margin at 150 to 100 Ma. Faults: CSAF = the Central Sikhote-Alin Fault; MTL = the Median Tectonic Line in Japan. The reconstruction in SW Japan is modified after Kato and Saka (2003) and Charvet (2013). The plate motion direction is according to Müller et al. (2008).

Central Sikhote-Alin Fault cuts the Samarka belt, Sergeevka nappes, and most boundaries between the major belts (Figure 2). It should be noted that thrusting was the initial contact relationship between most belts in Sikhote-Alin except the Zhruavlevka turbidite basin which was deposited along the Central Sikhote-Alin Fault at the very beginning (Khanchuk et al., 2016; Malinovsky & Golozubov, 2011).

Evidence for northward transport is also recorded by the floral distribution in the sedimentary rocks. Two major paleophytogeographic provinces are recognized in the area, the Tetori-type floral province in the north and the Ryoseki-type floral province in the south (Figure 12; Batten, 1984; Kimura, 1979; Vakhrameev, 1987; Yabe et al., 2003). A mixed-type floral province is further recognized between these two (Kimura et al., 1988; Kimura, 2000). Although the province boundaries are roughly latitudinal, more detailed research shows an irregular flora distribution in the southern Sikhote-Alin (Figure 12). Plants from the southernmost Sikhote-Alin are similar to the Ryoseki-type flora, whereas some areas in the Sikhote-Alin are assigned to the mixed-type flora domain (Golozubov et al., 1999; Kimura, 2000). Tectonic reconstruction based on the floral assemblages in East Asia indicates that northward movement could be more than 5° of latitude in SW Japan and 15° of latitude in the southern Sikhote-Alin (Golozubov et al., 1999). However, there remain uncertainties about the affinity of belts as recorded by the detrital zircon, monazite, and flora. The reason is that the floral assemblage is mainly determined by latitude, whereas the provenance of sediments is mainly constrained by their paleogeographic location when deposited. However, in this instance, both pieces of evidence are consistent with northward transport after the initial collision, including the paleomagnetic research published recently, showing that northward movement was important for some belts in Sikhote-Alin (Didenko et al., 2014; Khanchuk, Didenko, Tikhomirova, et al., 2015).

The exact offset is very difficult to evaluate for the Central Sikhote-Alin Fault because (1) the sinistral displacement may be changed by the complicated deformations in the region, for example, the dextral movement at later stage, faulting and folding due to subduction or collision; (2) the Central Sikhote-Alin Fault has been an inactive fault for dozens of million years, making the direct evidence used to evaluate the offset, such as rivers and ranges, very obscure; and (3) the forest almost cover the whole Sikhote-Alin area and there is even no good outcrop of the fault founded for now. Thus, the offset of the sinistral faults in the Sikhote-Alin area is still an unsolved issue which needs more detailed research and direct evidence.

The timing of this northward transport with parallel-margin left-lateral motion has not been well constrained. However, in the southern Sikhote-Alin it can be inferred that the northward movement occurred in the late Early Cretaceous based on the magmatic and floral evidence. There is also a magmatic gap between 130 and 110 Ma in the Sikhote-Alin, probably due to plate motion parallel to the continental margin, which weakened the effect of subduction beneath the continent and thus reduced arc magmatism (Jahn et al., 2015; Khanchuk, 2001; Khanchuk et al., 2016; Maruyama, 1997). After ~110 Ma, magmatism in the Sikhote-Alin became quasi-continuous from 100 to 56 Ma as a result of westward subduction of the Izanagi and Pacific plates (Jahn et al., 2015; Kruk et al., 2014). The floral assemblages were different in various basins of the southern Sikhote-Alin prior to this magmatic gap (Golozubov et al., 1999). However, the flora were similar between 110 and 100 Ma (Golozubov et al., 1999), providing some constraint on the timing of sinistral movement on the major strike-slip faults.

8. Conclusions

The southern Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt is composed, from west to east, of the Samarka, Zhuravlevka, and Taukha belts, which are separated by thrusts and strike-slip faults. The Sergeevka nappes include Paleozoic continental margin fragments that were covered by late Paleozoic to Mesozoic sedimentary rocks and were thrust over the Samarka accretionary complex.

Detrital zircon U-Pb ages and Lu-Hf isotopes of sandstones in the various belts constrain the provenance as follows: (1) the main Samarka belt mainly received terrigenous sediments from the eastern CAOB (mainly from the BJKB); (2) the Zhuravlevka basin and eastern Samarka belt were fed by both the eastern CAOB and NCC (probably including the Korean Peninsula); (3) the sediments of the Taukha belt were derived from the eastern NCC and Korean Peninsula; and (4) the provenance of the Jurassic sediments in the Sergeevka nappes is largely unconstrained due to insufficient data and needs to be further investigated.

The initial contact relationship between most belts in the Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt is thrust resulted from collisional orogeny and subduction of the Paleo-Pacific Ocean. However, the Zhuravlevka turbidite basin was deposited along the Central Sikhote-Alin Fault.

The Sergeevka nappes were thrust upon the Samarka belt before the Early Cretaceous and then reworked by sinistral strike-slip faults. The Taukha belt and Kema arc collided with the Zhuravlevka basin before the Late Cretaceous. However, sinistral strike-slip faulting was important in the final collage of the Sikhote-Alin orogenic belt after the initial thrusting. The eastern Samarka belt, Zhuravlevka basin, and Taukha belt were transported northward from the margin of the NCC to their present location. The timing of this northward movement is estimated as the late Early Cretaceous.

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