

Late Paleozoic–Early Triassic magmatism on the western margin of Gondwana: Collahuasi area, Northern Chile

Francisco Munizaga^a, Victor Maksaev^{a,*}, C.M. Fanning^b, S. Giglio^c,
G. Yaxley^d, C.C.G. Tassinari^e

^a Departamento de Geología, Universidad de Chile, Plaza Ercilla 803, Santiago, Chile

^b Research School of Earth Sciences, Australian National University, Canberra, ACT 0200, Australia

^c Compañía Minera Doña Inés de Collahuasi, SCM, Pedro Lagos 1090, Iquique, Chile

^d Research School of Earth Sciences, Australian National University, Canberra ACT 0200, Australia

^e Instituto de Geociencias, Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil

Abstract

The basement in the ‘Altiplano’ high plateau of the Andes of northern Chile mostly consists of late Paleozoic to Early Triassic felsic igneous rocks (Collahuasi Group) that were emplaced and extruded along the western margin of the Gondwana supercontinent. This igneous suite crops out in the Collahuasi area and forms the backbone of most of the high Andes from latitude 20° to 22°S. Rocks of the Collahuasi Group and correlative formations form an extensive belt of volcanic and subvolcanic rocks throughout the main Andes of Chile, the Frontal Cordillera of Argentina (Choiyoi Group or Choiyoi Granite-Rhyolite Province), and the Eastern Cordillera of Peru.

Thirteen new SHRIMP U–Pb zircon ages from the Collahuasi area document a bimodal timing for magmatism, with a dominant peak at about 300 Ma and a less significant one at 244 Ma. Copper–Mo porphyry mineralization is related to the younger igneous event.

Initial Hf isotopic ratios for the ~300 Ma zircons range from about –2 to +6 indicating that the magmas incorporated components with a significant crustal residence time. The 244 Ma magmas were derived from a less enriched source, with the initial Hf values ranging from +2 to +6, suggestive of a mixture with a more depleted component. Limited whole rock $^{144}\text{Nd}/^{143}\text{Nd}$ and $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ isotopic ratios further support the likelihood that the Collahuasi Group magmatism incorporated significant older crustal components, or at least a mixture of crustal sources with more and less evolved isotopic signatures.

Keywords: Geochronology; U–Pb; Hf; Sr; and Nd isotope ratios; Andes; Choiyoi; Paleozoic

1. Introduction

An assemblage of mostly felsic volcanic rocks and related porphyritic intrusions are exposed in the Collahuasi area of the ‘Altiplano’ high plateau of northern Chile (Fig. 1). It forms the basement for Mesozoic and Cenozoic strata and was termed the Collahuasi Formation by Vergara and Thomas (1984). Copper-

and gold-bearing veins were mined from the late nineteenth century to the early twentieth century at Collahuasi. Since the 1990s, large-scale exploitation of porphyry copper deposits characterizes the Quebrada Blanca, Rosario, and Ujina open pit mines, which define the present-day Collahuasi mining district. These porphyry copper deposits and the associated hydrothermal alteration zones are Late Eocene to Oligocene in age (Camus, 2003; Masterman et al., 2005), but the surrounding crystalline basement is late Paleozoic to Early Triassic (Table 1). In addition, other low-grade porphyry copper–molybdenum prospects are hosted by the late Paleozoic to Triassic rocks in the region (e.g., Characolla, La Profunda, El Loa, and Los Colorados; Fig. 2). These are part of a regional porphyry copper

* Corresponding author.

E-mail addresses: [fmuñizag@cec.uchile.cl](mailto:fmunizag@cec.uchile.cl) (F. Munizaga), vmaksaev@cec.uchile.cl (V. Maksaev), Mark.Fanning@anu.edu.au (C.M. Fanning), sfgiglio@collahuasi.cl (S. Giglio), greg.yaxley@anu.edu.au (G. Yaxley), ccgtassi@usp.br (C.C.G. Tassinari).

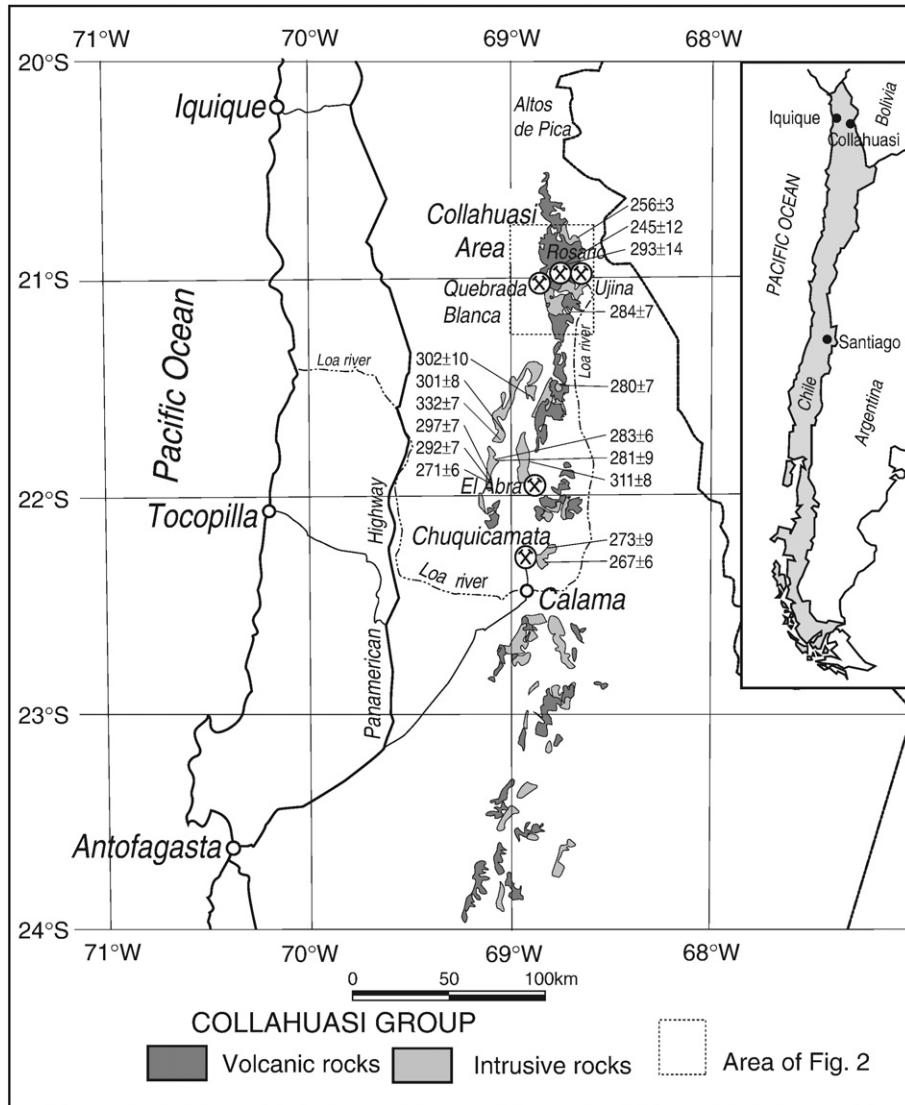


Fig. 1. Location map of the Collahuasi area and geographic distribution of the outcrops of main igneous units of the Collahuasi Group. Previous isotopic ages for granitoids from the region between Collahuasi and Chuquicamata are shown (compiled after Huete et al., 1977; Damm et al., 1986; Lucassen et al., 1999; Tomlinson et al., 2001; Masterman, 2003; see Table 1).

belt that extends from northern Chile to southern Argentina, with K–Ar ages from 290 to ~200 Ma (Camus, 2003; Cornejo et al., 2006).

The basement rocks at Collahuasi are the northernmost exposure in Chile of an extensive belt of late Paleozoic to Early Triassic igneous rocks exposed discontinuously throughout the western Main Andean and eastern Frontal Cordilleras from southern Peru to southern Argentina (Choiyoi Group; e.g., Llambías et al., 1993). Thick volcanic rock sequences are dominant in the Frontal Cordillera of Argentina, whereas large batholiths are widely exposed in Chile, but both rock types are related in space and time along the western margin of Gondwana (e.g., Mpodozis and Kay, 1992). The voluminous felsic rocks have been interpreted as products of crustal anatexis (Breitkreuz and Zeil, 1994; Lucassen et al., 1999; Franz et al., 2006) or as differentiated felsic units of a calc-alkaline subduction-related assemblage, which pre-dates spatially associated felsic anorogenic magmatism (Mpodozis and Kay, 1992).

Accurate dating of the porphyritic intrusions that define these basement rocks in northern Chile has been typically hampered because of regional low-grade metamorphism and/or local overprinting by the Cenozoic hydrothermal alteration. Previous K–Ar dates (e.g., Huete et al., 1977) are mostly equivocal and thus the absolute ages of the felsic igneous rocks are uncertain. We present the first SHRIMP U–Pb zircon data for late Paleozoic to Early Triassic rocks of northern Chile (mostly porphyries of the Collahuasi area), as well as Nd and Sr isotopic ratios and the first Hf isotopic ratios in zircon. This work intends to improve the chronology and the current understanding of late Paleozoic to Early Triassic geological development of the region.

2. Analytical methods

SHRIMP II U–Pb analyses of zircon grains were carried out at the Research School of Earth Sciences, Australian National

Table 1
Compilation of radiometric ages of the region from Collahuasi to Chuquicamata

| Sample | Material | Age (Ma $\pm 2\sigma$) | Lithology | Latitude S | Longitude W | References |
|------------------|------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| <i>U-Pb ages</i> | | | | | | |
| R990259 | Zircon | 293 \pm 14 | Rhyodacite | 20°58'13" | 68°41'52" | Masterman (2003) |
| R200085 | Zircon | 245 \pm 12 | Granodiorite porphyry | 20°58'26" | 68°41'49" | Masterman (2003) |
| PZG (D-1) | Zircon | 256 \pm 3 | Granite | 20°49'25" | 68°42'00" | Damm et al. (1986) |
| <i>K-Ar ages</i> | | | | | | |
| C-350 | Biotite | 302 \pm 10 | Granite | 21°33'24" | 68°54'49" | Huete et al. (1977) |
| QBB-310 | Biotite | 297 \pm 7 | Granodiorite | 21°55'52" | 69°05'47" | Tomlinson et al. (2001) |
| QBB-306 | Biotite | 292 \pm 7 | Granite | 21°57'12" | 69°05'35" | Tomlinson et al. (2001) |
| QBB-284 | Biotite | 271 \pm 6 | Granite | 21°56'56" | 69°07'26" | Tomlinson et al. (2001) |
| 4/417 | Biotite | 301 \pm 8 | Granite | 21°42'58" | 69°01'51" | Lucassen et al. (1999) |
| Apr-36 | Biotite | 332 \pm 7 | Granite | 21°45'21" | 69°02'81" | Lucassen et al. (1999) |
| 3/299 | Biotite | 283 \pm 6 | Granite | 21°51'03" | 69°06'00" | Lucassen et al. (1999) |
| 3/300 | Hornblende | 281 \pm 9 | Diorite | 21°51'03" | 69°05'00" | Lucassen et al. (1999) |
| QT-140 | Hornblende | 273 \pm 9 | Diorite | 22°15'33" | 68°51'19" | Tomlinson et al. (2001) |
| QT-108 | Biotite | 267 \pm 6 | Diorite | 22°19'00" | 68°50'45" | Tomlinson et al. (2001) |
| D-2 | Biotite | 311 \pm 8 | Granite | 21°51'30" | 68°55'30" | Huete et al. (1977) |
| QB-92 | Biotite | 284 \pm 7 | Granodiorite | 21°09'42" | 68°42'57" | Tomlinson et al. (2001) |
| QB-66 | Biotite | 280 \pm 7 | Granodiorite | 21°26'21" | 68°46'38" | Tomlinson et al. (2001) |

Note: The table includes only K–Ar ages obtained in fresh mineral phases with normal K content.

University. A detailed description of procedures is given in Appendix A, and the data tabulations for all thirteen samples in Appendix B. A summary of the U–Pb zircon age determinations is given in Table 2.

Rubidium–Sr and Sm–Nd isotopic analyses of four samples of volcanic rocks were carried out at the Geochronological Research Center of the University of São Paulo, Brazil. The isotopic data are given in Table 3 and description of analytical procedures is given in Appendix A.

Laser ablation multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry Lu–Hf isotopic analyses were carried out on the same zircon grains used for the U–Pb analyses. A detailed description of procedures is given in Appendix A. The isotopic data are given in Table 4.

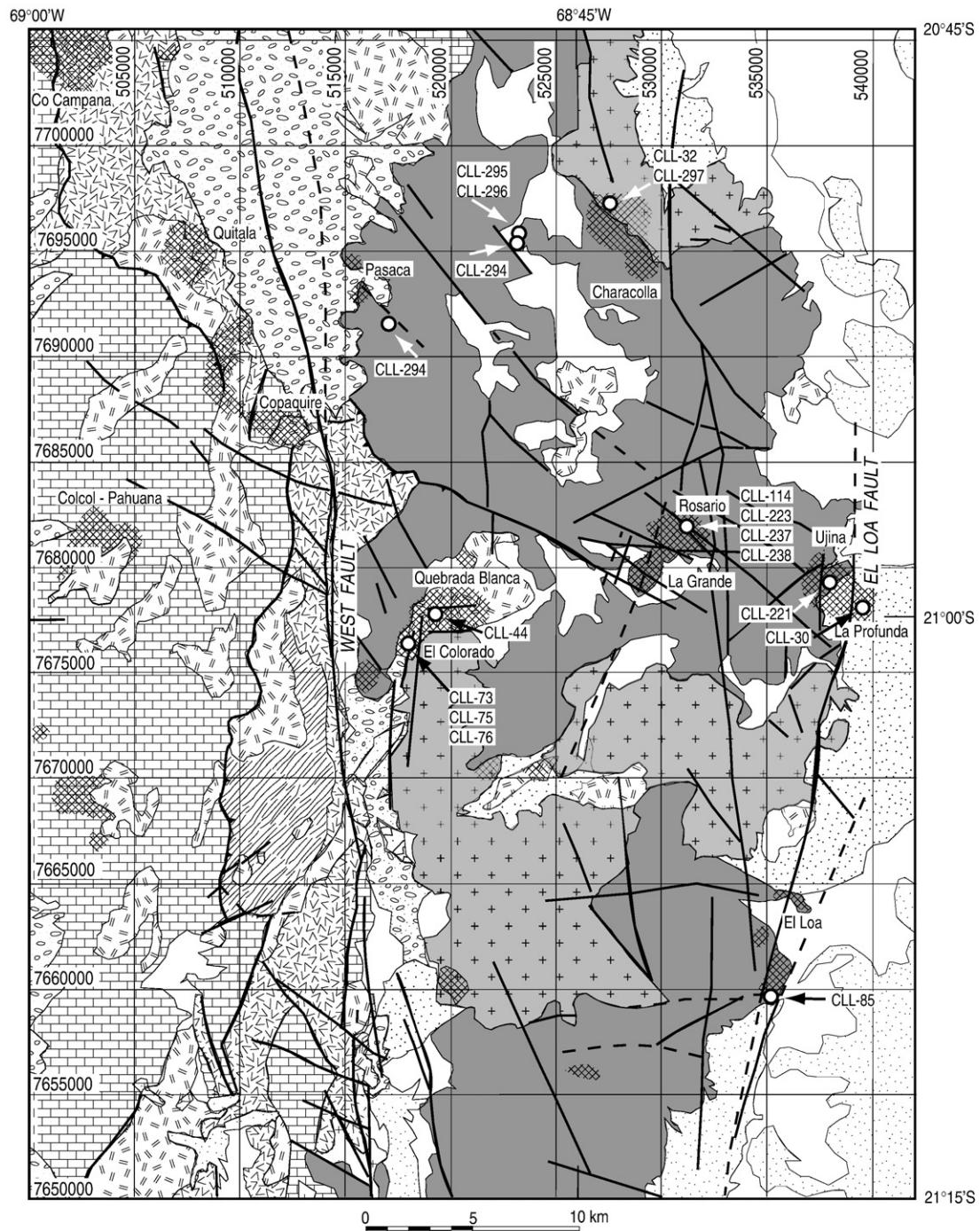
3. Late Paleozoic to Triassic magmatism

The late Paleozoic–early Mesozoic magmatism is a significant, but not well understood geological event, which has been recognized along much of the length of western South America (e.g., Vaughan and Pankhurst, 2007). The late Paleozoic to Triassic igneous units along the high Andes of Chile and the Argentinean Frontal Cordillera are commonly known by a variety of names. Rolleri and Criado-Roque (1970) used the name Choiyoi for late Paleozoic to Triassic felsic and intermediate units outcropping in the Argentinean Frontal Cordillera, and this name has been widely used to refer to Permo-Triassic magmatism in both countries. The Choiyoi Group is comprised of volcano-plutonic complexes that represent magmatism along the western border of Gondwana (Llambías and Sato, 1990; Sato and Llambías, 1993; Mpodozis and Kay, 1992; Strazzere et al., 2006). These rocks are included in the Choiyoi Granite-Rhyolite Province of Mpodozis and Kay (1992), which extends for 2500 km from the Collahuasi area in

northern Chile to Neuquén and the northern Patagonian Andes in southern Argentina, and is also correlated with the Mitú Group of southern Peru (Carlier et al., 1982).

The volcanic components of the late Paleozoic to Triassic magmatism are not exposed from about latitude 25°S to 33°S, but granitic and granodioritic batholiths of the same episode outcrop along the present-day high Andes (Marinovic et al., 1995; Nasi et al., 1985; Mpodozis and Kay, 1990, 1992). Martin et al. (1999) have identified at least three discrete intrusive units in this region according to U–Pb and K–Ar data: biotite granites (280–270 Ma), silica-rich leucocratic granites and rhyolitic porphyries (242–238 Ma), and rhyolitic porphyries, domes and mafic intrusions (221–200 Ma). The geochemical characteristics of the intrusions are consistent with initial subduction-related magmatism, followed by extensive crustal melting (Mpodozis and Kay, 1992).

Permian–Triassic alkaline to calc-alkaline batholiths and stocks occur in the Eastern Cordillera of Peru and, together with the alkaline volcanic rocks of the Mitú Group, they form a Permian–Triassic magmatic belt over a length of more than 1000 km in a NNW–SSE direction in the Eastern Cordillera (Carlier et al., 1982 and references therein). The volcanism and plutonism appear to be related to crustal melting. Uranium–Pb zircon data indicate an age of 336 to 325 Ma for the Pataz batholith (Miskovic and Schaltegger, 2006; Schaltegger et al., 2006). Mississippian I-type metaluminous to peraluminous granitoids are chiefly restricted to the segment of the Eastern Cordillera north of 11°S, with dates on plutons at Huacapistana (310 Ma), Hualluniyoc (325 Ma), and Utucuyacu (307 Ma) (Chew et al., 2007). Permian to Early Triassic S- to A-type granitoids in central and southern Peru are comagmatic with lavas of the Mitú Group, all of which are post-tectonic suites and include U–Pb and Rb–Sr ages of 250–240 Ma for the San Ramón granite (Capdevila et al., 1977; Lancelot et al. 1978). Additional magmatic activity in the Eastern Cordillera of Peru



Compiled by Compañía Minera Doña Inés de Collahuasi; after Tomlinson et al. 2001 and new data.
Projection: UTM 19 Zone, Southern Hemisphere (Datum: PASAD 56).

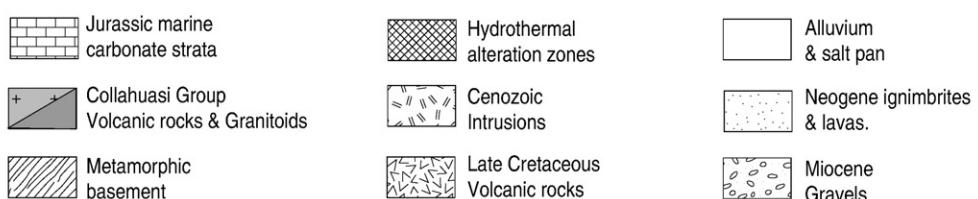


Fig. 2. Regional geological map of the Collahuasi area showing sample localities.

Table 2
Summary of the new SHRIMP zircon U–Pb ages and sample location

| Sample | Weighted mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ age | | | | Comments |
|---------|--|--------------------|--|--|--|
| | (Ma $\pm 2\sigma$) | Rock type | Location | | |
| CLL-44 | 303.2 \pm 2.0 | Granitic porphyry | Quebrada Blanca Mine 21°00'14"S – 68°48'50"W DDH 59; 106–107 m | | Weighted mean for 19 of 23 analyzed spots; excluded 3 with interpreted radiogenic Pb loss, and one inherited at \sim 750 Ma. |
| CLL-73 | 292.7 \pm 1.9 | Granitic porphyry | Los Colorados Prospect 21°01'41"S – 68°50'33"W Surface | | Weighted mean for 20 of 20 analyzed spots. |
| CLL-75 | 307.9 \pm 2.8 | Rhyolitic porphyry | Los Colorados Prospect 21°01'57"S – 68°50'40"W Surface | | Weighted mean for 16 of 20 analyzed spots; excluded 4 with interpreted radiogenic Pb loss |
| CLL-76 | 298.8 \pm 2.2 | Dacite | Los Colorados Prospect 21°01'53"S – 68°50'54"W Surface | | Weighted mean for 16 of 18 analyzed spots; excluded 2 with interpreted radiogenic Pb loss |
| CLL-85 | 297.6 \pm 2.4 | Rhyolitic porphyry | El Loa Prospect 21°09'42"S – 68°39'36"W Surface | | Weighted mean for 17 of 20 analyzed spots; excluded 3 with interpreted radiogenic Pb loss |
| CLL-114 | 304.6 \pm 3.2 | Rhyolitic porphyry | Rosario Mine 20°58'19"S – 68°42'13"W C-177; 632 m | | Weighted mean for 6 spots. |
| CLL-221 | 296.9 \pm 4.3 | Dacite porphyry | Ujina Mine 20°59'08"S – 68°38'03"W Open pit | | Weighted mean for 8 of 11 analyzed spots; excluded 2 with interpreted radiogenic Pb loss, and one inherited at \sim 318 Ma. |
| CLL-223 | 298.3 \pm 2.1 | Rhyolitic porphyry | Rosario Mine 20°57'56"S – 68°42'11"W Open pit | | Weighted mean for 16 of 20 analyzed spots; excluded 3 with interpreted radiogenic Pb loss, and one older at \sim 310 Ma. |
| CLL-237 | 303.9 \pm 3.0 | Rhyolitic porphyry | Rosario Mine 20°58'09"S – 68°42'17"W C-322; 497 m | | Weighted mean for all 6 analyzed spots. |
| CLL-238 | 308.5 \pm 2.2 | Rhyolitic porphyry | Rosario Mine 20°58'19"S – 68°42'13"W C-177; 573 m | | Weighted mean for 17 of 20 analyzed spots; excluded 3 with interpreted radiogenic Pb loss. |
| CLL-30 | 244.8 \pm 2.5 | Dacite porphyry | La Profunda Prospect 21°00'19"S – 68°36'43"W PUC-611; 421 m | | Enrichment in common Pb for many analyses. Weighted mean for 27 of 31 spots; |
| CLL-297 | 248.7 \pm 3.3 | Granite porphyry | Characolla Prospect 20°50'37"S – 68°44'59"W Surface | | excluded 4 spots with interpreted radiogenic Pb loss Age estimate for only 3 of 4 grains analyzed. |
| CLL-32 | 243.2 \pm 2.1 | Granite porphyry | Characolla Prospect 20°50'37"S – 68°44'59"W RLC-01; 171 m | | Enrichment in common Pb for most analyses. Weighted mean for 18 of 20 analyzed spots; excluded one with interpreted radiogenic Pb loss, and one older at \sim 305 Ma. |

included eruption of progressively more alkaline lavas of the Mitu Group and A-type plutonism, which peaked between 216–205 Ma (Miskovic and Schaltegger, 2006).

SHRIMP zircon U–Pb and $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$, together with other geochronological data allowed Vinasco et al. (2006) to conclude that discrete magmatic events characterized the Permian and

Table 3
Rb–Sr and Sm–Nd isotopic data

| Sample | Rb (ppm) | Sr (ppm) | $^{87}\text{Rb}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ | $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ | $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ (300 Ma) | Lithology | Lat. S | Long. W | Altitude (m) |
|---------|----------|----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| CLL-293 | 156.7 | 44.4 | 10.231 | 0.72076 | 0.67780 | Rhyolite | 20°52'29" | 68°50'04" | 4309 |
| CLL-294 | 175.5 | 429.9 | 1.181 | 0.71079 | 0.70575 | Andesite | 20°50'33" | 68°46'21" | 4251 |
| CLL-295 | 192.8 | 430.4 | 1.297 | 0.71106 | 0.70552 | Andesite | 20°50'31" | 68°46'22" | 4260 |
| CLL-296 | 2.1 | 95.0 | 0.065 | 0.70639 | 0.70611 | Andesite | 20°50'32" | 68°46'21" | 4257 |
| Sample | Sm (ppm) | Nd (ppm) | $^{147}\text{Sm}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ | $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ | Uncertainty | $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ (300 Ma) | ϵ_{Nd} (300 Ma) | T DM (Ma) | 2nd Stage |
| CLL-293 | 5.568 | 26.627 | 0.1264 | 0.512449 | 0.000012 | 0.512201 | -1.46 | 1115 | |
| CLL-294 | 5.310 | 22.764 | 0.1410 | 0.512461 | 0.000009 | 0.512184 | -1.79 | 1139 | |
| CLL-295 | 5.990 | 25.759 | 0.1406 | 0.512472 | 0.000011 | 0.512196 | -1.56 | 1122 | |
| CLL-296 | 4.322 | 16.981 | 0.1539 | 0.512478 | 0.000013 | 0.512176 | -1.95 | 1152 | |

Table 4
Lu–Hf in zircon isotopic data

| Sample | Grain | Spot | $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ | $\pm 2\sigma$ | $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ | $\pm 2\sigma$ | U–Pb age (T1) | $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(0)$ | $\pm 2\sigma$ | $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(T1)$ | T DM (2) | |
|---------|--------|------|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|----------|------|
| CLL-30 | 5 | 1 | 0.282741 | 0.000022 | 0.000792 | 0.000012 | 245 | -1.09 | 0.79 | 4.16 | 959 | |
| | 8 | 1 | 0.28273 | 0.000024 | 0.000813 | 0.000014 | 245 | -1.49 | 0.86 | 3.76 | 979 | |
| | 14 | 1 | 0.282777 | 0.000022 | 0.000756 | 0.000023 | 245 | 0.17 | 0.76 | 5.44 | 870 | |
| | 18 | 1 | 0.282754 | 0.000023 | 0.001038 | 0.00004 | 245 | -0.63 | 0.8 | 4.58 | 928 | |
| | 23 | 1 | 0.282743 | 0.000023 | 0.000993 | 0.000039 | 245 | -1.03 | 0.83 | 4.19 | 953 | |
| | 24 | 1 | 0.282735 | 0.000026 | 0.001203 | 0.000035 | 245 | -1.29 | 0.9 | 3.9 | 966 | |
| | 31 | 1 | 0.28276 | 0.000027 | 0.000854 | 0.000017 | 245 | -0.41 | 0.96 | 4.83 | 907 | |
| | 34 | 1 | 0.28275 | 0.000026 | 0.000852 | 0.00002 | 245 | -0.79 | 0.92 | 4.45 | 928 | |
| | CLL-32 | 1 | 0.282785 | 0.000028 | 0.001512 | 0.000023 | 243 | 0.44 | 0.98 | 5.54 | 862 | |
| CLL-44 | 3 | 1 | 0.282757 | 0.000021 | 0.001885 | 0.000039 | 243 | -0.54 | 0.76 | 4.49 | 929 | |
| | 5 | 1 | 0.282694 | 0.000031 | 0.002489 | 0.000097 | 243 | -2.77 | 1.1 | 2.17 | 1077 | |
| | 12 | 1 | 0.282599 | 0.000023 | 0.000553 | 0.000004 | 305 | -6.12 | 0.82 | 0.47 | 1234 | |
| | 11 | 1 | 0.282746 | 0.000022 | 0.001151 | 0.000023 | 243 | -0.92 | 0.77 | 4.23 | 949 | |
| | 10 | 1 | 0.282782 | 0.000026 | 0.001783 | 0.000034 | 243 | 0.37 | 0.91 | 5.43 | 866 | |
| | 14 | 1 | 0.282714 | 0.000021 | 0.001176 | 0.000022 | 243 | -2.06 | 0.75 | 3.09 | 1017 | |
| | 18 | 1 | 0.282731 | 0.000023 | 0.001243 | 0.00002 | 243 | -1.45 | 0.82 | 3.69 | 978 | |
| | 2 | 1 | 0.282729 | 0.000031 | 0.00256 | 0.000107 | 303 | -1.52 | 1.1 | 4.63 | 968 | |
| | 4 | 1 | 0.28268 | 0.000025 | 0.000861 | 0.000013 | 303 | -3.24 | 0.89 | 3.25 | 1055 | |
| CLL-73 | 5 | 1 | 0.282665 | 0.000027 | 0.003532 | 0.000212 | 303 | -3.79 | 0.94 | 2.17 | 1124 | |
| | 10 | 1 | 0.282656 | 0.000031 | 0.002588 | 0.000049 | 303 | -4.1 | 1.11 | 2.05 | 1132 | |
| | 12 | 1 | 0.282693 | 0.000025 | 0.000847 | 0.000017 | 303 | -2.78 | 0.89 | 3.72 | 1026 | |
| | 13 | 1 | 0.282725 | 0.000025 | 0.001043 | 0.000007 | 303 | -1.66 | 0.89 | 4.8 | 957 | |
| | 16 | 1 | 0.282572 | 0.00002 | 0.001233 | 0.000008 | 303 | -7.07 | 0.7 | -0.66 | 1304 | |
| | 19 | 1 | 0.282688 | 0.00003 | 0.000938 | 0.000014 | 303 | -2.97 | 1.07 | 3.5 | 1039 | |
| | 1 | 1 | 0.282693 | 0.000029 | 0.003825 | 0.000033 | 293 | -2.79 | 1.03 | 2.91 | 1069 | |
| | 2 | 1 | 0.282742 | 0.000031 | 0.002561 | 0.000107 | 293 | -1.06 | 1.1 | 4.89 | 943 | |
| | 5 | 1 | 0.282686 | 0.000015 | 0.001249 | 0.000088 | 293 | -3.05 | 0.52 | 3.15 | 1054 | |
| CLL-75 | 6 | 1 | 0.282704 | 0.000015 | 0.001284 | 0.000125 | 293 | -2.41 | 0.54 | 3.78 | 1014 | |
| | 10 | 1 | 0.282692 | 0.000017 | 0.002317 | 0.000033 | 293 | -2.82 | 0.6 | 3.17 | 1053 | |
| | 3 | 1 | 0.282607 | 0.000036 | 0.001289 | 0.000057 | 308 | -5.84 | 1.27 | 0.67 | 1224 | |
| | 7 | 1 | 0.282625 | 0.00003 | 0.001158 | 0.000005 | 308 | -5.2 | 1.05 | 1.33 | 1181 | |
| | 8 | 1 | 0.282549 | 0.000036 | 0.001675 | 0.000053 | 308 | -7.9 | 1.27 | -1.47 | 1360 | |
| | 10 | 1 | 0.282601 | 0.000031 | 0.001837 | 0.000063 | 308 | -6.05 | 1.1 | 0.34 | 1244 | |
| | 11 | 1 | 0.282559 | 0.000038 | 0.001234 | 0.000042 | 308 | -7.52 | 1.33 | -1 | 1330 | |
| | CLL-76 | 1 | 1 | 0.282686 | 0.000021 | 0.000442 | 0.00004 | 299 | -3.05 | 0.74 | 3.44 | 1040 |
| | 5 | 1 | 0.282696 | 0.000033 | 0.001747 | 0.000082 | 299 | -2.69 | 1.17 | 3.54 | 1034 | |
| CLL-238 | 9 | 1 | 0.28277 | 0.000036 | 0.002918 | 0.000134 | 299 | -0.06 | 1.26 | 5.94 | 881 | |
| | 10 | 1 | 0.282728 | 0.00004 | 0.006285 | 0.000045 | 299 | -1.54 | 1.43 | 3.79 | 1018 | |
| | 1 | 1 | 0.282656 | 0.000029 | 0.001517 | 0.000038 | 298 | -4.1 | 1.03 | 2.16 | 1121 | |
| | 2 | 1 | 0.282606 | 0.000024 | 0.000845 | 0.000013 | 298 | -5.88 | 0.85 | 0.51 | 1226 | |
| | 3 | 1 | 0.282592 | 0.000029 | 0.001363 | 0.000041 | 298 | -6.38 | 1.02 | -0.1 | 1265 | |
| | 5 | 1 | 0.282612 | 0.000026 | 0.000871 | 0.000036 | 298 | -5.67 | 0.9 | 0.71 | 1214 | |
| | 7 | 1 | 0.282572 | 0.000026 | 0.0012 | 0.000031 | 298 | -7.07 | 0.92 | -0.76 | 1306 | |
| | 20 | 1 | 0.282555 | 0.000017 | 0.001252 | 0.000006 | 309 | -7.66 | 0.61 | -1.12 | 1338 | |
| | 16 | 1 | 0.282542 | 0.000036 | 0.001919 | 0.000074 | 309 | -8.14 | 1.28 | -1.74 | 1377 | |
| CLL-297 | 10 | 1 | 0.28259 | 0.000028 | 0.001656 | 0.000072 | 309 | -6.43 | 0.98 | 0.02 | 1265 | |
| | 8 | 1 | 0.282584 | 0.000024 | 0.001229 | 0.000034 | 309 | -6.65 | 0.83 | -0.11 | 1274 | |
| | 6 | 1 | 0.282606 | 0.000024 | 0.001156 | 0.000055 | 309 | -5.88 | 0.84 | 0.68 | 1224 | |
| | 11 | 1 | 0.282582 | 0.000024 | 0.001169 | 0.000043 | 309 | -6.73 | 0.84 | -0.17 | 1278 | |
| CLL-297 | 1 | 1 | 0.282748 | 0.00002 | 0.001409 | 0.000038 | 250 | -0.84 | 0.72 | 4.42 | 939 | |
| | 3 | 1 | 0.282747 | 0.000021 | 0.001436 | 0.00002 | 250 | -0.89 | 0.72 | 4.37 | 943 | |
| | 4 | 1 | 0.282722 | 0.000021 | 0.001463 | 0.000043 | 250 | -1.78 | 0.73 | 3.47 | 1000 | |

Triassic Colombian Andes at ca. 300–270 Ma, 250 Ma, and 230 Ma. These were interpreted to represent late-tectonic, extension-related magmatism.

4. The Collahuasi Group

An assemblage of felsic volcanic rocks and associated porphyry intrusions that mainly comprise the late Paleozoic to Triassic basement in the Chilean Altiplano in the Collahuasi area

was originally defined as the Collahuasi Formation (Vergara, 1978; Vergara and Thomas, 1984). We refer to this unit as the Collahuasi Group because it displays a complex succession of intermediate to felsic lava flows, pyroclastic and sedimentary rocks, ignimbrites, sub-volcanic bodies, and domes. This complex combination of facies and the absence of detailed mapping hinder definition of an accurate stratigraphy. The Collahuasi Group is correlative with a number of other Late Carboniferous to Triassic basement formations along the

Domeyko Cordillera and the Main Andes in northern Chile. These include the Quipisca Formation at 20°S (Galli 1968), the La Tabla Formation between 24°S and 27°S (García 1967; Marinovic et al. 1995; Cornejo et al. 1998, 2006; Tomlinson et al. 1999), the Tuina Formation (Marinovic and Lahsen 1984), the Agua Dulce Formation (García 1967; Marinovic and Lahsen 1984), the Pantanoso Formation in the Copiapó region at 27–28°S (Mercado 1982; Iriarte et al. 1996), the lower part of the Pastos Blancos Group (Martin et al. 1999), and the Peine Formation (i.e., Marinovic and García 1999).

The base of the Collahuasi Group is not exposed, but it is thought to unconformably overlie early Paleozoic intrusive rocks emplaced into metamorphic rocks (Sierra de Moreno Schists; Skarmeta and Marinovic, 1981) that are part of the Arequipa–Antofalla craton (Ramos, 1988; Casquet et al., 2007), and Devonian–Carboniferous sedimentary rocks that outcrop 50 km southeast of Collahuasi (Tomlinson et al., 2001). In turn, rocks of the Collahuasi Group are unconformably covered by Jurassic marine carbonate rocks (Quehuita Formation; Vergara and Thomas, 1984), as well as locally Middle to Late Triassic sedimentary and volcanic rocks (Tomlinson et al., 2001).

Rocks of the Collahuasi Group are exposed along a 200-km-long, north–south belt bounded by the West and the El Loa regional faults, which are part of the north–south Domeyko strike-slip fault system (Fig. 2; Maksaev, 1990; Boric et al., 1990). The Rio Loa fault has been recognized immediately east of the Ujina porphyry copper deposit and extends south along the headwaters of the Loa River, but is mostly covered by extensive late Miocene ignimbrite strata (Bisso et al., 1998). The northern termination of the Collahuasi Group is poorly defined because the unit is buried beneath the middle Miocene Huasco Ignimbrite (Vergara and Thomas, 1984). A crustal block of predominantly Paleozoic basement, which is bounded by the West and the Rio Loa faults, is inferred to have been uplifted during the late Eocene Incaic orogeny (Masterman, 2003). This uplift is recorded by apatite fission track ages of 41 to 34 Ma for the basement rocks at Collahuasi (Maksaev et al., 2006).

Vergara and Thomas, (1984) identified three members of the Collahuasi Group: the lower member is comprised of dacite and rhyolite with intercalated sandstone and limestone lenses, a middle member is mainly composed of andesitic rocks, and an upper member is composed mostly of dacite and rhyolite. However, on a regional scale, the volcanic rocks of the Collahuasi Group have significant lateral lithological variation that is probably due to association with different volcanic centers. The relative stratigraphic position of the outcropping volcanic rocks is not always clear, due to fault displacements and lack of stratigraphic marker horizons. Thus regional mapping has simply defined units based on the dominant lithologies. The general description presented here follows that of Tomlinson et al. (2001).

The lower member of rhyolite and dacite form a succession with a massive appearance and a maximum thickness of 2500 m. The sequence is mostly composed of 20- to 100-m-thick dacitic and rhyolitic flows and tuffs, tuffaceous breccias, and ignimbrite horizons. These extrusive rocks show parallel

flow-banding and identifiable contacts between successive flows. Frequently, they grade laterally into intrusive porphyry facies, with crosscutting subvertical contacts and local subvertical flow-banding. For this reason, delimitation of the intrusive facies is difficult during field mapping. Lithological characteristics indicate that the unit represents effusive dome and flow-dome complexes, and thick viscous lava flows, with porphyritic intrusions that likely were their feeder conduits. A finely stratified sedimentary succession, about 150-m-thick, is intercalated with the igneous rocks in the Collahuasi area. Individual beds vary from a few centimeters to a number of meters in thickness, and are composed of gray limestones, laminated siliceous levels (chert) with lesser calcite, and green and red sandstone strata.

The middle member is composed of andesite lavas, but also basalt flows (49–56% SiO₂; Tomlinson et al., 2001), forming a massive 1800-m-thick unit at Collahuasi; stratification is only apparent when tuffaceous levels are intercalated. The unit is mainly composed of dark volcanic and volcaniclastic rocks. There are a number of volcanic rock textures, ranging from porphyritic andesitic-basaltic rocks with large plagioclase phenocrysts, which are as much as 3-cm-long, to fine-grained aphanitic rocks.

The upper member of rhyolite and dacite forms a succession with a maximum exposed thickness of 1100 m. It is formed mainly by massive dacite and rhyolite beds, with andesite intercalated in the uppermost part of the succession.

Sub-volcanic stocks of rhyolite porphyry form an integral part of the Collahuasi Group. These are pink to purple, coarse-grained to porphyritic rocks with abundant quartz augen, which either have sharp contacts or are transitional to flow-domes and silicic lava flows. The rocks are biotite and/or hornblende rhyolite with phenocrysts of K-feldspar, plagioclase, and embayed quartz that are as much as 5 mm in diameter; the groundmass is composed of a microcrystalline (recrystallized) aggregate of quartz and feldspar. Typically, the mafic minerals are replaced by chlorite, epidote, calcite, and opaque minerals, whereas the feldspars are partly altered to sericite and clay minerals.

Extensive equigranular granitoid batholiths, with a wide range of composition from syenogranite to diorite, are exposed from Altos de Pica to Chuquicamata (Fig. 1). They are emplaced into the late Paleozoic felsic volcanic strata. Although distinct intrusions, these batholiths are temporally associated with rocks of the Collahuasi Group and collectively form the basement in the region. Biotite and amphibole K–Ar ages, and a few U–Pb zircon determinations for the intrusions, range from 332 to 245 Ma (Huete et al., 1977; Damm et al., 1986; Lucassen et al., 1999; Tomlinson et al., 2001; and Masterman, 2003) (Table 1; Fig. 1).

5. Geochronology

Samples of basement rocks in the Collahuasi area were obtained from the Quebrada Blanca, Rosario, and Ujina mines and from the Los Colorados, Characolla, La Profunda, and El Loa prospects. A summary of the thirteen new SHRIMP U–Pb

zircon age determinations is presented in Table 2. The respective Tera and Wasserburg concordia plots and U–Pb age relative probability plots are shown in Figs. 3–6, whereas the full analytical data are given in Appendix B.

Nine felsic porphyries have SHRIMP U–Pb zircon ages in the range 308.5 ± 2.2 Ma to 292.7 ± 1.9 Ma. These data are

derived from a weighted mean of $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ ages for the analyses of zoned igneous zircon as evidenced by cathodoluminescence imaging of sectioned grains. A dacite from a dome at El Colorado has an U–Pb age of 298.8 ± 2.2 Ma (Table 2). On a relative probability plot for all thirteen U–Pb age determinations (Fig. 7), these ten felsic volcanic rocks form a major

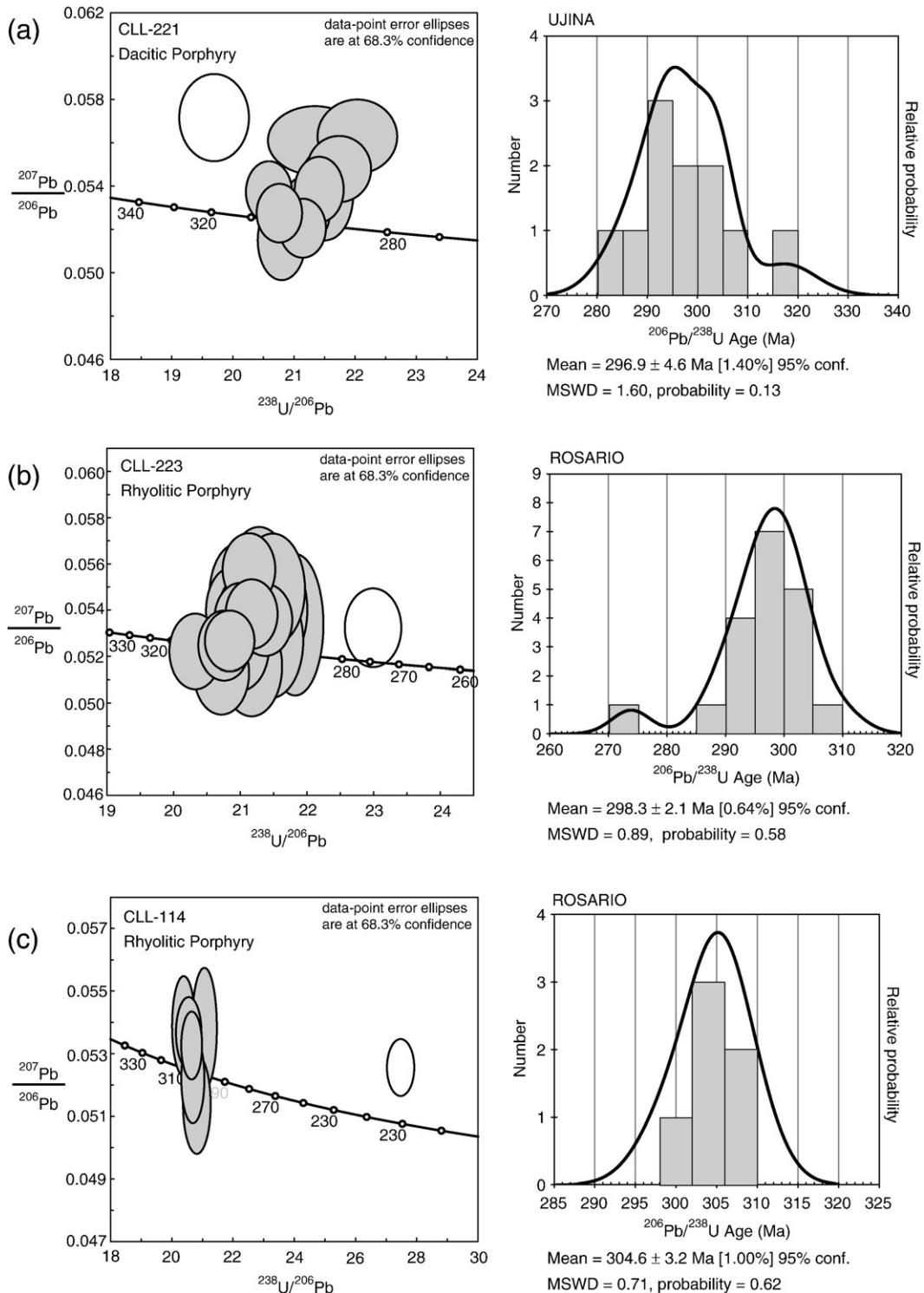


Fig. 3. Tera-Wasserburg concordia plot and probability density plot with stacked histogram of SHRIMP U–Pb age data for: (a) dacitic porphyry of Ujina (CLL-21); (b) rhyolitic porphyry of Rosario (CLL-223); and (c) rhyolitic porphyry of Rosario (CLL-114).

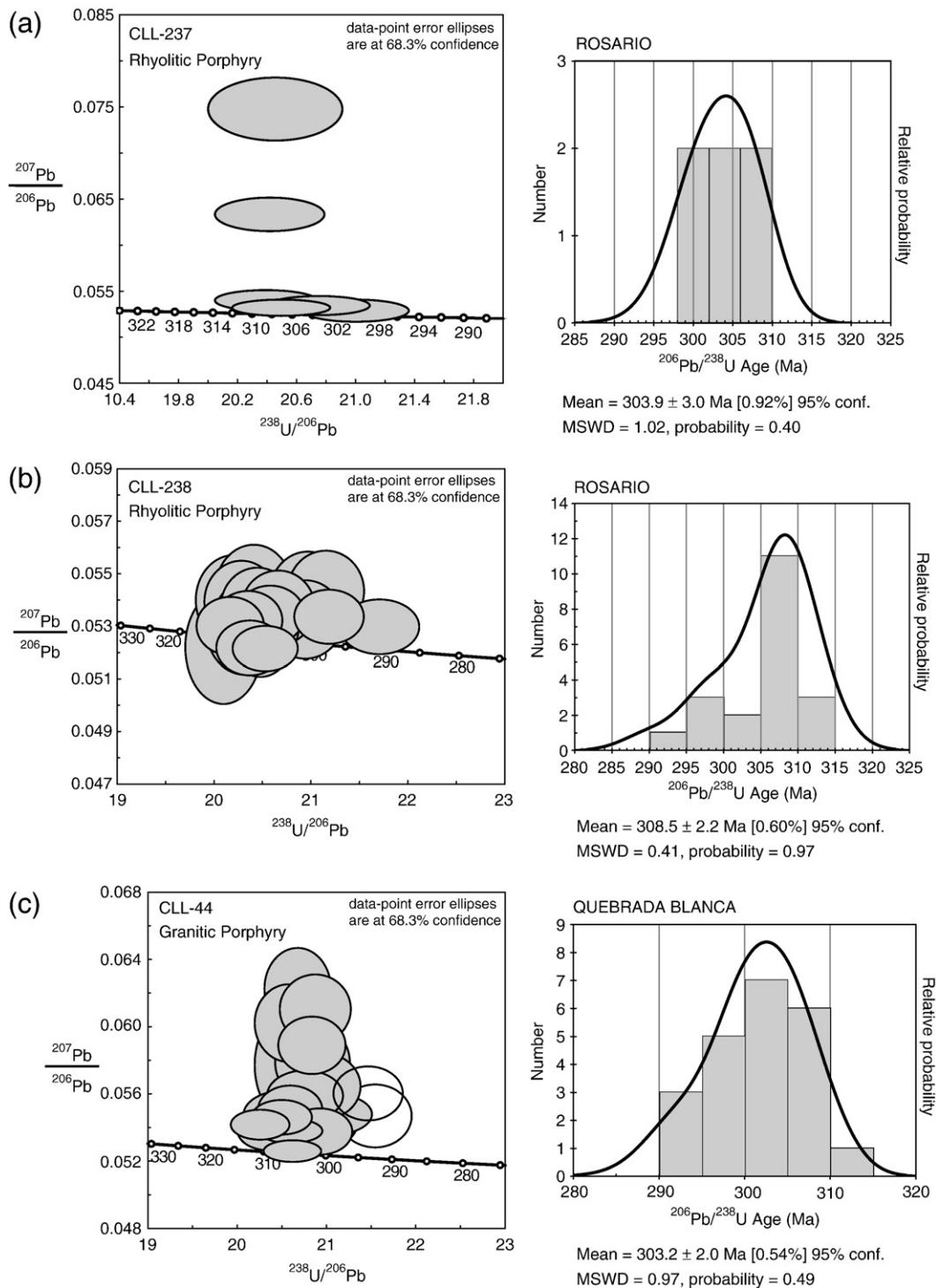


Fig. 4. Tera-Wasserburg concordia plot and probability density plot with stacked histogram of SHRIMP U–Pb age data for: (a) rhyolitic porphyry of Rosario (CLL-237); (b) rhyolitic porphyry of Rosario (CLL-238); and (c) granitic porphyry of Quebrada Blanca (CLL-44).

grouping at about 300 Ma. There is also a younger mode at 244 Ma that is comprised of U–Pb ages for igneous rocks at the La Profunda and Characolla porphyry copper prospects (244.8 ± 2.5 Ma and 243.2 ± 2.1 Ma, respectively, with another Characolla porphyry U–Pb determination giving 248.7 ± 2.4 Ma for three spot analyses; Figs. 6 and 7). The U–Pb ages for these porphyries agree with the laser ICP-MS U–Pb zircon date of

245 ± 12 Ma obtained by Masterman et al. (2004) for the Collahuasi porphyry that is one of the country rocks for the Cenozoic Rosario Cu–Mo porphyry deposit. In addition, we have obtained molybdenite Re–Os ages of 265.5 ± 1.3 and 256.5 ± 1.3 Ma for the Characolla porphyry prospect, but these Re–Os ages are older than the U–Pb age of the Characolla porphyry, probably because of the disturbance of molybdenite

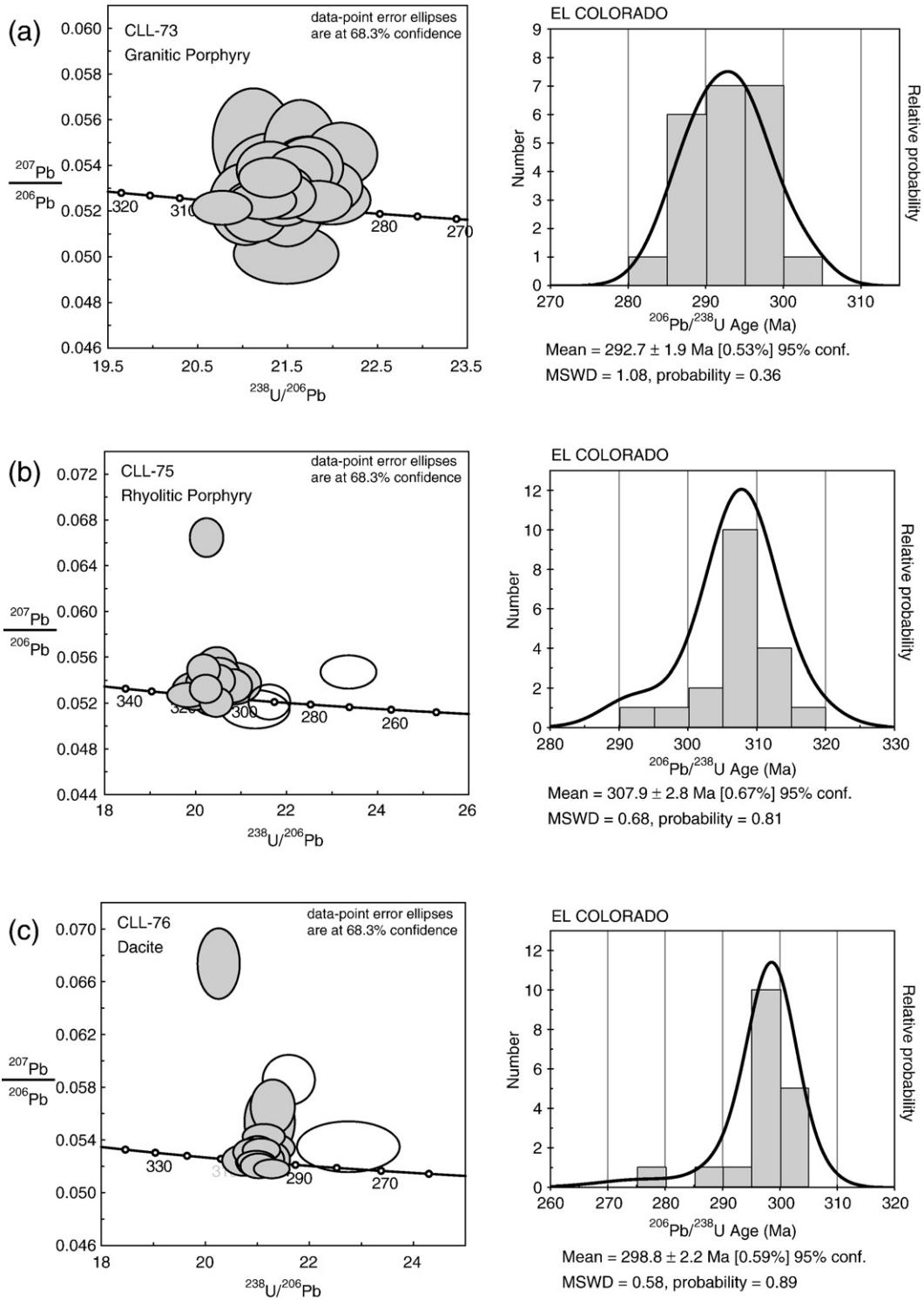


Fig. 5. Tera-Wasserburg concordia plot and probability density plot with stacked histogram of SHRIMP U–Pb age data for: (a) granitic porphyry of El Colorado (CLL-73); (b) rhyolitic porphyry of El Colorado (CLL-75); and (c) dacite (dome) of El Colorado (CLL-76).

Re–Os system (R. Mathur, written commun., 2005). The U–Pb zircon age data substantiate a Triassic porphyry copper mineralization episode that is much older than the larger tonnage and more widely described Cenozoic porphyry copper deposits that are currently mined in the Collahuasi area.

Previous geochronological data for equigranular granitoid plutons for the Andes between 21° and 22°S suggested a time-span of 332 to 245 Ma for magmatism (Table 1; Fig. 1). The new SHRIMP U–Pb zircon ages from 309 to 293 Ma for the oldest population of porphyries and volcanic rocks from the

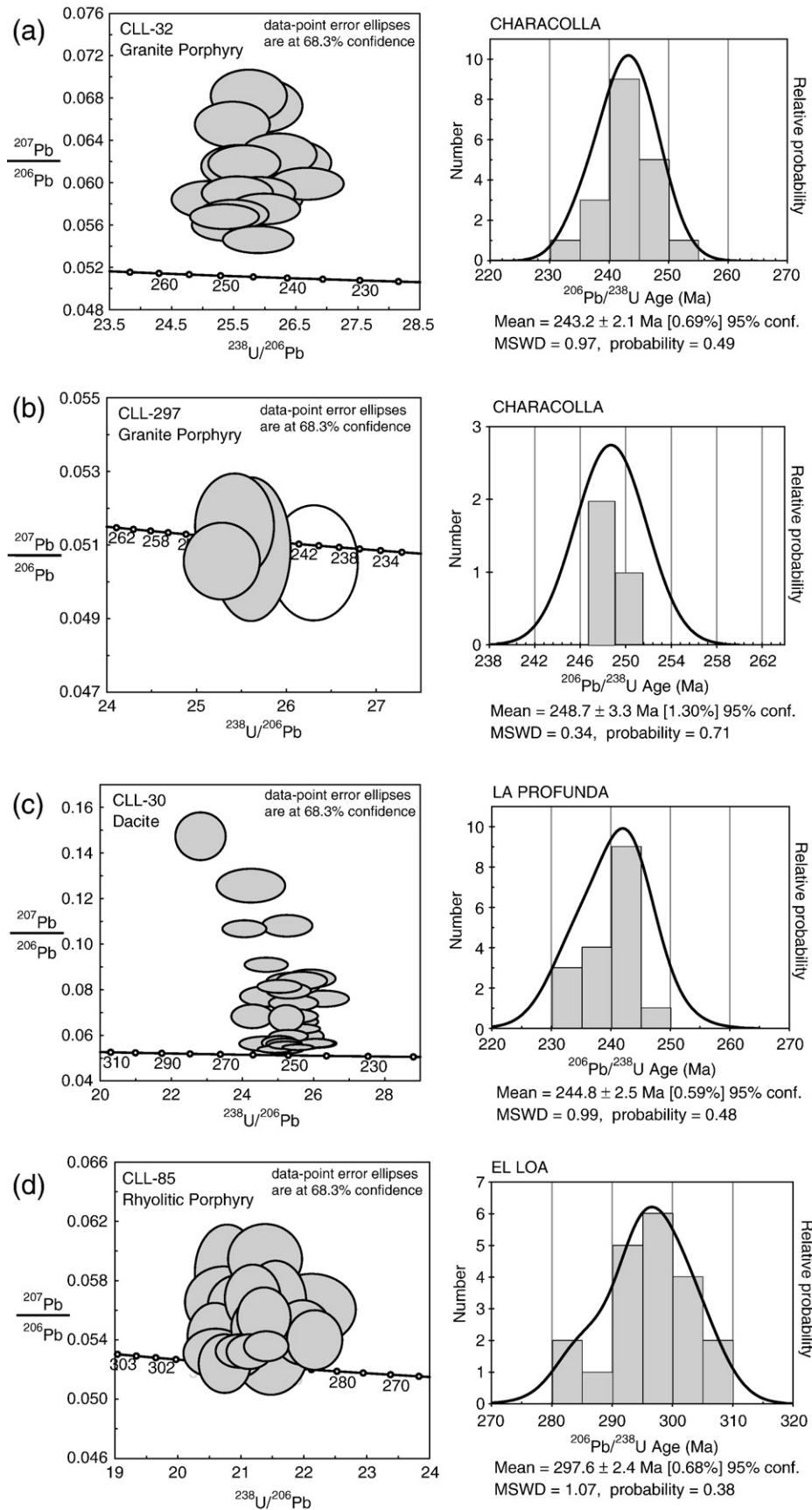


Fig. 6. Tera-Wasserburg concordia plot and probability density plot with stacked histogram of SHRIMP U–Pb age data for: (a) granite porphyry of Characolla (CLL-32); (b) granite porphyry of Characolla (CLL-297); (c) dacite of La Profunda (CLL-30); and (d) rhyolitic porphyry of El Loa (CLL-85).

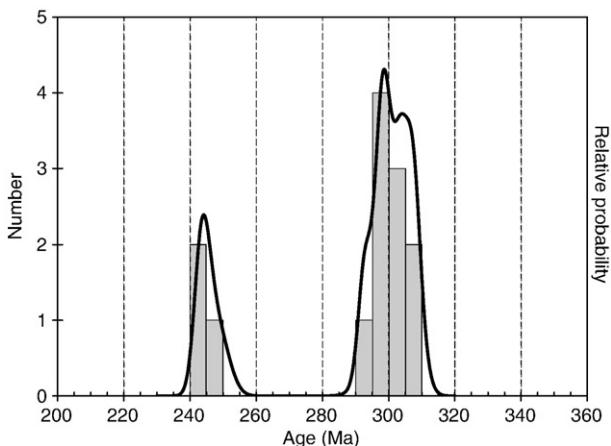


Fig. 7. Probability plot of the SHRIMP zircon U–Pb data. Two peaks are apparent at 300 Ma and 244 Ma, consistent with two discrete magmatic episodes.

Collahuasi Group overlap the previous 293 ± 14 Ma date from the Collahuasi Formation (Masterman, 2003). The new data confirm that there is a temporal relationship between the intrusion of equigranular plutons and the volcanism for the oldest rocks of the Collahuasi Group. It also suggests a discrete ca. 16-m.y.-long period of magmatism in the Late Carboniferous to Early Permian. On the other hand, porphyritic intrusions in the Collahuasi area that are related to porphyry copper mineralization define a second, discrete younger magmatic event at ca. 244 Ma.

6. Petrogenesis

6.1. Introduction

The late Paleozoic–early Mesozoic magmatism from Altos de Pica to Chuquicamata (Fig. 1) is mostly defined by rhyolite and dacite lavas, and granite and granodiorite intrusions; only near Chuquicamata do some relatively small diorite intrusions outcrop. The magmatism in the Collahuasi area began in late Paleozoic with the eruption of a large volume of felsic volcanic rocks, with occasional mafic magmatism, and was considered to be a part of the Choioyi Magmatic Province defined by Mpodozis and Kay (1990). The volcanism was accompanied by widespread plutonism. The large volume of silicic rocks suggests that this magmatism involved crustal melting (e.g., Lucassen et al., 1999).

Hydrothermal alteration in the Collahuasi area related to Tertiary porphyry copper deposits, particularly silicification and potassic assemblages, has obscured the original chemistry of the rocks and may have impacted the isotopic ratios, particularly for Sr. This is apparent in the chemical data of Masterman (2003) that reports copper contents of even the less altered rocks as being as great as 1.8%. In addition, most of the rocks from the Collahuasi Group fall within the high-K and shoshonitic fields in a SiO₂ versus K₂O diagram, which does not correspond to the igneous composition of what are defined as the least altered rocks (Masterman, 2003).

Widespread late Paleozoic igneous rocks exposed near Calama (Fig. 1) have been interpreted alternatively as the products of arc magmatism (e.g., Brown, 1991; Bahlburg and Hervé, 1997), crustal melts at a passive margin (Breitkreuz and Zeil, 1994; Lucassen et al. 1999, and references therein), or subduction-related, mantle-derived melts with some crustal contamination (Brown, 1991). The latter interpretation assumes a transition from a passive to an active continental margin during Late Carboniferous (Bahlburg, 1993; Bahlburg and Hervé, 1997).

6.2. Sr and Sm–Nd isotopes

Strontium and Nd isotopic data for dacite and rhyodacite from the Collahuasi area are discussed by Masterman, (2003), but due to the intense potassic alteration, the calculated ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr initial ratios (0.6634–0.7024) are mostly not meaningful. Corresponding ϵ_{Nd} values cluster between –0.53 to +0.13 (recalculated after Masterman, 2003) and are consistent with the involvement of an evolved crustal component. Isotopic data for rocks exposed to the south (near Chuquicamata) have ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr initial ratios from 0.708 to 0.712 and ϵ_{Nd} from about –2 to –10 (recalculated after Lucassen et al., 1999), which are consistent with a long-lived crustal involvement in the source region for the igneous rocks.

We have measured Sr and Nd isotopes for four new samples of the least altered volcanic rocks from the Collahuasi area; the Sr data are presented in Table 3. Samples from different lithologies and with different textures were selected. The initial ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratios, calculated at 300 Ma, cluster at 0.7055–0.7061 (Table 3), excluding sample CLL-293 that yielded a geologically untenable value probably due to unrecognized alteration. The Sm–Nd system appears to have been less affected by the alteration processes and all four samples yield ϵ_{Nd} values between –1.46 and –1.95 (at 300 Ma, Table 3). These ϵ_{Nd} values indicate that the rocks have components with some crustal residence time.

6.3. Lu–Hf isotopes

The Hf isotope ratios have been determined for zircon grains from 8 of the 13 samples that were previously dated by SHRIMP U–Pb. It has been demonstrated that zircon is not only of geochronological importance via the U–Th–Pb system, but that the associated Lu–Hf system can be used as a tracer of crustal evolution (e.g., Taylor and McLennan, 1985; Vervoort and Blachert-Toft, 1999; Zhang et al., 2007). Zircons retain their isotopic integrity through multiple episodes of magmatic and sedimentary recycling. More importantly, zircons have very low Lu/Hf ratios (typically ~0.001), so that Hf isotope ratio corrections due to in situ radiogenic growth are virtually negligible. In other words, zircons preserve accurate approximations of the initial ¹⁷⁶Hf/¹⁷⁷Hf ratio of the magma at the time of crystallization (Patchett et al., 1981).

The ϵ_{Hf} values for the analysed zircons are given in Table 4, with initial Hf values calculated at the U–Pb zircon crystallization age. Initial ϵ_{Hf} values are mostly positive, being as large as +5.9, but some negative values were obtained for the ca. 300 Ma rocks (Table 4; Fig. 8). For the oldest rocks, two groups

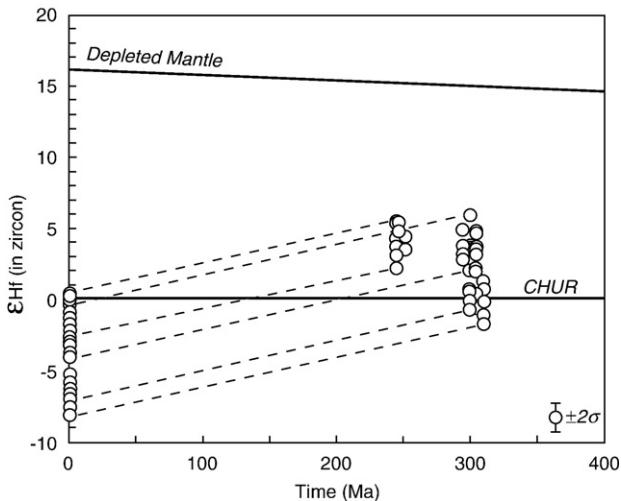


Fig. 8. $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(T)$ in zircons grains versus the respective SHRIMP U–Pb age; error bar at $\pm 2\sigma$ is shown as inset.

are evident: one with ϵ_{Hf} values from -1.7 to $+2.2$ (CLL-75; CLL-85; CLL-238); and the other with ϵ_{Hf} values from about $+2.0$ to $+5.9$, with one grain at -0.7 (CLL-44, CLL-73, CLL-76). The 244 Ma rocks show a single cluster with ϵ_{Hf} values in the range from $+2.2$ to $+5.4$ (Fig. 8). The Hf isotope evolution trends are shown on Fig. 8 and indicate that the 300 Ma group with the more evolved signatures could not provide a source for the initial Hf of the 244 Ma magmas. However, the less evolved 300 Ma group could provide the initial Hf at 244 Ma, although it is likely that a small contribution was obtained from a more depleted source (note that the Depleted Mantle ϵ_{Hf} would be about $+15.0$ and $+15.2$ at 300 Ma and 245 Ma, respectively). The overall data indicate that there was a significant contribution of older crustal material to the magmas from which the zircons have crystallized, but also show differences among them giving support to variable magmatic sources or processes for the origin of the rocks of the Collahuasi Group.

7. Discussion and conclusions

Geochronology of the Collahuasi Group has previously been reported based upon poorly-constrained K-feldspar and whole rock K–Ar ages (144 to 39 Ma, recalculated from Huete et al., 1977; Baker, 1977; Vergara and Thomas, 1984; Damm et al., 1986) or limited LA-ICP-MS zircon U–Pb dates of 293 ± 14 Ma for a dacite ignimbrite and 245 ± 12 Ma for a porphyritic granodiorite (Collahuasi porphyry) from the Rosario porphyry copper deposit (Masterman et al., 2005). Tomlinson et al. (2001) first assigned the rocks of the Collahuasi Group to the Late Carboniferous to Early Triassic, based on more regional K–Ar and U–Pb ages of plutonic rocks that were emplaced within the co-genetic volcanic strata between 332 and 245 Ma.

Given the limited and questionable geochronology of igneous rocks in the Collahuasi area, we have carried out SHRIMP U–Pb zircon age determinations. Our new U–Pb data indicate that the

Collahuasi Group has two discrete magmatic episodes at ca. 300 Ma and 244 Ma. They also indicate that the Collahuasi Group is the product of temporally discrete magmatic pulses, rather than the result of continuous and widespread magmatism, similarly to the conclusions of Martin et al. (1999) for the equivalent Pastos Blancos Group in the area of the high Andes between 29 – 30°S .

The slightly negative ϵ_{Nd} values (-2 to -1.5), together with $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios (0.7056) of volcanic rocks of the Collahuasi Group, are consistent with the involvement of crustal material in the magma genesis. Furthermore, the fact that rocks with different compositions (rhyolite to andesite) show relatively similar ϵ_{Nd} values Sr initial ratios does not support fractional crystallization or different degrees of melting of a homogeneous parent magma, unless magmatism took place over an unreasonably short time interval.

The range of ϵ_{Hf} values in zircon from -1.7 to $+5.9$ suggests that the rocks were derived from different sources or via different processes. The involvement of crustal MORB-type magmas is unlikely, as the rocks derived from such a source would have ϵ_{Hf} values of about $+15$. The magma undoubtedly has some component of sedimentary rocks; it probably evolved in the upper crust, most likely in rocks of the metamorphic basement that outcrop near Chuquicamata. In fact, Lucassen et al. (1999) proposed that the late Paleozoic igneous rocks of that region originated during anatexis involving recycling of the basement rocks. Another possible scenario, however, is that the magma composition was a mixture of crustal melts and depleted mantle-derived magmas.

Two clusters of average ϵ_{Hf} values in zircon at -1.7 to $+2.2$ and $+2.0$ to $+5.9$ for the ca. 300 Ma rocks show a history of different magma sources or processes, with variable degrees of crustal involvement. In addition, average ϵ_{Hf} values in zircon cluster at about $+3.5$ to $+4.5$ for the ca. 244 Ma rocks. This shows that these were derived from relatively less radiogenic source material. This could thus reflect the anatexis of younger rocks or those with less Lu, or involved a mixture between crustal melts and more primitive sub-crustal magma.

The tectonic regime and crustal evolution of this area during late Paleozoic are complex. Llambías and Sato (1995) proposed a cessation of subduction in the Permian and a possible transition from a subduction-related magmatic arc to a collisional regime with crustal thickening, which was followed by Triassic post-orogenic granite magmatism in the Argentinean part of the Cordillera Frontal. Our data are consistent with crustal melting as the main source for the magmatism, but with the addition of Late Carboniferous magmas from other sources, and with Early Triassic contributions from more primitive sources.

Acknowledgements

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Appendix A. Analytical procedures

A.1. U–Pb SHRIMP

Zircon grains were obtained from samples of the Collahuasi Group and associated intrusive rocks following normal mineral separation procedures, which included crushing, washing, and heavy liquid and magnetic separation. Hand-picked zircon grains were mounted in epoxy, together with chips of the FC1 or Temora reference zircons, sectioned approximately in one-half, and polished. Reflected and transmitted light photomicrographs were prepared for all zircons, as were cathodoluminescence (CL) Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) images. The CL images were used to decipher the internal structures of the sectioned grains and to ensure that the $\sim 20\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ SHRIMP spot was wholly within a single age component within the sectioned grains. Uranium–Th–Pb analyses were made using a sensitive high resolution ion microprobe (SHRIMP II) for determining the respective zircon $^{238}\text{U}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ ages following procedures given in Williams (1998, and references therein). Analytic work was done at the Research School of Earth Sciences, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia. Each analysis consisted of six scans through the mass range, with a FC1 or Temora U–Pb reference grain analyzed for every three unknown analyses. The data have been reduced using the SQUID Excel Macro of Ludwig (2001); U/Pb ratios have been normalized relative to a value of 0.0668 for the Temora reference zircon, equivalent to an age of 417 Ma (see Black et al., 2003). Uncertainties given for individual analyses (ratios and ages) are at the one-sigma level (see Appendix A). Tera and Wasserburg (1972) concordia plots, probability density plots with stacked histograms, and weighted mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ age calculations were carried out using ISOPLOT/EX (Ludwig, 2003). Weighted mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ ages have been calculated and the uncertainties are reported as 95% confidence limits.

A.2. Hf isotopes

The measurements were conducted by laser ablation multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectroscopy using a RSES Neptune MC-ICPMS coupled with a HelEx 193 μm ArF Excimer laser ablation system (Egginis, 2003; Egginis et al., 2005). Samples were photographed under a reflected light microscope subsequent to U–Pb dating by SHRIMP to reveal the location on each grain of the ion probe sputter pit (typically

about 20 μm across). Laser ablation analyses were performed on the same locations. For most analyses of unknowns or secondary standards, the laser spot size on the sample was either 47 or 37 μm in diameter, depending on the size of the grain and the nature of internal structure as revealed by CL imaging. The mass spectrometer was first tuned to optimal sensitivity using a large grain of zircon from the Monastery kimberlite.

The detector array was as follows:

| Cup | L4 | L3 | L2 | L1 | C | H1 | H2 | H3 | H4 |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Mass | 171 | 173 | 174 | 175 | 176 | 177 | 178 | 179 | 181 |

All listed masses were measured simultaneously in static-collection mode. A gas blank was acquired at regular intervals throughout the analytical session (every ten analyses).

The laser was pulsed with a repetition rate of 5–8 Hz and applied fluence of $\sim 5\text{ J/m}^2$ at the target site. Data were acquired for 100 s, but in many cases only a selected interval from the total acquisition was used in data reduction. In each batch of samples between gas blank measurements, several secondary standard zircons (91500, FC-1, Temora-2, Monastery and Mud Tank) were measured to assess data quality.

Measured signal intensity was typically $\approx 5\text{--}6\text{ V}$ total Hf at the beginning of ablation, and decreased over the acquisition period to 2 V or less. Isobaric interferences of ^{176}Lu and ^{176}Yb on the ^{176}Hf signal were corrected by monitoring signal intensities of ^{175}Lu and ^{173}Yb and ^{171}Yb . The interference of ^{174}Yb on ^{174}Lu was also corrected from the monitored ^{173}Yb and ^{171}Yb isotopes. These Lu and Yb isobar interferences were corrected using an exponential mass fractionation beta coefficient based on reference of the measured $^{173}\text{Yb}/^{171}\text{Yb}$ to the atomic ratio of 1.123456 proposed by Thirwall and Anczkiewicz (2004), and the Yb and Lu isotope ratio compositions reported by Thirwall and Anczkiewicz (2004), and Chu et al. (2002), respectively. In cases where zircon Yb contents were too low to measure $^{173}\text{Yb}/^{171}\text{Yb}$ to an internal precision better than 4%, the applied Yb and Lu beta coefficient was estimated from the measured Hf beta coefficient, based on the measured in-run ratio of the Yb and Hf beta coefficients. The latter was found typically to have a value near 1.30, consistent with the relationship reported by Chu et al. (2002). Interference corrected Hf isotopes ratios were subsequently corrected for instrumental mass fractionation using an exponential law based on reference of the measured $^{179}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ to the atomic ratio of 0.7325 proposed by Thirwall and Anczkiewicz (2004). The determined $^{174}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ratio used to assess the veracity of the correction procedure applied to Lu and Yb isotope interferences on ^{174}Hf and ^{176}Hf .

A.3. Sr and Sm–Nd isotopes

The Rb–Sr and Sm–Nd isotopic analysis were carried out at Geochronological Research Center of the University of São Paulo, Brazil. The samples for analysis were prepared by standard methods according to the analytical procedures described by Tassinari et al. (1996), involving HF-HNO₃

dissolution and HCl cation exchange. No visible solid residues were observed after dissolution. Samples with incomplete dissolution were discarded. The Sr isotopic ratios were normalized to $^{86}\text{Sr}/^{88}\text{Sr}=0.1194$; replicate analyses of $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ for the NBS987 standard gave a mean value of 0.71028 ± 0.00006 (2σ), the blanks for Sr were 5 ng. Nd ratios were normalized to a $146\text{Nd}/144\text{Nd}=0.72190$. The averages of $143\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ for La

Jolla and BCR-1 standards were 0.511847 ± 0.00005 (2σ) and 0.512662 ± 0.00005 (2σ), respectively. The blanks were less than 0.03 ng. The Sr and Nd isotope analyses were carried out on a multi-collector Finnigan-MAT 262 mass spectrometer. The isotopic data were regressed using the decay constants established in [Steiger and Jaeger \(1977\)](#); for $^{87}\text{Rb}=1.42 \times 10^{-11} \text{ yr}^{-1}$; for $^{147}\text{Sm}=6.54 \times 10^{-12} \text{ yr}^{-1}$.

Appendix B. Zircon SHRIMP U–Pb analytical data for rocks of the Collahuasi Group

| Grain, spot | U (ppm) | Th (ppm) | Th/U | $^{206}\text{Pb}^*$ (ppm) | $^{204}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ | f_{206} % | Total | | Radiogenic | | Age (Ma) | | | |
|----------------------|---------|----------|------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|--------|----------------------------------|--------|-------|-----|
| | | | | | | | $^{238}\text{U}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ | \pm | $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ | \pm | $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ | \pm | | |
| <i>Sample CLL-44</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | 170 | 76 | 0.45 | 6.8 | 0.000494 | 0.48 | 21.47 | 0.26 | 0.0560 | 0.0011 | 0.0464 | 0.0006 | 292.1 | 3.5 |
| 2.1 | 371 | 77 | 0.21 | 15.5 | 0.000262 | 0.26 | 20.50 | 0.22 | 0.0546 | 0.0007 | 0.0487 | 0.0005 | 306.2 | 3.3 |
| 3.1 | 469 | 78 | 0.17 | 19.8 | 0.000038 | 0.16 | 20.36 | 0.23 | 0.0538 | 0.0008 | 0.0490 | 0.0006 | 308.7 | 3.5 |
| 4.1 | 123 | 79 | 0.64 | 4.9 | 0.000109 | 0.31 | 21.55 | 0.27 | 0.0547 | 0.0012 | 0.0463 | 0.0006 | 291.5 | 3.6 |
| 5.1 | 969 | 76 | 0.08 | 40.4 | 0.000077 | 0.01 | 20.62 | 0.21 | 0.0526 | 0.0004 | 0.0485 | 0.0005 | 305.2 | 3.1 |
| 5.2 | 89 | 71 | 0.80 | 3.7 | 0.000223 | 0.69 | 20.85 | 0.28 | 0.0578 | 0.0015 | 0.0476 | 0.0006 | 300.0 | 4.0 |
| 6.1 | 157 | 75 | 0.48 | 6.5 | 0.000797 | 0.81 | 20.84 | 0.25 | 0.0589 | 0.0011 | 0.0476 | 0.0006 | 299.8 | 3.6 |
| 7.1 | 142 | 79 | 0.55 | 5.8 | — | 0.33 | 20.99 | 0.26 | 0.0549 | 0.0015 | 0.0475 | 0.0006 | 299.0 | 3.6 |
| 8.1 | 115 | 76 | 0.66 | 4.7 | 0.000607 | 1.08 | 20.88 | 0.27 | 0.0610 | 0.0014 | 0.0474 | 0.0006 | 298.4 | 3.8 |
| 9.1 | 220 | 74 | 0.34 | 9.0 | 0.000132 | 0.17 | 20.93 | 0.24 | 0.0537 | 0.0009 | 0.0477 | 0.0006 | 300.4 | 3.4 |
| 10.1 | 272 | 77 | 0.28 | 11.1 | 0.000149 | 0.31 | 21.03 | 0.32 | 0.0548 | 0.0008 | 0.0474 | 0.0007 | 298.6 | 4.5 |
| 11.1 | 184 | 76 | 0.42 | 7.6 | 0.000370 | 0.43 | 20.76 | 0.28 | 0.0559 | 0.0010 | 0.0480 | 0.0007 | 302.0 | 4.1 |
| 12.1 | 105 | 73 | 0.69 | 4.4 | 0.000212 | 0.66 | 20.60 | 0.27 | 0.0577 | 0.0022 | 0.0482 | 0.0007 | 303.6 | 4.0 |
| 13.1 | 205 | 74 | 0.36 | 8.6 | 0.000604 | 0.32 | 20.59 | 0.24 | 0.0550 | 0.0010 | 0.0484 | 0.0006 | 304.7 | 3.5 |
| 14.1 | 773 | 78 | 0.10 | 32.2 | 0.000082 | 0.16 | 20.60 | 0.24 | 0.0538 | 0.0005 | 0.0485 | 0.0006 | 305.1 | 3.5 |
| 15.1 | 119 | 75 | 0.63 | 4.9 | 0.000431 | 0.51 | 20.99 | 0.26 | 0.0564 | 0.0013 | 0.0474 | 0.0006 | 298.6 | 3.7 |
| 16.1 | 510 | 72 | 0.14 | 21.6 | 0.000068 | 0.20 | 20.26 | 0.22 | 0.0541 | 0.0006 | 0.0493 | 0.0005 | 310.0 | 3.3 |
| 17.1 | 133 | 76 | 0.57 | 5.6 | 0.000372 | 0.97 | 20.58 | 0.25 | 0.0602 | 0.0015 | 0.0481 | 0.0006 | 303.0 | 3.7 |
| 18.1 | 170 | 78 | 0.46 | 7.1 | 0.000198 | 1.23 | 20.68 | 0.25 | 0.0622 | 0.0016 | 0.0478 | 0.0006 | 300.8 | 3.6 |
| 18.2 | 192 | 74 | 0.39 | 20.3 | 0.000141 | 0.15 | 8.110 | 0.098 | 0.0654 | 0.0007 | 0.1231 | 0.0015 | 748.5 | 8.7 |
| 19.1 | 194 | 76 | 0.39 | 8.1 | 0.000007 | 0.28 | 20.52 | 0.30 | 0.0547 | 0.0010 | 0.0486 | 0.0007 | 305.9 | 4.4 |
| 20.1 | 140 | 79 | 0.56 | 5.9 | 0.003423 | 5.69 | 20.40 | 0.25 | 0.0978 | 0.0070 | 0.0462 | 0.0008 | 291.4 | 4.9 |
| 21.1 | 108 | 78 | 0.72 | 4.5 | 0.000557 | 0.66 | 20.50 | 0.26 | 0.0577 | 0.0013 | 0.0485 | 0.0006 | 305.0 | 3.9 |

Weighted mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ age 292.7 ± 2.0 Ma

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|------|------|------|----------|-------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-----|
| <i>Sample CLL-73</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | 576 | 903 | 1.57 | 22.6 | 0.000022 | 0.04 | 21.843 | 0.244 | 0.0524 | 0.0006 | 0.0458 | 0.0005 | 288.5 | 3.2 |
| 2.1 | 266 | 343 | 1.29 | 10.5 | 0.000236 | 0.21 | 21.788 | 0.301 | 0.0538 | 0.0009 | 0.0458 | 0.0006 | 288.7 | 3.9 |
| 3.1 | 263 | 401 | 1.52 | 10.5 | — | <0.01 | 21.483 | 0.384 | 0.0501 | 0.0009 | 0.0467 | 0.0008 | 294.0 | 5.2 |
| 4.1 | 179 | 174 | 0.98 | 7.1 | — | 0.34 | 21.638 | 0.267 | 0.0548 | 0.0013 | 0.0461 | 0.0006 | 290.3 | 3.6 |
| 5.1 | 265 | 366 | 1.38 | 10.3 | 0.000010 | 0.31 | 22.097 | 0.265 | 0.0544 | 0.0009 | 0.0451 | 0.0005 | 284.5 | 3.4 |
| 6.1 | 452 | 416 | 0.92 | 18.1 | 0.000041 | 0.09 | 21.419 | 0.236 | 0.0529 | 0.0007 | 0.0466 | 0.0005 | 293.9 | 3.2 |
| 7.1 | 286 | 407 | 1.42 | 11.3 | 0.000257 | 0.23 | 21.730 | 0.275 | 0.0539 | 0.0009 | 0.0459 | 0.0006 | 289.4 | 3.6 |
| 8.1 | 418 | 585 | 1.40 | 16.8 | 0.000065 | 0.03 | 21.447 | 0.239 | 0.0524 | 0.0007 | 0.0466 | 0.0005 | 293.7 | 3.2 |
| 9.1 | 287 | 47 | 0.16 | 11.3 | 0.000028 | 0.23 | 21.732 | 0.251 | 0.0539 | 0.0009 | 0.0459 | 0.0005 | 289.4 | 3.3 |
| 10.1 | 423 | 613 | 1.45 | 16.5 | 0.000149 | 0.06 | 21.984 | 0.290 | 0.0525 | 0.0007 | 0.0455 | 0.0006 | 286.6 | 3.7 |
| 11.1 | 386 | 353 | 0.91 | 15.3 | 0.000037 | 0.19 | 21.627 | 0.243 | 0.0536 | 0.0008 | 0.0462 | 0.0005 | 290.9 | 3.2 |
| 12.1 | 362 | 322 | 0.89 | 14.2 | — | 0.12 | 21.916 | 0.275 | 0.0530 | 0.0008 | 0.0456 | 0.0006 | 287.3 | 3.6 |
| 13.1 | 499 | 987 | 1.98 | 20.0 | 0.000025 | 0.06 | 21.456 | 0.236 | 0.0527 | 0.0007 | 0.0466 | 0.0005 | 293.5 | 3.2 |
| 14.1 | 119 | 123 | 1.04 | 4.8 | 0.000204 | 0.04 | 21.491 | 0.292 | 0.0525 | 0.0014 | 0.0465 | 0.0006 | 293.1 | 4.0 |
| 15.1 | 158 | 168 | 1.06 | 6.4 | 0.000114 | 0.17 | 21.315 | 0.354 | 0.0536 | 0.0012 | 0.0468 | 0.0008 | 295.1 | 4.9 |
| 16.1 | 742 | 888 | 1.20 | 29.9 | — | 0.15 | 21.303 | 0.228 | 0.0535 | 0.0006 | 0.0469 | 0.0005 | 295.3 | 3.1 |
| 17.1 | 162 | 152 | 0.93 | 6.6 | 0.000571 | <0.01 | 21.030 | 0.268 | 0.0523 | 0.0012 | 0.0476 | 0.0006 | 299.5 | 3.8 |
| 18.1 | 284 | 383 | 1.35 | 11.5 | 0.000248 | <0.01 | 21.128 | 0.247 | 0.0520 | 0.0009 | 0.0473 | 0.0006 | 298.2 | 3.5 |
| 19.1 | 101 | 108 | 1.06 | 4.1 | 0.000756 | 0.34 | 21.116 | 0.301 | 0.0550 | 0.0016 | 0.0472 | 0.0007 | 297.3 | 4.2 |
| 20.1 | 793 | 1403 | 1.77 | 32.1 | 0.000071 | 0.02 | 21.219 | 0.249 | 0.0524 | 0.0005 | 0.0471 | 0.0006 | 296.8 | 3.4 |
| 21.1 | 360 | 503 | 1.40 | 14.5 | 0.000138 | 0.19 | 21.302 | 0.244 | 0.0538 | 0.0008 | 0.0469 | 0.0005 | 295.2 | 3.3 |
| 22.1 | 947 | 1326 | 1.40 | 39.2 | 0.000060 | <0.01 | 20.769 | 0.220 | 0.0521 | 0.0005 | 0.0482 | 0.0005 | 303.3 | 3.2 |

Weighted mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ age 292.7 ± 1.9 Ma

(continued on next page)

Appendix B (continued)

| Grain. spot | U (ppm) | Th (ppm) | Th/U | $^{206}\text{Pb}^*$ (ppm) | $^{204}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ | f_{206} | % | Total | | | Radiogenic | | | Age (Ma) | |
|--|---------|----------|------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|--------|----------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|-------|
| | | | | | | | | $^{238}\text{U}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ | \pm | $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ | \pm | $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ | \pm | $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ | \pm |
| <i>Sample CLL-114</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | 152 | 69 | 0.45 | 6.4 | 0.000408 | 0.17 | 20.36 | 0.25 | 0.0539 | 0.0011 | 0.0490 | 0.0006 | 308.6 | 3.8 | |
| 2.1 | 106 | 53 | 0.50 | 4.3 | — | 0.19 | 21.03 | 0.28 | 0.0538 | 0.0013 | 0.0475 | 0.0006 | 299.0 | 3.9 | |
| 3.1 | 188 | 94 | 0.50 | 7.8 | 0.000333 | <0.01 | 20.66 | 0.25 | 0.0522 | 0.0009 | 0.0484 | 0.0006 | 304.8 | 3.6 | |
| 4.1 | 626 | 113 | 0.18 | 19.6 | 0.000148 | 0.23 | 27.46 | 0.29 | 0.0526 | 0.0006 | 0.0363 | 0.0004 | 230.1 | 2.4 | |
| 5.1 | 320 | 156 | 0.49 | 13.4 | 0.000029 | 0.15 | 20.51 | 0.28 | 0.0537 | 0.0008 | 0.0487 | 0.0007 | 306.4 | 4.1 | |
| 6.1 | 345 | 204 | 0.59 | 14.4 | 0.000005 | 0.10 | 20.61 | 0.23 | 0.0533 | 0.0007 | 0.0485 | 0.0005 | 305.1 | 3.4 | |
| 7.1 | 166 | 109 | 0.66 | 6.8 | 0.000242 | <0.01 | 20.79 | 0.30 | 0.0514 | 0.0010 | 0.0482 | 0.0007 | 303.3 | 4.3 | |
| Weighted mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ age 304.6 ± 3.2 Ma | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Sample CLL-76</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | 491 | 393 | 0.80 | 20.2 | 0.000091 | 0.09 | 20.882 | 0.230 | 0.0531 | 0.0007 | 0.0478 | 0.0005 | 301.3 | 3.3 | |
| 2.1 | 69 | 32 | 0.46 | 2.8 | 0.000465 | 0.39 | 21.241 | 0.323 | 0.0553 | 0.0018 | 0.0469 | 0.0007 | 295.4 | 4.5 | |
| 3.1 | 345 | 323 | 0.94 | 14.0 | 0.000174 | 0.14 | 21.194 | 0.353 | 0.0534 | 0.0008 | 0.0471 | 0.0008 | 296.8 | 4.9 | |
| 4.1 | 656 | 903 | 1.38 | 26.7 | 0.000100 | 0.11 | 21.084 | 0.239 | 0.0532 | 0.0006 | 0.0474 | 0.0005 | 298.4 | 3.3 | |
| 5.1 | 139 | 91 | 0.66 | 5.2 | 0.000113 | 0.21 | 22.758 | 0.655 | 0.0534 | 0.0013 | 0.0439 | 0.0013 | 276.7 | 7.9 | |
| 6.1 | 588 | 524 | 0.89 | 23.9 | — | 0.24 | 21.131 | 0.271 | 0.0542 | 0.0006 | 0.0472 | 0.0006 | 297.4 | 3.8 | |
| 7.1 | 571 | 517 | 0.90 | 23.3 | — | <0.01 | 21.027 | 0.229 | 0.0520 | 0.0006 | 0.0476 | 0.0005 | 299.6 | 3.2 | |
| 8.1 | 842 | 946 | 1.12 | 34.5 | — | <0.01 | 20.984 | 0.245 | 0.0524 | 0.0005 | 0.0477 | 0.0006 | 300.1 | 3.5 | |
| 9.1 | 134 | 71 | 0.53 | 5.4 | 0.000544 | 0.53 | 21.303 | 0.283 | 0.0565 | 0.0014 | 0.0467 | 0.0006 | 294.2 | 3.9 | |
| 10.1 | 1032 | 1851 | 1.79 | 41.7 | 0.000037 | <0.01 | 21.290 | 0.227 | 0.0518 | 0.0005 | 0.0470 | 0.0005 | 296.1 | 3.1 | |
| 11.1 | 283 | 185 | 0.65 | 11.4 | 0.000067 | 0.03 | 21.251 | 0.255 | 0.0525 | 0.0009 | 0.0470 | 0.0006 | 296.3 | 3.5 | |
| 12.1 | 427 | 200 | 0.47 | 17.3 | — | 0.03 | 21.166 | 0.237 | 0.0525 | 0.0007 | 0.0472 | 0.0005 | 297.5 | 3.3 | |
| 13.1 | 444 | 548 | 1.23 | 18.0 | — | <0.01 | 21.177 | 0.302 | 0.0522 | 0.0007 | 0.0472 | 0.0007 | 297.5 | 4.2 | |
| 14.1 | 344 | 197 | 0.57 | 14.2 | — | <0.01 | 20.751 | 0.279 | 0.0524 | 0.0008 | 0.0482 | 0.0007 | 303.4 | 4.0 | |
| 15.1 | 656 | 688 | 1.05 | 26.9 | 0.000065 | 0.01 | 20.919 | 0.225 | 0.0525 | 0.0008 | 0.0478 | 0.0005 | 301.0 | 3.2 | |
| 16.1 | 454 | 458 | 1.01 | 18.6 | 0.000052 | 0.11 | 21.008 | 0.231 | 0.0532 | 0.0007 | 0.0475 | 0.0005 | 299.4 | 3.3 | |
| 17.1 | 119 | 54 | 0.45 | 5.0 | 0.000585 | 1.85 | 20.257 | 0.269 | 0.0673 | 0.0018 | 0.0485 | 0.0007 | 305.0 | 4.1 | |
| 18.1 | 154 | 56 | 0.36 | 6.1 | 0.000029 | 0.80 | 21.609 | 0.334 | 0.0585 | 0.0012 | 0.0459 | 0.0007 | 289.3 | 4.4 | |
| Weighted mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ age 298.8 ± 2.2 Ma | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Sample CLL-85</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | 169 | 123 | 0.73 | 7.0 | — | 0.18 | 20.934 | 0.334 | 0.0538 | 0.0016 | 0.0477 | 0.0008 | 300.3 | 4.8 | |
| 2.1 | 189 | 106 | 0.56 | 7.9 | 0.000305 | 0.08 | 20.595 | 0.337 | 0.0531 | 0.0011 | 0.0485 | 0.0008 | 305.4 | 4.9 | |
| 3.1 | 102 | 81 | 0.79 | 4.0 | 0.000326 | 0.51 | 22.134 | 0.465 | 0.0560 | 0.0016 | 0.0449 | 0.0010 | 283.4 | 5.9 | |
| 4.1 | 57 | 38 | 0.68 | 2.3 | 0.000975 | 0.77 | 20.785 | 0.339 | 0.0586 | 0.0021 | 0.0477 | 0.0008 | 300.6 | 4.9 | |
| 5.1 | 97 | 51 | 0.53 | 4.1 | — | 0.21 | 20.583 | 0.290 | 0.0542 | 0.0015 | 0.0485 | 0.0007 | 305.2 | 4.3 | |
| 6.1 | 135 | 73 | 0.54 | 5.5 | 0.000389 | 0.25 | 21.174 | 0.384 | 0.0543 | 0.0013 | 0.0471 | 0.0009 | 296.8 | 5.3 | |
| 7.1 | 381 | 190 | 0.50 | 15.5 | — | 0.11 | 21.133 | 0.238 | 0.0532 | 0.0008 | 0.0473 | 0.0005 | 297.7 | 3.3 | |
| 8.1 | 59 | 49 | 0.83 | 2.4 | 0.000487 | 0.14 | 21.479 | 0.393 | 0.0533 | 0.0020 | 0.0465 | 0.0009 | 293.0 | 5.3 | |
| 9.1 | 104 | 80 | 0.77 | 4.2 | 0.000551 | 0.57 | 21.190 | 0.293 | 0.0568 | 0.0015 | 0.0469 | 0.0007 | 295.6 | 4.1 | |
| 10.1 | 93 | 40 | 0.43 | 3.9 | 0.000741 | 0.51 | 20.726 | 0.408 | 0.0565 | 0.0016 | 0.0480 | 0.0010 | 302.2 | 5.9 | |
| 11.1 | 123 | 113 | 0.92 | 5.0 | — | 0.49 | 20.992 | 0.340 | 0.0563 | 0.0014 | 0.0474 | 0.0008 | 298.6 | 4.8 | |
| 12.1 | 380 | 163 | 0.43 | 15.5 | 0.000002 | 0.11 | 20.989 | 0.254 | 0.0532 | 0.0007 | 0.0476 | 0.0006 | 299.7 | 3.6 | |
| 13.1 | 113 | 76 | 0.68 | 4.4 | 0.000002 | 0.31 | 21.989 | 0.313 | 0.0545 | 0.0014 | 0.0453 | 0.0007 | 285.8 | 4.0 | |
| 14.1 | 130 | 71 | 0.54 | 5.2 | 0.000103 | 0.41 | 21.369 | 0.282 | 0.0555 | 0.0013 | 0.0466 | 0.0006 | 293.6 | 3.8 | |
| 15.1 | 127 | 85 | 0.67 | 5.2 | 0.000035 | <0.01 | 20.746 | 0.274 | 0.0524 | 0.0013 | 0.0482 | 0.0006 | 303.5 | 4.0 | |
| 16.1 | 104 | 88 | 0.84 | 4.2 | 0.000462 | 0.91 | 21.387 | 0.391 | 0.0594 | 0.0016 | 0.0463 | 0.0009 | 292.0 | 5.3 | |
| 17.1 | 517 | 258 | 0.50 | 20.7 | 0.000149 | 0.17 | 21.407 | 0.234 | 0.0535 | 0.0007 | 0.0466 | 0.0005 | 293.8 | 3.2 | |
| 18.1 | 121 | 80 | 0.66 | 4.9 | 0.000635 | 0.31 | 21.278 | 0.284 | 0.0547 | 0.0014 | 0.0469 | 0.0006 | 295.2 | 3.9 | |
| 19.1 | 81 | 64 | 0.79 | 3.2 | 0.000883 | 0.56 | 21.555 | 0.321 | 0.0566 | 0.0018 | 0.0461 | 0.0007 | 290.7 | 4.3 | |
| 20.1 | 132 | 128 | 0.96 | 5.1 | 0.000087 | 0.25 | 22.179 | 0.291 | 0.0539 | 0.0013 | 0.0450 | 0.0006 | 283.6 | 3.7 | |
| Weighted mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ age 297.6 ± 2.4 Ma | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Sample CLL-75</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | 290 | 170 | 0.58 | 12.2 | — | 0.25 | 20.501 | 0.305 | 0.0545 | 0.0009 | 0.0487 | 0.0007 | 306.3 | 4.5 | |
| 2.1 | 246 | 166 | 0.67 | 10.2 | 0.000057 | 0.14 | 20.819 | 0.277 | 0.0535 | 0.0010 | 0.0480 | 0.0006 | 302.0 | 4.0 | |
| 3.1 | 145 | 82 | 0.57 | 6.1 | 0.000064 | 0.03 | 20.363 | 0.317 | 0.0528 | 0.0013 | 0.0491 | 0.0008 | 309.0 | 4.8 | |
| 4.1 | 293 | 138 | 0.47 | 12.3 | 0.000147 | 0.18 | 20.503 | 0.240 | 0.0539 | 0.0009 | 0.0487 | 0.0006 | 306.5 | 3.6 | |
| 5.1 | 192 | 105 | 0.55 | 8.3 | 0.000070 | 0.04 | 19.986 | 0.333 | 0.0530 | 0.0011 | 0.0500 | 0.0008 | 314.6 | 5.2 | |
| 6.1 | 361 | 177 | 0.49 | 15.3 | 0.000034 | 0.08 | 20.226 | 0.232 | 0.0532 | 0.0008 | 0.0494 | 0.0006 | 310.9 | 3.5 | |
| 7.1 | 99 | 39 | 0.40 | 4.2 | 0.000752 | 0.18 | 20.280 | 0.295 | 0.0540 | 0.0016 | 0.0492 | 0.0007 | 309.7 | 4.5 | |

Appendix B (continued)

| Grain. spot | U (ppm) | Th (ppm) | Th/U | $^{206}\text{Pb}^*$ (ppm) | $^{204}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ | f_{206} % | Total | | Radiogenic | | Age (Ma) | | | |
|--|---------|----------|------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|--------|----------------------------------|--------|-------|-----|
| | | | | | | | $^{238}\text{U}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ | \pm | $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ | \pm | $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ | \pm | | |
| <i>Sample CLL-75</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8.1 | 194 | 116 | 0.60 | 7.8 | 0.000294 | <0.01 | 21.321 | 0.498 | 0.0514 | 0.0011 | 0.0469 | 0.0011 | 295.8 | 6.8 |
| 9.1 | 345 | 177 | 0.51 | 14.5 | 0.000041 | <0.01 | 20.453 | 0.239 | 0.0520 | 0.0009 | 0.0489 | 0.0006 | 307.9 | 3.6 |
| 10.1 | 257 | 148 | 0.57 | 10.2 | — | <0.01 | 21.627 | 0.308 | 0.0521 | 0.0010 | 0.0462 | 0.0007 | 291.4 | 4.1 |
| 11.1 | 366 | 199 | 0.54 | 15.3 | 0.000028 | 0.05 | 20.496 | 0.305 | 0.0529 | 0.0008 | 0.0488 | 0.0007 | 306.9 | 4.5 |
| 12.1 | 97 | 35 | 0.36 | 4.0 | 0.000109 | 0.18 | 20.565 | 0.285 | 0.0539 | 0.0015 | 0.0485 | 0.0007 | 305.5 | 4.2 |
| 13.1 | 139 | 47 | 0.34 | 5.7 | 0.000140 | 0.16 | 20.835 | 0.403 | 0.0537 | 0.0012 | 0.0479 | 0.0009 | 301.7 | 5.8 |
| 14.1 | 284 | 158 | 0.56 | 12.1 | — | 0.28 | 20.180 | 0.239 | 0.0549 | 0.0009 | 0.0494 | 0.0006 | 310.9 | 3.6 |
| 15.1 | 135 | 77 | 0.57 | 5.7 | 0.000503 | 0.17 | 20.438 | 0.425 | 0.0538 | 0.0013 | 0.0488 | 0.0010 | 307.4 | 6.3 |
| 16.1 | 468 | 281 | 0.60 | 20.3 | 0.000077 | <0.01 | 19.840 | 0.304 | 0.0527 | 0.0007 | 0.0504 | 0.0008 | 317.0 | 4.8 |
| 17.1 | 308 | 159 | 0.52 | 13.1 | 0.000053 | 0.14 | 20.207 | 0.275 | 0.0537 | 0.0009 | 0.0494 | 0.0007 | 310.9 | 4.2 |
| 18.1 | 272 | 158 | 0.58 | 10.0 | 0.000175 | 0.38 | 23.373 | 0.409 | 0.0547 | 0.0010 | 0.0426 | 0.0008 | 269.1 | 4.7 |
| 19.1 | 201 | 118 | 0.59 | 8.4 | 0.000006 | 0.34 | 20.470 | 0.287 | 0.0552 | 0.0011 | 0.0487 | 0.0007 | 306.5 | 4.3 |
| 20.1 | 203 | 131 | 0.64 | 8.6 | 0.001439 | 1.73 | 20.238 | 0.244 | 0.0664 | 0.0011 | 0.0486 | 0.0006 | 305.7 | 3.7 |
| Weighted mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ age 307.9 ± 2.8 Ma | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Sample CLL-221</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | 269 | 108 | 0.40 | 10.5 | 0.000384 | 0.54 | 22.04 | 0.43 | 0.0563 | 0.0011 | 0.0451 | 0.0009 | 284.5 | 5.5 |
| 2.1 | 319 | 201 | 0.63 | 12.6 | 0.000181 | 0.34 | 21.74 | 0.35 | 0.0548 | 0.0010 | 0.0458 | 0.0007 | 288.9 | 4.5 |
| 3.1 | 299 | 201 | 0.67 | 12.0 | 0.000219 | 0.49 | 21.35 | 0.51 | 0.0561 | 0.0010 | 0.0466 | 0.0011 | 293.7 | 6.9 |
| 4.1 | 322 | 184 | 0.57 | 12.9 | 0.000147 | 0.21 | 21.42 | 0.26 | 0.0539 | 0.0010 | 0.0466 | 0.0006 | 293.6 | 3.6 |
| 5.1 | 271 | 137 | 0.51 | 11.2 | — | <0.01 | 20.80 | 0.26 | 0.0515 | 0.0012 | 0.0481 | 0.0006 | 303.0 | 3.8 |
| 6.1 | 281 | 189 | 0.67 | 11.4 | 0.000248 | 0.08 | 21.20 | 0.27 | 0.0529 | 0.0010 | 0.0471 | 0.0006 | 296.9 | 3.7 |
| 7.1 | 379 | 278 | 0.73 | 15.4 | 0.000142 | <0.01 | 21.14 | 0.25 | 0.0521 | 0.0009 | 0.0473 | 0.0006 | 298.0 | 3.5 |
| 8.1 | 394 | 240 | 0.61 | 16.3 | 0.000139 | 0.05 | 20.76 | 0.25 | 0.0528 | 0.0009 | 0.0482 | 0.0006 | 303.2 | 3.6 |
| 9.1 | 294 | 158 | 0.54 | 12.8 | 0.000000 | 0.55 | 19.69 | 0.38 | 0.0572 | 0.0013 | 0.0505 | 0.0010 | 317.6 | 6.0 |
| 10.1 | 342 | 210 | 0.61 | 14.3 | 0.000148 | 0.16 | 20.59 | 0.25 | 0.0538 | 0.0009 | 0.0485 | 0.0006 | 305.2 | 3.6 |
| 10.2 | 157 | 69 | 0.44 | 6.3 | 0.000631 | 0.18 | 21.51 | 0.30 | 0.0536 | 0.0014 | 0.0464 | 0.0007 | 292.3 | 4.1 |
| Weighted Mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ Age 296.9 ± 4.6 Ma | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Sample CLL-223</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | 357 | 193 | 0.54 | 13.3 | 0.000358 | 0.19 | 23.00 | 0.28 | 0.0533 | 0.0011 | 0.0434 | 0.0005 | 273.9 | 3.3 |
| 2.1 | 261 | 157 | 0.60 | 10.3 | — | 0.16 | 21.83 | 0.28 | 0.0534 | 0.0020 | 0.0457 | 0.0006 | 288.3 | 3.7 |
| 3.1 | 137 | 97 | 0.71 | 5.5 | 0.000099 | 0.34 | 21.49 | 0.32 | 0.0549 | 0.0016 | 0.0464 | 0.0007 | 292.3 | 4.3 |
| 4.1 | 313 | 189 | 0.60 | 13.0 | 0.000194 | 0.01 | 20.76 | 0.26 | 0.0525 | 0.0010 | 0.0482 | 0.0006 | 303.3 | 3.7 |
| 5.1 | 242 | 132 | 0.55 | 9.9 | 0.000167 | 0.19 | 21.07 | 0.27 | 0.0538 | 0.0012 | 0.0474 | 0.0006 | 298.3 | 3.8 |
| 6.1 | 387 | 245 | 0.63 | 15.9 | — | 0.20 | 20.86 | 0.25 | 0.0540 | 0.0012 | 0.0479 | 0.0006 | 301.3 | 3.6 |
| 7.1 | 378 | 244 | 0.65 | 15.6 | — | 0.04 | 20.84 | 0.25 | 0.0527 | 0.0009 | 0.0480 | 0.0006 | 302.1 | 3.5 |
| 8.1 | 112 | 82 | 0.73 | 4.5 | — | 0.06 | 21.45 | 0.33 | 0.0527 | 0.0016 | 0.0466 | 0.0007 | 293.6 | 4.5 |
| 9.1 | 201 | 136 | 0.68 | 8.2 | 0.000390 | 0.28 | 20.95 | 0.28 | 0.0546 | 0.0015 | 0.0476 | 0.0006 | 299.7 | 4.0 |
| 10.1 | 241 | 204 | 0.84 | 10.2 | 0.000390 | <0.01 | 20.32 | 0.26 | 0.0522 | 0.0011 | 0.0492 | 0.0006 | 309.8 | 3.9 |
| 11.1 | 299 | 168 | 0.56 | 12.2 | 0.000263 | 0.44 | 21.13 | 0.26 | 0.0558 | 0.0010 | 0.0471 | 0.0006 | 296.8 | 3.6 |
| 12.1 | 110 | 69 | 0.63 | 4.4 | 0.000296 | 0.35 | 21.28 | 0.33 | 0.0550 | 0.0017 | 0.0468 | 0.0007 | 295.0 | 4.5 |
| 13.1 | 208 | 153 | 0.74 | 8.6 | 0.000300 | <0.01 | 20.71 | 0.27 | 0.0513 | 0.0012 | 0.0483 | 0.0006 | 304.3 | 4.0 |
| 15.1 | 317 | 280 | 0.89 | 12.8 | 0.000147 | 0.20 | 21.17 | 0.26 | 0.0538 | 0.0010 | 0.0472 | 0.0006 | 297.0 | 3.6 |
| 16.1 | 306 | 179 | 0.58 | 12.3 | 0.000364 | 0.17 | 21.37 | 0.27 | 0.0536 | 0.0010 | 0.0467 | 0.0006 | 294.3 | 3.6 |
| 17.1 | 118 | 84 | 0.71 | 4.7 | — | 0.23 | 21.51 | 0.33 | 0.0540 | 0.0017 | 0.0464 | 0.0007 | 292.3 | 4.5 |
| 18.1 | 312 | 173 | 0.56 | 12.7 | 0.000332 | 0.17 | 21.00 | 0.26 | 0.0537 | 0.0010 | 0.0475 | 0.0006 | 299.4 | 3.7 |
| 19.1 | 154 | 101 | 0.66 | 6.2 | 0.000676 | <0.01 | 21.17 | 0.30 | 0.0516 | 0.0014 | 0.0473 | 0.0007 | 297.8 | 4.2 |
| 20.1 | 240 | 97 | 0.40 | 9.8 | 0.000270 | <0.01 | 20.96 | 0.31 | 0.0523 | 0.0012 | 0.0477 | 0.0007 | 300.5 | 4.4 |
| Weighted Mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ Age 298.3 ± 2.1 Ma | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>CLL-237</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | 172 | 99 | 0.57 | 7.3 | 0.000817 | 1.36 | 20.41 | 0.25 | 0.0634 | 0.0012 | 0.0483 | 0.0006 | 304.2 | 3.6 |
| 2.1 | 63 | 26 | 0.41 | 2.7 | 0.001638 | 2.80 | 20.45 | 0.30 | 0.0748 | 0.0023 | 0.0475 | 0.0007 | 299.4 | 4.4 |
| 3.1 | 310 | 175 | 0.56 | 13.1 | — | 0.19 | 20.38 | 0.23 | 0.0540 | 0.0007 | 0.0490 | 0.0006 | 308.2 | 3.4 |
| 4.1 | 638 | 412 | 0.65 | 26.7 | 0.000082 | 0.10 | 20.49 | 0.22 | 0.0533 | 0.0006 | 0.0488 | 0.0005 | 306.9 | 3.3 |
| 5.1 | 343 | 185 | 0.54 | 14.0 | 0.000093 | 0.08 | 21.00 | 0.24 | 0.0529 | 0.0008 | 0.0476 | 0.0005 | 299.7 | 3.4 |
| 6.1 | 442 | 200 | 0.45 | 18.3 | 0.000204 | 0.14 | 20.75 | 0.23 | 0.0535 | 0.0007 | 0.0481 | 0.0005 | 303.1 | 3.3 |
| Weighted Mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ Age 303.9 ± 3.0 Ma | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

(continued on next page)

Appendix B (*continued*)

Appendix B (continued)

| Grain. spot | U (ppm) | Th (ppm) | Th/U | $^{206}\text{Pb}^*$ (ppm) | $^{204}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ | $f_{^{206}\text{Pb}}$ % | Total | | Radiogenic | | Age (Ma) | | | |
|--|---------|----------|------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|--------|----------------------------------|--------|-------|-----|
| | | | | | | | $^{238}\text{U}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ | \pm | $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ | \pm | $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ | \pm | | |
| <i>Sample CLL-297</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | 517 | 456 | 0.88 | 17.6 | — | <0.01 | 25.27 | 0.28 | 0.0506 | 0.0007 | 0.0396 | 0.0004 | 250.3 | 2.8 |
| 2.1 | 416 | 286 | 0.69 | 14.0 | — | <0.01 | 25.60 | 0.29 | 0.0509 | 0.0013 | 0.0391 | 0.0005 | 247.1 | 2.8 |
| 3.1 | 395 | 338 | 0.85 | 13.4 | — | 0.04 | 25.42 | 0.29 | 0.0515 | 0.0009 | 0.0393 | 0.0005 | 248.7 | 2.8 |
| 4.1 | 243 | 164 | 0.68 | 7.9 | 0.000432 | <0.01 | 26.30 | 0.32 | 0.0505 | 0.0010 | 0.0380 | 0.0005 | 240.7 | 2.9 |
| Weighted Mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ Age 248.7 ± 3.3 Ma | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Sample CLL-32</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | 647 | 504 | 0.78 | 21.5 | 0.000536 | 0.44 | 25.888 | 0.375 | 0.0546 | 0.0008 | 0.0385 | 0.0006 | 243.3 | 3.5 |
| 2.1 | 474 | 431 | 0.91 | 15.7 | 0.000779 | 0.99 | 25.903 | 0.384 | 0.0589 | 0.0010 | 0.0382 | 0.0006 | 241.8 | 3.6 |
| 3.1 | 280 | 191 | 0.68 | 9.5 | 0.001439 | 1.80 | 25.468 | 0.397 | 0.0655 | 0.0014 | 0.0386 | 0.0006 | 243.9 | 3.8 |
| 4.1 | 453 | 297 | 0.66 | 15.2 | 0.000750 | 0.99 | 25.553 | 0.380 | 0.0590 | 0.0011 | 0.0387 | 0.0006 | 245.1 | 3.6 |
| 5.1 | 291 | 265 | 0.91 | 9.8 | 0.001709 | 1.30 | 25.569 | 0.396 | 0.0615 | 0.0013 | 0.0386 | 0.0006 | 244.2 | 3.8 |
| 6.1 | 519 | 400 | 0.77 | 16.7 | 0.000676 | 1.12 | 26.673 | 0.393 | 0.0599 | 0.0010 | 0.0371 | 0.0006 | 234.6 | 3.4 |
| 7.1 | 356 | 237 | 0.67 | 11.8 | 0.000316 | 0.94 | 26.006 | 0.395 | 0.0585 | 0.0012 | 0.0381 | 0.0006 | 241.0 | 3.6 |
| 8.1 | 523 | 392 | 0.75 | 17.6 | 0.000544 | 0.74 | 25.528 | 0.374 | 0.0570 | 0.0012 | 0.0389 | 0.0006 | 245.9 | 3.6 |
| 9.1 | 476 | 402 | 0.84 | 16.1 | 0.000419 | 0.60 | 25.386 | 0.374 | 0.0560 | 0.0010 | 0.0392 | 0.0006 | 247.6 | 3.6 |
| 10.1 | 354 | 269 | 0.76 | 12.1 | 0.000809 | 0.90 | 25.062 | 0.379 | 0.0584 | 0.0011 | 0.0395 | 0.0006 | 250.0 | 3.8 |
| 11.1 | 218 | 198 | 0.91 | 7.2 | 0.001112 | 2.03 | 25.967 | 0.418 | 0.0672 | 0.0016 | 0.0377 | 0.0006 | 238.7 | 3.9 |
| 12.1 | 184 | 91 | 0.50 | 7.8 | 0.000403 | 1.29 | 20.383 | 0.329 | 0.0628 | 0.0015 | 0.0484 | 0.0008 | 304.9 | 4.9 |
| 13.1 | 395 | 439 | 1.11 | 13.2 | 0.000520 | 1.34 | 25.667 | 0.384 | 0.0618 | 0.0011 | 0.0384 | 0.0006 | 243.1 | 3.6 |
| 14.1 | 556 | 571 | 1.03 | 18.7 | 0.000338 | 0.73 | 25.486 | 0.373 | 0.0570 | 0.0009 | 0.0390 | 0.0006 | 246.3 | 3.6 |
| 15.1 | 306 | 219 | 0.72 | 10.0 | 0.000948 | 1.46 | 26.220 | 0.404 | 0.0626 | 0.0013 | 0.0376 | 0.0006 | 237.8 | 3.7 |
| 16.1 | 514 | 467 | 0.91 | 17.0 | 0.000499 | 0.81 | 25.994 | 0.381 | 0.0575 | 0.0010 | 0.0382 | 0.0006 | 241.4 | 3.5 |
| 17.1 | 253 | 340 | 1.34 | 8.2 | 0.001219 | 1.37 | 26.437 | 0.415 | 0.0619 | 0.0014 | 0.0373 | 0.0006 | 236.1 | 3.7 |
| 18.1 | 740 | 801 | 1.08 | 25.1 | 0.000417 | 0.70 | 25.344 | 0.367 | 0.0568 | 0.0008 | 0.0392 | 0.0006 | 247.8 | 3.6 |
| 19.1 | 488 | 470 | 0.96 | 16.2 | 0.000738 | 1.06 | 25.804 | 0.381 | 0.0595 | 0.0012 | 0.0383 | 0.0006 | 242.6 | 3.6 |
| 20.1 | 258 | 217 | 0.84 | 8.6 | 0.001637 | 2.14 | 25.737 | 0.406 | 0.0682 | 0.0016 | 0.0380 | 0.0006 | 240.6 | 3.8 |
| Weighted Mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ Age 243.2 ± 2.1 Ma | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Notes: (1) Uncertainties are given at the one σ level for individual spot analyses; (2) Error in FC1 reference zircon calibration for the respective analytical session was: 0.32% for samples CLL-221 y CLL-223; 0.35% for CLL-238; 0.37% for CLL-73 and CLL-75; 0.39% for CLL-44; 0.45% for CLL-76; 0.47% for CLL-85; and 0.51% for CLL-30 and CLL-32. Error in Temora reference zircon calibration was: 0.33% for CLL-114 and CLL-237; 0.34% for CLL-297 (not included in above errors, but required when comparing data from different mounts and incorporated in the mean weighted age); (3) “—“ denotes that no ^{204}Pb was detected; (4) $f_{^{206}\text{Pb}}$ % denotes the percentage of ^{206}Pb that is common Pb; (5) for common Pb was done using the measured $^{238}\text{U}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ and $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ ratios following Tera and Wasserburg (1972), as outlined in Williams (1998; the so called ^{207}Pb correction method).

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